

Hope *Home News*

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hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

Transitions. I have a friend whose father recently died after an extended illness and her family is dealing with the loss and how to care for an aging mother. I have another friend who moved his mother – in the beginning stages of Alzheimer’s disease – into an assisted living facility and the family is dealing with the frustration of her often-repeated questions and cleaning out her houses. Another friend is being proactive – selling their current home and moving into a ranch home where they can “age in place.” Although it is their choice it still requires a transition on their part. A friend’s child just graduated from college – without a job! He is frantic. Where does he go? What does he do next? What will life be like outside of college?

These are all personal transitions that people are going through. But collectively we are all going through transition at this time as well. The COVID-19 pandemic has shifted life for almost all of us. And as we continue to get more and more people vaccinated - life is changing again. Where do we wear a mask? When do we wear a mask? Who can we get together with? These are all questions that we’re asking today. Maybe one of the biggest questions for us here at Hope is: When can we get back to in-person worship?

Well, our relaunch team is working on that. They are actively meeting to bring us back to in-person worship in the near future. There are many considerations they are dealing with as they work to keep people safe and worship meaningful. How many people can we have in the sanctuary? Can we use overflow space where people could sit outside the sanctuary? What will worship look like when we do come back into the sanctuary? Will we continue to hold parking lot services for those who are uncomfortable to return to in-person worship? Who will clean the sanctuary between services if we have more than one? Will we have to make reservations to get a seat and worship? These and many other questions are on the minds of the people on our relaunch team. As we find answers and continue to seek ways to move us forward know that this is another transition we are dealing with. In the meantime, let me make a final comment about transitions.

Transitions. We all experience them. We all have to face them whether they are welcomed or not. Transitions are part of life. Where do we get the strength, the courage, the hope to move through transitions? How do we get clarity about difficult decisions? Let me offer a few suggestions.

Come to church. I often hear that people don’t need a church to worship – they can worship anywhere. And while that is certainly true, they cannot find the support from their church family just anywhere. Worship is central to our lives not just because it is an opportunity to connect with God – it is also a way to connect with each other – our extended family. We can do this even though we’re not meeting in person right now. And though we cannot necessarily solve each other’s problems we can provide listening ears, praying hands and willing hearts to help people through their transitions – so they can help us through our transitions!

Pray. Pray because God wants to hear from you. Pray because it helps to lay all of our joys and frustrations out on the table. Pray because in the process of prayer we are vulnerable and we can hear God

(Continued on page 2)

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS—April 2021

- * Council approved the concept of holding vacation Bible school this year during the week of July 12 through July 16. Because of Covid restrictions it is likely that VBS will be held outside in tents.
- * The Hope Relaunch Team is breaking into three working groups. The first team is Policies and Protocols to bring us back to in-person worship. The second team is Worship Space Matters - what to do when we're back in the church with our worship area. The third team is Communications - taking feedback, setting up reservations communicating to the congregation. Each group will be meeting as we continue to move forward to in-person worship.
- * Hope Lutheran Church will continue to be a polling location for the election on May 18.
- * The Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly will be held June 4-5. Again this year it will be a virtual assembly. We are in need of three delegates. At least one must be male and one must be female. If you are interested in volunteering for this very important position please contact Pastor Jami.
- * Council approved the Miller Blood Bank holding two mobile blood drives in our parking lot. The first will be June 12 from 9 to 2 PM. The second date will be determined in the near future.
- * The council approved a request from the senior center in Northampton County to install a new handicap push pad and door at the senior center entrance by Hanson Hall.
- * Confirmation for our Level Two confirmation students will take place on Sunday, May 23 at 9:30 during the parking lot worship service.

Greetings from the Pastor *(Continued from page 1)*

speaking in the midst of our vulnerability. Pray because prayer doesn't change God – prayer changes us! We may get more insight into our transition and into ourselves!

Transitions. We all experience them. But we don't have to experience them alone!

Blessings,
Pastor Jami

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Too busy to write weekly checks for your church offering? Reduce paperwork and stress by having your weekly contributions debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with other obligations. Electronic giving is a convenient way to keep up with your intended offerings. To get started, simply visit the church website at www.hopecherryville.org and locate the Online Giving page.

Online Giving

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 2

8:00 a.m.

&

9:30 a.m.

Church Parking Lot

Sunday, May 9

8:00 a.m.

&

9:30 a.m.

Church Parking Lot

Sunday, May 16

8:00 a.m.

&

9:30 a.m.

Church Parking Lot

9:30 a.m.

**Sunday School
Closing Program**

Sunday, May 23

8:00 a.m.

&

9:30 a.m.

Confirmation

Church Parking Lot

Sunday, May 30

8:00 a.m.

&

9:30 a.m.

Church Parking Lot

YOUTH MINISTRY

MAY EVENT

Our final **youth night** before the summer:

Friday, May 7, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Gaga ball tournament and pizza party.

We will meet at the church pavilion.

Please let Ally know if you would like to attend.



Balloon Buddies put together by Youth Group for STAR members.



Group ready to load the truck! Thank you to everyone who supported the 40 Day—40 Item Clothing Drive.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINNING OF SUMMER PARTY

Sunday, May 16, 9:30—10:30 a.m. at the church pavilion. Kids (cradle roll—6th grade) wear your summer/beach clothes and bring a beach towel to sit on. See the email sent for more information

A rain date is set for May 23.



SUNDAY SCHOOL PACKETS

Don't forget to pick up packets for grades cradle roll - 6th and watch the online lesson videos. All packets can be picked up before each service on Sunday morning.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is coming this summer!! Mark your calendar for July 12 – 16. Our theme is: Knights of North Castle.

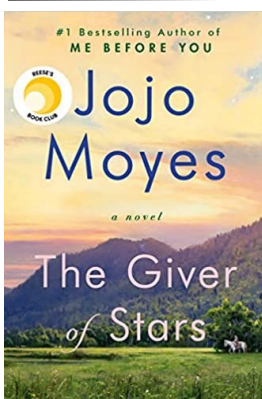
North Castle is hidden in a frozen land. The King's valiant Knights are on a quest in search of the King's Armor. But the armor isn't what they think it is.



More details on Knights of North Castle Vacation Bible School will follow in the coming weeks. Keep up the search!



BOOK BUDDIES



The next Book Buddies read is – *The Giver of Stars* by Jo Jo Moyes. We will meet, via Zoom on Monday May 3 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

From the author of *Me Before You*, set in Depression-era America, a breathtaking story of five extraordinary women and their remarkable journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond.

Based on a true story rooted in America's past, *The Giver of Stars* is unparalleled in its scope and epic in its storytelling. Funny, heartbreaking, enthralling, it is destined to become a modern classic--a richly rewarding novel of women's friendship, of true love, and of what happens when we reach beyond our grasp for the great beyond.

BIBLE STUDY

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

Meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/190993558?pwd=TnJUNG91TEtRMUtaVnErM0pEZFI3UT09>

Meeting ID: 190 993 558 /Passcode: 031745 .

Call the office for more information.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

If you can't make it to worship Sunday morning, you can still view a condensed service on our website: hopecherryville.org. Worship services are usually posted to our website early the following week.

At the 9:00 a.m. parking lot service on April 11, eight youth received their first Holy Communion.

Garret Allabach
Joey Meleski

Avery Thomas
Victoria Walck

Christian Yost
Giada Nyce

Allison Hahn
Grace Wolfel



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Vicki Steiner and family upon the death of her mother, Joan Fugitt, on March 21.

Debora Schnabel and family upon the death of her mother, Sandra Borger, on April 7.

Vicki Weaver and family upon the death of her father, Timothy Shanahan, on April 13.

Natalie Savage and family upon the death of her father, James Kates on April 13.

The family of Keith Derhammer who died on April 21.



THANK YOU . . .

Pastor Jami and Congregation,

Thank you so much for the Dunkin' gift card! I will miss Hope Lutheran so much next year as I attend Penn State! Thank you again for everything you've done for me!

Danielle

Dear council Members,

Last month when you totally surprised me with a generous gift to the Shriners Hospital – I was overwhelmed. It was incredibly thoughtful of you all. My father was a 32nd degree Mason and so proud of the work they do at Shriners Hospital for Children. You honored him and humbled me with this donation.

Blessings,
PJ

Thank you for treating us to the delicious Valentine's meal that the youth group prepared for us. That was so thoughtful of you!

We greatly appreciate your kind gestures.

Blessings to you!

Love always,
Cindy and Dean Deppe

Dear Hope Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift to Becky's for holding church services at the drive-in. We're glad we can help out.

Love & Blessings,
Becky's Drive-In
Cindy and Dean Deppe

BASKET SOCIAL

At our committee breakfast/meeting of April 17 we discussed the possibility of hosting a fall basket social on the dates of Friday, October 8 and Saturday, October 9, 2021. Our ideas have been sent to the Congregational Council for their May meeting. If the fall social is approved, details will be publicized concerning times, food, drawing, and all important needs that must be met to keep everyone as safe as possible. Please watch upcoming newsletters and bulletins for this information.

The Committee welcomes Nancy Miller as our newest member! There are presently 20 ladies on this Committee.

Hope Lutheran Basket Committee

SOUP GROUP/ STORYWEAVERS

Tuesday, May 11
12 noon
Luncheon at Assante's

There will be a mobile
Miller Keystone Blood Center
blood drive
Saturday June 12,
9am-2pm.



SHARE - A - MEAL

At times a medical issue can make it difficult to prepare meals while dealing with recovery. Share -A-Meal can help, providing meals 2 –3 times per week for about 2–3 weeks. We can still use additional volunteers for this ministry. Volunteers will be asked to make and deliver one meal. The meal that you prepare can be anything from a soup to a pasta type meal to a casserole to a meat ,potato, and vegetable type meal. The committee will provide details regarding special diet, food allergies, and family size, etc. How often you will be called upon to share a meal will be dependent on how many volunteers can be enlisted and how many families will request help.

Of course, there are still many COVID restrictions in place. We will maintain strict COVID regulations according to what is in place at the time.

If you would like more information about Share - a - Meal, or to volunteer, please contact Sharyn Kratzer at 610-261-1277, 484-553-9271, sakgram@rcn.com.

**Share - A - Meal is a separate program from the soup kitchen.*



HOPE FOR OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUES

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	

NORTHAMPTON FOOD BANK AND HOPE COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

Thank you to everyone who donated non-perishable food items during our food drive, April 10, 18, 25 and May 2. Due to your generous response we have stocked our Community Cupboard and sent numerous boxes of food to the food bank. It's never too late to donate, please contact the church office for assistance.



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

We want to celebrate our high school and college graduates on a Sunday in June. Please provide to the church office the name of your graduate, where they are graduating from, and their future plans. Include a picture to be used for our online worship and for printing in our bulletin. Please email Jennifer in the church office at office@hopecherryville.org with the information.



INDIANLAND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Indianland Cemetery Association has updated their rules. These new rules go into effect on October 1, 2021. Any items not meeting these new rules will be removed by the Indianland Cemetery Association.

Allowed on Indianland Cemetery:

Allowed year round are small plants, flowers inside planter/flower boxes that are kept on or against either front or back for tombstone or foundation. Displays may not exceed the width of the stone.

Seasonal items or larger items not inside planter/flower boxes are permitted from November 1 to April 30 each year. These items must be removed by April 30.

Any Seasonal or larger items not removed by April 30, or that are not in a planter/flower box, will be removed by Indianland Cemetery Association, Inc. This will provide access for lawn care throughout the Spring, Summer, and Fall.

Not Allowed on the Indianland Cemetery:

No Ground Blankets

No Shrines

No Permanent Plants, Bushes, Flowers, or Bulbs

No Permanent Borders or Fences around grave or tombstone of any kind

No Wires permitted to secure pots and NO digging of pots into ground

No Dogs or Pets allowed on Cemetery property

No Bicycles, Motorbikes or Snowmobiles

Any unsightly plants or displays that interfere with lawn care or burials in the surrounding areas, will be removed by Indianland Cemetery Association.

Indianland Cemetery Association is not liable for any lost, stolen, or damaged items placed at graves.

Inquires should be made to:

Michael Suprys (Burial Management) 610-597-0062

Keith Hantz (Grounds Maintenance) 610-216-1603



FINANCIAL SUMMARY - MARCH 31, 2021

	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship	Memorial Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$188,561.70	\$157,128.02	\$166,927.83	\$ 99,114.98	\$ (2,496.92)
Income - March	38,673.70	6,643.50	1,466.33	860.95	-
Income - Jan.-Feb.	67,197.22	9,047.17	5,887.32	3,658.07	-
Total Income	105,870.92	15,690.67	7,353.65	4,519.02	-
Expenses - March	36,644.29	3,220.66	683.66	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-Feb.	60,019.34	12,404.50	499.94	2,400.00	-
Total Expenses	96,663.63	15,625.16	1,183.60	2,400.00	-
Net Income	9,207.29	65.51	6,170.05	2,119.02	-
Net Special Appeals	(187.00)				
Balance End of March	\$197,581.99	\$157,193.53	\$173,097.88	\$101,234.00	\$ (2,496.92)

SUMMARY:

Income exceeded expenses in the Regular Fund for the month of March by \$2,029.41, and for the year 2021, income exceeded expenses by \$9,207.29, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$197,581.99. Last year the net income for the same period was \$13,488.30 with a balance of \$175,975.38.

*** 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>
June	Monday, May 17	Thursday, May 27 a.m.

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 May 2021 issue of *Synod News* is available online.

Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2021-5.pdf>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251

