

# the link

A monthly publication of  
New Hope United  
Methodist Church

May  
2017

MAY AT NEW HOPE UMC

## Being God's Own PEOPLE

- ✓ May 7 Called
- ✓ May 14 Chosen
- ✓ May 21 Loved
- ✓ May 28 Gifted



NEW HOPE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sundays at New Hope UMC 8:30am • 9:30am • 10:45am  
[newhopedsm.org](http://newhopedsm.org)

MAY WORSHIP SERIES

# Jonah

The Depths of God's Grace

Saturdays 5pm &  
Sundays 10am  
Beaver Creek Elementary

[JohnstonRiverOfLife.org](http://JohnstonRiverOfLife.org)



### Ugandan Kids Spread Hope for Children in Poverty

The concert will be at  
New Hope UMC on  
Sunday, May 14 at 6pm.

The children in the Ugandan  
Kids Choir are known for  
their musical talents and their

joyful performances. They sing traditional African songs, play authentic African instruments, and dance in their colorful African attire.

The Choir is a ministry of Childcare Worldwide, which has been devoted to empowering children in the developing world since 1981. Childcare Worldwide serves children in nine developing countries by taking care of their physical, spiritual, and educational needs.

By coming to this event, you will enjoy traditional African song and dance, as well as help support children in need all around the world. Be sure to bring your family and friends!

### Visit with the Mefors!

Dr. Emmanuel Ufonna Mefor, a medical doctor, is a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church currently assigned to Mutambara, Zimbabwe.



Emmanuel is married to Florence O. Mefor, who also a GBGM missionary serving in Mutambara.

Emmanuel and Florence will be at **New Hope UMC on Tuesday, May 16. Join them at 2pm in the Family Life Center.** A cookies and refreshments will be served.



# 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

Esther Stout; Peggy Philips; Kim Traylor; Arny Larsen; Freda Ruleman; Margaret Hemphill; Cheryl Lillegraven; 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; Tim Rains; Devan Stanton; Jared Stanton; and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

## Sympathy

Our sympathy to Randy, Mary, Kayla & Brady Jansen on the passing of Randy's dad, Warren Jansen.

Our sympathy to Don Ummel and family on the passing of his wife, Doris Ummel.

Our sympathy to the family of Carol Evans.

## Baptism

Congratulations to Brynlee Kay Meyer and Gavin Riley Meyer, children of Mike & Melissa Meyer, on their April 22nd baptism at Johnston River of Life.

## Thank You

Dear New Hope United Methodist Church,  
Thank you for the beautiful baby quilt and for the delicious meal! The bright colors and designs of the quilt are so fun and its great for tummy time for Mason. The meal was great! It has been hard to find time to do things like eat. Thanks again!  
Nate, Sarah & Mason Jacques

Women's Fellowship would like to extend a thank you to Glenda Millard for the cross stitched praying hands she made and donated to New Hope's Ruby Chapel. It's a beautiful addition to the décor.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, thank you for all who participated in the Spring Cleanup, April 8. Thanks to Earl and Sharon Lewis, Jolene Harlow, Joyce and John Turek, Steve Sutton, Spencer Sutton, Paul Weisskopf, Mike Wakeman, Bob Harter, Ruth Doxon, Gary Stubbs and Nan Tollakson, Roger Moore, Jerry Kielsmeier, Larry Webber, Laura Webber, Roger, Tammy & Gwen Dann; Larry & Melisa Forbes and Girl Scout Troop 408 for helping with Spring Clean up on April 8th. Lunch was provided by Larry & Melisa Forbes. Many hands make light work!  
Melisa Forbes

## Church Communications

Stay connected with New Hope UMC!! Weekly announcements and the monthly newsletters are sent out to everyone via email.

If you have not been receiving these emails, please contact Nancy Monthei in the church office at 278-2097 or [nhfamily@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org).





Mark your calendars for our new Bible Study starting May 1st. We will be doing the study Listen, Love, Repeat, by Karen Ehman. In a culture of me-first we will discuss practical daily ways to reach out to others with planned or random acts of kindness. We will watch a video and read Bible passages and discuss study questions. Come learn about

"heart drops."

**We will meet Mondays, starting May 1, at 1pm in the Ruby Chapel.**



Calling all Girls entering grades 4th through 8th!! Its that time of year again for our Girls United for Christ Bible study! Join us Sunday May 7th-June

18th, 430pm-6p for some Girls only fellowship, crafts, music and Bible lessons with a fun girly twist! I am looking for 1 extra adult to provide 2 deep leadership and assist with crafts and activities each Sunday. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall, contact Melanie Henry for questions or to volunteer~ [melhenry0@gmail.com](mailto:melhenry0@gmail.com)



**Spring Plant Sale  
Sunday, May 7**

The plant sale to raise funds for designated outdoor landscaping (gardens and planters) is scheduled for Sunday morning, May 7.

Among the plants that will be available are multiple varieties of perennials, coleus, tomato and pepper plants.

Volunteers are needed to assist in set up on Saturday the 6th and also Sunday morning. **Donations of perennials plants will be accepted on Saturday, May 6th from 4-6pm.** Please label with plant name, approximate height and whether the plant prefers sun or shade.

If you are unable to deliver your donation at that time, please make arrangements in advance with Ruth Doxon 253-9115, [rdoxon@gmail.com](mailto:rdoxon@gmail.com)



**Ask the Pastors  
Sunday, May 21 at Noon**

Pastor Jon and Pastor Craig will be hosting a Q & A session in the sanctuary to share details and answer questions regarding Pastor Craig's upcoming renewal. They will share how you can keep apprised of his journey, pray for him and his family, how JROL will be organized and continue to live into ministry and outreach. Please plan on attending!



**Pastor Craig's  
Renewal Leave Send Off Party**

**June 9, 2017, 6-9pm  
Crown Point Plaza  
6300 Pioneer Pkwy, Johnston**

**Food & Fellowship**

**RSVP to [craigsrenewal@gmail.com](mailto:craigsrenewal@gmail.com)**

**"Go dtuga Dia Deoch Duit as an tobar nach dtrann"**

**(May God give you a drink from the well that never runs dry.)**

## Part Time Children's Ministry Coordinator-New Hope United Methodist Church

Do you love working with children and helping them grow in their ministry for Christ? Are you energetic and an effective communicator? If this sounds like you, then we have the perfect opportunity for you to share your talents and love of Christ with our children.

New Hope United Methodist Church, is seeking a Children's Ministry Coordinator to develop and oversee the children's ministries of 3 year olds through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. This is a part time position working within 18 hours per week. This person builds relationships with other church leaders and members and collaborates on the continued development of our children's ministry programs.

The ideal candidate for this position will possess the following skills:

- Sincere commitment to Christ and His church
- Higher level education, degree not required
- Two years Christian education experience preferred
- Commitment to the children of New Hope
- Ability to effectively recruit and train volunteers
- Strong communicator, outgoing and engaging
- Ability to lead and manage people and promote teamwork
- Ability to collaborate with others and relate to children of all ages
- Positive and caring manner
- Organized and prompt
- Ability to maintain confidentiality
- Willingness to learn and try new things

If you are interested in learning more about our opportunity, please submit your resume to [vickiobrien1@netzero.com](mailto:vickiobrien1@netzero.com).

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

## DMARC FOOD DRIVE – STAMP OUT HUNGER!

Last year Des Moines area postal workers collected over 83,000 food items for DMARC in just one day. However, it took a month to sort through everything. This year DMARC is being proactive. Volunteers are needed to help count and sort through all the donated food items in a thirty-hour Count-A-Thon. The Stamp Out Hunger Count-A-Thon will be held at the MARCO Warehouse, 4709 121<sup>st</sup> Street, Urbandale, Iowa starting on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 P.M. and ending on Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 P.M.

The ability to read and count are the only requirements. Volunteers under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Here's a great way to have some fun with a group of your friends while helping others for a few hours. Volunteers are welcome—both individually and as a group. **If you'd like to participate in the Count-A-Thon, please contact John Robinson, DMARC's Volunteer Coordinator, at 515-664-0394 or Email [jrobinson@dmarcunited.org](mailto:jrobinson@dmarcunited.org) to schedule your time.**



### Hand of Luke (HOL)

The next HOL is May 14<sup>th</sup>. You may sign up to donate food, cook, and/or serve at the Central Services & Shelter downtown. The sign up sheets are on the table in the Fellowship Hall.



### HeartBeat hand bell ensemble will be presenting a concert at 7pm on June 6th.

The concert is free and will take place in the Family Life Center. Please join us for a fun night of both sacred and secular music.

# groups gathering together

## Blood Pressure Check

First Sunday of each month.  
May 7, 9:30-11:00am will be the next BP checks in the Narthex.

## Men's Breakfast

Saturday, May 13  
at 7:30 a.m. at New Hope.

## Veterans Helping Veterans

Our next breakfast is Saturday, May 20 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](mailto:bbnewz54@gmail.com)

## Bidwell-Riverside Center

Women's Fellowship will volunteer each 4th Wednesday of the month. *Anyone is welcome to join them!*  
Meet at Bidwell-Riverside Center, 1203 Hartford Ave, Des Moines. Next date is May 24, 9am to 11am. Questions: please contact Lynn Louk at 276-7900.

## Women's Fellowship

Next meeting will be on Thurs., May 18, 9am at New Hope.  
Questions? Contact Susan Clark at 964-5119 or Sharon Smith at 419-7082

## Care Ministry Team

Next meeting is Tuesday, June 13, 2pm in the F.Hall.  
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, May 19, 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](mailto:ddindsm1@mchsi.com) or 270-1974 with questions.

## SMALL GROUPS

### Friday Bible Study

**Urbandale Pizza Ranch**  
**\*\*Friday, May 5 @ 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):

#### *90 Minutes in Heaven*

Small Group study on Sunday night!  
6850 NW 54th Ct. Johnston  
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM  
Everyone is invited!

### Men's Bible Study

Contact Patrick with questions, [pmmulloy@gmail.com](mailto:pmmulloy@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.



April 22nd was a great day to volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and have a work day in honor of Joe Borchardt. Thanks to everyone who was able to help!

# 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.



## Christian Learning Time (CLT)

Thank you to all of the teachers and Children's Worship volunteers!! Thank you for your time and talents given to the New Hope UMC children!! The last day of CLT is on Sunday, May 21

**From the 3-5th grade CLT:** Thank you for the continued support and encouragement of our youth to share their learning with the congregation. We hope to share more of our learning before the end of the school year!

**Children's Worship** for 2017-18 is looking for adult volunteer leaders. During the next school year, Children's Worship will be offered the first Sunday of each month, as well as during the Advent and Lenten seasons. Leaders are asked to follow the worship format, and present a scripture and lesson that includes music and prayers for children ages 3 through second grade. Bibles, music CD's, devotionals and additional resources are available to assist in planning for Children's Worship. A sign-up sheet is available on the Children's Worship bulletin board outside of the purple classroom for those interested in volunteering. If you have questions, please see Elaine Sheer or email her at [sheerel@mchsi.com](mailto:sheerel@mchsi.com).

## Vacation Bible School 2017

**Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>**

How can **YOU** help to make this another great year of VBS? Our VBS Team is SOOOOOO excited for this event and we hope that you'll join us on this journey. We will have volunteer roles for all ages and abilities. If you volunteered in the past and would like to help again, don't wait to let us know!

Contact Andy Sutton, [smileysutton13@gmail.com](mailto:smileysutton13@gmail.com), Abbi Herrick, [abbi.soellner@yahoo.com](mailto:abbi.soellner@yahoo.com), or Elaine Sheer, [sheerel@mchsi.com](mailto:sheerel@mchsi.com), with questions or if you'd like to help out!



**Thank you for your donations of cardboard!!** We will let you know through announcements what we continue to need. The Donations Board will be up at the beginning of June for food and craft items. As always, your support through donations, time, money, and prayers is greatly appreciated!

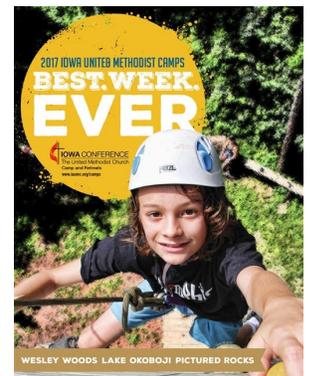
## 2017 Summer Camp Registration is Officially Open!

The Mission Committee will fund 1/2 of the total cost of a New Hope or JROL child attending a United Methodist Camp.

We want to encourage as many children as possible to have a UMC camp experience!

**\*Here's what you can do:**

Go on-line at [www.iaumc.org/camps](http://www.iaumc.org/camps) or call to register and pay 1/2 of the cost, but tell the registrar that New Hope will send a check for the other half. Then contact Nancy, in the church office, with the name of the child, the total cost, and the name of the camp.



# Youth Groups

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

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

Wow, the Senior High BLAST group was busy in April... At the beginning of the month; the youth help did yard work for one of our members. Then in the middle of the month; the youth worked at Pizza Ranch for their Community Impact fundraising event. Finally, at the end of the month; the youth help at the Rummage Sale.

Thanks you to everyone that came out to Pizza Ranch Community Impact fundraising event on April 19<sup>th</sup> to support our Senior BLAST group. It was a very successful fundraising event.



It is hard to believe that we are down to the last month that Senior BLAST is meeting for the 2016 – 2017 school year... The year has gone by quickly. With that said, we have several exciting events and activities planned for May. To start with; we are planning to make an Ice Cream run on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Then on May 10<sup>th</sup> (*meeting at New Hope at 5:30pm*); we will be joining up with Granger's Youth group for their end of the year celebration. I think they are planning to play marshmallow dodge ball and Yard Yahtzee!!! Finally, New Hope Senior BLAST will be having their end of the year party on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

- Apr. 29th** ~ New Hope Rummage Sale
- May 3rd @ 6:00 pm** ~ Ice Cream
- May 10th @ 5:30 pm** ~ T.A.C. End of the Year Celebration
- May 17th @ 6:00 pm** ~ Sr. BLAST End of the Year Celebration
- June 4th** ~ Sloppy Joe Lunch after New Hope services
- June 25th @ 8am** ~ Depart for Summer Mission trip to Eureka Springs
- July 16th** ~ Serving Meals from the Heartland Experience

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

# missions

## MAY MISSION NEWS

United Methodist Missions support women around the world with small micro loans so they can be self-sufficient. Here are a few examples:

\*\*The microloan program: **EmpowHer**, targets Nigeria UM churchwomen giving them a loan of approximately \$66 after they form groups of 10, each presents a business plan, are interviewed and approved. Women in the first 40 groups graduated in 2012. They make a commitment to pay back the loans and during this process form a bond with other women with like needs.

\*\*When Karen Skovgard returned from a trip with **Self-Help** in Ghana, she and Self-Help leader, Nora, told us that women often formed groups to work together making soaps, sandals, bags, etc after receiving a microloan. Being part of a group helps with support, marketing and promotion.

\*\*The mission of **Congo Restoration** is to revitalize the Democratic Republic of Congo, one village at a time, restoring hope and dignity by empowering women and children who have been brutalized by war. These women are given the opportunity to learn the skill of sewing, empowering them with self-esteem and a hand up to support themselves and their children. After graduation, they help the women start their own businesses, forever changing the trajectory of their lives.

\*\*In Palestine, in spite of their diminished access to resources and opportunities, rural women of Palestine play central roles in carrying out both household and agricultural activities. **The Global Ministries Global Health Unit's Food Security and Livelihoods** program partners with local organizations to provide agricultural small business, nutritional training, roof top garden cultivation, and social support and micro-lending group formation. Further, since Palestine functions in a "captive economy", reclaiming and reusing materials provides unique opportunities for showcasing up-cycled and improved farming methods, where traditional building and farming materials are in short supply. For example, repurposed tires can be used for raised vegetable and flowerbeds, as well as fashioned into chairs, and wooden pallets transformed into trendy seating and dining furniture.

Through these initiatives, women are empowered at the household level to be bold for change at the community level, changing one generation at a time.

\*\*In Laos and Asia many are very poor. They lack funding to support their basic needs for decent food, housing, clothing and education. Many lack skills. They need help and support in funding their livelihood - such as farming, fishing, small-scale businesses such as weaving, sewing, etc. Many women just stay home, or help in the farm without earning extra income. **The Seed Project** empowers them with the ability to earn some income. They are provided a microloan as seed money to finance their livelihood projects for increased productivity and income.

\*\***The Armenia Development** is a project of micro grants to enable people in post-conflict development and economic renewal to fund a job towards self-sufficiency.

\*\*The **Women's Skills Center** provides education for girls in Senegal where it has never been a priority. Many young girls drop out of school before completing high school, limiting future opportunities for success. This program provides literacy training and clothes-making skills to girls and young women so they can be self-employed later and earn an income to support or help support their families. The program targets dropouts between the ages of 16-30. More than fifty graduates have started and continue to run small businesses using the skills obtained at the Women's Skill Center. They estimate that many others worked in business until they married and started families. Former students still come to the mission for refresher courses and special events.

***If you would like to contribute to any of these projects, write the project name on your check's memo line. Thank you.***

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **May 7: Muffins and Mission.** Come and learn more about our church's efforts to be Christ in the World and how changes to the budget may impact that giving.
- **May 16: visit from our missionary and wife: Emmanuel and Florence Mefor,** 2pm in the Family Life Center.
- **June 25: Pastor Lee Schott from Women at the Well** will be preaching at New Hope.
- **August 13: Next on-site Meals from the Heartland packaging at New Hope.** Sign ups beginning in June.
- **November 9: Visit to 7pm worship service at Women at the Well.** Sign-ups in September and October.

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**SAVE THE DATE**

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**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2017**

**2017 Harvest Dinner & Auction Fundraiser**

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**EVERYONE**

**IS**

**WELCOME!**

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

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**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**If you can donate your time and service,  
please contact Larry Webber ([lpwebber@mchsi.com](mailto:lpwebber@mchsi.com)).**

**Thank you** to everyone for the numerous donations toward the Rummage & Bake Sale, April 27-29!! The FLC, F.Hall, Narthex & the coat rack hallway were completely filled with treasures! The shoppers all had a wonderful experience due to the hard working volunteers! Thank you to all who volunteered! A special thank you to Carol Harter and Glean Coates for their leadership & organization!



**Maundy Thursday drama** was held on April 13. The cast performed scenes from the stirring Maundy Thursday drama, "At the Foot of the Cross."

And, the children helped with the Palm parades on **Palm Sunday**, April 9. Thank you to all who participated in these meaningful Holy Week events.



MAY WORSHIP SERIES

# Jonah

The Depths of God's Grace

Jonah was a prophet who really didn't like the people of Nineveh. He did everything he could to watch the city burn, but ultimately God's grace won out and saved the city.

When I read this story, I am amazed at how God worked in such a messed up circumstance. If the people had been angry or stubborn, closed their ears and turned their backs, they would have missed God's gift of grace and been utterly destroyed. And Jonah didn't help matters, he rejected God's authority, rejected his neighbor, and rejected his responsibility, and yet God still found a way to reconcile a whole city and teach a lesson to Jonah about grace and justice.

Often Christians pick on Jonah for being such a miserable prophet, but he teaches us a good lesson, and we can often see ourselves in his actions. We should notice that God does not want us to hold on to grudges. Jesus commanded us to live in harmony with each other and to love our enemies.

Maybe each of us have a little Jonah in us. Have you ever been angry with, or turned your back on someone in need? Maybe you secretly hoped that something would befall them? Or maybe you felt a twinge of happiness at someone's pain? Unfortunately I think this is a horrible syndrome of humanity. We somehow adopt the rule, "an eye for an eye" rather than humbly praying for, supporting, and standing beside others.

During the month of May Johnston River of Life will be diving deeper into the life and story of this prophet. Consider joining us as we look for ways that God is calling each of us into ministry and service in our community. In the mean time consider wrestling with these questions:

Is there anyone you are angry with? Pray about it, seek peace and reconciliation.

Who are you being called to serve? Ask for courage to do so even if it is someone you dislike.

Who have you wished ill upon? Ask for forgiveness and instead pray for grace.

What trait of Jonah do you need to break in your life in order to dive deeper into the depths of God's grace and mission?

Pastor Craig Ferguson  
Johnston River of Life



### *Israel Session*

Join Pastor Craig on the last session—May 18, 7pm at New Hope. This session is a continuance of preparation for those who are going to Israel in June, but open to anyone.





## Looking for a way to volunteer?

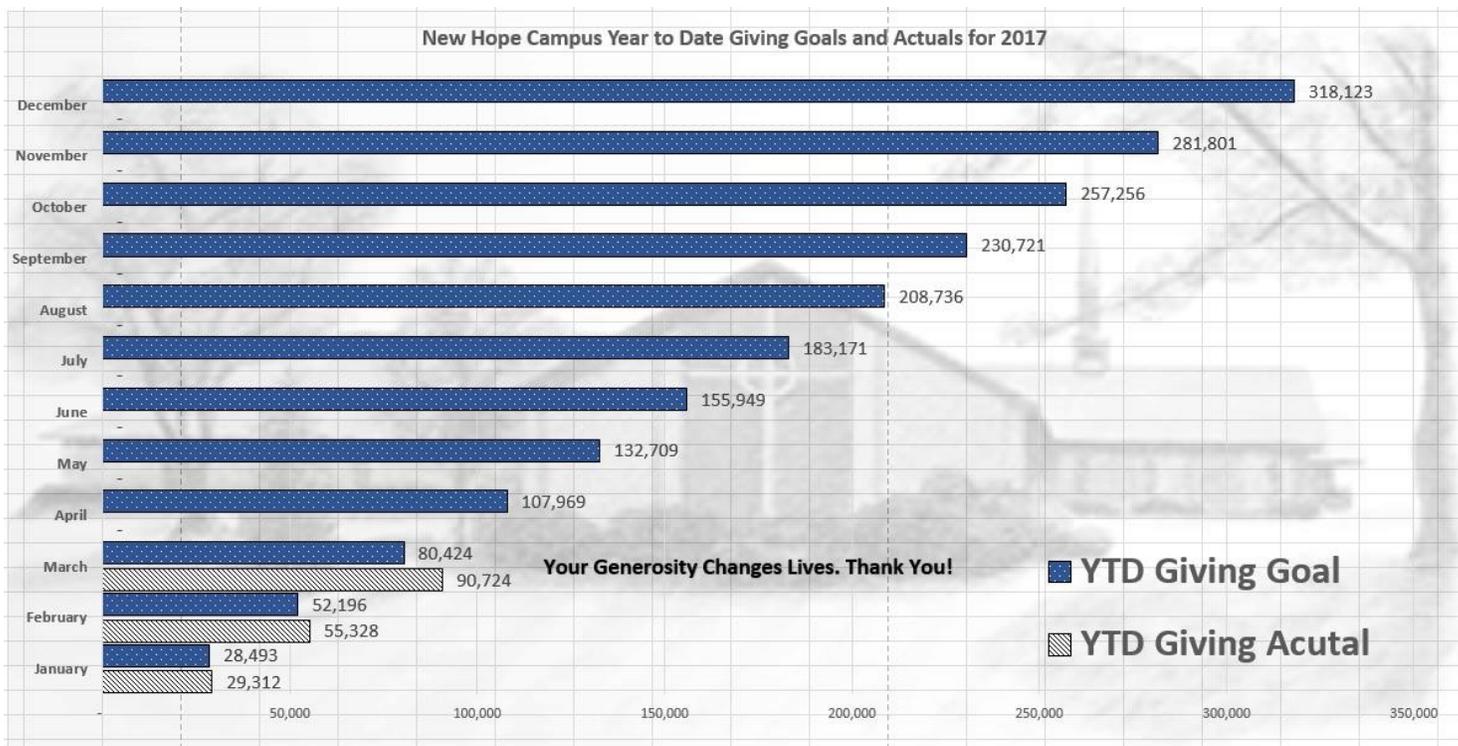
New Hope needs volunteers for:

**9:30 PC support:** advance through the PowerPoint slides during the service.

**Sunday money counters:** work as a team to count the weekly offering.

Please contact Nancy in the church office to volunteer! 515-278-2097, [nhfamily@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org)

**Care Team Volunteer Needed:** Starting May 2017 the New Hope Care team is in need of a volunteer to care for the Grief visitation to our New Hope Members who have experienced a death in their immediate family. The responsibility involves a visitation to the New Hope Member and a delivery of a special booklet on grief. If you would be interested in helping the Care Team with this volunteer position or if you have questions regarding it please contact Clarice Rubek at 515-490-3420 or email [rrubek@aol.com](mailto:rrubek@aol.com).



**New Hope Sunday morning  
Worship attendance**

	8:30	9:30	10:45	total
Mar 26	30	82	100	212
Apr 2	31	95	96	222
Apr 9	27	119	129	275
Apr 16	44	149	122	315
Apr 23	25	82	81	191

**Johnston River of Life  
Worship attendance**

	Sat	Sun	total
Mar 25	22	Mar 26 24	46
Apr 1	58	Apr 2 41	99
Apr 8	43	Apr 9 43	86
Apr 15	57	Apr 16 85	142
Apr 22	59	Apr 23 33	92



### 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](http://www.newhopedsm.org) OR [www.johnstonriveroflife.org](http://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.

# 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 May.

8:30am Traditional Service	9:30am Contemporary Service	10:45am Traditional Service
<b><u>Greeters</u></b> 7 14 21 28	<b><u>Greeters</u></b> 7 Roquet family 14 21 28	<b><u>Greeters</u></b> 7 14 21 28
<b><u>Lectors</u></b> 7 14 Vicki OBrien 21 Billy Nuzum 28	<b><u>Lectors</u></b> 7 Andy Sutton 14 Pam Frey 21 Andy Sutton 28	<b><u>Lectors</u></b> 7 Jon Verner 14 21 Billy Nuzum 28
<b><u>Traditional Service Callers</u></b> 7 Norma Sutton 14 Bob & Marlys Borcherding 21 Norma Sutton 28 Bob & Marlys Bordherding	<b><u>Hosts</u></b> 7 Missions Committee 14 21 Glenna Ross 28 Pam Frey	<b><u>Hosts</u></b> 7 Missions Committee 14 21 Linda Yaske 28 Soards family
<b><u>Office Volunteers</u></b> 5 Theresa Flickinger 12 Jill Jacobson/Gayle Easton 19 Norma Sutton 26 Marlys Borcherding	<b><u>9:30 Computer Support</u></b> 7 Nancy Monthei 14 Pam Frey 21 28 Kelly Mohrman	<b><u>Money Counters</u></b> 7 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, Ron Zoss 14 Clark Howland, Larry Wood, Rick Homard 21 Robin Harlow, John Burrough, Jerry Kielsmeier 28 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross
	<b><u>9:15 Welcome Center</u></b> 7 Jerry & Linda Kielsmeier 14 21 28 Jim & Lynn Louk	



Happy  
Mother's Day  
Sunday, May 14!

## A sign of honor

Even he who died for us upon the cross, in the last hour, in the unutterable agony of death, was mindful of his mother, as if to teach us that this holy love should be our last worldly thought — the last point of earth from which the soul should take its flight to heaven.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

# May 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 1p, Bible Study, R.Chapel 7p, Trustees Mtg., R.Chapel	2 9:30a, Alanon 9:30a, Sr. Singers practice Noon, AA 6:30p, Girl Scouts (downstairs) 7p, Worship Design Mtg., Pastor's office	3 5:30p, Puppets 6p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team	4 7p, JROL Mtg.	5 Office Vol: Theresa Flickinger 1p, Friday Small Group, Pizza Ranch	6 4-6pm Drop of Plant donations
7 Holy Communion Graduate Recognition Puppets perform Plant Sale Muffins & Missions 9:30-11a, Blood Pressure 4:30p, Girls United	8 Pastor Jon's birthday 1p, Bible Study, R.Chapel	9 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6:30p, Finance Mtg, F.Hall	10 5:30p, Sr. BLAST with TAC in Granger 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team	11 Office Vol: Gayle Easton 6:15p, Girl Scouts, F.Hall	12 Office Vol. Gayle Easton & Jill Jacobson	13 7:30a, Men's Breakfast
14 Mother's Day 3:30p, Hand of Luke 4:30p, Girls United 6:00p, Uganda Kids Choir	15 1p, Bible Study, R.Chapel	16 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 2p, Mefors visit & reception 6:30p, Girl Scouts (downstairs) 7:00p, Stroke Club, F.Hall	17 6:00p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team	18 <b>Deadline for May LINK</b> 9:00a, Women's Fellowship, F.Hall & R.Chapel 6:15p, Girl Scouts, F.Hall 7p, Israel Study, R.Chapel	19 Office Vol: Norma Sutton 9a-3p, Needlers at church	20 8:30a, Veterans Breakfast, F.Hall
21 9:30a, Henry Roff baptism VBS Ministry Moment Food Pantry Sunday Noon, Ask the Pastors, Sanctuary 4:30p, Girls United	22 1p, Bible Study, R.Chapel	23 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	24 9-11am, Volunteer at Bidwell Riverside 7:45p, Praise Team	25 7p, AD Council mtg., R.Chapel	26 Office Vol: Marlys Borcharding	27
28 Memorial Sunday 4:30p, Girls United	29 Memorial Day - Office Closed	30 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6:30p, Girl Scouts (downstairs)	31 7:45p, Praise Team	June 1 7p, JROL Mtg., R.Chapel	June 2 Office Vol: Gayle Easton	June 3



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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Brook Larsen, Lillian Herrick         | 15 Scott Peterson, Madison Ramsey       |
| 3 FloAnn Wills                          | 17 Tim Mc Culley, Sarah Boss            |
| 4 Maddy Dolberg, William Rock,          | 18 Kandra Dickerson, Bill Jeffries,     |
| 5 John Lichter                          | Jane Speck, Alex Hershey,               |
| 6 Cathy Beck-Cross, Alex Williamson,    | Kip Cullinan, Samantha Wakeman          |
| Sally Lindstrom, Reagan Birt            | 22 Linda Yaske                          |
| 7 Izaak Meyer                           | 23 Margaret Heneke, Nate Kinnetz, Dan   |
| 8 Bob Reaney, Taylor Webber, Noah Neu   | Kirkpatrick, Mark Sahlin                |
| Pastor Jon Gaul, Brynlee Meyer          | 24 Destinee DeBates, Drew Hershey       |
| 9 Pam Frey, Michael Craighton,          | 25 Jody Wolfe                           |
| Benjamin Leyda, Mollie Rooney           | 27 Jenna Merrill, Hayden Johnston,      |
| 10 Sue Medley, Shawn Stringham, Caitlyn | Suzanne Neu, Lydia Garside              |
| Robertson                               | 28 Evan Kinnetz, Sarah Sahlin           |
| 11 Spencer Wolfe, Carin Birt            | 29 Paul Weisskopf, John Walker,         |
| 13 Marilyn Osborn, Greta Musgrave,      | Allyson Mohrman                         |
| Eli Birt                                | 30 Norman Kasper, Caroline Christensen, |
| 14 Rod Cook, Adam Herring,              | Shirley Johnson                         |
| Andrew Wise, Abbi Herrick,              | 31 Tracy Hitchcock                      |
| Nicolas Zimmerman                       |   |



- |                                |
|--------------------------------|
| 3 Jason & Heather Kerndt       |
| 3 John & Jody Rains            |
| 6 Tim & Janet Carrigan         |
| 6 Nancy & Dale Monthei         |
| 7 Ambrose & Bhanu Moses        |
| 10 Rick & Cathy Homard         |
| 14 Mark & Linda Yaske          |
| 19 Don & Ruth Doxon            |
| 19 Paul & Pam Weisskopf        |
| 21 Craig & Mary Thompson       |
| 22 Forrest & Marilyn Mc Cleary |
| 23 Mark & Tami Wise            |
| 27 Brian & Carin Birt          |
| 30 Tony & Amanda Thompson      |
| 31 Stephen & Norma Sutton      |
| 31 Joby & Jodi Bearerstadt     |

*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.*



Many of you are aware of my practice of attempting to tell a joke or humorous story occasionally when I preach. You may have wondered why I do that, especially when my attempts often bring groans rather than laughs. I can't really tell you why I do it, but I have found proof that it is for your own good.

No less an authority than Reader's Digest stated that "humor can keep you healthy." In an article by Lorilyn Rackl, various studies were quoted showing that humor lowered the risk of having a stroke, heart disease, and eased pain and the symptoms of allergies.

However, I must admit that others question the validity of some of the studies and feel that more controlled studies need to be done that also examine the effect of various types of humor. For example, are my groaners as effective as the belly laugh jokes? In any case, until there is more evidence one way or the other, I feel I must continue my attempts at humor for your own good.

Now I recognize that not everyone appreciates humor. Speaker and author Marilyn Meberg found this out while attending a social gathering that she said was putting her into a coma. To keep that from happening, she leaned over to the woman seated next to her and said, "Did you know that a slam dunk is not a rough baptism?" After having to repeat what she said, the response came back, "Well, I guess I just don't see anything funny about baptism!"

Marilyn concludes, "I firmly believe God has created within each of us a capacity to appreciate humor, and we get to choose mirth or misery. That being the case, there really is no reason to miss out on laughter in life . . . unless of course you see nothing amusing about slam dunks."

Here's hoping that you choose mirth.

Grace and laughter to you,

Pastor Jon  
New Hope UMC

## **The Season of Easter : Theme-- "Being God's Own People"**

- |        |  |   |
|--------|--|---|
| May 7  | Guest Preacher: Rev. Wayne Clark. Holy Communion, Graduate Recognition<br><u>Title:</u> "The Call: What Does It Mean for You?" | <u>Script.:</u> Psalm 23; John 10:1-10            |
| May 14 | <u>Title:</u> "Chosen"   | <u>Script.:</u> 1 Peter 2:2-10 Mother's Day       |
| May 21 | <u>Title:</u> "Loved"  | <u>Script.:</u> John 14:15-21                     |
| May 28 | <u>Title:</u> "Gifted"   | <u>Script.:</u> Ephesians 1:15-23 Memorial Sunday |



#### 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](http://www.newhopedsm.org) • [www.johnstonriveroflife.org](http://www.johnstonriveroflife.org)

#### Church Staff

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

#### Church Office Hours

Mon.-Fri: 8:45am-4:45pm

#### E-mail Information

Church address: [nhfamily@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org)

Pastor Jon Gaul:

Pastor Craig Ferguson: [craig@newhopedsm.org](mailto:craig@newhopedsm.org)

Nancy Monthei: [nancy@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nancy@newhopedsm.org)

Eldon Cross: [eldon@newhopedsm.org](mailto:eldon@newhopedsm.org)

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#### Find us on facebook!

Visit the website to find our facebook link.

The LINKnewsletter 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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