March 2021

Good Hope Lutheran Church 12030 Market Street North Lima, Ohio 44452 330-549-2406 www.goodhope-elca.org

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Through Christ we put God first by teaching reaching and loving all!

The R E A C H O U T ³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:31-35,37-39)

I have been writing the front page for March for every year I have been here! We are in Lent now, and Easter is just around the corner. I never know what to write. Do I want to write about Easter or maybe Holy Week? Maundy Thursday or Good Friday?

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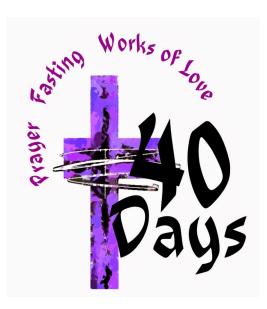
What are you all thinking about? Maybe it is the planting season, starting your seeds for your plants for the garden this year. Maybe this year you are thinking about getting your vaccines for covid? Maybe you got your first shot? Maybe you got both of your shots and you're wondering what is next? After your second shot, do you get excited and go everywhere? You know like diving right in. Or do you take your time, do one or two things? You know like dipping your toes in the pool, taking it slow. No matter how you do it, we are glad you are back. This week I had my first full funeral service in over a year. I am not afraid to say that I almost forgot things. What was lucky, is that it was like riding a bike, things came back to me. So, we are going to go back to what we used to do, but different? Nope not yet. Are you thinking things will go back to normal? Well, I will let you decide whether that is going to happen or not.

So, I had two funerals one right after the other. We all wore masks. Some wanted to shake hands, some bumped elbows, and some bumped knuckles. I don't think we know what to do? I mean we do know what to do, it is in our heads, but we are not certain what to do. Lolololol!!! I really believe that is how we do our faith walk. We know what to do but do we really need to be radical or stand out? Or are we good Lutherans and we don't stand out at all? Don't make a scene. Keep your faith hidden. How do you live out your faith?

So, here we go!! We are in the middle of Lent where we should be fussing with our faith. How do I get closer to God? What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit in my life? How does Christ come to me and help me when everything is going bad? Stop and wonder about your life without the church or without Christ. How does God play a part in your life? My favorite question for Lent is what is God calling you to do??

This season I hope and pray you really get into the season. Seek the Lord in your life and find where you keep God out of your life. Is there any part of your life where God is not?? If God is with you, are you using this knowledge to help you gift others with the peace you have in Christ? Share from your abundance. God is a God of abundance. God is Love! God is Hope! Remember Faith, Hope, and Love and the greatest of these is Love.

Pastor Ralph



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| DATE | EVENT | COLOR | READINGS | INTRODUCTION |
|---------------|-----------------------------|--------|--|---|
| March 7th | Third Sunday in Lent | purple | Exodus 20: 1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 John 2: 13-22 | The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world. |
| March 14th | Fourth Sunday in Lent | purple | Numbers 21: 4-9 Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2: 1-10 John 3: 14-21 | The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying. |
| March 21st | Fifth Sunday in Lent | purple | Jeremiah 31: 31-34 Psalm 51: 1-12 Hebrews 5: 5-10 John 12: 20-33 | God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world. |
| March 28th | Palm Sunday | purple | Isaiah 50: 4-9a Psalm 31: 9-16 Philippians 2: 5-11 Mark 14:1—15:47 | This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work. |

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE MARCH

| Serving in God's house | March 7 | March 14 | March 21 | March 28 |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Lector 8:00 | Greg Razo | Nancy Crouse | Sue Deutschlander | Greg Razo |
| Lector 10:30 | Sarah Deiger | Kathy Kramer | Andy Tesyk | Sarah Deiger |
| Communion bread | Do not need | Do not need | Do not need | Do not need |
| Chrema | Tammy Chuey | Nancy Barret | Tammy Chuey | Nancy Barret |
| | Sarah Deiger | Andy Tesyk | Sarah Deiger | Andy Tesyk |

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE APRIL

| Serving in God's house | April 4 | April 11 | April 18 | April 25 |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Lector 8:00 | Nancy Crouse | Sue Deutschlander | Greg Razo | Nancy Crouse |
| Lector 10:30 | Kathy Kramer | Andy Tesyk | Sarah Deiger | Kathy Kramer |
| Communion bread | Do not need | Do not need | Do not need | Do not need |
| Chrema | Tammy Chuey | Nancy Barret | Tammy Chuey | Nancy Barret |
| | Sarah Deiger | Andy Tesyk | Sarah Deiger | Andy Tesyk |

Mark Your Calendar

March 3, 10, 17, 24: Lent worship services will be held Wednesdays at 7pm. You may attend in person or on zoom.

March 5, 12, 19, 26: Fish Fry at Good Hope from 3:30-7pm. Your choice of fried haddock or baked Boston scrod. Served with coleslaw and two sides of your choice. \$13

March 7: Corned beef dinner from noon –4pm. Served with cabbage, carrots, potatoes and stone -ground mustard for \$14.

March 14: Pasta Bake dinner from noon –4pm. Served with tossed salad and bread for \$10.

April 1: Maundy Thursday worship in person or on zoom at 7pm.

April 2: Good Friday worship in person or on zoom at 7pm.

****Special Notes****

Zoom: When attending worship or meetings by zoom, please ask to join before the start time. Once the service starts, Pastor's back is to the computer and he can't see that you are trying to join. We apologize if this has happened to you.

Cookies needed: The dinner team is asking for cookies to give out at the Pasta Bake dinner. Any kind of cookie or bar cookie is much appreciated. Please no icing. You may drop your cookies off at the church on March 14th before noon. Thank you in advance!

Thank You

The dinner team thanks everyone who provided cookies or another dessert for the Beef Tip Dinner. Proceeds from the dinner were \$882.00.

Thank you everyone who donated to the Furry Friends collection! Your donations have been distributed to small local shelters and are much appreciated.

| Maundy Thursday April 1st | <u>Good Friday April 2nd</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Exodus 12: 1-14 | Isaiah 52:13—53:12 |
| Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19 | Psalm 22 |
| 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26 | Hebrews 10: 16-25 |
| John 13: 1-17, 31b-35 | John 18: 1—19:42 |

Circle News ~ Team News

HANNAH CIRCLE NEWS

Hannah Circle meetings have been suspended for now.

DORCAS CIRCLE NEWS

Dorcas Circle meetings have been suspended for now.

STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Our next meeting will be March 9th at 7pm. Pastor Ralph has asked us to read 'Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity' written by Michael Ward.

DINNER TEAM

Monthly dinners will be take out only.

Sunday March 14– Pasta Bake noon– 4pm. Sunday April 11– Soup and Sandwich Friday and Saturday May 14 and 15– Rummage Sale with BBQ

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

The bible study will be postponed starting February 17th until after Easter.

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

A big thank you to all who came to the drive through communion even in the bad weather. It is really nice to see you and catch up!

Pastor Ralph will be anointing during worship the first Sunday of each month. He will be using a new q-tip for each person. Anointing will also be available at the communion drive-thru the first Sunday of the month.

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Our Prayer List

The One Call system allows us to contact the prayer chain all at once to lift up prayers. If you would like a One Call sent out please contact the Church office at 330-549-2406.



Our weekly intercessory prayer for the people of our congregation :

<u>March 7</u>

Jordan Razo Mark Razo Ouni Razo Stephanie Razo

<u>March 14</u>

Brandy Renforth Jordan Renforth Mackenna Renforth Morgan Renforth

<u>March 21</u>

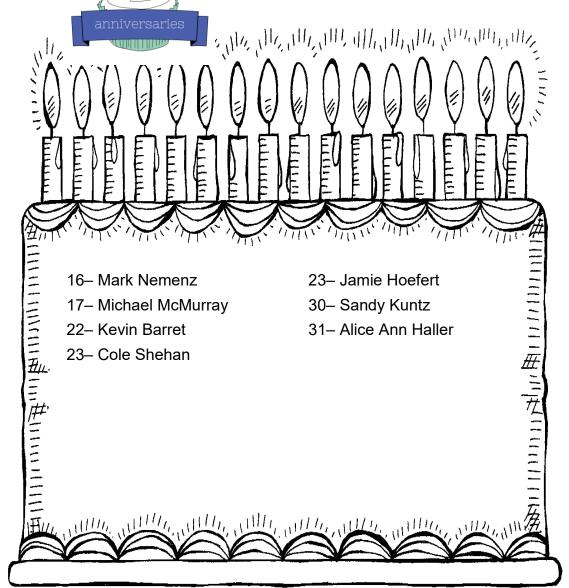
Ralph Renforth Caitlin Rettenmaier Morgan Rhinehart Amanda Rogenski

<u>March 28</u>

Cammy Rogenski Chad Rogenski Michael Rogenski, Jr Michael Rogenski Coy Cope Noel Melho Joe Kreidler Dave Sweeney Constance Fabek Barbara Gray Barbara Hartsock David Kuntz Dan Bongino Brennen Toy

Eric Barret Karen Corey Scott MacDonald Ken & Pat Goff Doug Hoffman Barry Pitzer Doris VandenBosch Gavin Nora Sabella Tim Takich Sharon Leader Jaquelyn Eazley Sherman Gumbs Family of Walter Kyser Serving in the military: Morgan Rhinehart Alyssa Bryce Liberty Jakeb Fry Lyndsey Miller

4- Gus and Theresa Nemenz



MEETING MINUTES

Council Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2021

Present on zoom: Greg, Andy, Kevin, Nancy, Sarah, Peggy, Sue, P. Ralph, Wendy excused: Kelly absent: Jeff, Stephanie

Sarah opened the meeting with prayer.

Treasurer: Kelly will update council in March.

Pastor's report -February-2021

Area of Focus Last Month:

- I had 22 counseling sessions and numerous significant contacts with members and others.
- 1 Hospital Visit Roman DeMaiolo, Beth Stricko. Steve DeMaiolo
- 20 contacts by phone for significant help.
- Daily Reaching out to Members by phone.
- We had our regular number of Saturday night, Sunday morning Services
- Over the past month, I have presided at 14 worship services and prepared 5 sermons.
- * Jan 1 Office Closed
- * Jan 6 & 7 Bible Studies will resume
- * July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb Drive Through Communion
- * Jan 6 & 7 Bible Studies will resume
- * Jan 2 & 3 Zoom broadcast of Worship
- * Jan 3 -10 Christmas Decoration Taken down
- * Jan Feb The Furry Friends Fundraiser
- * Jan 10 Homemade Chili
- * Jan 13 Cleaning out Sound Room
- * Jan 16 Boundaries Training
- * Jan 18 New computer Guy to clean up computers
- * Jan 19 Rostered Ministers' Future Church
- * Jan 22 March For Jesus intro
- * Jan 24 Rustic Roasted Chicken and Char Grilled Kielbasa Dinner
- * Jan 26 28 Rostered Ministers Gathering
- * January Attendance has been holding at 57 to 61

Secretary's January 2021 Report:

Attended bible study Assisted with 2 dinners Prepared the Good Hope Annual report Prepared the end of year Synod report Assisted with drive through communion Changed paraments Organized clothing shed Completed office duties Prepared agenda and reports for council Took meeting minutes for council Prepared 10 bulletins and 10 power point services Prepared and distributed the Reachout Faxed all bills and statements to Kelly

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Old Business:

a. Sarah will be attending the March for Jesus meeting this Saturday. She will bring back information for the congregation. Volunteers will be needed.

b. Kevin has signed the signature card for the church's account at Farmer's. He will get together with Kelly and Greg to decide whose name will be on the new debit card.

New Business:

a. Kevin, Nancy, and Stephanie have completed the financial audit for 2020. They complimented Kelly on her organizational skills. Council thanks the audit team.

Kevin closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Congregational meeting minutes for February 14, 2021

Sarah opens the meeting with prayer.

present: 12 in person and 8 on zoom

There were no questions or comments on the 2020 meeting minutes or on the 2020 annual report.

For the good of the Church:

Tammy Chuey asks for help with the rummage sale this Spring. Volunteers will be needed to set up, work the sale, and clean up. The date of the sale is to be determined soon.

Sarah thanks the team for their work on the parking lot paving project. She will be attending the February 20th meeting for the March for Jesus scheduled for May 22nd. She will bring back information for volunteers. Sarah invites members to contact her with any ideas or conflicts.

Pastor Ralph: You are the Church, the very body or presence of Jesus Christ in the world! Christ is our leader in this church and all things are possible with God and we shouldn't put limits on God or ourselves. Evangelism means to send out. We are charged with making disciples to serve. They will come to be baptized, and this is obedience to God. In 2020 Good Hope reached out to help our neighbors in many ways. Pastor Ralph has challenged the stewardship team to bring a new way of ministry to the congregation. We are to invite friends and family to do ministry with us. He has witnessed the faith, ministries, and sacrifices of this church and asks us to take one more step up. I look forward to watching you and assisting you in the ministry of God.



Treasurer's Report Ending January 31, 2021

| Negative shown in parentheses | Actual this period | Actual this year to date | Annual budget remaining |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Income | \$13,467.37 | \$13,467.37 | \$180,592.63 |
| Expense | \$16,684.01 | \$16,684.01 | \$177,375.99 |
| Net Total | (\$3,216.64) | (\$3,216.64) | \$3,216.64 |

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Lent -Fish Fry- Fridays

Barber Drive Barbeque will hold a Fish Fry every Friday in Lent at Good Hope. The meal includes baked Boston Scrod or breaded Fried Fish with coleslaw.

Your choice of two other side dishes such as mac and cheese, haluski, French fries, pierogis, or green beans.

Starting March 5, 10, 17, 24 from 3:30– 7pm. Cost is \$13 per meal. This dinner is take out only– you will be served at your car. There are no pre-orders for this dinner.

<u>PASTA BAKE</u> <u>SUNDAY, MARCH 14</u> <u>Noon To 4p.m.</u>



Served with tossed salad, bread, and dessert.

> \$10.00 Take out only.

You will be served at your car.

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SUNDAY MARCH 7TH NOON- 4PM OR TILL SOLDOUT Good Hope Lutheran Church 12030 Market Street, North Lima

IN THE SPIRIT OF SAINT PATRICK'S DAY **BARBER DRIVE BARBEQUE** IS HAVING A NEW ENGLAND CORN BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER

Meal includes: ½ pound slow-cooked flat cut corn beef brisket served with red potatoes, baby carrots, tender cabbage, and stone-ground mustard on the side. ALL FOR ONLY \$14

CALL OR TEXT MICHAEL TO PRE-ORDER AT 330-727-0437 PICK UP PRE-ORDERS NOON - 1:30 WE WILL SERVE YOU AT YOUR CAR. Good Hope Lutheran Church 12030 Market Street North Lima, OH 44452

Return Services Requested

Through Christ we put God first by teaching reaching and loving all!

Good Hope Lutheran Church 12030 Market Street North Lima, OH 44452

Worship Services

Saturdays—5:00 pm Sundays—8:00 & 10:30 AM & noon Children's Sunday School during 10:30 worship

Church Office

Office Phone: 330-549-2406 E-Mail: g.lutheran@sbcglobal.net Web Site: www.goodhope-elca.org Rev. Ralph W. Edwards, Pastor E-Mail: pastor@goodhope-elca.org Residence: 330-549-5780