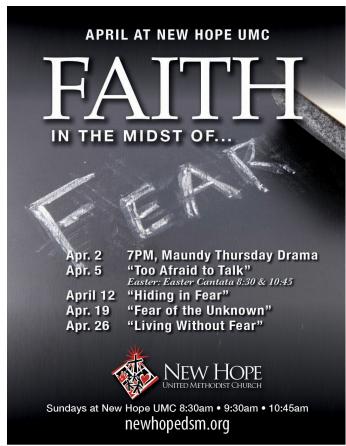
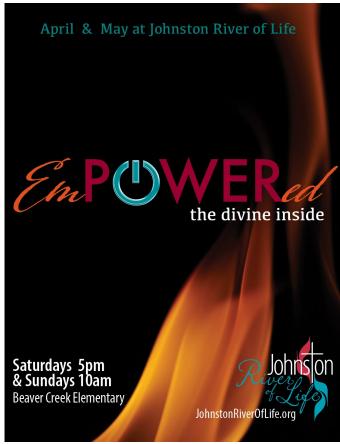
the link

A monthly publication of New Hope United Methodist Church

April 2015







Thurs., April 2. 7:00pm, New Hope UMC

Maundy Thursday Drama

Maundy Thursday Drama will be one of the most impactful events of the year. Expect dramatic scenes, music, communion, and ending with the congregation gathered around the crosses. We hope you will come for this special worship service, and as always, invite a friend to come with you.

Fri., April 3, 7am-7pm, Ruby Chapel

Good Friday Prayer Vigil

This is a chance for the church to be in prayer on the day we remember the death of Christ, and what His sacrifice means to us. You may pray in the Ruby Chapel at New Hope or you may pray at home or at work. Sign up, in the Fellowship Hall, for a half hour time frame of prayer.

Sat., April 4, 4pm, Johnston River of Life

Community Easter Celebration

Egg hunt, worship service & meal

Sun., April 5, 10am, Easter Sunday, Johnston River of Life at the Barn, 6169 Northglenn Dr., Johnston

Sun., April 5, Easter Sunday, New Hope UMC

8:30 & 10:45 Easter Cantata, "Upon This Rock" by Pepper Choplin.

9:30 Contemporary Service

10:45 Easter Celebration for CLT students ages 3 years- 5th grade. Activities include a short Easter movie, crafts and egg hunt.



membership NEVVS

Prayer Chain Request

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

To be added to the e-mail prayer chain distribution list, please call the church office or Jan.

Thank You

I want to thank the church members for the visits, phone calls, cards and food. Also for the beautiful and warm lap quilt. Thank you to Pastor Jon for the visits. I am grateful for the kindness and support.

Marilyn Monroe

Prayer Concerns

John Rains; Glenda Millard; Olive Walker; Bruce Flickinger; 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; Tim Rains; Collin Traylor; Devan Stanton, Jared Stanton and our national and world leaders, our military and their

Birth

Congratulations to Ryan and Sarah Jacobson on the birth of their son, Dane Micah Jacobson. Dane was born on March 3rd and weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces.

Baptism

Congratulations to Cash Anthony Hager, who was baptized on March 8th at the 10:45 worship service. Cash is the son of Stephanie and Tony Hager.

Welcome New Members!

On February 28th and March 1st, we welcomed the following members into the New Hope UMC & Johnston River of Life family!

At New Hope UMC:

Sandy Cannon, 5018 Bel-Aire Rd, Des Moines, IA 50310. 515-290-9905 sandradcannon@gmail.com. Kent Abbott is her husband.

Sally Lindstrom, 2744 Bennett Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310. 515-255-4010 sallyann2744@gmail.com.

families

Lynn Louk, 7400 Goodman Drive, Urbandale, IA 50322. 515-276-7900 jimlynnlouk@mac.com. Her husband is Rev. James Louk.

Joe & Judy Nemmers and Sara, 4509 29th St., Des Moines, IA 50310.

Judy: 563-451-6139 nemmersjudy@yahoo.com Joe: 563-451-6140 joe.nemmers@yahoo.com

Linda Yaske, 1517 Tournament Club Way, Polk City, IA 50226, 517-303-5239 linda.yaske@gmail.com.

At Johnston River of Life:

Dave & Cammy Beason, 8261 NW Beaver Ave., Johnston, IA 50131.

Dave: 515-251-8969 dbeason@mchsi.com Cammy: 515-490-9066 cbeason@mchsi.com

Patrick Mulley, 7504 Canterberry Rd, #76, Urbandale, IA 50322, phmulley@gmail.com

David & Sherrie Rogers, 3318 Brook Run Drive, Des Moines, IA 50317, 515-264-1810 rogersd@usa.net

Dan & Nancy Routson, 6037 Pinewood Court, Johnston, IA 50131, 515-270-6462 dlrner@msn.com

RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE



April 23, 12pm-6pm; April 24, 9am-6pm; April 25, 9am-12pm

Proceeds from the Rummage Sale help fund New Hope's ministries.

DONATIONS will be accepted Sunday, April 19 (1:00 pm - 7:00pm) and Monday, April 20 (9:00 am - 7:00 pm).

We look forward to your participation with our annual Rummage Sale!

- 1. Beginning with the 2015 Spring Rummage Sale, we will not be pricing anything over \$100
- 2. We will not be selling books or collectibles at the Spring Rummage Sale.
- 3. No TVs, computers, printers, Christmas trees, Christmas wreaths, or garlands will be accepted.
- 4. As you prepare your donations, please organize them into separate containers.
- 5. All donated items should be washed or dusted, ready for display. Please help out and have your items ready to display. Items, not in displayable condition will go in the free box.

VOLUNTEER! We need YOU to help us organize the 2015 Rummage Sale. There is a job for everyone—sitting, standing, moving, sorting, pricing, sacking, etc. After prayerful consideration, please volunteer for the day and hour you could serve. Times are available from 10:45am Sun., April 19, to 2:00pm Sat., April 25. To volunteer, please contact: Barb Agan at 255-8292, aganbarjim@gmail.com or Linda Kielsmeier at 689-9680, lapals@hotmail.com.



BAKE SALE!

Bake some goodies for our "Rummage Sale" booth.

You can donate & buy for your sweet tooth!

To be sure it will be "love at first bite",

As sweet treats are always a delight!

Please support the Bake Shoppe with your homemade jams, pickles, salsa, breads, rolls, candy, cookies, cakes, brownies, pies, snack mixes, and ??? Remember to tell us the name of your baked items and alert us if nuts or peanut butter are used. Gluten free baked goods are welcome also. We will be glad to

package your cookies for you.

When you should bring your wares?

April 22, Wednesday until 7:30 PM

April 23, Thursday morning beginning at 9AM

April 24, Friday morning

No Bake Good accepted on Saturday, April 25th.

MISSION OF NEW HOPE 2015 RUMMAGE SALE

GUIDING WORDS: Whatever may be your task, work at it heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that it is from the Lord(and not from men) that you will receive the inheritance which is your reward. The One Whom you are actually serving (is) the Lord Christ (the Messiah). Colossians 3:23,24

PURPOSE:

A. TO SERVE GOD WHILE RAISING FUNDS TO MAINTAIN OUR CHURCH BUILDING FOR THE PURPOSE OF:

- 1. Worship
- 2. Mission work with-in the church building.
- 3. Prepare materials for mission work outside the building.
- 4. Fellowship with other believers.
- 5. Education and study of the word.
- 6. Strengthen families through study, education, and fellowship.

B. TO SERVE GOD WHILE MINISTERING TO OTHERS BY:

Providing a clean, pleasant, organized shopping experience for those in need of low priced shopping.

C. TO SERVE GOD WHILE DOING CHURCH OUTREACH BY:

Presenting a friendly, caring atmosphere to encourage shoppers to come back and visit out church.

INTENT: TO SERVE GOD WITH EVERY MEMBER SERVING TO REACH OUR GOAL OF RAISING \$10,000 FOR THE MISSIONS OF NEW HOPE.



Spring Clean-Up at New Hope Campus Saturday, April 4th

Please consider volunteering to help with the maintenance and beautification of our campus grounds on Saturday, April 4th. There will be tasks for all skill levels: picking up twigs and debris, raking leaves, weeding, mulching, trimming where needed, and other general landscap-

ing. Please bring work gloves, leaf rakes, pruning shears, etc.

We will work from 9am to completion. Lunch will be provided. Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us!



Volunteer Enrichment

Sunday, April 19, 10:45am

Children and Youth Ministry volunteers, mark your calendars! On Sunday April 19th at 10:45 a.m. we will have another volunteer enrichment opportunity. This enrichment time will be especially helpful to Children's Worship and CLT volunteers. Topics to be discussed include review activities and activities to get kids up and moving.

Ouestions? Contact Sherri Bogue (boguesa@gmail.com or 277-0725).



ATTENTION all you cookie (and coffee) lovers!

We are offering an *opportunity for discipleship* in Fellowship at New Hope!! Coordinator of Hosts – organize and maintain scheduling Hosting & Baking – supplying treats and serving during fellowship Hosting Only – serving coffee and treats during fellowship Baking Only – baking and supplying treats

Coordinator of Hosts: Check the clipboard to see if enough volunteers have signed up for each week/service, and check the freezer to monitor the supply of treats. When spots are unfilled, ask Billy to make an announcement, or ask Nancy to include an announcement for volunteers in the weekly bulletin. Nancy must be notified by noon on Thursdays in order to get announcements in the bulletin for the following Sunday. Please prayerfully consider committing for at least a year.

Sign Up!! A clipboard will be provided in the Fellowship Hall for members of the congregation to sign up as a host, baker, or host & baker. We ask those supplying treats to provide 8-12 dozen. Leftovers should be labeled as "Fellowship" along with the current date and placed into the freezer.

Doing some baking this week? Make an extra 1-2 dozen and bring them in! Place them in the freezer labeled "Fellowship" along with current date.

If we have an open slot, there will be no treats for that service.

This tradition of fellowship is a treasured time for our congregation and a great way to connect with new and existing members. Please speak with Pam Frey or Nancy Monthei if you are willing to take on this opportunity, or if you know someone who might be interested. If you cannot personally take this on, please help us in praying for the right person to step into this role.

Questions? Ask me. Thank you! Pam Frey, vavafrey@gmail.com, 515-490-8440

Celebrate Confirmation

Sunday, April 26, 10:45 a.m.

The Confirmation class will be confirmed with a special reception to follow. We hope you'll join us for this wonderful worship opportunity, where the students not only share what they have learned with the congregation, but also design and lead the entire service! Come and congratulate them on this important stepping-stone in their faith journey!

The Confirmation Class of 2015: Luke Breitsprecher, Caroline Christensen, Peyton Henry, Joseph Hoffman, Madyson Johnson, Courtney LePera, Catherine Leyda, MaryGrace Leyda, Tyler Mohrman, Tanner Rowland, Sarah Sahlin.

Confirmation schedule

April 12, 4:30 p.m.

Students and Mentors

Topic: "What I Think about

Confirmation"

6pm Dinner

April 19, 4:30 p.m.

Students and Mentors

Topic: "Creed" and Rehearsal

April 26

Students and Mentors
Confirmation Sunday, 10:45 a.m.

Sign up by April 12



Join us at Wesley Woods on Saturday, May 2, 10am-2pm!

New Hope UMC was selected as one of Iowa UMC Camp Challenge Winners for 2014! With this honor, we receive an all-expense paid day of fun and fellowship at Wesley Woods Camp and Retreat Center.

Everyone of any age is encouraged to attend, any time from 10am to 2pm. There will be a wagon ride tour of the camp, archery for ages 10 yrs and older, hot dog roast with all the fixin's, and much more!

Please save this date on your calendar! **Sign up in the Fellowship Hall**. **Deadline to sign up will be by April 12** so that we can give the camp ample time to let them know how many people to expect. We can also set up carpooling from New Hope UMC. We hope you join us on May 2!

World Quilting Day

The New Hope Needlers spent the afternoon at the church on Saturday, March 21 not quilting, or at least, not quilting much. Instead, the group welcomed Kay Hertz from the Days for Girls (DFG) organization and spent the bulk of the afternoon on the Little Dresses / Little Britches for Africa and the DFG sanitary kits that are so desperately needed.

April New Hope Needlers

The Needlers will meet on **Monday, April 13th at 11:30 am** at the Panera in Johnston for lunch / fellowship, followed by sewing at Kim Buske's from 1-4 p.m. Any sewers are welcome to join for either or both.

Serger Wanted

The Needlers could really use a nice serger for the group. If you have one that you could donate, please contact Kim Buske at 515-491-5402 or Kim.Buske@gmail.com.



Sue Baldwin, Kay Hertz, Le Howland at the cutting table.



Diane Densmore with a finished pair of Little Britches



Sharon Lewis hard at work.



Carolyn Burrough kept her serger humming.

Graduate Recognition

Graduate Recognition will be on Saturday, May 2 & Sunday May 3 at Johnston River of Life and also on Sunday, May 3 at New Hope UMC. We invite all graduates: high school, college, and higher degrees, to send us information to be included in the bulletins to celebrate your accomplishments with you. Please complete the below information and drop this form off at the church office or mail it to New Hope UMC, 4525 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310. Please fill out and send in NO LATER than Sunday, Apr

UNIC, 4323 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 303	10. Piease jui oui ana sena in NO LATER inan Sunaay, Aprii 20.
<i><u>High School Graduates</u>:</i> NAME:	SCHOOL:
PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL:	
College/Graduate School Graduates:	
NAME:	SCHOOL:
DEGREE(S):	
FUTURE PLANS:	
Please tick one of the following boxes to let us	know which service we can hope to expect you at:
New Hope: May 3, 8:30 worship []	9:30 worship [] 10:45 worship [] Sorry, I won't be present []



Women's Retreat thank you

Thank you to everyone that attended the God's Girlfriends Women's Retreat at New Hope UMC, March 7th.

It was a day full of laughter, music, wonderful messages, skits, sharing, and delicious lunch. Your presence added so much to the blessings of the day.

Thank you to the committee leaders: Carole Followwill, Barb Mather, Nancy Monthei, and Sharon Smith. And, thank you to everyone that helped with this event. Your commitment made this first Women's Retreat a success!

We were blessed to have with us Rev. Dr. Karen Nelson, Field Outreach Minister. Karen ended the event by leading Holy Communion .

















Spring Plant Sale

Sunday, May 3

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 3rd for the New Hope plant sale. The 2015 plant sale is to raise funds for designated outdoor landscaping (gardens and planters). Among the plants that will be available are multiple varieties of coleus, perennials, and tomatoes.

Save the Date!

Sunday, November 22, 2015

New Hope UMC 50th Anniversary will be celebrated in the services and in the afternoon. Stay tuned!



Update from The Board of Trustees

Rio Red Chairs - Recently, eight red (Rio Red) chairs were purchased for use in the Fellowship Hall. The intent is to leave these chairs in the Fellowship Hall for the purpose of assisting older people when rising up from the sitting position. *Please reserve these eight chairs for older members*. The cost of the chairs will be paid for from the Phoebe Landis Memorial Fund. <u>Thank you</u> to the family of Phoebe Landis!

Giving - If you feel you can give a little extra, one of the options is to give to the Trustee's Budget by identifying the gift is for "Capital Improvements". This is a Trustee line item on the designated gifts page of the Finance Report and will be used for items needed which are not covered by our budget. In the March Link there was a list of major repair items needed in 2015. Some are necessary and some are in the category of "nice to have" but not a priority.

Thank you for assisting with keeping <u>your church</u> in good repair and looking nice! If anyone has any questions concerning the property of the church please direct them to the Trustees (Arny Larsen, Vice Chair; David Followwill; Melisa Forbes; Mike Wakeman; Paul Weisskopf; Rick Homard, Secretary; Roger Moore; Spencer Sutton; John Rains, Chair)

John Rains Chair, Board of Trustees

Storybook Project of Iowa

New Hope Community donates 41 books to local organization!

What is the Storybook Project?

The Storybook Project gives mothers, fathers, and grandparents at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women at Mitchellville, and the Iowa Correctional Release Center and Newton Correctional Facility in Newton the opportunity to connect with their children/grandchildren age birth through 17 through reading. Stories are read into a recorder and then the book and CD are mailed to the children. A new book is chosen for each child, each month. The goal is to maintain and strengthen the parent/child bonds during separation.

Who benefits from the Storybook Project?

Mothers, fathers and grandparents are grateful for the opportunity to maintain strong ties with their children while separated.

Children feel close to their parents when listening to them read stories along with a few added personal words of affection. They also receive educational benefits from reading.

Volunteers have a rewarding experience by providing support to mothers and fathers in a prison setting. The program brings much joy to everyone.

Contributors have the satisfaction of knowing their donations help keep mothers, fathers, grandparents and children connected during their separation.

Fundraiser/Mission Trips/Work Day for Adults

Team members: Pastor Craig Ferguson, Bill Gibbons, Jessica Hass, Jim Jensen, Wendy Musgrave, Laura Siffin, John & Denise Hartford, along with other team members from the North Central District will be busing tables (and collecting tips as well as a percentage of profits the restaurant takes in during our scheduled time) on Monday, April 20 at Pizza Ranch, 4954 86th St., Urbandale from 5:30 - 9:00 pm. The money raised will help pay for materials the team will need to begin building a house for a Honduran family in need. No cooking that night! How easy is that?

Habitat for Humanity Work Day will be approximately Saturday, April 25, depending on the progress of the house. The team will be painting the exterior.

Mission Trip to Honduras, February 6-13, 2016. Team meetings are being held monthly and we are getting a start on learning some Spanish. There is still room for more team members, but it would be great, if you're interested, to please sign up soon.

Questions? Or to sign up for any of these events, please contact Denise Hartford, <u>denisehartford@gmail.com</u>, text or call 515-890-1406.

christian learning opportunities

Children & Youth Ministries Mission Statement

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

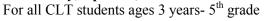
Children's Worship (Ages 3 years through 2nd grade): Children's Worship is a meaningful time for children to worship and connect with God. They participate in an engaging worship service geared just for them in the Sanctuary after the Children's Message during the 9:30 service. Parents or other adults, please prayerfully consider helping as a second adult at least one time between now and the middle of May. You will not be responsible for anything but crowd control and assisting the Children's Worship Leader for the week. Sign up on the bulletin board in the education hallway.

Christian Learning Time (Sundays 10:45-11:45): Everyone is welcome to join us for Christian Learning Time opportunities. We have classes for all ages starting at 3 years old through 12th grade, and even adult classes in the Ruby Chapel at both 9:30 and 10:45am.

What you can find at the Children and Family Ministries Information Spot: The meal time devotion for this month is titled "Hooray for Grandparents." You will also find part 4 of 5 in a series focused on Protecting Our Families. This article is titled "Household Idols." If you have any ideas or suggestions for Parent Resources or topics you'd like to see, please contact sjacobson@newhopedsm.org.



Join us for the CLT Easter Party Sunday, April 5th, 10:45-11:45am



Activities include a short Easter movie, crafts and the egg hunt



Church Camp! Brochures are at the sign up table in the Fellowship Hall or go to www.iaumc.org/camps.

Camperships are available from New Hope UMC. The Mission committee is encouraging kids/youth to attend any United Methodist camp and will support them with a scholarship of 1/3 of the cost paid from the Mission Fund. Our funds are less this year so we had to reduce the amount contributed by missions from 1/2 to 1/3. If there is a reason this would keep a child from going to camp because of the cost, please contact Sharon Smith at 277-7125 or

wicketsblooms@aol.com. We had a tremendous increase in children attending camps last summer, which was very inspiring so we want to continue helping children attend. Please inform the church office when you have registered your child(ren). If anyone from our congregation would like to donate to a campership fund, please call the church office with your pledge. Thank you!



Mark Your Calendars!



Children's Ministry is so excited to announce this year's VBS: **SonSpark Labs**. This science-themed VBS will focus on how Jesus is God's plan for the world and is scheduled for **Sunday, July 19th through Thursday, July 23rd, 5:30pm-8:00pm.**Please keep an eye out for more information!

Also: We **LOVE** volunteers! If you would like to offer your talents, please contact Kristi Miller @ Kristi.mundy@gmail.com.





A special THANK YOU goes out to Suzanne Neu, Linda Dean, Mel Henry, and their team of dedicated volunteers who have stepped up to carry on the TGIW program for K-5th graders THANK GOD IT'S WEDNESDAY! through the remainder of the school year. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the following schedule, please contact Suzanne, Linda or Mel.

Schedule for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year:

April 1st April 22nd Project with ARL or Hope Animal Rescue 5:30 Dinner

(more details TBD) **6-7pm Easter Activities**

April 8th April 29th 5:30 Dinner (hot dogs provided, **Off-site event (more details TBD)**

bring a side to share)

6-7pm Blessing of our Pets Program April 15th 5:30 Dinner (Pizza provided)

> 6-7pm Make items for ARL and Hope Animal Rescue

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED MAKE OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT TGIW AND BLAST PROGRAMS A SUCCESS. WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOUR HELP!

<u>Jr. BLAST Leaders/Helpers</u>	Sr. BLAST Leaders	TGIW Activity Lead	TGIW Kitchen Helpers	
Ryan Jacobson	Pam Frey	Monica Balk	Lindsey Robertson	Kim Wills
Nathan Roff	Chris Higdon	Jeff Balk	Sandra Cannon	Mica Wills
Penny Dolberg	Charity Johnson	Andy Sutton	Vicki Hover-Williamson	Sharon Lewis
Mel Henry	McKayla Johnson	Robin Harlow	Mel McGhee	Kathy Russi
Dustin Henry	(Jr. Leader)	Jolene Harlow	New Hope Needlers group	Betty Holwegner
Nancy Wiles		Carole Followwill	Connie Armstrong	Judy Stout
Mark Sahlin	Puppet Leaders	Nathan Roff	Tami Wise	Barb Mather
Tami Wise	Linda Dean	Beth Roff	Spencer Sutton	Marge Carnahan
Stephanie Jones	Mel Henry	Suzanne Neu	Stephanie Jones	Esther Stout
Vicki Hover-Williamson		Jackie Johnson	Ali Cooley	Sheldon Stout
Lori Marsh		Sharon Smith	Jenn Higdon	Don Kirkpatrick
Sara Cullinan		Mona Kirkpatrick		Carole Followwill
Tony Hoffman		Kristen Welter		

TGIW Going Forward...

One thing we ask of the congregation is to prayerfully consider where you might see yourself serving with the Wednesday Night Children and Youth Ministry Programs for the 2015-2016 school year. If your child or youth is involved with these programs, we especially look for your help to maintain these programs.

As you can see from the above list of volunteers, it takes MANY dedicated people to create and carry out a successful Wednesday Night program for the amount of kids and youth that we have interested. To continue with a weekly TGIW program for K-5th grade, we will need a minimum of 5 volunteers every week (this does not include the kitchen volunteers). To continue with a successful Jr. Blast program, we will need a minimum of 2 coordinators to help with the planning and making events/activities happen, a minimum of 2 adults present each week, plus extra helpers for off-site events.

Hopefully this gives our church an idea of what the needs are going forward. As we begin to develop these schedules over the coming months, we'll have a better idea of specific volunteer positions we will be looking to fill for next year. In the meantime, we ask that you be in prayer about how you can take part in maintaining these successful ministries for the future of our church. Keep your eyes open for more information to come in April and beyond.

Looking for a TGIW Co-Director

Are you an organizer? Do you like to do behind-the-scenes event planning? Are you passionate about the Wednesday Night Program and would like to see it be continually offered for our children, youth and families? If so, we are looking for a new TGIW Director to work with Sarah Jacobson in starting to plan this summer and continue into the 2015-2016 school year. You just need to have an interest, a passion and a time commitment of 1-2 hours/week for 1 year. Filling this volunteer co-director role is very important to continue the TGIW program. If interested, contact Sarah at sjacobson@newhopedsm.org.

Youth Groups

Sr. BLAST (9th-12th grade) Leaders: Chris Higdon, Charity & McKayla Johnson, and Pam Frey BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org



We are excited to announce that we are roughly **70% funded** for our upcoming Memphis Mission Trip. We have \$4,200 of the needed \$6,000 to take 12 of our Senior High BLAST members and leaders for a week long mission trip to one of the poorest city in the nation in cities that have a population less than 1 million. To complete our fundraising goal, the Senior High BLAST group has several pportunities to support us coming up in April.

To start with, the BLAST group has a few New Hope T-Shirts for sale and we are selling Hy-Vee coupon books. The Hy-Vee coupon books pay for themselves with the very first coupon; \$5 off of a \$50 grocery purchase. The books only cost \$5.







On Sunday, **April 26th**; **Buffalo Wild Wings on Merle Hay road** will be sponsoring a New Hope Senior High BLAST day; so a portion of your bill will go to help support the Senior High BLAST mission trip this summer. Just tell your server that you are there to support New Hope BLAST group that day.

Beyond the fundraising efforts, the Senior High BLAST group will be volunteering to work at ChildServe on Wednesday, April 15th and be volunteering at the New Hope Rummage Sale on April 25th. Additionally, the group will still be meeting on Wednesday nights as we dive deeper in question from the book "Letters from a Skeptic".

Here are the some upcoming Youth events for the next two months:

Apr. 1st, 8th @ 6 pm ~ Wed Night Activities Apr. 15th @ 6 pm ~ ChildServe Volunteer

Apr. 19th ~ New Hope BLAST Breakfast **Apr. 22nd @ 6 pm** ~ Wed Night Activities

Apr. 25th ~ Work the Rummage Sale

 $Apr.\ 26th \sim \mbox{BLAST}$ day at Buffalo Wild Wings

Apr. 29th @ 6 pm ~ Wed Night Activities

May 6th, 13th @ 6 pm ~ Wed Night Activities

May 17th ~ New Hope BLAST Breakfast

May 20th @ 6 pm ~ ChildServe Volunteer

May 27th @ 6 pm ~ Wed Night Activities

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

groups gathering together

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, April 11 at 7:30 a.m. at New Hope.

Women's Fellowship

New Hope Women's Fellowship will have their next meeting on **Thurs, April 16**, 9-10am social hour; 10-11am meeting with a speaker. All women of New Hope and JROL are invited. Questions? Call Betty Holwegner at 278-8115.

Women's Bible Study will be on hiatus until fall.

Widow's Luncheon

Come join us for food and conversation at The Perk Up Café', 7003 Douglas Ayenue,

Friday April 10th at 11:30. If you need a ride or have questions, you can contact

Sharon Smith 515-277-7125 or Shirley Frus 515-279-1130.

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 **Thursday, April 9, 1:30pm** at New Hope. If you would like to join the Care Ministry team, please contact Clarice Rubek or Mary Ann

Blood Pressure Check

Rice.

New Hope is offering free Blood Pressure checks each month. May 3, 9:30-11:00am will be the next BP checks. Come to the Narthex after each worship service.

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.

Small Groups

Life Group (Bible Study):

Are you looking for a place to connect with friends, build your faith, and get support?

Join a Life Group (small group).

Contact Teresa Garside at dtgarside@q.com or 515-986-4600

Adult Sunday School

9:30 & 10:45 a.m. Join us in the Ruby Chapel for group discussions and Bible Study.

Friday Small Group

The Friday Small Group will meet on **April 10**.

Join us at 1pm at the Pizza Ranch, 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Kielsmeier, 515-689-9680

Veterans Helping Veterans

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, April 18, at 8:30am.



On Feb. 14 the Veterans group visited the Gold Museum. It was a very interesting trip with a lot of information and many interactive displays. We highly recommend a visit to the museum by anyone interested in military history.

The VHV met for breakfast on March 14. We were honored to have Miyoko Hikiji as guest speaker. Miyoko spoke about her time in Iraq and her current work with veterans.

Thank you to the veterans, their spouses that joined us, the supporters of

our military, and guests that joined us.

Thank you also to Betty Holwegner, Pam Frey, and Kathy Russi for preparing and serving the breakfast.

Our next breakfast is Saturday, April 18, at 8:30am. All veterans and their spouses are invited to join us. If you have questions, please contact Billy Nuzum at bbnewz54@gmail.com



missions

APRIL MISSION: Justice for Our Neighbors

Justice for Our Neighbors can make the difference between life and death for the families of refugees.

Iowa Justice For Our Neighbors (JFON) is a faith-driven ministry, welcoming immigrants and refugees into our churches and communities by providing free, high-quality refugee and immigration legal services, education, and advocacy.

Established by the United Methodist Committee on Relief in 1999, JFON helps people from all over the world. Our services are available to all without regard to race, gender, or religion. Clinics are located in Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Columbus Junction, Storm Lake, and Ottumwa and now Decorah.

Although JFON is historically a project of The United Methodist Church, Iowa Justice For Our Neighbors is looking to the future. We know that congregations in many denominations and faiths are looking for opportunities to welcome the newcomers in their communities, and we believe our program offers such an opportunity. We want to expand by inviting representatives from other faiths and denominations to serve on our board and volunteers to serve at the legal clinics. Financial support is needed and is an important way for congregations to be involved. In return, Iowa JFON speakers welcome the chance to provide a space for faith-based dialogue on immigration issues and to present information about immigrants, their experience, and the gifts they bring to our communities.

Other Mission News

- 1. Thank you to the God's Girlfriends Retreat for donating over \$320 worth of personal items for Hawthorn Hill's 2 programs: New Directions and Home Connections. New Directions is a shelter for Women and their children and Home Connnections is a shelter for entire families. This is a multi-layered program where transitional housing is provided with a goal of helping them to be financially secure to eventually move into their own home. This is the only program like this in the Des Moines area. Because they are sponsored by the United Methodist Church, they are not eligible for Government grants, so they must rely on other fundraising.
- 2. When you are making your vacation plans, please block out August 2nd, our next Meals from the Heartland on-site packaging.
- 3. The Mission Committee is again encouraging all children to attend a UMC camp this summer. Last summer we had a record number of children attending which was wonderful. Because of lower pledges for Missions this year, we have had to cut back to the previous support level of 1/3 of the camper's fees. If this presents a problem for children and keeps them from being able to attend, please contact Sharon Smith, 515-277-7125, wicketsblooms@aol.com. The committee is encouraging our congregation to give to a scholarship fund for these cases. The conference also has some monies available to match scholarships from churches.



Hand of Luke - April 14

Ground Beef "Goop" Corn Lettuce Salad

Dessert Bar or Cake

The 14th of each month, New Hopers donate food, cook a meal and serve it at the Central Iowa Shelter & Services,

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, return by 8:00pm.

When dropping off your non perishables, please see that they are clearly labeled HOL and clearly indicate who it is *from* and place on the kitchen counter. Frozen items may be placed on the marked shelves in the industrial freezer. If possible, please indicate on the sign up sheet where you placed your item(s) (for example, "in pantry", or "in the refrig."). Baked goods should be transferred to a disposable container if possible. Thank you!!

Financial Update

Below is the February 2015 General Fund operating report for New Hope and Johnston River of Life. Due to your generosity and the increase in pledges last year, we were able to reduce the size of the projected deficit this year. Thank you for your giving and faithfulness in supporting the work and ministries of New Hope and Johnston River of Life.

Johnston River of Life Financial Update **New Hope Financial Update** February 2015 February 2015 Actual Actual **Total Receipts Total Receipts** \$27,733.16 \$5,654.46 8,161.56 **Total Expenditures** 27,311.74 **Total Expenditures** Net Surplus (Deficit) 421.42 Net Surplus (Deficit) (2.507.10)YTD February 2015 YTD February 2015

 Actual
 Actual

 Total Receipts
 49,871.82
 Total Receipts
 17,352.78

 Total Expenditures
 56,083.21
 Total Expenditures
 16,522.56

 Net Surplus (Deficit)
 (6,211.39)
 Net Surplus (Deficit)
 830.22

Discretionary Fund has been established. The fund will be used by Pastor Jon for parishioner's extreme needs or occasionally when people come to the church for help. Your donations toward this fund is greatly appreciated. Please place your donation in the Wishing Well located by the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Hall.

New Hope Sunday morning Worship attendance					
	8:30	9:30	10:45	total	
March 1	24	121	88	233	
March 8	21	99	102	222	
March 15	25	103	88	216	
March 22	32	103	89	224	
	~ _				

Johnston River of Life Worship attendance						
Sat		Sun		total		
Feb 28	42	Mar 1	42	84		
Mar 7	50	Mar 8	28	78		
Mar 14	43	Mar 15	41	84		
Mar 21	27	Mar 22	44	71		

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 ta-

ble 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.



Easter is over, (or almost, depending on when you are reading this) and in the cycle of the Church calendar we now enter the season of Pentecost. This is a term of 50 days after the resurrection of Christ until the Holy Spirit descended on the 12 disciples like tongues of fire and the Church was born.

The concept of things unseen is a challenge for most of the modern world. We can break everything down into atoms and molecules. What we could never see or make sense of before is now seeable and knowable.

There remains however the religious and metaphysical concept of a "Holy Spirit," Ruach, or Pneuma. These words literally have the root understanding of breath, wind, a non-corporeal entity.

The Holy Spirit is known as the third part of the Trinity, fully God. I have found that the Holy Spirit is the most misunderstood or incomprehensible component of God. We can conceive of God the Father, a creator in heaven. We can totally relate to Jesus, fully human, lord and savior. But the non-fleshly, ethereal, Holy Spirit seems to exist outside a realm we can identify with. The movement of wind or breath having life, intelligence, or simple sentience, let alone being a fully connected part of God and intimately woven into our human spirits seems scary or at least uncomfortable for the masses. Francis Chan recently wrote a book on the Holy Spirit called, "The Forgotten God," which in itself implies we have let go of this concept of a metaphysical yet Divine spirit as antiquated and not valuable in today's society.

I am convinced however, that the significance, activity, and reality of the Holy Spirit is something that necessitates a deeper discussion. Jesus promised when he would send the Spirit, a counselor. The early church taught clearly about the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Even in the Old Testament scripture refers to people being filled with the Spirit. How can we dismiss the Divine that God has put inside each of us?

What is this ethereal Spirit? How is it a part of the Triune God? What is the role of this breath of life, this wind of divine activity that fills and moves us?

You are invited to join Johnston River of Life during April and May where we will be taking a closer look at the concept of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Craig Ferguson



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 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 (no peanuts/nuts), and serve coffee and lemonade 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, church secretary, at 278-2097.

8:30am Traditional Service

Greeters

- 5 Charlotte Schultz
- 12
- 19 Megan & Mark Thomsen
- 26

Lectors

- 5 Billy Nuzum
- 12 Cathy Short19 Vicki O'Brien
- 26 Vicki O'Brien

Traditional Service Callers

- 5 Norma Sutton
- 12 Bob & Marlys Borcherding
- 19 Norma Sutton
- 26 Bob & Marlys Borcherding

Contemporary Service Callers

- 5 Rod & Lynette Cook
- 12 Eldon Cross
- 19 Rod & Lynette Cook
- 26 Eldon Cross

9:30am Contemporary Service

Greeters

- 5 Clyde & Cindy Rail
- 12 Glenna Ross 19 Sandy Cannon
- 19 Sandy Cannon 26

Lectors

- 5
- 12 19
- 26

*Hosts

- 5 Pam & Paul Weisskopf
- 12 Tracy & Tony Hoffman
- 19 Sr. BLAST
- 26 Pam & Bill Gibbons

Money Counters

- 5 Tony & Tracy Hoffman, Glenna Ross
- 12 DeVonne Douglas, Randy Jansen, Ron Zoss
- 19 Clark Howland, Rick Homard, Larry Wood
- 26 Jerry Kielsmeier, Kim Traylor, John Burrough

Pal Friday: 9 a.m.

- 3 Pat Papenheim
- 10 Kay Goff
- 17 Marilyn Osborn
- 24 Marlys Borcherding

10:45am Traditional Service

Greeters

- 5
- 12 19
- 26

Lectors

- 5
- 12 Jon Verner
- 19
- 26

*Hosts

- 5 Linda & Jerry Kielsmeier
- 12 Andy & Spencer Sutton
- 19 Sr. BLAST
- 26 Confirmation Sunday

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).

April 2015

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
	2		1 5:30p, TGIW & Jr.BLAST 6:00p, Sr. BLAST, R.Chapel 6:30p, Choir practice 7:15p, Puppets 7:30p, Seasonal Choir 7:45p, Praise Team	7:00p, Maundy Thursday drama	3 Office Vol: Pat Papenheim 7a-7p, Good Friday Prayer Vigil	4 9am, Spring Clean-up at New Hope 4p, JROL Community Easter Celebration, Egg Hunt, Worship, Meal
5 Easter Sunday 8:30 & 10:45 Cantata 9:30 Contemporary Service 10a, JROL worship at Barn 10:45, CLT Easter Party	7:00p, Board of Trustees Meeting, 3rd grade room	7 9:30a, Alanon 9:30a, Senior Singers practice Noon, AA	8 (Offsite) TGIW & Jr.BLAST, TBD 6:00p, Sr. BLAST, R.Chapel 6:30p, Choir practice 7:15p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team	9 10a, Care Team Mtg., F.Hall 6-8pm, Girl Scouts, F.Hall	10 Office Vol: Kay Goff 11:30, Widow's luncheon at Perkup Café 1p, Friday Small Group at Pizza Ranch	11 7:30a Men's breakfast
12 Holy Communion Wesley Woods outing deadline Noon, Mission Mtg., R.Chapel 4:30p, Confirmation Class And 6:00p, Dinner	13 11:30, Needlers at Panera	14 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 3:30p, Hand of Luke	15 Deadline for May LINK 5:30p, TGIW & Jr.BLAST 6:00p, Sr. BLAST at Child Serve 6:30p, Choir practice 7:45p, Praise Team	16 9:00a, Women's Fellowship	17 Office Vol: Marilyn Osborn	18 8:30a, Veterans Helping Veterans breakfast at church
19 Food Pantry Sunday Sr. BLAST breakfast 10:45a, Volunteer Enrich- ment, R.Chapel 1-7pm, Rummage Sale items drop off 4:30p, Confirmation Class	20 9a-Noon Office Vol: Shirley Frus 9a-7p, Rummage Sale items drop off	21 9a-Noon Office Vol: Denise Hartford 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 7:00p, Finance Meeting, 5th grade classroom 7:00p, Stroke Club, Sanctuary	22 9a-Noon Office Vol: Jan Davisson 5:30p, TGIW (TBD) 6:00p, Sr. BLAST, R.Chapel 6:30p, Choir practice 7:15p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team	23 9a-Noon Office Vol: Charlene Cobb Noon-6p, Rummage & Bake Sale 7p, Administrative Coun- cil Meeting, 5th grade classroom	24 Office Vol: Marlys Borcherding 9a-6p, Rummage & Bake Sale	25 9a-Noon, Rummage & Bake Sale
26 10:45, Confirmation Sunday Graduation info deadline Buffalo Wild Wing Day, proceeds to Sr. BLAST	27	28 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA	29 5:30p, TGIW & Jr. BLAST 6:00p, Sr. BLAST, R.Chapel 6:30p, Choir practice 7:15p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team	30	May 1 Office Vol: Shirley Johnson	2 Wesley Woods Outing

Happy Birthday to you!!

- Brian Martz, Tavian Carnahan
- 2 Kirk Dickey, Kelly Reierson, Melvin Ghee, Bob Harter, Jane Perdue
- 3 Patrice Webber, Brett Cullinan, Nicolaus Haase
- 4 Shirley Frus
- 5 Greg Baker
- Pat Papenheim, Lorelai Roff, Bob Soards
- 8 Kate Lichter
- 9 Bhanu Moses
- 10 Rachel Jackson, Kathy Russi, Jacob Baumann
- 11 Arnold Larsen, Elaine Collet
- 12 Tanner Rowland, Max Wearmouth, Reggie Wearmouth, Lynn Louk
- 13 Paul Herring, Carl Wallin
- 15 Carrie Naumann, Thomas Beasley, Steve Halterman

- 16 Doris Fairley
- 17 Donna Greenwood, Bob Rankin, Susan Smith, Peyton Henry
- 19 Carol Evans, Nicole Jaschen, Nathan Ferguson
- 20 Chase Alcorn
- 21 JoAnn Decker
- 22 Amarachi Ukabiala, Ashlynn Riley
- 23 Kathy Crees, Wade Breitsprecher, Jodi Beaderstadt
- 24 Caleb Christensen
- 25 Bob Borcherding, Julie McClain
- 26 Ron Wilson, Audrey Naumann, Adam Gregg, Eli Zimmerman
- 28 Ellie Roquet, Meghan Kinnetz, Madeline Johnston
- 29 Joelyn Gerovac
- 30 Mason Redies

STAFF: Nancy Monthei, Office Admin., will be on vacation Monday, April 20— Thursday, April 23. Office volunteers will be in the office 9am-Noon.

Happy Anniversary!!!

- 5: Eddy & Karen Johnston
- 13: Tony & Tracy Hoffman
- 17: Hugh & Maurine Myers
- 27: Jim & Norma Smith
- 30: Dan & Mona Kirkpatrick

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.



I shared in a sermon last month that, although I am close to the middle of the scale, I lean to the side of being an introvert. I said that I had shared a newsletter article about this one time and got the most reaction that I have ever received from an article. Apparently, introverts resonated with me and actually spoke up! After that sermon here at New Hope, a good number of introverts confided in me that they were introverts too. So here's an updated version of that article I wrote.

It's time to speak up for shy people! We have been silent for way too long.

Okay, maybe I'm not a full-fledged shy person, but some people think I am. The current term we use is "introverts."

Some people think I'm an introvert and some people think I'm an extrovert. Actually I'm either one, depending on the situation. If I'm around a bunch of extroverts, then I become an introvert, since there are plenty of others to take the lead. If I'm around a bunch of introverts, then I become an extrovert to fill the void and some people think I never shut up.

I'll admit that I'm most comfortable being quiet if others are doing a lot of talking, so I want to speak up for shy people.

There has been much discrimination against shy people throughout history. They are largely overlooked and unrecognized. Their absence in history books is staggering. I am saddened when I think of all the wonderful things shy people have done that we have just not heard about. (Since first writing this, I have been made aware of a book entitled, Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking, by Susan Cain. In it a number of influential introverts have been noted throughout history, including Rosa Parks.)

Sometimes shy people are even wrongly ridiculed as being arrogant because they do not interact with others. It's not that they don't want to join in, they are just afraid and don't know how.

A college professor, who always gave me good grades, wrote a recommendation for me to attend graduate school. In it he said, "Jon may seem somewhat reticent." I wasn't sure how he meant it, but he used it in a way that did not seem altogether complimentary. I looked up the term "reticent" just to verify what it meant and the dictionary said, "disposed to be silent; reserved." I couldn't see what was wrong with that, but I just couldn't bring myself to say anything about it to him.

Anyway, we shy people of the world have at least one great reward to which we can look forward. Jesus stated in the Beatitudes, "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth" (Matthew 5:5).

Don't worry you extroverts out there, when we come into our inheritance, we won't hold any grudges. Besides, we would be too "reticent" to express them if we did.

Grace and peace, Pastor Jon

Easter Theme-- "Faith in the Midst of Fear"

Apr. 5 <u>Title</u>: "Too Afraid to Talk" <u>Script</u>.: Mark 16:1-8

Apr. 12 Title: "Hiding in Fear" Script.: John 20:19-31

Apr. 19 Title: "Fear of the Unknown" Script: 1 John 3:1-7

Apr. 26 <u>Title</u>: "Living Without Fear" <u>Script</u>.: 1 John 3:16-24





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

www.newhopedsm.org • www.johnstonriveroflife.org

Church Staff

Pastor: Jon Gaul

Outreach Pastor: Craig Ferguson **Director of Music:** Eldon Cross

Children's Ministries Coordinator: Sarah Jacobson

Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei **Nursery Attendant: Michele Krebs**

Custodian: Chuck Van Dyke

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

E-mail Information

Church address: nhfamily@newhopedsm.org Jon Gaul: jgaul@newhopedsm.org

Craig Ferguson: craig@newhopedsm.org Nancy Monthei: nancy@newhopedsm.org Sarah Jacobson: sjacobson@newhopedsm.org

Eldon Cross: eldon@newhopedsm.org

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find us on facebook!

Visit the website to find our facebook link.

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

