

AUGUST 2023 ♦ Vol. L No. 8

# **Hope Home News**

**Greetings from the Pastor:** 

is with a heavy time. But I am finding faith journey. that time is flying by.

pate in life transitions with you - to be in- this world. volved with your children and watch them that have shaped us as a community.

to the power of faith and the impact a will always remain. united community can have on the world.

memories we have shared, the lessons we have learned, the love we have shared, and the laughter and tears we have experienced together will forever hold a special place in my heart.

As you welcome an interim pastor heart but with an in- and eventually a new full-time pastor into of your midst, I urge you to extend the same gratitude that I write love, grace and support that you have my final newsletter shown me. Embrace their leadership - lisarticle to this congrega- ten to their teachings – and offer them the tion. When I announced same respect and encouragement that you my retirement back in have shown me throughout my years with February, seven months you. Remember that a pastor is not just a sounded like a very long spiritual guide, but a companion on your

I encourage you to continue fostering As I reflect upon my a spirit of togetherness within this congretime serving as your gation. Cherish the friendships you have pastor, I am filled with an overwhelming formed, reach out to those who feel isolatsense of gratitude. Gratitude for the op- ed and create a welcoming environment portunity to walk alongside you in your for all who enter our doors. Let the love of faith journeys – to witness growth and Christ radiate through your actions, maktransformation in your lives – to partici- ing this church an oasis of hope and love in

Finally, I want to express my deepest grow - and to be part of the milestones gratitude to each and every one of you. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of I am humbled and inspired by your your lives – for your trust and support – commitment to the gospel and your dedi- and for the countless memories we have cation to serving others. Your love, com- created together. You have shaped me as a passion and generosity have touched the pastor, as a person, and as a follower of lives of countless people, both within this Christ. Although our paths may no longer congregation and beyond. It is a testament cross on a regular basis, our connection

It has been the greatest honor and Over the years, you have become so privilege to serve as your pastor. As I conmuch more than a congregation to me. clude this article, I do so with a heart full You have become my extended family - my of gratefulness and anticipation for the fusupport – and my source of strength. The ture that awaits each one of us. Thank you again for being an incredible congregation. May God's grace, peace and blessings be with you always.

With all my love, Pastor Jami

# **Council Highlights-July 2023**

- + The Youth Group will be returning for a day of service at the Caring Cupboard in Hershey on August 5th! Be sure to mark your calendars!
- + Hope Lutheran Church will be looking at adopting an updated Child Safety Protocol regarding volunteering with children. More information to follow so be sure to keep your eyes peeled for updates!
- + Vacation Bible School was a wave of a time and the kids had a fin-tastic time!
- + A Youth Gathering Preparation Meeting will be held on August 20th. All youth who are planning to attend are expected to attend with one parent present.
- + Church Council has approved for new Hydration water stations to be placed in the church, replacing the older water fountains currently installed.
- + Hope Lutheran's Van has been generously repainted by Amey's Garage at no charge!
- + We encourage to keep up with weekly offering as we come to a close of summer and the beginnings of fall, just around the corner.



# Sunday, August 6

Scholarship Recipient Acknowledgment 9:00 AM Worship

## Sunday, August 13

9:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion

Sunday, August 20 9:00 AM Worship & Holy **Baptism** 

Sunday, August 27 9:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion

## **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 CONTRI-BUTION, VISIT THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT <u>www.hopecherryville.org</u> and locate

Online Giving

# Rible Quiz

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches. Which list includes a city that is not among those seven?

- A. Ephesus, Thyatira, Philadelphia
- B. Smyrna, Laodicea, Galatia
- C. Pergamum, Thyatira, Smyrna
- D. Sardis, Ephesus, Laodicea



Answer: B (See Revelation 2-3.)

# NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST:

**WELCA** 

Women of Faith Hope Friendship Dance

# ?? Bible Quiz ???

After Elijah was taken up to heaven, his newly commissioned successor, Elisha, performed two miracles. The first was making a poisonous stream's water safe to drink. What did Elisha toss into the water that made it wholesome?

A. a stick

B. a new bowl

C. bread D. salt

Answer: D (See 2 Kings 2:19-22.)



# BIBLE STUDY

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

AUGUST 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

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

Call the office for more information.

## **GARDEN CLUB**

Tuesday, August 8
6 PM
in Kuntz Hall



### **SOUP GROUP**

Wednesday, August 2
9 AM
Kuntz Hall Kitchen



## 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, August 15
12 PM

LUNCH ONLY

Meet in church parking

lot



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.



#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee thought it might be a nice idea to give everyone a financial update since we are at the half way point of the year. Overall, financially we are having an acceptable year. I am not going to bore you with a lot of numbers or details but I felt you should know how we are doing. Despite being 2.6% ahead of last year's Receipts we are 10% below our budgeted amounts. Overall, we have a negative cash flow of approximately \$11,000 through June 30. We have funded this deficit from our cash reserves.



Inflation has certainly played a role in the overall increase in several of our expenses i.e. electric, fuel oil and insurance. We received our insurance policy renewals for the upcoming year and they came in approximately \$1,400 more than anticipated. There have also been a few non-routine expenses incurred during the first half of the year. Although these costs are not paid for out of the Operating Budget they do dip into our Building and Memorial Fund cash reserves. As examples of these types of expenses, we replaced one of the computers, we cut down all the diseased and dying trees along the parking lot and we have replaced some maintenance equipment. The Church does have several annual contracts for things like HVAC and security and fire safety that are yearly budgeted expenses.

Some positive news, our investment portfolio has rebounded somewhat from last year's losses, we have taken advantage of opportunities to earn more interest on our current assets and we have begun to receive additional income from renting out Kuntz Hall.

So as mentioned earlier, all in all, an acceptable year so far, but please keep **HOPE's** financial needs in mind as we enter the second half of the year.

HOPE'S BASKET SOCIAL



October is around the corner: Save the Date!!

Hope's annual Basket Social is set for Friday Oct. 6th. Mark your Fall calendar for an active (and delicious)

evening! And, it's a great time to start planning for basket contents—and take advantage of seasonal sales and product opportunities.



#### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL GRATITUDE**

What a week it was! Hope Lutheran Cherryville's Vacation Bible School was a roaring success, all thanks to the amazing organizations and volunteers who gave their all to make it happen. We couldn't have done it without you! Your time and talents made a lasting impact on the children who attended and we are so grateful for your dedication and hard work:

**Aislinn McDonald** Alexandra Tretiak **Alivia Walker Allison Hahn Ally Lockard Amanda Silfies Amy Nichols Anna Sekol Ashton Yost Barbara Weidner Bianca Carrion Bill Green Brandon Howze Brauden Martin Bri Weaver Brittany Zedalis Cathy Bird** Charlie Kutzler Chase Mansueto Colleen Spadt **David McDonald David Ziegler** Dawn Wainwright **Dean Smith** Deb Gardner Derek Moyer **Dolores Reenock Donna Neetz Ed Tretiak Eileen Lewis Emalee Hudson** Emma Sobler **Erica Hudson** Erika Musser **Evan Knouss** 

Felicia Hutton **Garrett Allabach Ginny Smith** Gwen Gibson Jacklyn McEwen Jane Meyers Jane Tretiak **Janet Filchner Janet Weber** Jarod Knouss **Jen McDonald** Jenn Biege Jennifer Knouss **Jennifer Sommers Jillian Bindics JoAnne Baileu** Joel Schreckinger Jr. Marsh **Judu Dieter** Julie Sekol **Justin Maurer** Kailee Knecht Karen Bateman Karen Lockard Karen Zimmerman **Kathy Creyer** Kathy Ziegler **Kelly Auer** Kelly Hankee Kim Kutzler **Krystina Adams Lance Sandner Larry Creyer** Laura Hafner Liam Sekol

Linda Meru **Madison Sommers Mallory Sweeney** Mark Bateman Maureen Kuntz **Megan Smith** Megan Weaver **Nancy Creyer Nancy Latimer Nancy Miller** Nancy Xander Nicole Smith Nora Sekol **Pastor Jami Pastor Clark Kuntz Pat Amey** Rileigh Hudson Sara Balisalisa Sarah Bird **Shelbey Ziegler** Shelly Heberling Sherie Hahn **Shirley Green** Stacey Burke Steph Maurer Sue Rehrig **Tammy Neupauer** Terry Green **Tim Lockard Trish Claypoole Trudy Mertz** Vicki Steiner **William Lewis Xander McDonald** 

Our Vacation Bible School was a blast, thanks to the incredible support of our community! We want to give a special shout-out to Kelly Hankee and Kelly Auer for bringing their adorable animals for Noah's Ark Day. The kids loved it! We also want to thank Vet 2 Vet for bringing their friendly dogs and spreading joy among the children. And let's not forget the delicious food! Thank you to Wawa, Herr's, and Giant for your generous donations.

Our hayrides were a hit, thanks to Dean & Ginny Smith for bringing their wagons, and to Dean Smith and Ed Tretiak for driving them. And a big thank you to Crazy Cones for donating the ice cream for the Friday hayride! We also want to thank Becky's Drive-In for allowing us to give coupons to the children for a movie, and Scoopendorfs for giving free ice cream to the students and volunteers.

Friday's social after our program was a sweet success, thanks to Amy Nichols for her donation of cupcakes, drinks, and supplies. And finally, a huge thank you to Thrivent for the numerous grants that made our program so special. We couldn't have done it without you all!

Lastly, we just wanted to give a big shoutout to all the families who donated to our various causes each day. We are overwhelmed by your generosity and can't thank you enough. With your help, we were able to make substantial contributions to Northampton Food Bank, Vet 2 Vet Service Dogs, St. Luke's Hospice House, The Love Bank of Sacred Heart Campus, and Caring Hearts of Slatington. You guys are amazing! Also, a special thanks to those who contributed to the coin collection - we were able to raise over \$1,150! Keep spreading the love, and let's continue to make a positive impact in our community.

As we wrap up this year's VBS, we're already looking ahead to the next one! Mark your calendars for July 8-12th, 2024, because we're already planning an even more exciting and engaging event for the kids of Cherryville and beyond. We can't wait to see what amazing things we'll accomplish together in the future!

### YOUTH MINISTRIES



Youth Group (grades 7th-12th) will be volunteering at the Caring Cupboard (food pantry) in Hershey, PA on **August 5th!** 

We will meet at the church at 7 AM and plan to return between 8 PM-9 PM. Dinner and snacks will be provided. Please eat breakfast before arriving at the church and bring a packed lunch with you.

Further details will be emailed, so be sure to keep your eyes peeled!

Space is limited, so please **RSVP** to Ally Lockard by emailing her at <u>alockard313@gmail.com</u> as soon as possible!

Hey there, Youth Gathering Participants! The countdown has already begun for our exciting trip to the Youth Gathering in 2024, and we're eager to get started! That's why we're inviting all youth and at least one parent to join us for a meeting after service in Kuntz Hall on Sunday, August 20th.

During the meeting, we'll be discussing all the thrilling details of our trip, including activities, ac-

commodations, and transportation. We'll also be collecting 100 deposits and filling out registration paperwork, so be sure to bring all necessary forms and payment.



This is your chance to embark on an unforgettable journey with your peers and make memories that will last a lifetime. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to grow in your faith and connect with other young people. We can't wait to see you there!

# -----

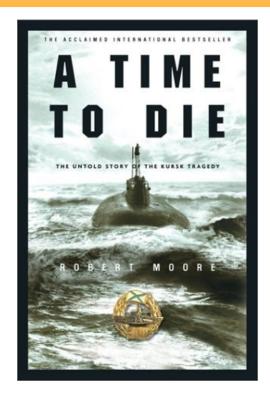
# Level I and II Confirmation News

Hey, parents of 7th and 8th graders, listen up!

We've got an important announcement for you. We're having a **PARENT** meeting for Level I and Level II Confirmation on **Sunday, August 6th** right after the 9 AM church service (*approximately 10 AM*). We know you're busy, but trust us, you don't want to miss out on this! We'll be discussing the calendar for the year and any requirements your child needs to meet for the year.

And parents of 7th graders, please make sure to **bring your child along** with you to the meeting because afterward, we're also having a brief Acolyte/Crucifer training for those new to acolyte/crucifer duties. So get ready to learn and have some fun! Thank you & we will see you there!

Any questions, please reach out to Jennifer Knouss, Confirmation Coordinator at iknouss@verizon.net.



### A Time to Die: The Untold Story of the Kursk Tragedy--Wednesday, August 23 at 1 PM & 7 PM

(cost-\$11.00)

On a quiet Saturday morning in August 2000, two explosions--one so massive it was detected by seismologists around the world--shot through the shallow Arctic waters of the Barents Sea. Russia's prized submarine, the Kursk, began her fatal plunge to the ocean floor. Award-winning journalist Robert Moore presents a riveting, brilliantly researched account of the deadliest submarine disaster in history. Journey down into the heart of the Kursk to witness the last hours of the twenty-three young men who survived the initial blasts. Visit the highly restricted Arctic submarine base to which Moore obtained secret admission, where the families of the crew clamored for news of their loved ones.

### **Zoom Meeting Details:**

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87605892517? pwd=WFdsZmFBMnNDRVB1N1JiT1ZjNmdT QT09

Please use the link above or scan the QR code for the Book Buddies Meeting via Zoom

If interested in participating in Book Buddies, but need help finding or ordering the book, please reach out to Jen in the church office for assistance at office@hopecherryville.org or 610-767-7203.



**BOOK BUDDIES ZOOM** 

#### **HOPE LUTHERAN NURSERY SCHOOL**



### **CHANGE IS GOOD by Erik Raymond**

It's been said that people hate change, but I don't think this is entirely true. While many people enjoy routines and familiarity, they also welcome new things. Among other things, we like new seasons, new restaurants, new technology, new friends, and new adventures.

This is why I tend to think that it's not change that people resist so much as being changed. It's not that we don't like change, we just don't want to change. This is because it's hard. It's uncomfortable, often humbling, and painfully difficult.

But as Christians, we must remember that change is really at the heart of what it means to be a Christian. When we believe the gospel, we accept the truth that we need to change. We know we are broken people whom God is making new through Christ. Not only us as individuals, but we believe that God is going to make all things new. There is also a cosmic change coming.

God not only wants to change your status—from non-Christian to Christian—but also to change you. He wants to make you like his Son Jesus.

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. (Romans 8:29)

I wonder if you've thought about your Christian lives through the lenses of change.

Are you aware of this change?

Are you resistant to it?

What are you doing to pursue it?

We can often fall into a dangerous complacency as believers. Content to simply



have an identity as a Christian, we fail to rigorously and tenaciously pursue this Christ-likeness. But the Holy Spirit and the Word of God unsettle us with a holy discontentment. Here, aware of our nonconformity to Christ, we are prodded forward in sanctification. We see that it's God's will and his work to make us more like Christ.

It's tempting to think that it's trite to emphasize such things as personal Bible reading, meditation, prayer, and prioritizing the gathering on the Lord's Day. Sometimes in small-group settings, we almost feel ashamed to answer questions with such obvious answers. We think, "I know what I need to do." And, this is true, it is what we need to do. But think more broadly, it is also a primary means by which God does what he does in our lives. It's not like we are punching our spiritual timesheet with our morning devotions and prayer. We are not just occupying a seat on Sunday morning. No, God is meeting with us to use his Word in the power of his Spirit to make us more like his Son. We must see and relish this connection between what we are doing and what God is doing. Achieving God's ends comes through embracing God's means.

For the Christian, then, change is hard and good. Let's rejoice in it and embrace it.



# HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH 4131 LEHIGH DRIVE | CHERRYVILLE PA 18035 | HOPECHERRYVILLE.ORG

### **HOPE LEADERSHIP**

### **STAFF**

PASTOR The Rev. Jami Possinger pastor@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 12	Administrative Manager  Jennifer Sommers  office@hopecherryville.org  610-767-7203 ext. 10
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC David R. Ziegler organist@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203	COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST  Krystina Adams communications@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 20
TREASURER Trudy Mertz trudy@hopecherryville.org	CLEARANCE COORDINATOR  Julie Sekol  clearances@hopecherryville.org
CONFIRMATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR Jennifer Knouss jknouss@verizon.net	YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM COORDINATOR Allison Lockard youth@hopecherryville.org
<u>Sexton</u> Lance Sandner	FINANCIAL SECRETARY  Deb Gardner
PASTOR EMERITUS The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II	200

# **2023 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

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

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

New membership, baptisms, funerals, weddings, change of address, van requests, memorial sponsors, hospital admissions, facility rentals

Call the church office 610-767-7203

<u> </u>				
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



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



Sunday	Monday		Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	31	7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal (Special Project)	9390am Soup Group - Kuntz Hall 10 8.00am Sub Group - Kuntz Hall 10 11.00pm Staff Meeting 7.4 6.30pm Evangelism Meeting - Meeti	:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Ult SS Rm & By Zoom 00pm Property Committee seting - Hanson Hall	4	7:00am Youth Group Caring Cupboard in Hershey
<b>G</b> Scholarship Recipient Acknowledgment 9:00am Worship 10:00am Level 1 & 2 Parent Confirmation Meeting and Acolyte Training - Sanctuary	7	<b>8</b> 6:00pm Garden Club Meeting - Kuntz Hall	ര	<b>10</b> 10:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Adult SS Rm & By Zoom	11	<b>1.2</b> 12:00pm Senior Birthday Feast - Kuntz Hall (temp hold)
	6:00pm Finance Committee 1 Meeting 7:00pm Congregational Council III	15:00pm StoryWeavers (lunch only)Meet in church parking lot	0		18	<b>1.9</b> 11:00am Baby ShowerKuntz Hall
Youth Meeting	21		By By	<b>24</b> 10:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Adult SS Rm & By Zoom	25	<b>26</b>
9:00am Worship & Holy Communion	28	29	<b>30</b> 1:00pm Staff Meeting	<b>3.1</b> 10:00am Pastor's Bible Study - Kuntz Hall	FI.	2

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY - JUNE 30, 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 - June	24,235.71	1,810.56	(2,151.58)	(2,106.32)	2.99
Income - JanMay	175,836.45	18,816.59	10,919.64	3,570.57	6,109.32
Total Income	200,072.16	20,627.15	8,768.06	1,464.25	6,112.31
Expenses - June	31,232.00	163.31	46.96	-	201.38
Expenses - JanMay	179,716.95	9,634.30	2,068.33	1,800.00	-
Total Expenses	210,948.95	9,797.61	2,115.29	1,800.00	201.38
Net Income	(10,876.79)	10,829.54	6,652.77	(335.75)	5,910.93
Net Special Appeals	17.37				
Balance End of June	\$ 241,375.74	\$ 159,567.58	\$ 174,358.42	\$ 93,801.21	\$ 11,818.16

#### **SUMMARY:**

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of June by \$6,996.29, and for the year 2023, expenses exceeded income by \$10,876.79, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$241,375.74. Last year the net income for the same period was \$(801.50)

### **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.

<b>Edition</b>	Article Deadline	<u>Collation Date</u>
September	Monday, August 21	Thursday, August 31

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 August 2023 issue of <u>Synod News</u> is available online. Visit http://nepasynod.org



HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251





Non Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Lehigh Valley, PA Permit No. 25





# HOPE HOME NEWS Vol. L No. 8 AUGUST 2023





Published Monthly by:
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
4131 Lehigh Drive, P.O. Box 1030
Cherryville, PA 18035
610-767-7203
hopecherryville.org

hopecherryville.org
HopeCherryville

Summer Worship Service 9:00 AM

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