



THE ANCHOR

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

240 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET
EASTON, PA 18045-7879

VOLUME 3
JANUARY 2022
(QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER)

SERVING OUR LORD AT HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PASTOR: REV. HERBERT C. DOLICH

MUSIC DIRECTOR / ORGANIST: LENNA HARRIS

PARISH SECRETARY: DIANE RICKER

TREASURER: KIM ORGANETTI

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUPERINTENDENT: MARISSA REED

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SERVICES AT HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPT. 12, 2021 TO MAY, 2022

SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULT BIBLE STUDY - 9:00 AM

CHURCH SERVICES – 10:30 AM

Bulletins and Service also available on-line at hopetatamy.org as well as
search Hope Lutheran Church on Facebook

OFFICE HOURS: SECRETARY

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

8:30 AM TO 2:00 PM

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR DOLICH:

“Let us hold fast to the confession of our faith without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.” - Hebrews 10:23

This past year has been a wild ride; I could summarize it with these words: thank you COVID-19! Here is an understatement.

It was yet another difficult year. For many it was a year of the undoing of their lives. It was a year of grief and anger. It was a year of being told to prepare for the long haul while being told this will be a short trip. It was a year of isolation. It was a year of greeting loved ones through glass windows, Zoom, Facetime, and from behind a mask. It was also the year of our Lord 2021.

In our Lord we made plans and then re-made plans. We made decisions and then re-made decisions. Still, there were some obvious elements that we clearly saw as vital even in the face of not knowing if this covid-19 was going to end in 2 weeks, 2 months, or 2 years.

Vaccinations opened a roadway to imagine more in-person gatherings just as political rancor made it less attractive to be together with those with views other than our own. Summer brought better weather for worshipping outdoors, fall programming was planned, and then a rise in infections caused new caution and restraint in our church gatherings.

Looking back, 2021 was both a tough year and a transformative time. Last January, after coming back into the Sanctuary, did any of us really think we would still be wearing masks and keeping social distance the following Christmas? Yet, when challenged in so many ways, in congregation after congregation, we learned to hold fast to God's promised faithfulness, a wild ride indeed.

Pandemics are disruptive. I am grateful for your faithfulness, resilience, creativity, leadership (all of you), attention to safety and care for one another in the midst of the ever-shifting pandemic. We continued in-person worship, education and small group ministries, while being mindful of safety and continuing to provide virtual options as well. Our weekly attendance increased steadily week by week, and our outdoor worship pavilion was truly a blessing in 2021!

In my own impatience for life to return to something more fully normal, I return again and again to Galatians 6, verse 9 which says “Let us not grow weary in doing what is right...” Our continued caution has certainly saved lives, but I do look forward to one day sharing a meal together, to seeing your smiles and to setting aside those little pre-filled communion cups!

In the midst of all this, in the midst of the 3 saints in Christ we lost this past year, we celebrated 2 marriages, 7 baptisms, and received 7 new members.

It is not enough to have strong, agile pastors and deacons; resilient lay leadership is also necessary for congregations to thrive. I thank all of you for your trust, your faith, your support, your hope...

In Christ,
Pastor



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, January 23 rd	Annual Congregational Meeting
Wednesday, March 2 nd	Ash Wednesday
TBD	Wednesday Lenten Services

WE REJOICE WITH THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN WELCOMED INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST THROUGH HOLY BAPTISM:

Emersyn Jade Hammerstone
Daughter of Courtney (Schaffer) and Mark Hammerstone
Born: 09/22/2021
Baptized: 11/21/2021

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Gail and Greg Drennan welcomed their first grandchild – Sebastien Pelletier. He was born on November 10, 2021 in Canada.

PLEASE EXTEND A WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS AT HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

James and Cathy Clark
Audra Doll
Kama Mengel
Koryn Organetti
Barry and Dana Schaeffer



“EACH ONE – REACH ONE”

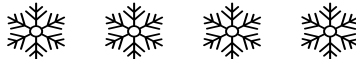
The Evangelism Committee has come up with a challenge for every church member – ask a non-member friend, family member, or a neighbor to come to church with you. Each member who brings a (non-member) visitor, will be eligible to a quarterly drawing. Place your name and your visitor’s name in the “fishbowl” located on the table in the Narthex. Prizes will be a gift certificate for a local restaurant, movie theater, etc. Blank slips are located by the fishbowl. Any questions, see Brenda Knowles.

QUILTERS GROUP

The Quilters Group needs quilters. If you can thread a needle, come join this group. They meet the 1st Wednesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. If interested, see or call Charlet Baboski at 610-863-9392. Also, any donations of fabric would be greatly appreciated.

INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION

Now that winter weather is here, we will be putting any announcements regarding closings, delays or postponements on www.wfmz.com. You can log on and go to the weather drop down and click on “School & Business Closings” on WFMZ. They will also post the closings on **Channel 69**. When in doubt of any meeting or Worship Service, call the Church, Pastor or Council President.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

TINA KRUG	2022
DARREL MENGEL	2022
DAVE MEREDITH	2022
BILL KEIFER, PRESIDENT	2023
BRENDA KNOWLES	2023
RICHARD PETERSON, VICE PRES.	2023
TIM WARREN, SECRETARY	2023

Council needs members to fill vacant spots. See Bill Kiefer if interested in serving on church council.

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Council approved the following donations to organizations for the year 2021:
 - Project of Easton \$200
 - Visions of Eagles \$400
 - Allentown Rescue Mission \$200
 - Meals on Wheels \$200
 - New Bethany Ministries \$400
 - Salvation Army, Easton \$300
 - Third Street Alliance \$400
 - Tatamy Volunteer Fire Company \$400
 - Safe Harbor \$100
- Council would like to recognize Greg Drennan as Council President for 2021. They appreciate all his hard work and dedication to the church.
- The Nominating Committee is looking for new council members. Council positions are a three-year term with meetings once a month on the 2nd Sunday after church services. If you have an interest in joining council, please see any council member.
- The Board of Directors of the Nazareth Area Food Bank thank the faithful members of Hope for the donation of nonperishable food collected during the Autumn months, as well as \$660 in Target gift cards from the Angel Tree. The Target gift cards were given to their clients' children for Christmas.
- A huge thank you to the volunteers who participated in the Highway Clean-up on November 7th.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

- Every first Saturday of the month Hope Lutheran Church needs volunteers to pick up food donations at Wegmans and deliver them to **Safe Harbor in Easton**. Please see the sign-up sheet on bulletin board to see available dates in 2022.
- Prayers are an important ministry. If you know of someone who should be added to the **prayer list**, please let Pastor or Diane know. Typically, names are put on the list for one month, although sometimes there is a need for them to stay on the list for a longer time, just let us know.
- Please consider signing up to be a **Lector** on Sundays.
- Reminder, we are still collecting canned and non-perishable items for the **Nazareth Area Food Bank**. There is a box under the coat

rack in the Narthex to place the items. Note: the Food Bank will be closed until April.

- If interested in purchasing **Giant Gift Cards**, see Stan Smith. The church receives 5% of the face value on gift card purchases. The gift cards come in \$100, \$50, \$25 or \$20.
- **Altar flower and bulletin dedications** are available – please consider signing up as an act of remembrance or celebration for someone you love.
- Don't forget to sign-up and sponsor donuts for **“Donut Sunday’s”** on the first Sunday of the month.



MONTHLY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

All birthdays and anniversaries are found in the weekly bulletins, the monthly calendars on the table in the narthex, and on the church's website at hopetatamy.org.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lucinda Reilly	01/05	Trent Cressman	01/23
Wayne Steinmetz	01/06	Paige Uelses	01/23
Kama Mengel	01/11	Jack Weasner	01/23
Charlet Baboski	01/13	Audra Doll	01/25
Grace Frank	01/13	Eliza Frace	01/28
Emma McEntire	01/16	Cathy Wagner	01/28
Ethel Pysler	01/18	Janet Bandics	01/29
Deborah Frace	01/20	Robert Dewey	01/30
Gretchen Smith	01/20	Julie Knowles	01/31
Ace Johnson	01/21	Richard Peterson	01/31
Heather Mengel	01/21		

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Cathy Clark	02/01	Neal Sprague	02/16
Brian Pritchard	02/02	Marie Dorney	02/18
Alison Stieg	02/02	Barry Woolley	02/18
Joanne Wagner	02/05	Pat Auerbach	02/20
Cynthia Dewey	02/15	Allison Riedy	02/20
Brenda Knowles	02/16	Kathryn Frace	02/24
		Pastor Dolich	02/27

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Bernice Correll	03/01	Stephen Karba	03/13
Ava Semos	03/01	Barbara Frace	03/14
Madelyn Warren	03/02	Rebecca VanHorn	03/14
Carissa Werkheiser	03/03	Brittney Cressman	03/18
Gail Drennan	03/07	Terry Cressman	03/19

Nancy Werkheiser	03/09	Sarah Richline	03/20
Carly Pritchard	03/11	John Ricker	03/21
Jack Reed	03/11	Mia Semos	03/22



**JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH
ANNIVERSARIES**

Barry & Dana Schaffer	01/13	Megan & Brian Bergstol	03/31
Earl & Joanne Wagner	03/05	Deborah & Brian Frace	03/31

We apologize if we missed a birthday or anniversary – please contact the office with any changes or additions. Thank you.

PRAYER SQUARES

If you know someone in need of encouragement, comfort, get well concerns or hope, please take, and share the love with others. Prayer Squares are found in the basket on the table in the Narthex.

*“There are prayers stitched in every square for comfort, encouragement, love, and hope for your safety and well-being.
When you feel lonely or need comfort, reach for me in your pocket. You are not alone.
God and our prayers are with you always.
God bless and much love.”*


GIFTING QUALIFIED ASSETS TO HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 nearly doubled the federal tax standard deduction. As a result, almost 90% of those paying federal income tax now take the standard deduction as opposed to itemizing deductions. For most, that means one can no longer deduct giving to Hope Lutheran and other charitable organizations. For example, in the past, for every \$1,000 a member gave to our church (assuming a 25% federal tax bracket) he/she would reduce their taxes by \$250. That’s \$250 back in your pocket! While the congregation continues to give, the change in the federal tax law has resulted in givers losing the tax break. Due to the changes in the federal tax laws, those required to withdraw from their IRA’s/401k’s, etc. might consider making a change in how they contribute to Hope Lutheran – particularly those age 72 and above. (As of January 1, 2020, the triggering age for having to take a Required

Minimum Distribution (RMD) was raised from 70½ to 72). Here's how that change would affect eligible members.

Directing your IRA custodian to send a portion of your withdrawal directly to Hope Lutheran serves the following purpose. While your withdrawal is taxable, the amount contributed to the church is considered a tax deduction. In other words, the tax paid on a \$1,000 withdrawal (again assuming a 25% tax bracket) would be \$250. If the contribution was deposited directly from the IRA into the church's account you would receive a tax deduction of \$250, in effect putting \$250 back in your pocket. Now the question becomes, what would you like to do with the additional tax savings? Well, one might consider gifting it to Hope Lutheran. While gifting should come from the heart and not because of tax considerations, God would want us to be good stewards of our gifts, and this is one way to accomplish that. Just a thought, but one worth considering. It is always a good idea to check with your financial advisor before implementing any new plan.

Submitted by Richard Peterson

**“Shout with joy to the Lord,  all you lands:
Lift up your voice, rejoice and sing!”
Psalm 98:4**

It's been another interesting year, 2021 found us still finding our way through the pandemic, and yet we still lift up our voices and sing to the Lord.

Our choir continues to meet each Wednesday evening. We began singing as a choir again outside this past summer, and as the seasons progressed, we tried to bring the music indoors safely. I am amazed and proud of the hard work and dedication this group of 18 bring to their special ministry. We also welcomed Jane Gross, Cathy Clark, and Kathryn Frace as choir members this year. I feel so privileged to direct this group of people as they lift their voices and sing to the Lord.

Early in the year, the choir sadly said goodbye to Kathleen Ernst and Jane Mengel. The Heavenly Choir has a new soprano, and a new alto who are lifting their voices in praise to the Lord. We celebrated their lives, and the lives of seven other Hope members who went to greater Glory at a Special Service in September.

Our Sunday School Singers are a source of joy! We sing every Sunday from 9:00 – 9:15 and the children lift their voices to the Lord rejoicing. The children occasionally provide special music at a Sunday

Service and joined our choir this December as a special part of the Cantata.

The Music and Worship Committee deserves a round of applause. We gather together about every six weeks. We study the upcoming lessons and choose the hymns for each Sunday. Thank you, Pastor, Carol, Norma, Suzanne, and Darrell. You help the entire congregation lift their voices to the Lord in song.

I would also like to thank Pastor Dolich for all of his help, leadership and guidance. When we plan Special Events, Festival Services and even our weekly Services, ideas abound and always, his voice and his heart sing to the Lord.

So, I repeat the words of Psalmist -

“Shout with Joy to the Lord,
all you lands:

Lift up your voice, rejoice and sing!”



Submitted by Lenna

BEAUTIFUL HYMN

During the second service on Christmas Eve we sang Hymn #715, Christ, Be Our Light. One of my favorites.

In the third verse we sang about longing for food and water. It goes on about being cold and needing shelter.

I'm sure that we were not signing about physical food and water, but about the Bread of Life and about Spiritual Water. Once we accept the Bread of Life and about Spiritual Water it is so much easier to give physical bread, water and shelter to God's people that are on hard times.

We all drop a few dollars in the Hunger envelope from time to time. That's good; but, one doesn't get to fully appreciate the power of actually feeding a hungry person. Giving of money and can goods is good. I just wish that we all could at least once experience the effect of these gifts. I will never forget the mother that cried after receiving two bags of food. She said, "Tonight I can feed my babies". I don't know her back story; but I was humbled witnessing her joy.

In my lifetime I have seen people in so much need. Often just a simple small act of kindness can brighten a very gray lifestyle. People did not choose to be poor and hungry. Our gifts are so powerful in helping others get through life.

As we thumb through our 2022 envelope packets, your notice ones for **World Hunger**. This helps other counties AND here at home too. There's a wooden box in the Narthex for the Nazareth Food Bank. These are two ways that the hungry may be helped. Even though you may not see the firsthand effect of you gifts, trust me, they are appreciated.

“Christ be our Light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today”.

Submitted by,
Stan Smith

THANK YOU NOTES RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION:

- Ginny Siegfried would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers when she was having her health issues.
- June Smith thanks all of the church members who sent her a card to celebrate her 100th birthday. Each card was much appreciated and made her day extra special.
- Linda Spangler thanks everyone for all the prayers and cards for her husband, Richard. Blessings to all.

RECIPE CORNER

Norma's Famous Cherry Cake

¾ C Sugar	½ C Butter
¾ tsp. Baking Powder	¼ C Whole Milk
Dash of Salt	2 Eggs
½ tsp. Vanilla	1 Can of Cherry Pie Filling
1 ½ C Flour	

Mix everything together except the flour and pie filling. Then add the flour, mix till smooth. Use a greased 9x5 pan. Spread batter and top with the pie filling.

Submitted by Norma Dutt

NOTE: It was suggested to include a favorite recipe in the newsletters, so if anyone has a recipe or an article that you would like to share in the next **ANCHOR**, which will come out in April, please submit it to Diane Ricker in the office. Thank you.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMBER INFORMATION REQUEST

If you haven't done so as of yet, please fill out and return to the Church office so we can update your records in the Power Church program. Thank you.

Member Name (#1): _____

Member Name (#2) (i.e. spouse, etc) Note if Member or Non-Member:

Please Check One:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Married	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single
<input type="checkbox"/>	Divorced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Widow / Widower
<input type="checkbox"/>	Separated		

Member E-mail (#1): _____

Member E-mail (#2): _____

Current Address: (Include Street Address, City, State, Zip

Telephone Numbers: (Note if landline, cellphone, etc.)

Name (#1) _____

Name (#2) _____

Name (#1) & Birthdate (Include Yr.) _____

Name (#2) & Birthdate (Include Yr.) _____

Date of Marriage (Include Yr.) _____

List Children living with you and their birthdates (including yr.)

