

**Words from
Pastor
Mike Parsh**

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. - 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3¹

I, like Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy in Paul's first letter to the church in Thessalonica, give thanks to God for you the people of the Good Hope/Zion Lutheran Ministry of Oil City. Through your various vocations you are proclaiming through word and deed your faith in God. For that I am honored to be part of our continued journey together as the Body of Christ.

Over the past seven years you have showed me time and again what it is to be faithful stewards of what God has blessed us with; ourselves, our time, and our treasures. From a biblical point of view, a steward is someone who manages a property that is owned by another. This was a fairly common arrangement in the ancient world.

We can look at the parable of the talents from Matthew 25:14-30. In this passage, we read about a landowner who entrusts various portions of his wealth to several of his slaves. Two of the slaves put the money to work and allow it to produce great returns for the landowner. The third slave hides the money away, not willing to risk losing any of it. The landowner commends the first two slaves for putting what he gave to them to manage to work and yielding growth. However, he rebukes the third slave for hiding the money away and not allowing it to grow even in the smallest way.

The point of this parable is to instruct the followers of Christ to put what God has entrusted in their care to work in the world. In doing this, the mission and ministry of God can grow and flourish. Hiding away what God has given us, puts a roadblock in the way of God's work in the world.

Now, I want to be clear that while the parable deals with wealth, true stewardship also involves our time and talents as well. All three are gifts from God and just as important in ensuring that the mission and ministry, which God freely invites us into, flourishes and grows.

With that in mind, I invite you to seriously consider attending the Finance Committee's appreciation meal and stewardship learning opportunity about the Stewardship of Life Institute on Saturday, October 21st. At this gathering, Rev. Dr. Martin Zimmann, the Executive Director of the Institute, will give a presentation on the mission and ministry of the Stewardship of Life Institute. It will be a time of learning about how all of our life, including time, talent, and treasure, is a gift from God and therefore can be fully used by God to care for all the world.

As people of God, we have been given the gift and trust to be faithful stewards of God's creation so that all may have what they need to thrive in this world and know God's love and grace. St. Paul urged his readers to live in a world that was drenched in the presence of God. "For all things are yours, whether.....[they are] of the world or life or death or the present or the future—all belong to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God." (1 Corinthians 3:21-23¹)

In this season of abundance as the world puts forth its bounty, I give thanks for all the ways you have been and continue to be faithful stewards of what God has blessed you with. I give thanks for the mission and ministry that we share as sisters and brothers in Christ. Let us together, as the Body of Christ, boldly step out in faith to serve all in the manner of Jesus.

*Yours in Christ,
Pastor Mike*

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Thank You

Dear Church,

I am so glad that I get to go to camp every year and I had an amazing time this year. I did rocketry and had the best time and made so many friends. I will always do rocketry now because it is the best. My favorite things were camping out the last night and building and launching the rockets.

Heidi Kosker

Dear Church,

Thank you for sending me to camp this year! This year was so fun and I made lots of new friends. My favorite part was our campfires every night.

Hazel Kosker

Good Hope Congregation,

Just a little thank you for allowing cars to be parked overnight at Good Hope while a group traveled to Lancaster to see "Moses" on September 13. It was appreciated by all.

*Thank you again!
Marcia Hoffman*



Faith Formation

Sunday School

9:00am

Sunday School

Youth and Adult Sunday School continues at 9:00!

The adult class will meet in the Fellowship Hall and enjoy various guest teachers throughout the fall while studying the next Augsburg Series.

Elementary aged youth will meet with Julie Kosker in the Sunday School room. Confirmation students will meet with Pastor Mike in the Conference Room.

LYO And Faith & Formation

Fall is off to a great start! We had 12 youths join us at our kick-off party at the Hart's home. The kids played in the creek, found treasure with metal detectors, ran their hearts out playing capture the flag, and relaxed in front of our outdoor movie screen.

Sunday school has begun! The elementary crew started at the very beginning (a very good place to start). They learned about how they are made in God's image, and they wanted to remind you of that too... so if you saw an affirmation post-it note on one of the bathroom mirrors, that's why!



Youth Group: WE NEED VOLUNTEERS on October 28th!

We are bringing back the **PreK- Elementary TRUNK or TREAT Halloween Party on October 28, 7pm to 8pm**. Please consider passing out treats from your car from 7-7:15pm. If you'd like to also stay to run an activity station, please let Julie Kosker know.

The **Jr./Sr. High** youth are looking forward to their first **LOCK-IN** of the year on the 28th. This **Mystery Themed Lock-In** has a lot of fun planned! We need a few volunteers for the evening hours (to help run a game of life-sized Clue). Please let Julie Kosker know if you are willing to volunteer (we promise to let you leave by 10!).



Save the Date
Invite a friend!

November 9
9:30am start



Lutherlyn Saturday Safari
Archaeology + The Venango Trail.
We learn about George Washington's 1753 trip on the Venango Trail and spend some time "digging" at the site along the trail.

November 12
3:00pm-5:00pm



Faith + Fellowship @Good Hope
Food Donation Scavenger Hunt
Help us fill the area food pantry by driving to the houses of our congregation members and completing your scavenger hunt.

November 19
After Church



All Ages LYO Christmas Service
Project @ Good Hope
Stay after church and we will have lunch and make a craft that we will gift to others during next month's Christmas Carolling.



Pet Blessing

October 4
5:00pm-6:30pm



Father Bernard's Blessed Biscuits will be featured at the Good Hope/Zion Pet Blessing on Wednesday, October 4, 5:00pm to 6:30pm on the Good Hope front terrace.

Father Bernard's Blessed Biscuits is a social enterprise of St. Luke's in partnership with the Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County.

Our Mission

To celebrate connection — with dogs and their human families — while providing employment opportunities for those who have dropped out of the workforce due to mental health concerns or addiction.

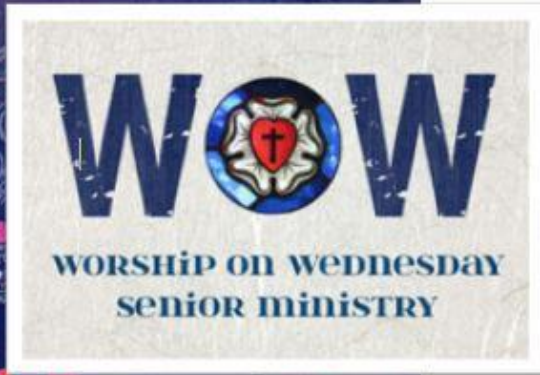
We Believe

We believe celebratory connection is the solution not merely to our community's problems, but the world's. Our circular biscuits represent the ecosystem of connection and wellness that forms when those out of the workforce — isolated by mental health and recovery struggles — are reconnected and resourced by community. We are forging an ecosystem of recovery with your help.

Buying Our Biscuits

Buying Father Bernard's Blessed Biscuits allows you not only to treat your dog with love — you are also showing love for the community by supporting individuals with job training and workforce development in Jamestown, NY. Love makes the whole world go round.

To purchase online, please visit: <https://fatherbernards.com/>



wednesday october 18, 2023

Memory, Forgetfulness, and Aging: What's Normal and What's Not?

Program: Presentation with video and print resources from the National Institute on Aging.

worship: 11:30am

Luncheon: 12:15pm – Hosted by Jim and Maribeth Masquelier

Program: 12:50pm to 1:30pm

Invite a friend and RSVP by calling the Good Hope office (814-676-9122) or email at officegoodhope@gmail.com

Reservations Due: Monday, October 16, 2023

Good Hope/Zion Lutheran Ministry of Oil City
Adult Faith Formation Opportunity

Three Evenings with Dietrich Bonhoeffer

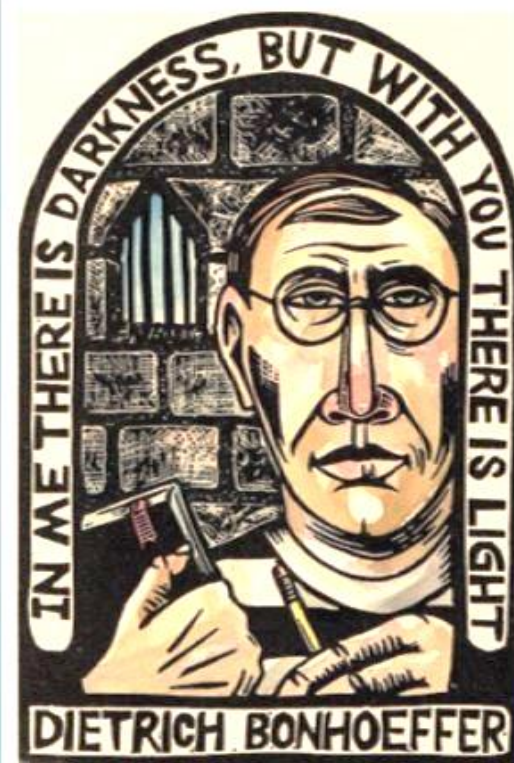
Join the conversation about the German Lutheran pastor, theologian, and anti-Nazi dissident whose thought and writings on Christianity's role in the secular world have become widely influential and relevant for our own day.

Facilitated by Pastor Ralph Jones

Wednesdays, October 25, November 1,
and November 8 - 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the
Good Hope Fellowship Hall.

- In-person participation is recommended for those who are able.
- Online/Zoom option will be available.
- Reading materials will be provided at the first session.

To sign up: please contact the Good Hope office by October 23.



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

officegoodhope@gmail.com
www.goodhopezionlutheranoilcity.org
814-676-9122



**PRESCHOOL WILL CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31ST – 9:00 AM**

EVERYONE IN THE CHURCH IS INVITED TO JOIN IN THE FUN!

Anyone that would like to attend can park their car in the upper parking lot and pass out individual pre-packaged treats or small prizes to the children from the trunk/back of their vehicle. You may decorate your car if you like but please remember we do not talk about anything scary when it comes Halloween at preschool.

If you would like to pass out treats, there are a total of 29 children in the program.

Prepackaged treats but no dietary restrictions - one child allergic to peanuts and tree nuts

Appreciation Dinner Saturday, October 21

An Appreciation Dinner will be held on Saturday, October 21, 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall to express gratitude to the members of Good Hope for their support of the ongoing ministry of our congregation.

We are especially grateful for the support during the covid pandemic and our recent capital appeal which generated sufficient funds to complete the roof project, a new storage shed, and sidewalk repairs.

There will be no cost for members to reserve a spot at table for the Appreciation Dinner but members will need to call the church office to make a reservation so that we can prepare for the number of people attending. The menu for the dinner will include:

Cabbage salad (coleslaw with vinegar dressing)

A boneless pork chop with apples

An oven-roasted red potato

Green beans

and

Cherries Jubilee

Members should provide food allergy and aversion information when they make reservations. We will attempt to make accommodations.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Zimmann from United Lutheran Seminary will provide a presentation following the dinner as well as serving as the preacher the next day at worship.

Sunday, October 22, has been set as Consecration Sunday when we receive the intentions of members to support the ministry of Good Hope through gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

Members will receive a letter in early October with information about Consecration Sunday including a commitment card and willingness to serve sheet.



**Good Hope
Consecration
Sunday**

To *consecrate* means to dedicate someone or something to a sacred purpose.

On **Sunday, October 22**, we will dedicate our intentions and our pledges to support the ministry and mission of Good Hope Lutheran Church with the gifts that God has already given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. We will celebrate God's generosity toward us and our response of generosity toward others through the ministries we share.

The Finance Committee will be providing materials by postal service mail to our members in preparation for this day. Please prayerfully consider your commitment. May God bless our pledges and give us courage to give generously in the coming year.



Community Meals
October 10
October 31

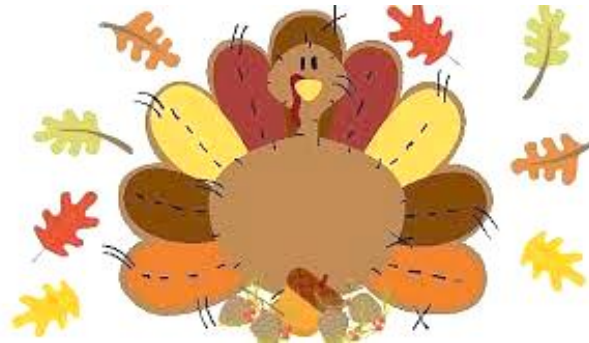
Coffee Break
Thursdays @ 9:30am

Thanksgiving Meal

Community Ministry Committee
is once again planning our annual

Thanksgiving meal delivery!

Please watch our weekly bulletins for sign-up sheets to receive meals or to help with preparation and delivery of meals.
It's only 8 weeks away! November 23, 2023.



All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday will be celebrated at Good Hope and Zion on November 5.

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 1.

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.



Save The Date

November 15 & 29, December 6 & 13 - Loss, Grief, and the Holidays

Four brief sessions for learning, sharing, and praying during the holiday season, 7:00pm-8:15pm at Good Hope. More details to come.



Zion Worship
Indoors – 11:45am

Zion Sunday School
October 1, 11am

Zion Social Time & Lunch
October 15, 11am

Worship Volunteers – October

Lectors:

10/1 – Allison McNamara
10/8 – JoAnn Beary
10/15 – Rick Sabousky
10/22 – Leigh Ann Pikna
10/29 – Yvonne Paranick

Ushers:

Yvonne Paranick

Altar Care:

Edie Bickart
Jan Ruditis

Communion Assistant:

Leigh Ann Pikna

Birthdays

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 03/ Shirley Yolton | 16/ Nancy Turnbull |
| 05/ Linda Mertz | 17/ David Mayer |
| 09/ Andrew Pikna | 23/ Sam Parsh |
| 15/ Karen Horn | 27/ Ralph Jones |

Financial Report - August

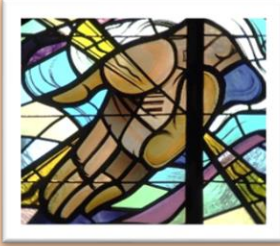
| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| <i>Actual Receipts</i> | \$2,780.00 |
| <i>Budgeted Receipts</i> | 6,752.08 |
| <i>Actual Expenditures</i> | 4,946.39 |

In Memorium

Our sister in Christ, Sue Sanford, died September 19, 2023, at Oil City Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center. Sue worked many years as a cashier at several local stores, including Hills, McCrory's, Eckerd's, and JoAnn Fabrics. Surviving are her significant other, two siblings, two children, five stepchildren, five grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husbands, she was preceded in death by a brother, Michael Godinich. Interment was in the Reno Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Relay for Life of Venango County.

Upcoming Schedule

- Sunday School will be held Sunday, October 1, at 11:00am.
- Social Time and Lunch will be held on Sunday, October 15, at 11:00am.



Pastor On Call

Pastor on Call

Pastor Mike will be on vacation October 6 through October 15.

For any Pastoral emergencies, please contact Rev. Ralph Jones. Cell phone: 814-493-4708 or home phone: 814-589-1638



Quilters of Hope
Tuesdays @ 10:00am

Circle Schedules

Ruth: October 3
Hope: October 12

WELCA

The Fall Retreat of the NWPA and SWPA Women of the ELCA will take place at Lutherlyn on November 3-5. You may attend on Saturday only; on Friday night and Saturday; on Saturday and Saturday night; or from Friday night through Sunday morning. Registration deadline is October 21.

Retreat workshops include Intercessional Prayer through Art, Social Justice (Bethesda Lutheran Services), and Mental Health..

Details and registration info are available on the Women of the ELCA NWPA Facebook page. You may also contact Amy Huffman at 724-783-6071 or pghgirlamy@yahoo.com

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 blessing of the quilts and kits for Lutheran World Relief will take place during worship on Sunday, October 1 at Good Hope. This year 36 personal care kits, 30 school kits, 3 boxes of non-perishable food items, and over 60 quilts will be taken to the in-gathering. Thank you to all for your generosity and prayers.

Hope Circle

Hope Circle meeting will be October 12, 10:00am, in the Fellowship Hall at Good Hope. Devotions: Anna, Hostess: Gloria, Lesson: Maribeth; "When the storm strikes" pgs. 73-81.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet Monday, October 3, 7:00pm at the Clark residence. Study Leader: Janet Switzer



**Good Hope
Worship**
Indoors– 10:15am

REMINDER

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

October Birthdays / Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 02/ Chauncey West | 22/ Emma Stahl |
| 03/ Joseph Hart | Chase Goodman |
| 04/ Greg & Carrie Biltz | 23/ Sam Parsh |
| Ron & Judy Tarr | 24/ Doug McElhatten |
| 05/ Nicholas Hoffman | 25/ Andrea Grosso |
| 06/ Ron Vogt | 26/ Michael Yoder |
| 07/ Bill Exley | 27/ Susan French |
| Alexis Dehner | Colin Young |
| Luci Smith | Ralph Jones |
| 10/ Lindsey Yoder | Jennifer Godinich |
| 11/ Jim & Linda Black | 28/ Matthew Pagliari |
| 12/ Kevin & Liz Roth | 31/ Melodye Neely |
| 15/ Beverly Suhr | Jennifer Friedhaber |
| 17/ Diane West | |
| James & Julie Smith | |

Worship Volunteers

Altar Guild:

Marcia Hoffman
Sanday Zacherl

Ushers:

Ron Campbell
Marcia Hoffman

Lectors:

10/1 – Beth Orris
10/8 – Douglas Suhr
10/15 – Tom Neely
10/22 – Ralph Jones
10/29 – Katie Parsh

Acolytes:

10/1 – Heidi Kosker
10/8 – Raegan Milner
10/15 – Hazel Kosker
10/22 – Raegan Milner
10/29 – Ben Parsh

Counters:

10/3 – Linda Vogt
10/9 – Linda Campbell
10/17 – Chérie Wessell
10/24 – Sharon McDowell
10/30 – Melodye Neely

Communion Assistants:

10/1 & 10/8 – Judy Tarr AA, Chuck Schultz, Pat Gavin
10/15 & 10/22 – Susie Hlawati AA, Katie Parsh, Janet Switzer
10/29 – Chérie Wessell AA, Buffy Suhr, Rhonda McElhaney

October

Sunday

1 *Pentecost 18*
 * Sunday School @ GH-9am
 * Worship @GH-10:15am
 * Sunday School @Z-11am
 * Worship @Z-11:45am

8 *Pentecost 19*
 * Sunday School @ GH-9am
 * Worship @GH-10:15am
 * Worship @Z-11:45am

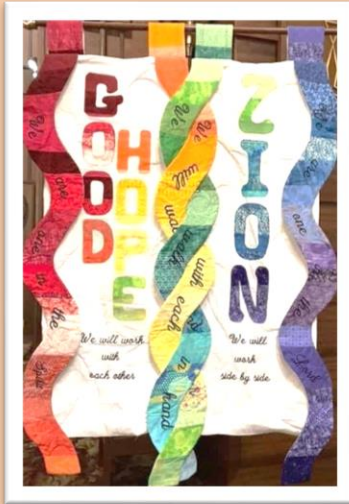
15 *Pentecost 20*
 * Sunday School @ GH-9am
 * Worship @GH-10:15am
 * Social Time/Lunch @Z-11am
 * Worship @Z-11:45am

22 *Pentecost 21*
 * Sunday School @ GH-9am
 * Consecration Sunday / Worship @GH-10:15am
 * Worship @Z-11:45am

29 *Reformation*
 * Sunday School @ GH-9am
 * Worship @GH-10:15am
 * Worship @Z-11:45am

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--------|--|
| 2 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm Venango Chorus @GH-7pm | 3 Quilters @GH-10am CMC @Z-10:30am Worship Mtg. @GH-4pm Ruth Circle @Clark-7pm | 4 Staff Mtg. @GH-9:15am Pet Blessing @GH Terrace-5:00pm-6:30pm Property Mtg @GH-7pm | 5 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am Zion Budget Committee @Z-12pm | 6 | 7 |
| 9 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm Venango Chorus @GH-7pm | 10 Quilters @GH-10am Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-5:30pm | 11 | 12 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am Hope Circle-@GH-10am | 13 | 14 |
| 16 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm Venango Chorus @GH-7pm | 17 Quilters @GH-10am Z Council Mtg. @Z-6pm | 18 Worship on Wednesday (WOW) @GH-11:30am | 19 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am | 20 | 21 Program / Appreciation Dinner @GH-6pm |
| 23 Venango Youth Choir @GH-3:45pm Venango Chorus @GH-7pm | 24 Quilters @GH-10am | 25 Adult Class "Bonhoeffer" @GH-7pm | 26 Coffee Break @Z-9:30am GH Council Mtg. @GH-7pm | 27 | 28 LYO Halloween Party / Trunk or Treat @GH-7pm Faith & Fellowship Overnight @GH-7pm |
| 30 Venango Chorus @GH-7pm Venango Chorus @GH-7pm | 31 Preschool Trunk or Treat @GH-9am Quilters @GH-10am Community Meal @Z-4:30pm-5:30pm |  | | | |

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



Pastor

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

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
October 2023
Serving all in the manner
of Jesus



Worship Schedule
Sunday School @GH – 9:00am
Good Hope – 10:15am
Zion – 11:45am

Recorded service will be posted on Monday afternoon on our
website.
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
Deadline: the 15th of the month