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A monthly publication of
New Hope United Methodist Church

October 2026



Sundays
9am • 10am • 11am
newhopedsm.org



A Fall Evening of Faith, Food, Fellowship & Fun Saturday, October 17 • 5:00–7:00 PM

As the leaves begin to turn and the beauty of autumn surrounds us, we invite you to gather with our church family for a special evening of food, fellowship, fun, family, and fabulous fundraising! Our annual **Autumn Table & Treasures** event is almost here! Together, we'll celebrate the many gifts God has given us by sharing our talents, treasures, and generosity with one another.

Our evening will feature two special themes:

Autumn Table — a delicious dinner shared around the table with friends and our church family. Meal tickets are \$15 for a thoughtfully prepared hometown-inspired feast featuring tender pulled pork, accompanied by a baked potato bar with an array of savory toppings. Enjoy rich and creamy macaroni and cheese and slow-simmered baked beans. Warm, homemade fruit cobbler served à la mode with vanilla ice cream will be the perfect sweet ending to a memorable dining experience at Table & Treasures.

Autumn Treasures — an exciting auction filled with wonderful items generously donated by members and friends of our congregation.

This event is more than a meal and an auction, it is an opportunity to come together as a church family, give generously, and support the ministries and mission of our church. Every donation, every bid, and every ticket help make a difference! We are thrilled to be able to highlight the talents of members of our church community who are sharing their gifts as entertainment for the evening.

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.” — Hebrews 10:24

The auction is filled with new, handcrafted, homemade, and home-baked treasures, along with many other wonderful items donated by our church family and supportive businesses in our community! There is something for everyone—and you never know what treasure you might discover!

View the auction catalog, place your bids, and check back often as you watch the bidding heat up!

Purchase meal tickets or browse the auction catalogue here: <https://tableandtreasures2026.auctria.events/>

Online bidding will be active from October 1st until 6PM on October 17.

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” — 2 Corinthians 9:7

Come hungry. Come ready to laugh and fellowship together. Come prepared to find a treasure or two—and most importantly, come ready to celebrate what God is doing through our church family.

Questions? Contact **Jackie Johnson** at jackie@newhopedsm.org or (515) 710-3239, or **Pastor Amy** at amy@newhopedsm.org or (712) 350-0994.

We can't wait to gather around the Autumn Table with you! If you aren't able to purchase the meal tickets online, Jackie can help you with a paper meal ticket. Talk to her at church or via the email or phone number listed above.



PASTOR Appreciation

Grateful for Faithful Leadership

October gives us a special opportunity to thank the pastors who teach, encourage, pray and care for our congregation. May we honor their faithful service, support them with our prayers and remind them that their ministry makes a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

Thank you to Pastor Amy!!

Prayer Chain Request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call Glenna Ross at 515-321-3010 email at glenna625@hotmail.com or the church office at 515-278-2097.

Our Prayers for ~

(Please call the church office if you or your loved one want to be taken off the list.)

Healing from Cancer:

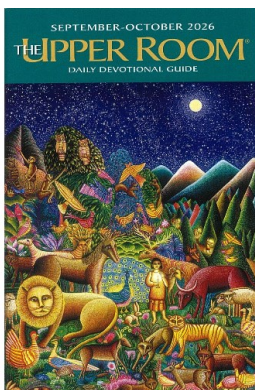
DeVonne Douglas, Pam Frey, Marlys Borcharding, Barb Agan, Linda Boyd, Ray Pickett

Healing from Physical Issues:

Jim Bolstad, Dick Cobb, Freda Ruleman, Patricia Smith, Mike Aasheim Osborne

Military: Devan Stanton, Hunter Schmidt, Joshua Ruleman, Jacob Gerlach, Brycen Gerlach, Clayton Hults, Zach McClain, Ethan Hensley, Kaden Moran, Macon Woodlief, Jonah Tibbits, Ethan Douglass

New Hope UMC has available to you the Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide.



The September/October

issue is in the Communication Center.

You may leave a donation in the box by the Upper Room guides.

Directory Update

Sue (Soards) Davenport has a new address:
112 Slayton Ave
Iowa Falls, IA 50126

Our Sympathy

Our Sympathy to Fred Ruleman on the passing of her daughter, Judith Reilly.

Our Sympathy to Tim & Brenda McCulley & family on the passing of Tim's brother, Kenny McCulley.

Thank You

New Hope Church Friends,
Thank you for the beautiful lap quilt. I was proud to say it was from my church. Thanks for the notes and caring thoughts.
Love, Norma Wallin

Thanks to the Care Team and the Needlers for the beautiful lap quilt and card received while I was in the hospital. I appreciate all the prayers and well wishes. I'm continuing to recover at home.
If anyone has a DIY kit to correct double vision, please let me know!!
Bruce Bernard



Thank you to the congregation for the birthday wishes for my 90th birthday. I had a great time!
Love you all,
Marlys

I loved celebrating my 60th birthday on the same day as Marlys' birthday celebration!
Thank you all for the birthday greetings!
Love,
Nancy

Mahjong

Interested in learning to play Mahjong?
Come join us on **Thursday mornings at 10am-12:00pm.**
If you have questions, contact Glenna Ross at 515-321-3010.





Winter Coat Drive

It's hard to believe that winter is right around the corner. During the month of October, please consider donating clean, gently used winter coats for adults and kids to be given to Johnston Partnership for distribution to those who need them. Just so you know, each individual is given one coat per season. A description of the type of coats donated is: they should be heavy enough to keep someone warm if they would need to stand in the freezing cold for 20 minutes waiting for a bus.

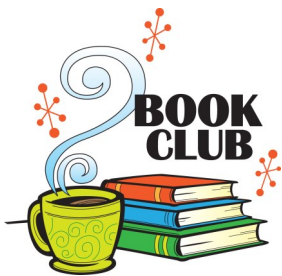
Thank you for your donations! *A receptacle is located by the book shelves in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your support!*



Men's Fellowship will meet on **Saturday, October 3 at 8:30 a.m.** at church. This is a great opportunity for all men of the church to gather for food and fellowship.



Pressing on with God's Joy – supplemental bible study to Pastor Amy's sermon series. Join Louise Scott on **Tuesdays through October 13 at 11am** at church.



Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, October 7 at 5pm, Ruby Chapel.**

Please get your own copy and read the book "The Other Einstein" written by Marie Benedict (historical fiction). It is a book about a brilliant woman physicist, whose light was lost in Einstein's enormous shadow. A little about the author, Marie Benedict, she is a lawyer and found she loves investigating historical stories of women. Join us even if you can't join us each month.

Discussions are open to all. Questions? contact armentabu@gmail.com.



Veterans Breakfast on Saturday, October 10 at 8:30am at church

Breakfast will be served. This is open to all veterans, their spouses, and supporters. Questions, please contact Pam Frey at yayafrey@gmail.com.



Guest Preacher

On **October 11**, we will welcome Rev. Ron Carlson, Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services Iowa Conference.

Join us!!

11am Chancel Choir will sing on the **2nd & 4th Sunday of each month.**

Practices are on Wednesdays at 6:15pm for one hour.

On Sundays we sing, we normally warm up at 10:20am.

We will not wear robes, and we will sing from the choir loft. After the anthem, members are free to move to the pews to be with family or to leave or to continue to sit in the choir loft during the sermon.

Questions? Contact Clarice Rubek at 515-490-3420 or rrubek@aol.com.



Volunteer Recognition Event ~ Sunday, October 18

There are so many hard-working people who make New Hope United Methodist Church a vital place full of love, service, faith, and worship. We would like to thank all of the workers, the volunteers, the helpers for all that is done each day, week, month and year.

Please join us on Sunday, October 18th at each of the three Sunday services. SPPRC provide refreshments after each service.

Blessings,

Sue Egger, Joan Ringgenberg ~ Co-Chairs, Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee



Join us at New Hope UMC on
Sunday, October 18, 2 - 4pm

The CJC Big Band celebrates the music of Iowa composers and musicians.

Enjoy swinging jazz featuring the music of Iowans such as Glenn Miller, Bix Beiderbecke, Meredith Willson and others.

This event is open to the public in our Family Life Center. Free-will donation.

We are hoping for attendance of 80 to 100 people per concert this year!

Please invite your friends, family and neighbors!

We are hosting a **Trunk or Treat** event for our church members and the community!

This year it will be held on

Saturday, October 24 from 4 - 5pm.

We are asking for volunteers to **host a trunk** to help make this event a great success! In addition to fun decorations and a warm smile, we are asking to you to provide treats at your trunk. If you are unable to do so, the church will provide donated candy.

If you aren't able to participate by hosting a trunk, we would welcome your monetary donations or donations of individually wrapped candy or small trinkets to help us replenish handouts for the volunteers with trunks!

Also, we are looking for 4-5 volunteers to help with the event.

To sign up to do a Trunk and/or to volunteer to help or to donate, please contact Nancy Monthei at the Church Office, 515-278-2097 or nancy@newhopedsd.org by **October 21**.

****Please let us know if you would like to borrow the trunk decorating kit that we have.****

Plan to join us for this event and bring your kids and their friends!!





United
Women
in Faith

Thursday Group Date: October 15 at 9:30 a.m.

Our speaker will be Author and Pastor Wayne Clark.

Saturday Group Date: October 24 at 9:30 a.m.

All women are welcome to come to either meeting or both! Questions? Contact Glenna Ross at glenna625@hotmail.com or 515-321-3010.

Recipe of the Month: Cheeseburger Soup

Cheeseburger Soup, originally from Taste of Home, is a rich and creamy, cheesy soup with a velvety base. This soup is a huge hit and makes enough for a crowd.

Prep Time: 20minutes mins, Cook Time: 1hour, Servings: 8 servings, Calories: 352 kcal

Ingredients

1 pounds ground beef
¾ cups onion chopped
¾ cups carrots shredded
¾ cups celery diced
1 tsp garlic powder
2 tbs butter
3 cups chicken broth
4 cups peeled potatoes diced,
about 1¾ pounds
12 ounces mild shredded cheddar
cheese
1½ cups milk
¾ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon black pepper



Instructions

In a 3-qt. saucepan, brown beef over medium-high heat; drain and set aside. In the same saucepan over medium heat, saute onion, carrots, celery, in 1 tablespoon butter until vegetables are tender, about 10 minutes. Add broth, potatoes and beef; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 10-12 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Cook and stir for 2 minutes. Reduce heat to low. Add cheese, milk, salt and pepper; cook and stir until cheese melts. Remove from the heat and serve.

BINGO ~ Thursday, November 12

Doors open at 6:00pm for Dinner * Bingo starts at 6:30pm

We will have another epic night of BINGO!

The free-will offering will help with the meal expense and to support our music fund. It includes:

- * 1 Bingo card per person
- * Soup dinner, desserts and beverages
- * Prizes of baked goods
- * Fun vibes + friendly competition



For planning purposes, *please RSVP by November 8th to nancy@newhopedsm.org or call 515-278-2097 (no text). Please invite your friends!!*

Baked Goods Donations ~ If you like to bake and would like to make a baked good donation or two to the Bingo Fundraiser, please let Nancy know. Thank you!

Limited seating - RSVP today!



New Hope UMC Fall Campus Cleanup Day

The Board of Trustees are planning a “Fall Campus Cleanup Day” on **Saturday, November 14, 9am until finished** (rain date is November 21st).

We need your help! Please plan to attend by volunteering your time and talents! Bring gloves, rakes, trimmers, leaf blowers, etc., if you have them. Dress accordingly for the weather. Lunch will be served at Noon.

Watch for a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center. If there are any questions, please contact Dawn Bachelder buckeye.dawn@yahoo.com or Pam Frey yayafrey@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your time and effort! Board of Trustees



What a fun **mystery tour** we went on Sunday, September 20! Our guide was Sherlock Holmes—or should I say, Pam Frey!

Planning for our church began at Grace Church, and 144 families showed interest. Along the way, lots of history was uncovered and shared by our resident sleuth and by others in our group. “I didn’t know that!” and “I remember that!” were heard often throughout the group.

Here’s a fun fact: Did you know the sink in the sacristy drains straight down into the ground? That’s because leftover communion juice isn’t meant to go down the regular drain, but is instead returned to the earth. Now you know!

We were also shown the safest room in the church during a tornado. Do you know? And how many furnaces did we see? I lost count!

If you missed this fun time and countless points of interest, don’t worry. Another tour will be held after the holidays in January. We hope you can join us!



Annual Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, November 15 at 6pm at New Hope UMC!

Charge Conference is the annual meeting of the year where we review the past year’s ministries, look at the programs and the goals for the coming year, set the Pastor’s salary and elect the officers of the church.

Your attendance is welcomed! *If you plan to attend, please contact Nancy in the church office, 515-278-2097 or nancy@newhopedsm.org*



Hosts Are Needed

We would like to thank all of the hosts for volunteering throughout the year. The gathering between services for fellowship is a time we all enjoy.



We are in need of **more volunteers to host for the 9am/10am**

services and the 11am service. Hosting is easy to do. Either bake or purchase 6 dozen cookies or any treats you would like to share.



9am/10am Hosts set up and provide treats. 11am Hosts provide treats and clean up.

You can split the hosting duties with others – team up with someone!



The monthly signup sheets are on the kitchen counter. If there are no volunteers on any given Sunday there will not be any treats provided. ***Please signup!***



Hanging of the Greens ~ Sunday, November 22

We will be decorating the Sanctuary and Narthex directly after the 11am service.

The Family Life Center will be decorated at 3pm. We appreciate those that would come back to church and we need a few volunteers that are not afraid of heights and can climb a ladder.

Please join us in making our church welcome the Christmas Season!

Questions? Contact Pam Frey at Yayafrey@gmail.com or 515-490-8440.



Advent by Candlelight for women of the church (including high school students) and their guests are invited to attend **Advent by Candlelight!**

Monday, November 30, 7pm.

Enter the season of advent in a spirit of love and joy rather than stress and anxiety. Dessert will be served by table hostesses; followed by a program of music, scripture, verse, and stories.

Sign-up sheets for those wishing to attend and those volunteering to hostess will soon be in the Fellowship Hall under the tv screen. *Deadline to sign up is November 15.*

If 4 or more friends want to be at the same table, one or two of your group should sign-up to hostess the table. Someone takes care of dessert and the other decorates. There is no reason to go over-board with decorating, since the best part is sharing our evening together. A hosting letter will be sent out to all the hosts.

Musicians (vocalists and instrumental): If you are interested in performing for Advent by Candlelight, please contact Nancy Monthei. Solos, duets, trios, quartets ~ Song selections get grabbed quick - so contact her soon!

Questions? Contact Nancy Monthei at 515-278-2097 or nancy@newhopedsm.org

christkindlmarket



Christkindlmarket is coming with a few new changes.

<http://www.christkindlmarketdsm.com/>

We only have one day to man the brat stand! **Saturday, December 5, 10:30am—9:30pm.**

We will work on Hut set up again on **November 28, 8am-5pm.**

We will divide into two four hour shifts that day: morning and afternoon. This job is for those over age 14 who can use simple power tools and follow building instructions to put a kit together.

Sign up will be in November, but save the dates now, please!

Thank you! Pastor Amy

Social Action Committee News ~

Chair: Althea Holcomb ~ 515.490.0789, althea.holcomb@gmail.com

The Cy/Hawk Challenge was good! The congregation's efforts brought nearly 1,000 items for the Free Little Food Pantry and their donation designations predicted the right outcome! No matter which team won, the real winners are those who maybe have a little less of a struggle putting food on the table.



The committee discussed maybe decreasing the number of items we take each week because we had somewhat of a scare prior to the Cy/Hawk Challenge with a little bit of scarcity in the number of donations we were receiving. After much discussion, it was determined that we would continue with the 70 items each week and when we are looking at a decline in donations, we would just make the need known and encourage people to bring items in. We also discussed the fact that moving the donation area into Fellowship Hall may have a negative effect of not keeping the opportunity to donate top of mind. No decisions on what to do about that were made.

We also discussed the state the Free Little Food Pantry is left in. It is pretty dirty and lots of boxes, clothing and other items not appropriate for the pantry seem to be left there. A message was left for Mark Bequeath (the person from LSI responsible for the Free Little Food Pantry). He has not returned the call.

The congregation got a taste of the meal served through Hand of Luke on the first Sunday of September. There were questions that got answered and the meal was delicious. Patrice was amazed at the number of salads and desserts the parishioners brought. Overall, it was a good way to let the congregation experience what it is that they are supporting. And...it's amazing what kind of meal Patrice and Larry can produce for \$1.39 a plate!



Winter Coat Drive ~ It's hard to believe that winter is right around the corner. According to weather predictions this one is going to be a doozy! During the month of October, please consider donating clean, gently used winter coats for adults and kids to be given to Johnston Partnership for distribution to those who need them. Just so you know, each individual is given one coat per season. A description of the type of coats donated is: they should be heavy enough to keep someone warm if they would need to stand in the freezing cold for 20 minutes waiting for a bus. Thank you for your donations!

A receptacle is located by the book shelves in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your support!

The Committee discussed doing something to help **Joppa** with their planned housing development. We do a lot of food things, maybe we could branch out and do some housing now. Ideas were providing bedding, curtains, or maybe a welcome basket with cleaning supplies or hygiene items. We will be contacting Joppa to see if and how they might like us to help.

Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC) Food Pantry Network

Monetary donations are the most effective way to support food pantries, as non-profits can purchase food in bulk at deep discounts, maximizing the impact of every dollar. Please make your check out to New Hope UMC and include "DMARC" in the memo line and place your check with the weekly offering. Your continued support of the DMARC Food Pantry Network helps alleviate hunger in our community.

African Immigrant and Refugee Transition Services (AIRTS) is grateful for the jasmine rice, dried beans and lentils that have been donated to our grain bin! They really appreciate getting these specific food items which are a staple in their diet and food pantries don't necessarily stock them. Please place donations in the Grain Bin by the NW shelves in the Fellowship Hall.



Hand of Luke ~ Wednesday, October 14

This is our monthly ministry of preparing a meal for the Central Iowa Shelter and Services.

Patrice Webber and Arlene Dabill lead this ministry. We are continue to utilize your monetary donations to purchase the majority of the food for the monthly meal. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

The menu for October will be chicken/vegetable/rice casserole, sliced peaches, dinner rolls, and cookies.

Volunteers are needed to prepare the meal, transport the food to the shelter, serve at the shelter, and donate cookies (no peanut butter or nuts, please). Please bring cookies in containers that do not need to be returned.

If you are interested in this opportunity, you may sign up using the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044DACA722A4FE3-66061658-holwednesday>

You may also contact Arlene Dabill at dabill49@aol.com or (515) 321-2059 to volunteer.

Children's & Youth Ministry

by Jackie Johnson, Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator jackie@newhopedsm.org or (515)710-3239

Sunday School Is Off and Running!

There is something special about hearing children's voices and laughter filling the church on Sunday mornings—and our Sunday School year is off to a wonderful start! We welcomed 9 children to our first class in September, and we are excited about all the learning, growing, and fun ahead this year.

Sunday School takes place during the 10:00 a.m. worship service throughout the school year. Children begin worship alongside their families and then head to Sunday School following the Children's Message. PreK through 7th grade are welcome to participate every week or simply drop in when they can. We love having kids join us whenever their schedules allow!

A big thank-you goes to *Tricia Berry*, who is leading our first session of Sunday School this year. Tricia has jumped right in and is helping our kids discover that learning about God can be meaningful, engaging—and a lot of fun!

We are continuing with the Simply Loved curriculum this year. As the name suggests, the goal is simple: to help every child know that they are deeply loved by God while giving them opportunities to explore the Bible, ask questions, build friendships, and grow in their faith. Simply Loved uses hands-on activities, engaging Bible stories, videos, games, and Bible Memory Buddies to help children connect Scripture to their everyday lives. If you haven't registered your child yet, please take a moment to complete our registration form. This helps us make sure we have the important information we need to care for each child while they are with us:

<https://forms.gle/n2QUnWwzPGtzbfQE6>

Sunday School wouldn't happen without the adults who are willing to share their time and faith with our kids. We are always grateful to our teachers and one-time helpers who are willing to lend a hand. If you would like to be part of helping our youngest members grow in God's love, we still have several sessions to fill with volunteer teachers! Please reach out to Jackie at jackie@newhopedsm.org or (515) 710-3239 for additional details.



Rain or shine, we know how to have FUN!

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our Fall Festival such a wonderful day! Even the rain couldn't stop the smiles, laughter, and fun.

We are so grateful to our amazing face painter, Art By Kat, who added some colorful creativity, our talented balloon artist, Professor Von Air, who brought all kinds of fun creations to life, and Espino's Jumpers who helped make the bounce house a hit!

A special thank-you goes to our Bridge Team for providing lunch and helping make sure everyone was well-fed and to our youth who helped with games and crafts!

Most of all, thank you to everyone who came out, played, laughed, and made the day special. Events like this remind us of what a wonderful church family we have—and how much fun we can have together, even when the skies open up!

Enjoy a few pictures from our rainy-day adventure! We're already looking forward to next year!





Wednesday Nights Are Full of Fun, Faith & Friendship!

Wednesday nights are back—and the energy is already in full swing! TGIW (Thank God It's Wednesday) is a midweek opportunity for kids and youth to take a break from the busy school week, enjoy a meal, have some fun, and grow in their faith together.

We're excited to spend another year learning that faith isn't just something we talk about on Sunday mornings. It's something we live, share, practice, and celebrate together!

Our Wednesday nights include a little bit of everything: games, Bible lessons, hands-on activities, service projects, crafts, challenges, laughter, and plenty of opportunities to make new friends. We love creating an environment where kids can be themselves, have fun, and discover how God is working in their lives.

What does a typical Wednesday night look like?

6:00–6:30 p.m. — Dinner & Fellowship

We start the evening around the table with a meal, conversation, and plenty of time to catch up with friends.

6:30–7:30 p.m. — TGIW Activities

Kids and youth head into age-appropriate groups for activities, lessons, games, and adventures designed to help them connect faith to everyday life.

October is bringing some especially fun opportunities!

October 7 — Service First, All Group Service Project – Meals from the Heartland.

We will be leaving New Hope at **5:20pm** to volunteer at Meals from the Heartland from 6-8pm. Pizza will be served at church at 5 for anyone that can join us at the earlier time.

October 14 — TGIW Activities

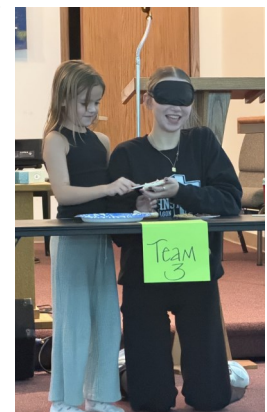
October 21 — Pumpkin Painting Party! 🎃

Bring a pumpkin from home and we'll provide the paint and brushes. Come ready to get creative and make your pumpkin uniquely yours!

October 28 — TGIW Activities

Come when you can!

We know family schedules can get crazy busy! TGIW is designed to be a place where families can jump in whenever it works for them. Come every week, come twice a month, or come when you can, we'll be happy to see you whenever it works for you to join us!



BLAST (BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org):

Christopher & Jennifer Higdon and McKayla Nearmyer

We are about halfway through our “On Repeat” series! Throughout this series, we are exploring the Gospel of Mark and discovering some of Jesus’ timeless lessons that are worth hearing again and putting “on repeat” in our own lives. Through Jesus’ example, we are learning that listening, loving others, caring for their needs, and offering encouragement are not things we do just once. They are ways we can choose to live every day as we follow Jesus.



We also have a fun fall outing planned for Saturday, October 10th!

This year, we are heading to Mitchellville to take on a **15+ acre corn maze** that should provide plenty of challenges, laughs, and opportunities for our youth to work together. We will meet at the church at **11:30 a.m.** and travel together to Mitchellville for an afternoon of fall fun.

Finally, we are excited to announce the dates for our 2027 local mission trip with the United Methodist Central District!

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, June 13th through Friday, June 18th, 2027!

We will once again join youth and leaders from several area churches for a week of mission work and service right here in Des Moines. This year, our group will be staying at Aldersgate United Methodist Church as we serve throughout the community, build new friendships, and grow together in faith. More details will be shared as we get closer, but for now, save the dates!

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

- Oct. 7th at 6 pm – Service First - Service Project Night
- Oct. 10th at 11:30 am—Mitchellville corn maze
- Oct. 14th at 6 pm – Wednesday Night BLAST: Jesus Shows Us Caring Is Worth Repeating
- Oct. 21st at 6 pm – Wednesday Night BLAST: Jesus Shows Us Encouragement Is Worth Repeating
- Oct. 28th at 6 pm – Wednesday Night BLAST: BLAST Game Night
- Nov. 4th at 6 pm – Service First - Service Project Night
- Nov. 11th at 6 pm – Wednesday Night BLAST: On the First Christmas
- Nov. 18th at 6 pm – Wednesday Night BLAST: On the First Christmas
- Nov. 25th at 6 pm – Not Meeting Due to Thanksgiving Break

We are looking forward to a great couple of months together as we continue growing in faith, serving others, having fun, and learning how the example of Jesus is worth putting **On Repeat!** Watch your email and the Senior High BLAST, <http://www.facebook.com/SeniorHighBlast>, for additional information and updates about these events.

ADULT Sunday School

Join us!

10:00am in the Ruby Chapel
using "Wired Word"

Blood Pressure Check

Next opportunity is on **Oct. 11**
9:30am - 11am in the Narthex.

Support Groups

Al-Anon

Every Tuesday at 9:30am in the
Ruby Chapel.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Every Tuesday at Noon in the
Ruby Chapel.



Care Ministry Team

The Care Ministry meets
quarterly. Next meeting is on
Thurs., October 8, 2026 at
10am in the Fellowship Hall.
This team ministers to congrega-
tion members who have had new
babies, have been in the hospital,
have been ill or are dealing with
grief. This team meets on a quar-
terly basis. If you would like to
join the Care Ministry team,
please contact Clarice Rubek,
rrubek@aol.com

Book Donations for New Hope's Little Library

You may place your book donations on the book-
shelf in the NW corner of the
Fellowship Hall.
Thank you to Charlotte
Schultz for overseeing the
Little Library and
keeping it stocked.



New Hope Needlers

The Needlers will meet on **Friday, October 16, 9am - 3pm** in the
northwest classroom. We lunch at Panera in Johnston.

Join us to sew lap quilts for the NHUMC Care Team to gift our church
members who are hospitalized or moving into care facilities and to newborns.
We have also started making lap quilts and pillowcases to donate to the Des
Moines
chapter of "Sleep in Heavenly Peace," an organization that builds beds for
children in the Des Moines area who do not have a bed. Their motto is "No
kid sleeps on the floor in our town!" The need is great.

We have fabric to use or you may request reimbursement for fabric you have
purchased for these quilts. Simple patterns, batting, and some backing fabric
are also available. Prior notice is needed to use our supplies. Bring your
sewing machine, project and sewing notions. If your machine isn't portable,
we have two in the church closet you may use for the day.

Questions? Contact Diane Densmore, cell phone 515-975-2131

Sleeping Mats/Loom

First and third Thursdays of the month at 1pm at church.

The Weavers have started their 21st mat!

It takes a little over 500 grocery store bags to weave each mat. If you do the
simple math, 20 finished mats x 500 - you realize we have kept 10,000 bags
out of the land fill - an amazing fact to be proud of for our church.

More importantly, the mats provide a dry barrier to unsheltered folks who may
be sleeping on the ground.

Interested in learning more?

Come join us the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the
month at 1:00pm.

If this time does not work for you - let us know-
we are flexible.

You do not have to be a member of our church to
join in the fun!

Questions? contact Sue Baldwin at 515-360-
2456.



Chair Yoga & Fitness

Every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30am. This is a gentle
yoga & fitness that is done
while you are seated on a
chair. It's a 30-45 minute
session. The instructors are
from Youtube
videos. Please meet in the
Fellowship Hall.
No fee!

This is for anyone and any age. Bring your friends!



Stewardship Campaign

Every autumn, as the leaves change and we settle into a new season, New Hope Committees and Leaders gather to look both backward with gratitude and forward with hope. What does God need us to do in the coming year?



This month, we launch our annual stewardship campaign that will support our Committees. This is a time to reflect on the incredible blessings God has placed in our hands and how we are called to share them. As we embark on this new season, please take time in prayer to consider how you are being called to participate. Ask yourself:

- How is God asking me to share my **time** this year?
- What **talent** can I offer to strengthen our New Hope community?
- How can my financial **support** reflect my gratitude for God's abundant grace?

Thank you for your faithful generosity, your prayers, and your love for New Hope and our community. Together, anchored in faith, we look forward to all that God will do through us in the coming year.
New Hope UMC Finance Committee



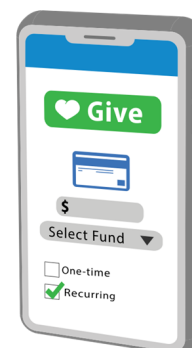
Planning the Budget

Saturday, November 21, 9am—Noon will be the All Committee Budget Planning workshop.

Financial Summary Ending August 31, 2026			
	Actual August	Budget August	YTD Actual
Income	\$ 23,612	\$ 30,314	\$ 267,685
Expense	\$ 29,259	\$ 30,712	\$ 248,627
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (5,647)	\$ (398)	\$ 19,058

We will be offering an **E-Giving Help Desk** the **first Sunday of every month**. Please stop and talk with a Finance Committee member in the narthex with any questions you may have such as how to set up automated donations, change my donation amount, credit card, bank account, etc.

ONLINE giving



Our citizenship belongs in heaven, from whence we also eagerly await a Savior, Lord Jesus Christ who will transform the body of our humiliation into an identical body of his glory according to the energy of his possibilities, even humbling himself to all things. -Philippians 3:20-21

Citizenship is a hot topic in modern politics, but let's get out of that world for a moment and be immersed instead in the world of the Philippians. We easily forget that the Bible is written to and for a fairly narrow and specific group in a very specific time, not directly to us. Paul is talking to a crowd who are citizens of Rome, but who are not native Romans. It is actually in Northeast Greece, about 1200km from Rome as the crow flies, or if traveling by land, nearly 2000km! They were Roman, but they probably did not feel like they were truly Romans. This was a provincial group that may have been citizens of a place far away but their allegiance was to their community and local culture. And that would have applied to their faith, as well. People in cities that Rome had overtaken became citizens for the benefits it offered. In their hearts, though, they wouldn't always be true to their own culture. Philippi was at peace with their political situation, but they clearly had a little of what we might call an identity crisis today. Even though they weren't unhappy, they didn't have the same joy they had when they knew who they were.

A lot of what Paul does in the book of Philippians is remind these Christians whose they really are. Do they belong to their native city state? Not anymore. And yet do they belong to Rome? Not really. Something was missing and unsettled in their lives since Rome had come into play, and maybe even before that. Philippi had forgotten who they are, but Paul had not.

One of my favorite words appears in this text, translated above as "eagerly awaiting." Another way to phrase the heart of this word is to say; waiting that decisively "puts away" all that should remain behind. The people of Philippi have put their old identity behind while waiting for who they are now to be discovered. Paul reminds them that the new identity is not really citizens of Rome, it is citizens of heaven!

And even though Paul's people is not speaking directly to us, this is our identity as well. We forget, we can feel as lost as the Philippians. But today we are reminded that politics and location are not what determines our citizenship, for we are proud citizens of heaven.

As the elections approach, may we remember who we really are. And I wish for you fewer political ads and more love in these days to come.

-Pastor Amy

PRESSING ON

Press on to the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.
PHILIPPIANS 3:14

OCT. 4	OCT. 11	OCT. 18	OCT. 25
Heavenly Call Philippians 3:4b-14 and Matthew 21:33-46 	Guest Preacher Ron Carlson 	Rejoice in the Lord Philippians 4:1-9 and Matthew 22:1-14 	Harvest Sunday

October 2026

**Sunday morning services are:
9:00, 10:00 and 11:00
Nursery at 10:00**

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

				1 10a, Mahjong 1p, Mat weaving 6:30p, Worship Mtg	2	3 8:30a, Men's Breakfast 9a-6p, FLC reserved
4 Holy Communion E-giving Help desk 6p, Confirmation Class 7p, Scouts (Jackie)	5 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 7p, Trustees Mtg	6 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 11a, Bible Study 5:15p, Praise band practice	7 9:30 Chair Yoga/Fitness 5p, Book Club, R.Chapel 6:15p, Choir practice TGIW/BLAST 6p, Meal 6:30p-7:30p Activities	8 10a, Care Team Mtg 10a, Mahjong	9	10 8:30a, Veteran's Breakfast 11:30a, BLAST to corn maze
11 Guest Preacher: Rev. Ron Carlson 8:45-11a, Blood Pressures 11a, Choir	12 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness	13 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 11a, Bible Study 5:15p, Praise band practice 6:30p, SPRC Meeting	14 9:30 Chair Yoga/Fitness 3p, Hand of Luke 6:15p, Choir practice TGIW/BLAST 6p, Meal 6:30p-7:30p Activities	15 9:30a, United Women in Faith 10a, Mahjong 1p, Mat weaving	16 Church office closed 9a, Needlers	17 5p-7p, Autumn Table & Treasures Fundraiser
18 Volunteer Recognition 2-4p, CJC Big Band 6p, Confirmation Class	19 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness	20 9:30a, Al-Anon Noon, AA 5:15p, Praise band practice 6:30p, Finance Mtg	21 9:30 Chair Yoga/Fitness 6:15p, Choir practice TGIW/BLAST 6p, Meal 6:30p-7:30p Activities	22 November LINK deadline 10a, Mahjong 6:30p, Administrative Council Mtg.	23	24 9:30a, United Women in Faith 4-5pm, Trunk or Treat
25 Jackie Johnson on vacation 11a, Choir 6p, Diversity Committee, zoom meeting	26 Church Office closed Jackie Johnson on vacation 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness	27 Jackie Johnson on vacation 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 5:15p, Praise band practice	28 Jackie Johnson on vacation 9:30 Chair Yoga/Fitness 6:15p, Choir practice TGIW/BLAST 6p, Meal 6:30p-7:30p Activities	29 Jackie Johnson on vacation 10a, Mahjong	30 Jackie Johnson on vacation	31



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

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 David Montgomery | 19 Mike Lillegraven |
| 4 Tricia Berry | 23 Alanna Greenwood |
| 5 Noah Henry, Brad Lichter | 24 Mary Jansen, Noah Breitsprecher, |
| 8 Brittany Kealhofer | Brennan Johnson |
| 9 Gleeen Coates, Kristen Coffelt | 25 Tracy Hoffman |
| 10 Malcolm Rock, Mica Wills | 26 Daniel Bowser |
| 13 Melanie Henry | 28 Marilyn Schoop, David Johnson |
| 16 Kurt Eaves | 29 Laura Webber, William Sheer |
| 17 Luke Breitsprecher | |
| 18 Carl Egger | |



- | |
|--------------------------|
| 1 Jim & Joey Bolstad |
| 8 Brad & Terri Lichter |
| 10 Randy & Mary Jansen |
| 25 Mike & Kris Wakeman |
| 25 Brad & Jackie Johnson |

*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.*



WORSHIP
with us

Sunday Morning Worship Services

9:00 & 11:00: Traditional Services in the Sanctuary

10:00: Contemporary Service in the Neil Cross Family Life Center

We continue to offer the Pre-Recorded Worship Services that can be found on the church Facebook page.

Church Staff

Pastor: Amy Johnson

Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei

Children & Youth Ministries Coord.: Jackie Johnson

Nursery Attendants: Brianna Schafer, Sarah Sahlin, Emma Sandquist

E-mail Information

Church address: nhfamily@newhopedsm.org

Pastor Amy Johnson: amy@newhopedsm.org

Nancy Monthei: nancy@newhopedsm.org

Jackie Johnson: jackie@newhopedsm.org

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Find us on facebook!

The LINK newsletter is a monthly publication.

Editor: Nancy Monthei; Reporters: New Hope Church family. Please contact the church office at 515-278-2097 if you have a change in address or would like to be taken off the LINK mailing list.

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

the link
New Hope United Methodist Church
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