



Words from
Pastor
Sandra Jones

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

The Letter of Paul to the Philippians, 1:3-6

I am grateful to God, and to all of you, for the opportunity to be your pastor since September 2016 until now. We have worshiped and given praise to the LORD. We have continued to grow in our knowledge of God's Word and have celebrated the sacraments of the Christian Church that are the Means of Grace for us – Christ's presence in word, water, bread, and wine. We have shared so many joys and sorrows, always supporting one another through times of trouble. Together, we continue to reach out to our local community, addressing the needs of our neighbors in various ways. Together, we are the Church in this time and place. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to love and serve God through you and with you. I am confident that God will continue to guide you in the years to come.

When I applied to the Northeastern Iowa Synod and to Wartburg Seminary in early 1990, to be considered as a student in the Master of Divinity program, I wrote these words in an entrance essay:

The last five years [of prayer and employment in a congregation] have been a time of integrating my convictions and my actions and a time of discovering how my gifts can be used for ministry in Christ's Church. Through study and through the experiential learning the seminary offers, I think the vocational aspirations, or ways I can use my gifts in ministry, will become more clear. I can envision myself as a parish pastor or in some other area of specialized ministry, and I am open to either way of service. I have a high level of commitment and loyalty to the Church as the people of God and followers of Christ, though there are some areas of struggle I experience with the institutional church or organizational structures; the human made aspects of our life together that sometimes hinder our spirituality, faithfulness, and service.

33 years ago, I had no idea of how following a call to ordained ministry within the church was going to work out, where I'd end up living, or if I'd have enough money to pay the bills. I had no idea of God's plans or the many wonderful people, opportunities, and experiences that would bless my life.

I did learn quickly to *never say never* ("I'll never leave Iowa"; "I'll never serve more than one congregation at a time"; "I'll never get married again", for example). I learned that the interruptions in daily life are when real

ministry happens, and that moments of God's presence and grace (miracles!) are just out there waiting for you and for me. I learned through experience that God's adventures are even greater than those I can plan or imagine.

As we learn from Matthew's gospel readings this summer, there is a cost to discipleship. You give up things and you sacrifice. You may risk your reputation and sometimes, your relationships with people who cannot understand such a life of commitment. You may journey to new places or be required to stay put because that's where God's people need you most.

As I have shared with you before, it has all been worth it and I do not regret where God has led me. I am especially thankful that my closing years of parish ministry have been with you at Good Hope and Zion. Your support, cooperation, and Christian care have been marvelous. I do not leave this ministry with unhappiness or any form of bitterness. I close this chapter of my life story with joy and peace.

May that joy and peace be with you, now and always.

*In Christ,
Pastor Sandra Jones*



Ordination Day, June 5, 1994 -
Lord of Life Lutheran Church,
Waterloo, IA

*Jessica Kennedy, Rachel
Kennedy, mother Ethel Moen,
Pr. Sandra Kennedy, Patrick
Kennedy*

Ordination Day, June 5,
1994

*mother Ethel Moen, Pr.
Sandra Kennedy, and
Adeline & Lance
Lillibridge, Sandra's
baptismal sponsors*





A HUGE **THANK YOU** to all who attended the *We Walk for Suzette* event on Sunday, May 28! It was a beautiful and meaningful day as approximately 70 people enjoyed the prayer stations, the fellowship, and the worship. We remembered and honored Suzette Nellis and our country's service men and women – past and present. We gave thanks to God for community, Memorial Day, healing, and God's faithfulness in difficult times. We welcomed neighbors, friends, Jerry Nellis and Amy Nellis Still, and Pat Bellingham, the president of the Synodical Women's Organization of the Women of the ELCA.

We offer a special word of gratitude for the folks who provided refreshments, helped set up, hosted stations, provided sound assistance, and cleaned up – it couldn't have happened without all of you! Many thanks to:

Debbie Best
 Janice Brown
 Linda Campbell
 Judy Clark
 Kristen Criado
 Alexis Dehner
 Bruce Dodd
 Jen Friedhaber
 Susie Hlawati
 Pr. Sandra Jones
 Tom and Mel Neely
 Beth Orris
 Pr. Mike, Katie, Ben, and Sam Parsh
 Janet Switzer
 Jan Ruditis
 Doug Suhr
 Denny and Chérie Wessell

Event Thank You

To Good Hope Lutheran Church

On behalf of the Venango County Humane Society, we thank you for your recent donation from the *We Walk For Suzette* event on May 28. We sincerely appreciate your gift. These funds will be used for the welfare of animals in our care.

VCCHS Staff & Animals

Special Music Invitation

The Good Hope Senior Choir and Venango Chorus members will be performing a piece of special music during the celebration of ministry worship for Pr. Sandra K. Jones. The song is "This Is My Word" by Pepper Choplin. For those wishing to join us in song, please contact the Good Hope office to arrange for a copy of the music and a link to a YouTube video of the song.

Those singing will gather on Wednesday, July 26 at 7:00 pm and at 1:00 pm on Saturday, July 29 to rehearse. Please join us even if you cannot commit to both rehearsals!

*Good Hope Lutheran Church
800 Moran Street
Oil City, PA 16301*

*814-676-9122
officegoodhope@gmail.com*

The Councils of the Good Hope/Zion
Lutheran Ministry of Oil City
Cordially invite you to

A Celebration of Ministry

For Rev. Dr. Sandra K. Jones

Saturday, July 29, 2023, 2:00pm
Light reception and program to follow

Good Hope Lutheran Church
800 Moran Street
Oil City, PA 16301

*Please RSVP to the Good Hope office
(814-676-9122) or officegoodhope@gmail.com
by Monday, July 10, 2023*



Thank You

I wanted to thank both members of Good Hope and Zion who sent cards and offered prayer during my recent open heart surgery. There is a comfort and peace the Spirit provides when we're facing uncertainties in our lives, and prayer is a big part of that comfort. Also, a special thank you to the pastors and especially Pastor Mike for making the trip to Erie to be with the family during the procedure.

Tom Friedhaber



Zion Worship
Indoors – 11:00am

Worship Volunteers – July

Lectors:

7/2 – JoAnn Beary
7/9 – Rick Sabousky
7/16 – Leigh Ann Pikna
7/23 – Yvonne Paranick
7/30 – David Mayer

Ushers:

David Mayer
Rick Sabousky

Altar Care:

Leigh Ann Pikna
Diane D'Olympio

Communion Assistant:

Rick Sabousky

Birthdays

02/ Gladys Johnson
08/ Lois Bickel
17/ Sidney Cubbon
18/ Shane Fisher
31/ Alec Thureau
Seth Fisher

Financial Report - May

<i>Actual Receipts</i>	\$3,150.00
<i>Budgeted Receipts</i>	6,752.08
<i>Actual Expenditures</i>	5,529.38

Thank You

Dear Pastor Parsh,

I wanted to reach out and say thank you for your church's generous gift! I am very grateful for your financial support in this support-raising process. It means a lot to me!

*Thank you,
Oksana Specht
CMF International*

A thank you has been received from CMF –

You made our day ! Thank you for giving to Oksana Specht – Church Catalyst Ethiopia. Your contribution of \$1,845 is greatly appreciated and was credited to that account. Thank you for helping to create more dynamic Christ-centered communities that will transform the world

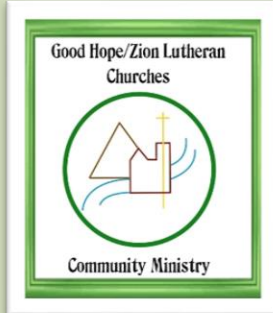
Kip Lines, Executive Director

Another thank you was received from Heifer International –

I'm truly fortunate to witness every day how the giving spirit of groups like yours can change the world. No matter how much circumstances change, one thing remains the same: people continue to show generosity and dedication to the families we serve.

Which is why I want to extend my sincere appreciation for your group's recent contribution of \$600 to Heifer. This purchased a flock of chicks. I hope you know how much we, and the families who are touched by your generosity, appreciate you all. Our work would not be possible without you by our side.

*Christy Moore, Senior Vice President of Marketing
Heifer International*



Community Meals

July 11

July 25

Coffee Break

Thursdays – 9:30am

Community Meals

Free Community Meals will be served at Zion Lutheran Church on Tuesday July 11 and Tuesday July 25, 4:30pm to 6:00pm.

Coffee Break

Our regular Coffee Break on Thursdays will be held at Zion Lutheran Church at 9:30am. Join us for fellowship with area community members and enjoy a donut and beverage!

If you would like to volunteer or participate in ANY way, please contact Joyce Frenz, Director of Community Ministries and Outreach at 724-699-0861.

Summer Auction

It is not too early to get busy on your handmade items for the Good Hope Lutheran Church 6th **Annual End of Summer Auction**. The last Sunday before Labor Day this year is **August 27th**.

The 2022 auction was a huge success with plenty of wonderful items and many lots of tasty foods. If you have suggestions for wooden items, feel free to contact Chuck Schultz – 630-209-1652. The gallery of items has started on our website at:

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



Summer Auction

August 27



**NWPA Synod
Assembly
June 8-10, 2023**

Alexis Dehner and Joyce Frenz represented Good Hope Lutheran Church at the first full assembly since 2019. Bishop Lozano declared the theme of the 2023 synod convention as 'I Love to Tell The Story' encouraging each and every one of us to go out and share our stories.

We elected several people to be Synod Council members: Alexis Dehner was elected to Synod Council as youth representative along with another youth from Meadville. Open committee positions were filled as well.

We heard reports from Bethesda Lutheran Services, Thiel College, United Lutheran Seminary, Luther Memorial and Woman of the ELCA. Lutheran Home at Kane did an amazing report on how they kept residents safe during the Covid-19 pandemic and Yvonne Paranick presented a report from the Green Team.

Alexis was particularly impressed by the Synod focus on spreading the good news of the gospel. She feels the synod's efforts to connect with younger people plays a vital role in that endeavor. A generous gift of \$47,000 from Mt. Calvary, Erie, was designated to youth ministry and mission within the Synod.

The Donald McCoid Order of Service award was presented to Rev. Ralph Jones, Bishop Emeritus (2020), Rev. Karen Lundwall (2021), Rev. Brian Moran (2022), and Rev. Sandra Jones (2023). These servants of our church were acknowledged and thanked for their service on our behalf for the sake of the Gospel.

Bishop Lozano was awarded the medal of meritorious service by the ELCA. Pastor Jacobson presented the Bishop with a card and gift for his retirement from the US Army chaplain corps. Colonel Lozano served in Iraq and is retiring as a command chaplain from the US Army Reserves after 13 years of service.

The Worship and music portion of the Assembly was exemplary as always and we thank you for allowing us to attend as your representatives.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis Dehner
Joyce Frenz

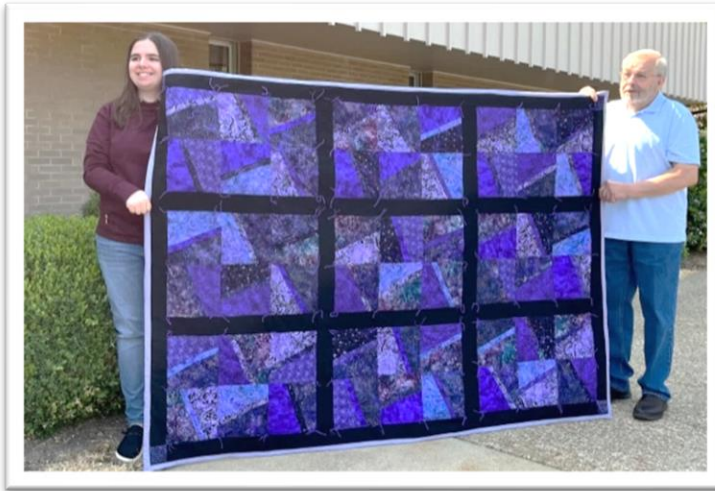


**2023 Graduates
Quilt Presentations**

Emma Stahl and Alexis Dehner were presented with their graduate quilts. Each quilt is handmade by the Quilters of Hope – a group of Good Hope, Zion, and community crafts people.



Emma Stahl



Alexis Dehner



**Quilters of Hope
Tuesdays @ 10:00am**

Circle Schedules

Ruth: July 10
Hope: July 13

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. The Quilters WILL NOT meet on Tuesday, July 4.

Hope Circle

Hope Circle meeting will be July 13 11:00am, in the Fellowship Hall at Good Hope. Devotions: Dolores, Hostess: Maribeth.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet Tuesday, July 10, at 4:00pm at the Campbell residence.



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

REMINDER

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

July Birthdays / Anniversaries

05/ Judy Blaine	16/ Ashlee Goodman
06/ Jerry Nellis	Michael McFarland
Sarah Suhr	Joyce Frenz
07/ Joe & Dianne Boland	17/ Mitch & Erin York
Michael & Lindsey Yoder	Jason & Tara Milner
08/ Hazel Kosker	18/ Kelly McHenry
Robert Lendrum	23/ Chris & Luci Smith
Sam & Sharon McDowell	24/ Dennis & Cheryl Butler
10/ Gregory Dehner	26/ Daryl Dehner
11/ Greg Biltz	Sandra Zacherl
12/ Autumn Blose	Rhonda & Gary McElhaney
Dan & Marsha Vogan	28/ Julie Smith
14/ Andy & Jen Godinich	30/ Scott & Shelly Stahl

Worship Volunteers

Ushers:

Tom Neely
Scott Graham

Counters:

7/5 – Melodye Neely
7/11 – Linda Campbell
7/18 – Melodye Neely
7/25 – Linda Vogt

Lectors:

7/2 – Susie Hlawati
7/9 – Katie Parsh
7/16 – Tom Neely
7/23 – Marcia Hoffman
7/30 – Beth Orris

Altar Guild:

Margie & Todd Hart

Communion Assistants:

7/2 & 7/9 – Susie Hlawati, Judy Tarr
7/16 & 7/23 – Katie Parsh, Gary Switzer
7/29 – Chérie Wessell AA, Linda Vogt, Janet Switzer
7/30 – Rhonda McElhaney, Andy Godinich

Summer Setup:

7/2 – Todd & Margie Hart
7/9 – Andy & Jen Godinich
7/16 – Tom & Mel Neely
7/23 – TBD
7/30 – Chérie Wessell

July

Sunday

2 Pentecost 5

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

9 Pentecost 6

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

16 Pentecost 7

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

23 Pentecost 8

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

30 Pentecost 9

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1
3	4 <i>OFFICE CLOSED</i>	5 Staff Mtg. @GH-9:15am Property Mtg @GH-7pm	6 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am GH & Z Executive Committees @Z-6:30pm	7	8
10 Ruth Circle @Campbell's-4pm	11 Quilters @GH-10am Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-6pm	12	13 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am Hope Circle-@GH-11am	14	15
17	18 Quilters @GH-10am Council Mtg. @Z-6pm	19	20 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am	21	22
24	25 Quilters @GH-10am Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-6pm	26 Choir Rehearsal for Celebration of Ministry @GH-7pm	27 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am	28	29 Choir Rehearsal @GH-1pm Celebration of Ministry Worship, Reception, & Program @GH-2pm
31					

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



Pastor On Call-July

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

Lead Pastor
 Sandra Jones
 814-516-4002

Associate Pastor
 J. Michael Parsh
 814-572-1189

Director CMC/Outreach
 Joyce Frenz
 724-699-0861

GH Music Dir.
 Beth Orris

GH Preschool Dir.
 Marcy Amero
 814-758-0353

Treasurer
 Tom Neely

**GH Organist/Communications
 Mgr. /Office Admin.**
 Kristen Criado
 814-676-9122

Grounds Super.
 Bruce Dodd

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

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
July 2023
Serving all in the manner
of Jesus



Recorded service will be posted on Monday afternoon on our website.
www.goodhopezionlutheranoilcity.org/worship-together

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

Newsletter
 Hard copies of the newsletter are available at the church.
 To submit news or articles, please email to:
officegoodhope@gmail.com
Deadline: the 15th of the month