

HOPEFUL TIMES

A Publication of Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church - Reading, PA

September Birthdays

Linda SlossSeptember 6
 Ken SchweitzerSeptember 10
 Chris HasslerSeptember 16
 Ellen RuppertSeptember 21
 John PetroskiSeptember 25
 Holly HasslerSeptember 27

October Birthdays

Gloria MengleOctober 5
 Deb MaleyOctober 6
 Barbara HasslerOctober 12
 Dave RamichOctober 20
 John AulenbachOctober 22
 John LucasOctober 28
 Fern AulenbachOctober 30
 Patrick RoseOctober 31

Anniversaries

Brandon and Amanda
 KegeizeSept. 15
 Charles and Linda Sloss .Sept. 22
 Donald and Michelle
 KostivalOct. 1
 Mark and Holly Hassler.....Oct. 4
 Bill and Rebecca KnoxOct. 9
 Ken and Susan
 SchweitzerOct. 19



Dear Hope Members and Friends,

Jesus said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Luke 10:2 NRSV



This Sunday, September 4, the people of St. John's, St. Luke's, Grace and Holy Spirit Lutheran Churches will each worship in their own buildings for the last time. The following week they will merge into their new home at St. Luke's building, taking the new name, "Renewing Spirit Lutheran Church". Three weeks later, on September 25, Peace Lutheran Church will hold its last worship service after which they will close. St. Mark's Lutheran Church is in the planning phase of its near future closure. Already, Nativity Lutheran Church and St. Paul's Lutheran Church share a pastor and musician. The time has surely come for us to look carefully at our resources and assets, and to explore creative ways of assuring that Hope remains a presence for ministry in this neighborhood. I would like to convene a new "dream team" of innovative thinkers to begin to discern what God is calling us to be and do. Please prayerfully consider being part of this team. After this time of discernment, we can pursue partnering with other congregations in ways that make us stronger together. Yes, the laborers are few, but I have faith that the Lord of the harvest will answer our prayers for laborers when we commit to do God's work together.

Café Esperanza news

The Café had a fun and busy August! On Thursday the 18th we partnered with the Reading Police Department Chaplains to host "Cones with Cops" and served about 200 cones of Ice cream to neighbors, getting to meet lots of new families. Several chaplains and police officers were on hand to help serve and get to know our neighbors. Then last Friday we held a back-to-school party, serving hot dogs, snacks and popsicles to about 50 kids, also providing new socks, colored pencils and books to the students. It was wonderful to share in the excitement as children prepared for a new school year.

Hope's Pantry News

Our very own William Johnson, pantry coordinator, will be honored by the NAACP for his community service at a banquet at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel on October 30. Way to go, Will!

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



-Sunday, October 2-
Immediately following the
10:00 worship service
Hot Dogs, Bar-b-que, and
drinks will be provided

Please use the sign up in the
back of the church to let us
know if you are coming and if
you are able to bring a food
item to share.

Raise the Roof

Our campaign to pay back the loan on the roof repair is ongoing. Thank you for your continued support.

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

Faces of Hope - Kenneth L. (Larry) Mohn

Where do you live? Lincoln Park

Age: 73

Occupation: Sold and delivered auto parts for Bob Fisher Chevrolet for 30 years.



Family Members: Several cousins, my Goddaughter Nyah (cousin's granddaughter), my girlfriend Barb

How long have you been a member? All my life

How have you served the congregation and/or community?

- Member of Hope's music program (choir and brass)
- Hope's congregational council for 30 years.
- Lincoln Park Fire Company - volunteer driver/fireman for 25 years, Fire Company officer (18 years as President)
- Served in the 327th Army Band - Edgewood Arsenal MD '68-'71

What is your favorite worship song? Blessed Assurance

What is your favorite Bible verse? The Birth of Jesus as told in Luke 2.

What do you like about Hope? The great people and the way that when times seem the darkest, we come together and it works out.

What Would You Like To Tell The People of Hope? I have had a rough year or so with medical problems, but the support I have gotten from my friends at Hope has made it much more bearable, and in many ways has helped me to get better. Thanks!

Hope..A Walk Through Time - Gloria Mengle

So long ago, most folks would not remember the choir room was where the nursery and office are now, but it was one large room. Women then switched to where the 1st floor Christian Ed office is. Men went to the choir room. Eventually we were all together in the choir room. Our gowns changed from black/white to red and beige, to no gowns at all. We went from Tri corner black hats which fit poorly on our bouffant hair styles, to no hats for a straighter hair style.



As for the organ and choir loft, the loft went from pews and no door, to chairs and a side door. We also moved the organ from facing the altar to facing the choir.

There have been many changes regarding the choir, but for 45 years Scott Schaeffer has been the organist and choir director.