

**This week the New Hope bulletin  
is being sponsored by:**

**Royal View**  
Retirement Community  
Mecosta, MI

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

**February 18, 2018 Stewardship  
Presence**

**9:45 a.m. – 108    11:15 a.m. – 9**

**Tithes and Gifts**

General:        \$3,112.00

Building:        117.00

**Total:        \$2,571.00**

**February 25, 2018 – Second Sunday in  
Lent**

God Almighty, we rejoice in your constant faithfulness! You established your eternal covenant with your people Israel. Through the ministry of your Son Jesus, you welcomed all who trust you into your extended family. Just as with Abraham and Sarah, you gave us a new name in baptism: a beloved child of God. Empower us by your Spirit to live as generous people who share freely. May we tell younger generations of your goodness and serve your purposes in the world. As a covenant people, we dedicate our tithes and offerings through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Genesis 17:1-16)

**February Administrative Meetings**

Staff Parish – NO MEETING

Finance – February 13 – 6:30 p.m.

Ad Council – February 15 – 7:00 p.m.

Trustees – February 21 – 6:30 p.m.

Staff Meeting – February 26 – 6:00 p.m.

**OFFICE HOURS  
MONDAY – FRIDAY  
9 A.M. TO NOON**

**FEBRUARY/MARCH MINISTRY  
OPPORTUNITIES TO REMEMBER**

- |          |             |                   |                            |
|----------|-------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>S</b> | <b>2/25</b> | <b>9:45 a.m.</b>  | <b>Worship</b>             |
|          |             | <b>11:15 a.m.</b> | <b>“Uncommon Worship”</b>  |
| <b>M</b> | <b>2/26</b> | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | Staff Meeting              |
| <b>T</b> | <b>2/27</b> | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Men’s Emmaus               |
|          |             | <b>6:30 p.m.</b>  | Men’s Bible Study          |
|          |             | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Faithfully Fit Class       |
| <b>W</b> | <b>2/28</b> | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>“Covering the Book”</b> |
|          |             |                   | Bible Study                |
|          |             | <b>3:00 p.m.</b>  | Praise Too Practice        |
|          |             | <b>3:20 p.m.</b>  | Kingdom Kids               |
|          |             | <b>4:00 p.m.</b>  | Choir Practice             |
|          |             | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Wed. Night Supper          |
|          |             | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Tech ‘n Check              |
|          |             | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | Youth                      |
|          |             | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | Worship Design             |
| <b>S</b> | <b>3/4</b>  | <b>9:45 a.m.</b>  | <b>Worship</b>             |
|          |             | <b>11:15 a.m.</b> | <b>“Uncommon Worship”</b>  |
| <b>T</b> | <b>3/6</b>  | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Men’s Emmaus               |
|          |             | <b>6:30 p.m.</b>  | Men’s Bible Study          |
|          |             | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Faithfully Fit Class       |
| <b>W</b> | <b>3/7</b>  | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>“Covering the Book”</b> |
|          |             |                   | Bible Study                |
|          |             | <b>3:00 p.m.</b>  | Praise Too Practice        |
|          |             | <b>3:20 p.m.</b>  | Kingdom Kids               |
|          |             | <b>4:00 p.m.</b>  | Choir Practice             |
|          |             | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Wed. Night Supper          |
|          |             | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Tech ‘n Check              |
|          |             | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | Worship Design             |
|          |             | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | Youth                      |
| <b>S</b> | <b>3/11</b> | <b>9:45 a.m.</b>  | <b>Worship</b>             |
|          |             | <b>11:15 a.m.</b> | <b>“Uncommon Worship”</b>  |
| <b>T</b> | <b>3/13</b> | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Men’s Emmaus               |
|          |             | <b>6:30 p.m.</b>  | Men’s Bible Study          |
|          |             | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Faithfully Fit Class       |
| <b>W</b> | <b>3/14</b> | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>“Covering the Book”</b> |
|          |             |                   | Bible Study                |
|          |             | <b>3:00 p.m.</b>  | Praise Too Practice        |
|          |             | <b>3:20 p.m.</b>  | Kingdom Kids               |
|          |             | <b>4:00 p.m.</b>  | Choir Practice             |
|          |             | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Wed. Night Supper          |
|          |             | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | Tech ‘n Check              |
|          |             | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | Worship Design             |
|          |             | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | Youth                      |



**Wednesday Night Dinner  
5:30 p.m.**

**Homemade Bean Soup  
Ham Wraps  
Dessert - Beverage**

**Public Invited --- Free-Will Offering**



Dee (Delores) and Jack Smith will be celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on March 8<sup>th</sup>!

Please join us for cake and punch in the Fellowship Hall after the 9:45 a.m. service on Sunday, March 4th to celebrate and honor their special milestone day!  
Let's shower them with cake, cards, and lots of love!



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*

**Year End Giving Statements**

If there are any discrepancies with your statements, please contact Annette Coles at (231)912- 0893.

**Please note: Due to changes in the church office schedule, the deadline for the bulletin is changed to Tuesday at noon, for the following week. Thank you for your patience and understanding!  
Serving Him JOYFULLY with you,  
Gen Abrams**

**God's Helping Hands Winter Appeal**

*Do some early Spring Cleaning!*

The need is great.

Donations are needed now:  
Clothing in good repair of all kinds; Furniture;  
Appliances; Toys; Housewares

**Prayer Chain**

If you are interested in being part of the prayer chain, calling those who do not have email, please contact Karen Woodruff at 972-2084. There is also a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center. You would only be asked to call a few people.



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.

## Abuse Prevention Trainings March 10, 11, and 24

IMPORTANT: The new MI Area Conference of the UMC has instituted a NEW Abuse Prevention Policy. Effective January 1, 2018 all previously obtained certification through the West MI and Detroit Conferences have expired.

***New training is REQUIRED for all leaders/churches attending/hosting District of Conference events where youth, children, and/or vulnerable adults will be served.***

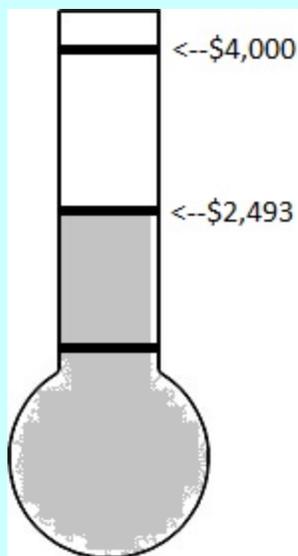
### Upcoming Training Opportunities:

- Saturday, March 10 @ 10:00 am-2:30 pm (lunch included) @ Williamsburg UMC (5750 Williamsburg Rd., Williamsburg MI 49690)
- Saturday, March 11 @ 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm @ St. Louis First UMC (116 S. Franklin St., St. Louis, MI 48880)
- Saturday, March 24 @ 8:30 am –12:30 pm @ Heritage UMC 19931 W. Kendaville Rd., Pierson MI 49339

RSVP to Anika Kasper at [anikakasper@gmail.com](mailto:anikakasper@gmail.com) or 989-773-5140. Include the number of people attending AND location of the training your group wants to attend.

### Camp Fund Raising Update

Camp Sunday was an awesome success. From Jan 28th to Feb 18th God has blessed us with donations of nearly \$1,169! Our current Camp Fund balance is \$2,493. We are well on our way to our goal of about \$4000. Thank you so very much!



### Second Saturday Munch Bunch

The Second Saturday Munch Bunch will meet for dinner on Saturday, March 10 at 5:00 pm at Antlers Fireside Grill in Canadian Lakes. 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.

### SOS holds “Thank You” Luncheon

In appreciation for all that the community has done for them during the Christmas season, the Sisters of Sobriety gave a “Thank You” luncheon on Saturday, Feb. 10, at their home in Wheatland Township. The New Hope ladies that were able to attend were Linda Randall, Bev Rothenberger, Olga Wargo, and Sherry Anderson (also there representing the General Federation of Women’s Clubs).

The Sisters of Sobriety is a home for women who have struggled with alcohol and drug abuse and are living in a structured environment that provides support, counseling, activities, and most importantly, a safe moral place. They try to find work and are willing to volunteer in the community.

We met with 9 ladies currently living there (they can house up to 12), their counselors, and the couple who founded the SOS, Angela and Rick Kazemier. They shared their stories, and we saw that the home is a blessing for them and those who support them. Current needs are items like detergent and toilet paper. A bin is available in the Fellowship Hall for donations. They are also in need of sponsors. It costs \$110 a week for each woman to stay there. If anyone would like to visit, their door is always open and the coffee is on. Contact Linda Randall or Bev Rothenberger for more information.



# from your pastor's point of view...2-25-18

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

## **P.G.'s Attempted Timeline!**

*If God's plan is different, defer! ☺*

Church Age = grace offered and received through Christ now.

*then*

Rapture = when Jesus comes for his Church. The judgement seat of Christ (bema seat) happens here to determine our rewards.

*then*

Tribulation = purification of all sinfulness, total decontamination. This is where the seals, trumpets, and bowls (Revelation 6-19).

*then*

Millennium = thousand-year reign of Christ; peace, prosperity, purity.

*then*

Final Judgment (Great White Throne) = evil eternally separated from God. (think sheep and goats)

*then*

New Heaven & New Earth = God's eternal, creation redo of Eden.

"A Thousand Years of What? – Millennium" (Revelation 20:1-7)

"The Truth About Heaven" series

("Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven" pages 223-252)

**Intro** – The Millennium occurs to prove God was right!  
The Millennium occurs to prove Satan was wrong!  
The Millennium occurs to give people one last chance.  
"Jesus will reign for a thousand years, bringing human history full circle and to a fitting climax." (p. 234)

## **Four Purposes**

To reward God's people  
To respond to the prophet's predictions  
To receive the answer to the disciple's prayer  
To reemphasize the necessity

## **Five Characteristics**

It will be a time of peace.  
It will be a time of prosperity.  
It will be a time of purity.  
It will be a time of prolonged life.  
It will be a time of personal joy.  
1000 years to enjoy peace! 1000 years to accept by faith!

## **Bottom Line & Application**

The real reason for Isaac Watt's "Joy to the World!" and it's not about Christmas.

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King.  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing.*

*The book we're using: "Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven" by Dr. David Jeremiah can be purchased for a donation by calling 1-877-998-0222 [www.davidjeremiah.org/site/monthly/0617\_FYE.aspx]*

## **UPCOMING MESSAGES – 9:45 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.**

### ***"The Truth About Heaven" series through March 11***

Mar. 4 - "Our Lord Loves Children...Period" (Matthew 18:1-5, 14)

Mar. 11 - "Being Ready for Heaven" (Philippians 4:8-9, I Thess. 3:12-13)

*"Recognizing Christ As Our Risen King" series March 18 – April 1*

Mar. 18 - "The Resurrection and the Life" – John 11:17-27, 38-46

Mar. 25 - "The Proper Entry for a King" – John 12:12-16 (Palm Sunday)

*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.*