July 2023

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!

We had two very interesting guests at our council meeting. The first was Naomi Sparks our pianist, who is now our treasurer. Naomi has our books all caught up. I joked that we always have money when the books are not caught up. Then as soon as the books are caught up, we have no money. Well, the books are caught up and we are running very tight. Naomi was impressed with the budget because it covered our actual expenses closely. As usual, our income is very tight and we need to keep making sure we are giving to the best of our ability. I have been and aways will be excited by the gratitude and giving of this congregation. We are a congregation that has vitality and finds ways to minister to our families and the community in which we live. Let's keep showing the world and God that our faith exceeds our fears and that we the people of Good Hope Lutheran Church are a beacon of Good Hope to the community and world in which we live. Thank you for Naomi for stepping up in our time of need to buckle down the books and keep us flowing forward.

Before I talk about the second guest, I want to take a moment and do a quick advertisement. You too can have the fun serving the community. God blesses the church when we are blessing the community. I just got off the phone with Lauren Newton and Joyce Herubin. They along with Christopher signed up to work the music in the park this last Wednesday. They said they had a great time listening to the music and relating to the people. They also said the people were nice and generous. Lauren said, "It was wonderful to watch people enjoying their time and listening to the music especially during an age when all we see a lot of unhappy people." (Me paraphrasing her.)

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The point is, sign up for a Wednesday. Wendy will guide you on what to do and we have the supplies. Now you can even ask Lauren or Joyce how it went and what to do. What is our goal as a church doing this? Well, we match our gifts and find a way to serve the community using those gifts. Our motto is Good Hope is the place that feeds the body and soul!! Let's go out and each do that. This message was brought to you by the letters H and S for the Holy Spirit!!

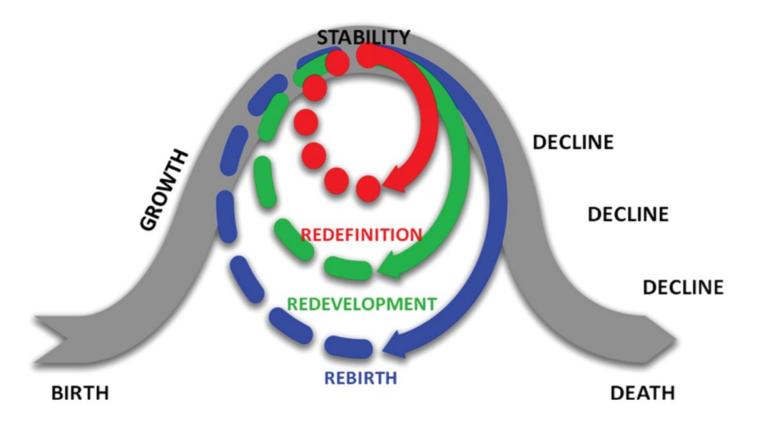
For a while now council has been trying to figure ways to increase the income of the church. Years prior council has cut spending, reducing and tightening up gas, electric, water, and garbage pick-up bills. We have cut paper cost down to bare minimums and other supplies too. We now email a major number of newsletters and we cut production of bulletins. We have dinners and write Thrivent grants to do ministry and mission. Now the next step would seem to make more income. Right now, I want to stop and thank you the people of Good Hope for your giving. We have a congregation of good and faithful givers. You are a blessing and I am sure you are the reason this congregation has lasted so long. We are to a point of worrying too much about finances. Again, I joked that the only time we seem to have money is when we don't do the books. The only brainstorming we the council were doing was on how to make money. This was beginning to scare me as your pastor. We need to focus on how to do ministry, not on income. I admit that I get caught up in the survival of Good Hope Lutheran Church instead of the mission of Jesus Christ and his gospel.

I was thinking maybe we have too many E.L.C.A. Lutheran church to close together and we are all dying because we don't have enough pastors and we worship our churches instead of our body in Christ. Maybe we should work to have a two- or three-point parish system and share the cost of a Pastor, secretary, and other things needed to run a church. I was so disappointed when I called a local sister church to share a treasurer and they said NO! I could not believe they don't want to work together or share expenses. I have been talking with the assistant to the bishop through all of this, and Pastor Mitch Philips stated he would come and talk to us. I am telling you I was starting to feel a little disappointed in myself for not leading us into better mission and ministry. I have full faith in God but like Abraham I was running out of ways in which I could help God answer my prayers. Remember my sermons how God does not need us to do God's work. God wants us to come to Him and have a relationship and then tell others about how that relationship works in our life and can work in theirs. We are to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. We are called from baptism to be priests and proclaimers of the gospel. We are anointed Children of God and sealed by the Holy Spirit. We are strengthened to go and proclaim how God restored us and can restore them.

So, The Reverend Mitch Phillips, ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP FOR LEADERSHIP came to help by sharing with us the truth of the condition of the church of the E.L.C.A. I am not going to tell you everything we talked about, I will let your brothers and sisters in Christ who are on



council share as they are able. The big thing I would like to share is the eye opening I received and the affirmation I came to resonate with inside of me. It was something I have known all along but had lost with some many years of grace and love, as well as complete favor. First, I want to share a slide from his power Point.



When I came here in 2000, Good Hope was redefined. We got started with redevelopment and growth. After 9/11 we grew to a point where we were discussing more services and/or a bigger building. Now we as a team have to take the next steps to restore life here on the corner of 165 and 7. I know, wait pastor Ralph, I don't feel like we are dead. I know we are not dead but if our leadership is only focused on surviving, just paying bills, and payroll, how is that stability? We have vitality! We are doing wonderful things! How can we do more and different things to see what can help get stronger? We have not found that which will give us rebirth. I think we were declining and 2020 gave us an urgency to keep the church alive. Now what is it that will give us back our excitement? What can help us enjoy getting up and coming to learn about and praising God? More importantly what will get us excited and cause us to go out and share the Gospel? The Good News of Jesus Christ. Help me to find ways to do Ministry and Mission. Let's step out of the box and give rebirth to this place call Good Hope Lutheran Church. 4

Sundays & Seasons Worship Planner From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.				
DATE	EVENT	COLOR	READINGS	INTRODUCTION
July 2nd	5th Sunday after Pentecost	green	Jeremiah 28: 5-9 Psalm 89: 1-4, 15-18 Romans 6: 12-23 Matthew 10: 40-42	The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.
July 9th	6th Sunday after Pentecost	green	Zechariah 9: 9-12 Psalm 145: 8-14 Romans 7: 15-25A Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30	The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.
July 16th	7th Sunday after Pentecost	green	Isaiah 55: 10-13 Psalm 65: 1-13 Romans 8: 1-11 Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23	God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.
July 23rd	8th Sunday after Pentecost	green	Isaiah 44: 6-8 Psalm 86: 11-17 Romans 8: 12-25 Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43	It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.
July 30th	9th Sunday after Pentecost	green	1 Kings 3: 5-12 Psalm 119: 129-136 Romans 8: 26-39 Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52	As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

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# SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE JULY

Serving in God's house	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
Lector 8:00 Lector 10:30	Greg Razo Sarah Ross	Nancy Crouse Pam Nock	Greg Razo Kathy Kramer	Nancy Crouse Sarah Ross	Greg Razo Pam Nock
Communion bread	Loetta Haller	Loetta Haller	Loetta Haller	Loetta Haller	Loetta Haller
Chrema	Tammy Chuey Sarah Ross	Nancy Barret Wendy Edwards	Tammy Chuey Sandy Kuntz Sarah Ross	Nancy Barret Wendy Edwards	need

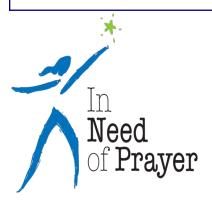
# SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE AUGUST

Serving in God's house	August 6	August 13	August 20	August 27
Lector 8:00 Lector 10:30	Nancy Crouse Kathy Kramer	Greg Razo Sarah Ross	Nancy Crouse Pam Nock	Greg Razo Kathy Kramer
Communion bread	Tammy Chuey	Tammy Chuey	Tammy Chuey	Tammy Chuey
Chrema	Tammy Chuey Sarah Ross	Nancy Barret Wendy Edwards	Tammy Chuey Sandy Kuntz Sarah Ross	Nancy Barret Wendy Edwards



Registration forms are available in the Narthex.

# **Our Prayer List**



Joe Kreidler Joe Dulovich Brian Huddleston Patty Dickey Alison Dobro Savannah Popio Terry Ward Checker Ward Jeff McMurray Bill Keaggy Family of Marge Shoemaker

In the military: Alyssa Bryce Liberty Jakeb Fry Lyndsey Miller

Our weekly intercessory prayer for the people of our congregation :

#### July 2

Penny Felger Bart Felger Carl Frost Jack Frost

#### <u>July 9</u>

Glenn Fuller LaDonna Fuller Karen Galgan Lee Galgan

#### <u>July 16</u>

Shannon Galgan Anna Gagye Hannah Gettemy Tina Gettemy

#### <u>July 23</u>

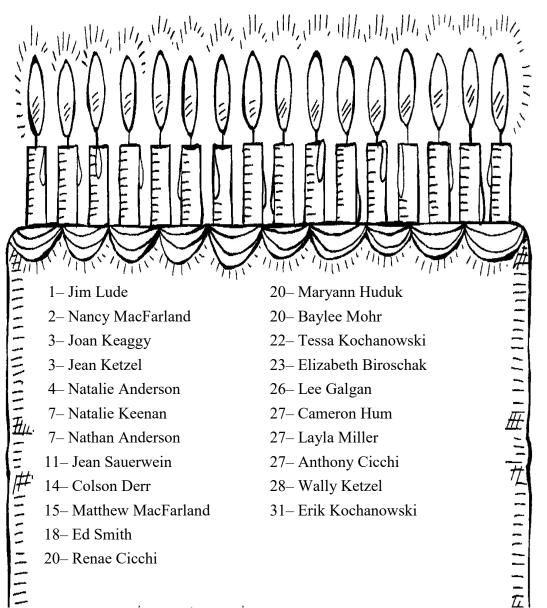
Daralee Graham Wayne Graham Art Gray Barbara Gray

#### <u>July 30</u>

Anna Christine Greenberg Don Greenberg Sharon Greenberg Kathy Grossen



- 1– Jordy and Megan Coburn
- 6- Wolfgang and Helga Wengler
- 12- Scott and Lisa Shehan
- 14– Brandon and Lacey Kramer
- 23-Lee and Karen Galgan
- 24-Glenn and LaDonna Fuller



# **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

#### **Council Meeting Minutes for June 20, 2023**

present: Lauren, Nancy, Kevin, Mike, Kim, Carl, P. Ralph, Wendy

excused: Greg

Pastor Ralph opened the meeting with prayer.

Naomi was introduced as our new treasurer. She has most things updated and has familiarized herself with the realm program.

Mitch Phillips, assistant to Bishop Barbins, presented the Life Cycle of a Congregation. The presentation was very interesting and he talked about redefining and redeveloping the church to move forward with the present times.

#### Pastor's Report -May- 2023

Area of Focus Last Month:

- I had 24 counseling sessions and numerous significant contacts with members and others.
- Hospital visits 2- Vincent Arquilla, Joe Dulovich
- I had 22 contacts by phone for significant help.
- We had our regular number of Saturday night and Sunday morning services.
- Over the past month, I have presided at 13 worship services and prepared 5 sermons.
- May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Wednesday Bible Study 6PM
- ◊ May 5, 19, Fish Fry
- May 6 Lauren & Matt's wedding
- May 12 Officer Beat up
- May 12, 13 Synod Assembly
- May 15-17 Pastor Out for medical Procedures
- May 20<sup>th</sup> Camp Frederick Quarter Auction I emcee
- May 28 Pentecost Sunday
- May 29 Memorial Day Office Closed

#### Secretary's Report:

Attended day camp meetings Attended bible study Wrote Thrivent grant for the Mobile Market Changed paraments Answered calls for 3 c's Updated electronic sign Organized clothing shed Completed office duties Prepared agenda and reports for council and took minutes Prepared bulletins and power point services Prepared and distributed the Reachout Faxed all bills and statements to Erik

#### Old Business:

a. Pastor Ralph will bring information about digital directories in July.

b. The sidewalk repair and yard sale will be discussed in July.

### New Business:

a. Kevin will ask Naomi to help prepare the budget for 2024.

Kevin led the Lord's Prayer to close the meeting.



# **Treasurer's Report Ending May 31, 2022**

Negative shown in parentheses	Actual this period	Actual this year to date	Annual Budget remaining
Income	\$13,423.42	\$74,665.77	\$121,763.23
Expense	\$21,891.28	\$83,980.20	\$112,448.80
Net Total	(\$8,467.92)	(\$9,314.43)	\$9,314.43

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### THE BEAVER PATROLMAN' ASSOCIATION 25TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Wednesday, August 2, at the Lake Club-8:30am shotgun start

\$150 per golfer— this includes 18 holes with riding cart, lunch, steak dinner, and refreshments.

Registration forms are available in the Narthex. If you wish to sponsor a hole, please mail it to them at:

Beaver Patrolman's Association ATTN: Golf Outing 2023 P.O. Box 505 North Lima, OH 44452

If you have questions please call Chris Albert or Sarina Stacy at 330-549-5338.

## \*Mark Your Calendar\*

July 5, 12, 19, & 26– Music in the Park concerts at Woodworth Park 7pm

July 5 & 19 – Community picnic at Calvary 6pm

July 14 & 28– fish fry and shrimp dinners 3– 6:30pm \$15

August 2– Beaver Patrolman's Association annual golf outing

August 13– Good Hope's annual picnic

## **\*\*Special Notes\*\***

Used greeting cards:

Used greeting cards are collected all year long. Please put them in the container on the table in the Narthex. These cards are donated to the Alzheimer facility so they can be used to make crafts.

Good Grief Camp starts July 23. This year we have a few small requests for supplies. If you are able to help out, please bring your donations to the Narthex by Sunday July 23. Thank you! Needed:

power strips with long cords

wooden things to burn with a wood burner buckets for drums

Pastor Ralph and I will be on vacation July 10-14. If you have an emergency please call Pastor Kari Lankford at 330-831-0919.

### \*\*\*Thank You\*\*\*

Thank you to everyone who donated supplies for the Strawberry Social! They raised \$1,100.

Thanks to Mike McMurray for keeping us company at the Mobile Market!

Thank you to all who sent in recipes for the community day camp. They expect to have the cook book ready by the end of July.

A great big thanks to Mark and Natalie! They did a fantastic job trimming all the bushes and trees at the church and the parsonage.

Thanks also to Nancy for weeding out the front flower bed! It looks so much better!

Thank you to the Herubin family! You have really helped a lot with the Music in the Park.

# GOOD HOPE'S ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC AUGUST 13th AT NOON Council will provide hamburgers and hotdogs and buns for both. Dinnerware and condiments and beverages will also be provided.



Please bring a covered dish or side dish or dessert to share. Yard games are welcome such as cornhole, lawn darts, and volleyball. You may also bring friends and neighbors!

If it is raining we will have the picnic in Fellowship Hall– same day and time.



#### Good Hope Lutheran Church,

THANK YOU for your commitment to Camp Frederick. We are grateful for your donation of the multiple baskets for our Quarter Auction fundraiser which was held on May 20th. All three baskets, the Joann Fabric, the lottery tree, and the Vera Bradley were very popular with Quarter Auction guests. Because of donations like yours, we were able to raise \$11,138 for Camp! Your support and prayers helps us continue our mission to help transform the lives of children by providing them with a Camp Frederick experience.

We are thankful for all the support we receive from our corporate churches. Please consider using one of Camp's many facilities for any upcoming events. We have many programs to pick from or we can customize a program to your needs.

Thank you again,

**Camp Frederick Quarter Auction Team** 

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**Return Services Requested** 

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

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#### 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