

# Hope *Home News*

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



## GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

I am looking back – remembering what I was doing and thinking one year ago. I have to admit that it feels a bit surreal. After all, one year ago I was diligently planning our 2020 Lenten services. The theme back then was **“A Fresh Look at Stories from the Old Testament”** and I was excited to share stories and reflections with you. We traveled together for three weeks before the Covid19 pandemic shuttered our lives and our worship space and our mid-week Lenten services. Most of us thought it would be a matter of weeks – not months – and certainly not one year. But here we are almost a year later and, through these difficult times, we have found ways to worship together, share the gospel of Jesus Christ, build our faith and serve our community.

And now – though still in the midst of the pandemic - we are getting ready for another Lenten season and I am excited once again. Beginning with Ash Wednesday on February 17 we will be gathering each Wednesday in our parking lot at 7:00 p.m. for mid-week Lenten services. We will also meet in the parking lot on Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 7:00 p.m. The services will be “live” and we will be using a favorite liturgy, Holden Evening Prayer. Participants will tune into FM 106.5 as we share our lives and faith during Lent.

The theme this year is **“Characteristics of Disciples.”** Over the seven weeks of Lent we will focus on the unique attributes of the people who follow Jesus – disciples like you and me. Each week we will explore - and experience - seven characteristics of discipleship:

Wednesday, February 17 – Ash Wednesday – Disciples Are Forgiving

Wednesday, February 24 – Disciples Are Hopeful

Wednesday, March 3 – Disciples Are Prayerful

Wednesday, March 10 – Disciples Are Filled With Gratitude

Wednesday, March 17 – Disciples Are Obedient

Wednesday, March 24 – Disciples Are Transformed

Thursday, April 1 – Maundy Thursday – Disciples Serve Others

I hope you will take time during this holy season to join me in worship, prayer and reflection – for that is what disciples do. Let us come together in faith – for that is what disciples do. Let us not let this pandemic daunt our lives – for that is what disciples do.

Blessings,  
Pastor Jami

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS—January 2021

- ◆ Council elected new officers for the 2021 year. They are:

President – Tom Nichols  
Treasurer – Trudy Mertz

Vice President – AJ Szwast

Secretary – Matt Sekol  
Financial Secretary – Deb Gardner

- ◆ Committee liaison assignments for the 2021 year are:

\* Christian Education Committee – Ally Lockard, Kim Roth

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**COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS** *(Continued from page 1)*

- \* Evangelism Committee – Lori Kerper
  - \* Finance Committee – Matt Sekol, Tim Moore
  - \* Mutual Ministry Committee – Matt Sekol
  - \* Property Committee – Kim Belletti, Glenn Wampole
  - \* Social Ministry Committee – Cindy Kocher
  - \* Stewardship Committee – AJ Szwast, Dug Daniel
  - \* Worship and Music Committee – Kim Belletti
  - \* Youth Ministry Committee – Sami Lambert, Ally Lockard
- ◆ The council shares a large THANK YOU to the members of Hope for their financial support during the difficult 2020 year. Although we were challenged with the Covid19 pandemic, Hope ended the year with a \$25,357.65 surplus. This could not have happened without the incredible support of all of our members.
- ◆ The Youth will be holding their annual Valentine Dinner on Feb 13, 2021 – BUT it will be a take-out event. Tickets will be sold after worship services, through the church office and online.
- ◆ Altronics Security will begin installation of the security cameras in January. There will be 8 cameras situated on the outside of the building, covering the entire facility, and 5 cameras inside the building, placed in strategic locations to capture the entrances to the offices and sanctuary and Kuntz Hall.
- ◆ First Communion classes will begin in January and will be held virtually. First Communion Sunday is scheduled April 11.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING**

Thank you for all you do to support our mission during the holidays and throughout the year. As you plan for the year end and look forward to a new year, please consider additional giving to your church. For your convenience, we offer electronic giving options for one-time gifts and recurring contributions. Visit the church website at [www.hopecherryville.org](http://www.hopecherryville.org) and locate the Online Giving page.



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

|   |
|---|
| <b>Saturday, February 6</b><br>6:30 p.m.<br>Becky's Drive-In                      |
| <b>Sunday, February 7</b><br>9:00 a.m.<br>Church Parking Lot                      |
| <b>Saturday, February 13</b><br>6:30 p.m.<br>Becky's Drive-In                     |
| <b>Sunday, February 14</b><br>9:00 a.m.<br>Church Parking Lot                     |
| <b>Wednesday, February 17</b><br>Ash Wednesday<br>7:00 p.m.<br>Church Parking Lot |
| <b>Saturday, February 20</b><br>6:30 p.m.<br>Becky's Drive-In                     |
| <b>Sunday, February 21</b><br>9:00 a.m.<br>Church Parking Lot                     |
| <b>Wednesday, February 24</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Church Parking Lot                  |
| <b>Saturday, February 27</b><br>6:30 p.m.<br>Becky's Drive-In                     |
| <b>Sunday, February 28</b><br>9:00 a.m.<br>Church Parking Lot                     |

## YOUTH MINISTRY



Treat your sweetheart to a fabulous meal from the youth group's Annual Valentine's Dinner on Saturday, February 13.

We will be offering to-go Valentine's Dinner meals via a "drive-thru" at our church. Dinner options are Prime Rib, Chicken Marsala, Chicken Oscar, or Vegetable Lasagna. Meals are served with potatoes, vegetables, soup (*choice of: creamy bacon potato, vegetable, lobster bisque, chicken tortellini*), roll, and dessert (*choice of: cheesecake, brownie, apple pie, chocolate peanut butter pie*). Junior portions (ages 12 and under) and child meals are also available.

Adult tickets \$15, junior portions \$8 and children's meals (hot dogs and mac & cheese) \$3.00. Meal pick up times are 4 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 5:30 p.m., and 6 p.m. and have limited spots. Tickets will be on sale from January 17 - February 7. Tickets can be purchased on Sundays after the worship service. You can also put in a meal request by filling out the online form, which can be found on our church website under church forms or you can call the church office. Any ticket pick-ups and payment drop offs need to be completed by February 7 and can be made on Saturdays at Becky's before the service, on Sundays at church after the service, or during the week at the church office. Should you have any questions regarding your order, please email Ally Lockard at [alockard313@gmail.com](mailto:alockard313@gmail.com).

Ally Lockard  
Youth Ministries Coordinator



### February event

We will be snow tubing on Friday, **February 5** from 5:30 p.m.—9 p.m. We will be meeting at Blue Mountain. Please purchase your ticket online and email Ally at [alockard313@gmail.com](mailto:alockard313@gmail.com) to confirm who is attending.



The youth group will be receiving "noisy offerings" on **Saturday, February 6** and **Sunday, February 7** to support the ELCA World

Hunger Fund. Save your loose change! Youth will be present at both services with soup pots to collect your noisy offering. The more noise made in the pots means more food on the table for others!

### SINGERS NEEDED



We need student singers! Any youth interested in recording the song "Marching in the Light of God" please have your submissions in by February 6 to [sundayschool@hopecherryville.org](mailto:sundayschool@hopecherryville.org). An email was sent with the music and lyrics, if you did not receive it, please let us know.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL PACKETS

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

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



**Robert Miller—December 30.**

Please keep in your prayers:

Laurie Christman and family upon the death of her father on January 1.

Kim Kutzler and family upon the death of her father on January 6.

## THANK YOU . . .

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Dear Church Council,

I want to say thank you for the monetary gift I received at Christmas!

I look forward to 2021 and being church financial secretary again!

Wishing you all a blessed & healthy new year!

Deb



Dear Church Council,

Thank you for the monetary Christmas gift, it was very thoughtful and generous of you. I plan to pay it forward and donate the gift to the Northampton Area Food Bank.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy new year!

Julie



Council and Pastor Jami,

Thank you from the very bottom of my heart for the generous Christmas gift!

I deeply appreciate it and am so blessed to be a part of the Hope Church Family!

Warmest wishes for a Healthy & Happy New Year to All!

Sincerely,  
Jennifer



Dear Church Council,

First Thank you for the Christmas Present! It is so appreciated.

Second 2020 was a difficult year for all of us. I am so glad council allowed me to work thru the sudden neuropathy in my feet! Back to feeling 100% at work and I will continue to strive to keep the church clean and sanitized!

Thanks again,

Lance



Dear Council & Congregation,

Thank you for the monetary Christmas gift. It was a pleasant surprise and unexpected during this pandemic year. Efforts to keep the choir members engaged and enthusiastic have been a challenge but also rewarding. Designing new ways to lead singing have caused me to think “outside the nave” and have also been rewarding. Hopefully we will return to some normalcy in 2021 yet realizing God has not changed or left us. Until then, continue to sing! Thanks again for the gift.

David Ziegler



Dear Council,

Thank you for the Christmas gift. It was unnecessary, but your generosity is greatly appreciated. It is a pleasure working with all the caring and talented people at Hope.

Laurie Christman

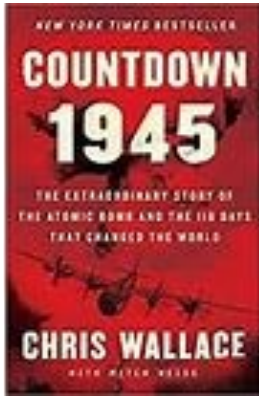


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## BOOK BUDDIES

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The next book club book is Countdown 1945 The Extraordinary Story of the Atomic Bomb by Chris Wallace. We will meet, via Zoom, on Tuesday, February 16 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. The cost of the book is \$14.50

**Synopsis:** April 12, 1945: After years of bloody conflict in Europe and the Pacific, America is stunned by news of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s death. In an instant, Vice President Harry Truman, who has been kept out of war planning and knows nothing of the top-secret Manhattan Project to develop the world’s first atomic bomb, must assume command of a nation at war on multiple continents—and confront one of the most consequential decisions in history. *Countdown 1945* tells the gripping true story of the turbulent days, weeks, and months to follow, leading up to August 6, 1945, when Truman gives the order to drop the bomb on Hiroshima. In *Countdown 1945*, Chris Wallace, the veteran journalist and anchor of *Fox News Sunday*, takes readers inside the minds of the iconic and elusive figures who join the quest for the bomb, each for different reasons: the legendary Albert Einstein, who eventually calls his vocal support for the atomic bomb “the one great mistake in my life”; lead researcher J. Robert “Oppie” Oppenheimer and the Soviet spies who secretly infiltrate his team; the fiercely competitive pilots of the plane selected to drop the bomb; and many more.

## BIBLE STUDY

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Bible Study with Pastor Jami, via Zoom is held on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87605892517?pwd=WFdsZmFBMnNDRVB1N1Ji1ZjNmdTQT09>

Meeting ID: 876 0589 2517 / Passcode: 440965.

Call the office for more information.



## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

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AJ Szwast will be leading discussions from the Augsburg Adult Bible Studies titled “Love for One Another”, by Susie Gamelin. Class is via Zoom, with a start time around 10:30 am.

Join Zoom Meeting ~ Meeting ID: 792 8777 6107 ~ Passcode: AdultA

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79287776107?pwd=ckFBQnl3dldyMHlyZW1UUTB5MVRGQT09>

## WORSHIP SERVICE AVAILABLE ONLINE

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If you can’t make it to worship on a Saturday night or Sunday morning, you can still view the Becky’s Drive-In service on our website: [hopecherryville.org](http://hopecherryville.org). Worship services are usually posted to our website early the following week.

## THANK YOU *(con't from page 4)*

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Thank you for the prayer shawl you sent to me. I like the bright colors and the meaning of the shawl. I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Ashley Hildebrand  
Moravian College  
Class of 2022



Dear Friends of Hope,

A very heartfelt thank you goes out to each of you for all your prayers, phone calls, and cards not only these past few weeks but for the last eight years of our Mother's journey with Alzheimer's.

Thank you to Pastor Jami who is a blessing here at Hope and has been, as well, in our lives these last years as well. And on Mom's last day she managed to squeeze in time between a virtual funeral and Monday night church service to be with us and Mom in her final hours.

We are thankful for our family here at Hope and look forward to the day we can worship in person once again.

Love & God Bless,  
Tammy Biel, Dean & Colleen Spadt and Family



Dear Hope Lutheran,

Thank you so much for the scholarship award! It will be so helpful in purchasing textbooks to help me with classes. After finishing my first semester of pharmacy school, I am sure that I have chosen the right career path and can't wait to see what the future holds! You all have helped me tremendously and I couldn't be more thankful.

Sincerely,  
Carlie Small



My daughter and her family attended the drive-in Christmas Eve service this year and sent us the video.

The dramatic service was outstanding and inspiring and an absolute joy. Much time and effort went into that message which will stay with me for a long time. I so appreciate the opportunity to view the service. Enclosed is a small donation.

Sincerely,  
Claudia Brown



## HOPE FOR OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUES

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We continue to assist 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                  | Cheez-its      |
| Graham Crackers   | Granola Bars       | Shelf-stable Yogurt       | Trail mix      |
| Shelf-stable milk | Mac-n-cheese       | Canned soups/stews/pastas |                |

## **HOPE COMMUNITY CUPBOARD**

Our Community Cupboard\* has been a successful venture for us as a response to our neighbors who are living with food insecurity, especially for those not comfortable asking for assistance. The Community Cupboard is kept stocked with non-perishable/shelf stable food through donations from members. If you would like to donate, please contact the church office.

*\*This does not replace our support of the Northampton Area Food Bank, but is an additional way we can help our neighbors in need.*



## **EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS AT OUR CHURCH**

As you probably already know, Hope Lutheran Church is the Chartered Organization for Cub Pack 242 and Troop 242.

In the past year, several scouts from the Troop have completed Eagle Scout\* projects that benefitted Hope Church. Below are some pictures from two of them.

### **NEW PAVILION ROOF**

In December, Reece Anderson completed his Project. After planning and ordering materials, he organized a group of fellow scouts and friends to remove the old roof and install a new roof on the pavilion. Reece and his parents, William and Jean, are members of Hope.



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## GAGA BALL PIT

Ryan McCutcheon researched, designed and built a Gaga ball pit (*Gaga is a form of dodgeball. Players start in a "pit" hitting and rolling a ball with their hand to eliminate other players.*) for his Eagle Project.



\***Eagle Scout** is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the BSA program. Requirements include earning at least 21 merit badges and an extensive service project that the Scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages. The Scout must also go through a lengthy review process. Only about four percent of Scouts achieve this rank.



# THRIVENT FINANCIAL®

## 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. You have until March 31, 2021 to direct your Choice Dollars.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, February 10, 2021**

### **Wine, Women, Wealth & Wisdom**

Please join Christy Alvord, Amy Nichols, and Tammy Rupert for an evening of wine and wisdom as we learn how women need to plan a little differently than men for their wealth and future.

Amy Nichols and the Thrivent Member Network are working to keeping bringing you a variety of virtual events throughout the winter season. Please visit <https://connect.thrivent.com/amy-nichols/events/> for registration links and additional events.

Amy Nichols – Thrivent



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY - DECEMBER 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 - December         | 55,058.54    | 10,821.89    | 8,871.55     | 7,071.94     | -               |
| Income - Jan.-Nov.        | 339,265.65   | 32,251.01    | 14,748.04    | 2,404.55     | -               |
| Total Income              | 394,324.19   | 43,072.90    | 23,619.59    | 9,476.49     | -               |
| Expenses - December       | 30,629.96    | 3,652.25     | 12.62        | -            | -               |
| Expenses - Jan.-Nov.      | 338,336.58   | 28,499.48    | 28.95        | 5,600.00     | 435.00          |
| Total Expenses            | 368,966.54   | 32,151.73    | 41.57        | 5,600.00     | 435.00          |
| Net Income                | 25,357.65    | 10,921.17    | 23,578.02    | 3,876.49     | (435.00)        |
| Net Special Appeals       | 1,704.97     |              |              |              |                 |
| Balance End of December   | \$188,561.70 | \$157,128.02 | \$166,927.83 | \$ 99,114.98 | \$ (2,496.92)   |

### SUMMARY:

Income exceeded expenses in the Regular Fund for the month of December by \$24,428.58, and for the year 2020, income exceeded expenses by \$25,357.65, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$188,561.70. Last year the net income for the same period was \$56,791.09 with a balance of \$161,499.08.

*\*\* 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>    |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| March          | Monday, February 15     | Thursday, February 25 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 may run longer.*

### SYNOD NEWS

The Februaryy 2021 issue of *Synod News* is available online.  
Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2021-2.pdf>

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

