BUT GOD REMAINS

Follow us on Facebook!

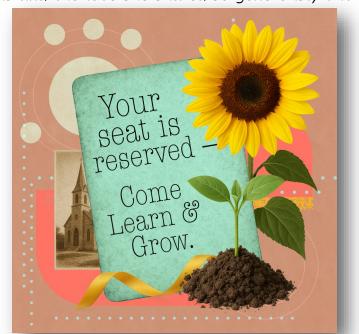
AUGUST 2025 + Vol. LII No. 08 HOPE HOME NEWS

HopeCherryville

A Message from the Church Council:

August always feels like a bridge between seasons. Summer is still with us—full of warm days, gardens in bloom, and maybe even one more trip, picnic, or lazy afternoon in the sun. Yet, there's also a quiet shift in the air: earlier sunsets, the return of school routines, and the subtle signs that a new season is on its way. In that same spirit, our congregation is standing on its own "bridge" right now—giving thanks for where we've been and feeling hopeful for what's ahead.

Over the past seventeen months, we have been blessed by the leadership of Pastor Sue Ruggles, who served as our interim pastor during this time of transition. Pastor Sue brought with her a calm and steady presence, offering caring guidance, thoughtful preaching, and a listening ear to all who needed it. She helped us reflect on who we are as a church community and prepare our hearts and minds for the next chapter in our life together. We are deeply grateful for her time among us and the love she shared so generously with



this congregation. Her faithful service has laid a strong foundation for what's to come.

Now we look forward with great anticipation as we welcome Pastor Jessica Kingsborough as our new full-time pastor! She begins her ministry with us on Monday, August 4th, and we are eager to get to know her, learn from her, and grow together in faith. As she steps into this new role, we ask for your prayers—that she may feel supported, encouraged, and truly at home in our community. And as always, we trust that our congregation will extend to her the same warmth, hospitality, and grace that have long been a hallmark of our church family.

Transitions like these can stir up a mix of emotions—excitement, uncertainty, hope, and maybe even a little nervousness. And yet, these are the moments when we often see God's faithfulness most clearly. As Scripture reminds us: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). We believe that God has been preparing both Pastor Jessica and our congregation for this very moment. What a gift it is to walk this path together.

So, as we soak in these final weeks of summer—whether you're traveling, gardening, or simply enjoying a slower pace—let's also look ahead with joy and anticipation. Let's continue to gather in worship, lift one another in prayer, and step forward with open hearts, trusting in all the ways God will work in and through us in the months to come. See you in church!

Blessings, Krystina Adams

(ON BEHALF OF THE CHUTCH COUNCIL)

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS-JULY 2025

- + **Farewell to Pastor Sue** We give heartfelt thanks to Pastor Susan Ruggles for her 17 months of faithful service as our interim pastor. Her last Sunday with us was July 13. We are so grateful for her leadership during this time of transition.
- + **Welcome Pastor Jessica!** We're excited to welcome Pastor Jessica Kingsborough as our new full-time pastor. She officially begins on Monday, August 4, and her first Sunday preaching will be August 9 at 9:00 AM. Please join us in giving her a warm Hope Lutheran welcome!
- + **VBS Success!** Another amazing week of Vacation Bible School is in the books! Thank you to all the volunteers who made it possible, and to the children and families who participated. It was a joy to learn how God magnifies our lives!
- + **Sunday School & Confirmation Registration Coming Soon** Keep an eye out for an email from our Sunday School or Confirmation coordinators. Registration will be opening soon for another exciting year of faith formation!
- + **Join the Prayer Warriors** Our church prayer chain—known as the Prayer Warriors—is always ready to lift up your needs in prayer. If you'd like to add a request, or if you're interested in joining the prayer team, contact Nancy Miller or call the church office.
- + New "History of Hope" Group Council has approved the formation of a new group dedicated to preserving and celebrating the history of Hope Lutheran Church. Led by Steph Maurer, this team will collect historical documents and memorabilia and work on creating a dedicated space to reflect on our past.
- + **Property Committee Updates** Exciting improvements are underway! Our church offices are being repainted, and new carpet installation throughout the church will begin in early August. Many thanks to the Property Committee for overseeing these important updates.



Sunday, August 3

COFFEE HOUR HOSTED BY HOPE'S MOM GROUP 19:00 AM Worship

Sunday, August 10

SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion

Sunday, August 17

9:00 AM Worship

Sunday, August 24

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

9:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion 10: 00 AM Jr. Choir Rehearsal (15 mins)

> Sunday, August 31 9:00 AM Worship

ELECTRONIC GIVING: A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT WAY TO GIVE!

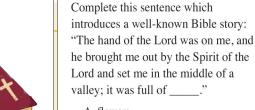
IF YOU THINK YOU MAY MISS CHURCH SERVICES THIS SUMMER DUE TO TRAVEL OR OTHER COMMITMENTS, CONSIDER SETTING UP AN AUTOMATIC GIVING SCHEDULE. YOUR CONSISTENT SUPPORT IS VITAL TO OUR CHURCH, ESPECIALLY DURING SUMMER MONTHS. TO SET UP A RECURRING CONTRIBUTION, VISIT THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT WWW.HOPECHERRYVILLE.ORG.



In a parable of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, someone named Lazarus features prominently while other characters go unnamed. Who is Lazarus in this story?

A. a friend Jesus raised from the dead

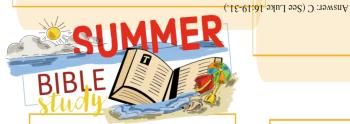
- B. a rich man dressed in fine linen
- C. a poor beggar at the rich man's gate
- D. the brother of the poor man
- E. an angel who carried the poor man to heaven



- A. flowers
- B. sheep
- C. rocks
- D. bones



Answer: D (See Ezekiel 37:1, MIV.)



BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held in Kuntz Hall at 10 AM Thursdays

AUGUST 7, 14, 21 & 28

Please call the church office if more information is needed.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, August 16 @ 6 PM in Kuntz Hall Doors open at 5:30 PM



EVANGELISM

Tuesday,

August 6

6:30 PM

Hanson Hall

EVANGELISM



KUNTZ HALL AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

Visit Hope's website: for the Church Use Policy and the Facility Rent-al Form. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 610-767-7203.



STORY WEAVERS

Tuesday, August 19

@ 11:30 AM

Meet at Church Parking Lot

-Lunch at Wert's Cafe

INDIANLAND GARDEN CLUB

Tuesday,

August 12 at 6 PM Kuntz Hall





BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

As a new school year approaches, we want to support our students with encouragement, prayer, and a reminder that they are not alone. Whether you're heading into preschool or off to college, you're invited to bring your backpack to worship on **Sunday, August 24 at 9 AM** for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks.

During worship, we'll take a moment to lift up all students, teachers, and school staff in prayer—asking for a year filled with learning, growth, safety, and joy. Each student will receive a small tag for their backpack as a reminder that their church family and God are walking with them every step of the way.

Let's start the school year grounded in faith and community. We can't wait to bless your backpacks and your journey ahead!



WELCOME TO OUR NEW PASTOR!

We're delighted to introduce Pastor Jessica Kingsborough, who will join us as our full-time pastor on Monday, August 4. Pastor Jessica comes to us from Southwood Lutheran Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, where she has served in ministry with grace and compassion.

She and her husband, David, are also a pastoral couple—David has recently been called to serve as full-time pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Easton, PA. They bring with them two young daughters, and we look forward to welcoming their whole family into our community.

"And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding." — Jeremiah 3:15

We thank God for sending Pastor Jessica to walk alongside us in faith. Please join us in making her and her family feel right at home!

EVANGELISM'S SHARE-A-MEAL MINISTRY: A SIMPLE WAY TO SHOW YOU CARE

Did you know Hope has a long-standing ministry that offers meals to church members during times of need—like after an illness, injury, or hospital stay? For over 30 years, the Share-a-Meal Ministry has provided comfort and support through home-cooked meals.

Here's how it works: when someone could use a little extra help, volunteers are contacted to prepare a meal. You might be asked just once every few months—it's usually one meal (not a whole week), and every little bit helps.

This ministry depends on two things:

- + Knowing when someone needs help
- + Having enough volunteers to cook occasionally

If you're willing to make and deliver a meal now and then, or if you know someone in need, please reach out to Sharyn Kratzer to get involved. It's a simple way to care for one another and live out our faith in community.

LET'S KEEP THIS MEANINGFUL MINISTRY GOING STRONG!

THANK YOU VBS TEAM!

YOUR TIME, ENERGY, AND LOVE MADE VBS UNFORGETTABLE—THANK YOU!

Aislinn McDonald Allison Hahn Ally Lockard Althea Handwerk Amanda Silfies Anna Sekol Ava Duch Betty Rock Bill Green Bill Lewis Brayden Martin Brittany Zedalis Bruce Schnabel Cathy Bird Chelsea Bunce David Mc Donald David Ziegler Dean Smith Deb Schnabel Dolores Reenock Donna Neetz Eileen Lewis Ella Sobler **Emalee Hudson** Emily Koplin Emma Sobler Erika Musser Evan Knouss Felicia Hutton Garrett Allabach Gina Costello

Ginny Smith

Gloria Kern Jane Tretiak Janet Filchner Janet Weber Jean Leibenguth Jen McDonald Jennifer Beige Jennifer Knouss Jennifer Sommers Jillian Bindics JoAnne Bailey Joel Schreckinger JR Knouss Jr. Marsh Judy Dieter Julie Sekol Justin Maurer Kailee Knecht Kaitlyn Roth Karen Bateman Karen Lockard Karlee Farley Kathy Ziegler Kim Eckroth Krystina Adams Larry Creyer Laurie Christman Liam Sekol Liana Duch Lily Rehriq M.F. Linda Mery Lisa Heberling

Lisa Hoffman Lori Kerper Mark Bateman Maureen Kuntz Michelle Inocencio Nancy Creyer Nancy Miller Nathan Hahn Nicole Smith Nora Sekol Pastor Clark Kuntz II Pastor Mary Gade Pat Amey Patrick Ladd Rachel Hudson Rileigh Hudson Rodney Christman, Jr. Sarah Bird Sarah Szerencits Shaye Kerper Shelbey Ziegler Shirley Green Stacey Burke Stephanie Maurer Sue Rehriq Sunday Ziegenfuss Tammy Dougherty Terry Green Tiffany Kelly Tim Lockard Trudy Mertz Xander McDonald

STORYWEAVERS MEETING

THE STOTYWEAVERS GROUP WILL BATHER IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 19 AT 11:30 A.M. TO CAPPOOL TO WETT'S CAFÉ IN ALLENTOWN FOR A FUN LUNCH OUTING. ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN-IT'S A BREAT CHANCE FOR FELLOWSHIP AND GOOD FOOD! REGULAR STOTYWEAVERS MEETINGS WILL RESUME IN OCTOBER.



CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION

We joyfully celebrate the confirmation of Ava Duch, Jacob Gibson, Nolan Keen, Sophia Medei, and Kaitlyn Roth, who affirmed their faith during worship on Sunday, June 8, 2025.

It was a meaningful day for our congregation as these young people took this important step in their faith journey. We give thanks for their commitment, the support of their





As we celebrate with them, we are reminded of these words from Scripture:

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."—Matthew 5:16

Please continue to keep our confirmands in your prayers as they grow in faith, love, and service.

Women of Faith Summer Picnic & Planning Meeting

All are invited to a fun and relaxed picnic and planning meeting at Leslie Daniel's home on Monday, August 19 (with a rain date of August 20). Come enjoy a swim from 3:00-5:00 PM, followed by dinner and a planning session as we look ahead to the year's activities.

This is a great opportunity to share ideas, connect with others, and help shape upcoming events. **New members are always welcome**—we'd love to have you join us!

WOMEN OF FAITH NEWS

Save the Date: Family Craft Night -November 14

Mark your calendars! Our Family Craft Night is coming up on Thursday, November 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in Kuntz Hall. This year, we'll be making Advent calendars—a fun and meaningful project for all ages.

Watch for the sign-up sheet in late September, and plan to bring the whole family for an evening of creativity, connection, and holiday spirit!



Church Family Picnic

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH
12 PM--KUNTZ HALL

Get ready for a delightful day with your church family at the Hope Church Family Picnic! Bring your favorite dish to share as we provide the meats, rolls, and beverages.

Join us for a day filled with delicious food, exciting games, and cherished moments. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to bond with your church community. If interested in attending, please sign up in the Narthex so we can get a head count!

SEE VIIII THEORY

A SIGN-UP SHEET IS LOCATED IN THE NATTHEX, AT THE NEW SIGN-UP BULLETIN BOARD, TO HELP US PLAN FOR FOOD AND SEATING. PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN UP SO WE CAN PLAN THE EVENT ACCORDINGLY!

Time: Following the late worship service (around 12:00 PM) until 3:00 PM

Location: Kuntz Fellowship Hall

Get ready for a joyful afternoon of fellowship, food, and fun with your church family!

We'll provide:

- Meats
- Rolls
- Beverages

Please bring:

 A favorite side dish or dessert to share

Expect:

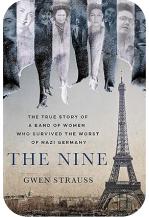
- Delicious food
- Exciting games
- Wonderful fellowship & cherished memories

We can't wait to spend this special day with you!

Come celebrate God's goodness and our vibrant church community.

The Nine
by Gwen Strauss
Wednesday, August 20 at 1 PM
Submit questions to
Abby White

Switchboard Soldiers by Jennifer Chiaverini Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 1 PM Submit questions to Leslie Daniel



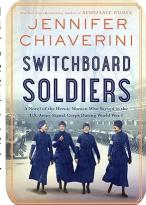
The Nine follows the true story of the author's great aunt Hélène Podliasky, who led a band of nine female resistance fighters as they escaped a German forced labor camp and made a tenday journey across the front lines of WWII from Germany back to Paris.

The nine women were all under thirty when they

joined the resistance. They smuggled arms Europe, harbored parachuting through agents, coordinated communications tween regional sectors, trekked escape routes to Spain and hid Jewish children in scattered apartments. They were arrested by French police, interrogated and tortured by the Gestapo. They were subjected to a series of French prisons and deported to Germany. The group formed along the way, meeting at different points, in prison, in transit, and at Ravensbrück. By the time they were enslaved at the labor camp in Leipzig, they were a closeknit group of friends. During the final days of the war, forced onto a death march, the nine chose their moment and made a daring escape.

Drawing on incredible research, this powerful, heart-stopping narrative from Gwen Strauss is a moving tribute to the power of humanity and friendship in the darkest of times.

In June 1917, General John Pershing arrived in France to establish American forces in Europe. He immediately found himself unable to communicate with troops in the field. Pershing needed telephone operators who could swiftly and accurately connect multiple calls, speak fluent French and English, remain steady under fire, and be utterly discreet, since the calls often conveyed classified information.



At the time, nearly all well-trained American telephone operators were women—but women were not permitted to enlist, or even to vote in most states. Nevertheless, the U.S. Army Signal Corps promptly began recruiting them.

More than 7,600 women responded, including Grace Banker of New Jersey, a switchboard instructor with AT&T and an alumna of Barnard College; Marie Miossec, a Frenchwoman and aspiring opera singer; and Valerie DeSmedt, a twenty-year-old Pacific Telephone operator from Los Angeles, determined to strike a blow for her native Belgium.

They were among the first women sworn into the U.S. Army under the Articles of War. The male soldiers they had replaced had needed one minute to connect each call. The switchboard soldiers could do it in ten seconds.

Deployed throughout France, including near the front lines, the operators endured hardships and risked death or injury from gunfire, bombardments, and the Spanish Flu. Not all of them would survive.

The women of the U.S. Army Signal Corps served with honor and played an essential role in achieving the Allied victory. Their story has never been the focus of a novel...until now.



BOOK BUDDIES ZOOM

Zoom Meeting Details:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87605892517?pwd=WFdsZmFBMnNDRVB1N1JiT1ZjNmdTQT09

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.



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

HOPE LEADERSHIP

STAFF

PASTOR Rev. Jessica Kingsborough 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 <u>treasurer@hopecherryville.org</u>	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	FINANCIAL SECRETARY Deb Gardner
PASTOR EMERITUS The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II	20

2025 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Mikayla Boyer 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	JR Knouss Youth Representative
Patrick Ladd AV Committee	Timothy Moore Finance	Elizabeth Rock Social 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.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	
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	
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	2	6	16 6:00pm FREE Family Movie Night -Feat. King of Kings Movie (Kuntz Hall) <i>Doors open at 5:30 PM</i>	23	30	9
Friday	1	8	15	22	29	ហ
Thursday	31	7 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting - Hanson Hall	114 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm	2.1 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm	28 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm	4
Wednesday	30			_	27 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 8614 Meeting - LL Rm 005	ന
Tuesday	29		12 6:00pm Indianland Garden Club Meeting - Kuniz Hall	119 11:30am Story Weavers (meet in parking lot lunch at Wert's) 3:00pm Women of Faith Meeting (at Leslie Daniel's House)	26	2
Monday	58	4	11 6:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm Congregational Council Meeting Rm 133	18	25	Ħ
Sunday	27	3 9:00am Worship 10:00am Coffee Hour Hosted by Hope's Moms Fellowship Group	PASTOR JESSICA'S FIRST DAY PREACHING SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION SUNDAY 9:00am Worship & Holy Communion	17 9:00am Worship	24 BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS 9:00am Worship & Holy Communion 10:00am Jr Choir Rehearsal (15 min)	31 9:00am Worship

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - JUNE 30, 2025

					Memorial
	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 - June	36,830.54	7,707.81	5,001.75	2,842.59	2.93
Income - JanMay	149,635.51	10,392.37	4,078.39	(464.29)	15.01
Total Income	186,466.05	18,100.18	9,080.14	2,378.30	17.94
Expenses - June	22,034.71	8,728.88	280.42	1,000.00	75.00
Expenses - JanMay	156,010.58	1,574.94	957.61	2,400.00	175.00
Total Expenses	178,045.29	10,303.82	1,238.03	3,400.00	250.00
Net Income	8,420.76	7,796.36	7,842.11	(1,021.70)	(232.06)
Net Special Appeals	37.57				
Balance End of June	\$284,041.65	\$205,529.20	\$213,650.44	\$106,235.64	\$8,870.26

SUMMARY:

Income exceeded expenses in the Regular Fund for the month of June by \$14,795.83, and for the year 2025, income exceeded expenses by \$8,420.76, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$284,041.65. Last year the net income for the same period was \$2,612.88 with a balance of \$264,517.44.

**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>	Collation Date
September	Monday, August 18	Thursday, August 28

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 2025 issue of Synod News is available online. Visit http://nepasynod.org







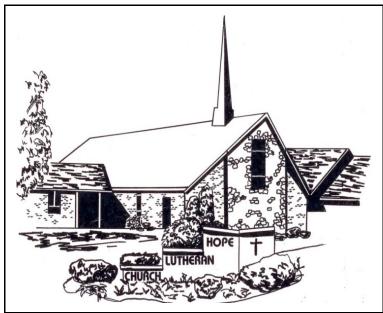
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HOPE HOME NEWS Vol. LII No. 08 AUGUST 2025





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