

# New Hope News

Volume 5, Issue 10      March 8, 2009

## Special Sunday School for Adults During Lent

On March 1, the Young Adult Sunday School class began a class which offers special NOOMA presentations. Nooma videos are 11 – 13 minutes presentations which touch on issues that we care about and that we want to talk about in the church. The schedule will include: March 15: “Store;” March 22: “Today;” March 29: “Open;” and April 5: “Shells.” This class will meet in the upstairs conference room from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. For more information, contact Barbi Smith at [stlbarbi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stlbarbi@sbcglobal.net) or (636) 936-2200.

## Preschool News

Registration for the New Hope Presbyterian Preschool continues. 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.

Currently, there are 3 openings in the Young Threes Class, which meets in the morning. The remaining **morning** Three, Four and Five Year Olds Classes are filled. The **afternoon** classes have a few openings: Three Year Olds (4); Three Year Olds Plus (7); Four Year Olds (13) and Five Year Olds (1).

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!

## Dinner, DVD, and Discussion for Young Adults

The Young Adult Sunday School Class is hosting a “Dinner, DVD, and Discussion” for young adults (age 18 – 30ish) tonight 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. Call Nancy at 636 925-0545 for directions.

## Kids Fellowship Club

KIDS FELLOWSHIP CLUB will break from March 8 – 29. We will meet again on April 5 for an Easter Party. KIDS FELLOWSHIP CLUB schedules are available on the Welcome Table for your convenience.

### Be a Good Steward!

As New Hope grows and more people attend worship and fellowship functions at church, it is more important than ever that all of us make a concerted effort to pick and clean up after ourselves. Check for trash on the floor, in the seatbacks and in the restrooms. Check too for items left behind on chairs, tables, etc.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

This year’s Vacation Bible School, “Camp E.D.G.E: Experience and Discover God Everywhere” is scheduled for July 6 - 10. Watch the New Hope News for more information!

## Deacon’s Corner:

Each week, the Deacons take an MP3 player with recordings of the sermon and choir music to church members in the hospital, nursing home or those confined to their own home. We also take them the church bulletin and newsletter. Because of the positive response to this program, we have purchased additional MP3 players and can now provide them to as many as 8 people per week.

## March Meal-a-Month

The statistics tell us that one in every 50 people in Missouri is without a job. What the statistics don't say is how many are going hungry. Please reach deep into your pockets to help a person in need. The menu for March is:

**2 cans tuna**

**1 box tuna helper**

**1 can each fruit & veggies**

**1 box/bag of cookies**

Did you know the food pantries can also use non-food items? Last month, a member donated shampoo, soap and lotion samples!

## Evangelism

### Evangelism Tip for March:

Jesus said: "If ye continue in My Word, then are ye My disciples indeed; And ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free."

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

## Chili Cook-Off

Pairs 'n' Singles will be sponsoring a chili cook off on Sat, March 21st at 6:00 pm. Please plan to come and bring your favorite recipe for chili, side dish or dessert to share. Look forward to lots of culinary experiences and, of course, prizes for the best recipes! For you new visiting friends and members please plan to join in the fun. We look forward to meeting you! Childcare will be provided. A sign up sheet is on the table outside the church office. Please call Kay McCarthy 636-946-1942 or Cathy Holder 636-936-2200 with any questions. Let's drive winter into spring. See you all soon for the Chili Cook Off.

## From the Pastor...

There has been much excitement in recent months as we have had the opportunity of discussing possible solutions to our space challenges that have arisen due to increased worship attendance, education needs and office requirements for a growing staff. These discussions have taken the form of a building expansion program that would include a new sanctuary, greater office space, more Christian education facilities and meeting rooms.

Our Building Committee has been meeting for several months now, assessing needs and talking with the staff members and several of the ministry committees. Back in December, Clark Hurrell spoke for the Building Committee in worship, introducing preliminary drawings to get the conversation going forward about the possibility and potential of what a building program might look like. Members of the Building Committee have been at the table in the narthex every week inviting input and answering questions.

During the month of January, an ad hoc committee established by the Session met with and interviewed three different capital campaign firms to determine which would best help us address the challenges before us. At its meeting in February, the Session heard the recommendation from this ad hoc committee and voted to enter into an agreement with Generis Partners, LLC to help us move forward with a capital campaign to pave the way for future growth and expansion of our facilities. Rusty Lewis, our campaign consultant from Generis, was at the Session meeting to meet our elders and answer questions. Before Rusty came to talk with our ad hoc committee, I met with him over coffee for nearly two hours, describing our history, our future and the challenges we face. One of the primary reasons the committee settled on Rusty and Generis as our campaign consultant and firm is that we felt he strove to understand who we are before making

any recommendations and suggestions. Then, when he did speak, not only did he tell us what he had to offer, but he did so in a way that spoke to our specific desires and challenges.

We are moving forward. The work of the Building Committee may slow a bit as we work with Rusty to discern the specific vision for how all of this will take shape. We have current debt to manage and address while we work to move forward in building the new space we so desperately need. Over the next couple of months, our church leadership will be mapping out the steps we need to take for this vision to be realized. Please be in prayer for our Session and other church leaders, that we might all discern the will of God for New Hope and move forward together.

Faithfully,

Chris

## Leaping Leprechauns During Lent

The Female Connection is going to play "Bunco" on Thursday, March 19 at 7 PM in the Narthex at the Church. Please join us for an evening of fun & fellowship. All women are invited to attend; no sign-up is necessary and we'll show you how to play (it's extremely easy). Following Bunco tradition, please bring a gift in the range of \$4-6 to exchange at the end of play. Some type of Easter or spring decoration would be appropriate. Wear your green for St. Patrick's 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!

# Youth Happenings!

# Safe Sanctuary

## Mid-High Youth Group Activity Reminder

**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!

**Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>** -- Easter Egg Hunt following the second service.

**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 from 1:30 until 3:00 -- we will be meeting there. If you are able to attend, please let Amy know no later than Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

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

### Dates to Remember

**Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** -- Lock-in at church

## Senior High Youth Activity Reminder

**Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** -- Demolition Ball from 1:30 until 3:00 -- we will be meeting there. If you are able to attend, please let Amy know no later than Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**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 from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm. We will also stuff eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 5<sup>th</sup>. We will also order pizza for dinner. Please bring a snack to share and also a bag of candy to fill the Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. Jane will pick the movie for the evening.

**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 5<sup>th</sup>** -- Easter Egg Hunt following the second service.

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** -- Youth Sunday at the 11:00 service

**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 Kitsmiller at 314-795-9759 (cell) or E-Mail: [alkitsmiller@newhopepc.net](mailto:alkitsmiller@newhopepc.net)

Safe Sanctuary is a program instituted at New Hope Presbyterian Church several years ago for the purpose of setting forth guidelines to protect children, youth and adults with physical, mental or developmental disabilities. In addition, to some degree, it inherently protects the church and our volunteers from false allegations of child abuse. It is a program that is committed to the well being of all those who participate in our community of faith.

All adults who supervise children and youth are required to have Safe Sanctuary Certification. Several classes are scheduled for the near future. The classes are one part of the requirement for certification. During the class, volunteers will learn the procedures, policies and expectations in dealing with children and youth. Volunteers are also asked to fill out a Volunteer Application, an Authorization to Release Information (for a background check by IntelliCorp Records, Inc.), and to sign a Covenant Statement agreeing to observe and abide by all church policies regarding working in ministries with children and youth.

Classes are scheduled for **Sunday, March 15, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.** (during the Sunday School hour); **April 5, 3 - 4 p.m.** (during Kids Fellowship Club); **May 3, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.** and **June 7, 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.** In order to expedite the class, the Volunteer Application, the Authorization to Release Information and the Covenant Statement are available on the Welcome table for you to complete before the class.

If you would like to attend one of the classes to become Safe Sanctuary Certified, or if you have questions, please contact Barbi Smith at 636 936-2200 or [stlbarbi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stlbarbi@sbcglobal.net).

## The Hunt for Treats Is On!

The Senior High Youth Group is collecting candy and small filler items to fill the Easter eggs they use for the annual Easter egg hunt for the youth. If you can donate, the baskets will be in the church office until the youth group fills the eggs on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thanks so much, as always, for supporting our youth!

**The Session has called a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, March 15 at 12:00 pm for the purpose of electing a deacon and an elder to fill unexpired terms.**

# Story to Ponder

## The Golden Rule in Today's Economy

People who have lost their jobs should not be abandoned, and the support of friends and family is crucial. Although family relationships are our primary source of emotional support, the relationships we form at work and our work-related contacts can become like an extended second family.

If these relationships are treated as expendable, it can often be as traumatic as the death of a loved one. When a death occurs, there can be as many as five distinct stages of grief. These are anger, denial, bargaining, depression and acceptance. However, when it comes to job loss, there is also the added element of fear.

No one can ignore the fact that times have grown uncertain. Millions of good, hardworking individuals have lost their jobs through no fault of their own. More bad news may be on the way.

Now is the time for all of us to reach out a hand to encourage and help one another. People who are unemployed should not be made to feel they have been discarded. There is strength in numbers. We will all be stronger if we stand together and observe the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

-- excerpted from Dear Abby

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## Calendar of Events

### Sunday, March 8

8:45 Worship & Comm.  
9:45 Education Hour  
11:00 Worship  
1:30 Mid-High Outing  
6:30 Young Adults Dinner

### Monday, March 9

6:00 Session Mtg.

### Tuesday, March 10

10:00 Staff Mtg.  
6:30 N.A. Mtg.  
7:00 A.A. Mtg.

### Wednesday, March 11

7:30 Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, March 12

7:30 Kerygma

### Saturday, March 13

9:45 Mid-Highs at Oasis  
Food Pantry

### Sunday, March 15

8:45 Worship & Comm.  
9:45 Education Hour  
9:45 Safe Sanctuary  
11:00 Worship  
2:30 Mid-Highs - Bowling  
No KFC

### Monday, March 16

6:00 Senior High Bible Study

### Tuesday, March 17

10:00 Staff Mtg.  
6:30 N.A. Mtg.  
7:00 A.A. Mtg.

### Wednesday, March 18

7:30 Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, March 19

7:00 Female Connection  
7:30 Kerygma

### Saturday, March 20

10:00 St. Mark Youth  
Sleepover

### Saturday, March 13

8:30 Men's Breakfast  
6:00 Pairs & Singles -  
Chili Cook-off

## Usher Schedule

### Sunday, Mar 15

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

### Sunday, Mar 22

Carol Botkin  
Gary Freeman  
Tyler Salter  
Bill Reilly  
Ruth Reilly  
Jim Pettit  
Joyce McDonald

### 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