



JULY 2023 ♦ Vol. L No. 7

Hope Home News

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HopeCherryville



Greetings from the Pastor:



time away. But August 31st is creeping up very quickly with much to do before that date arrives. Let me share a little bit about how we will move forward as a congregation.

I have met with the Bishop regarding our transition here at Hope. The goal is for Hope to hire an interim pastor to help bridge the time from my retirement until Hope calls a new pastor. As you may or may not know, in our synod and across the church there are more pastoral vacancies than there are ordained ministers to fill them. What this means is that Hope's call process could take a while. In fact, the average turn-around time for congregations in our synod can be two to three years - depending on the availability of ordained ministers who match the needs of Hope's congregation. Sometime this summer the Bishop and his associate for our area, Rev. Samantha Drennan, will meet with the council to discuss next steps. In the meantime, the council and I are working through what needs to be done prior to my leaving.

Rest assured - Hope is in good hands. We have strong Council leadership to guide the congregation through the call process and many interested and active volunteers to work with an interim pastor

I must admit that when I shared with the Council my intention of retiring from full-time ministry at the end of August of this year it sounded like a very long

when he or she arrives. Hope's worship will continue to run smoothly under the music direction of Dave Ziegler and the leadership of Hope's team of Assisting Ministers as well as the many, many volunteers who offer their time each Sunday to greet, usher, lector, prepare the altar, serve as communion assistants, and video techs. The staff at Hope is dedicated and driven to work through the transition and keep the congregation informed. We are blessed - so do not be anxious about this change.

Finally, I will say this. With my retirement, my pastoral relationship with the members of Hope Lutheran Church will come to an end. I treasure the privilege you have given me to serve as your pastor these past 14 years, but now those responsibilities will belong to your interim pastor and then to your next regularly called pastor. While friendships established during my ministry can and will continue, it is no longer appropriate for me to do any pastoral functions within the congregation or for its members. Therefore, if you ask, I will say, "No." This answer comes from my respect for the integrity of the congregation, for the ministry of the pastors who will be serving you, for the professional ethics of the vocation I love, and for the policies of the church.

There are still two more months for us to do ministry together! So - let's have fun being the hands and feet of Jesus in our small portion of the world!!!

**Blessings,
Pastor Jami**

VISIT US ONLINE AT www.hopecherryville.org/

Council Highlights-June 2023

- + The council continues to discuss and work on the transition that will be coming up with Pastor Jami's retirement on August 31st. Pastor Jami has met with the Bishop of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod to discuss the process.
- + Wayne Weidner has volunteered to chair the 50th Anniversary Committee. Members interested in volunteering to help with this committee can contact the church office or Wayne Weidner at 610-349-2654.
- + The council approved the purchase of audio and video equipment upgrades that will enhance our ability to record and livestream services.
- + The Mutual Ministry Committee submitted Child Safety Protocols to the council for their review. The council will act on this next month.
- + The May financial statement was reviewed. Although total regular fund receipts are up from 2022 the expenses were as well. This results in a YTD deficit of \$3,880.50. The council encourages members to continue with their generous giving.
- + The following Youth Group fundraisers were approved:
 - ⇒ Summer hoagie sale – July 9-20th (see page 7 for additional details)
 - ⇒ Dine and donate at the Seemsville Pub – date to be announced.
- + Members are urged to mark their calendars for a Youth Group fall clothing drive in October.

■ WORSHIP ■

SUMMER SCHEDULE



Sunday, July 2
9:00 AM Worship & Holy Baptisms

Sunday, July 9
VBS Teacher Installation
9:00 AM Worship,
Holy Communion & Baptism

Sunday, July 16
9:00 AM Worship

Sunday, July 23
9:00 AM Worship &
Holy Communion

Sunday, July 30
9:00 AM Worship

ELECTRONIC GIVING: A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT WAY TO GIVE!

IF YOU THINK YOU MAY MISS CHURCH SERVICES THIS SUMMER DUE TO TRAVEL OR OTHER COMMITMENTS, CONSIDER SETTING UP AN AUTOMATIC GIVING SCHEDULE. YOUR CONSISTENT SUPPORT IS VITAL TO OUR CHURCH, ESPECIALLY DURING SUMMER MONTHS. TO SET UP A RECURRING CONTRIBUTION, VISIT THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT WWW.HOPECHERRYVILLE.ORG AND LOCATE THE ELECTRONIC GIVING PAGE OR CLICK ON THE ONLINE GIVING BUTTON!




**Remember
Your Pledge
This Summer**

Online Giving

Bible Quiz

What does God compare to rain “watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater”?

A. The justice of the nations
 B. The work of God’s people
 C. The message of Isaiah the prophet
 D. God’s word




Answer: D (See Isaiah 55:10-11, NIV.)

Bible Quiz

Which of the following is not called a “fruit of the Spirit” – but probably could be?

A. love
 B. faithfulness
 C. self-control
 D. gratitude
 E. gentleness



Answer: D (See Galatians 5:22-23.)



BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held in Kuntz Hall at 10 a.m. Thursdays

JULY 6, 20, & 27

In addition, Bible Study will still be offered via Zoom.

Call the office for more information.

GARDEN CLUB

Tuesday, July 18
 Member Picnic
 6 PM
 at the Pavilion



NO MEETINGS IN JULY:

- Soup Group
- WELCA
- Women of Faith
- Hope Friendship
- Dance

KUNTZ HALL AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

Visit Hope’s website: hopecherryville.org for the *Church Use Policy* and the *Facility Rental Form*. If you have any questions, call the church office, 610-767-7203.

STORY WEAVERS

Tuesday, July 18
 11:30 AM

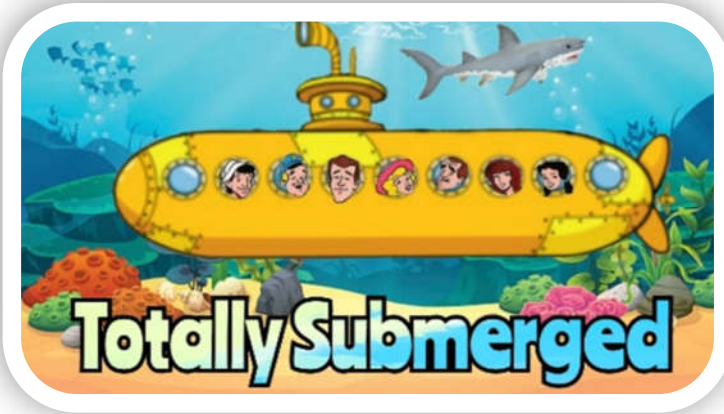
Meet at church parking lot and travel to Wert’s Café for lunch!



SPONSORSHIPS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2023! FLOWERS, BULLETINS, & THE PRESS CAN BE SPONSORED IN MEMORY, HONOR, OR CELEBRATION OF A LOVED ONE OR OCCASION. YOU’LL FIND THE SIGN-UP SHEETS AND PAYMENT ENVELOPES ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE NARTHEX.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Totally Submerged

July 10-14

Ahoy there! Are you ready to dive into the exciting and wild world of the Bible with the Gilligan Crew? We're going on an adventure of a lifetime as we explore the depths of the ocean floor and discover the most amazing stories

from the Bible. From the epic tale of Noah's Ark to the miraculous crossing of the Red Sea, we'll be making a splash and having a blast! So grab your snorkel and flippers and join us on this wet and wild journey - it's going to be biblical, baby! Don't miss out on the adventure of a lifetime with the Gilligan Crew!

Classes will be held from 9 a.m. until noon, with a **closing program** on **Friday, July 14@ 7 p.m.** Ages include 3 year olds (potty trained) to children completing 6th grade in June 2023.

We want to express our gratitude to everyone who registered for Vacation Bible School this year. Your interest and enthusiasm for this event has been truly heartwarming. We received an overwhelming response and we are thrilled to share that over 130 children signed up to be apart of Vacation Bible School this year! Thank you again for your support and we look forward to seeing everyone who registered at Vacation Bible School!!

VET 2 VET SERVICE DOGS

Hope was honored to host a presentation from Vet2Vet, a service organization that trains qualified pups to serve as support, service dogs for veterans needing help in adjusting to a life filled with anxiety or PTSD. More than 58 people learned, from two veterans and their pup-in-training, Murphy, and Bartow, a certified dog graduate, about the dire need for trained dogs in the quest to lower the current suicide rate of 22 vets per day. Impressive was the fact that when the dogs complete intense training, they are provided at no charge to the vet that meets specific bonding requirements, such as currently receiving counseling. Much participation with the dogs and owners was enjoyed by the variety of people attending - including members of Hope and many interested visitors!

THANK YOU to all who helped in any way!!!!



How to Live for Christ this Summer



Summertime Faith: How to Live for Christ This Summer

There's more to summer than relaxing on the beach. While there is plenty of value in rest, you'll also want to take advantage of the many restorative and personally fulfilling opportunities that this unique season provides. Below, we offer a few ideas for living out your faith this summer:

Strengthen Your Relationships

Christ instructs us to love one another and yet, mired down in our usual to-do lists, we fail to follow this basic command. We are built by the master Creator to have fulfilling relationships, and for a Christian there are few worthier pursuits than to spend time with loved ones. If you've spent months away from them, summer may grant you the time you need to maintain or even strengthen these bonds. From pool parties to backyard barbecues, you'll enjoy catching up in person, rather than over the phone or social media. It's not all about lighthearted conversation. As a Christian, you are called upon to care for others. Keep an eye open for suffering around you. Be prepared to provide emotional and spiritual support where it's needed. Your friends and family members should know that they can unburden themselves of their worries and fears in your presence – and that you're always happy to help.

Get Reacquainted with Your Bible

If you're like many students, you find yourself thoroughly consumed by textbooks throughout the school year. Now that you finally have a little spare time, dedicate some of your reading efforts to your Bible. Consider joining a summer Bible study if any are available in your area. Otherwise, feel free to peruse your Bible at your own pace. Keep a journal as you explore new Bible passages or revisit favorites. Recording your thoughts and reactions may help you to better conceptualize the concepts you come across. Explore the applications of these passages. This is a great way to grow stronger in faith and to understand how this beautiful, God-breathed book is still so important 2,000 years after it was written. You'll be amazed by the many ways in which Biblical concepts are at play in your home and community.

Expand Your Reading List

The Bible can form the basis of an excellent summer of reading. Beyond this essential, however, you'll find plenty of literary options for both insight and entertainment. Set aside a few minutes at the end of each day and curl up with a faith-based book.

Not sure where to start? If you're on the hunt for personal reading options, be sure to add these wonderful Christian books to your list:

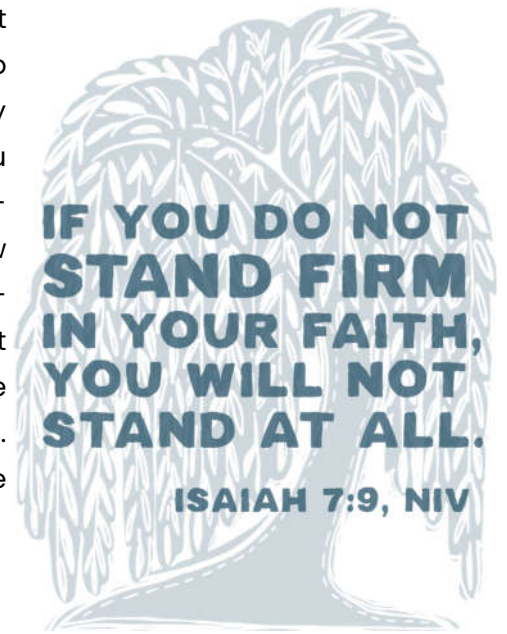
- + The Next Christians by Gabe Lyons
- + Crazy Love by Francis Chan
- + Lies Young Women Believe: And the Truth That Sets Them Free by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth and Dannah Gresh
- + Let the Journey Begin: Finding God's Best for Your Life by Max Lucado
- + Quarter-Life Calling: Pursuing Your God-Given Purpose in Your Twenties by Paul Sohn

Relearn to Pray

If you've fallen into the habit of only praying on Sundays or when you're worried about an upcoming exam, it's time to break out of the trap and establish a more routine prayer life. Summer provides you with more time to re-learn how to pray, and the impact prayer has in our lives as believers. If you struggle to get started, begin by thanking God for the many blessings you've received throughout the school year and during the summer. Daily devotionals may also prove helpful; many are designed explicitly for college students and young adults.

Embrace a Spirit of Service

Opportunities for volunteerism abound during the summer months. Whether you feel called to a local animal shelter, food shelf, or Habitat for Humanity, you'll love the spirit of service at local charities and service organizations. Many churches have ways to serve in a small way on Sundays and beyond. Dedicate yourself to a worthy cause and determine where your talents can best be utilized. Whether you commit to a few hours here and there or go all out with an in-depth volunteer project, you will gain a greater sense of confidence as you see how your efforts benefit others in your community. If you make a regular income, try tithing ten percent of your pay. You are never too young to put aside a portion of what you make to be a resource for God's work, because it is a great blessing to understand everything you have belongs to God. When you serve with all your resources, monetary or otherwise, the Bible says, "You shall be blessed."



Share Your Love of God

Don't feel too discouraged if mission trips are out of reach. You can still share your faith within your community. One of the best places to start is your local church, which may require assistance with vacation Bible camp or other summer programs. This is your opportunity to help a new generation of believers grow in their faith. Outside of signing up for a Bible program, you can share your love of God simply by chatting about your faith with loved ones. You never know where a meaningful conversation might lead.

Make this summer a season of intention. There's nothing wrong with relaxation, but you'll come away feeling far more rejuvenated if you take this time to invest in your faith journey.



On May 28, 2023 Hope Lutheran Church welcomed our newest confirmed members of the congregation! The graduates lead the congregation in worship at the 10:30 AM service and did a spectacular job with Confirmation Jeopardy for the sermon. Another big congratulation to our graduates!

Molly Binder
Alyzah Berger
Caden Butryn
Evan Knouss
Kacee Medei
Derek Moyer

Samantha Neff
Liam Sekol
Addison Smith
Brycen Smith
Andi Szwast

Hope Lutheran Scholarship Fund:

Hope Church offers scholarship money to college students. The requirements of eligibility are:

1. Attending an accredited college/university full time.
2. Will be entering second year (or higher) of college in fall of 2023.
3. Is a member in good standing of Hope Lutheran Church.

Applications are available on the [church website](#) or by request from the church office. Please email: office@hopecherryville.org.

The deadline for receipt of applications to the church office is **July 16, 2023**.

*Recipients of scholarship awards will be invited to attend a worship service and will receive the first of two checks on **August 6th**, the second of which will be sent the first week in **January 2024**.*

YOUTH GATHERING PARTICIPANTS AND PARENTS

We will have a tentative Youth Gathering meeting on **Sunday, August 20th** after services in Kuntz Hall. We will be discussing details for the trip, filling out registration paperwork and collecting \$100 deposits. We ask youth and at least one parent be present at the meeting.

The Youth Group is excited to announce they will be selling delicious Thomson's Hoagies for \$6 each. You can place your order in-person in the narthex on July 9th & 16th after service. Or, you can conveniently place your order online from **July 9 to July 20** on the [Youth Group Web Page](#). Orders can be picked up on Thursday, July 27th from 5pm-7pm in Kuntz Hall. Please note that all money is due at the time of pick up and we can only accept cash or check payments. Your support will help us continue to provide valuable programs and opportunities for our youth group members. Thank you in advance for your participation!



Hope Lutheran Nursery School is accepting applications for the 2023 -2024 school year!

The three year olds meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the four year olds meet on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Both classes run from 9 AM – 11:30 AM.

Our four year old classes are now full with a waiting list, but there is still availability in our three year old classes!

For more information, or to register for our program please visit our webpage: nurseryschool.hopecherryville.org or call Hope Lutheran Church at 610-767-7203.

Are you ready to chow down and make a difference? Youth Group is excited to announce their upcoming Dine & Donate event at Seemsville Pub & Grille (3819 Seemsville Rd, Northampton, PA 18067) on **Thursday, July 20th** from **4:30 PM to 8:30 PM**. Bring your appetite and invite your friends and family to join us for some delicious food and drinks. Plus, every bite you take will help support our general Youth Group fund. Whether you choose to dine-in or take out, a percentage of all food sales will go directly to our cause. So, mark your calendars, and let's eat, drink, and give back together!

BOOK BUDDIES



Are you a bookworm who can't wait to dive into a new story? Well, look no further because Hope's Book Buddies has got you covered! Join our book club and get ready to embark on a literary adventure like no other. We've got a fabulous July book choice coming up, so make sure you keep an eye out for updates in Connections of Hope and the Sunday Bulletin. Don't miss out on the chance to connect with fellow book lovers and discover new tales to treasure! For more information, please call the church office!



HOPE LEADERSHIP

STAFF

<p align="center"><u>PASTOR</u> The Rev. Jami Possinger pastor@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 12</p>	<p align="center"><u>ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER</u> Jennifer Sommers office@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 10</p>
<p align="center"><u>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC</u> David R. Ziegler organist@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203</p>	<p align="center"><u>COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST</u> Krystina Adams communications@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 20</p>
<p align="center"><u>TREASURER</u> Trudy Mertz trudy@hopecherryville.org</p>	<p align="center"><u>CLEARANCE COORDINATOR</u> Julie Sekol clearances@hopecherryville.org</p>
<p align="center"><u>CONFIRMATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR</u> Jennifer Knouss jknouss@verizon.net</p>	<p align="center"><u>YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM COORDINATOR</u> Allison Lockard youth@hopecherryville.org</p>
<p align="center"><u>SEXTON</u> Lance Sandner</p>	<p align="center"><u>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</u> Deb Gardner</p>
<p align="center"><u>PASTOR EMERITUS</u> The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II</p>	


2023 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

<p align="center">Krystina Adams <i>Christian Education</i></p>	<p align="center">Annette Frazza <i>Worship and Music</i></p>	<p align="center">Kim Roth <i>President</i> <i>Christian Education</i></p>
<p align="center">Mark Bateman <i>Stewardship</i></p>	<p align="center">Lori Kerper <i>Evangelism</i></p>	<p align="center">Matthew Sekol <i>Secretary</i> <i>Finance</i></p>
<p align="center">Mikayla Ninos Boyer <i>Youth Ministry</i></p>	<p align="center">Cindy Kocher <i>Social Ministry</i></p>	<p align="center">Megan Smith <i>Youth Ministry</i></p>
<p align="center">Doug Daniel <i>Property</i></p>	<p align="center">Tim Moore <i>Vice President</i> <i>Finance</i></p>	<p align="center">Glenn Wampole <i>Property</i> <i>Mutual Ministry</i></p>

CONTACT INFORMATION

<p>New membership, baptisms, funerals, weddings, change of address, van requests, memorial sponsors, hospital admissions, facility rentals</p>	<p>Call the church office 610-767-7203</p>
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REGARDING	CONTACT	PHONE NO.
A/V Committee	avteam@hopecherryville.org	-
Basket Committee	Kathryn Fogle	610-767-5095
Church Website	webmaster@hopecherryville.org	-
Confirmation	Jennifer Knouss	610-767-7203
Evangelism	Sharyn Kratzer	610-261-1277
Finance	Bill Lewis	610-442-5212
Girl Scouts	Karen Zimmerman	610-760-1887
Hope's Helping Hands	Leslie Daniel	610-767-7918
Memorial Garden	Church Office	610-767-7203
Mutual Ministry	Leslie Daniel	610-767-7918
Nursery School	Amy Krug	610-767-7203
Outreach / Soup	LeAnn Chandler	610-440-0341
Prayer Chain	Dolores Reenock	610-767-6698
Property	Charlie Kutzler	610-844-4342
SCS/Christian Ed	Allison Lockard Stephanie Maurer Shelbey Ziegler	610-216-5384 610-392-7857 610-262-9197
Senior Center	Karen Ferraina	610-767-2977
Social Ministry	Cindy Kocher	610-762-2389
Stewardship	Wayne Weidner	610-349-2654
VBS	Kathy Ziegler	610-262-9197
WELCA	Judy Dieter	610-767-9170
Women of Faith	Jane Meyers	610-799-3115
Worship Arts	Karen Lockard	610-216-9679
Worship & Music	Janet Filchner	610-262-5215
Youth Group	Allison Lockard	610-216-5384

 Follow us on Facebook—[HopeCherryville](https://www.facebook.com/HopeCherryville)



People of Hope:
 working together, with God,
 to love and serve others...



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2 9:00am Worship & Holy Baptisms	3 9:00am VBS 6:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm Congregational Council Meeting	4 Church Office Closed Independence Day	5 1:00pm Staff Meeting	6 10:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Adult SS Rm & By Zoom 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting	7 10:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Adult SS Rm & By Zoom 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting	8 2:00pm Memorial Service - Sanctuary and Kuntz Hall
9 VBS Volunteer Installation 9:00am Worship, Holy Communion & Baptism	10 9:00am VBS 6:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm Congregational Council Meeting	11 9:00am VBS	12 9:00am VBS 7:00pm Council Meeting with Synod Associate	13 9:00am VBS	14 9:00am VBS 7:00pm VBS Closing Program	15
16 9:00am Worship	17	18 11:30am StoryWeavers (lunch only)--Meet in church parking lot 6:00pm Garden Club Member Picnic - Pavilion	19 1:00pm Staff Meeting	20 10:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Adult SS Rm & By Zoom 6:30pm 4H Club Meeting - Hanson Hall	21	22
23 9:00am Worship & Holy Communion 12:30pm Church Staff/Council Summer Picnic	24	25	26	27 10:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Adult SS Rm & By Zoom	28	29
30 9:00am Worship	31	1	2	3	4	5

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - MAY 31, 2023

	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship	Memorial Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$252,235.16	\$148,738.04	\$167,705.65	\$94,136.96	\$5,907.23
Income - May	33,152.01	3,900.99	2,168.74	1,055.14	3.10
Income - Jan.-Apr.	142,684.44	14,915.60	8,750.90	2,515.43	6,106.22
Total Income	175,836.45	18,816.59	10,919.64	3,570.57	6,109.32
Expenses - May	41,570.42	99.00	1,832.53	-	-
Expenses - Jan.-Apr.	138,146.53	9,535.30	235.80	1,800.00	-
Total Expenses	179,716.95	9,634.30	2,068.33	1,800.00	-
Net Income	(3,880.50)	9,182.29	8,851.31	1,770.57	6,109.32
Net Special Appeals	-	-	-	-	-
Balance End of May	\$248,354.66	\$157,920.33	\$176,556.96	\$ 95,907.53	\$ 12,016.55

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of May by \$8,418.41, and for the year 2023, expenses exceeded income by \$3,880.50, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$248,354.66. Last year the net income for the same period was \$10,085.04 with a balance of \$255,360.23.

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 Krystina Adams (communications@hopecherryville.org). Thank you.

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Article Deadline</u>	<u>Collation Date</u>
August	Monday, July 17	Thursday, July 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 can run longer.

SYNOD NEWS

The July 2023 issue of *Synod News* is available online.

Visit <http://nepasynod.org>



HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251





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4131 Lehigh Drive
PO Box 1030
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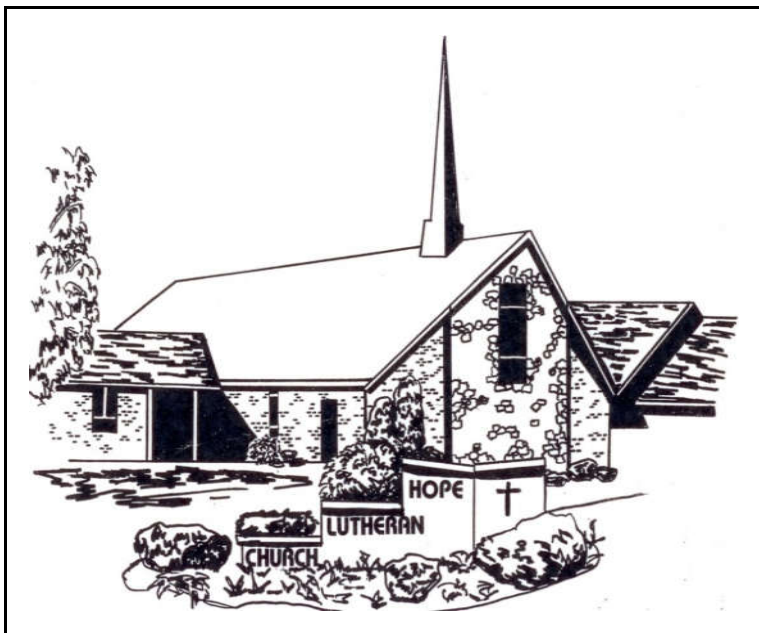
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4131 Lehigh Drive, P.O. Box 1030
Cherryville, PA 18035
610-767-7203

hopecherryville.org
 HopeCherryville

Summer Worship Service
9:00 AM

Church Office Hours
8:30 AM – 3:00 PM Mon – Fri