

the link

A monthly publication of
New Hope United Methodist Church

January
2019

JANUARY AT NEW HOPE UMC

THE GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING

Jan. 6 "Follow the Star"

Jan. 20 "The Variety of Gifts"

Jan. 13 "The Spiritual Gifts"

Jan. 27 "The Greater Gifts"

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 Hoppers 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 in the Fellowship Hall.

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



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

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, nhfamilly@newhopedsd.org



It was fun to celebrate the 90th Birthdays for both Lee Ross and Elmer Flickinger. This picture was taken at Elmer's party. Happy Birthday to you both!!

Thank You

A big "Thank You" from our church staff to the New Hope congregation for their very generous Christmas gifts and greetings.

You have overwhelmed us with your thoughtfulness and support through the past year.

May this New Year be filled with joy, laughter, and love for all!

Thanks to my friends and church family for attending and supporting me on my 90th birthday party.

Lee Ross

Words are not enough to say thank you for all the cards, kind words and support for the loss of my mother, Alice Robinson. It is a great blessing to be part of such a loving and caring church family.

Jolene and Robin Harlow

Thank you to my church family for all the support you have given me through my journey with cancer. All the hugs, gifts, words of encouragement and, especially the prayers, gave me the strength to be so positive about the outcome. I am blessed to be a part of this church! Blessings to you! Pam Frey

Dear New Hope family,
Thank you so much for hosting & providing delicious food for my "going away" party! It was so nice to see everyone again. I will miss each and everyone of you when I am abroad. Loren is anxiously waiting to meet all of you soon! Keep in touch and we will visit soon.

Love,

Amanda Fordyce & Loren Sjoquist
16 Anderson Road
#06-02 Nouvel 18
Singapore 259987



A Special Thank You to **Terri Litcher** who has done our Blood Pressure checks monthly for many

years at New Hope. Terri, due to other obligations in her life, will no longer be able to continue the monthly blood pressure checks.

We are so grateful for the service she has donated to our church parishioners. She will be missed for her service and her beautiful smile and bubbly personality. We pray she will have a wonderful year ahead.

Welcome - **Julie Mc Clain**, as the Blood Pressure Nurse for New Hope. Starting in Jan 2019, Julie will do the blood pressure checks for our parishioners monthly.

Watch the link and bulletins for the scheduled dates and times.

Welcome to the New Hope UMC family! November 25, 2018



Marcy Lowe
3943 2nd Ave.,
Des Moines 50131,
515-305-6968
marcyloewe63@gmail.com
Marcy enjoys gardening, arts & crafts. She was introduced to New Hope UMC by her

sister, Terri.

CELEBRATING
OUR
MEMBERS



Time to divest our church of the Advent decorations

Undecorating will take place after each service on **January 6**.

Please stay after the services and help us take down our Christmas decorations. Many hands make light work! Thank you!



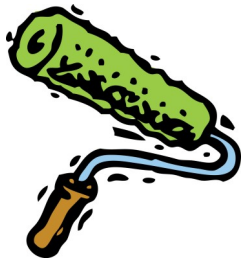
Thank you to everyone that displayed their Nativity Sets during Advent.

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

Appreciatively,
New Hope Altar Guild

Steve Sutton has used his craftsmanship to give us our new Advent wreaths.

Thank you for these works of art!
Altar Guild



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.



Senior BLAST Valentines Dinner February 16th

Senior High BLAST is inviting the New Hope congregation to their Valentines Dinner fundraiser on February 16th at 5:30pm.

This year's meal will include your choice of bacon smoked pork loin, baked potato, and green beans or Shrimp Alfredo. Both meals will be served with a salad, bread, and homemade cheesecake with your choice of topping.

Please register in the fellowship hall.



God's Girlfriends Women's Retreat

Save the Date!!
Saturday, April 6th at New Hope UMC. More details to come!

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 Hoppers 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

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

Friday Bible Study will meet **January 11, 2019** with the discussion focusing on "Surrender". To have the mind-set of Christ ultimately leads us to a place of surrender - letting go of our old mind-set (Phil.3:7-10).



Then on **January 25th**, we look at the mind-set of humility, which is not exactly the most popular commodity in our world today (Phil. 2:1-11). Humble yourself, by having a sane sense of your own value, treat everyone like royalty, and you will be exalted.



My Grown Up, God and Me!

We will meet on *Friday mornings* from 9:30-11am.
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

Confirmation Class for 8th Graders



January Schedule:

January 6, 4:15pm (Students & Mentors)
Topic: I Believe & Membership Vows

January 20, 4:15pm (Students only)
Topic: Church History in One Easy Lesson

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

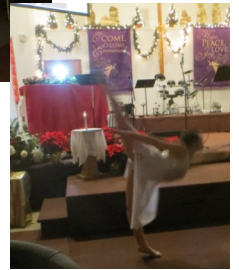
The Sights and Sounds of Christmas were all around New Hope UMC in December!

Gingerbread House Workshop, December 1st.

Children of all ages had fun building a Gingerbread House to take home. This was a mission project for Women's Fellowship.



Advent by Candlelight, held on December 3rd, was a beautiful evening of fellowship and preparing for the Advent Season! Thank you to everyone that organized, performed, read stories, hosted, and attended!



Christmas Cookie Walk, December 9th. Thank you to all of the bakers for donating the delicious cookies. The cookies/goodies were quickly packed up in containers by those that purchased them. Thank you to the wonderful helpers. It was a festive & fun event for our church!!



Christmas Program, December 16th, was a celebration of the various musical groups in the church and the Sunday school kids.



Santa's Attic, December 19th: A huge thank you to all those who donated items for Santa's Attic. We were able to offer a huge amount of choices for the kids to select presents for their family. We hope those family members who opened the presents enjoyed the thoughtful gifts the children choose. The money raised for the presents was given toward the Uganda Chicken Project.



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

January 6th, 9:30a-11a, Narthex.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, January 12th 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

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, January 18.**

Questions? Contact Jody Rains, 278-8282

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.



In his days may
righteousness
flourish and
peace abound...

PSALM 72:7, NRSV

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 resume Children's Learning Time on January 6th.

Thank God Its Wednesday (TGIW) videos are ...

January 2nd: No TGIW

January 9th: The Final Battle!

January 16th: Jonah

January 23rd: Joseph and Pharaoh's Dream

January 30th: The Fiery Furnace!



A HUGE THANK YOU goes out to all the children, choirs, praise team, bells and everyone that helped with our Christmas Program on December 16th.



COMING SOON...



VBS 2019 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. There will be more information to come this spring.

BLAST—Believing, Learning, Assisting, Serving, Teens

January 2019



Jr. BLAST members playing the Saran Wrap Game during the Christmas party.

Jr. BLAST (6th-8th grade) Leaders: Jackie Johnson & Jenn Higdon JrBLAST@NewHopeDSM.org

We had a great December with extended celebration! We faced off against the Sr. BLAST kids in a Christmas bible trivia game (and sadly lost), helped reset the FLC chairs after Advent By Candlelight, hosted a white elephant gift exchange and Christmas party, and finished our month out with helping at the Santa's Attic event (a great evening as always)!

We are looking forward to January!

Jan. 2- No Meeting, Happy New Year!

Jan. 9- BLAST Activities, 6:15-7pm

Jan. 16- BLAST Activities, 6:15-7pm

Jan. 23- Many Hands Thrift Store Service Project, 6:00-8:00pm

Jan. 30- BLAST Activities, 6:15-7pm

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

The Senior High BLAST group is excited to announce the date and place for their 2019 Summer Mission Trip. The group will be traveling to **Chicago, Illinois**; to experience urban ministries. We will be focusing our time in the city's south side housing area in Canaryville. Canaryville neighborhood is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Chicago and used to be one of the toughest neighborhoods in the city from the late nineteenth century through much of the twentieth century.

Additionally, the trip has been set for **Sunday, June 30th - Saturday, July 6th**. However, we need an initial deposit of \$90 for anyone considering being a part of this trip next year by January 20th. The mission trip is open to All New Hope Senior High BLAST youth who have finished grades 8-12, parents, and volunteers. We will be having two parent / informational meetings to discuss the details of the mission trips. Plan now to attend one of these meetings (*Wednesday, January 9th at 6 PM or Sunday, January 13th after each service*).

Finally, the BLAST leadership team has the schedule for the first part of 2019... We have a lot of fun events planned and some fundraising opportunities to support our 2019 mission trip. The complete schedule can be found on-line – <http://www.newhopedsdmsm.org/pdf/2019-BLAST.pdf>.

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

Jan. 2nd ~ No Meeting

Jan. 6th @ 2pm ~ BLAST Christmas Party

Jan. 9th @ 6pm ~ Mission Trip Parent/Information Meeting

Jan. 13th (after each service) ~ Mission Trip Parent / Information Meeting

Jan. 16th @ 6pm ~ ChildServe (meet at New Hope UMC)

Jan. 20th @ 8pm ~ BLAST Annual Lock-In Event

Jan. 20th ~ \$90 Mission Trip Deposit Deadline

Jan. 23rd @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion

Jan. 25th ~ Winter Jam at Wells Fargo

Jan. 30th @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion

Feb. 3rd ~ BLAST Breakfast

Feb. 3rd @ 5 pm ~ Super Bowl Party

Feb. 6th and Feb. 13th @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion

Feb. 16th @ 5pm ~ Valentine's Dinner

Feb. 20th @ 6pm ~ ChildServe (meet at New Hope UMC)

Feb. 27th @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion

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



ChildServe
Christmas
Party.



missions

January 2019 MISSION NEWS



JANUARY MISSION FOCUS: DMARC is our Des Moines' area Food Pantry system, under the auspice of the Des Moines Area Religious Council. Our Mission Team has decided to continue contributing to the Johnston Partnership and Urbandale Food Pantry, \$100 each per month from our Mission funds, as we have the last few years.

In addition, our congregation has faithfully donated food items, and money to the greater food pantry system monthly.

As you know, the numbers of food insecure families rose sharply in the last few years, so the need for food and money donations continues to balloon. New Hope declares the third Sunday of each month: Food Pantry Sunday. We highlight that Sunday to encourage and educate our congregation about this special program and it's needs. If you would like to help in this way, merely put your check in the offering plate made out to New Hope with DMARC on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

UGANDA CHICKEN PROJECT: As of the date of this writing, we are only short about \$200 toward our \$5,000 goal! Very exciting! *Thank you* to all those who have given in helping a fellow church in Uganda sell eggs from chickens they have raised in a new coop, to eventually enable a village rise out of poverty. *Note:* We are following Heifer's vision of pass it on.



BIDWELL RIVERSIDE TOY PANTRY: A whole carload of toys, blankets, and gift cards were delivered to Bidwell Riverside Early Childhood Center before the big give-away day. Bidwell was able to give something to over 1,500 children. You helped make many of those children's Christmas a happy one. A big thanks, New Hope!

ANGEL TREE: Many hands made light work...except for the extra-extra time given by Suzie Martz in contacting caregivers of children of 25 incarcerated parents, getting out the angels for our congregation to select, then organizing the gifts into family boxes after gifts have been turned in. A big THANKS to Suzie for doing this year after year! And thanks to those of you who purchased gifts and those who delivered them. Again, you made many children have a happy Christmas!



Hand of Luke

Monday, January 14

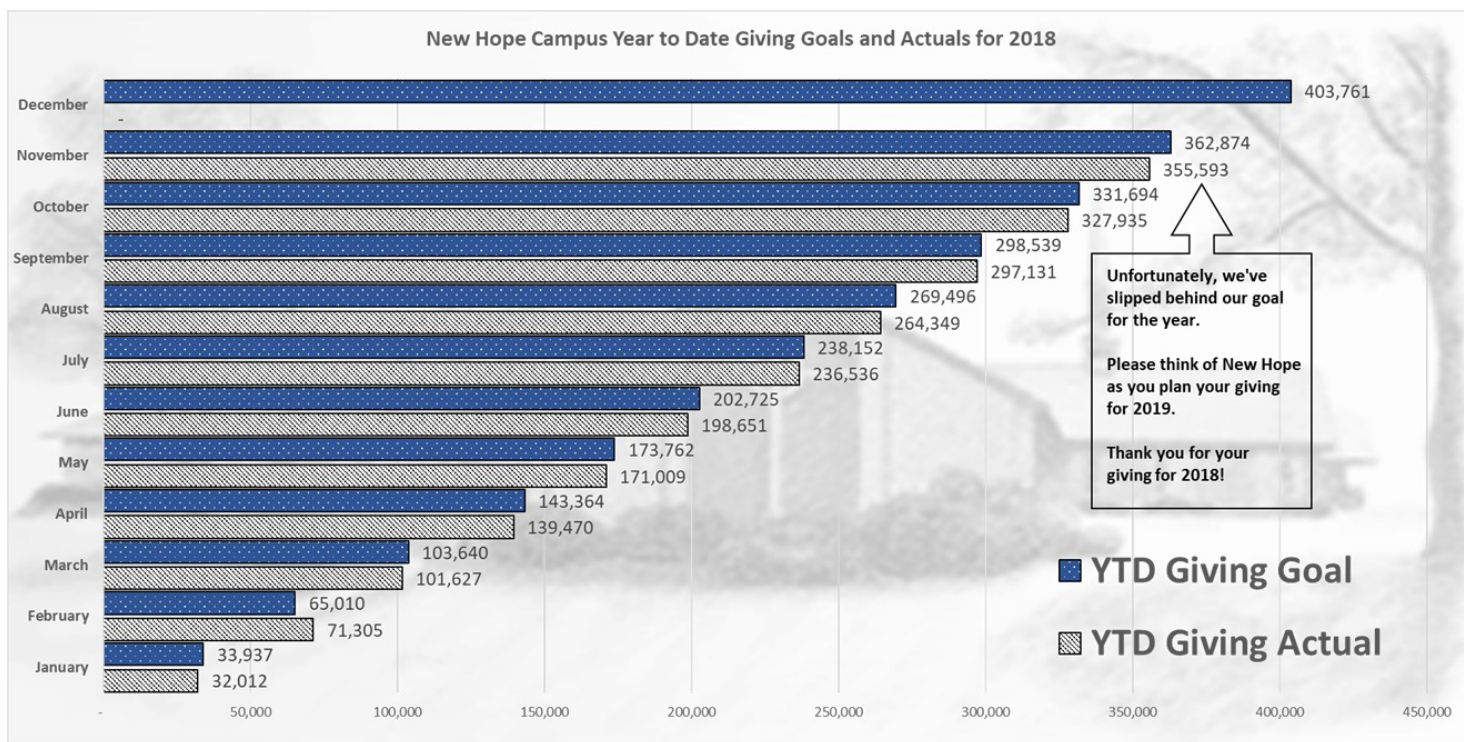
If you would like to contribute to our ministry of a meal for the Central Iowa Shelter and Services, please sign up on the Hand of Luke sheet in the Fellowship Hall, to donate food, cook, and/or serve.

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



Update from the Finance & Stewardship Committee

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!



New Hope Sunday morning Worship attendance

| | 8:30 | 9:30 | 10:45 | Total |
|-------------|------|------|-------|-------|
| November 25 | 18 | 66 | 56 | 140 |
| December 2 | 35 | 94 | 81 | 210 |
| December 9 | 37 | 102 | 76 | 215 |
| December 16 | 28 | 94 | 66 | 188 |
| December 23 | 29 | 92 | 80 | 201 |

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE FOUNDATION!

What: The Foundation has over 100 scholarships that you can apply for

When: Scholarship applications open on our website on December 1 2018

Who: These scholarships can go to people just like YOU—each scholarship has its own criteria that fit United Methodist churchgoers like yourselves Don't wait until applications open — go check it out now at iumf.org/scholarships/

The application process is all online, which makes this process super easy and painless. All of the criteria for each scholarship is up on our website under the four different categories at iumf.org/scholarships/. Take a look through and see which scholarship criteria are applicable to you.

We have general scholarships, scholarships specifically for students going to Iowa United Methodist colleges, seminary scholarships, scholarships intended for people going into science majors, scholarships designated for members of certain churches or counties in Iowa and MANY MORE!

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 January 2019:

| 8:30am Traditional Service | 9:30am Contemporary Service | 10:45am Traditional Service |
|--|--|---|
| <u>Greeters</u> 6 13 20 27 | <u>Greeters</u> 6 13 20 27 | <u>Greeters</u> 6 13 20 27 |
| <u>Lectors</u> 6 Billy Nuzum 13 Cathy Short 20 Vicki O'Brien 27 Billy Nuzum | <u>Lectors</u> 6 Sherri Bogue 13 Charity Johnson 20 Pam Frey 27 Andy Sutton | <u>Lectors</u> 6 Jon Verner 13 Barb Mather 20 Lynn Davisson 27 Cathy Cate |
| <u>Traditional Service Callers</u> 6 Bob & Marlys Borcharding 13 Norma Sutton 20 Bob & Marlys Borcharding 27 Norma Sutton | <u>Hosts</u> 6 Pam Frey 13 HCI 20 Glenna Ross 27 Paulette & Larry Wood | <u>Hosts</u> 6 13 HCI 20 27 Paulette & Larry Wood |
| <u>Office Volunteers</u> 4 11 18 25 | <u>9:30 Computer Support</u> 6 Sherri Bogue 13 Kevin & Caleb Christensen 20 Kelly Mohrman 27 Pam Frey | <u>Money Counters</u> 6 Glenna Ross, Tony & Tracy Hoffman 13 Clark Howland; Rick Homard, Larry Wood 20 Randy Jansen, Patty Nearmyer, DeVonne Douglas 27 Tami Wise, Jerry Kielsmeier, John Burrough |

The Gentiles are ...
sharers together
in the promise
in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 3:6, NIV



Lessons in wise faith

“The Magi teach us true faith,” said Martin Luther. Given the obstacles they encountered, we would understand if they had given up altogether!

First, the travelers were “off the mark,” coming to Jerusalem to seek a newborn king in a “royal palace.” Then, directed to Bethlehem, the wise men found a sight “so utterly out of keeping with a king” — a poor young woman and child, in a “poor hut” — that one might expect them to head straight home. “But,” declares Luther, “with a great, strong and full faith they ... follow the word of the prophet and the witness of the star in all purity of heart,” bowing to worship and honor the Savior.

January 2019

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday mornings

8:30

9:30

10:45

SUNDAY

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1  Church Office Closed 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA | 2 No TGIW, Youth Groups, Choir, Praise Team | 3 7:00p, Worship Design, Pastor's office 7:00p, JROL Mtg., R.Chapel | 4 Office Vol: Susan Blank 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time | 5 |
| 6 Guest Preacher: Rev. Wayne Clark Epiphany Sunday Communion Sunday 9:30-11a, Blood Pressure Sunday Undecorate 4:15p, Confirmation Class | 7 7p, Trustees Mtg., R.Chapel | 8 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA 11:30a, Bridges Team Mtg 7:00p, SPRC Mtg., R.Chapel | 9 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 | 10 10a, Care Team Mtg., F.Hall 1-4p Bidwell Riverside volunteer work 6:30p, Finance Mtg., R.Chapel | 11 Office Vol: Marlys Borcherding 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time 1:00p, Bible Study at Pizza Ranch | 12 7:30a, Men's Breakfast, at church 10a-3p, R.Chapel reserved |
| 13 Food Pantry Sunday 1p-3p, F.Hall reserved 2:30p, Healthy Church Initiative | 14 3:30p, Hand of Luke | 15 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA | 16 5:30p, Children's Choir 5:45p, Dinner 6:15p, TGIW—Santa's Attic 6:15p, Jr. BLAST 6:15p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Chancel Choir practice 5:00p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team practice | 17 | 18 Deadline for February LINK Office Vol: John & Joyce Turek 9a-3p, Needlers 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time 6p-9p, FLC reserved | 19 2p-7p, FLC & FHall reserved |
| 20 *Human Relations Day (offering) 4:15p, Confirmation Class Sr, BLAST lock in | 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Church Office Closed | 22 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA | 23 5:30p, Children's Choir 5:45p, Dinner 6:15p, TGIW—Santa's Attic 6:15p, Jr. BLAST 6:15p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Chancel Choir practice 5:00p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team practice | 24 7p, Administrative Council Mtg., R.Chapel | 25 Office Vol: Charlene Cobb 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time 1:00p, Bible Study at Pizza Ranch 6p-9p, FHall & FLC reserved | 26 Noon-4pm, FHall & FLC reserved |
| 27 5p, Midwinter Mingle  | 28 | 29 9:30a, Alanon Noon, AA | 30 5:30p, Children's Choir 5:45p, Dinner 6:15p, TGIW—Santa's Attic 6:15p, Jr. BLAST 6:15p, Sr. BLAST 6:30p, Chancel Choir practice 5:00p, Puppets 7:45p, Praise Team practice | 31 | February 1 Office Vol: Theresa Flickinger 9:30-11a, Child/Adult devotional time | February 2 |

***Human Relations Day, Jan. 20:** A Church-wide Special Sunday of The United Methodist Church. Your generous gifts on Human Relations Day support: neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy in the United States and Puerto Rico through United Methodist Voluntary Services, and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program. 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 |
| 5 Kasi Dickerson, David Reierson | 21 Brenda McCulley, Taylor Evans |
| 7 Henry Strauss | 22 Dustin Henry |
| 8 Doug Hewitt | 23 Katie Paulson, Kate Cossa |
| 10 Gayle Easton, Norma Wallin | 24 George Buckingham |
| 13 Vivienne Lee | 26 McKayla Johnson, August Abbott, Conifer Abbott |
| 14 Doris Harvey | 27 Margaret Holmgren |
| 16 Marilyn Mc Cleary, Mark Thomsen | 29 Bob Robinson, Lori Marsh |
| 17 Joan Clay, Gerald Perdue | 30 Dale Myers, Barb Mather, Kirsten Sahlin |
| 18 Ann Krause | 31 Denise Zoss, Kenny Ukabiala |



- 1: Ryan & Abbi Herrick
2: Michael & Joelyn Gerovac
15: Bob & Marlys Borcherding
17: Keith & Julie Craghton
24: Neal & Roberta Cave

*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.*



The New Year and the Season of Lent have been tied together for me. Here's how it goes--I make New Year's resolutions and, if I have still kept them by the time Lent comes around, I give them up for Lent! Great arrangement, don't you think?

Seriously, instead of (or in addition to) giving up something for Lent, I like to think of beginning something new and good to do. How about setting a goal, such as having perfect attendance at worship and/or Sunday School (Christian Learning Time here at New Hope)? "Impossible," you say! That's what I thought until a member of one of my former churches shared the story with me about Wilma McKibben.

Wilma was recognized for 57 years of perfect attendance at Sunday School (allowing only for one's own illness or the illness of a child). Her daughter and husband received awards for 49 years and 35 years of perfect attendance. Even

though the McKibbens lived in a different town, the church I had served helped them achieve those perfect records. When business took the family to our area over a weekend, they would drop in and attend church with us. Thus, their attendance records remained unbroken and we had the pleasure of their company!

Wow, that's dedication! Wilma's record is rare and difficult to accomplish, but apparently not impossible. What other "impossible" worthy goals are there we have never tried?

Some of the goals we are setting as a church through our Healthy Church Initiative program is for as many of our church family as are willing to fill out the Spiritual Gift Inventory on our website, or on a hard copy we'll make available in our office. A Spiritual Gift Inventory can be very insightful and helpful in guiding us to what areas of service and ministry are most fulfilling and suited for us. Our January sermons series will highlight how we are each given special gifts and or called to use and share them.

This year, we will also begin offering various small group studies and fellowship times. We plan to offer them at various times that will work for as many people as possible, including those who work outside the home. One group is already being promoted to start on March 5 and will be held on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The group will be led by Linda Kielsmeier and will be a Bible study of the book turned into a film called "The Shack."

Other groups and studies are being planned and will be promoted at church and in the February newsletter. Meanwhile, our ongoing Friday Afternoon Bible Study continues twice a month at Pizza Ranch in Urbandale. Also, the Wired Word group continues to meet in our Chapel on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

So, make your New Year's resolution to get perfect attendance (we may even give you a special pin) and join us in growing in our knowledge and love of God here at New Hope!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jon

January Theme-- "The Gifts that Keep on Giving"

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|------------|---|---|------------------|
| January 6 | Guest Preacher: Rev. Wayne Clark <u>Title:</u> "Follow the Star" | <u>Script.:</u> Matthew 2:1-12 | Communion Sunday |
| January 13 | <u>Title:</u> "The Spiritual Gifts" | <u>Script.:</u> Acts 8:14-17 | |
| January 20 | <u>Title:</u> "The Variety of Gifts" | <u>Script.:</u> 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 | |
| January 27 | <u>Title:</u> "The Greater Gifts" | <u>Script.:</u> 1 Corinthians 12:12-20, 27-31 | |



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

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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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