

Just as every natural summer has a unique story, our spiritual journey also unfolds through distinct seasons. As we navigate through the cycles of autumn's change, winter's preparation, spring's rebirth, and summer's fruitfulness, we are invited to embrace the abundant life that surrounds us. Each season offers us an opportunity for growth, reflection, and transformation, as we cultivate a deeper connection with God and the world around us.

We should always look to embrace the heavenly warmth and beauty of the season, whether it's summer or not, by seizing the joy and gratitude in every moment. Take the time to relax, have fun, and celebrate the blessings that surround you. Let go of worries about the future and immerse yourself in the present, savoring the joy that each moment brings. Remember, regardless of the season, the key is to cherish the beauty and blessings that are present in your life.

As we delight in the sweetness of summer berries this season, let us also savor the spiritual fruits of love, joy, peace, and kindness. Just like sun-ripened berries, our virtues need nurturing and ripening as well. By staying connected to our spiritual gardener and embodying qualities like forbearance, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and selfcontrol, we can cultivate a harvest that is truly fulfilling. Let this season be a reminder to tend to our inner garden and let our fruits of the spirit flourish in abundance. Let's celebrate our summers, both the natural and the spiritual, and embrace every story being written, because God's hand is in each one.



Prayer for summer: Lord, thank you for the gift of summer. Thank you for ice cream cones, backyard barbecues, and sun-drenched memories. May we seize each moment of joy and remember that you are the true cultivator of our harvest and author of our stories. Amen.

Blessings, Krystina Adams

Council Highlights-May 2024

- + The Hope Lutheran Council is pleased to inform the community about the successful installation of energy-efficient **LED lights** in the fixed carport area. This upgrade not only enhances visibility and safety but also reflects our commitment to sustainability and cost-effective solutions. We believe that this improvement will benefit all members of our community by providing a well-lit environment for vehicles and pedestrians. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to create a more efficient and environmentally friendly space for everyone at Hope Lutheran Council.
- + We are thrilled to announce that our **Property Committee** is hard at work to give our beloved wood church doors and Kuntz Hall doors a fresh new look! As part of our ongoing efforts to maintain and enhance the beauty of our campus, we will be painting the wooden doors of our church and the three metal doors on the side of Kuntz Hall a gorgeous shade of gray. This exciting renovation project will help to revitalize our buildings and give them a modern, yet timeless, appeal. We can't wait to see the finished result and invite you to join us in celebrating this wonderful transformation! Stay tuned for updates on our progress.
- + Spread the good news! Our Evangelism Committee is thrilled to announce that the Annual Church Picnic will be taking place on Sunday, September 8th at 12 PM. Get ready for a day filled with food, fun, and fellowship. Stay tuned for more juicy details to come!
- + Lights, camera, action! Hope Lutheran Council is on the lookout for dedicated volunteers to join our **AV Committee**. Our homebound members rely on this crucial support to participate in worship services from the comfort of their homes. By lending a hand in the AV closet during services, you can help bring the church family together even when apart. No experience? No problem! We provide training for all eager volunteers. Step into the spotlight and make a difference today by joining our AV-solutely amazing committee!
- + We are thrilled to share some exciting news with all our members! Hope Lutheran Council is delighted to announce the newest addition to our church council - JR Knouss! JR will be stepping into the Youth Representative role, taking over from the wonderful Megan Smith. Let's give a warm round of applause to JR as he embarks on this new journey with us. Together, let's continue to nurture and support our youth community at Hope Lutheran. Welcome aboard, JR!



SCHEDULE

NORSHIP

Sunday, July 28 Youth Gathering Sunday 9:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING – CONSIDER ELECTRONIC GIVING AS A WAY TO AU-TOMATE YOUR REGULAR WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS. OUR CHURCH RELIES ON THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE CONGREGATION AND ELECTRONIC GIVING OFFERS AN EASY WAY TO GIVE ON A RECURRING BA-SIS. TO SET UP A RECURRING CONTRIBUTION, VISIT THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT <u>WWW.HOPECHERRYUILLE.ORG</u> AND LOCATE THE ONLINE GIVING PAGE.

Bible Quiz

What does the newly risen Jesus tell his disciples – twice – when he appears in the locked room where they are hiding?

A. "Love one another as I have loved you."

- B. "Peace be with you."
- C. "The last shall be first and the first shall be last."
- D. "I am risen!"



What two rivers that we still know today are named in the Creation account in Genesis 2?

A. Nile

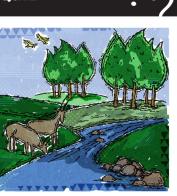
B. Yangtze C. Jordan

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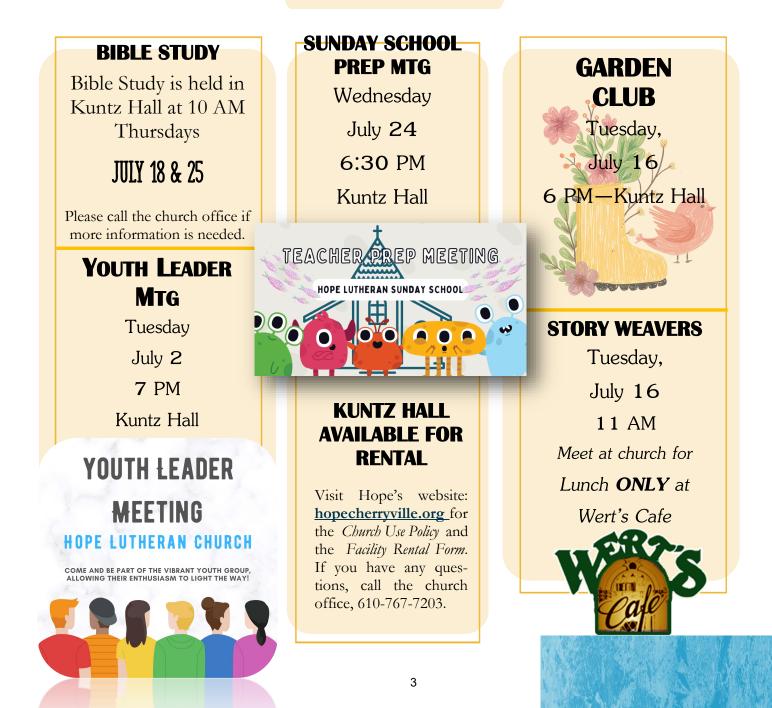
- D. Tigris
- E. Ganges

F. Euphrates

Bible Quiz



Answer: D & F (See Genesis 2:10-14.)



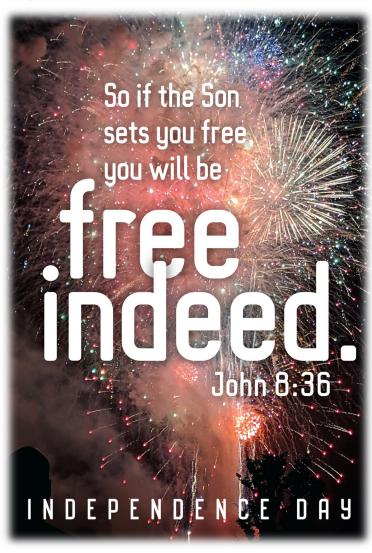
HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY



As we celebrate July 4th this year, let's reflect on the historic moment in 1776 when the United States officially declared its independence from England by signing the Declaration of Independence. This monumental event marked the beginning of our journey towards becoming a free and sovereign nation. Let's honor the courage and vision of our founding fathers as we continue to cherish the values of freedom and independence they fought for.

As we stand on the shoulders of our forefathers, we are reminded of the struggles and sacrifices that paved the way for our freedom. Despite facing numerous challenges, they remained steadfast in their commitment to establishing a democratic system that continues to shape our nation today. This July 4th, let us reflect on the enduring legacy of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, and express gratitude for the unwavering courage and vision of those who laid the foundation for our liberty.

While we celebrate Independence Day, it is important to reflect on the Judeo-Christian roots that have shaped our nation's history and values. The Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, a symbol of our independence,



bears the inscription "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" from the Bible. This serves as a reminder of God's goodness to us as a nation and the influence of Judeo-Christian principles on our legal system. Let us take this opportunity to appreciate the rich heritage that has guided and united us as a diverse nation, and to continue striving for a society built on justice, freedom, and equality for all.

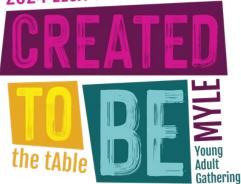
So, as we pause to reflect on this July 4th, let us not only express gratitude for the past but also turn our gaze towards the future with faith and commitment to God's will. The timeless wisdom of the Psalmist resonates today more than ever: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12) reminding us that a nation blessed is one that acknowledges the Lord as its God. Let us embrace this sentiment as we move forward, united in purpose and faith, trusting in the path ahead with hope and reverence.



Communications Specialist

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATES

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering



We are thrilled to announce that all participants attending the Youth Gathering in July will be honored with a special send-off during the service on July 14th.

Upon our return, we invite you to join us for a delightful coffee hour where we can express our gratitude and share our wonderful experiences from the Gathering. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to come together, celebrate, and connect.

All are welcome to attend and be a part of this joyous occasion!

Hello, wonderful Youth Group members and their fantastic supporters!

Your participation in the Youth Group Envelope Fundraiser for the Youth Gathering is truly appreciated! We kindly request that all envelopes be returned to the church office by Sunday, July 7th.

Your support will make a significant difference, so let's seal the deal together for this youthful cause. Thank you for being a part of something special!

Youth Ministries is excited to announce the launch of a Jr. Youth Group catering to students in grades 3rd to 5th starting this September.

To ensure the success of both our Jr. and Regular Youth Groups, we are seeking dedicated volunteers to assist in planning and chaperoning our youth events.

Our upcoming meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 2nd at 7pm, to be held online.

If you are interested in contributing to our mission or would like more details, please reach out to Ally Lockard at youthgroup@hopecherryville.org.

Join us in making a positive impact on the lives of our youth community!

Calling all eager volunteers! Sunday School is on the lookout for passionate teachers and classroom helpers to join our team.

Whether you're a seasoned pro or a bright-eyed newbie, we welcome you with open arms! Mark your calendars for our informational and planning meeting on Wednesday, July 24th at 6:30pm in Kuntz Hall.

This gathering is for both our devoted current volunteers and any fresh faces looking to get involved. Don't be shy - bring your creativity and enthusiasm along with you!

For further details, feel free to reach out to us at <u>sundayschool@hopecherryville.org</u>.

Let's make Sunday School a place of fun, learning, and togetherness - together!



Hope's 50th Anniversary Months of Caring Challenge

The Kindness Project is a non-profit organization based out of Emmaus, that was established to support the growing needs of foster and adoptive families throughout the Lehigh Valley and surrounding regions. Since March 2018, The Kindness Project has served well over 2,000 local children in foster care. As of 2024, almost 15,000 Pennsylvania children were in foster care and this number continues to grow.



Relying strictly on donations and monetary contributions, The Kindness Project fills a much-needed niche to support children and teens who are coming into foster homes with immediate needs by providing them with bedding, cribs, cars seats, clothing, and many other essentials. By providing this **FREE** service, families are able to consider accepting foster care placements that might not have otherwise been pos-

kindness

sible especially in emergency placement situations, including siblings who wish to remain together.

Please join us in collecting 50 (or more!) new sets of summer pajamas for The Kindness Project through the month of July. Any size from newborn up to junior sizes would be much appreciated. Donations can be placed in the bin by the 50th Anniversary bulletin board just outside the sanctuary.

For more information about **The Kindness Project** or other ways to support this organization visit their webpage: <u>https://mykindnessproject.org</u>

CHURCH PICTORIAL NEWS

Thanks to everyone who came out and had their pictures taken for the church directory! We had 117 families and 251 total people photographed! If you purchased photos, you should be receiving them very soon, if not already. If you chose not to purchase photos, your 8x10 photo will be sent to the church with the completed directories. Materials are being finalized to send to the company to print the directory. I believe we are looking at a September-October delivery date. A BIGTHANKS everyone who has helped with the directory.



+ The Women of Faith Committee who helped with photo appointment signups and hosting the photo days.

+ Bll Lewis, who was so helpful and flexible in taking the committee photos.

+ Those who have gathered photos for me for the pages of the directory.

+ The Eucharistic Ministers for their help with the STAR members.

+ And anyone I may have missed!

BEST, LINDA MERY

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

n Epic Cruise from mesis to Revelation

"The Great Jungle Journey" July 8th-12th!

Join Mario Brothers and friends as we sail through the 7 C's of History. Classes will run from 9 AM to noon, topped off with a spectacular closing program on Friday, July 12 at 7 PM. Children aged 3 years and above potty trained up to those completing 6th grade in June 2024 are welcome to register. Register now and secure your spot by visiting <u>vbs.hopecherryville.org</u> or fill-

ing out a registration form available in the narthex.

Volunteers are needed! Don't be shy, lend a hand and make a difference by joining our VBS team. Plus, for all the multitasking parents out there, a staffed nursery is available for your little ones. Hurry don't miss out! Swing by, sign up, and let's rock VBS together! Remember, quicker registrations await you with our convenient QR code.



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 2024.
- 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 of-fice is **July 21, 2024**.



Recipients of scholarship awards will be invited to attend a worship service and will receive the first of two checks on <u>Sunday, August 4th</u>, the second of which will be sent the first week in January 2025.

Hope Lutheran Nursery School



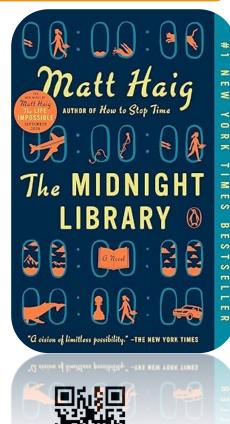
REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR!

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.

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

BOOK BUDDIES



BOOK BUDDIES ZOOM

The Midnight Library Wed, July 17 at 1 PM Submit questions to <u>Abby White</u>

Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. While we all wonder how our lives might have been, what if you had the chance to go to the library and see for yourself? Would any of these other lives truly be better?

In *The Midnight Library*, Matt Haig's enchanting blockbuster novel, Nora Seed finds herself faced with this decision. Faced with the possibility of changing her life for a new one, following a different career, undoing old breakups, realizing her dreams of becoming a glaciologist; she must search within herself as she travels through the Midnight Library to decide what is truly fulfilling in life, and what makes it worth living in the first place.

Zoom Meeting Details: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87605892517?</u> pwd=WFdsZmFBMnNDRVB1N1JiT1ZjNmdTQT09

Please use the link above for the Book Buddies Meeting via Zoom

Members of Book Buddies will be sharing the responsibility of developing questions to discuss; each member will submit two questions for each book and the person who recommends the book will lead the discussion. So, put on your thinking cap and join us for some fun-filled, thought-provoking discussions! Please note, that all members will be responsible for purchasing their own copies of the books. But, if you need help finding or ordering the book, don't worry - we've got you covered! Just reach out to Jen in the church office for assistance at office@hopecherryville.org or 610-767-7203.

HOPE'S MOM GROUP

Hope Lutheran Mom's Group has been hard at work recently! This past week we have made some <u>IMPROVEMENTS</u> to the nursery which is open for use during the services on Sundays. A television has been installed so the service can be viewed as well as heard from that room. New toys are also being added over the coming weeks as well for your little ones to enjoy!

The group is also working with a few other Hope Lutheran groups to furnish a **coffee/social hour** following each summer service (which begins at 9 AM) in Kuntz Hall. A free will offering will be collected to donate to the youth group for their trip this summer. Come enjoy some yummy goodies and fellowship after services!

An event will be planned for latter in the summer for anyone interested in volunteering for a shift at the **SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK**. More details to come, but please consider helping out this wonderful organization that works to fight hunger in our communities. To learn more about this group, please reach out to our church office at office@hopecherryville.org!



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

HOPE LEADERSHIP

<u>STAFF</u>		
INTERIM PASTOR	ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER	
Rev. Susan Ruggles	Jennifer Sommers	
pastor@hopecherryville.org	office@hopecherryville.org	
610-767-7203 ext. 12	610-767-7203 ext. 10	
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Communications Specialist	
David R. Ziegler	Krystina Adams	
organist@hopecherryville.org	<u>communications@hopecherryville.org</u>	
610-767-7203	610-767-7203 ext. 20	
<u>TreASURER</u>	CLEARANCE COORDINATOR	
Trudy Mertz	Julie Sekol	
<u>treasurer@hopecherryville.org</u>	<u>clearances@hopecherryville.org</u>	
CONFIRMATION PROGRAM	YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM	
COORDINATOR	COORDINATOR	
Jennifer Knouss	Allison Lockard	
jknouss@verizon.net	youthgroup@hopecherryville.org	
<u>Sexton</u>	<u>Financial Secretary</u>	
Lance Sandner	Deb Gardner	

PASTOR EMERITUS The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II



2024 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Doug Daniel President	Tim Moore Vice President Finance	Matthew Sekol Secretary Finance
Krystina Adams	Mark Bateman	Mikayla Boyer
Christian Education	Stewardship	Youth Ministry
Laurie Christman	Annette Frazza	Michelle Inocencio
Property	Worship and Music	Social Ministry
Lori Kerper	JR Knouss	Glenn Wampole
Evangelism	Youth Ministry	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
REGARDING	CONTACT	PHONE NO.
A/V Committee	avteam@hopecherryville.org	-
Basket Committee	Kathryn Fogle	610-767-5095
Church Website	webmaster@hopecherryville.o	rg -
Confirmation	Jennifer Knouss	610-767-7203
Evangelism	Sharyn Kratzer	610-261-1277
Finance	Bill Lewis	610-442-2116
Girl Scouts	Lindsay Hall	445-264-0631
Hope's Helping Hands	- Leslie Daniel	
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	VBS Kathy Ziegler 610-262-92	
WELCA	Judy Dieter	610-767-9170
Women of Faith	Jane Meyers	484-934-6031
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...

Saturday 6	13	20	27	m
Friday 5	12 9:00am Vacation Bible School 7:00pm Vacation Bible School Closing Program	19	26	7
Thursday 4 1.00pm Property Committee Meeting - Hanson Hall	11 9:00am Vacation Bible School	18 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm 6:30pm 4H Club Meeting - Hanson Hall	25 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm	
Wednesday 3 6:00pm Evangelism Meeting - Hanson Hall	10 9:00am Vacation Bible School	17 :00pm Book Buddies (By :00m)	24 6:30pm Sunday School Teacher Meeting	31
Tuesday 2 7:00pm Youth Leader Meeting	9:00am Vacation Bible School	16 11:00am Story Weavers - No 11:00am Story Weavers - No 11:00am Story Weavers - No (meet at Church) 6:00pm Indianland Garden Club - Kuntz Hall	<u>8</u>	00
1 Monday	8 9:00am Vacation Bible School 9:00pm Finance Meeting 7:00pm Congregational Council Meeting	15 Youth Gathering - Leave for 1: NOLA (<i>6:30 am meet at church</i>) M (<i>6</i>)	22	3
Sunday 30	7 VBS Volunteer Installation 9:00am Worship 10:15am Scheduled Holy Baptism - Sanctuary	14 Youth Gathering Send-Off 9:00am Worship & Holy Communion	21 :00am Worship 4:30pm Youth Gathering - Return (<i>pickup from church</i> 4:30 pm)	28 Youth Gathering Sunday 9:00am Worship & Holy Communion 10:15am Youth Gathering Thank You Reception - Kuntz Hall

					Memorial
	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship	Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$261,904.56	\$157,192.28	\$175,028.24	\$ 95,838.34	\$ 9,812.54
Income - May	25,016.32	2,043.76	(1,321.34)	(2,342.28)	3.11
Income - JanApr.	132,396.49	21,046.97	14,891.99	8,978.31	12.13
Total Income	157,412.81	23,090.73	13,570.65	6,636.03	15.24
Expenses - May	30,053.02	144.00	339.91	-	-
Expenses - JanApr.	118,907.94	2,880.71	859.40	2,800.00	84.46
Total Expenses	148,960.96	3,024.71	1,199.31	2,800.00	84.46
Net Income	8,451.85	20,066.02	12,371.34	3,836.03	(69.22)
Net Special Appeals	-				
Balance End of May	\$270,356.41	\$177,258.30	\$187,399.58	\$ 99,674.37	\$ 9,743.32

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - MAY 31, 2024

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of May by \$5,036.70, and for the year 2024, income exceeded expenses by \$8,451.85, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$270,356.41. Last year the net income for the same period was \$(3,880.50) with a balance of \$248,354.66.

**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 (<u>communications@hopecherryville.org</u>). Thank you.

Edition	Article Deadline	Collation Date
August	Monday, July 15	Thursday, July 25

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 2024 issue of <u>Synod News</u> is available online.

Visit http://nepasynod.org



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HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH 4131 Lehigh Drive PO Box 1030 Cherryville, PA 18035

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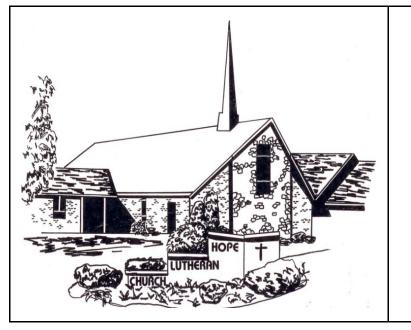
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> Summer Worship 9:00 AM

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