

Words from Pastor  
Mike Parsh

In this final month of the church year, we are presented with Luke's understanding of ends and beginnings, of death and resurrection, this provides us as a church family the opportunity to think about our life together under the cross and empty tomb of Jesus.

Lutherans hold a particular understanding of our endings and beginnings. Martin Luther understood there to be two kinds of death, a *little* death and a *big* death. The big death is what occurs in the waters of baptism when the sinful self and the power of sin, death, and the devil are drowned; they no longer have the last word or ultimate power over us. Because Jesus has died and is raised, and because in the waters of baptism we are joined to him in his death and resurrection, we face the end with anticipation. Though we are sinful, in the waters of baptism we are also given a new identity: a saint, a child of God, one forgiven, loved, saved through the love of God in Jesus Christ. There is reason to celebrate the end; there, in the end, is a new beginning. There, in the end, is Jesus.

The little death, for Luther, is the physical death, when there is no more breath in our bodies or life in our limbs. This death tends to be the one that causes fear, the one in which tears are shed for what is lost, for what will no longer be. When a physical death comes decades before it should have, those left to mourn experience a mix of emotions. While, on the one hand, the faithful know that this dear person was a child of God, this child of God is no longer physically here with us. For that we grieve.

Years ago, in his book *The Denial of Death*, Ernest Becker emphasized the cultural fascination not with death itself but with denying its presence, its impact on our lives. Those whose loved ones have died or are facing an untimely diagnosis of their own that will eventually lead to death, know the struggle of the end in Christian faith. Though resurrection is a real and present reality, the sting of the end is no less real. Instead of denying death, the church welcomes honest conversation about death even when this is difficult.

At the end of this season, Christ the King, we find Jesus on the cross between two who are dying. In pain and alone, those on either side of him engage him in conversation. On the one side is someone who wants Jesus to avoid the cross and to help them avoid the cross as well. On the other side is someone who recognizes the situation for what it is and realizes Jesus for who he is. This person asks Jesus to "remember me when you come into your kingdom". This is an honest cry, a lament, in which despair and hope are hurled at Jesus on the cross. There is no sugarcoating the situation of the person hanging next to Jesus; while the criminal recognizes that "we are getting what we deserve," there is,

somewhere from within, a deep and abiding sense of hope. There is no indication that this one has had any prior contact with Jesus or that he has heard of Jesus. All that he sees is Jesus on the cross; this, alone and at the end, is enough for him. In view of Jesus on the cross, all the denials end; all that is left is hope.

“Today you will be with me in Paradise”. This statement from Jesus reveals something of Luke’s eschatology, his understanding of the end, in which there is both a future to the promise and a real and present hope. Though Jesus’ statement conveys a sense of time, it also conveys a sense of place since it is said in the most godforsaken place one could imagine. Because Jesus says this from the cross, there is a turning that happens for the way reality is seen and experienced. Luke’s Jesus is not likely to die if it means that the status quo, with its structural and social sinfulness, remains the same. His resurrection now, “today,” turns things right side up, toward a kingdom that has no end.

Jesus’ promise that “today you will be with me” points to a tension in the life of believers. Although we are in the midst of death, Jesus is with us in baptism, this beginning that takes a lifetime to complete. Being with Jesus is not only for the future but for now, for today. Because we trace our lives in the waters of baptism, the promise of Jesus’ presence with us and with a broken, hurting world with whom we walk is cause for giving thanks.

Through the waters of our baptism, we have been moved from death to life. As we take time to reflect on what God has done for us through Jesus, we can only respond with acclamations of thanksgiving. Not just on one day of the year, but each and every moment of our lives.

*Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Mike*

### All Saints Sunday

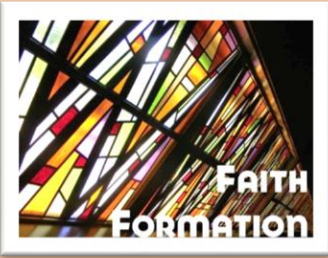
All Saints Sunday will be celebrated at Good Hope and Zion on November 6.

If you would like your family members or friends who have died since All Saints Sunday last year to be included in the remembrances of this festival day, please provide their name(s) to the pastors or the Good Hope church office by Wednesday, November 2. [officegoodhope@gmail.com](mailto:officegoodhope@gmail.com) or 814-676-9122.

We will include the names of our members of both congregations as well as those provided to us.



November 6, 2022



**Youth & Adult Sunday School**  
Sundays – 9:15am

### Sunday School

Youth and adults will continue to meet at 9:15am for Sunday School/Confirmation classes.

### Elementary Sunday School

*Dear Congregation,*

The elementary Sunday School students are raising money for ELCA Good Gifts. We have placed barnyard banks around the church for your donations. This money will buy animals which provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell on the market.

*With Thanksgiving,  
Heath, Ben, Sam, & Reed*

### Youth

*Upcoming youth events:*

November 12 – All Ages Bowling at Seneca Lanes, 6pm-8pm  
November 27 – Faith & Fellowship Advent Wreath making at the Orris Barn, 4pm to 6pm.



**Upcoming Events**

### Semi-Annual Meeting

Good Hope semi-annual meeting will be held Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> after worship. The purpose of the meeting is the presentation and passage of the 2023 budget and the election of Council members for 2023.

### SAVE THE DATE

Coffee Hour hosted by Just Cookies, December 11 after worship.

Next Worship on Wednesday will be Wednesday, December 14. Worship at 11:30am, luncheon and program following.

Advent midweek services will be presented online. December 21 we will have The Longest Night Service in person in the sanctuary at 6:30pm.



### In Memorium

Our brother in Christ, Wayne Roach, 87, of Oil City, died on Saturday, August 27, 2022 at UPMC Northwest in Seneca with his daughters by his side. He was preceded in death by his wife, Gretchen, in June, 2020. Wayne worked at Joy Manufacturing and retired in 1997. He was involved in the Boy Scouts, an active member of Good Hope Lutheran Church, and an avid golfer. He is survived by his daughters Karen Chrispen and Kelley McHenry, as well as five grandsons and five great grandchildren. Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Salvation Army, or Good Hope Lutheran Church.

John Barber, brother in Christ, of Singer Island, FL, formerly of Oil City, died September 27, 2022 at the age of 99. He was preceded in death by his wife, Margie. He worked at SS Kresge's until he joined the Army. After the Army, he worked at Continental Can until his retirement in 1985. He then was an investor and partner with his son Bob at Franklin Bronze and Alloy until 20212. He was an avid golfer, hunter, fisher, and a life-long member of Good Hope Lutheran Church. He is survived by his five children: Bob Barber, Tom Barber, Sam Barber, Jane Hickman, and Mike Barber. Donations may be made to the Cranberry Area Food Pantry or the Good Hope Lutheran Church.



### Thank You

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, cards, and concerns in the recent passing of our dad, Wayne Roach. Also to Pastor Mike and Pastor Jones for the many visits to our dad while in the hospital. Also many thanks to the ladies of the church who provided our family with a very nice luncheon.

*Kelley, Karen, and Family*



**Zion Worship**  
Indoors – 11:00am

### Worship Volunteers – November

**Lectors:**

- 11/6 – Nancy Wigren
- 11/13 – Allison McNamara
- 11/20 – Karen Horn
- 11/27 – JoAnn Beary

**Ushers:**

- Nancy Wigren
- Diane D'Olympio

**Altar Care:**

Edie Bickart, Jan Ruditis

**Communion Assistant:**

Rick Sabousky

### Birthdays

- 08/ Susan Fisher
- 17/ Neil Johnson
- 25/ Chris Gibson

### Financial Report - September

*Actual receipts* \$3,672.00  
*Budgeted receipts* \$6,826.67  
*Actual expenditures* \$8,716.94

### Notes

Zion's Annual Meeting will be on November 13 following worship. A light lunch will be served prior to the meeting.

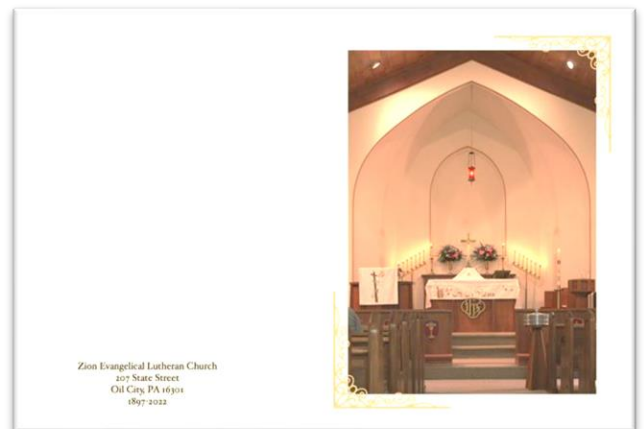
Zion Council meeting will be held Tuesday, November 15 at 6:00pm

Zion will be celebrating Harvest Home on November 20 during worship.

Zion's Hanging of the Greens will be November 27 following worship. A luncheon will be held before the decorating.

Zion will be having picture note cards printed. They will be note card size, blank inside, with an envelope. 10 for \$7.00. We're selling them at cost.

Great Christmas gifts!



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
207 State Street  
Oil City, PA 16131  
814-326-2122

**THANKSGIVING DINNER – LIMIT OF 8 MEALS PER HOUSEHOLD**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ # of Meals \_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions:

*Please return to the office by Sunday, November 20<sup>st</sup>*



**Thanksgiving Meals**

The time is upon us! Time to give thanks for the good and the not so good. Thanksgiving is just a few short weeks away, so I wanted to keep you updated on what is happening with our Annual Thanksgiving Meal delivery. Preparations are currently underway. Sign-up sheets to either help with meals or receive meals (or both) are included in this newsletter as well as the weekly bulletins.



This year we are asking you to sponsor a pie (or two or more!). For \$5.00 you can sponsor a pie and have your name put on our “Pie Chart” in the Narthex. Please send or drop off your donation – if you are writing a check, please make it out to “CMC.” Thank you for your support!

This year we will be distributing meals using the “no contact” method of delivery we used last year. This is so we can continue our tradition and allow others to enjoy their meals at home. Please look at the enclosed flyers and let Kristen know what you can do to help and/or how many meals you would like delivered!

***Reminder: To ensure the safety of all involved, volunteers must be pre-registered, so please, let the office or Joyce know if you are going to volunteer. We would hate to turn anyone away due to lack of communication.***

We are so blessed to be able to continue this outreach to our community as an example of God's love.

*Thank you for your continuing support of our outreach programs.  
Joyce Frenz, DCM  
Community Ministry Committee and Volunteers*

Good Hope/Zion Lutheran  
Churches

Community Ministry

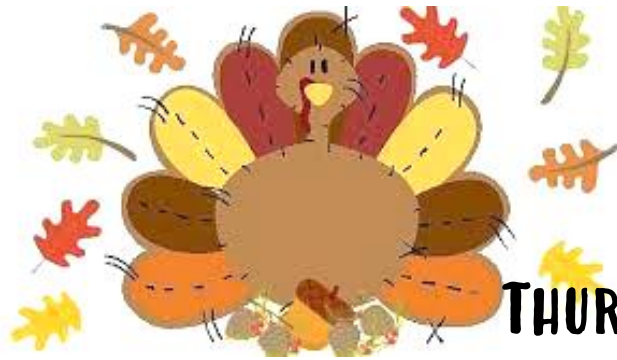
**Community Meals**  
November 8  
November 29

**Thanksgiving Meal Delivery**  
November 24

**Coffee Break**  
Thursdays @ 9:30am



## Good Hope/Zion Lutheran Ministry



# THANKSGIVING DAY

# MEAL DELIVERY

# THURSDAY – NOVEMBER 24TH

- \_\_\_\_\_ I/We can help cook turkeys on Monday, November 21st @ 9am.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I/We can help prepare (cut pies, cut bread, chop celery and onions, etc.) on Wednesday, November 23rd @ 11am.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I/We can help prepare and cook on Thursday, November 24th @ 9am.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I/We can help deliver Thanksgiving meals on Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup> from 11am-Noon.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I/We can help clean up after the Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, November 24th from 11:30am-12:30pm.



**Sponsor a Pie!!!!**



***\* This year we are asking you to sponsor a pie (or two or more!). For \$5.00 you can sponsor a pie and have your name put on our "Pie Chart!" Please send or drop off your donation – if you are writing a check, please make it out to "CMC." Thank you for your support!***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please place this in the offering plate or mail/give to Joyce Frenz, DCM at Good Hope Lutheran Church.*



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

### Events

**Thankoffering**  
November 20th

**Mitten Tree**  
Nov. 20-Dec. 25

### Circle Schedules

Ruth: November 1  
Hope: November 10

**Women of the Church**  
**Meeting**  
November 10

## Thankoffering

The annual Thankoffering will be collected on Sunday, November 20. Envelopes will be available on the narthex table during the month of November. They will also be distributed to members of the Hope Circle and Ruth Circle. The Thankofferings of Good Hope are used to support the work of the Good Hope Women's Association, the local Synodical Women's Organization, and the Women of the ELCA. If you wish to donate by check, please make it payable to "Good Hope Women's Association."

## Mitten Tree

The Mitten Tree will be in the narthex from Sunday, November 20 through Sunday, December 25. The Women of the Church are requesting donations of the following NEW (including handmade) items for all ages:

- Winter gloves and mittens
- Winter hats
- Winter scarves
- Socks
- NEW underwear, especially for elementary school age boys and girls

***The next meeting of the Women of the Church will be on Thursday, November 10, at 11:30 am in the Good Hope Fellowship Hall.***

## 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 November 10, 2022, in the Fellowship Hall at Good Hope. Devotions:Carolynn, Lesson : Jan, Hostess: Maribeth, Lesson Week 13 HS pages 99-103.

## Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet Tuesday, November 1, 2022. Circle will meet at Linda Campbell's residence at 7:00pm.





**Good Hope Worship**  
Indoors – 10:30am

**REMINDER**

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

**November Birthdays / Anniversaries**

01/ Wade & Paula Altman	12/ Gregg & Kristy Felmlee
02/ Suzanne Young	14/ Chuck Schultz
04/ Bob & Sherry Conlan	15/ Linda Vogt
05/ Andrea Altman	16/ Stephen Hart
Chelsea Dehner	17/ Jeff & Judy Clark
08/ Jillian Plummer	19/ Olivia Plummer
Mikayla Wenmoth	Randall & Joyce Frenz
Mackenzie Wenmoth	22/ Ronald French
Rev. Robert Rigg	23/ Hilda Bailey
09/ Mary Lee Lehman	26/ Debbie Wells
11/ Colin & Kya Young	27/ Robert & Ardyce Rigg

**Worship Volunteers**

**Ushers:**

Frank Lewis (Capt.)  
Doug Suhr  
Wade Altman  
Ron Vogt

**Lectors:**

11/6 – Susie Hlawati  
11/13 – Jen Godinich  
11/20 – Sharon McDowell  
11/27 – Buffy Heisey

**Counters:**

11/1 – Melody Neely  
11/8 – Sharon McDowell  
11/14 – Linda Campbell  
11/22 – Chérie Wessell  
11/29 – Linda Vogt

**Altar Guild:**

Linda Campbell  
Debbie Best  
Jennifer Friedhaber

**Communion Assistants:**

11/6 & 11/13 – Tom Friedhaber AA, Susie Hlawati, Pat Gavin  
11/20 & 11/27 – Wade Altman AA, Ralph Jones, Debbie Best

# November

## Sunday



### 6 All Saints

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

### 13 Pentecost 22

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

### 20 Christ the King

- \* Sunday Sch. @GH 9:15am
- \* Worship @GH-10:30am-Thankoffering
- \* GH Annual Meeting after worship
- \* Worship @Z-11am

### 27 Advent 1

- \* Sunday Sch. @GH 9:15am
- \* Worship @GH-10:30am
- \* Sr. Choir @GH-after worship
- \* Worship @Z-11am
- \* Hanging of Greens @Z after worship
- \* Faith & Formation Adv. wreaths @Orris'-4pm-6pm

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Quilters @GH-10am Worship Com. Mtg. @GH-10:30am Ruth Circle @Campbells-7pm	2 Staff Mtg. @GH-9:15am  Adult Bible Study @GH-7pm	3 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am  Ministerium-11am  Property Mtg @GH-7pm	4	5
7 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm  Venango Chorus @ GH-7:30pm	8 CMC Mtg. @Z-10:30am  Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-6pm	9	10 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am  Hope Circle @GH-10am	11	12 All Ages Family Bowling @Seneca Lanes-6pm-8pm
14 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm  Venango Chorus @ GH-7:30pm	15 Quilters @GH-10am Zion Council @Z-6pm	16	17 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am  Good Hope Council @GH-7pm	18	19
21 Thanksgiving Prep @GH-9am  Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm  Venango Chorus @ GH-7:30pm	22 Preschool Thanksgiving @GH-9am  Quilters @GH-10am	23 Thanksgiving Prep @GH-9am	24 Thanksgiving Meal Delivery-10am  	25	26
28 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm  Venango Chorus @ GH-7:30pm	29 Quilters @GH-10am  Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-6pm	30 Adult Bible Study @GH-7pm	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

## 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 Sup.**

Jaimee Cohen  
814-516-1063

**Stay & Play Asst. Sup.**

Dustin Harrison

*stayandplay3@gmail.com*

### Church Councils

**GH President**

Pat Gavin

**GH Vice President**

Sandy Zacherl

**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**

Diane D'Olympio

**Z Financial Sec.**

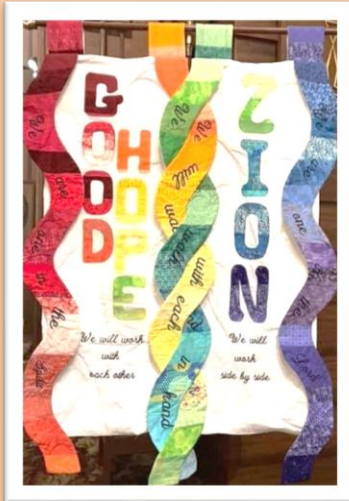
Nancy Wigren

**Z Treasurer**

Sue Fisher

**Z Council Members**

Allison McNamara  
Karen Horn



### Pastor On Call- November

Pastor Mike Parsh

Cell: 814-572-1189  
Home: 814-570-0887  
[pastormparsh@gmail.com](mailto:pastormparsh@gmail.com)

### Good Hope Office Hours

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

814-676-9122  
[officegoodhope@gmail.com](mailto:officegoodhope@gmail.com)



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

**Herald of  
Hope/Lutheran Light  
Good News Letter  
November 2022**  
*Serving all in the manner  
of Jesus*

**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



**Worship Schedule**  
**Good Hope – Indoors – 10:30am**  
**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**