Mark your calendars!

Sun, May 5  • Perennial plant sale
Sun, May 12  • Graduate Recognition
  • Last day of Christian Learning Time - field day!
  • Made to order gourmet omelets by Chef Tony Scharfenkamp after all services as a fundraiser for the Sr. BLAST mission trip
Fri, May 17  • Heartbeat Bell Concert, 7:30pm
Sat, May 25  • Memorial Saturday
Sun, May 26  • Memorial Sunday
Sun, June 9  • The Katinas concert, 6pm at the Johnston Middle School Auditorium, presented by JROL
Prayer Concerns
Blaine Goff; Jann Williams; Donnafred Hinman; Barb Easton; Bob Reaney; Mel Ghee; Bishop Julius Trimble; District Superintendent, David Weesner; District Field Minister, Karen Nelson; Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, missionary.
Prayers for the following military personnel: Jason Homard; Zach McClain; and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

Sympathy
Our Sympathy to Karen & Gus Skovgard and family on the passing of Karen’s father, Elmer Kinsinger.

Email Update
Bill & Pam Gibbons
bpgibb1975@gmail.com

Thank You
Thank you, Pastor Neil, for visiting me in the hospital after my recent surgery. Also thank you to our New Hope friends for the cards and well wishes. Darla Wolfe & family

I would like to say thank you to everyone that helped me raise money for my walk MS team. I had so much fun doing the bake sale I wanted to do another one but my Mimi said not till next year :) Thank you so much!

Jaela Wills

Thank You
We would like to thank everyone at New Hope for their words of kindness, cards, flowers and expressions of sympathy after the death of Karen's father. Your friendship and love have been very comforting.

Karen and Gus Skovgard

The 2013 Confirmation students were confirmed on Sunday, April 14.
Welcome to our new members!!

Front Row: Hanna Ferguson, Alexis Harlan, Madeline Johnston, Allyson Mohrman, Hannah Short, Mollie Rooney
Back Row: Brianna Johnson, Zachary Price, Carsten Thompson, Tavian Carnahan, Brock Moore, Chandler Heiser
Perennial Plant Sale  
Sunday, May 5th

The landscape team will hold a perennial plant sale raising funds to support maintenance of the courtyard and east gardens.

In addition to divisions from established plants in the courtyard we will be seeking donations from the gardens of our congregation. Spring is a great time to divide (and reinvigorate) your perennial plants. As you clean out your beds this spring and divide some of your perennials, keep us in mind.

Please include plant name (and variety if known), color, height and sun/shade requirements. In addition to perennials, vegetable starts, coleus and other flowering annuals are accepted.

Plant donations may be dropped off Saturday, May 4th between the hours of 3 - 6pm.

If you are unable to make your donation that afternoon, and/or if you can help with this event, please contact Ruth Doxon, 253-9115 or Kathy Russi, 333-1764.

Sunday, May 12th

Senior High BLAST youth are inviting Chef Tony Scharfenkamp back to make gourmet omelets after each service on Sunday, May 12th.

Plan now to enjoy a Mother’s Day omelet breakfast!

Proceeds from your free will donation will be used for the 2013 mission trip.

Friday, May 17th

HeartBeat Handbell Ensemble will perform a concert at New Hope UMC at 7:30pm on Friday, May 17th.

The theme of the concert is "A Stroll Down Memory Lane". HeartBeat will be joined in the performance by Karen Skovgard on the organ, a flute player, and a special vocal from New Hope's own Hanna Ferguson.

Please come join us for music and fellowship. A free will offering will be accepted.

The Katinas

Love Chapter

Sunday, June 9, 2013 • 6pm
Johnston Middle School Auditorium
A Benefit for the Cameron Carico+10 Foundation

Tickets
$15 advance | $20 door
Groups of 10 - $10 each

For Tickets: www.johnstonriveroflife.org
For more information: www.thekatinas.com
515-344-9068

God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in times of trouble.
-Psalms 46:1

CAMERON CARICO+10 FOUNDATION
Mission statement: Promote happy and healthy students and families in central Iowa through suicide prevention and mental health education.

In Memory of Denny Cameron and Cameron Carico

ccplus10.org
In April, we concluded the year long Bible study using *The Story*. We hope you enjoyed the series and found it meaningful. Thank you for your participation!

Below are a few ways *The Story* touched lives.

“Our group has enjoyed the fellowship while studying *The Story*. The DVD was instrumental in bringing out key facts from each chapter and Randy Frazee's presentation was excellent. It made us realize we needed to understand what happened in the Old Testament and the prophecies that were then fulfilled in the New Testament with the birth of Jesus and the aftermath that followed. The teachings and traveling of Paul was paramount in the spreading of the Gospel.”

*Jane Wagner/Eldon Cross Small Group*

“This is the first time that I have been involved in a book study through my church. I can truthfully say that I have read every chapter of the book. Although I don't think that I learned anything brand new, it did provide me with a focus. I enjoyed the fact that I already had a background for that week's sermon. By the time that I had read the lesson beforehand, then was there for the sermon, and attended the small group classes, I felt very well-versed in that week's scripture lesson. Thanks for helping me learn God's Story!”

*Diane Fine*

*The Story* was easy to read. I had tried to read The Bible many times, but his was so much easier to understand.’

*Norma Sutton*

“It was an awesome step in my faith journey. It reinforced my faith.”

*Barb Mather*

“I enjoyed hearing *The Story* from beginning to end. I understand my faith so much more and I feel closer to God because I know Him better. My kids have a greater understanding too. I’m so glad our church did this.”

*Jodi Christensen*

Small Groups

There are several opportunities for you to join a small group:

- **Sundays**, 9:30 or 10:45 am in the Ruby Chapel

- **2nd and 4th Saturdays** of the month at 4pm. Childcare is provided. Contact Sherri & Nick Bogue, boguesa@gmail.com with questions.

- **Women’s Bible Study group** will begin meeting **6:30pm, May 13th** in the Ruby Chapel every other Monday for 6 weeks. (Note, we will skip Memorial Day.) Please bring your Bible. The name of the study is: **DEVELOPING POWER THOUGHTS** by Joyce Meyer. Joyce asks, “Are you ready to have your mind and life transformed”? When your mind and thoughts are based on scripture and Jesus’ words, not negative thoughts of the world, you will be able to make wise decisions, have healthier relationships, live a more peaceful life, and thus, become a happier person.

  You will receive a small workbook and a packet of scripture power thoughts to use. Come join a group of women in Joyce’s scripture based teaching and “media action plan”.

- **Friday Small Group**, **Fridays, May 3 & 17**. The Friday Small Group meets every other Friday at Incredible Pizza, 3799 NW 86th St. Urbandale at 1:00pm for lunch and discussion following, ending at approx. 3:00 pm.

  If you have any questions, please contact Pat Papenheim, 278-8823.
BOOK CLUB (a.k.a. Chick Lit. Book Club)
Thursday, May 23rd at 6:30 in the Ruby Chapel

Need a ride? Call Jean at 274-5082 and leave a message.
We can make arrangements, so please join us!

The Chick Lit Book Club is collecting books for the Storybook Project, which supports literacy and the parent/child bond of incarcerated men and women at the Mitchellville and Newton Correctional Facilities.
Please consider donating a children’s book to support this awesome local program. Donations may be left on the Mission table.

MAY THEME AND BOOK:  **PRAYER:** Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers, by Anne Lamott

“New York Times-bestselling author Anne Lamott writes about the three simple prayers essential to coming through tough times, difficult days and the hardships of daily life.

Readers of all ages have followed and cherished Anne Lamott’s funny and perceptive writing about her own faith through decades of trial and error. And in her new book, Help, Thanks, Wow, she has coalesced everything she knows about prayer to these fundamentals.

It is these three prayers – asking for assistance from a higher power, appreciating what we have that is good, and feeling awe at the world around us – that can get us through the day and can show us the way forward. In Help, Thanks, Wow, Lamott recounts how she came to these insights, explains what they mean to her and how they have helped, and explores how others have embraced these same ideas."

**HOPE** (June 27): Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide, by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn


PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
Tuesday, May 7 (First Tuesday of each month), 6:30pm,
3rd-4th grade classroom
Please consider joining us. Knowledge of knitting/crocheting not required!

“The creation and presentation of a prayer shawl, like all acts of generosity, enriches the giver as well as the recipient. Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful way of passing on love and joy. Many blessings are prayed into every shawl. Shawls can be used during prayer or meditation; while undergoing medical procedures; during an illness and recovery; while ministering to others; as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress; during bereavement. They also can be used for commitment or marriage ceremonies, birthing or nursing a baby, or as graduation, birthday, anniversary, or ordination gift. The making of a prayer shawl is a spiritual practice, which embodies our thoughts and prayers for the receiver. It is a gift freely given with no strings attached. Made in prayer, the shawls are passed on hand-to-hand and heart-to-heart. Some work alone, others work in groups, passing the work in progress around a circle asking each person to add some stitches to the shawl, or to just hold it for a while to add their prayers and good wishes. Before giving it away, the shawl is blessed, remembering the one who will receive this gift.”

Questions? Contact Jean Vesely, 274-5082.
Hand of Luke

Tuesday, May 14
Meatball Sandwich
Broccoli with cheese
Jell-O with fruit
Cookies

If you would like to contribute to our ministry by making food donations, cooking or serving, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

Cooks meet at the church between 3:00-3:30pm. Servers transport the food to the Central Iowa Shelter & Services at 5:30pm and return by 8:00pm.

When individuals drop off their non perishables, we ask that they clearly label them HOL and clearly indicate who it is from and leave them on the kitchen counter.

Frozen items may be placed in the new industrial freezer, on the upper two left shelves. If possible, please indicate on the sign up sheet where you placed your item(s) (for example, “in pantry”, or “in the refrig.”). THANK YOU!!!

Meal From The Heartland: We have set August 4th for our next on-site packaging event at New Hope.
Put it on your calendar and stay tuned for our fundraising for the cost of the meals.

Thank you to everyone that attended the March 28th Seder Meal and Maundy Thursday drama. It was a very meaningful event.

Newsletter
With the increased expense of paper needed to mail the monthly newsletter and the increase in postage, we THANK YOU for your prompt responses in letting us know that we can email you The LINK, or you will pick up THE LINK from church.

If you haven’t already, please contact the church office to let us know how you would like to receive your newsletter.

Friday Email Announcements
New Hope UMC sends out a weekly email with upcoming announcements. If you have not been receiving the email, please let us know! Please send an email to nhfamily@newhopedsm.org and we will add you to the distribution list.

Facebook
Look for us/ “like” us on Facebook. New Hope United Methodist Church and Johnston River of Life both have pages. Also, The Iowa Conference is on Facebook.
Jr. BLAST (6th-8th grade). Coordinators: Penny Dolberg & Renee Haugland. Watch your emails for notices of upcoming gatherings. Questions? Contact Penny Dolberg at 201-7643 or penny.dolberg@gmail.com or Renee Haugland 252-8632 or drraugland@msn.com.

Sr. BLAST (9th-12th grade) Leaders: Chris & Jennifer Higdon and Charity Johnson – BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org

The Senior High BLAST group is excited to announce that we are over halfway to meeting our fundraising goal of $6,000. Thank you to all that have supported the group through various fundraising events. However, we have only two months left to raise the rest of the target amount.

Our first event in May will occur on Mother Day (May 12th). We are inviting Chef Tony Scharfenkamp back to make gourmet omelets after each service on Sunday, May 12th. Plan now to enjoy a Mother’s Day omelet breakfast after service with Chef Tony Scharfenkamp. This breakfast will be a fee will donation.

Our next event will be a car wash at the end of the month. We are planning a two day car wash; with the first day being held out in the community (a bank, Hy-Vee, etc.). We will let everyone know where the car wash will be held on Saturday, June 1st. However, the second day (Sunday, June 2nd) will be at New Hope; so plan now to get you vehicle dirty and not wash it. We will handle getting it back clean.

In April, the BLAST group helped out at both the New Hope Rummage Sale & with yard work. Here are some of the pictures from those events.

Here are upcoming Youth events for the next two months:

- **May 12th** ~ Homemade Omelet Breakfast After All Services
- **June 1st @ 9am** ~ Youth Car Wash
- **June 2nd @ noon** ~ Youth Car Wash
- **June 9th** ~ Sloppy Joe Feed After 9:30 & 10:45 Services
- **June 16th** ~ Mission Trip Send Off Sunday
- **June 22nd** ~ Mission Trip

More information about the above events will be sent out in email and posted on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/SeniorHighBlast).
Children’s Ministries Mission Statement: A church family working together to teach children to know, grow, and show the love of Jesus Christ.

Children’s Worship: Children’s Worship is a meaningful time for children ages 3 years through 2nd grade to worship and connect with God. Children will participate in an engaging worship service geared just for them in the Sanctuary. The service will follow a traditional format, with praise songs, prayers, joys/concerns, offering, scripture reading, and a message. We will include a time for fellowship at the end of our service where kids will gather back in the 1st and 2nd grade classroom and share in a healthy snack and have time to visit with friends.

Please contact Kelly Mohrman. If you would like a chance to lead Children’s Worship, please contact Kelly Mohrman, at gmohrman@mchsi.com.

Christian Learning Time: The first Sunday of the month we will be having donuts in CLT. This is an informal way of celebrating the breaking of the bread and sharing in fellowship with peers. Kids of Hope will now be “Bucket Fillers.” Students will work to fill a bucket in their classroom. “Drops” into the bucket will be added for each child that attends Christian Learning Time, participation in class, and when a child “fills” another person’s heart with a compliment or help. When a classroom’s bucket is filled we will decide how we want to celebrate as a class. He said “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all of your mind.” Matthew 22:37

So whatever you wish others would do for you, do also for them, for this is the law and the Prophets. Matthew 7:12

Our mission for the month of May, is No More Malaria. We will be making a craft to emphasize the importance of this. We will also be selling individual chocolates from Fair Trade, that children may purchase for $0.25. This will benefit the Fair Trade industry that helps to eliminate the use of slave work in farming industry.

Just a reminder that our last CLT will be May 12, and we will be having a fun Field Day like to celebrate all we have done this year! Mark your calendar and plan to wear comfy clothes and shoes!

For our last 3 weeks of CLT, we will be very busy. Please have your children report to their gathering time at 10:35 (right after worship) so that we can rehearse some music to share on our last Sunday. We will be practicing for the next 2 weeks, and performing during the 9:30 service on Sunday, May 12. We would like children to meet in the Pre K-K classroom by 9:20 on that Sunday. We will also be thanking our children's ministry volunteers that day.

Vacation Bible School: The dates have been set for VBS. We will be having an EVERYWHERE FUN FAIR on July 14-18, 2013. This year’s VBS will be led by Sherry Bogue and Kelly Mohrman. Julie Sahlin will be our co-leader and is looking for someone to help co-lead with her. If you would like to

Camps and Retreat Ministries is pleased to announce that the new summer online camper registration program is now up and operational. To access the online registration, you may go to www.iaumc.org/camps. There are also, 2013 camp catalogs in the Fellowship Hall for your use.

Camperships are available from New Hope UMC. Missions Committee will fund 1/4th of the total cost of a United UMC church camp. Also, the Men's Group will give $50 toward church camp per child. Please inform the church office when you have registered your child(ren).
A big THANK YOU to the following people who devoted their time and talents to teach the children of New Hope during our midweek TGIW.

Jenn Higdon  Patty Nearmyer  Lori Marsh  
Mona Kirkpatrick  Sara Cullinan  Maya Johnston  
Pam Frey  Tami Wise  Penny Dolberg  
Craig Ferguson  Jody Ferguson  Sharon Smith  
Lexi Dean  Billy Nuzum  Maddy Dolberg  
Ally Mohrman  Maddie Johnston  Kelly Mohrman  
Jon Verner  Kristin Welter

And our Kitchen Angels:

Betty Holwegner  Judy Stout  Esther Stout  
Jan Davisson  Neal Cave  Paulette Wood  
Lynn Davisson  Marge Carnahan  Elaine Lesch  
Sharon Lewis  Ginny Ghee

A big THANK YOU to the following people who devoted their time and talents to teach the children of New Hope during our Sunday Christian Learning Program.

Rick Roquet  Michelle Roquet  Jodi Christensen  
Kevin Christensen  Tracy Hitchcock  Tami Wise  
Renee Haugland  Jen Riley  Janet Carrigan  
Tara Notz  Carrie Naumann  Lindsey Robertson  
Katie Rock  Shelly Peterson  SaLynn Lemke  
Melanie Henry  Andy Sutton  Michele Hamilton  
Kelly Mohrman  Alissa Strauss

We very much APPRECIATE all the people who have helped to lead our Children’s Worship this year.

Sherri Bogue  Elaine Sheer  Alissa Strauss  Kelly Mohrman

We would also like to THANK all of our teen/tween helpers who volunteered their time to assist with our Children’s Worship.

Maddy Dolberg  Taylor Evans  Caleb Williamson  
Tyler Mohrman  Sara Sahlin  Ally Mohrman  
Ellie Roquet  Jordan Williamson

Congratulations to all of our high school and college graduates!!!

A Hidden Graduation Message
A college class was graduating on a hot and humid day. As the graduates walked across the platform and received their diplomas from the president, he smiled, shook their hands and said loudly, “Congratulations!” Then, in a much lower voice, one that was firm and could be heard only by the graduates, he would say, “Keep moving.”

He was only trying to keep the line moving across the stage, but his words were good advice for a lifetime: “Keep moving.” After every achievement — growing up, graduation, marriage, job promotion, even retirement — the best advice is, “Keep moving.” Don’t stop. Don’t stagnate. There is more to life than you have found thus far. This is not the end; it is only the beginning. Keep moving.

—SourceBook of Wit & Wisdom
Announcement!!!

The Alpha & Omega, Father of Jesus Christ, Personally Invites YOU to a Celebration!

Everyone Welcome;
No Cover Charge;
No Dress Code,
No Gifts Allowed!
Bread & Wine For All

Location – Heaven
Date – Eternity

Hence forth all who choose to attend shall be known by the last name Christian!

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, – I John 1:12

Craig Ferguson
GOOD NEWS FROM A NEW HOPE MISSION

Working together we made $9500 at the annual rummage sale, an all time record!

We sent a truck load to Hope Ministries, provided a pleasant shopping experience with affordable prices for members of our community, and raised $95 for the food pantry at the Wed. night preview sale. In addition, you donated approximately 1500 hours of time and talents. People, working shifts of 2 hours to 10 hours per day, made this MISSION a success.

Thank you to all the members that donated items, helped set up, worked during the sale, or helped take down. We had workers of all ages, including an awesome youth group that made Saturday clean up so easy.

Now we need to make the good news even better. The rummage sale has become a well known church event in the community. It is an important outreach for New Hope. There is an established following that comes back to our sale each year. We hear many compliments from customers appreciating the quality of the sale items, the organization and display, and the friendly helpers in the green aprons.

Here’s how you can HELP US MAKE THE GOOD NEWS BETTER.
1. Start saving your items.
2. Clean and sort your items.
3. Plan to make a time commitment to the 2014 sale.
4. Share your suggestions for the next sale.

Together we can make the good news better. Pray that God will guide us in our rummage sale mission.

See you next year,
Gleean Coates and Carol Harter

Memorial Table

The Memorial Table is located at the north wall of the narthex, just under the woodcut of the Lord’s Prayer.

The table holds the four memorial books of New Hope and lists the memorials that have been given to the church. In some of the pages there is a picture and sometimes a story of the person in whose name the memorial has been given.

As I was reading through some of the articles, I was touched by the stories of some of the lives of the persons whom we remember. Each memorial we receive is in memory of a loved one and we honor them by keeping a permanent record of their name and the memorial given in the memorial books.

Stop by the memorial table sometime and just page through some of the memorial books, to be reminded of the contribution these persons continue to make through their memorial.
- Pastor Cross

May 27, 2013

On this Memorial Day, remember those who gave their lives for our country. But also pray for those who continue serving to keep America free, especially those who are in harm’s way.
sunday volunteers

**Greeters** arrive at worship service fifteen minutes early to welcome worshipers.

**Lectors** read the scripture lessons for the day at the 8:30 and 10:45 worship services.

**Children’s Church** meets during 9:30 a.m. worship service in the sanctuary & 1st/2nd grade classroom. Volunteers read a Bible story to the children and supervise craft and play time.

**Hosts** buy or bake six to eight dozen cookies, and serve coffee and lemonade after the 9:30 contemporary and 10:45 traditional worship services. New Hope purchases three to five dozen cookies to also be served with the hosts’ cookies. 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.

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### Those who serve New Hope in May.

#### 8:30am Traditional Service

- **Greeters**: 5 12 19 26

- **Lectors**: 5 Cathy Short 12 19 26

- **Traditional Service Callers**: 5 Craig Ferguson 12 Mark & Leah Scherer 19 Bob & Marlys Borcherdig 26 Jim & Norma Smith

#### 9:30am Contemporary Service

- **Greeters**: 5 Rod & Lynette Cook family 12 Pam Frey 19 Jane Wagner 26

- **Hosts**: 5 John & Joyce Turek 12 Larry & Melisa Forbes 19 Pam Frey 26 Clyde & Cindy Rail

- **Money Counters**: 5 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, Ron Zoss 12 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross 19 Jerry Kielsmeier, Kim Traylor, Kari Baccam 26 Clark Howland, Larry Wood, Rick Homard

- **Pal Friday: 9 a.m.**: 3 Norma Smith 10 Shirley Frus 17 Ann Krause 24 Marge Carnahan 31 Pat Papenheim

#### 10:45am Traditional Service

- **Greeters**: 5 12 19 26

- **Lectors**: 5 Jon Verner 12 19 26

- **Hosts**: 5 Spencer & Andy Sutton 12 Linda Kielsmeier 19 Lee Ross 26 Earl & Sharon Lewis

- **Acolytes**: 5 Taylor Evans, Sarah Sahlin 12 Sheldon Astley, Lexi Dean 19 Tyler Mohrman, Samantha Strauss 26 Taylor Evans, Sarah Sahlin

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**Thank you** for volunteering to help with the worship services. If something comes up and you have a conflict, please contact another church member to switch with you and call the church office with the changes (278-2097).

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**Happy Mother’s Day**

**Sunday, May 12!**
Blood Pressure Check
New Hope is offering free Blood Pressure checks each month. **May 19** will be the next BP checks. Come to the Narthex after each worship service.

Men’s Breakfast
**Saturday, May 11 at 7:30 a.m.** in the Ruby Chapel.

Women’s Fellowship
**Thursday, May 16**
Meet at church for 9:00am brunch followed by a meeting.
If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Frus at 279-1130.

Work Team
The New Hope UMC Fix-it Team will meet every other Wednesday, 9am-noon (May 1, 15, 29). We welcome anyone who can attend. You do not have to attend each time, just come when you can and help out around the church, enjoy a cup of coffee and some fellowship with fellow members.
John Rains, Chair of Trustees

Tables
We have 8 ft. heavy duty tables (masonite tops with metal frames and legs) for sale. They are priced at $25 for any member who would like one or more. Please contact Spencer Sutton at spencer@thesuttons.us

Care Ministry Team
This team ministers to congregation members who have had new babies, have been in the hospital, have been ill or are dealing with grief. This team meets on a quarterly basis and will meet on **July 11, 10am** at New Hope. If you would like to join the Care Ministry team, please contact Clarice Rubek or Mary Ann Rice.

Church Library
The library committee will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wed. mornings of the month from 10-11:30. Please contact Carol Harter, 274-1467, if you would like to join us.

SAVE THE DATE!
**New Hope United Methodist Blood Drive Event Date is July 31 with times available from 3 to 7PM.**
Watch for Sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. One donation can help 3 people and even save lives!

Easter Cantata performed by the Chancel Choir; directed by Eldon Cross; pianist, Karen Skovgard; and narration by Jeff Duis.

**New Hope Chancel Choir**
Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.
Eldon Cross, Director of Music, elcatalia4@gmail.com or 515 250-1476.

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.

Church Library
The library committee will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wed. mornings of the month from 10-11:30. Please contact Carol Harter, 274-1467, if you would like to join us.

**Blood Drive**
**NEW HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
1625th St.
Council Bluffs, IA 51501
*319-284-9012*

**New Hope United Methodist Blood Drive Event Date is July 31 with times available from 3 to 7PM.**
Watch for Sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. One donation can help 3 people and even save lives!

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3rd Tuesday of the month (February - October) at 7 p.m.
Children and Family Urban Ministries: We will continue collecting backpack items for CFUM Back to School Fair for Moulton School, which is in June. **Money donations can be placed in the offering plate with CFUM on the memo line.**

- $20 per student to purchase supplies in bulk
- Spiral notebooks
  - (70 count wide lined-red, blue, yellow, green, black)
- 24 count Colored pencils
- Glue Sticks
- Fiskars point tipped scissors
- Wide ruled filler paper 150 sheets
- Package of #2 pencils

Imagine No Malaria: Thank you to those who bought tickets to the Imagine No Malaria Pancake Breakfast fundraiser, April 27th. **We will continue raising funds at New Hope to fulfill our pledge commitment of $1,200 for the elimination of Malaria deaths by 2015 mostly funded by the United Methodist Church.**

Please visit our display by the Mission Table where you can donate toward our goal. Note that $10 will buy a net to prevent mosquito bites, and $28 will also include medication and education to prevent at least one death by Malaria. Place your donation in the wooden box in the display, sign a post-it-note and place on the display board, then pick up a wristband to wear to remind yourself how you have saved a life(lives) from Malaria.

Here is information about Malaria from our UMC Imagine No Malaria website.

Every 60 seconds, malaria claims a life in Africa. It kills an estimated 655,000 people each year, most of them children under 5 and pregnant women. Transmitted through the bite of a female anopheles mosquito, malaria is a parasite that initially causes fever, vomiting and joint pain. Left untreated, its symptoms progress to convulsions, organ failure and death. Yet, malaria is 100% preventable, treatable and beatable! Imagine No Malaria is an extraordinary effort of the people of The United Methodist Church, putting our faith into action to end preventable deaths by malaria in Africa, especially the death of a child or a mother. Achieving this goal requires an integrated strategy against the disease.

**Fact:** In 2010, there were an estimated 216 million cases of malaria causing 655,000 deaths, mostly among African children younger than five.

**Fact:** Every 60 seconds, malaria claims an innocent life in Africa.

**Fact:** Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected female *Anopheles* mosquitoes.

**Fact:** Malaria symptoms appear seven days or more (usually 10–15 days) after the infective mosquito bite. The first symptoms include fever, headache, chills and vomiting. If not treated within 24 hours, malaria can progress to severe illness often leading to death.

**Fact:** More than 85% of the world's malaria deaths are in Africa.

**Fact:** Malaria is preventable and curable. Increased malaria prevention and control measures are dramatically reducing the malaria burden in many places.

**Fact:** Malaria mortality rates have fallen by more than 25% globally since 2000.

**Fact:** There are currently no licensed vaccines against malaria. One research vaccine, known as RTS,S/AS01, is most advanced. This vaccine is currently being evaluated in a large clinical trial in 7 countries in Africa.

**Fact:** The United Methodist Church has more than 300 hospitals, clinics and health posts in Africa, all part of a comprehensive program to fight this killer disease.

**Fact:** Prior to 1951, Malaria was a serious public health problem in the United States—in fact, it led to the creation of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). An comprehensive effort from 1947-1951 virtually eradicated malaria in the US.
**Special Finance Campaign**

We are planning a special finance campaign for May entitled “Mission: New Hope.” We shared in the April 7 worship service that we are projecting a shortfall this year, and we want to be proactive in addressing this need. Our mission statement is to: “Serve God, Love Others, and Follow Jesus Christ.” The reason that we are making this special appeal is that we, in fact, are fulfilling our mission in many ways, but our ministries are growing faster than our giving.

We are being successful in introducing people to God, and in helping people grow in their relationship to God. We received 18 new members on April 7. We confirmed 13 Confirmation youth on April 14. Our Johnston River of Life ministry is growing, touching new lives in the Johnston area and serving the community. We have active youth groups and children’s ministries. Our giving to missions last year was higher than ever. We have active adult classes and small groups. We are being successful in fulfilling our mission statement. But we need your help as our ministries expand.

Members of the church will be receiving a letter that will provide further information, describe the campaign and ask for your help. We have entitled our campaign “Mission: New Hope” because we are currently in a time of expanding our ministry to touch lives, to reach out, to care for people inside and outside of our church, and to feed hungry souls. We are asking for your help in keeping the momentum of our ministries going. And we invite your prayers for God to continue to lead us to fulfill His ministry.

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**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.
## May 2013

### SUNDAY
- **Holy Communion**
  - Noon, Compassionate Callers Plant Sale
  - 7:00p, Trustees
  - 6:30p, Prayer Shawl/Knitting group

### MONDAY
- 4:30p, Missions Mtg.
- 7:45p, Praise Team

### TUESDAY
- 9:00a, Work Team at church
- 6:30p, Chancel Choir
- 7:45p, Praise Team

### WEDNESDAY
- **Sunday (offering)**
- **Peace with Justice Memorial Sunday**
- **Golden Cross Sunday (offering)**
- **Mother’s Day**
- **Graduate Recognition**

### THURSDAY
- **June LINK deadline**
- **Women’s Fellowship at church**
- **Concert, sanctuary**
- **Incredible Pizza**
- **Heartbeat Bell Concert, sanctuary**

### FRIDAY
- **May 12**- An offering to support special grants for local churches to develop health ministries for Iowa’s Children in Poverty.
- **May 26**—Your generous gifts support Peace with Justice ministries in the conference, overseen by the conference board of church and society; and Peace with Justice work in the United States and around the world, related to the General Board of Church and Society.

## Happy Birthday to you!

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

1. Brook Larsen, Lillian Herrick
2. FloAnn Wills, James Doxon
3. Maddy Dolberg, William Rock, Olivia Berger
4. John Lichter
5. Cathy Beck–Cross, Alex Williamson
6. Michael Sandberg, Annalyn Short
7. Bob Reaney, Taylor Webber, Noah Neu, Anousak Baccam
8. Pam Frey, Laura Speck, Michael Craighton, Rebekah Craighton, Benjamin Leyda, Mollie Rooney
9. Shawn Stringham, Caitlyn Robertson
10. Spencer Wolfe, Paige Sandberg
11. Jamie Christensen, Sydney Berger, Marilyn Osborn, Greta Musgrave
12. Rod Cook, Adam Herring, Andrew Wise, Abbi Herrick
13. Scott Peterson
14. Amanda Short
15. Alice Hedman, Tim Mc Culley
16. Kandra Dickerson, Bill Jeffries, Jane Speck, Alex Hershey, Kip Cullinan, Samantha Wakeman, Kingsley Zoss
17. Blaine Goff
18. Margaret Henke, Nate Kinnetz, Dan Kirkpatrick, Mark Sahlin
19. Destinee DeBates, Drew Hershey
20. Jody Wolfe
21. Allen Frizzell, Seth Ickowitz
22. Zachary Forbes, Jenna Merrill, Hayden Johnston, Suzanne Neu
23. Evan Kinnetz, Sarah Sahlin
24. Paul Weisskopf, Janet Short, Allyson Mohrman, John Walker
25. Norman Kasper, Caroline Christensen
26. Tracy Hitchcock

### Looking Ahead:
- June 9, Katinas concert
- June 12, Movie at Johnston Barn
- June 15, 10a, Green Days parade
- July 14-18, 5:30-8p, VBS

### Happy Anniversary!
- Eric & Mallory Chabak
- Jason & Heather Kerndt
- John & Jody Rains
- Tim & Janet Carrigan
- Nancy & Dale Monthei
- Richard & SaLynn Lemke
- Rick & Cathy Homard
- Don & Ruth Doxon
- Paul & Pam Weisskopf
- Craig & Mary Thompson
- Forrest & Marilyn Mc Cleary
- Mark & Tami Wise
- Anousak & Kari Baccam
- Stephen & Norma Sutton

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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.
Nothing Can Separate Us from God’s Love

For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

~ Romans 8:38-39

I am writing this two days after the bombings at the Boston Marathon. I heard on the radio today an interview of a clinical psychologist who has done a lot of research of the after effects of such a major traumatic event. He said that such an event affects not only those injured or those who were present on the scene, but it also affects those who saw it on TV or read about it in the news. Such events affect us consciously and subconsciously as well. In the immediate time after the event, we are faced with a fact we would just as soon avoid – the fact of our own mortality. It strikes us how quickly our life could end. We usually try to push this thought out of our thinking, but such a major event brings the fact of death to the forefront of our consciousness. The psychologist said that eventually we are able to push that thought out of our consciousness, but the effects on our subconscious are longer lasting. In their studies after September 11, 2001, the psychologists found that for months after, people tended to interpret life in more negative ways, tended to be more judgmental toward others different from them, and tended to be more skeptical about the problems in the world and possible solutions.

We do live in a world that can sometimes be dark and violent, in which we confront sin and death. The early Christians, who often were confronted by persecution and violent death, would say, “Of course there is evil, sin, darkness, and death. We live in a fallen world.” But they would also remind us that our faith began in a graveyard. But our faith does not end there. We are the Easter people, the people of the open tomb. Even though we may be reminded of the fact of death and even struggle from time to time with our fear of death, this is not the last word. Death has no ultimate power over us. We may trust that Jesus, who has conquered death itself, is with us each day, and can give us the power to live our lives in confident hope.

Rick Warren, in one of his blogs after the suicide of his son, said that the things that have been helping him to cope are the Christian community around him, and prayer and worship at church. He said, “When in pain, pray. When you worry, worship.”

In May, our sermon series is entitled “Invited.” We will be exploring the ways in which Jesus invites us to the hope and confidence of the Gospel. I invite you to come and hear the Good News we have in Jesus Christ, and to invite someone else to hear the hope, faith and life we have in Jesus Christ.

worship themes for may

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Scripture</th>
<th>Leader</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 4&amp;5</td>
<td>Your Presence Requested</td>
<td>Mark 4:26-29</td>
<td>Neil</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11&amp;12</td>
<td>Priority Mail</td>
<td>Luke 15:1-7</td>
<td>Craig</td>
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<td>May 18&amp;19</td>
<td>RSVP +1</td>
<td>Luke 14:15-24</td>
<td>Neil</td>
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<td>May 25&amp;26</td>
<td>Celebration of Life</td>
<td>Revelation 19:6-9</td>
<td>Neil</td>
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Memorial Day Weekend

page 17 May 2013
Church Staff
Pastor: Neil H. Cross
Outreach Pastor: Craig Ferguson
Director of Music: Eldon Cross
Children’s Ministries Coordinator: Kelly Mohrman
Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei
Nursery Attendant: Tamara Evans
Custodian: Chuck VanDyke

Church Office Hours
Mon–Fri: 8:00am - 4:30pm

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find us on facebook!
Visit the website to find our facebook link.

The Link newsletter is a monthly publication.
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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.