

the link

A monthly publication of
New Hope United Methodist Church

December 2023



DECEMBER
AT NEW HOPE UMC

NEW HOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8:30 am • 9:30 am • 10:45 am
newhopedsm.org

Preparing For
The
Lord's
Return

DECEMBER 3
What are we preparing for?

DECEMBER 10
Comforted and strengthened while waiting?

DECEMBER 17
Our path from grief to hope?

DECEMBER 24 10AM (One Service)
Unexpected Calls for Service While We Wait

Christmas Eve Services
5:30pm, 7:30pm

Hoping You Have Something New...?

DECEMBER 31 10AM (One Service)
Growing-up and becoming strong?

Join Us For The Following Celebrations!

Advent Sundays ~ All through the month we will be having congregational hymn singing with a "Triad" teaching and preaching. The Triad will be Pastor Lilian, Pastor Wayne Clark and Dr. Wendy Zadeh.

Cookie Walk

On Sunday, December 17th, 9am-10:45am, everyone is welcome to participate in the Christmas Cookie Walk! Walk around the table to choose cookies, placing them in a provided Styrofoam box and purchase \$10.00 per box. Enjoy! It's that easy for some Christmas cheer for you or to give as a gift! All proceeds will go toward our Children's programs!

Christmas Music and Children's Program

Sunday, December 17th ~ The Advent Wreath Theme of Everlasting Joy will be manifested by the offerings of The Chancel Choir and featured musicians at both the 8:30 & 10:45 services. The Children's Ministry will be featured at the 9:30 service with Praise Band and other musicians.

Healing Services

Thursday, December 21th. Two services at 3pm and 6pm in the Sanctuary.

Come and join the Pastor in offering a service of healing. Come and give to God your heartaches and physical ailments.

Christmas Eve Morning

Sunday, December 24th, 10am ~ One Worship Service in the Family Life Center. The Theme is "Unexpected Calls for Service While We Wait".

Candlelight Christmas Eve Services ~ Sunday, December 24th

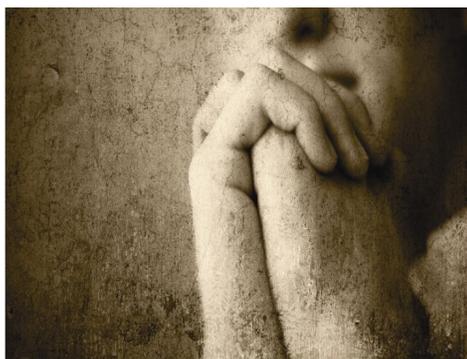
Remembering God's greatest surprise gift to the world, the birth of our Messiah. Hoping that you and I will have something new to say about this gift and or something new God is giving to us in our lives.

5:30 p.m. – Family oriented Christmas Eve service, in the Family Life Center, will have fun elements for children and families.

7:30 p.m. – Our Christmas Eve service will feature our musicians and Holy Communion in the Sanctuary.

New Year's Eve Morning

Sunday, December 31st, 10am ~ One Worship Service in the Sanctuary. This is a great day to renew our covenant with Christ.



Wishing you the
Spirit of Christmas which is

Peace

The *Blessing of Christmas* which is

Hope

From the *Heart of Christmas* which is

Christ



Prayer Chain Request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call Mary Ann Rice at 515-664-0222 email at marice2460@gmail.com or the church office at 278-2097.

Our Prayers for ~

(Please call the church office if you or your loved one want to be taken off the list.)

Healing from Cancer:

Evette Burton, David Ruleman, Skylar Freeman, Mary Textor, Johan Gallo, Julie Mericle, Jessica Smith, Marco Pranivong, Kayla Chapman, Lisa Bissett, Deb Henry, Terry Larson, Johnny Johnson, Ralph Saunders

Healing from Physical Issues:

Larry Webber, Carl Egger, Chris Bammerlin, Larry Forbes, Mary Ann Rice, FloAnn Wills, Carol Weigel, Freda Ruleman, Dick Cobb, Jim Mather, Kenny McCulley, Bill Johnson, Diana Bibler, Alexandria Cooley, Theresa Faber, Patricia Smith, Bob Rains, Mike Aasheim-Osborne, Janet Fairchild

Those Who Are in Rehabilitation and Nursing Care: Gayle Easton, Vicki Ealy, Bob Krause

Military: Devan Stanton, Hunter Schmidt, Joshua Ruleman, Rece Haugland, Jacob Gerlach, Brycen Gerlach, Michael Craighton, Clayton Hults, Zach McClain

Please Welcome Our New Member to our Church Family!

Shirlee Herrold, 515-288-8260.

Her daughter, Janet Herrold, is her shepherd.

Shirlee transferred to New Hope UMC from Epworth UMC.

She attends the 10:45 service. Shirlee enjoys finance and helping with kids activities. Welcome, Shirlee!



Sympathy

Our Sympathy to Arianna Bernal and family on the passing of her cousin, Daytin Bernal.

Our Sympathy to Vicki Hover and family on the passing of her sister, Maisy Grace Lynne Hover.

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who has been praying for me since my accident and for those who have sent cards, those who brought food and the Care Team quilters for the beautiful lap quilt . I am now home and continuing my healing. I feel so blessed to be a part of the New Hope Family.

Mary Ann Rice



Winter has begun!

If you come to church and the south part of the parking lot has ice or packed snow, **PLEASE DO NOT** park where it is slippery to walk on.

Park in an area of the parking lot that is safer to walk, if you have a choice.

Usually the east and northeast part of our parking lot has more area of bare concrete than the south part does.

And, use the East Entrance for drop off and pick up.

Thank you for your cooperation and safety!

Dr. Wendy Zadeh Joins The Staff Of New Hope United Methodist Church

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Wendy Zadeh who will be officially joining our part time staff (ten hours per week) as an Associate Student Minister on January 1, 2024. Her current credential right now with the Riverview District is Certified Lay Servant assigned.

This is one of those rare situations where Preshia Paulding, Music Director, was recruiting for a drummer and struck gold! Dr. Wendy agreed to play the drums as long as the Church would allow her to explore her interest in the credentialed ministry!

Dr. Wendy is currently employed by Broadlawns Medical Center and Unity Point as a Neurologist. Some time ago she experienced God's call to become a Pastor. As she learned more about United Methodism and after prayerful consideration and consultation with her family and others, she decided to pursue becoming an Ordained United Methodist Minister. She will be completing her seminary education with Sioux Falls Theological Seminary and Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary. She will maintain her relationship with Unity Point and Broadlawns at a reduced caseload for the foreseeable future.

Dr. Wendy will provide general assistance to Pastor Lilian, including preaching one day per month, become involved in new initiatives such as Diversity and Inclusion and New Hope 2034 (formerly Growth Team) and will also become involved in outreach and other areas of interest. She will continue to play the drums in the Praise Band.

Her husband, Farhad Zadeh, their son, Cyrus, a 9th Grade and her Mother-in-law Nayyer attend our 9:30 Worship Service. Their daughter, Hannah, is in Medical School at the University of Iowa.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Wendy and her family to our New Hope family.

Bruce Bernard & Sue Soards
SPPRC Co-Chairs



Christmas Photo Op

A photo opportunity for your Christmas cards or just for your memories. This will be in place in the Fellowship Hall. Please take advantage for your photo shoots!

We will also be offering a new way to display your favorite family photos in the Narthex bookcases. Watch for more details coming soon!



SANTA'S ATTIC IS COMING!!

Santa's Attic will be held on **Wednesday, December 13th**. Children will bring up to \$5 to use to purchase gifts for their family members. The money collected will be donated to a charity chosen by the children.

Thank you to everyone that has donated new and gently used gift items so far, we appreciate it! We are continuing to collect new and gently used gift donations for this beloved annual program through December 5th. If you have a donation, please bring it to the Children's Ministry office and place it on the round table. We have a larger group of kids than we have had in many recent years and could use lots more donations to make sure there is enough of a selection for everyone to find great options!



We are also in need of wrapping supplies, particularly gift bags and tape.

Thank you in advance for helping our kids feel the JOY of gift giving this Christmas! If you have any questions, please reach out to Jackie - jackie@newhopedsm.org.

Christmas Cookie Walk ~ Sunday, December 17th, 9am - 10:45am

Share some Christmas cheer by donating home-baked cookies, bars and candy to the New Hope Cookie Walk! **Sign up on the forms at the Welcome Center to let us know you will donate.**

The more cookies that we have, the more fun for everyone!

If you use peanut butter or nuts, please clearly indicate it when delivering your cookies to the church.

Examples of home-baked items to consider donating are: sugar cutout & decorated Christmas cookies, gingersnaps, chocolate chip, chocolate, oatmeal, lemon, candy cane, Oreo balls, Kringla, dipped pretzel rods, etc. We also invite you to make bars (pre-cut) and candy such as caramels, fudge, and toffee. These are only suggestions and we know you will have many, many more yummy ideas!!



Here's how the event will bring Christmas cheer to everyone:

- Sign up to donate home-baked cookies, bars or candy
- Deliver the home-baked goods to the church on:
Friday, Dec. 15th, 9am-Noon and Saturday, Dec. 16th, 2pm - 3pm.
- Purchase. On Sunday, Dec. 17, 9am-10:45am, everyone is welcome to participate in the Christmas Cookie Walk!
- Walk around the table to choose cookies, placing them in a provided Styrofoam box (size 9 ½ x 9 ½ x 3), and purchase \$10.00 per box. The whole box full for \$10 as long as the lid can close. Enjoy!

It's that easy for some Christmas cheer for you or to give as a gift! Join us in this very special event!

New this year! All proceeds will go to our Children's programs!

From New Hope's Children's & Youth Ministries Coordinator: Jackie Johnson
jackie@newhopedsm.org * (515)710-3239.

Sunday School for PreK-7th grade continues to be held during the 9:30 service. Children are invited to gather in Worship with their families and exit to the Purple Classroom after the Children's Message.



Children's Christmas Program - Sunday, December 17th!

Our Sunday School and TGIW children will participate in the 9:30 service with the gift of a short Christmas program and music. Due to our performance, Sunday School will be shortened that morning, and we will have a Christmas celebration instead of a lesson.

12/24 and 12/31 – There will be no Sunday School classes due to Christmas break.

The third unit in our Celebrate Wonder Curriculum teaches us stories of **HOPE**. Session 3 is being taught by Nick and Sherri Bogue, *thank you!*

It surrounds Genesis 28:15: I am with you now; I will protect you everywhere you go.

Connect with things our Sunday School class is talking about:

Allow yourself to **WONDER**.... What blessings has God given you in your life? How do you recognize something as a blessing? God gives us family as a blessing, but sometimes we make hard or wrong choices in our family. No matter what, we are still a part of God's family and God loves us.

DO: Practice the phrase, "I am here." Life is full of interruptions. But it's important to stay attentive and aware of our own feelings and to be in the presence of God. This week when life brings unwanted interruptions or unexpected events or emotions, practice saying, "I am here."

PRAY: God, thank you for being with us no matter what. Amen.



Sunday School Volunteer Needs:

We are still in need of volunteers for Session 5 and 7 of Sunday School this year. You are welcome to make a 5-week commitment, or volunteer on a one-time basis if that is a better fit for you!

Session 5 runs weekly from 2/11 - 3/17 (No Sunday School on 3/10)
Session 7 runs weekly from 4/28 – 5/19

If this sounds like something you would enjoy doing or you would like to get more information, please let Jackie know – jackie@newhopedsm.org or (515)710-3239.

TGIW Midweek Meetup ~ Set Aside Time In Your Week For Fellowship

November was full of wonderful things for our TGIW Midweek Meetup group!

We began with our service project packaging 300 Christmas gifts for Operation Christmas Child with our friends at Douglas Avenue Presbyterian, a wonderful way to kick off the month.

The second week our lesson was on thankfulness or **THANKSGIVING**. We had a special treat for week three and Robin Harlow brought in his telescope so we could view the night skies and marvel at God's creation! We had a break for Thanksgiving week and for the final week of November, the lesson will be on growing our faith. We are already looking forward to an amazing December filled with many favorite activities for the kids!

12/6- Christmas Caroling at Beavertdale Edencrest, please wear something festive or red/green. Drop off/pick up times will remain the same at New Hope.

12/13- Santa's Attic! This is a holiday favorite for the children in our church! They will get to shop for their family with the generous gifts donated from the congregation and our BLAST youth help wrap and ready the gifts to take home and place under the tree. Children are invited to bring up to \$5 to purchase their gifts. The money collected will be donated to a local charity chosen by the children.

12/20- Pizza, Popcorn and a Movie! Wear your jammies, bring a blanket and join us for a showing of The Grinch, 2018 version! Pizza, popcorn and drinks will be provided. Please arrive close to 6 because the running time of the movie will require us to start it promptly.

12/27- No Wednesday night programs, Merry Christmas!

Wednesday Night Schedule:

6:00-6:30pm- Dinner

6:30-7:30pm – Breakout Times (PreK-5th, Jr. and Sr. BLAST)

7:30-8pm- Puppets *3rd Grade and up

Menu:

12/6- pasta & meatball bake, garlic bread

12/13- hot dogs/chili dogs and macaroni and cheese

12/20- pizza and popcorn

12/27- **no Wednesday night programs**

This month our meals are prepared and served by: Nancy and Dale Monthei, Glenna Ross and DeVonne Douglas, and Sue Soards! **THANK YOU** to our volunteer chefs for offering their time and talents to the youth ministries in this way!



BLAST Ministry ~ Believing, Learning, Assisting, Serving, Teens

Jr. BLAST ~ 6th-8th graders

Sr. BLAST (BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org) **9th - 12th grade:** Leaders: Chris Higdon, Pam Frey, McKayla Nearmyer, and Arianna Bernal.



How can the calendar year be almost over already? Only one month left! This year has flown by quickly.

In December we will be hosting the New Hope Cookie Walk on Sunday, December 17th for all services. We need everyone's help in providing donating home-baked cookies, bars and candy for the event. Please sign up on the form at the Welcome Table to let us know you will donate. The more cookies that we have, the more fun for everyone! We will also need help on Sunday, December 17th to help restocking the cookies as people purchase them. This year, BLAST will be running the Cookie Walk event; but all proceeds will go toward our New Hope Children Programming.

Did you know? 35% of Jesus' teaching in the gospels is through parables!

In December, we will complete our study on Parable of the Bible. We have been mainly analyzing the Parable of Prodigal Son in November. We are looking forward to analyzing the Parable of the Builders and Parable of the Good Samaritan.

Here are some of the upcoming youth events for the next couple of months:

- Dec. 6th @ 6pm ~ First Wednesday Service Project
- Dec. 13th @ 6pm ~ Help with Santa's Attic
- Dec. 17th @ 6pm ~ New Hope Cookie Walk
- Dec. 20st @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion
- Not Meeting Dec. 27th (*Christmas Break*)

More information about the above events will be sent out in email and posted on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/SeniorHighBlast>).



Chili Cook-off ~ Saturday, January 20, 11:30am

The Bridge Team would like you to join New Hoppers and friends for good food, games and the company of our church family!

Sign up by January 14th in the Fellowship Hall to enter the Chili Cook-off contest.

Simply bring a big crockpot of your best chili on January 20th by 11:00am. You will enter through the Industrial Kitchen door.

The committee will set out your crockpot for you.

Starting at 11:30am, event attendees will sample the chili and will vote for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place. After the voting ends, you can fill up a bowl with chili.

This is a community outreach event! Please invite your friends!

Questions? Please contact Glenna Ross, 515-321-3010, glenna625@hotmail.com



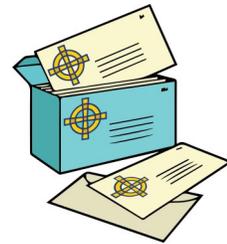
Year-End Reminder

All giving to the church for recording on your 2023 statements should be received **no later than December 31, 2023** to be posted to the individual giving records for the year 2021. Thank you!

2024 Offering Envelopes

Your 2024 Offering Envelopes will be available by December 17th.

*If you did not indicate on your 2024 pledge sheet that you want offering envelopes and would like to have them, please contact the church office by **December 14th**, 515-278-2097.*



2024 Altar Flower Calendar

For the Traditional Services (8:30 & 10:45), if you would like to have flowers on the altar in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or in honor or in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the flower calendar which is located across from church office. *The flowers are \$50.00 per Sunday and you may take your flowers home after the 10:45 service.*



Undecorating our church will be **December 31st after the 10 a.m. service.**

Please stay after the service and help us take down our Christmas decorations. Many hands make light work! It's also a good time for fellowship!

Thank you!

Questions? Please contact Pam Frey, at yayafrey@gmail.com or 515-490-8440.



Celebrating Racial Diversity In Our Community

Thank you to everyone that organized and attended the our Diversity Celebration held on Saturday, November 4th.

Iowa Conference UMC featured the event. Please view the video at:

<https://www.iaumc.org/newsdetail/new-hope-umc-celebrates-11-nationalities-in-des-moines-congregation-18129022>



The Board of Trustees want to **thank everyone** who came and worked hard on the **Fall Cleanup Day, Nov. 18th!**

Those in attendance were - Nan and Gary Stubbs, David Montgomery, Wayne Clark, Devan Mau and son Devan Mau II, Nancy and Jeff Foreman, Don Gurnsey, Robin and Jolene Harlow, Billy Nuzum, Armenta Buckingham, Steven Schutter, Jim Bolstad, Dave and Dawn Bachelder, Bob Harter, Pastor Lilian and John Rains. Lunch was prepared and served by Jody Rains, Melisa Forbes, Susan Clark, John and Kandra Dickerson.

On November 16th, Earl Lewis, David Montgomery, Gary Stubbs and John Rains vacuumed leaves from the yard area of the campus.

An amazing statistic for November 16th & 18th - we filled a 20 yard dumpster and a 6ftX10ft dump trailer with debris! There was an extensive task list but lots of hands made work go fast. It was great to see new people involved! Again thanks to everyone!



Trunk or Treat was AMAZING!! Thank you to the Bridge Team for coordinating the event. Thank you to the fabulous volunteers that provided outstanding trunks & treats and came in costume. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped the day of the event. And, thank you for all the candy and monetary donations. More pictures are on:
<https://www.facebook.com/NewHopeDSM/>

Blood Pressure Check

No checks in December.

Next check is on January 7th
9:30am-10am in the Narthex.

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
(April - September) at 7 p.m.
Questions? Contact Sue Toale
Knapp, 515-255-0366,
stktel1@gmail.com.
Online support group:
<http://www.strokenetwork.org/>



Care Ministry Team

The Care Ministry meets
quarterly. Next meeting is on
**Thurs., January 18th at 10am in
the Fellowship 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.



Men's Fellowship will meet on **Saturday,
December 2nd at 8:30 a.m.** with a **potluck** at church.
All men are invited!!

Our next gathering will be on **Thursday,
December 21st at 9:30 a.m.**

On the **first Sunday of each month**, in
the church hallway, when you see our
globe, please stop and drop in some
change. You will be helping the United Women in Faith group and the
missions they support. Thank you. We are very grateful for your support.
Questions? Please call Susan Clark at 515-964-5119.



United
Women
in Faith

ADULT Sunday School

Join us!

9:30 a.m. in the Ruby Chapel using "Wired
Word" curriculum.



Chair Yoga & Fitness

Every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.,
join us for Chair Yoga & Fitness (no fee).
This is a gentle yoga & fitness that is done
while you are seated on a chair. It's a 30-45
minute session. The instructors are from
Youtube videos. Please meet in the Fellow-
ship Hall.
This is for anyone and any age.



Crafters will meet in the Ruby Chapel
Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm.

This is an informal group so crafters can come and
go. We invite knitters, crocheters, cross stitchers,
hand quilters, and all other to join us for fellowship
and craft time.

Questions? Contact Le Howland at 515-418-0998

New Hope Needlers

The Needlers will not meet in December. However, we would like to take this opportunity to review what we accomplished in 2023.

~ Twelve lap quilts were distributed by our NHUMC Care Team to newborns as well as members receiving medical or surgical healthcare.

~ We sent 10 Little Dresses and 10 Little Britches with the St. Charles, Iowa Calvary Baptist Church to a Zambia orphanage.

~ Iowa based Self-Help International received 50 Little Dresses and 30 Little Britches for their Ghana mission.

~ We plan to ship 100 Days for Girls feminine hygiene kits to the Philippines in the near future.

Blessings to all who played a role in helping with these missions, both seamstresses and non-seamstresses, as well as anyone who designated "Needlers" on their donation check to NHUMC.

The next Needlers sewing day will be January 19, 2024.

NOVEMBER MISSION NEWS ~ Marilyn Osborn, Chair of Mission Committee

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS

THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU

The Mission Team has expressed the above line of “Thank You” several times during 2023 to the New Hope Congregation. Once again, **a big thank you to New Hope congregation for your generosity to the children of Orchard Place and Families Forward.**

Your donations to the children have made a difference in their lives – they will have a warm, fun-filled Christmas, thanks to you.

You also made a difference in the lives of those who: will receive Mobility Carts, pick up food from the Free Little Food Pantry on Meredith Drive, enjoy the grains from the Grain Bin, receive food from DMARC Food Pantry and the Red Barrel program plus the many homeless people who enjoy a warm, nutritious meal on the 14th of every month through Hand of Luke! The list just grows every year and it is an honor to be part of the New Hope Family.

Your donations to New Hope United Methodist Church also make it possible to send monthly checks to: Families Forward (formerly Bidwell Riverside), Missionary Dr. Mefor, Urbandale Food Pantry, DMARC Food Bank, Women at the Well, African Immigrant and Refugee Transition Services (AIRTS) and Johnston Partnership.

Free Little Food Pantry ~ The need for food continues to grow in our community! **DMARC reported that our zip code – 50310 – ranks second highest in the zip codes in the Des Moines metro with individuals needing assistance with food.**

If we all bring one non-perishable food item each week to put on our pantry shelf, we can continue to take 30 food items per week to the Free Little Food Pantry in our Meredith Drive community.

Please no opened boxes or expired items. Canned fruit in light syrup is preferred.

The food placed in the Free Little Food Pantry stays on the shelf for less than 3 hours because the need is so great. Only non-perishable foods and no expired food products.

Remember to sign up for a Monday to take the 30 food items to the **Free Little Food Pantry located between 51st and 52nd Streets north of Meredith Drive.**

There is a clipboard with the sign-up sheet on the pantry shelf by our Welcome Center.

If you have any questions, please contact Jolene Harlow-515-490-8813 or email at rdharlow@earthlink.net

Fill the Red Barrel: Contributing to the red barrel is as easy as buying a few extra cans of food while you shop and bringing them to church with you. All food and personal care items collected by the Red Barrel Program goes to the DMARC Food Pantry Network. For a list of most needed items, go to <https://www.dmarcunited.org>. If you would rather give a monetary donation, please make your check out to New Hope UMC and include “Food Pantry” in the memo line and place your check with the offering.

Grain Bin: When the Grain Bin is full, the donations will be given to Johnston Partnership, Families Forward and the Urbandale Food Pantry, on a rotation schedule.



Hand of Luke, Thursday, December 14th

This is our monthly ministry of preparing a meal for the Central Iowa Shelter and Services.

Patrice Webber and Arlene Dabill lead this ministry. We are continuing to utilize your monetary donations to purchase the majority of the food for the monthly meal. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

The menu for December will be Filipino/Asian food, prepared by Pastor Lilian and Filipino Society members. They will also be transporting and serving the food at the shelter.

Volunteers are needed to bring decorated sugar cookies or other Christmas cookies (no peanut butter or nuts, please). Please decorate cookies in a way that they are stackable for ease of transport, and in containers that do not need to be returned.

If you are interested in this opportunity, you may sign up using the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044DACA722A4FE3-46234116-holthursday>

You may also contact Arlene Dabill at dabill49@aol.com or (515) 321-2059 to volunteer.

East Entrance Addition ~ Financial Update

The east entrance was designed and built for two primary purposes;

- 1) to keep you safe and dry during inclement weather,
- 2) to enhance the east door as the primary entrance into the church building. I notice it is used very little for the first purpose. Please consider using this beautiful addition for the safety and comfortability of your loved ones! As we enter the winter months the canopy could save someone from falling and provide parents with babies and/or young children a quick way to get from the car to the inside of the building.

Thanks all of you who have given donations toward this building addition. Donations of \$400 have been received in the month of November to pay down our principal balance. We continue to make our monthly P&I payment to reduce our liability. As of November 24th, \$85,897.66 has been donated. This results in a current loan balance of \$42,949.94

If 300 people could give \$11 per month for the next 14 months, this loan would be paid off by the end of 2024. Please consider giving as explained! When donating to this project always write in the memo line of your check "East Entrance Addition". Thank each you who do so much for our church!

John Rains

East Entrance Addition Task Force, Chair

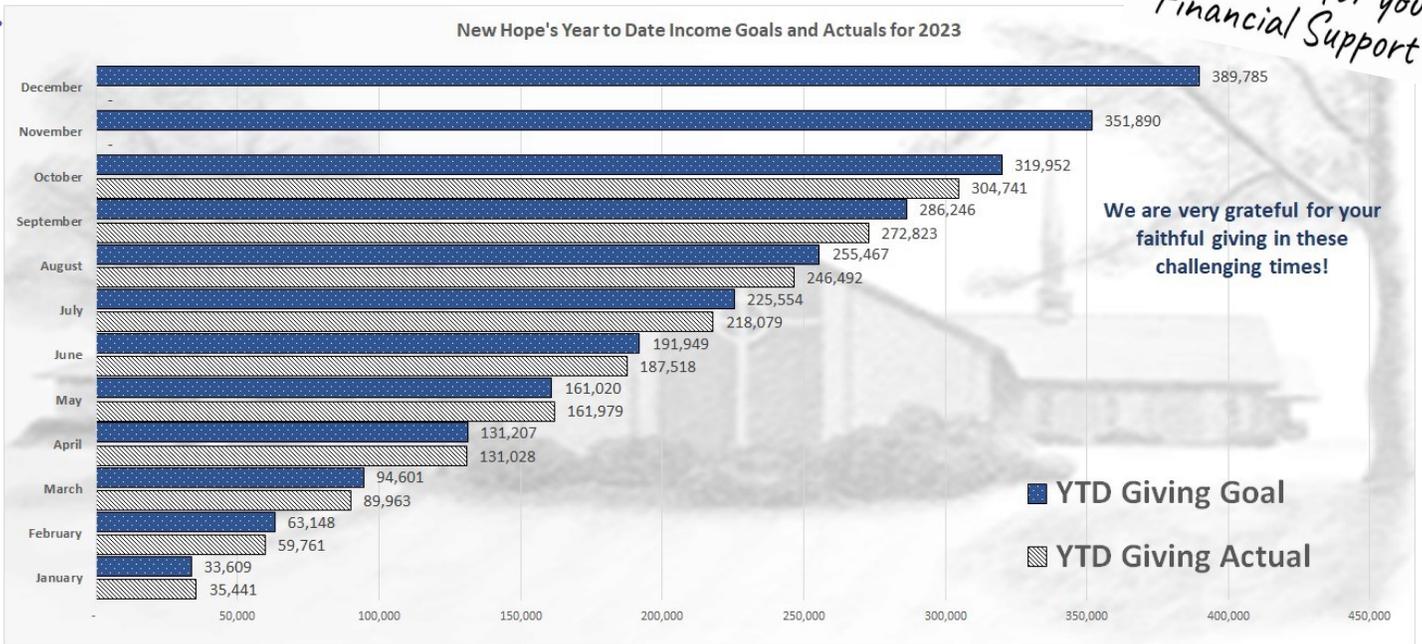


“RESTORE the COOL” campaign update as of 11/26/23.

Thank you to those who contributed funds towards the Ruby Chapel HVAC unit. The unit recently failed and was replaced at a cost of \$9,106.25. To date we have raised \$2,900 (\$0 in November) with \$6,206.25 remaining.

If you can give toward this new Ruby Chapel unit, please give, but if you can't give, please offer your prayers that we reach our goal of paying for this new unit. All gifts can either be sent directly to the office or be placed in the offering plates during our services identifying them as "Furnace" gifts.

Thank You for your Financial Support



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

To setup online giving go to www.newhopedsm.org and click on the

Gifts tab. This will direct you securely to set up an automatic donation. Please contact the church office for additional information.

December 2023

**Sunday morning services are:
8:30, 9:30 and 10:45
Nursery at 9:30**

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

<p>3 1st Sunday of Advent Communion Sunday 9:30, Sunday School</p> <p>11a-2p, Advent table decorating</p> <p>7p, Trustees Mtg</p>	<p>4 9a-3p, Advent table decorating</p> <p>9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness</p> <p>6p, Women's Chorus practice</p> <p>7p, Advent by Candlelight</p>	<p>5 9:30a, Sr. Singers practice 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel</p> <p>6:30p, SPRC Mtg.</p>	<p>6 9:30 Chair Yoga</p> <p>6:00p, Confirmation Class 6:30p, Crafters, R.Chapel TGIW ~ PreK-12th grade 6:00-6:30 Meal Served 6:30-7:30 Activities 7:30p, Puppets 6:00p, Chancel Choir 7:00p, Praise Band practice</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30p, Worship Mtg</p>	<p>1 Church office closed in afternoon</p> <p>8</p>	<p>2 8:30a, Men's Breakfast at church, potluck</p> <p>9</p>
<p>10 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:30, Sunday School</p> <p>11:45a, New Hope 2034 (R.Harlow)</p> <p>2p-4p, Sanctuary & F.Hall reserved (Judy Nemmers)</p>	<p>11 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness</p>	<p>12 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel</p>	<p>13 9:30 Chair Yoga 6:30p, Crafters, R.Chapel TGIW ~ PreK-12th grade 6:00-6:30 Meal Served 6:30-7:30 Santa's Attic 7:30p, Puppets 6:00p, Chancel Choir 7:00p, Praise Band practice</p>	<p>14 3:30p, Hand of Luke</p>	<p>15 Church office closed in afternoon</p> <p>9a-Noon Cookie drop off</p>	<p>16 10a-2p, F.Hall reserved (Banny & Jeanne)</p> <p>3p, Cookie drop off</p>
<p>17 3rd Sunday of Advent 9a-10:45a, Cookie Walk 9:30a, Children's program 8:30 & 10:45, Choir musical</p> <p>12:30-5p, FLC & FHall reserved (Nan Stubbs)</p>	<p>18 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness</p>	<p>19 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel</p> <p>6:30p, Finance Mtg</p>	<p>20 9:30 Chair Yoga 6:00p, Confirmation Class 6:30p, Crafters, R.Chapel TGIW ~ PreK-12th grade 6:00-7:30 Pizza, Popcorn & Movie 7:30p, Puppets 6:00p, Chancel Choir 7:00p, Praise Band practice</p>	<p>21 9:30a, United Women in Faith</p> <p>3p & 6p, Healing Service, Sanctuary</p>	<p>22 <i>Deadline for January LINK</i></p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 4th Sunday of Advent 10a, One Worship in the FLC No Sunday School</p> <p>Christmas Eve Services: 5:30pm, 7:30pm</p>	<p>25 Merry Christmas!</p>	<p>26 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel</p>	<p>27 9:30 Chair Yoga 6:30p, Crafters, R.Chapel</p> <p>No children/youth program</p> <p>6:00p, Chancel Choir 7:00p, Praise Band practice</p>	<p>28 6:30p, Administrative Council Mtg.</p>	<p>29 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31 10a, One Worship in the Sanctuary No Sunday School</p>	<p>January 1 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>2 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel</p>	<p>3 9:30 Chair Yoga 6:30p, Crafters, R.Chapel</p> <p>No children/youth program</p> <p>6:00p, Chancel Choir 7:00p, Praise Band practice</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>



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



- 1 Dean Peterson
- 2 Lisa VanDenBerg, Brandon Thompson
- 4 Leah Breitsprecher, Pascal Karekezi
- 5 Alec Beck-Cross
- 6 Jean Moffitt, Mike Warren, Gene Lesch, Lisa Rooney
- 9 Lexi Dean
- 12 Obi Ukabiala, Mary Grace Leyda
- 14 Nolan Monthei
- 15 Kevin Lewis, Cathy Short
- 17 Mary Ann Rice, Andy Sutton
- 18 Sheri Thompson, Sue Soards, Chris Boyles, Banny Umuhoza, Alexis Harlan, Susan Blank, Gaby Dimitri

- 19 Brady Jansen, Spencer Sutton
- 20 Teri Reieron, Larry Buske, Sarah Wiles, Emily Bowser
- 21 Matt Stringham, Adam Hartung, Zoe Wilson
- 22 Paulette Wood
- 23 Susan Baldwin
- 24 Eleanor Wederquist
- 25 Renee Haugland, Jennifer Dellopoulos
- 26 Joan Clary
- 27 Kim Buske, Charlotte Roff
- 28 Ashley Marsh
- 29 Ana Kirkpatrick, Gina Breitsprecher

- 18 Nicholas & Sherri Bogue
- 27 Wayne & Sandy Johnson
- 31 Courtney & Tricia Berry
- 31 Daniel & Emily Bowser

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

Happy Birthday to—and for—you!

Birthdays are unique because they celebrate who someone *is*, not what they've *done*. Henri Nouwen wrote, "It is more important to celebrate a birthday than a successful exam, a promotion or a victory. Because to celebrate a birthday means to say to someone, 'Thank you for being you.' ... On a birthday we do not say, 'Thanks for what you did, or said, or accomplished.' No, we say, 'Thank you for being born and being among us.'"

- ChurchArtPro



WORSHIP
with us

Sunday Morning Worship Services

8:30 & 10:45: Traditional Services in the Sanctuary

9:30: Contemporary Service in the Family Life Center

We continue to offer the Sunday morning Parking Lot Radio Feed and also the Pre-Recorded Worship Services that can be found on the church Facebook page.

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Lilian Gallo Seagren
Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei
Children & Youth Ministries Coord.: Jackie Johnson
Director of Music: Preshia Paulding
Nursery Attendants: Kris Wakeman, Brianna Johnson,

E-mail Information

Church address: nhfamily@newhopedsm.org
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Find us on facebook!

The LINK newsletter is a monthly publication.

Editor: Nancy Monthei; Reporters: New Hope Church family. Please contact the church office at 515-278-2097 if you have a change in address or would like to be taken off the LINK mailing list.

Following Christ, inspiring minds, loving hearts, serving hands and transforming communities.

the link
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