



HOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Grace-Filled Hearts. Hope-Led Lives.

————— EST. 1898 —————

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2026

3474 Rothsville Road • Ephrata PA 17522

(717) 738-3774 • office@hopeumcephrata.org

9 AM Sunday School • 10 :30 AM Sunday Worship

HopeUmcEphrata.org • facebook.com/HopeUmcEphrata

Pastor: Kris Pursel

prkrispursel@gmail.com

(CELL) 717-983-8466

WORDS OF WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

As neighbors and friends, let's share signs of peace and kindness with one another.

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace

arr. Tornquist

This is a time to prepare our hearts for worship.
Please quietly reflect on the message of the music.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing praise to God.

People: Our Creator and Redeemer.

Leader: Sing praise to Christ.

People: Our Lord and Savior.

Leader: Who has called us to worship this day.

*OPENING PRAYER (prayed together)

Loving God, thank you for the great mercy and grace that draw us close to your holiness. Flow through our worship and through our lives with your holy presence and your forgiving grace, that we may be people of holy love and gracious forgiveness. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Nothing but the Blood

#362

Ushers will collect your praise and/or prayer request cards.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTOR'S PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

#896

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:21-35

Bonnie Luck

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Kris

Welcome to Hope Church

- If this is your first time at Hope Church, please fill out a **Welcome Card** found in your pew so that we can make sure you get an extra-special greeting.
- Our building is **handicap accessible**, with an elevator. Please see an usher for assistance.

Church Hours

Office: Tuesday - Friday 9 AM to 1 PM

Pastor Kris: Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM

Church Staff and Lay Ministry

Pastor: Kris Pursel

prkrispursel@gmail.com

(CELL) 717-983-8466

Administrative Assistant: Laura Luciano

Director of Music: Lisa Helock

Organist: Dave Luck

Sexton: Doreen Deamer

Serving in Worship This Week

Bulletin Folder(s): Diane Hornberger

Children's Church Team: Kathy Brenton
and Cindy Rehlich

Greeter: Donna Fetzer

Sound: Paul Trella

Ushers: Dave Schmid and Tom Texter

Video: Tim Sumner

SEPTEMBER 13		This Week	SEPTEMBER 19
SUN 13	Grandparents' Day		
	Sunday School		9 a.m.
	Worship		10:30 a.m.
MON 14	KPETS		6 p.m.
	SPRC Meeting		6:30 p.m.
	Monday Night Bible Study		7 p.m.
WED 16	Bells of Hope		6 p.m.
	Co-Dependents Anonymous		6:30 p.m.
	Senior Choir		7:15 p.m.
	Al-Anon		8 p.m.
THU 17	Church Council Meeting		6 p.m.
FRI 18	Men of Hope		7:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost - Sunday, September 20

Picnic/Potluck Lunch - Sunday, September 20 - After Service

First Day of Autumn - Tuesday, September 22

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Sunday, September 27

Missions Meeting - Monday, September 28 at 10 a.m.

Male Gap Chorus - Sunday, October 4 at 7 p.m.

Pastor Appreciation Month – October 1 – October 31

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Sunday, October 4

World Communion Day - Sunday, October 4

Finance Meeting - Thursday, October 8 at 6 p.m.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost - Sunday, October 11

Baptismal Service - Sunday, October 11

Prayer List

If you have a joy or concern to share with the Hope Church family, please fill out a yellow or blue card in your pew and hand it to an usher.

Joys & Praise

- We always thank God for those who worship and visit with us.
- Joy for answered prayers and unexpected blessings.

Prayers

- Shirley Cox joined our Lord on Saturday, September 7. Pray for those who loved her.
- Prayers for Marty Carpenter, who is not feeling well.
- Prayers for Jean Jackson, who is experiencing pressure issues in one of her eyes following cataract surgery.
- Prayers for the residents and staff of Neffsville Nursing and Rehabilitation as they deal with an outbreak of the flu and rhinovirus.
- Prayers for Jamie as she deals with car trouble.

Altar Flowers

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS

are presented to the Glory and Honor of God.

by *Dave & Sandy Schmid*

in celebration of their 66th anniversary on September 10!

Notes

- ❖ **Thank you** - a heartfelt thank you to **Jim and Jeanette Pitman** for their faithful service as Communion Stewards at Hope. Your dedication and willingness to serve have been a meaningful part of our worship and ministry. We are truly grateful for the time, care, and commitment you have given to Hope.
- ❖ **A Heartfelt Thank You** - to everyone who helped make Holly's Celebration of Life such a beautiful and meaningful day. From the wonderful food and beautiful flowers to all the time, care, and love that went into making the day so special, your kindness meant more than words can express. I'm also deeply grateful for the many phone calls, cards, prayers, and expressions of love and support that I received during this difficult time. Knowing that so many people cared for Holly and continue to surround me with love and prayer has been a true source of comfort. Thank you to the Hope Church family for your kindness, generosity, and for being there when it was needed most.
- ❖ **Children's Winter Coat Collection** - We will be collecting monetary donations to purchase children's winter coats for **Community Hive (formerly EASS)** from **Sunday, September 6 through Sunday, September 27**, . If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in an envelope marked **"Winter Coats"** and place it directly in the offering plate. Checks should be made payable to **Hope UMC**. Thank you for helping provide warmth to children in our community this winter. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!
- ❖ **Harvest Home** - Beginning Sunday, **September 13 through Sunday, October 25**, we will be collecting canned goods, boxed foods, paper products, and other essential items to support **Community Hive (formerly EASS)**, as well as families connected with Hope Church and our Preschool. Your donations will help provide much-needed items to individuals

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *God, How Can We Forgive*
#2169 (TFWS)

THE MESSAGE **Forgiven People Forgive** **Pastor Kris**
The Lord's Prayer - Part 4

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow* **#95**

*PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING Pastor Kris

*CLOSING HYMN *Grace Greater Than Our Sin* **#365**

*BLESSING Pastor Kris

*RESPONSE *Make Us One* **#2224** (TFWS)

POSTLUDE *All Things Are Become New* Hughes

*Please stand if you are able.

Copied music & videos played by permission: CCLI#11314832 & CVLI#505549423. Streaming by permission: CCLI#20312092.

TFWS = The Faith We Sing - W&S = Worship & Song

Worship services are broadcast live on our website,
and then archived to view later at your convenience on our
YouTube channel:
www.tinyurl.com/Hope-YouTube.

7-Part Sermon Series

The Lord's Prayer

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| AUGUST 23 | Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Part 1 – Belonging
Romans 8:9-16 |
| AUGUST 30 | Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Part 2 – Whose Kingdom, Whose Will
Isaiah 65:17-25 |
| SEPT 6 | Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Part 3 – Enough for Today
Exodus 16:4, 16-21 |
| SEPT 13 | Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Part 4 – Forgiven People Forgive
Matthew 18:21-35 |
| SEPT 20 | Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Part 5 – Lead Us Not
James 1:12-18 |
| SEPT 27 | Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Part 6 – Rescue
John 17:12-19 |
| OCT 4 | Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Part 7 – Whose Kingdom It Really Is
Romans 11:25-36 |

SAVE THE DATES!

Mark your calendars and join us for these upcoming events at Hope!

September 20, 2026 - Picnic/Potluck Lunch*

October 17, 2026 - Hope's Bingo Bash!*

Doors Open at 4:30 PM • Bingo Begins at 5:00 PM

December 13, 2026 - Christmas Brunch*

*Events will take place immediately following worship service.