

A monthly publication
of New Hope United
Methodist Church

JANUARY AT NEW HOPE

2012

the link

Why?
Exploring common
questions about God.

- Jan 8 **Why do the innocents suffer?**
- Jan 22 **Why do my prayers go unanswered?**
- Jan 29 **Why can't I see God's will for my life?**
- Feb 5 **Why does God's love prevail?**

Let us help you keep your New Year's Resolutions!

Get in Shape!

Exercise the Winter Blahs away! Exercise classes are being formed for women/men of all ages.

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday Evenings • 6 to 6:45pm
Family Life Center • Starting the week of January 9th.
It will be a variety of classes...from weights to cardio. Something different every time. Go at your own pace... low impact or high impact.

Wednesday Mornings • 11:45am-12:30pm
Family Life Center • Starting Jan 11th
This will be a weights/resistance band class.

Help is needed! We would like to offer childcare during these times. If anyone would like to volunteer in the nursery, please contact Penny Dolberg at 252-8856

Please plan to attend an information meeting on THURSDAY, JANUARY 5TH AT 6PM IN THE RUBY CHAPEL.

Deepen your relationship with God

Life Groups are a great way to build relationships, deepen your faith, and dig into scripture. If you are interested contact Pastor Ferguson, 319-939-6788, craig@newhopedsm.org.

Friday Night Fellowship: 1st & 3rd Fridays, 7:00 p.m. at Kevin & Jodi Christensen's, 8417 Weybridge, Johnston, 515-277-6695 or jokevchristensen@gmail.com. Everyone is welcome, kids are welcome. The *Living Crazy Love* study will help you pursue God as you never have before.

Faith in the Post-Modern World: 2nd and 4th Saturdays @ 4:30 PM at Billy Nuzum's, 8050 NW 63rd Court, Johnston. 515-238-2302. Everyone is welcome. We will be looking at recent events in the news or general events and how they effect the world we live in and the faith we hold.

Traveling Group: 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 4-6pm. We will start Adam Hamilton's series *Christianity's Family Tree: What Other Christians Believe and Why* Contact: Nick & Sherri Bogue, boguesa@gmail.com, for location and date. Childcare provided.





membership news

prayer chain request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call the church office at 278-2097 or

Jan Davisson at 251-4894.

To be added to the e-mail prayer chain distribution list, please call the church office or Jan.

Prayer Concerns

Kristy Hegwood; Jann Williams; Charles Hanson, father of Cathy Short; Bishop Julius Trimble; District Superintendent, David Weesner.

Prayers for the following military personnel: CPT Jeff Bleakley, Major Chris Latcham and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

Our Sympathy to Kim & Joe Traylor on the death of Joe's brother, Arnold Traylor.

Baptisms

Congratulations to Ryan Herrick and Lillian Herrick who were baptized on December 4th at the 9:30 service. Lillian is the daughter of Ryan and Abbi Herrick.

Change of Address

Danielle Jaschen
5574 Boston Ct
Johnston, IA 50131
No change in phone #

Thank You

Thank you for the many Christmas greetings and to my "secret" Santa!

Nancy Monthei

Thank You

Neil, Cheryl, Michelle and Laura want to thank everyone for your kind Christmas cards, gifts, and birthday wishes for Neil. We are so blessed to be a part of the New Hope family.

Dear New Hope friends,
Thank you for your prayers, cards and visits while I was in the hospital. Thank you, Neil, for your prayers and visits. Thank you Paulette and Larry for your delicious supper. The Lord protected me. When I was sick I saw progress each day. The Lord is good.

Linda Kielsmeier

We wish to thank everyone for your prayers, calls, cards, flowers, meal, and for your presents and prayers before and after surgery. A special thanks for the delicious food prepared by the Care Team. We so appreciated each meal at a time when most needed. Our praise goes out to each of you during this surgery and recovery. Blessings to our New Hope family.

Dale & Laura Myers

To our New Hope family:
Beginning in January, I will begin worshipping in Ankeny weekly at my parents' church. It is important to me at this time in our lives to worship regularly with them, while we have the opportunity. I intend to visit New Hope several times a year to stay connected to a church family which has meant so much to our family over the years and certainly the last twenty months. Thanks again for your caring support. God bless you.

Paul, Adam & Amanda Herring

Thank You

The following is an email received by Kristin Welter:

I received a care package from your church today. Thank you so much to all in the congregation. The cookies were OUTSTANDING. I spent all morning walking around our Battalion AO handing them out to all the Soldiers and they were greatly appreciated. After 8 deployments in the last 25 years it never fails that around Christmas time as it approaches most of us get the Bah Humbug mentality. But as today when we rolled in and the mail call was flowing with packages from home we start to get that Christmas spirit and it does mean a lot to everyone here. Even crusty ol salts like myself. So, thank you so much once again it was very much appreciated by all here in the 1173rd Deployment Distribution Support Battalion and the 226th Port Management team (226th is the unit I am in command of). So, Cousin, I am wishing yourself, your family, and your extended family at the New Hope Methodist Church a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year.

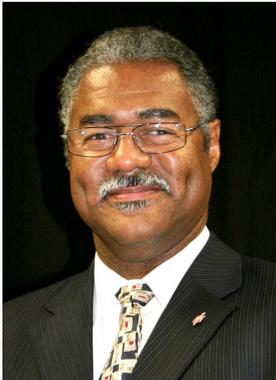
Captain Jeff Bleakley

Dear New Hope Friends,
Thank you so very much for your extremely generous giving of "cold winter wear" to the Refugees attending English classes at First Christian Church. Over one hundred coats as well as hats, gloves, scarves, boots, and blankets were delivered to families. They were delighted to receive them and send their "Thank You". Your caring and sharing is very much appreciated!

Karen Skovgard

upcoming events

Bishop Julius Trimble to Preach at New Hope on January 15th



We are very pleased to welcome Bishop Julius Trimble to New Hope on Sunday, January 15. He will be preaching at the 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. services. We have canceled the 8:30 a.m. service for this one Sunday in order to invite everyone to the two services in which Bishop Trimble will be preaching.

Bishop Julius Trimble was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. At the age of 16, he answered the call to ministry while an active youth member of Christ United Methodist Church in Chicago. He received his Bachelor of Science in Sociology at Illinois State University. He earned his Masters of Divinity Degree at Garrett-Evangelical Seminary and his Doctor of Ministry from Ashland Theological Seminary.

Bishop Trimble was ordained Deacon and Elder in the Northern Illinois Conference. He has served the South Deering UMC, Chicago and Emmanuel UMC in the Chicago area, the Mount Pleasant UMC in the Cleveland, Ohio area, as the Cleveland District Superintendent, and as Senior Pastor of the Aldersgate UMC in Warrensville Heights, Ohio before being elected Bishop on July 18, 2008. On September 1, 2008, he became the Resident Bishop of Iowa.

In addition to his service to the Iowa Annual Conference, Bishop Trimble has served as Adjunct Instructor at BaldwinWallace College and Methodist theological Seminary. He has also served on the General Board of Church and Society and is a life Trustee of the St. Luke's Foundation of Cleveland, and established the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Luncheon and Lecture Series and Cory UMC. He is the President of the North Central Jurisdiction College of Bishops, co-chair of the Interagency Immigration Task Force, President of the Ebony Bishops, serves on the General Board of Discipleship and the North Central Jurisdiction Mission Council.

Bishop Trimble has a true heart to serve the people. He has been a leader in the faith-based response to domestic violence and has encouraged the establishment of mental health ministries at the local church and conference level. Bishop Trimble has preached in West and South Africa. He continues to be a strong advocate for education and social justice and because of this, the Rev. Dr. Julius C. Trimble Endowment Scholarship was established.

Bishop Trimble is married to Racelder Trandberry-Timble, who is a graduate of Illinois State University and Methodist Theological Seminary. She is a professional counselor, the founder of Head and Heart Ministries, Inc., a staunch advocate for children and families, and a committed community volunteer. The Trimbles are the parents of three young adult children: Cameron Calvin, Candiace Racelder and Julius Thomas.

It is a great honor to have Bishop Trimble with us on January 15. We invite everyone to come to either the 9:30 or 10:45 a.m. service and worship with Bishop Trimble.

christian learning opportunities



Saturday Night Worship

1st & 3rd Saturday,
5:00 p.m.
Beaver Creek Elementary,
8701 Lyndhurst Drive,
Johnston.

All are invited to join us for these fun and energizing worship services! Johnstonriveroflife.org

Jr. High BLAST

7th & 8th graders -

Watch your emails for upcoming events.
Questions? Contact Brian/Stacie Bridges,
slbridges2003@yahoo.com
or
Tony/Tracy Hoffman, chytnt@yahoo.com

SAVE THE DATES:

Vacation Bible School will be held
Sunday, July 15 - Thursday, July 19,
5:30pm-8:00pm.



More details about
Operation Overboard
coming out soon!

Sunday Adult Education class

Join us starting January 8th for our sermon series:
Why? Exploring common questions about God.
Adult Education Classes will be held at 9:30 &
10:45 a.m. in the Ruby Chapel.

Sr. High BLAST

9th - 12th graders:

Join us for the following activities!

January 15 & 29:

Happy New Year! Our BLAST resolution for the new year is to keep having fun! Let's make this the best year ever! We'll be meeting on Jan 15th and Jan 29th this month. As the dates get closer, watch for details via email and Facebook. Questions? contact Dani at 254-0156 or Julie at 276-2886.



Confirmation Schedule for January:

January 8, 4:00 p.m.

Topic: "Church History"

January 22, 4:00 p.m.

Topic: "The Call to Service"



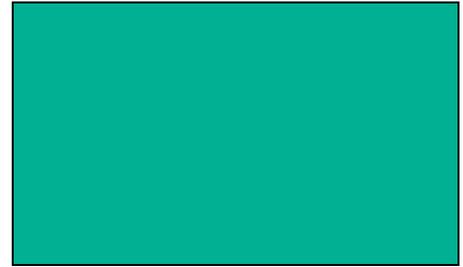
Scholarship Opportunities for High School Seniors

The Iowa United Methodist Foundation has scholarships that can assist high school seniors as they continue their education. A list of scholarships for the 2011-2012 academic year is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Interested students may download the application form from www.iumf.org.

Upon completion, the application form and other supporting documentation may be sent to the Iowa United Foundation. All paperwork is due no later than March 15, 2012.

Children's ministries



Christian Learning Time (CLT)

Gathering is for all children ages 3 through 6th grade on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. 3 year olds through Kindergarten students meet in the Pre K-K classroom for gathering. Grades 1-6 meet in the Family Life Center for gathering.

January's B.I.G. Idea:

We believe that the stories about Jesus help us understand that Jesus is the Son of God.



January's Bible Verse:

The child Jesus grew. He became strong and wise, and God blessed him. Luke 2:40

January's B.I.G. Theme:

Stories about Jesus

Sunday, January 1, 2012

There will be a one room CLT classroom (in the 1st and 2nd grade room) on January 1st. No 9:30 a.m. Children's Worship that day.



Children's Worship

No Children's Worship January 1, 2012.

If you are interested in being an adult or teen helper to our Leaders please contact Kelly at gmohrman@mchsi.com for a schedule of available dates.

Children's Worship is held during the 9:30 a.m. service and is a meaningful time for children ages 3 years through 2nd grade to worship and connect with God. Children will participate in an engaging worship service geared just for them in the Sanctuary. This service will follow a traditional format, with praise songs, prayers, joys/concerns, offering, scripture reading, and a message. We will include a time for fellowship at the end of our service. Kids will gather back in the 1st/2nd grade classroom to share in a healthy snack of fruits or vegetables and have time to visit with their friends.



TGIW—A midweek ministry dedicated to children & adults of all ages, teaching the *Word of God* in Scripture, Music and Fun! Wednesday nights begin with dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by activities from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

January 4th will be a family event!

Spaghetti for dinner followed by a family movie night complete with an intermission and popcorn. You may bring a blanket to sit on, and your favorite movie candy! A treat for the whole family! Look for another family



night activity in February!

January 11-25 will be regular TGIW activities. Please remember that our teachers and helpers are voluntary, and are giving of their time. Continue remind your students to be respectful to the helpers, fellow students, and church property. TGIW should be treated as any other learning environment, good behavior is expected. We would love to continue to have these fun activities for our children.

*****Please remember in case of inclement weather, and schools are closed, there will be no TGIW.*****

the new day

For some people life begins at 4 am with brisk 10 mile run. Some individuals role out of bed searching for their first cup of coffee at 7 am. Yet there is another group of people for whom the day doesn't start till 10 PM. I guess that means we all have our routines, and our days start uniquely.

Some of us attend school. Some will work a few hours at three different jobs and others will work a 16 hour day just hoping to get a few hours sleep before the next day begins.

With unemployment the way it is there is a whole segment of society who is looking for work. And there are toddlers at home with a ton of energy to use up, the retired who are often more busy volunteering than they were working. There

are also a wide variety of moral perspectives, and a diverse culture of religions. In other words, our lives are very different, and the honest truth is we have a hard time understanding or accepting individuals who are a small degree different than us.

But there is something that gives us hope, something we often forget. The sun rises and sets on us all. In fact, I believe there is something intrinsically special about the power of a New Day, something that gives hope to every person. We wait with anticipation for what it might bring, the blessings, opportunities, and joy we might encounter.

In fact, I believe there is something intrinsically special about the power of a New Day, something that gives hope to every person. We wait with anticipation for what it might bring, the blessings, opportunities, and joy we might encounter.

As we just celebrated Jesus' birth and now enter the New Year, it is powerful to understand that Jesus was referred to as the bright morning star. If we understand the Old Testament prophecies we know Jesus made a new way to live and hope for salvation. He was the one who initiated the new covenant for all of creation. Jesus is the New Day.

And just like the New Day does not discriminate on a person based upon where they were born,

how they live, their social standing, or even if they believe the sun rotates around the earth, neither does Jesus discriminate. When he came to earth he brought a New Day filled with hope for all of creation. In fact, as scripture indicates when we claim faith in Jesus we become a new creation

(2 Corinthians 5:17) and are given the ministry of reconciling others to God.

So not only is Jesus the New Day, but we also are transformed / new creations and commissioned to bring the light of a New Day (Jesus) to the world. But here is the hard part – We find it comfortable to share the New Day with people in our one degree of similarity, those we see in church on Sunday morning, or those who have the same work schedule, or political views. Are there people who we are leaving in the dark? Who do you know who needs the hope of a New Day?



Please Keep Us Tidy

To all who use New Hope's kitchens, please remember to keep them tidy.

1. If you use cloth or plastic tablecloths, put them back where you found them after you have cleaned them.
2. Do not let the Supply Room's counter top become the catch all for what 'you' do not want to put away.
3. If you use something, wash it and put it back where you found it.
4. Please check the old kitchen's NE corner for your cake/dessert pan and please take it home.
5. If you have made a mess in the ovens, on the stove top, in the frig or on the counter tops please clean it up while it is fresh and easier to clean.
6. If you have a spare minute, rearrange a drawer in either kitchen. They can always use some sprucing up.

Try to think of New Hope as a BIG HOUSE. It takes a lot of maids to keep it looking good.

Thank you,

The Kitchen Keepers

2012 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 cost is \$30.00 per Sunday and you may take your flowers home after the 10:45 a.m. service.*

Thank you to everyone that donated items for "Santa's Attic." The kids had a great time shopping for their families.

A big thank you to the co-chairs, Penny Dolberg and Tami Wise, and all the volunteers that helped with this meaningful event for the kids.



The kids had so many *wonderful* items to choose from when they did their shopping!



Wrapping the gifts was also a lot of *fun!*



Getting to take home the family gifts and put them under the Christmas tree is *exciting!*

COOKIE WALK 2011

Thanks to all at New Hope for a GREAT cookie walk on December 4th, 2011.

We netted a total of \$1,008. and our Women's Fellowship is very grateful to all of you who donated cookies and bought cookies. Our Women's Fellowship will use the money for local mission work .

Special thanks to my co-chair, Lee Ross, for all her support and assistance. And also a big, big thanks to all the Church Angels who helped to set up on Saturday, Dec. 3rd and who worked on Sunday to administer the Cookie Walk.

I personally thank you all for your support--we have a wonderful church family that continues to donate their time, talent and funds.

Blessings to all:

Clarice Rubek, Chair of Cookie Walk 2011.



Auditions will be held on Sunday, January 29th at 6pm at New Hope UMC for a community production of *GODSPELL*.

GODSPELL's features music and lyrics by Academy and Grammy Award winner Stephen Schwartz, and features instantly recognizable hits including "Day by Day," "Turn Back, O Man," "Learn Your Lessons Well," "Prepare Ye," "Light of the World" and many more.

Performance dates will be April 27-29, with shows at New Hope UMC, Aldersgate UMC, and one community location. More information will be forthcoming.

Please add this audition date to your calendar and share it with others.

If you have any questions please contact Craig Ferguson 319-939-6788.

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 8:30 and 10:45 worship services.

Children's Church meets during 9:30 a.m. worship service in the 1st/2nd grade classroom. Volunteers read a Bible story to the children and supervise craft and play time.

Hosts buy or bake six to eight dozen cookies, and serve coffee and lemonade after the 9:30 contemporary and 10:45 traditional worship services. New Hope purchases three to five dozen cookies to also be served with the hosts' cookies. 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, church secretary, at 278-2097.

Those who serve New Hope in January

8:30am Traditional Service	9:30am Contemporary Service	10:45am Traditional Service
<p><u>Greeters</u></p> <p>1 Merry Bradley 8 Le Howland 15 No Service 22 Armenta Buckingham 29 Kirk & Jo Renee Hartung</p> <p><u>Lectors</u></p> <p>1 8 Maurine Myers 15 No Service 22 Maurine Myers 29 Kirk Hartung</p> <p><u>Traditional Service Callers</u></p> <p>1 Bob & Marlys Borcharding 8 Mark & Leah Scherer 15 Jim & Norma Smith 22 Craig Ferguson 29 Norma Sutton</p> <p><u>Contemporary Service Callers</u></p> <p>1 Eldon Cross 8 Michele Hamilton 15 Melisa Forbes & Pam Frey 22 Eldon Cross 29 Michele Hamilton</p>	<p><u>Greeters</u></p> <p>1 Jim & Teri Gairns 8 Larry & Melisa Forbes 15 Weisskopf family 22 Joyce & John Turek 29 Cindy & Clyde Rail</p> <p><u>Hosts</u></p> <p>1 Glenna Ross 8 Patty Nearmyer: cookies Mark & Tami Wise: Host 15 Clyde & Cindy Rail 22 Pam Frey 29 Missions Committee</p> <p><u>Children's Church</u></p> <p>1 Will not be held 8 Jen Berger 15 Jen Berger 22 Jen Berger 29 Jen Berger</p> <p><u>Nursery</u> Sherry Faulkner</p> <p><u>Money Counters</u></p> <p>1 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross 8 Clark Howland, Linda Holloway, Rick Homard 15 Jerry Kielsmeier, Kim Traylor, OPEN 22 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, Ron Zoss 29 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross</p>	<p><u>Greeters</u></p> <p>1 Jody, Nathan & Grace Ferguson 8 Bob & Marlys Borcharding 15 22 29</p> <p><u>Lectors</u></p> <p>1 Jody Ferguson 8 Cathy Cate 15 Jon Verner 22 Freda Ruleman 29 Mark Scherer</p> <p><u>Hosts</u></p> <p>1 Glenna Ross 8 Kim & Larry Buske 15 Ann Krause: cookies OPEN: Host 22 29 Missions Committee</p> <p><u>Nursery</u> Sherry Faulkner</p> <p><u>Pal Friday: 9 a.m.</u></p> <p>6 Marlys Borcharding 13 Marge Carnahan 20 Barb Easton 27 Alice Hedman</p>

thank you for volunteering to help with the worship services. If something comes up and you have a conflict, please contact another church member to switch with you and call the church office with the changes (278-2097).

groups gathering together

Friday Small Group

January 13 & 27

We will meet in the private meeting room of the HyVee Cafeteria and Deli, 1990 Grand Ave., West Des Moines at 1:00 PM for lunch with study and discussion to follow, ending at approx. 3:00 PM. Questions? contact Donnafred Hinman, 226-2141.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, January 14th at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Women's Fellowship

No meeting in January.

If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Frus at 279-1130.

Care Ministry Team

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 and the next meeting is **Mon., March 26 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to join the Care Ministry team, please contact Clarice Rubek or Mary Ann Rice.

New Hope Needlers

No gathering in January.

Blood Pressure Check

New Hope is offering free Blood Pressure checks each month.

January 22 will be the next BP checks. Come to the Narthex after each worship service.

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.

Des Moines Area Parkinson's Support Group

1st Wednesday of the month (March - November) at 3:30 p.m.

Stroke Club of Iowa

3rd Tuesday of the month (February - October) at 7:00 p.m.

LIBRARY CORNER

The New Hope Library is now open for business. Stop by and look at all the good books. Hopefully you have saved the library bulletin insert from Dec. 11 that lists the check-out procedures. If not, the instructions are on the library bulletin board.



The library committee is hoping to add new books to the library. If you have a gently used book that you have read and think appropriate for our library, we would welcome the donation. You may place the book in the donation box and it would be helpful if you could fill out a donation form and place it with the book. We will acknowledge the donation with a donation label. There are 3 labels; donated by, in memory of, or in honor of.

The second way we could increase the size of our library would be to purchase new books. At this time, the library does not have a budget so all monetary donations would be gladly accepted.

All suggestions for new books will be added to our wanted list. There is a box on the library cart in which to place your suggestions.

Happy Reading,
Carol Harter, librarian

missions

January Mission Focus: DMARC FOOD PANTRY

This winter has been an especially difficult time for the food pantry. Demand has been at an all time high and they have had to reduce the amount given to each family. The Mission Committee donated a sizable amount to DMARC in December but since demand has remained at crisis level, we are planning 2 activities to help in January.

Diaper Drive: It costs an average of \$100 a month for families to furnish diapers for a baby. Cloth diapers are not usually an option as licensed childcare centers require disposable diapers and also, many families have limited access to laundry facilities. Most laundromats do not allow washing of cloth diapers, either.

We will be collecting diapers, formula and baby wipes. Please place items in the large black baskets on the Mission Table.



Breakfast after each service on January 29th with a freewill offering to be given to the food pantry. We will be serving biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs, sausages, juice, and apple sauce. We will accept any food donations or help in the cooking and serving.

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink..."
Matthew 25:35*

Hand of Luke

Saturday, January 14

Ham Balls

Ranch Mashed Potatoes

Green Beans

Rolls with Butter

Fruit Cobbler with whipped topping

If you would like to contribute to our ministry by making food donations, cooking or serving, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

Cooks meet at the church between 3:00-3:30pm. Servers transport the food to the Central Iowa Shelter & Services at 5:30pm and return by 8:00pm.

When individuals drop off their non perishables, we ask that they **clearly label them HOL and clearly indicate who it is from** and leave them on the kitchen counter.

Frozen items may be placed in the new industrial freezer, on the upper two left shelves. If possible, please indicate on the sign up sheet where you placed your item(s) (for example, "in pantry", or "in the refrig.").

THANK YOU!!!



Thank you to everyone that has volunteered to cook, serve and donate food to the Hand of Luke mission. This ministry to serve a hot evening meal at Central Iowa Shelter and Services on the 14th of each month

has been continuously active since March 1996. This much needed service would not be possible without the support of members of New Hope. Construction of the new facility (south of current location) is targeted for completion in the fall of 2012. Recently one evening 32 individuals slept in chairs indicating the need for services is greater than ever. Originally menu's were developed to serve 75 clients. In recent years quantities were increased to support 100 and more recently we have started planning for 120 served. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Thank you.

Ruth Doxon

More pictures of events held at New Hope UMC and Johnston River of Life can be found on their facebook pages.



A glorious night of scriptures, music, table decorations, etc. at the Advent by Candlelight for women on December 7th.



The magnificent Christmas Cantata on December 11th.



The wonderful "Stranger in the Manger" Christmas program on December 11th.



A beautiful setting for the Christmas at the Barn service on December 17th sponsored by River of Life.

new hope financial update

Below is the General Fund operating budget report for November 2011 compared to our 2011 budget and November 2010

	Nov 2011 Actual	Nov 2011 Budget	Nov 2010 Actual
Total Receipts	32,133.21	28,151.05	30,337.67
Total Expenditures	26,838.57	29,128.59	27,178.98
Net Surplus (Deficit)	5,294.64	(977.54)	3,158.69

	YTD Nov 2011 Actual	YTD Nov 2011 Budget	YTD Nov 2010 Actual
Total Receipts	306,117.14	287,238.35	293,164.51
Total Expenditures	277,831.80	289,643.52	275,629.78
Net Surplus (Deficit)	28,285.34	(2,405.17)	17,534.73

continuing our journey - embracing our future =\$224,846



Electronic Giving

You may give to New Hope through electronic giving.

A step-by-step process is available on our web-site, www.newhopedsm.org, by clicking the "Donate" button and following the instructions. Or there is sheet on electronic giving available at the sign-up table in the Fellowship Hall.

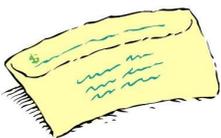
sunday morning worship attendance

	8:30	9:30	10:45	total
Dec 4	57	171	108	336
Dec 11	71	133	144	348
Dec 18	52	97	102	251

River of Life Worship Attendance			
Dec 3	32	Dec 17	171

2012 Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2012 offering envelopes from the table in the Fellowship Hall.



If you did not indicate on your 2012 pledge sheet that you want

offering envelopes and would like to have them, please contact the church office. The money counters appreciate you using the envelopes.

E-NEWSLETTER

Postage prices are going up in January, 2012. Would you like to help save New Hope UMC a little money each month by receiving the monthly newsletter via e-mail?

Each month an e-mail message will be sent to you to let you know when the monthly newsletter has been uploaded to the New Hope UMC website, www.newhopedsm.org. You can click on the month's newsletter and read it right from your computer, smartphone, iPad, etc. You can read it wherever you may be...at home, at work, at school, on vacation, etc.

Please contact the church office, nhfamily@newhopedsm.org, or 278-2097, to let us know if you would prefer to receive the newsletter via e-mail instead of through the mail. Thank you!

january

2012
AT NEW HOPE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Epiphany Sunday Holy Communion	2	3 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	4 5:30p, TGIW— Family Movie Night! 6:30p, Chancel Choir 7:45p, Praise Team	5 6p, Exercise Info. Mtg. 7p, Trustees Mtg.	6 Pal: Marlys Borcharding 5p, Henderson/Zoss rehearsal	7 4p, Henderson/Zoss wedding 5:00p, Johnston River of Life worship at Beaver Creek Elementary
8 Noon, Compassionate Callers 4p, Confirmation	9 6-6:45p, Exercise	10 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6-6:45p, Exercise	11 11:45a, Weights/ Resistance class 5:30p, TGIW 6:30p, Chancel Choir 7:45p, Praise Team	12 6-6:45p, Exercise	13 Pal: Marge Carnahan 1:00p, Small Grp at HyVee, 1990 Grand Ave., West Des Moines	14 7:30a, Men's Breakfast 1:00-5:00p, Central District office hosting meeting at New Hope 3:30p, Hand of Luke
15 Feb. LINK deadline 8:30a—No Service 9:30a & 10:45a, Bishop Trimble will be preaching *H.Relations Day(offering) 6p, Sr. BLAST	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day OFFICE CLOSED 6-6:45p, Exercise	17 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6-6:45p, Exercise 7:00p, Finance Meeting	18 11:45a, Weights/ Resistance class 4:30p, Missions Mtg. 5:30p, TGIW 6:30p, Chancel Choir 7:45p, Praise Team	19 6-6:45p, Exercise 7:00p, Worship Design	20 Pal: Barb Easton	21 5:00p, Johnston River of Life worship at Beaver Creek Elementary
22 Food Pantry Sunday Blood Pressure Sunday 4p, Confirmation	23 6-6:45p, Exercise	24 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6-6:45p, Exercise 7:00p, AD Council	25 11:45a, Weights/ Resistance class 5:30p, TGIW 6:30p, Chancel Choir 7:45p, Praise Team	26 6-6:45p, Exercise	27 Pal: Alice Hedman 1:00p, Small Grp at HyVee, 1990 Grand Ave., West Des Moines	28
29 Free-will offering Breakfast after each worship Service 6p, Sr. BLAST 6p, GODSPELL Audition	30 6-6:45p, Exercise	31 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6-6:45p, Exercise	Feb. 1 11:45a, Weights/ Resistance class 5:30p, TGIW 6:30p, Chancel Choir 7:45p, Praise Team	2 6-6:45p, Exercise	3 Pal: Norma Sutton	4 5:00p, Johnston River of Life worship at Beaver Creek Elementary

***Human Relations Day, Jan. 15:** A Church-wide Special Sunday of The United Methodist Church. Your generous gifts on Human Relations Day support: Community Developers and United Methodist Voluntary Services programs, related to the General Board of Global Ministries, and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program, General Board of Church and Society. Your gift makes a world of difference! Thank you!

Looking Ahead:
Feb. 12: Boy Scout Recognition
Feb. 22: 7:00p, Ash Wed. Service

Happy Birthday to you!!

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 David Kinsey, Rick Roquet | 19 David O'Brien, Taylor Jackson |
| 2 Ruth Stone, David Wilson, Kate Ness,
Betty Clark | 20 Nolan Martz |
| 3 Zach Price | 21 Brenda Mc Culley, Melissa
Haase, Taylor Evans |
| 5 Shannon Hentzell, Jason Gronstal,
Kasi Dickerson, David Reieron | 22 Dustin Henry, Harold Schuler,
Jameson Fagen |
| 6 Matthew McCulley | 23 Linda Holloway, Katie Paulson,
Kate Dickey |
| 8 Maurine Myers, Doug Hewitt | 24 George Buckingham |
| 9 Kari Baccam | 26 Amanda Samuelson |
| 10 Gayle Easton, Lisa Swett, Norma
Wallin | 27 Margaret Holmgren |
| 14 Doris Harvey | 29 Bob Robinson, Bill Gibbons |
| 15 Alyssa Eaves | 30 Dale Myers, Kirsten Sahlin |
| 16 Marilyn Mc Cleary, Nick Snider | 31 Steve Jackson, Denise Zoss,
Kenny Ukabiala |
| 17 Joan Clay, Nate Nuzum, Gerald Perdue,
Spencer Koester | |
| 18 Devin Ensley, Ann Krause | |

Happy Anniversary!!!

- 1: Ryan & Abbi Herrick
15: Bob & Marlys Borcharding
17: Keith & Julie Craighton
24: Neal & Roberta Cave
24: Arny & Shelley Larsen
29: Sheldon & Esther Stout

*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.*

Renewal

“...become transformed by the renewing of your minds in Christ Jesus...”

My friend Bill Olmsted is back in Ireland now after visiting the U.S. for about 3 weeks. On the first Sunday of the new year, he will lead the congregation in the Wesley Covenant Service. Last year I had the chance to be with Bill and share in leading the worship service in his three churches in Ireland. It was a wonderful blessing to be able to worship with fellow Methodist in Ireland and to share in John Wesley's Covenant Service.

As Bill explained to me, in a country in which they are very much a minority, the Irish Methodists feel it is very important to affirm their identity as Methodists and to affirm their commitment to God. It's a great service with which to begin the year. Here are the words as they appear in the Irish Methodist Covenant Service:

"I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal."

"I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal."

When you think about it, it's a scary covenant to make. And yet, Wesley had it right. It's the only covenant to make. Because who we are and everything we have is the Lord's, anyway. And when we put ourselves at the Lord's disposal, as John Wesley discovered, He uses us for His marvelous purposes and gives us the most meaningful life we could possibly have.

What a great New Year's resolution to make – that we will renew our relationship with God, that we will, in the coming year, grow in our relationship with God. And unlike a lot of New Year's resolutions, the commitment to grow in and deepen their faith is not just a private commitment but done by making the commitment in the community of faith, to support each other, knowing that there is no such thing as a private Christianity. It is a faith lived in the midst of community. That is going to be our effort this year – to deepen our faith, and to grow in our relationship to the God who comes to us in Jesus Christ.

worship themes for january

jan 1	You are the New Day Revelation 22:13-21	(Craig)
jan 8	Why do the Innocents Suffer? Genesis 50:15-21	(Neil)
jan 15	Bishop Julius Trimble preaching at 9:30 & 10:45	No 8:30 service
jan 22	Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered? II Corinthians 12:1-10	(Neil)
jan 29	Why Can't I See God's Will for My Life? Genesis 32:22-32	(Neil)



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www.newhopedsm.org

Phone: 515.278.2097

A CHURCH FAMILY
CALLED TO SERVE GOD,
LOVE OTHERS
AND FOLLOW
JESUS CHRIST.

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Sunday Worship Services

Traditional Services: 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Contemporary Service: 9:30 a.m.

Children's Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Christian Learning Time: 10:45 a.m.

Church Staff

Pastor: Neil H. Cross

Outreach Pastor: Craig Ferguson

Director of Music: Eldon Cross

Children's Ministries Coordinator: Kelly Morhman

Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei

Nursery Attendant: Sherry Faulkner

Custodian: Chuck VanDyke

Church Office Hours

Mon-Fri: 7:30am-4:30pm

E-mail Information

Church address: nhfamily@newhopedsm.org

Neil Cross: ncross@newhopedsm.org

Craig Ferguson: craig@newhopedsm.org

Nancy Monthei: nancy@newhopedsm.org

Kelly Mohrman: kelly@newhopedsm.org

Eldon Cross: eldon@newhopedsm.org

The Link newsletter 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.

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