

We are a community empowered by the Holy Spirit, called to bring God's comfort, to work for God's justice, and to share the hope and love of Jesus with all.

OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

**Benefit Concert
for
St. Paul's Center!**

~ see page 8

**Christmas
Poinsettia
Order Forms**

~ on page 12

Our Core Values



*faith
acceptance
compassion
gratitude
love*



¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

I am always amazed by people who have memorized scripture. Yet I have never felt it was necessary to do so. Not because I think scripture is unimportant, but because I think memorizing scripture without a deeper understanding of what it truly means is dangerous. There are too many who misquote scripture, using it not as a means of grace for themselves or others, but using it instead as a weapon of judgement and divisiveness. There are those who hide behind this ability by using it to keep from taking responsibility for making the decisions God has given them the free will with which to do so. They instead blame God for everything, when in truth some decisions made have nothing whatsoever to do with God. This is the negative side of quoting scripture. Yet there are many positives to memorizing key passages of scripture which speak to us. In times of trial and tribulation, when there are no words, memorized passages will often come into our hearts and minds, giving us strength to make it through the day. Memorized passages can also fill us with a sense of peace and joy in those moments when the world surprises us with the unexpected beauty of human connections and an appreciation for the creation of life which surrounds us. Memorized scripture passages can also rise up to comfort another when words leave us. So I have decided that I would like to memorize some key passages beginning with the 23rd psalm. A psalm which my mother loved dearly (key scripture passages can also stay in our hearts reminding us of loved ones no longer with us). You don't have to memorize scripture to have a deep faith. But still, there is something to be said for taking the time to memorize scripture and letting it enter your heart. I think I will try. Perhaps you will too.

In peace,

Pastor Pamela



**A special Thank You to our
2025 Lawn Mowing Crew
who volunteered to keep our
lawn looking it's best!**

Bill Cosgrove
Charlie Huff
Debbie Favro
Kelly Jaeger
Kevin Willis

Mike Daus
Rick Covey
Shane Pucci
Tonya Humphrey
Wayne Palka



**A BIG THANK YOU TO
KEVIN WILLIS, MIKE DAUS, & DICKIE DODSON
FOR THEIR MANY HOURS AND DEDICATION
TO FIX OUR ADVERTISING ROAD SIGN!!!**



ATTENTION MUSIC LOVERS!!!

Do you like music? Have you enjoyed the music the choir has presented over the last few years? Would you like to hear MORE good music?

Hope is in need of someone to coordinate our faithful singers. This would involve picking hymns to be accompanied by Pam on the accordion and/or Dave on the guitar and/or finding pre-recorded music for the choir to sing to (which our music/tech guru, Greg, can probably help with initially). Pieces would be performed for special days in the church year (Reformation, Pentecost, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Easter, etc.) or more often as rehearsal and interest allowed.

Sandra Governor took over the role of choir organizer when I stepped away because of my chemo treatments. Sandra now needs to step down because of other church commitments.

If this is something that you would enjoy doing, please contact either me (518-505-6434, dyermm48@gmail.com) or Sandra (518-330-1899, sfgovern@yahoo.com), and we can discuss further. Thank you for considering. We don't want to lose this joyful addition to our worship services.

Thanks.

Marilyn Dyer



Happy Teeth!

It's October, and October always brings thoughts of Halloween, and, in the minds of kids (and adults) everywhere, CANDY! Your friendly neighborhood dentist is already shuddering at the thought.

So during the month of October, we are going to collect toothpaste, toothbrushes and dental floss to help our local food pantries (Doors of Hope in West Sand Lake and CoNSERNs-U in Rensselaer), and also our friends at the St. Paul's Center homeless shelter for women and children.

Let's help our neighbors have Happy Teeth!



OCTOBER PRAYER CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 Sue Anthony	2 Dave Armento	3 Pr. Elaine Berg Birthday	4 Lois Batsios	5 Tom Batsios
6 Athena Batsios	7 Lucas Boyer	8 Lisa Boyer	9 Pr. Pamela Hoh	10 Daniel Hoh	11 Joshua Hoh	12 Monica Hoh
13 Catherine Jura Birthday	14 Lynda Seiling Birthday	15 Nancy Clarkson	16 Lydia Calabro	17 Mark Schomer	18 Celebration of St. Luke	19 Sabastian Schomer
20 Maeve Schomer	21 Dan Churchill	22 Mike Daus Birthday	23 Harper Churchill	24 Bailey Churchill	25 Ciji Churchill	26 Daniel Clemente
27 Luis Clemente	28 Karen Hill Birthday	29 Susan Clemente	30 Nancy Davis	31 All Hallows Eve		



EACH MONTH WE LIST NAMES FOR YOUR DAILY PRAYERS. EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY BRINGS UNIQUE GIFTS FOR OUR MISSIONARY JOURNEY. OUR PRAYERS SUPPORT THEM IN THEIR DAILY LIVES. (A REMINDER...THESE ARE NOT PRAYERS FOR HEALING.)

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

We wish you a very Happy and Blessed Birthday ...



Pr. Elaine Berg ~ October 3rd

Catherine Jura ~ October 13th

Mike Daus ~ October 22nd

Karen Hill ~ October 28th



ENJOYOUS!



Original Funk, R&B, Rock

BENEFIT CONCERT FOR ST. PAUL'S CENTER

Shelter for Moms and Kids,
Transitional Housing & Senior Apts.

Friday, October 10th, 7 - 9 PM

Tix: \$15 ~ ALL ARE WELCOME!

Hope Lutheran Church, 470 Winter St. Ext., North Greenbush

THERE WILL BE ALSO BE...

REFRESHMENTS * RAFFLES * SILENT AUCTION



HEALING TEAM CELEBRATES ST. LUKE, THE EVANGELIST

on Sunday, October 19

*Healing Worship and Installation of
Eucharistic Ministers.*

On October 19th, Bonny Munteer, Maureen Hoffman and Daniel Hoh will be recognized as Eucharistic Ministers, trained to visit and to offer bread and wine from Hope's Sunday Holy Communion to the ill, hospitalized or homebound members of Hope Lutheran Church. Opportunity for prayer and anointing will be offered as part of October 19 worship.

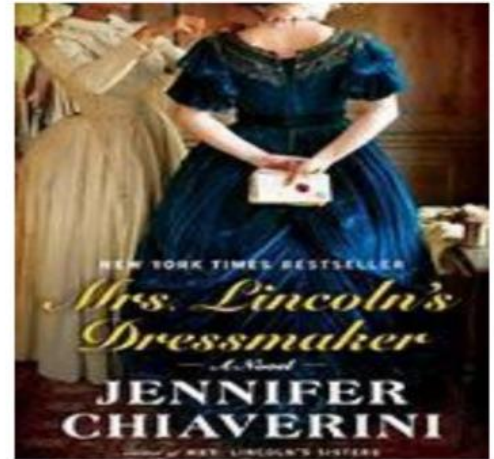
St. Luke, The Evangelist is celebrated on October 18 each year. We remember St. Luke as a companion of St Paul sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ around the Roman Empire, focusing on the gentile population. His writings in St. Luke's Gospel and The Acts of the Apostles give rich stories of Jesus, his disciples and the early Christian Church and its evangelists.

The New Testament mentions Luke in The Acts of the Apostles and the Epistle to the Colossians refers to him as a physician (from Greek for 'one who heals'); thus he is thought to have been both a physician and a disciple of Paul. Since the early years of the faith, Christians have regarded him as a saint. He is believed to have been a martyr, reportedly having been hanged from an olive tree. Saint Luke the Evangelist is considered a patron saint of artists, physicians, bachelors, notaries, butchers, brewers, glass workers, goldsmiths and others.



HOPE BOOK GROUP READS *MRS. LINCOLN'S DRESSMAKER* by Jennifer Chiaverini

The Hope Book Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on October 22nd at the home of Marilyn Dyer, 47 Deerhaven Lane, Rensselaer 12144. If you are interested in joining the group, contact Pr. Elaine Berg, meb312@aol.com or 315.882.3732.



From Amazon regarding *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker*: In a life that spanned nearly a century and witnessed some of the most momentous events in American history, Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley was born a slave. A gifted seamstress, she earned her freedom by the skill of her needle, and won the friendship of First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln by her devotion.

A sweeping historical novel, *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker* illuminates the extraordinary relationship the two women shared, beginning in the hallowed halls of the White House during the trials of the Civil War and enduring almost, but not quite, to the end of Mrs. Lincoln's days.

Looking Ahead:

Dec. 3rd (note change - no November meeting): Gail Market will lead discussion of **Before We Were Yours** by Lisa Wingate

Jan. 28, 2026 - Catherine Jura; Book To Be Announced

Feb., March 2026 - No Meeting, Attend Lenten Gatherings

April 22; Cris Nash will lead discussion of **Life Is So Good** by George Dawson.





HOPE GATHERS FOR OKTOBERFEEST on October 25 at 6:00 p.m.

Hope's Gathering will celebrate our German roots through The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther with an evening of German food, Root Beer and some German music. A sign-up will be available for food, set up, and clean up. Contact Marion Daus mjd12198@gmail.com, 518.248.5914. or Pr. Elaine Berg, meb312@aol.com, 315.882.3732 for information.

The first Oktoberfest was held in Germany on 12 October 1810 to celebrate the wedding of Crown Prince Ludwig and Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen. The festival featured a horse race modelled on the medieval *Scharlachrennen* once run at the Karlstor. Major Andreas Michael Dall'Armi of the National Guard proposed the idea, although coachman Franz Baumgartner later claimed credit. The race was repeated in 1811, forming the core of the Oktoberfest tradition.

Forty-five million Americans claim German heritage, making German Americans the second-largest ethnic group in the U.S., after British Americans. German Americans have shaped U.S. society since the beginning, helping forge founding principles, such as freedom of the press, and later fighting for the abolition of slavery. Prominent German Americans include former President Dwight Eisenhower, writer John Steinbeck and physicist Albert Einstein, who immigrated to the U.S. in 1933.



Christmas Poinsettia Orders Now Being Taken!



It's that time again to start thinking about the upcoming holiday season! We'll be ordering beautiful poinsettias from Becker's Farm Garden Center to decorate the altar for the Christmas holidays in honor/memory of loved ones. This year you can choose red or white plants!

Please note:

Orders will be taken until **November 30th**.
All orders are prepaid.

Make checks out to Hope Lutheran Church.

Put checks with this order slip in the offering plate no later than **November 30th**. You may also mail in your orders, but please plan to have your order forms arrive at church before November 30th, when the order will be called in. Please indicate the number/color of plants ordered, circle the "Honor of" or "Memory of", fill in your dedication (for inclusion in the Christmas Eve service bulletin), plant color (if not circled, "red" will be assumed), and if you would like to take your plant home.

_____ Tabletop \$12 ea. (1 plant in 6.5" pot) _____ Hearth \$28 ea. (1 plant in 8.5" pot)

Circle plant color: **RED** or **WHITE**

Given by: _____

In Honor of: or ***In memory of:***

(Please circle one of the above and include name below.)

Taking home? **Yes** or **No** (please circle one)

Thank you!

Poinsettia Plant – Poisonous to Pets?

Not according to the article "Holiday Health Hazards" from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University. In the article <http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/ClientED/holiday.aspx>, it is stated that poinsettias "...are not very toxic to pets. They do contain a milky sap that can irritate the mouth but if signs develop, they are usually mild." Further research online supporting this can be found at numerous sites including the

ASPCA's site (<http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/poison-control/plants/poinsettia.html>) which states that for pets, poinsettias are "irritating to the mouth and stomach, sometimes causing vomiting, but are generally over-rated in toxicity" and that "While poinsettias are commonly "hyped" as poisonous plants, they rarely are, and the poisoning is greatly exaggerated" (<http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/poison/poinsettia>).

Worship Volunteer Duties for October 2025

Please find your own replacement if you cannot be available on date of assignment.

	5-Oct	12-Oct	19-Oct	26-Oct
	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am	Worship 10:00am
Altar Guild/ Comm. Asst. 2	Bonny M	Charlie H	Debbie F	Bonny M
Greeter	Anna-Lisa H	Lois B	Ja'net M	Diane C
Usher	Marion D	Lois B	Maureen H	Debbie F
Assisting Minister	Mike D	Chris N	Karen C	Jim M
Comm. Assistant	Mike D	Chris N	Bonny M	Chris N
Snack Set-Up	Susan C	Charlie H	Maureen H	Maureen H
Offering Counters	Marion D & Anna-Lisa H	Pam D & Cindy W	Maureen H & Bonny M	Diane C & Pam D



Upcoming Events for October of 2025

We have 'In-Person' Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 AM.

We also live-stream our services on our website, Facebook and YouTube.

Sharing the hope and love of Jesus with all

1st: Qigong with Pam Dodson @ 1:30 PM in the sanctuary; (every Wed.)

Advanced Tai Chi with Pam Dodson @ 3 PM in the sanctuary; (every Wed.)

2nd: Women's Bible Study @ 6:30 PM at Pr. Elaine Berg's home; (every Thurs., except the 23rd).

4th: Regional Food Bank Packing, 10:30 AM – Noon, Meet at RFB.

7th: Beginner Plus Tai Chi with Pam Dodson @ 7 PM in the sanctuary; (every Tues.).

10th: Concert to Benefit St. Paul's Center @ 7 PM in the sanctuary.

12th: Prayers of Hope meets in the small classroom following worship service.

15th: Council Meeting @ 6:30 PM in the large classroom & via Zoom.

16th: Grief Support Group @ 5:30 PM in the large classroom.

Choir Practice @ 6 PM in the sanctuary.

17th: Hope's Dine-Out Dinner Group @ 6 PM.

19th: Healing Worship and Installation of Eucharistic Minsters @ 10 AM in the sanctuary.

21st: Hope's Hands meets @ 10 AM in the small classroom.

22nd: Women's Book Club @ 6:30 PM at Pr. Elaine Berg & Marilyn Dyer's home.

23rd: Choir Practice @ 6 PM in the sanctuary.

25th: Hope's Gathering Event ~ Oktoberfest @ 6 PM in the sanctuary.

26th: Newsletter Articles Due.

'New Members' Class with Pastor Pamela in the sanctuary following worship service.

29th: Women's Book Club @ 6:30 PM at Marilyn Dyer's home.

31st: Happy Halloween.

