

HOPEFUL TIMES

A Publication of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church - Reading, PA

February Birthdays

Brandon Kegerize.....Feb. 7
 Ray SnyderFeb 7
 Avery Jones.....Feb. 8
 Louise Petroski.....Feb. 10
 Rebecca Knox.....Feb. 16
 Patti Rose.....Feb. 14
 Sue Epler.....Feb. 21
 Mike WolfeFeb. 23
 Ernie Price Jr.Feb. 29

March Birthdays

Kennedy Kegerize.....March 3
 Keith Rohtbach.....March 5
 Tarin Dugan.....March 10
 Delani Walker.....March 11
 Anita Evans.....March 12
 Ben KnoxMarch 18
 Judy SchaefferMarch 20

April Birthdays

David Hassler.....April 1
 Lillie RauchApril 1
 Elizabeth Epler.....April 2
 Scott Schaeffer.....April 2
 Mark HasslerApril 4
 Bobby ZiskaApril 6
 Josephine Torres.....April 11
 Phillip MengleApril 14
 Sue Vlaro.....April 15

Anniversaries

Judy & Scott SchaefferApril 22



Dear Hope Members and Friends,

After six days Jesus took with Him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

Matthew 17:1-3

After the glorious vision of Jesus, fully revealed as the Messiah, the beloved Son of God, Jesus got real with his friends. They had to come down from the mountain and begin the journey to Jerusalem where things would get rough. Jesus invites us along on this journey, down into real life, into the nitty gritty. We are thankful for the "mountaintop" moments that give us sustenance for the journey.

Last week at our café, one of regular diners was moved to tears because of the love she feels when she spends time with us. This was followed by a return to the daily grind. From the mountain top of relationship to the washing of a mountain of dishes!

Please join us for the Lenten journey this year as we walk with Jesus to Jerusalem, remembering the mountaintop, but walking through the valley, never alone, always with Jesus by our side.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 22. We will gather at 7 to remember our mortality as we sing Evening Prayer, accept the imposition of ashes and receive Holy Communion to strengthen us for the journey ahead. Each Wednesday we gather on Zoom at 10:00 am for Bible Study, and again at 6:30, in person and on Zoom for Evening Prayer. Holy Week services include Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 pm and Good Friday, April 7, Stations of the Cross at noon and Tenebrae at 7:00 pm. I hope you are able to be with us to deepen your faith and be ready for the joyous celebration of the Resurrection. Festive Easter Worship is at 10:00 am April 9. Blessings to you all on your journey!



Pastor Mary

We are...

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hope For the Neighborhood

601 N. Front St. Reading, PA 19601 610-374-2071 www.jcishope.org

All Are Welcome!

Pastor: The Rev. Mary Wolfe Music Director: Scott Schaeffer Secretary: Margaret Wunder Sexton: David Troche

Raise The Roof Income Update

Table with 2 columns: Month, Amount. Rows include Start of 2022, January through December, and Total to Date.

Special Thanks to Anita Evans, Bill Knox, and Deb Maley for their service on Council

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer (Romans 12:12 NRSV)

Faces of Hope - Sue Epler

Where do you live? Milmont section of Reading

Age: 64 (at least for a few more weeks)

Occupation: Retired from Verizon and Tower Health-Reading Hospital

Family members: Dad: Oliver (deceased) Mom: Doris (deceased) Sisters: Linda Sloss (Chuck) and Liz Epler Brothers: William (Kathy) and Jim (Karen)



How long have you been a member? All my life. I was baptized here and remained true to Hope all these years. Due to past health concerns with mom, we attended church via zoom for several months. Mom was very faithful to make sure she was attending church one way or another. Zoom is a great alternative when you are not able to attend in person, and the best thing is, you can attend even when on vacation.

How do you serve the congregation and/or community? I have been a Choir member for many years, served as Sunday School Teacher and Secretary for many years, filled in off and on as Office Secretary when we did not have one, Served on Church Council and various other committees throughout the years.

What is your favorite religious song? Oh my, hard to pick one as there are several, Faith of Our Fathers, Battle Hymn of Republic, and numerous "old" hymnal hymns, the classic favorites of mine.

What is your favorite Bible verse? Not so much a verse but stories...The Beginning, Noah's Ark and a very seldom heard of Jonah and the Whale

What do you enjoy about Hope? I enjoy the overall feeling of Love, Respect and Friendship of the people of Hope. You make friends for life and even when they have long passed on, their spirit and teachings remain with you.

What would you like to tell the people of Hope? Keep the Faith, no matter the situation and God will see you through it. Accept change as it comes and be involved as much as you can.

Welcome to our New Council Members!

- Mark Hassler
Joanne Lucas
Joyce Snook

Current Council Members

- Margie Wolf - President
Gloria Mengle - Vice President
Judy Schaeffer - Secretary
Chris Hassler - Treasurer
Jonetta Printz
Phil Mengle