

Hope *Home News*

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hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

Every week as I get ready to put together the worship services and my sermon, I can't help but think how different this process is since Covid19 charged into our lives and changed so many things. I never would have imagined recording services to show on a drive-in theater screen – or standing on a flatbed trailer preaching in a parking lot!

And when I listen to people talking about these coronavirus changes in our lives, few people have anything positive to say. We talk about what we are not able to do now - where we cannot go now - who we cannot see now. But do we ever take time to be thankful for some of the new things we have learned - or the technology we have mastered – or the togetherness we may be experiencing in our families now that we are spending more time at home?

I know that time will have to pass before we actually can get enough distance and perspective to see how this pandemic has reset our lives. And I wonder if – when it is all over – will we go back to everything we were doing before in the very same ways. Will sports be as important? Will what we do for entertainment and recreation change? Will church become a first priority in a family? Will some of the “resets” we are experiencing be permanent? Will some of them end up being a blessing? Let me share a story with you ...

There is an old Taoist story about a wise man on the northern frontier of China. One day, for no apparent reason, a young man's horse ran away and was taken by nomads across the border. Everyone tried to offer consolation for the man's ill fortune,

but his father, a wise man, said, 'What makes you so sure that this is not a blessing?'

Months later, his horse returned, bringing with her a magnificent stallion. This time everyone was full of congratulations for the son's good fortune. But now his father said, 'What makes you sure this isn't a disaster?' Their household was made richer by this fine horse, which the son loved to ride. But one day he fell off the horse and broke his hip. Once again, everyone offered their consolation for his bad luck, but his father said, 'What makes you so sure that this is not a blessing?'

A year later the nomads mounted an invasion across the border, and every able-bodied man was required to take up his bow and go into battle. The Chinese frontiersmen lost nine out of every ten men. Only because the son was lame did the father and son survive to take care of each other. Truly the story reminds us, blessing turns to disaster, and disaster to blessing: The changes have no end, nor can the mystery be fathomed.

We often get perspective about a situation only after it has passed. And I am sure that will be true with the coronavirus. But as we continue to navigate our way through these times, may we take a moment each day to give thanks for one thing that was good – one thing that was loving – one thing that was a blessing – one life we touched. Doing that may help us see that there is always good in the world and in our lives. Stay well my friends.

Blessings,
Pastor Jami

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS—SEPTEMBER 2020

- ◆ Council approved plans to move the 8:00 a.m. parking lot service to 9:00 a.m. beginning October 4. Sunday School package pick-up, the adult class and confirmation classes will move to later times as well. This will be communicated in the bulletins, newsletter, website, Facebook page, church sign, answering machine and the Press newspaper.
- ◆ Council received a Thank You note from Becky's Drive In for the contribution of \$5712.00 which was a combination of member donations and a congregation matching donation. We are grateful to Becky's and the Deppe family for their generosity as we continue to worship at their facility.
- ◆ The Annual Meeting will be held on November 9 at 10:00 a.m. in the church parking lot. This will allow a large gathering of members to meet safely and participate fully. Council is working on the details. The agenda will include election of council members, the presentation of the 2021 budget and mandatory changes to the constitution which come out of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly.
- ◆ Council approved a request from the Senior Center to hold a drive-thru flu shot clinic on October 13 in the church parking lot. The clinic will be open to Hope members but a reservation must be made through the Senior Center office.
- ◆ Council approved a bid from Korpics Construction to paint the damaged areas of the sanctuary ceiling which sustained water leakage stains from the compromised steeple which was replaced. Korpics is scheduled to do the work the week of September 14.
- ◆ Many thanks to Lee Creyer who built the new Hope Community Cupboard which is located under the carport area of the parking lot. The cupboard is open to anyone in the community who may need an emergency food source. A Thrivent grant was used to stock the cupboard for its opening.
- ◆ The Youth completed a successful homemade candy sale to support

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 4
9:00 AM
Church Parking Lot

Monday, October 5
Dusk
Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, October 11
9:00 AM
Church Parking Lot

Monday, October 12
Dusk
Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, October 18
9:00 AM
Church Parking Lot

Monday, October 19
Dusk
Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, October 25
9:00 AM
Church Parking Lot
Holy Communion

Monday, October 26
Dusk
Becky's Drive-In
Holy Communion

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

YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM



Youth Group will be holding another **CLOTHING DRIVE** this month. We are accepting bags of clothes and bedding (sheets, blankets, and comforters). A POD will be available 24/7 beginning **October 4** through **October 16** for bag drop offs. The POD will be located on the side of the church by Kuntz Hall.

Those attending the Youth Gathering, please mark your calendar to help load our clothing drive truck on **October 17** at 10 a.m.

IT'S RAFFLE TIME!!!! This year Youth Group will be hosting an **online GIFT CARD RAFFLE** to help raise money for those attending the Youth Gathering in 2022. Tickets will go on sale beginning October 4 and end on November 1. The drawing will be held online on November 7. You do not need to be present to win. Please visit our church website for pricing, available packages, prize categories and to request your tickets, or email Ally Lockard at alockard313@gmail.com.

Anyone in 6th - 12th grade, our next **Youth Event** will be on Saturday, **October 17** at 12 p.m. We will be having a pumpkin decorating contest and playing some games. Lunch will be provided. Please email Ally Lockard if you would like to attend—
alockard313@gmail.com

Ally Lockard
Youth Ministries Coordinator



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School has begun for Cradle Roll - 6th grade! We are so excited to see everyone sending in pictures and working on their projects. Don't forget, any youth age 2 through 6th grade can participate in our virtual Sunday School.

To view our weekly lesson videos, please visit www.hopecherryville.org. Click on "Virtual Sunday School" under the "Videos" tab.



Sunday School packet pick up will be held during the following times: before Sunday morning service, after Sunday morning service, and before the Monday night service at Becky's. If you cannot make one of those times, please let us know and we can set aside packs for you to pick up at a later date or in the church office during the week.

If you have any questions about Sunday School, please email us at
sundayschool@hopecherryville.org.

See page 8 for more pictures of our flat Jesus project.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS (con't)

(Continued from page 2)

their efforts to go to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in 2022. The group netted \$1263.46.

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ The next council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m. This is a change from the regular second-Monday-of-the-month meeting because we will still be worshipping at Becky's on Monday nights which would interfere with the normal council meeting time.

GRATITUDE SUNDAY November 15, 2020 LIVING GENEROUSLY: Giving Our First and Best to God



Beginning the weekend of October 18 through November 15, we will join Frank Donovan and his family on their journey to understanding generous living. At our worship services we will get to know the family better as they work through the weekly themes of: First, Defense, Poor, Tower, and Seedtime. We will explore these themes with scripture such as: Luke 10:27, 1 Timothy 6:10; 2 Corinthians 8:9; and Galatians 6:1-10. The questions remaining for us will be:

“What are you doing with the resources of time, treasure, and talent that God has given you? and Are you living generously?”

At both services the weekend of November 15 we will complete and return an Estimate of Giving Card with those questions and the Donovans “Journey of Generosity” in mind.

Are you willing to take the journey?

HOPE FOR OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUES

With schools opening, in one form or another, we again will be assisting the Northern Lehigh and Northampton School Districts in their fight against hunger. Their programs provide breakfast on school days and lunch on weekends for their students in need. Full stomachs lead to students being on task more often, can increase math test scores, possibly increase reading test scores, and increase attendance.

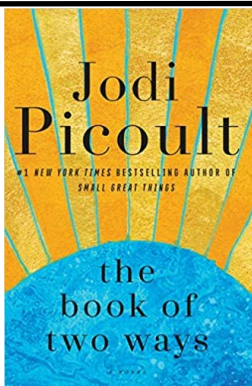


Food items can be dropped off at any service or in the church during office hours. Please remember due to allergies within the school all donations should be peanut and nut free.

Some suggested items:

Pop Tarts	Mini-Cereal Boxes	Fruit Snacks	Breakfast Bars
Teddy Grahams	Gold Fish Crackers	Pretzels	Cheeze-its
Graham Crackers	Granola Bars	Shelf-stable Yogurt	Trail mix
Shelf-stable milk	Mac-n-cheese	Canned soups/stews/pastas	

BOOK BUDDIES



We have selected our next book “**The Book of Two Ways**” by Jodi Picoult. The cost of the book will be \$20.50. Books will be available in the church office after next week. The next Book Buddies meeting will be on Monday, October 26 at 1:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. – you choose the time that works for you. Hope to see you there!

How many of us have looked back on a decision that changed our lives and wondered: what if we had made a different choice? Picoult’s novel *The Book of Two Ways* digs into this very question and the result is incredibly thought-provoking. Dawn Edelstein was once a young grad student working on a dig in Egypt, in love with a fellow Egyptologist, and getting ever closer to proving a radical new theory about ancient Egyptians’ burial rituals for the road to the afterlife. Then a phone call from home changed everything. Fifteen years later, Dawn is married, with a teenage daughter, and working in Boston as a death doula, helping the dying prepare to leave this world in the best way possible. When Dawn has a near-death experience she is confronted with the question of whether the good life she has could have been a great one. Dawn doesn’t just ponder the question—she returns to Egypt, and the man she once loved, to see if she can find the answer. Picoult incorporates fascinating details about Egyptology into her novel—the title comes from an ancient Egyptian tome of the same name—bringing history and a universal connection into the story. *The Book of Two Ways* is a provocative exploration into monumental questions: about the life we are living, who we want to be with when we die, and whether it’s possible—and acceptable—to change our mind, return to the trailhead, and go another way. —*Seira Wilson, Amazon Book Review*

THANK YOU . . .

Hope Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for the scholarship money that I was awarded. This will go towards purchasing my textbooks that will help me further my education and help me learn new valuable information.

Ashley Hildebrand



Hope Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for the thoughtful gift!

Love,

Sierra Franco



Dear Hope Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for awarding me a scholarship check this semester! It means so much to be recognized and remembered by the church.

I am currently a sophomore at Muhlenberg College, majoring in Biology and double minoring in German and Public Health, as I hope to become a physician one day. Your scholarship has tremendously helped me pay for textbooks and other academic expenses this semester.

Thank you again, and I hope that everyone is staying well!

Katelyn Graver

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Hope Lutheran Congregation,

Many thanks for the Dunkin Donuts gift card for graduation. I am very grateful for your generosity and thinking of me.

Thanks,
Robert Smith



Dear Pastor Possinger, Mrs. Spadt, and congregation,

Please accept the sincere appreciation of the students, faculty, and the members of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors for the very generous donation of \$638.30 and the \$700 worth of food for our Backpack Buddy program.

At the August 10, 2020, School Board Meeting, I have shared with the Board of Education your generous gift donations. These generous donations help fill a weekend bag of food for the most needed families in our district that suffer from meal insecurity. At this time, the Backpack Buddy program feeds over 100 families. This program really lifts a financial burden for our families and contributes to the confidence and success of our students. The support we receive from strong community partners like you makes this program possible and makes a big difference in the lives of our students. When we all work together for the good of the district, only great things can happen.

Again, please accept my personal thanks, and my thanks on behalf of the Board of Education for recognizing that we must all work together for the benefit of the students, district, and the community.

Respectfully yours,
Matthew J. Link, Superintendent



Dear Hope Youth Group,

Thank you so much for all of you volunteering at our Character Drive Thru in June.

You all brought all the characters to life while greeting all the children driving by.

We are blessed to have the Youth Group from Hope Lutheran to be so caring by volunteering at Becky's!

Love Always,
Cindy and Becky's Drive-In



Dear Hope Lutheran Church,

I'm not sure you all realize how much it means to us having your church services at our drive-in this year, and counting. We look forward having all the church worshipers arrive and attend your church service in the evening each week.

It is wonderful seeing everyone worship and watch your services each week on our big screen. A lot of work and talent is put into the makings of your church service on video. There is also so much love put into the messages on the screen each week. They are all very interesting to see and hear all the lessons for children as well.

Your church has brought much love and support to everyone at Becky's. In these trying times with the pandemic, the church brought us much hope for better days ahead.

Cindy Deppe
Becky's Drive-In

With deepest sympathy we announce those who have entered life eternal:



Vincent Dieter, July 4

Nancy McCarty, July 28

Walter Holler, August 18

Craig Reenock, September 8

Joanne Heffelfinger, September 14

ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 8

Our annual meeting will be held Sunday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the church parking lot. We will have elections for church council and approve required changes to the congregational constitution.

CANDLE SPONSORSHIPS

This year for Christmas Eve worship we will be using Glow Stick Candles. Each person will receive their own Glow Candle to crack and set the night ablaze while we worship. Each candle will last four hours once activated. If you would like to help with the cost of these special candles, you can do so by sponsoring a box of twelve in “memory of” or “in honor of” someone. The cost of sponsorship of each box of candles is \$9.00. Please contact Jennifer in the church office at 610-767-7203 or email office@hopecherryville.org if you would like to sponsor candles.

BIBLE STUDY

With Pastor Jami, via Zoom

Thursdays at 10:00 AM

Call the office for more information

Thank you to everyone who participated in the blood drive helping us to meet our goal of 13 pints.



Your Blood. Their Hope.
MILLER-KEYSTONE
BLOOD CENTER

NEW MEMBER CLASS

A New Member Class, for anyone interested in joining Hope Lutheran, will be held by Zoom, on Sunday, October 18 at 10:30 a.m. Please contact the church office if you are interested in joining our family of faith at 610-767-7203 or email office@hopecherryville.org. On Sunday, October 25 we will be receiving our new members during the 9:00 a.m. Parking Lot Worship. We ask all new members to please submit a picture to the church office as we will prepare a special slideshow presentation for the Becky’s Drive-in worship service on Monday, October 26.

A drive-thru flu shot clinic on Tuesday, October 13, 9:00—11:00 a.m. in the church parking lot. The clinic will be run by CVS. You will need to bring your insurance card. Reservations are necessary so that they have enough shots for everyone attending. Please call Karen at the Cherryville Senior Center— 610-767-2977 to register.



Flat Jesus Project



33rd ANNUAL SYNOD ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY

Northeastern PA Synod Assembly 2020 will be held online: Friday evening, October 16; Sunday afternoon, October 18; Friday evening, October 23; and Saturday morning and afternoon, October 24. As well as the usual business of the assembly, this year is the election of a Synod Bishop. Bishop Samuel Zeiser is retiring having completed two terms. The newly elected Bishop will take over the reins on January 1, 2021. Hope Lutheran Church will be represented at the assembly by three voting members: Doug and Leslie Daniel and Donald Hayn, who we thank for their service.

2020 CONFIRMATION CLASS



FINANCIAL SUMMARY - AUGUST 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 - August	31,701.80	8,255.06	7,064.66	3,260.42	-
Income - Jan.-Jul.	222,467.71	16,067.57	2,879.05	(1,529.70)	-
Total Income	254,169.51	24,322.63	9,943.71	1,730.72	-
Expenses - August	34,959.43	2,471.24	-	2,400.00	-
Expenses - Jan.-Jul.	211,237.64	22,588.32	17.60	3,200.00	-
Total Expenses	246,197.07	25,059.56	17.60	5,600.00	-
Net Income	7,972.44	(736.93)	9,926.11	(3,869.28)	-
Net Special Appeals	1,489.97				
Balance End of August	\$170,961.49	\$145,469.92	\$153,275.92	\$ 91,369.21	\$ (2,061.92)

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of August by \$3,257.63, and for the year 2020, income exceeded expenses by \$7,972.44, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$170,961.49. Last year the net income for the same period was \$18,441.72 with a balance of \$122,715.71.

*** 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>
November	Tuesday, October 20	Thursday, October 29 @ 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 October 2020 issue of *Synod News* is available online.
Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2020-10.pdf>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251

