

# New Hope News

Volume 5, Issue 5 February 1, 2009

## Female Connection Gets "Crafty"

The Female Connection is going to have a day to work on our crafts. We're taking over the lower level of the church on Saturday, February 21 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Please join us for fun & fellowship while catching up on your latest craft project. Bring your own craft and materials. Plan something with a friend and work on it together. We'll have a variety of activities including scrap-booking, card-making, painting, and needlework. All women are invited to attend; no signup is necessary. Come for a few hours, the morning, the afternoon, or the whole day. Also, please bring a snack to share; drinks will be provided. For more information or questions, please contact Deb Morris. We hope to see you there!

## Kids Fellowship Club

The Kids Fellowship Club will not meet today! Boys and girls (Kindergarten – Grade 5) are invited to come from 3 – 4:30 p.m. next week for a Valentine Party. Watch the newsletter for more information, or contact Barbi Smith, Director of Christian Education and Spiritual Formation at 636 936-2200.

## Worship Bags

The Children's Worship Bags are now hanging on the wall perpendicular to the Upstairs Conference Room (to the left of the sanctuary). The blue bags for older boys and girls (Grades 1 – 5) are hanging on top, with the red bags for younger boys and girls (ages 3 – Kindergarten) on the bottom. There will be a plastic container outside of the sanctuary for children to place the "used" bags each week. Forms to request worship bags are available on the Welcome Table or you may contact Barbi Smith directly.

## Evangelism Tip for February

Evangelism is one part of God's mission. Many Presbyterians are confused about the relation between mission and evangelism. The word mission comes from the Greek for "sending," and evangelism from "good news" or "public messenger of good news." God is at work in our troubled and broken world. This is good news!

Source: <http://www.pcusa.org/today/believe/past/apr02/evangelism.htm>

## DINNER, DVD FOR YOUNG ADULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Young Adult Sunday School Class is hosting a "Dinner, DVD, and Discussion" for young adults (age 18 – 30ish) on March 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Nancy Harrington (3 Sheran Court, St. Charles, MO 63303). The DVD presentation will be "The God's Aren't Angry" featuring Rob Bell, creator of the Nooma Series. Please RSVP to Barbi Smith at (636) 936-2200.

## Meal-a-Month

It's February...a great time to reach out to others in the name of God's love!

The menu this month is:

*1 large can chicken & dumplings*

*1 can ea. fruit & veggies*

*1 box/bag cookies*

*1 box biscuit mix*

## Deacon's Corner:

With thanks to Elder Mike Dame, we now are able to provide recordings of the sermons and choir music from our worship services on MP3 players to New Hope members in the hospital, nursing home, or home-bound. If you know of someone we could help in this way, you may contact any Deacon or call Kelley Hurrell at 636 441-7934.

## *Building Committee Update...from the Pastor*

In this column last week, I began to share with you the importance of architectural space. As we plan for our new sanctuary we need to ask ourselves, "What do we do in our worship space and how can we create the space so that it allows us to worship as fully as we can?" I mentioned last week Winston Churchill's comment that we shape our buildings and then our buildings shape us. How can we create our worship space so that it both expresses what we believe and shapes us most fully into the Christian life we seek to live?

Christian worship has three primary centers—font, pulpit and table, also known as bath, word and meal. We enter the Christian life through baptism, are nurtured on God's Word and receive spiritual sustenance together at the Lord's Table. Through the twentieth century, the Word of God, in the form of preaching, has dominated much of Protestant worship. In recent years, however, Protestants have come to rediscover the fact that the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist are God's Word, as well. They are God's Word enacted rather than simply spoken.

As we plan our new worship space, much prayerful thought and discussion is going into our baptismal space. Often, in Protestant churches, if a baptismal font is present it is pushed off into some corner. Some churches do not even have a font, but bring out a small bowl of water on those occasions when the sacrament of baptism is celebrated. For a variety of reasons, which are beyond the full scope of this article, the sacrament of baptism has become diminished and minimized in the church, which has made it nearly impossible for us to understand just how baptism contin-

ues to shape and form us in the Christian life through our worship together.

In the past few years at New Hope, we have been working to recover baptismal practice that highlights the significance of the sacrament for our corporate worship and our Christian lives. Every time we gather, we are called to worship by pouring water audibly and visibly into the font. After confessing our sin, God's forgiveness is declared at these cleansing waters. After the sermon, we gather again at the font, the waters of which invite us to lives of discipleship. Before we leave, the waters send us out as God's people in and for the world.

Not only liturgical action, but the location of the space for baptism conveys meaning as well. At the entrance to the worship space, the water calls attention to baptism as welcome and initiation into the community of faith, the church. Located at the center of the worship space, the waters emphasize the centrality of baptism to our common life in Christ and that it is from the community of faith that new Christians are born. Placing the water near the pulpit emphasizes the link between the Word spoken (in scripture and sermon) and the Word enacted (in sacrament). Located near the Lord's Table, the waters point to the link between the sacraments.

We are putting much thought and discussion into where our new baptismal space will be. There are theological and practical, as well as aesthetic and artistic, considerations that impinge on such a decision. Such a space should be located in a way that points to the congregation's partici-

pation in baptismal practice. Placing baptismal space in the middle of the congregation makes good theological sense, but there are practical considerations, like the movement of processions (funeral, wedding, choral, etc.) that make that a challenging location. Placing it in the rear of the sanctuary is also a good location theologically. Located at the entrance to the church, the baptismal space speaks of our entry into the community of faith. It also makes a powerful statement that the community of faith at worship does so between the waters of baptism and the Lord's Table. When we enter worship we pass the waters as our welcome into the community. When we leave worship we pass the waters as our call to ministry in the world.

Regardless of where we locate our baptismal space, it is imperative that the space be able to hold enough water to communicate the sacrament's multitude of meanings and enable us to realize the radical nature of its call on our lives.

Next week, I will address some of these meanings as well as how they influence the shape of a church's baptismal space. This is an exciting time in the life of our church. Many congregations go for a lifetime without ever having the opportunity to consider such things. We have a great responsibility of creating a worship space that will be shaping the lives of Christians at worship for years and years to come. That is a huge responsibility, but it is an even greater privilege!

Faithfully,

Chris

### **If You Love To Be With Children...**

We have the opportunity for you! The Kids Fellowship Club is looking for a few advisors to help each week. Advisors are NOT responsible for planning and are not required to be here every week. If you love kids, are Safe Sanctuary certified or can be, and are available from 3 – 4:30 p.m. on Sundays, call Barbi Smith.

### **Community Registration Coming Soon!**

A community registration for the New Hope Presbyterian Preschool will be held on February 7 from 8 a.m. – noon at the church. The preschool will begin this fall with classes for three, four and five year olds. In addition, there will be a class for "young threes" who will be 2 years and 9 months by September 8, 2009. Church members and children currently enrolled in Curiosity Corner and Noah's Nook may register now. For more information, contact Barbi Smith at New Hope Presbyterian Church or Rhonda Gaines at Curiosity Corner (636 447-4769). Registration forms are available in the church office!

### **In the Circles...**

On Thursday, February 5th, the Circles will continue their study of Luke's Gospel for the Poor. Lesson Six, "*Enemies Become Neighbors*" focuses on the parable of the Good Samaritan, teaching us to love our enemies. \*Lois Roegge will lead this lesson for the Stay-at-Home Moms Circle at 10:00 am at Church. \*Agape Circle will meet at Jan Dickson's home at 1:00 pm with Nancy Marsh leading lesson 6. \*At 7:00 pm, Joy Circle will meet in the Conference Room at church, also studying lesson 6. The Circles always welcome all who wish to learn more about the Bible to attend at a time of their choice.

# Youth Happenings!

## Mid-High Youth Group Activity Reminder

**Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** -- Working at the Oasis Food Pantry -- We will be meeting there at 9:45 am. We will be working from 9:45 am until 11:45 am. If you are able to work at the food pantry, please let Amy know as soon as possible.

**Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** -- We will be going to the Science Center following church. More details to come!

**Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** -- We will be having a meeting at church from 12:00 until 2:00 pm. Please bring a snack to share.

**Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>** -- Working at the Oasis Food Pantry -- We will be meeting there at 9:45 am. We will be working from 9:45 am until 11:45 am. If you are able to work at the food pantry, please let Amy know as soon as possible.

**Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>** -- We will be going to the Daniel Boone Home -- more details to come!

**Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** -- Working at the Oasis Food Pantry -- We will be meeting there at 9:45 am. We will be working from 9:45 am until 11:45 am. If you are able to work at the food pantry, please let Amy know as soon as possible.

**Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>** -- Easter and Confirmation Service

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** -- Demolition Ball -- more details to come!

**Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>** -- Senior High Fundraiser Dinner -- all funds raised will be going towards their Mission Trip in June.

## Senior High Youth Activity Reminder

**Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>** -- Bible Study from 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm at Josh Dalton's house. If you need directions, please call Josh, at 379-

8413. Josh will be leading Bible Study.

**Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>** -- Meeting at church from 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm -- PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN PLANS. Please bring a snack to share.

**Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup>** -- Bible Study from 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm at Tyler Sayer's house. If you need directions, please call Tyler. Tyler will be leading Bible Study. PLEASE NOTE THE CORRECTION IN PLACE.

**Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>** -- Bible Study from 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm at Sara Martin's house. If you need directions, please contact Sara at 636-936-0480. Sara will be leading Bible Study.

**Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** -- Demolition Ball -- more details to come!

**Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>** -- Bible Study from 6:00 until 7:00 pm at Tyler Salter's house. If you need directions, please contact Tyler at 636-926-9642. Tyler will be leading Bible Study.

**Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** -- Movie Night at church. We will also be stuffing the Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 5<sup>th</sup>. More details to come!

**Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>** -- Usher -- we will be ushering at both services. Please be at church no later than 8:15 am. Please no jeans. If you are able to usher, please let Amy know as soon as possible.

### Dates to remember:

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** -- Youth Sunday

**Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>** -- Fundraiser Dinner -- all funds that are raised will be going to the Mission Trip.

**Sunday, June 21 through Sunday June 28** -- Mission Trip to Detroit, MI

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Kitmiller at 314-795-9759 (cell)

Dear Friends,

Your annual Giving Statements were mailed to your homes earlier this week. If you did not receive one and believe that you should have, please contact Jane Spurgeon. With new IRS Guidelines and the implementation of using Church Windows, there are some differences that you will notice this year.

First, the IRS implemented Substantiation Rules which does not allow charitable or religious organizations to give credit where goods or services were provided in return for the donation. For anyone who made financial contributions to an event where something was received in return such as the Pairs & Singles Basket Auction, Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Mid-High Trivia Night, Purse Auction, Senior High Dinner & Auction or Work Days, etc. where you made a contribution that was greater than the value received, you will need to determine or work with a tax advisor on how to make that tax deduction.

In addition, for anyone who donated goods or services to the church, since there is no cash or financial contribution to record in Church Windows, this was not something that could be added to the Giving Statements. Rather, Substantiation Letters were mailed this week to those individuals that we were made aware of. Per IRS Regulations, the letter will include New Hope's name, the date of the contribution and description (but not the value) of the non-cash contribution. If you provided a receipt or copies of tickets, etc., we enclosed that back to you as well for your recordkeeping purposes. If you believe that you contributed something of value that you would like to itemize on your tax return and did not receive a substantiation letter, please contact Jane Spurgeon about that as well.

We appreciate the generous gifts everyone has given to New Hope. We know that this is different way of recordkeeping than in the past and continue to appreciate your understanding. Please feel free to contact Ben Tutschulte or Jane Spurgeon with any questions.

In Christ,

*Ben and Jane*

Ben Tutschulte, Elder for Budget and Finance

Jane Spurgeon, Treasurer

## February Anniversaries and Birthdays

## Thank You

### Anniversaries:

Deryl & Carol Botkin	2-10-73
Kurt & Jenna Groat	2-10-02
Stan & Monica Crain	2-14-77
Gary & Kathy Freeman	2-23-83
Wayne & Cindy Anthony	2-27-71

### Birthdays:

Gabriel Ellis	2-01
Erik Isbell	2-02
Anne Ledbetter	2-02
Carrie Newman	2-02
A.J. Ward	2-03
Ben Fleschert	2-04
Nathan Frey	2-04
Ann Rademan	2-04
Robert Graber	2-05
Sandy Tschannen	2-05
Tyler Etling	2-06
Amy Kitsmiller	2-07
Lindy Stacy	2-08
John Melone	2-13
Nancy Stuenkel	2-14
Donald Linss	2-14
Ryan Crawford	2-16
Greg Newman	2-17
Ann Ray	2-18

Laci Burroughs	2-19
Craig Graber	2-19
Glenda Hubbard	2-22
Rachel Garten	2-22
Aaron Black	2-23
Chris James	2-23
Marge Rhoads	2-26
Jaimee Crawford	2-27
Mel Fairchild	2-27
Mark Martin	2-27
Chris Calvin	2-28

A very big thank you to the members of New Hope. It is great being a part of a loving and caring congregation. Thank you to all of you who have sent cards and expressed sympathy on the death of my sister Mary Lou Huckaby. I ask each of you to keep her family in your prayers. She was married to her husband for 62 1/2 years. Again thank you for the concern.

Agape, Anna Mae Richardson

## Thanks from St. Louis Crisis Nursery

*Thank you* so much for supporting our families through the Crisis Nursery's Holiday Hearts Program with your 2008 monetary gift of \$600. This year **1,415** children were given a warm and Merry Christmas thanks to you! These children knew that they were cared for and not forgotten during the hustle and bustle of the holidays. Their little eyes were filled with wonder and amazement, instead of tears and disappointment.

We appreciated your generosity more than ever this year with the tough economic times. You realized that this is when our families need us the most. Many of our families were moved to tears when they saw the outpouring of support and kindness bestowed upon them by their sponsor.

From the bottom of our hearts, and the hearts of our children and families, we send our sincere gratitude. We wish you a very blessed and happy 2009!

Very Sincerely,

DiAnne Mueller, Executive Director

## Calendar of Events

### Sunday, Feb 01

*Superbowl of Caring*  
8:45 Worship & Comm.  
9:45 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship & Comm.  
12:00 Phillips' Faith Family  
3:00 KFC

### Monday, Feb 02

6:00 Sr. High Bible Study  
7:00 Deacons Mtg.

### Tuesday, Feb 03

6:30 N.A. Mtg.  
7:00 A.A. Mtg.

### Wednesday, Feb 04

7:00 Capital Campaign  
Comm. Mtg.  
7:30 Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, Feb 05

10:00 Stay-at-Home Moms  
Circle  
1:00 Agape Circle  
6:00 Healthy Beginnings  
7:00 Joy Circle  
7:30 Kerygma Class

### Friday, Feb 06

Mid-High Confirm. Retreat

### Saturday, Feb 07

8-12 Preschool Registration  
for Community

### Sunday, Feb 08

8:45 Worship & Comm.  
9:45 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship  
TBA Sr. High Outing  
3:00 KFC

### Monday, Feb 09

7:00 Session Mtg.

### Tuesday, Feb 10

6:30 N.A. Mtg.  
7:00 A.A. Mtg.  
7:00 Capital Campaign Mtg.

### Wednesday, Feb 11

7:00 Capital Campaign Mtg.  
7:30 Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, Feb 12

7:30 Kerygma

### Saturday, Feb 14

*Valentine's Day*  
9:45 Mid-Highs at Oasis  
Food Pantry

## Usher Schedule

### Sunday, Feb 8th

Jim Phillips  
Debbie Phillips  
Michael Black  
Mel Fairchild  
Gary Freeman  
Ben Tutschulte  
Christie Tutschulte

### Sunday, Feb 15th

Rick Cassetta  
Rick Etling  
Tyler Etling  
Ken Pinkley  
Kevin Harms  
Joe Seidler

### Substitute List

Al Beamer  
Kathy Beamer  
Bunny Gauthier  
Don Moore  
Allen Sebaugh  
Ann Sebaugh  
Sue Stiegemeier  
Gil Stuenkel  
Sue White  
Jim White  
Kathy Freeman  
Gary Freeman