

the link

A monthly publication of
New Hope United
Methodist Church

March
2017

LENT AT NEW HOPE UMC

From Where Will Our

HELP

Come

March 5	"Help in the Wilderness"
March 12	"Help in the Hills"
March 19	"Help in Suffering"
March 26	"Help in the Darkest Valley"
April 2	"Help in the Dry Valley"
April 9	"Help on a Donkey"



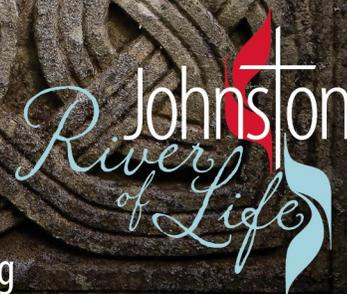
Sacred

the interwoven nature of all things

Saturdays 5pm &
Sundays 10am

Beaver Creek Elementary

JohnstonRiverOfLife.org



Ash Wednesday Wednesday, March 1 6:00pm Pancake Supper 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service

Come for Pancakes, 6:00 pm pancake supper. Free-Will Offering. Prepared and Served by Sr. High BLAST. Help Sr. High BLAST in raising money for their summer mission trip.

Stay for worship, 7:00 pm, Ash Wednesday worship. Confirmation students will be helping to lead the worship service.

Childcare will be provided for children ages 4 and lower during the 7pm service.

Join us this Ash Wednesday for food, fellowship, and prayer!



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

Kim Traylor; Arny Larsen; Freda Ruleman; Margaret Hemphill; Cheryl Lillegraven; Doris Ummel; Olive Walker; Bishop Laurie Haller; 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 Freda Ruleman on the passing of her son, Gary Ruleman.

Our sympathy to Pastor Jon & Anita on the passing of their nephew, Scott Gaul.

Our sympathy to Lee & Linda Tyrrel on the passing of Linda's mom, Shirley Curtis.

Thank You

Thank to the New Hope Needlers for the beautiful quilt. And, thank you to everyone for your prayers.

Kim Traylor

Thank You

Thank you to all of you in my New Hope family for your support and friendship during the 11 years I've been a member. Although I am looking forward to living closer to my family, it's not easy to move away from such a wonderful congregation. You've enriched my life and I am a better person for having experienced your witness, your Christian love, and your generosity with others. I will be forever grateful for my years in the New Hope family. Best wishes and God bless you!

Katheryn Russi
209 Painter St.
Decorah, IA 52101

As many of you know, I have been going through several severe medical challenges during the past six months (Aug 1st - present). Our son Jeff created a Caring Bridge web page to keep everyone informed, especially during the very critical times. I have been in physical therapy for 9 weeks focusing on building my strength, working on my balance and learning how to walk again. I will continue in out-patient therapy for several months. I firmly believe that I am alive today because of your prayers, love and concern. God listened to your prayers and saved my life four times! Your prayers were also for Jody asking God to carry her through this very scary time. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts! There are not enough words to express our gratitude! God continues to have a plan for my renewed life!

It's been said many times by many people that New Hope is a very caring church. We certainly echo that comment and feeling.

John Rains

Church Communications

Stay connected with New Hope UMC!!

Weekly announcements and the monthly newsletters are sent out to everyone via email.

CONTACT information



If you have not been receiving these emails, please contact Nancy Monthei in the church

office at 278-2097 or nhfamily@newhopedsm.org.

ALSO, we appreciate receiving your updated contact information.

Thank you!

Girl Scout Sunday Sun., March 12

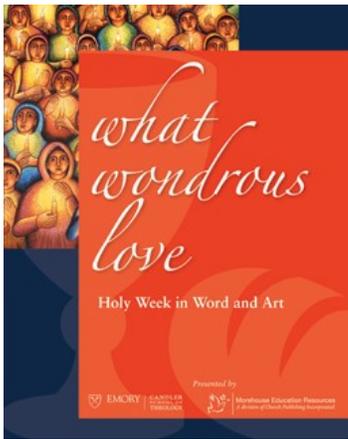
All Girl Scouts and leaders are encouraged to wear their Girl Scout uniforms for Girl Scout Sunday on March 12.



Daylight Saving time begins **March 12, 2017**
Spring forward one hour!

Remember to acknowledge others. Almost everyone loves to be acknowledged. We love to have our phone calls returned, to be told we are doing a great job, to be thanked for working so hard, to have our creativity appreciated, and to be reminded that we are special.

-from "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff"



Bible Study for Lent

What Wondrous Love: Holy Week in Word and Art

Mondays, 1pm, March 13 - April 10 in the Ruby Chapel

Leaders: Armenta Buckingham and Roberta Cave

Audience: Anyone interested in learning about Holy Week & Easter

This DVD-based study uses the artwork of John August Swanson and video commentaries by academic scholars to study the stories of Holy Week and Easter as told in the four gospels.

Come ready to discuss and share.



Easter Lily Orders

Deadline: April 2

You may order an Easter Lily in memory or in honor of loved ones.

The Lilies will decorate the Altars at both the Traditional and Contemporary worship services on Easter Sunday.

An order form will soon be in the tear-off section of the bulletins.

Cost is \$10.00 per Lily. *Deadline is April 2.* After the Easter worship service you attend, you may take your plant home.

confirmation schedule



Wed., Mar 1, 6 pm

Ash Wednesday. Arrive by 6pm for rehearsal.

Mar 5, 4:30 pm (Mentor night)

Topic: "Christianity and other religions"

Mar 19, 4:30 pm (Mentor night)

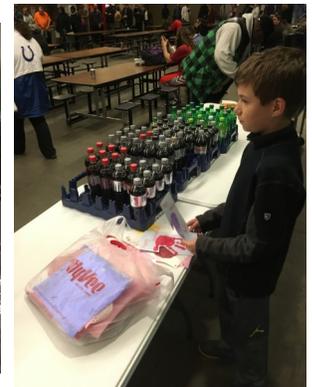
Topic: "Going Forth"

Thurs., Mar 30, 8am-3:30pm,

Tour of Faith



Confirmation students & mentors prepared and served the Feb. 14 meal for the Central Iowa Shelter & Services.



All Church Rummage Sale!

Plans continue for the 2017 New Hope Rummage Sale on April 27-29.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to the people that have volunteered.

The present organizational structure looks like this:

- Rummage Sale Coordinator----Carol Harter
- Set-up and Clean-up/Take-down----Glean Coates and Charity Johnson
- Internal church communications ---Sandy Cannon
- Donations----Sue Soards
- Advertising/Marketing----Linda Yaske
- Check out area----Kandra Dickerson
- Printing/Supplies----Judy Stout



In order to make the best use of our volunteers, we are trying something new this year.

Volunteers will have 2 choices:

1. Work at setting up an area which will include sorting, pricing, and displaying.
2. Work during the sale which will include welcoming customers and answering questions. To cut down on the number of volunteers needed, the sale volunteers will float from area to area. (On opening day, we will need someone in each area)

(Of course, the 3rd choice would be volunteering for both 1 and 2)

*As you can see below, there are only 5 more area coordinators slots to fill. Would you **please** consider one of these jobs?*

- * Household items—Linda Kielsmeier
- * **Home Decor**—
- * **Sports, hardware, and garden**—
- * Toys—John & Carolyn Burrough
- * Bed, bath, and linens— Carole Dickey & Kinney Carnahan
- * Books—Mona Kirkpatrick
- * Small electrics—Jim Mather
- * **Furniture**—
- * Holiday—Marlys Borcharding
- * Men's clothing—Marilyn Osborn
- * **Women's clothing**—
- * Children's clothing—Linda Cooley
- * **Bake Sale**—
- * Jewelry and women's accessories— Terah Robinson
- * Crafts—Diane Densmore

I am now receiving calls from people who wish to be a sale worker bee. Thank you to Patrice Webber, cashiering; Sally Corcoran, checker; Mary Ann Rice; books. **Hurry, before your first choice is taken.**

The hope is with advance planning people can work a few hours into their schedule during the week of April 23.

Remember we start setting up on Sunday, immediately after church. This gives those who can't help during the week an opportunity to volunteer. With enough help, we can be more than half done just working on Sunday.

Please remember this opportunity is open to all members—male or female. Perhaps a family would like an area to prepare.



DONATIONS—because we always have more members that can help on Sunday, donations will be accepted only on **Sunday, April 23 between 1:00pm - 7:00pm**, unless previous arrangements have been made with Carol. There will be a sign-up sheet if you need assistance to transport your donations.

Prayerfully consider what part you can play in this all church Rummage Sale. Remember the Rummage Sale is a **mission of outreach** for New Hope. Also, it is advantageous for us to increase the church's reserve fund. Working together, this can be the year we reach \$10,000. We've come so very close before. We hope to see many happy smiles and thankful hearts from those who look forward to our sale and come back every year to shop.

If you can help with one of the above, please call Carol Harter at 274-1467 or email at carolannharter@gmail.com.

A prayer for volunteering.

I am so thankful for this opportunity to donate my time and energy to a worthy cause, Father. Thank You for giving me the perfect example of self-sacrifice in Your Son, Jesus. Guide me in making my actions speak louder than my words today. Amen

groups gathering together

Blood Pressure Check

First Sunday of each month.
March 5, 9:30-11:00am will be the next BP checks in the Narthex.

Chancel Choir

Practice on Wednesdays at 6:30p.
Join us! Contact Eldon Cross,
Director of Music,
elcatalia4@gmail.com or 515 250-1476.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, March 11
at 7:30 a.m. at New Hope.

Library Invitation

Join the library committee on
the second and fourth Tuesday
from 1:00 to 3:00pm.
(Mar 14, 28)

Volunteer to organize the
church library!
Questions? Contact
Carol Harter at 274-1467 or
carolannharter@gmail.com.



Veterans Helping Veterans

The Veterans Helping Veterans met in January and were happy to host Major Sean Quinlan, Jr ROTC instructor at North High.

Our next breakfast is Saturday, March 18 at New Hope. All veterans, spouses and supporters are invited to attend at 8:30 am. Questions?, please contact Billy Nuzum, Lay Leader
bbnewz54@gmail.com

Women's Fellowship

Next meeting will be on Thurs., March 16, 9am at New Hope. Questions? Contact Susan Clark at 964-5119 or Sharon Smith at 419-7082

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. If you would like to join the Care Ministry team, please contact Clarice Rubek or Mary Ann Rice.

New Hope Needlers

Friday, March 17, 9am-3pm in the 3rd grade classroom. Please note that the Needlers will meet the 3rd Friday of each month. All are welcome!
Please bring your sewing machine and current project. Dress kits will be available. Lunch will be at Panera. Contact Diane Densmore, ddindsm1@mchsi.com or 270-1974 with questions.



SMALL GROUPS

Friday Bible Study

Urbandale Pizza Ranch
****Friday, March 10, 24 @ 1pm****

Leader - James Louk

The theme of our study this year will be the "one anothers" of Scripture. Please bring your Bible and a note pad.

Adult Discussion Group

Join us at New Hope on Sundays at 9:30am in the Ruby Chapel. Group discussions are based from "The Wired Word" that weaves current events into the Bible study.

Johnston River of Life Life Group (Bible Study):

Small Group

Sundays, 5:30 PM
@ Pastor Craig's House
6850 - NW 54th Ct.

Join a group of friends and dig into the book of Ephesians.

Men's Bible Study

Contact Patrick with questions,
phmulloy@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.



THANK GOD IT'S WEDNESDAY!

A midweek ministry dedicated to children & adults of all ages, teaching the Word of God in Scripture, Music and Fun!



ASH WEDNESDAY IS MARCH 1st. There will be No TGIW on Wednesday, March 1st due to Ash Wednesday. Join us for a Pancake Supper (provided by the youth) at 6pm and Ash Wednesday Service at 7pm.

Weekly Schedule

Dinner:	5:30-6:30pm
Kids Activities/Youth Groups:	6:00-7:00pm
Jr. Ringers (for 2 nd grade and up):	6:00-6:30pm
Puppets:	7:00-7:45pm

This month at TGIW...

March 1st: ASH WEDNESDAY- NO TGIW ACTIVITIES (except Jr. Ringers at 6pm)

March 8th: Family Movie Night (see below for details)

March 15th: SPRING BREAK- NO TGIW ACTIVITIES

March 22nd: Basketball/Open Gym Night

March 29th: Music Night



Join us on Wednesday, March 8th for Family Movie Night

Bring your sleeping bag and pillow, and come in your comfy clothes or PJ's to join your church friends for a family friendly movie night. Popcorn will be served. Movie is TBD.

Join us for a Church Baby Shower!!!

Complete with games, activities and cake!

To Honor: The Lighthouse

Wednesday, April 5th (during TGIW), 6-7pm



The Lighthouse is a transitional living program, serving six homeless parenting or pregnant women between the ages of 16-25, and up to two of their children. The young mothers and their children can stay at the Lighthouse for up to two years. Young mothers served by this program will also receive training around parent education and family planning. For more information about The Lighthouse refer to their website:

www.thriveiniowa.org/2013/07/the-lighthouse-a-place-to-call-home/

Our church is partnering with this organization to bless their residents by collecting various donations. All donations can be placed on the TGIW Table in the Fellowship Hall during the months of March and April. We hope that you will consider being a part of this mission and helping us collect several of these "Most Needed" items.

- Diapers of all sizes
- Forehead thermometers
- Baby Nail Clippers
- Baby aspirators
- Baby clothing
- Baby Formula
- Pacifiers

- Towels and Blankets- for both baby and mom
- Bottles
- Wipes
- Car seats or strollers
- Kleenex
- Hy-Vee Gift cards
- Baby learning toys



Youth Groups

BLAST
**Believing, Learning,
Assisting, Serving, Teens**

Jr. BLAST (6th-8th grade) Leaders: Nancy Wiles and Jennifer Riley. Join the Jr BLAST fun on Wednesdays at 6pm at church! No gathering on Wed., March 15 (Spring Break).

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



Who is ready to eat pancakes? Don't forget that we are serving "*all you can eat*" pancakes on Wednesday, March 1st at 5pm. This is for New Hope's Ash Wednesday service. Also, in March we are not meeting the week of Spring Break (March 15th).

As we talked in last month's update; New Hope has joined a local Youth Coalition (*T.A.C. – Teens Alliance for Christ*) that the area United Methodist Churches are forming with their youth. In fact in February, New Hope hosted a youth lock-in where 19 kids from 4 different communities came together for a 12 hour event. The night included playing games, eating, watch a movie, Silly Songs with Larry, and worshipping together at 2 am. The next T.A.C event will be Get Air event on March 10th.



Lots of fun (and not much sleep) held at the February 19th Lock in!

Finally, looking forward to April; we invite everyone to come out to Pizza Ranch (4954 86th St Urbandale, Iowa) on Wednesday, April 19th for dinner. Our youth group will be working that night to raise money for our upcoming summer mission trip. Come out for some great pizza and fellowship; while supporting the Senior High BLAST group.



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

- Mar. 1st @ 5pm** ~ Ash Wednesday Dinner
- Mar. 8th @ 5:30pm** ~ Thank God for **BLAST** Discussions - TGBD
- Mar. 10th @ 7pm** ~ T.A.C Get Air Event
- Not Meeting on Mar. 15th; Due to Spring Break**
- Mar. 22nd @ 5:30pm** ~ TGBD
- Mar. 26th @ 8am** ~ BLAST Breakfast
- Mar. 29th @ 5:30pm** ~ TGBD
- Apr. 5th @ 5:30pm** ~ TGBD
- Apr. 8th** ~ Yard work clean up
- Apr. 12th @ 5:30pm** ~ TGBD
- Apr. 19th @ 4:30pm** ~ Pizza Ranch
- Apr. 26th @ 5:30pm** ~ TGBD
- Apr. 29th** ~ New Hope Rummage Sale

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

missions

MARCH MISSION NEWS

Our mission focus for March is a program of the General Board of Global Missions called:

UKRAINE KIEV STREET CHILDRENS' MINISTRY: There are an estimated 800,000 homeless children in Ukraine with around 100,000 living in the capital city of Kiev. This ministry began in 2002, with a few people taking sandwiches to railroad tracks and ministering to the children living there. In the fall of 2007, God blessed the ministry with a brand new facility of their own. The organization is called St. Luke's, the same name as the new church, which will meet at the center. St. Luke's was chosen because when Jesus announced his ministry in Luke 4, he read from Isaiah where it said:

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me*

to preach good news to the poor.

*He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, To release the oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

This is the emphasis of the ministry for both the Children's Center and the new church.

The Children's Drop-in Center is open 6 days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is staffed by several Ukrainian women who provide meals, Bible lessons, school lessons, and most importantly...love. Besides working with street kids, they also are helping at-risk families learn job and parenting skills.

If you are so moved to contribute to this worthy mission, write Kiev Children on your check's memo line. (Ukraine General Board of Global Mission Advance Special #14054A)

Hand of Luke (HOL): The confirmation students, parents and mentors prepared and served a meal Feb 14th. The next HOL is March 14th and Cathy Beck Cross's class at Grandview University will serve. You may sign up to donate food or cook. The sign up is on the table by the entrance into the Family Life Center.

BIDWELL RIVERSIDE SPRING CHILDREN'S DRIVE: Since Bidwell Riverside serves the entire South side of Des Moines and the need is great, we are collecting *new or gently used* Spring children's clothing. (*We will not accept Adult's clothing at this time.*) This is a great time for your child to sort through clothing he or she has outgrown but is still in *good condition* for use by another child in need. Please put clothing in the large basket by the Mission table at the back of Fellowship Hall.

UMAFASHA ESL CLASSES: We have two teachers teaching ESL at the Urban Heights Covenant Church to the refugee group from The Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, and Burundi. The group is growing and there is a need for another teacher and volunteers to help during the teaching sessions. Because the gap is so large between our two languages, interpreters are also provided. If you can help with this great group, please contact Linda Yaske, Mark Baldwin, or Sharon Smith.

NEEDLERS' GIRLS' SANITARY KITS, "DAYS FOR GIRLS": Several kits are being sent along with Self Help personnel on a visit to Ghana. This is the 2nd set of kits the Needlers have sent to Ghana's young girls, who are now able to attend school and carry on an ordinary life using these kits. There is no disruption to their education and eventual earning capacity. Self Help works with families and women to help them become self-sufficient. Self Help is an advance special on our Rainbow Covenant. You can give to the needlers to buy fabric and water proof material for the kits, or to Self Help to support their many programs. The needlers also sew Little Dresses and Britches, which have gone to Ghana and Nigeria.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **May 16th, 2:00pm.** visit from our missionary and spouse, Dr. Emmanuel and Florence Mefor. Watch for event specifics to be published.
- **June 25th:** Pastor Lee Schott, Women at the Well, will be preaching at New Hope
- **August 13th:** Next on-site Meals from the Heartland packaging at New Hope
- **November 9th:** Visit to 7:00 pm worship service at Women at the Well at the Women's Correctional facility in Mitchellville. Sign-ups in September and October.

MISSION UGANDA

Uganda, Africa Mission Trip
June 2-15, 2018

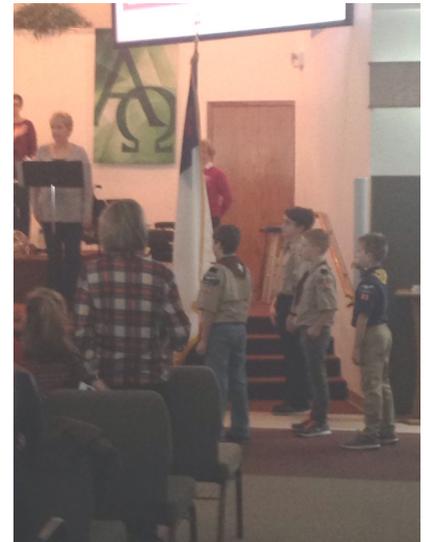
Questions? Please feel free to contact Denise, denisehartford@gmail.com or 515-890-1406.



Habitat for Humanity Work Day
Saturday, April 22,
8:30 a.m.

If interested or have questions, please contact Denise Hartford at 515-890-1406 or denisehartford@gmail.com.

Thank you to the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and leaders that participated in the Feb 12 Boy Scout Sunday recognition! Thank you to Nick Bogue, Dan Kirkpatrick, and Jackie Johnson for their help with organizing the Color Guards.



New Hope Puppet Troupe gave an awesome performance on Feb. 5!



Thank you Teachers!!! Teacher appreciation brunch was held on Sunday, Feb. 12. Please thank a teacher for volunteering their time and talents to the children at New Hope UMC!





In the rush of a busy world we tend to miss the Sacred. We accept the surface and scurry past the deep. We just don't have time to wrestle with it, to get caught in the complexity of shadow and the nuance of the rustling breeze. I mean, on some level we know there is something more, something deeper, a balance of life we can feel in our bones.

Its like when we walk into an ancient sanctuary, or the ruins of worship from eons past. There is a sense that there is something holy in the stones, you can still feel the touch of God. These locations are referred to as thin places. Maybe you have felt the presence of the divine at different times, connected to events, in other people, or in the midst of prayer.

For some people these things feel opposed to religion and faith. They may even have a feeling of mysticism that confuses us. For sure these experiences and feelings run against the grain of our culture, after all, we barely have time to slow down for a drive-thru meal or an hour of worship on Sunday morning.

On top of that, all the noise of politics today, the postings on social media, the tweets and blogs seems to suck everything holy out of us. We can easily forget who and who's we are.

As I prepare for a change of pace through a four month renewal this summer, I am intentionally going deeper seeking the divine with every breath and each step. I find myself wanting to drench myself in verses like, Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God." Or Psalm 62:5, "My soul waits in silence for God only, for my hope is from him."

I believe God is calling each of us deeper, calling us to slow down, let go, and experience the interwoven connectedness of creation. I believe God calls us to practice spiritual disciplines that exercise our faith and connect deeply with our soul.

This Lent, as we remember the infinite love and sacrifice of God in Christ, as we celebrate Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter, I invite you to immerse yourself deep into the Sacred, take time to breathe and experience the presence of the holy, and allow yourself to feel the touch of God once again in your life.

Third Thursday Study & Group Building

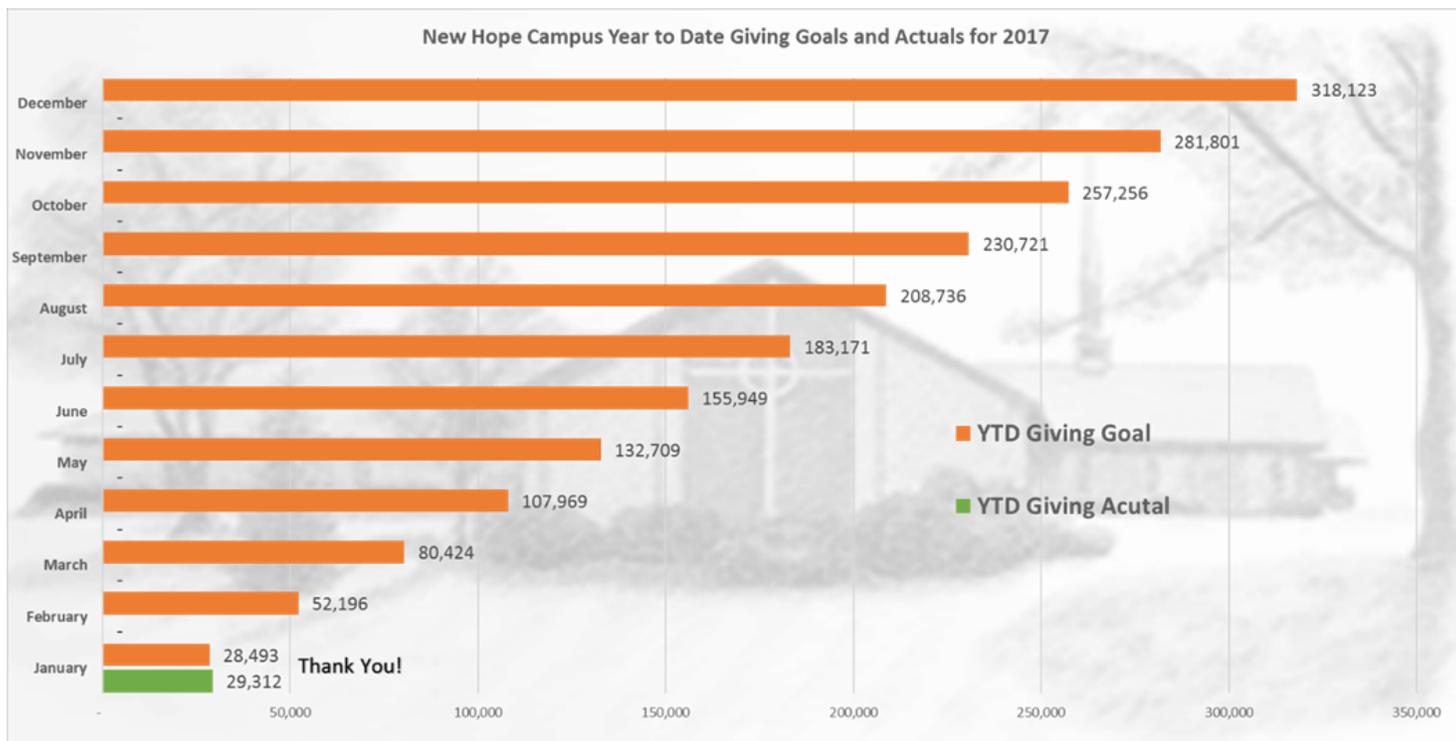
On the Third Thursday, January – May, Pastor Craig will be holding educational classes intended as preparation for those who are going to Israel in June, but open to anyone. During these sessions we will discuss some of the locations we will see, some of the historical significance, and cultural relevance. Don't know much about Qumran, this is the class for you. Below are the dates and locations, all meetings are at 7 PM. Put these dates on your calendar now.



March 16th – New Hope
April 20th – Hopkins Grove
May 18th – New Hope

Israel 2017 - June 12th - 22nd
Deadline to sign up – March 12, 2017

Join Pastor Craig and more than 30 others from the community as we explore the Holy lands together June 12-22nd 2017. If you have thought about it but are not yet decided you are invited to contact Pastor Craig directly (319-939-6788 / pastorcferguson@gmail.com)



Donate

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.

New Hope Sunday morning Worship attendance				
	8:30	9:30	10:45	total
Jan 29	27	101	79	207
Feb 5	35	98	83	216
Feb 12	32	92	66	190
Feb 19	26	75	86	187

Johnston River of Life Worship attendance				
	Sat		Sun	total
Jan 28	47	Jan 29	42	89
Feb 4	33	Feb 5	50	83
Feb 11	52	Feb 12	51	103
Feb 18	57	Feb 19	41	98

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 worship services.

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 March.

8:30am Traditional Service	9:30am Contemporary Service	10:45am Traditional Service
Greeters	Greeters	Greeters
5	5 Abbi & Lilli Herrick	5
12	12	12
19	19	19
26	26	26 Jim & Norma Smith
Lectors	Lectors	Lectors
5 Cathy Short	5 Ally Sutton	5 Jon Verner
12 Billy Nuzum	12	12 Billy Nuzum
19 Vicki O'Brien	19	19 Lynn Davisson
26	26 Charity Johnson	26
Traditional Service Callers	Hosts	Hosts
5 Bob & Marlys Borcherding	5	5
12 Norma Sutton	12 John & Joyce Turek	12 Patrick & Banny Kyenkya
19 Bob & Marlys Borcherding	19 DeVonne Douglas, Lee Ross, Glenna Ross	19 Jerry & Linda Kielsmeier
26 Norma Sutton	26 Sr. BLAST	26 Sr. BLAST
Contemporary Service Callers	9:30 Computer Support	Money Counters
5 Nancy Monthei	5 Nic Wigant	5 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross
12 Eldon Cross	12 Terry Dolberg	12 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, Ron Zoss
19 Nancy Monthei	19 Kelly Mohrman	19 Clark Howland, Larry Wood, Rick Homard
26 Eldon Cross	26 Pam Frey	26 Robin Harlow, John Bur- rough, Jerry Kielsmeier
Office Volunteers	9:15 Welcome Center	
3 Jill Jacobson	5 Jerry & Linda Kielsmeier	
10 Norma Sutton	12	
17 Marlys Borcherding	19	
24 Gayle Easton	26	
31 Ellen Hester		

The Mid-Winter Mingle & Meal, held on Sunday, January 29, was a wonderful event!! Thank you to everyone that organized the event, set up, volunteered during the event, entertained, and stayed and cleaned up. A special thank you to everyone that attended and took the chance to mingle with others and enjoy a delicious meal.



March 2017

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 Ash Wednesday 6pm Pancake Supper 7pm, Ash Wednesday Service	2 9a-Noon Office Vol: Gayle Easton 7p, JROL Mtg.	3 9a-Noon Office Vol: Gayle Easton & Jill Jacobson	4 3-8p, FLC reserved
5 1st Sunday in Lent Holy Communion 9:30-11a, Blood Pressure Jr. Ringers perform 3p, Faith & Family Night at Iowa Energy 4:30p, Confirmation Class, F.Hall	6 7p, Trustees Mtg., R.Chapel	7 9:30a, Alanon 9:30a, Sr. Singers practice Noon, AA 6:30p, Girl Scouts (downstairs) 7p, Worship Cluster Mtg. Pastor's office	8 5:30p, Family Movie Night 6p, Jr. BLAST 5:45p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Choir practice 7p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team	9 6:15p, Girl Scouts, 3rd grade classroom	10 Office Vol. Norma Sutton 1p, Friday Bible Study, Pizza Ranch	11 7:30a, Men's Breakfast
12 2nd Sunday in Lent Guest Speaker: Barb Mather Girl Scout Sunday Daylight Savings	13 1p, Lent Study, R.Chapel	14 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 1-3p, Library Helpers 3:30p, Hand of Luke 6:30p, Finance Mtg. F.Hall	15 NO TGIW, Youth Groups 6:00p, VBS Mtg 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team	16 Deadline for March LINK 9:00a, Women's Fellow- ship, F.Hall & R.Chapel 7p, Israel Study, R.Chapel	17 Office Vol: Marlys Borcherding 9a-3p, Needlers at church	18 8:30a, Veterans Breakfast, F.Hall
19 3rd Sunday in Lent Food Pantry Sunday 4:30p, Confirmation Class, F.Hall	20 1p, Lent Study, R.Chapel	21 9:30a, Alanon 9:30a, Sr. Singers, Sanctu- ary Noon, AA 6:30p, Girl Scouts (downstairs) 7:00p, Stroke Club, F.Hall 7:00p, Venture Crew	22 5:30p, TGIW 6p, Jr. BLAST 6p, Sr. BLAST 6p, Jr. Ringers 6:30p, Choir practice 7p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team	23 6:15p, Girl Scouts, F.Hall 7p, AD Council mtg., R.Chapel	24 Office Vol: Gayle Easton 9am-10pm, FLC, FHall reserved 1p, Friday Bible Study, Pizza Ranch	25 8a-4:30p, FLC, F.Hall reserved
26 4th Sunday in Lent One Great Hour of Shar- ing (offering) Sr. BLAST breakfast fundraiser	27 1p, Lent Study, R.Chapel	28 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 1-3p, Library Helpers	29 5:30p, TGIW 6p, Jr. BLAST 6p, Sr. BLAST 6p, Jr. Ringers 6:30p, Choir practice 7p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team	30 8am-3:30p, Tour of Faith for Confirmation class	24 Office Vol: Ellen Hester	



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

***One Great Hour of Sharing, March 26:** Join United Methodists everywhere by participating in the special offering that supports UMCOR's vital work. Your gifts lay the foundation for UMCOR to manifest God's steadfast love throughout the world. Please give generously.

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|---|--|
| 1 Keith Craighton, Deanne Rowland, | 18 Nina Moses |
| 2 Laura Cross | 19 Marjorie Carnahan, Tyler Nearmyer, |
| 3 Ashlyn Meyer, Tess Siffin, | Myles Redies, Denise Hartford, |
| Dane Jacobson | Jocelyn O'Brien |
| 4 Kevin Upah, Kristin Welter, | 20 Leah Scherer, Norma VandenBerg, |
| Emma Lemke | Nic Wigant |
| 5 Rex Haugland | 21 Matthew Henry, Lauren Gregg |
| 6 Vicki O'Brien, Tami Wise, | 22 Amanda Herring |
| Edie Musgrave, Regina Wearmouth | 23 Lisa Jackson, Richard Cobb, |
| 8 Pam Johnson, Robert Krause | Chad Meyer, Hannah Short, Kaden |
| 9 Beth Merrill | Krebs |
| 10 Ted Christensen, Darlene Gier, | 24 Bryce Weih, Robert Nuzum |
| Marge Robinson, Caitlyn Trillet | 25 Dee Jeffries, Lacey Fulton, Caleb Neu |
| 11 Diane Densmore, Andrew Higdon | 26 Shelley Larsen, Diane Madison, Keith |
| 12 Betty Holwegner, Lisa Peterson | Beaderstadt |
| 14 Norma Pecinovskiy, Shari Mongar | 27 Cathy Cate, Levi Sheer, |
| 15 Monica Balk, Brianna Johnson | David Followwill |
| 16 Charlotte Schultz, Aaron Homard, | 28 Natalie VanderLinden, Margaret Miller |
| Connie Armstrong, Steve Dann | 29 Noah Kerndt |
| 17 Rick Gier, Mark Baldwin, Dan Larsen, | 30 Don Ummel, Brody Egger |
| Becky Baker | |



- 1: Elmer & Theresa Flickinger
- 5: Larry & Patrice Webber
- 11: Damon & Tracy DeBates
- 20: Linda & Larry Sesker
- 25: Stephen & Cathy Cate
- 31: Dale & Laura Myers

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.



We have had the mildest winter I can remember here in Iowa (I'm knocking on wood as I write this). In spite of that, I still really do look forward to Spring, with the fresh smell of the air and new life emerging all around us.

I experienced such an emergence a number of years ago with my second attempt at refinishing a piece of furniture.

We bought an old upright piano that was in very good mechanical shape, but its finish had turned dark, almost black, and its texture was as rough and bumpy as an alligator's hide. You couldn't even see any wood grain through the finish. However, as I began stripping off the old varnish, it was like a cocoon opening up to reveal a beautiful butterfly.

As the old varnish melted away, the wood's beautiful rich grain and smooth surface emerged from underneath. I was awestruck and so excited that I worked late into the nights. After applying the new varnish (more successfully than my first time), the wood shone with a rich luster and the piano became a magnificent show piece of artistry and craft work (I may be exaggerating a little).

There are many parallels with life and lessons to be learned here, such as: "Don't judge a book by its cover," and "Every cloud has a silver lining." However, as a pastor, I analyze and moralize things too much as it is. Instead, let me just invite you to prepare for the new Spring season by putting on a fresh coat of varnish and joining in the worship and programs of New Hope and Johnston River of Life, where we may be rough and bumpy on the outside, but underneath we are smooth and shiny.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jon

Lent Theme-- "From Where Will Our Help Come?"

- Mar 5 Title: "Help in the Wilderness?" Script.: Matthew 4:1-11 Holy Communion
- Mar 12 Title: "Help in the Hills" Script.: Psalm 121 Guest Speaker, Barb Mather
- Mar 19 Title: "Help in Suffering" Script.: Romans 5:1-5, 8
- Mar 26 Title: "Help in the Darkest Valley" Script.: Psalm 23





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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Eldon Cross: eldon@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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