

Hope *Home News*

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hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

Patience. It is a word I am growing into more and more as we live longer and longer into this Covid19 pandemic. As I write this article, we are beginning the 24th week since Pennsylvania “closed up shop” and although we are not in *that* place anymore, we are still not back to our old lives. Those first weeks were a trial for those of us who love to be out and about. We all thought it would be a short trial – and it’s been 24 weeks – and we don’t see the end of the tunnel yet.

We are all looking forward to the future when we can be together again – in large family gatherings, weddings and funerals, community and sporting events and in our church. We like to plan, to know, to get on with our lives. But this virus does not know or care about our hopes, our calendars, the vacations we have planned or the school year. And I must admit that it is hard to be patient – even as people of faith – to let go and let God work in the midst of this pandemic.

Our lack of patience reminds me of the people I see recovering from an illness, injury or joint replacement. Even with all the incredible tools of medicine we have at our disposal, it is hard to rush healing. Physical therapy is often painful and takes months. Sometimes we see some progress and we have some joy about that – but at the same time we get a bit depressed because the healing is not going as quickly as we hoped it would. We desperately want to get back on the golf course, drive our car, put the boat in the water, ride our bicycles or take a long walk. We set timelines in our minds promising to ride that bike in two weeks or swing the club in a month. And the two weeks pass and we have only made a little progress. The month passes and we are not much farther along. We show up for our follow-up visit

with the doctor who says, “Nope, you are not ready yet. Come back in six weeks for another check and we’ll see how you are doing.” And you think SIX WEEKS!

Do you see where I am going here? As much as we would like to eat dinner at our favorite restaurant or attend the cinema or fill our currently empty sanctuary, Covid19 does not care about our wishes. And patience is tough. And because it is tough, temptation comes in many forms to test our resolve. Masks, washing hands, sanitizing surfaces, get old and we might think we are not in the direct line of the virus. We relax when the numbers in our area are not rising exponentially. Patience is tough.

But here is the good news ... Hope Lutheran is continuing to be the church even though we are not in the building. We are offering worship in the church parking lot each Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m., at Becky’s Drive In on Monday nights at dusk and the recorded service is available each week on our website. Please consider joining us through one of these venues. You can sit in your car at the drive in or in the parking lot and chat with your neighbor whom you haven’t seen in months!

We are gearing up for fall programming and trying our best to creatively address the needs of our youth and adults. We continue to have a weekly bible study, monthly book clubs and committee Zoom meetings. Youth Group found a creative way to have a candy sale and are planning Youth Group events. Sure – some things are not the same – but we are gifted with incredible volunteers who have stepped up to help and we will not be daunted.

(Continued on page 2)

GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR (con't)

(Continued from page 1)

So ... patience, my friends, as we learn new and different ways to “be the church” and to “do church” in these challenging times. We are all learning and changing – we are all letting some things go – and we are doing some seriously holy experiments as we deal with this pandemic.

Blessings,
Pastor Jami

BIBLE STUDY

With Pastor Jami
Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. via ZOOM
Call the office for more information

ANNUAL YARD SALE

Unfortunately due to the COVID-19 and not knowing 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.

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 and locate the Online Giving page.

Online Giving

FALL BASKET SOCIAL

Due to COVID 19, Hope's Basket Committee and congregational Council announce the cancellation of the Fall Basket Social. The Basket Social Committee will meet in the spring of 2021 to discuss future Fall Socials.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 6

8:00 AM

Church Parking Lot

Monday, September 7

Dusk

Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, September 13

8:00 AM

Church Parking Lot

Monday, September 14

Dusk

Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, September 20

8:00 AM

Church Parking Lot

Monday, September 21

Dusk

Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, September 27

8:00 AM

Church Parking Lot
Holy Communion

Monday, September 28

Dusk

Becky's Drive-In
Holy Communion

Council Highlights – August 2020

- ◆ Church Finances continue to hold 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.
- ◆ A contribution to Becky's for allowing us to worship there since the pandemic was approved. The total was \$5,712.00. Many members from the congregation made donations and the council matched those donations to arrive at this total. Thank you to all who recognized the generosity of Becky's these past months and wrote thank you notes to the Deppe family and Becky's - and thank you for your generous gifts to Becky's as well.
- ◆ Council approved a new ministry – Hope Community Cupboard. Lee Creyer has agreed to build a food cupboard which will be placed under the covered drive-thru for use by the entire community. A Thrivent Action Team grant will be used to stock it for the first time. Women of Faith and WELCA have agreed to monitor it to make sure it is stocked for use. This is open to the community and is a free ministry supported by Hope. Occasionally, we will do a drive for food to restock it. This does not take the place of our contributions to the Northampton Food Bank. It is only for emergency food needs. We will continue to support the food bank with food as well.
- ◆ Council approved a proposal from Hope Preschool to reopen in the fall if they can get sufficient parents to enroll their children. Classes will be held in Kuntz Hall, masks and temperature checks required as well as other safety protocols that will be in place.
- ◆ The Level 2 Confirmation class will be confirmed at an outdoor parking lot service on Sunday, August 23 at 9:30 a.m.
- ◆ The First Communion Class is scheduled to receive first communion on Sunday September 27 at an outdoor service. Details will follow.
- ◆ Hope is ramping up for the fall ...
 - * Sunday School is planning to offer short, prerecorded lessons for Sunday School children from 3 years old through 6th grade beginning Sunday, September 13. These will be available on the Hope website.
 - * Level 1 and 2 Confirmation classes will begin virtually via Zoom twice a month beginning September 13. There is a parent Zoom meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 2 at 7:00 p.m. Laura Hafner will be communicating this information to the students and parents.
 - * Youth Group programming will begin on August 20 with an outside, physically-distanced youth event. Masks for all gatherings are required. Leaders will have parents fill out a form regarding Covid19 and temperatures will be taken. Youth Group will meet outside again on September 18 and October 17.
 - Youth Group is holding a clothing Drive from October 4 through October 16. A POD will be located in the parking lot for drop off of bagged, gently used clothing. Pick up of the clothing is scheduled for Saturday, October 17.
- ◆ The Stewardship Committee is actively planning the 2021 Hope Stewardship Program.

BAPTISM

Aubrey Marie
daughter of
Cory and Rachel
Edelman
Baptized August 2



FIRST COMMUNION

In January of 2020, the 5th Grade Sunday School Class started their first communion journey. Throughout the weeks, the students worked through lessons about why communion is communion, how communion is connected to Moses, the last supper, the church community, symbols around the church, and created mosaics and banners for the students to remember their first communion. The weeks were flying by and we were on track to celebrate their first communion on April 19, but then our plans came to a screeching halt.



Now it's August 2020, and we are once again preparing for our students to receive their First Holy Communion. The time has finally come for these 5th graders (now 6th graders!) to share in the sacrament on Sunday, September 27 at a special service in the parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Congratulations to the following students on joining with us in the Communion of Saints:

Molly Binder
Cale Bollinger
Alyzah Borger
Caden Butryn
Evan Knouss

Kacee Medei
Derek Moyer
Samantha Neff
Kendall Scholl
Liam Sekol

Addison Smith
Byrcen Smith
Andi Szwast
Alexia Unangst

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 13!

We will start the year with a "virtual" Sunday School. Activity packs will be handed out after worship on Sunday mornings, and lessons and music will be available online for students to watch. This program will be available for students age 3 years through 6th grade. Please see the email that was sent for more information and to register. If you did not receive an email and would like to receive activity packs for your child, please visit sundayschool@hopecherryville.org.





Youth Group's next **Youth Night** will be held on **Friday, September 18** from 7 p.m.—9 p.m. Snacks will be provided. We will be playing team games including:

GLOW IN THE DARK CAPTURE THE FLAG AND GROG (similar to freeze tag)!!!!

An email will be sent to 6th-12th grade parents with more information.

Anyone who has a child in 6th-12th grade and would like to receive email and/or text message updates about youth group, please email Ally Lockard at alockard313@gmail.com.

National Youth Gathering

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 **OCTOBER 4th** through **16th**. Please save any of your bags of clothes for us to help raise money for those attending the Youth Gathering. A POD will be available to drop off your items during this time. We will not be able to store any items inside the church prior to or during this time.



Youth Group will be hosting an **ONLINE GIFT CARD RAFFLE** to help support those students attending the Youth Gathering in 2022. The raffle drawing will take place on **November 7**. Tickets will be available for purchase beginning in October. Tickets will be \$15, with each additional ticket at \$10. This ticket will include one entry into each of our \$50 raffles and one entry into the GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE worth \$200. Please look out for more details in the bulletin and October newsletter.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR THE 2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

Karissa Fritz: A Junior at Peirce College; Graduate of Northampton Area High School Class of 2018

Katelyn Graver: A Sophomore at Muhlenberg College; Graduate of Northampton Area High School Class of 2019

Ashley Hildebrand: A Junior at Moravian College; Graduate of Northampton Area High School Class of 2018

Dawson Hughes: A Senior at Delaware Valley University; Graduate of Pen Argyl Area High School Class of 2017

Shaye Kerper: A Junior at Bloomsburg University; Graduate of Bethlehem Catholic High School Class of 2018

Kevin Laudano: A Junior at Lehigh University; Graduate of Northampton Area High School

Molly Laury: A Junior at Muhlenberg College; Graduate of Northampton Area High School Class of 2018

Elizabeth Moore: A Junior at West Chester University; Graduate of Northampton Area High School Class of 2018

Logan Ninos: A Junior at Ithaca College; Graduate of Northampton Area High School Class of 2018

Bailey Patterson: A Junior at Colorado State University; Graduate of Northampton Area High School Class of 2018

Katerina Sawickij: A Junior at Nova Southeastern University; Graduate of Southern Lehigh High School Class of 2018

Carlie Small: A Junior at Duquesne University; Graduate of Northampton Area High School Class of 2018

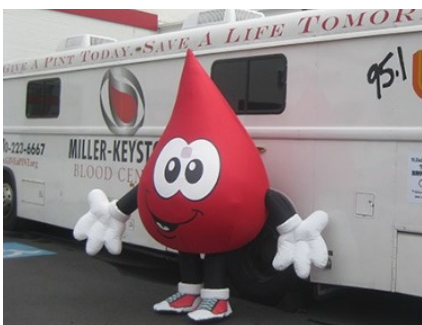
CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2020

On August 23 eighteen students were confirmed at a service in the church parking lot. Here is a “group” shot of our newest confirmed members. Congratulations and blessings to them and their families!



Top row (left to right): Rorie Anderson, Jessica Erking, Lucy Follweiler, Hannah Harwick, Aiden Maltese
Second row (left to right): Trent Moyer, Claudia Pereira, Matthew Rousenberger, Aubrey Rehrig
Third row (left to right): Nora Sekol, Aiden Sell, Emma Smith, Maggie Smith, Caylee Strohl
Bottom row (left to right): Delaney Szwast, Lucas Vadelund, Elijah Weiss, Kody Ziegenfus

BLOOD DRIVE



Miller Keystone Blood Mobile will be at the Hope Lutheran Church parking lot on Saturday, September 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a donor every 20 minutes. You will sign-in inside the church through the handicapped entrance by Kuntz Hall. You will stay in the church building until called into the mobile unit. All sign-ups will be done online only. If you would like to sign-up, please do so online at www.giveapint.org. Please seriously consider giving.

HOPE COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

You may notice something different under the car port. It is a beautiful cupboard, thanks to the fine talent and donation of Lee Creyer. This is our new **“Hope Community Cupboard”**. So many people are living with food insecurity these days and many are not comfortable asking for assistance. The Community Cupboard will be kept stocked with non-perishable/shelf stable food, and people needing sustenance will be able to stop by and help themselves. It has been filled by a Thrivent Action Team Grant. This will not replace our support of the Northampton Area Food Bank, but is an additional way we can help our neighbors in need.



BOOK BUDDIES

The next book has been chosen and ordered:



WHAT ARE THE ODDS? FROM CRACK ADDICT TO CEO by Mike Lindell.

Amazon says: *“Mike Lindell is the author of What Are the Odds? From Crack Addict to CEO. A raw, authentic memoir revealing his battles with crack cocaine and gambling addictions, hardship and failure that he struggled with for decades all while pursuing his entrepreneurial journey.*

Lindell is also the inventor and CEO of MyPillow, Inc. The Minnesota-based company has been in business for more than a decade and sold more than 46 million MyPillows. Lindell started the business in his garage with the help of his family. He is a philanthropist giving millions of dollars to help those in need. Lindell is also an evangelist who does speaking engagements nationwide. His passion has always been for helping people. Lindell is proof that with hard work and faith, you can live your dream.”

The cost of the book is \$25. The books are in and you can pick-up your copy from the church office. The next Book Buddies meeting will be on Tuesday, September 15 at 1:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. – you choose the time that works for you.



Lutheran Disaster Response
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).



Friends,

Fueled by a heat wave and ignited by lightning strikes, some of the worst wildfires in California's history have erupted across the state. At least four people have died, tens of thousands of people are under evacuation orders, over 1 million acres have burned, and more than 1,000 structures have been destroyed and thousands more are threatened. Some evacuees face the difficult decision of whether to stay in a shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California and Lutheran Social Services of Northern California, along with the three California synods (Sierra Pacific, Southwest California and Pacifica), to assess the situation and determine the best ways to respond. We expect immediate needs to include food and other life necessities, as well as emotional and spiritual care for those who have been traumatized. Long-term recovery assistance may include rebuilding and repairing homes.

[You can support wildfire survivors. Gifts to "U.S. Wildfires" will be used in full \(100%\) to assist those affected by wildfires until the response is complete.](#)

Please join me in praying for those whose lives are being impacted by disasters at this time: wildfires, COVID-19, severe storms, hurricanes and more. Even as we face multiple crises, by working together, we can reflect Christ's light and hope to our neighbors in their time of need.

With gratitude for your partnership,

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Funding
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Visit <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response> to see all the disasters we, as members of the ELCA, are responding to through LDR. You can also make an electronic donation on the site. If you prefer you may place a donation in the offering basket marked for Lutheran Disaster Response at either of our weekly services.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - JULY 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 - July	27,150.81	6,172.03	6,236.10	2,421.46	-
Income - Jan.-Jun.	195,316.90	9,895.54	(3,357.05)	(3,951.16)	-
Total Income	222,467.71	16,067.57	2,879.05	(1,529.70)	-
Expenses - July	28,780.74	99.00	-	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-Jun.	182,456.90	22,489.32	17.60	3,200.00	-
Total Expenses	211,237.64	22,588.32	17.60	3,200.00	-
Net Income	11,230.07	(6,520.75)	2,861.45	(4,729.70)	-
Net Special Appeals	3,970.97				
Balance End of July	\$176,700.12	\$139,686.10	\$146,211.26	\$ 90,508.79	\$ (2,061.92)

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of July by \$1,629.93, and for the year 2020, income exceeded expenses by \$11,230.07, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$176,700.12. Last year the net income for the same period was \$23,589.03 with a balance of \$127,585.55.

*** 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>
October	Monday, September 14	Thursday, September 24 @ 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 September 2020 issue of *Synod News* is available online.
Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2020-9.pdf>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251

