

the link

A monthly publication of
New Hope United
Methodist Church

July
2016

JULY AT NEW HOPE UMC

Just Church It!

- July 3 "Just Proclaim It"
- July 10 "Just Test It"
- July 17 "Just Choose It"
- July 24 "Just Pray It"
- July 31 "Just Receive It"



NEW HOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

JULY WORSHIP SERIES

THE RIPPLE Effect

"I alone cannot change the world,
but I can cast a stone across the waters
to create many ripples."
-Mother Teresa

Saturdays 5pm &
Sundays 10am
Beaver Creek Elementary

Johnston
River of Life
JohnstonRiverOfLife.org



Join us for this "farm-tastic" Vacation Bible School!
Sunday, July 17 - Thursday, July 21 5:30 supper, 6-8pm activities

The Registration deadline is Sunday, July 10th!

We will still accept any and all registration forms up until the week of VBS, however, having as many registrations as possible by July 10th will ensure we have the correct t-shirt sizes. Youth/Adult volunteer t-shirts will be provided at no cost if you let Sarah Jacobson know your shirt size by this date. Registration forms can be found on the church website or in Fellowship Hall. Make sure to sign up today!

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

Are you unable to offer your gifts and time during the week of VBS? If so, would you consider donating some of your time to help decorate for this event? Many hands will make light work, and there is a lot of work to be done for this great event!

Please consider joining us for one of our VBS decorating sessions:

Sunday, July 10th ~ 10:45-1pm (we will focus on the classrooms and education hallways)

Wednesday, July 13th ~ 4-8pm (Stop by anytime to help, dinner will be provided for those who rsvp to Sarah Jacobson)

Thursday, July 14th ~ 4-8pm (Stop by anytime to help, dinner will be provided for those who rsvp to Sarah Jacobson)

Sunday, July 17th ~ 12-1pm (we will focus on last minute things and set up for registration)

If you are unable to help on these days, but would like to help with some prepping of the décor (i.e. painting, simple constructing, etc.) please talk with Andy Sutton.



membership news

Prayer Chain Request

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

Prayer Concern

Bob Reaney; Margaret Hemphill; Joann Pugh; Olive Walker; Bishop Julius Trimble; District Superintendent, Rev. Heecheon Jeon ; District Field Outreach Minister, Naomi Sea Young Wittstruck; Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, missionary. Prayers for the following military personnel: Kelsey Bartley; Dawn Bernal; Jason Homard; Cory Larson; Adam Larson; Joshua Larson; Zach McClain; Todd McGinnity; Matthew Plourde; Anthony Plourde; Devan Stanton; Jared Stanton; and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

Sympathy

Our sympathy to Keith, Julie and Michael Craighton on the passing of Julie's father, Clair "Spec" Messerschmidt.

Wedding

Congratulations to Nicole Jaschen and John Gardner on their June 25th wedding at New Hope UMC.

Baptism

Congratulations to Haven Brynn Stansberry on her baptism, June 26th at Johnston River of Life. Haven's parents are Tad & Chelsey Stansberry.

Thank You

New Hope Family,
We are truly grateful for all the blessings and mercies through 60 years of family together. We are grateful to Pastor Gaul for gracing our home, for prayers and blessings. Thanks to our Office Admin, Nancy, for all she does to help us and support us. We appreciated the delicious meal. Thank you very much!
Thanks to New Hope family for prayers, cards, and calls.
Bhanu and Ambrose Moses

We welcomed the Girls United for Christ group as visitors and bringing us a beautiful plant of lavender petunias. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and caring. Thanks to EACH of you!
Dale & Laura Myers

Thank you for the lovely planted flower. I have it in the east window living room.
Charlotte Sheldon

Our heartfelt thanks go out to New Hope members and staff that have acknowledged our 60th Wedding Anniversary.
I know we've mentioned this before but it is sincerely meant. Because of your friendship and encouragement, we've reached many milestones that we could not have been able to do so on our own!
Thank you, thank you!
Norma & Jim Smith



New Hope Family:
You are invited to
**Lynn & Jan Davisson's
60th Wedding Anniversary
Open House
Sunday, July 10, 2016
2:00—5:00 pm
New Hope UMC
Family Life Center**
No gift is requested
but your presence.

Rally Day Sunday, September 11th!

One Worship Service
10am-11am in the Family Life Center and will feature both Traditional and Contemporary music

All-Church potluck
11:00am-12:30pm.
Please bring your favorite dish(es) to share

Games
11:00am-12:30pm for all ages

Please join us!!!!



VBS Donations Needed

Donations are needed for New Hope's VBS week! Please donate any of the items listed below and please stop by the donation board at church for food items needed for the dinners & snacks.

- * Large cardboard boxes
- * 4 brown rectangle sized plastic table clothes
- * Tempra paint in red, white, black, brown and pink
- * 12 beanbags
- * Empty egg cartons (10 max)
- * Empty milk containers
- * Red checkered vinyl table clothes
- * Old fashioned looking rocking chairs (will be used for decorating and will be returned)
- * Dried ears of corn
- * Ivory soap bars (5)
- * Cereal boxes—empty

ADAM HAMILTON Christianity AND World Religions *Wrestling with Questions People Ask*



VBS Adult Class

Vacation Bible School at New Hope will be held from Sunday, July 17, to Thursday, July 21. The evenings will begin with a meal served at 5:30 p.m. and activities being held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

This year, VBS will include an adult class being led by Pastor Jon Gaul. The class will be a study of Christianity and four of the other world religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism. The study is from pastor and author Adam Hamilton. It will include a video segment where Hamilton will interview religious leaders from each of the faith traditions. The study is geared to addressing typical questions people have regarding other religions and compare and contrast them in relation to Christian beliefs.

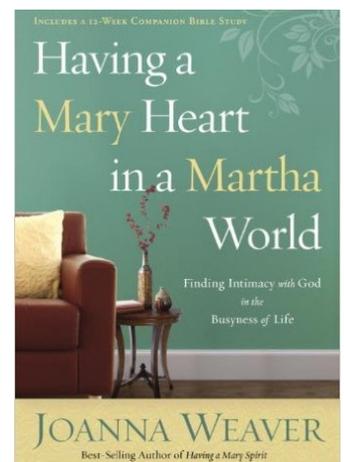
With all of the diversity in our world today, and especially with all the issues related to the Islamic faith, this will be a very enlightening study and help us all have a better understanding of people from other faith traditions. If you have any questions about other religions or would just like to understand them better, plan to join us for as many of the sessions as you can.

Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World by Joanna Weaver

Are you like Martha or are you more like Mary? We aren't that different from these two women in the New Testament. We long to spend time with Jesus, but find the demands of our day stopping us. Hopefully this book will show us how we can draw closer to our Lord.

Join us on Mondays, 1pm in the Ruby Chapel for a Bible study using the book, Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World. It will be led by Armenta Buckingham.

Hopefully you will be able to join us!



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.



Volunteer Update:

Thank you to everyone who has already committed to volunteering or supporting our Children and Youth Ministries in various ways. We have several of our positions already filled and are very grateful for your support! We can always use more help! Check out the volunteer opportunities we are still looking to fill before our fall programming:

Christian Learning Time (CLT Sundays 10:45-11:45am)

____ Activity Leaders/Substitutes ____ Jr. High CLT Teaching Team

Children's Worship (Sundays 10am)

____ Children's Worship Leader (1-3 months per year)

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please contact Children's Ministry Coordinator Sarah Jacobson sjacobson@newhopedsm.org.



TGIW Monthly Meal Team Volunteers Needed!!

We are still looking for a few people who are willing to serve on our monthly meal teams for TGIW, specifically on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. The time commitment would be 1 Wednesday a month from 4 or 5pm until 6:30pm but the time is dependent on the menu. The menu can be provided for you, along with a recipe if needed, and groceries will already be purchased. All you will need to do is help prepare the meal, as well as clean up.

If you are willing to help in this way to make sure we continue offering the weekly meal to our families, please contact Sarah Jacobson.

What's new on the Children and Family Ministries Resource Board???

This month in the Parent Link and on the bulletin board you will find a meal time devotion titled "Let's Go Fishin." There will also be an activity puzzle for kids, and an article for parents titled "From Helicopter Parent to Lighthouse Parent." If you have any ideas for Parent Resources or other topics you'd like more information on, please contact sjacobson@newhopedsm.org.

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

The youth have a few \$5 Hy-Vee coupon books left; the coupon books give you a lot of coupons to use and a \$5 off a purchase of \$50 purchase. So you pay for the whole coupon book after the first coupon is used. Please consider purchasing one today.

Here are the some upcoming youth events:

July 2nd ~ Return from Summer Mission

Aug. 28th ~ Rapid City Celebration Lunch at New Hope

Sept. 10th ~ Iowa VS Iowa State Service Project and Game

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



**“God’s Girlfriends” Women’s Retreat
THANK YOU!!!**

What an amazing day it was at the June 11th Women's Retreat! Ladies enjoyed "Getting to Know You", learning more about Bidwell Riverside (contact Lynn Louk to volunteer), and praising God thru the beautiful music by the JROL Praise Team. We were inspired with the personal stories from our four speakers: Wendy Musgrave, Sandy Cannon, Denise Hartford, and Karen Nelson. A couple of comments from attendees: "The speakers were fantastic - many of their themes and messages were exactly what I needed to hear." "The speakers were exceptional. Wonderful day with many wonderful ladies."

Thank you to everyone that attended and made the event so special. Thank you also to Women's Fellowship for the delicious lunch. Thank you to Sr. BLAST for setting up and tearing down for the event. And...thank you to the organizers, Barb Mather, Carole Followwill, Sharon Smith, and Nancy Monthei. Special thanks to Pastor Jon for filling in at the sound booth in the afternoon.



groups gathering together

Men's Breakfast

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

Women's Fellowship

Will meet at Okoboji Grill on
Thursday, July 21, 11:30pm.
Questions? Call Betty Holwegner
at 278-8115.

New Hope Needlers

The Needlers will not meet in July
and August. The group will re-
sume in September.

If you have questions, contact
Jody Rains at 278-8282.

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 14,**
1:00pm at New Hope. If you would
like to join the Care Ministry team,
please contact Clarice Rubek or
Mary Ann Rice.

Blood Pressure Check

Blood Pressure checks will resume
in September First Sunday of the
month, September 4, 9:30-11:00am
will be the next BP checks in the
Narthex.

Veterans Helping Veterans

The next meeting will be **Saturday,**
July 16, at 8:30am at New Hope.
Michael McGhee will be the guest
speaker. All Veterans and their
spouses are welcome to attend. For
more information, please contact
Billy Nuzum,
bbnewz54@gmail.com

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.

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. Sundays 5:30 PM.. Contact
Pastor Craig Ferguson at
515.984.0482
or Charity Johnson at
515.720.8299. This group will be
held at different home each week.
And
2. Sundays 6:00 PM. Held at Dick
& Netha Piphos
712 SE 4th St. Grimes
515.986-4071



Ice Cream Fundraiser!

Join the Veterans for an ice cream
fundraiser on **July 3** after each
worship service.



Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 12,
9am-3pm 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 Deb Henry at 515-282-0547 or
mssci@aol.com.

missions

JULY MISSION NEWS



Meals from the Heartland: Hope you are planning on signing up for a session or two to package meals for our on-site event August 7th. Each service will begin at it's regular time but will be shortened to accommodate more time to package. All ages from 4 on up will be able to help. Chairs for those who can't stand, and stools for children will be available.

Sign up for the session that best suits your schedule on the *Mission Table at the rear of Fellowship Hall*. If your entire family wants to participate together, sign up early to ensure you have the time you want. Please leave your phone and email as we will be contacting you to remind you of your time and at which station/table.

FYI: Many of the meals we have packaged have gone to the food pantries in the Des Moines area because of the overwhelming need here.

Isaiah 58:10 "Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon."

UMAFASHA: Stay tuned for more information of how you can help refugees from The Congo, Burundi, Uganda, and Rwanda. There is a sign up for ELL teachers on the Mission Table and a basket for donations of diapers.

Backpacks for School: The Mission committee has purchased 160 backpacks and school supplies for CFUM and the Johnston Partnership. If you would like to help assemble them, please speak to Sharon Smith. 515-419-7082 wicketsblooms@aol.com

Camperships: Please get your children signed up for camp ASAP because camps fill up fast. The Mission Committee is committed in helping families pay for the large cost of the camp. Call the registrar, or go on-line to register your child, pay half and tell the registrar that New Hope will pay the other half. Call Nancy with the information of the camp and child's name, and cost, and a check will be sent. If this amount is still too much, please contact Sharon Smith, as there are other sources of help available. Please don't be afraid to ask for additional help as this is a wonderful opportunity to give our children a great Christian experience.

Hand of Luke - July 14: 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 refrig."). Baked goods should be transferred to a disposable container if possible. *Thank you!!*

Volunteers Needed!

Technology Team and a Safety Team. You do not have to have any in depth knowledge of either. If you would like to volunteer on a subcommittee of the Board of Trustees to keep our church safe and move us further into the technology world, please contact John Rains at jirains@g.com. It will not take a great deal of time!

Wedding Coordinator: New Hope is looking for the special person(s) to fill the position of Wedding Coordinator. This is a fun and blessed time watching and being a part of a very special time in a couple's life. This person would be responsible for helping the wedding party through the process of their rehearsal and wedding as it pertains to the church. Before the rehearsal you will get the church ready (banners and clothes changed, attendance books picked up and candles placed). At the rehearsal you will help with the flow of the ceremony, making sure everyone gets down the aisle and climate is ok). The day of the wedding arriving an hour before the ceremony to check on wedding party and church. After the ceremony getting the church ready for the Sunday service. Approx. four hours per wedding. If you would be interested in this volunteer position, please contact Nancy Monthei at nhfamily@newhopedsm.org.

Financial Update

Below is the May 2016 General Fund operating report for New Hope and Johnston River of Life. 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

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | May 2016 |
| Total Receipts | \$25,089.00 |
| Total Expenditures | <u>27,700.30</u> |
| Net Surplus (Deficit) | <u>(\$2,611.30)</u> |
| | |
| | YTD 2016 |
| Total Receipts | \$133,352.32 |
| Total Expenditures | <u>135,193.47</u> |
| Net Surplus (Deficit) | \$1,841.15 |

Johnston River of Life Financial Update

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | May 2016 |
| Total Receipts | \$12,427.68 |
| Total Expenditures | 8,306.54 |
| Net Surplus (Deficit) | <u>\$4,121.11</u> |
| | |
| | YTD 2016 |
| Total Receipts | \$74,177.00 |
| Total Expenditures | <u>47,689.82</u> |
| Net Surplus (Deficit) | <u>\$26,487.58</u> |

New Hope Sunday morning Worship attendance

| | 8:30 | 9:30 | 10:45 | total |
|---------|------|------|-------|-------|
| May 29 | 36 | 71 | 64 | 171 |
| June 5 | 39 | 57 | 73 | 169 |
| June 12 | 36 | 75 | 86 | 197 |
| June 19 | 33 | 48 | 67 | 148 |

Johnston River of Life Worship attendance

| Sat | | Sun | | total |
|---------|----|---------|----|-------|
| May 28 | 60 | May 29 | 74 | 134 |
| June 4 | 46 | June 5 | 30 | 76 |
| June 11 | 48 | June 12 | 39 | 87 |
| June 18 | 48 | June 19 | 38 | 86 |

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.

JULY WORSHIP SERIES

THE RIPPLE Effect

As a child I remember passing many a summer day down by the lake or pond with a friend. We would fish, ski, swim, and sometimes, when the water was as still as glass, we would just throw stones. Skipping was a real skill. We used to challenge each other to see who could skip a stone the most times, or out the furthest. I remember an easy average was 7-8, but we always tried to make a dozen or more. Some times the stone just seemed to keep going. After a dozen if it stayed up, the bounce was so short it almost became a glide. Eventually, as every Roller Coaster, the stone would reach the end of the line and come to a final hard stop and it would sink in the water to an unknown resting place.

However, I was not done watching. What happened after the stone sank was something I can still picture today. The ripples that stone created on the perfectly still surface was entrancing. The ripples from each point of contact moved outward until they were overlapping each other, connected, as if telling the story of the stone all over again. The multiple points of contact seemed to amplify and extend the effect of the ripples. I remember watching in amazement at how far and how long those ripples would reach before the water would slowly regain its glass-like appearance and I could throw another stone.

I have also been in situations where I was told “don't make waves”, or better yet, “don't rock the boat.” But usually that is because people don't like change, or from their perspective there is no better option. Jeanne Moreau tells us that, “As long as you don't make waves, ripples, life seems easy. But, that is condemning yourself to impotence and death before you are dead.”

I can imagine Jesus might have been told by the leaders not to make waves, don't rock the boat. But I celebrate that Jesus cast a stone upon the water. Jesus made an impact and sent ripples across the face of the faith and his community that continues to change the world today. Mother Teresa said, "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." We still feel the ripples of her life and so many others today. Maybe the questions that remains is, what, if any, ripples are you creating?

I remember it was the smallest things that made a difference how far a stone would skip. Choosing the right size and shape of stone to know how it would impact and bounce on the surface. The right throw, spin, angle, and release, was all vital.

Each of our stories, our lives, make a difference. Casting our lives as a stone upon the water in order to create a lasting ripple might be the greatest and most long lasting thing we can do.

How will you choose and shape your stone?

How much effort will you put into preparation and training?

If your first throw doesn't ripple the way you hope, will you have the perseverance to try again?

This month if you want to deepen your Ripple Effect, check out the sermon series at Johnston River of Life meeting at Beaver Creek Elementary, 5 PM on Saturday & 10 AM Sunday

Being Christ in Community,
Pastor Craig Ferguson



Save the Date

2016 Harvest Dinner & Auction Fundraiser

Sunday, October 16, 2016



Start thinking about what you can donate for the General Store or Auction

If you're interested in helping with the event, contact Larry Webber at lpwebber@mchsi.com

Also, consider inviting some friends!

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 (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 July:

| 8:30am Traditional Service | 9:30am Contemporary Service | 10:45am Traditional Service |
|---|---|--|
| <u>Greeters</u> 3 10 17 24 31 | <u>Greeters</u> 3 DeVonne Douglas 10 17 24 31 | <u>Greeters</u> 3 10 17 24 31 |
| <u>Lectors</u> 3 10 17 24 31 | <u>Lectors</u> 3 10 Andy Sutton 17 24 31 | <u>Lectors</u> 3 Jon Verner 10 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>Hosts</u> 3 10 17 24 31 | <u>Hosts</u> 3 10 17 24 31 |
| <u>Contemporary Service Callers</u> 3 Rod & Lynette Cook 10 Eldon Cross 17 Rod & Lynette Cook 24 Eldon Cross 31 Rod & Lynette Cook | <u>9:30 Computer Support</u> 3 Pam Frey 10 Pam Frey 17 Nancy Monthei 24 Nancy Monthei 31 Terry Dolberg | <u>Money Counters</u> 3 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, Robin Harlow 10 Clark Howland, Larry Wood, Rick Homard 17 Kim Traylor, Jerry Kielsmeier, Ron Zoss 24 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross 31 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, Ron Zoss |
| | <u>Friday Office Volunteers</u> 8 Norma Sutton 15 Marlys Borcharding 22 Gayle Easton 29 Theresa Flickinger | |



A prayer for an Independence Day celebration

Lord God Almighty, in whose name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant, we beseech thee, that we and all the people of this land may have the grace to maintain these liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

—An Episcopal Church prayer book

July 2016

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 Veterans Ice Cream Fundraiser 4-5:30p, Girls United for Christ | 4 Church Office Closed Independence Day  | 5 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 7p, Trustees Mtg., at the Parsonage | 6 7:30p, Praise Team | 7 7p, JROL Mtg., Ruby Chapel | 1 Church Office Closed 8 Office Vol. Norma Sutton Centennial UMC overnight guests in FLC | 2 7:30a, Men's Breakfast |
| 10 9:30 & 10:45 Girls United for Christ perform 10:45-1pm, VBS Decorating 2-5p, Lynn & Jan Davison's 60th Anniversary Open House, FLC | 11 1p, Bible Study, R.Chapel 7p, Worship Cluster, Pastor's office | 12 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6:30p, Girl Scouts, dwnstrs classroom 7p, Finance Mtg., R.Chapel | 13 4p-8p, VBS Decorating 7:30p, Praise Team | 14 1p, Care Team Mtg., F.Hall 3:30p, Hand of Luke 4p-8p, VBS Decorating | 15 Office Vol. Marlys Borcharding | 16 8:30a, Veterans Breakfast at church |
| 17 Food Pantry Sunday 12-1p, VBS Decorating Vacation Bible School 5:30-6p, Dinner 6p-8p, Activities 6p, Adult VBS | 18 1p, Bible Study, R.Chapel Vacation Bible School 5:30-6p, Dinner 6p-8p, Activities 6p, Adult VBS | 19 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 7p, Stroke Club, Sanctuary Vacation Bible School 5:30-6p, Dinner 6p-8p, Activities 6p, Adult VBS | 20 Vacation Bible School 5:30-6p, Dinner 6p-8p, Activities 6p, Adult VBS | 21 11:30a, Women's Fellowship, Okoboji Grill Vacation Bible School 5:30-6p, Dinner 6p-8p, Activities 6p, Adult VBS | 22 Office Vol. Gayle Easton Deadline for August LINK | 23 |
| 24 | 25 1p, Bible Study, R.Chapel | 26 9:30a, Alanon 9:30a, Sr. Singers practice Noon, AA | 27 7:30p, Praise Team | 28 | 29 Office Vol: Theresa Flickinger | 30 |
| 31 Noon, Cluster Group Mtg., R.Chapel | | | | | | |



Staff vacations:

July 25—30: Pastor Jon on vacation
 July 26—31: Pastor Craig on vacation
 July 29—Aug. 3: Sarah Jacobson on vacation

Happy Anniversary!!!

- 5 Bob & Carol Harter
- 8 Lynn & Jan Davison
- 8 Rick & Michelle Roquet
- 8 Matt & Erika Weih
- 8 Mark & Julie Sahlin
- 9 Mark & Megan Thomsen
- 13 Dan & Tracy Hitchcock
- 15 Roger & Tammy Dann
- 16 Terry & Penny Dolberg
- 18 Greg & Kelly Mohrman
- 19 George & Armenta Buckingham
- 19 Jeff & Monica Balk
- 22 Jason & Elaine Sheer
- 23 Nate & Sarah Jacques
- 28 Trent & Monica Johnson
- 29 Joe & Judy Nemmers
- 29 Spencer & Andy Sutton

Happy Birthday to you!!

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Ron Zoss | 16 Cheryl Moore, Patty Nearmyer, Chris Higdon |
| 2 Sally Corcoran, Terry Dolberg, Jody Ferguson | 17 Ronan Rock |
| 3 Mark Scherer, Greg Mohrman, Chinyere Ukabiala, Cindy Meyer, Nicholas Bogue | 18 Brad Johnson |
| 4 Chad Strauss | 19 Laura Zimmerman |
| 5 Steven Alcorn, Kyden O'Neill | 20 Kim Wills, Pam Gibbons, Robin Harlow |
| 6 Forrest Mc Cleary, Bailey Egger, Dana Garside | 21 Allen Davis, Hanna Ferguson, Jim Mather |
| 8 Roger Moore, Marc Davis, Jason Balk | 22 John Burrough |
| 9 Ryan Herrick, Beth Roff | 23 Eldon Cross, Adam Jaschen, Gabrielle Dean, Max Roquet, Chris Sundell |
| 10 Kathy Fairchild, Charlene Cobb, | 24 David Baldwin, Tony Hoffman, SaLynn Lemke |
| 11 Sawyer Merrill, Tom Schultz | 25 Jan Davison, Elaine Lesch |
| 12 Jane Wagner, David Davis, John Hartford | 26 Mackenzie Hewitt, Sarah Speck |
| 13 Michelle Roquet | 27 Deb Henry, Brenda McConahay |
| 14 Cathy Homard, Mike Wakeman, | 29 Shayna Stubbs, Hannah Hoffman, Sarah Jacques |
| 15 Jody Rains, Rece Haugland | 31 Caleb Williamson |

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.



When new members join our church and when there is a baptism, we are reminded of our membership vows to uphold the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. It is good to be reminded what church membership calls us to do. There are many ways to live out those vows and I try to address the different vows and ways to carry them out at various times.

Today I would like to address the vow of "presence" and how we can live that out through our presence at worship services. From 2014 to 2015, our average worship attendance per weekend went from 331 to 325. This is the total attendance for all three services at New Hope and the two services at JROL.

This past month of June, the attendance has been lower than average. This is understandable, as many churches identify what they call "the summer slump."

Attendance drops off as people take vacations, visit family, and engage in summer activities. My parents' church in Arizona really had a "summer slump," as winter residents were gone and others headed north to cooler climates.

I hope that attending worship services is a priority for our members. I appreciate and thank all who come, whenever they can come. I know that even I am not able to attend every Sunday, as vacations, mission trips, teaching at School for Lay Ministry, and even illness will cause me to miss a number of worship services. However, I hope our worship is meaningful and provides a boost in our lives, a sense of purpose, a time to be together as God's family, a time to grow in our faith and in our knowledge and love of God, and, as I'm so fond of saying, a time to celebrate how we have been the church in the world during the past week.

If you have suggestions on how worship can be more meaningful for you, please let me know. In the meantime, I came across this humorous article that is a "tongue in cheek" listing of reasons a pastor gives for not attending sporting events. Could it relate to reasons people give for not attending church?

12 Reasons Why a Local Pastor Stopped Attending Sports Events

1. Every time I went, they asked me for money.
2. The people with whom I had to sit didn't seem very friendly.
3. The seats were very hard.
4. The coach never came to call on me.
5. The referee made a decision with which I could not agree.
6. I was sitting with some hypocrites--they came only to see what others were wearing.
7. Some games went into overtime and I was late getting home.
8. The band played some songs I had never heard before.
9. The games are scheduled when I want to do other things.
10. My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up.
11. Since I read a book on sports, I feel that I know more than the coaches, anyhow.
12. I don't want to take my children because I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best.

As a pastor friend of mine always signs his articles, "If you're healthy and in town, I'll see you in church!"

Pastor Jon

The Season after Pentecost: Theme - "Just Church It! The Mission of the Church"

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|---------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| July 3 | <u>Title:</u> "Just Proclaim it!" | <u>Script.:</u> Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 | Holy Communion |
| July 10 | <u>Title:</u> "Just Test It!" | <u>Script.:</u> Luke 10:25-37 | |
| July 17 | <u>Title:</u> "Just Choose It!" | <u>Script.:</u> Luke 10:38-42 | |
| July 24 | <u>Title:</u> "Just PrayIt" | <u>Script.:</u> Luke 11:1-13 | |
| July 31 | <u>Title:</u> "Just Receive It" | <u>Script.:</u> Psalm 107:1-9 | |



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: Anita Gaul
Custodian: Chuck VanDyke

Church Office Hours

Mon–Fri: 8:00am - 4:30pm

E-mail Information

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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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