

open hearts
open minds
open doors



The Responsive Reader

NEW HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3777 New Hope Road · Pomaria, SC 29126

February 2020

From the Pastor

New Hope UMC,

Hold on to your hats! If January of 2020 is setting the tone for the whole year, then we are certainly in for an eventful year. It seems like many of us are journeying through a busy season, a difficult season, or an uncertain season. It is essential that we remember to take time to for spiritual, physical, and mental renewal in the midst of what has already been a crazy new year. I have learned that difficult seasons of life help us to grow in our faith, grow in our relationships, and call us to remember who we belong to.

In that spirit, our church is celebrating what is 225 years of ministry. This is a special time to think back on all the years, the people, and the blessings from God that have brought us to this moment in time. We can be certain that those who have gone before us went through difficult times, busy times, and uncertain times. Hopefully, our celebration of 225 years of ministry will call to our remembrance that God is truly with us. I wonder what those who were active in our church 200 years ago would say to us today? Something tells me they would encourage us to remain faithful and have joy for all that God has done and is doing in our church.

The rate of change in our world seems to be increasing drastically with every year that goes by. The joy of celebrating 225 years is the recognition that while the world might change and our lives might change, God does not change. We have, in Jesus, the assurance that God will not leave us or forsake us. It is our task this year to point to this truth as being evident in the life of our congregation. We can say to the world that we know God is faithful because God has been at work long before we ever walked the face of this earth. It is truly humbling to think about the reality that God has worked through those who have gone before us to bless us with continual ministry in our community. We are connected by the Holy Spirit with those who responded to God's calling, fought the good fight, and helped us get to the place we are now.

As we celebrate this year, it is important to hold in our hearts the real struggles, the real challenges, the real joys, and the real triumphs that have brought us to this place in time. The good, the bad, and the difficult times all matter because they shape us and form us. 225 years of ministry is a celebration that reminds us that we are truly blessed by God's provisions and that God's grace is still brand new each and every moment that we presently enjoy.

-Rev. Cameron Levi



Backpack Ministry

February need: fruit snacks
and cereal/protein bars

Please remember the
**Pomaria Community
Food Bank** when grocery
shopping. All donations
are greatly appreciated.



Serving in Worship – February

Thank you for agreeing to serve in worship. Your willingness to serve is important to us.

FLOWERS

- 2 Bonnelle Yarborough in memory of J.F. Yarborough and Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Graham
- 9 Beverly Boulware
- 16 Emily Livingston
- 23 Todd and Lisa Sanders and Rodney Wicker in memory of James Harold “Mutt” and Christine Wicker

GREETERS

- 2 Billy & Brenda Waites
- 9 John & Judy Amick
- 16 Danny & Jenny Stone
- 23 Terry & Marilyn Rawls

USHERS

- 2 Michael Davis / Kurt Long
- 9 Danny Stone / Larry Longshore
- 16 Lee Bedenbaugh / Aaron Livingston
- 23 Marty Livingston / Russell Hawkins

ACOLYTES

- 2 Connor Long
- 9 Layla Huffstetler
- 16 Kursten Long
- 23 Cullen Davis

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Dianne and Roger Graham

Upcoming Events

- ❖ **VALENTINE’S SOCIAL** - Our annual Valentine’s Social will be held on Sunday, 2/9 at 5:30 PM with fun, games and fellowship for all ages. A meal will be provided. Please bring Valentine cards to be distributed to the children.
- ❖ **SHROVE TUESDAY** - We will observe Shrove Tuesday on 2/25 at 6:30 PM. A pancake/sausage supper will be provided. Pastor Cameron will have a brief meditation following the supper.
- ❖ **CONFIRMATION CLASSES** - Pastor Cameron will be conducting confirmation classes for youth from grades 5 and up beginning on Sunday, 2/23. The classes will last six weeks and the students will be confirmed on Palm Sunday. Anyone who wishes to participate should contact Pastor Cameron as soon as possible.
- ❖ **ASH WEDNESDAY** - Ash Wednesday services will be conducted on 2/26 at 7 PM and will conclude with imposition of the ashes.

Birthdays – February

- 4 Russell Suber
- 7 John Frampton
- 8 Judy Long
- 12 Daren Graham
Danny Stone
- 13 Robbie Stewart
- 14 Zalia Hawkins
- 15 Bill Wyatt
- 16 Mason Graham
- 17 Brooke L. Harmon
- 21 Angie Davis
- 23 Emily Hawkins
Haylie F. Livingston
- 24 William Livingston
- 25 Joey Gray

Anniversaries – February

- 26 Frankie and Judy Grimsley

Organization News

All meetings are in the fellowship hall unless otherwise stated

- **Men's Club:** Sunday, 2/2 at 8AM. All men of the congregation are invited to attend.
- **SOC:** Sunday, 2/16 at 7pm in the fellowship hall. Program: Judy Amick
- **United Methodist Women:** Women's Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, 2/20 at 8AM. All women of the church are invited to attend. Come and bring a friend for fellowship to start your day!
- **Kids In Christ:** Check the bulletin for upcoming events.
- **"GO" Group:** Thursday, 2/6 at noon in the fellowship hall. Group 2 will provide lunch. The program will be "I Love to Tell the Story".
- **UMYF:** Sunday, 2/16, 3:30pm, in the fellowship hall
- **Young Adults:** The group will have a prayer breakfast brunch in the fellowship hall on Saturday, 2/22. More details to come.
- **Middle Agers:** Check the bulletin for upcoming events.

New Hope UMC Administrative Council Minutes

January 7, 2020

Present: Terry Rawls, Gary Graham, Robert Davis, Larry Longshore, Cameron Levi, Melanie Wyatt, Trey Simmons, Zalia Hawkins, Elaine Bedenbaugh

Terry called the meeting to order and Rev. Levi opened with prayer. The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer Reports

Dec. 2019	Operating account
needed	\$6,910.50
received	\$8,368.00
expended	\$3,993.40

Expansion Fund: \$268,042.98

Committee Reports

PPRC –Met in Dec. to discuss pastor’s salary. Due to Cameron’s graduation in May 2020, his mandatory salary must increase at that time to meet the conference requirements. This adjustment was approved and sent to the Finance committees. Next meeting will be at Capers Chapel Feb. 9 at 5:30.

Trustees - In the process of doing background checks and cleaning the storage area under the fellowship hall.

Parsonage - New gravel was put in the parsonage driveway on Dec. 30.

Finance - Larry Longshore presented council with the 2020 budget for approval. The total budget for 2020 is \$92,859.59. After review and discussion, the 2020 budget was approved.

Building - No report.

Nurture - Elaine is planning to begin work on a directory with member e-mail addresses and mobile phone numbers to improve communications. Forms will be provided to complete if you would like to be included in the directory.

Worship - Will meet again on Jan. 8. Two new individuals attended acolyte training.

Education - Gary reported that a training session would be held on Jan 12 for church officers in Saluda at St. Paul UMC.

Family Ministries - The young adult group will assist the Trustees with cleaning the storage areas.

Outreach- Collecting vienna sausages for the Backpack Ministry.

Pastor’s report

- Cameron returns to school beginning Jan. 13.
- A 6-week confirmation class will begin in late Feb. Any person in 5th grade or older interested in attending, please contact Cameron.

Old business none

New business none

Adjourn

2020 CHURCH YEARBOOK

As part of our 225th anniversary celebration, work is beginning on compiling a church yearbook with addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for all members. This will help insure that we have the most up-to-date information on congregational members and will enable us to get in touch with everyone in case of emergencies, etc. It will also aid us in updating our membership roster. Please complete the form below and turn it in to Elaine at worship, email to bedenbaughs@gmail.com or mail to 2868 New Hope Road; Pomaria, SC 29126. Please make sure you include info for all members of your household - with the exception of phone numbers for children under the age of 18. Please complete one form per household address. ***All forms should be returned no later than February 23rd***. We would like to go to print with the yearbooks by March 1st. Thank you!

Name of Each Person In Household	Birthday

Address: _____

Home phone: (landline) _____
(if applicable)

Name	Cell Phone Number

Please do not include cell phone numbers for children under the age of 18.

Name	Email Address

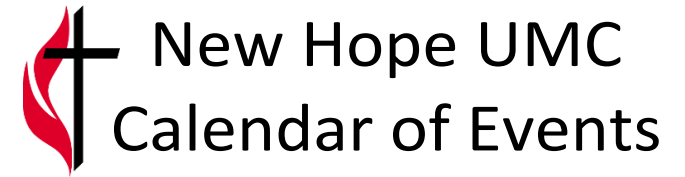
Please do not include email addresses for children under the age of 18.

Wedding Anniversary Date: _____
 (if applicable)

If any member of your household has transferred their membership to another church, please list below who and which congregation they have joined.

Name	Congregation Joined

2020 FEBRUARY



New Hope UMC Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
02 Men's Club Mtg @ 8a Admin Council Mtg @ 5p	03	04 Worship Comm. Mtg @ 7pm	05	06 "GO" group @ noon in the fellowship hall	07	08
09 Valentine's Social @ 5:30pm	10	11	12	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day!	15
16 Youth Mtg @ 3:30p PPRC Mtg @ 5:30p at Capers Chapel SOC Mtg @ 7p	17	18	19	20 Women's Prayer Breakfast @ 8am	21	22 Young Adult Prayer Brunch
23 Confirmation Classes begin	24	25 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper @ 6:30pm	26 Ash Wednesday Service @ 7pm	27	28	29
01	02	03	04	05	06	07

Happenings at New Hope

- ✓ 2/9 – *Valentine's Social*
- ✓ 2/23 – *Confirmation Classes Begin*
- ✓ 2/25 – *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper*
- ✓ 2/26 – *Ash Wednesday Service*

Help to conserve resources by signing up to receive your newsletter electronically! To be added to the list, simply send an email to Elaine at bedenbaughs@gmail.com.

God's Valentine Gift


God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.

His gift was to become a man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.

He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Savior, too.

So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.

By Joanna Fuchs

 *New Hope United Methodist Church*
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Pomaria, South Carolina 29126

Visit our website!
www.newhope-umc.org