



**DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR WESLEY:** Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down) or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. – Romans 10:6-9

“I’ve been good enough!” When I was a young child, I would say many variations of just this sentence: “I cleaned my room,” “I did the dishes,” “I finished all my homework.” Even if I didn’t say it out loud, I at least thought about whether I’d been good enough before I asked my parents for anything. Once, I hid a permission slip from my parents because I thought I hadn’t been good enough to bring something I wanted to them. When I finally showed it to them at the last minute, it was too late for me to go on my school trip.

When we ask our heavenly Father for what we need, how often do we first think about how good we’ve been? Have we been good enough to be saved? Have we been good enough for His kingdom? In truth, we haven’t been good enough at all.

But that’s not the question our Father wants us to ask. He puts a different question in our mouths: Who is our Lord? Paul answers: Jesus is our Lord, and God raised Him from the dead. (Romans 10:9) That’s all that matters. No matter what we need, Jesus has been good enough for us, and for all people.

There are a lot of people who are very needy in our world, and there are a lot of people who need the salvation and kingdom of our God. It breaks our hearts to see the people who need God’s kingdom but can’t find it, or are too ashamed to ask for it. But for all those who are needy, God has given our Lord Jesus. He calls all the needy to His Kingdom, because our Lord Jesus has already been good enough *for* them. And who does He choose to spread that good news? St Paul answers that for us as well: “The word is near *you*, in *your* mouth and in *your* heart.” (Romans 10:8) He chooses the very people who are the most needy: you and me.

*Thank you, Lord Jesus, for being far more than good enough for us. Amen.*

**APPOINTMENTS WITH PASTOR WESLEY FOR PASTORAL CARE NEEDS:** Pastor Wesley’s current office hours are as follows:

Sunday: 12:00 – 5:00 PM  
Monday: 1:00 – 5:00 PM  
Tuesday: 1:00 – 5:00 PM  
Wednesday: 1:00 – 5:00 PM  
Thursday: 1:00 – 5:00 PM

Please note that Pastor Wesley’s office hours are subject to change depending on his weekly schedule and/or the needs of the congregation. If you would like to book an appointment with Pastor Wesley, please do so by visiting the following link:

<https://calendar.app.google/mkiMiBcq6cZgRvaC9> If you wish to meet with Pastor Wesley outside of the office hours provided, please contact Hope's office directly at 215-946-3467.

**BLESSINGS OF THE BACKPACKS:** Please join us on Sunday, August 30th, at 9:30 AM (during worship) for Blessing of the Backpacks and Staff Installation. If you choose to attend this wonderful event, **please make sure your students bring their own backpacks to be blessed**. After worship, students may visit their classrooms and drop off any supplies they have for the 2026-2027 school year. Afterwards, we will have a luncheon in the gym for parents and students. If the weather permits, children may also play on the playground. We hope to see you there!

**NEW LSB HYMNAL ORIENTATION:** Our new hymnals have arrived! Our time together in church is the center of our Christian community, so let's join together to learn about the new resources that will enrich our worship. Join Pastor Wesley for a time of fellowship and discussion with the new hymnals Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.

**HYMNAL SPONSORSHIP CAMPAIGN:** *Be Part of a New Chapter in the Life of Our Church* – As we refresh our sanctuary and prepare to welcome a new pastor, we invite you to sponsor a hymnal for our pews. Hymnals may be dedicated in honor or memory of a loved one. In the upcoming weeks, more information will be available. Questions please call, text, or see Claire Durkin 215-499-6527.

**WORK DAY:** Get together with fellow members of our community to do light cleanup work (sweeping, mopping, etc.) for our school and church every **third Saturday of the month**. For more information or to sign up contact **Bill Durnin by email [durninbill0@gmail.com](mailto:durninbill0@gmail.com) or call 267-393-2297**.

**SAVE THE DATE – LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH:** Please join us for our Family Sunday service! We will be having them the last Sunday of each month, unless otherwise noted. Please consider joining us for the service and dinner in the narthex at 6:00 PM. See the flyer at the end of the bulletin.

**STITCHERS OF HOPE:** If you love to crochet or would like to learn, please feel free to join us for fellowship on Saturdays from 2-4pm in the Church Narthex. Park in the front parking lot off Haines Road and we are right inside the double red doors. We hope to see some new faces!

**IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE?** Pastor Wesley Johnson (215-946-3467) and Pastor Phil Twietmeyer (267-738-8103) are available for your pastoral needs. Private confession and absolution are available. Contact Pastor Wesley or Pastor Phil for an appointment.

**ZOOM BIBLE STUDY:** Join us on Sunday nights from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. for a Bible study using CPH's book, *One God, many gods: A Study of World Religions* by Adam Francisco, taught by Pastor James Eckert of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Croydon. Join us from the comfort of your home and enjoy the fun fellowship. Pastor Eckert will send emails to everyone containing pages from the book with additional material from other sources. These are free for participants, however, please send your email address to Pastor Eckert at [jaestm96@aol.com](mailto:jaestm96@aol.com) to receive your materials.

No prior Bible study experience is necessary. Use the following links:

Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82028685443?pwd=UWc0VWdFOE91MWgrTHNEbnJVOXNYQT09>

Another way to join the meeting is to open the Zoom app and click on "Join Meeting" and use the following information: **Meeting ID:** 820 868 5443 **Passcode:** 901730

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:** Join in and take a look at “A Study of the Apostle’s Creed” after the worship service in Room 109 with Pastor Phil. Deepen your understanding and how to apply your faith throughout the week.



**THE LUTHERAN HOUR RADIO, PODCAST, AND DEVOTIONALS:** The Lutheran Hour Ministries broadcasts sermons on Sundays at 7 am on several local stations, including 107.3FM, 97.1FM, and 91.7FM. See their website for more radio listings, podcasts, and daily devotionals at [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org).

**FROM OUR FINANCIAL OFFICE:** Your regular offerings help us to continue our ongoing ministry at Hope. Mail your offerings to Hope Lutheran Church, 2600 Haines Road, Levittown, PA, 19055. Use Bill Pay options with your local bank for one-time or recurring offerings. The bank will pay the postage. Online giving options are available via PayPal by visiting our website at <https://hopelcs.org/giving/online-giving>, or by using the QR code.



#### **TREASURER’S REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027**

|                            | <b>Actual</b> |                     | <b>Budget</b>       |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                            | <b>July</b>   | <b>Year-to-Date</b> | <b>Year-to-Date</b> |
| <b>Income</b>              | \$144,495.61  | \$144,495.61        | \$0.00              |
| <b>Expense</b>             | \$154,193.55  | \$154,193.55        | \$0.00              |
| <b>Income less Expense</b> | -\$9,697.94   | -\$9,697.94         | \$0.00              |

#### **THIS WEEK AT HOPE:**

The full church calendar may be found on the web at [www.HopeLCS.org](http://www.HopeLCS.org).

|               |          |                                   |                                                                |
|---------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b> | 9:30 am  | <b>Sunday Worship Service</b>     | Sanctuary                                                      |
|               | 9:30 am  | <b>Sunday Worship: Livestream</b> | <a href="http://www.hopelcs.org/news">www.hopelcs.org/news</a> |
|               | 10:45 am | <b>Adult Bible Study</b>          | Room 109                                                       |
|               | 11:00 am | <b>Sunday School</b>              |                                                                |
|               | 11:45 am | <b>AA at Hope</b>                 | Dufendach Center                                               |
|               | 7:00 pm  | <b>Zoom Bible Study</b>           |                                                                |

|                             | <b><u>This Sunday</u></b>      | <b><u>Next Sunday</u></b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Reader</b>               | Doug Puls                      | Harry Butler              |
| <b>Communion Assistants</b> | Rich Gruenhagen and Chris Moss | Tom Marks and Doug Puls   |
| <b>Acolyte</b>              | Caitlyn Cook                   | Addy Schoettle            |

#### **Upcoming Events:**

**August:**

- Sunday, August 16 – New Hymnal Orientation 5:00 PM
- Saturday, August 29 – Prayer Walk Around the School 11:00 AM
- Sunday, August 30 – Blessing of the Backpacks during worship 9:30 AM with Luncheon to follow and Family Sunday 6:00 PM

**September:**

- Wednesday, September 9 – Women's Bible Study 1:00 – 2:30 PM
- Sunday, September 13 – Sunday School Kickoff 11:00 AM
- Sunday, September 27 – Family Sunday 6:00 PM

**October:**

- Wednesday, October 14 – Women's Bible Study 1:00 – 2:30 PM
- Friday, October 16 – Bake Off 6:30 PM
- Saturday, October 24 – Fall Vendor Fair 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Sunday, October 25 – Family Sunday 6:00 PM

**Operation Christmas Child Collection Bin**

*\*We will also have our annual collection of gift-filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child the week of November 16 – 22. Empty shoeboxes will be available in the Narthex starting October 5.*

In the narthex, you'll find a bin where we're collecting donations for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, which will be packed this fall by Sunday School. Each month, we'll highlight a different category of items from the full donation list, but you're welcome to contribute any approved items at any time.

Below, you'll find both the items we are focusing on for August and September, and a list of items we are unable to accept.

#### August: Monthly Focus – School Supplies

- Pens
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Pencil Bags
- Crayons
- Markers



#### September: Monthly Focus – Miscellaneous

- Puzzles
- Play-Doh
- Activity Books & Coloring Books
- Sidewalk Chalk
- Sunglasses
- Socks

#### DO NOT INCLUDE:

- soap; candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Scan the QR code to view the full list of accepted items on the Operation Christmas Child Website. The full list is also posted in the narthex.

# Family Sunday

*How God Connect with  
Our Everyday Lives*



**Last Sunday  
of Every  
Month at**

**6:00 P.M.**

(Exception for holiday  
weekends when it will  
be the Sunday before  
the holiday weekend)



**August - The  
Struggle is Real  
September - When  
It Rains It Pours  
October -  
Consider What Joy**



***What to Expect?*  
Dinner, Activities,  
Scripture, Songs,  
Time Spent with  
Family**



***Questions?***

Email Faith Armer at  
[farmer@hopelc.org](mailto:farmer@hopelc.org) or  
call the office  
215.946.3467

***You're  
invited!***

