



Words from Pastor
Mike Parsh

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

What comes to your mind when you think of Lent? It might be repentance or giving things up or a focus on the cross. For some it brings to mind a heavy-handed season of inward focus that feels dark. For others it has been experienced as a time for excessive guilt. It is not uncommon for Lent to be a six-week meditation on the crucifixion, as if Holy Week and especially Good Friday weren't enough for the church's deep contemplation on Jesus' death. Not everyone loves Lent because of how it has been observed in some times and places. Our practice should change such negative attitudes so that Lent can be a high point of the church year for the faithful.

In spite of all the baggage some people still bring to the season, Lent can become a time of celebration. That may sound strange and unexpected. The key is that the celebration is restrained, is expressed in subdued and anticipatory ways, and is geared toward preparing to celebrate with exuberant joy the paschal mystery at Easter. Lent is a season of fasting, and fasting is about a discipline of restraint so that one can celebrate more deeply and extravagantly something wonderful later. But even in that time of preparation, the joy that is to come is known now. This is Lent.

Lent is also a season of learning the important stories of the faith. In the early days of Christian history, people preparing for baptism at the Easter Vigil attended worship for the readings, sermon, and prayers during Lent. Their goal during Lent was to learn what kind of God they were being baptized into. Many of the readings this year during Lent show who God is or what the life of faith has at its heart: God defies the power of sin and death (Lent 1, Lent 5), provides the water of life (Lent 3), and makes us children of light (Lent 4). In the early church, the catechumen was invited to reflect on the questions "What sort of God is this, whose community I am joining?" and "What challenges will I face in my life in the church, the body of Christ, after baptism?" The defeated power of sin and death, the water of life in baptism, and the light of Christ all are revisited in the Three Days.

While the culture and some loud church voices in the United States cast faith as an individual's personal and private idea, the texts of Lent draw us in a different direction, into the community baptized into Christ and Christ's promises. Therefore, the journey of Lent could be thought of through the lens of the baptismal liturgy: we turn away from sin, death, and the devil; we turn toward Christ and Christ's promises, which are full of grace and love and are trustworthy.

Lent is a season of preparation that often has taken on a quiet, meditative quality, serving as a balance to the loud, bright, lively festival seasons of the church year. Ash Wednesday invites the whole Christian community into the disciplines of Lent: self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving, and works of love.

During this Lenten season, we are called to contemplate this powerful love and grace which Jesus offers to us. As we recount the weakest moments of our lives and bring them to God in confession, we are renewed and reunited with the Creator. We are free to delight in the gifts of God and learn to live our lives in the fullness of God's presence among us.

*Yours in Christ,
Pastor Mike Parsh*

Portions of the above reflection adapted from sundaysandseasons.com., Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.



In Memorium

Our brother in Christ, Todd Pfertsh, died on February 12, 2023, at his home. Born September 19, 1964, in Colorado, he was a master machinist, welder, and electrician amongst many other skills. Todd moved to Cranberry, PA with his wife Pam, who survives, in 2021. In addition to his wife, Todd is survived by his children, grandchildren, father, stepmother, sister, and brother.

A memorial service was held at Good Hope Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 18, 2023, with Rev. Sandra K. Jones, presiding. Memorials may be made to the Kirtland Cancer Foundation, PO Box 108, Franklin, PA 16323 OR the Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Northwest, 100 Fairfield Drive, Seneca, PA 16346.

Helen King, our sister in Christ, died on February 14, 2023, at Sugar Creek Station Nursing Home in Franklin, PA. Helen was born July 12, 1921. She graduated Cranberry High School and went on to attend Welch Business College. She was employed at Pennzoil and Quaker State working in the office until her retirement. Helen loved traveling, bowling, mowing the lawn, and golfing. Helen is survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held at Good Hope Lutheran Church on Monday, February 20, 2023, from 11am to noon. Funeral services followed at noon with the Rev. J. Michael Parsh and Rev. Sandra K. Jones co-officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Good Hope Lutheran Church or to a memorial of one's choice.

Millie Grandelis, our sister in Christ, died February 14, 2023, at her home. Millie was born April 18, 1920, the second child of five. Millie married Albert Grandelis in 1940. Millie had many interests including cooking, baking, painting, sewing, and golfing. She is survived by her daughter Suzanne Passauer, one granddaughter, 3 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. She is also survived by her sister, sister-in-law, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, February 18, 2023, at Good Hope Lutheran Church, with Rev. J. Michael Parsh presiding. Memorial contributions may be made to the Salvation Army, 217 Sycamore Street, Oil City, PA 16301, the Cranberry Area Food Pantry, PO Box 446, Seneca, PA 16346, or to Good Hope Lutheran Church.

Millie had a lifelong friend, Helen Flinchbaugh King, who died twenty-five minutes before Millie on the same day, February 14, 2023.

Helen King of Pinoak (left) celebrated her 100th birthday Monday at Wanango Country Club with her dear friend Millie Grandelis (101), also of Pinoak. The lifelong friends have shared a love of golf, both playing the sport at Wanango for most of their lives. (July 16, 2021)



Thank you for helping with my schooling. I appreciate it so much.

Evan Zacherl

Dear Good Hope Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA,

Thank you for supporting the ministries of the Women of the ELCSA with your recent gift of \$100.00. Your faithful generosity makes a real difference. Thank you.

Your giving really does make a difference.

*Linda Post Boshofsky
Executive Director
Women of the ELCA*



Thank You

Hi Good Hope Family.

I want to thank you all for the continuous support throughout my years of college with the scholarship money provided. I am extremely thankful and blessed for using the provided scholarship money for my textbooks each semester. As of having one more year to go before graduating with my bachelor's degree in communications with a concentration in digital media, I can't thank you all enough for the support.

*Sincerely,
Korey Felmlee*

Dear Good Hope Family:

Thank you again for the scholarship money over the last 4 years. I'll be graduating from WVU in May with a degree in Music Industry. Your support has helped so much with my college expenses. I appreciate all of your prayers as well. Also, thank you to the Faith Formation group for the great Valentine's box. It was very nice of you to think of me and I enjoyed it.

*See you all soon.
Tim Friedhaber*

Sunday School

Sunday School is every Sunday 9:15-10:15am. Elementary Sunday School will continue and meet in the classroom across from the nursery. Confirmation Class will continue to meet in the Conference Room. Adult Sunday School meets in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Group

March 4, 11:30am-4:30pm: Elementary Lutherlyn Saturday Safari
Maple Sugaring

Meet at the church and carpool to Lutherlyn. Must RSVP to Julie by February 27 for program registration. No cost.

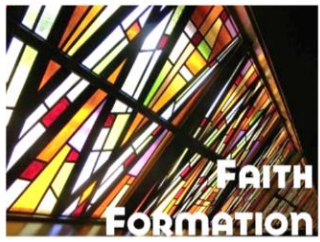
Faith & Fellowship

March 12, 3:00pm-5:00pm @ Good Hope – Crafts with Margie

March 24-25, Lock-in @ Lutherlyn

Coffee Hour

The Youth group will bake for and host the coffee hour on Sunday, March 19, 2023. Please join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for fun and fellowship.



Faith Formation

Sunday School
Sunday, 9:15am

Coffee Hour
March 19 after worship

Good Hope/Zion Lutheran Ministry

Lent and Holy Week – 2023

Lenten Midweek Schedule

Wednesday, March 1

ELW Morning Prayer at Good Hope Lutheran 10:30am

The Hands of Christ * to help and heal

Vespers Evening Prayer from ELW posted Online

To live among God's faithful people

Wednesday, March 15

ELW Morning Prayer at Good Hope Lutheran 10:30am

The Ears of Christ * to hear the needs of others

Vespers Evening Prayer from ELW posted Online

To proclaim the good news of God in Christ

Wednesday, March 29

ELW Morning Prayer at Good Hope Lutheran 10:30am

The Heart of Christ * beating with love

Vespers Evening Prayer from ELW posted Online

To strive for justice and peace in all the earth

Wednesday, March 8

ELW Morning Prayer at Good Hope Lutheran 10:30am

The Mouth of Christ * to speak God's Word to others

Vespers Evening Prayer from ELW posted Online

To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper

Wednesday, March 22

ELW Morning Prayer at Good Hope Lutheran 10:30am

The Eyes of Christ * to see our needs

Vespers Evening Prayer from ELW posted Online

To serve all people, following the example of Jesus

Holy Week Schedule

Palm/Passion Sunday, April 2

Worship at Good Hope Lutheran 10:30am

Worship at Zion Lutheran 11:00am

Maundy Thursday, April 6 – Good Hope Lutheran

Soup and Bread Supper 6:30pm

Maundy Thursday Liturgy 7:00pm

Good Friday Service, April 7 – Zion Lutheran

Good Friday Tenebrae Service Sundown 7:50pm

Easter Vigil Service, Saturday, April 18 – St. John's Episcopal Church, 1145 Buffalo St., Franklin

Joint service with St. Johns, Grace Lutheran, and Good Hope/Zion Lutheran Ministry 7:41pm

Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast, Sunday, April 9 – Good Hope Lutheran

Service at Sunrise 6:50am, followed by breakfast

Easter Festival Worship, April 9

Good Hope Lutheran 10:30am

Zion Lutheran 11:00AM

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

Zion Lutheran Church
207 State Street
Oil City, PA 16301





Zion Worship
Indoors – 11:00am

Worship Volunteers – March

Lectors:

- 3/5 – Karen Horn
- 3/12 – JoAnn Beary
- 3/19 – Rick Sabousky
- 3/26 – Leigh Ann Pikna

Ushers:

- Sue Fisher
- Gretchen Gibbs

Altar Care:

- Sue Fisher, Gretchen Gibbs

Communion Assistant:

- Rick Sabousky

Birthdays

- 12/ William Thurau
- 15/ Rick Sabousky
- 20/ Sue Sanford
- 23/ Ben Parsh

Financial Report - December

Actual receipts \$3,915.00
Budgeted receipts \$6,752.08
Actual expenditures \$6,378.02

Zion Notes

Thrivent Choice Dollars have been received from Ron and Yvonne Paranick and John Bolton. Zion thanks them for these contributions.

Congratulations to Scott Kurschinske who married Elizabeth Deemer on February 4. Scott is the son of Jan Ruditis.

We will be holding our Annual workshops for the PA - 1000 Property Tax or Rent Rebate Program to assist folks in completing and filing their applications. The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded.

Beginning on March 17 we will be at the Oil City YWCA from 9-11 am



**Property Tax or Rent
Rebate Workshoos**

and then on March 23 we will be at the Franklin VFW from 9-11 am. There is no charge for this service.

A pamphlet is available at the church which provides additional information and may answer questions folks may have about the PA-1000.

Thank you !!

Cindy Swendsen

District Aide to PA State Representative R. Lee James

814-677-6413 - phone

SHROVE TUESDAY

Many thanks to all who donated their time and talents to make our annual Shrove Tuesday meal a great success.



Community Meals

March 7

March 28

Coffee Break

Thursdays @ 9:30am



SOUPER BOWL

Many thanks to all who donated to the Souper Bowl of Caring! We collected six large boxes of non-perishable food items and donated them to the Community Services of Venango County.



Mission Committee



GAME DAY -MARCH 19TH

Pizza Lunch, Snacks, & Board Games for all ages!

Are you suffering from football withdrawal? Need to get out of the house to combat cabin fever? The Mission Committee completely understands your situation and has organized a fellowship opportunity for all ages. On Sunday March 19th, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall from 1 to 4PM for food, conversation, and board games.

Feel free to bring your favorite games or enjoy learning some new ones. We have arranged for chess lessons to be offered and will have plenty of classic games available. Some new ones that people got as gifts but never had the opportunity to play before will debut as well.

Bring your friends! We will have pizza, snacks, and beverages to share. You are welcome even if you just want to kibbitz. Your RSVP would help ensure that there is enough to eat but you know us, we believe in “bread and fishes” to cover last minute decisions.

Want to help? Contact Chuck Schultz at (630) 209-1652

Thanks for your Generous Support!

Chuck Schultz & the Mission Committee

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 March 9, 10:00am, in the Conference Room at Good Hope. Devotions: Rhonda McElhaney, Leader: Pr. Jones. Hostess: Anna Ausel. Lesson: “Jesus is Trustworthy,” pgs. 19-28 SOL.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet Tuesday, March 7, 7:00pm via Zoom. The lesson leader will be Joyce Frenz.



Quilters of Hope
Tuesdays @ 10:00am

Events

Circle Schedules

Ruth: March 7
Hope: March 9



Good Hope Worship
Indoors – 10:30am

REMINDER

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

March Birthdays / Anniversaries

01/ Cris McFarland	18/ Joseph Grosso
02/ Randall Frenz	19/ Henry Speerstra
07/ Nancy Lake	20/ Pat Knight
Judy Tarr	22/ Jan Schultz
Jacqueline Blose	23/ Ben Parsh
08/ Logan Stahl	24/ Kaitlyn Switzer
09/ James Miller	25/ Bethany Hart
11/ Hannah Smith	29/ Timothy Friedhaber
Kelly McFarland	30/ Dolores Baker
12/ Shelly Stahl	Heidi Kosker
14/ Matthew Friedhaber	31/ George Biltz II
16/ Andrea Plummer	James & Susan Miller

Worship Volunteers

Ushers:

Tom Neely
Scott Graham

Counters:

3/7 – Melodye Neely
3/13 – Linda Campbell
3/21 – Suzette Nellis
3/28 – Chérie Wessell

Lectors:

3/5 – Beth Orris
3/12 – Andrew Godinich
3/19 – Buffy Heisey
3/26 – Marcia Hoffman

Altar Guild:

Linda Campbell
Debbie Best
Jennifer Friedhaber

Communion Assistants:

3/5 & 3/12 – Jennifer Friedhaber AA, Buffy Heisey, Amy Kluck
3/19 & 3/26 – Debbie Best AA, Rhonda McElhaney, Linda Vogt



Coffee Hour
March 19

Coffee Hour

The Youth group will bake for and host the coffee hour on Sunday, March 19, 2023. Please join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall for food and fellowship.

March

Sunday

5 Lent 2

- * Sunday Sch. @GH 9:15am
- * Worship @GH-10:30am
- * Sr. Choir @GH-after worship
- * Worship @Z-11am

12 Lent 3


- * Sunday Sch. @GH 9:15am
- * Worship @GH-10:30am
- * Sr. Choir @GH-after worship
- * Worship @Z-11am
- * Faith & Fellowship @GH 3pm

19 Lent 4

- * Sunday Sch. @GH 9:15am
- * Worship @GH-10:30am
- * Coffee Hour @GH-after worship
- * Worship @Z-11am

26 Lent 5

- * Sunday Sch. @GH 9:15am
- * Worship @GH-10:30am
- * Sr. Choir @GH-after worship
- * Worship @Z-11am

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Staff Mtg. @GH-9:15am Morning Prayer @GH-10:30am Lenten Midweek Online-6:30pm	2 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am Ministerium-11am Property Mtg. @GH-7pm	3	4 Maple Sugaring @Lutherlyn
6 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm Shared Ministry @GH-6pm Venango Chorus @GH-7pm	7 Quilters @GH-10am Worship Mtg. @GH-4pm Ruth Circle via Zoom-7pm	8 Morning Prayer @GH-10:30am Lenten Midweek Online-6:30pm	9 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am Hope Circle-Conference Room @GH-10am	10	11
13 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm Venango Chorus @GH-7pm	14 Quilters @GH-10am Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-6pm	15 Morning Prayer @GH-10:30am Lenten Midweek Online-6:30pm	16 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am Council Mtg. @GH-7pm	17	18
20 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm Venango Chorus @GH-7pm	21 Quilters @GH-10am CMC @GH-10:30am Council Mtg. @Z-6pm	22 Morning Prayer @GH-10:30am Lenten Midweek Online-6:30pm	23 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am	24	25
27 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm Venango Chorus @GH-7pm	28 Quilters @GH-10am Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-6pm	29 Morning Prayer @GH-10:30am Lenten Midweek Online-6:30pm	30 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am	31	

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

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.

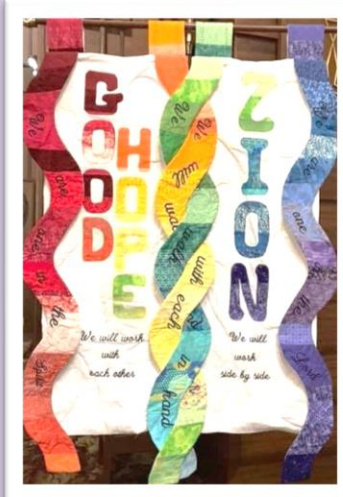
Nancy Wigren

Z Treasurer

Sue Fisher

Z Council Members

Allison McNamara
Diane D'Olympio



Pastor On Call-March

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



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

Herald of
Hope/Lutheran Light
Good News Letter
March 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 – Indoors – 10:30am
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