

New Hope News

A Service for Wholeness
A new worship opportunity
Sunday, May 3, 5:00 p.m.

Volume 5, Issue 15 April 19, 2009

Thanks New Hope!

Thank you "good cooks" for your generous donations for the vanilla from Mexico. We were able to write a check for the Building Fund Debt in the amount of \$275.00. It brought us great joy to know we could do this.

Thank you again & Blessings,
Allen & Carolyn Rudolph

Young Adult Sunday School Class

For those who are young adults and those who are young adults! Our class has moved into the Nursery (so those of you who have little ones ... bring them with you!). For the next few weeks, we will be viewing and discussing the NOOMA dvds. Each dvd addresses a particular theological idea. They are stand alone, so if you miss one, you are not "out of the loop." If you have questions, please contact Barbi Smith.

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.

Thank You!

Sometimes, everything comes together perfectly to enhance our worship at New Hope and Holy Week was one of those times. The Worship & Music Committee would like to take a moment to thank those who worked diligently to provide the congregation with a meaningful, spiritual experience this past week. First our thanks goes to the choir who practiced at church and at home to present music that stirred our souls, and especially to Jan Parker and Mike Greene who were present for every rehearsal and service. Thanks to the Banner Guild for a new Easter banner that was stunning. Special thanks to Jeanne Huesemann, who hems all of those delicate banners. We wish to thank Mike and Jane Dame for their contributions also. Mike created and prepared booklets that explain the symbolism of the crosses that were presented to the confirmands on Easter day. Jane tended to the flowers on the "living cross," adding to our visualization of "new life in Christ." We are deeply grateful too for the donation of a new baptismal bowl in the Sanctuary. No note of gratitude would be complete without thanking our pastor, Chris James for his untiring efforts in bringing us touching sermons that bring us ever closer to God. Our pastor is amazing and brings out the best in all of us in the ways we worship. If someone has been overlooked in this long thank you note, please know that you also are very appreciated. It takes everyone, doing their "donkey duty" to make New Hope a worshipful place to be.

A Taste of Italy
Sunday, April 26

6:00 pm

**Dinner
&
Entertainment**

**Proceeds Benefit Sr.
High
Mission Trip**

Deacon's Corner

During March, the Deacons made 8 visits to shut-ins, providing church bulletins and recordings of the sermons and choir music, 1 hospital visit, and 4 care phone calls. In addition, the Deacons provided meals and support to a family during a final illness, passing, and subsequent visitation; served lunch to nearly 150 people at the church following another funeral; and provided refreshments after a third funeral.

Youth Happenings

Mid-High Youth Group Activity Reminder

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, 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 – We will be setting up the tables immediately following the second service. All youth members are asked to wear black pants and white shirts. Please be at church that evening no later than 4:30. We need parents to help in the kitchen, if you are able and willing to help, please see Amy as soon as possible.

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) .

Rascals Game

Join the Pairs and Singles for our annual River City Rascals Baseball game and pre-game parking lot tailgate party, June 13 starting at 4:30. Sign up in the Narthex at the name tag table. \$14 per person buys a shaded seat game admission as well as pre-game fried chicken. Also asking attendees to bring an additional side dish to share, as well as own lawn chairs and drinks. Payment must be made by May 23. An envelope to collect payments will be in the church office. See Cathy Holder for taking payments in the form of either check made out to Patrick Murphy, or cash in separate envelope with name on it. Call Patrick or Robin Murphy at (636) 926-0517 for more information.

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 **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 .

Calling All Acolytes!

If your son or daughter, ages 5 and up would like to be an acolyte, please contact Ruth Connor at 936-2818 or call the Church Office at 936-2200. Ruth provides training and will gladly answer any questions you may have. Most acolytes serve once every three months or so, depending on the number of children who participate.

April Meal-a-Month

Thanks to everyone who contributed so generously during the month of March to the food pantries! April has arrived and we have a new suggested menu.

1 lg. can chicken & dumplings

1 can each fruit & veggies

1 box/bag of cookies

1 box jello

Did you know the food pantries can also use non-food items? In March, one family donated a package of baby diapers! The pantries appreciate any item that will stretch a budget!

Kids Fellowship Club

KIDS FELLOWSHIP CLUB – BOREDOM BUSTERS! Come today from 3 – 4:30 p.m. for an afternoon of Boredom Busters – fun games and activities to chase away the winter blahs... All boys and girls in Kindergarten through Fifth Grades are invited to attend!

KIDS FELLOWSHIP CLUB– OVERNIGHT is coming on April 24 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 a.m. It will be a busy evening filled with games, crafts, pizza and movies. If your child plans to attend, please **MAKE A RESERVATION** by calling or emailing Barbi Smith (936-2200). The cost is \$10 per child and includes all activities, dinner Friday night and donuts on Saturday morning.

Preschool News

Registration for the New Hope Presbyterian Preschool continues. Currently there are openings in the Three Year Old afternoon class and the Four Year Old afternoon class.

Afternoon classes meet from 12:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. with the Three Year Olds meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the Four Year Olds meeting on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

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 share more about this as it draws closer, 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

Purses and Pasta

Two great events are coming up the weekend of April 25 & 26 that involve purses, pasta and the opportunity to help advance some great causes at New Hope!

On Saturday, April 25th at 2pm, the InReach Committee will host their 4th Annual Afternoon Tea and Purse Auction! All women and girls are invited to spend a genteel afternoon sipping tea and tasting cookies. Then, these same genteel women get down to the nitty-gritty of outbidding one another for gently used purses that contain a wonderful variety of items (minimum value of contents is \$15) that these women simply can't live without! The best part is that all of the proceeds are used to purchase badly needed items for the kitchen! So, don't let the demure manner of our wonderful women fool you. They are ruthless in finding the fun-filled purses of their dreams! In order for the InReach Committee to plan appropriately, *please fill out the pink insert in your bulletin and return by this Sunday, April 19 or make your reservation by phone by calling the Church Office at 936-2200.*

Then, on Sunday, April 26 at 5:00 pm, the Senior High Youth Group will sponsor a "Taste of Italy!" Those Senior Highs know how to feed a crowd and entertain us! There is no cost. However, they will accept free-will offerings to benefit the Senior High Mission Trip to Michigan. The youth do an amazing job of raising funds to support their efforts! Their energy, enthusiasm and efforts to make a difference in the world are to be supported and applauded. No reservations are necessary, but do please attend. We want our youth to know we stand behind them 100%!!

Community Happenings

On Sunday, May 3 at 2:00 pm, the St. Peters Choral Society will present their annual spring concert at Fort Zumwalt South High School, 8050 Mexico Road in St. Peters. About half the music is religious and the rest is a mix of traditional and American folk music. Four of New Hope's favorite songbirds, Kathy Kuehnle, Karen Merod, Betty Osiek and Jan Parker are participating. There is no admission fee, so come on out, support these gifted singers and enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music!

Oasis Food Pantry is hosting a golf tournament/dinner/auction on Monday, June 8, 2009 at Old Hickory Golf Club on Mid Rivers Mall Drive. There are many ways to participate. You may golf, buy an ad, donate auction or gift bag items or sponsor a family, among the opportunities. Oasis was established 19 years ago to feed the hungry and now serves well over 1000 people each month. All monies raised are used to serve the community and maintain the facility to house Oasis. For more info on how you can donate, please contact Amy Kitsmiller at 314-795-9759.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, April 19

8:45 Worship & Comm
9:45 Education Hour
11:00 Worship-Youth Sunday
& Senior Recognition
1:30 Mid-High Outing
3:00 KFC

Monday, April 20

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

Tuesday, April 21

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

Wednesday, April 22

7:30 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 23

7:30 Kerygma

Friday, April 24

6:30 KFC Overnighter

Saturday, April 25

2:00 4th Annual InReach
Purse Auction

Sunday, April 26

8:45 Worship & Comm
9:45 Education Hour
11:00 Worship
6:00 Sr. High Dinner and
Entertainment

Tuesday, April 28

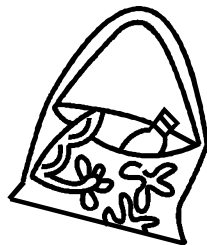
10:00 Staff Mtg.
6:30 N.A. Mtg.
7:00 A.A. Mtg.

Wednesday, April 29

7:30 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 30

7:30 Kerygma



Purse Auction

Saturday, April 25

2:00 pm

Usher Schedule

Sunday, Apr 26

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

Sunday, May 3

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