

the link

A monthly publication of
New Hope United Methodist Church

January 2018

JANUARY AT NEW HOPE UMC

IN THE BEGINNING A NEW YEAR

- Jan. 7** "Being Cleansed"
Jan. 14 "Being Called"
Jan. 21 "Being Gathered"
Jan. 28 "Being Accountable"



NEW HOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sundays at New Hope UMC 8:30am • 9:30am • 10:45am
newhopeds.org

HIKING THE HIGHLANDS

Walking the Spiritual Path

JANUARY 2018 SERMON SERIES

JohnstonRiverOfLife.org



Celebrating Johnston River of Life as a New Church in the IAUMC in September of 2018

For the past 7 years Pastor Craig has been appointed to New Hope UMC as the outreach pastor. During that time his primary task has been to develop a new faith community in Johnston. As a congregation, New Hope covenanted to participate in this endeavor. Both campuses have been blessed through many opportunities of joint ministry, added discipleship, creative outreach, and service in our community. This has been a time of transition and growth for everyone.

During the past year (even before Pastor Craig went on renewal) our District Superintendent, Heecheon, and Pastors Jon and Craig had been in prayer and discernment about the needs of both congregations going forward. Challenges were identified and a change in the relationship was clearly needed. Some of the identified challenges were:

- We have shared events but little or no shared leadership and planning
- We have very different organizational and administrative systems that made it difficult for mutual and equal voice
- We have very different ministry focuses, one congregation with a building and the other a portable church.
- Although budgets and financial accounts have been and still are separate, there were very different concepts of ministry needs and stewardship.

None of these prevent us from doing ministry together, however they did not allow either of us to live into our full potential and even caused tension and loss of ministry focus. As such it has been determined that JROL will charter in September of 2018. Jon and Craig are working to develop a strategic plan to continue to share events, and build relationships through activities and small groups. The full hope is that most or even all of the events and activities we have been doing together will continue to be shared areas of ministry.

JROL will spend the next nine months refining their administrative structure and committees, celebrating ministries and volunteers, deepening their relationships and spiritual life, and re-visioning all things through the lens of, "Being Christ in Community." They have identified key steps for this transition and will be working with Pastors Jon and Craig, the administrative leaders of both campuses, and leadership from the IAUMC.

New Hope will use this time to celebrate all that has been accomplished during the last 7 years and start to dream about what the next ministry goals could be and how to best, "Serve God, Love Others, and Follow Jesus".

We invite all members to be in prayer during this exciting time of transition and development. Please look for ways to demonstrate your love and support and continue to bless every family and ministry.

In Grace and Peace,
Pastors Jon and Craig



membership news

Prayer Chain Request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call Jan Davisson at 251-4894 or the church office at 278-2097.

Prayer Concern

Amy Larsen; Byron Williamson; Kim Wills; Bob Borcharding; Jess Hass; Julie Boyles; Teresa Garside; Gerald Perdue; Vickey Cary; Linn Redding; Olive Walker; Bishop Laurie Haller; District Superintendent, Rev. Heecheon Jeon; District Field Outreach Minister, Naomi Sea Young Wittstruck; Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, missionary.

Prayers for the following military personnel: Kelsey Bartley; Dawn Bernal; Jason Homard; Cory Larson; Adam Larson; Joshua Larson; Zach McClain; Mike McGhee; Todd McGinnity; Tyler McGinnity; Derek Monthei; Matthew Plourde; Anthony Plourde; Tim Rains; Devan Stanton; Jared Stanton; and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

Our Sympathy

Our sympathy to Carole & David Followwill on the passing of Carole's brother, Bill Lents.

Our sympathy to Brenda & Tim McCulley and family on the passing of Brenda's mother, Jo Ann Schneckloth.

Our Sympathy to Mark, Julie, Sarah & Kirsten Sahlin on the passing of Julie's father, Keith Everett.

Charge Conference

On Thurs, January 25 at the 7pm, Administrative Council Meeting, will convene as a Charge Conference to act on the candidacy of Nathan Ferguson to be a candidate for Ordained Ministry. This meeting is open to all who would like to attend.



Photo Directory

The Photo Directory project will be completed by the end of January 2018. However...we need YOUR HELP!

If you have a new address, phone number, or email, please contact the church office. Also, if you did not have a photo taken of yourself or your family last March or did not submit a digital picture....there's still time! We want to get as many photos in the directory as possible.

By Tuesday, January 9th, please submit directory updates and photos to Nancy Monthei, Office Admin., nancy@newhopedsm.org

Thank you for your help!!!



Thank you to everyone that donated cookies/bars/candy to the Dec. 10th Christmas Cookie Walk!! Also, thank you to the volunteers who organized & worked! And thank you to those that purchased a \$10 container full of deliciousness! We look forward to having more people donate cookies next year!





Time to divest our church of the Advent decorations

Undecorating will take place after each service on January 7.

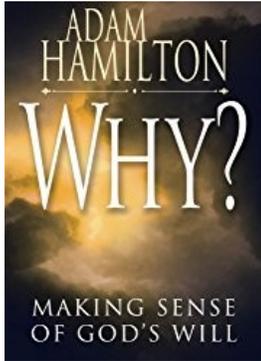
Please stay and help us conquer this task. Many hands make light work! Thank you!



Thank you to everyone that displayed their Nativity Sets during Advent.

You may take your Nativity Sets home. Thank you so much for sharing them with us.

Appreciatively,
New Hope Altar Guild



Join us for a Book Review

January 8, 2018, 1:30pm

Ruby Chapel

WHY? by Adam Hamilton. Making sense of God's Will.

Where is God when the innocent suffer? Where is God when my prayers go unanswered? Why is God's will so hard to understand?

Adam Hamilton is senior pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection of Leawood, Kansas. A master of explaining difficult questions of faith in a down-to-earth fashion. Please join us for an interesting discussion.

The book can be purchased online or at your local Barnes and Noble.

Led by Roberta Cave & Armenta Buckingham



2018 Altar Flower Calendar

For the Traditional Services (8:30 & 10:45), 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 10:45 service.

On December 10th, our Sunday school children performed a "Super Hero" Christmas Pageant. Thank you to all the kids involved and the organizers!!





2018 RUMMAGE SALE

2018 is here and, believe it or not, time to start thinking of the 2018 annual New Hope Rummage Sale. This event is our biggest fundraiser of the year and an important outreach event for New Hope.

Please **SAVE THE DATES OF APRIL 26-28** and plan to join us.

We have a great team assembled to lead this large project.

Linda Yaske—advertising

Sue Soards—donations

Glean Coates—set up and take down

Judy Stout—supplies

Jackie Johnson/Jen Higdon—volunteers

Betty Howenger—lunches

Carol Harter—consultant and Glenna Ross—assistant consultant

*If you have a favorite rummage sale job, contact the volunteer leaders to let them know. They will be happy to give you your choice.

*If you have a suggestion for a change or something new to try, contact Carol or Glenna.

*Start saving and sorting your items. **Sunday, April 22 is our donation day.**

*Write the dates on your calendar.

For those that are employed on week days, remember you can help on Sunday and Saturday.

Please join this *awesome* rummage sale team. With everyone's help, we can again serve the community while having a successful fund raiser. (Our goal is \$10,000. We almost made it last year.)

Thank you all for helping.

Carol Harter

Congrats to the New Hope Puppet Troupe for their first successful performance of the season!

We have lots of new children who have joined our team and did such a great job for their first time. And we certainly couldn't do it without our more experienced members and adult helpers.

A special **Thank You** to Tamara Evans and Melissa McGhee for taking the lead on props design:)

We are very proud of all the children and the hard work and hours they put in for the Christmas performance this year. Your New Hope Puppet Troupe wants to thank you for your continued support and wishes you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Below...behind the scenes of a puppet performance. Left...preparing & practicing the script. Left/bottom...performance!



Blood Pressure Check

Next BP checks will be January 14 9:30a-11a in the Narthex.

Veterans Helping Veterans

The next Veterans Helping Veterans will be Saturday, January 20, 8:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Questions, please contact Billy Nuzum at bbnewz54@gmail.com

Bidwell-Riverside Center

Women's Fellowship members and any other men or women who wish to join them will be doing volunteer work at Bidwell Riverside Center, 1203 Hartford Ave, Des Moines, on Wed., January 24, from 9:00 a.m. till noon. We will meet at the church at 8:30 to carpool to the center. Please notify Lynn Louk if you are planning to go. Contact her at 276-7900, jimlynnlouk@mac.com

There are many ways in which we can help, such as checking in clients, helping clients go through the grocery-style food pantry, and sorting donations. Our help is greatly appreciated.

Advent by Candlelight, held on December 4th, was a beautiful evening of fellowship and preparing for the Advent Season! Thank you to everyone that organized, performed, read stories, hosted, and attended! More pictures are on New Hope's facebook page.



Men's Breakfast

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

Women's Fellowship

No meeting in January. Questions? Contact Susan Clark at 964-5119 or Sharon Smith at 419-7082

Care Ministry Team

The Care Ministry meets quarterly. This team ministers to congregation members who have had new babies, have been in the hospital, have been ill or are dealing with grief. This team meets on a quarterly basis. If you would like to join the Care Ministry team, please contact Clarice Rubek or Mary Ann Rice.

New Hope Needlers

Join us on Fri., January 19, 9am-3pm in the 3rd grade classroom. Please note that the Needlers will meet the 3rd Friday of each month. All are welcome! Please bring your sewing machine and current project. Dress kits will be available. Lunch will be at Panera. Contact Jody Rains, 278-8282, with questions.

Friday Bible Study

The Friday Bible Study at the Pizza Ranch at 1pm. (4954 86th St, Urbandale.) The Pizza Ranch has a buffet and as you arrive, pay for your buffet, load up your plate and join us in our reserved room. Study leader: Jim Louk

Join us in **January** for our study:

January 12: "Serve One Another" Text: Galatians 5:13

We are often reluctant to serve others, but the Bible speaks of being eager to serve (I Peter 5:2), serving wholeheartedly (Eph. 6:7), and serving with gladness (Psalm 100:2)

"When we have a deep desire to serve others, we will even delight in doing menial and mundane tasks, routine, and commonplace jobs that would normally be outside of our scope of interest and responsibility.

January 26: "Spur One Another on toward love and Good Deeds"

Text: Hebrews 10:24

Catch people doing something right, acknowledge and affirm them, and they will be motivated to do more of the same.

Spur one another on toward love and good deeds. We are responsible for doing the One Anothers, and we are also responsible for encouraging others to do the One Anothers.

Adult Discussion Group

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

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.

Children's Ministries

Children's Ministries Mission

Statement: A church family working together to teach children to know, grow, and show the love of Jesus Christ.

Christian Learning Time (CLT) 10:45-11:45 on Sunday mornings.

***No CLT classes or Children's Worship will be held on Sunday, Dec. 31st. Have a great Christmas Break! Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7th.



A HUGE THANK YOU goes out to all the children, youth and families that participated in our Christmas Program on December 10th. We had wonderful helpers, actors, prop helpers, and a shout out to our Jr. and Sr. Blast for all their help with the kids.

5th and 6th graders in CLT have the exciting opportunity to be part of God's Torch Bearers Acolyte Club for the 10:45 Service. See Charity for details.



This month at TGIW

<http://www.newhopedsm.org/pdf/TGIW-Schedule.pdf>

Join us for Thank God It's Wednesday "TGIW"! All kids 3 yr. old—5th grade.

Puppets: 5:15-6:00pm. Questions??? Contact Melanie Henry, melhenry0@gmail.com, or Linda Dean, deanlinda2@aol.com

Dinner: 5:45-6:15pm

Kids Activities: 6:15-7:00pm

Jr. Ringers (for 2nd grade and up): 6:00-6:30pm Questions??? Contact Kristin Welter, t.welter@mchsi.com



COME JOIN US FOR A TGIW FAMILY NIGHT ON
FEBRUARY 7TH



VBS 2018 dates coming soon

Start thinking now how YOU can help to make this another great year of VBS!

Our VBS Team (Andy Sutton, Elaine Sheer, Abbi Herrick and Charity Johnson) is excited to get plans set for this event and we hope that you'll join us on this journey. We will have volunteer roles for all ages and abilities. More information to come this spring.

BLAST—Believing, Learning, Assisting, Serving, Teens

January 2018

Jr. BLAST (6th-8th grade) Leaders: Jackie Johnson & Tami Wise:

Email: JrBLAST@NewHopeDSM.org

January will continue to be a active month for Junior High Blast...

Jan 3rd – Friendship Lesson

Jan 10th - Salvation Army outfits - We will be going to Salvation Army for the kids to buy an outfit for a child in need. We will need one additional driver. Please let Jackie or Tami know if you are available.

Jan 17th - Board games

Jan 24th - Group discussion

Jan 31st - TBD

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

BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org



The Senior High BLAST group is excited to announce the date and place for their 2018 Summer Mission Trip. Next summer, the group will be traveling to **Houston, Texas**; to help with hurricane relief. Back in 2017, Houston was impacted by Hurricane Harvey that left vast areas in and around Houston with extensive flood damage. We will be helping families rebuild their homes during our Summer Mission trip.

Additionally, the trip has been set for **Saturday, June 16th - Sunday, June 24th**.

However, we need an initial deposit of \$100 for anyone considering being a part of this trip next year by January 21st. The mission trip is open to All New Hope / Johnston River of Life Senior High BLAST youth who have finished grades 8-12, parents,

and volunteers. We will be having to parent / informational meetings to discuss the details of the mission trips; given this is a big trip for our group. Plan now to attend one of these meetings (*Wednesday January 3rd, at 6:15 PM or Sunday January 7th after each service*).

Finally, the BLAST leadership team has the schedule for the first part of 2018... We have a lot of fun events planned and some fundraising opportunities to support our 2018 mission trip. The complete schedule can be found on-line – <http://www.newhopedsm.org/pdf/2018-BLAST.pdf>.

Here's upcoming youth events for the next couple of months: . More information about the events will be sent out in email and posted on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/SeniorHighBlast>).

- Dec 27th ~ No Meeting—Christmas Break
- Jan. 3rd @ 6pm ~ Mission Trip Parent/Information Meeting
- Jan 7th (after each service) ~ Mission Trip Parent/Information Meeting
- Jan. 7th @ 5pm ~ BLAST Christmas Party
- Jan. 10th @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion
- Jan. 14th @ 5pm ~ Youth Lock-In and Hand of Luke
- Jan. 17th @ 6pm ~ ChildServe (*meet at New Hope UMC*)
- Jan 21st ~ \$100 Mission Trip Deposit Deadline
- Jan. 24th @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion
- Jan. 26th ~ Winter Jam at Wells Fargo
- Jan 28th ~ BLAST Breakfast Fundraiser
- Jan. 31st @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion

Feb. 4th @ 5:30 pm ~ Super Bowl Party

Feb. 7th @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion

Feb. 14th @ 5pm ~ Ash Wednesday Dinner

Feb. 21st @ 6pm ~ ChildServe (*meet at New Hope UMC*)

Feb. 28th @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion

missions

JANUARY MISSION NEWS

MEFOR NOISY CAN COLLECTION: Thank you to those that saved up all your change and contributed to the Noisy Can Collection for the Pre-natal Shelter at our Missionary's hospital in Zimbabwe. All that cash counted up to around \$550!

YEAR END MISSION REPORT: If your ministry at New Hope has done mission projects and have not reported the amounts to Sharon Smith, please do so soon, as a 2017 Year End Report will be compiled and published in the February Link.



JANUARY MISSION FOCUS: **Des Moines Area Religious Council's Food Pantry system.** We would like to begin the year focusing on the needs at our Food Pantry system in the Des Moines Area. A check from Missions of \$100 is sent to the Johnston Food Pantry and another to the Urbandale Food Pantry each month along with the monthly donations from the congregation to DMARC in general. Some months our

congregation's donation is very slim and other times pretty generous.

We would like you to consider making a personal pledge to give monthly to this needy organization. We highlight the 3rd Sunday of each month as Food Pantry Sunday. Envelopes are available on the Mission table if not present in the bulletin. However, you can donate any Sunday by merely putting Food Pantry or DMARC on the memo line of your check.

Because of the increasing numbers of food insecure families, amounts of food items have been cut back so that the box of food allowed each month is lessened. Some Food Pantries do allow for emergency food and so they use some of their money to purchase extra items just for this purpose.

Bidwell Riverside is the location of the only Food Pantry on the South Side so it is a very busy location with great need. New Hope has supported them with volunteers and monetary means. Women's Fellowship members try to volunteer once a month but anyone from our congregation is welcome to tag along or arrange to go on your own.



HOL: *January 14:* If you would like to contribute to our ministry of a meal for the Central Iowa Shelter and Services, please sign up on the Hand of Luke sheets in the Fellowship Hall, to donate food, cook, and/or serve.

We have new coordinators for Hand of Luke, our monthly feeding of almost 250 meals at the Central Iowa Shelter and Services location in Des Moines the 14th of each month. Jolene and Robin Harlow have consented to help with this worthy mission. They will begin in February.

February will be a challenging month for HOL, because usually the Jr. BLAST or Confirmation students cook and serve, but the 14th this year falls on Ash Wednesday when the youth will be doing the service. We will need extra help to cook and serve that day. Stay tuned for any updates on HOL.

Financials

Financial information could not be submitted due to Robin Harlow being on (much needed) vacation. Look for updated financial information in the February LINK! Please contact a Finance Committee member if you have any questions.

If you haven't had a chance to turn in your 2018 Pledge Sheet, there is time to do so. Please place your pledge sheet with the offering or mail it to the church office. We thank you for your contributions which continue to support our ministries!

Thank you to the Eric Mohlis, Director of Music; Brenda McConahay, pianist; and the Choir for performing "Christmas at New Hope UMC" on December 17!

Also, thank you to the volunteers that provided the delicious brunch for the choir!



New Hope Sunday morning Worship attendance				
	8:30	9:30	10:45	total
December 3	37	98	81	216
December 10	47	165	98	310
December 17	52	74	98	224

Johnston River of Life Worship attendance				
Sat	Sun		total	
Dec 2	47	Dec 3	45	92
Dec 9	34	Dec 10	38	72

Donate

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

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

To setup online Giving go to www.newhopedsm.org OR www.johnstonriveroflife.org and click on the donate button. This will direct you securely to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. Changes can be made confidentially at any time. Or if you like, paper authorization forms are located on the table in fellowship hall. Please contact the church office for additional information.

If you decide to give electronically, please feel free to pick up a card that says "I give electronically" to put in the offering plate if you would like to participate in the offertory.



I took this photo in Scotland this summer. The view was stunning. Waking up above the clouds was a spiritual experience. And while a photo has a way of taking you there, the several day hike, the ankle-twisting, loose-rock, steep ascent it requires to reach such a location may prevent a crowd from gathering. Or it could be as simple as not having the time. There are so many obstacles that prevent us from experiencing the full beauty of life.

New Years resolutions should include physical, spiritual, emotional, vocational and educational goals, but I think we also have to be realistic. Too many resolutions get abandoned at the base of the mountain. Too many goals are above the clouds with no real commitment, determination or training to get there. Or even worse, we can set goals and start hiking but get lost in the process. I believe the view from the top of the mountain is attainable for each of us if we prepare for the challenge ahead, if we commit to the course in front of us and persevere when the world presses against us.

This January in worship and small groups I will share my Scotland experiences; the Holy places, the kindness of strangers, mountain top experiences, solitude and simplicity, culture and community, discipline and prayer. I will share how this renewal will have a long-lasting spiritual impact on my everyday life and ministry. This January, come and set goals, face your mountains with me, and let's get hiking the highlands of life.

Johnston River of Life has another exciting journey planned this year. Up to this point JROL has been a second campus of New Hope. During the last few years we have transitioned; different leadership teams, mission statements, bank accounts and activities, but we maintain a shared life, community, and faith. Pastors Jon and Craig, the district Superintendent, and Administrative chairs have been in discussion to determine what the next step looks like.

Together we are setting out to charter JROL as a new church in the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. We will spend the next nine months refining our administrative structure, celebrating our ministries and volunteers, deepening our relationships and spiritual life, and re-visioning all things through the lens of, "Being Christ in Community." In September we will have services celebrating this new beginning.

Between now and then, we invite your prayers, and we commit to ongoing prayer for each of you, our community and fellow churches. If you know someone who doesn't have a church family please invite them to join JROL and New Hope in this adventure. If they are curious about faith or wonder what it would feel like to be a part of a group of friends at the top of a mountain, looking down on the clouds, this is a faith journey that is worth joining.

Pastor Craig Ferguson

Work as Worship Live Webinar Retreat Feb 23, 7:30 AM - 2:30 pm.

God has a purpose for us on this earth. That calling is to be on mission for God where He has placed us. And since many people spend the majority of their waking hours on the job, we have to stop compartmentalizing life into "spiritual activities" and "work activities." How are we living examples of the gospel while we work?

You're invited to the 2017 Work as Worship Retreat, where eleven influential business leaders and pastors will discuss what it looks like to connect faith and work. Taking place as a 1-Day Local Church Retreat on February 23, 2018, 7:30 am - 2:30 am, the live event in Dallas will be web-streamed to over 2,000 churches around the world.

Join Patrick Lencioni (Author, *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team*), Joel Manby (CEO, SeaWorld), Phil Vischer (Creator, *VeggieTales* and *Jellyfish Labs*), Wendy Davidson (President, US Specialty Channels Kellogg Company), Matt Chandler (Lead Pastor, The Village Church), and others in a day filled with real-life stories, biblical teaching, and practical wisdom that will equip believers in the marketplace to see their work as an opportunity to care for their families, fulfill their calling, and bring glory to God.

New Hope & Johnston River of Life will be a host site for this exciting retreat. Check in will be at 7 am and lunch will be provided. Get signed up early and invite your friends from the office.

Go to, www.workasworshipretreat.org to learn more or register for the Retreat.

serve

Sign up to help!
Look for the sign-up sheets at the entrance of the Narthex and the Family Life Center.

Sunday Volunteers

Greeters arrive at worship service fifteen minutes early to welcome worshippers.

Lectors read the scripture lessons for the day at the worship services.

Hosts bake or purchase 6 to 8 dozen cookies (no peanuts/nuts), and serve coffee and water after the 9:30 contemporary and 10:45 traditional worship services. After fellowship time the hosts wash, dry, and put away the cookie platters, rinse out and dry the coffee canisters, and take the trash out to the trash bin. When you sign up to host, a letter from New Hope will be mailed to you before you host with instructions on how to host.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions, please call Nancy Monthei, Office Admin at 278-2097.

Those who serve New Hope in January

8:30am Traditional Service	9:30am Contemporary Service	10:45am Traditional Service
<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
7	7	7
14	14	14
21	21	21
28	28	28
<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
7 Cathy Short	7	7 Jon Verner
14	14 Sherri Bogue	14
21	21 Nick Bogue	21
28	28	28
<u>Traditional Service Callers</u>	<u>Hosts</u>	<u>Hosts</u>
7 Bob & Marlys Borcharding	7 Banny Kyenka	7 Banny Kyenka
14 Norma Sutton	14 Kelly Mohrman	14
21 Bob & Marlys Borcharding	21 Nan Stubbs	21
28 Norma Sutton	28 Sr. BLAST	28 Sr. BLAST
<u>Office Volunteers</u>	<u>9:30 Computer Support</u>	<u>Money Counters</u>
12 Susan Blank	7 Rick Homard	7 Tracy Hoffman, Joe Hoffman, Glenna Ross
19 Marlys Borcharding	14 Caleb/Kevin Christensen	14 Clark Howland; Rick Homard, Tami Wise
26 Shirley Johnson	21 Kelly Mohrman	21 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, John Burrough
	28 Nic Wigant	28 John Burrough, Robin Harlow, Jerry Kielsmeier
	<u>9:15 Welcome Center</u>	
	7	
	14	
	21	
	28	

What *not* to take into the new year

- Self-help books — Trust in God first; don't turn to him as a last resort. (See Proverbs 3:5-6.)
- Tape measure — Consider only God's standards; don't compare yourself to other people. (See Luke 18:9-14.)
- Rearview mirror — Don't live in the past. You'll miss out on what God is doing in your life now. (See Philippians 3:12-14.)
- Gavel — Stop wasting time judging others. Instead, pray for them, help them and team with them. (See Luke 6:37-38.)
- Life vest — Don't be overly cautious spiritually. Peter experienced Jesus in a real way because he dared to step out of the boat. (See Matthew 14:22-33.)
- Garage-door opener — We think we're networked but often isolate ourselves. God intended for us to live in community with one another. (See Hebrews 10:23-25.)
- Handcuffs — Don't offer excuses about why you can't help out. God can do amazing things through — and despite — us. Just follow him, with no excuses. (See Mark 6:35-44.)
—Gregg McCaslin

January 2018

WORSHIP SERVICES

New Hope UMC, Sunday mornings: 8:30, 9:30, 10:45
 Johnston River of Life
 5pm Saturdays and 10am Sundays at Beaver Creek
 Elementary in Johnston

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Church office closed Happy New Year! 	2 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 7:00p, Trustees Mtg., R.Chapel	3 5:15-6p, Puppets (3 rd & up) 5:45-6:15p, Dinner for all 6:15-7p, TGIW 6p-7p, Sr. BLAST Mission Trip Mtg. 6:15-7p, Jr. BLAST 6-6:30p, Jr. Ringers (2 nd & up) 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	4 7:00p, Worship Design Mtg., Pastor's office 7:00p, JROL Mtg., R.Chapel	5	6
7 Epiphany Sunday Holy Communion Undecorate Sr. BLAST Mission Trip Mtg (after each service) Sr. BLAST Christmas party	8 1:30p, Book Review, R.Chapel 6:15p, Girl Scouts, F.Hall	9 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6:30p, Finance Mtg., R.Chapel	10 5:15-6p, Puppets (3 rd & up) 5:45-6:15p, Dinner for all 6:15-7p, TGIW Activities 6p-7p, Sr. BLAST 6:15-7p, Jr. BLAST 6-6:30p, Jr. Ringers (2 nd & up) 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	11	12 Office Vol: Susan Blank 1p, Friday Bible Study, Pizza Ranch	13 7:30a, Men's Breakfast
14 Human Relations Day (offering) 9:30-11a, Blood Pressures 3:30p, Hand of Luke Youth Lock in	15 Deadline for Feb LINK Church office Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day 7p, Missions Mtg., R.Chapel	16 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 10a-3p, FLC & Kitchen reserved	17 5:15-6p, Puppets (3 rd & up) 5:45-6:15p, Dinner for all 6:15-7p, TGIW Activities 6p-7p, Sr. BLAST (Childserve) 6:15-7p, Jr. BLAST 6-6:30p, Jr. Ringers (2 nd & up) 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	18	19 Office Vol: Marlys Borcherd- ing	20 8:30a, Veterans Breakfast, F.Hall 2-7p, Cub Scouts, FLC
21 Food Pantry Sunday (offering) Sr. BLAST Mission trip deadline	22 6:15p, Girl Scouts, F.Hall	23 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	24 9-11a, Bidwell Riverside 5:15-6p, Puppets (3 rd & up) 5:45-6:15p, Dinner for all 6:15-7p, TGIW Activities 6p-7p, Sr. BLAST 6:15-7p, Jr. BLAST 6-6:30p, Jr. Ringers (2 nd & up) 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	25 6:30p, Administrative Council Mtg., R.Chapel	26 Office Vol: Shirley Johnson 1p, Friday Bible Study, Pizza Ranch 7p, Sr. BLAST to Winter Jam	27
28 Sr. BLAST Breakfast fundraiser	29	30 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	31 5:15-6p, Puppets (3 rd & up) 5:45-6:15p, Dinner for all 6:15-7p, TGIW Activities 6p-7p, Sr. BLAST 6:15-7p, Jr. BLAST 6-6:30p, Jr. Ringers (2 nd & up) 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	February 1 7p, JROL Mtg., R.Chapel	February 2	February 3 11a-4p, F.Hall reserved

***Human Relations Day, Jan. 14:** A Church-wide Special Sunday of The United Methodist Church. Your generous gifts on Human Relations Day support: Community Developers and United Methodist Voluntary Services programs, related to the General Board of Global Ministries, and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program, General Board of Church and Society. Your gift makes a world of difference! Thank you!



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

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 David Kinsey, Rick Roquet,
Patrick Kyenkya | 20 Nolan Martz |
| 3 Zach Price | 21 Brenda McCulley, Melissa
Haase, Taylor Evans |
| 4 Tim Krebs | 22 Dustin Henry |
| 5 Kasi Dickerson, David Reierson | 23 Katie Paulson, Kate Cossa |
| 6 Libby Clark | 24 George Buckingham, Michael
Meyer |
| 7 Henry Strauss | 26 Amanda Thompson, McKayla
Johnson, August Abbott, Conifer
Abbott |
| 8 Doug Hewitt | 27 Margaret Holmgren |
| 10 Gayle Easton, Norma Wallin | 29 Bob Robinson, Bill Gibbons,
Lori Marsh |
| 13 Vivienne Lee | 30 Dale Myers, Barb Mather,
Kirsten Sahlín |
| 14 Doris Harvey | 31 Denise Zoss, Kenny Ukabiala |
| 16 Marilyn Mc Cleary, Mark Thomsen,
Wade Zimmerman | |
| 17 Joan Clay, Gerald Perdue | |
| 18 Ann Krause | |
| 19 David O'Brien, Taylor Jackson | |



- 1: Ryan & Abbi Herrick
- 2: Michael & Joelyn Gerovac
- 15: Bob & Marlys Borchering
- 17: Keith & Julie Craighton
- 24: Neal & Roberta Cave
- 24: Arny & Shelley Larsen
- 28: Ryan & Connie Armstrong

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



The start of a new year is often a time for reflecting on the past and looking forward to the future. This time of reflection has often reminded me about the boxes that Anita and I have moved with us many times but have not unpacked. We usually keep them in our basement, but occasionally they get stored somewhere else.

Some people think there should be a rule that whatever a person has done without for a certain length of time must be thrown away.

However, that does not apply to "our" boxes, for they are filled with wonderful treasures and family heirlooms that may be forgotten for a time, but are periodically rediscovered with great joy and excitement!

In actuality, the boxes contain nothing of monetary value. Instead, they are filled with precious memories of the past. There is the photo history of our lives from grade school through high school. The change in clothing and hair styles over the years is staggering (yes, I really did have long hair at one time). Next there are the "art projects" that our kids made for us, which we try to remember what they were supposed to represent, but are great works of art none the less. Then there are the long lost trinkets, each with its own story to tell, and also some old broken junk, which for some reason has been carefully wrapped and packed away.

Going through the boxes from time to time reminds me how important memories are and how much joy there is in reliving them. Good memories can also be a source of comfort and support to see us through difficult times. Even cherished memories of loved ones who are gone can help us cope with our loss.

Reminiscing can be painful when we are reminded of loss or past troubles, but we can also be strengthened by realizing what we have made it through and assured that we can handle things in the present and the future.

As we head into this new year, may we draw strength from the past to move on into a wonderful future. Now where did we put those boxes?

Grace and peace, Jon

January Theme-- "In the Beginning—A New Year"

January 7	<u>Title:</u> "Being Cleansed"	<u>Script.:</u> Genesis 1:1-5; Mark 1:4-11
January 14	<u>Title:</u> "Being Called"	<u>Script.:</u> 1 Samuel 3:1-10
January 21	<u>Title:</u> "Being Gathered"	<u>Script.:</u> Mark 1:14-20
January 28	<u>Title:</u> "Being Accountable"	<u>Script.:</u> Deuteronomy 18:15-20



Sunday Worship Services at New Hope

- 8:30am Traditional Service
- 9:30am Contemporary Service
- 10:45am Traditional Service

Johnston River of Life Casual Worship Services

Currently meeting at Beaver Creek Elementary,
8701 Lyndhurst Drive, Johnston

- Saturdays at 5:00 pm
- Sundays at 10am

Serve God | Love Others | Follow Jesus

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Church Staff

Pastor: Jon Gaul
Outreach Pastor: Craig Ferguson
Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei
Director of Music: Eric Mohlis
Children's Ministries Coordinator: Charity Johnson
Nursery Attendants: Anita Gaul & Jackie Johnson
Custodian: Chuck VanDyke

Church Office Hours

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

E-mail Information

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Charity Johnson: cjohnson@newhopedsm.org
Eric Mohlis: emohlis@newhopedsm.org

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Find us on facebook!

Visit the website to find our facebook link.

The LINKnewsletter is a monthly publication.

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

the link
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