

The school year has come to an end, for many of us that is one huge weight lifted off our shoulders for short time before it all starts up again in the fall. May comes with so many opportunities to volunteer with picnics, field trips, spirit days, concession stand shifts and so on. We may feel overworked and burnout from it all and find ourselves not wanting to put one more thing on our plates. With VBS starting in the upcoming week, I encourage you to persevere and consider taking some time to join us for Vacation Bible School. I think as adults we focus a lot on what we can teach our children and forget that our children can also teach us so many important things.

There is something beautiful about the way children love Jesus. Their faith is simple, trusting, and full of wonder. They do not worry about having all the answers or saying the perfect prayer. Instead, they run toward Jesus with excitement, joy, and open hearts. In a world where adults often become distracted by schedules, worries, and responsibilities, children remind us what it means to truly believe. Jesus Himself welcomed children and even told His followers that the kingdom of heaven belongs to those who have faith like theirs.

Vacation Bible School is one of the greatest places to witness this childlike love for Jesus. Throughout the week, children sing loudly, laugh freely, and listen to stories from the Bible. They are excited to learn about God's love and are not afraid to ask questions or share what they believe. Their enthusiasm becomes contagious. Whether it is during worship songs, crafts, games, or Bible lessons, children approach every moment with excitement. They remind us that faith is not meant to feel heavy or complicated, but alive and joyful.

Vacation Bible School creates an opportunity for the entire church to rediscover the joy of serving Jesus. Volunteers, parents, and church members often walk away just as encouraged as the children. Seeing young people excited about God's Word reminds me why the Gospel is such good news. It is impossible not to smile when hearing children sing praises at the top of their lungs or watching them share Bible verses they have learned throughout the week with the adult who is picking them up. The joy we witness is a powerful testimony that God is still working in our hearts and changing lives.

Jesus calls all believers to have faith like a child, not childish faith, but childlike faith. This means trusting Him completely, loving Him sincerely, and finding joy in simply being in His presence. Our faith should be filled with the same excitement and expectation that children bring each day as they walk through the church doors ready to learn more about God.

As Vacation Bible School approaches, may we all take time to reflect on the example children set before us. Their joy, trust, and openness to know Jesus are qualities every believer should desire. VBS is more than a fun summer event, it is an opportunity for hearts of all ages to grow closer to Christ. When we learn to love Jesus as our children do, we rediscover the beauty of faith and how incredible it is to walk with Him every day.

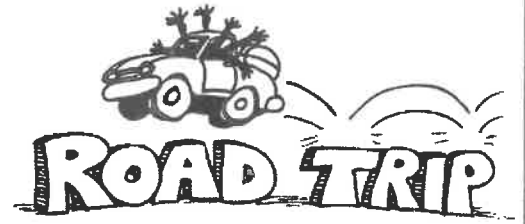
Taryn Hartman
Parish Ed Superintendent

Mark 10:15: "Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it".



Pastor Steve's Vacation Schedule

As of this writing, Pastor Steve and Mary plan to be out of town July 9 – 13 for a family reunion in Pennsylvania.



They will also be gone July 29 through August 3, and August 14 through August 16.

There will be NO Saturday worship on July 11, August 1, or August 15!

Pastoral care in the event of an emergency is currently being arranged; watch the Sunday morning announcements and / or contact the church office for more information.

As for Sunday morning worship –

1. We will need congregational members to step up to help lead worship on all three Sundays, at both 7:30 and 10 am worships. Material will be prepared in advance, and you would have plenty of time to review it and get ready to use it. Contact Pastor Steve if interested.
2. Sermons will also need to be delivered on Sunday August 2 and again on Sunday August 16. *Pastor Steve could also prepare these in advance for someone to simply read out loud, however – he would certainly be willing to work with anyone who would like to try to write one themselves!* Again, please be in contact with the office if interested.
3. Finally, Sunday July 12 – last year we attempted to bring Pastor Jerry and Kate Nurnberger back for the 125th anniversary of Good Hope, but Pastor Jerry had to back out at the last minute because he had COVID! *His visit has been rescheduled for Sunday the 12th of July, so he will have the sermon at both services that day!* We simply need a worship leader.

May everyone's summer be blessed, and may the work of the church go on.



Fall Cottage Meetings

As a reminder, your council is planning a series of cottage meetings, to be held this coming September and October. Each meeting will last one hour, and we ask every adult member and friend of the congregation to attend one.

The first cottage meeting will be held on or about Sunday September 20, and the meetings will wrap up by October 25. As of this writing, we have 11 host families, who each have a list of members to contact and invite—don't look for a phone call from one of them till late August at the absolute earliest! But plans are progressing; and to God be the glory.

Thank You to all of our Acolytes!

We have a GREAT group of young students who take turns serving as acolytes on Sunday mornings. Our "official" schedule ends for the spring on May 31. We still need acolytes over the summer months, of course, but knowing that family schedules are a bit more unpredictable, owing to vacations, we typically refrain from publishing an actual schedule.



So, in the summer, Sunday morning volunteers are always welcome! Just see Pastor Steve, then head on back to the acolyte room to get ready.

A new Sunday schedule will be arranged for the fall. Meantime, please let the office know if come the fall you no longer plan to be an acolyte; and thank you!

Celebrating the Graduates... Good Hope had 5 High School and 2 College graduates.

Lucas & Mitchell Hartzell – Arlington High School

Cooper Hawkins – Arlington High School

Austin Inbody – Cory Rawson High School

D.J. Stevens – Arlington High School

Claire Bateson – University of Oregon

Emma Rossman – James Madison University (Dec.)



From your Church Council...



It is that time of year again, Arlington Homecoming Festival, and Good Hope is looking for someone who owns a truck that would be willing to drive in the parade. We have banners that can be held to your truck with magnets or volunteers can carry the banners. We have done both in the past. Speaking of volunteers, those too will be needed to walk the route and hand out the 75 lbs. of candy we collect. If you are interested in helping the church with the parade needs please contact the church office. Thank you in advance.

Outreach Ministries Coordinator

LYO 7th-12 Grade

Join us for a LOCK IN on July 31st! Good Hope students and St Paul students are invited to Good Hope on Friday, July 31st to spend the night in the church and have some fun. Please see the attached flyer with the QR code to register for the night.

CHAPERONES – If anything is interested in chaperoning, please let Lizzy know, and we can divvy up shifts.



Looking ahead:

- ❖ July Pool Party – Be on the lookout for pool party info!
- ❖ August 22 – Worship night at Ghost Town. TBD time.
- ❖ Hoping to plan a Mudhens Game outing on Sunday, August 23rd. Stay tuned as details are confirmed.
- ❖ Looking to plan a cookout and bonfire in August/September.



4th-6th Grade

Head to the Arlington Park June 6th for outdoor fun!

We will also get ice cream from Main St. Eats.

(June 6th noon to 2pm).

Fruits of the Spirit: Will NOT be meeting the months of June or July.

Teen Breakfast

If you ever feel called to speak at Teen Breakfast on Thursday mornings during the next school year, please reach out to Lizzy.



City Mission Volunteers

I think it would be a great service if the youth of Good Hope could volunteer at the City Mission. They will accept volunteers ages 10+

Please let me know if this is something your child or family would be interested in helping out with and we can get something set up. It is a very rewarding experience.

-Lizzy

Cottage Meeting Daycare Heads Up

Good Hope is wanting to start up the Cottage Meetings again! (As Pastor Steve said, we have not done these for 14 years.) Cottage Meetings are gatherings of small groups that are held in a congregation member's home for a meal and fellowship. These are estimated to run this fall, between September and October, hoping for 12 Meetings in total.

In order for parents to attend these Cottage Meetings, there will be a need for childcare. That is where the youth come in! The 7th-12th graders (and Lizzy) will be at Good Hope to provide childcare. We will go over more concrete details as the dates are confirmed.

Board of Parish Education

Lesson Plans

Date	Grades 1-3	Grades 4-6
June 7 th	Samson's Strength Judges 13-16	God looks at the heart 1 SAM 3 & 16
June 14 th	Ruth Stays with Naomi Ruth 1	Obedience over Sacrifice 1 SAM 15
June 21 st	Ruth in the Fields Ruth 2	Courage in the face of Giants 1 SAM 17
June 28 th	Ruth Marries Boaz Ruth 3&4	God's Covenant with David 2 SAM 7



Trailblazers of Faith

Trailblazers of Faith VBS kicks off Monday, June 8th. There is still time to support this ministry with your time and/or donations. Please reach out to a member of Parish Ed if you would like to be a part of this year's Bible School. The QR code will take you to the Amazon wish list if you wish to donate last minute items needed to make this year unforgettable. Please know that your time, support and donations are very much appreciated.



Father's Day

Fathers in the congregation, please visit the table in the Narthex the weekend of June 20th and 21st. Parish Ed will have a gift waiting for you. Thank you for being the providers, protectors and a strong presence in your homes, community and the church.

Graduation Student's and Families

Congratulations to our 2026 graduates! Thank you for joining us to celebrate your accomplishments. As you navigate an ever-changing world, remember that your ultimate identity is found in being a beloved child of God. No degree, job title, or worldly achievement can ever exceed that.



Birthdays in June - 80+

Judy Green 6/24

Ron Heldman 6/29

Anniversary in June - 40+

J. J. & Phylis Solt 6/17

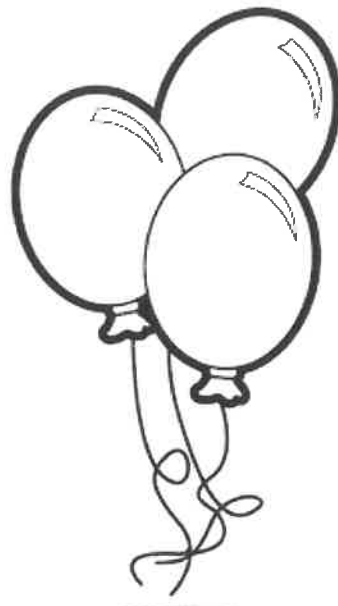
Birthdays in July - 80+

Ruth Mary Neal 7/27

Anniversary in July - 40+

Rob & Patti Strasbaugh 7/17

Fred & Jane Borkosky 7/24



Flowers for the Altar in June/July

6/7 – Nagy 6/14 – Open 6/21 – Open 6/28 – Whitmer

7/5 – Open 7/12 – Rone 7/19 – Richard 7/26 – Launder



Hospital & Health in May

Rick Williams, Robert Hartman, Pam McCloud, Justin Bruley and Jody Weidman.

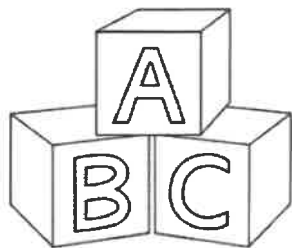
Baptisms – On May 16th, Sandro Malkic, was baptized.



Births – Emery & Ashton (Beach) Jonas had a baby boy on April 23rd. Roran Bradley's proud grandma is Stephanie Beach.

Zach & Libbey Metzger welcomed a baby girl to their family. Hallee Mae's proud great-grandma is Terri Metzger.

Matt & Shayna Glick added a son to their family. Nelson Matthew's proud grandparents are Greg and Amy Glick.



The next **Good Hope Blood Drive** is scheduled for Thursday, July 30th from 1:00 to 6:00pm. The need is still CRITICAL so please find time to give. To make an appt. call 1-800-733-2767 or go to their website redcrossblood.org.





GOOD HOPE

4th-6th Grade

Arlington Park

**Outdoor fun and fellowship! Followed
by ice cream at Main St Eats.
Bring a friend and come hang out!**

June 6th from 12-2

RSVP to Lizzy 419-788-7840

SUNDAY, JULY 12TH

Good Hope Lutheran Church

Potluck

Join us after the 10 o'clock service on July 12th to visit with Pastor Jerry and Kate Nuernberger. We will have a potluck lunch - please bring in a dish to share.

