

STEEPLE NOTES

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GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Offering **HOSPITALITY** to all
 Seeking **OPPORTUNITIES** to serve others
 Teaching & **PREACHING** the Gospel of Christ
 Encouraging **EVERYONE** to use their spiritual gifts

DECEMBER 2018

DECEMBER EVENTS

- ❁ **December 1** is Wild Lights at Columbus Zoo at 2:30
- ❁ **December 2** is 1st Sunday in Advent Worship & Lighting candle of HOPE
- ❁ **December 3** – **WELCA** Christmas Party at 12:30
- ❁ **December 6** is Preschool Christmas Program at 7 PM
- ❁ **December 9** is the 2nd Sunday in Advent worship & Lighting Candle of PEACE.
- ❁ **December 9** at 4 PM United in Harmony Christmas Concert
- ❁ **December 16** is 3rd Sunday in Advent Worship & Lighting Candle of JOY
- ❁ **December 23** is 4th Sunday in Advent Worship and Youth Christmas Musical at the 8:30 Service
- ❁ **December 24** is Christmas Eve worship at 7:30 and 11 PM
- ❁ **December 30** is worship with youth leading the 8:30 service.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2019 Daily Bible Reading Challenge	1
From the Pastor's Pen	2
December Happenings	3
We Need More Prayer	4
Thank you for serving	4
Congratulations, Claire Schifer	4
Perfect Attendance Sunday School	4
WELCA Month Duties	5
WELCA Christmas Meeting	5
Thankoffering Envelopes	5
Thank you for WELCA support	6
WELCA Christmas Project	6
Stephen Ministry	6
Faithful Woman, Roberta Siniff	7
Dartball Schedule	7
Preschool News	8
October Council Highlights	9
From the Church Office	10
Please Remember	11
Daily Bible Reading Schedule	
December Calendar	



Merry Christmas!



May the joy and peace that surrounded the birth of Jesus be yours in the next year!



*To
Our Good Hope Family*



May you feel the joy and peace that surrounded Jesus's birth on that Christmas night so long ago.



May the sounds of the angel chorus fill your heart with music all year long.



May your days be filled with the warmth that comes from knowing Jesus.



May you always follow the star that always leads to Jesus.

**2019 Daily Bible Reading
Program: A Faith Growth Challenge**

Beginning the first day of January, Bishop Daniel Beaudoin is challenging all members of the Northwest Ohio Synod of the ELCA to read a small portion of the Bible daily. By doing so, you will read the ENTIRE BIBLE through in ONE YEAR. See the Northwestern Ohio Synod 2019 Bible Reading Program included at the end of this newsletter. It is also available on the narthex racks.

I am adding to this challenge a weekly conversation about our reading ... at the Pelican over your favorite coffee, tea or cookies! We will meet on Thursdays at 4:00pm beginning January 3rd. This will be a weekly conversation. Bring your questions, your comments, your surprises!

All are welcome to this dive into Scripture beginning January 3rd at 4:00pm at the Pelican. I am up for a latte and something sweet! -Pastor Renee

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN



Merry
Christmas

When I was a little girl, I knew it was Christmas morning because my maternal grandfather and grandmother would drive to our house in their Model A Ford. My grandpa would be honking the horn (I'm sure waking up all the neighbors) and shouting, "Merry Christmas!" We had all gone to the candle light worship service the night before so Christmas morning came early!

What are your Christmas traditions? What do you remember as a child? Or what will your children remember about Christmas when they grow up?

As our children grew, we did not put the baby Jesus in the manger until Christmas morning. This reminded us that the season of Advent is a season of waiting and watching. **The season of Christmas is a season of celebration.**



It is not all about getting the right gift for the right person...**it is about a babe, wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. It's about a Lord, loving each one of us.**



Costco put their Christmas trees up in August. Target promised to wait until after Halloween. Merchants cannot wait to get their hands on our Christmas cash. "Black Friday" gets its name because that is the day that merchants go "in the black" for the year. Let's face it...Christmas is good for the economy.



Let's make Advent and Christmas good for our spirituality. Pray daily. Read Luke 2:1-20 every day in Advent. Prepare your heart for the coming of our Savior. Bake cookies for the workers at a nursing home or the fire station or the police station or the hospital. Volunteer at WOW. Give a coat, or socks, or underwear, or jeans to the Clothes Closet. Take an ornament off the tree at church that will provide necessities and nice things for the children and youth at Oesterlan Children's Home. All of these are ways that we are the hands and feet of Jesus in the lives of others.



Instead of digging deeply into your pockets or racking up high charges on your Visa and Mastercard credit cards, **let's dig deeply into our hearts.** Let's ponder the sacrifices of our Savior. Let's ponder Mary's thoughts and Joseph's faith as they raised Jesus and then watched him give his life for the world.

There are so many wonder worship opportunities in December! I hope to see you at church, anticipating and celebrating the birth of our Savior!

Have a Blessed Christmas and Peace in the New Year!

Pastor Renee

December Happenings at Good Hope



United in Harmony Christmas Concert Sunday, December 9, at 4 PM



United in Harmony will be presenting a variety of Christmas music on Sunday, December 9, at 4 PM at Good Hope. There will be a variety of Christmas music including sacred selections and kid favorites including “Holly Jolly Christmas”, “Up on the Housetop”, and “Jingle Bells. The concert will include an audience carol sing.

Bring your entire family and friends to celebrate this joyous season.

A love offering will be collected to benefit *Bucyrus Feeding Ministries* (which includes our WOW program)

SUNDAYS IN ADVENT

“LIGHT ONE CANDLE”

At the 8:30 and 10:45 AM Services, the advent wreath will be lit each Sunday with readings, prayer, and singing “Light One Candle” by youth, praise, and senior choirs.



On December 2 the candle of HOPE is lit
On December 9 the candle of PEACE is lit
On December 16 the candle of JOY is lit.
On December 23 the candle of LOVE is lit.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS MUSICAL DECEMBER 23 AT 8:30 AM SERVICE

The youth will be presenting “It’s All About That Baby” on December 23 as part of the 8:30 AM Service.

The musical is a nativity based program told through the shepherds and sheep.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

December 24, 2018



7:30 PM

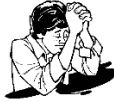
Worship and Communion with preservice music prior to service

11:00 PM

Worship and Communion with preservice music prior to the service and senior choir cantata “A Noel Celebration”

Other December Events

- ❖ **December 1 at 2:30 PM**
Trip to Columbus Zoo Wild Lights
- ❖ **December 3 at 12:30 PM**
WELCA Christmas Party
- ❖ **December 6 at 7 PM**
Preschool Christmas Program



We NEED (more) Prayer



Look at the news! Our world is falling apart in so many ways. Evil is on the move. The west coast is in flames, our political system is divided and broken, and we even have to be aware of drugs/meth in our children's Halloween candy. As Christians, we hear and say that prayer is important, and it is, but how often do we share our prayer time, outside of Sunday morning, with others? I'm talking about stopping what we are doing during our busy day and taking time to pray with others. I truly believe that **prayer is the first step to solving our individual concerns as well as the world's problems.**

So what can we do about it? Pray. If we aren't praying enough already, how should we pray (more)? I've asked our Confirmation Class and High school Sunday school class to make a conscious effort to stop what they are doing at 12-noon each day, hold hands with the friends and strangers around them, and pray the Lord's Prayer outloud.

Think of what might be possible if everyone from Good Hope prayed each day, with those around them, at the same time..... WOW! With God all things are possible! Our daily prayer can be a wonderful Christmas present to our world, our community and to ourselves.

Merry Christmas,

David Wolfe
Youth & Family Ministry

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ARE SERVING OUR COUNTRY!

Care packages were sent to those serving in the military as well as our college students.

One of the thank you's received was from Paul Holdcraft:

I'd like to thank you for sending the amazing box of goodies. It is really thoughtful and makes me happy knowing that such awesome people think about me from so far away. There are some things that they don't have in Japan, and it's heartwarming to see them every once in awhile. Again thank you and God bless.



Please keep those serving in the military and those attending college in your prayers.



CONGRAULATIONS TO CLAIRE DANIELLE SCHIFER!

She was confirmed October 28, 2018.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE IN OCTOBER

- ♥ Owen Sullivan
- ♥ Elizabeth Ehmann
- ♥ Robin Ehmann
- ♥ Abby Jo Ehmann

Congratulations

To All Members of Good Hope from the Members of WELCA Board,

Thank you for so generously supporting the mission of our organization throughout 2018. Through you we were again able to help others in your name for we spend on those in need what you give us. We are blessed with your support.

May God bless you richly and may His grace supply all you need, just as you have supplied the needs of others.

The Peace of God Be with You!

2018 WELCA Christmas Mission Project Oesterlen-Services for Youth, Inc. in Springfield, Ohio

The Oesterlen facility is affiliated with several Ohio synods of the ELCA. At this facility in Springfield, Ohio, troubled children of all ages are treated for a variety of severe behavioral problems.

In the narthex are the Oesterlen Gift Trees. If you wish to participate in this project:

- ✓ Take whatever ornament(s) you want.
- ✓ Buy the item(s) listed on the back of the ornament.
- ✓ Return the item(s) unwrapped to the tub in the narthex by January 6, 2019.

Note: Several of the ornaments call for a gift card in either \$5, \$10, or \$20 amounts. If you take one of these ornaments, be sure to also take a list of where to buy the card. They are on the table beneath the tree.

Note: Some ornaments list items (like bras) that might normally contain metal. Metal is sometimes used by troubled children to cut themselves. Be sure to select items without metal if the ornament so notes.

Because the list of needed items at Oesterlen is on-going, WELCA Board decided to take your gifts to the facility in January rather than try to get them there before Christmas. Questions may be addressed to any WELCA Board member.

Thank you for your support of this project!



Think Stephen Ministry



You are the front lines of caring ministry in our congregation. Throughout the week, as you meet and greet those around you, think Stephen Ministry. If you see people who are downcast or struggling through difficult times, think Stephen Ministry. Tell them about this special ministry in our congregation where they can receive the extra love and care they need to make it through the challenge or crisis they are facing.

Faithful Women of Good Hope Serving God and Others
Roberta Siniff

She's a lifer! She was born into a Good Hope family seventy-six years ago. She was baptized at Good Hope, confirmed at Good Hope, married at Good Hope, and still attends Good Hope. So, Roberta Siniff is a Good Hope Lifer.

Baptized by Reverend Glick, her catechism instruction took place under Richard Graves, Good Hope's first intern and Reverend Katterhenrich, and her marriage was performed by Pastor Bauerle. As a child Roberta attended Sunday school and participated in all the children's programs. She was a member of the children's choir, the Junior Mission Band, and Luther League where she held various offices. One summer while in high school Roberta attended a week-long Leadership Training at Capital University. Pastor Milheim, who later came to Good Hope, was one of the teachers at this event.

Roberta has served Good Hope well as a member of council and the Parish Education Committee. She has sung in the adult choir and read scripture at many worship services. Roberta taught the little ones in Sunday school for many years. Over the years, Roberta has attended various Good Hope circles and is currently serving as vice-president of WELCA in charge of Blanket Sunday and the annual WELCA Thankoffering service. She has served on a funeral luncheon committee and the Reception Committee "forever." And some Wednesday nights you can find Roberta cooking for W.O.W. When Mary calls for help in decorating, Roberta is there to help, pitching in to make the sanctuary look beautiful for Christmas.

So to Good Hope Lifer Roberta Siniff, thank you for being so committed to the work of serving God and serving others. May God continue to bless you to be a blessing to others.

 **DARTBALL SCHEDULE** 

Games begin at 7:30 PM

December 3 – Away at Chatfield Evangelical Pietist
 December 10 – Home with Windfall UCC
 December 17 – Away at Crestline Trinity Lutheran #2
 December 24, 31, and January 7 – Holiday Break
 January 14 – Home with Sulphur Springs St. Paul Lutheran
 January 21 – Home with Bucyrus St. John UCC
 January 28 – Away at Crouse Memorial, Tiro
 February 4 – Home with Galion Peace Lutheran
 February 11 – Away at Scioto Methodist
 February 18 – Away at Galion Trinity Lutheran
 February 25 – Make-up Date
 March 4 – Tournament at Colonel Crawford High School at 7:30 PM
 March 11 – Banquet at Calvary UCC at 6:30 PM

“A wonder-filled life is yours when you know the Christ of Christmas”

Good Hope
Christian Preschool
December 2018



Mrs. Spayde

The preschoolers will enjoy the month of December, as they celebrate Advent and the birth of Jesus. There are so many good books that we read to our students. One of my favorites, *Who is Coming to Our House?*, is the story of the animals living in the stable and how they each prepare for the Holy family.

We will end the month with a Christmas party, which includes our preschool families. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas!

Mrs. Wood

December is a busy time at preschool! The children have been practicing the songs they will be performing for the Christmas program.

In the classroom, our focus will be on the birth of baby Jesus. The children will learn that "J" is for Jesus. We will paint a candy cane and turn it upside down to discover that it makes the letter "J." We have so many special Christmas books, songs, and activities for the children during this joyous time of year. We will end the month with our Christmas party. The children will enjoy celebrating Christmas with their family and friends at school!

Christmas Program

The congregation of Good Hope is welcome to attend the preschool Christmas program. It will be held in the church sanctuary on Thursday, December 6 at 7:00pm. We hope to see you!

Successful Fundraisers!

Thank you for donating the items for our clothing fundraiser. We have collected a lot of clothing in just a couple of months and will continue through December 4. We will be off for a month, but will begin again on January 8.

The Pizza Hut Fundraiser was also very successful. With the help of many people, we raised \$388.50! Thank you so much to all who participated in our preschool fundraisers.

Thank You!

Thank you ahead of time to Marilyn Gebhardt, Kristi Weber, Patty Neff, Tom Etsingser, David Wolfe, Pastor Renee, Brian Vassel, Tina Vassel, Property Care Committee, Preschool Board Members, Outreach Committee and the congregation for your help in making the preschool Christmas Program a success. We always look forward to the yummy cookies and punch!

Highlights of the October 25, 2018 Church Council Meeting

(Full minutes are on file in the office)

Members Present: Larry Shutler, Doug Rossman, Dave McDiffitt, David Wolfe, Randy Fischer, Joyce Schifer, Terry Spiegel, Doug Foght, Jim Metcalf, Pastor Renee

Committee Reports:

Finance: Discussed spending policy recommended by Jim Spreng. On November 7 at 1:00 p.m. Jim will be here to discuss with the committee. Be careful with spending as donations are down and the market is not doing well with investments. However, it looks like that will turn around after elections.

Outreach/Public Relations Committee: Care packages were packed and mailed to the college/military members.

Preschool: The popcorn fundraiser including donations made \$2527.05 profit

Property Care: Water reading has been corrected.

Pastor Renee's Report:

\$1800 was raised for the Stained Glass Window Restoration Fund on Homecoming Sunday. Good Hope has 79 members 80 years of age and over.

Consecration Sunday is November 11. An "Estimate of Giving" insert will be in the bulletin on November 4 and 11. A stewardship insert "How Much Should I Give" will be in the bulletin on November 11.

There will be a Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m.

David Wolfe (Youth and Family Coordinator): Youth and recipients had a lot of fun with the successful tulip bulb service project. This Saturday, the youth are going to see Mt. Union vs. Ohio Northern. November 3 is the Community Care March in Galion. Getting volunteers for nativity scene for Santa Parade in the evening on November 16.

New Business:

- There was a request from Kate Smith wanting to know if we would like to allow here to offer Yoga classes at the church. This was approved. Larry will contact her.
- A motion was passed to accept the following resolution:

"As members of Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church Council, we grant permission to modify the account name from Good Hope Mission Endowment Linser Account to Good Hope Mission Endowment Linser-Beers Account. This account is held with Charles Schwab and proceeds from the Alice M. Beers Living Trust will be deposited into the Good Hope Mission Endowment Linser-Beers Account."

- Discussion was held on inviting a person from ELCA who is an architect to try to get an action plan of how and what we need to do with the building to better maintain the facility. Rod Streib, Randy and Larry will meet with a rep from MIF Church Bldg. Consultants. There is a possibility of getting a loan from ELCA for repairs.
- A "\$2500 per year for 3 years" grant has been applied for WOW to ELCA Domestic Hunger.

The next meeting of Council will be on Thursday, November 15, (due to Thanksgiving).

The December Council meeting will be held on Thursday, December 13, (due to Christmas).

Respectfully submitted, Doug Foght

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Birth

♥ Autumn Victoria Rose Wolfe

Born November 5, 2018, to Ben and Rachel Wolfe
Grandparents are David and Bonnie Wolfe

♥ Bo Edward Garris

Born November 7, 2018, to Greg and Melissa Garris
Great Grandparents are Maggie and Frank Fischer

♥ William David Miller

Born November 6, 2018, to David and Jenna Miller
Grandparents are David and Joyce Klamfoth

Funerals

† Dorothy Ann Volk

November 2, 2018, with burial in Oakwood Cemetery

† Wendell Hugh Oberschlake

November 8, 2018, with burial in Oakwood Cemetery

Holy Communion

December 2 at 8:30 and 10:45 AM Services

December 9 at 8:30 AM Service

December 16 at 8:30 and 10:45 AM Services

December 23 at 8:30 AM Service

December 24 (Christmas Eve) at 7:30 and 11 PM Services

December 30 at 8:30 AM Service

* * *

NOTES:

Office Hours:

- Monday through Friday – 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
- **Office will be closed** December 24 at noon through December 25.

Newsletter Deadline:

- The newsletter deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month. Please email your information directly to Bettie Luidhardt at bettieluidhardt@gmail.com

Newsletter Mailings:

You can receive your Steeple Notes by email and save the church the cost of postage, paper and ink. We currently mail out close to 400 copies each month. Postage alone runs \$1400.00 per year!

Please give your email address to the church office if want to switch!

Please Remember...

We have listed birthdays of Good Hope members who are homebound along with the addresses of area nursing homes. Hopefully this will encourage more cards and good wishes, not only on birthdays and holidays, but also periodically throughout the year. Please continue to keep all our home-bound members in your prayers.

At Home

Charles Dierksheide (Oct 29)
Genevieve Evans, 953 W. Beal Ave,
Bucyrus (July 25)

Carlisle Place

1721 Whetstone Street

Bucyrus OH 44820

Gale Ruth – Apt 115 (Oct 19)
Mary Ann Ruth – Apt 115 (Mar 22)
Virginia Schultz – Apt 102 (Aug 12)
Miriam Yaussy – Apt 105 (Feb 27)

Maplecrest Assisted Living

717 Rogers Street

Bucyrus OH 44820

Carol Miers – Room 8 (Feb 4)
Bob Redman (June 23)

The Inn at Orchard Park

500 Wedgewood Court

Bucyrus OH 44820

Bill Ross – Room 132 (Mar 8)

Kingston Residence of Marion

464 James Way

Marion OH 43302

Keith Watts – Room 233 A (Sept 18)
Maxine Ekleberry – Room 120 (April 1)

Shelby Pointe

100 Rogers Lane

Shelby OH 44875

Gene Diller – Room V (June 20)

Ohio Living Dorothy Love

3003 Cisco Road Room 318

Sidney OH 45365

Jeannette Naufzinger (April 11)

1163 Township Road 2156

Ashland OH 44805

Mildred House

(Mildred is living with daughter Ronda
Werner. Phone number: 419-756-0330)

The Inn @Winchester Trail – Room 502

6401 Winchester Blvd

Canal Winchester OH 43110

Pastor Harold “Hap” Hasenauer –
Room 502 (May 30)

Heartland of Bucyrus

1170 W. Mansfield

Bucyrus OH 44820

Earl Uther – Room 36 (February13)

Kettle Run

1780 Whetstone Street

Bucyrus OH 44820

Juanita Young – Room 308 (Nov. 10)

Altercare of Bucyrus

1929 Whetstone Street

Bucyrus OH 44820

Geneva Ehmann (Jan 19)

Fairhaven Community

850 Marseilles Ave.

Upper Sandusky OH 43351

Jane Hatcher - Room 220 (Sept. 13)

December 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 2:30 PM – Youth to Wild Lights, Columbus Zoo
2 1st Sunday in Advent 8:30 & 10:45 Worship & Communion 9:30 Sunday School/ Youth Choir & Bells 12 Noon – Confirmation NO Youth Group PANTRY SUNDAY	3 12:30 WELCA Christmas Party 4 Preschool Board 7:30 Dartball Away at Chatfield, Pietist	4 9:30 Bible Study 1:15 Staff Meeting	5 8:50; 9:20 & 1 – Preschool Chapel 1:30 NO Faith Circle 5:15 WOW Prayer 5:30 WOW Meal 6 Praise Choir 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior Choir	6 6 Youth Committee 7 Stephen Ministry 7 Preschool Christmas Program	7	8 8 AM – Men of Hope
9 2nd Sunday in Advent 8:30 Worship & Communion 10:45 Worship 9:30 Sunday School/ Youth Choir & Bells 4 United in Harmony Christmas Concert	10 7:30 Dartball Home with Windfall UCC No WOW Committee	11 9:30 Bible Study 1:15 Staff Meeting 7 Property Care 7 Finance	12 8:50; 9:20 & 1 – Preschool Chapel 5:15 WOW Prayer 5:30 WOW Meal 6 Praise Choir 6:30 Bell Choir 6:30 Stewardship 7:30 Senior Choir	13 5:30 Parish Ed 6:30 Executive Committee 7 Council Meeting	14	15
16 3rd Sunday in Advent 8:30 & 10:45 Worship & Communion 9:30 Sunday School/ Youth Choir & Bells 12 Noon – Confirmation 2 – Youth Christmas Shopping Spree	17 6:30 NO Gifts of Hope 7 Outreach 7:30 Dartball Away at Crestline Trinity Lutheran #2	18 9:30 Bible Study 1:15 NO Staff Mtg 7 Worship & Music	19 1:30 WELCA Board 5:15 WOW Prayer 5:30 WOW Meal 6 Praise Choir 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior Choir *No preschool Dec. 19 through January 1	20 7 Stephen Ministry 7 Choir Christmas Party at Zahn's	21	22
23 4th Sunday in Advent 8:30 Worship & Communion with Sunday School Christmas Program 10:45 Worship 9:30 Sunday School/ Youth Choir & Bells MISSION SUNDAY	24 Christmas Eve Office Closes at noon 7:30 Worship & Communion 11 Worship & Cantata & Communion 7:30 NO Dartball	25 Christmas Day 	26 No WOW No Choir Practices	27	28	29 8 AM – Men of Hope
30 8:30 Worship led by Youth & Communion 10:45 Worship 9:30 Sunday School/ Youth Choir & Bells 1:30 Carlisle Place Worship with Bettie & Gene	31 New Year's Eve Office closes at noon 7:30 NO Dartball	<p>May you experience the peace and joy that only Christ can bring in the new year!</p>				