

Hope *Home News*

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December 2021
Vol. XLVIII No. 11

hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

It's that time of year. Here in the church, Advent is upon us and Christmas is around the corner. Are we getting ready? You bet we are. Here's our line up for the season. Beginning on Wednesday, December 1 we will prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus with our mid-week Advent services.

The theme this year is **Restore Us, O God** and Holden Evening Prayer will be the liturgy we will be using. This theme speaks to the spiritual hunger within all of us -- that of having once known a very precious truth that has somehow slipped from our grasp. The human dilemma is that we spend a lot of time groping on our hands and knees in the dark, hoping to find a light that will reveal the meaning of life, or a lantern that will light our path. What we need is a Savior, the Light of the World, to come to us and reveal the truth - and perhaps to remind us that the treasure we've been seeking isn't the true treasure after all. Making use of various Psalms as our readings, we will focus on the restoration we all need - especially after these long days of a pandemic. The Mid-Week Advent schedule looks like this:

- Mid-Week 1 – December 1
Restore Us, O God:
Hope—selections from Psalm 80
- Mid-Week 2 – December 8
Restore Us, O God:
Peace—selections from Psalm 85
- Mid-Week 3 – December 15
Restore Us, O God:
Joy – Psalm 126

- Mid-Week 4 – December 22
Restore Us, O God:
Love – selections from Psalm 89

Then it is on to the Christmas Season! Christmas Eve services will be different again this year. We will have two services in the sanctuary – masks required – and one service back at Becky's Drive-In. Our Director of Music, the choir, Stacey Ziegler Burke and I are all working hard on an extra special sermon you will not want to miss!

On the Sunday after Christmas, we will have only one service with communion. During the service we will be showing – by popular demand – the video **The Grinch Who ALMOST Stole Christmas** during the service. The Christmas schedule looks like this:

- Christmas Eve Worship – **3:30 p.m.**
Hope sanctuary – masks required – no reservations needed
- Christmas Eve Worship – **6:00 p.m.**
Hope sanctuary – masks required – no reservations needed
- Christmas Eve Worship – **8:30 p.m.**
Becky's Drive-In – no masks required – no reservations needed - bring your pets, grandkids, friends, hot chocolate and some Christmas cookies!
- Sunday, December 26 – 9:30 a.m. – Communion service and showing of The Grinch Who ALMOST Stole Christmas.

(Continued on page 3)

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS—November 2021

- ◆ Council made the decision to bring the 10:30 a.m. worship service - that is currently being held in the parking lot – inside the building beginning Sunday, December 5. Additionally, as of November 14 the tape on the pews to keep people physically distanced was removed. These are positive steps forward as we work toward a more normal schedule for our facility and worship services.
- ◆ Christmas Eve worship schedule will be:
 - * **3:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.** Masks required. No reservations needed.
 - * **6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.** Masks required. No reservations needed.
 - * **8:30 p.m. at Becky's Drive-In.** NO masks required. Bring your pets, your friends and some Christmas cookies and hot chocolate!
- ◆ Council made the decision that on **December 26 there will be only one service at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.** We will be showing a reprise of “The Grinch Who Almost Stole Christmas” – the movie Hope made for the 2020 Christmas Eve service at Becky's Drive-In. Masks required.
- ◆ October finances were down in comparison to October 2020. We are grateful to our members who are continuing to keep up with their commitments for 2021 and encourage everyone to be a *regular giver*.
- ◆ Council approved a request from the Youth Committee to begin using the van to transport youth to events. Masks will be required for all who use the van.
- ◆ The Youth Committee reported that Youth Group and Confirmation Classes will participate in Wreathes Across America on December 18. This is a program that places wreathes on the graves of veterans in local cemeteries.
- ◆ Council approved the request from the Property Committee to remove some trees that are leaning on power lines in the parsonage lot.

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 1

7:00 p.m. Advent Service

Sunday, December 5

8:00 a.m. in Sanctuary
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. in Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 8

7:00 p.m. Advent Service

Sunday, December 12

8:00 a.m. in Sanctuary
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. in Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 15

7:00 p.m. Advent Service

Sunday, December 19

8:00 a.m. in Sanctuary
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. in Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 22

7:00 p.m. Advent Service

Christmas Eve Friday, December 24

3:30 p.m. in Sanctuary
6:00 p.m. in Sanctuary
8:30 p.m. Becky's Drive-In

Sunday, December 26

Communion
9:30 a.m. in Sanctuary

WORSHIP SERVICE AVAILABLE ONLINE

If you can't make it to either worship service 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.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Miriam Burbes and family
as her granddaughter, Melissa Mast, died November 6;

LuAnn Smith and family,
as her husband, Ray Smith, died November 9,

Kenneth Silfies and family,
as his sister, Maryann L. Haydt, died November 3,

Linda Rice, Kimberly Eberwein, Amy Nyce, and family
as their husband & father, Guy Rice, died November 19.



GREETINGS FROM . . . *(Con't from page 1)*

It is that time of year and I pray that you will find time to spend worshiping and orienting yourself toward the most important element of this season – the coming of Jesus to a world that was,

and continues to be, in need of the love and life he offers.

Christmas Blessings,
Pastor Jami

SPONSORSHIPS



Altar flowers, bulletin, and press sponsorships are back. The sponsorship charts are located on the bulletin board in the narthex. Write your name and message next to your desired date, take and complete an envelope, enclose the appropriate payment and place it in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office.



ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

In this season of thanksgiving and gift giving, we hope you will also consider an additional gift to your church. It is through the contributions of every member that we are able to fulfill our mission. 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.

A green rectangular button with rounded corners and a slight shadow, containing the text "Online Giving" in white, sans-serif font.

YEAR END GIVING

Please catch up with your 2021 commitment or intended giving by the end of December or give an extra gift before the end of the year. Let's keep Hope's ministries strong! All 2021 offerings must be received or postmarked on or before December 31, 2021, to receive credit for this year. Any offerings received on or after January 1, 2022, MUST be credited as 2022 contributions.

YOUTH GATHERING

Sunday, **December 5, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.** there will be a mandatory youth **Getting Ready** meeting. All youth planning on attending the National Youth Gathering in July of 2022 need to attend this meeting. Masks are required.



If you have any questions, please contact Ally Lockard at: alockard313@gmail.com.



There will be no Sunday school on November 28 for cradle roll - 6th grade as well as Level I and II Confirmation.

Sunday School is now on the Remind App! These are for text messaging updates related to Sunday School, grades Cradle Roll—6th. If you did not receive a Remind App Communication, please email:

sundayschool@hopecherryville.org to be added to the list.

CONFIRMATION

We have quite a few Outreach events available for the Level 1 and 2 Confirmation students coming up in the month of December.



1. Sunday, December 12 - **wrapping** the Adopt-A-Family gifts at 11:15 a.m. in Kuntz Hall. Confirmation
2. Saturday, December 18 - **Wreaths Across America**, noon at Fairview Cemetery in Bath. More info to follow.
3. Sunday, December 19 - **Drive through Nativity** during the Sunday School hour.

Please email Jennifer Knouss at jknouss@verizon.net a.s.a.p. if your child will be participating in any of these events.



Reminder that **Mid-Week Advent Worship Services** and the Christmas Eve Service count towards your required Worship Service Attendance. Mid-Week Advent Worship Services begin Wednesday, December 1 and run through Wednesday, December 22. Services begin at 7 p.m. If your child is behind, this is a great way to make up missed Worship Services. Please do not forget to fill out an attendance form found on the table in the Narthex to receive credit.

Please contact Jennifer Knouss, at jknouss@verizon.net with any questions.



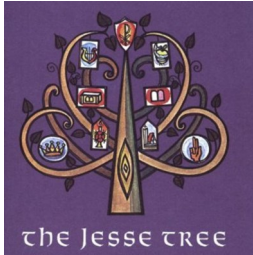
Cub Scouts from our Pack 242 honored veterans on Veterans Day. The soldier pictured with the cubs is Nick Musser.

ADOPT A FAMILY

If you signed up and purchased a gift for a child from one of the families we adopted for Christmas, you need to return your unwrapped gift with the tag attached by Sunday, **December 12** (Sunday). We will see that the gifts are wrapped and delivered to the families. Thank you to everyone who participated, all gifts tags were taken!



THE JESSE TREE



You will see a Jesse Tree in the Narthex. During Advent we will be decorating the tree with symbols portraying the spiritual heritage of Jesus. There will be a sign up sheet in the rear of the church. Pick a symbol and sign your name after it. Note the date on your calendar and on that day come to church, say a short prayer and hang the appropriate ornament on the tree. What a wonderful way to observe Advent in preparation for Christmas. If you can not commit to hang an ornament, don't forget to visit the Jesse

Tree when you are in the building.

Dawn upon our hearts and minds, Lord Jesus, that we may see more clearly the road that leads to a new day.

Soup Group

and

Delivery

Wednesday,
December 1
9:00 a.m.



STORYWEAVERS

Tuesday, December 14

Lunch

Noon at 2 Brothers Pizzeria,
Laurys Station



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.

Council Highlights *(Continued from page 2)*

- ◆ Council approved a request from the Advent/Christmas Decorating Committee to purchase a new Christmas tree for the sanctuary that will be easier for the group to assemble.
- ◆ With regret the council accepted the resignation of Linda Sidor as the chair of the Basket Social Committee. Linda has spent 27 years leading that group and Hope is appreciative of the time, energy, and passion Linda gave to our basket socials.
- ◆ Council wishes to remind people that masks are required in the building regardless of your vaccination status. Please help to keep our children and vulnerable members safe.



FOOD BANK NEEDS

The Northampton Food Bank has posted that they would appreciate donations of the following goods for distribution:

Applesauce	Canned vegetables	Pork and beans
Soup (canned and dried-Ramen noodles, Lipton)	Canned pasta	Canned tomatoes
Canned potatoes (white or yams)	Canned meats	Beef stew
Hamburger, Tuna & Chicken Helper	Tuna & Salmon	Macaroni & Cheese
Pasta (any kind-macaroni, noodles, etc.)	Spaghetti	Pudding
Jello	Cereal	Rice (and rice mixes)
Dried Potatoes (stuffing, scalloped, mashed, etc.)	Pancake mix	Pancake syrup
Crackers (prefer those in stack packs)	Personal Hygiene items	Evaporated milk
Baby food	Baby formula	Baby diapers
Baby personal hygiene	Cleaning items	Laundry items

(Items donated must be unopened and unexpired, except for diapers, Depends, cleaning items, non-food items. You can bring your donations to a church service, or drop them at the church during office hours.

Some suggestions and thoughts that a food bank volunteer posted online:

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac & Cheese in the box. But it needs milk & butter which is hard to get from food banks.
2. Boxed Milk is a treasure. Kids need it for cereal, which they get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce & spaghetti noodles.
4. Canned Foods should be Pop Tops OR donate Can Openers.
5. Oil is a luxury needed for Rice a Roni which they get a lot of.
6. Spices, Salt & Pepper are a real gift.
7. Tea bags & Coffee are caring gifts.
8. Sugar & Flour are treats.
9. Important are fresh produce donated by farmers & grocery stores.
10. Seeds are great in spring & summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. Rarely is there fresh meat.
12. Tuna & Crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but NEED sandwich bread.
15. Butter or Margarine are good.
16. Eggs are a commodity!
17. Cake mix & Frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing Detergent is very expensive & is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury & women will cry over them.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.



HOPE FOR OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUES

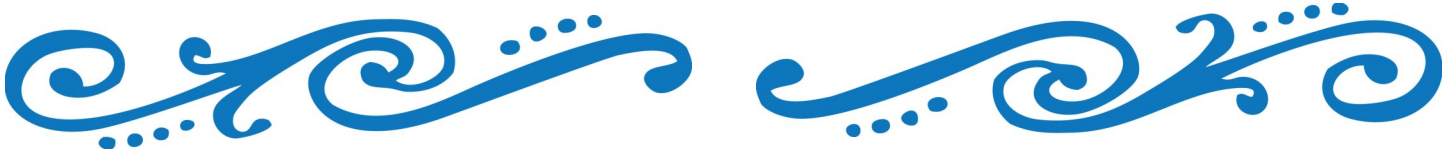
We continue to assist the Northern Lehigh and Northampton School Districts in their fight against hunger. Their programs provide breakfast on school days and lunch on weekends for their students in need. Full stomachs lead to students being on task more often, can increase math test scores, possibly 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.



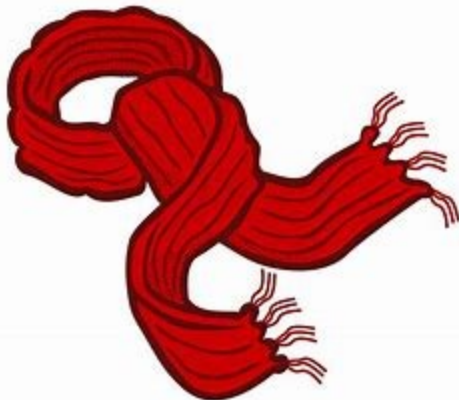
Some suggested items:

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	



PRAYER SCARVES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Attention all parents of college students, Hope's Prayer Shawl Ministry is currently knitting and crocheting scarves for all of our college students. It's a surprise! We plan to ship them out when the weather gets cold to let our students know that we continue to pray for them as they study.



Here is how you can help, please call 610-767-7203 or email the church office at office@hopecherryville.org and provide to us your child's address. We will be sending to all students in colleges, trade or technical schools and community colleges. If your child is living at home and commuting, we need to know that as well. Please let us know as soon as possible so we can send out these warm wishes!

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - OCTOBER 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 - October	34,433.46	2,650.52	(1,602.95)	(1,987.98)	-
Income - Jan.-Sept.	314,115.87	44,457.38	22,397.58	14,538.39	2,000.00
Total Income	348,549.33	47,107.90	20,794.63	12,550.41	2,000.00
Expenses - October	34,719.41	99.00	214.99	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-Sept.	276,757.02	19,682.70	1,485.05	4,600.00	-
Total Expenses	311,476.43	19,781.70	1,700.04	4,600.00	-
Net Income	37,072.90	27,326.20	19,094.59	7,950.41	2,000.00
Net Special Appeals	(215.00)				
Balance End of October	\$225,419.60	\$184,454.22	\$186,022.42	\$107,065.39	\$ (496.92)

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of October by \$285.95, and for the year 2021, income exceeded expenses by \$37,072.90, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$225,419.60. Last year the net income for the same period was \$(3,254.36) with a balance of \$159,739.69.

Note: The 2021 Regular Fund Total Income includes PPP Loan Forgiveness of \$36,872.23.

*** 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>
Januaryr	Friday, December 17	Wednesday, December 29

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 December 2021 issue of *Synod News* is available online.
Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2021-12.pdf>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251

