

THE RESPONSIVE READER

JANUARY 2018

PASTOR'S PAGE

Church Family,

New Year, New Beginnings, New Rest.

In 2017, we expanded our outreach, we shared the love of Christ by doing things for other persons in our congregation, community, state, and world. I want to encourage you to continue in serving others. Service is a way that we show the love of Christ to others, but it is not the only way.

In 2018, we will seek to continue to grow in Christ, this year, by being present with others. I encourage you all this year to make and keep Sabbath times.

Did you know, that out of all of the commandments, the LORD God spends more time talking about the Sabbath, than any of the others (Exodus 20:1-17). In the Old Testament days, people say keeping the Sabbath as a legalistic matter. The Sabbath had to be kept on the last day of the week (Saturday), and keeping it was a matter of showing our work.

However, our Lord Jesus said, "The Sabbath was created for humans, humans weren't created for the Sabbath." (Mark 2:27 CEB). We are not to keep a Sabbath because we have to, we keep a Sabbath because we *get* to.

As Christians, we rely upon God to always remain faithful, keeping promises to provide for our every need. In our world of rushing and running, one way that we can be a witness of light is by saying, "No, I cannot do that because that day is my Sabbath, it is my day of rest, my 'me and God' day." The point is to take time to rest in God's presence.

God shows us love by being present *with* us. God abides with us, rests with us. Let us keep a Sabbath this year. Let us spend time with God, and in turn see that God will have us spend time with those who matter most, without the distractions of the world.

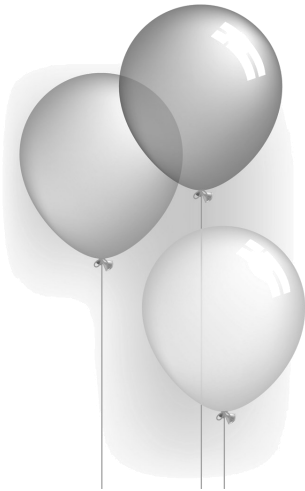
Your Servant in Christ,
Rev. Daniel Eplee



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BIRTHDAY WISHES



- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Annie Laura Graham | 12 Stephen Berry |
| 2 Greg Stewart | 13 Meghan Hall |
| 3 Bill Davis | 22 Benji Rawls |
| 5 Dianne Graham | 24 Glenn Graham |
| Barbara Smith | 28 Nelson Graham |
| 6 John Edward Frampton | 31 Michael Livingston |
| 7 Tammy Wicker | |
| 8 Billy Waites | |
| 9 Amber Hall | |

ANNIVERSARIES

No January anniversaries



FLOWERS

- 7 Bill and Melanie Wyatt
- 14 Don and Debbie Dennis in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Roy Graham
- 21 Trey and Katie Simmons
- 28 Derrill and Lynn Graham in honor of Ruby Mae Graham and in memory of Raymond Graham



COMMUNION STEWARDS

John and Judy Amick

USHERS

- 7 Lee Bedenbaugh / Aaron Livingston
- 14 Marty Livingston / Russell Hawkins
- 21 Billy Waites / Buddy Livingston
- 28 Terry Rawls / Lee Bedenbaugh

GREETERS

- 7 Terry & Marilyn Rawls
- 14 John & Judy Amick
- 21 Shane & Linda Livingston
- 28 Lee & Elaine Bedenbaugh

ACOLYTES

- 7 Kursten Long
- 14 Bridger Boulware
- 21 Emily Hawkins
- 28 Kaleb Hesson

The Outreach Committee will begin collecting again in September for the “Backpack Ministry”. This food is sent home with children from Pomaria-Garmany Elementary to ensure they have food over the weekend. January’s request: applesauce (individual cups)

Matthew 25:37

****Also, remember the Pomaria Community Food Bank when doing your grocery shopping.**

UPCOMING EVENTS.....

January Journey 2018

“Jesus Sends Us”

Services will begin this year at **5:30PM** with a 15 minute hymn sing

—**please make note of the earlier start time**

Non-perishable food items will be collected each Sunday for Manna House. Offering each Sunday will be split between the Newberry Free Clinic & Emergency Relief Fund. All services will end with fellowship and light refreshments.

Date	Host Church	Speaker
1-7-17	Central	District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Stephen Love
1-14-17	Capers Chapel	George Reeder—Worship in Song
1-21-17	Mt. Pleasant	Youth Night
1-28-17	Wightman	Rev. R.T. Bowling

MEN'S CLUB

- The men's club will meet on Sunday, January 7th @ 8am in the fellowship hall. All men of the congregation are invited to participate.

UMYF

- Check the bulletin for details on upcoming meetings and events..

SOC GROUP

The SOC Group will not meet during the month of January. Regular meetings will resume in February.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

- The UMW will be sponsoring a monthly women's prayer breakfast. It will be held the Thursday after the third Sunday each month at 8:00am. This month it will be held on **1/25**. This is open to all women of the church. Come and bring a friend for fellowship to start your day!

KIDS IN CHRIST

- No meeting in January. Check the bulletin for upcoming events/ meetings.

"GO" GROUP

The "GO" Group will meet at noon in the fellowship hall on 1/18 for a soup lunch.

WORDS OF WISDOM.....

KIND HEARTS ARE THE GARDEN, KIND THOUGHTS ARE THE ROOTS, KIND WORDS ARE THE FLOWERS, KIND DEEDS ARE THE FRUITS.

JUST ONE REQUEST

DEAR MASTER FOR THIS COMING YEAR JUST ONE REQUEST I BRING:
I DO NOT PRAY FOR HAPPINESS, OR ANY EARTHLY THING ——
I DO NOT ASK TO UNDERSTAND THE WAY THOU LEADEST ME,
BUT THIS I ASK: TEACH ME TO DO THE THING THAT PLEASETH THEE.

I WANT TO KNOW THE GUIDING VOICE, TO WALK WITH THEE EACH DAY.
DEAR MASTER MAKE ME SWIFT TO HEAR AND READY TO OBEY.
AND THUS THE YEAR I NOW BEGIN A HAPPY YEAR WILL BE ——
IF I AM SEEKING JUST TO DO THE THING THAT PLEASETH THEE.

—— UNKNOWN AUTHOR

GOD IS LOVE
GOD IS CARING
GOD IS MERCIFUL.....
GOD IS FORGIVING
GOD IS FOR YOU.

GOD IS THE NEIGHBOR
GOD IS THE BOSS
GOD IS THE CLERK
GOD IS THE ORPHAN
GOD IS THE WIDOW

GOD IS THE PRISONER
GOD IS THE VAGRANT

GOD IS THE MAN OR WOMAN.

WHEN YOU SEE GOD, DO YOU SEE ALL?
OPEN MY EYES, LORD,
TO SEE AND ANSWER THE CALL.

MINUTES

NEW HOPE UMC ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

December 3, 2017

Attending were: Lee, Elaine, Robert, Zalia, Terry, Larry, and Pastor Daniel. Lee welcomed everyone and Pastor Daniel opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes from the November meeting were presented and approved. The treasurer's report was presented as follows: Maintenance fund --- \$28,553.00; Operating Fund --- beginning balance \$126,935.46, received \$6,674.20, expenses \$6,547.90, ending balance \$127,061.76 ; Building expansion fund -- \$194,288.00; the charge account balance was reported as \$2,386.69 and the reimbursement account balance was \$500.14.

Committee Reports:

Church Education ----- No report.

Family Ministries ---- No report.

Nurture ----- No report.

PPRC ----- The committee will meet on 12/5 to make a recommendation to the district as to whether or not for Pastor Daniel to return to the charge for another year of ministry.

Parsonage Committee ----- No report.

SOC---- They will host the annual Christmas dinner for the golden agers on Sunday, 12/10 @ 5:30.

Trustees ----- The committee met. The district is now requiring each church to submit a specific list of individuals to be bonded to the insurance company. This list needs to be compiled after the beginning of the new year.

Men's Club---- The group met on 12/3. They hosted a congregational lunch on 11/26 with good participation. They also purchased two gifts for children at Epworth.

UMW----- The group will hold a prayer breakfast for all the ladies of the congregation on 12/21 @ 8am.

Worship----- The committee met and planned worship services for the month of December. The committee will meet again on 12/12.

UMYE ----- The youth attended the movie "The Star" with the Kids in Christ group in November. Look for details about a Christmas "get together" soon.

"GO" Group----- The "GO" group will meet on 12/7 at the home of John and Judy Amick.

Outreach Committee----- Pastor Daniel would like to focus on building relationships with other churches in the community. So far, he has not had a good response from other pastors, but he will continue to try in the new year.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Daniel reported on the following topics: 1) a Bible study is currently being conducted on "what the church is"—he hopes to move right into another one once this one ends; 2) Arabella Eplee was baptized

on 11/12; 3) Chloe Grace Simmons will be baptized on 12/31; 4) the conference is conducting a Praying our Way Forward initiative during the week of 12/24 thru 12/30; 5) there will be a 2018 Racial Reconciliation Youth Pilgrimage – information will be passed on to Gary; 6) he will be sending out information about the “Forward Focus” to new members of the council for them to review before a decision is made as to whether our church wishes to participate in the program.

Project Reports:

Sunday School Room / Fellowship Hall Expansion --- Upcoming/Ongoing events: 1) Wall-of-money – donations are coming in; 2) Shealy’s BBQ supper in February.

Vinyl siding repair/cleaning --- Joel Yarborough and Trey Simmons will be cleaning the siding on the church building.

Stained Glass window repair --- The repair work on the windows has been completed.

Old Business

Janitorial services will begin in January.

Pastor Daniel will begin a “drive for donations” to purchase new pew Bibles for the church in January.

New Business

Pastor Daniel brought up the possibility of increasing the size of church bulletins in the future.

There will be a leadership training session sponsored by the district at Lowell Street United Methodist Church on 1/21. New church officers are encouraged to attend.

Lee thanked council for allowing him to serve as chair of administrative council. He looks forward to the church continuing to thrive under Terry’s leadership.

Adjourn

Pastor Daniel closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting was adjourned by Lee.

JANUARY 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3 Bible Study @ 7pm	4	5	6
7 Men's Club @ 8am January Journey @ 5:30pm	8 Building Committee mtg @ 7pm	9	10 Bible Study @ 7pm	11	12	13
14 January Journey @ 5:30pm	15	16	17 Bible Study @ 7pm	18 "GO" group @ noon Fundraising comm. Mtg @ 7:30pm	19	20 Trustee Meeting @ 9am
21 January Journey @ 5:30pm	22	23 Nurture Committee Mtg @ 7pm	24 Bible Study @ 7pm	25 Women's Prayer Breakfast @ 8am Family Ministries Mtg @ 7pm	26	27
28 January Journey @ 5:30pm	29	30	31 Bible Study @ 7pm			

Happenings at New Hope

- ◆ Bible Study — Wednesday nights @ 7p
- ◆ 1/25 — Women's Prayer Breakfast @ 8am
- ◆ January Journey each Sunday evening @ 5:30pm

***** Check inside for organizations and committees meeting times and dates.**



New Hope United Methodist Church

Established 1795

Pomaria, South Carolina



**New Hope United
Methodist Church**

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