

December 25, 2011

& January 1, 2012

For an electronic copy of the Spirit,
please log on to our website at:
www.hopelutheranranberry.org

The Spirit of



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Growing Together with Hope



FINAL 2012 PLEDGE APPEAL REPORT:

Thank you all who committed to a pledge for 2012. While our objective was to attain 100% pledge participation, we are thankful for the results and the continued giving of most of our congregational members. We also appreciate the gifts of time and talents that so many of you provide and look forward to continued growth in that area as we move forward in ministry.

The final pledge results are as follows:

Total pledges made = **121 out of 220 Families**
Operating = 121 pledges for \$328,335
Building = 88 pledges for \$85,607
Total = 121 pledges for \$413,942

Below is a history of pledging for the last six years.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total Family Units	185	187	209	228	213	220
Total Pledges	116	121	119	120	111	121
Operating Budget	217,936	253,210	303,928	291,275	321,548	328,335
Building	69,124	56,602	77,146	91,528	119,027	85,607
Total Pledged	287,060	309,812	381,074	382,803	440,575	413,942

Pledging totals and average amount pledged have trended up since 2007 with growth in the congregation, higher average worship attendance and growth in ministry. Pledging in 2011 was higher than 2012 in large part due to one-time gifts in 2011 of \$36,340 toward the building fund. Trends in both pledging and giving continue to be positive.

Your Stewardship Committee will continue to be focused on finding ways to make the 2nd Phase of the building plan a reality, while maintaining good fiscal discipline and a strong focus on mission and ministry. Again, many thanks for your contribution of time, talent and treasures.

--Tom Majeski, Stewardship Chair

Christmas Schedule of Special Services

December 24: Christmas Eve Services

4:00 pm - Family Service with Holy Communion, Children's Sermon, Blessing of the Nativity, & Carols

7:00 pm - Service of Light with Holy Communion, Full Liturgy, Choir, & Carols

11:00 pm - Proclamation of Christ's Birth with Holy Communion, Full Liturgy, Special Music, & Carols



December 25: Christmas Day Service

10:00 am - Christmas Liturgy Service

January 1: New Year's Day Service

10:00 am - New Year's Day Liturgy Service

****The Church Office will be closed: December 23, 26-30, & January 2. We will have a pastor on call during the week of the 26th.**



Christmas Poinsettias...

Please remember to wait until after the 11 p.m. Christmas Eve service to take your poinsettia/s home.



Offering Envelopes



*The new 2012
Offering envelopes are ready to be picked
up in the SaraAbram classroom!!*

Cam's Office Schedules:

- **Monday** → OFF
- **Tuesday** → 9 to 4:30
- **Wednesday** → 9 to 4:30
- **Thursday** → 9 to 4
- **Friday** → Floating Hours
- **Sunday** → 8 to 12:30

ELCA National Youth Gathering July 18 – 22, 2012 New Orleans, Louisiana

Eligibility: Any teenager going into ninth, tenth, eleventh or twelfth (9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th) grade or having just graduated from high school at the time of the Gathering is eligible to register!



Super Bowl!!!

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL!?!?
February 5th is Super Bowl Sunday! Need food for your party?! We have your solution! Starting January 8th we will be having a **Super Bowl Sub Sale!** Subs will be delivered on Super Bowl Sunday just in time for the big party! Contact Cam for more info.



JANUARY 15 – High School Youth Group will be snow tubing at the Rickert's (*pending on having snow*) if not, we will meet at our regular scheduled time at the church!

CHAOS

Christ Has All Our Solutions

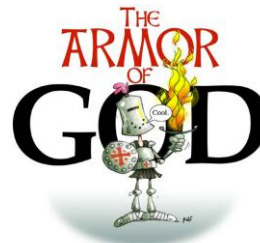
**Next Meeting: January 8
from 6 to 8 p.m.**



Upcoming Meeting Dates:

January 8 and January 28-29 for Youthquake

**CHAOS is for any youth in 6th – 8th grade; friends are always welcome!!



Kidz Klub

Next meeting:
**January 8
from 4 to 6 p.m.**

Kidz Klub is for any child
in 1st - 5th grade!!

Friends are always welcome!! See you in 2012!!!

We are pleased to announce that we are participating in a fundraiser with Chick-fil-A!!! Please save your receipts from the Cranberry store only and place in the marked red box in the Narthex. We will **receive 20%** of the sales receipts in Chick-fil-A dollars to purchase food items for upcoming youth events. You can collect receipts from family and friends as well, but they must be from the Cranberry store.



Please direct any questions to Lisa Feathers at 724.776.9365 or LMFinMars@msn.com.



***Thank you bakers, helpers, and cookie eaters!!
Hope's Cookie Walk was a great success!! The event helped to raise a substantial sum for the National Youth Gathering!***

Many thanks to the following who helped with the decorating of the parish...

Donated the tree:

Gary and Robin Hay
George and Carol Lindner

Thanks to those who helped set up the tree:

Gary Hay
Bud Krapp
George Lindner
Chad Zutter



Thanks to those who helped decorate the tree and the sanctuary:

Jamie Bradish	Dan Douglass
Marilyn Duke	Jim Fister
Robin Hay	Ron Horanski
Emily and Terry Kroll	Linda Lee
Nadyne Nicolas	Paul Payerchen
Nancy Rose and Lucas	

Plus ALL of the choir members who stayed to help with the decorating!!!

The luminaria is donated by Fred and Suzanne Zirot.



Thank you, choir, for your hard work and endless effort of time and talent to make worship a joyful experience with the Christmas Cantata! You are greatly appreciated!!



EVERY PURCHASE MATTERS

The gift cards are here...look for yours on sale!!
(*\$25, \$50 and \$100 cards are available.*)

One, Two, Three STRIKES You're Out at the... Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!



That's not right. You just got a Turkey, because – it's Bowling Season and time for the **Hope Sunday Night Rollers** bowling group to start up again.

Come join us two Sunday evenings a month for some bowling fun and fellowship. We usually bowl the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month @ 7:00 p.m. at the Freeway Lanes, on Rt. 19 just south of Zelenople. The cost for (3) games, including bowling shoe rental, is **\$11.00**. We will start the bowling season on Sunday, September 25.

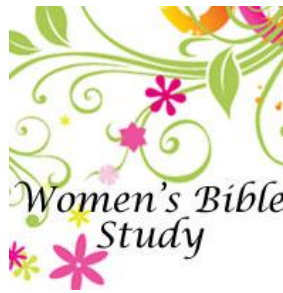
Please call Peter Colpo at 724.538.8610 or email at him at pncolpo@zoominternet.net to let him know if you are interested in bowling this year. So come join us whenever you are available for some fun, fellowship, and bowling.



Bump, Set, Spike, SCORE!!!

Registration starts this weekend for our "Hope Volleyball League"

We will be taking the court starting in February 2012!
Please contact Pastor Ron or Cam Warba for more information!



YOU'RE INVITED – WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Please prayerfully consider joining us for a close-up and intimate portrait of Jesus the Messiah. This 11 week DVD study of Jesus, from birth to death, will allow us to go on a life-changing journey through the hills of Galilee with the Teacher, across the lake with the Master, and finally, on the road with the Savior – His face set toward the cross.

What: Jesus the One and Only, by Beth Moore

Who: All women are invited, please bring friends!

When: Thursday evenings starting January 5th and Friday mornings, starting January 6th

Time: Thursdays from 7 – 9 pm; Fridays from 9 – 11 am

Where: Hope Lutheran Church

RSVP: Books need to be ordered in advance. Please contact Karen Johanknecht at karens@johanknecht.com or 724.452.5665 to sign up.

Childcare: Will be available when requested on Friday mornings.

Cost: \$14.95 for the workbook

Come join the Card Ministry...



We would like to invite you to join our Card Ministry at Hope. To date, we have sent

out over **50 cards**. There are 10 of us currently that are notified of opportunities to uplift members and friends of Hope by sending a card. Those cards consist of: *Congratulations, Get Well, Sympathy, Baby and Thinking of You.*

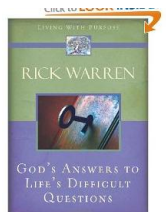
If you know of someone who would like to join our ministry please notify Ginny Hill at ginnymbh1@aol.com. If you know of anyone who would be uplifted by such a card, please do not hesitate to notify the church office of the particulars – 724.776.3141 or fredieann@hopelutherancranberry.org.

Bible Study

Beginning in February, Pastor Ron will be discussing the book by Rick Warren, "God's Answers to Life's Difficult Questions."

This bible study is open to everyone.

More details will follow soon.



Attendance and Offering:

December 18, 2011

5 p.m. - 34	Operating Fund: \$ 7,042.30
9 a.m. - 258	Expansion Fund: \$ 1,627.51
11 a.m. - 158	

Total: 450 Total: \$ 8,669.81

****Lost in the Night Service: 20**

Hope's Dinner Group...



will be dining at the

Runway Sports Bar & Grille

located at 473 Airport Road in Butler, 16002
on **Saturday, January 14, at 6:30 p.m.**

For reservations or information call
Paul or Janet Wunderlin at 724.713.4722.



Altar Flowers

and **Sanctuary Candle** 2012 sign up charts are located on
the bulletin board in the Sunday school hallway.

This year, there is opportunity to sign up for the Prayer
Table Candles and monthly Coffee Sponsorships.

We are pleased to announce that
Hope Lutheran Church of
Cranberry Township has been
selected for the **2011 Best of
Cranberry Township Award** in the Community Churches
category by the US Commerce Association (USCA).



Prayer List for HOPE

*** Please notify the church office if
prayer is desired. Prayers will be
listed for one month.*

- Bill Monaghan - declining health
- George Haas - *Jena Silkwood's brother-in-law*
- Jim M. - complications from surgery; *a friend of Steve Dancisin's*
- Hannah - surgery; *a friend of Mary Kay Soergel's*
- Ruth Rothermel - health concerns; *Pam Fister's mother*
- Katelyn Caccamo - viral meningitis; *Marcia Salsbury's cousin's daughter and Brittany Steighner's friend*
- Katelyn's family: Sharon (mom), Mike (dad), and brother - Mike please pray for strength & wisdom
- Mary Robinson - health concerns; *Katelyn's grandmother*
- Chip Munn - health concerns
- Ed Chelen - recovery triple by-pass surgery; *Lisa's husband*
- Tom Klahm - stage 4 colon cancer; *friend of Linda Lee's*
- Aunt Mary - heart attack
- John Sims - recovery from pneumonia
- Al Hanson - hospice care; *Kurt Johanknecht's grandpa*
- Marilyn Wagenknecht - hip replacement surgery; *Karen Johanknecht's mother*
- Amy - personal concerns; *friend of Kathy Seeman*
- Carl Stiehl - *Walter's father*, lung problems
- Nadyne Nicolas - breast cancer
- Jimmie - leukemia
- Riley Smith - heart surgery & recovery; *one of Hope's youth/Confirmation students*
- David Graziano - fishing accident; *friend of Peggy Mays*
- Luann Kosobucki - surgery; *friend of Donna Walkowski-Stull*
- Deb - cancer; *friend of Karen Douglass*
- Jill - God's wisdom and peace
- Collin Shuker - autism (6 yrs. old)
- Sami Weyers - health concerns; *one of Hope's Youth*
- Natalie Menzl - surgery (hole in heart)
- Hannah Menzl - health concerns
- Erin Koerbel - health concerns
- Hannah - health concerns (5 yrs. old)
- Chuck Glasso - aneurisms; *friend of Judy Aikens*
- Rita Coger - pneumonia and cancer; *friend of Joy West*
- Kathleen Carothers - financial and employment stability
- Lori Delecki - demetia and alzheimer's; *friend of Cam's*
- Ann Scott - Julia's mother
- Peggy Liwosz - cancer; *friend of Roy Lecates*
- Phil Keller - health concerns
- Barb Fauth - ms and cancer; *Bob and Shirley Meier's sister-in-law*
- Lisa - possible stomach cancer; *friend of Ginny Hill*
- Bob Boemig - health concerns; *Susie Jenny (friend of Emily Kroll)*
- Jack - kidney cancer; *friend of Marilyn Duke*
- Marie Teets - cancer
- Marion Drollinger - *a friend of Betty Tolbert*
- Doris Bach



† Please pray for the family of Justine Yount, who recently joined the Church Triumphant. Justine was Lenore Reges' aunt.

Mars Home for Youth – Hope’s 2011-2012 Sunday School Mission Project

Mars Home for Youth - located right here in our community on route 228 - provides a sanctuary to help youth (ages 9-18) heal and cope with psychological and social traumatic experiences. MHY has evolved over its 130-year history to meet the changing needs of children and families in crisis, but has always remained true to its commitment to support youth who deserve every opportunity at a better life. Through comprehensive residential, educational and community-based services, MHY responds to an array of hardships and traumas, including mental illness, behavioral issues, abuse and neglect, providing a safe and connected community that encourages healthy recovery, healing and growth for clients.

Our Hope community has an opportunity to support Mars Home for Youth beginning now through June of 2012 with a special **Sunday School Mission Project**. Your gift of personal hygiene items or monetary donations will be used for the purchase of Bibles (*provided to approximately 600 youth/year*). These items will help improve the lives of so many youth. If you are donating toward the purchase of a Bible and would like to include an inspirational note or card, we will happily deliver this special note of encouragement to the recipient when they receive their Bible.

Personal Hygiene Kit Wish List:

- Shampoo & Conditioner- (including shampoo for ethnic hair)
- Deodorant
- Body Wash
- Toothpaste
- Tooth brushes
- Dental Floss
- Chapstick
- Washcloths
- Plastic baskets to hold toiletry items (Dollar Store baskets)

Monetary donations will be accepted in the weekly offering plates, during Sunday school or can be dropped off at the church office. Please be sure to indicate on your check and envelope that your donation is supporting the **SS Mission Project: Mars Home for Youth**.

A Mars Home for Youth Donation Box is located near the coat rack. Thank you in advance for any items you are able to donate!

Please contact Deb Payerchin at 724.321.3651 or pdpayerchin@hotmail.com for additional information or questions.

Tax Planning Idea for 2011

Are you required to make a distribution from your retirement account?



Or are you afraid of being hit with more taxes from the distribution from your retirement account.

2011 is the last year that the IRS will allow you to make a direct contribution to your favorite charity from your IRA's and other retirement accounts. The benefit to you is no taxable event and a larger charitable contribution. Call Dan Steighner for details.

Daniel F. Steighner, II
Phone: 412.391.6705 ext.229
Cell: 412.478.0364



A special thanks to all of our friends and family at Hope... Thank you so much for your faithfulness and support over the past year. We appreciate the dedication with which many of you serve and volunteer your time. There are so many ministries at Hope and in the community that several of you are involved with...places and people that we never see. How amazing all of you are...may you be truly blessed this holiday season.

Merry Christmas!
The pastors and staff of Hope



Inclement Weather Policy for Hope



Please use the school closings/delays for the Seneca Valley School District as a guide for Hope's Winter Schedule during Church Office hours.



The Christmas Poinsettias are dedicated to the following friends and family of Hope.

**** Please remember to take your arrangement/s after the 11 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.**

Betty Tolbert

IMO Jim Tolbert

Michael and Lisa Gilbert

IMO Lary and Carol Gilbert (dad and mom)

The Barkhurst Family

IMO family and friends

John P. Riggs

IMO Doris and Steven Riggs

Mel and Sheila Stepp

IMO our parents

The Buccini Family

IMO John and Ida Mae Egloff AND Gus and Mary Butch

Kristi Miller

IMO Phil "Pop" Musick and Frank "PopPop" Miller

Pastor Rich Leseganich

IMO grandparents, John and Martha Keckes

IMO grandparents, Frank and Rose Leseganich

IHO parents, Richard and Marcie Leseganich

IHO sister, Jill K. Stanley

To the Glory of God

Peggy Mays

IHO my children and grandchildren

The Irvin Family

IMO Carolyn D. Nelson

Bud and Priscilla Krapp

IMO Erv Henkelmann and Louise Krapp

Rob and Sharon Wills

IHO our granddaughter, Anna

Herb and Donna Stull and Family

IHO Don and Cathy Christopher AND IMO Marge and Herb Stull, Sr.

The Grau Family

IHO The Grau and Schatzel Families

Dan and Rita Kastner

IMO our grandparents

Phyllis Ridenour

IMO Dick Ridenour

Nancy Rose

IMO John

Charles and Chrisey

IHO Gabriella and Braden

The Noel Family

Jeff, Barb, and Taylor Rickert

Janie and Janet Bradish

Joe Klein

Fran Harbison

Alan and Mary Jean Krohe

Ginny Hill

Eleanor Rowe

Ken and Gayle Parshall

Karen Beemiller

Bob and Jane Fahringer

Joyce Fox

Dave and Milan Grupp

Joe and Kristen Maguire

Louis and Charlene Martin

Paul and Deb Payerchin

Colleen Smith

Joe and Tracey Vaccarello

Cathy, Lauren, and Ian Whittaker

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Vogel

The Evett Family

To the Glory of God

IMO Josef Rickert

IMO our father, Tom Bradish

IMO mother, Lillian Dominick

IMO Rege Harbison, Sr.

IMO Harry and Agnes Krohe AND Will McGee

IMO Mollie Banas

IMO Frank Rowe

IMO Joyce Freilinghaus

IMO Mr. and Mrs. Richard Blackburn

IHO our parents AND **IMO** John W. Norton, Jr.

IHO Glen and Ruth Fox AND **IMO** Duane G. Fox

IHO our parents AND **IMO** Alexis Summers

To the Glory of God

IMO Ruth A. Barkey

IMO our grandparents

IMO Laura Keaveny

IHO our parents

IMO Grant Rowe

IMO our parents

To the Glory of God