

Hope *Home News*

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hopecherryville.org



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR...

Many Christians have heard of Lent - but do we all know what it means? Lent is the 40 *weekdays* - not including Sundays - from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter. Lent is often described as a time of preparation and an opportunity to go deeper with God. This means that it's a time for personal reflection that prepares our hearts and minds for Good Friday and Easter.

The key events of Lent include Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. You may have noticed people walking around with a smudged, black cross on their foreheads. Those are ashes from our Ash Wednesday service. The ashes symbolize our grief for the things we've done wrong and the resulting division it creates between us and God. Maundy Thursday is the day before Good Friday. It commemorates the night before Jesus died - when he shared the Passover meal with his closest friends and followers. Good Friday is the day Christians remember Jesus' death. Easter Sunday is the joyful celebration of Jesus rising from the dead to give us the opportunity of eternal life.

So where does Lent come from and who started it? The Lenten season developed as part of the historical Christian calendar. The first remark of a 40-day period of fasting in preparation for Easter is seen in the Canons of Nicaea in 325 CE. The custom arose from the early church tradition of baptismal aspirants enduring a 40-day period of fasting in preparation for their baptism at Easter. Eventually - the Lent season developed into a time of spiritual commitment for the whole church. Although its format has varied throughout the centuries and throughout different cultures - the basic concept of Lent remains the same - to open our hearts to God's refining grace through

prayer, confession, fasting, and sharing our resources.

Lent can be helpful for Individuals, couples, and families to grow in faith. In the same way that Advent helps prepare us for Christmas - the season of Lent provides an opportunity for all of us to strengthen spiritual discipline together. Rather than engaging in the distraction of the baskets and egg hunts - Lent can help us focus on the real meaning of Easter and what Jesus' death and resurrection means for our salvation.

So how will we observe Lent this year? Here at Hope, we will offer mid-week services every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. during the Lenten season utilizing Holden Evening Prayer - a favorite liturgy for many of us. We will also offer services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday at 7:00 p.m. This year our theme will be **"Spiritual Practices - Your Prescription for Lent."** Over the course of the Lenten season, we will cover the following Spiritual Practices:

- Ash Wednesday - March 2
The Practice of Forgiveness
- Wednesday, March 9
The Practice of Kindness
- Wednesday, March 16
The Practice of Hospitality
- Wednesday, March 23
The Practice of Nurturing Devotion
- Wednesday, March 30
The Practice of Recognizing our Shadow-side
- Wednesday, April 6
The Practice Transformation
- Maundy Thursday, April 14
The Practice of Compassion

(Continued on page 4)

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS—February 2022

- ◆ Council reviewed the financial statement for January and noted that we cancelled services one Sunday in January and that was reflected in our lower-than-normal income for the month. We hope to make this up as the year goes on.
- ◆ The Basket Social Committee has regrouped and a new leader – Kathy Fogel - volunteered to head the group. Many thanks to Linda Sidor who headed the group for years. The Basket Social is scheduled for October.
- ◆ The ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in July 2022 has been cancelled due to the pandemic and the worry of doing a gathering for 30,000 youth safely. The next Gathering will be held in 2024 at a site to be announced. Our Youth Coordinator and adult leaders have decided to do a mini-gathering for our youth over the same days the ELCA Youth Gathering was to be held. Planning is underway for that event.
- ◆ The Worship and Music Committee reported that:
 - * Communion services will now be held on the second and fourth Sundays at both services.
 - * Mid-week Lenten Services will be held in the sanctuary beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 2. We will be using Holden Evening Prayer each week. The Lenten Theme is “Spiritual Practices – Your Prescription for Lent.”
 - * Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be at 7:00 p.m.
 - * Easter Sunday services will be at 6:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
 - * First Communion is scheduled for Sunday, April 3 at the 10:30 a.m. service.
 - * Confirmation is scheduled for June 5 at the 10:30 a.m. service.

WORSHIP SERVICE AVAILABLE ONLINE



If you aren't able to join us in person at either worship service Sunday morning, you can still view the service on our website: hopecherryville.org. Worship services are posted to our website early the following week.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 2

Ash Wednesday
Holden Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 6

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

Wednesday, March 9

Holden Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 13

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

Wednesday, March 16

Holden Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 20

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

Wednesday, March 23

Holden Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 27

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

Wednesday, March 30

Holden Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m.

YOUTH

EASTER PIE SALE!!!!

Our Youth Group will be selling Perkins pies just in time for Easter. Sale begins Sunday, March 20 with online orders (youth.hopecherryville.org) or order after services on Sundays, March 27 and April 3 in the Narthex. You can pay at church or when you pick up your order. Pick up will be on Saturday, April 16 in Kuntz Hall (time TBD). Cost is \$17 for apple, caramel apple, cherry, wildberry, pecan, pumpkin, and pumpkin cream pies; \$18 for coconut cream, peanut butter silk and french silk pies. Email youthgroup@hopecherryville.org if you have any questions.



We will be having a youth meeting for those attending the Youth "Hope Gathering" trip in July on Sunday, March 20 from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.



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

The **spring mini-retreat** will be held on Saturday, March 26 from 9 a.m. to noon in Kuntz Hall. Students must be present for entire time or make up the entire content (no pick-ups/drop-offs during the day). If your child is unable to attend, please contact Jennifer Knouss for make-up work. Thank you!

We are looking for Confirmation students to volunteer as **acolytes** for both church services. A sign-up genius has been sent to parents.

Please remember to sign a worship form to receive credit for attending church.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to jknouss@verizon.net

SAVE THE DATE . . .

. . . July 11-15 Vacation Bible School

"Food Truck Party"

from 9 a.m. until 12 noon.

Bible School is open to all children ages 3 (and potty trained) to children completing 6th grade in 2022.

So get your appetites ready to swallow the good news!



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR (Continued
from page 1)

Lent is a time when Christians separate from the world in a intentional way - when we find out our faith is not just a feel-good, self-help religion but one that answers the deepest questions of life and eternity. Those of us who journey through the Lenten season will enter the Easter season with an increased appreciation for who God is – how much God loves us - and what God has done for us.

I hope you will find time to join me on this Lenten journey and work on developing your spiritual life. All of us are called to deepen our faith and find ways to connect with God and each other. My prayer is that this will be your prescription for doing that.

Blessings,
Pastor Jami

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will be held in Kuntz Hall at 10 a.m. every Thursday.


Please remember masks are required.

In addition Bible Study will still be offered via Zoom for those who are unable to gather in person. Call the office for more information.


WELCA

Tuesday, March 8

10 a.m.



Soup Group and Delivery



Wednesday,
March 2
10:00 a.m.

STORYWEAVERS



Tuesday, March 15
10:00 a.m.
With Lunch:
Grove Street Grill,
Catasauqua

BOOK BUDDIES

Our next book is “Cloud Cuckoo Land” by Anthony Doerr. We will meet by Zoom March 29 at 1:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.

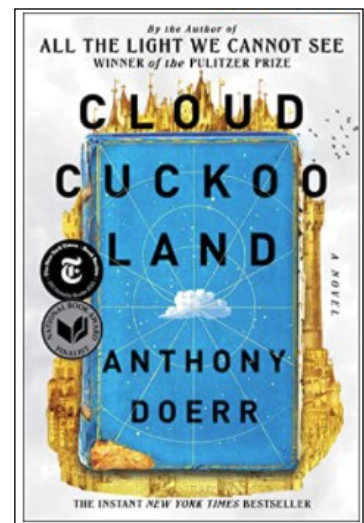
Cloud Cuckoo Land:

Thirteen-year-old Anna, an orphan, lives inside the formidable walls of Constantinople in a house of women who make their living embroidering the robes of priests. Restless, insatiably curious, Anna learns to read, and in this ancient city, famous for its libraries, she finds a book, the story of Aethon, who longs to be turned into a bird so that he can fly to a utopian paradise in the sky. This she reads to her ailing sister as the walls of the only place she has known are bombarded in the great siege of Constantinople. Outside the walls is Omeir, a village boy, miles from home, conscripted with his beloved oxen into the invading army. His path and Anna’s will cross.

Five hundred years later, in a library in Idaho, octogenarian Zeno, who learned Greek as a prisoner of war, rehearses five children in a play adaptation of Aethon’s story, preserved against all odds through centuries. Tucked among the library shelves is a bomb, planted by a troubled, idealistic teenager, Seymour. This is another siege. And in a not-so-distant future, on the interstellar ship Argos, Konstance is alone in a vault, copying on scraps of sacking the story of Aethon, told to her by her father. She has never set foot on our planet.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ANTHONY DOERR IS THE AUTHOR OF ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE, WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE, THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, THE ALEX AWARD, AND A #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER. BORN AND RAISED IN CLEVELAND, OHIO, DOERR LIVES IN BOISE, IDAHO, WITH HIS WIFE AND TWO SON



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

Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, Hope Lutheran relies on your regular contributions. We appreciate the efforts of the congregation members to make consistent offerings throughout the year—especially during inclement weather conditions. To assist you, we provide a convenient electronic giving option for setting up recurring contributions. Visit the church website at www.hopecherryville.org and locate the Online Giving page.

Online Giving

Good News for Seniors Over 70-1/2 —A Tax-Free Gift With Your IRA Rollover

Are your required minimum IRA withdrawals greater than you need, or care to receive? Would you like to reduce the taxable income from your IRA?

The IRA charitable rollover is a terrific way to make a tax-free gift to Hope Lutheran Church ministries. Your gift from your IRA can satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution without increasing your Federal income taxes. Although you don't get an income tax charitable deduction for the gift, you don't pay taxes on your IRA withdrawal. In effect, the IRA charitable rollover is a tax-reducing and tax-free way to make a gift.

If you are 70-1/2 or older, you can tell your IRA administrator to transfer your gift directly from your Traditional or Roth IRA account to Hope Lutheran. We can put your gift to use right away in providing financial support to our ministries throughout the Church.

Consider these important requirements to make an IRA charitable rollover:

- You must be 70-1/2 or older when the gift is made.
- The gift must come from a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA account. Other retirement accounts such as 401(k) or 403(b) Plans are not eligible.
- The gift check must come directly from your IRA administrator to Hope Lutheran.
- Total IRA charitable rollover gifts in any one year cannot exceed \$100,000.
- The IRA rollover gift can count toward your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) if you have not already taken your RMD for the year you make your gift.
- The gift from your IRA will be excluded from your taxable income.
- The gift from your IRA will not be available as an income tax charitable deduction.

If you are interested in making such a gift or if you just want more information, please contact your IRA administrator, tax preparer or the Church Treasurer.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are in need of additional greeters and ushers. If you are interested in volunteering for either group or if you would like more information regarding duties, please contact the church office office@hopecherryville.org or 610-767-7203. For volunteers, please specify for which service you prefer to be scheduled.



NEEDS

The Northampton Food Bank 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 |
| *Pasta Sauce | *Peanut Butter | *Jelly |
| 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 greatly needed.

Items donated must be unopened and unexpired, except for diapers, Depends, cleaning items, non-food items.

HOPE FOR OUR COMMUNITY CONTINUES

As the school year progresses we are still collecting for 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 | |

Lent and Easter Schedules



Ash
Wednesday
Service
March 2, 7 p.m.
Holden Evening Prayer



Mid-Week Lenten Services

Holden Evening Prayer

March 9

March 16

March 23

March 30

April 6



Maundy Thursday
April 14;
7 p.m.



Good Friday
Tenebrae Service
April 15, 7 p.m.



*Easter
Prayer
Vigil*
April 16
Watch for sign-up sheet



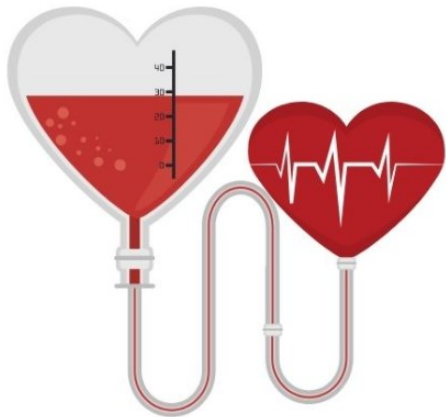
Easter
**Communion
Services**
6:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.



*Daylight Saving time begins March 13
Turn your clocks ahead Saturday night.*

EMERGENCY

ALL BLOOD TYPES NEEDED



Our blood inventory is at dangerous levels. Schedule your blood donation, today.

When you give a pint, you give more than just blood — you give the gift of life.

Your simple blood donation will save up to 3 lives. That means a cancer patient will continue the fight, a trauma victim will survive and a premature baby will grow and thrive — and all because of you! Be sure to schedule your next donation and become an every-time blood donor. While you're at it, bring a friend and welcome them as an official MKBC donor today!

Did You Know...

Where you give blood makes a difference. The blood you donate at Miller Keystone, stays here. That blood is sent to 29 hospitals right here in our region. That means your blood could save the life of your family member, friend or neighbor. 450 donors are needed every day to maintain the community blood supply. Miller Keystone's only source of blood is from donors like you. When people stop donating, the blood supply can become depleted. Every 2 seconds, someone in the US requires a blood transfusion; and yet only 5% of people donate blood. The blood you donate today may very well be the blood you need tomorrow. If every blood donor donated at least 3 times a year, there would never be a blood shortage. Statistics show that 25% or more of us will require blood at least once in our lifetime.

How Often You Can Donate Depends...

You're eligible to give Whole Blood every 56 days, that's up to six times per year. Platelet donors are eligible to donate every two weeks, up to 24 times per year.

If you become a Plasma donor you can donate Plasma every four weeks. You're eligible to donate Automated Red Cells every 112 days.

Call 800-B-A-DONOR (223-6667) or go to Give Blood - Miller-Keystone Blood Center, Pennsylvania & New Jersey (giveapint.org)

***While walk-in donations are usually welcome and accepted as time permits, Keystone has temporarily adopted an **appointment-only policy** at this time. Thank you for your patience and understanding! ***

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - JANUARY 31, 2022

	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship	Memorial Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$246,275.19	\$188,752.29	\$187,720.51	\$107,308.57	\$ (496.92)
Income - January	29,527.91	2,794.81	4,232.44	3,717.13	50.00
Expenses - January	28,154.65	99.00	3,523.14	2,000.00	-
Net Income	1,373.26	2,695.81	709.30	1,717.13	50.00
Net Special Appeals	18.00				
Balance End of January	\$247,666.45	\$191,448.10	\$188,429.81	\$109,025.70	\$ (446.92)

SUMMARY:

Income exceeded expenses in the Regular Fund for the month of January by \$1,373.26, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$247,666.45.

Last year the net income for the same period was \$1,773.89 with a balance of \$192,175.59.

*** 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> April	<u>Article Deadline</u> Monday, March 18	<u>Collation Date</u> Thursday, March 31
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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 March 2022 issue of *Synod News* is available online.

Visit <http://nepasynod.org/documents/synod-news/synod-news-2022-3-color.pdf>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251

