

the link

A monthly publication of
New Hope United
Methodist Church

Celebrating
50 years
1965 - 2015

May 2015

MAY AT NEW HOPE UMC

NURTURED BY GOD

- May 3 "Nurtured to Bear Fruit"
- May 10 "Nurtured to Love"
- May 17 "Nurtured to Witness"
- May 24 "Nurtured by God's Spirit"



NEW HOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sundays at New Hope UMC 8:30am • 9:30am • 10:45am
newhopedsm.org

You are invited to explore the Holy Spirit
with us during this season of Pentecost.

*Em*POWERed
the divine inside

Saturdays 5pm
& Sundays 10am
Beaver Creek Elementary



JohnstonRiverOfLife.org

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

Family Day with the Iowa Cubs
Sunday, June 14
Iowa Cubs vs. Colorado Springs
at 1:08pm

Reserve your spot on the Children/Family Ministry board or
contact sjacobson@newhopedsm.org, to sign up.

Cost is \$7/person (ages 3 and younger are free).
Money is due no later than Sunday, May 31st.





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.

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

Prayer Concerns

Barb Agan; Jody Rains; Judy Nemmers; Jim Smith; John Rains; Glenda Millard; Olive Walker; Bruce & Barb Flickinger; Bishop Julius Trimble; District Superintendent, David Weesner; District Field Minister, Karen Nelson; Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, missionary. Prayers for the following military personnel: Jason Homard; Zach McClain; Tim Rains; Collin Traylor; Devan Stanton, Jared Stanton and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

Sympathy

Our Sympathy to Sandy Wilges and family on the passing of Sandy's step father, Edison Keller.

Our Sympathy to Jared & Lindsey Robertson and their daughter Caitlyn on the passing of Jared's step dad, Hal Bellinghausen.

Our Sympathy to Tim & Janet Carrigan and their children, Annabelle, Bradley and Abigail, on the passing of Janet's mother, Linda Williams.

Birth

Congratulations to Jason and Kristi Miller on the birth of their baby, Margaret Rose Miller. Margaret was born on March 28 and weighed 8 lbs, 9 oz and was 20" long. She joins big sister, Nora, at home.

Baptism

Congratulations to Taylin Alivia Crannell who was baptized on Saturday, April 18. Taylin is the daughter of Nate & Jessica Crannell.

Thank You

I would like to thank my church family for their thoughts, prayers and visits. I have serious osteoarthritis and broke my ankle bones, on both sides of my right foot. After a month at Lutheran Intermittent Care, I am finally home and slowly progressing. God Bless you all.
Glenda Millard

Gracias (thank you) from the mission team who will be going to Honduras next February! We so appreciate all of you who attended our work night, April 20, at Pizza Ranch or who have given donations. We are privileged to represent New Hope UMC/JROL/Hopkins Grove in the work we will be doing.

The 2015 Confirmation students were confirmed on Sunday, April 26

Welcome to our new members!!

First row: Sarah Sahlin, Tyler Mohrman, Courtney LePera, Peyton Henry, Mady Johnson

Second row: Tanner Rowland, Joe Hoffman, Luke Breitsprecher, MaryGrace Leyda, Caroline Christensen, Pastor Jon Gaul

Absent: Catherine Leyda

Many thanks to the following persons who gave assistance throughout the Confirmation session:

Confirmation Dinner: Jennifer Riley and Tami Wise coordinators; and the 2014 Confirmation families.

Emblems: SaLynn and Allison Lemke

Stoles: Suzie Martz

Mentors: Thank you for your time and commitment you gave to the students.

Parents: Thank you for your support throughout the year.



Graduation Party

Come help us celebrate:

Nathan Ferguson

Sunday, May 17th, 2 - 5pm

Walnut Ridge Disc Golf Course

Johnston Iowa



Congratulations to all of our graduates!!!

High School Graduates:

Sarah Baldwin, daughter of Mark & Susan Baldwin

Brody Egger, son of Carl & Susan Egger

Nathan Ferguson, son of Pastor Craig & Jody Ferguson

Kara Garside, daughter of Dana & Teresa Garside

Jeffrey Huber, son of John Huber and Holly Haynes

Caleb Kirkpatrick, son of Dan & Mona Kirkpatrick

Katarina Moore, daughter of Roger & Cheryl Moore

Travis Price, son of Steve & Terrie Price

Lindsay Soards, daughter of Bob & Sue Soards

Kaylee Stubbs, daughter of Patty Gressman and Rob Stubbs

Zoe Wilson, daughter of Todd & Pam Wilson

At the starting gate

“There’s a good reason they call these ceremonies ‘commencement exercises,’” Utah Senator Orrin Hatch once said. “Graduation is not the end; it’s the beginning.” The same is true of baptism. Both events are often approached as an end point reached with relief: “Well, at least that’s done!” With the degree — or salvation — in hand, some people feel no further need for education — or spiritual growth.

Just remember: You’re at the starting gate, not the finish line.

Well-wishers encourage new grads, “Don’t stop now; you’re on a roll. Even greater things are ahead!” And Hebrews 12:1 (NRSV) urges the baptized, “Run with perseverance the race that is set before [you].” While a diploma bears the seal of the graduate’s school, Christians *themselves* are sealed with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13; 4:30) and the cross of Christ. To take full advantage of each, we must continue learning and growing.

-The Newsletter Newsletter

College Graduates:

Kate Cossa, daughter of Kirk Dickey

Laura Webber, daughter of Larry & Patrice Webber

Nicole Weisskopf, daughter of Paul & Pam Weisskopf

Eric Welter, son of Tim & Kristin Welter



Memorial Day is our opportunity to pause and remember the sacrifices of many of America’s best citizens.

They made the supreme sacrifice on our behalf, so please remember to honor these heroes on May 25.

Join in for the following opportunities



Summer Softball League,

May 5th–end of July. Tuesdays or Thursdays 6 or 7pm. If you are interested in participating, contact Pastor Craig Ferguson, craig@newhopedsm.org.



Camp Dodge

Memorial Breakfast

Monday, May 25

Volunteers are needed for the Memorial Day Breakfast at Camp

Dodge. Help serve breakfast, clean up, help with the morning activities.

Contact Pastor Craig Ferguson, craig@newhopedsm.org



Life Group BBQ

Sunday, May 3, 5:30pm

At Dana & Teresa Garside’s home,

9432 NW 74th Pl, Grimes.

515-986-4600

Bring a side dish, your own beverage, and lawn chair.



Spring Plant Sale

Sunday, May 3

The plant sale is to raise funds for designated outdoor landscaping (gardens and planters). Among the plants that will be available are multiple varieties of coleus, perennials, and tomatoes.



Special Music this Summer

Please consider sharing your talents with the congregation for the 8:30 or 10:45 services (or both) this summer. Soloists, duets, quartets and small groups (vocal and instrumental) are welcome. They do not even have to be a part of our congregation!

Memorial Day weekend will be the first Sunday singers or instrumentalists will be needed and ending Labor Day Weekend. The third Sunday of the month, Summer Choir will sing at the 10:45 services.

Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall, so look at your calendars and make plans today. Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

From The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees would like to express our gratitude to the following individuals who helped with the Spring Clean up of our campus grounds and upgrading our WIFI.

Pastor Jon Gaul, John Turek, Bob Krause, Roger & Brock Moore, Mark & Sue Baldwin, Ruth Doxon, Steve & Norma Sutton, Spencer Sutton, Mark Thomsen, Earl Lewis, Kathy Russi, Bob Harter, Army Larsen, Larry, Patrice, & Laura Webber, John & Jody Rains, Paul Weisskopf, and Melisa Forbes.

Thank you for your efforts everyone!

Harvest Dinner/General Store/Auction

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 18 at New Hope UMC. This fun filled family event is a wonderful time for fellowship and raising money for your church. More details will be coming soon!

There are many volunteer positions that need to be filled on this year's committee. Some of the opportunities are for general committee vice-chair, ticket sales, publicity, decorations, entertainment and event clean-up. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Larry Webber by email at lpwebber@mchsi.com.

Save the Date!

Sunday, November 22, 2015

New Hope UMC 50th Anniversary will be celebrated in the services and in the afternoon. Stay tuned!



christian learning opportunities

Children & Youth Ministries Mission Statement

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

Children's Worship (Ages 3 years through 2nd grade): Thanks to our volunteers for a great year of Children's Worship! The last day of Children's Worship will be Sunday, May 17th. We will take a break this summer, but start up again on Rally Sunday, September 13th. If you would like to help lead Children's Worship next fall, talk with Sherri Bogue or Sarah Jacobson. We'd love to see new faces get involved in this ministry!



Christian Learning Time (Sundays 10:45-11:45): Sunday, May 17th is the last day of CLT. All teachers, subs, Children's Worship leaders and helpers will be recognized on this day. Please show your support by thanking them for their hard work and dedication to our children, youth and adults at New Hope. We truly appreciate the following 2014-2015 volunteers!

Christian Learning Time

Teachers:

Nick Bogue
Janet Carrigan
Kevin and Jodi Christensen
Tamara Evans
Michele Hamilton
Tracy Hitchcock
Rick and Cathy Homard
Clark Howland
Kristi Mundy
Jennifer Riley
Lindsey Robertson
Will Rock
Beth Roff
Rick, Michelle and Ellie Roquet
Sue and Lindsay Soards
Megan Thomsen
Spencer and Andy Sutton
Tami Wise
Linda Yaske

Substitute Teachers:

Sherri Bogue
Mike Collet
Melany Henry
Ryan and Abbi Herrick
Jenn Higdon
Jason Miller
Alissa Strauss
Stacy Wigant
Kim and Mica Wills

10:45 Gathering Time:

Ryan Herrick
Shelly Peterson

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

Sherri Bogue
Pam Frey
Ryan and Abbi Herrick
Kelly Mohrman
Elaine Sheer

And our teen/tween helpers:

Ellie Roquet
Taylor Evans
Lexi Dean
Peyton Henry
Ally and Tyler Mohrman
Ashlynn Riley
Samantha Strauss
Alex and Caleb Williamson

Children and Youth Ministry Commitment Sunday is May 3rd.

Watch for ways you can be involved and learn more about our different ministries for the fall. We hope you'll consider filling out a commitment card to help maintain our fabulous ministry programs for the children and youth at this church.

Children and Family Ministries Information Spot:

The meal time devotion for this month is titled "Birthday: It's Original." You will also find the final part of our series focused on Protecting Our Families. This article is titled "Character in a Tech-Overloaded World." If you have any ideas or suggestions for Parent Resources or topics you'd like to see, please contact sjacobson@newhopedsm.org.



Again, this spring there will be a 'Girls United For Christ' bible study starting **Sunday May 3rd**. We meet every Sunday for 6-8 weeks from **4-530 pm** at New Hope. Girls in grades entering 4th-8th are invited to join this 'Girls only' Bible group! Sr High girls and adult volunteers needed for crowd control and to help with activities.

Questions? Contact Melanie Henry at melhenry0@gmail.com



TGIW Going Forward...

We are asking the congregation to prayerfully consider where you might see yourself serving with the Wednesday Night Children and Youth Ministry Programs for the 2015-2016 school year.

It takes MANY dedicated people to create and carry out a successful Wednesday Night program for the amount of kids and youth that we have interested. In order to continue with a weekly TGIW program for K-5th grade, we MUST HAVE a Co-Director (see below) and a minimum of 5 volunteers every week (this does not include the kitchen volunteers). We will not be able to have a successful program without this help!

To continue with a successful Jr. Blast program, we will need a minimum of 2 coordinators to help with the planning and making events/activities happen. Extra adults are needed for weekly programming and off-site events.

Please consider how you can take part in maintaining these successful ministries for the future of our church, even if it is diligently praying for leaders to be found. If you are interested in helping in any way, fill out a Children/Youth Ministry Commitment Card in May, or talk with Sarah Jacobson about a specific way to get plugged in. We truly appreciate your support and love to see new faces serving in our ministries.

WANTED: TGIW Co-Director(s)

Are you an organizer? Do you like to do behind-the-scenes event planning? Are you passionate about the Wednesday Night Program and would like to see it be continually offered for our children, youth and families? If so, we are looking for a new TGIW Director (or multiple people) to work with Sarah Jacobson in starting to plan this summer and continue into the 2015-2016 school year. You just need to have an interest, a passion and a time commitment of 1-2 hours/week for 1 year. Filling this volunteer co-director role is very important to continue the TGIW program. If interested, contact sjacobson@newhopedsm.org



Mark Your Calendars!

The Children's Ministry is so excited to announce this year's VBS: SonSpark Labs.

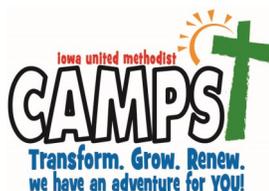
This science-themed VBS will focus on how Jesus is God's plan for the world.

Sunday, July 19th through Thursday, July 23rd

5:30 Dinner; 6-8pm Activities

Registration and volunteer forms are now available.

We LOVE volunteers and are looking for a lot of them to help make this a great week for our kids. We are looking for leaders of games, music, crafts, science and so much more! If you would like to offer your talents, please contact Kristi Miller @ Kristi.mundy@gmail.com



Church Camp! Brochures are at the sign up table in the Fellowship Hall or go to

www.iaumc.org/camps.

Camperships are available from New Hope UMC. The Mission committee is encouraging kids/youth to attend any United Methodist camp and will support them with a scholarship of 1/3 of the cost paid from the Mission Fund. Our funds are less this year so we had to reduce the amount contributed by missions from 1/2 to 1/3. If there is a reason this would keep a child

from going to camp because of the cost, please contact Sharon Smith at 277-7125 or

wicketsblooms@aol.com. We had a tremendous increase in children attending camps last summer, which was very inspiring so we want to continue helping children attend. Please inform the church office when you have registered your child(ren). If anyone from our congregation would like to donate to a campership fund, please call the church office with your pledge. Thank you!

Youth Groups

Jr. BLAST (6th-8th grade) We are needing volunteers to lead the Jr. BLAST group. Your help is greatly appreciated by all the youth and you can contact the church office at nhfamily@newhopedsm.org.

Sr. BLAST (9th-12th grade) Leaders: Chris Higdon, Charity & McKayla Johnson, and Pam Frey
BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org

It is hard to believe that our mission trip to Memphis, Tennessee is in just over 2 months. We are planning to take 12 people on the mission trip this year. The trip (*July 19th – 25th*) will have the group traveling to Memphis, Tennessee (*616 miles*) to work in urban city ministries. The group has been informed that they will be severing at Mid-South Food bank; where the team will be sorting food, packing lunches, and stuffing school backpacks.



At this point, the group has raised just over \$4,200 for this trip and expect to raise the remainder of the \$2,000 over the next couple of months with many different types of fundraising activities (*breakfasts, coupon sales, service activities*).

Additionally, the Senior High BLAST group has decided on our 2015 BLAST shirts. Please see the design to the left.

If you are interested in ordering a shirt (\$9); please let Charity, Pam, or Chris know that you would like a 2015 BLAST T-Shirt or email us at BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org. We will be placing the order on May 7th.

Beyond the fundraising efforts, the Senior High BLAST group volunteered last month at ChildServe. The group had a lot of fun playing games with the children at ChildServe. In fact, they enjoyed it so much they are already planning the activities for when we go back in May.



Here are the upcoming Youth events for the next two months:

May 6th, 13th @ 6 pm ~ Wed Night Activities
May 17th ~ New Hope BLAST Breakfast
May 20th @ 6 pm ~ ChildServe Volunteer
May 27th @ 6 pm ~ Wed Night Activities

June 14th ~ Volunteer for Hand of Luke
June 17th @ 6 pm ~ ChildServe Volunteer
June 28th ~ New Hope BLAST Breakfast
July 19th @ New Hope 8:30 am Service ~ BLAST Mission Trip send off
July 25th ~ Return from Summer Mission

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

groups gathering together

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, May 9
at 7:30 a.m. at New Hope.

Women's Fellowship

New Hope Women's Fellowship will have their next meeting on **Thurs, May 21**, 9-10am social hour; 10-11am meeting with a speaker. All women of New Hope and JROL are invited. Questions? Call Betty Holwegner at 278-8115.

Women's Bible Study will be on hiatus until fall.

Widow's Luncheon

Come join us for food and conversation at Panera in Johnston (off of Merle Hay Road) on

Friday May 15th at 11:30. If you need a ride or have questions, you can contact Sharon Smith 515-277-7125 or Shirley Frus 515-279-1130.



Veterans Helping Veterans

May 23, 8:30am breakfast with Col. Robert King, head of the Iowa Veteran's State of Affairs. All Veterans and spouses are welcome to join us! If you have questions, please contact Billy Nuzum at bbnewz54@gmail.com



May New Hope Needlers

The Needlers will meet on **Monday, May 4th at 11:30 am** at the Panera in Johnston for lunch / fellowship, followed by sewing at Kim Buske's from 1-4 p.m. They will be working on the lap quilts for the care team.

Saturday, May 16th, the Needlers will meet at church from 9-3 with a pot-luck lunch at noon.

The focus on that day will be the Little Dresses / Little Britches and the Days for Girls kits in support of the Mission team.

Any sewers are welcome to join for one or both days. Questions? Contact Kim Buske at 515-491-5402.

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 will meet on **Thursday, July 9, 1:30pm** at New Hope. If you would like to join the Care Ministry team, please contact Clarice Rubek or Mary Ann Rice.

Blood Pressure Check

New Hope is offering free Blood Pressure checks each month. **May 3, 9:30-11:00am** 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.

Stroke Club of Iowa

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

Small Groups

Life Group (Bible Study):

Are you looking for a place to connect with friends, build your faith, and get support?

Join a Life Group (small group).

Contact Teresa Garside at

dtgarside@q.com or 515-986-4600

Adult Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Join us in the Ruby Chapel for group discussions and Bible Study.

Friday Small Group

The Friday Small Group will meet on **May 8 & 22.**

Join us at 1pm at the Pizza Ranch, 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Kielsmeier, 515-689-9680

missions



MAY MISSION: Bidwell Riverside

A private non-profit, Bidwell Riverside has been serving people in poverty since 1893. Bidwell seeks to build hope for low-income individuals and families through three major focus areas: Children, Families, and Community.

Being in poverty is a full-time job. Bidwell Riverside is constantly looking for new and innovative ways to assist families to relieve the strain and allow them more time to do other important things. Our goal is to help in a way that will allow them to break the cycle of poverty.



Distribution Center

Our distribution center provides families with food, clothing, and household items. Our food is provided primarily through the Des Moines Area Religious Council. Families can obtain a four day supply of basic food items once every calendar month. Good quality clothing items are available for free (up to 15 items per month, per family member). In addition, any gently used household items that we receive are available as well.

Child Development Center

Bidwell Riverside provides a comprehensive education and care program for children 18 months - 5 years. The center is open every weekday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The center utilizes Creative Curriculum and has received a 5-star designation through the Quality Ratings System of Iowa. For more information please visit the Child Development Center's website at: www.bidwellkids.org



Family Services

An array of services are available to families seeking to become more self-sufficient. Resource and referral services are available during regular distribution center hours. Our newest program, Pathways to Self-Sufficiency, partners a family with a staff person to identify and reach goals. Families enrolled in Pathways also have access to funding to provide stability for the family as they make long-term changes. When available, funds are also available to assist with emergencies such as eviction, utility shut-off, and other essentials.



The Mission committee will be conducting a much needed diaper drive for the children attending the Child Development Center. Place your diapers in the basket on the Mission Table. If you want to make a monetary donation, write your check to New Hope UMC with Bidwell Riverside on the memo line. Thank you!

Other Mission News

1. Diane Densmore delivered **30 Little Britches, 40 Little Dresses and 11 PAD kits** that were packed in a shipping container bound for Nigeria for our Iowa/Nigeria Partnership. The PAD kits are washable sanitary napkins as women in Africa have little access and money for commercial napkins and have to be sent to a separate living area or stay home during their menses. Our needlers are sewing more kits and need small hotel soaps to include with them. **Place your hotel soaps in the proper basket on the Mission Table.** This will be an ongoing mission project. Thank you!
2. **June Java Drive** for Hope Ministries, serving the Homeless since 1915. Coffee is a staple item at Hope's emergency shelter and long-term recovery facilities. You can help "fill their cup" by providing donations of coffee. Folgers REGULAR (not decaf) 33.9 oz and larger sizes preferred.
3. **Summer Storybook Drive** for The Storybook Project, giving women at the Iowa Correctional Institute for Women in Mitchellville and men at the Newton Correctional Facility the opportunity to connect with their children through reading.
4. Put **August 2nd** on your calendar for our annual **Meals from the Heartland** on-site packaging at New Hope. We will again package 26,000 meals.

Mission Trip for Adults

Mission Trip to Honduras, February 6-13, 2016. We are looking for more team members to sign up by September 1. Questions? Or to sign up, please contact Denise Hartford, denisehartford@gmail.com, text or call 515-890-1406.



Thank you to the team of Pastor Jon Gaul, Bill & Pam Gibbons, and John & Denise Hartford for putting some finishing touches on a Habitat for Humanity home.



Throughout the year, Sr. BLAST has worked hard preparing many delicious breakfast fundraisers. All proceeds go toward their summer mission trip. Thank you to everyone who has dined and donated!!



Hand of Luke - May 14

Meatball Sandwich
Broccoli with Cheese
Fresh Fruit
Cookies

The 14th of each month, New Hoppers donate food, cook a meal and serve it at the Central Iowa Shelter & Services, downtown.

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, return by 8:00pm.

When dropping off your non perishables, please see that they are *clearly labeled HOL and clearly indicate who it is from* and place on the kitchen counter. Frozen items may be placed on the marked shelves in the industrial freezer. If possible, please indicate on the sign up sheet where you placed your item(s) (for example, "in pantry", or "in the refig."). Baked goods should be transferred to a disposable container if possible. *Thank you!!*



Fifty days after Jesus' resurrection, on a day called Pente-cost, the Christian church was born. Because Pentecost was a holiday celebrating the harvest (a bit like our Thanksgiving), the apostles and a large crowd had gathered to celebrate in Jerusalem.

Many people had assembled near Peter and the other followers of Christ when "[F]rom heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind ... " (Acts 2:2 ff, NRSV). Then tongues of fire descended on everyone in the crowd.

After the wind and fire descended, all sorts of languages, known and unknown, came out of the crowd. Each person spoke "about God's deeds of power" (verse 11). No wonder Luke wrote, "All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'" (verse 12).

The whole affair was mind-boggling and life-changing. The Holy Spirit had come upon many people; they knew God was powerfully at work in their midst.

On Pentecost many years ago, some 3,000 people came to believe in Christ. That's why today Christians remember this powerful event as the birthday of the church. Pentecost occurs on May 24 this year. - The NewsletterNewsletter

Financial Update

Below is the March 2015 General Fund operating report for New Hope and Johnston River of Life.

Due to your generosity and the increase in pledges last year, we were able to reduce the size of the projected deficit this year. Thank you for your giving and faithfulness in supporting the work and ministries of New Hope and Johnston River of Life.

New Hope Financial Update

	March 2015 Actual
Total Receipts	\$30,479.87
Total Expenditures	<u>27,201.46</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$3,278.41

Johnston River of Life Financial Update

	March 2015 Actual
Total Receipts	\$27,167.47
Total Expenditures	<u>13,702.31</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$13,465.16

Discretionary Fund has been established. The fund will be used by Pastor Jon for parishioner's extreme needs or occasionally when people come to the church for help. Your donations toward this fund is greatly appreciated. Please place your donation in the Wishing Well located by the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Hall.

New Hope Sunday morning Worship attendance

	8:30	9:30	10:45	total
March 29	41	129	138	308
April 5	59	190	139	388 (Easter)
April 12	39	87	92	218
April 19	26	104	108	238
April 26	23	70	223	316

Johnston River of Life Worship attendance

	Sat	Sun	total
Mar 28	50	Mar 29 54	104
Apr 4	148	Apr 5 77	225 (Easter events)
Apr 11	31	Apr 12 40	71
Apr 18	50	Apr 19 62	112
Apr 25	42	Apr 26 40	82

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 OR 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.

Dear Mother,

The truth is I don't remember the last time I gave you the credit you deserve, probably never. At the age of 44, I am finally realizing the influence, consistent support, complete dedication, and absolute love that you gave sacrificially to myself and each of my siblings. The role of a mother has to be the most complicated, long-term, and unappreciated job title a person can have. I don't know that it is possible to give you the credit you deserve. A simple "Thank You," falls so drastically short.

Scripture is filled with examples of mothers who sacrificed everything for their children and God is referred to as a mother hen who protects and gathers her chicks under her wings. As I process the depth of a mother's love, I am convinced that a mother, more than anyone, has the best understanding of God's love for us.

God gave us birth, "knitting us together in our mother's womb." God knows every detail of our lives, "even the hairs on our head", the mean words someone said to us at lunch, and the "prayers of our hearts." God wakes us in the morning with "new mercy", puts a meal on the table as much as provides for "the Lilies of the Field", listens as we grumble, and waits up late for us to make sure we are safe. God is never too busy to listen, never too busy to offer guidance and wisdom. Kinda sounds like the love of a mother.

Life gets busy. I get focused. I try to do too many things. I can make every excuse in the world, but ultimately it comes down to the fact that I know I don't tell my mother enough how thankful I am for her love and sacrifice. It makes me realize how important it is to for me call or visit or just say I love you. Then as I think of God loving me with even more intensity than my mother I realize that I can never do enough to deserve that love. I can only do my best to honor that love and that sacrifice; to call, (pray) visit, (worship) and demonstrate my appreciation for loving me so completely.

Your Loving Child,



I don't know how you plan to honor your mother this month, but I hope you go out of your way to let her know how much you appreciate all the sacrifices she made for you. I encourage you to surprise her with affection and gifts showing your love. And as you go about affirming your mother, make a little extra effort to show God your appreciation too.

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 worshippers.

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 sanctuary & 1st/2nd grade classroom. Volunteers read a Bible story to the children and supervise craft and play time.

Hosts bake or purchase 6 to 8 dozen cookies and use 3 to 5 dozen cookies from the tall, silver freezer in the supply room. (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, church secretary, at 278-2097.

Those who serve New Hope in May

8:30am Traditional Service	9:30am Contemporary Service	10:45am Traditional Service
<u>Greeters</u> 3 10 17 24 31	<u>Greeters</u> 3 Nancy Monthei 10 17 24 31	<u>Greeters</u> 3 Lee Ross 10 17 Larry & Paulette Wood 24 31
<u>Lectors</u> 3 10 Cathy Short 17 24 31 Cathy Short	<u>Lectors</u> 3 Patrice Webber 10 Pam Frey 17 24 31	<u>Lectors</u> 3 Jon Verner 10 Spencer Sutton 17 24 31
<u>Traditional Service Callers</u> 3 Norma Sutton 10 Bob & Marlys Borcharding 17 Norma Sutton 24 Bob & Marlys Borcharding 31 Norma Sutton	<u>Money Counters</u> 3 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross 10 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, Ron Zoss 17 Clark Howland, Rick Homard, Larry Wood 24 Jerry Kielsmeier, Kim Traylor, John Burroughs 31 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross	<u>*Hosts</u> 3 Pam Weisskopf 10 Neal & Roberta Cave 17 Sr. BLAST 24 Linda Kielsmeier 31 Larry & Kim Buske
<u>Contemporary Service Callers</u> 3 Rod & Lynette Cook 10 Eldon Cross 17 Rod & Lynette Cook 24 Eldon Cross 31 Rod & Lynette Cook	<u>Pal Friday: 9 a.m.</u> 1 Shirley Johnson 8 Marilyn Monroe 15 Theresa Flickinger 22 JoAnn Decker 29 Norma Sutton	

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).



*Happy Mother's Day
Sunday, May 10!*

May 2015

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
3 Holy Communion Graduate Recognition 9:30-11a, Blood Pressure Plant Sale 4-5:30, Girls United by Christ	4 6:30-9:00p, Ruby Chapel reserved 7:00p, Trustees Mtg, 3rd grade classroom	5 9:30a, Alanon 9:30a, Senior Singers practice Noon, AA 7:00p, Worship Design Mtg., Ruby Chapel	6 6:00p, Sr. BLAST, R.Chapel 6:30p, Choir practice 7:00p, JROL Meeting 7:45p, Praise Team	7	1 Office Vol: Shirley Johnson 8 Office Vol: Marilyn Monroe 1p, Small Group at Pizza Ranch	2 10a-2p, Wesley Woods outing 3-6p, Plant donations dropped off 9 7:30a, Men's Breakfast at church
10 Mother's Day Native American Minis- tries Sunday (offering) 4-5:30, Girls United by Christ	11	12 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	13 6:00p, Sr. BLAST, R.Chapel 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team	14 3:30p, Hand of Luke	15 Office Vol: Theresa Flickinger 11:30, Widow's luncheon at Panera in Johnston	16 9a-3p, New Hope Needlers Sew In, F.Hall
17 Food Pantry Sunday 8:30, Fiala baptisms Sr. BLAST breakfast Last day of CLT and Choir Last Children's Worship 4-5:30, Girls United by Christ	18 Deadline for June LINK 11:30, Needlers at Panera	19 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 7:00p, Finance Meeting, R.Chapel 7:00p, Stroke Club, F.Hall	20 6:00p, Sr. BLAST, Child Serve 7:45p, Praise Team	21 9:00a, Women's Fellowship	22 Office Vol: JoAnn Decker 1p, Friday Small Group at Pizza Ranch	23 8:30a, Veterans Helping Veterans breakfast at church
24 Memorial Sunday Golden Cross Sunday (offering) Autism Awareness bake Sale 4-5:30, Girls United by Christ	25 Office Closed  MEMORIAL DAY	26 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	27 6:00p, Sr. BLAST, R.Chapel 7:45p, Praise Team	28 7p, Administrative Council Meeting, Ruby Chapel	29 Office Vol: Norma Sutton	30
31 4-5:30, Girls United by Christ	June 1 7:00p, Trustees Mtg, R.Chapel	2 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	3 7:45p, Praise Team	4	5 Office Vol: Marge Carnahan	6 Annual Conference, June 6-9

Native American Ministries Sunday (offering) May 10: "This Sunday serves to remind the Church of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society." (Par. 264.6, The Book of Discipline 2004)

Golden Cross Sunday (offering) May 24: An offering to support special grants for local churches to develop health ministries for Iowa's Children in Poverty.

Happy Birthday to you!!

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

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Brook Larsen, Lillian Herrick | 15 Scott Peterson, Madison Ramsey |
| 3 FloAnn Wills | 17 Alice Hedman, Tim Mc Culley |
| 4 Maddy Dolberg, William Rock, | 18 Kandra Dickerson, Bill Jeffries, |
| 5 John Lichter | Jane Speck, Alex Hershey, |
| 6 Cathy Beck-Cross, Alex Williamson, | Kip Cullinan, Samantha Wakeman |
| Sally Lindstrom | 22 Linda Yaske |
| 8 Bob Reaney, Taylor Webber, Noah Neu | 23 Margaret Heneke, Nate Kinnetz, Dan |
| Pastor Jon Gaul | Kirkpatrick, Mark Sahlin |
| 9 Pam Frey, Laura Speck, Michael | 24 Destinee DeBates, Drew Hershey |
| Craighton, Benjamin Leyda, Mollie | 25 Jody Wolfe |
| Rooney | 26 Allen Frizzell |
| 10 Sue Medley, Shawn Stringham, Caitlyn | 27 Jenna Merrill, Hayden Johnston, |
| Robertson | Suzanne Neu, Lydia Garside |
| 11 Spencer Wolfe | 28 Evan Kinnetz, Sarah Sahlin |
| 13 Jamie Christensen, Marilyn Osborn, | 29 Paul Weisskopf, John Walker, |
| Greta Musgrave | Allyson Mohrman |
| 14 Rod Cook, Adam Herring, | 30 Norman Kasper, Caroline Christensen, |
| Andrew Wise, Abbi Herrick, | Shirley Johnson |
| Nicolas Zimmerman | 31 Tracy Hitchcock |

Happy Anniversary!

- | |
|--------------------------------|
| 3 Jason & Heather Kerndt |
| 3 John & Jody Rains |
| 6 Tim & Janet Carrigan |
| 6 Nancy & Dale Monthei |
| 10 Rick & Cathy Homard |
| 14 Mark & Linda Yaske |
| 19 Don & Ruth Doxon |
| 19 Paul & Pam Weisskopf |
| 21 Craig & Mary Thompson |
| 22 Forrest & Marilyn Mc Cleary |
| 23 Mark & Tami Wise |
| 31 Stephen & Norma Sutton |
| 31 Joby & Jodi Baderstadt |

*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.*



Spring is in full swing and it's time to look ahead to summer activities. One of those important summer activities is **Church Camp!**

I have had many exciting adventures in United Methodist camping and survived them all! At one camp where I served as a counselor, we slept (or tried to sleep) in cabins, studied the Bible, made crafts, and enjoyed God's wonderful creation outdoors. All this while not losing a single camper (or counselor).

We enjoyed and learned from many fun activities. I learned that it is hard to canoe down a river when there is a drought. It was still fun, even though we had to push more than paddle the canoes. As we explored a natural cave, I learned that I have a bit of claustrophobia. Of course I was brave and didn't admit it to the campers (and it was too dark for them to see my knees shaking). I also went farther than anyone else down our makeshift water slide! Although, that may have had something to do with the fact that I was the biggest one there and not because of any special talent I had (gravity you know).

The campers even had some valuable experiences, such as what it's like to sleep in the same room with someone who snores--**LOUDLY** (and it wasn't me).

Sure, there were some trouble makers, even besides the counselors, but they were the ones who would surprise us by doing acts of kindness or knowing the answers to difficult concepts about the Christian faith.

Christian camping has been an extremely important and worthwhile experience in helping children, youth, and adults learn more about God and draw closer to God through Jesus Christ in the setting of God's wonderful creation. Many of our pastors and active lay members look back to their church camp experience as the place they made their initial Christian commitment.

So, I have an appeal and a challenge for you. Call the church office for more information about United Methodist summer camps here in Iowa. We have one camp very close by, which is Wesley Woods, just south and west of Indianola. In my past life, I have been a counselor at all three camps, Wesley Woods, Pictured Rocks and Okoboji. They are all fantastic.

On Saturday, May 2, there will be some of us enjoying a day at Wesley Woods "on the house" as our church was recognized for sending a large number of campers there last year. Let's do it again!

We have camp scholarships available to help offset the cost, so give us a call or stop in and sign up now, because summer is coming. It really is!

Blessings, Pastor Jon

May Theme -- "Nurtured by God"

May 3	<u>Title:</u> "Nurtured to Bear Fruit"	<u>Script.:</u> John 15:1-8; Graduate Recognition; Holy Communion
May 10	<u>Title:</u> "Nurtured to Love"	<u>Script.:</u> 1 John 5:1-6; Mother's Day
May 17	<u>Title:</u> "Nurtured to Witness"	<u>Script:</u> Luke 24:44-53; CLT Recognition; Choir Recognition
May 24	<u>Title:</u> "Nurtured by God's Spirit"	<u>Script.:</u> Acts 2:1-4, 12; Memorial Sunday; Pentecost Sunday
May 31	Pastor Craig Ferguson, preaching	



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 • www.johnstonriveroflife.org

Church Staff

Pastor: Jon Gaul
Outreach Pastor: Craig Ferguson
Director of Music: Eldon Cross
Children's Ministries Coordinator: Sarah Jacobson
Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei
Nursery Attendant: Michele Krebs
Custodian: Chuck VanDyke

Church Office Hours

Mon–Fri: 8:00am - 4:30pm

E-mail Information

Church address: nhfamily@newhopedsm.org
Jon Gaul: jgaul@newhopedsm.org

Craig Ferguson: craig@newhopedsm.org
Nancy Monthei: nancy@newhopedsm.org
Sarah Jacobson: sjacobson@newhopedsm.org
Eldon Cross: eldon@newhopedsm.org

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find us on facebook!

Visit the website to find our facebook link.

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.

the link
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