

HOPE HOME NEWS

JUNE 2026 | VOL. LIII | NO. 6

A DEVOTION FROM PASTOR JESSICA:

Together in One Room...

When was the last time you were in one room with around 120 people? If you attend worship regularly, you might say - well just last week. But for others, large crowds seem less than desirable. What about being in a room with 120 people who do not share your beliefs or opinions on culture, life, politics? How comfortable would you be?

In our Pentecost Story from Acts 2:2-21 we meet a group gathered tightly into one room and we witness the Holy Spirit's descent upon God's people. So often we forget that the Spirit came down violently like a force to be reckoned with not nicely like a dove. It is not quiet, but loud and pushes the church into being.

It takes 120 vastly different people, who are mainly immigrants -people who speak different languages and have diverse cultures to create Unity in Christ. What does that say about God? Their ears are opened and they have an opportunity to hear each other for the first time in a profound way, through the voice and hearing of another.



Inclusivity happens for those of different genders and different ethnicities. All are welcomed by the Spirit and called to a universal mission in Christ.

Right now, we need to discover this forceful Spirit of inclusivity more than ever as division, hatred, and exclusion seem to drive our lives. For we have lost the wonder of each other, of knowing that within our own communities and congregation lie diverse beings and thinkers who are called to come together to share the inclusive Spirit of unity in Christ.

This forceful Spirit calls us into understanding and togetherness. It is a renewal of a covenant to be in relationship and continue God's mission in the world. After this Pentecost text comes Peter's speech which results in the conversion of over 3,000 people. The Spirit's message moves us, scares us, and calls us into new waters of love and inclusion for one another. Together in one room we gather, different but lovingly learning to lean in, listen, and lift one another up. Let the Spirit's force guide us into connection once again.

Question for Reflection:

1. Where has the Holy Spirit pushed you this last year? Have you felt its force?
2. What congregation member, family, or friend, do you need to take another close listen to? Especially if they have a different perspective.

Prayer:

God of Unity,

You call us together in one room to hear your universal message and mission of love. Guide our lives back together to listen, learn, and engage the world around us. Let the force of the Spirit make us open to those different perspectives and voices who are needed to be heard and lifted up in your name.

Amen.



June

SUNDAY

Schedule

June 7

GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

9:00 AM Worship

June 14

9:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion

June 21

FATHER'S DAY

9:00 AM Worship

June 28

THRIVENT COFFEE HOUR (AFTER SERVICE)

9:00 AM Worship & Holy Communion

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS



\$18,179.38

AS OF 5/24/26

Ministry in Motion - June Updates

As we enter the month of June and begin the rhythm of summer ministry at Hope, we continue to see many ways God is at work through the life of our congregation. From welcoming new members to supporting youth ministry and caring for our church home, Council and ministry teams continue working together to strengthen the mission and community of Hope Lutheran Church.

Here are a few highlights from your Congregation Council:

Growing in Faith

- Nearly 30 individuals may be joining the congregation pending completion of membership paperwork
- Congratulations to this year's Confirmation students who were approved by Council for presentation on Pentecost Sunday:

Madelyn Binder, Liana Duch, Nathan Hahn, Nicholas Heffelfinger, Addison Overholt, Lillian Rehrig, and Cole Yost

Supporting Ministry & Communication

- Hope Lutheran is transitioning to **Tithe.ly** as a new church management software platform through an ELCA partnership discount
- Hope Lutheran is now officially on **Instagram!** Follow us on Facebook ([Hope Cherryville](#)) and Instagram ([@hopecherryville](#)) for updates, events, and ministry highlights
- The AV team continues exploring improved Wi-Fi coverage to support the church sign project once permits are approved

Caring for Our Church Home

- Lighting at the memorial garden was repaired and treatment was completed for carpenter bees near the pavilion
- The food pantry cabinet was relocated closer to the church building to improve visibility and monitoring

Youth Ministry & Fellowship Opportunities

- The Youth Yard Sale will expand into outdoor parking lot areas this year
- Two Dine & Donate fundraisers are planned for June and July at Hillside and Seemsville, with additional details to come
- Plans are underway to transition November's Gift Card Bingo into a Cash Bingo event

Serving Together & Looking Ahead

- Women of Faith began ushering on the second Sunday of each month
- **Lori Kerper** and **Shaye Kerper** will represent Hope Lutheran at the Synod Assembly in June
- A Council and Staff Retreat is planned for September, and conversations have begun regarding church constitution updates

There is so much happening in the life of Hope, and we are grateful for the many volunteers, leaders, staff, and congregation members who continue to support these ministries. As we move into the summer season, we give thanks for the ways God continues to guide and renew our congregation.

Electronic Giving: A Simple and Convenient Way to Give!

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving – Consider electronic giving as a way to automate 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 basis. To set up a recurring contribution, visit the Church Website at www.hopecherryville.org and locate the Online Giving page.

Online Giving



Behind the Scenes



at Hope

Basket Social Summer Meeting

Thursday,
June 4
6 PM
Kuntz Hall

Evangelism Committee

Wednesday,
June 3
6:30 PM
Hanson Hall

Property Committee

Thursday
June 4
7 PM
Hanson Hall

June Council Meeting

Monday,
June 8
7 PM
Hanson Hall

Thursday Bible Study

June 4, 11, 18 & 25

Please call the church office if more information is needed.

Youth Ministries Meeting

Wednesday,
June 3
7 PM
Kuntz Hall
or **TEAMS** link

Finance Committee

Monday,
June 8
6 PM
Hanson Hall

Kuntz Hall Available for Rental

Visit hopecherryville.org for the Church Use Policy and Facility Rental Form.
Questions?
Call 610-767-7203.

View the full church calendar for upcoming events!



FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE: YTD FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

As shared at the Annual Congregational Meeting, and as a reminder of the financial challenges that lie ahead for us in 2026, the following is a financial recap for the first third of the year, ending April 30.

Hope's Regular Envelope Giving of **\$102,073** is **79%** of our 2026 budgeted goal of **\$129,759** (a difference of **\$27,686**). Despite being under budget, Regular Envelope Giving is actually slightly ahead of last year by **\$2,573**. Total income in the Regular Fund as of April 30 was **\$129,476**, which is very similar to last year's total income but represents only **83%** of our budgeted amount of **\$155,693**.

As you may recall, we anticipated and budgeted for a possible loss in 2026 of up to **\$40,135**. So far, for the first four months of the year, we have had a deficit of **\$16,379**. Several noteworthy factors have contributed to this result, including the cancellation of some Sunday services in January and February, **\$11,385** spent on snow and ice removal, and a 33% increase in electricity rates. On a positive note, we did switch insurance carriers in March, which will save approximately **24%**, or **\$5,682**, this year.

The Regular Fund (used for the day-to-day operations of the church) had a balance of **\$264,577** as of April 30. This is down from the 2025 year-end balance of **\$280,956**, reflecting the **\$16,379** deficit year-to-date. While this remains a strong "rainy day" reserve, it can be drawn down quickly when operating in a deficit position.

We have much to be grateful for, and the Finance Committee and Council remain optimistic and diligent in managing the church's finances.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO KEEP HOPE'S FINANCIAL NEEDS IN MIND.



*Jesus
loves
you*

LEVEL UP YOUR SUMMER AT VBS 2026!



Vacation Bible School is almost here! Join us **July 6–10** for “**Snowball Mountain Challenge,**” a fun-filled week of frosty games, snowy surprises, and meaningful lessons about resilience and faith. Children will join our Mario-themed adventure as they grow in faith while having a blast together.

VBS runs **Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–12:00 noon**, with a special closing program on **Friday, July 10 at 7:00 PM** for families. It is open to children ages **3 (potty trained) through completed 6th grade (as of June 2025)**.

JUNE IS THE FINAL MONTH TO REGISTER! Students registered by June 14 will receive a free VBS t-shirt. A suggested donation of \$15 per student helps cover the cost of shirts and materials.

Register online at: **[VBS Registration](#)**.

If you need assistance, contact Kathy Ziegler at 610-262-9197 ext. 5.

We also need volunteers! All volunteers must register, and those 18+ may be contacted regarding updated clearances. Volunteer t-shirts are available for \$7. Don't miss this exciting week—register today and join the adventure!

HELP US COMPETE OUR CONFIRMATION PHOTO ARCHIVE!

The Evangelism Committee has been working to compile past confirmation class photos into a single, organized binder. This has been a wonderful project of preserving our church's history and celebrating generations of confirmed members at Hope.

However, there are still several years missing from the collection. If you have any confirmation photos from the years listed below, we would greatly appreciate your help in completing the archive:

Missing years:

1977, 1979, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1993, 1994, 2024, and 2025

If you are able to provide photos from any of these years, please submit them to the church office so copies can be made. Be sure to include your name so your original photos can be safely returned to you.

Thank you for helping us preserve and celebrate the faith journey of our confirmation classes through the years.

~ Hope's Evangelism Committee ~

HOPE IN ACTION: HYGIENE PROJECT BLESSES NORTHAMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

The **Women of Faith**, in partnership with our **Sunday School and Confirmation classes**, recently completed a very successful Hygiene Project for Northampton Middle School.

Together, we collected an incredible **480 hygiene items** to support students in need. As part of a friendly competition between classes, the **3-4 grade Sunday School class** came out on top and celebrated their win with a well-earned ice cream sundae party!

In addition, Women of Faith collected feminine hygiene products within their group to support the school nurse's ongoing needs.



Ally Lockard and Women of Faith extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone in the congregation who contributed to this effort. Your generosity made this project a great success and is a beautiful reflection of our Hope family in action.



Thank you for sharing Christ's love in such a practical and meaningful way!




A NIGHT OF JOY AND FELLOWSHIP: HOPE'S FRIENDSHIP DANCE

Graduations abound in May! Here at Hope, we are privileged to share our Kuntz Hall on the third Monday night of every month with an incredible “family” of friends. On Monday, May 18, our special needs friends gathered for the final Friendship Dance of the season, with gatherings resuming again in September.

The joy and unmatched love experienced at the Friendship Dance cannot be duplicated! Friends aged 18 and over come with sponsors, parents, caregivers, or friends and literally dance (and snack) the night away, enjoying the gift of fellowship, music, and laughter.

This ministry allows love to truly *explode* as everyone participates at their own ability. Wheelchair? No problem. Blind? No problem. On the spectrum? No problem.

“The Greatest of These is Love.” Feel the love in these photos: 



FAITHFUL IN PRAYER: OUR PRAYER WARRIORS AT WORK

During the month of April, our Prayer Warriors were faithfully active in ministry, lifting up approximately **25 individuals** in prayer—many of them multiple times through follow-up care and continued support.

Over a 10-day period alone, prayers were offered for a wide range of needs:

- Friendship: 1
- Health, surgery, and cancer concerns: 15
- Sympathy: 4
- Dementia-related needs: 1
- Praise reports: 3
- Emotional support: 1



Our Prayer Warrior team is made up of **25 dedicated members from Hope**, ranging in age from **40 to 92**. They are notified by email or text, depending on preference, and for some, this quiet and faithful ministry is their primary form of service and involvement. There are generally no phone calls or meetings—just committed, consistent prayer on behalf of others.

We give thanks for this growing team of Prayer Warriors who stand ready to lift up the needs of our congregation and beyond. Truly, we are reminded that we are never alone when God’s people are praying.

NEXT UP IN BOOK BUDDIES:

The Ending Writes Itself
by Evelyn Clarke
Wednesday, June 24 at 1 PM
Submit questions to
Linda Mery



A PROPULSIVE DEBUT MYSTERY FROM EVELYN CLARKE, THE BRILLIANT AND DIABOLICAL CREATION OF CAT CLARKE AND V.E. SCHWAB

Six authors.

One private island.

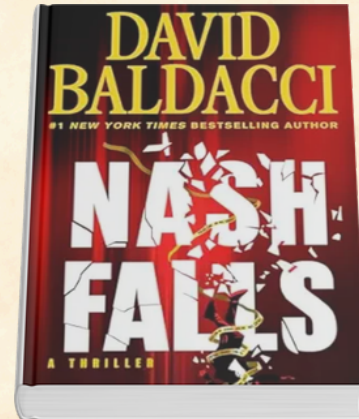
Seventy-two hours to write the ending that will change their lives.

Arthur Fletch, one of the world's bestselling novelists, is a reclusive genius known for his iconic protagonists and fiendish twists. When six struggling authors are invited to spend a weekend on his private Scottish island, they arrive to discover a shocking secret: Arthur Fletch is dead . . . and his last book is unfinished.

Desperate to publish the novel, Fletch's agent and editor have summoned these writers in the hope that one of them will imagine a worthy ending for this final book. To sweeten the deal, they are offering an irresistible prize: in addition to ghost-writing the last chapter--for a mind-boggling sum--they will also help the lucky writer successfully re-launch their own career, guaranteeing future bestsellers. The catch: the writers have just seventy-two hours to finish Fletch's magnum opus.

It's the perfect plot. All it needs is a killer ending.

Nash Falls
by David Baldacci
Wednesday, July 22 at 1 PM
Submit questions to
TBD



WHEN WALTER NASH IS RECRUITED BY THE FBI TO HELP BRING DOWN A GLOBAL CRIME NETWORK HIS LIFE IS TURNED COMPLETELY UPSIDE DOWN IN THIS THRILLER FROM #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR DAVID BALDACCICI.

Nash is an intelligent man, tough but fair-minded. He has a wife and a daughter and a very high-level position at Sybaritic Investments, where his innate skills and dogged tenacity have carried him to the top of the pyramid in his business career. Despite never going on grand adventures, and always working too many hours, he has a happy and upscale life with his family.

However, following his estranged Vietnam-veteran father's funeral, Nash is unexpectedly approached by the FBI in the middle of the night. They have an important request: become their inside man to expose an enterprise that is laundering large sums of money through Sybaritic. At the top of this illegal operation is Victoria Steers, an international criminal mastermind that the FBI has been trying to bring down for years.

Nash has little choice but to accept the FBI's demands and try to bring Steers and her partners to justice. But when Steers discovers that Nash is working with the FBI, she turns the tables on him in a way he never could have contemplated. And that forces Nash to take the ultimate step both to survive and to take his revenge: He must become the exact opposite of who he has always been. And even that may not be enough.

Join Book Buddies for lively Zoom discussions!!!

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87605892517?pwd=WFdsZmFBMnNDRVB1N1JiIT1ZjNmTQTo9>

Members help lead discussion by submitting 2 questions per book; the book recommender facilitates. Participants purchase their own books. Need help ordering? Contact Jen in the church office: office@hopecherryville.org or 610-767-7203.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4131 LEHIGH DRIVE | CHERRYVILLE PA 18035 | HOPECHERRYVILLE.ORG

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 ext. 12 | Communications Specialist Krystina Adams communications@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 10 |
| Treasurer Trudy Mertz treasurer@hopecherryville.org | Clearance Coordinator Julie Sekol clearances@hopecherryville.org |
| Confirmation Coordinator Shaye Kerper confirmation@hopecherryville.org | Youth Ministry Coordinator Allison Lockard youthcoordinator@hopecherryville.org |
| Sexton Tammy Dougherty | Financial Secretary Deb Gardner |
| Pastor Emeritus The Rev. Clark W. Kuntz II organist@hopecherryville.org 610-767-7203 ext. 12 |  |



2026 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

For new membership, baptisms, funerals, weddings, address changes, van requests, memorial sponsorships, hospital admissions, or facility rentals, please call the church office at 610-767-7203.

| | |
|---|--|
|  AV Committee | avteam@hopecherryville.org |
|  Basket Committee: Kathryn Fogle | 610-767-5095 |
|  Church Website | webmaster@hopecherryville.org |
|  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: LeAnne Chandler | 610-440-0341 |
|  Prayer Chain: Nancy Miller | 610-392-8344 |
|  Property: Charlie Kutzler | 610-844-4342 |
|  CSS/Christian Ed: Ally 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: Ally Lockard | 610-216-5384 |



CORE PURPOSE

Statement

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



| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------|---|--|--|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| 31 | | 1 | 2 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 08219 Mtg. - LL Rm 004 | 3 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 8614 Meeting - LL Rm 005 6:30pm Evangelism Mtg. - Hanson Hall 7:00pm Youth Leader Meeting - Via Teams Online or in-person Kuntz Hall | 4 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm 6:00pm Basket Social Summer Mtg. - Kuntz Hall 7:00pm Property Committee Mtg. - Hanson Hall | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY 9:00am Worship | 8 6:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm Congregational Council Meeting Rm 133 | 9 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 08219 Mtg. - LL Rm 004 6:00pm Indianland Garden Club - Kuntz Hall | 10 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 8614 Meeting - LL Rm 005 | 11 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 9:00am Worship with Holy Communion | 15 7:00pm Stewardship Mtg - Pastor's Office | 16 | 17 | 18 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm 6:30pm 4H Club Meeting - Hanson Hall | 19 JUNETEENTH | 20 |
| 21 | FATHER'S DAY 9:00am Worship | 22 | 23 | 24 1:00pm Book Buddies - By Zoom | 25 10:00am Bible Study - Adult SS Rm | 26 4:00pm Rental - Kuntz Hall | 27 8:00am Kuntz Hall Rental |
| 28 | THRIVENT COFFEE HOUR (after service) 9:00am Worship with Holy Communion | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY |

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - APRIL 30, 2026

| | Regular | Building | Memorial | Scholarship | Memorial Garden |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Balance Beginning of Year | \$ 280,956.98 | \$ 220,393.40 | \$ 271,980.25 | \$ 114,976.76 | \$ 9,786.36 |
| Income - April | 34,188.68 | 5,337.26 | 6,315.97 | (4,833.03) | 1,002.92 |
| Income - Jan.-Mar. | 95,287.81 | 11,160.95 | 12,005.05 | 5,306.56 | 1,008.74 |
| Total Income | 129,476.49 | 16,498.21 | 18,321.02 | 473.53 | 2,011.66 |
| Expenses - April | 32,222.98 | (225.65) | 654.61 | - | - |
| Expenses - Jan.-Mar. | 113,633.14 | 4,278.11 | 6,049.12 | 2,800.00 | - |
| Total Expenses | 145,856.12 | 4,052.46 | 6,703.73 | 2,800.00 | - |
| Net Income | (16,379.63) | 12,445.75 | 11,617.29 | (2,326.47) | 2,011.66 |
| Net Special Appeals | - | | | | |
| Balance End of April | \$ 264,577.35 | \$ 232,839.15 | \$ 283,597.54 | \$ 112,650.29 | \$ 11,798.02 |

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

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 versions can run longer.

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.

Article Deadline

Monday, June 15

Collation Day

Thursday, June 25

Edition

July


SYNOD NEWS

The **June 2026** issue of NEPA Synod News is available online.
Visit <http://nepasynod.org>

HOSPITAL CODE FOR HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHERRYVILLE: 251



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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 [HopeCherryville](https://www.facebook.com/HopeCherryville)

Summer Worship Schedule
 9 AM

Regular Worship Schedule
 (Begins September 20)
 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
 Sunday School at 9:15 AM

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