

## SEPTEMBER. ALREADY??

It doesn't seem possible that in the month of September, we will start back to school, have Rally Sunday, along with confirmation classes, 5th Quarter, Teen Breakfast, Pizza & Jesus; the list goes on and on.

September is also the month we celebrate Shipwreck Sunday. Our ancestors made a solemn vow that the 17th day of September will be kept as a Holy Day and we continue to celebrate this day 195 years later. This year we are celebrating Shipwreck Sunday on Sunday, September 20th. There will be a special service at the Shipwreck Memorial in the St. Paul cemetery at 3 p.m.

Many know the Shipwreck story, so I'll only share a brief version.

Many families were struggling in Germany and had heard about America. On August 1, 1831, a group of about 150 people set sail on a new ship, "The James Beacham" or the "Famous Dove". Captain Galt estimated 32 days to get to Baltimore, Maryland. His estimation was off.

On the 47th day at sea, around 3:00pm, there was a strong wind and they were blown off course. As the weather worsened, the captain was no help as he was drinking in his cabin. They lost both the mast and the rudder, and waves were washing the decks. The ship hit a sandbar which tore a large hole in the bottom of the ship and the ship soon filled with water. When the captain realized what was happening, he ordered his men to launch the lifeboat so they could escape. Johann Tracht armed 6 other men with guns and they made sure the crew stayed. The storm continued and the ship was quickly filling with water and appeared that it would sink within a few hours. The people were all afraid but 13-year-old Margaretha Arras reminded the people of how Jesus quieted the waters of the sea of Galilee and saved his disciples; she said He could save them also. A sailor said to slap the dumb girl for talking foolishly,

but then she started to sing a hymn. All of the immigrants joined her in the singing and praying, and even some of the sailors joined in. They vowed, "if we are saved, the 17th of each September shall be kept as a holy day by us and by our descendants, even unto the third and fourth generation." (and here we are, celebrating into the seventh and eighth generation.)

When morning came, the storm had stopped and when they looked out towards the West they discovered that they were about 100 yards from land. People had gathered on land to help rescue them, including a number of the first black people they had ever seen. When they were all safe on shore, they gathered and thanked God for saving them from the storm.

God bless you all,  
Karen Barnes



<sup>23</sup> Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. <sup>24</sup> Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. <sup>25</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" <sup>26</sup> He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. <sup>27</sup> The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

Matthew 8:23-27

## One Last Reminder – Cottage Meetings

Your council has scheduled a series of cottage meetings in September and October, and you will be invited to one of them! This is the first time in 15 years we have planned such meetings, and we do so now only because of the unique moment that is at hand. With Pastor Steve about a year away from retiring, and calling a new pastor not as easy or obvious as in days gone by, it's vital that the whole congregation pull together in order to fulfill the mission God has entrusted to us.

Here's how the meetings are going to work:

1. You will receive a phone call from one of our hosts, inviting you to a meeting (if by the end of September you have NOT received a phone call, please contact the church office!)
2. We ask that you make plans to attend the meeting to which you have been invited, and that you bring your Bible. One meeting, one hour, one night, as we look to God's Word for guidance, and look ahead to the road He has called us to walk.
3. If you absolutely cannot attend the meeting to which you have been invited, we'll try to arrange for you to attend another meeting, on another night. Please be flexible, we'll find a way!
4. These meetings are not an attempt to get more money into the offering plate, or to twist your arm into serving on council, etc. Instead, these meetings are an attempt to discuss the future of our congregation, and to invite every single member to take one step forward in faith. God has called you to this congregation for a reason—what is it? Where is the Lord leading you? What role do you have to play?

Many, many thanks to our hosts, who are doing a lot of extra work getting ready for these meetings. Remember, the best days of Good Hope are ahead of us, not behind. We are simply called to trust God, and to follow Him in faith, together.

**Fall Cottage Meetings** – The following hosts have scheduled their cottage meetings...

|                                                                      |                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Gary & Rita Bernhardt<br>Roger & Amy Bower<br>Rob & Patti Strasbaugh | Sunday, Sept. 20 at 6:00 pm                              |
| Beth Wallwey                                                         | Saturday, Sept. 26 at 5:00 pm                            |
| Dan & April Beach                                                    | Sunday, Sept. 27 at 6:30 pm                              |
| Creg & Kim Jordan                                                    | Monday, Sept. 28 at 7:00 pm                              |
| Dustin & Abby Windau<br>Dave & Jill Seitz                            | Sunday, Oct. 4 at 3:30 pm<br>Sunday, Oct. 4 at 4:00 pm   |
| Lou Ann Nagy<br>Brian & Amy Hurt                                     | Sunday, Oct. 11 at 4:00 pm<br>Sunday, Oct. 11 at 7:00 pm |



## Confirmation

Confirmation class for our 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders will organize after 10 am worship on Sunday, September 13. At this first meeting only, both parents and students are asked to be present. We'll take about 20 – 30 minutes to talk about this ministry, and get ready for the year ahead.

Our first actual class will be Sunday evening, September 27 at 6 pm, and will be followed by Pizza and Jesus!

A letter describing confirmation went out in the mail at the end of August. If you as the parents of a 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grader have not received this letter, please contact the church office.



## First Communion



First Communion classes for our 5<sup>th</sup> graders are being planned for the month of October. Parents of 5<sup>th</sup> graders are asked to meet with Pastor Steve on Sunday, September 27, immediately after the 10 am worship.

Bring your calendars! At this meeting we will attempt to find time an appropriate day and time to schedule classes.

First communion will actually be offered to our students on Sunday, November 1.

I want to thank Pastor Steve for his calls, concerns and prayers. Also, my church family and friends for their prayers, concerns and cards. This is a long time coming to all but I've been dealing with skin cancer for 3 years. It is amazing what prayers from people all over can do. Thank you so much as I have made this journey and it has truly enriched my faith. Joan Steinman

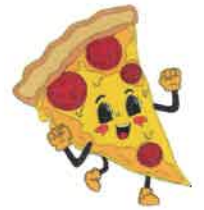


## Outreach Ministries Coordinator



### Pizza & Jesus

Starts back up on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>! Takes place the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month, 7-8 pm. **This year we are inviting 6<sup>th</sup> graders to join.** We will be discussing "Jesus in our Generation."



### Teen Breakfast



Teen Breakfast will be starting back up on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Gather for a hot breakfast, fellowship, and to hear from a speaker every Thursday morning during the school year. **We are inviting 6<sup>th</sup> graders to join this year!**

If you ever feel called to speak at Teen Breakfast on Thursday mornings during the next school year, please reach out to 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 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders (and Lizzy) will be at Good Hope to provide childcare. We will go over more concrete details as the dates are confirmed. The first cottage meeting is tentatively set to be on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **5th Quarter**

After 3 home football games this fall, Good Hope will host 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter for students in grades 5-8. The church will provide food, drinks, and games. A sign up sheet for adult chaperones will be posted in the narthex.



5<sup>th</sup> Quarter dates: September 11, September 25, October 23.

## **LYO 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

If there is enough interest, there will be a youth group designed for our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. With 6<sup>th</sup> grades joining Pizza and Jesus, there will be a smaller crowd in 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade, but we will make it happen if there is a want for it! 😊

## **Suter's Trip**

This fall we are tentatively planning a trip to Suter's Corn Maze. Date is currently TBD.

# Good Hope Church Diakonia Students

As of this summer Good Hope Church has 4 persons in our congregation that have completed a 2 year course through the ELCA Synod in Diakonia training. The commitment of time and knowledge to expand their understanding of Lutheran Theology and the Bible can not only be a foot note in this article. In my conversations with several of the 4 students, they have told me of the challenges they were concerned in the beginning of the courses, have turned into excitement of attending each week as new thoughts and understanding of the religion they love unfolded.

We the members of Good Hope Church should not only ask these 4 persons to fill in leadership roles in the church, but even more important we should give these persons our time and ears to hear what and how they learned and stayed involved in this valuable learning course lead by Synod Pastors and Leaders.

So your church council has asked Dan Basinger, Carol Beagle, Jacob Branan, and David Barbee to attend the September 27th 10:00 morning service so we can recognize them as well as hear from them on this amazing learning experience that is available to all persons that attend Good Hope Church.

Please plan on attending to hear their stories and recognize them!

Roger Bower - Council President

### **Birthdays in Sept. - 80+**

### **Anniversary in Sept. - 40+**

Ed & Jo Rettig 9/8

### **Birthdays in Oct. - 80+**

Ann Bell 10/25

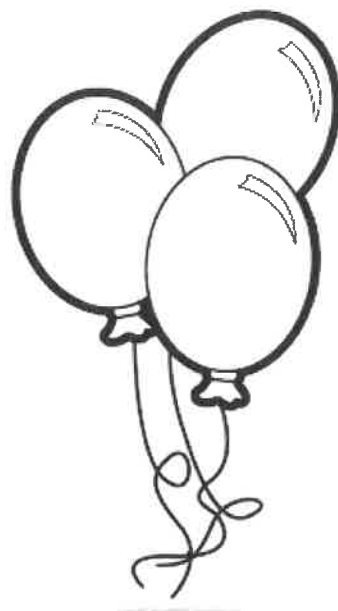
### **Anniversary in Oct. - 40+**

Rick & Krista Williams 10/19

Greg & Kathy Garman 10/22

Mike & Michelle Palmer 10/22

Gregg & Dawn Feller 10/31



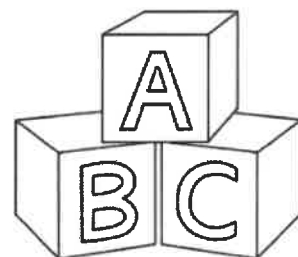
### **Flowers for the Altar in Sept.**

9/6 – Nagy 9/13 – Strasbaugh 9/20 – Ramsey 9/27 – Open

### **Hospital & Health in August**

Jody Weidman, Lilly Burgbacher, Roxie Hurt, Pat Wilson, Brian Bower's mother, Karen and Cyndy Beach.

**Birth** – Justin & Kaitlin Bower had a baby girl, Camille Joy. The proud grandparents are Roger & Amy Bower. Also, John & Madi (Mains) Guagenti welcomed a baby girl, Briar Elaine. The proud grandparents are Pete & Diane Mains.



**Wedding** – Isaiah Gaines and Jenna Bernhardt were married on Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> in Columbus.

**Sympathy** – Dan & Vicky Berger & family on the passing of his sister, Kathleen.



**Good Hope Blood Drive** – The next blood drive is scheduled for Monday, September 28th from 1:00 to 6:00 pm. With all the natural disasters the need is still URGENT! You can make an appt. by calling 1-800-733-2767 or by going to the website [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).



**ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**9340 TOWNSHIP ROAD 32**  
**JENERA, OHIO 45841**  
**MINISTER DEB NOLL**

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 419-326-3535

CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL: [stpaul Lutheran6@yahoo.com](mailto:stpaul Lutheran6@yahoo.com)

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN WEBSITE ~ [www.stpaul Lutheran jenera.org](http://www.stpaul Lutheran jenera.org)

July 30, 2026

Dear Friends in Christ,

The 195<sup>th</sup> Remembrance of the Shipwreck of the Famous Dove will be celebrated on Sunday, September 20, 2026, during worship at ten o'clock a.m. The service will be a blended traditional and contemporary service with special music from the handbells, choir, and children. The message will be an interactive retelling of the shipwreck history.

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Saint Paul congregation, to invite you and your family, and friends to join us as we recognize 195 years of the history that gave birth to a Shipwreck Church known as Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jenera, Ohio.

The Saint Paul Outreach Committee will provide a meal following the service. In order to secure provisions enough for all, we are asking you to RSVP to this invitation by calling Saint Paul Lutheran Church at 419-326-3535 or sending an email to [stpaul Lutheran6@yahoo.com](mailto:stpaul Lutheran6@yahoo.com) or texting to 419-560-1988.

If you are a descendent of one of the shipwreck families and have memorabilia — artifacts or documents — from the shipwreck, please bring them with you. There will be a table for displaying them as a part of the remembrance celebration. A brief explanation of the items is appreciated along with identification so the items can be returned properly.

It is our hope that you are able to be with us on Sunday, September 20, 2026 at 10:00am to remember the families who survived the Shipwreck of the Famous Dove and came to settle in Jenera, Ohio. A service will be held at 3:00pm at the Saint Paul Cemetery Shipwreck Memorial.

Saint Paul is blessed by a great heritage to be a blessing to others.

In Christ's love,

Deb Noll

Synod Authorized Minister

Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jenera



A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

# GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH SHIPWRECK SUNDAY

## THE WRECK OF THE FAMOUS DOVE

THE ANCESTORS OF MANY OF THE MEMBERS OF GOOD HOPE (AS WELL AS OUR SISTER CONGREGATION, ST. PAUL IN JENERA) ALL CAME TO THIS COUNTRY FROM GERMANY IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1831. MOST OF THEIR VOYAGE TO AMERICA WAS UNEVENTFUL, BUT ON THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 17, THEIR SHIP "THE FAMOUS DOVE" NEARLY SANK IN A STORM OFF THE COAST OF VIRGINIA. WHEN THE FAMILIES ALL WERE SAFELY ASHORE, THEY VOWED THAT THEY AND THEIR DESCENDANTS WOULD REMEMBER THAT DATE, AS THE TIME THE LORD GOD SAVED THEM FROM DISASTER.

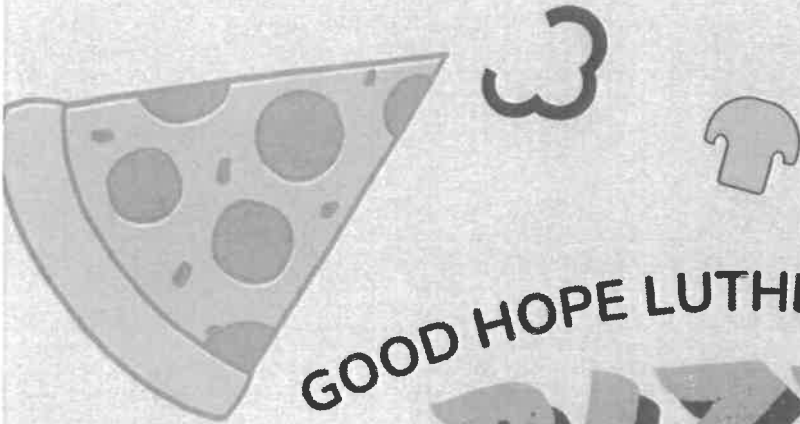
AND WE STILL DO.

EVERY AUTUMN, ON THE SUNDAY CLOSEST TO SEPTEMBER 17, BOTH GOOD HOPE AND ST PAUL COMMEMORATE "SHIPWRECK SUNDAY," AND REMEMBER THE GRACE OF GOD SHOWN TO US OVER THE YEARS. WORSHIP THAT MORNING AT BOTH CONGREGATIONS WILL INCLUDE REFERENCES TO THE SHIPWRECK; THERE IS ALSO A SPECIAL COMMEMORATION SERVICE AT 3 PM ON THE 20TH, TO TAKE PLACE BY THE SHIPWRECK MEMORIAL AT THE ST. PAUL CEMETARY. EVERYONE, AND ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH A FAMILY CONNECTION TO THE SHIPWRECK, ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

### SPECIAL COMMEMORATION SERVICE:

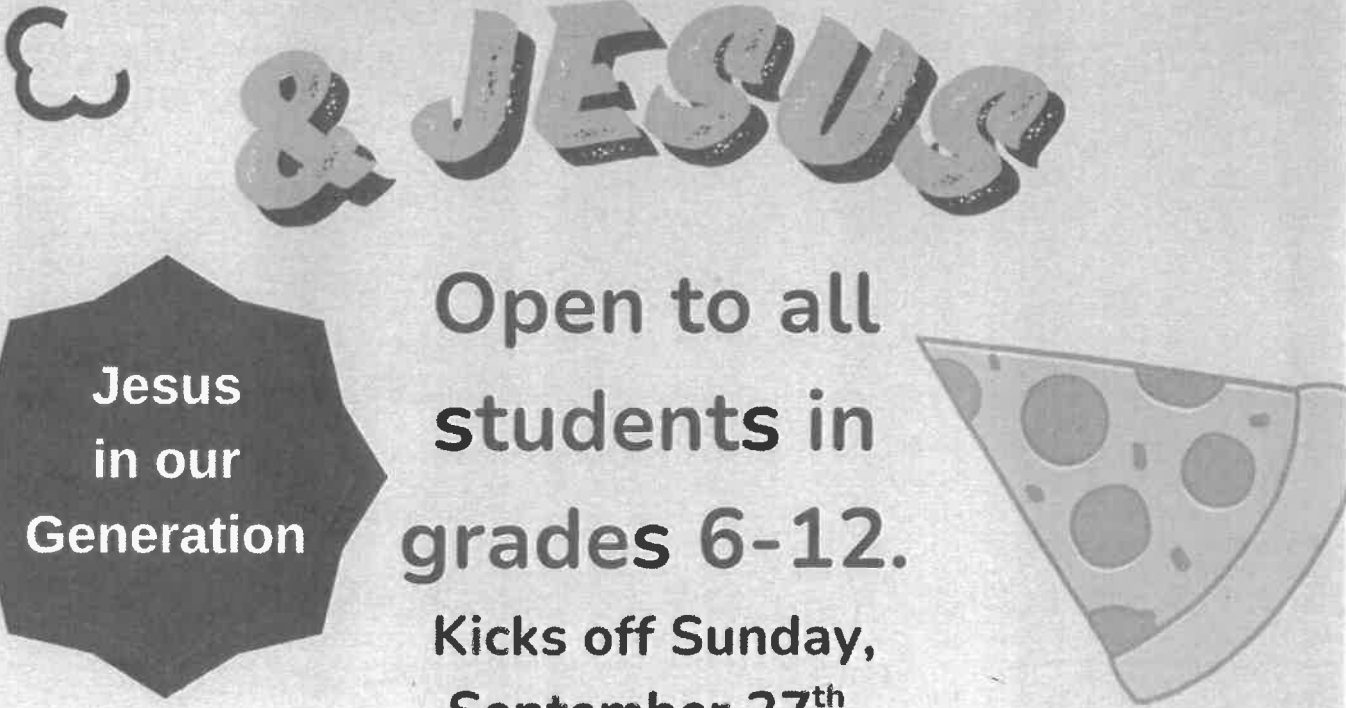
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> • 3 PM  
ST. PAUL CEMETARY





GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

# PIZZA & JESUS



Jesus  
in our  
Generation

Open to all  
students in  
grades 6-12.  
Kicks off Sunday,  
September 27<sup>th</sup>  
7-8pm, and happens  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
of each month  
thereafter.





## **ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES 5-8**

Hosted by Good Hope Lutheran  
Church; walk on over after the  
varsity football game to enjoy  
fellowship, food, and fun!

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**SEPTEMBER 11**

**BEGINS 10 MINS. AFTER  
THE FINAL WHISTLE**

**SEPTEMBER 25**

**ENDS AROUND 11 PM**

Looking forward to  
seeing you there!

**OCTOBER 23**





STARTS BACK UP  
THIS THURSDAY WITH  
CHICK-FIL-A!

# TEEN BREAKFAST

Thursday mornings at 7

**WE'RE BACK!**  
**SEPTEMBER 24TH**

**Open to all Arlington students in grades 6-12.**

**Gather for a hot breakfast, fellowship, and to hear from a speaker every**

**Thursday morning during the school year.**

**If interested in being a speaker, please let Lizzy Rone.**

**Good Hope Lutheran Church • 300 S Main St Arlington, OH**