the link

A monthly publication of
New Hope United Methodist Church

December 2018

Come spend Christmas with us….

Saturday, December 1: 9a-Noon, Gingerbread House Workshop

Monday, December 3: 7pm, Advent by Candlelight for women

Sunday, December 9: 9a - 10:45a, Christmas Cookie Walk

Sunday, December 18: 5:30p, Christmas Celebration featuring our children's program and music program.

Monday, December 24—Eve Candlelight Services
5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 10:00 p.m.

Gingerbread House Workshop

You are invited to make, decorate, and take a gingerbread house **Saturday, December 1st.** Seating is limited.

You can purchase tickets, at the Welcome Center, for the 9am-10am or 11am-Noon sessions. Or go to the church website, http://newhopedsm.org, and purchase tickets online.

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Cost:
$7.00 for children 12 and under
$9.00 for those older than 12

This is a mission project for women's fellowship.

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

Pam Frey; Angie Eaves; Ron Cooley; Bob Borcherding; Desiree Spring; Courtney LePera; Bishop Laurie Haller; District Superintendent, Rev. Heecheon Jeon; Interim Associate of Congregational Excellence , 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; Mike McGhee; Todd McGinnity; Tyler McGinnity; Matthew Plourde; Anthony Plourde; Devan Stanton; Jared Stanton; and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

If you are home bound, in a nursing home, or feeling alone and have not been visited by our Care Team or Pastor Jon, please let us know because we would love to visit you. Please contact the church office at 278-2097, nhfamily@newhopedsm.org

Wedding

Congratulations to Nicole Weisskopf and Blake Wilson on their November 17th wedding.

Thank You

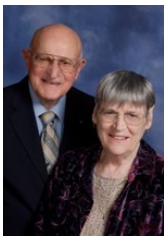
Thanks to everyone who participated in **Garlands of Gifts.** We had a good showing considering it was the coldest November 10th in 32 years! Special thanks to Nancy Monthei for keeping everything organized, Pam Frey and Chris Higdon for organizing BLAST for setup and clean up and Susan Clark and the kitchen crew for feeding our hungry vendors. Thanks to all of YOU who were able to come shop with us. We hope to see you next year!

2019 will be our 10th year. We could use some extra hands to help make it extra special. Email Deb Henry at mssci@aol.com is you are interested in helping.

Women's Fellowship Christmas Decor Sale Update:
THANK YOU to everyone that donated gently used Christmas items this year! It is so fun to unpack and display the variety of items we receive each year. We had a successful sale and heard from many of the vendors that they are impressed that our craft/gift fair has this type of sale as many churches don't have a table that supports the church. The vendors are usually our best customers.

We wanted to put a reminder out there for next year already: As you begin packing up your Christmas decorations after the holiday season, please consider sorting/saving back a box of items that you are ready to part with for our sale next year! That way you won't have to dig through your cold garage/basement in November to try and figure out what you have to donate. :) Thank you in advance for your help!

~ 90th Birthday Celebration ~



Please join us for an Open House to celebrate **Elmer Flickinger's** 90th Birthday
Sunday, December 2
2pm-4pm
At New Hope UMC, in the Fellowship Hall.

Directory Updates:

Joan Clay
1132 Beretta Ct.
Las Vegas, NV 89117

Ambrose and Bhanu Moses
6901 Peckham Street
#113
Johnston, IA 50131
515-350-7726

Karen Skovgard
315 NE 31st St.
Ankeny, IA 50021
515-253-2620

Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!!
Make the season bright with joy, peace, love, and hope.
May your 2019 be bright and beautiful.
New Hope UMC Staff

Sunday, December 9, 2018
9am - 10:45am (Please note the change in time this year)

Christmas Cookie Walk

Share some Christmas cheer by donating home-baked cookies, bars and candy to the New Hope Cookie Walk!

Sign up on the forms in the Fellowship Hall to let us know you will donate. The more cookies that we have, the more fun for everyone!

Deliver the home-baked goods to the church
on Friday, Dec. 7, 9am - 4pm or Saturday, Dec. 8, 1pm - 2pm.

Please mark your cookies if they have nuts or peanut butter.

Join us for this Special Event!

There will be a large assortment of homemade Christmas cookies!
Only $10 per box (Cash or Check)
A Styrofoam box will be provided (size 9 ½ x 9 ½ x 3).

It's that easy for some Christmas cheer for you or to give as a gift!

Questions? Please contact Nancy Monthei, in the church office, at nhfamily@newhopedsm.org or 515-278-2097.

Christmas Program
Sunday, December 16, 5:30pm

Join us for a Christmas celebration featuring our children's program and music program (Choir, bells, and praise team).
Sunday, December 16
5:30pm
Questions? Contact Erich Mohlis, Director of Music, emohlis@newhopedsm.org or 319-361-2471.

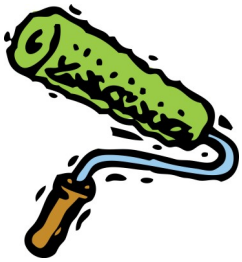
Midwinter Mingle and Soup Dinner
Sunday, January 27, 2019
5pm

The Bridge Team would like you to please mark your calendars for the all church Midwinter Mingle and Soup Dinner on Sunday, January 27th at 5:00pm at New Hope UMC.

Please join New Hopers and friends for good food, entertainment and the company of our church family. This is a community outreach event!

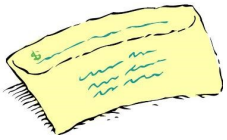
Please RSVP on the sign up sheets that will be out later in December.

Volunteers are appreciated to help with this event! Please contact Nancy Monthei, 278-2097, nancy@newhopedsm.org. Thank you!!



Group Painting Project

Beginning Monday, January 7, 2019 a group painting project to paint New Hope's east and south entryway hallways will begin.
So far the north wall of the east entryway has been painted a chocolate brown with plans for the remaining hallway walls to be painted a cream color.
If you would like to help in this group painting project, please sign-up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Painting can be done during the work day, in the evenings and on the weekend.
Jerry and Linda Kielsmeier are leading this project and look forward to painting with you.



2019 Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2019 offering envelopes from the table in the Fellowship Hall on December 16.

If you did not indicate on your 2019 pledge sheet that you want offering envelopes and would like to have them, please contact the church office ***by December 9****.*

Year-End Reminder

All giving to the church for recording on your 2018 statements should be received **no later than December 31, 2018** to be posted to the individual giving records for the year 2018. Thank you!

2019 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 November 18th, Brenda McConahay and Karen Skovgard, performed a concert in dedication of the new piano in the Sanctuary. The piano was donated in memory of Norma Smith from her family. It was a beautiful evening of music, song, and fellowship. Thank you to all that attended and all that helped in any way with the planning.

THE SHACK

Begins Tuesday, March 5

In this work of fiction by William P. Young, a man is invited to spend a weekend with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. His notions of the Trinity and his preconceptions about religion and Christianity are challenged, and he begins the process of healing several traumatic emotional wounds he has sustained in his life.

The first edition of **THE SHACK** came out in November of 2016, and the movie was released in 2017. I read the book and then several of us New Hopers saw the movie together.

I read the book again this year and thought it would make an excellent book and Bible study. Thus, **THE SHACK** Bible Study will be held in the Family Life Center where we will view a part of the movie each week on the large screen and have a discussion over the movie and the related chapters in the book. This study will begin the first week of March and end the week before Easter.

THE SHACK Bible Study will be Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and will begin March 5.
A sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall for you to sign up.

Half Price Books, 10201 University Ave, Clive, IA 50325 has copies of **THE SHACK** book for $2.00 each. I purchased 8 copies and you are free to have one for $2.

Please join me in getting to know God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and each other a little better.
Thank you,

Linda Kielsmeier

lapals@hotmail.com
515-689-9680

Confirmation Class for 8th Graders

December Schedule:

December 2, 4:15pm (Students & Mentors)
Topic: Holy Life & the three "R"s

December 9, 4:15pm (Students only)
Topic: Accept & Confess

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Gaul at 278-2097 or nhfamily@newhopedsm.org.

Friday Afternoon Bible Study

Friday Afternoon Bible Study meets at the Pizza Ranch at 4954 86th St, Urbandale at 1 p.m. and ends approximately 2:45pm.
Leader is Jim Louk, 515-276-7900

The Christian faith is not about making minor adjustments on the exterior of our lives. Becoming a follower of Jesus requires a radical reorientation of our thinking that results in an equally radical transformation of our living. It calls for nothing less than a mental transplant.

On **December 14th & 28th,** we will look at the foolishness of the cross and discover that there is power, in faithful suffering!

Also, we will look at what it means to Deny Yourself! (Philippians 2:1-11).

"Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all."

My Grown Up, God and Me!

My Grown Up, God and Me Update:
We were lucky enough to enjoy Kinney Carnahan leading the children's activity time for six weeks during our Thursday morning group! MANY THANKS to Kinney for her fun programs! The kids and grown ups had a great time reading, singing, and dancing the wiggles away!

NEW IN DECEMBER: We will be shifting the group to *Friday mornings* from 9:30-11am. We have heard from several people that they have Thursday conflicts, but would like to participate. Our hope is that this change will help accommodate and help grow the group. Your prayers for this group are appreciated!

9:30-10:30 Devotional Time for the grown ups while the kids play. We meet in the nursery for this.

10:30-11 Children's Bible Based Story/Activity Time.

Questions or for more information, please contact Jackie Johnson, 515-710-3239

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.

Blood Pressure Check
December 2, 9:30a-11a, Narthex.

Men's Breakfast
Saturday, December 8 at 7:30 a.m. at New Hope.

Women's Fellowship
Thursday, December 20, 9am.
Questions? Contact Susan Clark at 964-5119 or Sharon Smith at 419-7082

Veterans Helping Veterans
The Veterans Helping Veterans will be having two 8:30am breakfasts for 2019. **The dates are:**
Saturday, May 18
Saturday, November 16
Please mark your calendars. The breakfasts are open to all veterans, their spouses, and supporters.
If you have any questions, please contact Billy Nuzum.
at bbnewz54@gmail.com

Music Ministries
Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 6:30p-7:30p in the Sanctuary. Chancel Choir performs most Sundays from September to May.
Our **Praise Team** leads the contemporary Christian music for our 9:30a service. The Praise Team meets on Wednesdays from 7:45p-8:45p in the Family Life Center.
We welcome all to join us in our fellowship of music, friends, and fun. Questions? Please contact:
Mr. Eric Mohlis, Director of Music
emohlis@newhopedsm.org
319-361-2471

Care Ministry Team
The Care Ministry meets quarterly. Next meeting is on Thurs., January 10 at 10am in the Fellowship Hall.
This team ministers to congregation members who have had new babies, have been in the hospital, have been ill or are dealing with grief. This team meets on a quarterly basis. If you would like to join the Care Ministry team, please contact Clarice Rubek or Mary Ann Rice.

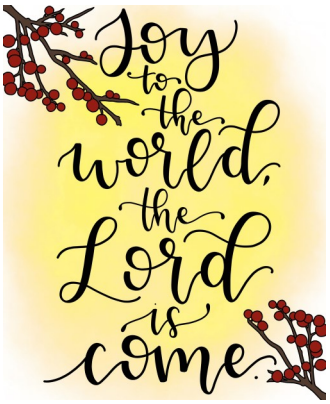
New Hope Needlers
The Needlers meet the third Friday of the month in the 3rd grade classroom from 9:00 - 3:00, with a break for lunch at Panera. We sew lap quilts for the Care Team, Little Dresses, Little Britches, and Days for Girls feminine hygiene kits for various missions.
Projects only need basic sewing skills, but you don't need to be a seamstress to join us.
We often have non-sewing jobs to do. The next get-together is Friday, December 21.
Questions? Contact Jody Rains, 278-8282

God's Girlfriends Women's Retreat
Save the Date!!
Saturday, April 6th at New Hope UMC. More details to come!

Bidwell-Riverside Center
Members of our congregation will be volunteering at Bidwell Riverside on Thursday, November 8, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Both men and women are urged to come. They need volunteers to sort donations, stock shelves, guide clients through the food pantry "grocery store" and run the clothing counter.

Those who want to carpool meet at the church at 12:30 on the day we are going.
If you would like to go on **December 13**, please contact Lynn Louk (515-276-7900 or jimlynnlouk@mac.com) so she can notify Bidwell how many will be there.

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.



Needlers News
The Needlers donated 50 Little Dresses and 20 Little Britches to Self-Help International in November. Nora Tobin took them with her on her mission trip to Nicaragua.

We received the following "thank you" from Nora:

"Thank you so much for your generous donation of Little Dresses and Little Britches! We were able to distribute a few to the daughters of women in Self-Help's micro-credit program. They were SO grateful! Our team in Nicaragua will continue to get the dresses and britches out to families most in need in the coming weeks as they see fit. Thank you so much - the girls just loved them!!"

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.

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

Christian Learning Time (CLT)

Sundays, 10:45-11:15am for 4 year olds thru 7th grade.

We will not be meeting for Christmas Break on Dec. 23rd and Dec. 30th.
We will resume Children's Learning Time on January 6th.

Children Christmas Program

Sunday, December 16th
5:30pm
Come and see what the Chancel Choir, Praise Team and the kids can do together.
It will be amazing!!!!

Thank God Its Wednesday (TGIW) videos are …

December 5th: He is Risen

December 12th: The road to Damascus

December 19th: Santa's Attic

December 26th - No TGIW for Christmas Break

We will resume TGIW on January 9th

Santa's Attic—December 19th

If you are looking to clean out your house of some gently used items, we ask that you would please put them aside for our Santa's Attic event. On December 19th, our children will get an opportunity to do some "Christmas shopping" for their family members. ***We especially need great gifts for dads!***
All Santa's Attic items can be brought to Charity's office. If you are available to help out this night, please contact Charity Johnson.

BLAST—Believing, Learning, Assisting, Serving, Teens

December 2018

Jr. BLAST (6th-8th grade)

Leaders: Jackie Johnson & Jenn Higdon JrBLAST@NewHopeDSM.org

November went by too quickly, especially with the break for Thanksgiving! The highlight this month was that we partnered with Sr. BLAST and prepared and served the evening meal for Hand of Luke which is always a very rewarding experience for everyone involved. The shelter looks forward to the night New Hope is there each month because they get a variety of great meals! We also had a lesson on thankfulness and gratitude in honor of Thanksgiving, keeping in mind that when we are thankful it is important to remember it is **GOD** we are thankful to!

Jr. BLAST/Sr. BLAST members that weren't on the serving shift for HOL had the opportunity to work on "warm fuzzies" for Amanda the Panda.

December Schedule:

12/5- BLAST Activities
12/12- BLAST Christmas Party, we will do a white elephant gift exchange! Everyone should bring an item $10 or less in value for the exchange.
12/19- Santa's Attic, we will be helping the TGIW kids shop and then our BLAST kids will get a chance to do some shopping of their own.
12/26- No Meeting, MERRY CHRISTMAS! Enjoy the time off with your family!

Sr. BLAST (8th-12th grade)

Leaders: Chris Higdon, McKayla Johnson, Brianna Johnson, and Pam Frey BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org

How can the calendar year be almost over already? This year has flown by quickly. However, the youth are having a lot of fun learning, assisting and serving others. Specifically, in November the group got the opportunity to partner with Jr. BLAST to prepare and serve the Hand of Luke meal.

BLAST - Believing, Learning, Assisting, Serving, Teens

Now in December, we are blessed with our opportunity to do our Second Annual ChildServe Angel Tree for BLAST kids and families. I am working with ChildServe leaders to get the permeant residents' Christmas lists. Once I get those lists; I need the BLAST youth and parents to take one of the kids off the list and purchase a Christmas present for that child (*$20 to $35*).

Then on December 19th; we are going to have a BLAST / ChildServe Christmas party. We will be decorating cookies and have the ChildServe kids open our presents. Please help us by taking a ChildServe kid's name and purchasing a gift for that child.

Additionally, in December, we are going to help provide Christmas gifts to the Zion Lutheran Refugees (*Zion STARS Academy*). We have been asked to come on December 12th to be personal shoppers for the refugee kids. Last year, our group had the opportunity to help the kids and found this to be a very rewarding event.

Turns out, Zion Church allows refugee children to come to their Church on December 12th to go shopping for new items. Each refugee (*Zion STARS Academy*) is paired with a personal shopper that goes around with them and they get to shop for new items (*Clothing, Shoes, Toys, Electronics, Sports, etc*). In the end, they end up providing Christmas presents for over **600** kids that night!

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

Nov. 28th @ 6pm ~ **T**hank **G**od for **BLAST D**iscussion
Dec. 5th @ 6pm ~ **T**hank **G**od for **BLAST D**iscussion
Dec. 12th @ 5pm ~ Zion Stars Christmas
Dec. 16th @ 8am ~ BLAST Breakfast at New Hope
Dec. 19th @ 6pm ~ ChildServe Christmas Party (*meet at New Hope UMC*)
Dec. 26th and Jan. 2nd ~ Not Meeting Christmas Break
Jan. 6th ~ BLAST Christmas Party at Higdon's House
Jan. 9th @ 6pm ~ **T**hank **G**od for **BLAST D**iscussion
Jan. 13th @ 8am ~ BLAST Breakfast at New Hope
Jan. 16th @ 6pm ~ ChildServe (*meet at New Hope UMC*)
Jan. 20th @ 8pm ~ BLAST Annual Lock-In Event
Jan. 23rd @ 6pm ~ **T**hank **G**od for **BLAST D**iscussion
Jan. 25th @ 4pm ~ Winter Jam at Wells Fargo
Jan. 30th @ 6pm ~ **T**hank **G**od for **BLAST D**iscussion

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

missions

DECEMBER MISSION NEWS

UGANDA CHICKEN PROJECT: Hurray, we are 2/3 of the way toward our goal of $5,000, and one month to go! Remember, we are forming a partnership with our member, Patrick Kyenkya's home village church in Kiryanga, to build and sustain a project of building a coop, and raising chickens for eggs to sell. This will help them be self-sufficient, and help make repairs on their church. We are doing this project instead of Heifer, but we will use their format of giving and helping to pass it on.

There are honor cards on the Mission table to put in your Christmas cards if you are planning on purchasing a flock(s) for $20 each in honor of a loved one.

BIDWELL RIVERSIDE TOY COLLECTION: Bidwell Riverside on the South side of Des Moines has an annual toy giveaway, called the Toy Pantry. This event is for children that may not receive gifts because their parents can't afford it. We are collecting:

Toys
Stocking Stuffers
Books
Hats and Gloves
Stuffed Animals
$10 and $20 Gift Cards to Walmart or Target or any Grocery Gift Card.
Small quilts or blankets

Put the toy items in the large basket on the Mission table at the rear of Fellowship Hall. Pick up a list of items there, too. The Gift cards or cash can be placed in the collection box on the Mission table.

BIDWELL RIVERSIDE TOY PANTRY VOLUNTEERING: We were planning on having a sign up on the Mission table to volunteer to help, but the time opportunities are too great, and Bidwell would prefer you sign up on-line at: www.bidwellriverside.org click on *How to Help*…click on *Toy Pantry volunteer*, click on preferred *date* and sign up.

There is also a link to help a family this holiday. The Mission Team encourages families to sign up on the website to participate.

ANGEL TREE: Each year Suzie Martz puts up a tree with angels having names and gift preferences for children of incarcerated parents. Reverend Bob Ruleman helped New Hope begin our participation in this great project. Look for the tree, pick an angel and return the gift wrapped with the angel gift tag attached. Please place your gifts on an empty table at the rear of Fellowship Hall.

We need volunteers to deliver these gifts, too. If you can help, please text or call Sharon Smith: 515-419-7082.

Hand of Luke

Friday, December 14

We are doing a prepare at home casserole again this month. Pick up the easy-to-make recipe, buy the ingredients and prepare it at home. We will bake it at church on December 14 so please deliver it to the church by December 13. It can be put in the HOL freezer if it is well in advance of the 14th or the refrigerator if it is close to the 14th.

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 sheet in the Fellowship Hall, to donate food, cook, and/or serve.

Questions? Contact Jolene Harlow, 515-490-8813 or rdharlow@earthlink.net. Thank you for your support of this program!

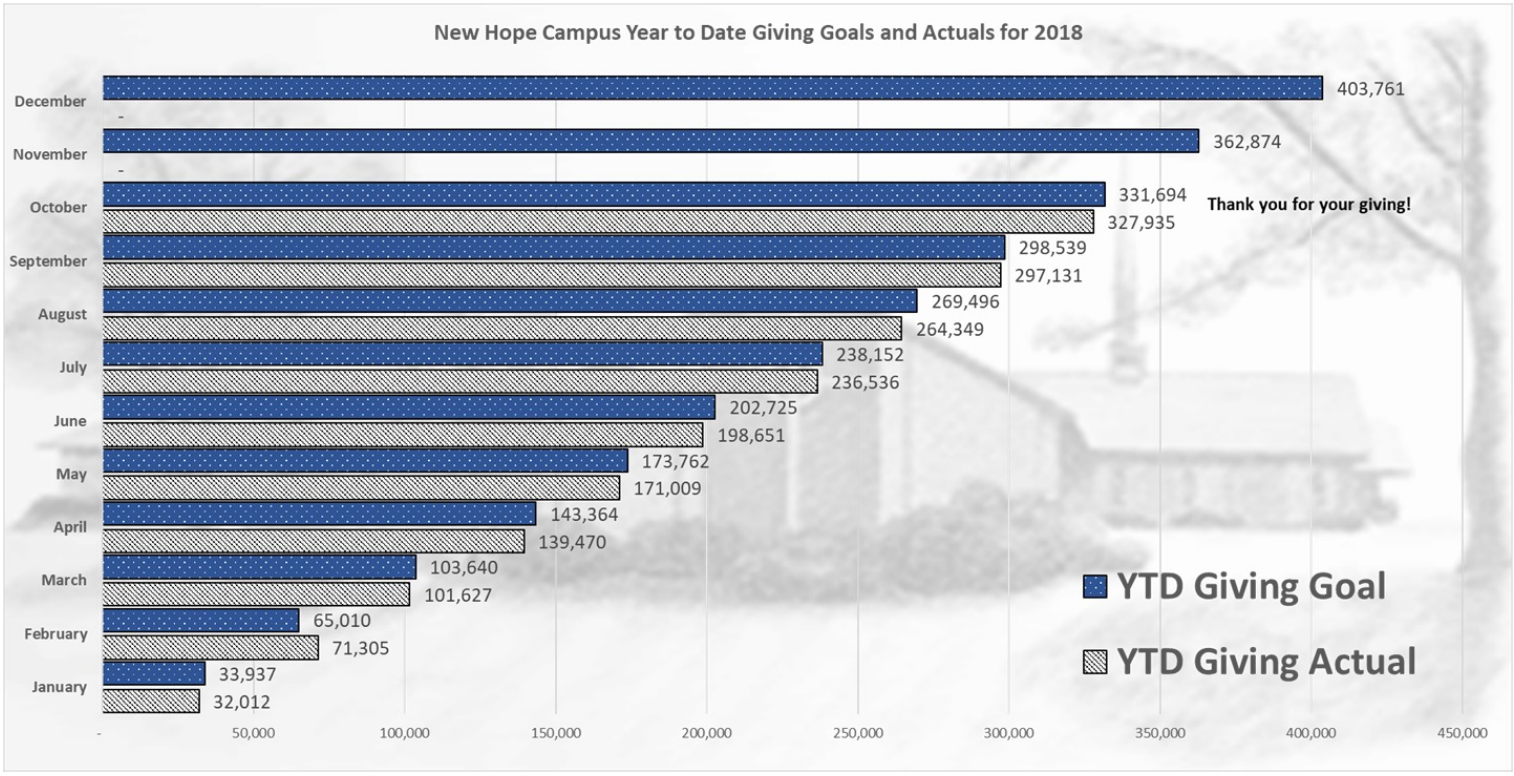
2019 Stewardship

If you haven't had a chance to turn in your 2019 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!

The Finance Committee would like to thank all of you who helped with our fundraiser events by planning, organizing or donating to them. These fundraisers help pay for the "extra" expenses we have not anticipated when we set the yearly budget. This year this money has helped pay for new water lines, septic tank expenses, carpet for the parsonage, bounce houses/balloon artists/face painting for fall kickoff, community meals such as Maundy Thursday Soup Dinner and Trunk or Treat Spaghetti Dinner, decorations for the church and many more items. The final net incomes of the events are as follows:

Rummage Sale: $7,500
Harvest Dinner & Auction: $10,225
Garlands of Gifts: $562

Thank you, thank you, thank you!



New Hope Sunday morning Worship attendance

	8:30	9:30	10:45	Total
October 28	23	89	81	193
November 4	35	101	84	220
November 11	40	93	89	222
November 18	40	94	90	224

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 worshipers.

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 December

8:30am Traditional Service

Greeters
2
9
16
23
30

Lectors
2 Vicki O'Brien
9 Marilyn Osborn
16 Armenta Buckingham
23 Cathy Short
30 Marilyn Osborn

Traditional Service Callers
2 Norma Sutton
9 Bob & Marlys Borcherding
16 Norma Sutton
23 Bob & Marlys Borcherding
30 Norma Sutton

Office Volunteers
7 Norma Sutton
14 Pat Papenheim
21 Marilyn Osborn
28 Shirley Johnson

9:30am Contemporary Service

Greeters
2
9
16
23
30

Lectors
2 Ally Sutton
9 Ally Sutton
16
23
30 Andy Sutton

Hosts
2 Linda Yaske
9 Cookie Walk
16 Sr. BLAST
23 Nan Stubbs
30 Glenna Ross

9:30 Computer Support
2 Kelly Mohrman
9 Pam Frey
16 Rick Homard
23 Gary Stubbs
24, 5:30p Nancy Monthei
30 Nic Wigant

10:45am Traditional Service

Greeters
2
9
16
23
30

Lectors
2 Jon Verner
9 Clarice Rubek
16 Lynn Davisson
23 Cathy Cate
30 Clarice Rubek

Hosts
2 Jan Davisson/Linda Kielsmeier
9
16 Sr. BLAST
23 Nan Stubbs
30 Glenna Ross

Money Counters
2 Tami Wise, Jerry Kielsmeier, John Burrough
9 Glenna Ross, Tony & Tracy Hoffman
16 Clark Howland; Rick Homard, Larry Wood
23 Randy Jansen, Patty Nearmyer, DeVonne Douglas
30 Tami Wise, Jerry Kielsmeier, John Burrough

Many Happy Returns

Somehow, not only for Christmas,
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others,
Is the joy that comes back to you.
And the more you spend in blessing
The poor and lonely and sad,
The more of your heart's possessing
Returns to you glad.

—John Greenleaf Whittier

December 2018

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday mornings
8:30
9:30
10:45

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 1st Sunday of Advent Communion Sunday 9:30-11a, Blood Pressure Sunday 10:45a, Christian Learning 11:45a, Women's Chorus practice 1p-3:30p, Table decorating 2p-5p, Elmer Flickinger's 90th birthday party 4:15p, Confirmation Class	3 9a-3p, Table decorating 7p, Advent by Candlelight 7p, Trustees Mtg., R.Chapel	4 9:30a, Sr. Singers practice 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	5 5:30p, Children's Choir 5:45p, Dinner 6:15p, TGIW 6:15p, Jr. BLAST 6:15p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Chancel Choir practice 7:00p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team practice	6 7:00p, Worship Design Mtg, Pastor's office 7:00p, JROL Mtg., R.Chapel	7 Office Vol: Norma Sutton 9a-4p, Cookie drop off 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time	1 Gingerbread House Workshop; 9a-11a; 11a-Noon 8 7:30a, Men's Breakfast 1p-2p, Cookie drop off
9 2nd Sunday of Advent 9a-10:45a, Cookie Walk 10:45a, Christian Learning 2:30p, Healthy Church Initiative 4:15p, Confirmation Class	10 6:30p, Staff Parish Relations Committee Mtg., R.Chapel	11 9:30a, Sr. Singers practice 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 6:30p, Finance Mtg., R.Chapel	12 5:30p, Children's Choir 5:45p, Dinner 6:15p, TGIW 6:15p, Jr. BLAST 6:15p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Chancel Choir practice 7:00p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team practice	13 1-4p Bidwell Riverside volunteer work	14 Office Vol: Pat Papenheim 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time 1:00p, Bible Study at Pizza Ranch 3:30p, Hand of Luke 5:00p, FLC reserved	15
16 3rd Sunday of Advent Food Pantry Sunday Sr. BLAST breakfast fund-raiser 5:30p, Choir & Children's Christmas program	17 9a-Noon, Office Vol: Pat Papenheim	18 9a-Noon, Office Vol: 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	19 ***Deadline for January LINK*** 9a-Noon, Office Vol: Sue Blank 5:30p, Children's Choir 5:45p, Dinner 6:15p, TGIW—Santa's Attic 6:15p, Jr. BLAST 6:15p, Sr. BLAST –HOL 6:30p, Chancel Choir practice 5:00p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team practice	20 9:00a, Women's Fellowship, R.Chapel	21 Office Vol: Marilyn Monroe 9a-3p, Needlers 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time	22
23 4th Sunday of Advent No Christian Learning Time	24 Church Office Closed Christmas Eve Services: 5:30p, 7:30p, 10:00p	25 ***Merry Christmas!*** Church Office Closed 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	26 No TGIW and Youth Groups 6:30p, Chancel Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	27	28 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time 1:00p, Bible Study at Pizza Ranch	29
30 No Christian Learning Time	31	January 1 ***New Year's Day!*** Church Office Closed 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	January 2 No TGIW and Youth Groups 6:30p, Chancel Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team practice	January 3 7:00p, JROL Mtg., R.Chapel	January 4 Office Vol: 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time	January 5

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

1 Dean Peterson, Bryant Siefken
2 Lisa VanDenBerg, Brandon Thompson
3 Linda Dean
4 Charity Johnson, Leah Breitsprecher, Pascal Karekezi
5 Alec Beck-Cross
6 Jean Moffitt, Mike Warren, Stacey Wigant
7 Gene Lesch, Lisa Rooney
9 Kaylee Stubbs, Lexi Dean, Max Gerleman, Keith Trillet
12 Obi Ukabiala, Matthew Stern, Mary Grace Leyda
14 Nolan Monthei
15 Kevin Lewis, Cathy Short, Alexis Evans
16 Lindsey Robertson
17 Mary Ann Rice, Andy Sutton, Desiree Spring
18 Sheri Thompson, Sue Soards, Chris Boyles Georgette Kyenkya, Alexis Harlan, Susan Blank, Gaby Dimitri
19 Neil Cross, Brady Jansen, Spencer Sutton
20 Teri Reierson, Larry Buske, Sarah Wiles
21 Matt Stringham, Adam Hartung, Zoe Wilson
22 Paulette Wood
23 Susan Baldwin
25 Renee Haugland, Jennifer Riley
26 Joan Clary
27 Kim Buske, Charlotte Roff
28 Ashley Marsh
29 Richard Kile, Ana Kirkpatrick, Gina Breitsprecher
30 Jeffrey Merrill
31 Quinn Merrill

Staff: Nancy Monthei, Office Admin, will be on vacation Dec. 17-19.

18 Nicholas & Sherri Bogue
27 Wayne & Sandy Johnson
27 Jon & Anita Gaul
28 Nicholas & Stacey Wigant
31 Courtney & Tricia Berry

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.

We are coming to the time of year when we need to be more careful about our behavior. After all, St. Nicholas is checking his list to see who's naughty and who's nice.

Growing up, I had a hard time being nice to my little sister. She would often complain to our mother, "Mom, Jon won't stop picking on me." "Well dear, just ignore him and he'll stop." That was the advice mom would give her. The only problem was that it didn't work. My sister would always break under my onslaught of teasing before I would get tired of being ignored. My persistence would pay off and my sister would run screaming to mom.

I thought it was fun teasing my sister, but, as an adult, I realized how hurtful it could be and long ago I repented and apologized to my sister and she accepted and we now have a very good relationship.

So, persistence can pay off and when it's of a negative nature, that's a problem. That may be why so many sales people take a hard sell approach and are persistent to the point of being pushy or even obnoxious. But, while the hard sell may get some immediate results, in the long run it can create hard feelings and even resentment.

Christian stewardship is an area where some people take the hard sell approach and speak of our "obligation" to give a certain amount financially to the church. We also speak of the "needs" of the church and talk about budget shortfalls in a way that tries to "guilt" people into giving. Obligation, needs, and guilt are positive motivators for Christian stewardship. I want people to experience the joy of giving and the satisfaction of having freely chosen to contribute to a worthwhile and meaningful ministry.

New Hope has had its ups and downs financially, with more ups than downs from what I see. Thank you! Our Unified Budget is putting us on track to support all the ministries which are needed for New Hope to carrying out what God is calling us to do. If we focus on what God is calling us to give and give generously and joyfully, the need will be met. Thank you for all you give and do for New Hope!

One of our former Bishops, Gregory Palmer, told of a church he attended where the announcement was made, "And now we come to the most joyous time in our service," and the offering was taken and people clapped and they meant it. May that same joy be ours as we celebrate the Christmas season and what God has done for us in Jesus Christ!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jon

Jon Daul

December Theme-- Guess Who's Coming...

December 2	Title: "At the Coming of..."	Script.: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Communion Sunday
December 9	Title: "In the Day of..."	Script.: Philippians 1:3-11
December 16	Title: "The...is Near"	Script.: Philippians 4:4-7
December 23	Title: "From You Shall Come Forth..."	Script.: Micah 5:2-5a
December 24	Christmas Eve Services: 5:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm	
December 30	Title: "Do Everything in the Name of…"	Script.: Colossians 3:12-17

NEW HOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Worship Services at New Hope
8:30am Traditional Service
9:30am Contemporary Service
10:45am Traditional Service

Serve God | Love Others | Follow Jesus

www.newhopedsm.org

Church Staff
Pastor: Jon Gaul
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
Church address: nhfamily@newhopedsm.org
Pastor Jon Gaul: jgaul@newhopedsm.org
Nancy Monthei: nancy@newhopedsm.org
Charity Johnson: cjohnson@newhopedsm.org
Eric Mohlis: emohlis@newhopedsm.org

Find Us
Phone: (515) 278-2097
4525 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310
Find us on facebook!
Visit the website to find our facebook link.

The 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
New Hope United Methodist Church
4525 Beaver Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50310