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A monthly publication of
New Hope United Methodist Church

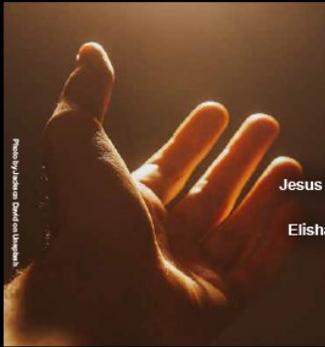
February 2021

FEBRUARY AT NEW HOPE UMC



NEW HOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

9 am – Parking Lot • 10:30 am – Parking Lot
newhopedsm.org



**LIVING WITH
GOD'S PURPOSES
FOR OUR LIVES**

FEBRUARY 7
Jesus came for a purpose and we do, too!

FEBRUARY 14
Elisha received blessings for a purpose
and we do, too!

FEBRUARY 17
ASH WEDNESDAY
Paul worked to not put obstacles in anyone's way
for a purpose and we do, too!

FEBRUARY 21
God made a covenant to never again destroy
creation for a purpose and we do, too.

FEBRUARY 28
Jesus set his mind on divine things
for a purpose and we do, too.

Worship with Us on Sundays!



New Hope's Transition Team has set the first Sunday in Lent, February 21st, as the target date to return inside for church services.

9:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center

10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

We will continue the prerecorded services and broadcasting of the services to our parking lot congregations.

We are requesting your input to help us prepare for the path forward.

A short survey will be emailed to help us determine the safest path. Or you can type the following into your url:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NH_ReEntry to complete the survey.

We will also need volunteers to help us make this a smooth and safe transition. Please contact Nancy in the Church Office to volunteer, 278-2097 or nhfamily@newhopedsm.org.

Christian Learning Time (CLT) will be virtual on Sunday mornings at 10:30am. Families, please watch for emails with updates.

Safety guidelines for indoor worship:

- Masks are required
- Social distancing
- No food or drink
- Take your coats into service
- No socializing (please)

Our main concern, has always been and will always be, the safety of our members.

If you have questions or concerns about the changes, please contact Clark Howland (clarkhowland@msn.com), chair of the Transition Team.



*“We love because [God] first loved us”
(1 John 4:19).*



I pray, God, that you show me how to share your love every day of the year.

Prayer Chain Request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call Mary Ann Rice at 515-664-0222 or the church office at 278-2097.

Prayer Concern

Roberta Cave; Fred Foreman; Dorothy Montgomery; Freda Ruleman; Jane Wagner; Jonathan Jason Silva; Luis Gallo; K.Howland; Glenda Millard; Chris Boyles' sister, Trudy; JoAnn Pugh; Desiree Spring; Josephine Demarco; Bishop Laurie Haller; District Superintendent, Rev. Heecheon Jeon; Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, missionary; Women at the Well.

Prayers for the following military personnel:

Michael Craighton; Jason Homard; Adam Larson; Joshua Larson; Todd McGinnity; Devan Stanton; Hunter Schmidt; Jessica Weltha-Bales; and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

If there are any other people that should be listed, please contact the church office at 278-2097, nhfamily@newhopedsm.org

Sympathy

Our sympathy to Pastor Jon Gaul and family on the passing of Anita Gaul.

Thank you

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the outpouring of love, cards, offers of help, and especially prayers, over the past month. In addition, Pastor Lilian's uplifting messages and prayers have been so helpful and uplifting. This journey of treatment for cancer is challenging in many ways, but knowing that our NHUMC family is lifting us up makes it so much easier.

May God bless you all.
Bertie and Neal Cave and family

Thanks to everyone in our New Hope family for the prayers, cards, calls and other support Jim and I have received from you during my treatment for cancer. I have finished my radiation treatments and have a good prognosis for recovering. In I Thessalonians 5:11 we are told to “encourage one another and build each other up...” which is what you have done for me. I am very grateful!

Lynn Louk

Thank you

We would like to thank our New Hope family for helping us after all adults in our home contracted Covid 19.

Pascal, Jeanne, Dimitri, Audrey, Angelle, and Luke.

The family of Freda Ruleman is having a card shower for her **100th birthday** which is on February 9, 2021.

Freda is a member of New Hope UMC.

Please send birthday blessings to
Freda Ruleman
2727 82nd Place
#407
Urbandale, IA 50322

We hope to celebrate by gathering at a later date.



Confirmation 2021

We will continue to be virtual and meet on Sunday, February 7th, 1:30-2:00 p.m. and time with Mentors will be at 2:05 p.m.

Parents, please make sure your child has their white binder and Bible. An email will be sent with the Zoom information.

If you have questions, please call Pastor Lilian at 642-757-7925.



Boy Scout Sunday, February 14th

Scouts and Scouters in our congregation are invited to attend services (9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.) in their Scout uniforms for recognition.

We will also have a Presentation of Colors at each outdoor service that morning.



Ash Wednesday Wednesday, February 17th

Pastor Lilian will be leading two Parking Lot Services. Time is yet to be determined so please watch for the weekly updates.

Come and join us in the imposition of ashes, a recognition of our mortality, as the beginning of a forty-day season of fasting, prayer and self-denial, self-examination and repentance, and with great devotion on the reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.



The Kansas City Chiefs and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers will be facing off in Super Bowl LV on Sunday, February 7th!

We need you to get in the GAME to help us have a little friendly competition while TACKLING hunger in our community.

KICK OFF of our annual SOUPER BOWL event is Sunday, January 31st! We are asking you to by bringing a nonperishable food/personal care item (or 50) on **Sunday, January 31st** and/or **Sunday, February 7th** to score a point for the team of your choice in New Hope's version of Super Bowl LV.

Visit the **END ZONE** of either the *TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS* or the *KANSAS CITY CHIEFS* to drop off your donation on your way out of parking lot church! Our New Hope **QUARTERBACKS** will gladly accept the **PASS** and see that your donation helps add points to the scoreboard for your team!

Each item you donate counts as 1 point. Would you prefer to make a monetary donation? Each \$1 will count as 1 point too! Points will be verified by the refs at halftime (after services end on January 31st). Many times a team comes back stronger in the second half so we won't know for sure which team had the most **TOUCHDOWNS** until after services on SOUPER Bowl Sunday, February 7th!

****Expired items will be a TURNOVER and point for the other team, so PLEASE check those dates before you donate**** Our SOUPER Bowl items will be donated to local food pantries.

While all donations are welcome, if you are looking for a list of "most needed" non-perishable items please see it below:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 100% Juice | Pasta |
| Canned Fruits And Veggies, In Juice | Rice |
| Peanut Butter | Soup |
| Canned Meat | Baby Food |
| Whole Grain Cereal | Formula |
| Pasta Sauce | Diapers |
| UHT Milk | Personal Care Products |
| Beans | Baby Wipes |
| | Feminine Hygiene Products |

East Entrance Addition

A Task Force was created with two members from Finance and Stewardship, Administrative Council and Board of Trustees. The members are – Robin Harlow, Jerry Kielsmeier (Finance); Clark Howland, Barb Mather (AD Council); Mike Wakeman, John Rains (Trustees). The Task Force Chair is John Rains.

The Task Force's mission is to organize, manage and communicate to the congregation concerning a new addition to the east side of our Church, referred to as the "East Entrance Addition", a drive under canopy. The East Entrance was named after the East Gate or Golden Gate of Old Jerusalem. "So that those who come in can see the light" – Luke 8:16.

This project was verbally introduced on the 10th of January; a FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) sheet was handed out the 17th of January; a Congregational Support Response Card was given to those who attended the Parking Lot Services @ 9 and 10:30am, 24 & 31 January. This Response Card was converted to a digital Response Survey and was included in the Friday Weekly Email, 22 January, the 24th Sunday Web Service and sent to everyone's email in-box, January 25th. **Please review this document**, discuss how you feel referencing the new addition within your family and reply with your intent.



Information can be found at - www.newhopedsms.org; click on the "East Door" tab. Questions can be directed to eastentrance@newhopedsms.org.

Women's Fellowship

Postponed until further notice.

Questions? contact Susan Clark at 964-5119.

Men's Breakfast

Postponed until further notice.

Veterans Helping Veterans

Postponed until further notice.

Questions? contact Billy Nuzum at bbnewz54@gmail.com

Care Ministry Team

Next meeting is **Thurs., April 8th at 10am at the church.** Social distancing and wearing face masks.

Questions, contact Clarice Rubek, rrubek@aol.com

New Hope Needlers

Postponed until further notice.

Questions? Contact Jody Rains, 278-8282

Blood Pressure Check

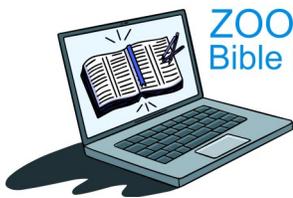
Postponed until further notice.

Bidwell-Riverside Center

At this point Bidwell continues to cancel group-volunteering events.

However, if anyone from the group would like to volunteer as an individual, they would welcome you but would need to know about one week in advance.

If anyone is interested in doing that, please contact Lynn Louk (jimlynnlouk@mac.com) or 515-276-7900 and she can inform you about tasks that could be done.



ZOOM Bible Study

FRIDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

The Friday Zoom Bible study will continue trying to make sense of God and suffering. Does suffering have the last word when Jesus says in John 16:33 - "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the the world." Also, the Psalmist (73:26) reminds us - "My flesh and heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

Come join our conversation on **Friday at 1:00 pm., on February 12 and 26.**

If you would like to join the group please contact Jim Louk at jimlynnlouk@mac.com, or call him at 515-402-7573, so he can help you connect with our group.

A reminder containing the Zoom link and more information about each study will be sent out a few days prior to each meeting.



If you have any questions, please contact Charity Johnson at cjohnson@newhopedsm.org

Mission Statement: Connecting kids to God and others.

Vision Statement: Connecting lessons about God through real life experiences.

Christian Learning Time (CLT): 4 year old—7th Grade

We will continue to gather on **Sundays at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.** Parents, please watch for emails with more details. We will be learning about the Ten Commandments.

CLT Parents will be getting a phone call within the next couple weeks to discuss our further plans with following the church's decision after Feb. 21st.

S.W.A.G. (Saved With Amazing Grace): K - 5th grade

S.W.A.G will continue to meet on **Wednesdays at 6:00pm via Zoom.** Parents, please watch for emails with more details. We will continue learning Psalm 23.



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.

ALSO, we appreciate receiving your updated contact information. Thank you!



2021 Altar Flower Calendar

When worship services are back indoors, if you would like to have flowers on the altar in celebration of a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or in honor or in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the flower calendar which is located across from church office. *The flowers are \$35.00 per Sunday and you may take your flowers home after the service.*



New Hope wants to remind you that we offer online giving as a way to automate your offering.

To setup online giving go to www.newhopedsm.org and click on the **Gifts** tab. This will direct you securely to set up an automatic donation.

Please contact the church office with any questions.

BLAST - Believing, Learning, Assisting, Serving, Teens

Jr. BLAST (6th-8th grade) Leaders: Jackie Johnson & Jenn Higdon
JrBLAST@NewHopeDSM.org

Jr. BLAST had a great January! We enjoyed virtually hosting the Blank Park Zoo and some animal ambassadors to kick off the year! Then, we got creative and completed a virtual service project with Sr. BLAST - making handmade cards for people served by Every Step, a grief and loss support organization in the metro. Our others meetings were spent on lessons and playing a few new virtual games!

Looking ahead:

It is our expectation that in person meetings will still not be a reality for the near future, but we hope to see many of the kids join us as we continue with Zoom programming!

February 3~ 6-7pm, Meeting via Zoom
February 10~ 6-7pm, Meeting via Zoom

February 17~ No Meeting; Ash Wednesday
February 24~ 6-7pm, Meeting via Zoom

If your kids haven't joined us yet this year, but are at home with not much going on - have them try out a Wednesday night! They might appreciate the opportunity to socialize with church friends they haven't been able to see for quite a while and we would love to see them!

The link to join via Zoom is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89932422615?pwd=M3VMaWRVR3JrZlE5MlhZeG81N29YQT09>

Meeting ID: 899 3242 2615

Passcode: NW_HOPE

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,89932422615#,,,,*4406139# US (Chicago)

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

Welcome to 2021!

This year the Senior BLAST group started the year off with some virtual events. At the beginning of the month; our group joined the other Wednesday night groups to meet with the Blank Park Zoo; where we learned about 4 unique reptiles. The following week; the group made cards for the organization Every Step; which is a ministry for people dealing with grief and loss. The cards we made will go to a person in the community that recently lost a family member. Finally, it would not have been Christmas without our annual BLAST Christmas party; this year the kids built individual gingerbread houses and played the candy-cane game against the clock.



For the month of February; we will continue to meet virtually on Wednesday nights from 7pm to 8pm. We will **NOT** be meeting on February 17th; due to it being Ash Wednesday.

Zoom Link for our February Meetings (**Feb. 3rd, 10th, and 24th**)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87637423630?pwd=bC9lUUw3Q1dUdS9haHZnRzBjYVp2dz09>

Meeting ID: 876 3742 3630

Passcode: SR_BLAST

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

missions

FEBRUARY MISSION NEWS

Co chairs: Cheryl Moore & Marilyn Osborn

As the missions committee gets started in 2021, we will continue our monthly giving (Missionary, Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, Women at the Well, Bidwell Riverside, Johnston Partnership, Urbandale Food Pantry, and DMARC) and are also looking for new areas where we can engage in the community and add to our partnerships.

A few years back, it was decided not to have a separate line item on the member offering form for giving to missions. The missions are supported by funds from the Rummage Sale and Harvest Dinner. This year, we will also receive \$8,800 from the general budget.

Members of the church have suggested the following opportunities for Missions:

Recently, a member of the church brought to my attention that YSS, who provides mental and behavioral health services for youth and their families is behind by approximately \$200,000 in their fund raising. YSS has been serving the community for over 40 years and offering counseling, education, and emergency services to families in the community. If you are interested in learning more or making a contribution, please visit their website at yss.org.

This next month, the missions group has been asked how we can help communities affected by the Derecho and the front line workers helping with the COVID pandemic. As we start to discuss these items, we will send information out to the members. If you have ideas or suggestions for outreach and community involvement, please let us know. We are interested to hear from the congregation.



Hand of Luke, February 14th: This is our monthly ministry of a meal for the Central Iowa Shelter and Services.

We are continuing to utilize your monetary donations to purchase the majority of the food for the monthly meal. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

We would appreciate 7 people to donate 3 dozen cookies each for the February Hand of Luke meal. Since it falls on Valentine's Day, if you would like to make **decorated heart-shaped sugar cookies**, that would be wonderful. But you are also welcome to choose whatever kind of cookie you would like to make or buy and donate. If you are interested in helping prepare the meal or deliver it, please let Jolene Harlow know at rdharlow@earthlink.net or 515-490-8813. Thank you!

GRAIN BIN: One of the effects of the pandemic season is the burden of so many families to put food on the table. The good news is that we always have something to share so that nobody is hungry. Never underestimate the power of a hand-full of uncooked rice, a cup of uncooked beans, a ladle of maize, a cup of cassava fufu and a can of soup!

Staying healthy requires healthy food. To our Asian, African, Latinx and immigrant neighbors, healthy food includes: rice, maize, cassava flour, and beans. Making these foods available to them will help them with their other basic needs of living, especially when there are school-aged children in the family.

The inspiration of this "Grain Bin" was Pastor Lilian's story: A poor family of six in the village cooked three cups of raw rice every day. Before the mother/wife adds water into the pot, she sets aside a hand-scoop of the rice into a container. At the end of each month, the family offers to their Church the set aside rice.

When the Grain Bin is full, the donations will be given to Johnston Partnership, Bidwell Riverside and the Urbandale Food Pantry, on a rotation schedule.

Donations can be collected on Sundays. Thank you for your giving heart.



*Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry
and did not take care of you?*

(Matthew 25:44 NRSV)

Written by Jerry Kielsmeier, New Hope Financial Secretary, and member of the “East Entrance Addition” task force:

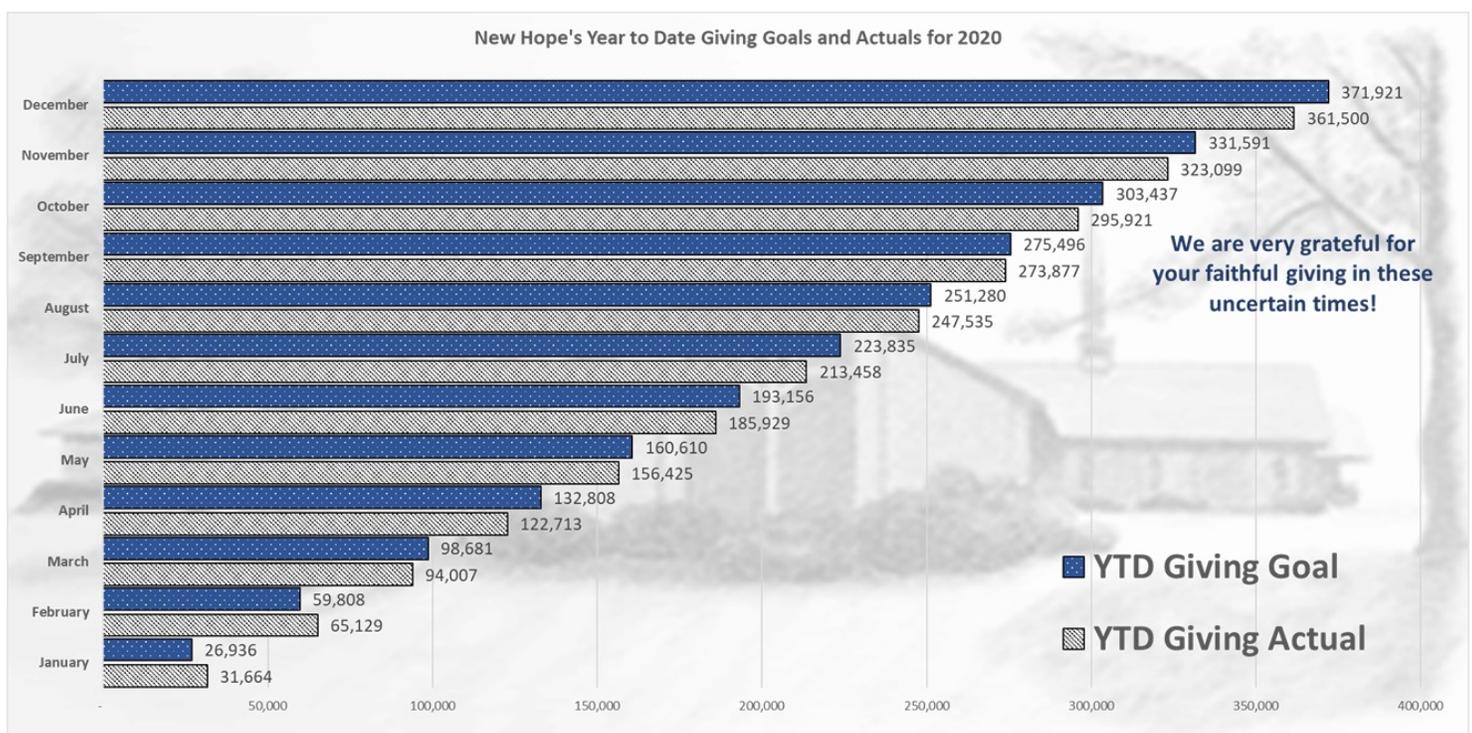
Topic: My experience in planning to donate a security with appreciated value to New Hope

Background info: I am a New Hope money counter teamed with Tami Wise and John Burrough. Last spring Tami Wise, chair of the New Hope Endowment Fund Committee, told me the details and tax benefit of giving an appreciated security as a gift (offering, endowment, other project) to the church. At that time the stock market was at an all-time high; then it soon crashed due to “the virus”. Oh, I thought, I can’t use Tami’s teaching now and donate that mutual fund I own due to its big drop in value. Now at the present time, the stock market has rebounded to all-time highs and New Hope has announced a project, “The East Entrance Addition”. I’d like to consider donating mutual fund shares to that project.

Learnings so far: The article written by Kathy Fairchild (in the December 2020 newsletter <https://newhopedsm.org/about/archive>) is a very good reference for the tax benefits of several types of charitable giving. I decided to look into the ease of donating a security from my “taxable account” that has mutual funds with appreciated value. I’m not yet able to donate tax free from my traditional IRA, but when I become eligible at age 70 1/2, I will donate to the church from my traditional IRA account, rather than donate cash, to lessen the amount of income tax due.

- I did some figuring using the current value of my mutual fund shares, the original cost of the shares, and my projected capital gains income tax rate. It showed me that for the church to receive \$2000 I could either sell \$2162 of shares and pay federal capital gains tax of \$162, or I could donate \$2000 of shares and pay no capital gains tax (saving \$162 which I thought is a good idea) I also did not do any analysis of state income tax savings that would give more tax savings.
- I phoned the Iowa United Methodist Foundation and talked with Executive Director Rev. Katherine Yarnell. She explained the information needed by the firm holding my mutual fund shares to transfer the shares to the foundation; and the correct information needed for the foundation’s “Stock Donation Form” to complete the security sale, direct funds to the proper account/project at New Hope, and provide transaction documentation to the security donor. <https://iumf.org/services-for-individuals/stock-gifts/> Foundation web site link and information on giving; “Stock Donation Form” paper copy available by Nancy Monthei’s office.
- I phoned my mutual fund firm’s change of ownership department and they explained that via telephone I could provide the information they need to transfer security shares to the Iowa United Methodist Foundation. I would only have to review and sign the form electronically; no postal mailing needed. They did caution that from January 1 until April 15 they are very busy with all types of activity, and it could be 10-15 business days for the transfer to occur. After April 15, the transfer usually occurs within 1 day.

If someone wants assistance considering donating shares (not cash) to New Hope, I would be willing to help understand the process, however little or much as requested (via phone, or other healthful measure to be careful). And, when I do actually finish this method of donation, I would explain my experience to others. Say safe, God bless!



February 2021

Sunday Worship
9am & 10:30am
Parking Lot

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7p, Trustees Mtg., via Zoom	2 6:00p, SPRC Mtg., via Zoom	3 Zoom gatherings: 6 - 7p, SWAG 6 - 7p, Jr. BLAST 7 - 8p, Sr. BLAST	4 6:30p, Worship Design, via Zoom	5	6
7 Communion Sunday Souper Bowl food donations 1:30p Zoom with Confirmation Class	8	9	10 Zoom gatherings: 6 - 7p, SWAG 6 - 7p, Jr. BLAST 7 - 8p, Sr. BLAST	11	12 1p, Friday Bible Study, via Zoom	13
14 Boy Scout Sunday 3:30p, Hand of Luke	15 <i>President's Day</i> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	16 6:30p, Finance Mtg., via Zoom	17 Ash Wednesday	18	19	20
21 1st Sunday in Lent Targeted Indoor Worship begins 9am FLC 10:30am Sanctuary	22 Deadline for March LINK	23	24 Zoom gatherings: 6 - 7p, SWAG 6 - 7p, Jr. BLAST 7 - 8p, Sr. BLAST	25 6:30p, Administrative Council Mtg., via Zoom	26 1p, Friday Bible Study, via Zoom	27
28 2nd Sunday in Lent						



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



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Judy Peterson, Nicole Wilson | 17 Vicki Hover-Williamson |
| 2 Kay Goff, Harrison Fiala,
Violet Fiala | 18 Ava Henry, Linda Sesker, Michael
Gerovac, Ellie Cossa |
| 3 Ron Rubek | 19 Susan Egger, Heather Kerndt,
Makenna Meyer |
| 5 Dawn Pritchard | 20 Kim Trillet, Derek Marsh |
| 6 Dale Monthei, Linda Kielsmeier,
Penny Dolberg | 22 Kristi Miller, Nathan Roff, Julie
Hartung |
| 7 Sandy Wilges | 23 Lyle Pritchard |
| 9 Freda Ruleman, Ben Higdon | 24 Marte Carlson |
| 10 Clark Howland | 25 Earl Lewis |
| 11 Steve Sutton | 27 Clarissa Short, Kinney Carnahan |
| 12 Dorothy Montgomery | 28 John Huber |
| 16 Scott Rowland, Corey Miller,
Ron Cooley | 29 Doris Pugh |

- 1: Dean & Judy Peterson
9: Ron & Clarice Rubek
24: Larry & Kim Buske
24: David & Carole Followwill
27: Robin & Jolene Harlow
28: Clark & Le Howland

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.



Sunday Worship Services

9am: Parking Lot Service

10:30am: Parking Lot Service

**Following Christ, inspiring minds, loving hearts,
serving hands and transforming communities.**

www.newhopedsm.org

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Lilian Gallo Seagren

Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei

Director of Music: Colby Gochanour

Children's Ministries Coordinator: Charity Johnson

Nursery Attendant: Jackie Johnson, Kris Wakeman

E-mail Information

Church address: nhfamily@newhopedsm.org

Pastor Lilian Gallo Seagren: Lilian@newhopedsm.org

Colby Gochanour: colby@newhopedsm.org

Nancy Monthei: nancy@newhopedsm.org

Charity Johnson: cjohnson@newhopedsm.org

Find Us

Phone: (515) 278-2097

4525 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310

Find us on facebook!

Visit the website to find our facebook link.

The LINK newsletter is a monthly publication.

Editor: Nancy Monthei; Reporters: New Hope Church

family. Please contact the church office at 278-2097 if

you have a change in address or would like to be taken off

the LINK mailing list.