

This week the New Hope bulletin
is being sponsored by:

Mohnke Funeral Home Big Rapids

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help defray the cost of our Sunday bulletin.*

August 20, 2017
Attendance and Offering
will be reported in the
September 3 bulletin

August 27, 2017—Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Living God, we are grateful for your faithful care of all that you have created. We are so glad to rely on your steadfast love. Today, we lift up those who are vulnerable, in physical danger, or caught in addiction. Set them free, like a bird released from a trap. Strengthen our church's caring ministries through our gifts and offerings. May we assist others to embrace the new life that you provide through Christ our risen Lord. Amen. (*Psalm 124*)

August Administrative Meetings

Staff Parish Mtg. Mon. Aug. 7 – 6:30 p.m.
Finance Mtg. Wed. Aug. 9 – 6:30 p.m.
Trustees Mtg. Wed. Aug. 16 – 6:30 p.m.
Ad Council Mtg. – Thurs. Aug. 17 – 7:00 p.m.
Staff Mtg. – Mon. Aug. 28 – 6:00 p.m.
Nominations Mtg. – Thurs. Aug. 31 – 6:30 p.m.

**THE STAFF PARISH MEETING IN
SEPTEMBER WILL BE ON MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 11
DUE TO THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**

AUGUST MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES TO REMEMBER

- S 8/27 8:00 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Worship
8/28 1:30 p.m. Mary Martha Circle
8/29 9:30 a.m. Craft Day
5:30 p.m. Tech and Check
6:30 p.m. Praise Too Practice
6:30 p.m. Worship Design
5:30 p.m. Men's Emmaus
5:45-6:15 Faithfully Fit Class
6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study
8/30 10:00 a.m. "Covering the Book"
Bible Study

SEPTEMBER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES TO REMEMBER

- S 9/3 8:00 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Worship
M 9/4 NEW HOPE OFFICE CLOSED



SCHEDULE

August 27 – AnnMarie Buchner
***Children's ministry is offered
during Sunday's 9:45 a.m. worship***



**Wednesday Night Dinner
Is Returning September 6th
5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.**

Start making plans to join us for our first
Wednesday Night Dinner with
Entertainment by the Dixie Ramblers



Thank You! Thank You!

To all my friends who sent me cards, notes and gifts for my birthday. It was so nice of so many to share cake and coffee with me on Sunday.

I enjoyed the time and chats we had together. It made my day. Love you all and thanks again. Jean Chapin



Calling all singers, musicians, and wanna-be vocalists!

The Adult Choir wants you! We invite you to join us as we sing praises to our God.

Practices will begin Wednesday Sept. 6 at 4:15 and continue weekly in that time slot.

No experience necessary, ability to read music helpful, but not essential. Questions??? Contact Lee Haslick @ 616-298-4577.

This week the church is being lit in loving memory of Lewie Randall and Kim Momany



The Finance Committee invites you to take in an opportunity to help New Hope in a unique way. It's referred to as "Light the Church for a Week." The cost of lighting New Hope is approximately \$85 per week. When you choose to "Light the Church for a Week, you would pay that amount and also honor a love one's memory, celebrate an important date – birthday, anniversary etc. which would be shared in the church bulletin.

To participate, please indicate on your giving envelope or check that it is for "Light the Church for a Week". *"Let Your Light Shine" Matthew 5:16*

Second Saturday Munch Bunch

The Second Saturday Munch Bunch will meet for dinner on Saturday, September 9 at the Rock Café located at Ferris State University in Big Rapids at 4:00 pm (PLEASE NOTE THE TIME.) We have reserved the Private Dining Room that is located in the Rock Café. This room can accommodate 26 people, so the first 26 people to sign up will get to be in the Private Dining Room.

The Rock Café recommended that we come at 4:00 pm as it would be less busy than 5:00 pm. The restaurant is a buffet with many stations to choose from-- including a Mongolian Barbeque. The price is \$10.25 plus tax and includes beverage, all you can eat, and dessert.

The Second Saturday Munch Bunch is open to everyone in the church and is a great way to get to know other people. We usually meet at a restaurant the second Saturday of each month for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. Come enjoy a great meal, conversation, and fellowship! There is no obligation to going every second Saturday—come when you are able to! If you have never attended one of our outings, why not try us!

There is a sign-up board located in the Narthex by the church office. Any questions, please call Laura Hall at 231-972-7000.



NOTICE:

Please visit our **Military Board in Fellowship Hall** for addresses of our active military connections, and if you have someone you wish to add, leave the information with the church office.

If you are a New Hope Veteran, please notify the church office with that information, as well. We'd be honored to include you on our Veterans list!



Thank you to everyone at New Hope for all of the expressions of love and kindness shown to me and my family during the recent illness and passing of Margie.

It is comforting to know that I am part of such a great church family.

Gordon McArthur and family



NOTICE
There will

TEMPORARILY BE
NO Faithfully Fit Classes

TUESDAYS AT NEW HOPE.
Updates will be posted as to
when classes will return.

Call 231-349-7359

for more information

KINGDOM KIDS
2017/2018

Planning is in the works for the upcoming 2017/2018 Kingdom Kids Afterschool Program at New Hope. The kids are going to have a great time with the Program that has been selected.

In an effort to keep costs down, here's a list of materials that are needed.

- 54 in. Black Vinyl Fabric
(making straps for spy kit)
- ~~30 Sheets of White card stock~~
- 10 Sheets of Gray card stock
- Red cellophane
- Black Sticky-Back felt
(one 1x3 inches per child) (30 kids)
- ~~2mm Black Cord (25 yards — 900 inches)~~
- Warm Bodies – Volunteers 3:30 to 6pm or any time in between
- ~~30 silver plastic spoons~~
- 30 #32 rubber bands
- Bag of Rice from Sam's Club
(whatever size that is)
- Realistic Fake Money 1's 5's 10's and 20's
(at least 2 each)
- Small non-breakable magnifying glasses
(at least 10)
- Prayers for a successful year and for God to be a part of this all!
- Leftover Birthday supplies
(cups, napkins, plates, a used piñata, balloons, ~~birthday Banner~~ etc.)
- ~~Yellow "Crime Scene" tape (1 roll)~~
- ~~Balloons (12" or 16") Need about 30~~

THINGS WE WOULD LIKE TO BORROW
FROM SEPT. TO THE END OF APRIL

4 trench coats (size and length do not matter)

Briefcase

Green Hat, Vest and/or Socks

(Trying to be Irish!)

Colorful flowery top

Brightly colored tie

A Black Light

If you wish to donate, we would greatly appreciate it! All items go to AnnMarie or you can leave them in the Jonah Room down at the end of the hallway!

Thanks a million for helping us out!

Heartland District Lay Servant Classes Fall 2017 September 15-16

Heartland District Lay Servant Classes for fall 2017 will take place overnight September 15-16 at Albright Camp (3156 190th Ave., Reed City, MI). That's right-we're trying out a *NEW RETREAT-STYLE FORMAT!* Participants must attend both days in order to earn credit for the class. The following courses will be offered.

- "Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course" led by Pr. Mona Dye & Bill Dye. Mona & Bill have been in ministry together in various capacities to and with God's people since 1969. Their experience includes Christian Education, Children & Youth, Evangelism, Missions, Lay Speaking, Preaching, and Teaching. Bill recently retired as Local Pastor, and Mona will be joining him shortly. A shared enthusiasm for the faith journey that leads to the common good marks their way.
- "Preaching" led by Rev. Mike Selleck. Rev. Selleck has a BA degree from Adrian College and an MDiv degree from the Methodist Theological School in Delaware, Ohio. Mike has advanced certification in Church Business Administration from Candler School of Theology, and certification in Youth Ministry. He was ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church in 1976, retiring from full time ministry in 2016. Mike is considered a storyteller, preacher, and humorist and is widely sought as a workshop leader, teacher, and trainer.
- "Leading in Prayer" led by Rev. Don Spachman. Rev. Don obtained his MDiv degree from Asbury Theological Seminary in 1982. Since then he's served several churches in the West MI Conference, currently at Greenville First UMC in the Heartland District.
- "Lay Servants Lead in Conflict Resolution" led by Pr. Kathy Leydorf-Keck. Pastor Kathy serves a two-point

charge in the Heartland District. She is married to Roger who is a retired school administrator. Kathy and Roger have five grandchildren. They enjoy auction sales and antiquing for enjoyment. Kathy is looking forward to this class! She hopes to will find your time together enlightening and helpful.

Costs for these classes vary based upon which housing option you choose. Deadline to register is September 7!



**Every Girl.
Everywhere.
Period.**

This year's UMW Call to Prayer and Self Denial program that was held in June, was about an international organization coordinating hygiene kits for school-age girls in impoverished countries. Days for Girls International has accepted our UMW as a new Team-in-Training! What does that mean? Members of the Faith and Mary Martha Circles are going to become involved by sewing hygiene kits and sending them to girls around the world.

We are gung-ho to get started, and want members and friends of New Hope to know they are welcome to join us! These kits will be sewn and assembled on Tuesday mornings, during the Tuesday morning craft time in the fellowship hall. Our first meeting will be this Tuesday, August 22, at 10:00 a.m. It will be more of a planning meeting, as we figure out the assembly process and gather materials needed. If you are interested and cannot join us this week, show up when you can. There will be work for seamstresses, material will need to be bought and cut, and the kits will need to be assembled. Our commitment is to make 25 kits. If we just love this, and want to continue, we can!

Any questions, please contact Bev Rothenberger via email: rothenberger.bev77@gmail.com

or by cell: 317-413-7491. Betty
Stewart: jstew70127@aol.com, 231-972-
0009.

THE CASE FOR CHRIST

from your pastor's point of view... 8-20-17

Hey New Hope Family and Friends,

We've spent the last the last few weeks rediscovering some of the radical sayings of Jesus and how applying those to our lives will set us apart in this wild world.

Now, we start a new series based on a book and film called *The Case for Christ* written by Lee Strobel. On the back cover of that book it reads,

"Is there credible evidence that Jesus of Nazareth really is the Son of God? Strobel's tough, point-blank questions make this remarkable book read like a captivation, fast-paced novel. But it's not fiction. It's a riveting quest for the truth about history's most compelling figure. What will be your verdict be in *The Case for Christ*?"

I sure your answer will be yes! But, if you or someone you know has questions, well, over these next four weeks, we'll have answers! 😊

Thanks to God's bodacious Grace, faultless Truth, and tremendous Love,

Pastor Greg

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[unh-kom-uh'n]

New "uncommon" Service starting officially on September 3 at 11:15

"Investigating the Case for Christ" (Acts 8:26-39) **"The Case for Christ" series**

Intro – Why the case for Christ? - Lee, Philip, and P.G.

Spiritual Sticking Point #1 – "I CAN'T BELIEVE"

God seeks us out first, so seek God whole-heartedly. He doesn't play hide-and-seek. It was no accident that Philip ended up on that road with the Ethiopian. God supernaturally sent Philip, and it's no accident that we're here today.

Spiritual Sticking Point #2 – "I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE"

Don't keep God at arm's length. Instead of finding reasons not to believe, instead find reasons why you should believe. God's goal isn't to boss us around, but to guide us into our greatest purpose and potential.

Spiritual Sticking Point #3 – "I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE"

– The key to understanding the Bible and faith is to determine what the author actually meant not what we want it to say. John 3:16 and Romans 6:23 are great places to start. You don't have to know everything about the Bible to know something.

Spiritual Sticking Point #4 – "I DO BELIEVE, ISN'T THAT ENOUGH"

– Really connecting with God is more than just believing, it's also receiving. And then when we receive, we become true children of God.

Bottom Line/Application

Investigate and you will find the answers! We must believe and receive in order to become children of God. We can share with others so they'll do the same.

UPCOMING MESSAGES

"The Case for Christ" series continues....

Aug 27 – "Exploring the Evidence for Christ" (I Cor. 15:1-19)

Sept 3 – "Embracing the Truth of Christ" (Luke 15:11-32)

Sept 10 – "Explaining the Good News of Christ" (Matt. 5:13-16)

"There is a God" series – September 17 through November 12

Sept 17 - "There is No (g)od Like our God" (Psalm 86:8-10)

contact info:

office: 231-972-2838

cell/text: 989-621-7782

email: pastorgreg.ncd@gmail.com

facebook: @pastorgregbuchner