

the link

A monthly publication of
New Hope United
Methodist Church

*Celebrating
50 years
1965 - 2015*

June 2015

JUNE AT NEW HOPE UMC

the ReNewing of the spirit

- June 7 "A New Time"
- June 14 "A New Beginning"
- June 21 "A New Day"
- June 28 "A New Way"



NEW HOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

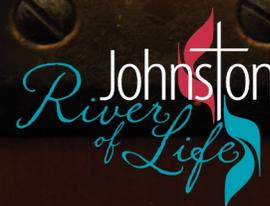
JUNE WORSHIP SERIES

What holds you down?

Escape

Saturdays 5pm & Sundays 10am

Beaver Creek Elementary
JohnstonRiverOfLife.org



All kids age 4 years to completed 5th grade, are invited to join Johnston River of Life on **June 22, 23, 24 at the Simpson Barn** in Johnston (next to the library), 6 - 8 pm!!

Each night begins at Blast to the Past Bash where kids will sing, shout, praise, pray, and be introduced to a Bible story and the daily theme. Then after they experience the other activities of the day, kids gather back at Bible Blast to the Past Bash to be encouraged to love God and to be motivated to serve others.

Other sites at Bible Blast to the Past include: Timeless Truth Tent where kids will explore the Bible story in a variety of interactive ways; Backtrack Bazaar where kids have time to move around, have fun, and fill up on snacks; Discovery Ruins where kids discover ancient arts and facts through science and crafts; and Mission Quest Cave where kids are encouraged to serve others! All these fun activities connect to the Bible story, Bible memory, and the timeless truth of God's everlasting love!

The staff is waiting for some brave time travelers to join them in serving and having fun! Contact: Jody Ferguson at 319-939-6787 or jomamaferguson@gmail.com.



New Hope's Vacation Bible School is set for **July 19-23rd, Dinner at 5:30pm, Activities from 6-8 pm**

and SonSparks Lab is the theme!

Click on the VBS 2015 tab of the New Hope UMC website: www.newhopedsm.org to print the participant and volunteer forms or pick up forms at the VBS table in the Fellowship Hall.

This year we will find out the solution to the equation $GP4U = J$. We will explore Bible verses and fun science activities to see how God has a plan for us!

We always welcome volunteers and extra hands to help make this a great experience for our kiddos! If you are interested in volunteering in the areas of crafts, storytelling, games, snacks, evening meals, or shepherding, please sign up or speak directly with Kristi Miller ([515-418-1202](tel:515-418-1202)) or Andy Sutton ([515-554-4055](tel:515-554-4055)).



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

Andy Sutton; Kay Goff; Marilyn Monroe; Larry LePera; Levi Kinnetz; Joan Davis; 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 Connie Adams and family on the passing of her husband, Robert G. Adams.

Baptism

Congratulations to Harrison Dean Fiala and Violet Eliza Fiala, who were baptized on May 17th. Harrison and Violet are the children of Austin and Katie Fiala.

Directory Update:

Sharon Smith (new address)
8093 Cobblestone Rd
Urbandale, IA 50322
515-277-7125

If you have a change in address, phone or email, please contact the church office at 278-2097.

Thank You:

Thank you to everyone that donated plants for our garden fundraiser, purchased plants or assisted at the sale. We are happy to report that over \$400 was raised for maintenance of the church planters and gardens. We are always looking for assistance in maintaining the beds. There is the option of working with a small group or on your own time. If interested, please contact Ruth Doxon 253-9115, rdoxon@gmail.com or Kathy Russi, 333-1764, kwrussi@aol.com



May Sew-In

The Needlers had a productive day on Sat, May 16th sewing components and assembling the sanitary kits that will go to the Iowa Nigeria Partnership as part of our New Hope Missions giving. The group has completed over 20 kits for girls plus five postpartum kits. These will go with our Little Dresses and Little Britches. The group's next Sew-In at church will be in July.



Visiting sewers Karen and Elizabeth listen as Barb Mather provided the mealtime devotion and blessing for all the sewn items.



Jody Rains and Sharon Smith stitching away.



The group shows some of the completed items.



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!

The third Sunday of the month, Summer Choir will sing at the 10:45 services.

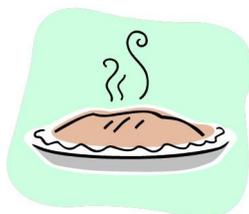
Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall, so look at your calendars and make plans today. Make a joyful noise to the Lord!



New Hope UMC and Johnston River of Life will again participate in this year's **Johnston Green Days Parade on Saturday, June 20 at 10:00a.m.**

We are **looking for parade walkers** to give hand outs and represent the church.

If you can help please contact Pastor Craig Ferguson at 319-939-6788 or email at craig@newhopedsm.org.



Pie Sale

The Women's Fellowship is having a pie sale on **Sunday, June 21** (*changed from June 28*) after each worship service as a fundraiser for their mission projects. We are accepting ANY TYPE of pie from all members and appreciate your donations.

Pies may be delivered to the church on Saturday, June 20, from 5 - 6pm.

Questions? Please contact Sharon Lewis, 254-1692.



Summer Softball League, through the end of July. Tuesdays or Thursdays 6 or 7pm.

If you are interested in participating, contact Pastor Craig Ferguson, craig@newhopedsm.org.



The Altar Guild Needs You!

The Altar Guild is responsible for ensuring that the Altar paraments align with the seasons of the church in the Sanctuary, Family Life Center and the Ruby Chapel as necessary. We make or purchase banners or other decor to support the various worship themes and coordinate any seasonal decorating. We have very few actual meetings and while our work usually only takes a few hours each month, we could

really use a few additional people. **If you are willing to be part of this team, please contact Kim Buske, 515-491-5402 or Pam Frey., 515-490-8440.**

If you enjoy the banners / decorations but are not able to be part of the team, you can always add a few dollars to your giving and designate it for the Altar Guild, then watch to see what new banners / decorations arrive.

RUMMAGE SALE THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Rummage Sale. New Hope truly served our community with friendly smiles and items for sale that were clean, in good condition and at a low cost. **The Rummage Sale brought in over \$7000 for New Hope's Ministries.**

We thank the many Sunday volunteers who set up the tables and placed the donations in their designated areas. Many of these volunteers work during the week and having them do so much on Sunday is a huge help that guarantees a successful Rummage Sale week.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday volunteers continued to place donations in their designated areas, displayed and priced them. Their effort and dedication is what pulls the Rummage Sale together and makes it an organized and enjoyable shopping experience for our community.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday was the sale and we thank the many customers for attending our Rummage Sale. Many volunteers are needed these days to answer questions, keep the items neat and tidy and add up the cost of the purchases for the customer and cashier.

The Bake Sale also was successful and we thank you for your bake sale donations. Everything sold and over \$800 was made at the bake sale.

The following items were donated to the bake sale:

- 32 dozen cookies
- 37 sweet breads (3 sizes)
- 30 pies (2 sizes)
- 8 packages of cinnamon rolls
- 8 pints of homemade pickled beets
- 3 kinds of homemade candy
- 2 fresh rhubarb warm coffee cakes
- And a variety of other goodies as well

We thank Betty Holwegner and her helpers for providing delicious lunches for the Rummage Sale workers Monday through Saturday.

Saturday was the last day of the sale and clean-up day. Thank you to the many volunteers and the Senior Blast and its leaders who helped us sack and box the leftover donations and load them into the Hope Ministries truck. The leftover donations will be sold by Hope Ministries at their Encore store.



Be sure to remember our upcoming **Books, Bake and Collectibles Sale this coming October, 24 and 25, 2015.** We will need your donations, your help and your friendly smile as we again reach out to our community.

The **Rummage Sale** in 2016 will take place **April 21-23, 2016.**



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 Learning Opportunity on Sunday, July 12th

This summer, our children ages 3 years through 2nd grade have an incredible opportunity to learn about nutrition, exercise, and how God wants us to take care of our bodies. Abbi Herrick will lead our session on Sunday, July 12th during the 9:30 service. Parents are encouraged to stay and participate in the contemporary service while the children meet in their class.

Youth in grades 4 and up are welcome to help. If you have any questions about this unique opportunity, contact sjacobson@newhopedsm.org

Children and Youth Volunteers Update:

Thank you to everyone who has already committed to helping our children and youth ministries in some way for the next school year. We have many positions filled already and are very grateful for your support!

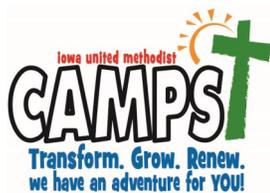
Did you miss our commitment Sunday? It's not too late to commit! We can always use more help! There are yellow volunteer directories and commitment cards in the FLC and Narthex to fill out and turn in the offering plate, or you can contact Sarah Jacobson if you would like to help in some way. This summer we will be searching very intently for more CLT teachers, enough volunteers to make a weekly TGIW program happen (including a co-director), Jr Blast Leader(s), a co-chair for our Children/Youth team, and filling the rest of our VBS positions. Please be in prayer about if/how you might be able to help in these areas and contact Sarah with any questions.



"Girls United For Christ" bible study meets every Sunday at New Hope through the end of June.

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. Contact Melanie Henry for details at melhenry0@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!

Children and Family Ministries Information Spot:

The meal time devotion for this month is titled “Freshly Squeezed.” In light of Mother’s/Father’s Day, you will find this month’s articles in the category of Parental Roles titled “The Real Job of Dad’s” and “The Real Job of Mom’s”. If you have any ideas or suggestions for Parent Resources or topics you’d like to see, please contact sjacobson@newhopedsm.org.

Join us for the following summer Family Activities:



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 only if we get a minimum of 25 people in our group (ages 3 and younger are free). *Money is due no later than Sunday, May 31st.*



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 and 6-8pm Activities

Registration and volunteer forms are now available on the website or in Fellowship Hall.

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 shepherds to walk around with the kids, a sound person, a Bible lesson person and registration helpers. We can always use more help with meals, set up, and miscellaneous projects. If you would like to offer your talents, please contact Kristi Miller @ Kristi.mundy@gmail.com. If you can’t volunteer, consider making a donation of supplies. That list will be posted soon.



Family Day for the month of August will be swimming at The Northwest Pool. A date and more details will be available in July.

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

The group is excited to announce that we are **84%** funded for our summer mission trip to Memphis, Tennessee. The group couldn't have risen over \$5,000 towards this trip without the generosity of our congregation and the support of the BLAST kids and parents. This year the group has done a variety of fundraising activities to reach this goal; including hosting a monthly breakfast at the New Hope campus, partnering with local restaurants to raise money, and selling Hy-Vee coupon books. With all that said, we have around month to raise the remainder (\$1,000) for the mission trip.



We will be taking 4 adult sponsors on the trip (*Chris Higdon, Charity & McKayla Johnson, and Pam Frey*) and 8 High School students (*Nathan & Hanna Ferguson, Brady Jansen, Brianna Johnson, Kate Lichter, Hannah Hoffman, Clarissa Short, and Jordan Williamson*) over 616 miles to work in urban city ministries. Please begin to pray for the adult sponsors and youth going on this mission trip and that God will use the Senior BLAST group to bless the people in Memphis, Tennessee. The trip is July 19th – 25th and during this time the group will be partnering with Mid-South Food bank to sort food, pack lunches, and stuff school backpacks.

Beyond getting ready for the Mission Trip; the BLAST group's last Wednesday night meeting will be May 27th, where the group will be meeting at the Church to do a fun, end of the school year celebration. Since January, the BLAST group has been meeting on Wednesday nights to read through the book *Letters from a Skeptic* by Dr. Gregory A. Boyd. This book is a correspondence between a non-believing father and his Christian professor son. The father is engaging his son in a series of question about Christian and the faith (*Do all non-Christians go to hell? How can we believe a man rose from the dead, Why is the world so full of suffering, How do we know the Bible was divinely inspired, and Does God know the future?*); in which the son responds to each of his father's questions and ultimately leads his father into a relationship with Jesus. This book has inspired several interesting dialogs with the youth this year as we are challenging them on how they would respond to the father's questions; before reading the sons answer. We are looking forward to continuing similar studies in the fall when the group gets back together meeting every Wednesday night.

Here are the upcoming Youth events:

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
August 30th ~ Memphis Celebration lunch at New Hope

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, June 13
at 7:30 a.m. at New Hope.

Women's Fellowship

Will not meet in June.
Join them on **July 16**, 9am for breakfast at Okoboji Grill in Johnston. All women of New Hope and JROL are invited. Questions? Call Betty Holwegner at 278-8115.

Widow's Luncheon

Come join us for food and conversation at Panera in Johnston (off of Merle Hay Road) on **Friday June 19th at 11:30**. Also, please be thinking of a new name for our group. 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

Join us for the following summer gatherings:

June 13, 8:30am breakfast at New Hope UMC.

July 18, 8:30am breakfast at New Hope UMC followed by a tour of the Central Iowa Shelter.

August 15, 8:30am breakfast with Sgt. Patrick

Perkins and he will be speaking about the Hero's Hunting Foundation. All Veterans and spouses are welcome to join us! If you have questions, please contact Billy Nuzum at bbnewz54@gmail.com

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. **June 7, 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 Sunday Evening Life Group (small group):

1. "All the Places to Go...How Will You know?" by John Ortberg. Sundays 5:30 PM. Held at (rotating locations) Pastor Craig & Jody Ferguson's 6850 NW 54th Ct. Johnston 515.984.0482 or Charity Johnson's 6243 NW 49th St. Johnston 515.720.8299

2. "Chosen by God" by R.C. Sproul. Sundays 6:00 PM. Held at Dick & Netha Piphos 712 SE 4th St. Grimes 515.986-4071

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



June New Hope Needlers

The Needlers will meet on **Monday, June 15th at 11:30 am** at the Panera on Merle Hay Rd in Johnston for lunch / fellowship. Then, move to Kim Buske's at 1pm to work on lap/baby quilts for the Care Team. Any sewers are welcome to join for either or both parts. Questions? Contact Kim Buske at 515-491-5402.

missions

JUNE MISSION: Meals from the Heartland

Our Mission focus for June and July will be Meals from the Heartland as we plan on our annual on-site packaging of 26,000 meals, **August 2nd at New Hope**. Sign ups will begin June 7th, for one-hour shifts after the 8:30, 9:30 and 10:45 shortened services, continuing with additional shifts until we have met our goal.

At just 20 cents a meal, every donation helps feed the starving.

- \$20 funds the cost of 100 meals
- \$50 funds the cost of 250 meals - the cost one typical volunteer uses in an average shift!
- \$100 funds the cost of 500 meals

The Meals website says, "Through local distribution partners like the Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC), the Food Bank of Iowa and others, we continue to provide hope to children and families in Iowa by providing nutrition they can rely on. And our international distribution partner, Convoy of Hope, helps deliver meals to the starving around the United States and across the world. In 2015, our goal is to package 15 million meals and beyond!"

Other Mission News

1. **Women at the Well:** Six New Hope/JROL members may visit our United Methodist Church services at Mitchellville Correction Facilities for women, Thursday evening, July 2nd. Sign ups need to be done by June 7th for background checks to be made. *You may sign up on the Mission Table or call Sharon Smith 515-419-7082.* We will take sign-ups for 8 persons allowing for late cancellations.

Also, our Re entry team is anticipating helping another women from Mitchellville in early June.

2. **Mission Camperships** are available at 1/3 the total cost per camp. Register, then the camp registrar will call New Hope for our contribution. You will pay the remaining amount. If the costs are still too high for your child, contact Sharon Smith, 515-277-7125, wicketsblooms@aol.com, as there are extra sources that can help.

3. **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. ***Please place your donations in the basket on the Missions Table.***

4. Thank you for donating **diapers for Bidwell Riverside**. This is one needed item at DMARC, too, so if you are late in donating, place in the shopping cart for DMARC.

5. Also on the Mission table, you will find a container to place needed things for clean up kits and other needed items at our Midwest Distribution Center for **UMCOR, United Methodist Committee on Relief**. Needed things are: **Blue or black stick ink pens; Wash cloths; Hand towels (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", no kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels); Cloth diapers —pre-folded or plain (no disposable diapers); Baby gowns/sleepers**

UMCOR Cleaning Bucket Kit Contains:

5 gal. bucket with re-sealable lid; 1 household cleaner: 12 to 16 oz. bottle— mixable in water (no spray); 5 scouring pads; 7 sponges; 1 scrub brush; 8 cleaning towels (reusable wipes); liquid laundry detergent-(two 25 oz. or one 50 oz. bottle); dish soap, 16 to 28 oz. bottle; clothes line (two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.); 5 dust masks (sealed in a bag); 2 pair reusable waterproof gloves (playtex type); 1 pair work gloves (leather palm necessary); 24-bag roll of heavy duty trash bags, 33-45 gal. remove roll from box & roll into 2 sets of 12); 1 insect repellent spray (not killer), 6 to 14 oz. can (aerosol spray or pump with protective cover); 1 can air freshener (aerosol or pump); 50 clothes pins. Cleaning Agents: All cleaning agents must be liquid and in plastic bottles. No powders.

Place all items in bucket. Sizes are important as all items must fit in bucket.

******We will continue taking donations for disasters such as Iowa tornadoes and the earthquake in Nepal. Make checks out to New Hope and place UMCOR on the memo line.***



DMARC—MEETING EMERGENCY FOOD NEEDS

“I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave something to drink . . .” (Matthew 25:35)

DMARC (Des Moines Area Religious Council) has identified the Highland Park neighborhood and the surrounding areas as needing a food pantry. This led to the opening on Monday, March 9, 2015 of Polk County River Place Food Pantry located at 2309 Euclid Avenue, Des Moines in the Polk County River Place Building. Previously this area was served by the Epworth Food Pantry at Epworth UMC. Because of expanded hours at the River Place Pantry (8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday), it has become the 3rd largest food distributor in the DMARC Food Pantry Network.

New Hope has given \$1,341 to DMARC the first quarter, with a donation of 233 food items and 10 personal items. In addition to this, New Hope Missions gives \$100 monthly to both the Johnston and Urbandale Food Pantries, for a total of \$800 for the first quarter.

New Hope has established a FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY—the third Sunday in each month. However, you can help feed the hungry any Sunday by making your check out to New Hope UMC and putting DMARC on the memo line before placing it in the offering plate.

Another exciting means of giving is donating the surplus from your garden. Donations of garden produce allow families to experience fresh, healthy food items that otherwise may not have been available to them. Last year almost 25,000 pounds of fresh produce were donated. You can drop off produce at the Food Pantry Network Warehouse, 1435 Mulberry Street in Des Moines. If you need to arrange a drop-off outside of regular hours, call 515-282-2026.



Hand of Luke - June 14

Grilled hamburger on bun with toppings

Baked Beans

Watermelon; Potato chips

Ice Cream Sandwiches

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!!*

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.



Coming this Summer!
STORYBOOK PROJECT BOOK DRIVE

Please prayerfully consider being a part of this summer mission opportunity and donate new and/or gently used books to the STORYBOOK PROJECT.

Our goal is to collect 94 books!
One book for each day of the summer!

What is the Storybook Project?

The Storybook Project gives mothers, fathers, and grandparents at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women at Mitchellville, and the Iowa Correctional Release Center and Newton Correctional Facility in Newton the opportunity to connect with their children/grandchildren age birth through 17 through reading. Stories are read into a recorder and then the book and CD are mailed to the children. A new book is chosen for each child, each month. The goal is to maintain and strengthen the parent/child bonds during separation.

Who benefits from the Storybook Project?

- Mothers, fathers and grandparents are grateful for the opportunity to maintain strong ties with their children while separated.
- Children feel close to their parents when listening to them read stories along with a few added personal words of affection. They also receive educational benefits from reading.
- Volunteers have a rewarding experience by providing support to mothers and fathers in a prison setting. The program brings much joy to everyone.
- Contributors have the satisfaction of knowing their donations help keep mothers, fathers, grandparents and children connected during their separation.

Place your donated book(s) in the basket on the Mission Table.

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.



Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 14 at New Hope UMC.

This open to the public craft & gift fair will have crafters or national direct sales companies as vendors.

Interested in being a vendor?

Please contact Tamara Evans at 309-1960 or tamaraevans2@gmail.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!



Newsletter A .15
Mutambara Mission Hospital. Nhedziwa , Zimbabwe.
emmanuel@uuplus.com

Dear brothers and Sisters –in Christ,

We send you greetings from Mutambara, Mission Hospital Zimbabwe. We regret our inability to send out this belated newsletter. Wishing you all a very Happy New Year 2015. We continue to give thanks to God for all your support in our assignment both through your prayers and Covenant. May our God continue to replenish your Resources.

As indicated in the last newsletter, we give thanks to God that we were able to be Canada in late 2014 for the training in the use of phoropter machine for refraction, and we came back in early January 2015.

In late January and through February we received our friends, the VIM team from South Dakota, Wisconsin and Iowa. It was exciting and busy to have such a group working in various units of the Mission- the Schools, the Hospital, the Church, the farm. They came in two groups of seven.

We thank you all for your support and especially to our supporting churches who have contributed items sent in the container and also to the churches and individuals who don't know us. One of the VIMs was a pastor of the Baptist Church. You have all contributed your quota to the vineyard of the lord. One sows and another reaps and both are a happy team; **Jn 4:37**. We received the layettes, pillowcase dresses, yarn, warm clothing for elderly destitute from our supporting churches from Rocky Mountain Conference (Walden, Erie, Smoky Hill) and Iowa Conference (Primgar). We thank you so much for your support.



The picture Left: The VIMs (Arvid and Daryl Liebe) unloading this 2nd container which arrived earlier part of January. This included the 2nd John Deere Tractor for the Mutambara Farm and the Gulf course car. Remember we reported the 1st container arrived January 2014 with the 1st John Deere tractor.



This next picture is of the boxes of Layettees, pillowcase dresses, yarn, warm clothing, and other donated items. Present in the picture is the nurse –aid and Jane Mcdowell from Primgar.



This picture is of Florence at an outreach centre for immunization of the under 5s with other colleagues; and also distributing the pillow case dresses and woven cap to under-five-children. Child's mother is displaying the dress.

The VIMs (along with the locals) built tractor and farm equipment shed using the two containers as the feet of the roof. The shed is to protect the tractors and farm the equipments from the effects of harsh weather. We shall talk more and show more pictures on the various activities of the VIM team in the next newsletter. Don't miss it.



We continue to thank God for taking care of the Children, even though they are all adults. Chukwuebuka is continuing his Masters program and hope to graduate end of fall semester. Rachel and the baby are doing fine. Osita continues to do his one year internship post college. Anulika is finishing the spring semester course in preparation for senior year. We give thanks to God for all these blessings. It is by his Grace. We thank God for protecting our families from the terror of Boko Haram in Nigeria.

Meanwhile, please join us in Prayers:

- 1) For a successful accomplishment of the desires of the Mutambara Mission and the VIM.
- 2) For God's guidance in our various tasks both within the hospital and outreach.
- 3) Thanks to God for Emmanuel's gradual and continuous recovery from Paraesthesia / numbness of the lower limbs. Has had consultations and presently on treatment.
- 4) For World Peace and against Stealing, Killing, destruction and natural disasters.

Thanks and God bless,

Florence and Emmanuel Mefor , UMC Missionaries Advance 13991Z and 13990Z respectively.

New Hope UMC has a covenant relationship with Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, in other words we help support him and his work at the mission hospital in Zimbabwe.

Financial Update

Below is the April 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

	April 2015 Actual
Total Receipts	\$29,502.38
Total Expenditures	<u>25,536.08</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$3,966.30

	YTD April 2015 Actual
Total Receipts	\$109,854.07
Total Expenditures	<u>108,820.75</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$1,033.32

Johnston River of Life Financial Update

	April 2015 Actual
Total Receipts	\$7,717.38
Total Expenditures	<u>13,828.51</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$6,111.13)

	YTD April 2015 Actual
Total Receipts	\$52,237.63
Total Expenditures	<u>44,053.38</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$8,184.25

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
May 3	30	106	110	246
May 10	24	100	105	229
May 17	48	104	95	247
May 24	28	72	67	167

Johnston River of Life Worship attendance

Sat	Sun	total
May 2 49	May 3 62	111
May 9 24	May 10 56	80
May 16 62	May 17 39	101
May 23 25	May 24 37	62

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.

Donate

What holds you down?

Escape



What are the scenarios of life that trap you?

There are people for whom:

Church becomes a wall to hide inside and prevents engaging community.

Fear traps them emotionally and spiritually and creates barriers to everyday life.

Mortality offers material comforts but prevents our willingness to be actively involved in the world.

Complacency is easier than taking a proactive role in life and the Gospel.

Sin is like an addiction and shackles a person from experiencing true freedom

So many things can trap us in our circumstances. Most people feel stuck at different times. No matter what is holding you down, scripture tells us that the Truth will set us free, and that Jesus is that Truth. When we trust God to lead in our life, to help us move past the barriers, we encounter a freedom and peace that is supernatural. Instead of leading a life that is confined and earthly, we are called to be set free from the constraints of this life. We are challenged by Christ to create and participate in the Kingdom of God on earth.

This June Escape from what holds you down and step in to:

Community – Step out of isolation, learn to serve and care for the world around you.

Love – Stop hiding behind fear, learn to be transparent, vulnerable and love unconditionally.

Eternal – Stop living for the comforts of this world, learn to focus on things that have a lasting impact.

Witness – Get out of your comfort zone, learn to bless others and take a proactive role in the world.

Freedom – Avoid addiction and the distractions of this world, learn spiritual freedom.

Pastor Craig Ferguson

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 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 June

8:30am Traditional Service	9:30am Contemporary Service	10:45am Traditional Service
<p><u>Greeters</u> 7 14 21 28</p> <p><u>Lectors</u> 7 14 21 Cathy Short 28</p> <p><u>Traditional Service Callers</u> 7 Bob & Marlys Borcharding 14 Norma Sutton 21 Bob & Marlys Borcharding 28 Norma Sutton</p> <p><u>Contemporary Service Callers</u> 7 Eldon Cross 14 Rod & Lynette Cook 21 Eldon Cross 28 Rod & Lynette Cook</p>	<p><u>Greeters</u> 7 Glenna Ross 14 DeVonne Douglas 21 28</p> <p><u>Lectors</u> 7 14 21 28</p> <p><u>*Hosts</u> 7 Pam & Bill Gibbons 14 Pam Frey 21 Gary Stubbs 28 Sr. BLAST</p> <p><u>Money Counters</u> 7 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, Ron Zoss 14 Clark Howland, Rick Homard, Larry Wood 21 Jerry Kielsmeier, Kim Traylor, John Burroughs 28 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross</p> <p><u>Pal Friday: 9 a.m.</u> 5 Marge Carnahan 12 Pat Papenheim 19 Kay Goff 26 Marilyn Osborn</p>	<p><u>Greeters</u> 7 14 Bob & Ann Krause 21 28</p> <p><u>Lectors</u> 7 Jon Verner 14 21 28</p> <p><u>*Hosts</u> 7 Marilyn Osborn 14 Glenna Ross 21 Lynn & Jan Davisson 28 Sr. BLAST</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).



*Happy Father's Day
Sunday, June 21*

June 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
	1 7:00p, Trustees Mtg, Ruby Chapel	2 9:30a, Alanon 9:30a, Senior Singers practice Noon, AA	3 7:45p, Praise Team	4 7:00p, JROL Mtg., Ruby Chapel	5 Office Vol: Marge Carnahan	6
7 Holy Communion 9a-11a, Blood Pressure 9:30a, Dane Jacobson baptism 4-5:30, Girls United by Christ	8	9 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	10 7:45p, Praise Team	11 6:30p, Harvest Dinner & Auction Mtg, Ruby Chapel	12 Office Vol: Pat Papenheim	13 7:30a, Men's Breakfast at church 8:30a, Veteran's Breakfast at church
14 Ministry Moment: Women at the Well 1:08p, I-Cubs game 3:30p, Hand of Luke 4:30-6, Girls United by Christ	15 11:30, Needlers at Panera, Johnston	16 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 7:00p, Finance Meeting, R.Chapel 7:00p, Stroke Club, F.Hall	17 6:00p, Sr. BLAST, Child Serve 7:45p, Praise Team	18	19 Office Vol: Kay Goff 11:30, Widow's luncheon at Panera in Johnston 4:30p, Beason/Stansberry wedding rehearsal	20 Johnston Green Days parade 3:30p, Beason/Stansberry wedding 5-6pm, Pie drop off
21 Father's Day Food Pantry Sunday Pie Sales 4-5:30, Girls United by Christ	22 Deadline for July LINK 6-8pm, JROL VBS at the Barn	23 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6-8pm, JROL VBS at the Barn	24 6-8pm, JROL VBS at the Barn 7:45p, Praise Team	25 7p, Administrative Council Meeting, Ruby Chapel	26 Office Vol: Marilyn Osborn 5:30-9:00p, F.Hall and R.Chapel reserved	27 8:30a - 4:00p, F.Hall and R.Chapel reserved
28 8:30a, Marshall Moellers baptism Sr. BLAST breakfast fundraiser Noon, Mission Mtg., Ruby Chapel	29	30 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	July 1 7:45p, Praise Team	2 Office Vol: Marlys Borcharding	3 Office Closed	4 Independence Day Urbandale Parade

Happy Birthday to you!!

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

- 1 Jon Musgrave
- 3 Jon Verner, Kayla Jansen
- 4 Le Howland, Larry Webber, Lauren Peterson
- 5 Rick Homard, Karen Davis, Samantha Strauss
- 7 Lorraine Machholz, Neal Cave, Mary Drossel, Jolene Harlow, Paden Klein
- 8 Natalie Fairchild, Kristin Redies
- 9 Jim Smith
- 10 Larry Wood, Abigail Carrigan, Bradley Carrigan
- 11 Tyler Mohrman, Holly Haynes
- 12 Doug Fairchild, Norma Smith, Ryan McGinnity
- 13 Donna Christensen, Morgan Wolfe, Nate Jacques, Maxwell Hitchcock

- 14 Buchi Ukabiala, Billy Nuzum, Rhonda Leyda, Tara McCulley, Jason Miller
- 15 Stephen Schultz, Ginny Ghee, Mason Lillegraven
- 16 Jeremiah Ukabiala, Amanda Robinson, Sandra Cannon
- 17 Tracy DeBates, Jordan Williamson
- 18 Cheryl Lillegraven, Althea Holcomb, Christopher Henry
- 19 Sharon Smith, Terri Lichter, Mary Thompson
- 20 Ian Beck-Cross, Kaegan Wigant
- 21 Linda Reaney
- 22 William Roff
- 25 Glenna Ross, Darla Wolfe, Garrett Cook, Sara Nemmers
- 27 Lindsay Soards
- 28 Tyler McGinnity, Geneva Mongar
- 29 Kevin Christensen, Alissa Strauss, Travis O'Brien, Lynne Paff-Boal
- 30 Susan Larsen

Happy Anniversary!

- 2 Dana & Teresa Garside
- 4 Jared & Lindsey Robertson
- 5 Ryan & Jessica Hass
- 8 Bob & Ann Krause
- 9 Randy & Sheri Thompson
- 11 John & Olive Walker
- 14 Earl & Sharon Lewis
- 14 Kyle & Kristin Redies
- 19 Rod & Lynette Cook
- 20 Mark & Susan Baldwin
- 21 Jason & Kristi Miller
- 22 Keel & Dani Clemmens
- 22 Eugene & Norma Pecinovskiy
- 23 Jack & Marilyn Schoop
- 23 Gerald & Jane Perdue
- 23 Adam & Cari Gregg
- 26 Ron & Denise Zoss
- 27 Larry & Melisa Forbes

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

Father's Day is approaching and I would like to share some reflections about fathers and our relationship with God. First, however, is my attempt at humor related to Father's Day. **A list of the Top 10 Sayings of a Wise Father:**

10. Why? Because I said so, that's why!
9. Just wait until you have kids of your own.
8. What did I just get finished telling you?
7. This is going to hurt me more than it does you.
6. Do I look like I'm made out of money?
5. Not now, I'm watching the game.
4. When you break your leg, don't come running to me!
3. No! We are NOT lost!
2. Be quiet! Can't you see I'm trying to think?
And the number one saying of a wise father is . . .
1. How should I know? Ask your mother!



Speaking of fathers, one father shared that when his children were small, he would have family meetings. These meetings were to discuss chores, family trips, activities, and other matters. Yet, when he would call these meetings, the expression on his children's faces would usually be: "What have we done wrong now?" He couldn't understand why they reacted that way until his wife pointed out that the tone of his voice when he called these meetings was very serious, the same tone he used when he disciplined his children. So, they responded to these announcements with apprehension.

Unfortunately, I can identify with that. I was the disciplinarian in our home and it was pointed out to me that I had a certain "tone" I used when I would "get after" our kids. (Don't tell her, but my daughter inherited my "tone"). I have repented, but I still catch myself using the "tone" from time to time.

This leads me to the question, are we apprehensive when we think of facing God? Some people seem to think that God is a harsh and condemning God. Some even draw a distinction between Christ's love and God's wrath. They see Christ as the one who holds back the wrath of an angry God. The impression is that, if it were not for Christ, God would get a hold of us and . . . (you can fill in the blank).

Some would not go that far. They would say: "Oh, I know God loves me, but I must confess that God probably doesn't like me too much." For some people, their feelings go back to the use of the term "father." I have had people comment over the years how stern their fathers were with them. Thus, it is difficult for them to envision a "heavenly father" that would be anything but strict. My own father had an image of God based on the strictness of his father and spent part of his life feeling unworthy to take communion.

This is one of the reasons it is good to express a variety of images for God. Remember that in one of the most well known scripture passages Jesus said, "For God so loved the world." So God is not all about judgment and wrath. I would submit instead that God judges with grace and love. As stated in 1 John 4:8, "God is love." God's love, care and compassion is also expressed in various images. In Isaiah 66:13, we hear God say, "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you."

Let us remember that God loves us and we are to "go and do likewise."

Grace and peace, Pastor Jon

June Theme -- "The ReNewing of the Spirit"

June 7	<u>Title:</u> "A New Time"	<u>Script.:</u> 2 Cor. 4:13-18; Holy Communion
June 14	<u>Title:</u> "A New Beginning"	<u>Script.:</u> 2 Cor. 5:14-17
June 21	<u>Title:</u> "A New Day"	<u>Script.:</u> 2 Cor. 6:1-2; Father's Day
June 28	<u>Title:</u> "A New Way"	<u>Script.:</u> 2 Cor. 8:7-15



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
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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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