

Zion Lutheran Church
349 Lindy Lane NW
North Canton, OH 44720
An ELCA Congregation

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THE ZION HERALD

Proclaiming Good News

August 2019

**WE WELCOME ZION’S NEW PASTOR,
PASTOR WILLIAM & LINDA WEIDENBACH**

**ZION’S “END OF THE SUMMER” PARTY!
SUNDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 8, 2019**

SUNDAY SCHOOL at 9:15 am

COMBINED WORSHIP at 10:30 am

SNACKS at 11:30 a.m.

FOOD at 12:00 p.m.

Clean-up at 3:00 p.m.



**WE WELCOME ZION’S NEW PASTOR,
PASTOR WILLIAM & LINDA WEIDENBACH**

Worship Services

Sunday Morning: 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

Sunday Morning: 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

Sunday School Classes

(Adult Discussion) 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

(Classes: All Ages) 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Church Council President: Darlene Milavickas 330-412-4336

Church Office Secretary: Vicki Givler 330-499-3909

Church Office Secretary E-Mail: vicki.givler@yahoo.com

Praise Team Leader: Suzanne Walters 330-497-8996

Christian Ed. Director: Debbie Fox 330-966-2433

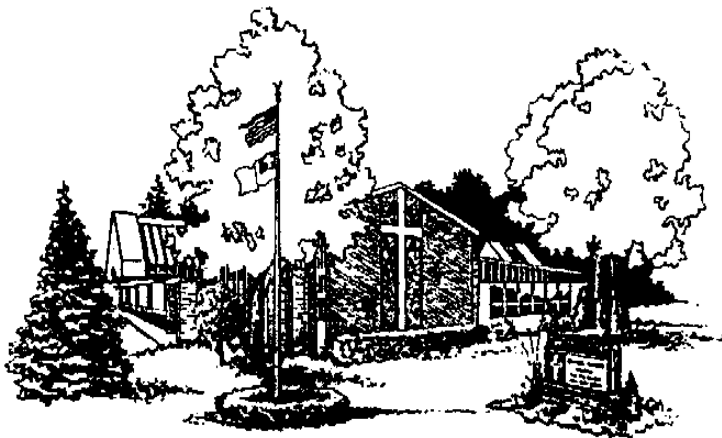
Chancel Flowers: Vicki Givler 330-499-3909

Church Office Fax Number 330-499-0801

Prayer Chain: Kay Davis 330-494-6267

Prayer Chain: Email stitchandsewk810@sbcglobal.net

www.ZionEvangelicalLutheranChurch.org



MENU

**Pulled Pork, Beef, Chicken,
Fish, Shrimp, Hot Dogs,
Hamburgers, and More
Baked Beans, Cole Slaw and
Lots of Great Desserts**

**Good Fun, Great Food, Fabulous Fellowship
Family Friendly Outdoor Activities For All Ages**

Pastor’s Ponderings

Greetings from your pastor; I look forward to being with you starting August 1. It’s been three years since you’ve had a called pastor; how pleased I am that you have remained faithful to God’s work being done at Zion those three years. I’m even more pleased to join you as we begin the next chapter of doing God’s work.

So, this gets me to pondering; How do you feel about all this? With which statement do you most identify?

- Whew, now we can sit back and relax.
- Wow, now we can get to doing more of God’s work here.

While you might be looking for answers, I offer questions for us to consider together. With appreciation to a former bishop of mine in North Dakota who posed these two questions, I wonder:

1. Why in God’s name does Zion exist?
2. What is God calling us to do for Christ’s sake?

Considering the above, some of the things I ponder as we begin a bright future together:

- What will we do together to bring excitement and enthusiasm to our worship?
- In what ways will we serve the needs of our neighborhood and make known the love of God?
- What will each of us let go of so as to empower our youth with authority to make decisions about what happens here?
- How will we encourage every person to value their God-given skill, time, and treasure so they fully participate in the life of Christ’s church and we become a full-participation congregation?

And, this last one could be a challenge for some:

- What is it we are willing to change about the way we do things so that those we haven’t seen in a while and those we haven’t yet met will feel comfortable enough to come and participate?

What do you ponder? What are your thoughts about the above? Please share them with me. I really want to hear from you. Bring your enthusiasm and ideas, for we will do great things through God who strengthens us.

Graciously,

Pr. William

everyone’s help and support, and for that I am grateful from the bottom of my heart! God Sightings are everywhere at Zion!

Thank you again to all involved! You are all examples of God’s goodness and love!
Debbie Fox

GOD is GOOD! No Matter what life brings us, through all the ups and downs, God is there for us! He has a plan for us and loves us with an enduring & everlasting love. He will always take care of us! He is our rock, our anchor, our refuge, our salvation, and we can always rely on him!

SAFARI STAFF

Director: Debbie Fox

Teachers:

Pre-K/K: Janet Slease

Girls' Class: Connie Riffe

Boys' Class: Renee Keith

Music: Lea Nathaniel & Darlene Milavickas

Crafts & Service: Connie Frank & Cheryl Roman

Outdoor Games & Service: Eric Dague

Snacks & Ice Cream: Dave Palumbo & Jayne Schrader

Youth Helpers: Jeremy Fox, Cassie Frank, Amelia Milek, Kat Milek, Mallory Rhodes, Marcus Rhodes, Lea Schroeter, Max Schroeter, Delaney Snodgrass, Christopher Thompson, Abby Wilsbacher, Lucas Wilsbacher, Macie Shaheen, Chloe McVevitt, Chloe Gardner, Paige Sloane

Other Volunteers: Nathan Fox, Dean Fox, Jeff Frank, Cathy Harvey, Nicole Milek, Doug Roman, Laura Thompson, Ron Tvorik, Pastor William Weidenbach

Quilters: Kay Davis, Debbie Lancashire, Linda Lancashire, Darlene Milavickas, Dave Palumbo, Kay Reiss, Carol Rossbach, Linda Smith, Betty Tracy, Linda Tvorik

Quilt Square Crew: Carol Rossbach, Darlene Milavickas, Nicole Milek, Amelia Milek, Mallory Rhodes, Lea Schroeter, Delaney Snodgrass, Christopher Thompson, Ron Tvorik

Special Guest Speakers:

Jackie Godbey & Eddie, Stark County Humane Society

Officers Mike Ataya & Phil Taylor, North Canton Police Department

Registration: Vicki Givler & Moe Alters

Newsletter: Debbie Fox

Painting our Props & Decorations: Carol Rossbach

Creating & Constructing our Kubwa Tree: Casey & Brian Walter

This year was once again an amazing success! Because of the above people, our VBS week was truly enjoyed by all! Zion is very blessed with a great group of volunteers who make our VBS program one of the best! Everyone's flexibility, time commitment and hard work are invaluable! I could not do it without



*Life is wild, but
God is good.*

Message from the President:

We have exciting times coming up with Pastor William Weinbach Jr., aka Pastor William, starting August 1st as Zion's new pastor. Second, on August 25th we will have Bishop Allende at Zion to preside over Pastor William's installation service at 4 pm. Everyone from Zion and local clergy are invited. Others have been invited by the synod. There will be a large reception to follow for everyone to attend.

SAVE THE DATE : SEPT 8th. This is rally day and our community picnic/grill-off etc. There will be more details at a later date.

Everyone has been working hard to get Zion in shape. The bushes have been trimmed, beds weeded and mulched, and lawn mowed. The leaks in the roof have been fixed, fingers crossed. The water fountains have been replaced and Memorial Hall floor has been refinished. The parking lot has been patched. So we have our building and grounds in good shape; now it is time to work on the body of the church. We need to work on expanding Zion into the community. We have kept up on our giving for the different youth missions and projects. But we need to start dreaming of ways to **“grow in love and service by grace”**. We need to be open to some changes. Oh! No!! not that word: **CHANGE**. We can't go back, we need to go forward. Change doesn't have to be bad. God has blessed us all with so much. We need to spread God's love to others.

God's Peace and Blessings to you all,
Darlene

P.S. Just a reminder, we started a Transition Fund whose purpose was to cover expenses for travel etc. for the candidates and for the new Pastor. Council would like to ask you to consider giving to the Transition Fund to cover Pastor William's travel back and forth and also for his moving expenses.

LEARNING MINISTRY

Another great week of Vacation Bible School is behind us. We are so thankful for the dedicated leadership of Debbie Fox and all of the volunteers who helped make our Roar VBS a success. The kids had a wonderful time and were excited to have Pastor William there for our Friday activities. A special thanks to Carol Rossbach for her beautiful artwork and decorations. Thank you, Debbie, for all of your countless hours and hard work - we are truly blessed! God is good!

Janet Slease

Learning Ministry

CARING MINISTRY

Because of the generosity of our members, during the month of June, the Zion Food Pantry served 183 people from 86 households. The client breakdown was as follows: 14 children (0-17), 55 adults (18-59), and 69 seniors (age 60+). This information comes from the required Monthly Statistical Report For Akron Canton Regional Foodbank.

The dates for the August Food Pantry and Clothing Closet are the 6th and the 20th. Set up time is at 9:00 am with the doors opening at 1:00 pm.

FOOD PANTRY needs cereal, spaghetti sauce, crunchy peanut butter, jelly (any flavor except grape), canned fruit (especially canned pineapple), variety pack of flavored instant oatmeal, and soups of all kinds (except tomato).

CLOTHING CLOSET is in need of household items such as; bath towels, hand towels, tea towels, dishes, pots, pans, etc.

Remember to contact Kay Davis, stitchandsewk810@sbcglobal.net, if you have any prayer requests.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

G. Scott Gross

WITNESS MINISTRY



I am looking for a team to help maintain the website and our Congregational Facebook presence. Prior experience or know-how are not

required. We need folks with a story to tell, with a question that needs an answer, or an idea that they want to share. You can reach me: mav-nav123@gmail.com.

I would also like to ask folks to get on the website <https://zionevangelicallutheranchurch.godaddysites.com> and the Facebook page @ZionLutheranNorthCanton and let me know what you think. I think Heather Hoffman did a fantastic job getting them up. Now we need to keep them updated and make sure they are relevant. This is the way new folks will find us.

Grilling Season is upon us! Let me know if you would like to grill at the End of Summer Party. We can figure out how to get equipment moved. I have no idea yet what I will be cooking but this is a highlight of my culinary year and a great way to support our Food Pantry and Welcome Pastor William!



Your's in Christ (and Smoke),
Mark Votaw

WOMEN OF ZION

Another week of VBS has just ended at Zion with a loud ROAR. Life was pretty wild for youth, helpers, teachers, and definitely the Comfort Givers. With aching backs and muscles, seven comforts were made in three days for our LWR. But, Oh-so much fun and fellowship watching the young children look for the special blocks they had created.

Debbie Fox brought the theme message loud and clear of serving others. All of us can make a difference. Give of yourself, young and old alike, and show love in action. God is Good, he loves us and blesses us every day.

Comfort Givers will continue to sew and work in August and September in preparation for our annual LWR shipment on October 5th & 6th. More information on this next month.

Remember when Life is Wild—God is Good.

In His Service,
Betty Tracy

ZION’S FINANCIAL FACTS IN JUNE 2019

June Income	\$15,914.67
Income through June	\$94,016.78
June Expenses	\$16,290.36
Expenses through June	\$89,773.94

June Deficit	-\$ 375.69
2019 YTD Surplus	\$ 4,242.84

We thank you for your generous support!

Ataya and Phil Taylor from the North Canton Police Department visited on Friday to talk to the kids about safety and the work they do. Officer Mike also brought his police vehicle along for the kids to check out. The kids presented the officers with a box filled with bags of safari trail mix that they made to share with the North Canton Police officers as a thank you for all of the officers’ service. Thank you to Jackie, Eddie and Officers Mike and Phil for spending time with us and showing us God’s goodness and love in action!

The week finished out with our wet and wild day at the watering hole on Thursday and our ROAR Safari Celebration & Music Program on Friday. Thursday, we enjoyed many fun water activities that included water relay races, Lion and Gazelle Stampede, water balloon toss and tag, slip and slides and all out water “battles” with cups and water squirters. Everyone was getting soaked and having a blast! Friday, our ROAR Celebration began with our Safari Carnival which included carnival games, ice cream treats and a safari trail mix station. After our carnival, the kids performed all of the songs they learned during our music program for family and friends. They were amazing - singing and dancing and showing God’s goodness and love! Thanks again to Lea and Darlene for leading the kids in music and for putting together such a great program! We ended our Safari Adventure with a pizza party for all that included pizza of course, carrots, brownies, ice cream sundaes and root beer floats! Thank you to all who helped with the pizza party, and thank you to all of our youth helpers for pitching in on Thursday and Friday to help set up, run & tear down the water games and carnival games. We were also blessed on Friday to have Pastor William Weidenbach (Zion’s new Pastor) spend the day with us. He jumped right in and hung out with all the kids during their classes and activities for the day, and helped serve pizza during our Safari Celebration! Thank you Pastor William! It was a great week of God’s goodness and love in action with awesome kids, awesome volunteers and a ton of fun and learning about God’s goodness & love and how we can share that with everyone!

Finally, a very special thank you goes out to Carol Rossbach for all of the awesome decorations she painted and created this year and in past years, and to Brian & Casey Walters for designing and constructing our Kubwa Tree in the Narthex. Lastly, thank you to all who helped decorate the whole church. It looked amazing and the kids really enjoyed all of the decorations that created an awesome African Safari atmosphere for our VBS this year.

Zion’s VBS is such a great success because of the contributions and commitments of all involved – the staff, the children, their families, the many volunteers and the congregation. Thank you to everyone for your generosity & support and for all of your donations of VBS supplies, food, school supplies, pet items, money and/or time! You are all appreciated and loved so much! Also, a big thank you to Sam’s Club in North Canton for their \$50 donation to help buy snacks and supplies for the week.

The following is a list of staff and volunteers who are invaluable to me and Zion! They show God’s love in all they do! Many of these people did more than the category they are listed in. Everyone was always willing to help out wherever they were needed, and I am forever grateful! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Friday's lesson summary: The Israelites build a memorial to remember God's goodness.

(Joshua 3-4)

Bible Memory Verse - "Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious."
(Nehemiah 4:14)

In our final lesson, we see the Israelites just about to enter the Promised Land where God had led them. In order to enter, they had to cross the Jordan River. God performed another miracle and stopped the Jordan from flowing so all the Israelites could cross. God then told each of the 12 Tribes of Israel to pick up a stone from the river and carry it into the Promise Land where they should build a memorial. So the 12 men piled the stones on top of each other as a memorial to mark God bringing his people into the promised land. God is Good & always takes care of us!

*When life is good...
God is good!*



We had an awesome group of leaders this year at VBS. Janet Slease led our Pre-K/K group throughout the week along with helpers, Max Schroeter and Abby Wilsbacher. Nicole & Kat Milek led this group on Friday. Connie Riffle led our girls' class with helper, Mallory Rhodes and Renee Keith led our boys' class. They put in a lot of time and hard work to make this year's program such a success and to teach the children that God is good, no matter what we have going on in our lives. I am so grateful to them for the amazing job that they did! The children learned so much and had a great time thanks to these leaders!

Our ROAR Safari Music, was once again one of the favorite parts of VBS thanks to Lea Nathaniel and Darlene Milavickas. They did a great job with the kids, teaching them the songs, motions and dance moves. They also put together an awesome program on Friday during which the kids did an absolutely fantastic job with all of the songs!!! The program was truly enjoyed by all! The children really enjoyed this year's songs which were fun and truly reinforced the daily Bible Points. I am sure they will be singing and dancing to these songs for a long time! A big thank you to Lea Nathaniel from Jackson Friends Church for stepping in at the last minute to help us with music this year. We so greatly appreciate it!

Our wild safari crafts were outstanding as always thanks to Connie Frank and Cheryl Roman along with their many helpers. This year the kids did crafts and service projects which included quilt squares, binoculars, drums, egg maracas, animal print pencil holders, African animal silhouette canvases, no sew lion pillows and "God is Good" plaques. The finished products were awesome! Thank you to Connie and Cheryl along with their great group of helpers throughout the week for all the prep and hard work to lead the kids during this rotation!!!

This year's outdoor recreation was led by Eric Dague with help from Jeremy Fox and Marcus Rhodes. The kids enjoyed many activities which included a very unfair water relay race on Monday, an Exodus Relay & a safari scavenger hunt on Tuesday, a stick jump challenge and soccer on Wednesday, water games & activities on Thursday and carnival games on Friday. Thank you to Eric, Jeremy & Marcus for a job well done!!!

Thank you to Dave Palumbo and Jayne Schrader who handled our snacks and ice cream cart all week. We appreciate all they did to keep the kids and volunteers fed and hydrated everyday.

This year we were very blessed to have some special guest speakers. Jackie Godbey and Eddie from the Stark County Humane Society visited on Monday and brought three Chug (Chihuahua and Pug mix) puppies name Larry, Curly and Moe. Jackie talked with each class about what the Humane Society does and how we can help. She and all her volunteers show God's goodness and love in the amazing work they do to help save the many cats and dogs along with other animals they sometimes take in! Officers Mike

ZION'S "END OF THE SUMMER" PARTY! SUNDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 8, 2019



**WANTED GRILLERS—IF INTERESTED, CONTACT MARK VOTAW AT
330-949-6114 OR THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 330-499-3909**



**NEEDED SIDES AND DESSERTS—SIGN UP SHEETS
AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE**



News from Zion's Youth

Happy Birthday to:



Upcoming Events – Mark your calendars!

Sunday, August 4th: Youth & Parent Meeting with Pastor William after the 10:30 Service
Sunday, September 8th: Rally Day & Start of 2018-19 Sunday School Classes

Sunday School – Pre-K thru 12th Grade

Just a reminder - There are no Sunday School classes this summer. We will start up again in September on Sunday, September 8^h at 9:15am. We are looking forward to a great year!

August 4th – Youth & Parent Meeting

Youth (all ages) and parents are invited to meet with Pastor William and our youth leaders on Sunday, August 4th after the 10:30 service. We will meet in the High School classroom around 11:40 am. Kids and parents, we would like you to come with your ideas and wish lists for our youth programs, classes, activities and service projects. This is an exciting time for our kids and families and hope you will join us!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: ROAR SAFARI ADVENTURE



We had an awesome group of kids join us this year at Vacation Bible School July 15th – 19th. We had 23 children registered this year, averaging about 22 children each day. Our week-long safari was an adventure in learning that “God is Good!”, no matter what the circumstances in our lives. Each day brought us a new daily Bible Point and a new Bible Buddy. On Monday, our Bible Buddy was Mack, the rhinoceros, and we learned that when life is unfair, God is Good! On Tuesday our Bible Buddy was Hooper, the hoopoe bird, and we learned that when life is scary, God is Good! On Wednesday our Bible Buddy was Marge, the cape buffalo, and we learned that when life changes, God is Good! On Thursday our Bible Buddy was Zion, the lion, and we learned that when life is sad, God is Good! Finally, on Friday our Bible Buddy was Savannah, the giraffe, and we learned that when life is good, God is Good! The kids experienced a wide variety of activities during the week - great lessons, music, crafts, games, a safari scavenger hunt, guest speakers, delicious snacks and many service projects. The week ended with some very hot temperatures for our wet and wild day at the watering hole on Thursday and our ROAR Safari Celebration and Music Program on Friday.

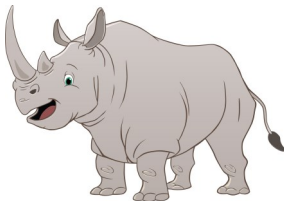
Service was again a big part of the week. The children and volunteers each received an orange wristband with “God Sightings” printed on them and our church’s name. These wristbands are a reminder for the kids and volunteers of all of their good work at VBS, and to remind them to continue serving others and sharing God’s love everyday. God Sightings are not only our actions, but also the actions we see other people doing to serve the Lord and help others. Our VBS was full of “God Sightings” everywhere you looked!

This year’s lessons were all about God’s goodness and love no matter what the circumstance. By week’s end, we all learned or were reminded that God is always there for us and has a plan for us. We can always trust and rely on Him in every circumstance, whether bad or good, because He will take care of us. We also need to remember to praise Him and thank Him for the good in our lives, and know that there is more goodness and joy to come! God is good, even when life is wild and crazy, and He loves us with an enduring and everlasting love!

Monday’s lesson summary: The Israelites are slaves for the Egyptians.
(Exodus 1; 5; 6)

Bible Memory Verse – The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes.” (Nahum 1:7)

When life is unfair...
God is good!



God’s people, the Israelites, were slaves in Egypt. They had been slaves for 400 years. God saw their suffering in Egypt, so he told an Israelite man named Moses to stand up to Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt. and to tell him to let God’s people go. Pharaoh got mad at Moses for doing this and made the Israelites work even harder which was unfair! The Israelites were upset with Moses for making things worse. When Moses complained to God, God said, “I am the Lord. I will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh.” Through Moses, God reassured his people that he hadn’t forgotten them. His mighty plans were still at work even in the midst of circumstances that didn’t seem just.

It is okay to talk to God about how we’re feeling, even if we’re feeling upset with God. That’s what Moses did. God loves us, and he’s always with us. Even when life is unfair, God is good!

Tuesday’s lesson summary: God sends plagues on Egypt.
(Exodus 7:14 –12:32)

Bible Memory Verse – “Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.” (Psalm 23:4)

Because the Pharaoh told Moses he would not free the Israelites, life became very scary for them. Moses went to the Pharaoh ten times asking him to release the Israelites, and each time he said no. So God sent ten plagues (one each time) on the Egyptian people which devastated them, but spared the Israelites. After the tenth plague, the Pharaoh agreed to free the people of Israel. So they hurried out of Egypt.

We may not face plagues of hail, darkness, or frogs, but we *do* experience our own fears and dark times that leave us confused, hurt, and even very scared. Our circumstances may take a turn for the worse, but our circumstances don’t change God’s goodness or the fact that God is with us. We can turn to God and dig into our faith when life is scary. God has a plan for us just like He did for the Israelites, and wants to show us his goodness, even in the midst of the frightening darkness and uncertainty. God is present when life gets scary and He will take care of us!

When life is scary...
God is good!



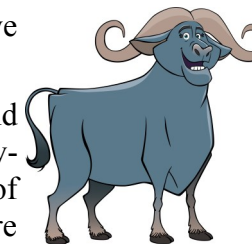
Wednesday’s lesson summary: The Israelites enter the wilderness.
(Exodus 14–17)

Bible Memory Verse – “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever.” (Psalm 106:1)

The Israelites had barely stepped one foot out of Egypt before they began worrying and wishing to return to the way things were -even when those ways included brutal slavery. In Exodus 14:11-12, God’s people make it sound as if Moses forced them out of Egypt: “What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt?” They were worried and upset by all the changes and obstacles they faced in their journey. But God took care of those obstacles every time because He heard and helped them, even when they complained. God is always there for us! Change is hard, but God will hear and help us, too. God has a good plan for our lives! The Bible tells us in Jeremiah 29:11:“ ‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ says the Lord. ‘They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.’ ”

God is good, and he loves us!

When life changes...
God is good!



Thursday’s lesson summary: Jesus dies and comes back to life. (John 16–21)

Bible Memory Verse - “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.” (Psalm 34:18)

Jesus had been traveling around, teaching people about God’s love. But his time on earth was almost over, and he knew it. On Good Friday he was crucified on the cross. After 3 days, Jesus rose from the dead – the good news of his resurrection! It may seem odd that we call Good Friday “good.” Yet without Jesus’ death, we would not be saved from our sins, and there wouldn’t have been the triumphant, joyful resurrection! We all find it hard to imagine anything good in the midst of sad times. What good can come from a loved one dying? How can a child find any good in a bully? And what’s so good about being left out or alone? God never promises that this life will be pain-free. But he does promise to be near when we’re hurting, and more importantly, he showed that there’s always hope and always joy to come. Because of Jesus, we can remember that God is good! Jesus gives us a reason to celebrate every day!

When life is sad...
God is good!

