

This week the New Hope bulletin
is being sponsored by:

Mighty Muffler & Brake

Big Rapids, MI

*Our advertisers
help defray the cost of our Sunday bulletin.*

July 8, 2018 Stewardship Presence

8:00 a.m. - 38 9:45 a.m. - 92
11:15 a.m. - 8

Tithes and Gifts

General: \$3,212.01
Building: \$146.19
Total: \$3,358.01

**July 15, 2018 — Seventh Sunday after
Pentecost/in Kingdomtide**

Architect and Designer of the Universe, the heavens themselves shout your name and power. We often struggle to know our place in creation, and too rarely have we reminded ourselves that there are those who will not know you unless they hear you proclaimed from our hearts. We give our tithes and offerings this morning, grateful that we have a way, in our giving and our living, to proclaim the name and power of your blessed Son, Jesus the Christ! Amen. (Mark 6:13-29)

July Administrative Meetings

Staff Parish – No Meeting
Finance — Wednesday, July 11, 6:30 p.m.
Trustees/Pastor Parish – Wednesday, July 18,
6:30 pm.
Church Council – Thursday, July 19, 7:00 p.m.
Staff Meeting – Mon., July 23, 6:00 p.m.

**JULY MINISTRY
OPPORTUNITIES TO REMEMBER**

- S 7/15 8:00 a.m. Sunday Worship**
9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship
Principal Drive Q&A
11:45 a.m. “Uncommon Worship”
- M 7/16 8:30 a.m. Community Service**
Clean Up Day
- T 7/17 9:30 a.m. Craft Day**
5:30 p.m. Faithfully Fit Class
5:30 p.m. Men’s Emmaus
6:30 p.m. Men’s Bible Study
- W 7/18 10:00 a.m. “Covering the Book”**
Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Praise Too Practice
5:30 p.m. Tech ‘n Check
6:00 p.m. Worship Design
6:30 p.m. Trustees/Pastor Parish
Office Closed
- Th 7/19 7:00 p.m. Church Council**
Office Closed
- F 7/20**
- S 7/22 8:00 a.m. Sunday Worship**
Principal Drive Q&A
9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:45 a.m. “Uncommon Worship”
- M 7/23 6:00 p.m. Staff Meeting**
- T 7/10 9:30 a.m. Craft Day**
5:30 p.m. Faithfully Fit Class
5:30 p.m. Men’s Emmaus
6:30 p.m. Men’s Bible Study
- W 7/11 10:00 a.m. “Covering the Book”**
Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Praise Too Practice
5:30 p.m. Tech ‘n Check
6:00 p.m. Worship Design
6:30 p.m. Finance
7:00 p.m. “Covering the Book”
Bible Study
- Sa 7/28 7:00 p.m. Kevin Mills Concert**

Birthdays this week:

16th - Jon Slezak
18th - Charles Porter
19th - Goldie Martin



Anniversaries this week:

17th - Ed and Helen Highfield

The church is being lit in honor of Fred and Sandy Mayo's daughter's birthday on the 15th and Fred and Sandy's anniversary on the 20th of July.



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*

Are we missing somebody?

The Membership Care Team is ready, willing, and able to make contact if we notice that someone hasn't been here for whatever reason. In order to check-in on them, please let one of these team members know: Gen Abrams, Sue Reed, Jerry Smith, Vivian Smith, Linda Randall, and Pastor Greg.
Thank you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**If you need to use the stove/oven in the kitchen, you must contact Roy Snyder (or Gen Abrams in the church office, to contact Roy) prior to needing it!
The stove has been turned off for the summer months.**

Wednesday Night Supper Volunteers

On July 16, 2018 we will have a "Clean the Kitchen-Tables-Chairs- Windows Day" at New Hope! The Mecosta County Sheriff Corrections for Community Service will be here from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
We need all the volunteers we can get to get the job done! **Lunch will be served!**
If interested call Roy Snyder, Joe or Judy Meyers, or Gen at the office and leave your name and number.

God's Helping Hands Annual School Supply and Shoe Give Away

God's Helping Hands is once again having their annual school supplies and shoe give away for the needy on Saturday, August 18th. The supplies will be distributed from St. Michael's Parish Center from 9 am until 11 am. You can help by donating backpacks and all kinds of school supplies: 2 pocket folders, colored pencils, crayons, pencils, pens, highlighters, small hand sanitizers, small Kleenex packets, erasers, scissors, glue, spiral notebooks, paper, rulers, plastic pencil boxes, and backpacks. If you know of a family in need, please tell them to register their children on Tuesdays or Fridays, 9am-12 noon at God's Helping Hands prior to August 17th. Only registered clients can receive this give away

Thank you,
God's Helping Hands

Church Principal Drive Meetings to be Held

We will be having a Church Principal Drive on July 29th. We will have a series of question and answer meetings held in the music room at 11:00 a.m., right after the 9:45 a.m. service. The dates are: July 15th and 22nd.

**Just a
friendly
reminder**



Meals are available for those affected by a time of crisis and/or upheaval of their normal schedule – illness, recovery from surgery, a time of grief.

For information, please call Judy Meyers at 972-2163.



Benevolence/Emergency Fund

The Benevolence offering for the month of June was \$186.60 and \$55.00 (= \$241.60). We received no assistance calls this month. Thank you all for your support as we continue to use this fund as a hand up not a hand out.
God's blessings,
Nancy Karcher

During the summer we like to keep our options open, so we can take quick trips whenever we want to. Because of this, no one is scheduled to do coffee hour for the entire month of July and August. Instead, we ask people to sign up for just one Sunday, or maybe one each month. There are still lots of Sundays open. Please consider giving up one Sunday this summer to help us all enjoy the fellowship time after church.

In addition, if you are baking some summer goodies, consider bringing a dozen or two (or three) to church for us to enjoy.

Call Lois Sherwood
for information
(989) 465-7174



SILENT AUCTION

A chance to outbid your neighbor!

In conjunction with our Principal drive, a silent auction is being held in the fellowship hall from now to 12:00 Sunday July 29th. These items are all placed on tables or on the floor. A bidding form is attached to each item and numbered for tracking purposes. To bid on an item, list your name and phone number, and the amount of your bid. Check back often and bid again if your name is not in the winning spot. Remember, it's for a good cause. It has a greater value than just the item itself.

The tables are currently set up with the items displayed in the fellowship hall.

At 12:00 noon on July 29, the finance team will collect the completed forms and be at a table near the items. You can pay for and pick up your items then. If you are not available to pick up your items on that Sunday, we will call you and arrange a pickup time later.

Let's have some fun with this!

Thank you in advance-
The Finance Team



from your pastor's point of view 7-15-18

cell/text: 989-621-7782
office: 231-972-2838
email: pastorgreg.ncd@gmail.com

GOD'S BODACIOUS GRACE, FAULTLESS TRUTH, AND TREMENDOUS LOVE

When You're Stepping in For Dad

My relationship with our oldest daughter, Rebecca has always been an interesting and rewarding one. Although we've unofficially adopted Rebecca as one of our own, her dad, Steve, was very much in the picture until his death just a couple weeks ago. It took me my surprise. It took us all by surprise.

My heart is breaking for my daughter, because I know that "Steve" place in her heart now feels empty and I will never fill it. I'll just have to step-in and try to cover whatever ground I'm able.

Steve, in the midst of fighting his own personal battles, raised Rebecca to be a self-reliant, intelligent, free-thinker that literally has driven both dads insane over the years. It was Becky that choose us to be her second family and we've been blessed to have "Beckers" and Toby (hubby), Norahlee, Orlin, and Henrietta in our lives also.

In fact, in many ways, she reminds me of Esther. Even in the midst of loss and fear, both are taking each day to overcome their circumstances, are willing to risk everything for everyone, and forget the nay-sayers who say it can't be done. Both have a strong faith that says, "God has this, so I have this." May we learn, be, and do the same.

"Follow Even When Games Are Being Played" (Esther 5:9-14) All scriptures NIV unless noted.

Intro

Part One – back in week 4 – conspiracy against her whole family - Esther found out that there were people conspiring against her family, so she:

- 1) stand up knowing that folks will stand against us;
- 2) have good offense by practicing spiritual disciples;
- 3) getting busy because Christ has got busy for us.

Part Two – this week – games being played against her king....and everyone else. "Life-effecting" politics.

Haman teaches us what not to do by his poor example.

Don't let rage guide your decision making. (v.9-10)

"...Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger, for one's anger does not bring about the righteousness that God desires." (James 1:19-20)

Don't let status and an invitation go to your head.(v. 10-13)

"...Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you." (Romans 12:3)

Don't build anything you don't want to die on. (v. 14)

"So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai. Then the king's fury subsided." – Esther 7:10

Bottom Line & Application

DON'T BE A HAMAN! – When people play games, continue to follow God's plan.

UPCOMING MESSAGES – 8:00 a.m., 9:45 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

"Divine Direction" (using the Book of Esther) through August 26
using "One Night with the King (The Bible Story of Queen Esther)"

July 22 - "Follow the Humble. Wait on God. Eat Not One's Words."
(Esther 6:1-13)

July 29 - "Follow God's Direction-Setting Things Right" (Esther 7:1-8:2)

"Exploration" Message Series - August 5 – November 25

Pastor Greg (or our speaker) is handy after the service if you'd like to say hi, ask questions, check-in, or just share comments. They are normally at the front of the worship space so that a conversation is easier. Stop and say hi.