

**Good Hope's  
Good News  
October 2025**



**Good Hope  
Lutheran Church**

28680 Cherry Hill Rd.  
Garden City, MI 48135  
Phone: (734) 427-3660  
Fax: (734) 522-5613  
Email: [goodhopelutheran@](mailto:goodhopelutheran@sbcglobal.net)

[sbcglobal.net](mailto:sbcglobal.net)

Web address:  
[www.goodhopeelca.org](http://www.goodhopeelca.org)



Rev. Lewis W. Carlson  
Pastor

Cell: 313-618-8859  
Email: [revlew@yahoo.com](mailto:revlew@yahoo.com)



Diane Rinehart  
Council President  
Cell: 734-718-6227

Email:

[dianerinehart55@gmail.com](mailto:dianerinehart55@gmail.com)

**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,

Each October we gather to remember a pivotal moment in our church's story: the events that launched what we call the Lutheran Reformation. You will see this month's theme — remembering our heritage — on the calendar, in our worship, and in conversations across Good Hope Lutheran Church. I want to invite you to see this observance not as a museum tour of the past but as a living call to the work Luther modeled: honest, communal struggle about what it means to follow Jesus faithfully here and now.

The familiar image of Martin Luther posting the 95 Theses on the door in Wittenberg is more than a historical snapshot. Whether every detail of that story is exact or later embellished, the act itself symbolizes something essential: Luther wanted to provoke a serious, public conversation inside the church about how we care for one another and proclaim the gospel. He did not set out to build a new denomination; he wanted the church to reform itself by returning to the gospel and by listening to Scripture and one another. That insistence on conversation, critique, and reformation from within is a model for us.

Why does this matter today? Because reform is not an event that happens once and then ends. It is an ongoing posture of repentance and renewal. The gospel always calls us to be examined and to be changed — together. The Apostle Paul tells us that anyone in Christ is a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). That transformation is not private; it shows up in how we worship, how we work, how we welcome guests, how we use resources, and how we speak the truth with love.

Being a community that reforms itself requires humility and courage. It means practicing self-reflection and confession — individually and corporately — so that we do not simply preserve our comforts but are shaped by Christ's love into greater faithfulness. It also means engaging in conversation across generations and viewpoints, trusting the priesthood of all believers: that each person has a voice and a vocation to offer to the life of the church.

This October I encourage you to join the life of learning and reflection we are offering at Good Hope:

- Attend our Reformation Sunday worship on October 26th and hear stories from members about how faith has been renewed across generations.
- Take time for personal reflection: a short daily examen, a prayer for humility, or a moment in the pew to ask, "What might God be reforming in me now?"

.....*continued on page 5*

## **Financial Corner – for August 2025**

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

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

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

August offering:	\$11,619
Aug. 30% rental income	\$ 900
Monthly budget:	\$14,255
Monthly offering higher / (lower) than budget:	\$(1,736)

2025 Year to Date:

YTD Offering:	\$100,839
YTD 30% rental income	\$ 7,200
YTD Budget	\$114,040
YTD Offering higher/(lower) than Budget	\$(6,001)

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

August offering:	\$11,619
Aug. 30% rental income	\$ 900
Aug. expenses	\$(14,968)
Monthly offering higher / (lower) than expenses	\$(2,449)
YTD Offering	\$100,839
YTD 30% rental income	\$ 7,200
YTD Expenses	\$(122,459)
YTD offering higher / (lower) than expenses	\$(14,420)

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)	3,250
Withdrawals	<u>(1,000)</u>
Ending Balance (8/31/2025)	\$ 63,686

GHLC-Investments

2025 Beginning Balance	\$243,104
Gains/(Losses) (YTD)	18,933
Withdrawals (roof repairs)	<u>(25,337)</u>
Ending Balance (8/31/2025)	\$236,700

GHLC– Savings from rental payments \$20,225

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

2025 Beginning Balance	\$66,098
Deposits / (Withdrawals)	<u>(18,299)</u>
Ending Balance	\$47,799





10/01 Diane Rinehart  
 10/02 Shirlee Pakkala  
 10/05 Alexandra Griwicki  
 10/07 Tricia Fielhauer  
 10/07 KC Griwicki  
 10/08 Kristen Bledsoe  
 10/16 Lois Pike  
 10/20 Margaret Betko  
 10/22 Suzanne Kirsch  
 10/24 Harland Guffey  
 10/31 Peggy Branka

## OCTOBER BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS



10/01 Charles Armstrong  
 10/13 Aaron Sherman  
 10/17 Lucas Armstrong  
 10/17 Lisa King  
 10/17 Bennett Wiles  
 10/17 Kiyah Wiles  
 10/19 Beverly Doom  
 10/20 Michael Sroczynski  
 10/21 Susan Armstrong  
 10/22 Hailey King  
 10/29 Mike Bachorik  
 10/31 Jeremiah Herrington

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



10/13 Chris & Aubrey Harding 7 years  
 10/20 Jon & Nancy Mincovsky 25 years  
 10/22 Russ & Jan Juliette 4 years  
 10/25 John & Diane Rinehart 45 years

## Directory Changes

### Called to their Heavenly Home

**Robert Wing**  
**On August 16, 2025**

**Carol Kenyon**  
**On August 17, 2025**

**Mary Ann Garza**  
**On August 21, 2025**

**Kathleen Anne Saatio**  
**On September 17, 2025**



## Christmas Quilt Raffle

A beautiful Christmas Quilt made by Jackie Suuppi (part of the quilting group) has been donated for a Quilt Raffle on Sunday, November 30th.

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5  
 Tickets will be on sale every Sunday in the Narthex until the drawing.  
 The Quilt is displayed in the Narthex

## News from the Pews

### October

(Council Prez. Diane Rinehart [aka Di])

We are just getting back from a beautiful trip from the UP. The saying 'Pure Michigan' is so true! I love our state!!

As I continue to recognize our Boards, let me tell you a little about our Board of Fellowship/Outreach. Otherwise known as the 'fun and getting to know you' board.

This board hosts a lot of our events here at Good Hope Lutheran Church. The annual church picnic, the White Elephant Christmas party, Easter breakfast (when we haven't enough helpers), breakfast with Santa, game nights for young and older members, coffee hours for birthdays, graduations, anniversaries, an afternoon out for lunch and then to the theater, etc. I'm sure I'm missing a number of other wonderful events this board has hosted. They never stop thinking about how to get the church members and friends and families together for a fun fellowship time.

I can tell you from personal experience as a past member on this board, it's not easy. To come up with something the entire church can enjoy. Or even an event for just the teens, or the middle schoolers or us older folks. Then to plan the event, shop for the event, decorate if needed for the event. There is so much behind the scenes on getting it all together. And we, as the guests to the event, never really see just how much time and effort goes into putting the event together. And for that, I personally am truly thankful for this wonderful board. The board members today are: Jenny Smith, Rita Harmon, Debbie Kupel, Hailey King. Yep, that's right. Only 4 lovely ladies do all this work! So please let these lovely ladies know how much you appreciate all they do. They are always looking for new ideas, so drop them a note in anyone of their mailboxes. I'm sure they'll love to hear your ideas!!

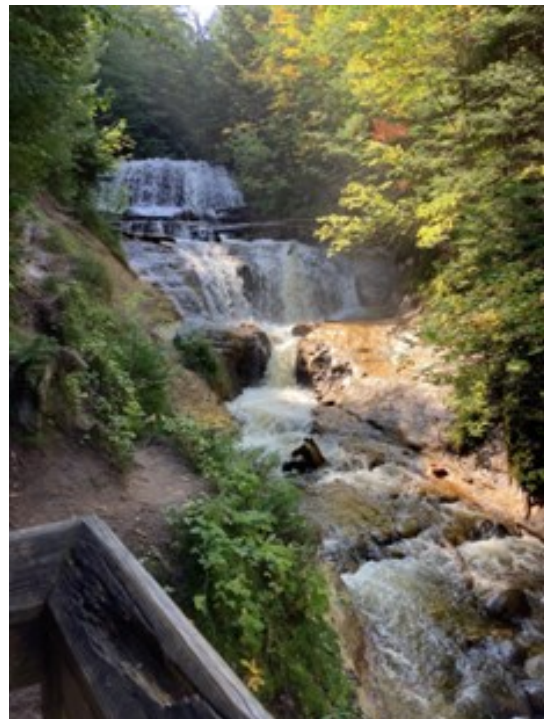
Just a couple reminders:

- ⇒ October 25<sup>th</sup>: our trunk or treat night will be held in the upper hall this year.
- ⇒ October 26<sup>th</sup>: coffee hour in the upper hall following service and it's Reformation Sunday.
- ⇒ Don't forget to wear your **RED**!

Peace & Blessings,

Di Rinehart

This is Sable falls in our beautiful UP.  
One of God's great gifts to us.



## + Christian Symbols +



### **VERBUM DOMINI MANET IN AETERNUM**

— Latin for “The Word of the Lord Endures Forever,” this motto of the Lutheran branch of the Protestant Reformation comes from 1 Peter 1:25. Frederick the Wise, ruler of Saxony and one of Martin Luther’s earliest and most influential supporters, had the VDMA symbol sewn into the right sleeve of the official garments worn at his court. The symbol also appeared on banners, flags, swords, and uniforms, representing the unity of the Lutheran laity in standing firm in their faith.

## Bible Quiz



The book of Jonah tells the story of a prophet who ran from God, faced a storm, and learned about God's mercy. Which of the following statements is true?

- A. Jonah told the sailors he was running from God, and they threw him overboard.
- B. The fish that swallowed Jonah washed up on the shores of Joppa.
- C. Jonah preached in Nineveh for forty days and forty nights.
- D. After the city repented, Jonah rejoiced and built an altar to the Lord.

***Look for answer elsewhere***

### ***.....Pastor's Pen continued***

Reflection questions for your week

- Where have I grown in faith this year, and where do I still resist change?
- How does my life witness God's grace to others?
- In what ways can our congregation be reformed to better serve our neighbors?

Let us be a congregation that follows Luther's example not by clinging to contention, but by pursuing reform through honest dialogue, confession, prayer, and mutual care. May this month be a season of honest assessment and joyful transformation, so that as a community we may more fully live into the new creation God calls us to be. In Christ's peace,  
Pastor Lew



## **Birthday Coffee Hour for 70+**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

**Join us Sunday, October 26th after services in Volkmar Hall to celebrate birthdays!**





GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE  
INVITED



# HALLOW-PALOOZA PARTY

Saturday October 25th

5pm-7pm

28680 Cherry Hill Rd, Garden City,  
MI 48135

Limited space

Sign up sheet in the Narthex

### **Ramblings from....Deb**

Happy Fall...leaves are turning, the days are getting shorter...and a chill in the air???. Halloween this month, excited to see how the new Hallow-Palooza will turn out...sounds like so much fun. Then Thanksgiving...pumpkin pie (or sweet potato pie...my favorite) and Turkey with all the trimmings. Then December with the beauty of winter and the blessing of the birth of Jesus...and...and...the Holiday White Elephant Party. I am already stocking up on door prizes, an ornament for all to take home and decorating ideas for the table. It is a Candy Cane theme, there will be lots of red and white. I even have just received a gift that will make for a festive outfit for me!!! Also be sure to plan on attending the Thursday December 11<sup>th</sup>, Silver Stings Concert at 7pm. The concert is free to attend. There will be light refreshments in Volkmar Hall afterwards.

I always like to leave you with a scripture or an affirmation that spoke to me...so here is the one for October. I don't always remember where I find them...when I see one, I just stop for a second and know it is the one for me....and write it down!!! "Be So Good That They Can't Ignore You" – Steve Martin. It made me think I could change one word and it would still be the same..."Be so Christian, that they can't ignore you!!!"

Take Care and See You In Church!!! ~ Debbie Kupel

### **Beyond Luther**

At this time of year, we hear much about Martin Luther. But many other reformers also had lasting effects on the Christian church. You may want to do more reading about them to learn about their lives and legacies.

- John Huss (1369-1415) was a Catholic priest from the Czech Republic. He opposed indulgences and emphasized right living over sacraments. Huss was burned at the stake.
- Swiss priest Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531) was a father of the Reformed tradition. He taught that people should believe and practice only what's in the Bible.
- Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556), a contemporary of Luther, played a large role in the English Reformation, leading to the formation of the Anglican/Episcopal tradition. He was burned at the stake.
- Menno Simons (1496-1561), founder of the Mennonite Church, taught believers' baptism, nonresistance and symbolic Eucharist.
- John Calvin (1509-1564) introduced new forms of liturgy and church government, led the church in Geneva and taught the doctrine of predestination. His work influenced the Reformed and Presbyterian traditions.
- George Fox (1624-1691) founded the Society of Friends (Quakers), emphasized the Inner Light of Christ and took frequent missionary journeys.
- John Wesley (1703-1791), the founder of Methodism, taught the Arminian doctrine of free will and emphasized sanctification.

### **Women of the Reformation**

Although the names most often associated with the Reformation are male, women also played key roles in maintaining the integrity of the church. "Most were wives and mothers," professor Justin Holcomb writes. "Some were also authors, apologists, ex-nuns and queens. All were faithful servants of Jesus."

Women who made notable contributions include:

- Katherine von Bora, the former nun who married former-priest Martin Luther
- Argula von Grumbach, a Bavarian noblewoman who published letters and debated with university faculty
- Olympia Fulvia Morata, an Italian scholar who lectured on the teachings of Luther and Calvin — and was persecuted and imprisoned
- Jeanne d'Albret, queen of Navarre and a leader in France's Huguenot movement, who tried to peacefully resolve tensions between Catholics and Protestants
- Marie Dentièrre, an aristocrat who left an Augustinian monastery to speak in public — even on street corners! — about church reform

### Save the Date

#### Hallow-Palooza Party

Saturday - 10/25/25 – 5pm to 7pm  
Good Hope Church (inside)  
Limited Space-Sign up in the Narthex  
Must sign-up by 10/12/2025  
Games & Crafts—all ages are invited

#### Birthday Coffee Hour For 70+

ALL ARE WELCOME  
Sunday - 10/26/25 – After Service  
Volkmar Hall

#### Trivia Bingo

Saturday—11/15/25—6-9pm  
Volkmar Hall

#### Silver Strings Christmas Concert

Thursday – 12/11/25 - 5pm to 7pm  
Sanctuary  
Refreshments in Volkmar Hall after Concert

#### White Elephant Holiday Party

Saturday 12/13/25 – 5pm  
Volkmar Hall

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

*Gilbert Barrett, Sheryl Beebe, Margaret Betko, Kevin Clarey, Geri Daniels, Lisa Donfried, Beverly Doom, Steve Fritz, Michael Hicks, Tom Hughs, Donna Kanowski, Ken Konsdorf, Michael Landa, Vaughn Mattson, Don McAdam, Carol Napier, Shirlee Pakkala, Eleanore Stirling, Dorothy Sweda, Gail White, Alice & Larry Williams, Beverly Wolff, Brandon, Adam, Maggie, Owen, Alex, Alannah, Leona, Carnetta, Roy, Jodi, Sue, Norm, Linda, Jim & Good Hope.....In your prayers*

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

*Remember  
In Prayer*



### Tim Hall Bag Packing

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 October 25th. We pack bags on **October 21st**.

These items are what we consider essentials for our backpacks and how many more we need to make our goal of 50 bags. **\*Updated 9/16/25**.

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

0 Backpacks ✓  
9 Vienna sausages  
37 Trail mix  
66 Slim Jim's mini  
25 Men's deodorant  
25 Women's deodorant  
50 pairs socks  
31 peanut butter crackers  
23 Tuna pouches  
50 Applesauce or fruit pouches  
25 granola bars  
50 rolls of toilet paper  
38 bars of soap  
23 washcloths  
50 nutragrain bars  
124 wet wipes  
50 hand sanitizer  
5 bags of cookies  
5 toothbrushes with paste  
100 bandaids  
6 fruit snacks

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

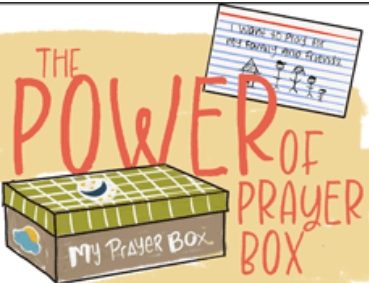
#### Tim Hall fall tree

Starting October 1st our fall tree will be in the narthex again. We are looking for donations of warm gloves for Tim Hall. You can leave them right under the tree. It would be fantastic if we were ready and able to give out the gloves when the weather starts to get colder.





# KID'S PAGE



Create a simple and meaningful prayer box your family can use to share requests and pray together all week long.

## What you need:

- Shoebox with lid
- Wrapping paper or decorative paper
- Scissors & tape
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers and other craft material (optional)
- Pens or pencils
- Index cards or small pieces of paper



## What you do:

1. Wrap the shoebox like a gift, wrapping the lid separately so it can be opened.
2. As a family, decorate the box with drawings, favorite Bible verses, photos, or stickers.
3. Place the box somewhere central, like the kitchen or living room.
4. Keep index cards and pens nearby. When someone has a prayer request, they can write or draw it and drop it in.
5. Throughout the week, take turns praying over the requests as a family, or have a parent lead prayer time.

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.  
—Colossians 4:2, NIV

# PUZZLE



## JESUS TRAVELED TO MANY PLACES

Jesus traveled to many regions, cities, towns and villages to preach the Good News. In the puzzle below, find and circle the names of some of the places. Can you find the names on the list?

Words can go left to right, up, down or diagonal—so look carefully in all directions!

BETHANY	EPHRAIM	MOUNT OF OLIVES
BETHLEHEM	GALILEE	NAZARETH
BETHSAIDA	JERICHO	PEREA
CAESAREA PHILIPPI	JERUSALEM	SAMARIA
CANA	JORDAN RIVER	SIDON
CAPERNAUM	JUDEA	TYRE
DECAPOLIS	MAGDALA	WILDERNESS
EGYPT		

B	M	L	E	T	C	U	S	G	O	T	O	B	T	H	E
E	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R	E	M	N	S
T	U	E	U	E	N	A	R	B	Y	V	I	T	A	L	S
H	D	L	R	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	H	G	A	E
S	E	G	E	I	T	S	S	S	G	Y	O	L	D	I	N
A	A	C	J	A	C	O	N	I	Y	R	P	E	A	R	R
I	D	E	E	A	C	H	F	D	P	E	H	H	L	T	E
D	E	H	R	E	R	E	O	O	T	A	L	E	A	S	D
A	C	O	U	T	H	P	A	N	L	T	I	M	S	W	L
C	A	E	S	A	R	E	A	P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I
H	P	P	A	A	Y	R	I	H	A	V	V	E	C	O	W
M	O	H	L	E	M	E	S	O	H	E	T	E	R	A	V
E	L	R	E	L	E	A	D	T	H	R	O	U	S	G	H
O	I	A	M	U	T	G	R	A	B	E	T	H	A	N	Y
L	S	I	I	L	G	A	L	I	L	E	E	E	E	F	R
O	M	M	C	A	P	E	R	N	A	U	M	M	A	R	K