

The Anchor

December 2019

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

Worship Services with Holy Communion
Sunday Worship 8:30AM and 11:00AM
Sunday School 9:45AM – 10:45AM
Catechism Classes 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month
Wednesday Worship and School 7:00PM

Pastor: The Rev Dr Edward Kropa Jr
pastorkropa@gmail.com

Minister of Music: Joshua Staudinger
hopelutheranmusic@gmail.com

Administrator: Cheryl Hurd (732) 462-7545
hopelutheran17@gmail.com

HCS Director: Judy Canfield
judyc08723@yahoo.com

Congregation Council:

President	Michael Della Rosa	mdell425@optonline.net	908-380-8362
Vice President	Sharryn Papinchak	sharrynp@gmail.com	732-526-7342
Treasurer	John Drager	johndrager@verizon.net	732-431-1077
Secretary	Debbie Unger	debbill@optonline.net	732-577-1218
Youth Ministries	Tara Zigler	tzigler2@gmail.com	732-446-6117
Education	Janet Creech	kjcreech@optonline.net	732-431-1631
Fellowship	Thomas Landes	tomlandes@comcast.net	917-797-5191
	Michelle Verdino	michelle.verdino@gmail.com	732-861-7840
Maintenance	Stefan Martinsen	Stefan.martinsen@NEE.com	561-346-2326
	Matthew Sprunger	Matthew.sprunger@gmail.com	732-677-3830

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/HopeFreehold>

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMZVzI9oQTgmDMh5YNypfBw>

Website:

www.hopefreehold.org

My Career as a Manager

I haven't always been a pastor. As a matter of fact, I've had several jobs outside of the ministry. One in particular comes to mind as I write this article. During a period of time I took off from my seminary studies, I was hired to manage a weight-lifting club up in Middletown, New York. I was basically in charge of everything; including supervising the two part-time staff members who worked during the hours I was off.

My primary duties began with sales and marketing. In addition, it was my responsibility to sign up new members, receive and record the money they paid in membership fees and dues, develop exercise programs for them based on their personal goals, coach them in proper techniques, and supervise their workouts. Oh, and I also put the weights and barbells away at the end of the day, cleaned the showers and bathrooms, and shoveled the snow from the front entryway and sidewalk during the winter. In other words, I did pretty much everything and the ultimate success or failure of this small business was due, in no small measure, to my energy and efforts.

But there was one thing I was *not*. And it was something important that I had to keep in mind all of the time. I was not the owner. It was not my business, and so the final decision on fees and hours of operation, and anything else related to the business, did not rest with me. I was only the manager. The business belonged to someone else. I was paid a fair wage, but all of the income and any profits went to him. It was simply my job to implement his desires...

As I reflect on what it means, not only to be a pastor, but also to be a Christian, it's helpful to keep in mind that the same dynamic is at work here. I am not the owner. I'm only a manager.

I've been blessed with the privilege of helping to manage a small outpost of God's church known as Hope Lutheran Church. But the final decisions and ultimate direction of the congregation I serve do not rest with me. I am only a manager.

In the same way, all of the material and financial blessings that I have received in this life also do not belong to me. I am only a manager. Granted, a generous portion of what I have received is earmarked for my personal needs and those of my family. But, in addition, God has blessed me – and you! – with sufficient gifts to be used for God's glory and to further God's kingdom as well. I/we always need to keep that in mind. In the end, you see, it all belongs to God. We are well taken care of, but the gracious gifts and resources we have received from God are not ours to keep only for ourselves. Instead they are

God's blessings that are meant to be shared. Furthermore, the decision does not rest with me/us. That's up to the owner. We are only managers tasked with carrying out God's desires.

Pastor Ed

HOPE STATS					
<u>Sun/Wed</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Sun School</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	<u>-did NOT</u>	<u>+ reached</u>
Nov 3	132	28	\$3862	-\$273	
Nov 10	132	? <i>No count given</i>	\$3745	-\$390	
Nov 17	132	36	\$4938		+\$803
Nov 24	117	54	\$3756	-\$379	
<i>Average Offering needed <u>weekly</u> to meet the proposed budget offerings of \$215,000 is \$4,135</i>					

Baptisms.... Received into the Church of Jesus Christ on November 3, 2019 through the Sacrament of Baptism; [McKinley Florence Rosenberg](#); born May 7, 2019; Parents are ***Matt*** and ***Ashley Rosenberg***; and sponsors are ***Patrick Becker*** and ***Laura Noseworthy***.

Received into the Church of Jesus Christ on November 10, 2019 through the Sacrament of Baptism; [Priya Zahid](#); born April 10, 2019; Parents are ***Ghani*** and ***Jaime Zahid***; and sponsors are ***Brandon Burkhardt*** and ***Chelsea Martin***.

Our Love and Sympathy....

The ***Kropa family has started a ***Gloria Kropa Scholarship Fund*** which will go towards Hope Christian School families in need. Checks can be made out to ***Hope Lutheran Church*** with **"Gloria Kropa Fund"** written on the Memo line. We can accept donations for this fund at any time.

More News....

Women of Hope Memorial Fund Donations.... ***Wanda Nebiolo*** made a generous donation to the scholarship fund in loving memory of her stepsons, ***Brian Weeden*** and ***Ray Weeden Jr.***, and also in loving memory of our very own ***Mary Nelson***.



It is Hope Family Covenant Renewal Time!

This tradition began in 1970.

It is time for the people of Hope to review and renew the membership covenant we have with each other. It is our custom to do this every year so that our membership together in the Hope Lutheran Family might be vibrant. During Advent – **First Sunday in Advent is December 1** – the Covenant document will be at the altar. Renewal of membership takes place by your prayerful consideration of the principles of the agreement and the inscribing your signature to the document.

Having been called into a living loving relationship with God through Jesus Christ, we respond with a covenant in which we express our intent to: Actively participate in the worship service and programs of the church. Make diligent use of the Means of Grace – God’s Word and Sacraments – Baptism and the Lord’s Supper. Prayerfully consider giving a proportion of our substance to support the work of the congregation and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, live a Christian life in accord with God’s Word, assume a ministry of Christ as dictated by our talents. This is our covenant with God and by the help of God.



The bin will be here for collection

Monday, December 2 –

Friday, December 6



IS HERE FOR THE 2019 CHRISTMAS SEASON!!



We have increments of \$25 and \$100 available at the office all year round! When we purchase these, Shop Rite gives us 5% off, we in turn, donate that percentage. It is a great cause and wonderful way to help those in need!

***WE ARE FULLY STOCKED AND
READY FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON!! PLEASE
RETURN ALL ORNAMENTS AND GIFTS BY
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019***



***YOU are all invited
to Hope's Annual
"Deck the Halls" Party
Saturday, December 7th at 4:00PM
Dinner at 6:00PM
Please bring a covered dish to share!***



*The second Tuesday of each month at **7:30PM**, all women are welcome for Bible Study, food and fun!*

Tuesday, December 10, 2019



It is that time of year again! The Emergency Housing Program, a project of the Freehold Clergy Association is beginning on **Friday, December 13th!** Hope Lutheran Church is blessed to be the host site for our homeless neighbors in need. Would you be interested in hosting, preparing a meal, or driving? Please contact *Andrew or Zinke McGeady at 732-363-8520* with any questions or for more information about this ministry. Together we are serving our Lord with gladness! Thank you in advance for your generous support!

Sign ups are available NOW at the Welcome Table!



Gathering of Men Breakfast

**Meets the 2nd Saturday of each month
at 9AM**

December 14, 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



***Sunday, December 15
11:00AM service!***



Sunday, December 15th at 2:00PM
***We are having a Christmas Cookie
and Ornament exchange!***
(so start searching for your favorite recipe!)

The Manor Worship Service

Sunday, December 15th 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.*



**We will place poinsettia plants on our
chancel area for Christmas Eve Services.
If you would like to order, please fill out
this form and return to the church office
by **December 16** with cash or check.
Plants may be taken home any time after
the 9 PM service Christmas Eve.**

**WISDOM CLUB!!! Join us Thursday,
December 19 at 11:30AM
at the Park Nine Diner**

**Please RSVP to the office so we can get a reservation
732-462-7545**



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES!

4PM – Family Service

7PM – Candlelight Service

9PM – Candlelight Service



December 27, 2019 marks the first of three Community Meals Hope will be hosting at Saint Peter's Church. Please be on the lookout for sign up sheets asking for assistance with preparation of the meal and serving. I look forward to serving as the coordinator for the meals and working with many of you. This is a great opportunity for our Youth to get involved in the community as well as earning community service hours for confirmation and National Honor Society. If you need to get in touch with me or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at:

732-771-6074 or boberwoods@gmail.com

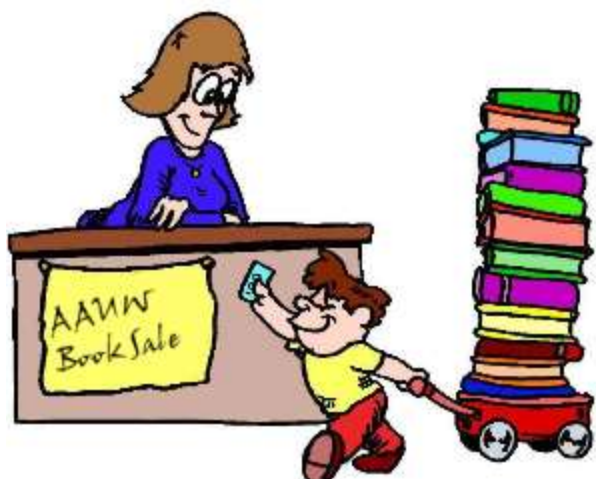
Thank you!

Erika Woods

UPCOMING OUTREACH MEAL DATES!

We will host and serve dinner at Saint Peter's on the following Friday Nights...

December 27, March 13, and April 24



BIKES AND BOOKS!!!

The Freehold Area AAUW is again collecting books for its used book sale in JUNE. Please drop off any hardback or paperback fiction and non-fiction (no text books or readers digest condensed books!) at the church anytime between

NOW and **MID-MAY**. *Joan Drager will take it from there- Thanks Joan! Also, John Drager will take any used bicycles to 2nd TURN AROUND, the bike ministry in Asbury Park – Thanks John!*

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Mark your calendars!

March 14, 2020

Enjoy a chartered bus ride to and from the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster PA to see the story of Queen Esther!

Cost for Adults \$145

Cost for Children \$78

This includes theater ticket, bus transportation, and dinner at Miller's Sporgasbord.

Gather at Hope at 11:30AM to board a charter bus, theater performance at 3:00PM, dinner following, returning to Hope by 9PM.

RESERVE YOUR SEATS NOW!

Contact Tara Zigler at tzigler2@gmail.com

Further information can be found by visiting the following links:

<https://www.sight-sound.com/toolkit?email=tzigler2@gmail.com>

<https://static.sight-sound.com/www/e-resources/2020/Lanc-show-pricingG.pdf>



HELP WANTED!!

Church Sponsored Blood Drive

For many years, our congregation has enabled the Central Jersey Blood Center to conduct blood drives as part of a community wide effort to supply this life saving tissue to local hospital. The Central Jersey Blood Center has ceased operations effective last December. Its past Director of Donor Services, Jerry Antoine, is now serving with Vitalant Blood Services, the second largest collector and distributor of blood and blood products in the nation.

He has contacted us to see if we are able to develop a new partnership with Vitalant. If you are interested in meeting with Jerry and his representatives to enable a renewal of our partnership with them and enable a blood drive at our church, please contact Cheryl (732) 462-7545 for further information.

Special Sunday School Class

Hope will be offering a Sunday School class once a month geared for children with special needs to learn about God. If you're interested, contact the church office at 732-462-7545 or [hopelutheran17@gmail.com](mailto:hoperlutheran17@gmail.com)



We now have ***Christina Krause*** as our Nursery Attendant! She will arrive at 8:15AM and stay until the completion of the 11:00AM worship service. She may also be available to stay for extra events as well, such as Congregational Meetings. We have also implemented the ***KID'S CORNER*** located in the far corner of the Narthex near the speakers by the choir loft stairs. There are several games, activities, coloring pages, etc for all ages to sort through and stay occupied while their family can still listen to the services!



*Sign ups for November and December are available at the Welcome Table! Please sign up for a Sunday! Coffee and all the paper products are provided by the church, we just ask that you bring a **NUT FREE** refreshment to share. We average about 35-40 members weekly.*



Give the gift of a floral dedication

*Dedicate a floral arrangement in honor of your loved ones. Celebrate their life by dedicating during a birthday month, anniversary, graduation, or any other momentous occasion. The arrangements are **\$20 a piece** and can be taken home at the end of the Worship Service. We have **MANY** open spots during the upcoming months.*

*The **FLOWER CHART** is located on the Sacristy door. Write in what you would like advertised in the bulletin and be on the lookout for it during your designated week. Payment can be made directly to the office, just be sure to clearly label it as a **“FLOWER PAYMENT”**.*



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

Lori Lashenick

Jaelyn Minniear

Katherine Stenard

Michael Woods

Linda Alessi

William Robertson

Justin Bujalski

Scott Noseworthy

Chris Schloeman

Debbie Crawford

Lisa Platt

Matthew Romba

Monica Grinberg

Kathy Minniear

Ryan Rifenburg

Avery Clarke

Olivia Wagner

Steve Campanelli

Peter Vandenakker

Laura Bertsch

Daphne Wilson

Melissa Ng

Laura Noseworthy

Whitney Martinsen

Diane Kless

Anthony Seitz Jr

Loretta Hart

Owen Sarkar

Diana Carney

Alexander Flury

Thomas Robertson

Joseph Toth

Jennifer Miller

Chris Fensham

Zachary Koester

Bill Seifert

Arthur Casement

MacKenna Peterson

Walter Peterson Jr

Sheila McCormick

Lauren Fensham

Emily Giacobbe

Kyle Hart

Catherine Burger

Crystal Hudak

Raymond Vender

Lloyd King

Susan Della Rosa

Angelo Ranaudo

Delaney DePalma

Raymond Denney

Rosie Driscoll

