

Hope *Home News*

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hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

We are almost exactly midway through the Lenten season as I write this article. Easter and the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord is fast approaching. And I can't help but wonder how this Lenten season of preparation and anticipation affects all of you who are reading this. Does it cause you to think differently – change anything? When you come to church and hear the stories of Jesus moving toward his death in Jerusalem can you relate to him and his life? Or are these just ordinary days leading up to one more Hallmark celebration filled with bunnies, chocolate eggs and jelly beans?

I've been pondering this – so let me share what I am concluding at the midway point of this Lenten season. Jesus walked the journey of faith just as you and I do – and I can relate to that. Here's how I got there...we started the first Sunday of Lent with Jesus facing temptations by the devil in the wilderness. His faith was tested there and at other times during his ministry. That's the compelling message to me – that Jesus needed faith. He needed faith during his temptation in the desert, during his debates with his adversaries, in the Garden of Gethsemane, and as he hung on the cross. The truth is that we like to imagine that Jesus did not flinch, doubt or ever question God's love. The much greater message, at least for me, is that in his humanity he *did* flinch, have doubts, and ask questions - and yet still remained faithful.

We see Jesus' faith tested in the temptation scenes. After 40 days of no food or water, the devil tempts him to make bread from stones – using his power for selfish reasons. In his extremely weakened state, the devil offers Jesus the ability to have power over the whole world. When he is probably at his lowest, the devil tempts Jesus to turn from God and turn to him.

In all these temptations, the question is constantly put before Jesus: "Is God to be trusted?" That is the great question that humanity - at the most basic level - is asking. That is a question that you and I ask as well – even if we don't frame it in those exact words.

When life is not going our way – can God be trusted? When danger, toil and snares are battering us – can God be trusted? When cancer, death, depression, financial troubles or worries are stifling us – can God be trusted? And we hear Jesus continuing to ever more resoundingly answer, "Yes, God is on your side. Yes, God is more *for you* than you are for yourself."

That is what Easter promises – that God can be trusted – that God is **FOR US**. Jesus shows us how to place our lives in the hands of the God who will be with us no matter what happens – and I can relate to that. Jesus' resurrection is the undeniable sign that God can be trusted!

May we – as we continue our Lenten journeys – place our faith and trust in the God who, on Easter Sunday morning, will say to us, "Christ is risen. Do you see how I keep my promises? You can trust me."

Easter Blessings,

Pastor Jami



YOUTH GROUP



Youth Group has been having a lot of fun this year and we hope to keep it going! Below are upcoming events and dates for everyone to be aware of. Don't forget youth in grades 6th-12th can attend any of the events. You can sign up for events either on the youth bulletin board or by getting in touch with Ally Lockard.

April

Saturday, April 6 - Easter Candy Making 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. in Kuntz Hall

Saturday, April 13 - Easter Candy Making 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. in Kuntz Hall

Wednesday, April 10 - POW 6 - 8 p.m. (*Lent Church Service at Hope will count for credit for Confirmation Students*)

Saturday, April 27 - Possible Youth Group Outing: be on the look out for more information

May

POW - Date TBD *Beginning of Summer Party: Outdoor Game Night!*

Other

May Play Day at Bear Creek Camp. If your youth is interested in attending a fun filled day of music, worship, ropes courses, rock climbing, boating, hiking and more consider attending the May Play Day for the NEPA Synod on May 5 at Bear Creek Camp. \$4 for children 12 and younger, \$8 for everyone else. Please visit <http://nepasynod.org/event/may-play-day/> for more information or to register by **April 22**.

CONFIRMATION UPDATES

- Welcome to Laura Hafner our new Confirmation Coordinator. Laura will be available on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour in the office next to Pastor Jami's. Parents please stop by to meet her or ask questions about the program or your child's progress.
- April 6 – 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Level 1 and 2 Mini-confirmation Retreat on the Ten Commandments
- Friday, May 3 – Sunday, May 5
Level 2 Final Confirmation Retreat at Spruce Lake Retreat Center
- Friday, May 10 - 6:30 p.m.
Level 1 Movie Night with Mentors
- Saturday, May 18 – 9:00 a.m.
Level 2 Brunch with Mentors
- Saturday, June 8 – 9:00 a.m.
Confirmation Rehearsal
- Sunday, June 9 – 10:30 a.m. Service
Confirmation and reception following the service

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 3
Mid-Week Lenten Service
11:00 AM
7:00 PM

Sunday, April 7
8:00 AM Holy Communion
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Service of the Word

Wednesday, April 10
Mid-Week Lenten Service
11:00 AM
7:00 PM

Sunday, April 14
Palm Sunday
8:00 AM Service of the Word
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion

Thursday, April 18
Maundy Thursday
11:00 AM followed by lunch
7:00 PM

Friday, April 19
Good Friday
12:00 AM at Good Shepherd,
Kriedersville
7:00 PM Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 21
Easter
6:00 AM Holy Communion
8:00 AM Holy Communion
10:30 AM Holy Communion



Sunday, April 28
8:00 AM Service of the Word
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Holy Communion

PASTORAL ACTS

Brooklynn Jade Snyder, daughter of Pete Snyder II and Cassandra Stape, was baptized on Sunday, February 4 at 10:30 a.m.

Please welcome **Brooklynn** as the newest member of our church family.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Blessings to the following children who received their first Holy Communion on March 31.

Taylor Dotter
Emily Kiplin
Jarold Knouss, Jr.

Nicholas Maltese
Henry Newton
Anna Sekol

Landen Thomas
Olivia Thomas
Alexandra Tretiak

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Can you believe in a few short months Sunday School will be over?!?! We have a busy schedule though to keep us going until then. Below is a schedule for the rest of the year. Parents, please feel free to reach out to Ally Lockard or Robin Zamadics should you have any questions.

4/7: Practice for Palm Sunday during morning worship

Monthly Mission Project of collecting money for kid's hearing aids begins

Teacher Meeting after 10:30am service

4/14: Palm Sunday – kids help during 10:30am service with entrance: ***Parents please allow your children to stay in church until about 10:45 so they can help with the Palm Sunday parade. If you will be picking your child up afterward you can meet them the Narthex. If you are staying for the 10:30 service, your child may come sit with you after the parade entrance.***

4/28: Last day for collecting money for kids hearing aids

5/12: Parent's Day Program during Sunday School

5/19: Last Day of Sunday School: Picnic

5/26: No Sunday School

6/2 Movie Day Cradle Roll-6th grade (Confirmation Testing)

6/9 Movie Day Cradle Roll-6th grade (Confirmation Testing)
Confirmation at 10:30 Service

ELECTRONIC GIVING

During this Lenten season, we hope you will consider additional giving to your church. It is through the contributions of every member that we are able to fulfill our mission. You can use our electronic giving option for both regular offerings and one-time gifts. Help us achieve a more consistent level of funding by setting up a recurring giving plan. Visit the church website at www.hopecherryville.org and locate the Online Giving

Online Giving

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



We are having the yard sale. Friday and Saturday, August 30 & 31 (Labor Day weekend), 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

NO clothing, shoes, or linens, electronics, large furniture or car seats, hard-sided luggage or mattresses/box springs will be accepted.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 2019

- The Mutual Ministry Committee recommended the hiring of people for two part-time staff positions.
 - ◊ Allison Lockard was approved as the Youth Ministry Program Coordinator. This is a new position to our staff and Allison will be responsible for all Youth Ministry programming – including all involvement at the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in 2021.
 - ◊ Laura Hafner was approved as the Confirmation Coordinator. This is a staff position we created a few years ago. Laura will be responsible for coordinating and administrating the Confirmation Program which includes oversight of the Mentor Program.
- Council approved the bid from Gary Hillegass Contracting to replace the entrance on the Kuntz Hall side with a new set of steps and a handicapped accessible ramp. The work will be completed after Easter.
- Council approved bids from Korpics Contracting Inc. to repaint the water-stained parts of the sanctuary ceiling (above the altar) and refinish the double oak entrance doors. This work will be done after Easter.
- Council approved the replacement of the current copier and Riso copier with one Sharp copier that can handle all the production work. The lease for this equipment is with Fraser Advanced Information Systems.
- Two delegates – one male and one female – are needed for the 2019 Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly. If you would be interested in representing Hope please speak to Pastor Jami.
- The next Coffee with the Council is scheduled for Sunday, May 5th at 9:15 a.m. in Kuntz Hall. This is an opportunity for members to meet in a relaxed setting to ask questions, share insights, review financial information, etc.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS

YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR—Allison Lockard

Hi, I'm Ally! I've been a member of Hope Lutheran Church since 2014. During my time here I've been involved with Sunday School, and am currently one of the Co-Coordinators, Youth Group, Confirmation Mentor, Church Council, Senior Choir, Lector, Communion Assistant, Music & Arts, and Vacation Bible School. When not at church I work as an Activities Assistant at a Senior Living Community. I also love to read, listen to music and volunteering.

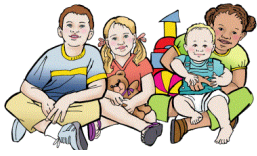
I am very excited to be working with the youth in the church and seeing how they grow in their faith everyday!

CONFIRMATION COORDINATOR—Laura Hafner

Laura Hafner joined the staff of Hope in March as the Confirmation Coordinator. Laura has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Social Work. She is employed full time at Person Directed Supports as a Performance Improvement Specialist. Laura also plays Clarinet in the Allentown Municipal Band and sings in Hope's choir. She was raised in Rosemont Lutheran Church and confirmed at the Presbyterian Church of Catasauqua where she was heavily involved as a Deacon, Preschool Sunday School Teacher and in the music program. When not at work, church, or a concert, she enjoys music, theatre (CAST & The Macungie Minstrelaires), camping, crafting, woodworking, raising her cat & rescue pup, and spending time with her family & friends.

**Ministry at
St. Stephen's Outreach Center**

Wednesday, April 10
2:30 p.m.



Easter Event
Saturday, April 13
10:30 a.m.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Thursday,
April 11
10:00 a.m.



CENTERING PRAYER GROUP

April 1 & 15
6:00 p.m.
Sunday School Room off Hanson Hall
Newcomers are always welcome!

**STORYWEAVERS
and lunch**

Tuesday, April 9, 10:00 a.m.
For more information call
LeeAnn Chandler, 610-440-0341

SOUP GROUP AND DELIVERY



Wednesday,
April 3
9:00 a.m.
Kuntz Hall kitchen.

WELCA

Tuesday, April 16
9:00 a.m.



Monday, April 15
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in Kuntz Hall

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

April 27

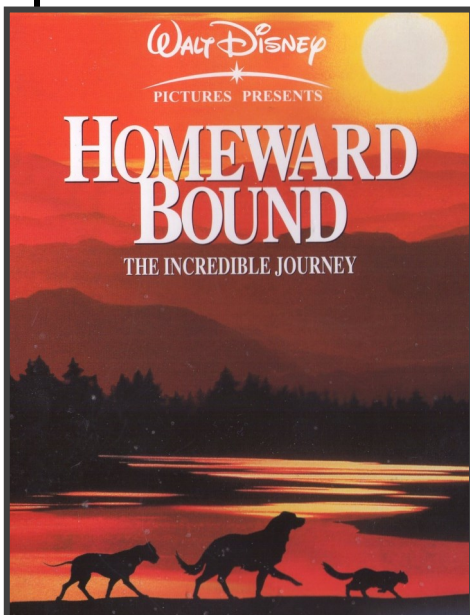
Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; Show at 6:30 p.m.
Showing in Kuntz Hall

Homeward Bound

Come and lose your heart to Chance, a fun-loving American bulldog pup; Sassy, a hilarious Himalayan cat who lives up to her name; and Shadow, a wise old golden retriever – all of whom express themselves with human voices. The adventure begins when the loving owners of these irresistible pets are forced to leave them in the temporary care of a friend who lives hundreds of miles away. But after several days, the worried animals begin to think their family must be in trouble – so they decide to head for home. On their incredible journey they encounter unexpected surprises. This is an unforgettable story of love, courage and devotion!

Refreshments provided

This is a free event! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors!
Sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex or call the church office



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

Thank you to each and every one of you who helped set up for, made food, served and then even helped tidy up Kuntz Hall the last Sunday in February! It was a wonderful celebration of two special ladies turning 90, my mom, Kathryn Strohl, and our friend Georgia Mohrey.

God's blessings to All,
Linda Sidor

Dear Pastor Jami and members of Hope,

Dean and I cannot express how blessed we are to be members in a family of so many caring people.

First to Pastor Jami for her hospital visits. It was always so nice to see her smiling face when she came in the door. The touch of her hand and hug always gave us the feeling of "Hope".

Second, we cannot thank the members enough for their many prayers, delicious food, beautiful cards, and offerings of transportation.

As we continue to heal (Dean from his stroke and me from breast cancer) please continue to pray for a full recovery for us both.

Love and God Bless,
Dean & Colleen Spadt

Dear Members of Hope,

Thank you for returning your Mission Support Intention Card for 2019. One example of the many ministries made possible through Northeastern PA Synod:

Thank to your contribution, ministries like ours not only grow, but flourish! We're a part of a Lutheran campus ministry on Kutztown University known as "In the Light". We have a house just off of campus that can house up to six students. We have an intentional Christian community that consists of eating together, house chores and a weekly Bible Study that's open to any student who wants to attend. Just two years ago we also started a student food pantry in our house that is now feeding around 160 students a week! From our community to yours - Thanks for your support.

Evangelism

Bible studies continue each Thursday evening at 6:30. Everyone is welcome to join us at any time. Please don't feel you don't know enough to participate...that is what a Bible study is all about - to learn and grow together by studying God's word. In this group we read the scripture, discuss it and try to see how it relates to our life today. Men and women, please consider joining us.

Evangelism meets the first Thursday of each month at 5:45 p.m. New people and new ideas are welcomed for this committee and we certainly could use you.

Northampton Village worship and communion- We go the second Wednesday morning of each month to provide a worship and communion for the residents. This usually is about an hour of your time. We are also planning to go there on April 28 (a Sunday afternoon) to provide an afternoon of bingo for the residents. Anyone wishing to donate a prize or two for this afternoon is welcome to do so. We give such items as crackers, small bags of potato chips, candy, pretzels, lotions, costume jewelry, seek and find puzzle books, and more.

National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 2. Pastor Jami will lead us in a short worship beginning at 11:30 a.m. and this will be followed by lunch.

Hope Church **family picnic** will be held after church on July 14 at Indian Trail Park.

21ST Annual

SPRING BASKET SOCIAL

Kuntz Hall, Hope Lutheran Church, 4131 LEHIGH DRIVE, CHERRYVILLE



FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2019
DOORS OPEN AT 4 P.M.

TICKET DRAWING BEGINS AT 7:30 P.M.

TICKETS: \$5/CARD OR 3 CARDS FOR \$10

EACH CARD GIVES YOU 25 CHANCES TO WIN!

Refreshments, including baked goods, will be sold

Special table of items valued at \$50 and up: tickets \$1 or 6 for \$5

Please bring a canned good or other non-perishable item for the food bank

Interested in donating something for this event—
drop off a theme basket, gift card (please include receipt),
bottled water, soda, or baked goods
on the evening of April 11 from 6-8 P.M.
or the morning of April 12 from 10-12 A.M.

*One set of tickets is needed for the Spring Social. The cost is \$30.

We are looking for three sponsors at \$10 each.

If interested, please speak to Linda Sidor.

Questions may be directed to the

Church office at 610-767-7203



Thank you,

THE BASKET COMMITTEE OF HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

BASKET SOCIAL NEWS

A decision has been made that beginning in 2020 the Spring Basket Social will be eliminated. The Annual Fall Social will continue as a community-based fund raiser.

Thank you to Hope Lutheran Basket Committee and the many helpers for their hard work and faithfulness to this ministry as we enter our 21st Spring Social and our 25th Fall Social!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. . . coming July 8—12

"To Mars and Beyond". Your children will discover the wonders of God's universe by journeying through space and exploring where God's power can take them. Classes will be held from 9 a.m. until noon, with a closing program on Friday, July 12 at 7 p.m. Ages include 3 year olds (potty trained) to children completing 6th grade in June 2019. Registrations can be made at vbs.hopecherryville.org or by completing a registration form located in the narthex. T-shirts are provided for each student who is registering by Sunday, June 16.



We need lots of help so please consider volunteer-ing. A staff nursery is provided for volunteers if you have younger children who are not old enough to attend. Volunteers need to register as well.

So come blast off to Mars with Gillian and his crew. For faster registrations, use the QR code.

**Registration
opening soon!**



Evangelism *(Continued from page 6)*

We will assist with the first communion reception on March 31 and the Confirmation reception on June 9.

A bus trip to Sight and Sound to see **THE MIRACLE of CHRISTMAS** is being planned for Saturday, November 2. We are planning to attend the 11:00 a.m. showing. Following the show we will travel to Shady Maples for lunch. Price will be \$125/adult and \$74/child under 12. **PAYMENT** - it is preferred that you pay the entire price at sign up; however you may choose to put \$65.00 down, and pay the other half by August 15. All checks should be made payable to Hope Lutheran Church and given to Sharyn Kratzer. A Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

The 20th **Annual Nativity Display** will be held Thanksgiving weekend - November 30 and December 1.

More details on each of these Evangelism events will be made available as we get closer to the dates. Any questions should be addressed to Sharyn Kratzer, 610-261-1277

Sharon Kratzer

WOMEN OF FAITH

Don't forget to drop off your **Women of Faith food challenge box** Palm Sunday – April 14 - 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for Sunday, May 5 – we will be having a Fashion Show and Tea to celebrate Mother's Day. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

We meet at 6 p.m. 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.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - FEBRUARY 28, 2019

	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship Loan	Memorial Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$ 102,873.22	\$ 146,144.08	\$ 139,489.65	\$ 95,612.84	\$ (4,061.92)
Income - February	28,412.67	6,305.22	5,820.95	5,170.30	-
Income - January	31,619.55	(5,107.39)	(9,451.49)	(8,733.33)	-
Total Income	60,032.22	1,197.83	(3,630.54)	(3,563.03)	-
Expenses - February	29,157.40	3,348.00	-	-	-
Expenses - January	30,065.39	1,140.00	-	2,000.00	-
Total Expenses	59,222.79	4,488.00	-	2,000.00	-
Net Income	809.43	(3,290.17)	(3,630.54)	(5,563.03)	-
Net Special Appeals	664.30				
Balance End of February	\$ 104,346.95	\$ 142,853.91	\$ 135,859.11	\$ 90,049.81	\$ (4,061.92)

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of February by \$744.73, and for the year 2019, income exceeded expenses by \$809.43, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$104,346.95. Last year the net income for the same period was \$(7,072.05) with a balance of \$83,625.09.

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>
May	Tuesday, April 16	Thursday, April 25 @ 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 April 2019 issue of *Synod News* is available online.

Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2019-4.pdf>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251

