



Dear Friends at Hope,

"Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword, Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son, And bring to naught all He has done. "Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone; Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally."

These words come to us from that amazing hymn, "A Mighty Fortress." Martin Luther, the author of that hymn, reminds us there will be those who seek to destroy our Lord's kingdom. It was true then and now. At times the voice of the Lord and His kingdom of faith, peace and truth, are challenged or disregarded. You and I have been called to stand in the gap and to stand up for Jesus--to stand up for truth. While it may seem that the odds are against us, we know Jesus has already won the battle. Because of His death and resurrection, salvation is here for all who believe.

As the people of Hope we come together to lift up the name that is above every name: Jesus. We lift up His name in worship, but we also lift up His name wherever we go. The world, and all God's children, need to hear about Jesus and the Salvation He brings.

Yours in Jesus,

Pastor Rick

LOBBY RENOVATIONS Thanks go to Tom Jeske, Jonas Johnson, Bill Marks, Tom & Beth Marks, Pastor Mokry, and Judi Smith for their part in selecting, unpacking, and assembling our new furniture and electrical outlets and switches. Your efforts have resulted in a more attractive and comfortable setting in which to welcome everyone as they enter. If you haven't seen the new look, be sure to take a look!

WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to Miriam Mokry and family upon the death of Miriam's father, the Rev. Theodore Kohlmeier on Wednesday, August 11th. He was living in Lincoln, NE. Please pray for comfort as they mourn this loss, knowing also that great reunion in heaven.

LUNCH BUNCH will be meeting this Tuesday, August 17th at the Garden of Eatin at 12:30pm. The Wengers will be there, please come to say farewell to them as they prepare to move. Please call Sandy Scott at 215-943-6094 so they can have an accurate count of the number of people attending. All are welcome to come!

PASTOR RICH will be away on vacation later this week and will return on August 27th. If you have a pastoral need please call Elder Rich Gruenhagen at 215-444-6126. The Elders stand ready to assist.

GEARING UP: This fall we are launching several new ministries and opportunities to serve for our members and friends at Hope.

Help Needed!

Calling all men and women, boys and girls, youth and teens on next Saturday, August 21. Hope Lutheran School teachers will need help getting additional desks and chairs from storage to their classrooms. Can you help out?

Meet us at the school by 10 am and help us get the classrooms set up for the new school year!

Blessing of the Backpacks & Called Teacher Installation of Maryann Puls

On Sunday, August 29, at the 9:30 am worship service, we will officially open our 2021-2022 school year with the Blessing of the Backpacks for all children and teens and briefcases for adults, as well as the blessing and re-dedication of the faculty and staff members. A very special addition to this Sunday is the Installation of Maryann Puls as our Called Lutheran School Teacher! We look forward to welcoming many of our school friends and families, as well as our own church members, as we celebrate our Lutheran School community.

Help Our Veterans on Sock Sunday

On September 11 the local Hope for Veterans organization is holding their annual day called "Stand Down for Homeless Veterans". During this day, they'll provide housing assistance, clothing, medical, dental and vision care, etc.

Hope will be collecting new socks for these veterans from now through Sunday, September 5. Collection bags are in the narthex and school lobby.

For more information, call Marjie Rodkey (215-949-1695).

Church and Sunday School Rally Day!

Many of us remember the 'old fashioned' Sunday School Rally days of years gone by.

You are invited to help us 'resurrect' that great fellowship event here at Hope.

On Sunday, September 12, Sunday School and Adult Bible classes will resume.

Parents please pick up a Sunday School registration form at the Welcome Center today, fill it out, put it in the box provided, and take one for your friends and neighbors. All kids are welcome at Sunday School! Immediately following Sunday School and Bible Class on the 12th, everyone is invited to stay for a 'last of the summer' fellowship lunch.

If you would like to help with the planning and implementing of this event, please contact Claire and Rich Neagley (dcsneagley@hopelcs.org) at your earliest convenience. We could use help with planning the menu, manning the grills, and running activities for the kids of all ages.

We are planning to reopen our nursery on Sunday mornings! We would like to hire a paid attendant and enlist volunteers to rotate on a schedule. We're hoping to livestream our service to the nursery for the benefit of our worker and our volunteers. The paid position is for two hours on Sunday mornings. Please share this with your friends! Indicate "Nursery" on your Record of Fellowship or contact Beth Marks (215-279-2950) if you are interested in this ministry!

TIME TO THINK ABOUT OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD!

Hope will be collecting gift-filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, the week of November 15-22. Empty shoeboxes will be available in the narthex in the fall.

Right now, you may want to take advantage of back-to-school bargains. Gift suggestions are school supplies, such as pencils, pens, crayons, notebooks, etc. Also, non-liquid hygiene items, such as toothbrushes, bar soap, washcloth, etc. You can choose a boy or girl (ages 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14) to receive your shoebox.

For more gift suggestions or if you have any questions, please call Marjie Rodkey (215-949-1695).

ADULT BIBLE STUDY begins September 12th at 10:45am in Room 109. Come explore the book of Revelation, taught by Pastor Rich Neagley. All are welcome and no prior Bible study experience is needed!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN begins September 12th at 10:45am for children ages 4 or 5 through Grade. We are looking for teachers who can rotate on a schedule. Please indicate "Sunday School" on the Record of Fellowship or contact Karen Barton at 610-202-9238 for more information.

TECH MINISTRY TEAM: Ten people attended an organizational meeting where we talked about several ways we can use technology to honor God and His people. The following areas were identified: Web Design and Maintenance, Worship Audio and Visual, On-line worship, Social Media and Photography. There will be hands-on training for anyone interested in learning about any of these areas. Volunteers can schedule their time and not be "on call" every Sunday. Interested? Indicate "Tech Ministry" on your Record of Fellowship or contact Josh Smith at joshua.owen.smith@gmail.com.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE: Do you have a heart for gardening or flowers? We need volunteers to help us beautify and maintain our outdoor plant life and grounds. If you have an interest to serve in this way, please indicate "Landscaping" on your Record of Fellowship or contact Karen Barton at (215-262-6283).

DONATIONS: Thank you to everyone who has donated items or food to Hope. Your contributions have made a difference in the lives of our families. While we would love to accept every donation, we do not have the capacity to do so. In line with a recent Church Council decision, only sealed food items (no produce) will be accepted in the church and school lobby from this point forward. All other items (furniture, toys, books, clothing, etc.) may be taken to such places as Good Stuff Thrift (Fairless Hills), Goodwill (Langhorne), Habitat for Humanity Langhorne ReStore, or The Salvation Army Family Store & Donation Center (Fairless Hills) where they will help those in need. A list of these locations will be available in the office for anyone looking for information. Questions may be directed to Tom Jeske at thomas.jeske.6@gmail.com or by calling 267-594-4393. Thank you for your generosity! We will continue to accept donations of sealed food items to help those in need.

CONFIRMATION is a two-year program of instruction leading to that time when students make their personal confession of faith in Christ as their Lord and Savior. Students in 7th Grade and older are welcome to attend. The families involved will meet to arrange the best class time. Classes meet during the school year. Interested? Please indicate "Confirmation" on the Record of Fellowship or contact the Church Office at 215-946-3467.

FOOD MINISTRY UPDATE: Today and each 3rd Sunday of the month members bring individually wrapped sandwiches to our lobby for distribution to needy people in or area. Later in the morning, they are picked up and distributed immediately to homeless and hungry people in our area. Our next sandwich collection date will be next Sunday, September 19th. For more information, contact Barbara Veil at 267-799-5944.

WORSHIP LIVESTREAM: Go to Hope's website at www.hopelcs.org/news and follow the instructions to worship livestream on Facebook. You can also access worship services on YouTube. Sunday worship services are posted after noon on Mondays.

SAFE WORSHIP PRACTICES REVISED: We are glad you are here. As COVID conditions improve, we at Hope are continuing to provide a safe and worshipful environment. Sanitizing stations are still available at the doors and at the entrance to the sanctuary. We are no longer "encouraging" masks, but they may be worn by those who choose to. Offering plates remain at the rear of the sanctuary for offerings and Record of Fellowship slips. We will continue, for the time being, to utilize continuous distribution of Holy Communion. Following the service, please introduce yourself to one another and enjoy some refreshments outside of the worship area.

HOW TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION? We are offering Holy Communion weekly at each worship service. If you cannot attend worship, please call the church office (215-946-3467) to schedule a time to receive it here at church, privately, or at your home. Pastor Rich is very happy to share this faith strengthening gift with you.

WE ARE HERE TO PRAY FOR YOU. You can call Pastor Rich (215-584-1262), our church office (215-946-3467), or email us at prayerchain@hopelcs.org. We have a team of people who are committed to bring your petitions and requests before our Lord.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR RADIO, PODCAST, AND DEVOTIONALS. The Lutheran Hour Ministries broadcasts sermons on Sundays at 7am on several local station including 107.3FM, 97.1FM, and 91.7FM. See their website for more radio listings, podcasts, and daily devotionals at www.lhm.org.

FROM OUR FINANCIAL OFFICE

Your regular offerings help us to continue our ongoing ministry at Hope. Mail your offerings to Hope Lutheran Church, 2600 Haines Road, Levittown, PA, 19055 Visit our website at <https://hopelcs.org/giving/online-giving>. Use Bill Pay options with your local bank for one-time or recurring offerings. They pay the postage.

THIS WEEK AT HOPE

The full church calendar may be found on the web at www.HopeLCS.org

Sunday	9:30 am	Worship: In Person	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship: Livestream	www.hopelcs.org/news
	11:45 am	AA at Hope	Outside
Tuesday	12:30pm	Lunch Bunch	Garden of Eatin'
	7:00pm	Elders	Room 102
Thursday	7:00 pm	Celebrate Recovery	Room 108
Sunday	9:30 am	Worship: In Person	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship: Livestream	www.hopelcs.org/news
	11:45 am	AA at Hope	Outside