

This week the New Hope bulletin
is being sponsored by:

Hansul Marine, Inc.

Mecosta, MI

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

July 1, 2018 Stewardship Presence

9:45 a.m. – 132

Tithes and Gifts

General: \$4,446.00

Building: \$142.32

Total: \$4,588.32

**July 8, 2018 — Seventh Sunday after
Pentecost/in Kingdomtide**

Holy God of new beginnings, through your son, you have sent us forth in the world to witness and to share the message of repentance. Too often, the church has looked more like a club for the affirmation of members instead of a distribution hub for your transforming power. As we bring our gifts, may they be deployed for your purposes; and may we also be deployed for your purposes. We pray this in the name of our Shepherd to whom you have given care of many sheep. Amen. (Mark 6:6b-13)

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 7/8 8:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
Principal Drive Q&A
9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:45 a.m. “Uncommon Worship”**
- 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**
- 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**
- Th 7/19 Office Closed**
- F 7/20 Office Closed**

Birthdays this week:

9th - Tom Larsen

10th – Edward Galvin
Sherry Anderson

11th – Jim Lowry

14th - Fran Norris
Pam Gilbert

John J. Durante

15th – Cheri Chapin



Anniversaries this week:

11th – Jeff and Wanda Ratledge

LIGHT THE CHURCH



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 8th, 15th, and 22nd.

Mission Team Meeting and all those interested

There will be a meeting at 7:30 pm on Tuesday July 10th 2018 in the New Hope fellowship hall, of all those who would like to work the food wagon at Wheatland Music Festival on September 7, 8 and 9th 2018. All those who work at least two 4 hour shifts will get a full weekend pass. If you have never been to Wheatland, here is your chance to see what all the hype is all about. We will discuss what food we intend to serve.

There will also be a meeting about the upcoming Mission trip to East Baton Rouge in October 2018. If you need more info see Don Santer @ Church or call 989-561-2394

New Hope UMC Monthly Report of all Income & Expenses

	June	YTD
Income	\$22,774	\$110,552
Expenses	\$22,760	\$144,825
Difference	\$14	(\$34,272)

Please note that due to rounding, numbers may not add up correctly.

Silent Auction

The Finance Team is going to host a Silent Auction during the month of July!

This has proven to be a fun activity in the past.

If you have a special item or a craft piece you would like to donate, please contact a member of finance or call Doug Chapin (231-349-4059)

Second Saturday Munch Bunch



The Second Saturday Munch Bunch will be going to The Clifford Lake Inn for dinner on Saturday, July 14 at 5:00 pm. If it is a nice night, they are reserving us tables outside that will be in the shade on the deck. The Clifford Lake Inn is located at 561 Clifford Lake Dr. NW in Stanton.

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 pastor's office. Any questions, please call Laura Hall at 231-972-7000.

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



from your pastor's point of view 7-8-18

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

GOD'S BODACIOUS GRACE, FAULTLESS TRUTH, AND TREMENDOUS LOVE (FROM PASTOR GREG)

Walking by Faith, Not By Sight...

"It's what we trust in but don't yet see that keeps us going." (2 Corinthians 5:6-8 MSG)

"Those words seem simple enough. However, I am learning that fleshing out those words, that simple concept, can be a much tougher assignment. It requires tremendous courage and strength.

But it is a journey of tremendous blessing and reward. Walking by faith and not by sight requires you to go to a place you do not know, one that God will reveal as you walk in obedience." (excerpts from Dena Johnson Martin at www.crosswalk.com)

A Review...Themes From Previous Weeks

Week one - Saul didn't do as God told him. We should always do what God tells us.

Week two - Queen Vashti had to say no to authority. We honor God first, then others.

Week three - Esther had to trust in difficult situations. We have to plunge in trusting God always.

And last week - Esther found out that there were people conspiring against her, so like her we need to: 1) stand up know-ing that folks will stand against us; 2) have a good offense by practicing prayer, fast-ing, and other spiritual disciplines; 3) getting busy in response to what Christ has done for us.

"Follow God Even in Unknown Directions" (Divine Direction Series)

(Esther 4:15-5:8) All scriptures NIV unless noted.

Intro

In the Bible, marriage chapter 2.

In the movie marriage, scene #11. (out of Bible order)

So today, we go back a bit in the movie to pick up the wedding, but then we go forward in Esther 5.

Esther Totally Relies on the Spirit for Direction

1) Esther Agrees to Help the Jews

"If I perish, I perish!" (Esther 4:16, NKJV)

2) Esther Enters Unannounced, But then Announced

"Now it happened on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace...." (Esther 5:1 NKJV)

3) Esther, Takes it Step by Step, and Shows Hospitality

"If I have found favor in the sight of the king...then let the king and Haman come to the banquet I will prepare." (Esther 5:7-8 NKJV)

Bottom Line & Application

From the wedding to the private banquet, Esther had no idea what God was going to do, but she followed God anyways. What leap of faith is God waiting to bless us for, if we just walk with less sight and more faith?

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 15 - "Follow Even When Games Are Being Played" (Esther 5:9-14)

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)

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.