

**Good Hope's  
Good News  
August 2025**



**Good Hope  
Lutheran Church**

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**Our Mission Statement**

*We are the people of God  
shaped by Jesus Christ  
and transformed by the Holy  
Spirit into a community for  
others.*

**Pastor's Pen**

Dear Church Family,

As we celebrate the lazy days of summer, I want to take a moment to remind us of the profound importance of showing gratitude in our lives. Thankfulness is not just a fleeting emotion; it is a powerful act of worship that draws us closer to God and to one another.

In our worship, especially as we prepare to receive Holy Communion, we are reminded that "it is right to give God our thanks and praise." Each time we gather around the Lord's table, we acknowledge the incredible gifts of grace, love, and sacrifice that God has bestowed upon us. This act of communion beautifully illustrates that gratitude is at the heart of our faith.

What if we extended this spirit of thankfulness beyond our relationship with God? I wonder how our lives—and the lives of those around us—might be transformed if we made it a practice to express our gratitude to our loved ones in a more intentional way.

Too often, we take for granted the people who support and uplift us. Many individuals feel unappreciated, yearning for a simple acknowledgment of their efforts and love. A heartfelt "thank you" can go a long way in affirming someone's worth and contribution to our lives. Whether it's a friend, family member, or colleague, expressing our gratitude can strengthen our bonds and foster a culture of appreciation.

As we reflect on our blessings and the relationships that enrich our lives, let us make it a habit to regularly articulate our thankfulness. Let us not wait for special occasions or significant events to express our gratitude. Instead, let us strive to cultivate a spirit of appreciation in our everyday interactions.

This month, I encourage you to take a moment each day to thank God for His countless blessings and to reach out to someone in your life with a word of thanks. You may be surprised at the joy it brings to both your heart and theirs. Consider calling a friend you haven't seen in a while and let them know how much you appreciate them—both for the past and for their presence in your life today.

In closing, let us remember that gratitude is not just an acknowledgment; it is an act of worship that brings us closer to God and strengthens our necessary relationships. May we embrace thankfulness as a way of life, honoring both our Creator and the wonderful people He has placed in our lives.

With a thankful heart,  
Pastor Lew



## Financial Corner – for June 2025

### Worship Offering (non-designated offerings) vs. Budget:

Our monthly budget requirement is \$14,255 (Annual Budget of \$171,060 / 12 Months).

June's worship offering (non-designated offering):

June offering:	\$ 8,993
June 30% rental income	\$ 900
Monthly budget:	\$14,255
Monthly offering higher / (lower) than budget:	\$(4,362)

2025 Year to Date:

YTD Offering:	\$67,458
YTD 30% rental income	\$ 5,400
YTD Budget	\$85,530
YTD Offering higher/(lower) than Budget	\$(12,672)

### Worship Offering (non-designated offerings) including 30% rental income vs. Expenses

June offering:	\$ 8,993
June 30% rental income	\$ 900
June expenses	\$(13,882)
Monthly offering higher / (lower) than expenses	\$(3,989)
YTD Offering	\$67,458
YTD 30% rental income	\$ 5,400
YTD Expenses	\$(88,160)
YTD offering higher / (lower) than expenses	\$(15,302)

**Please note: The above schedule represents budget items and does not include funds collected for dedicated funds (e.g., Food Pantry, Tim Hall Fund, Good Sam, Memorial Funds, or other special offerings) and does not include special and unbudgeted expenses (e.g., furnace or A/C replacement.) It includes 30% of the rental income.**

### Thrivent Investments:

GHLC-Christus Victor Mission Endowment

2025 Beginning Balance	\$ 61,436
Gains/(Losses) (YTD)	2,336
Withdrawals	<u>(1,000)</u>
Ending Balance (6/30/2025)	\$ 62,772

GHLC-Investments

2025 Beginning Balance	\$243,104
Gains/(Losses) (YTD)	<u>12,306</u>
Ending Balance (6/30/2025)	\$255,410

GHLC– Savings from rental payments \$14,268

### Chase Bank Account (Checking/Savings):

2025 Beginning Balance	\$66,098
Deposits / (Withdrawals)	<u>(5,962)</u>
Ending Balance (6/30/2025)	\$60,136





8/6 Dorothy Sweda  
 8/7 Jacob Risen  
 8/8 John Bies  
 8/12 Lily Kirsch  
 8/14 Heather Hall  
 8/14 Allison Zapp  
 8/14 Evelyn-Marie Zapp  
 8/16 LaVelle Jenkins  
 8/20 Pastor Lew  
 8/21 Crystal Yesko  
 8/23 Jeremiah Herrington  
 8/24 Nick Brown



8/10	Raynold & Norma Schmick	57 years
8/12	Jim & Diane Doddie	53 years
8/13	Bruce & Alise Clarey	49 years
8/18	Bob & Lisa King	41 years
8/18	James & Sherry Staples	63 years
8/20	Paul & Annette Clarey	20 years
8/24	Robert & Leola Wing	35 years

## AUGUST BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS



8/1 Suanne Anderson  
 8/14 Marissa Buser  
 8/15 Patricia Truszkowski  
 8/16 Kailee Bledsoe  
 8/16 Mikaela Bledsoe  
 8/16 Ashley Plond  
 8/18 Carrie Armstrong  
 8/27 Sarah Parker  
 8/29 Debbie Alholinna

If you know the date of your Baptism and would like to be included in the Baptismal birthdays, please let the office know.

## Daily reasons to celebrate

Poor August, the only month without holidays! Still, there's lots to celebrate these final weeks of summer. Enjoy some summer flavors: August 1 is National Raspberry Cream Pie Day; August 2, National Ice Cream Sandwich Day; August 3, National Watermelon Day; August 10, National S'mores Day (have a bonfire!); and August 24 is National Peach Day.

If you share life with young kids, have a water balloon fight on — you guessed it — National Water Balloon Day, August 6! Head out for a final (National) Beach Day on August 30. Or head out for an intergenerational hike on National Trail Mix Day, August 31.

And don't forget to celebrate God's precious gifts of friends — National Friendship Day is the first Sunday in August; creation — Global Sleep Under the Stars Night is August 8 (prime time for meteor showers!); laughter — National Tell a Joke Day is August 16; and the opportunity to put God's love into action by serving others — on August 22, National Be an Angel Day, or August 28, National Thoughtful Day, and, for that matter, every day of the year — holiday or not.

## News from the Pews

August 2025

(Council Prez. Diane Rinehart [aka Di])

Greetings, my brothers and sisters in Christ. I hope you are all able to get out and enjoy your summer. I've heard of a couple trips up north, venturing out of the state as far as Alaska and lots of beach days and backyard picnics. Praying God continues to bless you all with your family and fun days!

Over the next few months, I will be talking about our boards (Properties, Worship, Parish, Fellowship/Outreach and Education). These boards are always hard at work and sometimes don't receive the recognition they deserve.

Many thanks to our board of properties for doing a great job in finding the right companies to do our roof and steeple/spire work. They are both about 90% done. The board has also completed getting our security cameras inside the church now. As most, if not all, of you know we have had cameras on the outside of our building for a while now. Unfortunately, with the break in a few months ago, they decided to put a few cameras inside now as well. This board does not sit still. When you drive by our beautiful church at night, notice the new light shining on our flag as well as new LED lights on the main stain-glass window on the East side. There is a new AC unit in room 5, which is the Pastors office for St. Pauls. Our main AC units have also been repaired (thanks largely to Dan King's brother Zak). These are just a few of the projects completed. There are so many 'smaller' jobs also completed. Too many to list! Please be sure to check out the display board in the narthex showing current and future projects for Board of Properties. This board is continually looking out for our church. So next time you see one of the members of Board of Properties (Aaron Sherman, Dan & Hailey King, Lou Trongo, Bob King, Bruce Clarey and John Rinehart) please give them a BIG thank you. Let them know how much they are all appreciated!

Just a couple reminders:

- ♦ There is an 'Ask the council' box in the narthex. Feel free to drop us a note. These notes are read during our council meetings and answered in the following month's newsletter.
- ♦ **Our September 7<sup>th</sup> worship service will be held at Rotary park, 10:00am,** with our annual picnic immediately following
- ♦ Per Lisa King's announcement, there are pasties for sale. Please see Lisa or call the church office if you'd like to purchase some pasties.
- ♦ If you'd like to have flowers on the altar for a birthday, anniversary, in memory, or to Praise God, write your name on the flower calendar for that date and have your flowers into the church Saturday morning or no later than 9:30am Sunday morning. There are vases to borrow from the church or feel free to use your own.

Peace & Blessings,

Di Rinehart

*Psalm 118:24 "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."*





### + Christian Symbols +



**ALTAR** — This central furnishing in a Christian worship space is usually large, with a solid front that may be decorated with symbols or words. The flat surface, often covered with a cloth, is where the Communion elements are prepared and placed, reminding us of Jesus' sacrifice as the Lamb of God. In some churches, the altar looks more like a table, with open legwork. We remember that Jesus invites us into fellowship with God now and to the heavenly banquet for eternity. We place offerings on the altar to symbolize our sacrificial response to God's redeeming love.

### Bible Quiz



For years, King David showed special kindness to the son of King Saul's son Jonathan, because David and Jonathan had been dear friends. Which of the following statements is *not* accurate?

- A. The name of King Saul's grandson was Mephibosheth.
- B. He was lame in both feet.
- C. His feet had been injured when he was 5.
- D. He was injured while playing with his brothers.

**Look for answer elsewhere**

### **Please Remember to keep....**

*Gilbert Barrett, Sheryl Beebe, Margaret Betko  
Kevin & Denise Clarey, Geri Daniels, Lisa  
Donfried, Beverly Doom, Steve Fritz, Michael  
Hicks, Donna Kanowski, Carol Kenyon, Ken  
Konsdorf, Michael Landa, Vaughn Mattson,  
Don McAdam, Carol Napier, Shirlee  
Pakkala, Kathy Saatio, Eleanore Stirling,  
Dorothy Sweda, Gail White, Beverly Wolff  
Brandon, Adam, Alannah, Tina, Debbie,  
Carnetta, Roy, Jodi, Sue, Norm, Alec, Mike,  
Robert, Jimmy, Allen, Dillon, Matt, Jean,  
Vicky, Mark, Bobby, Linda & Good  
Hope.....In your prayers*

If you are in need of prayers call the church office at **734-427-3660**.



### **Parking Lot Extravaganza**

Boujee's Biscuits 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bark-B-Cue will be held here at Good Hope on August 9<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 4pm in the west parking lot. There will be a food truck, sweet treats and dog treats, vendors, and raffles. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Tim Hall Fund.



### **New Cell Phone #**

**Lou Trongo  
734-431-1727**



### **Blessing Of The Animals**

Saturday - 08/23/25 – 4pm to 6pm

Courtyard

*(Organized and Hosted by Fellowship/  
Outreach)*

### **Church Service At the Park & Picnic**

Sunday - 09/07/25 – 10am Service

Picnic to follow.

Rotary Park – Garden City

*(Organized and Hosted by Fellowship/  
Outreach)*

### **Ice Cream Social-Rally Day**

Sunday - 09/14/25 – After Service

Volkmar Hall

*(Organized and Hosted by Fellowship/  
Outreach and Education)*

### **Trunk Or Treat**

Saturday - 10/25/25 – 5pm to 7pm

West Parking Lot

*(Organized and Hosted by Fellowship/  
Outreach and Education)*

### **Birthday Coffee Hour For 70+**

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday - 10/26/25 – After Service

Volkmar Hall

*(Organized and Hosted by Fellowship/  
Outreach)*

### **Silver Strings Christmas Concert**

Thursday – 12/11/25 - 5pm to 7pm

Sanctuary

Light Refreshments in Volkmar Hall after  
Concert

*(Organized By Fellowship/Outreach)*

### **White Elephant Holiday Party**

Saturday 12/13/25 – 5pm

Volkmar Hall

*(Organized and Hosted by Debbie Kupel)*

### **Tim Hall Bag Packing**

Exciting News! For July we were able to pack 85 bags to be distributed! Thank you to all that donated funds & items. And a huge thank you to our faithful bag packers.

Here is a running tally of what is still needed for the next Tim Hall backpack event. The goal is 50 backpacks. The next event is August 23rd. We pack bags on **August 19th**.

These items are what we consider essentials for our backpacks and how many more we need to make our goal of 50 bags. **\*Updated 7/22/25**.

Below is what we \*still need to get to 50 if there is a check we are all set. ☺

100 Backpacks  
43 Vienna sausages  
30 Trail mix  
25 Slim Jim's  
25 Men's deodorant  
20 Women's deodorant  
34 pairs socks  
2 peanut butter crackers  
0 Tuna pouches ✓ (ahead by 13)  
38 Applesauce or fruit pouches  
0 granola bars ✓ (ahead by 115)  
0 rolls of toilet paper ✓ (ahead by 22)  
17 bars of soap  
45 washcloths  
0 nutragrain bars ✓ (ahead by 34)  
200 wet wipes  
16 hand sanitizer  
49 bags of cookies  
0 toothbrushes with paste ✓ (ahead by 7)  
200 bandaids  
0 fruit snacks ✓ (ahead by 3)

These are some non-essential items which we love to include but if we don't have them we go without.

Feminine hygiene products

Shampoo

Conditioner

Ponchos

Sunscreen

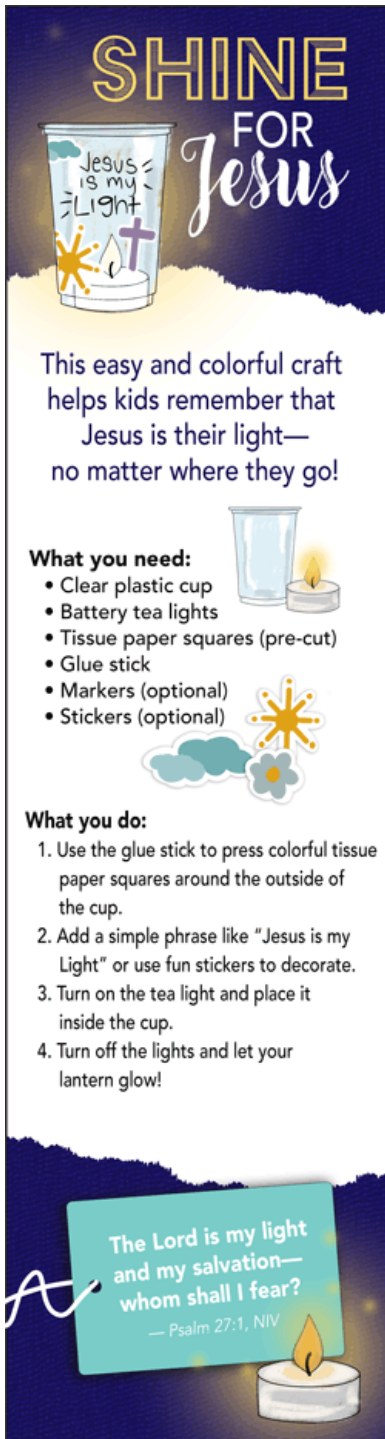
Chapstick

\$5 McDonald's gift cards

Portals of prayer/Daily bread

**Cash donations are always welcomed.** Any questions can be directed to Jenny Smith 734-334-6737.

# KID'S PAGE



This easy and colorful craft helps kids remember that Jesus is their light—no matter where they go!

#### What you need:

- Clear plastic cup
- Battery tea lights
- Tissue paper squares (pre-cut)
- Glue stick
- Markers (optional)
- Stickers (optional)

#### What you do:

1. Use the glue stick to press colorful tissue paper squares around the outside of the cup.
2. Add a simple phrase like "Jesus is my Light" or use fun stickers to decorate.
3. Turn on the tea light and place it inside the cup.
4. Turn off the lights and let your lantern glow!



## WHO AM I?

Did you know that some Old Testament books are named after prophets? Use the clues to figure out each prophet's name and write it on the lines. Then unscramble, use the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.

1. I was called to preach to Nineveh, but I ran from God instead. My book is number 32 in the Bible.  
I am \_\_\_\_\_.  
I am \_\_\_\_\_.
2. I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. My book is number 37.  
I am \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. My book is number 28.  
I am \_\_\_\_\_.
4. My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises of comfort. It is book 23.  
I am \_\_\_\_\_.
5. I had dreams and visions. My book is number 27.  
I am \_\_\_\_\_.
6. I was often in danger because of my prophecies. I angered officials. My book is number 24.  
I am \_\_\_\_\_.
7. I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. My book is number 30.  
I am \_\_\_\_\_.
8. My book contains descriptions of strange visions. My book is number 26.  
I am \_\_\_\_\_.

Prophets are \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: Jonah; Haggai; Hosea; Isaiah; Daniel; Jeremiah; Amos; Ezekiel; Messengers.