

Hope *Home News*

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

November 2020
Vol. XLVII No. 11

hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

The other day someone said to me, "It is such a shame that our church is closed." I looked at the person and replied, "The church is not closed. We may not be worshipping in our sanctuary at the moment – but the church is not closed." In fact - things at the church are busy – it is almost hard to think we are still in the pandemic as activities inside and outside the church are keeping us occupied.

- Many of our programs are up and running – Sunday School, Confirmation, Adult Christian Education Classes, Bible Study, Book Club, Committee meetings, Women of Faith.
- Worship is ongoing and we continue to morph and change as needed. We are working on upcoming All Saints Sunday to keep worship meaningful and lively at the drive-in and in the parking lot. Christmas is looming and we are actively working on the services for that joyous time in the life of the church.
 - * Every week we offer a service in Hope's parking lot on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and a service at Becky's Drive-In on a Monday evening. That service will be changing to Saturday nights at 6:30 p.m. in late November. We also put our recorded service on our website for members to watch from the comfort of their homes.
- The pre-school is back with a limited number of students, meeting in Kuntz Hall each day so they can spread out and stay safe.
- Although the Senior Center is not open for clients to eat lunch in the building, Northampton County is delivering meals to some of those people who usually attended.
- Meals On Wheels is picking up meals at Hope each day and delivering them to seniors in the area.

- On Sunday, October 18, we began a 5-week Stewardship series leading us up to Gratitude Sunday on November 15 called *Living Generously*.
- The Annual Meeting is set to be held in Hope's parking lot on November 8 at 10:30 a.m. We will elect new members to our congregation council and nominating committee and review and approve a 2021 budget.
- The Relaunch Team has met and has begun to look at how we will successfully get back into the facility at some point in time.
- Hope's Soup Group is planning to start their soup making and deliveries to STAR members (seniors with transportation and accessibility restrictions) in the month of November.
- The Youth Group is actively doing fundraising and holding monthly activities despite the limitations they face.
- On Sunday, October 18 we hosted a Zoom new member class and will receive 10 new members at the services on October 25.
- We continue to provide pastoral care as we are able through funerals, weddings and baptisms as well as visits and phone calls to members.

If people say the church is closed - they are very wrong. While we may not be back in our building for worship - we have never stopped being the church. Many thanks to all of our incredible and creative members who help to make "church" happen both in our facility and in the world!

Blessings,
Pastor Jami

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS—October 2020

- ◆ Hope's finances are holding steady thanks to the regular contributions from our members. Council is very grateful that members have kept up with their commitments and offerings so that the work of the congregation can continue.
- ◆ The Budget Team is actively working on the 2021 Budget which will be available to the congregation on Sunday, November 1. ***This will be a budget that has not been reviewed by council.*** The council will meet on November 4 to review the proposed budget and send it to the congregation at the annual meeting.
- ◆ The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 8 at 10:30 a.m. in the Hope parking lot. Members will tune into FM 106.5 and be able to stay in their cars for the meeting. A quorum of 50 members is required to hold this meeting. Refreshments will be served by the council. Hand-held microphones will be available for members to ask questions or make comments. The agenda will include:
 - ◇ Elections for the Congregation Council and the Nominating Committee
 - ◇ Approval of the proposed 2021 Budget
 - ◇ Any matters for the good of the congregation
- ◆ Gratitude Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, November 15. This is the Sunday we make our commitment to the ministry we do at Hope Lutheran. Estimate of Giving Cards will be available at the services on November 8 and 15. Members are encouraged to return their commitments as they enter the parking lot of Becky's Drive-In, drop them off at the church office or mail them into the church.
- ◆ Council has appointed a Relaunch Team consisting of some members of council and others who help with worship services. They have developed a survey which will be going out to congregation members to discern preferences for worship and reentering the building for worship in the future.

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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 1

9:00 AM

Church Parking Lot

Monday, November 2

Dusk*

Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, November 8

9:00 AM

Church Parking Lot

Monday, November 9

Dusk

Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, November 15

9:00 AM

Church Parking Lot

Monday, November 16

Dusk

Becky's Drive-In

Saturday, November 21

Dusk

Becky's Drive-In

Holy Communion

Sunday, November 22

9:00 AM

Church Parking Lot

Holy Communion

Saturday, November 28

Dusk

Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, November 29

9:00 AM

Church Parking Lot

*6:30 p.m.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Group will be selling tie dye face masks to help support those attending the Youth Gathering in 2022. These will make great Christmas presents! Each mask will be \$5. Masks can be purchased after Sunday services at the table by the trailer. We can accept cash and checks. Please practice social distancing. Sale will begin November 8.

The Youth will be selling nut rolls to raise money to go to the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN, in July 2022. The nut rolls will be provided from Country Cottage Bakery in Tamaqua. Flavors include walnut (traditional), prune (lekvar), poppy seed, apricot, apple, seedless red raspberry, pumpkin cheese, and coconut cream. Nut rolls can be purchased through the link, <https://forms.gle/JLCNGbYRnfNZ5X9q8> or by calling the office at Hope. The link is active now although officially nut rolls will be sold from November 15 to December 2. Nut rolls will cost \$18 each. No money will be accepted at this time. Payment will be due upon pick up. Pick up will be Sunday, December 20 at Hope via drive-through by Kuntz Hall.

If any questions please call Trish Ninos; 610-360-6034 or email at trishcninos@yahoo.com.

If you purchased raffle tickets for the gift card raffle, we will be drawing winners via Facebook live on November 7 at 11am. Please visit our church's Facebook page to watch. If it is after November 1 and you would still like to purchase tickets, please email Ally Lockard at alockard313@gmail.com.



Thank you for your continued support for our youth!

Ally Lockard
Youth Ministries Coordinator

Youth Night

November 13
at 7pm via zoom.

We will be hosting a virtual escape room. The link will be sent closer to the event.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Packets for youth age 2 – 6th grade can be picked up before Sunday morning service, after Sunday morning service and before Monday night service at the Greeter Stations.

Sunday School is looking for any youth who would like to help with our weekly videos. We are looking for kids to help with music and activities. If your child would like to be in one of our videos, please email sundayschool@hopecherryville.org.

A NOTE . . .

Praying you'll be refreshed today by God's Spirit-the source and supply of every blessing.

We give thanks to God for your continued ministry during these difficult times of pandemic.

God's peace and blessings.

From the members of
Jordan Lutheran Church, Orefield.

Summary Report of Annual Synod Assembly

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

October 16, 18, 23 and 24, 2020



With Covid-19 still lingering, a decision was made to hold the Annual Synod Assembly as an online event rather than having hundreds of individuals gather at Kalahari Resort. This entailed a great deal of preparation to ensure that voting members would be able to cast their ballots online. The synod offered several pre-sessions for participants to practice using the technology needed to “attend” the synod assembly which then occurred over two weekends. The focus of this synod meeting was the nomination of candidates and election of a new Bishop for the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. Other business included financial reports and presentation of the 2021 budget, various video presentations of mission projects, a mission district caucus meeting, and committee reports.

On October 16, the assembly opened with a worship service highlighted with Bishop Zeiser preaching. This was followed by the introduction of the process to be used for the election of a bishop, and the first ballot voting. To be nominated for the position of Bishop an individual must only be a rostered leader of ELCA. The first ballot produced 78 individuals who were nominated, including Pastor Jami. By the time we

reconvened on Sunday afternoon, October 18, this list had been reduced to 19 nominees. The remaining 59 individuals had withdrawn their names from consideration.

The 2nd ballot was conducted, and the 19 nominees were then reduced to 7 individuals. The 7 remaining candidates were required to submit a bio to be published on the synod website, and be recorded giving a two-minute introductory speech as well as being recorded responding to six pre-determined questions that focused on the areas of: change, vision, service, organization and welcoming that were derived from the Synod surveys that were conducted in February 2020. All voting members were given the opportunity to view the recorded sessions with the 7 candidates and were able to review the submitted bios on Friday, October 23.

On Saturday, October 24, every mission district had the opportunity to conduct a one hour zoom session to discuss the 7 candidates and their qualifications to become the next Bishop of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA. The 3rd ballot was then conducted, and the top three vote recipients were then asked to report to the Synod Office so that they could give a 3 minute statement on a posed question regarding how they have handled conflict in the past. The finalists were Reverend Chris deForest, Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church

in Kutztown, Reverend Ryan Hersch, Pastor of Atonement Lutheran Church in Wyomissing, and Reverend Charles Grube, Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Dallas. Following their statements, a 4th ballot was conducted, again with online voting. None of the candidates received the required 60% of the votes needed for election, so the two candidates with the most votes, Reverend deForest and Reverend Hersch, were then placed on the 5th ballot. The 5th ballot required a simple majority of the vote to be elected and the results were Reverend deForest receiving 260 votes while Reverend Hersch received 222 votes. Bishop-Elect deForest was given the opportunity to address the Synod Assembly prior to final reports and the closing of the Assembly.

As representatives of Hope Church this was a very educational experience for both of us. It gave us the opportunity to listen to others express their concerns regarding local, regional, and national issues that are currently on the forefront both within the church and around secular issues that are dividing our country. This experience allowed us to see and hear about some of the great work and missions that are being conducted by various congregations thru out our Synod. As the Synod Assembly was conducted as an online event, it limited the opportunities to ask questions or

(Continued on page 5)
4

GRATITUDE SUNDAY 2020—November 15

LIVING GENEROUSLY: Giving Our First and Best to God

On October 18*, we joined Frank Donovan and his family on their journey to understanding generous living. We will continue getting to know the Donovan family better at worship November 1, 8, and 15. We'll watch as they work through the weekly themes of: First, Defense, Poor, Tower, and Seedtime. We will explore these themes with scripture readings 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? Are you living generously?”

During 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.

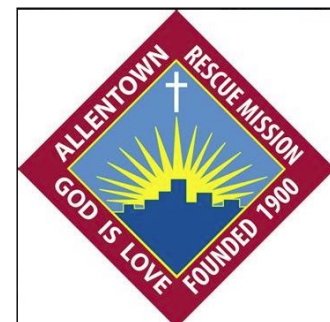
*That Sunday we received a Prayer Guide, containing devotion starters, scripture, and prayers that relate to the weekly theme, to use at home. If you would like a copy of the prayer guide call the church office.

ARE YOU **WILLING**
TO TAKE **THE JOURNEY?**

INGATHERING

It's time for the annual Ingathering. This year, due to COVID restrictions, each participating congregation was assigned an organization to sponsor. Our church is collecting for the **Allentown Rescue Mission**. Your **NEW** unwrapped gifts will need to be returned to the church by Tuesday, December 1 as we will be delivering the gifts on Thursday, December 4. Please place your items in the bin marked “In-Gathering” that is outside under the portico. Items being collected:

All items are for men. Sweatshirts, t-shirts (colored and white), underwear, jeans or khaki's (new or gently used sizes 32-42 waist and 30-34 length), bleach, single size snacks granola, fruit snack, pancake syrup, canned vegetables, single serve beverages (fruit juices), coffee, creamer, salad dressing, jelly, cereal, winter hats/beanies, gloves, belts, travel size deodorant, shaving cream, bar soap, disposable shavers, paper towels, toilet paper, trash bags (45 & 55 gallon), scouring cleanser, window cleaner, liquid laundry soap, casual wear clothing. Please no liquid hand soap.



Summary Report of Annual Synod Assembly (con't)

(Continued from page 4)

seek clarification of issues. It would have been extremely helpful to have had an open question and answer forum with the final two candidates prior to the 5th ballot. We would encourage others in the

congregation to participate in future Synod Assemblies or events in order to gain a greater understanding of the current focus of the pastors and other congregations both within the Northeastern Synod and beyond.

Submitted by

*Leslie and Doug Daniel,
Hope Church Representatives
to the 2020 Northeastern Synod Assembly*



With deepest sympathy we announce the following who have entered eternal life:

Matt Walsh—October 16

ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 8

Our annual meeting will be held Sunday, November 8 at 10:30 a.m. in the church parking lot. We will have elections for church council and the nominating committee. Members will tune into 106.5 FM and stay in their cars for the meeting. Refreshments will be served by the council. At least 50 members are needed for a quorum that morning. Voting members are confirmed members. "Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation." Hope Constitution C8.02.

CHRISTMAS EVE 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

HOPE FOR OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUES

We are 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 | |

SUNDAY SCHOOL LOOKS A LITTLE DIFFERENT



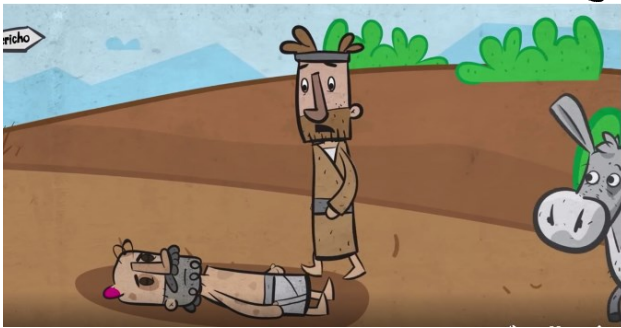
CRAFTS



ACTIVITIES



STORIES

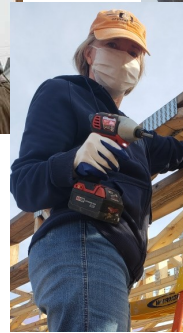
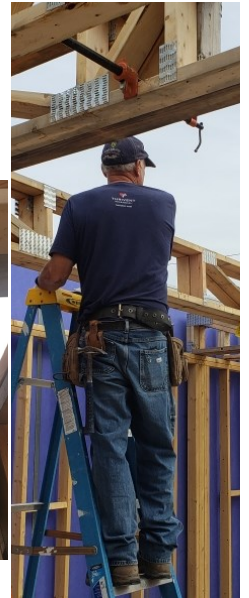


The B-I-B-L-E

MUSIC



A crew from Hope's Helping Hands (Leslie & Doug Daniel; Rod & Laurie Christman) spent a Saturday on the east side of Allentown installing ceiling joists for a Habitat for Humanity Build. The beams above the group, in the picture to the left, were installed by the group.



THRIVENT FINANCIAL®

Action Teams

There is still time to use your 2020 Action Teams!!!

To register: <http://thrivent.com/actionteams> Thrivent members, do you know that Thrivent will give you up to \$500 to do community service projects every year? Thrivent Action Teams make it easy to live generously. It starts with a simple question: "Who can I help and how?" Next, identify a community need and grab friends and family to form a volunteer team and brainstorm ways to address it. Thrivent provides a customized kit of resources to kick-start your fundraiser, educational event or service project. Your team provides the people power to bring it to life. Check out this link for ideas and examples of projects that are going on right now, all over the country >>> <https://thrivent.cotribute.co/community/thrivent-action-teams/detail> Learn more and apply here >>> <http://thrivent.com/actionteams> Be sure to invite me to your project! I'd love to help!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thrivent Choice is a charitable grant program that gives eligible Thrivent members the power to recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable funds each year. Members are invited to direct Choice Dollars® among thousands of enrolled nonprofit organizations, including churches, camps, schools, seminaries, campus ministries and more.

Upcoming Events

Amy Nichols and the Thrivent Member Network have been working to keep bringing you all the same great events to bring the community together. In our crazy new times we have gone all virtual. Don't forget to check out the upcoming events at <https://connect.thrivent.com/amy-nichols/events/>. New events are being added all the time.

Amy Nichols – Thrivent

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - SEPTEMBER 30, 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 - September	24,767.29	3,756.69	5,779.01	3,127.55	-
Income - Jan.-Aug.	254,169.51	24,322.63	9,943.71	1,730.72	-
Total Income	278,936.80	28,079.32	15,722.72	4,858.27	-
Expenses - September	28,893.13	152.85	11.35	-	435.00
Expenses - Jan.-Aug.	246,197.07	25,059.56	17.60	5,600.00	-
Total Expenses	275,090.20	25,212.41	28.95	5,600.00	435.00
Net Income	3,846.60	2,866.91	15,693.77	(741.73)	(435.00)
Net Special Appeals	1,504.97				
Balance End of September	\$166,850.65	\$149,073.76	\$159,043.58	\$ 94,496.76	\$ (2,496.92)

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of September by \$4,125.84, and for the year 2020, income exceeded expenses by 3,846.60, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$166,850.65. Last year the net income for the same period was \$25,422.28 with a balance of \$129,706.27.

*** 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>
December	Monday, November 15	Friday, November 27? @ 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 November 2020 issue of *Synod News* is available online.
Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2020-11.pdf>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251

