

Words from  
Pastor  
Mike Parsh

*Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,*

It is good to be the Church!

At the celebration of Pastor Jones' ministry, we will sing Timothy Dudley-Smith's hymn *O Christ the Same*. This beautiful hymn speaks to how Christ is the same throughout all of life's passages and chapters. As I pondered the words of the hymn, I was drawn to the opening phrase of the first verse. It reads as follows:

*O Christ the same, through all our story's pages,  
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;  
eternal Lord, the king of all the ages,  
unchanging still amid the passing years:<sup>1</sup>*

What I caught my attention in this phrase were the words, "O Christ the same, through all our story's pages." This stood out to me because we are experiencing the turning of a page in the ministry we share as part of Christ's Church.

For the past six plus years we have had the gift of Pastor Jones' faithful leadership, wisdom, and grace. I am grateful for all that she has done for the ministry we share and wish her well in retirement. As Pastor Jones retires, we turn to a new page of our shared ministry.

Yet as we turn the page turning, Christ is still the same. Which we should all find to be good news as we continue the ministry laid before us. Again, as the hymn tells us, Christ will see us through all of Life's ups and downs, all our care and joys. Christ is unchanging amid all the passing years.

As we journey ahead into the future together as the Body of Christ, we can accomplish the mission and ministry that Christ calls us into. Will everything be the same in how we fulfill this calling? No. In every time of transition there are some changes, small and/or big. But the good news is that together as the Church we can face the opportunities and challenges with faith that Christ is the same and always will be.

In the days, weeks, and months ahead, I ask for your patience, support, and above all your prayers for one another as we all adjust to the new rhythm of ministry. As another hymn tells us, "We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ the lord of all."<sup>1</sup>

Let us together move forward with faith and hope in God, knowing that Christ is the same, throughout all of our story's pages.

*Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Mike*

<sup>1</sup> Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

<sup>2</sup> Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



## Project Update

The final phase of the Capital Appeal (sidewalks) is going very smoothly and quickly. Along with the new sidewalks, the areas on the back of the church have been re-landscaped and new grass planted. Thank you to Bruce for working on these areas in the heat and humidity!!



## In Memorium

Ruth H. Kish, age 91, formerly of 110 East 9th Street, Oil City, passed away on Thursday June 22, 2023, at West Lakes Woods assisted living. She married Eugene F. Kish on November 12, 1960, in Good Hope Lutheran Church, who preceded her in death.

Mrs. Kish is survived by two children, her grandchildren, and nephews. Ruth enjoyed the piano, bowling, golf, wreath making and latch hook rugs in her earlier years. She was a long time member of Good Hope Lutheran Church and was involved in different capacities through the years.

Interment was in Sunset Hills Memorial Gardens.

Phyllis M. (Uplinger) Taylor, 91, of Mechanicsburg, passed away peacefully on June 29, 2023, in Mechanicsburg, PA at Harmony at West Shore in Personal Care. Phyllis was born on March 25, 1932. She was the daughter of Blaine and E. Jane (Xander) Uplinger of Oil City, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Taylor was a graduate of Oil City High School in 1950. Phyllis married the love of her life, Glenn R. Taylor, Jr. on Dec. 20, 1952, and together they raised two sons. She enjoyed traveling, square dancing and social activities with her husband. Together, they served as co-chairs of Oil Heritage Week. Phyllis delighted in reading, playing the piano, cards, and spending time with family. She played an active part in church activities and volunteered in various organizations.

A burial service was held at Brandon Cemetery in Seneca, PA.



## Good Hope Christian Preschool

### Preschool Update

The preschool program came to end for the school year with a wonderful program and family picnic. The weather cooperated and the children did a fabulous job singing. We would like to thank the congregation and staff of Good Hope for your continued support of our preschool program.

I will be creating a "donation board" in the downstairs lobby again this year. Last year many people helped out the preschool by donating supplies and money and we really appreciated it. On this bulletin board you will find cards of items that we use at preschool. Please consider taking a card or two and purchasing the items. There is a blue donation bin also located in the lobby. Just bring the items back by the beginning of September and place them in the bin. If you would like, you may return the card with your name and address, and I will make sure you receive a thank you. We appreciate any and all donations.

If you would rather make a monetary donation, that is also greatly appreciated. You can either write a check making sure you note that it is a donation for the preschool, or you can donate to the scholarship fund. The scholarship fund allows children to get financial assistance with their preschool tuition. Over the last few years, we have had several children benefit and be able to attend our program that might not have been able to if not for the scholarship fund.

We are excited to announce that both the preschool class and the morning toddler time class are full. There are spots still available in the afternoon toddler time class. If you know of anyone who is interested, please have them contact me at [ghpdirector2@gmail.com](mailto:ghpdirector2@gmail.com).

I hope you are all having a great summer and thank you again for your support.

*Marcy Amero  
Director/Preschool Teacher  
Good Hope Christian Preschool*



## Blessing of Backpacks August 27

## Blessing of Students and Backpacks

Another school year approaches, and we want our children, youth, young adults, and school personnel to know that God is with them each and every day! We invite children, teens, college students, and school personnel to bring their backpacks and learning devices to 9:30 a.m. worship on **Sunday, August 27**.

We will recognize them and ask for God's blessing upon them and the tools of their teaching and learning. Near the end of the worship service, all will be invited up front for this time of prayer.



## Thank You

*Pastor Jones,*

Thank you again for choosing the preschool to receive the offering from your Celebration of Ministry service. That is so incredibly kind of you and it will definitely help out. I have thought and prayed about it, and I would like 75% of the money to go to our scholarship fund. Not as many people have been donating to that fund as before, and it is dwindling. I'd like to make sure it stays replenished so it is there when families in need have to use it. The other 25% I would like to put toward supplies for the preschool. Thank you again and I hope you enjoy your retirement.

*Marcy Amero  
Director/Preschool Teacher  
Good Hope Christian Preschool*

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*Dear Good Hope family,*

As many of you know, Sam is now at Arden Courts, a memory care facility in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, following some very difficult months of extreme mood swings, uncharacteristic behaviors, and strange thought processes. The transition has been challenging because he does not understand why he needs to be there. We know that God is with Sam and the rest of us, and we appreciate the tremendous support and prayers that we have received from you. This is definitely not something we expected to be dealing with, and we continue to struggle with the situation. We know in our minds that God led us to make this best decision for Sam, but our hearts are still hurting. Please continue to pray for all of us as we navigate this difficult journey.

*God bless each and every one of you!  
Sharon, Mindi, Cory, Jay, and Sam McDowell*

*Dear Friends of Good Hope*

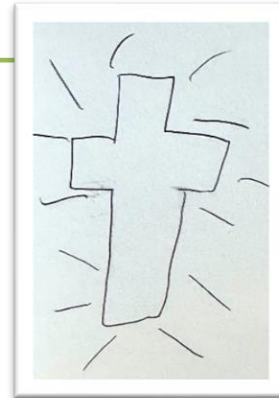
We so appreciate your kindness in providing a meal for our family after Phyllis' burial service. We all have deep roots with Good Hope, which made it special to come to Good Hope.

*With gratitude,  
The Taylor Family*

Thank you!

I had a great time at camp.

*Samuel*



**Worship Volunteers – August**

**Lectors:**

- 8/6 – Nancy Wigren
- 8/13 – Allison McNamara
- 8/20 – JoAnn Beary
- 8/27 – Rick Sabousky

**Ushers:**

- Sue Fisher
- Gretchen Gibbs

**Altar Care:**

- Sue Fisher
- Gretchen Gibbs

**Communion Assistant:**

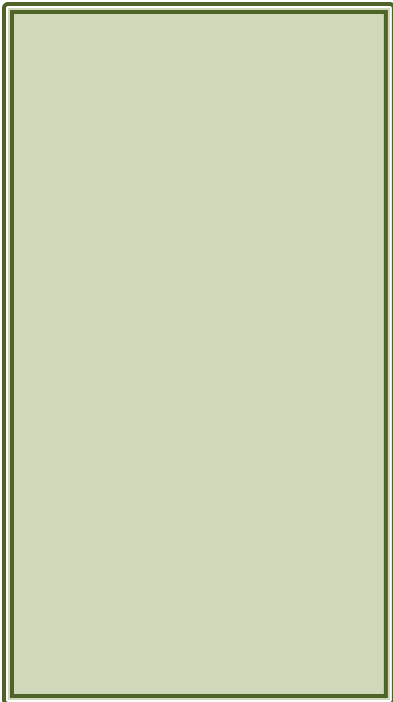
- Yvonne Paranick

**Birthdays**

- 14/ Gretchen Gibbs
- 15/ Scott Kruschinske
- 21/ Katie Parsh
- 25/ Jan Ruditis  
Pastor Sharon Hilfiger
- 26/ Colby Johnson
- 31/ Kate Gibson Duffy

**Financial Report - June**

<i>Actual Receipts</i>	\$1,948.25
<i>Budgeted Receipts</i>	6,752.09
<i>Actual Expenditures</i>	4,456.60



**Zion Worship**  
Indoors – 11:00am

### Thank You

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for all the cards, prayers, and well wishes. This has made such a solid support in my recovery from the stroke. You are a loving church family and I thank you so much.

*Karen Horn*

### Upcoming Schedule!

Starting on September 17 and every third Sunday of the month thereafter, there will be a social time with a light brunch. We will meet downstairs at 11:00 AM prior to the new worship time of 11:45 AM. Please join us for fellowship, friendship, and fun.



### Worship Time Information

STARTING  
September 3, 2023

### Worship Time Change - Beginning Sunday, September 3, 2023

**On Sunday, September 3, 2023, the Sunday morning start times for Good Hope will be changing to the following:**

- **\*Sunday School at Good Hope – 9:00am**
- **Indoor Good Hope Worship – 10:15am**
- **Indoor Zion Worship – 11:45am**

***\*Sunday School will begin on September 10 – "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday.***



### Summer Auction August 27

### Summer Auction

We are still accepting handmade items for the Good Hope Lutheran Church 6th Annual End of Summer Auction to be held Sunday, August 27, after worship. The auction proceeds will benefit the CMC meal program

The gallery of items can be found in the summer narthex (lower lobby) of the church or on our website at:

<https://www.goodhopezionlutheranoilcity.org/2023-auction>



## SAVE THE DATE

God's work.  
Our hands.  
September 10

## God's work. Our hands.

Good Hope and Zion will participate in the annual ELCA Day of Service on Sunday, September 10, 2023. There will be a shared worship service at 10:15am at Good Hope. Lunch will be provided following worship. The following service opportunities are available, for all ages and abilities:

- Assembling personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief
- Assembling school kits for LWR
- Tying quilts for LWR (no sewing skills required)
- A community service project, to be determined

Bins will be located in the Good Hope office hallway to collect items. Below are donation opportunities for GWOH Sunday:

- Donations of non-perishable items for Community Services of Venango County
- Monetary donations to cover overseas shipping costs for quilts and kits (\$2-\$3 per item)
- Monetary donations to purchase items for the care or school kits.
- Donations of items to make **ONE COMPLETE** personal care kit
  - One light-weight, dark-colored bath towel
  - **Two** bars of bath soap (4 to 5 oz each), preferably unscented
  - One adult toothbrush
  - One sturdy comb
  - One metal nail clipper
- Donations of items to make **ONE COMPLETE** school kit:
  - **Four** 70-sheet notebooks, approximately 8" x 10 ½" (no loose-leaf paper)
  - One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with both inches and centimeters
  - One pencil sharpener
  - One pair of **blunt** scissors
  - **Five** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
  - **Five** black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
  - One box of 16 or 24 crayons
  - One 2 ½" eraser
- Prayers for the volunteers and for those who will be served



## Community Meals

August 8

August 29

## Coffee Break

Thursdays – 9:30am

## Community Meals

Free Community Meals will be served at Zion Lutheran Church on Tuesday August 8 and Tuesday August 29, 4:30pm to 6:00pm. We serve between 220 and 240 meals per event.

Adult daily living supplies are distributed during monthly meals on a rotating basis. Laundry pods are distributed the first meal of each month. We will distribute laundry pods and toothpaste/toothbrushes in July.

Our stock of deodorant, body wash, and shampoo is running low. Please consider purchasing extra when you are shopping and donating them. You can drop them off at either church or I will be glad to pick it up – it will be greatly appreciated!

## Coffee Break

Our regular Coffee Break on Thursdays is held at Zion Lutheran Church at 9:30am. We had a record-breaking high of 26 attendees one week in June! We have regulars from the community with people of all ages attending including some individuals from a local group home who enjoy our company. Everyone is welcome - please join us!

We are also in need of Thrivent Community Action cards. If you are eligible for one of these and would be willing to donate it to the free Community Meals, please contact Joyce at 724-699-0861.

## Quilters of Hope

The Quilters of Hope will be meeting Tuesdays, 10:00am to 2:30pm. Please bring a lunch and join us! No sewing experience is needed.

## Hope Circle

Hope Circle meeting will be August 10 10:00am, in the Fellowship Hall at Good Hope. Devotions: Rhonda, Hostess: Dolores, Lesson: Ann; "Dark Clouds Gather" pgs. 59-64.

## Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet Monday, August 7, 7:00pm at the Best residence.



Quilters of Hope  
Tuesdays @ 10:00am

## Circle Schedules

Ruth: August 7

Hope: August 10





**Good Hope  
Worship**  
Outdoors– 9:30am

**REMINDER**

*If you cannot serve, you  
are responsible to find a  
replacement*

**August Birthdays / Anniversaries**

02/ Amy Jo Kluck	19/ Janice Graham
04/ Hank Speerstra	20/ Leah Gavin
05/ Julie & Jacob Kosker	21/ Katie Parsh
08/ Buffy Heisey	23/ Henry Suhr
Bob Hoffman	Jennifer Hickman
09/ Doris Stoyer	25/ Hilda Kaufman
10/ Mark Kerr	Brandon Goodman
Emmalyn O'Neil	26/ Tom & Lois Bickel
11/ Jason Milner	Michael Nellis
14/ Tom & Jennifer Friedhaber	Elizabeth Steenbergh
15/ Jeffrey Clark	28/ Ron & Susan French
Cassandra Green	Marcia & Bob Hoffman
Alexandria Green	31/ Linda Campbell
17/ Marcia Hoffman	

**Worship Volunteers**

**Ushers:**

Frank Lewis  
Andy Godinich

**Counters:**

8/1 – Sharon McDowell  
8/8 – Chérie Wessell, Mel Neely  
8/14 – Linda Campbell  
8/22 – Linda Vogt  
8/29 – TBD

**Communion Assistants:**

8/6 & 8/13 – Rhonda McElhaney, Tom Friedhaber  
8/20 & 8/27 – Jeff Clark, Bill Exley

**Summer Setup:**

8/6 – Todd & Margie Hart  
8/13 – Jim & Linda Black  
8/20 – Debbie Best, Ron & Linda Campbell  
8/27 – Susie Hlawati

**Lectors:**

8/6 – Linda Vogt  
8/13 – Sharon McDowell  
8/20 – Andy Godinich  
8/27 – Joyce Frenz

**Altar Guild:**

Susie Hlawati  
Jane Pagliari

# August

## Sunday

### 6 Pentecost 10

\* Outdoor Worship @GH-9:30am  
\* Indoor Worship @Z-11am

### 13 Pentecost 11

\* Outdoor Worship @GH-9:30am  
\* Indoor Worship @Z-11am

### 20 Pentecost 12

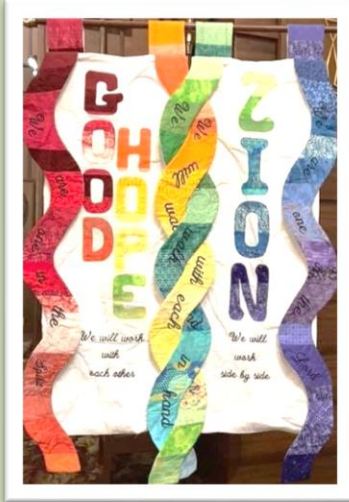
\* Outdoor Worship @GH-9:30am  
\* Indoor Worship @Z-11am

### 27 Pentecost 13

\* Outdoor Worship @GH-9:30am  
*Blessing of Backpacks*  
*GH Annual Auction*  
\* Indoor Worship @Z-11am  
*Blessing of Backpacks*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Quilters @GH-10am  CMC Mtg @Z-10:30am	2 Staff Mtg. @GH-9:15am  Worship Mtg. @GH-11am  Property Mtg @GH-7pm	3 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am	4	5
7 Ruth Circle @Best's-7pm  Stay & Play Task Force @Z-7pm	8 Quilters @GH-10am  Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-6pm	9	10 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am  Hope Circle-@GH-10am	11	12
14 Preschool Board Meeting @GH-6pm	15 Quilters @GH-10am  Council Mtg. @Z-6pm	16	17 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am  Council Mtg. @GH-7pm	18	19
21	22 Quilters @GH-10am	23	24 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am	25	26
28	29 Quilters @GH-10am  Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-6pm	30	31 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am		

\* Stay & Play Schedule – Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 3pm to 8pm & the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month 11am to 3pm @ Zion



### Pastor On Call

Pastor Mike Parsh

Cell: 814-572-1189  
 Home: 814-670-0887  
 pastormparsh@gmail.com

### Good Hope Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday  
 8:30am-2:30pm

814-676-9122  
 officegoodhope@gmail.com

## Staff

### Good Hope

**Pastor**  
 J. Michael Parsh  
 814-572-1189

**Director CMC/Outreach**  
 Joyce Frenz  
 724-699-0861

**Treasurer**  
 Tom Neely

**Music Director**  
 Beth Orris

**GH Preschool Director**  
 Marcy Amero  
 814-758-0353

**Grounds Super.**  
 Bruce Dodd

**Organist/Communications  
 Manager /Office Administrator**  
 Kristen Criado  
 814-676-9122

### Zion

**Secretary**  
 Jan Ruditis  
 814-676-9115

**Property**  
 Jesse Gibson

**Custodian**  
 Alex Dulaney

**Organist**  
 Cheryl Bailey

**Stay & Play Mgr.**  
 Jaimee Cohen  
 814-516-1063  
 stayandplay3@gmail.com

**Stay & Play Asst. Mgr.**  
 Dustin Harrison

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## Church Councils

**GH President**  
 Sandra Zacherl

**GH Vice President**  
 Tom Friedhaber

**GH Worship**  
 Debbie Best

**GH Mission**  
 Charles Schultz

**GH Finance**  
 Ashlee Goodman

**GH Faith Formation**  
 Margie Hart

**GH Property**  
 Scott Graham

**GH Treasurer**  
 Tom Neely

**GH Secretary**  
 Linda Vogt

**Z President**  
 Yvonne Paranick

**Z Vice President**  
 Nancy Wigren

**Z Secretary**  
 Jan Ruditis

**Z Financial Sec.**  
 Nancy Wigren

**Z Treasurer**  
 Sue Fisher

**Z Council Members**  
 Allison McNamara  
 Diane D'Olympio



**Good Hope/Zion Lutheran Ministry**  
 800 Moran Street  
 Oil City, PA 16301

Herald of  
 Hope/Lutheran Light  
 Good News Letter  
 August 2023  
 Serving all in the manner  
 of Jesus



**Worship Schedule**  
 Good Hope – Outdoors – 9:30am  
 Zion – Indoors – 11:00am

Recorded service will be posted on Monday afternoon on our  
 website.  
[www.goodhopezionlutheranoilcity.org/worship-together](http://www.goodhopezionlutheranoilcity.org/worship-together)

**Newsletter**

Hard copies of the newsletter are available at the church.  
 To submit news or articles, please email to:  
[officegoodhope@gmail.com](mailto:officegoodhope@gmail.com)  
**Deadline: the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month**