

The Anchor

July 2019

The Newsletter of Hope Lutheran Church
211 Elton Adelphia Road Freehold NJ 07728
Phone (732) 462-7545 Fax (732) 462-9320

Worship Services with Holy Communion
Sunday Worship 9:30AM
Wednesday Worship TBD

Pastor: *The Reverend Doctor Edward E Kropa, Jr*
Minister of Music: *Joshua Staudinger*
Church Administrator: *Cheryl Hurd*
Hope Christian School Director: *Judy Canfield*
Communications Director: *Kathryn Johnson*

Congregational Council:

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Hope Christian School Website: www.hopechristianschoolfreehold.com

Anchored in Christ, Growing in Faith, Love and Service!
We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...

DON'T PUT THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE

You've probably heard this saying before. It basically means "Don't do things in the wrong order." For example, you wouldn't put your clothes on in the morning before you took a shower, would you? Of course not. It doesn't make any sense. In fact, it would actually be counter-productive. Because, needless to say, you would have to put on a new set of DRY clothes after you were finished taking your shower!

Now I realize that this is a silly example. But I share it to make an important point. With many, if not most, things in life, we have to pursue them in a certain order; a logical order. Otherwise, we are guilty of, again, putting the cart before the horse.

Well, I believe this is a good saying for us to keep in mind as we consider the possibility of a building expansion project here at Hope. Now, right off the bat, I especially want to emphasize those words "consider" and "possibility." By no means is this a certainty at this point. A lot of thinking and planning would have to take place before we would ever be so bold as to consider moving ahead with such a large and expensive undertaking. In fact, Jeff Spann, the Building Consultant of the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA, recently broke down that process for us. And Mike Della Rosa did an excellent job of summarizing this process at our most-recent congregation meeting.

So I won't bother to take the time or the space to repeat what's already been said. Instead, I would simply like for you to consider this issue in terms of the following statements:

1. What you would LIKE to do.

(Phase One is putting together a "wish list" of all the things you would hope to achieve in a building program. And, for each item, asking the all-important question: Why? The congregation, as a whole, would be given the opportunity to weigh-in here as well, and give their approval before moving on to the next phase. In this phase, no specific plans or drawings are being considered; nor is the cost. It's pure brainstorming.)

2. What you CAN do.

(Then Phase Two is where you bring in a team of professionals – architects, engineers, etc. – and begin to whittle down that "wish" list to what is actually feasible; putting together a so-called "master plan." Here, for the first time, there *will be* plans and drawings and some idea of the total cost. Yet, once again, the congregation will be asked to give their input and approval before ever moving ahead to the next phase.)

3. What you can AFFORD to do.

(Only when you have decided exactly what it is that you hope to accomplish, you have the actual plans and anticipated project costs figured out, and the congregation has given their green-light, do you begin to explore, in Phase Three, how you are going to pay for it. In all likelihood, the master plan will have to be revised, yet again, and the wish list pared down to what you can actually afford. Then, and only then, after Phase Three is complete, and after the congregation has given their final approval and commitment, would a building program then move forward.)

Such a process obviously takes time, to be sure. But it's the only way to do it correctly.

Otherwise, you are guilty of... well, of putting the cart before the horse.

Pastor Ed

Sunday School Update – Don't Forget to Take Flat Jesus With You!

Hope everyone is enjoying the summer! Just a reminder – don't forget to take your Flat Jesus with you to all your summer activities. One of our families said that they keep their Flat Jesus in the car, so He always goes with them – what a great idea! Snap pics and email them to hopelutheran17@gmail.com or text them as a reply to the Remind message that was sent out recently. We would like to display a picture board in the church (no identifying info will be used). If you don't have a Flat Jesus, and would like one, stop in the church office. Remember, Jesus is with you wherever you go! ☺



Baptism..... No Baptisms in June.

Membership....

Our Love and Sympathy....

More News....

Women of Hope Memorial Fund Donations.... A very generous donation was made by ***Wanda Nebiolo*** in loving memory of ***Judy Schlosser***, friend; ***Brian Weeden***, stepson; ***Nila Peterson***, friend; ***Francis Durkin***, Judy Canfield's father; ***Mike Behn***, Hope member; ***Carol Casement***, Hope member; ***Reverend Thomas O'Brien***, friend; and ***Jim Longway***, friend.

Women of Hope Memorial Scholarship Fund Update....

In June the Women of Hope presented three \$800.00 scholarships and handed out the May issue of the Gather Magazine to each woman in attendance that morning and encouraged everyone to read the last article in the magazine entitled "Web of Love".

The scholarships were awarded through the Women of Hope Memorial Scholarship Fund, formerly known as the Karen Seifert-Campbell Scholarship Fund which was established in 2003 in memory of a beautiful young lady, a daughter, sister, and wife, who entered the loving arms of her Savior and Lord in 1986 at the age of 25. Each year thereafter, we have strived to provide a small financial support to those pursuing a higher education after graduating from high school. Along with these three young people, there have been a total of 27 recipients. This is "A Web of Love".

Donations to this fund are derived from members and friends of the Hope Family in loving memory or in honor of loved ones. The Women of Hope are grateful for your generous support. This is "A Web of Love".

We wish all of Hope's graduating high school seniors the very best in their future endeavors. As each of us watched you grow in your faith here at Hope through your attendance in Sunday School, confirmation, youth group and worship, we are very excited for you. [a quote from the Gather Magazine article] "We are called to be the body of Christ." We are "generations extending before us and beyond us." This is "A Web of Love".

The Scholarship essay theme: "*How Being a Member of Hope Lutheran Has Influenced My Life*". Each of the recipients wrote how they were involved in activities and their worship experiences here at Hope. Take an opportunity to read their essays posted on the bulletin board.

The recipients:

Simon Clarke is pursuing his education at Keene University majoring in Music Composition. He was baptized and confirmed here at Hope.

Tanya Hedderman is pursuing an Elementary Education degree at West Chester. She is a lifetime member of Hope.

Michael Woods is pursuing a Chemical Engineering degree at the University of South Carolina. He became a member when his family joined six years ago.

All,
I would just like to say thank you to everyone who contributed in giving me the honor to receive this scholarship. I'm so grateful and thankful that I was chosen and I hope that I continue to contribute to the church and the congregation.
Michael Woods

*Here is Michael's
thank you note*



Gathering of Men Breakfast

Meets the 2nd Saturday of each month
at 9AM

July 13, 2019

Join the Gathering of Men for
breakfast, fellowship and sharing.
We'll have breakfast and conversation.
Any questions may be directed to:
Gerry Bergh, 732-972-2799



Monday, July 15

7:00PM

The Manor Worship Service

Sunday, July 21st at 2:00PM

689 West Main Street in Freehold (right in front of CentraState)

Worship Service with Holy Communion

*You are invited to join Pastor Kropa for assistance with this Nursing Home service,
please arrive at 1:45PM.*

Women of Hope (second Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM) and Wisdom Club (third Thursday of each month at 11:30AM) will resume their regular schedule in September



*We need
Newspapers for a
VBS project!
Please bring in
any that you have
to spare! There is
a large box for*

*collection right inside the entrance door!
Thank you!*



HOPE LUTERHAN CHURCH BBQ PRAISE NIGHT



WEDNESDAY JULY 24, 2019
530PM – 830PM

211 ELTON-ADELPHIA RD, FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

FAMILY FRIENDLY FOR ALL AGES
OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

LIVE Outdoor Praise Music

HOPE Lutheran Church's Minister of Music

Josh Staudinger

In partnership with

Monmouth Grace United Methodist Church's

EM Praise Band

Greeting and Message

HOPE Lutheran Church's Pastor

Ed Kropa

NO COST TO ATTEND

There will be a freewill offering to raise funds for
the music and outreach ministries

Questions? Want to help? Contact:

Josh Staudinger

hovelutheranmusic@gmail.com

**If all goes well, there is another one
scheduled for Wednesday, August 21!!**



VBS – August 5 -9, 2019

9:00AM – 12:15PM

Team Members NEEDED!

***We are going on a space mission this year and
we need YOU to join us on our way to
Mars...and Beyond!***

Contact Debbie Unger 732-577-1218

or Diane Kless 732-367-7081

***to sign up for opportunities to serve and lead,
and most of all.... Have FUN!***

HOPE STATS					
Sundays	Attendance	Sun School	Offerings	-did NOT	+ reached
June 2	75	-	\$3,395	-\$740	
June 9	88	-	\$3,614	-\$521	
June 16	109	-	\$4,397		+\$262
June 23	73	-	\$2,916	-\$1,219	
June 30		-			
<i>Average Offering needed <u>weekly</u> to meet the proposed budget offerings of \$215,000 is \$4,135</i>					



Calendar Planning

Thursday, August 15 at 5PM

This meeting is incredibly important to attend – all important dates for Sunday School, Hope Christian School, and Worship events need to be put on the calendar for coordination and top priority. Please plan to attend if you have anything you wish to put on the calendar for September – December!

Worship Planning

Monday, August 26 at 7PM

32nd Annual NJ WELCA Convention

"Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful;"

1 Corinthians 13:4

Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019

9 am - 3:30 pm

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

508 Green Pond Road

Rockaway, NJ 07866

Looking Ahead to 2020....
Registrations are being accepted very soon
for:



“Following Jesus is messy. Loving one another is justice. We are not perfect, we are often broken, sometimes we don’t fit. Sometimes our edges are rough – but we are one body in Christ.”



JULY BIRTHDAYS!

Kenneth Frueh
Casey McCormick
Kelsey Reed
Melanie Gibson
Gregory Solla
Gillian Solla
Anthony D'Angelo
Christine Hedin
Art Hornak
Rich Topp
Kayla Bastry
Sofan Ng
Kaitlyn Robinson
Avery Lewis
John Drager
Gino Giacobbe
Raymond Sprunger
Jessie Giacobbe
Joan Lennox
Norma Vender
Debbie Bonanno
Krista DePalma
Brad Donmoyer
John Kropa
Jaden Bulkley
Michael Krause

Wayne Kless
Gregg Stevens
Jacob DiGregorio
Susan Sterrett
Jackson Behn
Taylor Hornak
Mark Schloeman
Andrew Hu
Katherine Weiss
Bradley Birnbaum Jr
Kyle DiGregorio
Stephen Rinker
Janine Bonevich
Deborah Robinson
Phillip Hu
Madeleine Raguseo
Olivia Raguseo
Joseph Mancini
Payton Quinn
Sandra Taylor
Kathleen Schultz
Madison Lewis
Donna Reed
Sean Rifenburg
John Stefani Jr
Victoria Andre

