

# the link

A monthly publication of  
New Hope United Methodist Church

April  
2018

APRIL AT NEW HOPE UMC

## BEING ONE PEOPLE

April 1 Easter Sunday  
"Being One People in Belief"

April 8  
"Being One People in Sharing"

April 15  
"Being One People in Peace"

April 22  
"Being One People in One Flock"

April 29  
"Being One People in Love"



NEW HOPE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sundays at New Hope UMC 8:30am • 9:30am • 10:45am  
[newhopedsm.org](http://newhopedsm.org)

## Join us for Holy Week

**Sun., March 25. Palm Sunday.** Children's Palm parade: 9:30 & 10:45. We will lead the children into service, and then they may sit with families.

**Thurs., March 29.** Come empty and leave full, both in body and spirit.

5:30-6:45pm, **Soup Dinner**, Fellowship Hall.

**Maundy Thursday Drama**, 7:00pm at New Hope UMC. Maundy Thursday Drama will be one of the most impactful events of the year. Expect dramatic scenes, music, communion, and ending with the congregation gathered around the crosses.

Both the Soup Dinner & Maundy Thursday Drama are open to the public. As always, invite a friend to come with you.

**Fri., March 30, Good Friday Prayer Vigil.** 7am-7pm, Ruby Chapel. We will have a 12 hour prayer vigil in the Ruby Chapel or you may pray at home or work. This is a chance for the church to be in prayer on the day we remember the death of Christ, and what His sacrifice means to us. *Sign-up sheets are found in the Fellowship Hall.*

**Sat., March 31,** 4:30 pm, Community Easter Celebration at Crown Point in Johnston hosted by Johnston River of Life. Egg hunt, games, and crafts. This begins the weekend of JROL chartering as a United Methodist Church.



## Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

New Hope UMC

8:30 & 10:45 Traditional Services with our Chancel Choir performing special music

9:30 Contemporary Service featuring our Praise Band

10:45 Easter Celebration for CLT students ages 3 years- 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Activities include a Easter lesson, games and egg hunt.

## Johnston River of Life

10 am Easter service at Beaver Creek Elementary.

A special new church chartering service for Johnston River of Life.

Celebrate with Guest Preacher Bishop Laurie Haller, our District Superintendent Rev. Heecheon Jeon and the congregation for great music, worship, activities, and goodies.



# membership news

## Prayer Chain Request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call Jan Davisson at 251-4894 or the church office at 278-2097.

## Prayer Concern

Army Larsen; John Rains; Vickey Cary; Linn Redding; Bishop Laurie Haller; District Superintendent, Rev. Heecheon Jeon; District Field Outreach Minister, Naomi Sea Young Wittstruck; Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, missionary.

Prayers for the following military personnel: Kelsey Bartley; Dawn Bernal; Jason Homard; Cory Larson; Adam Larson; Joshua Larson; Mike McGhee; Todd McGinnity; Tyler McGinnity; Christopher Moore; Matthew Plourde; Anthony Plourde; Devan Stanton; Jared Stanton; and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

## Baptism

Congratulations to Lincoln Ryan Herrick on his March 18th baptism during the 9:30 service. Lincoln is the son of Ryan & Abbi Herrick and little brother to Lillian.

## Thank You

May this Easter be a special time for all of our New Hope friends and Family. Thank you so much for your caring calls, visits, food, and prayers for Army and our family. Blessings & Love, Army & Shelley Larsen

## Thank You

Junior High Blast and the Service Care Team would like to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the Military Easter Boxes we shipped to our active overseas military. We shipped 6 very stuffed boxes to brighten their Easter and show we care. Thanks again!!!

## Sympathy

Our Sympathy to Mary & Craig Thompson & family on the passing of Mary's mother, Jean Sparks.

Our Sympathy to Patty & Chris Nearmyer & family on the passing of Patty's father, Sidney Cox.

Our Sympathy to Eric Mohlis on the passing of his grandmother, Gloria Mohlis.

Our Sympathy to John Walker and family on the passing of Olive Walker, wife and mother.

Our Sympathy to Kent Abbott and Sandy Cannon & family on the passing of Kent's mother, Rita Abbott.

Our Sympathy to Steve & Cathy Cate and family on the passing of Cathy's step-mother, Caroline Stover Darlington.

Our Sympathy to Karen Skovgard on the passing of her mother-in-law, Patricia Skovgard

Our Sympathy to the friends and family of Harlan Gee.

## Church Communications

Stay connected with New Hope UMC!!

Weekly announcements and the monthly newsletters are sent out to everyone via email.

## CONTACT information



If you have not been receiving these emails, please contact Nancy Monthei in the church

office at 278-2097 or [nhfamily@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org).

ALSO, we appreciate receiving your updated contact information. Thank you!



## Church Directory

Copies of the Church Directory are available in the Fellowship Hall. Before you pick up your copy, please sign your name on the sheet by the directories so we have a

record of who has picked up their copy. *One directory per household, please.*

## Directory UPDATE:

Mary Ann Rice has a new email address: [marice2460@gmail.com](mailto:marice2460@gmail.com)

## Save the Date!

Family Skate Night at Skate North Incrediroll on May 20th. More details to come!





## 2018 RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

Hopefully you have already started planning for the 2018 annual New Hope Rummage Sale:

**April 26, 12pm-6pm**

**April 27, 9am-6pm**

**April 28, 9am-12pm**

**\*\*Sunday, April 22, 1pm-7pm is our donation day.\*\***

As in previous years, if you have very large items that you cannot get to the church, you can sign up to have them picked up on April 22.

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** All donations must be clean and in working order. It is extremely helpful if you can pre-sort them prior to donating, as it saves time for the hard working volunteers!

**POSSIBLE DONATIONS:** Household, Jewelry, Children's, Garden, Clothing, Collectibles, and Holiday

We are **NOT** able to accept the following items:

- Items/materials that are damaged, soiled, stained or if odor or pet hair is present
- Building materials or related items that can be installed into a residence
- Christmas trees and garlands
- Individual golf clubs (will take full golf club sets in a bag)
- Ab loungers, treadmills or other heavy exercise equipment
- Tall entertainment centers designed for TVs that are not flatscreens
- Child car seats or booster seats (used)
- TVs or old computer monitors that are not flatscreen
- Computer or camera printers without software
- VCR tapes
- Used mattresses/box springs (including those in hide-a-beds or sofa sleepers)
- All clothing hangers

**ANTIQUES AT THE RUMMAGE SALE:** The question was recently asked if antiques could be donated to the rummage sale. It has been decided to consider this idea. **If you have interest in donating antiques, please contact either Glenna Ross (515) 321-3010 or Carol Harter (515) 274-1467 by April 14.**

Providing there is enough response, a small antique area will be included in the sale. This area would be clearly defined as an Antique Boutique and be separate from the rummage sale.

**Bake Sale:** Please support the Bake Sale with your homemade jams, pickles, salsa, breads, rolls, candy, cookies, cakes, brownies, pies, snack mixes, etc. Remember to include the name of your baked items, and alert us if nuts or peanut butter are used. Gluten free baked goods are also welcome. We will be glad to package your cookies for you. Baked goods can be delivered to the church from 9:00am-6:00pm: Wed. April 25; Thurs., April 26; & Fri., April 27.

**Volunteers Needed!** The annual Rummage Sale is quickly approaching and we need your hands and your hearts to make this year our most successful year yet!

If you are interested in volunteering please sign up either on the sheets in the main hallway or online:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0849a9ab2ba31-rummage>. We appreciate any amount of time you are able to give!

We will begin setting up directly after the 9:30 service on Sunday, April 22nd. If you are able to stick around and help out at that time it would be greatly appreciated!

If you are interested in jumping in with both feet and have a desire to help oversee an entire area we want to talk to you!

For any volunteer related questions/help getting involved:  
Jackie Johnson- (515)710-3239/jackiejohnson81@aol.com  
Jenn Higdon- (515)441-4725/jenn@higdon-family.net



**NEW this year there will be a \$25 rummage sale shopping spree for one lucky volunteer! Each hour you sign up to work gets you an entry into the drawing! Those who signed up on paper sign up Sunday, March 11th or anyone that signs up ONLINE will earn 2 entries per volunteer hour!**

This event is our biggest fundraiser of the year and an important outreach event for New Hope. Our goal is \$10,000. We almost made it last year! Thank you so much for donating, helping, and supporting this outreach fundraiser.

***Rummage Sale Committee***





## Bishop Laurie Haller to Guest Preach on Sunday, April 15

On Sunday, April 15, 2018 at 2:00 p.m., Bishop Laurie will be present here at New Hope to facilitate conversation around the Commission on a Way Forward. A commission was formed at the 2016 General Conference to help our denomination discern a way to remain united amid our differences around human sexuality.

Here's your chance to learn, discuss, and ask questions about the work of the Commission on the Way Forward with Bishop Laurie. No registration needed.

Also, Bishop Laurie plans to attend the worship services with us that morning. At this time we've been told that she will preach at two of the worship services, but it has not yet been determined which two.

Please join us for this very special Sunday morning and the very important meeting at 2:00 p.m.



## Calling all Girls entering grades 4th through 8th!!

It's that time of year again for our Girls United for Christ Bible study!

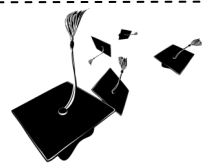
Join us Sunday May 6th-June 17th, 430pm-6p (times can be negotiated) for some Girls only fellowship, crafts, music and Bible lessons with a exciting, spiritual twist!

I am looking for 1 extra adult to provide 2 deep leadership and assist with crafts and activities each Sunday. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall, contact Melanie Henry for questions or to volunteer~ [melhenry0@gmail.com](mailto:melhenry0@gmail.com)

## Graduate Recognition

Graduate Recognition will be on **Sunday, May 20 at New Hope UMC**. We invite all graduates: high school, college, and higher degrees, to send us information to be included in the bulletins to celebrate your accomplishments with you.

Please complete the below information and drop this form off at the church office or mail it to New Hope UMC, 4525 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310. ***Please fill out and send in NO LATER than Sunday, April 29.***



### High School Graduates:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

### College/Graduate School Graduates:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

DEGREE(S): \_\_\_\_\_

FUTURE PLANS: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick one of the following boxes to let us know which service we can hope to expect you at:

8:30 worship [ ]

9:30 worship [ ]

10:45 worship [ ]

Sorry, I won't be present [ ]



## New Hope UMC is offering Diner's Club: Dinner for 6, 7 or 8

We invite single individuals as well as couples to register for this program. It works like this: the first couple/or single named will act as the host for the first session. They will contact the other members of the group and arrange for a convenient time for the entire group to meet at the home of the host or at a restaurant. If at a home, the host will provide the meat; the second couple/or single named will provide salad and bread; the third couple/or single will provide a vegetable; and the fourth couple/or single will provide dessert.

At this first meeting the group will decide when they will meet again and each couple/or single moves up one step. If at home, the ones who brought the salad to the first meeting will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting the first host will bring the dessert. The series of dinners continues until each couple/or single has been the host or picked the restaurant.

There is no agenda and no program. The Diner's Club is for fun, fellowship & food!

Sign up on the table in the Fellowship Hall. The church office will arrange the groups and contact each couple/or single of their group. We hope to have all groups organized so that the first meeting of each group can be in April.

This is a fun way to get better acquainted with other members of the congregation – and also the opportunity to enjoy a great meal.

Sign up Now!



## World Water Day – March 22, 2018

Declared by the United Nations, and recognized every year on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Attention is given to the importance of fresh water and advocates for sustainable management of fresh water sources. Recognizing the use of nature in reducing floods, droughts and water pollution. The Mission focus for April is water. The United Nations theme for 2018 is Nature for

Water.

### Water demands:

- 2.1 million people lack access to safely managed water. The global water demand can be 30% higher by 2030 because the world's population will have grown by 2 billion people.
- Irrigation uses 70% of global water, for agriculture. 20% is used by industry, energy and manufacturing dominating. Domestic use is the remaining 10% with 1% of the 10% used for drinking water.
- 1.9 billion people live in water scarce areas. 3 billion people could live in these areas by 2030. Waste water contaminates water used by 1.8 billion people. 80% of waste water is not treated, as it flows back into various water ways.
- Water challenges for clean will be explored with the use of nature. Quantity and quality of water can be negatively affected because of damage to ecosystems. Nature can be used in cost effective and sustainable ways. Planting trees to replenish forests, connecting rivers to flood plains and restoring wetlands, are examples of how this can be done.
- Nature is a variable in the drought occurring in Cape Town, South Africa. The crisis comes from poor planning, bad crisis management, and 3 years of drought. In the , article from Time Magazine, February 19,2018, Cape Town's water supply will soon run out, due to drought. People are being asked to conserve. When the taps are finally turned off, daily rationing will be 6.6 gallons per day, per person. People will have to line up to collect their allotment.
- Some of the population, in Cape Town, are sharing water-saving tips on line and on the radio: Don't boil food, bake or grill, use paper plates, wrap serving platters in plastic so you can peel off after each meal, order pizza and eat straight from the box, shower over a plastic tub and use the water to wash clothes, keep a bowl in every sink to collect water from handwashing using this water and laundry water to flush toilets.
- The author of this article, Aryn Baker, is living in Cape Town. The author thinks he could survive on the 6.6 gallons of water a day. He has started taking only 2 showers a week and using handiwipes. He is looking at using dry composting toilets and will be adding rain water tanks to his terrace.
- War is a disaster which threatens adequate water supplies. Saudi/US bombing has targeted hospitals, schools, factories, seaports, electrical power stations, and water treatment facilities, in Yemen. Water borne diseases like cholera and diphtheria are likely to spread because of the bombings. This information is from Methodist for Social Action

John 4:10-14 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds. Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."



***Laity Day with Bishop Laurie***  
**Saturday, April 14, 2018**  
**9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**At Aldersgate United Methodist Church**  
**3600 75th Street, Urbandale**

Starting at 9:00, enjoy coffee and treats, fellowship, pick up materials for the day and check the displays. The program begins at 9:45 and includes worship, missional presentations, a networking lunch, and **two presentations with Bishop Laurie, one, an extensive Q & A session!** A communion service will conclude Laity Day.

Bishop Laurie's provocative title is "**Running Away with Jonah**" and will be preceded by scripture presented in a **reader's theater** format.

The two Missional Presentations will be of great interest because of their applicability to work in our local churches and communities. One, ***How Welcoming is Your Church? (How Unintended Bias Can Sabotage Good Intentions)*** will provide helpful insight into how newcomers experience us. The second, ***Child Abuse in Iowa; What We Can Do*** will educate and equip about a problem far greater than usually recognized.

RSVP: Laity Day is free and while advanced registration is not required, it will be extremely helpful for planning. Register today at: <https://iaumc-reg.brtapp.com/2018LaityDaywithBishopLaurieRegistration>

Questions may be directed to Barb Mann at the Conference Center (515-974-8905) or Margaret Borgen, Lay Leader, at 515-490-9328.



Thank you to those that participated in the Habitat for Humanity day on March 17th! The group did organizing and cleaning, hung doors, and installed trim. Great work everyone!!!

Volunteers pictured are: Sarah Boss, Pam Frey, Nan Stubbs, Gary Stubbs, Denise Hartford, Ray the supervisor, John Hartford, Dave Beason, Bill Gibbons, Clark Howland

The next Mission Trip for Adults is to Oklahoma, June 10-15, 2018. Please contact Denise Hartford, [denisehartford@gmail.com](mailto:denisehartford@gmail.com), or 515-890-1406 for information on how to sign up.

## Blood Pressure Check

Next BP checks will be April 15  
9:30a-11a in the Narthex.

## Men's Breakfast

Saturday, April 14  
at 7:30 a.m. at New Hope.

## Women's Fellowship

Thursday, April 19, 9am.  
Questions? Contact Susan Clark at  
964-5119 or  
Sharon Smith at 419-7082

## Veterans Helping Veterans

The next Veterans Helping  
Veterans will be Saturday,  
May 12, 8:30am in the  
Fellowship Hall. Questions, please  
contact Billy Nuzum at  
bbnewz54@[gmail.com](mailto:gmail.com)

WELL DONE,  
—GOOD—  
AND  
faithful  
SERVANT.

**Bidwell-Riverside Center:** We have new arrangements worked out for those of us who want to volunteer each month at Bidwell Riverside. We will work the **2nd Thursday of each month from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Those who want to carpool should meet at the church at 12:30. Both women and men are invited (and urged) to come, as we will be the only group there. They need 2-3 to guide persons through the food pantry "grocery store" and help them make selections, 2-4 to sort donations, 4-6 to stock on Thursday afternoons (because a truck comes in that day), and someone to run the clothing counter. If a larger group comes, 8-10 can be kept busy unpacking in the Bed Bath and Beyond building.

Bidwell is a United Methodist Mission project which has been serving people in the Des Moines area since 1893. It is the largest DMARC food pantry in Des Moines and distributed more than 540,000 food items to families in need last year, as well as having a community garden. More than 6,000 clothing items are dispersed to families each month. Their child development center provides a quality education for 48 children, and family services include assistance with short-term emergencies and guidance to self-sufficiency. Clients are treated with respect and Christian compassion.

Please notify Lynn Louk if you are planning to go. Contact her at 276-7900, [jimlynnlouk@mac.com](mailto:jimlynnlouk@mac.com)

## Care Ministry Team

The Care Ministry meets quarterly.  
Next meeting is on Thurs., April 12  
at 10am in the F.Hall.

This team ministers to congregation members who have had new babies, have been in the hospital, have been ill or are dealing with grief. This team meets on a quarterly basis. If you would like to join the Care Ministry team, please contact Clarice Rubek or Mary Ann Rice.

## New Hope Needlers

*Do You  
Know What  
Is In This  
Picture?*



If you know this is a sewing machine you may be able to help the Needlers every 3rd Friday of the month. We meet at 9 a.m. at New Hope, break for lunch at Panera and then come back to finish up our projects for missions. The fabric is beautiful and fun to work with. We need non-sewers too. It is a good time of fellowship and you feel good helping others. Please join us! Next get together is Fri., April 20. Questions? Contact Jody Rains, 278-8282.

## Friday Bible Study

The Friday Bible Study at the Pizza Ranch at 1pm. (4954 86th St, Urbandale.) The Pizza Ranch has a buffet and as you arrive, pay for your buffet, load up your plate and join us in our reserved room.  
Study leader: Jim Louk

Join us in **April** for our study:

**April 6:** "Left Behind"

Text: Luke 19:1-10

We all need a second chance. What do you want most to put behind you this Lenten season? Christ is the One who can empower you to do just that!

**April 20:** "The Miracle of Love"

Text - Mark 10:46-52

Theme Hymn - "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" - 384

Jesus asks "What do you want me to do for you?" What does this scripture reading teach us about love?

We will examine this story realizing that Bartimaeus regained his sight, followed Jesus on the way and began to build bridges of love. Bartimaeus heard Him gladly.

**Please note: We will change the Bible Study in April to the 1st & 3rd Friday (April 6 & April 20).**

## Adult Discussion Group

Join us at New Hope on Sundays at 9:30am in the Ruby Chapel. Group discussions are based from "The Wired Word" that weaves current events into the Bible study.

## Support Groups

### Al-Anon

Every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Ruby Chapel.

### Alcoholics Anonymous

Every Tuesday at Noon in the Ruby Chapel.

### Stroke Club of Iowa

3rd Tuesday of the month  
(February - October) at 7 p.m.



# Children's Ministries

## Children's Ministries Mission

**Statement:** A church family working together to teach children to know, grow, and show the love of Jesus Christ.

**Christian Learning Time (CLT)** 10:45-11:45 on Sunday mornings.



### Easter Party!

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:45-11:45am

All CLT students ages 3 years- 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invite to our CLT Easter Party! We will have 30-40 minutes of regular CLT class time for games, and an Easter lesson, followed by the annual egg hunt. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to celebrate the joy of Easter with your church family!

**Children's Worship** will not be offered on Easter Sunday, April 1st. Families are encouraged to worship together. The last Children's Worship will be on May 20, 2018.

## This month at TGIW

<http://www.newhopedsm.org/pdf/TGIW-Schedule.pdf>

**Join us for Thank God It's Wednesday "TGIW"! All kids 3 yr. old—5<sup>th</sup> grade.**

**Puppets:** 5:15-6:00pm. Questions??? Contact Melanie Henry, melhenry0@gmail.com, or Linda Dean, deanlinda2@aol.com

**Dinner:** 5:45-6:15pm

**Kids Activities:** 6:15-7:00pm



The **LAST** Wednesday Night for TGIW will be April 18<sup>th</sup>.



### COME ONE COME ALL FOR A FAMILY NIGHT

Join us on **April 18<sup>th</sup>** for a Superhero Talent Show.

Come show us all the talent that New Hope has in the congregation.

We have a DJ heading up the night.

Come and Join the fun!



## VBS 2018 July 15<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>

If you have not signed up to be a lead person please sign up to be a Shepard, help at the registration table, help to distribute T-shirts, outh helper in an area (6<sup>th</sup> grade and above), decoration helper, help with food donations.

We need everyone to help make this Hero Central amazing for these kids; they enjoy learning from everyone and they enjoy showing you all what they are learning about God.

So take a SUPER HERO LEAP and help with VBS!



# BLAST—Believing, Learning, Assisting, Serving, Teens

April 2018

**Jr. BLAST (6th-8th grade)** Leaders: Jackie Johnson & Tami Wise:  
Email: JrBLAST@NewHopeDSM.org

Thank you to all of our Jr. High Youth for making this a great year of BLAST! We have enjoyed getting to know all of the kids and we are looking forward to the fun to come in our last few weeks together! Stay tuned for a couple of summer optional activities we are working on!

## Here's what is coming up in April:

April 4th - Bible Pictionary

April 11th - Roller Skating at Skate North - We will need one additional driver. Please let us know if you can help

April 18th - End of the year Talent show and live performance by a local Christian Artist.

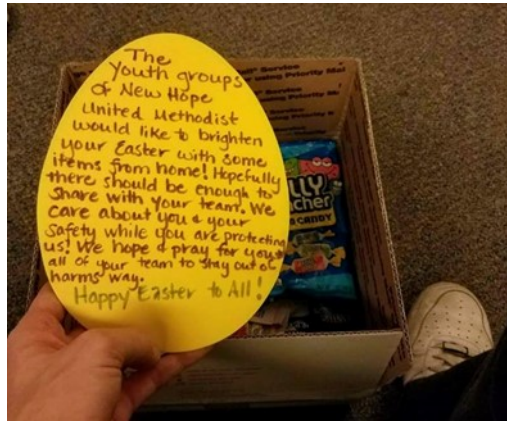
April 20th - Lock-in 7 pm to 7 am Church policy will require one adult male present at the lock-in. Dads, please consider donating your time to make the lock-in possible. Jackie and Tami would also appreciate if parents could help for even a couple of hours that could work into your schedule. Without any additional volunteers, the lock-in will not be possible. Please let us know if you can help out at the last scheduled event of the school year.

**Sr. BLAST (8th-12th grade)** Leaders: Chris Higdon, McKayla Johnson, and Pam Frey –  
BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org

Can you believe that we are less than 3 months from our annual Summer Mission trip?! We are excited to announce that we are roughly 75% funded for our upcoming Summer Mission Trip to Houston, Texas. We have \$4,500 of the needed \$6,000 to take **TEN** of our Senior High BLAST members and **FOUR** adult leaders for a week long mission trip to work on Hurricane Harvey repairs. In order to complete our fundraising goal, the Senior High BLAST group has a couple of opportunities to raise more of the funds in April.

To start with, the BLAST group has several upcoming breakfasts. The next breakfast will be on April 15<sup>th</sup>; a tax day breakfast. We will be serving custom made omelets with hash browns. Beyond the fundraising efforts, the Senior High BLAST group will be volunteering to work at the New Hope Rummage Sale on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, the group will be spending the remainder of April diving into the Easter Story and the events leading up to Jesus' Crucifixion.

Finally in March, both Junior and Senior Youth Groups took part in packaging Easter gifts for our deployed service personnel. Thank you to our congregation for donating the items that were included in the packages.



Here are the some upcoming Youth events for the remainder of the year: More information about the events will be sent out in email and posted on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/SeniorHighBlast>).

Mar 28th @ 6pm ~ TGBD

April 4th @ 6pm ~ TGBD

April 7th ~ Yard Work Service Project

April 11th @ 6pm ~ TGBD

April 15th @ 8am ~ BLAST Breakfast

April 18th @ 6pm ~ ChildServe

April 25th @ 6pm ~ TGBD

April 28th @ 6pm ~ New Hope Rummage Sale

May 2nd @ 6pm ~ TGBD

May 6th @ 8am ~ BLAST Breakfast

May 9th @ 6pm ~ TGBD

May 16th @ 6pm ~ ChildServe

May 23rd @ 6pm ~ End of the Year Party

June 3rd @ 9am ~ Sloppy Joe Lunch

June 9th ~ Depart for Houston



# missions

## APRIL MISSION NEWS

**UNITED MISSION TO NEPAL INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT** is our mission project for April. Missionary Kathryn Parker, spoke to us over a year ago about her work in Nepal. This project is for setting up much needed new classrooms —carpet, tables, book shelves, story books, educational toys and materials, a water filter, and bright paint. **It costs about \$300 to do this and the mission Team has committed to supporting one classroom. \*\*\* We are challenging the congregation to match our contribution.**

**MUTAMBARE WOMEN'S PRE-NATAL SHELTER AND CLINIC:** Thank you for giving again via our "Noisy Can" collection to our Missionary, Emmanuel Mefor's clinic and shelter for expectant moms. Emmanuel and Florence's work is invaluable in reducing the infant mortality rate in their district in Zimbabwe.

**SAVE THE DATE:** August 12th will be our 8<sup>th</sup> annual on-site Meals from the Heartland packaging event at New Hope. We will soon begin our annual fundraising for the cost of the food materials and transportation. Sign-ups will begin in June.

**STAY TUNED FOR AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY TO BE INVOLVED IN UGANDA WITH HEIFER INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATING IN A CHICKEN PROJECT.** The Mission Team has been working with Heifer International to help in a project of gifting chickens and selling eggs to support a community and remodel a church building. One of our members, Patrick Kyenkya, who attends the 10:45 service with his wife, Banny, has been a contributor and mentor to members of his village and church, and thought chickens would be a daily source of money for them for their projects, and also help them to become independent. We have raised an Ark before, which is \$5,000, but this time we would like to solely support buying chickens. The money we raise will also support Heifer's personnel in educating and supporting the village as time goes on.

**UMAFASHA** has a new name and purpose! This immigrant group from several central African countries has been empowered to become a tax exempt service organization for Iowan immigrants and refugees from Africa. It is renamed **African Immigrants and Refugees Transition Services (AIRTS)**. The services they plan on providing include: tutoring, multilingual advocacy, interpretation and translation services, ESL classes, driving lessons, assistance with immigration paper work, assistance with government benefit applications, and housing and employment assistance. Their mission is: "Helping African Immigrants and Refugee families acquire skills they need to function effectively as workers, students and community members".

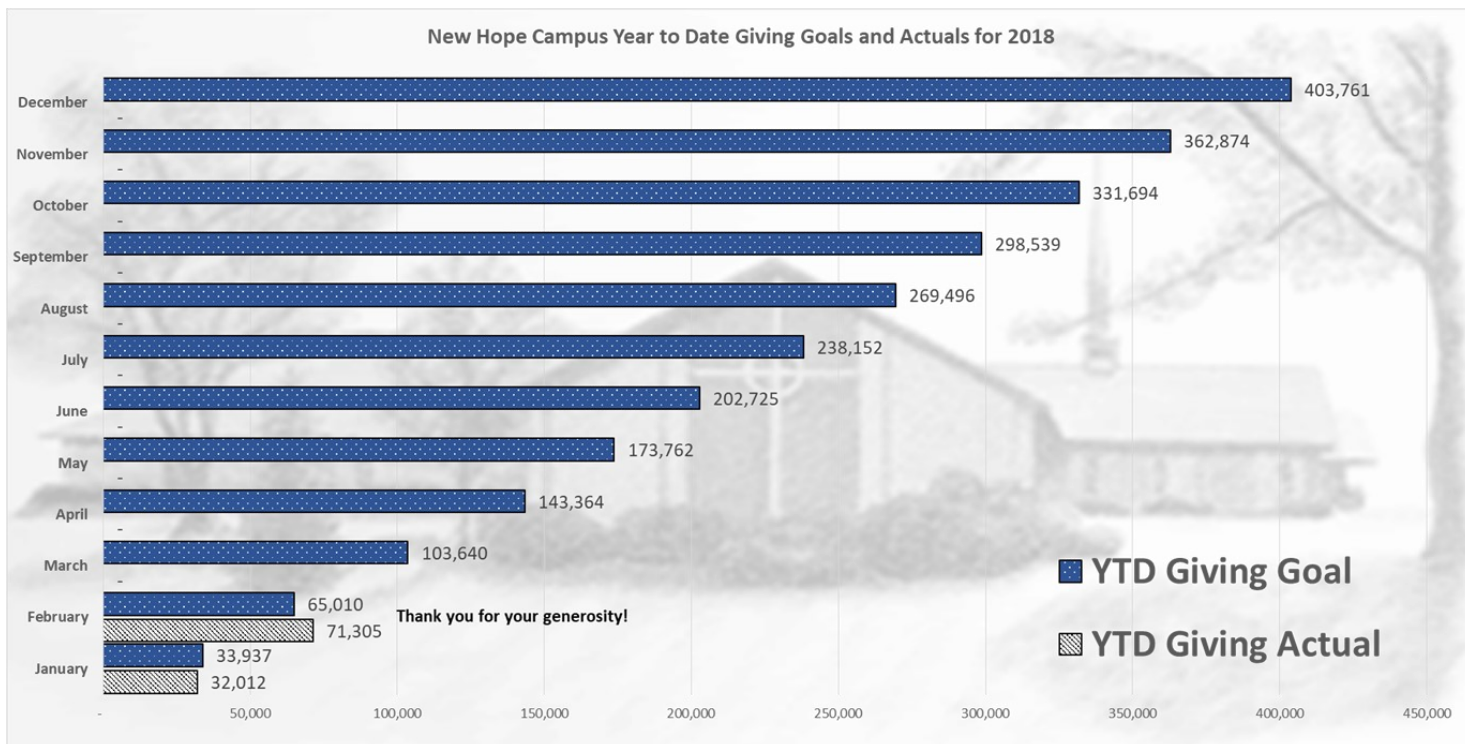
Congratulations to this new launch! One of the officers is our own Banny Umuhoza. New Hope has members on their board and will help mentor and provide assistance in this wonderful new adventure. One of the first things on the agenda is to buy a bus or van for transportation. Fundraising will soon begin to fund this endeavor.

**CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS:** The camp booklets are out! Send your kids to camp for a wonderful, fun filled, and spiritual experience. Missions will continue to support ½ of the cost and if the cost is still too great, the UMC Conference also gives scholarships to help. Select the camp, call the camp Registrar and tell them about New Hope paying ½ the amount. Then call Nancy at church to report: the student, the camp, the date, and the amount. If you need help in securing a Conference scholarship, please contact Sharon Smith: 515-419-7082, wicketsblooms@aol.com.

**FRIDAY BACKPACK BUDDIES:** Missions has committed to buying and assembling food sacks through the school year for hungry children that often don't get fed over the weekend. We are partnering with Zion Lutheran Church, who will deliver the food to 40 students at Samuelson Elementary School, near New Hope. If you feel called to help with this project, let Sharon Smith or Susan Clark know. If you want to donate to help defray the costs, make out your check to New Hope with Backpack Buddies on the memo line. Thank you.

### **HAND OF LUKE—ministry of a meal for Central Iowa Shelter and Services**

If you would like to contribute to our ministry of a meal for Saturday, April 14, please sign up on the Hand of Luke sheet in the Fellowship Hall, to donate food, cook, and/or serve.



New Hope Sunday morning Worship attendance				
	8:30	9:30	10:45	Total
February 25	24	85	67	176
March 4	31	102	93	226
March 11	28	58	56	142
March 18	25	80	70	175



## Easter Joy

Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love. Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls. God loves a cheerful giver. One gives most who gives with joy. The best way to show our gratitude to God and people is to accept everything with joy.

A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love. Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of the Christ risen.

—Mother Teresa

Donate

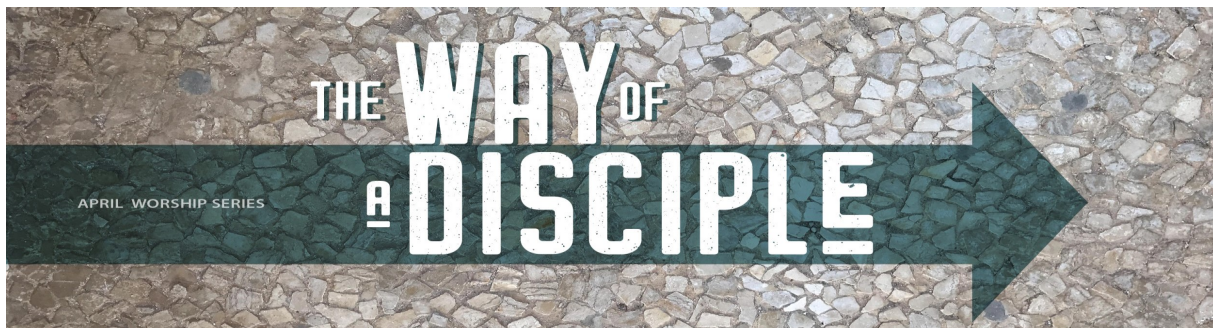
## Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

New Hope wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your offering.

To setup online Giving go to [www.newhopedsm.org](http://www.newhopedsm.org) OR [www.johnstonriveroflife.org](http://www.johnstonriveroflife.org) and click on the donate button. This will direct you securely to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. Changes can be made confidentially at any time. Or if you like, paper authorization forms are located on the table in fellowship hall. Please contact the church office for additional information.

If you decide to give electronically, please feel free to pick up a card that says “**I give electronically**” to put in the offering plate if you would like to participate in the offertory.





One of the things that I have learned in my years of life and ministry is that there is always forward, a way backward, many possible detours, and then there is the way of a Disciple.

How many times have we all heard, “When the world closes a door, God opens a window”? To some degree I believe this is true. What we are basically saying is that the direction we thought life would take us is no longer possible and we need to change our course. Now I am not saying that I believe in fate, or predestination, but I do believe that the courses we plot for ourselves are not always the course that God desires for us. Sadly we often fight to stay on our own course, or we beat on the door that is closed until our knuckles are bloody and our fiber of our being broken in despair, all the time there was another path just waiting.

In life we make choices that move us forward toward goals and dreams, we pour time and effort into becoming who we aspire to or attaining new titles at work and new toys at home. We experience push back and long detours when things don't go as planned. And we experience stress, anxiety, depression the more we feel our world closing around us.

But I believe there is another way... The Way of a Disciple!

The way of a disciple is not the stubborn way forward, it never requires beating against doors of lost dreams. It doesn't require retreat or back-treading. It doesn't even have detours, although we don't always understand why we had experience something. No, in fact it is EVEN MORE difficult. The Way of a Disciple often means finding doors that seem invisible, turning away from doors that are open, ignoring the voice of friends around us pointing where we should go, and recognizing an almost impossible road as the direction of Gods will. (Think Via Dola Rosa) The Way of a Disciple is never popular, it is never easy, for all of the disciples in meant turning away from family, job, and friends. It meant sacrifice, and even martyrdom. Jesus tells us if we want to follow Him, that we need to take up our Cross and follow Him. But no matter how difficult the path, the rewards are well worth it.

In April we invite you to join us for a journey along The Way of a Disciple. We will each take a personal look at where we are in our journey, areas we need to work on, ways that we can take a step closer to God, see doors that we never knew existed and be encouraged. Come and join us each week as we **Begin the Journey, Belong to a Community, Become a Disciple, and Bless Others along the Way.**

In Grace,

Thank you New Hope!!!

I would like to say a personal thank you to everyone at New Hope UMC for their support and prayers over the years. My family has truly been blessed to be so closely connected to and in ministry with all of the families and leadership at New Hope. Johnston River of Life has become an exciting community ministry focused on missions, and service, “Being Christ in Community.” We are an extension of every person and all the prayers that have been lifted up from New Hope. Many of you have poured a lot of your heart, energy, and life into this new community and it is because of you that we have become what we are. One of the dreams so long ago was that this would become a new community of faith and that dream has now become reality, Praise the Lord.

Finally, I want to express that a part of our long term goal and commitment is to be in ministry with and along side of New Hope through missions and community engagement well into the future. Just because we are now chartered does not mean we are divorced, it means that we have a new relationship of friendship and support, brothers and sisters in ministry together.

Thank you again, and keep us in your prayers. We will continue to pray for New Hope and our ongoing ability to stand beside each other in, Serving God, Loving Others, and Following Jesus.

In Christ,



# serve

Sign up to help!  
Look for the sign-up  
sheets at the entrance  
of the Narthex and the  
Family Life Center.

## Sunday Volunteers

**Greeters** arrive at worship service fifteen minutes early to welcome worshipers.

**Lectors** read the scripture lessons for the day at the worship services.

**Hosts** bake or purchase 6 to 8 dozen cookies (no peanuts/nuts), and serve coffee and water after the 9:30 contemporary and 10:45 traditional worship services. After fellowship time the hosts wash, dry, and put away the cookie platters, rinse out and dry the coffee canisters, and take the trash out to the trash bin. When you sign up to host, a letter from New Hope will be mailed to you before you host with instructions on how to host.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions, please call Nancy Monthei, Office Admin at 278-2097.

## Those who serve New Hope in April

8:30am Traditional Service	9:30am Contemporary Service	10:45am Traditional Service
<b><u>Greeters</u></b>	<b><u>Greeters</u></b>	<b><u>Greeters</u></b>
1	1 Patty Wadsworth	1
8	8 Lee Ross	8
15	15 Becky Baker	15
22	22 Jaela Wills	22
29	29 Arlene Dabill & Bruce Bernard	29
<b><u>Lectors</u></b>	<b><u>Lectors</u></b>	<b><u>Lectors</u></b>
1	1 Pam Frey	1 Jon Verner
8	8 Kris Wakeman	8 Clarice Rubek
15	15	15 Cathy Cate
22	22	22
29	29	29
<b><u>Traditional Service Callers</u></b>	<b><u>Hosts</u></b>	<b><u>Hosts</u></b>
1 Norma Sutton	1	1
8 Bob & Marlys Borcharding	8 Denise Hartford	8 Denise Harford
15 Norma Sutton	15 BLAST	15 BLAST
22 Bob & Marlys Borcharding	22 Nan & Gary Stubbs	22
29 Norma Sutton	29 Nancy Monthei	29 Soards family
<b><u>Office Volunteers</u></b>	<b><u>9:30 Computer Support</u></b>	<b><u>Money Counters</u></b>
6 Pat Papenheim	1 Sherri Bogue	1 Tracy Hoffman, Joe Hoffman, Glenna Ross
13 Marilyn Monroe	8 Nancy Monthei	8 Clark Howland; Rick Homard, Larry Wood
20 Shirley Johnson	15 Pam Frey	15 Randy Jansen, Patty Nearmyer, DeVonne Douglas
27 Marlys Borcharding	22 Gary Stubbs	22 John Burrough, Tami Wise, Jerry Kielsmeier
	29 Rick Homard	29 Tracy Hoffman, Joe Hoffman, Glenna Ross
	<b><u>9:15 Welcome Center</u></b>	
	1	
	8 Jerry & Linda Kielsmeier	
	15 Bob & Carol Harter	
	22 Pat Papenheim	
	29 Jim & Lynn Louk	



## Easter possibilities


The message of Easter is not only that Christ is risen, not only that suffering is not the last word, not only that God gives new life, but this: Nothing is impossible with God.

—The Rev. James Martin, S.J.

# April 2018

## WORSHIP SERVICES

New Hope UMC, Sunday mornings: 8:30, 9:30, 10:45  
**Johnston River of Life**  
 5pm Saturdays and 10am Sundays at Beaver Creek  
 Elementary in Johnston

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Easter Sunday Holy Communion 10:45a, CLT Easter party 	2  7p, Trustees Mtg., R.Chapel	3 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	4 5:15-6p, Puppets (3 <sup>rd</sup> & up) 5:45-6:15p, Dinner for all 6:15-7p, TGIW 6p-7p, Sr. BLAST 6:15-7p, Jr. BLAST 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	5  7:00p, Worship Design Mtg, Pastor's office  7:00p, JROL Mtg., R.Chapel	6 Office Vol: Pat Papenheim  1p, Friday Bible Study, Pizza Ranch	7
8	9  6:15p, Girl Scouts, F.Hall	10 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA  6:30p, Finance Mtg., R.Chapel	11 5:15-6p, Puppets (3 <sup>rd</sup> & up) 5:45-6:15p, Dinner for all 6:15-7p, TGIW 6p-7p, Sr. BLAST 6:15-7p, Jr. BLAST 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	12  10a, Care Team Mtg, F.Hall  1-4p Bidwell Riverside volunteer work	13 Office Vol: Marilyn Monroe  9a-3p, Needlers 1p, Friday Bible Study, Pizza Ranch 7p-7a, Jr. BLAST lock in	14 7:30a, Men's Breakfast  10a-3p, R.Chapel reserved  3:30p, Hand of Luke
15 Guest Preacher: Bishop Laurie Haller Sr. BLAST breakfast fund- raiser Food Pantry Sunday Blood Pressure Sunday 2p, "Commission on a Way Forward"	16	17 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA  7:00p, Stroke Club, F.Hall	18 8a-4p, FLC, F.Hall reserved  5:15-6p, Puppets (3 <sup>rd</sup> & up) 5:45-6:15p, Dinner for all 6:15-7p, TGIW 6p-7p, Sr. BLAST 6:15-7p, Jr. BLAST 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	19  9a, Women's Fellowship, F.Hall, R.Chapel	20 Office Vol: Shirley Johnson <b>Deadline for May LINK</b> 9a-3p, Needlers 1p, Friday Bible Study, Pizza Ranch 7p-7a, Jr. BLAST lock in	21
22 *Native American Ministries (offering)  1p-7p, Rummage Sale items to be dropped off	23 Set up Rummage Sale  6:15p, Girl Scouts, downstairs	24 Set up Rummage Sale  9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	25 Set up Rummage Sale  6:00p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	26 Noon-6p, Rummage & Bake Sale  6:30p, Administrative Council Mtg.	27 Office Vol: Marlys Borcharding  9am-6pm, Rummage & Bake Sale	28 9am-Noon, Rummage & Bake Sale
29 Graduation Info due	30	May 1 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	May 2  6:00p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	May 3 8a-4p, FLC & FHall reserved	May 4 Office Vol: Sue Blank  1p, Friday Bible Study, Pizza Ranch	May 5



*"May God's many blessings, be yours the year through."*

**\*Native American Ministries, April 22:** Your generous gift supports Native American ministries within the annual conference. When you give you educate Native American seminarians and empower outreach into the Native American culture.

- 1 Brian Martz, Tavian Carnahan
- 2 Kirk Dickey, Kelly Reiersen,  
Bob Harter, Jane Perdue, Vickey Cary
- 3 Patrice Webber
- 4 Shirley Frus
- 5 Greg Baker
- 7 Pat Papenheim, Lorelai Roff,  
Bob Soards
- 8 Kate Lichter, Marik McGhee
- 9 Bhanu Moses
- 10 Rachel Jackson
- 11 Arnold Larsen, Elaine Collet
- 12 Tanner Rowland, Max Wearmouth,  
Reggie Wearmouth, Lynn Louk
- 13 Paul Herring, Carl Wallin
- 15 Tom Beasley

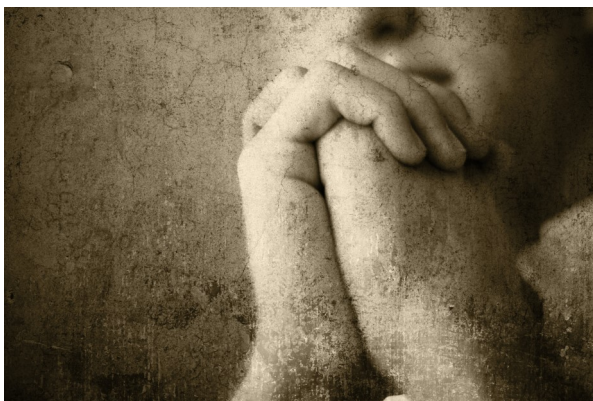
- 17 Donna Greenwood, Bob Rankin,  
Susan Smith, Peyton Henry, Jessica  
Spring
- 19 Nicole Gardner, Nathan Ferguson
- 20 Chase Alcorn, Nan Stubbs
- 21 JoAnn Decker
- 22 Amarachi Ukabiala, Ashlynn Riley
- 23 Kathy Crees, Wade Breitsprecher, Jodi  
Beaderstadt
- 24 Caleb Christensen
- 25 Bob Borcharding, Julie McClain
- 26 Adam Gregg, Eli Zimmerman
- 27 Madison McGhee
- 28 Ellie Roquet, Meghan Kinnetz,  
Madeline Johnston
- 29 Joelyn Gerovac
- 30 Mason Redies



- 5: Eddy & Karen Johnston
- 13: Tony & Tracy Hoffman
- 27: Jim & Norma Smith
- 30: Dan & Mona Kirkpatrick

*If you see that your name is not listed,  
 please call the church office at 278-2097,  
 or email at [nhfamily@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org), so  
 we can update our files.*





A number of years ago I was visiting an elderly gentleman in the hospital who was in a very weak condition and usually could not respond to my attempts at conversation. However, this day he woke up while I was leaving a note for him and when I greeted him he responded very well. He answered my questions about his condition and how he was feeling and thanked me for visiting with him. I then asked if I could offer a prayer for him and he said, "Yes."

I prayed a wonderful prayer, saying many nice and comforting things, while also keeping it fairly brief (does that sound believable?). However, when I finished the prayer and looked

at the man to say goodbye, I found that he had fallen back into a sound sleep that even my farewell words did not disturb.

I felt a little foolish realizing how I had stood there offering my wonderful prayer while the subject of it all had simply fallen asleep. But then, I decided my prayer had served its purpose, for what better way to bring peace and comfort to someone that helping them get some rest.

I have realized it is not what we say, but simply being there that is important when people are hurting. The greatest difficulty is not in knowing what to say to those in need, but in keeping quiet and offering them your presence.

When Job, in the Old Testament, suffered so greatly after losing all he had, three friends came to comfort him. They sat with him for seven days and seven nights without saying a word, "for they saw that his suffering was very great" (Job 2:13).

If you are in need or know of others in need, please let me know. If there are those who would like to receive communion in their homes, please let me know as well. Also, remember to offer others the gift of your presence.

Now, if you're having trouble sleeping, let me know and I'll say a prayer for you. It works better than a sleeping pill.

Grace and peace,

## **April Theme-- "Being One People"**

April 1	<u>Title:</u> "Being One People in Belief"	<u>Script.:</u> Acts 10:34-43
April 8	<u>Title:</u> "Being One People in Sharing"	<u>Script.:</u> Acts 4:32-35
April 15	<u>Title:</u> "Being One People in Peace"	<u>Script.:</u> Luke 24:36b-48
April 22	<u>Title:</u> "Being One People in One Flock"	<u>Script.:</u> John 10:11-18
April 29	<u>Title:</u> "Being One People in Love"	<u>Script.:</u> 1 John 4:7-12



#### Sunday Worship Services at New Hope

8:30am Traditional Service  
9:30am Contemporary Service  
10:45am Traditional Service

#### Johnston River of Life Casual Worship Services

Currently meeting at Beaver Creek Elementary,  
8701 Lyndhurst Drive, Johnston

Saturdays at 5:00 pm  
Sundays at 10am

Serve God | Love Others | Follow Jesus

[www.newhopedsm.org](http://www.newhopedsm.org) • [www.johnstonriveroflife.org](http://www.johnstonriveroflife.org)

#### Church Staff

Pastor: Jon Gaul  
Outreach Pastor: Craig Ferguson  
Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei  
Director of Music: Eric Mohlis  
Children's Ministries Coordinator: Charity Johnson  
Nursery Attendants: Anita Gaul & Jackie Johnson  
Custodian: Chuck VanDyke

#### Church Office Hours

Mon.-Fri: 8:45am-4:45pm

#### E-mail Information

Church address: [nhfamily@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org)  
Pastor Jon Gaul: [jgaul@newhopedsm.org](mailto:jgaul@newhopedsm.org)  
Pastor Craig Ferguson: [craig@newhopedsm.org](mailto:craig@newhopedsm.org)  
Nancy Monthei: [nancy@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nancy@newhopedsm.org)  
Charity Johnson: [cjohnson@newhopedsm.org](mailto:cjohnson@newhopedsm.org)  
Eric Mohlis: [emohlis@newhopedsm.org](mailto:emohlis@newhopedsm.org)

#### Find Us

Phone: (515) 278-2097  
4525 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310

#### Find us on facebook!

Visit the website to find our facebook link.

The LINKnewsletter is a monthly publication.

Editor: Nancy Monthei; Reporters: New Hope Church family. Please contact the church office at 278-2097 if you have a change in address or would like to be taken off the LINK mailing list.

the link  
New Hope United Methodist Church  
4525 Beaver Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50310