

Hope *Home News*

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hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

Whenever Mitch and I are on vacation over a weekend we look for a congregation to visit on Sunday so that we can attend worship. I must admit that we usually look for a Lutheran congregation first - but we are willing to go to any denomination if the congregation looks dynamic. I like to do this because it is my opportunity to be a participant in worship and not a leader of worship. And it gives me the chance to hear different ministers preach.

I got my fill of hearing preachers recently. I spent the week of May 17 – May 21 participating in a continuing education event called the Festival of Homiletics. It was a five-day conference on preaching. I have been to this conference a few times and have always come back energized and excited about the role of a preacher.

Typically, the conference moves about the country so we have the opportunity to visit churches in other large cities where the conference is held. This year was a bit different because the Festival of Homiletics was a virtual event. Throughout the five days I sat in worship services where some of the greatest mainline preachers – many of whom work in theological education institutions - shared the word of God with us through preaching and lectures.

The lineup this year was impressive – Walter Bruegemann, Professor Emeritus of Old Testament, Columbia Theological Seminary; Anna Carter Florence, Peter Marshall Professor of Preaching, Columbia Theological Seminary; Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church; Brian McLaren, Author, Speaker, Activist; William H. Willimon, Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry, Duke Divinity School; Luke Powery, Dean of Duke University Chapel & Associate Professor of Homiletics at the Divinity School; Karoline Lewis, Director DMin, Professor and The Marbury E. Anderson Chair of Biblical Preaching, Luther Seminary. And these were just a few of the incredible preachers, teachers, and pastors I heard over the five-day period.

I took in so many great sermons and lectures that I had to take notes as I was listening so that I could retain and capture the bounty of wisdom, creativity and prophetic insights I was hearing. Just before the conference, an article came out in clergy periodicals depicting the decline of mainline religion. The numbers are depressing and have an effect not only on membership but also on finances. Mainline denominations are afraid. Declining congregations are afraid. People live in fear that one day they may wake up and something they love will no longer be there. Fear. Panic. Do something! And many of the pastors at the conference were asking, “What’s a Pastor to do?”

Some say that every 500 years there is a reformation of the church. The last one was the Protestant Reformation – sparked by Martin Luther and others - in 1517. We are, again, around that 500 year mark. And for some that brings a sense of foreboding. As we come out of this global pandemic in which we have been living for a year and a half, we see that the church has had to change. Virtual worship – parking lot worship – worshipping at a local drive-in theater became the norm. Have you ever considered that God is working in the midst of all of those changes? That God – in the midst of this pandemic – is creating something new? And if so – what does that mean for us at Hope Lutheran Church?

(Continued on page 3)

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS—May 2021

- * Council accepted with regret the resignation of Sami Lambert as our youth representative to the council and will be working on appointing a new youth representative to fulfill Sami's term.
- * The Financial Report for March is posted on the large bulletin board in the main hallway. So far this year we are holding steady and council thanks all our members for their financial support to the ministries of Hope. If you are interested in reviewing the Financial Report and cannot get to the church, please contact the church office for one.
- * The Relaunch Team is continuing their work moving Hope to in-person worship. The team has created three sub teams to focus on Policies and Protocols, Worship Space Matters and Communications. Look for more details in upcoming bulletins and newsletters.
- * Council approved the Eucharistic Ministry team to resume taking communion to STAR members with the stipulation that both the Eucharistic Minister and STAR member are vaccinated and the family of the STAR member has been contacted where appropriate.
- * The following students were approved for Confirmation: Abygail Borger, Jonathan Erkinger, Dante Keen, Xander McDonald, Juliana Medej, Alexis Santee, Abigail VanLuvanee, Megan Weaver, Robert Weaver.
- * Council approved a Miller Memorial Blood Drive on June 12 with a second one later in the summer.
- * Ryan Krug's Eagle Scout project proposal was approved. Ryan will be refinishing the picnic tables in the pavilion.
- * Council congratulates Reece Anderson on attaining the rank of Eagle Scout and approved the use of the pavilion for his Eagle Scout Court of Honor.
- * Council approved the Garden Club's request to host an outdoor plant sale in the pavilion on Saturday, June 5 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 6
8:00 a.m.
&
9:30 a.m.
Church Parking Lot

Sunday, June 13
8:00 a.m.
&
9:30 a.m.
Church Parking Lot

Sunday, June 20
8:00 a.m.
&
9:30 a.m.
Church Parking Lot

Sunday, June 27
8:00 a.m.
&
9:30 a.m.
Communion
Church Parking Lot

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving – Consider electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly contributions. Our church relies on the financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. To set up a recurring contribution, visit the Church Website at www.hopecherryville.org and locate the Online Giving page.

Online Giving

GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR . . . *(Continued from page 1)*

What if - instead of worrying about the decline in mainline religion - we focused on what the mission of our faith calls us to be doing in the world. Maybe then we would recognize that there are innumerable kinds of great, creative, meaningful, kingdom-of-God sorts of work out there needing to be done...there are people outside our walls, outside our normal sphere of thinking, who need what we have to share – and in concentrating on our own survival we may ignore them.....there are relationships that we are failing to cultivate - opportunities to offer our church as a gift to our community that are being missed!

The conference was called “festival” of preaching - it surely was that. And it was also a time for Methodist, Episcopalian, United Church of Christ, Moravian, Lutheran, and Presbyterian brothers and sisters to come together to share the Word of God and respond with loud “Amens” to the challenge God is calling us all into...together!

Blessings,
Pastor Jami

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The family of **Viola Neff** who entered eternal rest on May 17.

Gina Barber and family upon the death of her father, Bruce R. Missimer, on April 28.



THANK YOU . . .

To our family at Hope,

The thing I miss most about our COVID worship is the physical contact. I am a hugger. I admit it. I love to give and receive heartwarming hugs!

Receiving your many cards, texts, emails, and phone calls after my mom passed was like getting a big bear hug. They reminded me that our reason for coming together is to support each other during the good and bad times, knowing that God is with us through it all.

I am blessed to know that this is the season to celebrate new life. We can never be separated from the one we love, because that is His plan, bought and paid. Christ is Risen! Alleluia! He is Risen indeed! – and because He lives, we, too, shall live!

Heartfelt thanks,
Vicki, Manfred and family

Pastor Jami,

Thank you so much for thinking of me with the Smiley Balloon Person.

I was surprised when Robin Z. delivered it. The Balloon Man sits on my rocker in the kitchen. Robin and I talked about cancer and its side effects. I think it helped both of us. I am doing well since the surgery.

Hope you are well; I miss church and it's people. I make do with the service on the website.

Take care,
Kathy Fogle



BASKET SOCIAL

At their May meeting, Hope's Congregational Council approved the 2021 Fall Basket Social. As of this writing, the Committee is looking at spreading the social out over two days, Friday, October 8 (4—7 p.m.) and Saturday, October 9 (11—2 p.m.) Food will be available for take-out and only the Committee and Helpers will be allowed inside during the drawing. Please watch future bulletins and newsletters for information regarding ticket sponsors and advertising sponsors. The Committee will hold their annual summer picnic on Wednesday, August 4 and at that time will discuss ideas and ways to ensure that the Fall Social is held safely for those attending.

Linda Sidor
Hope Lutheran Basket Committee



Soup Group

and
Delivery

Wednesday,
June 2
9:00 a.m.



STORYWEAVERS

Tuesday, June 8

10:00 a.m. (tentative)

12 noon

Luncheon at

Palermos, Northampton (definite)



Now that the weather is warm, feel free to bring lawn chairs to the parking lot service. You can relax in front of your vehicle. Of course, that means for you fashionistas—you have to give up the sweat pants! Your lower half will be visible.



There will be a mobile
Miller Keystone Blood Center

BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday June 12,

9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Appointments are required. To schedule your appointment, go to:

https://donor.giveapint.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/83757

or contact Helene Mery at 610-573-7838 or helenemery9@gmail.com.



Your Blood. Their Hope.

MILLER-KEYSTONE
BLOOD CENTER

When you give a pint, you give more than just blood—

you give the gift of life,

you give someone hope for a second chance,

and you give back to the community.

Blood transfusions save more than 4 million Americans each year.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 12 – 16.
9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

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.

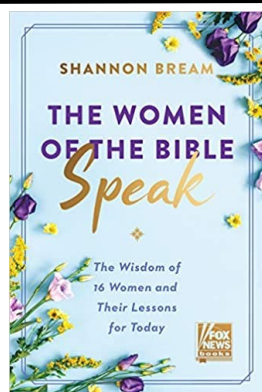


Registration is now open.

Register online at vbs.hopecherryville.org. (If you are unable to register online, paper forms are available in the church office.) We will meet outside under tents and masks will be required. Children 3 years old and potty trained to children who have completed 6th grade this school year are welcome. Lots of volunteers (with required clearances) are needed and must register as well. More details will be updated later.



BOOK BUDDIES



The next Book Buddies read is – *The Women of the Bible Speak* by Shannon Bream. We will meet, via Zoom on Monday, June 7 at 1 p.m. or 7 p.m.

The Women of the Bible Speak outlines the lessons we can take from the valor of Esther, the hope of Hannah, the audacity of Rahab, and the faith of Mary. In broadening each woman's individual story, Shannon offers us a deeper understanding of each, and wisdom and insights that can transform our own lives today. *Amazon*

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.

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.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

At the 9:30 a.m. parking lot service on May 23, the following nine youth were confirmed:



Abygail Irene Borger



Jonathan Mark Erking



Dante Scott Keen



Xander Thomas McDonald



Juliana Grace Medei



Alexis Nicole Santee



Abigail Rose VanLuvanee



Megan Marie Weaver



Robert Kevin Weaver

At their baptisms their parents, sponsors, and the congregation made promises for them. On May 23, as confirmands, they made this promise for themselves:

"...to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth."



END OF YEAR SUNDAY SCHOOL PARTY—May 16



**SEE
YOU
IN
FALL!!**



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

We want to celebrate our high school and college graduates on Sunday, June 6. 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 no later than Sunday, May 30.



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	

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.*



FINANCIAL SUMMARY - APRIL 30, 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 - April	72,941.54	7,961.96	4,140.48	3,005.25	-
Income - Jan.-Mar.	105,870.92	15,690.67	7,353.65	4,519.02	-
Total Income	178,812.46	23,652.63	11,494.13	7,524.27	-
Expenses - April	29,880.09	99.00	-	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-Mar.	96,663.63	15,625.16	1,183.60	2,400.00	-
Total Expenses	126,543.72	15,724.16	1,183.60	2,400.00	-
Net Income	52,268.74	7,928.47	10,310.53	5,124.27	-
Net Special Appeals	(215.00)				
Balance End of April	\$240,615.44	\$165,056.49	\$177,238.36	\$104,239.25	\$ (2,496.92)

SUMMARY:

Income exceeded expenses in the Regular Fund for the month of April by \$43,061.45, and for the year 2021, income exceeded expenses by \$52,268.74, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$240,615.44. Last year the net income for the same period was \$23,258.27 with a balance of \$185,755.38.

Note: The income in the month of April 2021 and year 2021 includes PPP Loan Forgiveness of \$36,872.23.

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>
July/August	Monday, June 14	Thursday, June 24 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 June 2021 issue of *Synod News* is available online.

Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2021-6.pdf>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251

