

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
***Christmas In July Sunday***

**New Goshenhoppen United Church of Christ**



1070 Church Road † East Greenville PA 18041  
[www.newgoshucc.org](http://www.newgoshucc.org) † 215-679-2041

***“Sharing the light, faith and love of Jesus with all people.”***

**July 27, 2025**

**9:00 a.m. In Person and Livestream Worship in Sanctuary**

**10:30 a.m. In Person in Sanctuary**

## ***Welcome to New Goshenhoppen. . .***

I want to ask us a question: What words do you associate with Christmas? I did that exercise with myself, and this is the list of words that came to me as I thought about Christmas:

Joy  
Decorations  
Music  
Parties  
Presents  
Cookies  
Santa  
Trees  
Cards  
Concerts – Lessons & Carols  
Candles  
Poinsettias

I think it is very telling that as your senior pastor none of these answers involve Jesus, God, the Holy Spirit, or the manger. It just goes to show what a worldly pastor I am. But I think these words kind of resonate with a lot of us. This is generally the picture that we get of Christmas, people having a good time and enjoying themselves, and having a generally joyful season together.

Well, there are two more words that I want to introduce to us to think about as being part of Christ. How about shame and disgrace? When you think about Christ, do you also think about the words shame and disgrace? Are those the kind of words that come to mind? Maybe so. Maybe if you've gone to a holy party and things didn't go especially well, you know shame and disgrace. But for most of us, Christmas and shame don't really go together. If anything, they seem opposite like they're not really the same kind of thing at all. What's really strange is that shame and disgrace are actually essential parts of the Christmas story. Listen this morning to the Gospel to see what I mean.

***We Praise and Confess***  
***The \* invites you to rise in body or spirit.***

Prelude [10:30 a.m.]

Chiming of the Trinity

\*Entrance Hymn: No. 119

***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*** – Mendelssohn

\*Greeting

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
Lift up your hearts in prayer:  
lift up your voices in praise.  
Let your eyes rise in expectation  
and your hands in exultation,  
for the Lord has drawn near  
and dwells among us.

**We lift them up. Amen.**

Invitation to Confession

When Jesus was born of the virgin Mary,  
he became like us in all things but sin.  
May we who have been reborn in him  
be free from our sinful ways.  
Let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God,  
**who inhabits eternity**  
**but dwells with those who are of a humble and contrite**  
**spirit:**  
**before you and our Lord Jesus Christ**  
**we confess our sins.**

**We have ignored the presence of your Spirit.  
We have failed to look for the return  
of our Savior and Judge.  
We have been blind to your coming  
in the suffering of the hungry, the exiled,  
the destitute, the sick, and the imprisoned.  
In your great goodness  
put away our offenses  
and cleanse us from our sin, for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

*Silence*

### Declaration of Pardon

Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.  
People of God, through the coming of Jesus Christ,  
whose birth we celebrate,  
the Lord has comforted and redeemed us too!  
In Christ we receive the salvation of our God.  
Glory to God in the highest!

—based on Isaiah 52:9-10; Luke 2:14, NRSV

### Praise

O Lord, open our lips.  
**And our mouth shall show forth Your praise.**

\*Song of Praise: No. 121      ***O Little Town of Bethlehem*** — St. Louis  
Verses 1 & 4

\*Collect

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. . .

## ***We Hear and Respond***

From the Prophets

Isaiah 7:10-16

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: <sup>11</sup> "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." <sup>13</sup> And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup> For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted."<sup>1</sup>

The Word of the Lord, by the power of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God!**

Christmas Carols

\*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

St. Matthew 1:18-25

Hear the Gospel of Christ.

**Glory to Christ our Savior.**

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And

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<sup>1</sup> *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Is 7:10–16.

her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.<sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.<sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us).<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,<sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.<sup>2</sup>

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

The Word of God Proclaimed

Dr. Williams – "PD"

## ***The Last Two Words You'd Think at Christmas***

\*Christmas Carol: No. 146

***Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*** – Tempus Adest Floridum  
Verses 1 & 3

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (9:00 a.m. – See Insert)

***Raegan Ann King and Hazel Loraine King***

**Daughters of Addie (Long) and Joseph King**

**Granddaughters of:**

**Alice & Warren Long and Joseph & Jackie King**

**Godparents: Alex Davis (Raegan) and Kenneth West (Hazel)**

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<sup>2</sup> *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Mt 1:18–25.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended to heaven and is seated  
at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Morning Prayer

Our Savior's Prayer [using **debts** and **debtors**]

Welcome and Announcements

Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

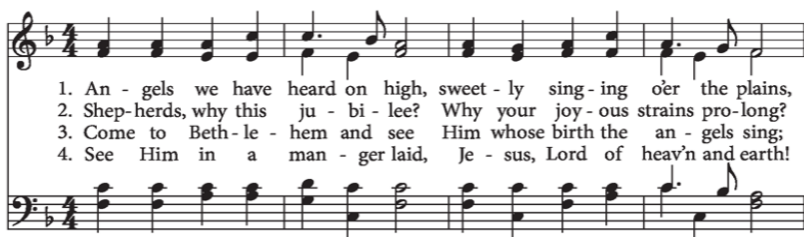
Give via PayPal, a Credit Card, or Debit Card by  
scanning the QR code with your camera



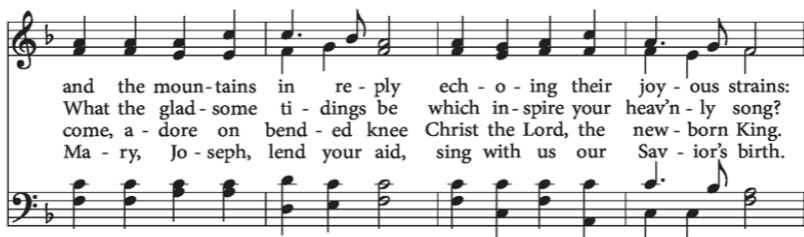
Luke 2:14; French carol  
trans. James Chadwick, 1860, alt.

GLORIA  
77 77 with refrain

French carol  
arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937



1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
4. See Him in a man - ger laid, Je - sus, Lord of heav'n and earth!



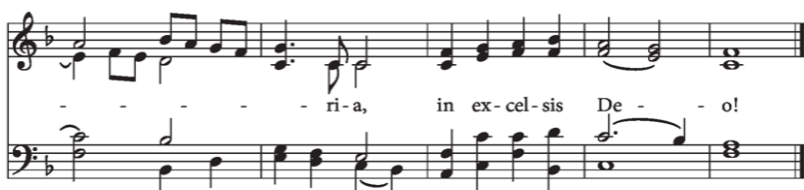
and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains:  
What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.  
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, sing with us our Sav - ior's birth.



Glo - ri - a,



in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - ri - a,



in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Following the Light of Christ into the World

***We go. . .  
To share the light, faith and love of Jesus  
with all people!***

\*Dismissal with Blessing

\*Postlude

*Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained  
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Permission to podcast / stream the music.*

**Hair For Care. . .**

The Reformation Sister Clergy announce a Summer Benevolent Mission Project! We would like to raise at least \$10,000 in total for a Rise Against Hunger Meal Preparation Project. To encourage your support each pastor has promised to allow their hair to be "colored" by congregational choice. Just imagine what PD would look like if his hair was liturgical green, bright red, purple or some other color? PD has set the goal for New Goshenhoppen at \$3,000 to be received between June 8 and August 24! It has been suggested that Pastor Dave get the Nittany Lion tattooed in his hair, so...if we raise \$4,000 that will happen! On Sunday, August 31 the "great reveal" will happen when the Reformation Sisters host Summer Worship together at 9:00 a.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Pennsburg or 10:30 a.m. in New Goshenhoppen Park. Seven clergy all with unique hair coloring to provide meals in Africa! The Brass Buckets will be out to collect your gift!



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## **JULY 27, 2025**

The People of New Goshenhoppen, Ministers  
Rev. Dr. David A. Williams, Senior Pastor and Organist  
Rev. Dr. Deborah Rahn Clemens, Pastor Emerita  
Rev. Erick Kern, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Elaine Ely, Minister of Grief Support  
Kelly Johannsen, Lay Minister of Visitation  
Beverly A. Benner, Director of Christian Education  
Susan Hemperly, Senior Choir Accompanist  
Cindy Biehn, Administrative Secretary  
Office Phone: 215-679-2041 Email: [office@newgoshucc.org](mailto:office@newgoshucc.org)  
Visit us online at [www.newgoshucc.org](http://www.newgoshucc.org)

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**WELCOME VISITORS** ~ we're glad you are joining us for worship!

**WiFi PASSWORD:** Network: NewGoshGuest, password: **wearethechurch**

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Please read 2 Samuel 12:12-25.

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** is celebrated today with **Raegan Ann King** and **Hazel Loraine King**, daughters of Addie (Long) & Joseph King. Raegan and Hazel were born on July 26, 2023. Godparents are Alex Davis (Raegan) and Kenneth West (Hazel).

**THE NATIVITY** on the altar was donated by the family of the late Barbara Haas.

**SUMMER WORSHIP IN THE PARK:** Worship will be held in the Park on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and concludes on Sunday, August 31. Worship in the air-conditioned Sanctuary will be at 10:30 a.m. Please note that if we are headed to 90 degrees or more on a Sunday, the sign will be up at the park to come to the Sanctuary.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SUMMER BREAK:** Youth Sunday School will take a break through the end of August. We will resume on September 7!

**FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE** needs hosts for the August Coffee Hour--the 9:00 a.m. service in the Park and the 10:30 a.m. service in the Sanctuary. This month is a more relaxed Coffee Hour with cold drinks and light refreshments. If you are able and willing to help, please speak to Sherry Peterson or anyone on the Friendship Committee.

## **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

***The church is grateful for financial gifts received in the name of loved ones and friends.***

### **GENERAL FUND**

**In loving memory of the birthday anniversary  
of our dear sister, Peggy L. Fulmer**

by sister, Nancy and families

**In memory of Fred Mann, Sr.**

by Don & DottiAnne Edmonds

**In memory of Robert Frank**

by Craig & Lori Frank

**CONFIRMATION CLASS 2025-2026:** Is your child going to be a student in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and above this September 2025 and has not shared in the Confirmation program of New Goshenhoppen? Confirmation Class will begin on Sunday, October 5 at 9:15 a.m. in the Confirmation Classroom! An introduction to the experience, dates for field trips, and more will be shared. Classes will meet on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. three out of four Sundays each month. If you would, please call the Church Office to register your student at 215-679-2041. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Dave.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** Summer is a great time of year to enjoy the outdoors and spend time with family but we need to also keep in mind that friends, family members and many others may be experiencing situations that require more than your time. Health and Welfare and Miller Blood Center will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on Tuesday, August 19 from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. via a Bloodmobile in the church parking lot. If you are willing and able to GIVE please visit [giveapint.org](https://giveapint.org) or call Sherry Peterson to sign up. Thanks for your consideration of this much needed ministry!

**CEMETERY WORKDAYS:** The following are the dates for cemetery workdays: Aug. 23 and Sept. 27. We begin the morning with a cup of coffee and a planning meeting at 7:30 a.m. with work commencing at 8:00 a.m. We appreciate any time your schedule will allow. *More helpers make tasks easier.*

**FIRST MONDAY MEAL:** Please join us Monday, August 4 for another delicious First Monday Meal. The menu at New Gosh is meatball subs, pasta salad and a cookie...prepared and served by East Penn Lions. The meal is *take out* style and distribution will be from 6:00-7:00 p.m. OR if you prefer to *dine in*, Pennsburg UCC (hosted by Finland Mennonite Church) will be offering Pulled Pork on a bun, potato salad, chips and ice cream. Dinner is served there, promptly at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome!!

**JOB OPPORTUNITY:** Seeking nursery school aide for the New Goshenhoppen Nursery School Toddler Time (2+year old) classes. Hours are 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. four days per week, MTWF, including Lunch Bunch. The job begins the week of September 1. If interested, please contact the Church Office by Wednesday, July 30 to receive and complete an application. Applicants will be required to obtain background clearances as required by PA state law. Questions--contact the Church Office at 215-679-2041.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Kimberly Cornwell who met with the Ursinus Association Committee on Ministry on July 23 for the purpose of being approved for Ordination in the United Church of Christ. The COM voted unanimously to approve her for Ordination Pending Call. Kim now may submit her profile for consideration to those congregations she determines will fit her gifts and graces. We celebrate with Kim in completing this milestone in the process to being an ordained pastor.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **Marlene Bieler**. She is celebrating her 87<sup>th</sup> birthday today.

**SYMPATHY** is expressed to the family of **Stephen A. Benson**, who entered eternal life on July 15, 2025. Please keep in your prayers his wife, Susan, and their sons, Drew and Brock, and his extended family.

**SYMPATHY** is expressed to the family of **Thomas A. Corral**, who entered eternal life on July 20, 2025. Please keep in your prayers his sisters, Lori Barndt and Diane Stahl, and his extended family.

**SYMPATHY** is expressed to the family of **Joan (Bricker) Gayley**, who entered eternal life on July 22, 2025. Please keep in your prayers her brother, Doug Bricker and her extended family.

**BULLETINS** are presented in loving memory of our parents, Raymond W. & Glenna V. Heimbach by Larry and the late, Gordon Heimbach.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented in honor of the birthday anniversary of mother, Christena Boardman by Mike and Valerie.

**THE FLOWERS IN FRONT OF THE PULPIT** are presented with the happiest of birthday wishes to Cassidy Ann and Maverick Richard. Love Mammy.

**THE FLOWERS BEHIND THE PULPIT** are presented in memory of the birthday anniversary of Willard S. Haas, Jr. by his brothers and sisters and their families.

**ATTENDANCE: 7/20/25** – 9:00 a.m. 67; 10:30 a.m. 35; Livestream (You Tube) 46. Sunday School-hiatus.

Above is the "Live" Concurrent Household Number - (Note: "number of households" is less than "number of people". If on average each household has two people watching, then our numbers are 2x the number of households that tuned in.)

**OPERATING INCOME 7/20/25:** Current & Benevolences \$3,240; Building, Improvement & Maintenance \$162. Monthly EFT income \$5,060. Hair for Care to date \$1,647.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS:**

Year to Date Income	\$403,973.32
Less Investment Withdrawals	<u>\$44,424.00</u>
	\$359,549.32
Year to Date Expenses	\$375,256.73
Special Income	\$16,336.68
Capital Campaign Income	\$20,454.81
Special Project BIM Expenses	\$28,264.63
Meadows Paid Back Year to Date	\$12,500.00

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: "True North VBS" – Point kids to Jesus, a faithful friend we can always trust.** Join us for our Annual Vacation Bible School August 4-8 from 9:00 a.m.–11:45 a.m. Classes will be for children aged 3 through finishing grade 5. We are looking for volunteers to make the event a success. Group leaders, station leaders, classroom assistants, and snack makers are needed! If you can pitch in and join the fun ... even for just a day or two ... please contact Bev Benner at [benner@newgoshucc.org](mailto:benner@newgoshucc.org). For those of you interested in sending your children, please register early using the form in the bulletin.

## **ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK**

Sun.	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary & Livestreamed) – Baptisms
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Mon.	6:30 p.m.	Consistory (Bible Fellowship Room)
Tues.	8:00 a.m.	Quilting (Pathfinder Room)
	2:00 p.m.	Interments (Cemetery)
Thurs.	7:00 p.m.	Red Hill Band rehearsal (Park)
Sat.	11:30 a.m.	Interment (Cemetery)
Sun.	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Park) - Communion
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary & Livestreamed) – Communion
	11:30 a.m.	Private Event (Park)

### **Thank you to our Service Participants**

9:00 a.m.                      Next to stage toward Third Street – Will Howe  
                                      Next to stage toward townhouses – Melissa Jamison  
                                      Upper Park towards refreshment stands – Frank Eidle  
                                      Liturgist – Donna Fried

10:30 a.m.                    Narthex – Doug Atno  
                                      Roberts' Church Office – Denise Fox  
                                      Elevator – Peter Hemperly  
                                      Upper Narthex – Thomas Bancroft  
                                      Liturgist/Acolyte – Soren Mugridge

## **GOSCHENHOPPEN MEADOWS FUND**

Each year the Goschenhoppen Meadows Fund supports Ministry, Mission, and Maintenance projects above and beyond the annual budget. A total of \$36,000.00 is distributed to proposals submitted by the congregation (\$12,000.00 allocated to each category): Ministry, Mission, and Maintenance. Ministry covers what we can do for the sake of the Gospel. Mission is financial support for the spread of the Good News and Christian acts of love in places beyond our local church. Maintenance covers short and long-term improvements at our Church campus.

Applications and details on the submittal process are available on the New Goschenhoppen website at:

[www.newgoshucc.org/mission-outreach](http://www.newgoshucc.org/mission-outreach)

Scroll down to the bottom of the Mission and Outreach web page and click on one of the three application links under the Meadows Fund: Ministry Application, Mission Application, and Maintenance Application. Applications may also be obtained by contacting the Church Office directly.

1. Proposals by members and friends of New Goschenhoppen Church are due in the Church Office by August 31, 2025.
2. All proposals are screened by the Consistory Vice-President and the Senior Pastor to ensure sufficient information is included. Proposal authors are contacted as necessary.
3. Proposals are distributed to the appropriate committees for review and disposition.
  - a. Ministry proposals – Church and Ministry Committee
  - b. Mission proposals – Deacons' Committee
  - c. Maintenance proposals – Property, Park and Cemetery Committees
4. Committee recommendations are submitted to Consistory for approval at their October meeting.
5. Approved projects are shared at the November Congregational meeting.

Please contact Donna Fried ([moosedlf@aol.com](mailto:moosedlf@aol.com)) 610-730-0088 or William Howe ([williamharlan@yahoo.com](mailto:williamharlan@yahoo.com)) 610-745-7406 with any questions regarding the proposal application process. As with previous years, the individuals submitting proposals will remain anonymous throughout the proposal review process.



New Goshenhoppen  
United Church of Christ

August 4-8, 2025

9:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

For PRESCHOOL (age 3) –  
GRADE 5

*(Note: child must be potty-trained and at least 3 years old to register)*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade **Completed** in '24 - '25 School Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) Picking Up Student at Dismissal Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Allergies & Medical Information:**

***Please list all allergies and pertinent information which would be helpful to leaders, including lactose intolerance, diabetes, asthma, learning disabilities, etc.***

**\* Permission for Medical Treatment \***

***"In case of an emergency, I understand every effort will be made to contact parents or guardians. If I cannot be reached, I hereby give permission for my child to receive all necessary medical treatment."***

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_