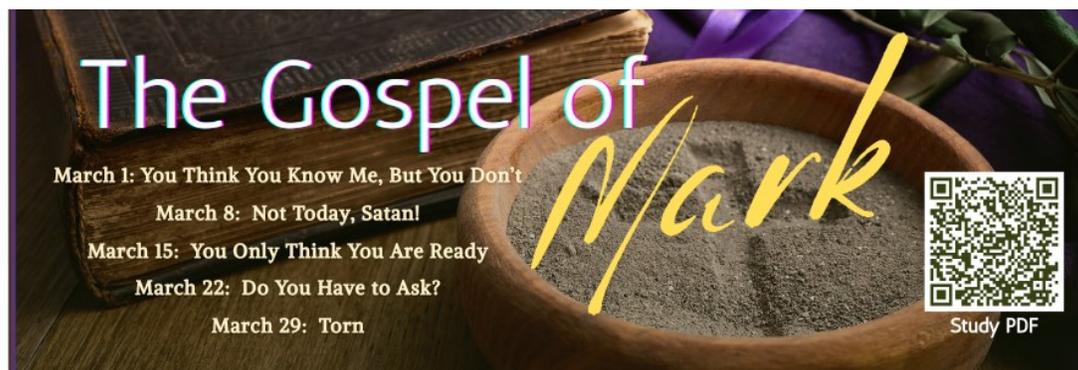




9am • 10am • 11am
newhopedsm.org



Welcome to our Lenten journey through the Gospel of Mark

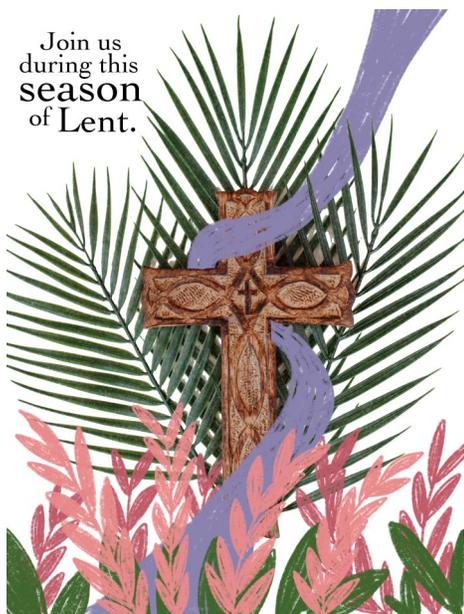
During the Lent Season, we are inviting you into a deeper rhythm of discipleship through daily Scripture readings and weekly video reflections. Together, we will walk through Mark from beginning to end, allowing the story of Jesus to unfold in its urgency, honesty, and power.

Each day, you will spend time with a short passage, listening for what God might be saying to you. Each week (on Thursday), a video reflection will help frame the larger themes of the text, offering historical context, theological insight, and practical application for your life today.

Lent is a season of preparation. A season of reflection. A season of returning to what matters most. As Mark tells the story of Jesus with clarity and movement, we will encounter Christ's authority, compassion, challenge, and call.

Whether you are new to Scripture or have read it for years, this journey is an invitation to slow down, to pay attention, and to allow the Gospel to shape your heart.

Join us
during this
season
of Lent.



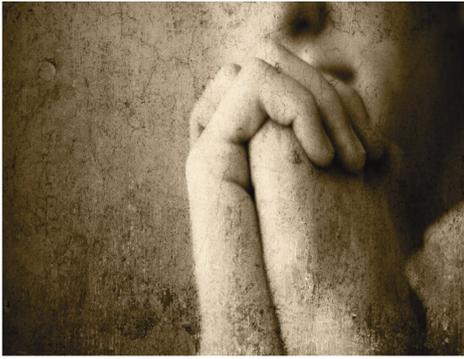
Palm Sunday Services on March 29th at all three services.

Maundy Thursday Service on April 2nd at 7pm with the Metro Circuit at Walnut Hills UMC, 12321 Hickman Rd, Urbandale, IA 50323. Meal, worship and service project for Joppa (ministry for unhoused).

Good Friday Service on April 3rd at Noon in the Sanctuary. Join us for a traditional Good Friday Worship Service, including the stripping of the altar.

Good Friday Service on April 3rd at 7pm. This is a collaborative service with several United Methodist Churches and will be held at West Des Moines UMC, 720 Grand Ave, West Des Moines.

Easter Services will be at our three services on April 5th.



**Daylight Saving Time
on
Sunday, March 8th.
Spring ahead one hour!**



Prayer Chain Request

If you have a prayer chain request, please call Glenna Ross at 515-321-3010 email at glenna625@hotmailcom 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:

DeVonne Douglas, Pam Frey, Marlys Borcharding, Linda Boyd, Jennifer Hibbert

Healing from Physical Issues:

Jack Habick, Larry Forbes, Sue Baldwin, Beatrice Schutter, Dean Peterson, Dick Cobb, Freda Ruleman, Patricia Smith, Mike Aasheim Osborne

Military:

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

Thank you

New Hope UMC,
Thank you so much for the blanket, meal and all the love and prayers following the birth of Beckett!
Love, Adam & Brittany Kealhofer

Thank you for the amazing quilt and delicious meal!! We appreciate your support as we welcome our baby boy Theo to the family!
Blessings ~ Tyler & Emma Sandquist

Birth

Congratulations to Tyler & Emma Sandquist on the birth of their son Theodore Gary Sandquist. Theo was born on February 2, 2026. He weighed 7lbs 4.2 oz and is 19.5” long. Theo joins big sister Sophie.

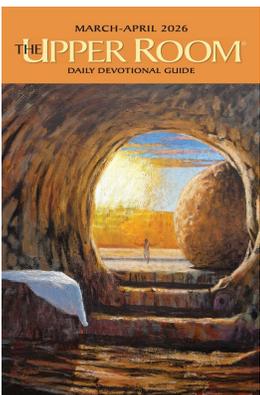
Congratulations to Dave & Kate (Dickey) Cossa on the birth of their daughter, Lillian Jean Cossa. Lilli was born on February 23, 2026. She weighed 9lbs 4 oz and is 21” long. Lilli joins big sisters Ellie and Audrey.

Our Sympathy

Our Sympathy to Linda Cooley on the passing of her son-in-law, Daryl Stevens.

Our Sympathy to Pastor Amy & Pastor Jaye Johnson and family on the passing of Amy’s sister, Angie Zaehringer.

It was a wonderful birthday celebration for **Freda Ruleman's 105th birthday!** We wish her many blessings throughout the year!!



New Hope UMC has available to you the Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide. The **March/April** issue is in the Communication Center.

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





Paint Class

Tuesday, March 3, 6:30pm. Join us as we paint a Northern Lights scene. **\$25 per person** with ALL supplies, and refreshments. *Please sign-up at the Welcome Center.*



Matching Easter Eggs

Join the fun on **March 6, 10am** to help match plastic Easter Eggs for the church & community Easter Egg Hunt! We will be asking the congregation to take 50 eggs or more home and fill with treats or trinkets. ***A brunch will be provided on March 6th!*** Please let Nancy know that you can help! **515-278-2097 or nancy@newhopedsm.org**

Help us welcome the community to New Hope UMC!

We are hosting a Community Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 4th at 2pm(sharp)!**

Hippity hop to the Welcome Center to see how you can help and to get signed up to help us with this fantastic community event!!

If you aren't able to help or want to do that and more, we also need **donations of bags of candy or trinkets** that would fit in the plastic eggs.

You can also help fill eggs by taking home the plastic eggs we have, purchasing candy/trinkets, filling the eggs and return to the church.

Please sign up soon to help us plan and bring donations to the tub at the Welcome Center by no later than March 30th. Thank you!!



Men's Fellowship will meet on **Saturday, March 7 at 8:30am** at church. *All men are invited!!*



Veterans Breakfast on Saturday, March 14th 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.



Church Family Courtside Night!

Get ready to *raise a little hallelujah and a whole lot of team spirit!*

Join your church family for an action-packed night cheering on the **Iowa Wolves** on **Saturday, March 28th at 6:30 PM.**

It's fellowship with a full-court press of fun!

\$20 per person includes a **hot dog and drink** — because even the disciples needed dinner!

Whether you love basketball or just love being part of the home team, this is a slam-dunk night you won't want to miss. Bring your family, invite a friend, and let's pack the stands with New Hope spirit!

Limited number of tickets available! **Reserve your tickets through Jackie:** (515) 710-3239, jackie@newhopedsm.org

Let's gather, cheer, and enjoy a great night together — see you at tip-off!

Outdoor LED Sign ~ Update!!!

Polk County Public Works has approved the Permit for the sign to be installed!

Mega LED Technology has the sign in production and it is estimated to be ready to *ship in 6-8 weeks*.

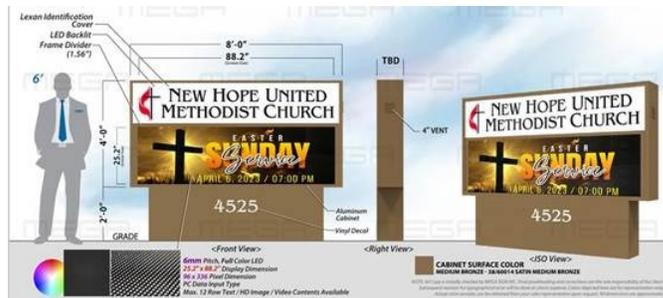
Thank you for all of the generous donations toward the sign! **The cost for the sign is \$35,225.60.** We will also need to include **electrical work of ~\$2,000.**

We have **\$9,776.00 left to fundraise.**

With your generous help, we can fund this wonderful addition to our church that will let us reach out into the community with messages of the activities held here.

If you would like to donate toward the Outdoor LED Sign, please write a check to New Hope UMC and place "outdoor sign" in the memo.

Also, please plan to attend the Bingo fundraiser and bring your friends!



BINGO Fundraiser

**Join us at New Hope UMC for an epic night of BINGO!
Tuesday, March 31st**

Doors open at 6:00pm. Bingo 6:30pm

This free-will offering fundraiser for the church new outdoor sign includes:

- 1 Bingo card per person
- Hot dogs, desserts and beverages
- Prizes of baked goods
- Fun vibes + friendly competition

Please RSVP by March 24th to nancy@newhopedsm.org or 515-278-2097. *Please invite your friends!!*





Janet Habick's Recital
Please join us at New Hope on **Sunday, March 22, at 4:00 PM** for a very special voice recital accompanied by Emily Bowser. Janet and her special guests, Mary Anne Nelson-Loefke and Trent King invite you to take a step back in time to enjoy nostalgic sounds from the 1940s, beloved musical theater classics, and moving spirituals.

Free-will donations are welcome.

Please join us for a light refreshment immediately following the recital.

African Immigrants & Refugees Transition Services (AIRTS)
Fundraising Gala 2026
Saturday, March 28, 2026 5:00 PM
At New Hope UMC

- ◆ Authentic African Cuisine
- ◆ Cultural Dance Performances
- ◆ Music & Entertainment

Support. Empower. Celebrate.

Get your tickets now!
515-422-6923 or 515-528-3729
www.airts.org



United Women in Faith



United Women in Faith

Thursday group will meet on **March 19 at 9:30am**. Our speaker is going to be Rev. Katie Dawson from the church conference. She will speak about UMCOR.

Saturday Group will meet on **March 28 at 9:30am**. We will be planning to put together personal care kits for women. The Social Action Committee will be distributing these kits in May.

All women are welcome to attend either or both gatherings!

If you have any questions, please contact Glenna Ross, glenna625@hotmail.com or 515-321-3010.

Recipe of the Month: Rhodes Cinnamon Rolls

Submitted by Glenna Ross

INGREDIENTS

- 1 package Rhodes Frozen Cinnamon Rolls in a Bag
- 1 stick Butter
- 3/4 cup Vanilla ice cream
- 3/4 cup Brown sugar

INSTRUCTIONS

Melt butter ice cream and brown sugar in microwave. Pour in 12 x 15 (large glass pan) pan and place frozen cinnamon rolls in pan. Put in cold oven overnight to rise. Do not cover with Saran wrap. The next day, bake 18 minutes at 350 degrees.

Thank you to everyone that participated in and attended the Chili Cook-off on January 31st, organized by the Bridge Team. Everyone enjoyed tasting the 13 chilis and then voted on their favorite.

- 1st Place: Thomas Hogue
- 2nd Place: Dale Monthei
- 3rd Place: Larry Forbes



Social Action Committee News ~

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

The Super Bowl competition was a great win not only for the Seahawks but also for the Free Little Food Pantry and DMARC Red Barrel.

A total of 729 items were collected. Thank you to everyone who joined in the fun!

Speaking of the Free Little Food Pantry, Lutheran Services of Iowa bought that property and are very interested in enhancing the Pantry. Mark Bequeaith, who is in charge of LSI's Global Greenhouse Program, has been in contact and wants to work with all the entities supporting the Pantry.

Plans are being made to bring New Hope volunteers to the Families Forward Food Pantry in March.

AIRTS is working with Polk County on bringing a pantry to the north side that will stock foods specific to the needs of immigrant families.

Along with serving a meal on the 14th of each month at Central Iowa Shelter and Services, we have many ways we can serve during 2026:

March - Volunteer at Families Forward during spring break

April - Provide a meal at Fresh Start (Women at the Well)

May - Mother's Day collection of personal care items

June - Diaper Drive

July - Provide a meal at Fresh Start (Women at the Well); Rummage Sale

August - Back to school: considering donations to provide shoes for low income kids

September - Free Little Farmers Market

October - Provide a meal at Fresh Start (Women at the Well); Coat Drive

November - Food Pantry

December - Giving Tree (gift cards) for Families Forward



Free Little Food Pantry, located between 51st and 52nd Streets north of Meredith Drive

Please help us continue to meet our goal of providing **70** items each week. Please no opened boxes or expired items. Also, your help in delivering is appreciated. Sign up on the clipboard on the top shelf.

African Immigrant and Refugee Transition Services (AIRTS) is grateful for the jasmine rice, dried beans and lentils that have been donated to our grain bin! They really appreciate getting these specific food items which are a staple in their diet and food pantries don't necessarily stock them.

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.

Hand of Luke, Saturday, March 14, 2026

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 March 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/30E044DACA722A4FE3-62443124-holsaturday>.

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

Thank you so much to everyone for your consistent generosity.

Children's & Youth Ministry

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

Sunday School for PreK-7th grade continues to be held during the 10am service using the *Simply Loved* curriculum. Children are invited to gather in Worship with their families and exit to the purple classroom after the Children's Message.

There will be no Sunday School classes on Sunday, March 15 due to Spring Break.

Sherri Bogue just wrapped up teaching Session 4 of Sunday School and Nick Bogue is leading our current session. The children are also learning along with the adults from the book of Mark during the season of Lent. Thank you to our volunteer teachers, they are SO appreciated!

Connect with things our kids are talking about in Sunday School from the Simply Loved curriculum:

*Who have you heard today? Your mom calling for you to wake up? Your dad saying, "Good morning!" as he flips a pancake? Your friend asking you if she can play, too? Jesus hears all those things, too—and more! Jesus is God's Son, so he has all the characteristics that God has. Jesus is omnipresent—that means he's everywhere! And Jesus is omniscient—that means he knows everything. Knowing that Jesus hears everything is great—unless you're saying not-so-nice stuff. Did Jesus really hear those mean words you muttered under your breath when you were too tired to get up? **He did.** And did Jesus hear you complain that you wanted French toast instead? **Yup.** He heard you reject your friend, too. **(Sigh)** Here's the good news. **Jesus hears and he forgives.** He's right there with you, ready to listen as you sort through the things you feel sorry about and wish you'd said differently. Jesus is God's Son. And God forgives us. What an awesome God!*



Do You Have An Hour To Spare For The Youngest Members Of New Hope?

We are looking for one-time volunteers for Session 6 of Sunday School from 10-11am. Please pick a Sunday between April 12 and May 17 and reach out to Jackie to sign up. Jackie will be leading each session and you would be volunteering as the classroom helper. If this sounds like something you would enjoy doing or you would like to get more information, please let Jackie know – jackie@newhopedsm.org or (515)710-3239.



Calling All Jungle Explorers! Get ready to **swing, splash, and explore**—because **Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School** is coming to **New Hope UMC**, and it's an adventure kids won't want to miss!

Rainforest Falls VBS

July 12–15; 6:00–8:00 PM nightly

Dinner served at 5:30 PM

At Rainforest Falls, kids will journey deep into a vibrant jungle filled with towering trees, rushing waterfalls, and colorful creatures—all while discovering that **God's love is strong, faithful, and always flowing.**

Each night, kids will:

- Trek through lush rainforest trails
- Discover Bible truths hidden like jungle treasures
- Sing songs that echo through the treetops
- Play games wilder than a troop of monkeys
- Create crafts inspired by bright birds, buzzing bugs, and thundering falls

From the misty forest floor to the crashing waterfalls, kids will learn how to **trust God and follow Him wherever the adventure leads**—and they'll have a blast doing it!

Register today and mark your calendars now to join us for a rainforest adventure this summer at New Hope!

Participant Registration: <https://forms.gle/tzTQjrmeYjnnUR4X8>

Volunteer Registration: <https://forms.gle/8ARuL5RMHSvfLZdp8>

We can't wait to explore the jungle with you, *The New Hope UMC VBS Team*

The month of February flew by, but we had plenty of fellowship and fun while it lasted! Our February service project was creating Valentines for our friends at Child Serve! We worked on four projects and were able to bless our friends with handmade cards, Valentine's Bookmarks, wooden heart ornaments and love monsters! The following week, we enjoyed our Annual Friendship Dance Party. We invited our friends from Child Serve to join us for the party as well and we had a great time shaking our tail feathers to old favorites like YMCA and the Hokey Pokey as well as some new hits the kids requested. The Limbo was a hit as well! We had one week off for Ash Wednesday, but some of us enjoyed the Pancake Supper provided by BLAST and our final Wednesday of the month was spent playing Olympic-style games while learning what it means to run the race of faith.



Wednesday Night Schedule:

- 6:00-6:30pm- Dinner
- 6:30-7:30pm – Breakout Times (PreK-5th, Jr. and Sr. BLAST)
- 7:30-8pm- Reserved time slot for puppets/bells rotations

March Calendar

- 3/4- Service First- All Group Service Project, 6:30-7:30pm- Filling Easter Eggs!
- 3/11- TGIW Activities, 6:30-7:30pm
- 3/18- **Spring Break, No TGIW Midweek Meetup programs**
- 3/25- TGIW Activities, 6:30-7:30pm



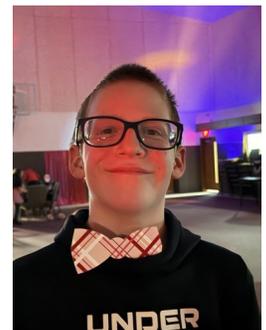
The meal volunteers for March are –
 Nancy and Dale Monthei
 Glenna Ross, DeVonne Douglas and Cadence Kasper
 Sue Davenport

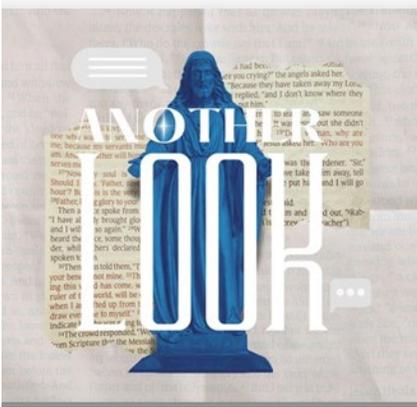
Thank you to our volunteers who prepare and serve the weekly meals during TGIW Midweek Meetup! We appreciate the gift of your time and talents to keep our TGIW participants fed each week!

Everyone worked hard on our valentines for our friends at Child Serve!



Annual Friendship Dance Party!





During the Lenten season, BLAST will study the series called “*Another Look.*” This series invites students to take a deeper look at who Jesus is and reflect on their own lives and beliefs. We’ll explore meaningful questions such as:

- What can you trust Jesus with today?
- Where did you notice Jesus’ presence today?
- What can Jesus rescue you from today?
- How can you put Jesus’ words into practice today?

We look forward to thoughtful conversations and spiritual growth together.

Thank you to everyone that attending the Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper! The free-will offering will support several of our youth attending **Wesley Games Camp**, July 20 - 24. Learn more about camp at: <https://wesleywoodsowa.org/summer-camp/>

- Here are some of the upcoming youth events:
- March 4th @ 6pm ~ First Wednesday Service Project**
 - March 11th @ 6pm ~ Thank God for BLAST Discussion**
 - No Meeting March 18th (Spring Break)***
 - March 25th @ 6pm ~ BLAST Easter Celebration**

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



Thank you to the Scouts that attended the Scout Sunday Recognition on February 8th. They did a flag ceremony at all 3 services.



Emily Bowser's Concert was held on January 30th. We want to thank Emily for the beautiful music she shared! We are so blessed to have her as our church pianist/organist. Thank you also to Emily for giving a portion of the concert free-will donations to our church.

Thank you to all who were able to attend in person. For those that were unable to attend, we are very pleased to be able to share the link of her performance.

If you would like to make a donation, please place it with the Sunday offering noting that it is for Emily's concert. Or you can make an online donation to General Fund and email

Nancy (nancy@newhopedsm.org) that you intend the donation to be made to the concert.

Content of the video may not be share, amended or used beyond church worship purposes. CCLI: #1708305

<https://youtu.be/MePhcidWS-g>



Care Team and Needler Group Volunteers

The Care Team recently delivered a lap quilt (made by the NH Needler's group) to Jack Habick to let him know NH is thinking of him and praying for him as he's hospitalized due to heart issues.

The Needler's and Care Team Groups are always hoping that additional volunteers will join their groups so they can continue carrying out those and other caring duties.

If you are interested in helping, please let Nancy Monthei, in the church office, know and she will refer you to the person in charge of the committee.



Chair Yoga & Fitness

Every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30am

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!

Each time we flip the calendar to a new month it gets just a little bit closer to our annual

Rummage Sale, July 19–25!

This sale isn't just about great finds — it's about community, connection, and making a meaningful impact. And we can't do it without **YOU!**

How Can You Help?

⇒ **Oversee an Area**

Have extra time to give? We're especially looking for leaders to oversee **clothing** and **home décor** sections.

⇒ **Donate Items**

Bring new or gently used items on **Donation Day — Sunday, July 19.**

⇒ **Help Prep Before the Sale**

Sorting, pricing, and organizing during the week are essential to making the sale a success.

⇒ **Super Thursday Help Needed!**

Thursday afternoon (12–6pm) is our busiest time — if you thrive in a lively environment, we need you!

⇒ **Sale Day Volunteers**

Cashiers and sackers are always in demand:

- Thursday: 12–6pm
- Friday: 9am–6pm
- Saturday: 9am–Noon

⇒ **Pray With Us**

Pray that the sale blesses our community, touches lives through outreach, and that the funds raised are used faithfully and effectively.

We truly want everyone to be able to serve in a way that fits them. If you prefer a quieter role or need to sit during your shift, we are happy to accommodate you — just let us know!

Interested or have questions? Please contact Jackie Johnson with any questions: jackiejohnson81@aol.com, (515)710-3239

Let's make this year's rummage sale our best one yet — together!



ADULT Sunday School

Join us!

10:00am in the Ruby Chapel using
"Wired Word"

Blood Pressure Check

Next opportunity is on March 1,
8:45am - 11am in the Narthex.

Support Groups

Al-Anon

Every Tuesday at 9:30am in the
Ruby Chapel.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Every Tuesday at Noon in the Ruby
Chapel.

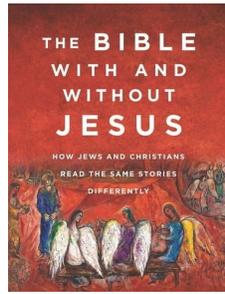


Care Ministry Team

The Care Ministry meets
quarterly. Next meeting is on
**Thurs., April 9, 2026 at 10am in
the Fellowship Hall.**

This team ministers to congregation
members who have had new ba-
bies, 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,



The Thursday Bible Study

is based on the
book, *The Bible With and Without Jesus*
The next gathering will be on **March 12th at 6:30pm** in the
Fellowship Hall.

We hope to see you there! Questions, please contact
Cathy Short at 515-494-5568.

New Hope Needlers

The Needlers will meet on **Friday, March 20, 9:00am -
3:00pm** in the northwest classroom.

We lunch at Panera in Johnston.

We sew lap 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 and batting available for quilts. Please give prior notice for this.
Questions? Contact Diane Densmore, 515-270-1974.



Sleeping Mats/Loom

If you are new member or just learning about this New Hope Mission, we weave 6 foot
long mats out of recycled grocery bags. The mats are given to homeless people in our
city and provide a dry barrier from the cold, wet ground. Each mat prevents over 500
plastic bags from going into the landfill!

**Right now we have plenty of white bags cut and ready to weave. We would
however, take your colored grocery bags as they add a pop of color to our mats.
Please, no Walmart bags as they tend to tear when we weave.**

We have a great time and can accommodate about 8 people. If your work place or
service organization is looking for a project or team-building activity contact us.

**We weave on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 1-2:30pm in a
Sunday school room and even occasionally
on Mondays after chair yoga.** We can teach
anyone how to weave and cut the bags for
future use. Weaving is not limited to just
Thursdays.

This is a great opportunity to invite a neighbor
or co-worker to join us who enjoys using their
hands to serve others and make a difference in
our community. If you would like more information please contact Susan Baldwin at
sueb4tennis@gmail.com or Pastor Amy.

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



The Annual Governor's Conference

ON LGBTQ YOUTH

The Annual Governor's Conference on LGBTQ Youth will be held on **April 3, 2026.**

New Hope will be represented by Kandra Dickerson and Carol Harter at the New Hope exhibit table. We will
be handing out church information, candy, and stickers while interacting with the students. This is a very
rewarding day to connect with students who are searching. In years past, the students have expressed
appreciation that we were there to visit with them. If you would like to join Carol or Kandra for this opportunity,
please let Carol know at 515-274-1467.



Thank You for your Financial Support

Financial Summary

Ending January 31, 2026

| | Actual | Budget |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Income | \$ 39,900.00 | \$ 42,138.00 |
| Expense | <u>\$ 31,441.00</u> | <u>\$ 32,184.00</u> |
| Net Income (Loss) | \$ 8,459.00 | \$ 9,954.00 |

We will be offering an **E-Giving Help Desk** the first Sunday of every month. Please stop and talk with a Finance Committee member in the narthex with any questions you may have such as how to set up automated donations, change my donation amount, credit card, bank account, etc.

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.

If you need assistance with online giving, please contact the church office, Tues-Fri, 515-278-2097. Thank you for your interest in supporting the work of New Hope UMC!

ONLINE giving



The Trustees have the wishing well/donation box out each Sunday for donations.

Fill the Wishing Well for the needs of our church. We will eventually need to replace two furnaces and we are fundraising for our new Outdoor LED sign. Please consider filling the Wishing Well for these needs!

Your continued support and generosity are greatly appreciated!!



The kingdom of God is at hand. -Mark 1:15

Mark's gospel moves quickly. There is not a lot of fluff in it, but rather it is filled with action. For example, there are more miracles in Mark than in any other gospel. Jesus is seen not just as a teacher or speaker, but mostly as someone who gets the work of the kingdom done. This verse is a radical expression. It means that not only *will* the kingdom of God come one day, but it is here now any time you see God at work.

Have you looked around lately at the Kingdom of God? Looking around can seem like an awful thing to do some days. When you look around, you will find darkness, sickness, frustration, anger, hatred, and evil. But that is not all that surrounds us. If you look, really look, you will see the world through the eyes of the author of Mark. You will be able to see the Kingdom of God right now. You will see healing, peace, joy, kindness, happiness, good work, selflessness, and assurance. It is right here, right now!

As we read through Mark, you will notice that Mark often uses the word: *immediately*. In Greek, that word is εὐθύς. You will be interested to know that this word comes from the Greek εὖ, meaning good, and the Greek τίθημι, which means *to place or set*. In other words, the word translated immediately carries also the meaning of *having set things right*. Mark uses this word 42 times! Is that because Mark is in a hurry? Perhaps. But it is much more likely that Mark wants the readers to know that the kingdom of God is already at hand. In Mark, the Kingdom of God is literally the best-laid plan! Not because it is better than the other possibilities but because it is not a possibility at all. It is a reality.

Look around today. See the Kingdom of God all around you. This is the kingdom today. Perhaps it is best if we all remembered to see it and perhaps more importantly choose to be a part of it.

Blessings!
Pastor Amy



March 2026

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

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Holy Communion 8:45-11a, Blood Pressures, E-giving help desk 10a, Sunday School 7p Scouts Mtg (Jackie) | 2 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 7pm, Trustees Mtg | 3 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 5:15p, Praise band practice 6:30p, Paint Class | 4 9:30 Chair Yoga/Fitness 6p, Chancel Choir TGIW/BLAST: 6:00-6:30p, Dinner 6:30-7:30p, Activities | 5 10a, Mahjong 1p, Mat weaving 6:30p, Worship mtg. | 6 10a, Easter Egg Match/Brunch | 7 8:30a, Men's Breakfast 12p-6p, F.Hall reserved |
| 8 3rd Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings (spring ahead 1 hr) 10a, Sunday School | 9 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness | 10 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 5:15p, Praise band practice | 11 9:30 Chair Yoga/Fitness 6p, Chancel Choir TGIW/BLAST: 6:00-6:30p, Dinner 6:30-7:30p, Activities | 12 6:30p, Bible Study | 13 Church Office Closed | 14 8:30a, Veterans Breakfast 3:00p, Hand of Luke |
| 15 4th Sunday in Lent No Sunday School *UMCOR Sunday | 16 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness | 17 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 5:15p, Praise band practice 6:30p, Finance Mtg | 18 9:30 Chair Yoga/Fitness 6p, Chancel Choir No TGIW / BLAST | 19 9:30a, United Women in Faith (Glenna Ross) 1p, Mat weaving | 20 9a, Needlers | 21 10a-1p, F.Hall reserved (McKayla Nearmyer) |
| 22 5th Sunday in Lent 9a, Beckett Kealhofer baptism 10a, Sunday School 4p, Janet Habick's recital | 23 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness | 24 April LINK deadline 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 5:15p, Praise band practice | 25 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 6p, Chancel Choir TGIW/BLAST: 6:00-6:30p, Dinner 6:30-7:30p, Activities | 26 6:30p, Administrative Council Mtg. | 27 | 28 9:30a, United Women in Faith (Glenna Ross) 10a-8p, FLC reserved (Sharon Smith) 5p, AIRTS Fundraiser 6:30p, Iowa Wolves game |
| 29 Palm Sunday | 30 Church Office closed 9:30 Chair Yoga & Fitness 6:30p, Sanctuary & F.Hall reserved (Jackie) | 31 9:30a, Al-Anon, R.Chapel Noon, AA, R.Chapel 5:15p, Praise band practice 6:30p, BINGO Fundraiser | | | | |

***UMCOR Sunday, March 15:** Your generous gift supports the United Methodist Committee on Relief's (UMCOR) administrative costs so that all designated gifts will go to the program of the giver's choice. Your contribution ensures UMCOR's response in times of crisis.



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

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1 Keith Craighton, Deanne Rowland, | 17 Mark Baldwin, Becky Baker, |
| 2 Laura Cross | Taylyn Berry |
| 3 Ashlyn Meyer | 18 Nina Moses, Laelyn Bowser |
| 4 Noah Dillenburg, Kristin Welter, Carol Weigel | 19 Tyler Nearmyer, Preshia Paulding |
| 5 Patricia Wadsworth | 21 Matthew Henry |
| 6 Janet Herrold | 23 Richard Cobb, Trudy Gurnsey, Chad Meyer |
| 8 Pam Johnson | 25 Sharon Symonds, Caleb Neu |
| 9 Henry Roff | 27 Cathy Cate, Levi Sheer, Reagan Nearmyer |
| 10 Darlene Gier | 30 Brody Egger |
| 11 Diane Densmore, Andrew Higdon | |
| 14 Norma Pecinovsky | |
| 15 Brianna Schafer | |
| 16 Charlotte Schultz | |



- 5: Larry & Patrice Webber
9: Kirk & Lilian Seagren
17: John & Kandra Dickerson

*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.*



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
Nursery Attendants: Brianna Schafer, Sarah Sahlin, Emma Sandquist

E-mail Information

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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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