

the link

A monthly publication of
New Hope United Methodist Church

September 2024

~ Lots of Happenings and Events at New Hope UMC!
Read all about them in this September LINK! ~



Labor Day Sunday September 1st, 10am

Join us as we worship
Labor Day weekend with **One
Worship Service at 10 AM in
the Sanctuary.**

The Lord gives a wide array of
talents and knowledge to us all
so we may serve one another
through both paid and unpaid
work. Thanks be to God!



THE COMMUNITY JAZZ CENTER BIG BAND PRESENTS

DOWN FOR THE COUNT

THE MUSIC OF COUNT BASIE

SUNDAY, SEPT. 15 | 2-4 PM

NEW HOPE METHODIST CHURCH, 4525 BEAVER AVE.

FREE ADMISSION • OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

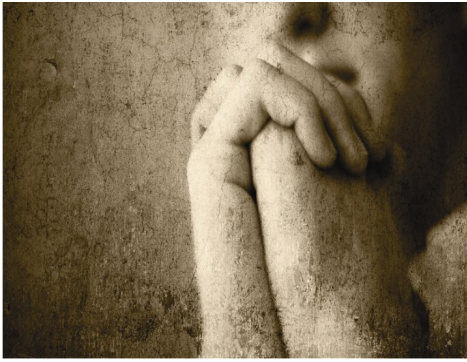


Jazz Event

Join us at New Hope UMC on
**Sunday, September 15th,
2-4 PM**

as The Community Jazz Center
Big Band presents
Down for the Count - Music of
Count Basie.

This event is open to the
public. Free-will donation.



What a glorious September as we return to a full program schedule! Welcome back to Choir, Sunday School, TGIW, worship and fellowship! We look forward to seeing everyone!

Prayer Chain Request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call Mary Ann Rice at 515-664-0222 email at marice2460@gmail.com or the church office at 278-2097.

Our Prayers for ~

(Please call the church office if you or your loved one want to be taken off the list.)

Healing from Cancer:

Barb Mather, David Ruleman, Julie Mericle, Ralph Saunders

Healing from Physical Issues:

Jim Bolstad, Nancy Foreman, Donna Hopkins, Freda Ruleman, James Russell, Evelyn Nold, Patricia Smith, Mike Aasheim Osborne

Military: Devan Stanton, Hunter Schmidt, Joshua Ruleman, Jacob Gerlach, Brycen Gerlach, Michael Craighton, Clayton Hults, Zach McClain

Birth ~

Congratulations to Arianna Bernal and Nathan Roberts on the birth of their daughter, Ellyana Dawn Bernal-Roberts. Ellyana was born at 11:13am on August 7th and weighed 6lbs 9oz.

Congratulations to Noah & Jenna Parker on the birth of their daughter, Penelope June Parker. Penelope was born on August 13th and weighed 6lbs 13oz. She joins big sister, Aurelia, at home.

Wedding ~

Congratulations to Brody Egger and Tori Biggerstaff on their August 24, 2024 wedding in Denver, Colorado. Brody is the son of Carl & Susan Egger.

Thank You ~

Thank you to all the New Hoppers that worked at the West Des Moines UMC food booth during the Iowa State Fair!! Our church will receive \$50 for each 4-hour shift, \$75 for each 6-hour shift, or \$100 for each 8-hour shift that a member of our church worked. Here's a few of the New Hoppers that worked the food booth!



*Share with
Our Pastor*

Tell Pastor Amy About Yourself

Everyone is encouraged to introduce yourself/family to Pastor Amy by writing a note to her.

Please include your name and family members, where you live, how long you have attended New Hope UMC, where you are employed and anything else you would like to share.

You may place your note with the offering, addressed to Pastor Amy, or send to the New Hope UMC, 4525 Beaver Ave, Des Moines, IA 50310.

There are notecards on the bookshelves in the NW corner of the Fellowship Hall that you are welcome to use. Thank you!

Staff Parish Relations Committee



Cy-Hawk Challenge!

The annual Iowa vs. ISU football rivalry is around the corner (kickoff is 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 7th in Iowa City).

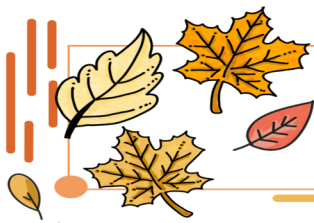
While you are back-to-school shopping, please prayerfully consider filling a bag or box with **non-perishable food items to support your favorite team.**

Each team will accumulate points. One point per item donated. And, if you would prefer to write a check (made out to New Hope UMC), it will be one point per each dollar donated.

We will have two tables designated by university. Last chance to participate is on **September 1st** in anticipation of the game. Show your pride!

Your donations will go toward the Free Little Food Pantry.

The Missions Committee



Harvest Jamboree and Auction



This fundraiser event will take place **September 29th at 3:30 p.m.** in the Neil Cross Family Life Center.

The purpose of this event is to raise donations for the Capital Improvements fund for the church.

There are several ways to get involved with this event.

1. **Donate to the live auction.** We are hoping for 10 live auction items. Each item valued at \$100 or more.
2. **Donate to the silent auction.** We are hoping for 20 silent auction items. No value limit.
3. **Volunteer** to be on the committee.
4. **Volunteer** to help the day of the event. The day of the event all committee members are needed to assist with food, handing out bid numbers, be a spotter for the live auction, or any other way needed.
5. **Attend** the event and bid on auction items or donate for a performance.



AUCTION

*****To donate to the Live Auction and/or Silent Auction, please Glenna Ross at (515) 321-3010 by September 1st.*****

There will be delicious desserts, great music and an entertaining auction. There will be no cost to attend.

New Hope Chancel Choir

I am excited to announce that the Chancel Choir will gather on **Wednesday, September 4th! We will be sharing a meal in celebration at 5:30 p.m. followed by practice at 6:00 p.m.** If you would like to be part of this music ministry, you are welcome to join us!

Practices will resume for our music ministry on Wednesday, September 4th and sing at the 11:00 service again on Sunday, September 15th.

For those new to our congregation, the Chancel Choir sings our "sermon in song" selection each Sunday at the 11:00 a.m. service from September to May each year. We have a wonderful group of dedicated singers who simply love to sing, and their beautiful voices touch so many lives! We practice every Wednesday where we gather 15 minutes early for practices at 5:45 p.m. and begin promptly 6:00 p.m. Most practices will last until 7:15 p.m.

For special events or holiday services, the choir may be asked to also sing at the 9:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. services or hold a few extra practices in preparation. Communication is always offered and encouraged, and we delight in sharing our love of God together and the company of one another. Our group sings many different styles so there is something to meet all musical tastes!

If you have a heart for music, love to sing, and would like to share your voice in music ministry at New Hope, we would love to have you!

Music Blessings,

Preshia Paulding, Director of Music, preshia@msn.com or 515-770-7664.



Join us for Veterans Helping Veterans on **Saturday, September 21st at 8:30 a.m.**

Breakfast will be served. This is open to all veterans, their spouses, and supporters.

Questions, please contact Billy Nuzum at bbnewz54@gmail.com.

Women at the Well – Fresh Start Women's Center

We are once again providing a meal at the Fresh Start Women's Center on **Tuesday, September 24.**

Please check the signup clipboard in the Welcome Center if you would like to help with this meal or contact Jolene Harlow, 515-490-8813, or rdharlow@earthlink.net.

Women at the Well began a satellite ministry at Fresh Start during the pandemic when it was not possible to get inside the prison where the primary ministry happens. A weekly program is offered at Fresh Start called "Well Time" that features bible study, worship and small group support for the reentry journey of women in transition from jail or prison.

A feeding ministry offers a home-cooked meal to the women twice a month, on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Fresh Start is a 48 bed facility run by the Department of Corrections for women in the justice system. It is a work-release facility so everyone there is required to leave during the day to go to work and earn their keep. Meals at the center are only offered once a day and come from the men's facility: old and cold. They appreciate a nice meal prepared with the love and care that many of our partner churches are known for.

The mission of Women at the Well is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Our vision is to lead the church in love that breaks down walls.



Children's Ministry Updates by Jackie Johnson, Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator jackie@newhopedsm.org or (515)710-3239



In addition to Jackie being available at church on Sunday mornings from 8:45 – 11:45am and Wednesday evenings from 4:30 - 8:00pm this fall, she will be in the office on Wednesday mornings from 10am-Noon if you need to meet with her or call the office and reach her directly. She is always available by email, phone, or text - jackie@newhopedsm.org/(515)710-3239.

Another school year has started and we would love for you to join us in praying for the children, teachers, school staff, and bus drivers in our community! We hope they have an amazing year!



Attention Families of PreK-7th Graders!!

We are excited to start another year of learning God's love, growing our faith, and knowing Jesus together! Sunday School will start back on **September 15th** this year. **Sunday School will be held during the 10am service, with a change to the order of things this year.**

The children will start out in service at the children's table and exit to Sunday School with Jackie after announcements. The Children's Message time will be moved to the close of service, just before the benediction and

will be an opportunity for the children to engage in sharing what they learned in class that day.

Please be sure to fill out the registration form before Sunday School begins on September 15th!

This helps us plan adequate supplies. You may do so electronically by visiting: <https://forms.gle/qSs7vhCRkWeNut8t5>
Paper registration forms are also available upon request.

We have been looking forward to Wednesday nights ALL summer and it's almost time to "fall" back into our Wednesday night routine!

All PreK-12th graders are invited to join us starting **Wednesday, September 11th** for fellowship, faith-building, and fun at TGIW Midweek Meetup! I Invite a friend to join you for double the fun!

We will be continuing our *Service First, All Group Service Projects* on the first Wednesday of each month beginning in October.

Dinner is served weekly from 6-6:30pm by our amazing volunteer chefs!

There is no set fee for the meal, but a free-will donation is collected each week to help cover the cost.

Activities are from 6:30-7:30pm!

Kids are split into different groups by age for the activities:

PreK-5th grade – TGIW

6th-8th grade- Jr. BLAST

9th-12th grade – Sr. BLAST

*Please see the BLAST articles for more information about youth group specific activities for 6th-12th grades.

Puppets will be offered again this year for 3rd grade and up! The puppet group will meet from 7:30-8pm each Wednesday evening (also starting September 11th) and may have occasional Saturday practices leading up to a performance. Several times during the year the puppet group will perform a skit during Sunday morning services.

Please sign up before September 5th to help us adequately plan for meals and supplies.

There is no cost to register: <https://forms.gle/qSs7vhCRkWeNut8t5>

Paper forms are available upon request.





Confirmation Class Information Meeting

Sunday, September 22nd @ 6:00 p.m.

Attention 7th & 8th graders and families!

Please plan on attending our special Confirmation Class Information Meeting on **Sunday, September 22nd, at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.**

We'll take a look at the Confirmation year schedule, as well as discuss what one can expect in Confirmation. *Please bring your family schedule.*

If you have any questions or are unable to attend that evening, please contact Pastor Amy at 515-278-2097 or Amy@newhopedsm.org.

Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed!

Fall programs are just a few short weeks away here at New Hope and the excitement is building! All that is missing is YOU!

We are still looking for a few volunteers that enjoy working with children and have a desire to positively impact children in our congregation and our community to prayerfully consider the following needs we currently have:

Sunday School Teachers-

We need people to make a 5-week commitment (or if you feel called to volunteer for more than one of the sessions, we will welcome that too).

Session 1: 9/15 - 10/13

Session 2: 10/20 - 11/17

Session 3: 11/24 - 12/22 (No Sunday School on 12/24 or 12/31)

Session 4: 1/5 - 2/2

Session 5: 2/9 - 3/9

Session 6: 3/23 - 4/20 (No Sunday School on 3/16)

Session 7: 4/27 - 5/18

Volunteers will plan and lead a 45-minute lesson for children in their care during the 10:00am service for a period of 5 weeks. Curriculum and planning support is provided to any extent desired by the volunteers.

One-Time Volunteer Helpers for Sunday School-

This can be helpful for one-on-one support for our youngest attendees.

You can let us know your availability and sign up for just a few Sundays or you can provide your name to be used as a fill-in volunteer when we find ourselves in need.

Wednesday Night Program Helpers-

We are looking for additional volunteers for Wednesday nights! The time commitment would be one hour each week – from 6:30-7:30pm. You will not be expected to plan the lessons in the helper role, just show up to help with our activities!

If any of these things sound like something you would enjoy helping with, please reach out to Jackie at jackie@newhopedsm.org or (515)710-3239 with questions or to express interest.



BLAST (BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org):

**Christopher & Jennifer Higdon
and Tyler & McKayla Nearmyer**



Where did the summer go? It is crazy how fast this summer has gone by... It seems like we just got back from our week-long Summer Games University Camp in Grinnell, Iowa last week! However, summer is over and it is time to start planning our 2024-2025 BLAST season at New Hope.

This year, we are going to try something different on Wednesday nights... We will be joining both Junior and Senior groups together to share a common opening lesson and then break into smaller groups for discussions. McKayla and Jenn will be leading the small group discussions; we are hoping to break the groups up by Junior BLAST (6th through 8th Grade) and Senior BLAST (9th through 12th Grade).

We are going to start our Wednesday night get together by doing a 4-week study from the Gospels and Old Testament on God's Promises. We will be doing this by relating this to a video game, you expect to face challenges and make mistakes, but there's always a way out. If things get too difficult in the video game, you can just turn it off and start over. However, in real life it's not so easy for us to recover from mistakes or start over when we face challenges, but Jesus gives us a chance to restart - no matter how difficult our circumstances are.



In this 4-week study from the Old and New Testaments, we'll look at a few people who needed God's help to give them a restart. From their stories, we'll discover four promises from God we can trust:

- When we feel like a failure, **God helps us restart.**
- When we feel overwhelmed, **God takes care of us.**
- When you ever feel stuck, **God gives you guidance.**
- When you ever feel unwanted, **God says you belong.**

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

- Sept. 11th at 6pm – Wednesday Night BLAST – Kick Off Night
- Sept. 18th at 6pm – Wednesday Night BLAST – God Helps you Restart
- Sept. 25th at 6pm – Wednesday Night BLAST – God Takes Care of You
- Oct. 2nd at 6pm – Service First - Service Project Night
- Oct. 9th at 6pm – Wednesday Night BLAST – God Gives you Guidance
- Oct. 16th at 6pm – Wednesday Night BLAST – BLAST Game Night
- Oct. 23rd at 6pm – Wednesday Night BLAST – God Says You Belong
- **Oct. 30th at 6pm - No Meetings, Beggar's Night**

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

We are hosting a **Trunk or Treat** event for our church members and the community!

This year it will be held on **Saturday, October 26th**
from 4—5pm.

We are asking for volunteers to **host a trunk** to help make this event a great success! In addition to fun decorations and a warm smile, we are asking to you to provide treats at your trunk. If you are unable to do so, the church will provide donated candy.

****If you aren't able to participate by hosting a trunk, we would welcome your monetary donations or donations of individually wrapped candy or small trinkets to help us replenish handouts for the volunteers with trunks!****

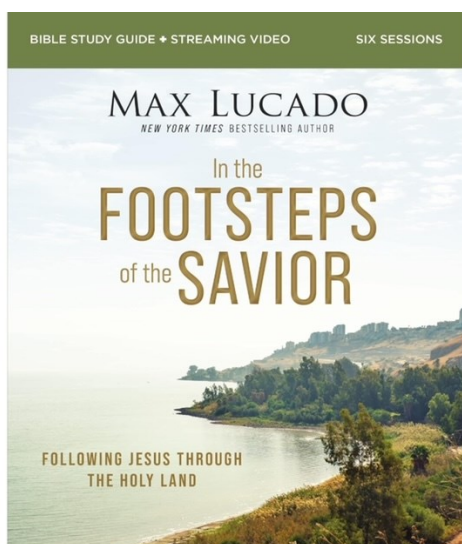
****Also, we are looking for 4 –5 volunteers to help with the event.****

To sign up to do a Trunk and/or to volunteer to help or to donate, please contact Nancy Monthei at the Church Office, 515-278-2097 or nancy@newhopedsm.org by *October 20th*.



And, plan to join us for this event and bring your kids and their friends!!

The Avengers of the Knight will be making a special appearance!



Our fall Bible Study is going to be a six-week study with Max Lucado.

The video we will watch is filmed entirely in the Holy Land. We will be guided through events and places that impacted Jesus. We will start with Capernaum, experience the Sea of Galilee. We will hear the Beatitudes and hear lessons from the temple steps, see the Garden Tomb, and end in Caesarea. All these places are where Jesus actually walked and ministered. You will learn about the one who became our Savior.

The study starts Wednesday, October 9th and continues through November 13th. We will meet at 1pm.

The book we will be using is \$12.50 per person.

We hope you can join us for a chance to know Jesus better. We're excited about this and hope you are too!

Armenta Buckingham, armentabu@gmail.com
and Dawn Bachelder, buckeye.dawn@yahoo.com

Blood Pressure Check

September 1, 9:30am -
10:30am in the Narthex.



Join us!

10:00 a.m. in the Ruby Chapel using
"Wired Word" curriculum.

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
(April - September) at 7 p.m.
Questions? Contact Sue Toale
Knapp, 515-255-0366,
stktel1@gmail.com.
Online support group:
<http://www.strokenetwork.org/>



Men's Fellowship will meet on **Saturday,**
September 7th at 8:30 a.m. at church.
All men are invited!!

On the first Sunday of each month, in
the church hallway, when you see our
globe, please stop and drop in some
change. You will be helping the United
Women in Faith group and the mis-
sions they support. Thank you.



United
Women
in Faith



Care Ministry Team

The Care Ministry meets
quarterly. Next meeting is on
**Thurs., October 10th 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.

**The next United Women in Faith gathering will be held
on September 19th at 9:30 a.m.**
**The meeting will be a get acquainted time with Pastor
Amy.**

Questions? Please call Karen Skovgard at 515-979-3640



New Hope Needlers

The New Hope Needlers sewing group will meet on **Friday, September 20th, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm** in the north classroom. We lunch at Panera in Johnston.

Bring your sewing machine, scissors, pin cushion and thread to join us in stitching lap quilts for the NHUMC Care Team to give to church members who are hospitalized, in care facilities and to newborns. We also make Little Dresses, Little Britches, and components for Days for Girls feminine hygiene kits for overseas missions. Dress and Britches kits are provided. These are very simple sewing projects.

If your machine isn't portable, we have two in the church closet you may use.

We also welcome non-sewists to help us with simple tasks, such as threading ribbon in drawstring bags. This allows the sewing machines to keep humming along.

We would like to thank the Finance Committee for the money granted to us to continue our projects. Donations are always welcome. You may designate your gift to "Needlers".

Questions? Contact Diane Densmore, 515-270-1974 or Jody Rains, 515-238-4051



YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS



Thank you to everyone who attended the presentation by **Missionary Dr. Emmanuel Mefor and his wife, Florence** on August 21. They have both been in the mission field since 2001 serving in Mozambique, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and are now serving at Old Mutare Hospital in Mutare. Dr. Mefor will retire at the end of this year but Florence will continue with her Midwife work. The Mefors join over 200 United Methodist missionaries witnessing and serving in many locales and cultures. The United Methodist church has missionaries in more than 60 countries around the world fulfilling the mission of the Church. New Hope has contributed financially to Dr. Mefor for several years thanks to the contributions from our congregation.



The big game – Iowa vs Iowa State – will happen September 7. The winner of this rivalry is the Free Little Food Pantry! Thank you for contributing food and money to support this mission while challenging each other to “win” the game for your team! Great Job.



Free Little Food Pantry: Thank you to the New Hope congregation for helping to keep food on the shelves of our Pantry. We are donating 50 non-perishable food items each Monday to the food pantry off Meredith Drive. **Please remember to bring non-perishable food items each Sunday** for our pantry shelf. Please no opened boxes or expired items. **Be sure to sign up** for a Monday to deliver the 50 food items you chose from our pantry shelf. There is a sign-up sheet on the pantry shelf. If you have questions, please contact Jolene Harlow: 515-490-8813 or email at rdharlow@earthlink.net



Women at the Well – New Hope will furnish a meal for the women in the reentry program, Fresh Start on Tuesday, September 24. Please check the signup clipboard in the Welcome Center if you would like to help with this meal or contact Jolene Harlow, 515-490-8813, or rdharlow@earthlink.net.

Monthly checks – Your donations to New Hope also make it possible to send checks throughout 2024 to African Immigrant and Refugee Transition Services (AIRTS), Families Forward, DMARC Food Pantry, Women at the Well, Johnston Partnership, Missionary Dr. Mefor, and Urbandale Food Pantry.

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

Fill the Red Barrel: Contributing to the red barrel is as easy as buying a few extra cans of food while you shop and bringing them to church with you. All food and personal care items collected by the Red Barrel Program goes to the DMARC Food Pantry Network. For a list of most needed items, go to <https://www.dmarcunited.org>. If you would rather give a monetary donation, please make your check out to New Hope UMC and include “Food Pantry” in the memo line and place your check with the offering.

Did you know DMARC can purchase 2 – 6 times more food with your dollar than you can at the grocery store. As DMARC works to meet the demand of a record level of need, your financial contributions are making a significant impact as ever before.



Hand of Luke ~ Saturday, September 14th

This is our monthly ministry of preparing a meal for the Central Iowa Shelter and Services. Patrice Webber and Arlene Dabill lead this ministry. We are continuing to utilize your monetary donations to purchase the majority of the food for the monthly meal. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

The menu for September will be American goulash, green beans, sliced peaches and cookies.

Volunteers are needed to prepare the meal, transport the food to the shelter, serve at the shelter, and donate cookies (no peanut butter or nuts, please). Please bring cookies in containers that do not need

to be returned. If you are interested in this opportunity, you may sign up using the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044DACA722A4FE3-50783046-holsaturday>

You may also contact Arlene Dabill at dabill49@aol.com or (515) 321-2059 to volunteer.

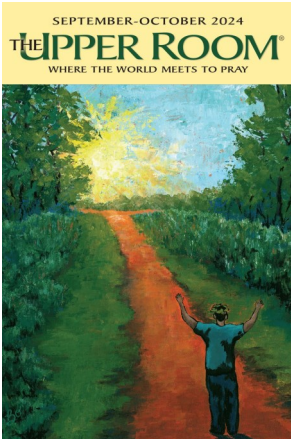


Help Needed with Maintaining the Gardens

As you know, it takes a village to keep the flower gardens looking nice at New Hope UMC.

Please let Nancy, in the church office, know that you will volunteer your time to help maintain the flower gardens.

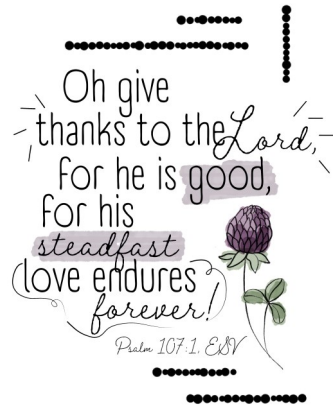
Please call her at 515-278-2097 or email at nancy@newhopedsm.org.



New Hope UMC has available to you the Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide.

The September/October issue is in the Communication Center. Pick up a copy today!

You may leave a donation in the box by the Upper Room guides.



Chair Yoga & Fitness ~ Every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

This is a gentle yoga & fitness that is done while you are seated on a chair. It's a 30-45 minute session. The instructors are from Youtube videos.

Please meet in the Fellowship Hall. No fee!

This is for anyone and any age. Bring your friends!



Sleeping Mats/Loom

We purchased a loom so that everyone could contribute their time to weave the mat, cut bags, flatten bags, fold bags to make the mat, or simply donate your shopping bags.

The mats are distributed by Midwest Missions all over the world including Iowa.

We have now completed two mats and need help. I would like to have a class so everyone can help with the making of the mats. Please contact me if you are interested: Glenna Ross at glenna625@hotmail.com or 515-321-3010.





Documents and Donuts:

On Sunday, September 29th, the Finance Committee members will host a "Documents and Donuts" after each service.

The committee will be sharing information on our current financial condition.

So be sure to grab a donut, a chair and a Finance Committee member and visit for a while.

The East Entrance

Join us for our campaign ~ "Can You Spare a Dollar?"

Place your weekly \$1 in the container at each worship space to help pay off the loan balance.

Thank you!!! Board of Trustees

August donations by week:

08/04 \$89.00

08/11 \$30.00

08/18 \$84.00

8/25 \$10.00 = \$213.00

August check to reduce principal is \$213

Beginning 1/01/2024 Loan Balance: \$42,483.51

Weekly Donations for 2024: \$ 10,168.35

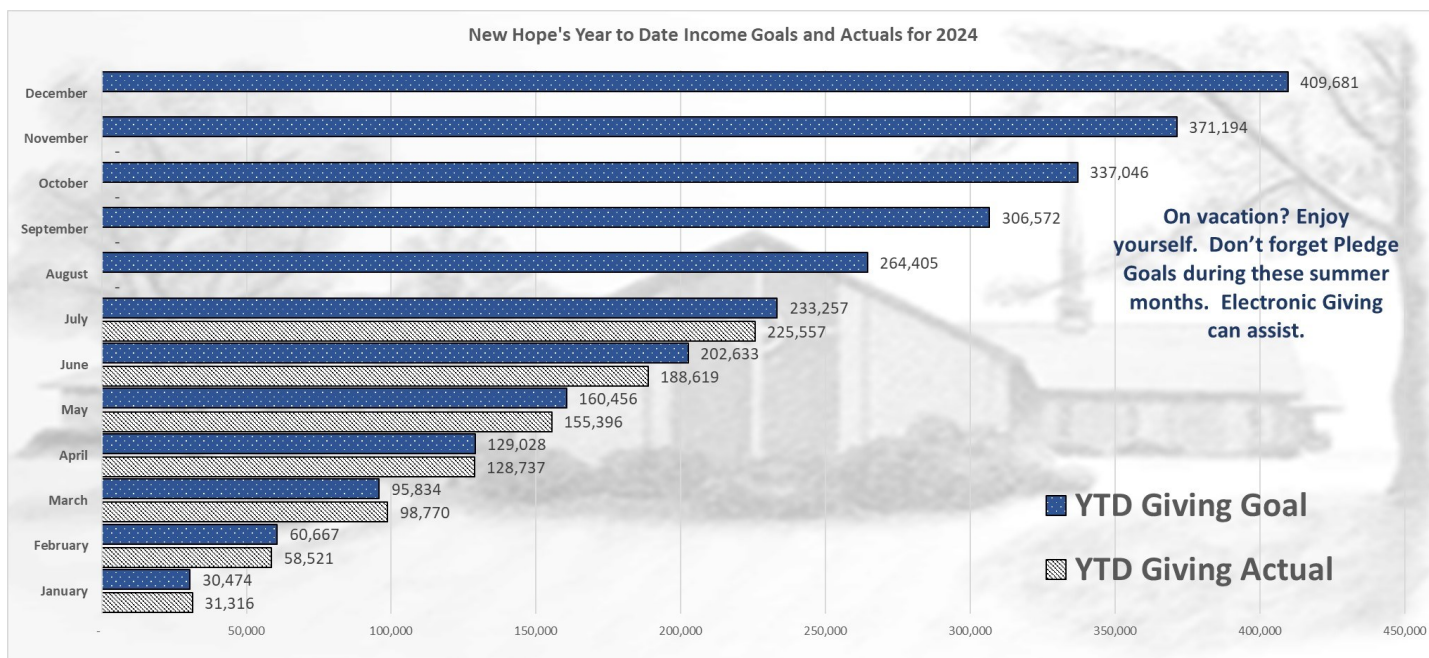
Monthly Principal P&I for 2024 \$ 3,121.38

SUBTOTAL \$13,289.73

NEW 8/31/24 Principal Balance \$29,193.78



*Thank You for your
Financial Support*



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 and click on the **Gifts** tab. This will direct you securely to set up an automatic donation. Please contact the church office for additional information.

2024 Rummage Sale Update! (by Jackie Johnson)

THANK YOU to everyone that supported the Rummage Sale this year whether as a volunteer, donor, or shopper! We had another successful sale thanks to all of our amazing volunteers that get right to work pulling everything together. Each year there are hundreds of volunteer hours put in to getting everything just perfect, it's amazing!

Now, for the information you all want to know...

Our profit total for 2024 was: **\$7,174.85.**

The unsold items remaining at the end of our sale went to Many Hands for Haiti, a local non-profit focused on love in action and sustainable development in Haiti and Abaco.

If you would like to learn more about their mission, please visit: [Mission](#) | [Many Hands Thrift](#)

PS- It's never too early to start a pile of donations for next year's sale. 2025 dates will be coming soon!



BOOK DONATIONS FOR NEW HOPE'S LITTLE (Street) LIBRARY (by Charlotte Schultz)

Book size restrictions: Please do not donate hardbound books nor any other book over 8" tall due to the library shelf height sizes. Paperback books and other books no taller than 8" are appreciated. You may place your book donations on the bookshelf in the NW corner of the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!



Annual Charge Conference will be held on Tuesday, November 12th at 7p.m. at New Hope UMC

Charge Conference is the annual meeting of the year where we review the past year's ministries, look at the programs and the goals for the coming year, set the Pastor's salary and elect the officers of the church.

Your attendance is welcomed! *If you plan to attend, please contact Nancy in the church office, 515-278-2097 or nancy@newhopedsm.org*



Advent by Candlelight for women is set for Monday, December 2nd, 7pm.

Sign-up sheets will be out in October. Questions? Contact Nancy Monthei at 515-278-2097 or nancy@newhopedsm.org

September 2024

**Sunday morning services are:
9:00, 10:00 and 11:00
Nursery at 10:00**

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

1 One Worship at 10am Holy Communion Blood Pressure checks 7:00p, Scouts (Jackie)	2 Labor Day Office Closed	3 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 6pm, SPRC Mtg	4 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 5:30p, Chancel Choir potluck & practice 7:30p, Praise Band practice	5 6:30p, Worship Mtg	6	7 8:30a, Men's Breakfast at church
8 Fall Festival	9 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness Church Office closed at 11:00 7:00p, Trustees Mtg	10 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel	11 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 6p, Choir practice 7:30p, Praise band practice TGIW / BLAST ~ 6:00-6:30 Meal Served 6:30-7:30 Activities 7:30-8p, Puppets	12	13	14 9:45a-Noon, Ruby Chapel reserved (Sharon Smith) 3:30p, Hand of Luke
15 10a, Sunday School begins 2p-4p, DSM Big Band	16 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness Church Office closed at 11:00	17 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 6:30p, Finance ~ Budget & Revenue Mtg. 7:00p, Stroke Club (F.Hall)	18 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 6p, Choir practice 7:30p, Praise band practice TGIW / BLAST ~ 6:00-6:30 Meal Served 6:30-7:30 Activities 7:30-8p, Puppets	19 9:30a, United Women in Faith	20 9:00a, Needlers	21 8:30a, Veterans Breakfast
22 6p, Confirmation Information Meeting	23 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness Church Office closed at 11:00 October LINK deadline	24 9a, Endowment Mtg (Kirk Hartung) 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel	25 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 6p, Choir practice 7:30p, Praise band practice TGIW / BLAST ~ 6:00-6:30 Meal Served 6:30-7:30 Activities 7:30-8p, Puppets	26 6:30p, Administrative Council Mtg.	27	28
29 Documents & Donuts 3:30p, Harvest Jamboree & Auction	30 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness Church Office closed at 11:00					



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

1 Samuel Gaul
4 James Neu
5 Tim Carrigan, Angie Eaves
6 Marlys Borcharding
7 Sophie Sandquist, Eugene Pecinovsky
9 Jenn Higdon, Charlie Strauss,
David Bachelder
10 Kirk Hartung, Grace Rowland,
Juniece McCuddin
11 Lindsey McClellan, Elaine Sheer
12 Emma Sandquist, Byron Williamson
13 John Kirkpatrick
14 Randy Jansen
15 Sharon Lewis, Kristine Wakeman,
Judy Nemmers

16 Nancy Monthei
17 Ruth Doxon
18 Dennis Haugland, Elliot Sutton,
Sherri Bogue
19 Ty Dolberg, Megan Thomsen
20 Adrian Sjoquist
21 Zane Sutton
22 Clarice Rubek
24 Janet Carrigan
25 Jeffrey Huber
26 Angelle Uwineza
27 Julie Boyles, Nora Mundy
28 Susan Clark
29 Jeffrey Foreman
30 Joe Nemmers



8 Gene & Elaine Lesch
9 Dustin & Melanie Henry
9 Chad & Cindy Meyer
11 Kristin & Paul Coffelt
13 Farhad & Wendy Zadeh
14 John & Carolyn Burrough
15 Jerry & Becky Baker
22 Corey & Deanne Miller
23 Dennis & Renee Haugland
27 Pete & Susan Frey

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.

~ From Pastor Amy ~

My siblings, what help is it if someone says they have faith, but they have no labors? The faith itself can't rescue anyone, can it? -James 2:14

This month opens with Labor Day weekend! Let's race into fall by talking this month about the John Wesley's first General Rule: Do no harm. As you know, Wesley had 3 General Rules to live by. The early Methodists were expected to learn those rules by heart. For Wesley, this was where the rubber of our faith met the road. Knowing what is right, learning about scripture, studying our faith was not enough. Eventually, there must be action.

As we race into Fall, what will it look like when the Rubber Meets the Road? It will look like doing no harm! We are going to follow the lectionary through a large section of James and a few chapters of Mark. These are going to help us learn to do no harm as we commit to memory the first General Rule.

The "James" identified as the author of the Epistle of James was most likely (there are other theories, but most hold to the majority view) the brother of Jesus, known to be a pious Jew, although not a legalistic Jew as some Jewish leaders in the gospels are depicted. He was given the name "James the Just," because of his strong Jewish convictions. These are clear in this letter, as well. James was just because he was a very good Jew, and he witnessed the resurrected Christ, which changed everything about his outlook, but nothing about his faithfulness to his Jewish roots.

Pastor Wendy and I had a short conversation about this recently. Sometimes the Passion texts can give us the wrong ideas about First Century Jews. They were not all legalistic. They were not all anti-Christian (in fact, most Christians during the time of this epistle were referred to as Jewish followers of the Way, not Christian). Most of the Jews of the day were just everyday people striving to be kind, to love God deeply, and to be true to what their experience of faith has been. James, brother of Jesus, was one of those Jewish followers of the Way. As we read through James, look for the clues that James is trying to be faithful to the scriptures of the Old Testament and also true to the reality of the resurrection, and that he is most likely speaking to others who are similar in belief to him. This is a welcome portrayal of Jewish Christians and faithful Jews of the day who are definitely in contrast to the Jewish leaders from the Passion scriptures. It is important to notice this so that we understand the sin in taking the sin of one member of a group of people and projecting that upon all of the people. There are good and bad people in every bunch. James is a devout, yet open and non-legalistic Jewish follower of the Way. While he still can come across as a bit old-fashioned, remember that he died in around 80AD. That is just going to sound old fashioned no matter what!

James is also very consistently harsh to the rich and very compassionate to the poor in his letter (credit to Raymond Brown). This is likely less of a general criticism and more of a window into what the church must have looked like in his time. Imagine a dualistic environment where people are becoming divisive with their side-taking and entitlement. I know that is a stretch for us, but try to imagine! (OK, that was good old fashioned sarcasm!) We can learn a lot from James because in many ways, the church he is speaking to and the world we are living in are quite similar. The church then was polarized, and the ones suffering because of it seemed to be the poor. James pushes the church to put their faith into practice so that the suffering of the poor might end. I wonder if we can ever learn to lay aside our differences for the sake of those who are suffering from our polarizations today?

I don't want to give it all away, but it is good to know some background as we begin this series. I can't wait to get those motors running and put the rubber to the road this coming month! Just like James, I am confident that we have it in us to turn this "competition" into a race we can all win. We don't often spend a lot of time in Mark or James, and this will be a great way to see Wesley's General Rules in light of our own world view, and start to shape up! In the end, when the checkered flag flies, I hope we all cross that finish line together, having learned more about doing no harm!

Blessings to you all as we race into Fall, When the Rubber Meets the Road!



Where the Rubber Meets The Road: Do No Harm

September 1: Pastor Amy 10am (Working in the Pit)

September 8: Pastor Amy 9, 10, 11am (Assembling the Crew)

September 15: Pastor Amy 9 & 11am (The Winner's Circle)

Pastor Wendy 10am (The Winner's Circle)

September 22: Pastor Amy 9, 10, 11am (Burning Rubber)



WORSHIP
with us

Sunday Morning Worship Services

9:00 & 11:00: Traditional Services in the Sanctuary

10:00: Contemporary Service in the Neil Cross Family Life Center

We continue to offer the Sunday morning Parking Lot Radio Feed and also the Pre-Recorded Worship Services that can be found on the church Facebook page.

Church Staff

Pastor: Amy Johnson

Associate Pastor: Wendy Zadeh

Office Administrator: Nancy Monthei

Children & Youth Ministries Coord.: Jackie Johnson

Director of Music: Preshia Paulding

Nursery Attendants: Kris Wakeman, Brianna Johnson, Sarah Sahlin, Emma Sandquist

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Find us on facebook!

The LINK newsletter is a monthly publication.

Editor: Nancy Monthei; Reporters: New Hope Church family. Please contact the church office at 515-278-2097 if you have a change in address or would like to be taken off the LINK mailing list.

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

the link
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