

New Hope News

Logos Program Coming in the Fall

Volume 5, Issue 12 March 22, 2009

As we reach out to the community through our New Hope Presbyterian Church Preschool, which begins in the Fall, we also want to “reach in” to our own children and youth and continue to nurture and encourage their faith, as well as their participation in their family of faith. Logos, a mid-week program, is scheduled to begin mid-September for children and youth in Kindergarten through Senior High. It will bridge Sunday to Sunday as it complements our B.L.A.S.T., Mid and Senior High Sunday School Programs, as well as our children’s and youth fellowship programs. Bible Study, Worship Skills (such as a vocal choir or hand bell choir), Recreation (games, crafts, cooking, etc.) and Family Time (dinner and activities) are the components of this four part program.

Easter Lilies for 2009

Are you disheartened to see all the Easter lilies and poinsettias that go to waste after the holidays? Hospitals and nursing homes are inundated with offers to take them, and health issues limit what they are able to accept from various churches.

Therefore, our Worship & Music Committee has once again decided to give our congregants a choice! You may purchase a “live” lily to adorn our sanctuary on Easter Sunday and take it home following the 11:00 am service. You may also purchase a “virtual” lily, the cost of which will go to the New Hope Deacons’ Benevolence Fund to put them in a better position to meet the needs of the community. Whichever you choose, you will still make your gift in memory—honor—or gratitude of someone or some blessing in your life. That list will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletins.

The cost this year is \$9.00 per lily (live or virtual) and checks are to be written to N.H.P.C. Envelopes & order forms are in the seatbacks and must be turned in by April 5th.

Employment Opportunity

New Hope has a position open for an additional Child Care Provider. This position is scheduled to work on Sunday mornings and at others times child care will be needed. If you know of someone who is reliable, works well with children, and may be interested in this position, please speak with Grace Harmon, Personnel Committee chairperson, at (636) 946-5099. Interested persons may also contact the church office at 936-2200.

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:

With thanks to Sean Bippen for the design, the new Deacon’s Care Cards may now be found in each Fellowship for Friendship pad as well as on the welcome table. It is yet another way for members to alert the Deacons to an issue needing their attention. Hand the completed card to any Deacon or place it in the prayer box on the welcome table. We’ll take it from there.

A Service for Wholeness

A new worship opportunity

Sunday, May 3, 5:00 p.m.

See “From the Pastor” in this newsletter

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>

Preschool is Cool!

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.

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!

From the Pastor...

One of the central affirmations of our faith tradition is that we are broken people living in a broken world. Our brokenness is revealed in many ways and it affects us in mind, body and spirit. The brokenness I'm talking about can be physical. We get sick, afflicted with disease of various sorts. The brokenness can also be emotional and spiritual. Those we love get sick, and people close to us die. Relationships break apart and come to an end. We lose a job and wonder how we will be able to provide. We grieve all these things. As a church, we have experienced brokenness in a variety of ways over the past couple of years. Some of those ways have been particularly pronounced. In addition, there are those among us who are experiencing brokenness and no one else knows about it. This can leave them feeling isolated and alone. The Church is the body of Christ and, "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it" (1 Corinthians 12:26). Several people have asked aloud, "what can we do to respond to all of this? What can we do to help one another?"

One of the primary purposes of the church is to carry on Jesus' ministry in the world. Jesus was a teacher and a preacher. So is the church. We carry on Jesus' ministry of teaching and preaching. But Jesus was also a healer. As much as he taught

and preached, he healed. Healing was central to Jesus' life and ministry. It ought to be so for the church as well.

In light of all of this, the Session has chosen to offer a worship opportunity known as **a Service for Wholeness, on Sunday, May 3 at 5:00 p.m.** This is one of the services available in our *Book of Common Worship*. The Service for Wholeness recognizes that all healing comes from God. In *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship*, we are reminded that "Sometimes miraculous healing occurs. Generally, God works through human skill, knowledge, and training to bring about healing. Highly trained medical professionals, technology and medicine aid in the healing process. All are direct gifts from God." The Service for Wholeness is a service of worship in which the gathered church acknowledges the abiding presence of God. We experience brokenness in our lives, but we can be assured that our brokenness does not define us. Another central affirmation of our faith tradition is the sovereignty and providence of God. It affirms that, even in the midst of illness, our relationship with God in Christ sustains us.

The Service for Wholeness is a service centered on prayer, spoken, sung and enacted. It will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the option, for those who choose it, of laying on of

hands and anointing with oil. It is important to note that the laying on of hands and anointing with oil are practices that the wider church has used throughout its history. This practice acknowledges the power and work of the Holy Spirit, but does not seek to control the Spirit of God. As *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship* makes clear, "This is mystical and mysterious, but not magic. No tricks, gimmicks, or magical incantations are used to invoke the Holy Spirit." Anointing with oil is to be understood as an external sign of the presence of Christ, who continues his ministry of salvation and healing. The point of the Service for Wholeness is to provide an opportunity for deepening trust in God's reconciling love, that we might experience God's shalom, peace and wholeness, despite the outcome of our particular trials.

I will write more about this in the coming weeks, to answer questions and further prepare our congregation and all who choose to be a part of this worship experience. I welcome your questions and input and am excited about this opportunity to further the healing ministry of Christ in our midst.

Faithfully,

Chris

Youth Happenings

Mid-High Youth Group Activity Reminder

Sunday, April 5th – Easter Egg Hunt following the second service.

Sunday, April 5th – Must let Amy know if you are going to play Demolition Ball on Sunday, April 19th.

Saturday, April 11th – CHANGE IN PLANS – The OASIS Food Pantry will be closed due to Easter.

Sunday, April 12th – Confirmation at the 11:00 service.

Sunday, April 19th – 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 5th.

Sunday, April 26th – Senior High Fundraiser Dinner – all funds raised will be going towards their Mission Trip in June.

Dates to Remember

Friday, May 15th through Saturday, May 16th
– Lock-in at church

Senior High Youth Activity Reminder

Sunday, March 22nd – Movie Night at church from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm. We will also be stuffing the Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 5th. We will be ordering pizza for dinner. Please bring a snack to share, some plastic Easter eggs, and also a bag of candy to fill the Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. Jane will be picking the movie for the evening. We will also be having a short practice for Youth Sunday at the beginning of Movie Night.

Sunday, March 29th – 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.

Sunday, March 29th – During the Sunday School hour, we will be practicing for Youth

Sunday.

Sunday, April 5th – We will be having the Easter Egg Hunt for the little kids after the second service. If you are able to help, please let Amy know as soon as possible.

Monday, April 5th – Bible Study from 6:00 until 7:00 at Marissa Malta's house. If you need directions, please contact Marissa. Marissa will be leading bible study.

Sunday, April 12th – Easter and Confirmation during the 11:00 service

Sunday, April 19th – Youth Sunday during the 11:00 service – Please be at church no later than 9:30. We will be running through the service one more time during the Sunday School Hour. Please no jeans or tennis shoes.

Monday, April 20th – Bible Study from 6:00 until 7:00 at Ellyn Yarde's house. If you need directions, please contact Ellyn. Ellyn will be leading bible study.

Sunday, April 26th – Fundraiser Dinner – all funds raised will go towards the Mission Trip – Doors will open at 5:30. Dinner will be served at 6:00 – more details to come!

Dates to remember:

Sunday, June 21 through Sunday June 28 – Mission Trip to Detroit, MI

Sunday, May 17th – Cooking and serving dinner at the Ronald McDonald House

Sunday, May 31 -- Usher

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

Baking Goodies?

Carolyn Rudolph Carolyn has pure Vanilla from Mexico for anyone who wants the "best" for their baking goodies. Donations are appreciated and monies collected will go towards church projects. See Allen or Carolyn at church or call 636.949.5657.

Safe Sanctuary

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 **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

LET'S CELEBRATE...

KATIE WARD'S BIRTHDAY
WITH A CAKE & ICE CREAM PARTY!!!!

Saturday, April 18, 2009
1 - 3 P.M.

Sue Stiegemeier's Home
1073 Pearview Drive – St. Peters, MO

This party is given by Wynn Ward in honor of his wife's ??? Birthday!!


Join us for Brilliant Conversation,
Loads of Laughs,
And Dancing 'til Dawn
(or 3 pm...whichever comes first!)

Church Website: Have You Visited Recently?

The Communication Committee is looking for people interested in helping us improve the content of New Hope's website.

Over the past several months the Church Website has been revamped. Did you know we now put the sermon in both Audio (mp3) and Print (pdf) formats? Do you want to be the first one to know what's in the weekly newsletter? You can find it on the website; the current newsletter will usually be posted on Thursday or Friday. We also have a monthly calendar! You can also email Chris, Barbi or any of other staff personnel without remembering their email address, just click on "Contact Us" then select the individual.

Did you know our site offers RSS feeds? So you ask, "What's an RSS feed?", RSS (Really Simple Syndication or Rich Site Summary feed) provides summaries of web content in a simple format. It is available through an RSS feed reader, or through some browsers. It will show you what's new since the last time you checked the feed, without having to visit the website itself. If you use Outlook it will automatically check the website each time you check your mail. To start using

RSS feeds, just click the little orange icon  in the lower right corner of the home page of the website, and if you have software on your PC for RSS feeds, the software should add it.

So take some time this next week to surf our Church's website. While you will find there is some helpful information there, it's not complete. The Communication Committee needs your help creating content for the website about your Committee or Activity. This coming month we would like to form a short term sub-committee to help determine what content is missing on the website. Then we need your help writing the content. And you don't have to know anything about designing or writing webcode. You just need to be able to put into words the message New Hope wants to present to future members and the world wide web. If you are interested or can help, please contact Mike Dame - Communication Committee Chairperson at 636-978-8316 or email me from the "Contact Us" webpage to the Webservant on the church website. <http://www.newhopepc.net>

Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 22

8:45 Worship & Comm.
9:45 Education Hour
11:00 Worship
2:30 Sr. High Mtg.
No KFC

Monday, March 23

7:00 Christian Ed. Mtg.

Tuesday, March 24

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

Wednesday, March 25

6:00 Ray Faith Family
7:30 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 26

7:30 Kerygma

Saturday, March 28

8:00 Girl Scout Parking
Lot Sale
4:30 Girl Scout Spaghetti
Supper

Sunday, March 29

8:45 Worship & Comm.
9:45 Education Hour
11:00 Worship
12:00 Faith Family
Leadership Training
No KFC

Tuesday, March 31

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

Wednesday, April 01

7:30 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 02

10:00 Stay-at-Home-Moms
1:00 Agape Circle
7:00 Joy Circle
7:30 Kerygma



Usher Schedule

Sunday, Mar 29 New Hope Youth

Sunday, Apr 5

Sharon Barnes
Bryan Eikmann
Laura Eikmann
Gary Freeman
Kirk Garten
Craig Graber
Bob Terrell

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