



June 2024

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

The R E A C H O U T

Ridiculous Prayers

Because we know the outcome of the lion chase, we fail to appreciate the way it looked to the average by-stander. What if Benaiah had been killed by the lion? Let's just say it like it is: He would have looked completely ridiculous. Can't you hear the people whispering under their breath at the funeral? What was Benaiah thinking? But lion chasers aren't afraid of doing something that seems ridiculous to others because they know anything is possible with God. A request can never be too ridiculous when you're asking the One who knows no limits. When National Community Church was just getting off the ground, we started praying a ridiculous prayer. We prayed that God would give us a piece of property half a block from Union Station. At the time, it was a graffiti-covered nuisance property. Actually, in its heyday, it was used as a crack house. I could envision a first-class, fully operational coffeehouse on that corner. So, we started praying. I did prayer walks around the property. We laid hands on the building. I prayed for it every time I walked by it. It was a ridiculous prayer for a number of reasons. First of all, we couldn't afford it. The original asking price was one million dollars, and we didn't have the attendance or giving to finance that kind of dream eight years ago. Secondly, churches build churches. They don't typically build coffeehouses. Plus, we had zero experience in the coffeehouse business. And finally, the owners were courting Starbucks. The odds were definitely stacked against us.

Look what is inside

Pastor cont.	2
Landscaping	3
Serving in God's House	4
Worship Planner	5
Levites	6
Birthdays	7
Prayers	7
Anniversaries	7
Council minutes	8
Council cont.	9
2024 graduates	10
Confirmands	11
Treasurer's report	11
Mark your calendar	12
Office notes	12
Weekly attendance	12
Rummage Sale	13
Strawberry Social	13

(cont. next page)

I still remember my first phone call to the owners of the property. I felt foolish even calling them. I felt awkward. I felt nervous. I felt young. And I had no idea what to say. We really had no business pursuing the property, but we dared to dream a God-sized dream. Six years after praying a ridiculous prayer, we purchased lot 109 in square 754 in the District of Columbia. The entire process was so full of divine interventions that we named the coffeehouse Ebenezer's, which means "hitherto hath the LORD helped us" That ridiculous prayer is now the largest coffeehouse in Washington, DC. It is also one of the nicest and busiest. It doesn't hurt that it is strategically located in the shadow of Union Station, across the street from the Federal Judiciary Building in Washington, DC, and it forms the northwest corner of the Capitol Hill Historic District. Now, here is the amazing thing. Right after purchasing the property, four different neighbors told me that they had offered more money than we did. I'm neither a real estate agent nor the son of a real estate agent, but don't you typically sell to the highest bidder? The only explanation I have is the favor of God. God had His hand on the property, and He wouldn't allow anyone else to purchase it. "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." We underestimate how much spiritual authority we have when we pray in accordance with the will of God. The word bind means "to prohibit or to fasten with chains." When we exercised our spiritual authority in prayer and laid hands on that property, it was like our prayers put a spiritual chain-link fence around 201 F Street, NE. And God prohibited anyone from buying it for more than two decades. In fact, I met a neighbor not long after our coffeehouse opened up who said: "if it weren't for me, you wouldn't have a coffeehouse." He went on to explain that he has lived in the neighborhood for more than twenty-five years. And back in the 1980s, when the former owners of the property applied for a demolition permit, this neighbor stopped them. He went to the historic preservation society and got the property deemed a historic property. And if he hadn't done what he did, a fast-food chain or dry cleaner would have snapped up the property before we even moved into the neighborhood. Long before the dream of building a coffeehouse was even conceived, God had a contract on the property. (In a Pit with a Lion on a Snowy Day by Mark Patterson)

Folks! Please dream dreams and have visions! Let us move this church into the realm of the Glory of God. Let us not look at what we don't have. Let's find ways to dream Spirit dreams. I dream that we have worship that matters. I dream that we feel the Holy Spirit move us so that we worship with sighs so deep and praise so powerful the neighbors feel and hear the rush of the wind wondering what is going on. Please join me in prayers that move mountains. Please pray with me prayers that cause a movement here in this area. Please pray that we have a revival. Please pray we cause an excitement and movement that allows us to spread the Word of God and minister to the people. Amen, Amen, Amen!!

Pastor Ralph



LANDSCAPING DAY PART II

June 11th 5pm- 8pm

Come to Good Hope and plant flowers!
Bring your tools, your gloves, and your plants!

Not Pictured:
Gene Hostetter
Thank you all for
making our church
grounds beautiful!



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE JUNE

Serving in God's house	June 2 anointing	June 9	June 16	June 23	June 30
Lector 8:00 Lector 10:30	Nancy Crouse Andy Tesyk	Greg Razo Kathy Kramer	Nancy Crouse Andy Tesyk	Greg Razo Kathy Kramer	Nancy Crouse Andy Tesyk
Communion bread	Deb Dulovich	Deb Dulovich	Deb Dulovich	Deb Dulovich	Deb Dulovich
Chrema	Nancy Barret Wendy Edwards Tammy Chuey	Nancy Barret Andy Tesyk	Sandy Kuntz Tammy Chuey	Wendy Edwards Andy Tesyk	need

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE JULY

Serving in God's house	July 7 anointing	July 14	July 21	July 28
Lector 8:00 Lector 10:30	Greg Razo Kathy Kramer	Nancy Crouse Andy Tesyk	Greg Razo Kathy Kramer	Nancy Crouse Andy Tesyk
Communion bread	Tammy Chuey	Tammy Chuey	Tammy Chuey	Tammy Chuey
Chrema	Andy Tesyk Wendy Edwards Tammy Chuey	Nancy Barret Andy Tesyk	Nancy Barret Sandy Kuntz Tammy Chuey	Wendy Edwards Andy Tesyk

Sundays & Seasons Worship Planner

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DATE	EVENT	COLOR	READINGS	INTRODUCTION
June 2nd	2nd Sunday after Pentecost	green	Deuteronomy 5: 12-15 Psalm 81: 1-10 2 Corinthians 4: 5-12 Mark 2:23--3:6	Deuteronomy makes clear that sabbath-keeping is meant for the welfare of all. God delivered the Israelites out of slavery, so they should observe this freedom with a day of rest. No one should work seven days a week; even slaves and foreigners should be able to rest. Yet human beings can turn even the most liberating religious practice into a life-destroying rule. Jesus does not reject sabbath-keeping, but defends its original life-enhancing meaning. Our worship and our religious way of life are to lead to restoration: the hungry being fed and the sick being healed.
June 9th	3rd Sunday after Pentecost	green	Genesis 3: 8-15 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1 Mark 3: 20-35	A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.
June 16th	4th Sunday after Pentecost	green	Ezekiel 17: 22-24 Psalm 92: 1-4, 12-15 2 Corinthians 5: 6-17 Mark 4: 26-34	The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.
June 23rd	5th Sunday after Pentecost	green	Job 38: 1-11 Psalm 107: 1-3, 23-32 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 Mark 4: 35-41	Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation! Now we are in the storm, the boat almost swamped; but Jesus is here now, and when we call him, he will calm the storm. Even the wind and waves listen to him as they would to their creator. We also listen to him and are called to believe in the power of God's word in him, a power greater than all that we fear.
June 30th	6th Sunday after Pentecost	green	Lamentations 3: 22-33 Psalm 30 2 Corinthians 8: 7-15 Mark 5: 21-43	A woman finds healing by touching Jesus' cloak, and a girl is restored to life when he takes her by the hand. In both cases a boundary is crossed: in Jesus' time the hemorrhaging woman was considered ritually unclean, polluting others by her touch, and anyone who touched a corpse also became unclean. In Mark's gospel Jesus breaks down barriers, from his first meal at a tax collector's house to his last breath on the cross as the temple curtain is torn in two. We dare to touch Jesus in our "uncleanness" and to live as a community that defines no one as an outsider.

THE LEVITES
Breakfast at Mt Olivet June 29th at 9am
Meet at Good Hope 10am
Text your R.S.V.P. to: Carl Frost 330-540-1427 or
Pastor Ralph 330-360-1372



Not pictured: Pastor Ralph and Wayne Meyer
Door handles are tightened, outdoor signs are straightened,
light bulbs are changed, and the light in the women's bathroom
doesn't flicker!
Thank you all!

Our Prayer List



Ruth Thompson
Maria Neopolitan
Ava Viviano

In the military:
Alyssa
Bryce Liberty
Jakeb Fry
Lyndsey Miller
Daniel McMurray

Our weekly intercessory
prayer for the people of our
congregation :



5- Sandy & David Kuntz
8- Ed & Karen Holisky
9- Larry & Kaye McFall
11- Mike & Bobbi McMurray
22- Bill & Joan Keaggy
23- Kim & Nancy MacFarland
30- Jim & Amber Powell

June 2

Ed Smith
Kim Smith
Kyrie Sparks
Naomi Sparks

June 9

Jenn Stasiak
Joe Stasiak
Jennifer Strecansky
Jillian Strecansky

June 16

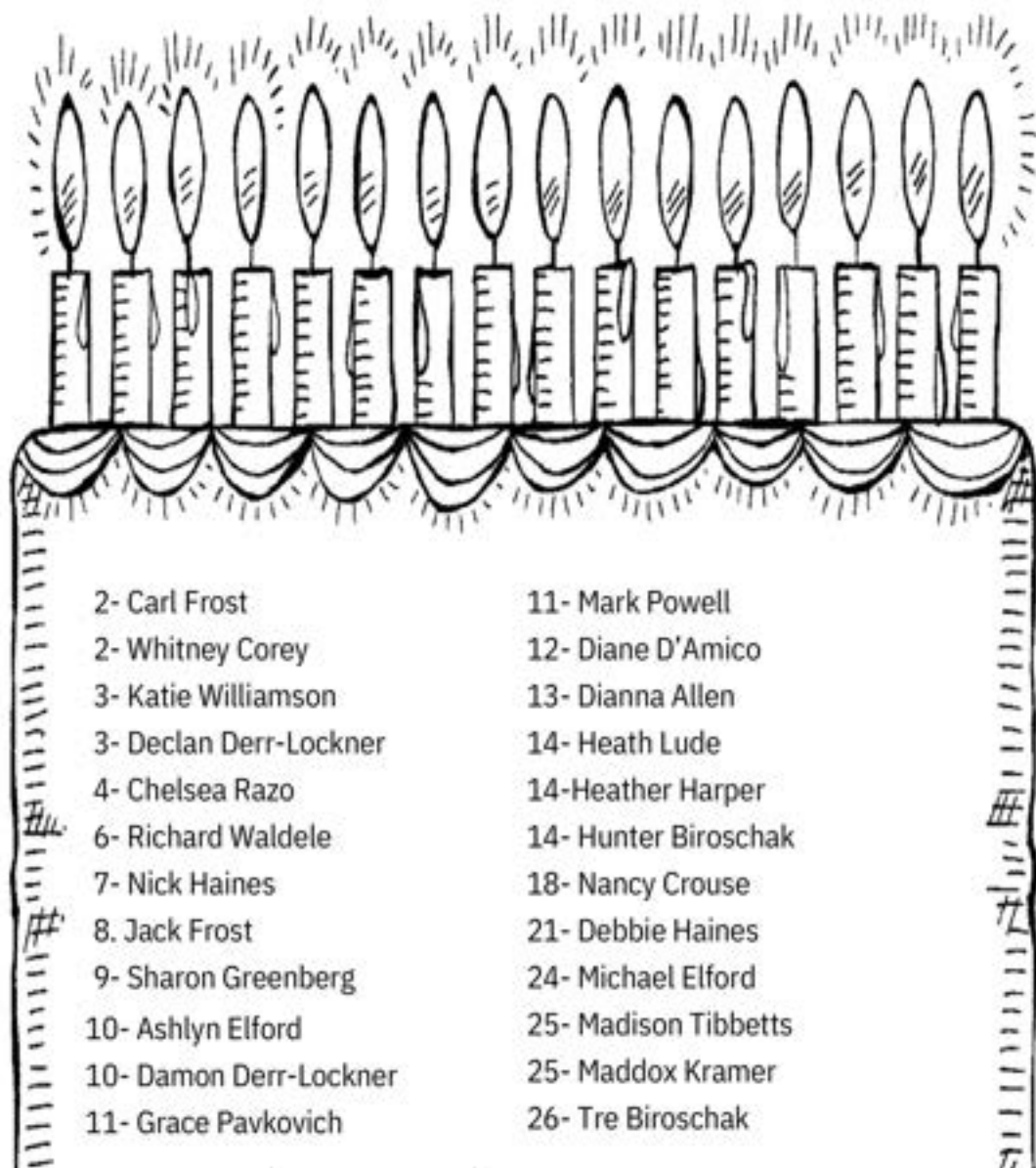
Richard Strecansky
Elizabeth Stricko
Tanner Stricko
Ty Stricko

June 23

Jennis Takach
Neil Takach
Julie Taylor
William Taylor

June 30

Andy Tesyk
Charlotte Tibbetts
Madison Tibbetts
Mason Tibbetts



2- Carl Frost

2- Whitney Corey

3- Katie Williamson

3- Declan Derr-Lockner

4- Chelsea Razo

6- Richard Waldele

7- Nick Haines

8- Jack Frost

9- Sharon Greenberg

10- Ashlyn Elford

10- Damon Derr-Lockner

11- Grace Pavkovich

11- Mark Powell

12- Diane D'Amico

13- Dianna Allen

14- Heath Lude

14- Heather Harper

14- Hunter Biroshak

18- Nancy Crouse

21- Debbie Haines

24- Michael Elford

25- Madison Tibbetts

25- Maddox Kramer

26- Tre Biroshak

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Council Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2024

The meeting was opened with prayer.

present: Pastor Ralph, Lauren, Chris, Kim, Carl, Jean, Natalie, Mark, and Wendy

excused: Mike

Pastor's Report –May– 2024

Area of Focus Last Month:

- I had 10 counseling sessions and numerous contacts with members and others.
- I had 7 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 12 worship services and prepared 4 sermons.
 - Apr 13 All in Woman's Seminar
 - Apr 13 Good Hope's Open House
 - Apr 17 Judge Durkin's Court Room Sentencing Hearing
 - Apr 17 Bible Study
 - Apr 24 Bible Study
 - Apr 27 Rally in the Valley

Secretary's Report:

April 6- Fellowship
 April 7- Fellowship
 April 13- All in Gathering
 April 13- Open House at Good Hope
 April 15- back flow preventer installed
 April 16- printer cleaned and new fuser installed
 April 20- Ladies' fellowship
 April 14 & 28- confirmation class
 Answered calls for 3 c's
 Updated electronic sign
 Completed office duties
 Prepared agenda and reports for council and took minutes
 Prepared bulletins and power point services
 Prepared and distributed the Reachout
 All bills and statements to Naomi

Old Business:

1. Natalie has an email out to find someone to print the directory. Council will set another date to take pictures to make sure everyone is included.
2. Employee evaluations are due back at the June meeting. Council will ask other members of the congregation to fill them out. Mark will compile the data.
3. Wendy will call Boak & Sons to make an appointment to have the shingles above the sanctuary replaced.

(Old Business continued)

4. The landscaping day went well. The weeding took longer than expected. New plants will go in June 11th 5- 8pm. Mark and Natalie will trim the bushes before then. Mulch will be added after the trimming. All are invited to join in.
5. Pastor Ralph motions that Naomi Sparks, Chris Herubin, and Carl Frost be the signatories for Good Hope's Farmer's Bank account. Chris Herubin will put his name on Good Hope's debit card. Chris Herubin, Carl Frost, and Mark Nemenz are to be the signatories for Good Hope's Thrivent Mutual and Mission Investments accounts. Natalie seconds. Motion carried.
6. Kim passed out a survey asking about the church experience at Good Hope. Lauren will design an online survey. These surveys will be available to the congregation by paper copy, mailed out, and online.
7. Council is very much enjoying getting to talk to everyone who is attending the monthly fellowship. A new sign-up sheet is available for the rest of the year. Carl is checking on having coffee makers donated. Jean will purchase the coffee makers if needed. Mark will be getting doughnuts from Dunkin Saturday nights.
8. Natalie gave Lauren a picture of Pastor Ralph to finish the welcome brochure. Chris is having 100 brochures printed.
9. Jean will send thank you cards to those who helped with the landscaping and the directory photographer.

New Business:

1. Jean is putting together a list of members of Good Hope.
2. Mark asked Pastor Ralph to begin having a children's sermon. Pastor Ralph will check with the parents first.
3. Mark is going to hold two council meetings per month. One meeting will focus on the finances and questions for Naomi. The other meeting will focus on sustaining and growing the church.
4. Natalie is looking for a template for the emergency evacuation plan. Council will be developing this plan soon.
5. Bishop Barbins has put Good Hope on the list of churches to attend a new stewardship training in the Fall.
6. The Levites will evaluate the hot water tanks and the water coming into the library and report back to council. Chris will have his friend look for a roof leak.
7. Pastor Ralph motions to accept Konnor Klim as a member, through baptism, of Good Hope as of June 22, 2024. Lauren seconds. Motion carried.

Church Growth:

1. Council is planning a full dinner schedule starting with a potluck in September. Lauren and Chris will provide a pasta dinner in October.
2. Good Hope will have a rummage sale from 9am- 5pm on August 9, 10, and 11. This sale includes a bake sale. Donations will be taken starting in July.

Miscellaneous:

1. Pastor Ralph will give Mark the password so that he can also make one-calls.
2. Kathy Brown wants to rent a room at Good Hope to hold speech and language therapy groups. Wendy will contact Mennonite Mutual to check that our insurance covers this and to have our policy updated.

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

CONGRATULATIONS 2024 GRADUATES!



Kaylee Price



Ashlyn Elford



Lindsey Bregar



Kara Haskin

Nick Haines



Tessa Kochanowski



2024 Confirmands
Berkley Corey &
Layla Hill



Treasurer's Report April 1- April

Negative shown in parentheses	Actual monthly	Budget monthly	Budget remaining	Quarter 1 actual this year
Income	\$18,969.66	\$16,159.92	(\$2,809.74)	\$38,417.57
Expense	\$15,916.39	\$15,868.83	(\$47.56)	\$45,503.94
Net Total	\$3,053.27	\$291.09	(\$2,762.18)	(\$7,086.37)

Mark Your Calendar

June 1-Fellowship at 4:30pm
 June 2-Fellowship 9- 10am
 June 2-Strawberry Social at Mt. Olivet 11:30am- 1:30pm
 June 11- Election held at Good Hope 7am- 7pm
 June 11- Landscaping at Good Hope 5- 8pm
 June 16-Graduation Sunday
 June 29-Levites meeting 9am at Mt. Olivet
 June 29-Community breakfast at Mt. Olivet 7- 10am

Office Notes

Pastor Ralph and I will be away June 3rd- June 12th.
 Please call Pastor Eric Edwards at 419-351-1452 or Pastor Kari Lankford at 330-831-0919 if you have an emergency.

Please use this link to join the 10:30 worship. Please join about 10:15.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94263012735?pwd=U1A0L1FjMEpDT0ZWQUdsY250VzIUUT09>

Meeting ID: 942 6301 2735

Passcode: 197098

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.

Bible study is held in the Chapel every Wednesday at 6pm. We are currently discussing Matthew.

All are welcome!

Please let the office know if you have someone graduating this year. We will honor them Sunday June 16 at both services.

Thank you to all who have signed up for Serving in God's House. The sign-up sheets will be available until June 16. Classes will then be scheduled so you can get started by Fall.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

January	February	March	April	May
7th- 74	4th- 67	3rd- 70	7th- 76	5th- 77
14th- 39	11th- 74	10th- 66	14th- 87	12th- 60
21st- 66	18th- 65	17th- 76	21st- 89	19th- 85
28th- 73	25th - 67	24th- 82	28th- 85	26th- 63
		31st- 128		

RUMMAGE SALE & BAKE SALE AT GOOD HOPE

August 9, 10, & 11th 9am- 5pm

We need your stuff!

As you are cleaning out garages and closets please save items for our rummage sale.

Drop off your donations starting July 26th.

A sign up sheet will be available so you can volunteer to help with the sale and donate baked goods.

Thank you in advance!



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

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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