

Hope *Home News*

4131 Lehigh Drive, P.O. Box 1030
Cherryville, PA 18035
610-767-7203

February 2019
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hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

As February begins I am trying to get my bearings again. December and January were incredibly busy months - with the many activities of the Advent and Christmas seasons and preparations for Lent. At our meeting in January, the Congregation Council began discussing "next steps" for our ministry moving forward and some staffing changes that were approved. The reality is that there are currently 40 positions open for pastors in Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod and not enough ordained pastors to fill them. Congregations that have a pastoral opening are being told that they may wait two years or more before their vacancy is filled. With that in mind, the council began to creatively consider some other options for providing ministry here at Hope.

Let me share with you what Council has decided:

- ◆ Pastor Don Hayn has been hired to assist with our visitation ministry and to preach occasionally. When he is available, he will be working one day a week picking up hospital and STAR member visitations. Pastor Hayn is retired from full-time ministry and is a member of Hope.
- ◆ We will be advertising for a part-time Youth Ministry Program Coordinator. This person will oversee all aspects of our youth ministry programming for youth in grade 6 through grade 12. This includes monthly POW (Pizza on Wednesday) meetings, youth group outings, youth group fundraising and planning for the 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering.
- ◆ We will also be advertising for a part-time Confirmation Coordinator who will oversee all as-

pects of our two-year confirmation program. It will involve the administration of the confirmation and mentor programs, leading retreats and communicating and coordinating events with parents.

- ◆ The position of Youth Ministry Program Coordinator and Confirmation Coordinator can be a combined part-time position depending on the applicants' interest and experience.
- ◆ We expect to invite a guest preacher once a month so worshipers have the opportunity to hear different voices preaching.
- ◆ We will be having additional people leading worship on Sunday mornings as Worship Assistants - volunteers who will be trained to chant the liturgy, offer the prayers and lead other parts of the liturgy.

My office door is always open for you to come and ask questions, share concerns and offer your insights as we move forward in our ministry and I encourage you to stop in and see me. We are blessed to be a large and active congregation in a time when many congregations are struggling for survival and some closing their doors. It takes a village of people – both staff and volunteers – to do the ministry we are called to do in the name of Jesus in our small corner of the world. These are exciting times in our life together! Let's continue to be the people God is calling us to be doing the ministry that matters to God!

Blessings,
Pastor Jami

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 3	Sunday, February 10	Sunday, February 17	Sunday, February 24
8:00 AM Holy Communion	8:00 AM Service of the Word	8:00 AM Holy Communion	8:00 AM Service of the Word
9:15 AM Sunday School	9:15 AM Sunday School	9:15 AM Sunday School	9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Service of the Word	10:30 AM Holy Communion	10:30 AM Service of the Word	10:30 AM Holy Communion

Youth Group

- Youth Group Ice Skating at Steel Ice in Bethlehem – DJ Dance Party
 - ◊ Friday, Feb. 1st
 - ◊ Meet at Hope at 6:30 PM and return 10:45 PM
 - ◊ Cost is \$8.00 to skate and \$3.00 to rent skates – lockers are available
 - ◊ Sing up on Youth Bulletin Board or email Pastor Jami
- February POW
 - ◊ Wednesday, Feb. 13th
 - ◊ Sign up on Youth Bulletin Board or email Pastor Jami
- Youth Group Valentine Dinner
 - ◊ This is the first big fundraiser for the 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis
 - ◊ Set-up on Friday at 6:00 PM
 - ◊ Report at 3:30 on Saturday to work at the dinner
 - ◊ Look for upcoming sign-up on Sign Up Genius
- Clothing Drive
 - ◊ March 3rd through March 8th
 - ◊ You will be needed each night to help unload cars for drive-thru drop off
 - ◊ Load truck on Saturday, March 9th at 8:00 AM
- Youth Group “Survivor” Sleepover
 - ◊ Friday, March 8th at 6:00 PM through Saturday, March 9th at 10:00 AM
 - ◊ Sign up on Youth Bulletin Board or email Pastor Jami



CONFIRMATION

Level 1 Students

- Saturday, March 2—Mentor Event—Pizza and Game Night
 - ◊ 5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

Level 2 Students

- Saturday, March 2—Mentor Event—Ice Cream and Game Night
 - ◊ 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

POST-CONFIRMATION

The Post-Confirmation group will meet on the first and third Sundays of every month during the Sunday School hour (from 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.) in the lower level lounge room. All confirmed youth are invited for some fun, sometimes food and faith sharing.

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY STUDENT OF THE YEAR

My name is Katelyn Graver, a senior at Northampton Area High School, and I am happy to announce that I am a "Student of the Year" candidate for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) of Eastern PA! Together with my partner, a fellow senior at Northampton, we have only seven weeks from January 26 through March 16 to raise as much money as we can for our campaign. The money that we raise goes to help fund research

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HOPE'S HELPING HANDS

Just a reminder if you ordered meat pies or apple dumplings, pick-up for these items will be on **SATURDAY, February 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Kuntz Hall kitchen.** As freezer space is limited, we kindly ask that any groups that have items in the Kuntz Hall freezer that can be removed, please do so prior to Friday, February 8. Thanks for your cooperation and support!

LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY STUDENT OF THE YEAR (CON'T)

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and pay for patient expenses through LLS, and we want to help with that as much as possible. I have been a member of Hope Lutheran Church my entire life and am excited to involve the church in my fundraising efforts! I have an individual fundraising link that I ask you to make a contribution directly to my campaign online: <https://events.lls.org/epa/lvsoy19/kgraver>. Checks can also be made out to LLS and sent to my home address: 1091 Myrtle Road, Walnutport, PA 18088. Please contact me at 610-760-0185 if you have any questions. Remember that every donation makes a difference!

PASTORAL ACTS

Jared Adam Smith, son of Jeremy and Amanda Smith, was baptized on Sunday, January 13. Please welcome **Jared** as the newest member of our church family.

NORTHAMPTON AREA FOOD BANK

Each month a different church group is responsible for providing volunteers to work at the Northampton Area Food Bank and **March** is Hope Lutheran Church month at the food bank. Assistance is needed in unloading the food from the truck delivery by 2nd Harvest on the first Monday of the month, packing of food items on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Wednesdays of the month and the 2nd and 3rd Fridays of the month, and distribution of the food during the evenings on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Thursdays of the month and the 2nd and 3rd Saturday mornings of the month. Please see the sign

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ELECTRONIC GIVING

Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, Hope Lutheran relies on your regular contributions. We appreciate the efforts of the congregation members to make consistent offerings throughout the year—especially during inclement weather conditions or during popular winter travel periods. To assist you, we provide a convenient electronic giving option for setting up recurring contributions. Visit the church website at www.hopecherryville.org and locate the Online Giving page.

A green rectangular button with the text "Online Giving" in white.

REMINDER

If you use electronic giving and you adjusted your contributions for 2019, you will need to go to the Online Giving page and update your information.

IS THERE CHURCH?

Find out by tuning into WFMZ T.V. or check their website to find out. You can also check our website at www.hopecherryville.org.

“SOUPER” BOWL OF CARING

Sunday, February 3 we will be collecting a “noisy offering” immediately after the regular offering. Your contributions will go to ELCA World Hunger Fund. Start saving your change and help us make it the nosiest offering yet.

Boy Scout Sunday

February 10
at the 10:30 service.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 2019

The 2019 Council officers are:

President	AJ Szwest	Vice President	Trish Ninos
Secretary	Matt Sekol	Treasurer	Trudy Mertz
	Financial Secretary	Debra Gardner	

The 2019 Committee Liaison Assignments are:

Christian Education	Allison Lockard, Trish Ninos
Evangelism	Lori Kerper
Finance	Jim Gardner Matt Sekol, Susan Stephens
Mutual Ministry	Matt Sekol
Property	Kim Belletti, Lee Creyer, Tom Nichols, Manfred Steiner
Social Ministry	Allison Lockard
Stewardship	Jim Gardner
Worship and Music	Kim Belletti, Trish Ninos
Youth Ministry	Allison Lockard, Katie Weiss

Council approved job descriptions for a part-time Youth Ministry Program Coordinator and a part-time Confirmation Coordinator (these jobs may be combined into one part-time position) as well as the ads for posting these positions.

The Youth Group Valentine Dinner will be held on Saturday, February 16. Tickets will be on sale from Sunday, January 20 through Sunday, February 10 in the narthex after worship or people may call the church to purchase tickets.

Council approved Katelyn Graver's request to advertise a link for her Leukemia and Lymphoma fundraiser. Katelyn has been chosen by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as their Student of the Year for Eastern Pennsylvania. The link for people to donate will appear in the bulletin and newsletter.

Save the date for the Youth Group's Clothing Drive to be held from Sunday, March 3 through Friday, March 8. Details will be in the bulletin and newsletter.

Alert...in response to the congregation's concern regarding church security, the council is planning to offer the ALICE Training Network active shooter civilian response training for all members who are interested in attending. Details are being worked out so look for the announcement in a future newsletter.

Bill Lewis has agreed to serve as the Chairperson for the Finance Committee and council thanks Doug Daniel for his work leading the committee these past few years.

Karen Koplín has been appointed to serve a three year term on the Mutual Ministry Committee. Council thanks Leslie Daniel and Sharon Schell for their years of excellent service on this committee.

WOMEN OF FAITH UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, February 18th – join us as we make “plarn” (plastic yarn made out of shopping bags). The plarn is used to make mats which are donated to people who are homeless to use under their sleeping bags.

Monday, March 18th – Mrs. Deb Gable, one of our nursery school teachers at Hope Church will be helping us make Easter cards to send to our STAR members. Mrs. Gable makes beautiful 3D paper cards and will teach us how to make a simple version of one of her cards.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for Sunday, May 5th – we will be having a Fashion Show and Tea to celebrate Mother's Day. More details to follow.

We meet at 6:00pm in Hanson Hall. All are welcome to attend any of our meetings/events that may interest you. Please call Jane Tretiak at 610-767-0918 with any questions.

Ministry at St. Stephen's Outreach Center



Wednesday,
February 6
2:30 p.m.

STORYWEAVERS and lunch

Tuesday, February 12, 10:00 a.m.
For more information call
LeeAnn Chandler,
610-440-0341



**Hope
Friendship
Dance**
Monday, February 18
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in Kuntz Hall

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Thursday,
February 14
10:00 a.m.



WELCA

Tuesday, February 19
at 9:00 a.m.
in the Adult Sunday
School Room



SOUP GROUP AND DELIVERY



Wednesday,
February 6
9:00 a.m.
in Kuntz Hall kitchen.

BIBLE STUDY

Evangelism Bible Study continues Thursday evenings at 6:30. Everyone is welcome. We are currently using the four gospels to study the miracles that Jesus preformed.

WEEKLY SPONSORS NEEDED

Sponsors are needed for the weekly altar flowers, bulletin, and press. If you are interested, check the charts on the bulletin board for available dates.

LIHEAP

If you need help paying your heating bills, or have a heating emergency LIHEAP (*Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program*) may be able to help you. You can find a brochure and application on the rack in the Narthex.

BASKET COMMITTEE NOTES

- Upcoming Business Meetings in 2019: Tuesday, February 5 and Tuesday, April 2, both at 6 p.m. in Hanson Hall.
- Spring Basket Social: Friday, April 12, doors opening at 4 p.m.

CENTERING PRAYER GROUP



Centering Prayer group will meet February 4 & 18; the first and third Monday. We will gather at 6:00 p.m. in the Sunday School Room off Hanson Hall. Newcomers are always

WITH THANKS . . . (you can see these notes on the bulletin board)

Council Members,

Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift. It is an honor and privilege serving as your treasurer. I have been very blessed with the kindness and support from the staff and members of Hope throughout the years. Thank you and blessings to everyone in the New Year.

Sincerely,

Trudy

Thank you for the very generous gift and for welcoming me as a part of the staff at Hope. Wishing you all a very blessed New Year!

Julie Sekol

Dear Congregational Council,

Thank you for the monetary Christmas gift! I look forward to another year being the financial secretary in 2019

Deb Gardner

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift.

It has been a pleasure working at Hope for the past few months, and I look forward to working with everyone in 2019.

Blessings to you all in the new year.

Laurie

Thank you for your continued support during my college career!

Next steps: internship at North Carolina Aquariums then graduate school to pursue a masters and P.H.D. in marine biology starting fall 2019.

Natasha Sawickij

Thank you for the beautiful red prayer shawl I received for Christmas from the Church. I appreciate you remembering me.

Ashley Hildebrand

Lenten Daily Food Challenge

So often we think about giving something up for Lent – a discipline the church calls fasting. Fasting, or giving up something, reminds us of the life that Jesus gave for us. Many people put aside a bad habit or a food that we love for the 40 days of Lent to keep the focus on Jesus. Another way to keep that focus is to add something to our lives – a kind of spiritual practice that changes our life for 40 days. This year the Women of Faith would like to challenge you to add a spiritual discipline to your life by collecting a food item for each day of the 40 days of Lent. Start with a sturdy box or a tote and then follow the schedule below and fill it up! Drop it off at the church by Palm Sunday – April 14th - when the food items will be blessed during worship and then donated to needy families in our congregation or to the Northampton Area Food Bank.

March 6 – can of peaches

March 9 – jelly

March 12 – tuna fish

March 15 – instant potatoes

March 18 – instant oatmeal

March 21 – spaghetti sauce

March 24 – bottle of juice

March 27 – baking mix (water only)

March 30 – can of stew

April 2 – bag of beans (dry)

April 5 – instant vanilla pudding

April 8 – box of pasta

April 11 – tuna fish

April 14 – instant chocolate pudding

March 7 – can of soup

March 10 – box of cereal

March 13 – applesauce

March 16 – pancake mix

March 19 – granola bars

March 22 – mac and cheese

March 25 – can of pineapples

March 28 – box of crackers

March 31 – powdered milk

April 3 – can of peas

April 6 – can of green beans

April 9 – spaghetti sauce

April 12 – rice

March 8 – peanut butter

March 11 – can of corn

March 14 – canned meat

March 17 – pancake syrup

March 20 – box of pasta

March 23 – biscuit mix (water only)

March 26 – can of beans

March 29 – rice

April 1 – can of chili

April 4 – boxed meal (water only)

April 7 – can of mixed fruit

April 10 – can of potatoes

April 13 – can of carrots

Thank you to everyone who accepts this challenge!

What a wonderful way to share your Lenten discipline with others in need.

NEW STAFF POSTIONS

Part-Time Youth Ministry Coordinator - paid position available immediately for up to 10 hours per week. Candidate must have ability to work with children in grade 6 through grade 12, as well as provide primary oversight for youth ministry program in conjunction with youth leaders and other church staff. Responsibilities include: planning, coordinating and attending all scheduled youth activities; communicating with youth, parents, volunteers and other youth leaders; organizing and planning all logistical aspects of the ELCA Youth Gathering that occurs every three years. Associate or bachelor's degree in education or a related field and/or equivalent experience with youth is preferred. Detailed job description is available upon request. Submit letter of interest, resume, and completed application (available at www.hopecherryville.org) to Pastor Jami Possinger, Hope Lutheran Church, 4131 Lehigh Drive, Cherryville, PA 18035. Deadline for applications is **February 11, 2019**.

Part-Time Confirmation Coordinator - paid position available immediately for up to 10 hours per week. Candidate must have ability to work with children in grade 7 and grade 8, as well as provide primary oversight for all aspects of the two-year confirmation program in conjunction with grade 7 and grade 8 Sunday school teachers and mentor coordinators. Responsibilities include: planning, coordinating and attending all scheduled confirmation activities and retreats; communicating with confirmands, parents, volunteers and mentors; recording of student attendance; and working Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. during the Sunday School year. Associate or bachelor's degree in education or a related field and/or equivalent experience with youth is preferred. Detailed job description is available upon request. Submit letter of interest, resume, and completed application (available at www.hopecherryville.org) to Pastor Jami Possinger, Hope Lutheran Church, 4131 Lehigh Drive, Cherryville, PA 18035. Deadline for applications is **February 11, 2019**.

If desired, the two positions may be combined and filled by one individual working 15 to 20 hours per week based on scheduled youth and confirmation activities.

NORTHAMPTON FOOD BANK (CON'T)

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-up sheet located on the bulletin board for specific dates and times. We need at least 4 to 5 volunteers for every time slot. Please do your part to help with this very important community outreach activity. Hope Church has always been very supportive of the work done at the food bank thru both food donations and on-site volunteer hours. Several of our church members are there on a regular basis every month so come join us! Any questions, please contact Leslie Daniel at 610-216-1340.

In addition, the food bank is in need of a few staple items including: canned soup, canned tuna fish, peanut butter, jelly, boxed dry pasta, spaghetti, jello or pudding, and cereal. These items can be placed in the food bank wagon in the hall and will be taken to the food bank for distribution.



Family Movie Night

Mark your Calendars

Saturday, February 2

Double Feature

Hotel Transylvania (PG)

and

Hotel Transylvania 2 (PG)

Showing in Kuntz Hall

Doors open at 3:00 p.m.; First show at 3:30 p.m.

Intermission with food

Second show begins about 6:00 p.m.



Rejoice

the Muhlenberg College Gospel Choir

will share their talents with us
Sunday, February 17
10:30 a.m. Service

You don't want to miss this talented group of young people

Rejoice, the Muhlenberg College Gospel Choir, is a spirit-filled musical ensemble. Comprised of students from various places, races and creeds, the Gospel Choir is truly reflective of the diverse interests and ethnicities within the Muhlenberg College community.

Their common bond is their love of music and a passion to praise God through song.



Valentine's Dinner

Saturday, February 16

Available Seatings

4:30pm, 5:00pm, 5:30pm,

6:00pm, 6:30pm, & 7:00pm

Meals

Adult: \$15.00 and Adult Jr.: \$8.00

Prime Rib, Chicken Marsala, Chicken Oscar, Vegetable Lasagna

Child: \$3.00

Hot Dog and Macaroni & Cheese

Tickets available after each service on

1/27, 2/3, 2/10 or by calling the church office.

No tickets will be sold at the door.

Proceeds benefit youth attending The National Youth Gathering in 2021.

Thank you for your support!



FINANCIAL SUMMARY - DECEMBER 31, 2018

	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship Loan	Memorial Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$ 90,211.44	\$ 118,773.68	\$ 126,841.49	\$ 96,378.33	\$ (4,461.92)
Income - December	58,754.23	3,254.49	1,467.27	-	-
Income - Jan.-Nov.	357,146.23	47,046.14	12,380.78	4,434.51	1,000.00
Total Income	415,900.46	50,300.63	13,848.05	4,434.51	1,000.00
Expenses - December	29,211.56	3,075.11	24.99	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-Nov.	376,307.23	19,855.12	1,174.90	5,200.00	600.00
Total Expenses	405,518.79	22,930.23	1,199.89	5,200.00	600.00
Net Income	10,381.67	27,370.40	12,648.16	(765.49)	400.00
Net Special Appeals	2,280.11				
Balance End of December	\$ 102,873.22	\$ 146,144.08	\$ 139,489.65	\$ 95,612.84	\$ (4,061.92)

SUMMARY:

Income exceeded expenses in the Regular Fund for the month of December by \$29,542.67, and for the year 2018, income exceeded expenses by \$10,381.67, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$102,873.22. Last year the net income for the same period was \$8,103.25 with a balance of \$90,211.44.

*** The current income statement is posted in the narthex. ***

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

All committees, groups and persons submitting content for the church newsletter should follow the schedule listed below. Articles may be edited so we do not exceed Post Office guidelines. Please email your articles to Laurie Christman (communications@hopecherryville.org). Thank you.

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Article Deadline</u>	<u>Collation Date</u>
March	Tuesday, February 12	Thursday, February 21 @ 10:00 AM

Please let the office know if you need to update your delivery method of the Hope Home News. The paper copy contains the news that fits on six pages. The digital version generally runs longer.

SYNOD NEWS

The February 2019 issue of *Synod News* is available online.
Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2019-2.pdf>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251

