

# the link

A monthly publication of  
New Hope United Methodist Church

## September 2025



9am • 10am • 11am  
newhopedsm.org

## Heresies & Theology

Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>

What Exactly is  
God Doing Here?

Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>

Iconoclasm Is Not Disease

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>

It Was Me

Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>

At Least  
I Didn't Do That



**Looking for a little tradition and a little something that is new? This year join us for our Fall fundraiser: Autumn Tables and Treasures!**

Buy tickets for our amazing dinner, made at the church with love and served by our fabulous youth! **\$20 a ticket include soup and salad, entrée, sides, and dessert.** Entertainment will be provided, along with a live auction spread throughout the evening! There will be door prizes, as well!

Children are not forgotten. They are welcome to eat in the Fellowship hall and be entertained and supervised by the youth. They even have their own kids menu! Or they may choose to eat

with their family in the Family Life Center using the kids menu! Either are included in the price of the **children's \$10 ticket!**

For those at home or joining us from a distance, we have not left you out! We will be having an online silent auction that ends as the dinner begins. Those present at the dinner will be able to pick up their items at the auction. Those not available to pick up at the dinner will be able to pick up their items by appointment with the church office.

Donations without the need to haul home items are also welcome. Take home a full belly, a lot of great memories, and the satisfaction of knowing that not only did you help the church, but you don't need to find space for something else!

All donations for the silent and live auction are welcome. Live auction will be limited due to time, so not all items will be available for the live portion of the auction. **We appreciate items dropped off at the church before noon on Tuesday, September 16.**

On Sunday, September 21, from noon until 1pm, church staff will be on hand to help anyone who is unfamiliar with the online format of the auction learn how to make bids. We will be able to make one-time maximum bids for anyone who is not able to make their bids online without assistance at the end of that session.

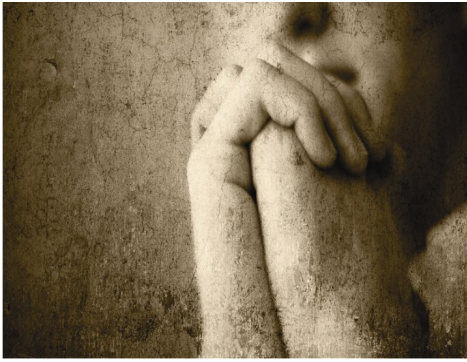
We are excited about bringing the auction online so that our friends who join us electronically for worship, those who love and support the church but are located outside of the metro area, family members who have moved away, members and friends who are not able to physically come to the church because of illness or other considerations, groups that meet at church but are not present on Sundays, and all others who wish to support the church through participation in the auction will be able to participate. Online auctions are fun, and allow more participation and accessibility than in-person silent auctions, while still being fun and surprising! We are glad to be able to offer this so that no one is left out of our Autumn 2025 campaign!

Finance, the Fundraising Committee, and the leadership of the congregation wishes to thank everyone in advance for their participation, donations, support, and positive energy during the Fall Table and Treasures events! What a joy for our congregation to come together in this amazing way to love God and neighbor by supporting the ministries of the congregation!

**Tickets and auction catalogue available by going to this link:**

**<https://event.auctria.com/05a4a746-d545-434c-bbf2-5608ed3a44da/> or scan the QR code.** Questions? Contact Jackie Johnson at [jackie@newhopedsm.org](mailto:jackie@newhopedsm.org) or (515)710-3239.





### Prayer Chain Request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call Glenna Ross at 515-321-3010 email at glenna625@hotmail.com or the church office at 515-278-2097.

### Our Prayers for ~

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

#### Healing from Cancer:

Neal Cave, Pam Frey, Marlys Borcharding, Linda Boyd

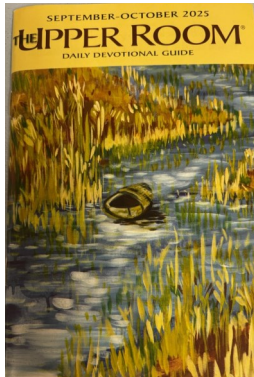
#### Healing from Physical Issues:

Don Gurnsey, Freda Ruleman, John Kommavong, Patricia Smith, Mike Aasheim Osborne

#### Military:

Devan Stanton, Hunter Schmidt, Joshua Ruleman, Jacob Gerlach, Brycen Gerlach, Michael Craighton, Clayton Hults, Zach McClain, Ethan Hensley, Kaden Moran, Macon Woodlief

New Hope UMC has available to you the



Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide.

The September/October issue is in the Communication Center.



*Welcome as we enter a new season!*

*Autumn's turning leaves remind us of God's creative power and faithful rhythm of change.*

*May this season be one of reflection, gratitude, and renewal.*

### Directory Updates

Juniece McCuddin has a new phone: 515-829-1411

Dean Peterson has a new address:

3520 Grand Ave  
Room 1011  
Des Moines, IA 50312  
515-240-9814  
dpeter3056@gmail.com

Bhanu Moses has a new room and phone number:

6901 Peckham St, Apt. 503  
Johnston, IA 50131  
515-253-2423

### Thank You

Dear New Hope UMC Congregation,  
Thank you for making our 60th wedding anniversary celebration so special. Your food donations to the Free Little Pantry were amazing and the cards you gave us were wonderful. But the best gift of all is the loving, caring family we have at New Hope UMC—a gift we will always treasure.

Dick & Charlene Cobb



The psalmist reminds us: "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). May our hearts be open today to God's presence, peace, and purpose.





**Men's Fellowship** will  
meet on  
**Saturday, September 6**  
**at 8:30 a.m.** at church.  
*All men are invited!!*



### New Hope Chancel Choir

If you would like to be part of the New Hope Chancel Choir, please join us!

We will practice every Wednesday at 6pm and sing at the 11am service starting September 14.

Questions? Contact Preshia Paulding, Director of Music, 515-770-7664.



Join us at New Hope UMC on  
**Sunday, September 21**  
**2-4 PM**

as The Community Jazz Center  
Big Band  
presents  
**Lights, Camera, Jazz!**

This event is open to the public in  
our Family Life Center. Free-will  
donation. Please invite your  
friends!

"God is a busy worker, but he loves help." — Basque proverb



## United Women in Faith

We are excited that meetings for United Women in Faith will start back up in September!

**Our first meeting will be on September 18 at 9:30 am.** Our speaker will be our own Althea Holcomb. She will be speaking about our Social Action Committee, which she now chairs.

UWIF is excited to start a Saturday group, designed to give women of the church an opportunity to fellowship together that are unable to attend the Thursday meetings. The Saturday morning fellowship will have their **first meeting on September 27 at 9:30 am.** A light brunch will be served. The first meeting will be a discussion on how to organize this group.

Questions, please contact Glenna Ross, [glenna625@hotmail.com](mailto:glenna625@hotmail.com) or call 515-321-3010.



Join us for **Veterans Helping Veterans** on **Saturday, October 11 at 8:30am at church**

Breakfast will be served.

This is open to all veterans, their spouses, and supporters.

Questions, please contact Pam Frey at [yayafrey@gmail.com](mailto:yayafrey@gmail.com).

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

This year it will be held on **SUNDAY, October 26th from 4 - 5pm.** *(Please note the change of day this year.)*



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](mailto:nancy@newhopedsm.org) by **October 21.**

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



## Annual Charge Conference will be held on

**Sunday, November 2 at 4pm at Oakwood UMC, 400 NE 56th St., Pleasant Hill, IA**

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](mailto:nancy@newhopedsm.org)*



## Advent by

**Candlelight** for women of the church (including high school students) and their guests are invited to attend the **26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Advent by Candlelight!**

**Monday, December 1, 7pm.**

Enter the season of advent in a spirit of love and joy rather than stress and anxiety. Dessert will be served by table hostesses; followed by a program of music, scripture, verse, and stories.

**Sign-Up:** Sign-up sheets will be out in October for those wishing to attend and those volunteering to hostess are on the decorated table in the fellowship hall.

If 4 or more friends want to share a table, one or two of your group should sign-up to hostess the table. As attendance for our special evening grows each year, it is increasingly difficult to seat groups of friends with a random hostess.

**Solution?** Hostess your own table! Someone takes care of dessert and the others take care of the table. There is no reason to go over-board with decorating, since the best part is sharing our evening together. A hosting letter will be sent out to all the hosts.

**Musicians (vocalists and instrumental):** If you are interested in performing for Advent by Candlelight, please contact Nancy Monthei at the church office: 515-278-2097 or [nancy@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nancy@newhopedsm.org). Solos, duets, trios, quartets ~ Song selections get grabbed quick - so contact her soon!

Questions? Contact Nancy Monthei at 515-278-2097 or [nancy@newhopedsm.org](mailto:nancy@newhopedsm.org)

## New Hope Needlers

The Needlers will meet on **Friday, September 19, 9:00 am -3:00 pm** in the north classroom. We lunch at Panera in Johnston.

Our group sews lap size quilts for the NHUMC Care Team to gift our church members who are hospitalized or in care facilities and to newborns.

Bring your machine, current project and sewing notions. If your sewing machine isn't portable, we have two in the church closet you may use for the day.

We also have fabric available for quilts. Please give prior notice for this. Contact Diane Densmore, 515-270-1974.



As autumn begins, we watch the world transform before our eyes. Leaves change color, the air turns crisp, and a new rhythm settles in. In these seasonal shifts, we are reminded of God's faithful hand over all of creation.



## September 2025 Social Action Committee News ~

Chair: Althea Holcomb ~ 515.490.0789, althea.holcomb@gmail.com



**New Hope Free Little Farmers Market** – Thank you to those of you who have contributed your extra produce to the Free Little Farmers Market. I have received some thankful and positive comments from those who have benefited from this effort. We plan to continue this through the month of September. Tables will be set up outside of the east doors for you to add your produce. During the morning, all are welcome to take home the produce and enjoy. All leftover items will be taken to the Free Little Food Pantry.



**Free Little Food Pantry** – Located between 51<sup>st</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup> Streets north side of Meredith Drive. School is back in session, but the need to eat never ends. Thank you for your donations to the Free Little Food Pantry and please, keep them coming! Just a few suggestions include peanut butter, jelly, cereal, pasta and sauce. Please no opened boxes or expired items. Also, your help in delivering is appreciated. Sign up on the clipboard on the top shelf. Thank you for your help in our efforts to address food insecurity!

**Grain Bin** – As you know the rice donated to the grain bin is being given to AIRTS. Their constituents would prefer jasmine rice and they also eat dried beans. Thank you for your contributions to this project!



**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.

**Monthly Checks** – Your donations to New Hope also make it possible to send checks throughout 2025 to African Immigrant and Refugee Transition Services (AIRTS), Families Forward, DMARC Food Pantry, Women at the Well, Johnston Partnership and Urbandale Food Pantry.



**Hand of Luke, Sunday, September 14** – 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 chicken/vegetable/rice casserole, sliced peaches, dinner rolls, 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/30E044DACA722A4FE3-58120492-holsunday>

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



### Cy-Hawk Challenge!

The annual Iowa vs. ISU football rivalry is around the corner (kickoff is on Saturday, September 6th in Ames).

While you are back-to-school shopping, please prayerfully consider filling a bag or box with **personal care items to support your favorite team** during the week of **August 31st** in anticipation of the game. Show your pride!

**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 (indicate team in memo line).**

Your donations will go toward Fresh Start/Women at the Well.

**As of August 24, the score is:  
Cyclones 43 and the Hawks 112**

## Children's & Youth Ministry

by Jackie Johnson, Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator [jackie@newhopedsm.org](mailto:jackie@newhopedsm.org) or (515)710-3239



### **Attention Families of PreK-7th Graders!!**

Your children are invited and encouraged to join us on **Sunday, September 21** as we begin a new year of Sunday School at New Hope! We are excited to be using the Simply Loved curriculum this year! Simply Loved curriculum was created with the truth found in 1 John 4:7 in mind which says, 'Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God.' Children will be captivated with memorable

lessons and familiar Bible Buddies and volunteers will find lessons easy to lead and prepare for.

Sunday School will continue to take place during the **10:00am service**, with the children starting out in service with their families for the first song and Children's Message and then exiting to Sunday School as a group. At the end of service, families should pick their children up in the purple classroom.

Your help is needed to make sure that we can adequately plan for the number of students we will have! Please be sure to fill out the **registration form before Sunday School begins** for the year. You may do so electronically by visiting: <https://forms.gle/25nYMyfoAbeisV7Y9>. Paper forms are available upon request.



I don't know about you, but I have been looking forward to getting back to our regular routine ALL summer!

**It's finally almost time to "fall" back into our Wednesday night TGIW schedule!**

**All PreK-12th graders are invited to join us starting Wednesday, September 17 for** fellowship, faith-building, and fun at TGIW Midweek Meetup!

### ***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, starting 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.\*

Interested in puppets or handbells opportunities? Please indicate that on your registration form so we know what extra fun to get scheduled in the year ahead!

**Please register before September 5th** to help us adequately plan for meals and supplies. There is no cost to register: <https://forms.gle/x26SyHLpox2wFvLu7>. Paper forms are available upon request.

## Children's & Youth Ministry

by Jackie Johnson, Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator [jackie@newhopedsm.org](mailto:jackie@newhopedsm.org) or (515)710-3239



***We are looking for a few extra hands in Children and Youth Ministries! Can you help?***

We are heading into a new year of children/youth programs at New Hope and we would love to include you in the fun and fellowship we have!

We are looking for 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:

***Wednesday Night Program Helpers-*** We are looking for a few volunteers for Wednesday nights with our PreK-5th Grade group! The time commitment would be one hour – 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! This group is on the younger side and to grow the size of the group, we need extra hands and eyes to supervise. *We would be very glad to have several helpers do one week per month each. We would love for two volunteers to commit to joining us every 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday during the school year.*

***Sunday School Teachers-*** We need people to make a 6-week commitment (or if you feel called to volunteer for more than one of the sessions, we welcome that too).

Session 1: 9/21 - 10/26

Session 2: 11/2 - 11/30

Session 3: 12/7 - 1/11 (No Sunday School on 12/28)

Session 4: 1/18 - 2/22

Session 5: 3/1 - 4/5 (No Sunday School on 3/15)

Session 6: 4/12 - 5/17

Volunteers will plan and lead a 45-minute lesson for children in their care during the 10:00am service for a period of 6 weeks. Curriculum and planning support is provided to any extent desired by the volunteers.

Would you like to co-teach with a friend? We LOVE that idea...feel free to sign up together! Volunteering together is one of the best ways to spend time with someone you enjoy.

**If this sounds up your alley, please reach out to Jackie at [jackie@newhopedsm.org](mailto:jackie@newhopedsm.org) or (515)710-3239 with questions or to express interest. Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration! I am thankful for an amazing congregation that loves the children we serve!**



**Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> - outgoing 12<sup>th</sup> graders** are invited to join us on **Sunday, September 7 at 10am** in the Jr. BLAST room downstairs for snacks and games! Friends are welcome!

"Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow." —Anthony J. D'Angelo



**BLAST** ([BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org](mailto:BLAST@NewHopeDSM.org)):

Christopher & Jennifer Higdon and McKayla Nearmyer

With school starting, pumpkin spice season kicking in, and Halloween candy hitting the store shelves, it can only mean one thing—summer is officially over, and Fall is on its way!

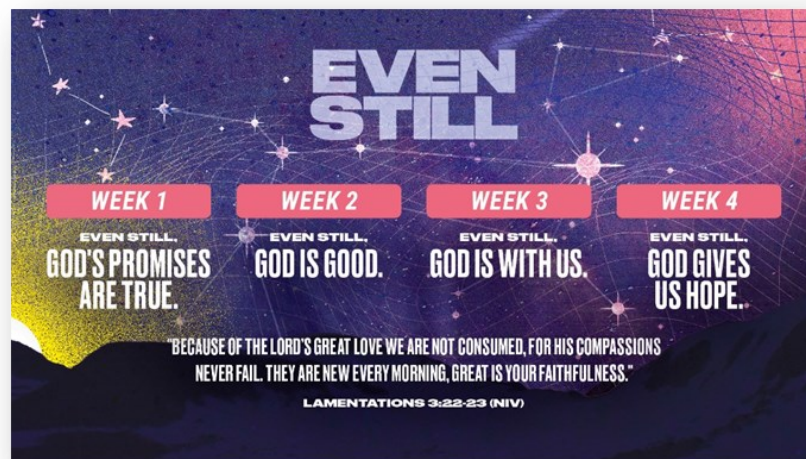


As we say goodbye to summer, it's time to start planning our 2025–2026 BLAST season at New Hope.

Just as we did last year, we'll be combining our Junior and Senior youth groups for a shared opening lesson each Wednesday night. After the group teaching time, we'll break into smaller discussion groups. This format was effective last year, allowing each age group to engage with the lesson in a meaningful and age-appropriate manner.

We know heading back to school can be challenging; sometimes nothing seems to go right, and it's easy to feel lost or overwhelmed. That's why we're kicking off the year with a 4-week study from **Jeremiah** and **Lamentations**, exploring how **God meets us in our pain and brings light into our darkest moments**.

Just like the sun, moon, and stars light up the night sky, God's light continues to shine, even in hard times. **God's presence carries us, no matter what we face.**



### September–October Series: *Even Still*

- Even still, God's promises are true *Jeremiah 32:1–17; 2 Corinthians 4:7–9; Psalm 50:15*
- Even still, God is good *Lamentations 3:1–26; James 1:2–4; Exodus 34:6*
- Even still, God is with us *Jeremiah 29:4–6, 11–13; James 4:7–8; Matthew 28:20*
- Even still, God gives us hope *Jeremiah 31:23–28; Hebrews 11:1–2, 12:1–3; Psalm 42:11*

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### Upcoming Youth Events:

#### September

- Sept. 17 at 6:00 PM – *BLAST Kick-Off Night*
- Sept. 24 at 6:00 PM – *Even still, God's promises are true*

#### October

- Oct. 1 at 6:00 PM – *Service First: Service Project Night*
- Oct. 8 at 6:00 PM – *Even still, God is good*
- Oct. 15 at 6:00 PM – *Even still, God is with us*
- Oct. 22 at 6:00 PM – *Even still, God gives us hope*
- Oct. 29 at 6:00 PM – *BLAST Game Night*

More details will be shared via email and posted on our Facebook page:  
<http://www.facebook.com/SeniorHighBlast>.

## We wrapped up summer with our *Blessing of the Backpacks* and final *Happy Campers* event on Sunday, August 17!

Students and teachers were invited to bring a backpack or work bag to service for a special prayer and blessing for the new school year!



Then, we headed outside for some fun! We upgraded our tent this time (THANKS to Beatrice and Steven Schutter), and we had plenty of room for all 11 kids and two adults to read a story, play Bible Trivia, craft summer sun visors, and enjoy *Walking S'mores* treats! Such a fun way to finish up summer!



Mark your calendar now for  
**July 12-15, 2026**  
as we explore  
the nature of God with  
**Rainforest Falls VBS!**



Jesus, you welcomed the little children (Mark 10:14). Help me come to you today with childlike faith — curious, honest, and ready to receive your love.



## Blood Pressure Check

No checks in September.  
Next opportunity is on  
October 5, 8:45 am - 11am in  
the Narthex.

## 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.



## Care Ministry Team

The Care Ministry meets  
quarterly. Next meeting is on  
**Thurs., October 9th 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.



### Join us!

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

## Sleeping Mats/Loom

***Plan to meet every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month!***

One of Midwest Mission's projects is making Plarn Sleeping Mats. Plarn is plastic yarn made out of plastic grocery bags. The Sleeping Mats are sent internationally and locally. They are great for those who need a barrier between them and the hard ground. They have been sent for disaster relief, for the homeless, and for those who need temporary sleeping arrangements.

Our United Women in Faith purchased a loom so that everyone, at New Hope UMC, could contribute their time to weave the mat, cut bags, flatten bags, fold bags to make the mat, or simply donate your shopping bags.

We will meet to work on the mat on  
**Thursday, September 4 & 18 at  
1pm at the church.**

If you want to learn how to work on  
the mat, please join us!

Questions, contact Sue Baldwin, 515-360-2456.



## Chair Yoga & Fitness

***Every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. (No class on Sept. 1)***

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!**

## Just a Reminder...

Pastor Amy will never contact you  
through text or email to ask for  
assistance or to give money, purchase  
gift cards or other items on her  
behalf. Any such request is a scam.  
**Do NOT reply!!!!**

**If in doubt about the authenticity  
of an email or text from our**

Pastor, please call the church office at 515-278-2097 or email at  
nhfamily@newhopedsm.org.



With cooler fall weather, Creator God, help us appreciate the change of seasons and the varied colors of your handiwork.



## The East Entrance

*Let's make our wish come true and reduce the balance! Put your spare dollar or change in our wishing well! Thank you! Your Board of Trustees*

### East Entrance – August donations by week:

08/03 \$719.00

08/10 \$373.80

08/17 \$172.00

08/24 \$262.00

08/31 \$TBD

August check to reduce principal is: \$TBD

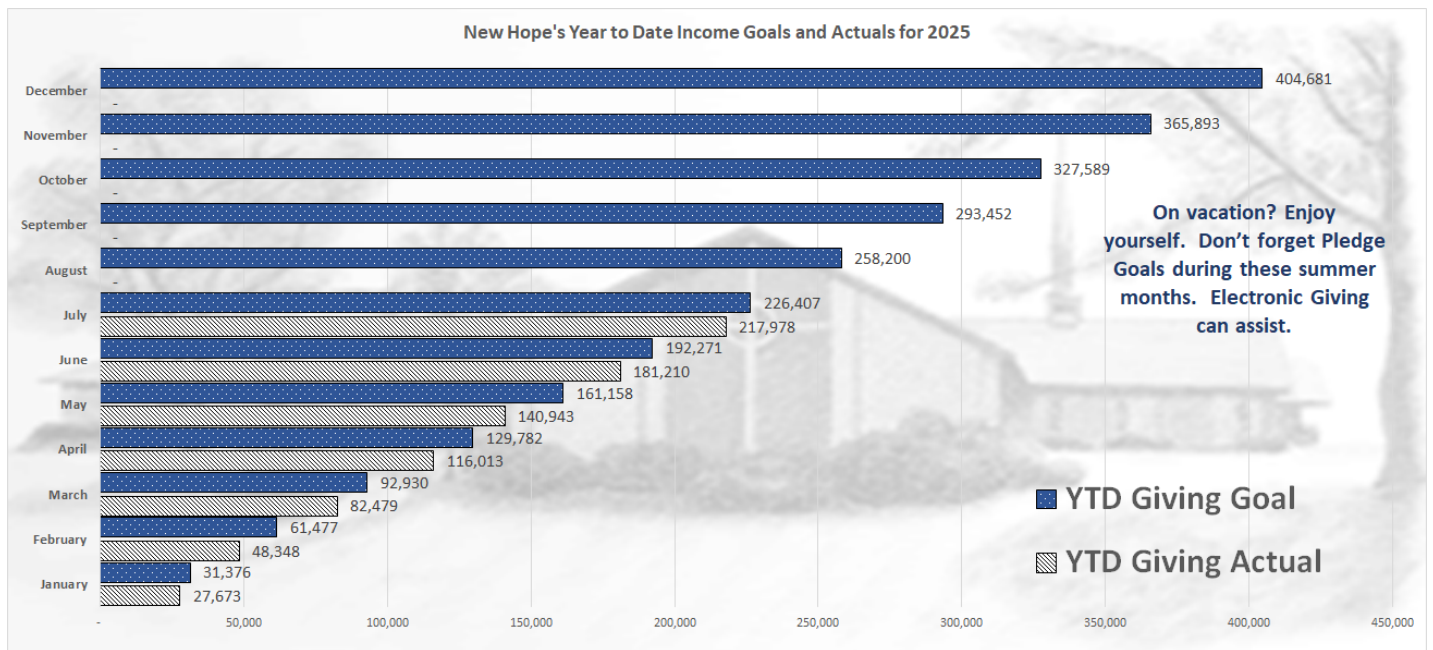
Beginning 1/01/2024 Loan Balance: \$42,483.51

Weekly Donations since 1/1/24: \$27,927.32

Monthly Principal P&I since 1/1/24: \$8,669.12

SUBTOTAL \$36,596.44

**NEW 08/24/25 Principal Balance \$5,887.07**



## Thank you for your generous tithing and donations.

If you would like to make a donation, please use your smartphone's camera app to scan the QR code.

Thank you for your interest in supporting the work of New Hope UMC!

# ONLINE giving



Thank you to all who participated in planning, working, and attending the recent .....



While it is too early yet to have all the results of the day, it was clear that the 100 people who were present during the evening to enjoy the concert had a blessed time, were able to enjoy peace and love for the day, and were able to fellowship and raise funds and awareness for missions of peace and love.

Special thanks to Preshia Paulding for organizing the event; to Janet Habick for volunteering in organization, decoration, prep work, and day of coordinator; to Jack Habick for help with decorating; for all who worked to get posters together and up; to Clarice Rubek for serving pizza; cookies by Joey Bolstad and decorated by Pastor Amy; to Jackie Johnson for loaning some great supplies for activities; to John & Kandra Dickerson for t-shirt sales; to our partners in the CJC Band who really put on a fabulous concert and who donated all of their tips to missions; to our guest singer, Tina Haase Findlay who did an amazing job; and to all who helped move tables and chairs; to Steven & Beatrice Schutter who served as stage crew; to those who bought shirts and items to help benefit missions; and to anyone else that helped—thank you!

Thank you to all that attended and made this a fun experience, and to Christ, who brings us peace and love, to whom be the glory of all our work!

THANK YOU!



## BOOK DONATIONS FOR NEW HOPE'S LITTLE (Street) LIBRARY

You may place your book donations on the bookshelf in the NW corner of the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Thank you to Charlotte Schultz for overseeing the Little Library and keeping it stocked.

## URGENT ~ Gardeners Needed

We are looking for a group of volunteers to take over this responsibility. The group could decide how often to meet and also divide up any plants that need thinned out and have them for sale to the congregation.

Contact Nan Stubbs, 515-238-7334 if you are interested or have questions.  
New Hope UMC Trustees



***“But I have this charge against you, that you have left your first love; you have lost the depth of love that you first had for Me. So remember the heights from which you have fallen, and change your inner self—your old way of thinking, your sinful behavior—seek God’s will and do the works you did at first when you first knew me.”***  
**-Revelation 2:4-5a (AMP)**

Fall is always a “back-to” season. Kids go back-to school. Teachers and those who have had vacations over Summer go back-to work. And the church goes back-to, well, learning! Bible studies are restarting, Sunday School is restarting, and it is a great time to remember our roots.

Our September series is a back-to-our-roots-in-faith kind of series. “Heresies and Theology” tells the story of some of our most basic Christian beliefs that stem from the early days of Christianity, and reminds us why they matter. We will begin on Communion Sunday by remembering the importance of sacrament and our theology behind our practice of sacraments. Then, on “Holy Cross Sunday,” which is a lesser-celebrated day in the church year for most Protestants, we will look at Iconoclasm and the symbol of the cross, as well as the difference between a cross and a crucifix. On the 21<sup>st</sup>, we will dip our toes in the waters of confession and forgiveness, and the theology of grace. Finally, on the 28<sup>th</sup>, we will examine where the heresy of the hierarchy of sin comes from, and our theology of humility.

Along the way this month, we will enjoy prayers from our Hymnal, some dating back to our founders in the faith. We will enjoy some old favorite hymns in our traditional services that call us to task in our theology. In our contemporary worship, we will sing songs that remind us that just because a song is contemporary does not mean it doesn’t have deep theology! These songs might be newer, but they are filled with meaning and scripture.

Whether you have heard of Nestorianism, Iconoclasm, Transubstantiation, Memorialism, Atonement, or any of the theological words that trip us up or not, the truth is you are practicing theology in your life every day! This month is a chance to break down a few of the basics in order to truly understand why we do what we do in our worship and our faith. For many we will be refreshing and reframing. For others we might be learning for the first time. Either way, this will be a wonderful back-to time for us all!

I thank God for the chance we are given over and over again to come back-to God. May we leap into a Fall of learning this September! Don’t be afraid to ask questions and help each other with your own stories of faith. I can’t wait! May we all come back-to faith this Fall!

Pastor Amy

**September at New Hope UMC**



**NEW HOPE**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Sundays**  
9am 10am 11am

4525 Beaver Ave  
Des Moines, IA 50310



# Heresies & Theology

Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>  
What Exactly is  
God Doing Here?

Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>  
Iconoclasm Is Not Disease

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>  
It Was Me

Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>  
At Least  
I Didn't Do That



<https://www.NewHopeDSM.org>



# September 2025

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

**SUNDAY**

**MONDAY**

**TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

	1 Church Office closed <b>Labor Day</b> No Chair Yoga	2 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel	3 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 5:15p, Praise band practice 6:15p, Chancel Choir	4 1p, Mat weaving 6:30p, Worship Design Mtg	5	6 8:30a, Men's Breakfast 6p, I-Cubs game
7 Holy Communion Farmers Market 10a, Teen Time	8 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 7pm, Trustees Mtg	9 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 6:30p, SPRC Mtg	10 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 5:15p, Praise band practice 6:15p, Chancel Choir	11	12 Church Office closed	13 8a-5p, F.Hall & FLC reserved
14 Farmer's Market 11a-1p, Fall Festival 11a, Choir sings 3:00p, Hand of Luke	15 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness	16 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 6:30p, Finance Mtg. 7:00p, Stroke Club	17 Church Office Closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 5:15p, Praise band practice 6:15p, Chancel Choir TGIW/BLAST: 6:00-6:30p, Dinner 6:30-7:30p, Activities	18 Church Office Closed 9:30a, United Women in Faith 1p, Mat weaving	19 Church Office Closed 9a, Needlers at church	20
21 Farmer's Market 10a, Sunday School 2p-4p, Big Band concert	22 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness	23 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel	24 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 5:15p, Praise band practice 6:15p, Chancel Choir TGIW/BLAST: 6:00-6:30p, Dinner 6:30-7:30p, Activities	25 4p, Social Action Mtg. 6:30p, Administrative Council Mtg.	26 <b>September LINK dead-line</b>	27 9:30a, United Women in Faith
28 Farmer's Market 5p-7p, Autumn Table & Treasures	29 Church Office Closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness	30 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel				



*"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,  
Devon Mau  
9 Jenn Higdon, Charlie Strauss,  
David Bachelder  
10 Kirk Hartung, Grace Rowland,  
Juniece McCuddin, Cadence Kasper  
11 Lindsey McClellan, Elaine Sheer,  
Devon Mau II  
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  
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  
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](mailto:nhfamily@newhopedsm.org), so  
we can update our files.*

*"We turn not older with years, but newer every day." —Emily Dickinson*



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

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

**E-mail Information**

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

Jackie Johnson: [jackie@newhopedsm.org](mailto:jackie@newhopedsm.org)

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(515) 278-2097 [www.newhopedsm.org](http://www.newhopedsm.org)

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