

Hope *Home News*

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hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

By the time you read this newsletter article we will be getting ready to ring in the New Year 2022. As I anticipate this - I cannot help but wonder what the year will bring. Most definitely there will be lots of things that are not on my radar right now. But there will be things of which I am certain... another notch on my age belt...another year that will begin with the Covid19 pandemic... the instability of governments... the constant threat of terrorist attacks around the world.... new opportunities for ministry here at Hope... new ways to live our lives.

And that got me to thinking about how I might look at life with a different view this year – how I might be very conscious about how I perceive things and how I am perceived. This struck me because I recently read a quote by Zig Ziglar who said, “When you choose to be pleasant and positive in the way you treat others, you have also chosen, in most cases, how you are going to be treated by them.”

I know people who never make an effort to be pleasant and positive to others - and who were constantly complaining about how other people treat them. It is astonishing to me to hear them complain about how others act when I know how they treat others. The reality is that every person longs to be recognized as a unique, caring individual with needs and wants and hopes and dreams. Every one of us longs to be treated with dignity and respect - and not walked all over. Truth is - if we treat other people poorly we're going to be treated poorly, too.

A friend shared what she observed recently when she was on a short vacation. A couple came to the front desk of the hotel – not just once, but several times. To my friend - it was quite obvious that they were looking for a big discount or an upgrade to a different room. The couple accused some staff of lying to them and indicated that the

rest were unprofessional and unable to do their jobs. The woman at the desk tried to treat them well and be reasonable for a very long time - but that didn't work. Finally, she told them, “Fine, we'll just refund your money, and you can go somewhere else to stay.” This stopped them in their tracks. Their complaining immediately stopped, and they turned and left. Why did it have to come to that?

My friend reflected to me, “Life is a mirror. It gives back to us what we give to it. People will treat us as we treat them, and they'll remember our rudeness - and the next time we show up where they work or live, we'll be treated based on how they remember us treating them.”

There are many reasons to change our attitudes to more positive and loving ones - but the most important reason of all is to turn our own lives into positive experiences that allow us to be happy and fulfilled. That can come only from us and not from any other source. The world will not give us the conditions that will nurture happiness and fulfillment until we show to the world a face that is ready for both.

So - this year maybe you want to reflect with me on these two questions: What kind of attitude do you generally give to the world? What kind of attitude does the world generally give to you in return? Turn your gaze inward. If you wonder why people treat you as they do, look inside and discover the face that you're giving to the world. And once you determine that...decide how you want the world to treat you and present a face that will attract just that kind of treatment. Correct yourself and your world will change. Good advice that I hope to bring into my life as well.

New Year Blessings,
Pastor Jami

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS—December 2021

- ◆ Annette Frazza and Mikayla Ninos were welcomed to the meeting as the newest council members. Tom Nichols, council president, thanked Matt Sekol and AJ Szwest for their work on council for the past six years.
- ◆ Council approved a new phone system and upgrading to high speed internet. The system will be a VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) and RCN will be installing the system as soon as possible.
- ◆ Pastor Kuntz sent a note to the council and congregation thanking Hope for the recognition of his 50th anniversary of ordination and special gifts.
- ◆ The Evangelism Committee will be taking fruit baskets to STAR (Seniors with Transportation and Accessibility Restrictions) members in December.
- ◆ The Basket Social Committee will be reorganizing at their January 26, 2022, meeting and will look for new leadership after the resignation of Linda Sidor as Committee chair after the Basket Social in 2021. Many thanks to Linda for her years of service to that group.
- ◆ Council has postponed making decisions about rentals of Kuntz and Hanson Halls and the Friendship Dance until March of 2022 due to the rise of cases of Covid19.
- ◆ The Stewardship Committee reported a positive Generosity Sunday Event with 57 Generosity Card commitments returned and about 40+ people participating in gift wrapping, blanket tying and writing thank you notes to those who completed a Generosity card. Soup and salad to-go were sent home with all participants.
- ◆ Youth Group will be headed to Blue Mountain for a snowtubing event on Sunday, January 9.

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.



Check out the Christmas Eve Service to find out where these two travelers are headed. You can see *The Grinch Who Almost Stole Christmas* which was shown again on December 26.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Sunday,
January 2**
8:00 a.m.
in Sanctuary
No Sunday School
(including Confirmation)
10:30 a.m.
in Sanctuary

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

**Sunday,
January 16**
8:00 a.m.
in Sanctuary
9:15 a.m.
Sunday School
10:30 a.m.
in Sanctuary

**Sunday,
January 23**
8:00 a.m.
Communion
9:15 a.m.
Sunday School
10:30 a.m.
Communion

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

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The family and friends of
Shirley Graver, who died on November 30
and
Erma Green, who died on December 2.
Art, Terri Stewart, and family
as his father, Robert Stewart, died on December 1.



SPONSORSHIPS



Sponsorship charts for altar flowers, bulletins and press, 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.



*This is **important**. If the office does not have your “in memory of” or “in honor of” requests the week prior to your sponsorship it can not appear in the bulletin. Listing it on the payment envelope and turning the envelope in the Sunday of the sponsorship will not allow for printing!

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF 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 and locate the Online Giving page.



YEAR END GIVING

Any offerings received on or after January 1, 2022, **MUST** be credited as 2022 contributions.

PAUSE FOR A CHUCKLE

A keen lover of rare books met an unbookish guy who had just thrown away an old Bible that was packed away for generations in the attic of his ancestral home. “Somebody named Gutten-something had printed it,” he said.

“Not Gutenberg!” gasped the book lover. “You’ve thrown away one of the very first books ever printed. It could have brought over a million dollars at auction!”

The other man, unmoved, said, “Oh, my copy wouldn’t have brought a dime. Some fellow named Martin Luther had scribbled notes all over it.”



YOUTH GATHERING

Youth Group will be going snow tubing at Blue Mountain on Sunday, **January 9**. For those interested, we will eat lunch at 11:30 a.m. in Kuntz Hall. If you will not be joining the group for lunch, please be at the church by 12:15 p.m. You will need to purchase tickets online before arriving. We will be snow tubing during the 1 p.m.-4 p.m. time frame. We will return to the church around 4:30 p.m. Please email Ally at alockard313@gmail.com if you would like to attend. Friends are invited. The first 14 youth to sign up can travel in the van; we will work with others on transportation.

Our next Youth Leader meeting is on Tuesday, **January 4** at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

Our next Getting Ready Meeting for those attending the Gathering in 2022 is on Sunday, **January 16** from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in Kuntz Hall.



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



and

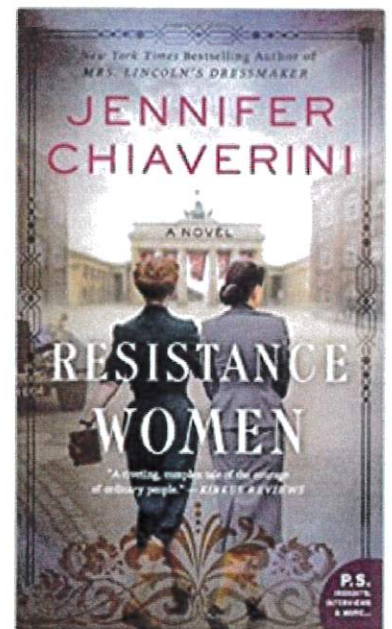


There will be no Sunday school on **January 2** for cradle roll - 6th grade as well as Level I and II Confirmation.

BOOK BUDDIES

Our next book is "Resistance Women: A Novel" by Jennifer Chiaverini. Our next book buddies meeting by Zoom will be **January 11** at 1:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. Books are available in the church office and are \$12.

Synopsis: After Wisconsin graduate student Mildred Fish marries brilliant German economist Arvid Harnack, she accompanies him to his German homeland, where a promising future awaits. In the thriving intellectual culture of 1930s Berlin, the newlyweds create a rich new life filled with love, friendships, and rewarding work—but the rise of a malevolent new political faction inexorably changes their fate. As Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party wield violence and lies to seize power, Mildred, Arvid, and their friends resolve to resist. Mildred gathers intelligence for her American contacts, including Martha Dodd, the vivacious and very modern daughter of the US ambassador. Her German friends, aspiring author Greta Kuckoff and literature student Sara Weitz, risk their lives to collect information from journalists, military officers, and officials within the highest levels of the Nazi regime. For years, Mildred's network stealthily fights to bring down the Third Reich from within. But when Nazi radio operatives detect an errant Russian signal, the Harnack resistance cell is exposed, with fatal consequences. Inspired by actual events, *Resistance Women* is an enthralling, unforgettable story of ordinary people determined to resist the rise of evil, sacrificing their own lives and liberty to fight injustice and defend the oppressed.



BASKET SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Members of the Basket Committee and hopefully lots of new faces, will meet in Kuntz Hall on **January 26** at 6:30 p.m. to begin planning the 2022 Fall Basket Social. We will be looking to name a new chairperson or chair people at that time. A team approach will help lighten the load. Anyone interested in chairing this fun group, please call Cindy Kocher at 610-762-2389 prior to the meeting.



WELCA

Tuesday, **January 11**

10:00 a.m.

Adult SCS Room

Women ^{of the} **ELCA** 

STORYWEAVERS

Tuesday, **January 18**

10:00 a.m.

Lunch

Noon at Copley Eatery,

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is back in the building!

We will gather in Kuntz Hall at 10:00 a.m. every Thursday.

Please remember masks are required.

In addition, Bible Study will still be offered via Zoom to our members who are unable to gather in-person.



Soup Group and Delivery

Wednesday,
January 5
9:00 a.m.



NEW MEMBER CLASSES

Interested in becoming a member or know of someone that would, classes will be held **January 9 and 16,** 9:15 a.m. in Kuntz Hall.



See Pr. Jami or call the church office.

Reception of new members will take place **Sunday, January 30** at both services.

Christmas Decorating Committee

could use help:

Monday, January 3
9:30 a.m.

Many hands make
light the work.



ANNUAL REPORTS



Annual Reports, are due to communications@hopecherryville.org by **January 15**

Thank You!

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.)

THANK YOU

Pastor Jami,

I want to thank you for that wonderful memorial service for Jane and all the visits while she was ill. She really appreciated it.

And a thank you to the Soup Group and all who brought meals to my home for Jane and all your prayers and cards.

Thank you,
Ralph E. Fisher Sr.

Dear Pastor Jami and Hope Congregation,

Thank you for the wonderful recognition of my 50th Anniversary of Ordination. The beautiful flower arrangement and the generous Iron Pigs gift card are most appreciated, as were the many cards and words of congratulations.

Most of all, thank you people of Hope for your kindness and love throughout the years.

There's no place like "Hope".

Gratefully,
Pastor Clark

Dear Friends of the Food Bank,

Thank you for your recent contribution to the Northampton Area Food Bank.

Your support makes a significant difference in the lives of families in our community. On behalf of the board of directors, the volunteers, and especially the clients we are privileged to serve, many thanks for your kindness and generosity.

(New volunteers are always welcome! If you would like a tour of the Food Bank, please give us a call!)

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 & cheese	Canned soups/stews/pastas	



Christmas Eve





Silent night,
holy night!
All is calm,
all is bright



FINANCIAL SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 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 - November	27,410.15	4,550.06	3,811.21	2,726.75	-
Income - Jan.-Oct.	348,549.33	47,107.90	20,794.63	12,550.41	2,000.00
Total Income	375,959.48	51,657.96	24,605.84	15,277.16	2,000.00
Expenses - November	30,652.00	378.00	1,892.16	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-Oct.	311,476.43	19,781.70	1,700.04	4,600.00	-
Total Expenses	342,128.43	20,159.70	3,592.20	4,600.00	-
Net Income	33,831.05	31,498.26	21,013.64	10,677.16	2,000.00
Net Special Appeals	(215.00)				
Balance End of November	\$222,177.75	\$188,626.28	\$187,941.47	\$109,792.14	\$ (496.92)

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of November by \$3,241.85, and for the year 2021, income exceeded expenses by \$33,831.05, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$222,177.75. Last year the net income for the same period was \$929.07 with a balance of \$163,923.12.

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>
February	Monday, January 17	Thursday, January 27

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 January 2022 issue of *Synod News* is available online.
Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2022-1.pdf>

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