

# Hope *Home News*

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Cherryville, PA 18035  
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July 2020  
Vol. XLVII No. 7

[hopecherryville.org](http://hopecherryville.org)



## GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

The coronavirus pandemic has challenged churches to continue being the Church without gathering in person. Many places have met that challenge by meeting online, live streaming worship, providing instructions for worship at home, and finding other ways to connect. Here at Hope, we have been blessed to have a community neighbor, Becky's Drive-In, graciously offer us a space to worship on the big screen and through an audio only service. Our congregation council has worked hard – alongside Hope's staff and many of our incredible Hope volunteers – to find creative ways to worship safely in the midst of "stay-at-home" orders from the state government. What we have found in this process is that Hope members are awesome at embracing council's decisions regarding worship and responding to the rapidly changing worship styles and locations. We have also come to see that, as much as we love our facility, the church is NOT a building – the church is the people. Thank you for your patience and willingness to accept change.

Now Hope and many other churches face another challenge. As states "re-open," how will we resume worship gatherings in person while the pandemic is still with us? In late April 2020, the White House - with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Coronavirus Task Force - issued a set of benchmarks to indicate when it would be safe to re-open various kinds of activities, and how many people could safely gather under specific distancing guidelines. The benchmarks involve both state and local public health conditions and the readiness of states and local communities to provide testing, appropriate health care, and follow-up with people who may have been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19.

These general guidelines apply at every level:

- Stay at home if you are sick, and self-quarantine

if you think you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.

- Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, especially after touching frequently used items or surfaces.
- Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces.
- Use cloth face coverings while in public. Children under 2, those with breathing problems, and those who are unable to remove a mask on their own should not wear face coverings.

### RECOMMENDED MAXIMUM SIZE FOR GATHERINGS:

- Level 1 - Social gatherings of up to 10
  - Except for: People over 65. Individuals with serious underlying health conditions: high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised.
- Level 2 - Social gatherings of up to 50
  - Except for: People over 65. Individuals with serious underlying health conditions: high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised.
- Level 3 - Social gatherings of over 50 with 6-ft. distance and face coverings
  - Vulnerable individuals can resume public interactions, but should practice physical distancing, and minimize exposure to social settings where distancing may not be practical.
  - Other factors to consider: length of interactions (the shorter the better); size of room; indoor versus outdoor activities (outdoor is generally less risky); air circulation (open air is generally less risky).

With all this in mind, we have been consulting the ELCA guidelines for resuming in-person worship; the CDC guidelines; recommendations from

*(Continued on page 2)*

## GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR (con't)

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our insurance company, Church Mutual Insurance; and The Ecumenical Consultation on Protocols for Worship, Fellowship and Sacraments to guide us in our decision-making.

As you can imagine, this is a complex decision and one the council and I do not take lightly. Much consideration will go into moving us back into the facility for worship when the time is right. As we continue to address this please know that worshiping in the sanctuary will look different. Here are some changes you will encounter:

- Seating in the sanctuary will be limited and physical distancing will be required.
- Cloth face coverings or masks will be mandatory inside the building.
- Hymnals, hospitality pads, envelopes, etc. will be removed from the pews.
- Singing is among the riskier behaviors when it comes to spreading coronavirus droplets and we will refrain from congregational singing.
- “No-touch” alternatives will be used for sharing the peace, collecting offering and distributing worship resources.
- Services will remain brief to reduce exposure time in gatherings.
- Holy communion will be shared by receiving a prefilled hermetically sealed cup and wafer combination. Members will remain in pews and partake of the elements congregationally to keep movement at a minimum.
- Members will be encouraged to move directly from the sanctuary to the parking lot at the conclusion of services – refraining from gathering inside the building.

- Hand sanitizing stations have been installed in the narthex, inside the sanctuary and at the entrances to the building for disinfecting hands.
- After every service, a thorough sanitizing of the sanctuary, door handles, bathroom fixtures, etc. will be required before another group may enter.

I’m sure you are getting the picture that things will be different and even a bit strange. Lutherans are known for congregational singing and music in general - and it is hard to imagine a service without lifting our voices. Because of these shifts in our practices, knowing that we would require multiple services and the need to sanitize the sanctuary after every service, we are taking our time making the move to re-enter the building. Worship at Becky’s Drive-In which will be held each Monday evening at dusk offers us the opportunity to “see” the service almost as if we were in the sanctuary. Our new “live” worship in the parking lot at 8 AM on Sunday mornings gives us the option to come as we are and stay in our cars, yet still experience congregational singing and live worship. And the prerecorded service is available on the church website ([hopecherryville.org](http://hopecherryville.org)) after the conclusion of it being shown at Becky’s.

If you haven’t joined us for Drive-In worship or Parking Lot worship, I hope you will now. Both are safe alternatives to in person worship and it is wonderful to see your faces and wave to you, maybe chat a little and then worship together. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Blessings,  
Pastor Jami

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## ELECTRONIC GIVING

We know that supporting your Church is important to you. Our mission has not stopped because of this public health crisis. We hope you will consider additional giving to your Church. It is through the contributions of every member that we will be able to support our members and community. 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](http://www.hopecherryville.org) and locate the Online Giving page.

Online Giving

## YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM

On behalf of the Youth and our Youth Ministries Team, I want to share our appreciation for all the support you, our congregation and church family, have shown to us over the years. You all have truly been a blessing in helping us to travel various places, either to another state or locally, to help learn about and grow in our faith and also help share God's love and Word with others. Without you, we would never have been able to send so many young people to the National Youth Gathering every year. We understand things have been interesting and unpredictable, to say the least, with COVID19 this year. Due to this, a lot of our fundraising opportunities had to be cancelled/modified to fit current CDC and government regulations. Even though the future is unknown, our youth group is getting back to our fundraising efforts. The 25 youth that are planning to attend the 2021 Youth Gathering have been working hard the last 2 1/2 years to make that dream a reality, however, we still have more work ahead of us. We are kindly asking, if you are able, to support our youth in their fundraising efforts in the upcoming months, as you all have so graciously done before. Our fundraisers will be announced in the newsletter and the weekly bulletin; please bear with us as some details may be provided last minute or may need to change, depending on the various regulations we will be following. If you should have any questions about our fundraisers, Youth Gathering, or youth group in general, please feel free to email me at [alockard313@gmail.com](mailto:alockard313@gmail.com).

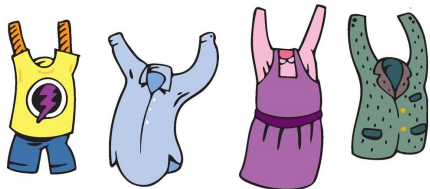
Thank you again for your continued support.

Ally Lockard  
Youth Ministries Coordinator



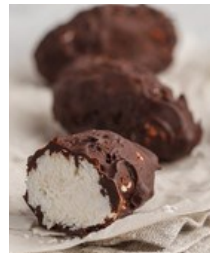
### **IT'S CLOTHING DRIVE TIME!**

For all of you who have been cleaning out your closets during the last few months, you're in luck! Youth Group will be holding another clothing drive in September. Please save any of your bags of clothes for us to help raise money for those attending the Youth Gathering in 2021. More details will be provided closer to the date.



### **CANDY SALE**

Youth Group will be hosting a Home-made Candy Sale!!!! All proceeds will go towards the youth attending the Youth Gathering next year. Pre-sales will be July 1 - August (we cannot guarantee any extra boxes will be available, so please pre-order). Each box will be \$10. We will have peanut butter, coconut cream, peanut rolled and assorted boxes. You can order through the link found in the July newsletter or by calling the Church Office. If you have questions about the candy sale or your order please call Trish Ninos at 610-360-6034. Orders will be available on Sunday, August 16 for curbside pickup between 8:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. Cars will pay at the Adult Sunday School Room door on the kitchen side of the church and then proceed to the kitchen door to pick up their order. We will NOT be accepting any payments until your order is picked up. Thank you in advance for supporting our youth! Please visit here—<https://forms.gle/3fXazZunztPVVbNY7>-to order your candy today!



Confirmation  
has been scheduled  
for  
Sunday, August 23.

## **COME JOIN US AT HOPE'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FROM JULY 6-10!**



It's going to be a fun, exciting time and one you won't want to miss. We are having a drive-thru adventure each morning which will include Bible characters, fun and games, water day, a "stay in your car egg hunt", and lots of other creative experiences. Each day will have different challenges. You will receive snacks, take home crafts, and surprises.

Time slots for the drive-thru start at 9:00 a.m. and will be every 15 minutes. As you sign up you will be filled into a slot. You will be given your assigned time when we send out our information letter just before VBS starts.

When you return home, you can go on our website at your leisure and view an instructional video for your craft of the day, see a Bible lesson with our returning Gilligan's Island crew\*, sing along with some of our favorite songs, recreational activities, and experiments!

We hope you can join us to learn Bible stories and share in the joy of God's love even through these challenging moments of our lives. Visit our website to register for our free Vacation Bible School today: [vbs.hopecherryville.org](http://vbs.hopecherryville.org)

For faster registration, use the QR code to the right.



## **COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – JUNE 2020**

- ◇ Church finances are holding steady thanks to our members who continue to give generously. A copy of the monthly financial statement is posted on the large bulletin board in the main hallway or you can contact the church office if you would like to review one.
- ◇ The July Church Picnic has been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- ◇ The council discussed next steps for worship when Becky's Drive-In opens full time and we will no longer be able to use that facility. The decision was to take the next step to worship in Hope's parking lot. An FM transmitter has been purchased and John Bednar and Jerry Mraz are working on the technical details of getting that going. Services will be held on Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. and, if needed, 9:30 a.m. Council will continue to review the ELCA and CDC guidelines moving forward to determine the safest ways for Hope to offer worship services.
- ◇ Becky's Drive-In and the Deppe family have been extremely generous in allowing us to do Drive-In Worship for the past three months. Members have begun to donate funds to offer a "thank you" gift to Becky's for their generosity. Council decided to match any funds that are donated.
- ◇ Council approved Youth Group Fundraising efforts to support the youth planning to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in July 2021 in Minneapolis:
  - \* Candy Sale in August
  - \* Clothing Drive in September
  - \* Online Gift Card Bingo Raffle in November
  - \* Nut Roll Sale in November/December
  - \* Valentine Dinner in February
  - \* Nut Roll Sale in March/April
  - \* Envelope Fundraiser in May

## HOPE LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Hope Church offers scholarship money to college students. The requirements of eligibility are:

1. Attending an accredited college/university full time
2. Will be entering second year (or higher) of college in fall of 2020
3. Is a member in good standing of Hope Lutheran Church



Applications are available on the church website or by request from the church office. Please email the church office at: [office@hopecherryville.org](mailto:office@hopecherryville.org). The deadline for applications to be in the church office is **July 19**. (Recipients of scholarship awards will be invited to attend a worship service at which they will receive the first of two checks, the second of which will be sent the first week in January 2021.)

### ANNUAL YARD SALE

Unfortunately due to the COVID-19 and the unknown of what restrictions might still be necessary in September, the Yard Sale Committee and Church Council have decided it would be best to cancel the sale this year. We ask that if possible you store your items for next year.

Don't forget the youth group will be having a clothing drive in September, as clothing is no longer accepted for the yard sale..

### BIBLE STUDY

With Pastor Jami,  
via Zoom  
Thursdays at 10:00 AM  
Call the office for  
more information

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, July 5**

9:00 AM  
Church Parking Lot

**Monday, July 6**

Dusk  
Becky's Drive-In

**Sunday, July 12**

9:00 AM  
Church Parking Lot

**Monday, July 13**

Dusk  
Becky's Drive-In

**Sunday, July 19**

9:00 AM  
Church Parking Lot

**Monday, July 20**

Dusk  
Becky's Drive-In

**Sunday, July 26**

9:00 AM  
Church Parking Lot  
Holy Communion

**Monday, July 27**

Dusk  
Becky's Drive-In  
Holy Communion

## HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL

Hope Nursery School is accepting new registrations for the next school term. Activities include: language arts, crafts, music, field trips, gym, painting and so much more! Four-year-old classes meet every Monday-Wednesday-Friday from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. and 3-year-old classes meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Ms. Deb Gable at 610-767-7523 for more information on enrollment.



## “COME AS YOU ARE, STAY IN YOUR CAR” SERVICES

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Until further notice our services, will be:

**Sundays** at 8:00 a.m. in the church parking lot, you will tune your radios to 106.5 FM as you would at Becky’s. Enter the parking lot from 248 and you will be greeted and directed to parking. You will exit onto Cherry Road following the service.

*\*The handicapped bathroom outside of Kuntz Hall will be available for emergencies, but best to take care of those needs before you arrive. Masks are required for entry through the door at the new handicapped ramp.*

Thanks to the very generous nature of Becky’s Drive-In owners, (William “Becky” and Alice’s Family) we will continue evening services there at dusk on Mondays until further notice!

**Mondays** at dusk at Becky’s Drive In.

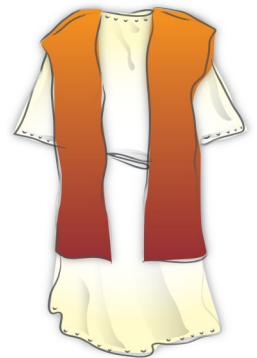
*\*bathrooms will be available for emergencies, but best to take care of those needs before you arrive. Masks are required to use the bathroom.*

## SHHHHHHHHH – IT’S A SURPRISE!!!!

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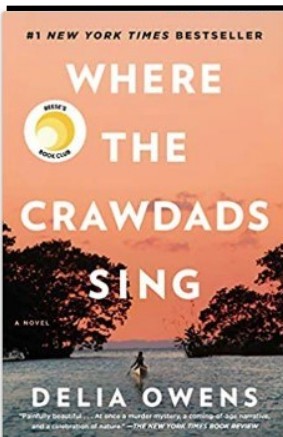
### Don’t let the mačka (cat) out of the bag!

Pastor Jerry Mraz is celebrating his 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination. We want to help him mark the occasion. At the services on Sunday, June 28 and Monday, June 29 we will make a presentation to Pastor Jerry. Sunday, June 28, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. we will have a “Zoom” Coffee hour, sign in information will be in next week’s Connections of Hope and the Sunday bulletin. Sign in anytime during the hour, with your favorite beverage in hand, and maybe an *orechovník* or *makovník* (Slovak nut or poppy roll), and greet and congratulate Pastor Jerry. Also, if you are able, send Pastor Jerry a note or card to celebrate his years of service (1370 Washington Avenue, Northampton, PA 18067).



## BOOK BUDDIES

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***Where the Crawdads Sing*** by Delia Owens. is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps.

Anyone who is interested can either order the book on your own or stop by the church office to pick-up a copy. The cost of the book is \$10. We read the entire book and then meet for a lively discussion. The next Book Buddies meeting, via Zoom, will be on **Tuesday, June 30** at 1:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. – you choose the time that works for you.



During the COVID-19 pandemic, the ELCA churchwide organization is here to support its members, congregations, synods and partners. Call 800-638-3522 and press #4 or email [HereToServe@ELCA.org](mailto:HereToServe@ELCA.org) for prayer, support and answers to questions.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

## High School:

Paige Bauer

Preston Bauer

Laura Bealer

Jordan Demko

Sierra Franco

AnnaMarie Gaugler

Zachary Haydt

Miranda Heffelfinger

Jack Heffelfinger

Sydney Hefner

Sean Koropchak

Gavin Lalik

Lauren Lalik

Alison Lorah

Alexis McDonald

Brooke Rockovits

Autumn Row

Catherine Shelly

Robert Smith

Alexis Soltis

Alyssa Tonetti

Danielle Weaver

## College:

Sophia Eckroth

Shelbey Ziegler

## OUR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SPACE

Thank you to

- ◆ Lori Kerper for making the arrangements for the flatbed;
- ◆ Horwith trucking for providing the flatbed;
- ◆ Kim Belletti for decorating;
- ◆ Cathy Moore and the Patterson family for their ingenuity and labor in putting up the canopy.





**CHARACTER DRIVE BY  
AT BECKY'S DRIVE-IN  
TO BENEFIT  
THE LITERACY CENTER  
Characters provided by Hope's  
youth Group**





FINANCIAL SUMMARY - MAY 31, 2020					
	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship	Memorial Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$161,499.08	\$146,206.85	\$143,349.81	\$ 95,238.49	\$ (2,061.92)
Income - May	26,990.32	8,753.43	6,303.32	5,219.32	-
Income - Jan.-Apr.	144,944.84	(4,739.81)	(12,916.72)	(11,913.15)	-
Total Income	171,935.16	4,013.62	(6,613.40)	(6,693.83)	-
Expenses - May	33,446.41	919.00	-	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-Apr.	121,686.57	21,430.61	8.96	3,200.00	-
Total Expenses	155,132.98	22,349.61	8.96	3,200.00	-
Net Income	16,802.18	(18,335.99)	(6,622.36)	(9,893.83)	-
Net Special Appeals	1,743.00				
Balance End of May	\$180,044.26	\$127,870.86	\$136,727.45	\$ 85,344.66	\$ (2,061.92)

**SUMMARY:**

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of May by \$6,456.09, and for the year 2020, income exceeded expenses by \$16,802.18, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$180,044.26. Last year the net income for the same period was \$24,816.95 with a balance of \$128,823.47.

*\*\* 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](mailto:communications@hopecherryville.org)). Thank you.

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Article Deadline</u>	<u>Collation Date</u>
August	Monday, July 20	Thursday, July 30 @ 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 July 2020 issue of *Synod News* is available online.

Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2020-7.pdf>

**HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251**

