

# NEW HOPE

## JANUARY NEWS

### 2015

## January Sermons & Scriptures

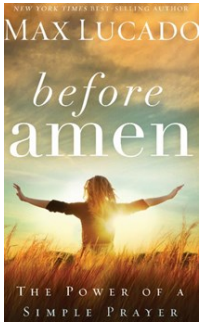
January 4 -	<i>Epiphany Sunday Communion offering goes to the feeding program for Acahualinca church</i>	
	"The Word of the Lord Endures Forever"	1 Peter 1: 22 - 25
January 11-	"Grow Into Salvation"	1 Peter 2: 1 - 3
January 18 -	"Fear God"	1 Peter 2: 11 - 17
January 25 -	"Repay with a Blessing"	1 Peter 3: 8 - 12

### Welcome to our new members:

Jason Mills, Jeana Richardson & Dean Rutledge became joined in December.



### Study Classes begin next week!



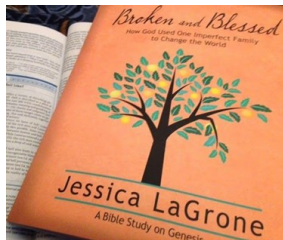
A four-week study of the Max Lucado book "before Amen" begins January 7 at 6:30. This is taught by Cali Eck and the book costs \$8.

Beginning the 9th at 10:00 Samantha Howell will lead a series



on various methods of prayer.

This 8-week course meets for a half-hour on Friday mornings, giving information on the history and specific method of prayer to practice that week. The goal is to improve prayer life while teaching different techniques.



On Wednesday mornings a six-week study of Broken and Blessed will begin January 14 at 9:30. This study, led by Cali Eck & Samantha Howell, will trace the Genesis family from Adam and Eve to Joseph and his brothers. The study

shows that though these people were imperfect, God worked for good in their lives. God wants to do the same for us. The price of the book is \$15.

Sign up sheets for classes are on the counter.

### THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

- a note from JD

The pastor and church staff wants to thank all the members of New Hope who have generously supported the church with financial gifts in 2014. Your gifts have helped us build a new building, provide a new playground for children, feed the hungry through our Food Pantry, add new staff, minister to youth, bless our children, provide music for worship, and do all kinds of ministry and mission projects.

Your gifts allowed us to pay 100% of our Apportionments to the Oklahoma Conference of the United Methodist Church. That means that the money you gave is blessing lives at Exodus House, Skyline Urban Ministries, Camp Canyon, Camp Egan, the Boy's Ranch, the Children's Home, Oklahoma City University, and other places too numerous to name!

We love you and we appreciate your support. We pledge to continue to bless you as we lead out in ministry in 2015.

The pastor also wants to thank those who have made pledges to "*The Fruit of the Spirit is Generosity*" Stewardship Campaign. As of December 21, we had received 95 pledges for a total of \$617,980. Those who have not yet made a pledge may still do so. Pledge cards are available in the church office. We depend on your financial support to pay the salaries of church staff and to do ministry that blesses the lives of people. Thank you for your generosity. The money you give touches lives with the love of Christ!

### LAY LEADERSHIP 2015 NEW HOPE UMC

Chair, Church Council: John Wakefield

Lay Delegates to Annual Conference: Lacricia Norman, Denning Crowe, Nancy Beale

Church Treasurer: Carol Whittet

Chair, Finance: Vicki Freeman

Membership Secretary: Judy Unsell

Chair, Trustees: Allan Seay

Chair, Worship: Luisa Medina

UMW President: Ann Hannah

Business Manager: Dillard Moore

Lay Leaders: Julie Gosdin & Al Van Sickle

Auditors: Robbie Stewart & Max Murrell

Historian: JD Ward

Church Council Secretary: Donna Reynolds

Chair, Staff Parish: Rick Ernest

Safe Sanctuaries: Cali Eck

Men of Hope: Richard Foster

*continued on page 4*

#### Inside:

- 2 - JD's Reflections
- 3 - Missions & More
- 4 - Leadership list
- 5 - Church Family
- 6 - Young New Hope
- 7 - Calendar



## Reflections from JD

One of the best decisions I made in 2014 was the choice to attend the Academy for Spiritual Formation, which was sponsored by the Upper Room. Trevor Hudson was one of the special speakers for this event and he was truly inspirational. Rev. Hudson is on the pastoral staff at Northfield Methodist Church in Benoni, South Africa. I have just finished reading his book, The Serenity Prayer, and I will be sharing this book with a study group in the fall of 2015.

As we prepare to enter a new year, I wanted to share some of his thoughts from that book from Chapter 11. The theme for that chapter is "That I May Be Reasonably Happy in This Life."

"By happiness I mean a deep sense of inner well-being and contentment, the experience of being fully alive to ourselves, to others, and to God."

Trevor Hudson reminds me that happiness has little to do with external circumstances and events. This means that I can be happy if I am poor, happy when I am facing illness, and happy when I am facing rejection from others.

"Happiness, like serenity, originates inside ourselves. Too often we depend on outside things, and even other people to make us happy. We think to ourselves that if only we could find a better job or meet the right partner or win the lottery, we can find the happiness that we are missing. It seldom, if ever, works like that."

Trevor Hudson reminds me of two important truths. The first truth is that I am responsible for my own happiness and contentment. I cannot expect other people or my personal circumstances to be my sources of happiness and contentment.

The second truth is that my relationship with God has a lot to do with my attitude about my life. If I am right with God, then I am going to have a more positive attitude about life. "True happiness comes as a gift from God, a freely given by-product of a particular way of life that comes to us when we stop seeking it."

"All this goes against the grain of our consumer culture. Every day the advertising world bombards us with messages that tell us that happiness is a marketable commodity that can be bought. If we buy the right car or use the right deodorant or go on the right vacation, we will be happy."

Of course, the love of God, the grace of God, and the peace of God are not for sale; they are free for the asking. Since we have received those marvelous gifts by faith, our belief that we are loved by God and belong to God makes all the difference. Our faith and trust in the Lord allows us to have the confidence to face life with hope and find peace in the midst of challenging situations.

## Bringing Communion to You

Several years ago a very special ministry was started here at New hope Church and that ministry was home Communion faithfully served by Don and Cheri Parker.

This ministry has been missed but now is back. Kathleen (Kathy) McTommonney or Pastor JD will be coming to you starting in January so anyone who is ill or unable to come to church will have the opportunity to partake in this most important sacrament.

The elements will be on the altar and will be blessed by the pastor each Communion Sunday. Please inform Kathleen or JD if you would like to be served.

A list is being formed now and will be adjusted as needed. The actual visit can be made any day of the week so no one feels rushed. The Great Commission liturgy will be used along with prayer.

You can reach Kathy at 603 - 5854 or call the church at 721 - 5015.

In the service of our Lord,  
Kathleen McTommonney



## Cali's Corner

January is here and my trip to the Holy Land is over. It was a wonderful experience to be in the places where Jesus was and to sit near the place where Jesus prayed and asked his disciples to stay awake and pray with him was mind boggling and humbling. I am truly humbled by this experience. I think I will read the Scriptures with a new understanding of the area and culture. Thank you for all of your prayers while I was there.

Walking through the streets just knowing that Jesus had been there was exciting. I listened and tried to imagine the sounds Jesus would have heard as he walked there. The olive garden was beautiful and I thought about what a sight to sit on the side of the hill and look out over the City of Jerusalem. I took the time to sit and pray. I prayed for the people of Israel, of Palestine, and for our church here at home. The words of Jesus that came to my mind as I prayed are found in John 15. Jesus was talking to the disciples about bearing fruit. "If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

As you begin a new year with great expectations, it is my prayer that you will find ways to go deeper with God and connect with the fellowship of believers so that you can bear much fruit. So, look through the newsletter and Connections portion of the bulletin and find your opportunity! God Bless you in this New Year!



Helping Hands Pantry

# What's Your Mission for 2015?

There will be several events this year to raise money for our missions. Plans range from lunches and dinners to a concert, possibly selling tamales and perhaps even craft times. Watch the spring newsletters and weekly bulletins for further information.

## Our Food Pantry!

Kimberly Brewer

Thank you so much for your increased support this year!

With your generosity we were able to expand our number of Thanksgiving Dinners to 35! We (it is your food pantry) have also increased the number of the families we help by around 80 families! That is a significant addition in one year!

We served 266 families in 2014 -some of that is due to the decrease in food stamps people receive. Some of the increase is due to the word getting around that we have a food pantry.

Needless to say, your support was greatly appreciated this year. With your giving we were able to keep up with the need! Thank you!

Thank you to those of you who helped by providing money for shopping, by doing the shopping or working a shift in the pantry or who gave food. There are too many to name just please know you are very appreciated!!

We continue to need beef-based chunky soups, chicken noodle soup, flat packages of Ramen noodles chicken or beef, 18 oz. containers of oatmeal, and Kraft macaroni and cheese.

Blessings on you for 2015,  
Kimberly and Sharia

## Exodus House by Don Parker

It appears our current resident will complete her program by the end of January. If each resident completes the six-months program in good standing, they are allowed to take the furnishings with them as they begin the next chapter in their lives. We are asking the congregation for help in furnishing the apartment in early February.

Items needed will include but are not limited to: full-sized beds (no queen or king) good clean mattresses, night stands, dressers, sofa(s), chairs, coffee table, lamps, small dining table with at least two chairs. Also, new sheets, pillow cases, blankets and anything else to set up a comfortable apartment. New Hope has been very supportive of the Exodus House Apartment in the past so please look around to see if you might have any items we can use. We can arrange to pick up an items you wish to donate in late January or early February.

Thank you again for your support of Exodus house! If you have any questions please see or call Don Parker, Nellyne Hanlin or Mickey Miller.

I would like to give a special thank you to Richard Foster (aka Kris Kringle) for playing Santa to the Exodus House children, to the Mary Martha Circle for furnishing and serving refreshments and to the Men of Hope for furnishing the gifts for each child. We are truly blessed to have such a loving and dedicated group of people in this church!



**This Thank You note** was received from the staff and residents of Exodus House:

"New Hope UMC, Just wanted to tell you how much you all mean to us here! We are so grateful for all of you and your love and commitment to all of our residents and our ministry. We could not be the success we are without your love, support, mentorship and your genuine kindness and genuine dedication to being a true example of Christ's love to our residents. You are always willing to go above and beyond for us and words are not enough to express how much you mean to us. Thank you for all you do. May God bless each of you and your ministry through the new year! "

### Remember our on-going works:

- 1) Toiletry items for the shelter for Abused Women and Children;
- 2) Collection of old eyeglasses and cases!  
These are constant needs so bring them in any time and put them in the basket or the small brown container.
- 3) Clothing for Skyline in the wooden container by fellowship hall

*"Whether we want them or not, the New Year will bring new challenges; whether we seize them or not, the New Year will bring new opportunities."* Michael Josephson

**Nurture, Outreach and Witness Ministries Representatives:**

Circle of Care: Nellyn Hanlin	Mary and Martha Circle: Mickey Miller
Disaster Response: Richard Foster	Fellowship Time: Denning & Vita Crowe
Food Pantry: Kimberly Brewer & Sharia Cleburn	Men of Hope: Richard Foster
Pastoral Partners: Diane Acker	Prayer Group: Norene Valentour
Skyline Urban Ministry: Luisa Medina	Young at Heart: Shirley McIlroy
Family Life: Cali Eck & Amy Aita	Outreach: Craig Sturniolo
Ruth Circle: Carola Smith	Hearts of Hope: Jo Martin
Health Care Ministry: Debbie Barnett & Stacee Hoyer Douglas	

**Boards and Committees:**

**Finance** Chair: Vicki Freeman,  
 Treasurer: Carol Whittet, Auditors: Robbie Stewart & Max Murrell, Business Manager: Dillard Moore,  
 Teresa Coffman, Pastor, Lay Leaders, Chair of Church Council, Lay Members to Annual Conference,  
 Chair of Parish-Staff Relations Committee, Chair of Trustees

**Board of Trustees**, Chair: Allan Seay

'15	'16	'17
Allan Seay	Bob Kaiser	Shirley Yates
Julie Guilford	Mickey Miller	Dave Eck
Thomas Brimacombe	Jim Seignous	Regina Engling

CHURCH

**Staff-Parish Relations Committee**, Chair Rick Ernest

'15	'16	'17
Rick Ernest	Dale Stanley	Mary McQueen
Luis Aita	Lori Foster	Linda Felan
Patti Miller	Ken Atteberry	Shirley McIlroy

LEADERSHIP  
2015

**Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development**, Pastor as Chair

'15	'16	'17
Jim Coffman	Kaye Merriam	Nellyne Hanlin
Norene Valentour	Mary McQueen	Luisa Medina
Donna Reynolds	Cali Eck	Chris Porter

**Missions and Ministries Council**

JD Ward—Convener, Luisa Medina—Skyline Urban Ministry; Don Parker—Exodus House; Lori Foster—VIM Nicaragua; Bill and Yvonne Morgan—VIM Nepal; Debbie Barnett and Stacee Hoyer Douglas—Health Ministry; Richard Foster—Disaster Relief; Kimberly Brewer & Sharia Cleburn—Food Pantry; Richard Foster – Men of Hope; Ann Hannah—United Methodist Women; Jo Martin - Hearts of Hope; Diana Acker – Pastoral Partners; Nancy Beale – Stitchers; Dave and Donna Reynolds – Wesleyan Class; Bob & Nellyne Hanlin -- Warm Fuzzies and Angel Tree; At Large Members: Lacia Norman, Samantha Howell

**Worship**, Luisa Medina, Chair

Pastor: JD Ward	Director of Music: Marc Lau
Acolyte Coordinator: Cali Eck	Children's Sermon Coordinator: Luisa Medina
Sanctuary Care: Jose & Leola Medina	Sound: Mark Valentour
Music Associate: Melissa Lau	Visuals: Lois Medina & Jessica Eck
Greeter Coordinator: Robert Lakin	Usher Coordinator: John Wakefield
Communion Coordinator: Jean Harris	Youth Director: Donette Johnson

**Family Life**, Cali Eck, Chair, Amy Aita, Vice-Chair; Vita Crowe, Perry Johnson, Vickie Lacy, Stephanie Saunders-Willis, David & Tammy Darter, Chesney Whetstone and Keri Langert

**Women's Ministry Council:** Amy Aita, Vita Crowe, Mary McQueen, Beth Brown

**Food and Fellowship:** Norene Valentour, Chair; Vita Crowe, Jo Martin, Leola Medina, Jose Medina, Vicki Freeman, Donna Reynolds, Beth Brown, Marty Crawford, Mickey Miller, Molly Fleming

**Outreach/Evangelism:**, Craig Sturniolo, Chair; Susan Sturniolo, Norene Valentour, JD Ward, Yvonne Morgan, Jim Seignous, Beth Brown, Kathy McTomoney

**Decorating Committee:** Mary Seay, Amy Aita, Karrie Ward, Leola Medina, Julie Guilford

**CDO Board:** JD Ward, Mary Seay, Cindy Brown, Cali Eck, Stephanie Willis, Donette Johnson

**Visioning Team:** JD Ward, Dave Reynolds, Mickey Miller, Cali Eck, Luisa Medina, John Wakefield

**Discipleship Ministry Team:** Cali Eck, Donette Johnson, Luisa Medina, Mary McQueen, Doris Korner, Tammy Darter, Jim Coffman

**Children's Ministry Council:** Luisa Medina, Cali Eck, Cindy Brown, Doris Korner, Becca Miller, Lori Foster

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

- |                   |                      |                     |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Beverly Splawn    | Wiley Krout          | Leslie Coffman      |
| Harrison Hutchins | Jo Martin            | Eileen Mallinckrodt |
| Marc Lau          | Mary McQueen         | Justice Saunders    |
| Ed Wise           | Tammy Valentour      | Chris Pattillo      |
| Mickey Tims       | David Jackson        | Angela Stogsdill    |
| Wanda Urban       | Elyse Ellsworth      | Brandy Plender      |
| Karrie Ward       | Carmene Redus        | Parker Roark        |
| Mason Mills       | Camden Wetzal        | Cindy Brown         |
| Lou Anne Todd     | Chesney Whetstone    | Carly Hurt          |
| Ashley Brandt     | Kenneth Attebery     | Bill Morgan         |
| Chris Coffman     | Delores Cherry       | Sandi Webster       |
| Lee Ann Towell    | Patti Haught         | Erma Wise           |
| John Russell      | Jana Raska           | Kris Howell         |
| Gavin Smarra      | Mickie Tims          | Sege Shore          |
| Rita Karns        | Britt Sutton Stanley | Sheri Cullers       |



*"Let our New Year's resolution be this, we will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word."* Goran Persson

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

- Don & Pat Mize
- Dillard & Diane Moore
- Jose & Leola Medina
- Robert & Maudean Wakefield
- Terry & Jane Swart
- Danny & Pam Goodman
- Matt & Alyssa Miller
- Brett & Alice Pattillo



**W.O.W. (Words of Wisdom)** is a new Sunday School class meeting in room 209 at 11:00. Mary McQueen will be teaching this class which welcomes everyone.



Another New Hope member has gone ahead: Jo Sheppard died in early December. Memorial services will not be held until spring in Iowa. Our thoughts are with her family.



**January Menu**  
7 - tilapia

- 14 - chicken pot pie
- 21 - tacos
- 28 - baked chicken



**January 11** is Potluck Sunday.

Bring a dish to share and meet some new people in this new year! Wesleyan is the hosting Sunday School class.



The Directory is coming! --- Really!  
The New Hope pictorial directory should be completed in January. We'll let you know as soon as we learn more!

**Fellowship Opportunities**

**Women's Ministries:**  
Ruth Circle - Second Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Mary Martha Circle - Second Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

UMW - Fourth Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Merry Widows social group meets for lunch at various places on the first Monday of the month.

**Men's Groups**

Men of Hope - Breakfast meeting Third Sunday morning at 8:15 a.m.

Men and Women -Young at Heart - 11:30 a.m. the last Thursday of the month.

**Make Note Early!**  
Next Month  
**Men of Hope**

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner**



are having a Pancake Dinner on Shrove Tuesday, February 17 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. The men will be serving "all you can eat pancakes" with a limited supply of bacon and sausage. Milk and juice will be provided. There will be no set price for the dinner. Donations will be accepted since this will be a fundraiser for the men's group.

*"A happy New Year!  
Grant that I  
may bring no tear to any eye*

*When this New Year in time shall end  
let it be said I've played the friend,*

*Have lived and loved and labored  
here, and made of it a happy year."*  
Edgar Guest

Attendance:	
November	30 - 243
December	
7 - 272	14 - 281
21 - 295	24 - 346
	(2 services)
28 - 185	(1 service)

# JANUARY CHILDREN & YOUTH

These are the members of our 2015 Confirmation Class:



- Anna Langert
- Chloe Miller
- Connor Attebery
- Emma Hutchins
- Gavin Smarra
- Jake Anderson
- Max Stewart
- Payton Jane Coats

## Children's Ministry

by Luisa Medina

Happy New Year! It is officially 2015 and the year is already shaping out to be a great and busy one for the children's ministry of New Hope.

The group and their parents and mentors will meet with JD on Wednesday, January 14 at 6:00.

*Regular Confirmation classes begin January 21 at 6:00.*



We are back from our short break and here are our regular meeting times:

### Sunday Mornings -

9:45 for Sunday school and  
11:00 for Children's Church

**Sunday Evenings** - 5-7 for lessons, games & dinner!

**Wednesday Evenings** - 6:30-7:30 for children's choir and a lesson!



## YOUTH NEWS

Youth Parents' meeting will be Sunday, January 11, right after second service. Fill your plate at potluck and come to the meeting!

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, during the potluck lunch we will have a parent meeting. This will be a combined meeting with the youth parents as well. I hope that all our wonderful parents can make it!

*District Winter Retreat at Canyon Camp will be January 16 - 19.*



On Sunday night, Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> will be our very first ever "More than a Movie" Pajama Night! Wear your favorite pajamas and we will watch the movie *The Lion King* from a whole new perspective! We will have these nights once a quarter in 2015.



## Our Sunday morning Sunday school (1<sup>st</sup> Service) topics:

- Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>- JAIRUS'S DAUGHTER- Mark 5:21-24, 35-43
- Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>-THE WOMAN AT THE WELL- John 4:1-42
- Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>- THE TEN LEPERS- Luke 17:11-19
- Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>- MARY AND MARTHA- Luke 10:38-42

Luisa Medina [luisa@newhopeokc.org](mailto:luisa@newhopeokc.org) 405-626-2871

### First Service

### Second Service

Sunday 1	Gavin Smarra	Noah Paul Jonathan Eck
Sunday 2	Emma Hutchins Hayden Hasty	Logan McLaren Conner Attebery
Sunday 3	Jacob Miller Emily Warren	Brady McLaren
Sunday 4	Carly Smarra Shay Johnson	Max Stewart Jake Anderson



Would you be willing to help out during first service on the second or third Sundays? If so, please talk to Stephanie!

## Nursery Volunteers

First Sunday:	9:45 Ben Eck	11:00 Allie Seay
Second Sunday:	9:45 <i>NEED Volunteer</i>	11:00 Sierra Paul
Third Sunday:	9:45 <i>NEED Volunteer</i>	11:00 Alice Pattillo
Fourth Sunday	9:45 Becca Miller	11:00 Julie Gosdin



# NEW HOPE IN

# JANUARY

2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b>	2	3
4 Epiphany Sunday 4:30 - Christian Believer 5:00 -youth, children	5 10:00 - Prayer Team 6:30 - Stitchers	6 9 - 2 CDO resumes	7 9 - 2 CDO 5:45 - Midweek meal tilapia, broccoli  6:30 - "before Amen" class begins; Youth, Children and Band 7:00 - Choir	8 9 - 2 - CDO 9:30 - Mary Martha Circle	9 10:00 - Practice of Prayer	10
11 Noon - Potluck lunch; also parents of children and youth meet 1:00 - Outreach Committee 4:30 - Christian Believer 5:00 - Youth; chil- dren's movie night	12 10:00 - Prayer Team 6:30 - Stitchers	13 9 - 2 CDO 1 - 3 Pantry Open 6:30 p.m. Ruth Circle	14 9 - 2 CDO 9:30 - Broken & Blessed class begins 5:45 - chicken pot pie 6:00 - JD meets with parents & confirmands 6:30 - "before Amen"; Youth, Children and Band 7:00 - Choir	15 9 - 2 - CDO 9:30 - Hearts of Hope	16 10:00 - Practice of Prayer  Youth District Retreat at Canyon Camp	17 Youth Winter District Retreat at Canyon Camp
18 8:15 Men of Hope breakfast meeting noon - Trustees 4:30 - Christian Believer 5:00 -youth,	19 Office CLOSED Youth return from Retreat	20 9 - 2 CDO 10:00 - Prayer Team	21 9 - 2 CDO 9:30 Broken & Blessed 5:45 - tacos, rice 6:00 - Confirmation classes begin 6:30 - "before Amen"; Youth, Children and Band 7:00 - Choir	22 9 - 2 - CDO 7:00 - UMW	23 10:00 - Practice of Prayer	24
25 3:00 - Worship Committee 4:30 - Christian Believer 5:00 -youth, children	26 10:00 - Prayer Team 6:30 - Stitchers	27 9 - 2 CDO 1 - 3 Pantry Open	28 9 - 2 CDO 9:30 Broken & Blessed 5:45 - baked chicken 6:00 - Confirmation class 6:30 - "before Amen"; Youth, Children and Band 7:00 - Choir	29 9 - 2 - CDO 11:30 a.m. - Young At Heart	30 10:00 - Practice of Prayer	31
<b>FEBRUARY</b> 1 <i>No evening classes -</i> 5:00 - Super Bowl chili dinner/party	10:00 - 2 Prayer Team 6:30 - Stitchers	9 - 2 CDO 3	9 - 2 - CDO 4 9:30 Broken & Blessed 5:45 - lasagna 6:00 - Confirmation class 6:30 - Band, Youth, Children	Merry Widows 5	10:00 - 6 Practice of Prayer	7