

Hope beyond the Tomb

APRIL 2026 ♦ Vol. LIII No. 4

HOPE HOME NEWS

A Message from the Pastor:

Go and Share the Good News...

The message of Easter is clear- Go and Share the Good News of Christ! Share his message of love and new life, of the empty tomb and Spirit's movement.

As the church, one of the best ways we can share the good news of Christ's love is by telling our story to those in the congregation and community.

As the people of Hope, our collective story is one we can be proud and excited to share. Through our ministries and mission to the community we change lives and allow people to feel the love of God in profound ways. That being said, it is always good to find new and better ways to share our message.

This month we are embarking on a **Capital Campaign** to update our outside sign to be electronic. This will allow our community to stay up to date on what we are doing and how they can get involved and find connection. We will utilize our location on 248 to inform more people of who we are and our mission in a better and brighter way. It will also make it safer for our congregation as volunteers no longer will need to change the sign and deal with weather unpredictability.

The campaign will run Palm Sunday through September 13th as we look to raise **\$68,000**. It is our hope to have the sign updated for Christmas!

As we look into the future, we are also going to update our Hope Logo. **For the duration of the campaign, we will host a LOGO CONTEST.** How would you best sum up the people of Hope in an image? During the campaign, please submit your Hope Logo to the church office. The winning logo will be used to create Hope's new logo that will be placed on the church sign along with all things Hope. This is a fun and creative way to dream of who we are and who we want to be in the coming years.

I hope you feel the excitement and movement of the spirit as we embark on this campaign. I have already witnessed the generosity of this congregation, and I have found it to be tremendous and inspiring!

I hope you will prayerfully consider supporting our goal to share the good news of Christ and our congregation in new and exciting ways this year!



The LORD will guide you continually...
You shall be like a watered garden, And like
a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.
Isaiah 58:11, NKJV

Pastor Jessica

VISIT US ONLINE AT www.hopecherryville.org/

MINISTRY IN MOTION-APRIL UPDATES

As we enter April and move into the joy of the Easter season, we're reminded that Easter isn't just one day—it's a season of new life, renewed hope, and continued movement of God in and through our church.

Here are just a few ways that's happening at Hope:

Looking Ahead: A New Digital Sign

+ At Hope Lutheran Church, we are excited about the opportunity to install a new digital sign that will help us reach and welcome our community in new ways. We are launching a fundraising campaign with a goal of \$68,000. Enclosed in this newsletter is a special envelope to support this effort—please consider making a gift as you feel called.

Caring for Our Church Home

We continue to care for the spaces that support our ministry and welcome others in:

- + Exploring updates to the door security camera system
- + Gathering estimates for window replacements
- + Planning seasonal cleanup for the memorial garden and outdoor chapel
- + Reviewing options for safe and welcoming carport signage

Loving Our Neighbors

Our ministries are actively reaching beyond our walls:

- + Visitor welcome bags are being prepared to warmly greet new faces
- + Women of Faith is partnering with Sunday School to collect hygiene items for local schools
- + Plans are underway for a Women's Retreat—a time for rest, connection, and renewal

Youth in Action

- + Our youth recently served at Essentials Café—what a beautiful example of faith in action!
- + Preparations continue for the Summer Youth Gathering (June 28–July 2)

Join In!

- + A church-wide **logo contest** is coming soon—get ready to share your creativity!
- + Easter morning is almost here (April 5!), and our Easter Breakfast (7:00–10:30 AM) will support the digital sign initiative—come enjoy food and fellowship together

There is so much to be thankful for. From quiet acts of service to big visions for the future, God is moving in this place—and through all of you.



Sunday, April 5

EASTER SUNDAY

- 8:00 AM Worship
- 9:15 AM Sunday School & Confirmation
- 10:30 AM Worship

Sunday, April 12

- 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion
- 9:15 AM Sunday School & Confirmation
- 10:30 AM Worship & Holy Communion

Sunday, April 19

- 8:00 AM Worship
- 9:15 AM Sunday School & Confirmation
- 10:30 AM Worship

Sunday, April 26

TEMPLE TALK—BEAR CREEK CAMP

- 8:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion
- 9:15 AM Sunday School & Confirmation
- 10:30 AM Worship & First Holy Communion

ELECTRONIC GIVING: A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT WAY TO GIVE!

During the Easter season, we hope you will consider additional giving to your church. It is through the contributions of every member that we are able to fulfill our mission. You can use our electronic giving option for both regular offerings and one-time gifts. Help us achieve a more consistent level of funding by setting up a recurring giving plan. Visit the church website at www.hopecherryville.org and locate the Online Giving page.

Online Giving



STORY WEAVERS

Tuesday,
April 21
10 PM
Adult SS Rm
Lunch following mtg

HOPE FRIENDSHIP DANCE

Monday,
April 20
7-9 PM
(SET UP BEGINS AT 6 PM)

EVANGELISM

Wednesday,
April 8
6:30 PM
Hanson Hall



BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held in
Kuntz Hall at 10 AM
Thursdays

APRIL 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

Please call the church office if
more information is needed.

SOUP GROUP

Wednesday,
April 1
9:30 AM
Kuntz Hall



WELCA

Tuesday,
April 14
10 AM
Adult SS Rm

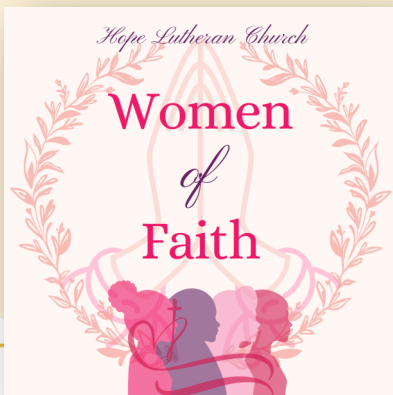
FIRED UP! REHERSALS

EVERY SUNDAY
4:30 PM-6 PM

Please check out
musical.hopecherryville.org
for more information!

WOMEN OF FAITH

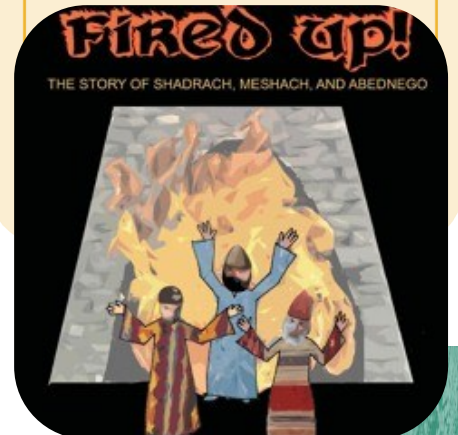
Tuesday,
April 21
6:30 PM
Hanson Hall



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.

Please see the full church
calendar for more events
happening at Hope!



LIFE AT *Hope*

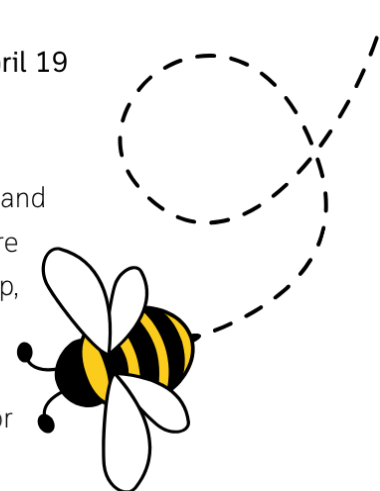


NEW MEMBERS CLASS - APRIL 19

Are you interested in learning more about Hope and what it means to be part of our church community? We invite you to join us for a **New Members Class** on **Sunday, April 19** at **9:15 AM** during the Sunday School hour in **Kuntz Hall**.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet Pastor Jessica, learn more about our mission and ministries, and explore what it means to grow in faith together at Hope. Whether you're new to the church or have been attending for a while and are considering membership, you are warmly welcome.

If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office at 610-767-7203 or email us at office@hopecherryville.org. We look forward to connecting with you!



UPCOMING CHANGES TO USHER DUTIES:

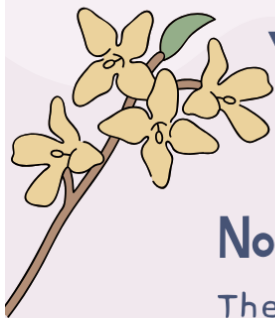
Beginning in May, we will be making an exciting adjustment to our usher responsibilities by introducing dedicated counting teams.

Ushers will continue their important role in helping to lead and support worship services, but they will **no longer be responsible for counting offerings**. Instead, those who are interested in counting will have the opportunity to sign up as part of a [counting team](#).

Our hope is that this change will encourage more members to serve as ushers, while also allowing those who enjoy the counting process to participate in that role. Of course, anyone is welcome to serve in both capacities if they feel called to do so.

More details and finalized information will be shared soon, but we wanted to give you a preview of this upcoming change. Thank you for your continued willingness to serve and support the life of our congregation!





Youth & Faith Formation



No Sunday School or Confirmation - April 5

There will be no Sunday School or Confirmation classes on Easter Sunday, April 5. We will return to our regular schedule on Sunday, April 12.

Sunday School - Bear Creek Camp Day (April 26)

Join us for a special Bear Creek Camp Day during the Sunday School hour on April 26! Camp representatives will be visiting to play games and share all that camp has to offer. We will gather in Kuntz Hall for this fun and interactive morning.

Youth Group - Urban Air Trip (April 11)

Youth Group is heading to Urban Air on Saturday, April 11 from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM!

- Cost: \$10 (due by April 9 to reserve your spot)
- We will visit Urban Air and then go out for lunch
- Youth Group will cover the remaining ticket cost, Urban Air socks, and lunch
- Friends are welcome!
- Extra money may be brought for snacks or additional purchases

Please RSVP by April 9 to youthgroup@hopecherryville.org.

Confirmation - Level II Only

Student/Adult Conversations (April 12)

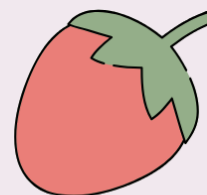
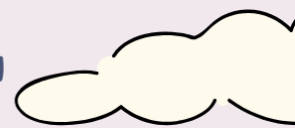
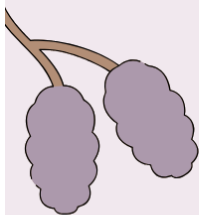
Level II students and their parent/guardian/caregiver are invited to participate in this important part of the confirmation journey. These conversations are designed to foster meaningful connection and thoughtful discussion.

***Please note: One parent, grandparent, or caregiver must attend with each student.**

Final Retreat (April 17-19)

Level II students will attend their Confirmation Final Retreat from April 17-19. More details will be shared soon!

For confirmation-related questions, please contact Shaye Kerper at confirmation@hopecherryville.org.



LIFE AT

Hope



WELCA SERVES WITH LOVE

Our **WELCA** group recently shared Christ's love in action by preparing and delivering a meal to the Leighton Cold Weather Station Food Drop-off on **March 11**.

Through this act of service, they provided not only nourishment but also care and compassion to those in need within our community. We are grateful for the dedication of WELCA and their continued commitment to living out our call to serve others. Be sure to check out the photos from their meal drop-off and celebrate this meaningful ministry in action!

CELEBRATING OUR FIRST COMMUNION STUDENTS

We joyfully celebrate our **First Holy Communion** students as they reached this special milestone in their faith journey:

Maci Binder, Keon Duch, Scarlett Duke, Colton Overholt, Aria Silfies, Ryder Tice, and Micah Zeigafuse

This is a meaningful step as they begin to more fully participate in the sacrament of Holy Communion, and we are proud to walk alongside them in their growing faith.

A heartfelt thank you to our **Evangelism Committee** for hosting a wonderful reception following the service. Your efforts helped make this day even more memorable for our students and their families.



LIFE AT

Hope



CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY-HYGIENE DRIVE

Women of Faith, together with our Sunday School and Confirmation classes, are collecting hygiene items for students at Northampton Area Middle School.

Donations will be accepted **March 16 - April 26, 2026**. Please drop off donated items in the labeled bins in the narthex near the office!

Items Needed: deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, soap, body wash, mouthwash, hand sanitizer, tissues, and lip balm.

Your generosity helps students feel confident, comfortable, and ready to learn—thank you for supporting this important community project!



WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS

During times of challenge, the strength of a church family shines in special ways. Nancy and Jay Miller would like to share their heartfelt thanks for the care, prayers, and kindness they experienced from the Hope community during Jay's recent hospitalization.

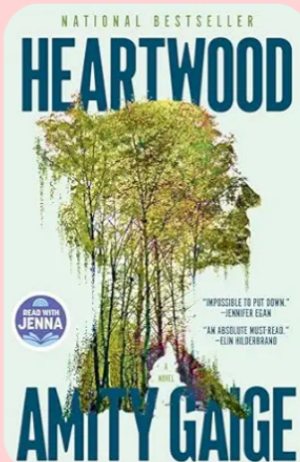
"Words seem insufficient, but we are touched by the support offered from our Hope family during Jay's recent and unexpected hospitalization. We are blessed with the kindness and offers of transportation and assistance, and thank God for speedy recoveries!"

With gratitude,
Nancy and Jay Miller



NEXT UP IN BOOK BUDDIES

HEARTWOOD BY AMITY GAIGE (4/22)



“A literary thriller of the highest order” (Elin Hilderbrand, New York Times bestselling author of *The Perfect Couple*), *Heartwood* takes you on a gripping journey as a search and rescue team race against time after a woman mysteriously disappears on the Appalachian Trail.

In the heart of the Maine woods, an experienced Appalachian Trail hiker goes missing. She is forty-two-year-old Valerie Gillis, who has vanished 200 miles from her final destination. Alone in the wilderness, Valerie pours her thoughts into fractured, poetic letters to her mother as she battles the elements and struggles to keep hoping.

At the heart of the investigation is Beverly, the determined Maine State Game Warden tasked with finding Valerie, who leads the search on the ground. Meanwhile, Lena, a seventy-six-year-old birdwatcher in a Connecticut retirement community, becomes an unexpected armchair detective. Roving between these compelling narratives, a puzzle emerges, intensifying the frantic search, as Valerie’s disappearance may not be accidental.

Heartwood is a “gem of a thousand facets—suspenseful, transporting, tender, and ultimately soul-mending,” (Megan Majumdar, New York Times bestselling author of *A Burning*) that tells the story of a lost hiker’s odyssey and is a moving rendering of each character’s interior journey. The mystery inspires larger questions about the many ways in which we get lost, and how we are found. At its core, *Heartwood* is an “unputdownable” (Real Simple) and redemptive novel, written with both enormous literary ambition and love.



BOOK BUDDIES ZOOM

Zoom Meeting Details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87605892517?pwd=WFdsZmFBMnNDRVB1N1jiT1ZjNmTQT09>

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 LEADERSHIP

STAFF

<p align="center"><u>PASTOR</u> Rev. Jessica Kingsborough pastor@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 12</p>	<p align="center"><u>ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER</u> Jennifer Sommers office@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 10</p>
<p align="center"><u>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC</u> David R. Ziegler organist@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203</p>	<p align="center"><u>COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST</u> Krystina Adams communications@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 20</p>
<p align="center"><u>TREASURER</u> Trudy Mertz treasurer@hopecherryville.org</p>	<p align="center"><u>CLEARANCE COORDINATOR</u> Julie Sekol clearances@hopecherryville.org</p>
<p align="center"><u>CONFIRMATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR</u> Shaye Kerper confirmation@hopecherryville.org</p>	<p align="center"><u>YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM COORDINATOR</u> Allison Lockard youthgroup@hopecherryville.org</p>
<p align="center"><u>SEXTON</u> Tammy Dougherty</p>	<p align="center"><u>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</u> Deb Gardner</p>
<p align="center"><u>PASTOR EMERITUS</u> The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II</p>	

CONTACT INFORMATION

<p>New membership, baptisms, funerals, weddings, change of address, van requests, memorial sponsors, hospital admissions, facility rentals</p>	<p>Call the church office 610-767-7203</p>
--	--

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	610-216-1340
Hope's Mom Group	Emily Ladd	610-597-0326
Memorial Garden	Church Office	610-767-7203
Mutual Ministry	Leslie Daniel	610-216-1340
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	Joel Kleckner	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

2026 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

<p align="center">Dennis Aguila <i>Evangelism</i></p>	<p align="center">Mark Bateman <i>Finance</i></p>	<p align="center">Mikayla Boyer <i>Vice President</i> <i>Youth Ministry</i></p>
<p align="center">Laurie Christman <i>Secretary</i> <i>Christian Education</i></p>	<p align="center">Annette Frazza <i>Worship & Music</i></p>	<p align="center">Michelle Inocencio <i>Stewardship</i></p>
<p align="center">JR Knouss <i>Youth Representative</i></p>	<p align="center">Patrick Ladd <i>AV & Technology Committee</i></p>	<p align="center">Timothy Moore <i>President</i></p>
<p align="center">Elizabeth Rock <i>Social Ministry</i></p>	<p align="center">Ronald Roth <i>Property</i></p>	<p align="center">Glenn Wampole <i>Mutual Ministry</i></p>

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



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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 9:00am Nursery School Easter Program - Kuntz Hall 9:30am Soup Group & Delivery - Kuntz Hall Kitchen 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 8614 Meeting - LL Rm 005 7:00pm Youth Leader Meeting - Via Teams Online	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service 8:15pm Property Committee Mtg. - Hanson Hall	3 GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER VIGIL (BEGINS AT 11 PM) 7:00pm Good Friday Worship Service 8:15pm Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal	4 PRAYER VIGIL (UNTIL 5 AM SUNDAY)
5 EASTER SUNDAY No Sunday School or Confirmation Classes 6:00am Sunrise Service Worship with Holy Communion 7:00am Easter Sunday Breakfast (until 10:30 AM) 8:00am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion	6 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	7 9:15am Nursery School Gym Day - Kuntz Hall 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 08219 Mtg. - LL Rm 004	8 11:30am Nursery School Lunch Bunch - Kuntz Hall 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 8614 Meeting - LL Rm 005 6:30pm Evangelism Mtg. - Hanson Hall	9 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm	10	11 8:00am WELCA Event - Kuntz Hall, Nave 10:00am Youth Group - Urban Air & Lunch
12 8:00am Worship & Holy Communion 9:15am Confirmation Level II Parent/Student Conversations 9:15am Sunday School & Confirmation Classes 10:30am Worship & Holy Communion 4:30pm Musical Rehearsal	13 6:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm Congregational Council Meeting Rm 133	14 10:00am WELCA Meeting - Adult SS Rm 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 08219 Mtg. - LL Rm 004 6:00pm Indianland Garden Club - Kuntz Hall	15 7:00am Rental - Kuntz Hall & Kitchen 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 8614 Meeting - LL Rm 005	16 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm 6:30pm 4H Club Meeting - Hanson Hall	17 Confirmation Level II Final Retreat	18 Confirmation Level II Final Retreat
19 Confirmation Level II Final Retreat 8:00am Worship 9:15am New Member's Class - Kuntz Hall 9:15am Sunday School & Confirmation Classes 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Kuntz Hall Rental 4:30pm Musical Rehearsal	20 7:00pm Hope's Friendship Dance - Kuntz Hall (set-up 6 pm)	21 10:00am Story Weavers Mtg. - Adult SS Rm (lunch at Turn-in in Bath) 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 08219 Mtg. - LL Rm 004 6:30pm Women of Faith Meeting - Hanson Hall	22 ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS' DAY EARTH DAY 1:00pm Book Buddies - By Zoom 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 8614 Meeting - LL Rm 005	23 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm	24	25 Kuntz Hall Hold - Girl Scout Event
26 TEMPLE TALK - BEAR CREEK CAMP 8:00am Worship & Holy Communion 9:15am Bear Creek Camp Day 9:15am Sunday School & Confirmation Classes 10:30am Worship & Holy Communion with Baptism 12:00pm Rental - Kuntz Hall (hold) 4:30pm Musical Rehearsal	27	28 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 08219 Mtg. - LL Rm 004	29 9:15am Nursery School Gym Day - Kuntz Hall 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 8614 Meeting - LL Rm 005	30 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm 6:00pm Musical Rehearsal	1	2

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - FEBRUARY 28, 2026

	Regular	Building	Memorial	Scholarship Loan	Memorial Garden
Balance Beginning of Year	\$280,956.98	\$220,393.40	\$271,980.25	\$114,976.76	\$9,786.36
Income - February	32,982.91	3,291.81	5,866.10	2,705.75	1,002.72
Income - January	22,507.89	4,175.65	4,189.17	1,882.63	3.01
Total Income	55,490.80	7,467.46	10,055.27	4,588.38	1,005.73
Expenses - February	36,895.69	61.49	4,612.03	-	-
Expenses - January	36,966.16	2,124.17	680.90	2,800.00	-
Total Expenses	73,861.85	2,185.66	5,292.93	2,800.00	-
Net Income	(18,371.05)	5,281.80	4,762.34	1,788.38	1,005.73
Net Special Appeals	84.64				
Balance End of February	\$262,670.57	\$225,675.20	\$276,742.59	\$116,765.14	\$10,792.09

SUMMARY:

Expenses exceeded income in the Regular Fund for the month of February by \$3,912.78, and for the year 2026, expenses exceeded income by \$18,371.05, giving us a current balance in the Regular Fund of \$262,670.57. Last year the net income for the same period was \$(8,961.36) with a balance of \$266,687.00.

***The current income statement is posted in the narthex. ***

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

All committees, groups and persons submitting content for the church newsletter should follow the schedule listed below. Articles may be edited so we do not exceed Post Office guidelines. Please email your articles to Krystina Adams (communications@hopecherryville.org). Thank you.

<u>Edition</u>	<u>Article Deadline</u>	<u>Collation Date</u>
May	Monday, April 20	Thursday, April 30

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

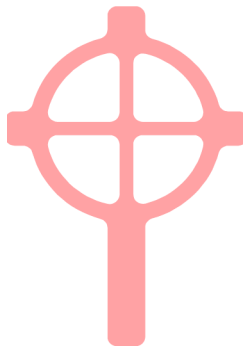
The April 2026 issue of *Synod News* is available online.

Visit <http://nepasynod.org>



HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251





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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE 

DATE SENT: March 26, 2026

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



HOPE HOME NEWS
Vol. LIII No. 4 April 2026



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



Worship
8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Sunday School at 9:15 AM

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