

# the link

A monthly publication of  
New Hope United Methodist Church

## January 2021

JANUARY AT NEW HOPE UMC



9 am – Parking Lot  
10:30 am – Parking Lot  
[newhopedsm.org](http://newhopedsm.org)

## Light Shining

ON THE HOLY MYSTERY

JANUARY 3  
“Light Leads The Way”

JANUARY 10  
“Light Creates and Sustains Creation”

JANUARY 17  
“Light Calls Out and Speaks”

JANUARY 24  
“Light Changes Hearts”

JANUARY 31  
“Light Drives Out Evil”

## Worship with Us on Sundays!

New Hope's Transition Team continues to monitor and update procedures for the safety of everyone during this global pandemic.

We will continue with our 9:00 & 10:30 Sunday morning worship in the Parking Lot.

We will continue with our pre-recorded worship service that is emailed to you and also posted on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NewHopeDSM>

Christian Learning Time (CLT) will be virtual on Sunday mornings at 10:30am, starting again on January 10th. Families, please watch for an email with further details.

Groups will need to meet virtually; no meetings inside the church. If you need help with setting up a Zoom meeting, please let Pastor Lilian know.

If you have questions or concerns about the changes, please contact Clark Howland ([clarkhowland@msn.com](mailto:clarkhowland@msn.com)), chair of the Transition Team.







### Prayer Chain Request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call Mary Ann Rice at 964-7734 or the church office at 278-2097.

### Prayer Concern

Roberta Cave; Lynn Louk; Linda Miller; Fred Foreman; Anita Gaul; Dorothy Montgomery; Brenda McConahay; Freda Ruleman; Jim Mather; Curt Harlow; Anna Osborn; K. Howland; Glenda Millard; Chris Boyles' sister, Trudy; JoAnn Pugh; Cathy Cate; Desiree Spring; Sheryl Matern; Josephine Demarco; Bishop Laurie Haller; District Superintendent, Rev. Heecheon Jeon; Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, missionary; Women at the Well.

### Prayers for the following military personnel:

Michael Craighton; Jason Homard; Adam Larson; Joshua Larson; Todd McGinnity; Devan Stanton; Hunter Schmidt; Jessica Weltha-Bales; and our national and world leaders, our military and their families.

*If there are any other people that should be listed, please contact the church office at 278-2097, [nhfamily@newhopedsms.org](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsms.org)*

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.

Blessings to all of you and may this New Year be filled with joy, laughter, and love for all!



### Thank you

Our heartfelt thanks to our New Hope Family for the many phone calls, texts, cards and most of all for your prayers!

New Hope has the most wonderful Care Team ever!!! The lap quilt is so very special and you don't know how much we enjoyed and appreciated the wonderful meal.

We are so blessed to be a part of the New Hope family.

Blessings to you all!  
Jim and Barb Mather

Thank you New Hope. We've been attending since Pastor Neil invited us to a service, became members when Pastor Jon started and encouraged us to join, and now I enjoy helping out Pastor Lilian as much as we can.

With this being one of the most trying of our times in recent years, I wish everyone within the congregation of New Hope many blessings in the New Year. I have to say we've been fortunate to be in a Community that helps others in times of need.

God Bless this church,  
Grateful New Hope family members.

### Thank you

Heartfelt thanks for all of your support during my brother Mike's illness and passing. All of your prayers, sympathy, love and support mean the world to us.

Blessings to each one of our New Hope family members.

In Christian Love and faith,  
Melisa & Larry Forbes



The family of Freda Ruleman is having a card shower for her **100th birthday** which is on February 9, 2021.

Freda is a member of New Hope UMC.

Please send birthday blessings to  
**Freda Ruleman**  
**2727 82nd Place**  
**#407**  
**Urbandale, IA 50322**

We hope to celebrate by gathering at a later date.



### Confirmation 2020/2021

The next gathering will be by Zoom on Sunday, January 3rd, 1:30-2:00pm and time with Mentors will be from 2:05-2:25pm. Please make sure you have your binder with the brochures on Sacraments. Please watch for an email with the Zoom link.

Thank you for your participation in the life of the church during Advent and Christmas Seasons. If you have questions, please call Pastor Lilian at 642-757-7925.





## Zoom With The Zoo!

Our New Hope Christian Education Team can't wait to kick off 2021 with a family fun night!

**We hope you will join us from 6-7pm on Wednesday, January 6th as we host some amazing animal guests and their keeper from Blank Park Zoo!**

Please use this link to join the meeting:  
<http://FamilyNight.NewHopeDSM.org>



Those in our community are in greater need than ever so we can't sideline our annual SOUPER BOWL event!

Want to get in the game instead of cheering from the stands?

KICK OFF is Sunday, January 31st!

We are asking you to help by bringing a nonperishable food/personal care item (or 50) on **Sunday, January 31st** and/or **Sunday, February 7th** to score a point for the team of your choice in New Hope's version of Super Bowl LV.

Visit your team's END ZONE to drop off your donation on your way out of the parking lot church! Our New Hope QUARTERBACKS will gladly accept the PASS and see that your donation helps add points to the scoreboard for your team!

Each item you donate counts as 1 point. Would you prefer to make a monetary donation? Each \$1 will count as 1 point too! Points will be verified by the refs at halftime (after services end on January 31st). Many times a team comes back stronger in the second half so we won't know for sure which team had the most TOUCHDOWNS until after services on SOUPER Bowl Sunday, February 7th!

**\*\*Expired items will be a TURNOVER and point for the other team, so PLEASE check those dates before you donate\*\***

Our SOUPER Bowl items will be donated to local food pantries.

THANK YOU for getting out of the stands and getting in the game to help tackle hunger in our community!

While all donations are welcome, if you are looking for a list of "most needed" non-perishable items please see it below:

100% Juice  
 Canned Fruits And Veggies, In Juice  
 Peanut Butter  
 Canned Meat  
 Whole Grain Cereal  
 Pasta Sauce  
 UHT Milk  
 Beans

Pasta  
 Rice  
 Soup  
 Baby Food  
 Formula  
 Diapers  
 Personal Care Products  
 Baby Wipes  
 Feminine Hygiene Products



### Women's Fellowship

**Postponed until further notice.**

Questions? contact Susan Clark at 964-5119.

### Veterans Helping Veterans

**Postponed until further notice.**

Questions? contact Billy Nuzum at bbnewz54@gmail.com

### Men's Breakfast

**Postponed until further notice.**

### Care Ministry Team

Next meeting is **Thurs., Feb. 11th at 10am at the church.** Social distancing and wearing face masks.

Questions, contact Clarice Rubek, rrubek@aol.com

### New Hope Needlers

**Postponed until further notice.**

Questions? Contact Jody Rains, 278-8282

### Blood Pressure Check

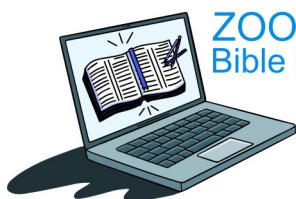
**Postponed until further notice.**

### Bidwell-Riverside Center

At this point Bidwell continues to cancel group-volunteering events.

However, if anyone from the group would like to volunteer as an individual, they would welcome you but would need to know about one week in advance.

If anyone is interested in doing that, please contact Lynn Louk ([jimlynnlouk@mac.com](mailto:jimlynnlouk@mac.com)) or 515-276-7900 and she can inform you about tasks that could be done.



**ZOOM**

**Bible Study**

## FRIDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Our 2021 Friday Zoom Bible Study will begin on **Friday Jan.15th, at 1:00 p.m.**

In January we will meet on the **15th and 29th** because of the New Year holiday.

Beginning in February we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays, as usual.

We will examine the Christian answers to questions you may have had about life. This study may give you a more satisfying understanding to questions that may have troubled you over the years. I will send you some additional details prior to the first study. In the meantime, read Psalm one. I am looking forward to our time together.

If you would like to join the group please contact Jim Louk at [jimlynnlouk@mac.com](mailto:jimlynnlouk@mac.com), or call him at 515-402-7573, so he can help you connect with our group.

## With Gratitude to our many Church Helpers and Volunteers:

As we have navigated through the uncertainty of the pandemic, I believe our church has persevered and found safe ways to worship and be together, offering comfort and spiritual nurturing, prayer, beautiful music. We have had the opportunity to gather safely, whether from our cars, lawn chairs, or inside in a socially distanced setting. I am humbled to be in this church family.

I would just like to thank all of you who have helped to make these services happen. So many of you have offered to help with indoor and outdoor services, some have helped with every single service. We have all been blessed by your willingness to be there for the rest of us. I would like to mention names, but I fear I would leave someone out. So may I just mention one name: Jesus. I thank Jesus, and I thank you. It's pretty clear that at New Hope, we are very blessed.

Linda Yaske







If you have any questions, please contact Charity Johnson at [cjohnson@newhopedsd.org](mailto:cjohnson@newhopedsd.org)

**Mission Statement:** Connecting kids to God and others.

**Vision Statement:** Connecting lessons about God through real life experiences.

**Christian Learning Time (CLT):** 4 year old—7<sup>th</sup> Grade

No gathering on January 3rd but we will start again on **January 10th at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom**. Parents, please watch for emails with more details. We will be learning about the Ten Commandments.

**S.W.A.G. (Saved With Amazing Grace):** K - 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Join us for **the Family Fun Night on Wednesday, January 6th, 6pm via Zoom**. It will be lots of fun with the Zoo! Please use this link to join the meeting: <http://FamilyNight.NewHopeDSM.org>

S.W.A.G will begin again on **Wednesday, January 13th at 6:00pm via Zoom**. Parents, please watch for emails with more details. We will continue to look into Psalm 23.

**The Advent Season and Christmas Eve Services were celebrated by all!! We truly are blessed by so many people helping in anyway they can! Thank you!!!**





# BLAST - Believing, Learning, Assisting, Serving, Teens

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

Jr. BLAST enjoyed the season of Advent and learning about the Christmas story in several ways. We watched a video tour of modern day Bethlehem and imagined what it would be like if Mary and Joseph were walking the streets today looking for a place to deliver their miracle baby. We celebrated together with our annual Christmas party on December 16th. It definitely had a different feel this year, but we still had a great time and even incorporated our Saran Wrap ball - a favorite yearly tradition! We hope all of our kids and their families had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!

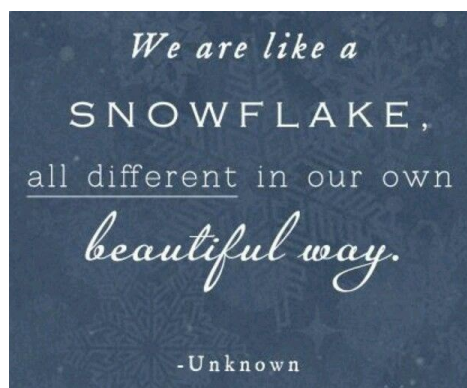
## January Calendar:

January 6- Zoom With The Zoo Family Night, 6-7pm

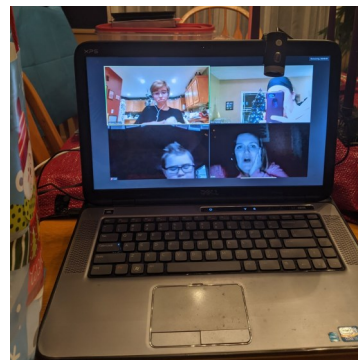
January 13- Every Step virtual service project, 6-7pm

January 20- Zoom Meeting, 6-7pm

January 27- Zoom Meeting, 6-7pm



Ben H. unwrapping his Saran Wrap ball.



Group picture during the Christmas party.

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



Good bye 2020 and hello to 2021... As we begin a new year; we will continue to meet virtually on Wednesday nights; until we deem it safe to meet in person and indoors again. To start off the year; we are joining up with S.W.A.G. and Jr. BLAST to do a Zoom (<http://FamilyNight.NewHopeDSM.org>) with the Zoo on Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. That night, we will be hosting some amazing animal guests and their keeper from Blank Park Zoo! The following Wednesday, we will be having our annual BLAST Christmas party through Zoom. We will be dropping off your supplies the week before the event; be on the lookout for Santa dropping off a gift that week.

Beside those events; we will continue to have our Sr. BLAST virtual weekly gatherings at 7pm. We will have a combination of Bible studies and virtual game nights when we meet.

Zoom Link for our December Meetings (Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87637423630?pwd=bC9lUWw3Q1dUdS9haHZnRzBjYVp2dz09>

Meeting ID: 876 3742 3630

Passcode: SR\_BLAST

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



# missions

## JANUARY MISSION NEWS

**Co chairs: Cheryl Moore & Marilyn Osborn**

**Thank you** everyone for your support of Missions in 2020! We look forward to continuing our partnerships in 2021. Each month checks are issued from the Mission Fund to the following: Missionary, Dr. Emmanuel Mefor, Women at the Well, Bidwell Riverside, Johnston Partnership, Urbandale Food Pantry, and DMARC.

**Thank you** for your support in providing monetary support and/or toys toward Bidwell Riverside's December Toy pantry!

**Thank you! Thank you!** Thank you to everyone that helped to make a child's Christmas sweeter by sponsoring a gift through Angel Tree. I know it was different this year (what isn't) but you all came through beautifully. Below is a greeting from Angel Tree:

*I want to wish you and New Hope United Methodist Church a very Merry Christmas and extend my sincere gratitude for your partnership in ministry this Christmas season. In this season of unknowns- you were able to share the peace, joy, and connection only our Heavenly Father provides. I have found rest in having such wonderful ministry partners. Thank you for your adaptability and commitment to share hope and connection to families impacted by incarceration.*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,  
Suzie Martz



**Hand of Luke, January 14th:** This is our monthly ministry of a meal for the Central Iowa Shelter and Services.

We are continuing to utilize your monetary donations to purchase the majority of the food for the monthly meal. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

**For January we are asking for donations of 3 dozen bars or brownies.**

**We will also need three people to help prepare the meal on the 14<sup>th</sup> and two people/vehicles to deliver it to the shelter.**

If you are able to help, please let Jolene Harlow know, [rdharlow@earthlink.net](mailto:rdharlow@earthlink.net) or 515-490-8813. Thank you!

**GRAIN BIN:** One of the effects of the pandemic season is the burden of so many families to put food on the table. The good news is that we always have something to share so that nobody is hungry. Never underestimate the power of a hand-full of uncooked rice, a cup of uncooked beans, a ladle of maize, a cup of cassava fufu and a can of soup!

Staying healthy requires healthy food. To our Asian, African, Latinx and immigrant neighbors, healthy food includes: rice, maize, cassava flour, and beans. Making these foods available to them will help them with their other basic needs of living, especially when there are school-aged children in the family.

The inspiration of this "Grain Bin" was Pastor Lilian's story: A poor family of six in the village cooked three cups of raw rice every day. Before the mother/wife adds water into the pot, she sets aside a hand-scoop of the rice into a container. At the end of each month, the family offers to their Church the set aside rice.

When the Grain Bin is full, the donations will be given to Johnston Partnership, Bidwell Riverside and the Urbandale Food Pantry, on a rotation schedule.

Donations can be collected on Sundays. Thank you for your giving heart.

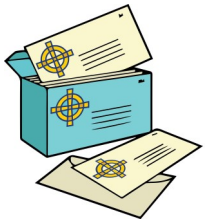
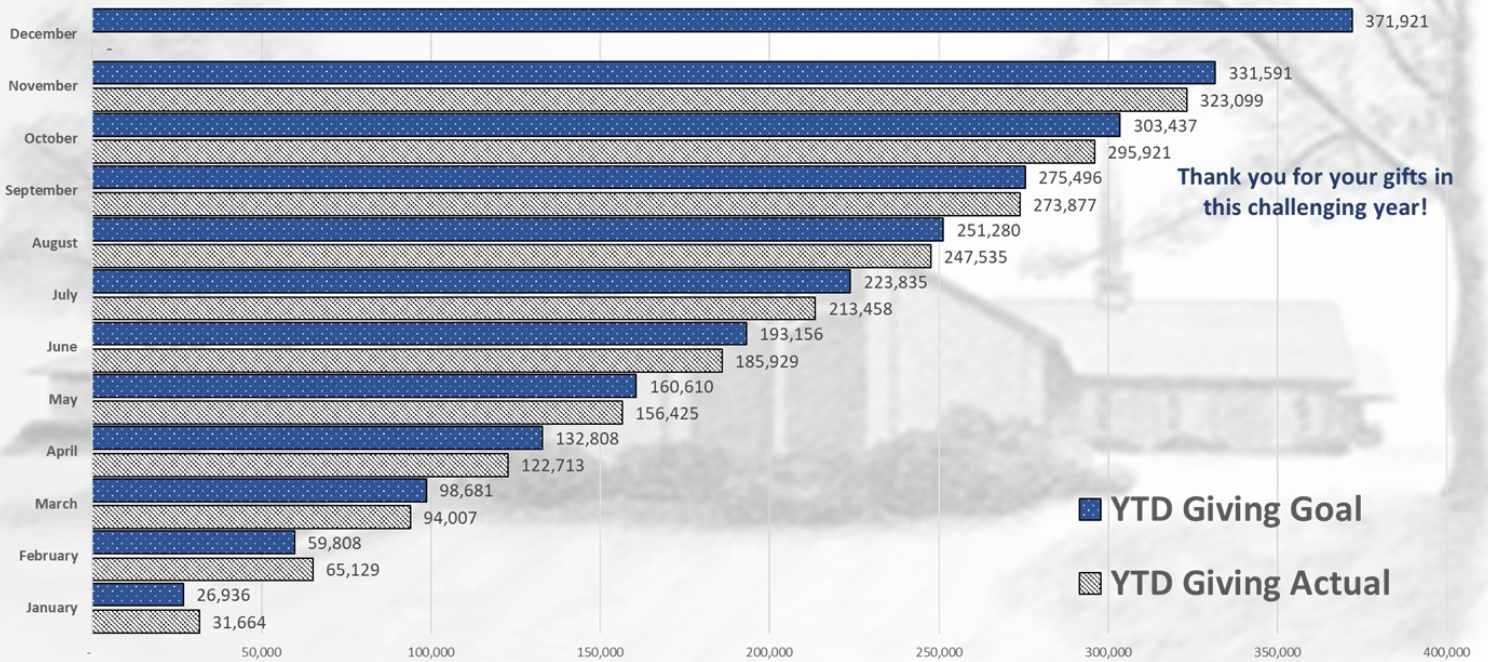


*Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry  
and did not take care of you?*

*(Matthew 25:44 NRSV)*



New Hope's Year to Date Giving Goals and Actuals for 2020



### 2021 Offering Envelopes

Your 2021 Offering Envelopes are available. If you would like to pick up your envelopes from the church office during the week, please call before you head to the church, 278-2097.



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

To setup online giving go to [www.newhopedsm.org](http://www.newhopedsm.org) and click on the **Gifts** tab. This will direct you securely to set up an automatic donation.

Please contact the church office with any questions.



### 2021 Altar Flower Calendar

When worship services are back indoors, 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 service.*



### Church Communications

Stay connected with New Hope UMC!!

Weekly announcements and the monthly newsletters are sent out to everyone via email.

If you have not been receiving these emails, please contact Nancy Monthei in the church office at 278-2097 or [nhfamily@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org).

ALSO, we appreciate receiving your updated contact information. Thank you!



# January 2021

**Sunday Worship**  
9am & 10:30am  
Parking Lot

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <i>Happy New Year!</i> Church Office Closed	2
3 Epiphany Sunday Communion Sunday 1:30p Zoom with Confirmation Class	4 Church Office Closed 7p, Trustees Mtg., via Zoom 7p, Transition Mtg., via Zoom	5 6:00p, SPRC Mtg., via Zoom	6 6-7pm Family Fun Night, Zoom with the Zoo	7 6:30p, Worship Design, via Zoom	8	9
10	11	12	13 Zoom gatherings: 6 - 7p, SWAG 6 - 7p, Jr. BLAST 7 - 8p, Sr. BLAST	14 3:30p, Hand of Luke	15 <i>Happy 60th Birthday to Pastor Lillian!!!</i> 1p, Friday Bible Study, via Zoom	16
17 Human Relations Day (offering)	18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	19 6:30p, Finance Mtg., via Zoom	20 Zoom gatherings: 6 - 7p, SWAG 6 - 7p, Jr. BLAST 7 - 8p, Sr. BLAST	21	22	23
24 31 Souper Bowl	25 Deadline for January LINK	26	27 Zoom gatherings: 6 - 7p, SWAG 6 - 7p, Jr. BLAST 7 - 8p, Sr. BLAST	28 6:30p, Administrative Council Mtg., via Zoom	29 1p, Friday Bible Study, via Zoom	30

**\*Human Relations Day, Jan. 17:** 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 Rick Roquet, Patrick Kyenkya    | 20 Nolan Martz                  |
| 5 David Reiersen                  | 21 Brenda McCulley              |
| 7 Henry Strauss                   | 22 Dustin Henry                 |
| 8 Doug Hewitt                     | 23 Kate Cossa                   |
| 10 Gayle Easton, Norma Wallin     | 24 George Buckingham            |
| 13 Vivienne Lee                   | 26 McKayla Johnson,             |
| 14 Doris Harvey                   | August Abbott, Conifer Abbott   |
| 15 Pastor Lillian Gallo Seagren   | 27 Margaret Holmgren            |
| 16 Marilyn McCleary, Mark Thomsen | 29 Bob Robinson, Lori Marsh     |
| 17 Joan Clay, Gerald Perdue       | 30 Barb Mather, Kirsten Sahlin  |
| 18 Ann Krause                     | 31 Denise Zoss, Kenny Ukabiala, |
| 19 David O'Brien                  | Jim Bolstad                     |



- 2: Michael & Joelyn Gerovac  
15: Randy & Marilyn Goodrich  
17: Keith & Julie Craighton  
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](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org), so we can update our files.*





#### **Sunday Worship Services**

9am: Parking Lot Service

10:30am: Parking Lot Service

**Following Christ, inspiring minds, loving hearts,  
serving hands and transforming communities.**

**[www.newhopedsm.org](http://www.newhopedsm.org)**

#### **Church Staff**

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Lilian Gallo Seagren

Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei

Director of Music: Colby Gochanour

Children's Ministries Coordinator: Charity Johnson

Nursery Attendant: Jackie Johnson, Kris Wakeman

#### **E-mail Information**

Church address: [nhfamily@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org)

Pastor Lilian Gallo Seagren: [Lilian@newhopedsm.org](mailto:Lilian@newhopedsm.org)

Colby Gochanour: [colby@newhopedsm.org](mailto:colby@newhopedsm.org)

Nancy Monthei: [nancy@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nancy@newhopedsm.org)

Charity Johnson: [cjohnson@newhopedsm.org](mailto:cjohnson@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 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.

**the link**  
New Hope United Methodist Church  
4525 Beaver Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50310