

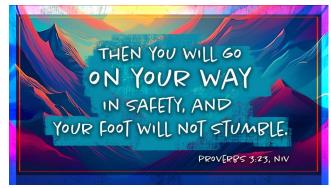


A Message from the Interim Pastor:

It is that time. I have been with you since December, 2023 as your interim pastor. I arrived newly retired and said as a joke, "I will be here for a few months!" And we both chuckled but knew eventually God would smile on Hope Lutheran and bring another, more permanent pastor. It is that time.

It has been truly an honor to serve God with you at Hope. Worship has been inspirational and always changing. Your enthusiasm for everything with the church is admirable! Sometimes I would arrive for worship and wonder 'who will light the candles?' 'Who will be in the AV closet?' And someone steps up. Of course, some of you have been more involved than others and I say, now is the time for those without commitments to the church, to ask "How can I help?" The council members have worked very hard to allow me to serve part time and to keep Hope Lutheran mostly looking the same as the call committee searched for a new pastor. Thank you to council and the call committee. It is time for more people to ask, "What can I do?"

I will take many fine memories with me as I depart on July 15. Thank you to Kim Roth who made sure to greet me when I first arrived and checked in often when she was president of council. I pray others in the congregation will do the same for your new pastor, Jessica Kingsborough. Make sure to bring your joy



moments to the new pastor and keep her in your prayers! I will also keep all of you in prayer.

If I tried to name all the people these last 19 months who brought me joy, or who shared our faith stories, or we comforted one another, or taught each other or in some way helped to make Hope Lutheran handle change, the list would be long! When done, I'd say, 'Wait, forgot this one!' You know who you are! Thank you for coffee, stories, allowing me in your lives at funerals, sharing laughter at a wedding, being blessed with the smile of a newborn baptized, letting your child pray 'Amen, Amen, Amen'. Thank you for blessing all of us with your voices in the choir, helping to lead worship, light candles, carry the cross and thought hard about decisions that had to be made. Thank you and it is time to continue.

Especially thank you to all the staff. I believe Jennifer Somers, the office manager, is clair-voyant, and knew what I needed before I verbalized it. (Maybe it is all the gnomes she smiles at?). She works exceeding hard every day, noticed by some and goes unnoticed more often but she is glue for the church office. When is Administrative professional day? (April) David Ziegler is such a gift to Hope with his musical prowess and love of good worship. He is confident in all things but is willing to listen to your ideas. Thank you to both of these exceptional people.

Most of all, thank you to all of you who worship our Lord and allowed the Holy Spirit to blow me into your presence. I go with peace.

In His Name, Pastor Sue

# **COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS-JUNE 2025**

- We want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to all the amazing individuals serving on our Bulletin Board Committee! Your dedication and hard work in revamping our church bulletin boards are truly making a difference in our community. The upgrades are not just about aesthetics; they reflect our shared mission to keep everyone informed and engaged in the vibrant life of our church. Let's celebrate these improvements together and continue to support one another in our church activities. Your involvement is what makes our congregation strong and connected! Thank you for being such an integral part of our family at Hope Lutheran Church! Thank you once again, Bulletin Board Committee! You rock!
- + Get ready to gather for an unforgettable evening filled with laughter, joy, and cinematic adventure at Hope Lutheran Church! We are thrilled to invite you and your family to our good old-fashioned **Family Movie Night** on **Saturday, July 19** at **6 PM** in Kuntz Hall. We're excited to showcase the new King of Kings movie, which has been making waves since its release earlier this year! We hope to see you there!
- + Please mark your calendars for Pastor Sue's last service, which will take place on Sunday, July 13. Following this, her final day in the office will be Tuesday, July 15. We warmly invite all members of our church to join us in celebrating Pastor Sues achievements and to extend our best wishes for her future endeavors. Together, let us cherish the moments we shared with Pastor Sue and look ahead with hope and anticipation.
- + Church Council has some super exciting news to share that's bound to light up our church community! Pastor Jessica Kingsborough has accepted our Call and will be joining us as our new Pastor starting Monday, August 4, 2025! Can you believe it? This is such a fantastic opportunity for all of us to grow together in faith and fellowship! Mark your calendars for the big day, August 10 at 9 AM! Thats when well gather to worship and give Pastor Jessica the warmest welcome imaginable! This is not just a service; it's a celebration of our vibrant community as we embrace our new full-time pastor. Let's show her just how special the Hope Lutheran family is! We can't wait to see all your smiling faces there, ready to lift our voices in praise and support. Let's make this first service with Pastor Jessica a memorable one filled with love, joy, and a whole lot of community spirit! See you there!
- + We are thrilled to announce that the church council has decided to form an ad hoc committee (Website Development Committee) dedicated to enhancing our beloved Hope Lutheran Church's online presence! Whether you have a knack for tech design, a flair for content creation, or simply a passion for sharing our church's story, we would love to have you on board! Your unique talents and perspectives are invaluable as we embark on this collaborative journey. If you're interested in joining this enthusiastic group, please don't hesitate to reach out to our friendly communications specialist, Krystina Adams, at <a href="mailto:communications@hopecherryville.org">communications@hopecherryville.org</a>. She's eager to connect with you and discuss how you can contribute to this exciting project! Together, let\s create an engaging digital experience that brings our community closer and shares our mission with the world. We can't wait to hear from you!
- + At Hope Lutheran Church, we are truly blessed to have such a warm and inviting community, and we want to extend our **heartfelt gratitude** to **Justin Maurer, Matt Sekol**, and the entire **AV Committee** for their dedication and hard work in obtaining and installing our brand-new AV equipment! This significant upgrade is not just a technical enhancement; its a testament to our commitment to hospitality and creating a worship experience that resonates with all—both in-person and from the comfort of home. So come join us and experience the joy of worship like never before! Whether you're singing along in the pews or tuning in from your living room, we can't wait to share this enhanced journey of faith with you. Let's keep the spirit alive and thriving at Hope Lutheran Church, where everyone is welcome, and our hearts are always open!



### Sunday, July 6

COFFEE HOUR HOSTED BY WELCA
INSTALLATION OF VBS
STAFF & VOLUNTEERS
9:00 AM Worship & Holy Baptism

Sunday, July 13

9:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion

Sunday, July 20 9:00 AM Worship

Sunday, June 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 CONTRIBUTION, VISIT THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT <a href="https://www.hopecherryville.org">www.hopecherryville.org</a> and locate the electronic giving page or simply click the online giving button below.

Bible Quiz

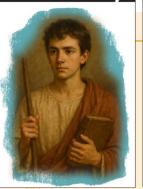
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**Bible Quiz** 

? ??

Timothy was a young man who became a trusted companion and co-worker of the apostle Paul. Which of the following statements is *not* accurate?

- A. Timothy's mother and grandmother taught him the Scriptures.
- B. Paul considered Timothy his spiritual son.
- C. Timothy was born in Rome and raised as a Roman citizen.
- D. Paul wrote two New Testament letters addressed to Timothy.



For years, King David showed special kindness to the son of King Saul's son Jonathan, because David and Jonathan had been dear friends.

Which of the following statements is not accurate?

- A. The name of King Saul's grandson was Mephibosheth.
- B. He was lame in both feet.
- C. His feet had been injured when he was 5.
- D. He was injured while playing with his brothers.



Answer: D (See 2 Samuel 4:4; 9:1-7; 21:7.)



## **BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study is held in Kuntz Hall at 10 AM Thursdays

JULY 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

Please call the church office if more information is needed.

# FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, July 19

@ 6 PM

Kuntz Hall



# **VBS: "Magnified"**

Vacation Bible School will be held daily from 9AM—12PM

JULY 7-11, 2025

To attend Vacation Bible School, you must be registered as a student or a volunteer. If you need additional information please contact the church office at 610-767-7203.

### 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, please call the church office at 610-767-7203.

# **STORY WEAVERS**

HELLO summe

Tuesday, July 15

@ 11:30 AM

Meet at Church
Parking Lot

# INDIANLAND GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Tuesday,
July 15
6 PM



As we approach the Fourth of July, our hearts naturally turn to thoughts of freedom, patriotism, and the many blessings we enjoy as citizens of the United States. Fireworks, family gatherings, and waving flags are all part of the celebration—but as Lutherans, we are also called to view this holiday through the lens of our faith.

Martin Luther once wrote that "a Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none; a Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all." These words encapsulate a uniquely Lutheran understanding of freedom: we are liberated by the Gospel not for our own sake, but so that we may serve others in love.

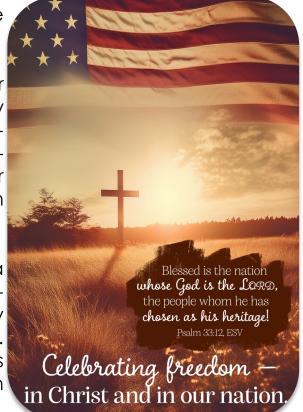
On Independence Day, we rightly give thanks for the political and civic freedoms we enjoy—freedom of speech, freedom of worship, and the rule of law. These are great blessings, gifts from God through the governing authorities He has established (Romans 13:1). Yet, our true and ultimate freedom comes not

from any government or earthly power, but from Christ alone. "If the Son sets you free, you will be

free indeed" (John 8:36).

This freedom in Christ means we are no longer bound by sin, guilt, or the demands of the Law for our salvation. It frees us to live joyfully, courageously, and compassionately in our communities. While we honor and support our nation, our first allegiance is to God's kingdom—a kingdom that transcends all borders and politics.

As you celebrate this Independence Day, take a moment to reflect not just on our national heritage, but on your spiritual freedom in Christ. Pray for our leaders. Seek justice. Serve your neighbor. And give thanks for the freedom that comes from the cross, which no earthly power can grant or take away.



May your celebrations be filled with joy, gratitude, and a renewed commitment to live out your freedom in Christ.

# Dear Family at Hope Church,

April 30, 2025 was a beautiful day in the life of Hope Church as together we celebrated the life of my mother, Kathryn Pauline Strohl. Thank you to the many devoted friends and family for all the prayers, cards, calls, visits and love you've shown to my mom



throughout the years and especially the past year and a half as she struggled trying to recover from a nasty fall. Your kindness is so appreciated and will never be forgotten. God bless you, and God bless Hope Church! Mom loved you and she loved her church.

With love, Linda, Tom & Jill (Powers) Sidor & Family





#### CARPET REMODEL PROJECT

Hope Lutheran Church Council is thrilled to announce that exciting improvements are on the horizon for our beloved church! As part of our ongoing commitment to creating a welcoming and comfortable environment for all members and visitors, we will be installing new carpeting in the Narthex, Communications/Confirmation Office, and Main Office. These updates are not just about aesthetics; they are about fostering a space where everyone feels at home, supported, and engaged in our community.

Once Pastor Jessica joins us in August, we look forward to collaborating with her to discuss and plan the next steps for redoing the carpets in the Pastor's Office and the Sunday School Office. This is a wonderful opportunity to enhance our spaces further and ensure they reflect the warmth and love that defines Hope Lutheran Church.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Charlie Kutzler and the Property Committee for their dedication and hard work in taking on this significant project. Your efforts truly embody the spirit of community that we cherish so deeply.

These enhancements align beautifully with our mission to cultivate a family-like atmosphere that supports spiritual growth and engagement among all members. We believe that a comfortable environment plays a crucial role in nurturing our relationships and deepening our faith.

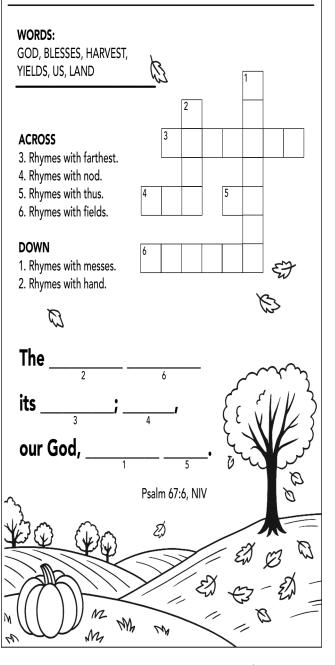
We invite all members to participate in future discussions about further improvements. Your insights and ideas are invaluable as we continue to develop our church together. Lets work hand-in-hand to shape a space that reflects our shared values and aspirations.



# Puzzle!

Use the words provided to complete the puzzle.

Then write the numbered words in the correct blanks below to complete Psalm 67:6, NIV.



Answer: The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. Psalm 67:6, NIV

#### WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Hope Lutheran Church Council is thrilled to announce that we are embarking on an exciting journey to upgrade our church website! To guide this important project, we are forming a special Website Development Committee.

We invite anyone with a passion for website development to join us in this exciting endeavor! Your ideas and insights will be invaluable as we explore the best path forward.

If interested in learning more, please contact Krystina Adams, Hope's Communication Specialist, at: communications@hopecherryville.org and she will get you the information you need!

# Website Development Committee

HOPE LUTHERAN
CHURCH IS LOOKING
TO UPGRADE OUR
WEBSITE, BUT WE NEED
YOUR HELP!

If website development is something that interests you, consider joining this special committee in revamping the church's website!



# HOPE LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: DEADLINE APPROACHING



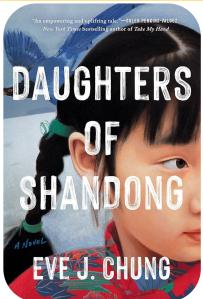
We are overjoyed to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Finance and Congregational Council for their unwavering dedication and hard work in revamping our Scholarship Program! This is an incredible opportunity for our students and families, and we couldn't be more excited to share that the program is now open for all freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors pursuing education at eligible seminaries, colleges, universities, and/or accredited trade schools.

This initiative perfectly aligns with Hope Lutheran Church's commitment to fostering community and education, creating pathways for our youth to thrive academically and spiritually. We believe that education is a stepping stone to a brighter future, and our updated Scholarship Program is here to support you on this journey!

To apply, simply visit our website and navigate to the *Resources Tab* where you'll find the new application ready and waiting! Or, simply by clicking the button below, it will direct you to the Scholarship Program landing page. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity-applications must be submitted by Sunday, July 13, as scholarships will be awarded during our service on Sunday, August 10.

We warmly encourage all eligible candidates to take advantage of this wonderful chance. You are valued members of the Hope Lutheran Church community, and we can't wait to see how you will shine with the support of our Scholarship Program!

#### **NEXT UP IN BOOK BUDDIES**



Daughters of Shandong by Eve J. Chung Wednesday, July 23 at 1 PM Submit questions to **Cindu Kocher** 

A propulsive, extraordinary novel about a mother and her daughters' harrowing escape to Taiwan as the Communist revolution sweeps through China, by debut author Eve J. Chung, based on her family's story

Daughters are the Ang family's curse.

In 1948, civil war ravages the Chinese countryside, but in rural Shandong, the wealthy, landowning Angs are more concerned with their lack of an heir. Hai is the eldest of four girls and spends her days looking after her sisters. Headstrong Di, who is just a year younger, learns to hide in plain sight, and their mother-abused by the family for failing to

birth a boy-finds her own small acts of rebellion in the kitchen. As the Communist army closes in on their town, the rest of the prosperous household flees, leaving behind the girls and their mother because they view them as useless mouths to feed.

Without an Ang male to punish, the land-seizing cadres choose Hai, as the eldest child, to stand trial for her family's crimes. She barely survives their brutality. Realizing the worst is yet to come, the women plan their escape. Starving and penniless but resourceful, they forge travel permits and embark on a thousand-mile journey to confront the family that abandoned them.

From the countryside to the bustling city of Qingdao, and onward to British Hong Kong and eventually Taiwan, they witness the changing tide of a nation and the plight of multitudes caught in the wake of revolution. But with the loss of their home and the life they've known also comes new freedomto take hold of their fate, to shake free of the bonds of their gender, and to claim their own story.

Told in assured, evocative prose, with impeccably drawn characters, Daughters of Shandong is a hopeful, powerful story about the resilience of women in war; the enduring love between mothers, daughters, and sisters; and the sacrifices made to lift up future generations.

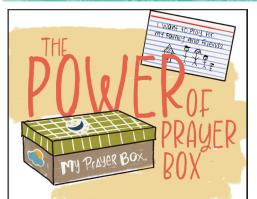


BOOK BUDDIES ZOOM

**Zoom Meeting Details:** https://usO2web.zoom.us/j/87605892517? pwd=WFdsZmFBMnNDRVB1N1JiT1ZjNmdTQTO9

Please use the link above or the QR Code 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.



Create a simple and meaningful prayer box your family can use to share requests and pray together all week long.

#### What you need:

- Shoebox with lid
- Wrapping paper or decorative paper
- Scissors & tape
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers and other craft material (optional)
- Pens or pencils
- Index cards or small pieces of



#### What you do:

- 1. Wrap the shoebox like a gift, wrapping the lid separately so it can be opened.
- 2. As a family, decorate the box with drawings, favorite Bible verses, photos, or stickers.
- 3. Place the box somewhere central, like the kitchen or living room.
- 4. Keep index cards and pens nearby. When someone has a prayer request, they can write or draw it and drop it in.
- 5. Throughout the week, take turns praying over the requests as a family, or have a parent lead prayer time.





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

#### **HOPE LEADERSHIP**

#### **STAFF**

INTERIM PASTOR  Rev. Susan Ruggles  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
<u>Treasurer</u> Trudy Mertz treasurer@hopecherryville.org	CLEARANCE COORDINATOR  Julie Sekol  clearances@hopecherryville.org
CONFIRMATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR Shaye Kerper confirmation@hopecherryville.org	YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM COORDINATOR Allison Lockard youthgroup@hopecherryville.org
<u>Sexton</u> Tammy Dougherty	<u>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</u> Deb Gardner
PASTOR EMERITUS The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II	

## **2025 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

<b>Mikayla Boyer</b> President Youth Ministry	Glenn Wampole Vice President Mutual Ministry	Krystina Adams Secretary Christian Education
Mark Bateman Finance	Laurie Christman  Evangelism	Doug Daniel Property
Annette Frazza Worship & Music	Michelle Inocencio Stewardship	<b>JR Knouss</b> Youth Representative
Patrick Ladd AV Committee	Timothy Moore Finance	Elizabeth Rock Social Ministry

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

CONTACT

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

REGARDING

Call the church office 610-767-7203

PHONE NO.

	REGARDING	CONTACT	PHONE NO.
	A/V Committee	avteam@hopecherryville.org	-
	Basket Committee	Kathryn Fogle	610-767-5095
	Church Website	webmaster@hopecherryville.org	-
	Confirmation	Shaye Kerper	610-767-7203
	Evangelism	Sharyn Kratzer	610-261-1277
	Finance	Bill Lewis	610-442-2116
	Girl Scouts	Lindsay Hall	445-264-0631
	Hope Friendship Dance	Judy Dieter	610-767-9170
	Hope's Helping Hands	Leslie Daniel	610-767-7918
	Hope's Mom Group	Emily Ladd	610-597-0326
	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	Nancy Miller	610-392-8344
7	Property	Charlie Kutzler	610-844-4342
	CSS/Christian Ed	Allison Lockard	610-216-5384
	Senior Center	Karen Ferraina	610-767-2977
	Stewardship	Wayne Weidner	610-349-2654
	VBS	Kathy Ziegler	610-262-9197
1	WELCA	Judy Dieter	610-767-9170
I	Women of Faith	Jane Meyers	484-934-6031
$\frac{1}{2}$	Worship Arts	Karen Lockard	610-216-9679
	Worship & Music	Janet Filchner	610-262-5215
I	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
		her Bell Choir		e Study & Lunch- arty Committee rson Hall	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
A VOLUNTEERS	<b>7</b> 9:00am VBS	<b>8</b> 9:00am VBS	:00am VBS	<b>10</b> 9:00am VBS	am VBS pm VBS Closing Program - tuary	12
1.3 9:00am Worship & Holy Communion 7 7 0	pm Finance Committee ing Im Congregational Council ing Rm 133	<b>15</b> 11:30am Story Weavers Meet in Parking Lot 6:00pm Indianland Garden Club Meeting - Kuntz Hall	16	<b>17</b> 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm		<b>19</b> 6:00pm Family Movie Night (King of Kings Movie) - Kuntz Hall
			<b>23</b> 1:00pm Book Buddies - By Zoom	<b>24</b> 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm	25	26
9:00am Worship & Holy Communion	28	29	30	<b>31</b> 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm	1	2

#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY - MAY 31, 2025

					N	1emorial
	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship	(	Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$275,583.32	\$197,732.84	\$205,808.33	\$107,257.34	\$	9,102.32
Income - May	24,722.55	7,134.13	5,019.08	989.87		3.06
Income - JanApr.	124,912.96	3,258.24	(940.69)	(1,454.16)		11.95
Total Income	149,635.51	10,392.37	4,078.39	(464.29)		15.01
Expenses - May	30,886.89	144.00	-	-		-
Expenses - JanApr.	125,123.69	1,430.94	957.61	2,400.00		175.00
Total Expenses	156,010.58	1,574.94	957.61	2,400.00		175.00
Net Income	(6,375.07)	8,817.43	3,120.78	(2,864.29)		(159.99)
Net Special Appeals	-					
Balance End of May	\$269,208.25	\$206,550.27	\$208,929.11	\$104,393.05	\$	8,942.33

#### **SUMMARY:**

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of May by \$6,164.34, and for the year 2025, expenses exceeded income by \$6,375.07, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$269,208.25. Last year the net income for the same period was \$8,451.85 with a balance of \$270,356.41.

#### **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	<b>Collation Date</b>
August	Monday, July 21	Thursday, July 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 July 2025 issue of *Synod News* is available online. Visit http://nepasynod.org





<sup>\*\*</sup>The current income statement is posted in the narthex. \*\*



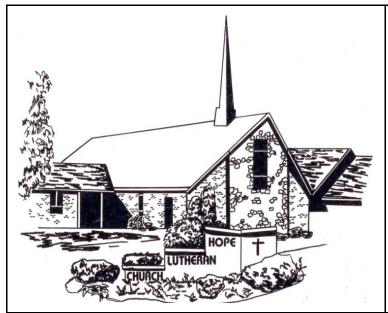
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# HOPE HOME NEWS Vol. LII No. 07 JULY 2025





Published Monthly by: **HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH** 

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

hopecherryville.org
HopeCherryville

**Summer Worship Schedule** 9:00 AM Worship Service

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