

**DECEMBER MINISTRY
OPPORTUNITIES
TO REMEMBER**

- S 12/18 9:45 a.m. Worship**
M 12/19 1:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study
T 12/20 5:30 p.m. Tech and Check
 6:30 p.m. Worship Design
 5:30 p.m. Men's Emmaus
 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study
W 12/21 10:00 a.m. "Covering the Book"
 Bible Study
 3:00 p.m. Praise Too Practice
NO KINGDOM KIDS
NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER
NO YOUTH GROUP
SA 12/24 11-2 Tae Kwon Do
 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
S 12/25 9:45 a.m. Worship
 Merry Christmas

The church will be closed from Monday December 26 until Monday January 2. No church activities will be taking place except for Sunday worship.

Winter Reminder: We never cancel service on Sundays due to the weather. Please make your best judgement. If you can make it safely, we look forward to seeing you!



- December Administrative Meetings**
No Staff Parish Meeting
No Trustees Meeting
Finance Mtg. Wed. Dec. 14 – 6:30 p.m.
No Ad Council Meeting
Staff Mtg. Mon. Dec. 12 – 6:00 p.m.

BLESSING OF THE GIFTS AND TOYS

On Sunday, December 25, at our 9:45 am service, be sure to bring your "toys" that you want blessed for the New Year and beyond. Part of the worship service will be a prayer over our gifts, so bring them in!

WORSHIP DESIGN and TECH 'n' CHECK will not be meeting on 12/20 or 12/27, but tech 'n' check will be meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 1:30-3 pm and then back to our regular Tuesday schedule starting on January 3 with tech 'n' check at 5:30 pm and worship design at 6:30 pm. *Thank you.*

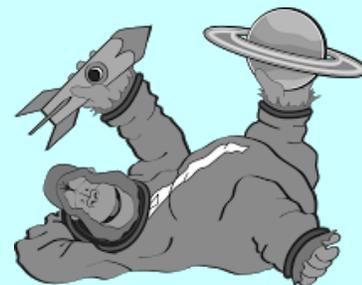


SCHEDULE

GALACTIC BLAST

Dec. 18 – Opening/Music
 Carol Vandermeer

Dec. 25 – Christmas
 AnnMarie Buchner



Children's ministry is offered during Sunday's 9:45 a.m. worship

Wednesday Night Dinner Menu

Wednesday Night Suppers
will resume on January 4.



5:30 p.m.

Free-will offering Public Invited



DECEMBER COOKIE HOUR

Kathy and Dave Baker are “flying solo” on the December Cookie Hour. Any help with clean-up and cookie

donations would be great.

**COOKIES ARE ALSO NEEDED FOR
CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY!**

Great Job New Hope!

Well New Hope did it again, we supported 101 families for Christmas through the Mecosta, Salvation Army in Big Rapids.

The Giving tree is without any cards. That is a wonderful thing. New Hope is such a great giving church. I am proud to say congratulations to you all, and to those who donated funds to purchase Christmas items for those in need. Well Done.

Don Santer Dir. Missions



*Thank you to the
anonymous person who
made the beautiful
blankets for each*

*of the kitchen workers from
Wednesday Night Supper.*

Thank you so much and may God Bless you.

The Kitchen Crew

GOD'S HELPING HANDS



Volunteers are still needed at God's Helping Hands. 2 men and 2 women. Help us out in the New Year 2017. God's Helping Hands will be closed from December 18th, 2016 until January 3, 2017.

May God Bless you all at this most Holy Season and New Year in 2017.

In His Service, Nancy Karcher

LIGHT
THE
CHURCH



New Hope Missions Christmas food baskets

Christmas food baskets will be assembled December 21st at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall. Please pick them up sometime that day, there is no longer any room in the kitchen coolers to store baskets.

If you are available to help assemble the baskets please be at New Hope by 9:15.

We hope you all have a safe and wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year, from all of the Mission Team and other helpers.

The Finance Committee invites you to take part 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

New Hope UMC Giving Report

	November	YTD
Income	\$20,463.38	\$270,132.60
Expenses	\$22,304.00	\$276,099.98
Difference	(\$1,840.62)	(\$5,967.38)

STAFF APPRECIATION LOVE GIFT

Each year the pastor-parish committee honors our paid staff by giving them a love offering for their efforts. These are folks who put in the many hours often over and above what's required to clean the whole building, administrate our church office, take care of our nursery and background checks, and share music in worship.

They do a great job for us and we want to honor them with a special love gift that shows our appreciation. Anything you're able to give will be a blessing to these folks for all that they do to make this place all that it is.

So, please, mark your giving "staff love gift" and we'll be sure to share it with them.
(Please note, by their own request, the pastor is not included this year, just the other paid staff. We honored the pastor and family back in October.)

COMING TO NEW HOPE TUESDAYS BEGINNING JAN. 3 – 5:45 – 6:15 P.M.

Faithfully Fit Classes

**Have fun improving your spiritual,
physical and emotional health!**

- * **Come embrace positive environment and fellowship while empowering new friendships**
- * **Come enjoy building coordination and endurance while staying within simple, low-impact motions.**
- * **Come share developing strength and balance while moving to inspirational music**

**Certified instructor Shawn Sredersas
will be offering a free-will donation,
Low-Impact "FUN in FITNESS" Class!**

**During the Christmas holidays, we
would like to remember those who
do not always have the ability to
attend New Hope.**

**Let's remember them by sending
them Christmas blessings.**



Maren Clare

338 9 Mile Rd.
Remus, MI 49340

Evelyn Courtright

Margaret's Meadows
5257 S. Coldwater Rd.
Remus, MI 49340

Lila Denslow

1551 Franklin S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Arlo Guy

303 Herbert
Blanchard, MI 49310

Doris Himebaugh

1945 Churchill Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Marjory Hyder

New Hope Assisted Living
701 E. Remus Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Jack McKindley

753 Clark Crossing S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Erma Johnson

6597 Clubhouse Dr. East
Stanwood, MI 49346

Melvin and Bonnie Letson

P.O. Box 277
Remus, MI 49340

Dorothy Seagar

9875 Arthur Rd.
Rodney, MI 49342

Lila Stanley

9198 Elmwood Ct.
Canadian Lakes, MI 49346

If you know of anyone who you would like added,
please contact the church office 231-972-2838.

from your pastor's point of view...

12-18-16

Hey New Hope Folks,

Welcome to "believe."- Week 4!
Week 1 we talked about Jesus coming again. Week 2 we talked about changed hearts and minds. And last week, we talked about sharing our God-story with others; sharing how this Babe coming to Bethlehem personally effected our lives.

This week we're talking about doing things differently especially in the midst of life-altering possibilities. For Joseph, he had to do everything differently in order to do the role he was to fulfill as the step-father of God and, of course, to preserve Mary's honor. Joseph could have, and possibly should've by the world's standards, said no; but instead, he decided that he would do what the angel had said...what God was leading him to do, even if he'd never thought of being in that place before.

Which begs the question, what is God asking you to do differently, or us to do differently? Are we willing?

As we discover and rediscover the Nicene Creed in preparation for that Babe's arrival in Bethlehem, are we willing to do something different this year to make Jesus the center of it all? It is His birthday isn't it?

In God's bodacious Grace,
faultless Truth, and
tremendous Love!

Pastor Greg

Today's Message: "Doing Things Differently" (Matthew 1:18-25) - "believe." Series

Intro – "If Plan A doesn't work, the alphabet has 25 more letters; 204 if you're in Japan."
Claire Cook, *Seven Year Switch*

I – The original plan is not always the best plan.
(Matthew 1:18-19)

II – God's plan is always the "full" plan.
(Matthew 1:20-23)

III – Even if it's different from our own, we follow God's plan.
(Matthew 1:24-25)

Bottom Line - *what do we believe?* – *Nicene Creed Hymnal 880*

We believe that God calls us
to the different! Sometimes
we need what we do, in order
to change what we get!

This is what we believe.



UPCOMING MESSAGES –

"believe." Series thru December 25.

Dec. 24 – (Christmas Eve 7pm) – "Believing" (Luke 2:1-20)

Dec. 25 – "Doing Something with our Belief" (John 1:1-14)

(Blessing of the Toys & Gifts-bring your favorite gift to be blessed.)

"God Opportunities" series (January 2017)

Jan. 1 - "With God All Things Are Possible" (Matthew 19:16-26)

contact info - office: 231-972-2838 cell/text: 989-621-7782
email: pastorgreg.ncd@gmail.com facebook: [@pastorgregbuchner](https://www.facebook.com/pastorgregbuchner)
each week's messages are online at: www.new-hope-church.org