

This week the New Hope bulletin  
is being sponsored by:

**Daggett-Gilbert Funeral Home**  
Barryton, MI

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

**March 4, 2018 Stewardship  
Presence**

9:45 a.m. – 120    11:15 a.m. – 11

**Tithes and Gifts**

General:        \$3,276.00

Building:       240.00

**Total:        \$3,516.00**

**March 11, 2018 – Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Generous God, you beautifully show mercy to us, from the beginning of our life to the end, even to eternal life. We act more like your people in the Bible than we like to admit: doubting, impatient, complaining about the sweet manna you provide. Open our eyes to see the truth about ourselves. Give us hope in your power to heal and renew us, individually and as a church. By your Spirit, help us to trust you with our whole heart. May we respond to your great love with generosity. Receive these gifts and offerings for the renewal of our congregation and wider community in Jesus' name. Amen. (Numbers 21:4-9)

**March Administrative Meetings**

Staff Parish – **NO MEETING**

Finance – March 12 – 6:00 p.m.

Church Council – **NO MEETING**

Trustees – **NO MEETING**

Staff Meeting – March 26 – 6:00 p.m.

**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.

**MARCH MINISTRY  
OPPORTUNITIES TO REMEMBER**

- S 3/11**    9:45 a.m.    **Worship**  
              11:15 a.m.    **“Uncommon Worship”**
- T 3/13**    5:30 p.m.    Men’s Emmaus  
              6:30 p.m.    Men’s Bible Study  
              5:30 p.m.    Faithfully Fit Class
- W 3/14**    **OFFICE CLOSED**  
              10:00 a.m.    **“Covering the Book”**  
   Bible Study  
              3:00 p.m.    Praise Too Practice  
              3:20 p.m.    Kingdom Kids  
              4:00 p.m.    Choir Practice  
              5:30 p.m.    Wed. Night Supper  
              5:30 p.m.    Tech ‘n Check  
              6:00 p.m.    Worship Design  
              6:00 p.m.    Youth
- S 3/18**    9:45 a.m.    **Worship**  
              11:15 a.m.    **“Uncommon Worship”**
- T 3/20**    5:30 p.m.    Men’s Emmaus  
              6:30 p.m.    Men’s Bible Study  
              5:30 p.m.    Faithfully Fit Class
- W 3/21**    10:00 a.m.    **“Covering the Book”**  
   Bible Study  
              3:00 p.m.    Praise Too Practice  
              3:20 p.m.    Kingdom Kids  
              4:00 p.m.    Choir Practice  
              5:30 p.m.    Youth Spaghetti Dinner  
              5:30 p.m.    Tech ‘n Check  
              6:00 p.m.    Worship Design  
              6:00 p.m.    Youth
- S 3/25**    9:45 a.m.    **Worship**  
              11:15 a.m.    **“Uncommon Worship”**
- M 3/26**    6:00 p.m.    Staff Meeting
- T 3/27**    5:30 p.m.    Men’s Emmaus  
              6:30 p.m.    Men’s Bible Study  
              5:30 p.m.    Faithfully Fit Class
- W 3/28**    10:00 a.m.    **“Covering the Book”**  
   Bible Study  
              3:00 p.m.    Praise Too Practice  
              4:00 p.m.    Choir Practice  
              5:30 p.m.    Tech ‘n Check  
              6:00 p.m.    Worship Design
- F 3/30**    7:00 p.m.    **Good Friday Service**

## Wednesday Night Dinner

5:30 p.m.



**Easter Dinner  
with all the trimmings!  
Dessert - Beverage**

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

**The church is being lit  
in honor of Albert, Allen and Nancy Hyder  
and to honor Mavis Stickler**

**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*

### **Thank you all for the prayers!**

Special thanks to Wally and Rachel Ewing, Ken and Nancy Bakhaus, Sue Reed and all who helped with the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party. Thanks also to Dena Durante for her special skills and for Pastor Greg's services (except that he didn't bring cake to the hospital when he visited!) We are especially thanking the Holy Spirit – he was here!

Jack and Dee Smith



New Hope UMC has something to be very proud of, and that is the Kingdom Kids program. If you are around on Wednesdays, you see how much fun the kids are having. They are also learning about God!

With our snowbirds away, and the youth growing up and getting jobs, we are struggling to make it through March and April. We need more help! We have a number of people that have committed (Thank you!!!), but with schedules, etc., the staff is spread very thin these days. If you can help us 2-3 hours on Wednesday afternoons, please let us know.

Thank you!

AnnMarie Buchner - 989-621-7681  
Bev Rothenberger - 317-413-7491

## **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 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.

## NEW HOPE 2018 YARD SALE!



YUP, IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN!

JUNE 21, 22, & 23 THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY MORNING

Well by golly, here we are again! New Hope has yet another opportunity to SERVE GOD.

**Join the core yard sale group! OUR TEAM HAS FUN!** Yes, we admit to getting tired, dirty, and (sometimes even a wee bit cranky), but when God pulls it all together (and let us assure you, He does), and blesses the sale with success, it's an awesome feeling of joy that we experience! We have a place for everyone on the team, and we will work with you to use all your skills, while staying within your physical boundaries! We just want you to come, work and have fun preparing for God's fund raiser! Any few minutes you can spare are gratefully accepted. Maybe you have a friend who would like to come and play with us too??? If you can sit down with a pan of soapy water and wash some home décor or kitchen items, clean up an appliance, and plug it in to verify its functionality...dust some books...clean some toys...sort boxes...fill "man" jars with like items (nails/screws/nuts or bolts)...make signs/make pricing stickers...help with publicity...fold linens...combine a couple of donations to form a new marketing look... **YOU ARE THE ONES WE ARE SEARCHING FOR!**

Organizational meeting will happen in early April after Easter Sunday...work and meeting attire is "grab a hat & come as you are"....shower later! Hours will vary. It would be great if we could recruit some extra lifting power from any of you who are able to do so, for pick-up and donation drop off, as many in our congregation no longer possess that ability...that would help soooo much! We RESPECT each level of capability, and will not ask you to exceed yours!

Think about it...pray about it...and watch here for meeting information! God loves you and so do we! COME ON DOWN!!! (PS...START YOUR CLUTTER CLEARING for donations too!)

Blessings....Doug Chapin, Harry Coles, Jr, Jerry Smith, Vivian Smith and our INCREDIBLY DEDICATED CORE TEAM!

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### New District #4

New District #4 will not be an official entity until July 1, 2018, but much work needs to be done in order to facilitate this change! District #4 is one of the new nine Districts in the Michigan Conference. New District #4 includes 92 churches, 80 charges in the middle to west, central part of our state.

***An organizing conference for New District #4 will be held on Sunday, April 22 from 4-5:30pm at Greenville UMC (204 West Cass Street, Greenville, MI 48838). You are invited to attend this important organizing conference! No RSVP's are necessary!***

At the organizing conference leaders will be elected for the following BoD required areas:

1. Superintendency Committee (5-9 persons)
2. District Committee on Ministry (7-12 persons)
3. District Board of Church Location & Building (7-10 people)

And this initial team along with these positions:

1. Vision Team (8-12) persons who will serve as the leadership body as we determine what we need going forward)
2. Lay Leader
3. Treasurer (hopefully a volunteer who can care for the administration of the District budget as all Districts become incorporated)

Also on the agenda will be the selection of a name for District #4. District #4 is comprised of parts of 3 current Districts (Grand Rapids, Grand Traverse, Heartland). Name suggestions may also be forwarded to Liz in the GR District Office at [grdistrict@wmcumc.org](mailto:grdistrict@wmcumc.org) or 616.459.4503.

## HOLY WEEK AT NEW HOPE



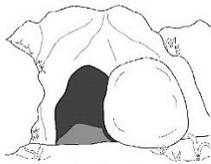
Palm Sunday, March 25, 9:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., we will be continuing their "Recognizing Christ as Our Risen King" series as we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Palm branches from Eco-palms will be used for the service and everyone will be invited to take some home to share. The message will be on how in our lives Jesus deserves the respect of a king.

Good Friday, March 30, 7 p.m., we will be continuing their "Recognizing Christ as Our Risen King" series as we take this solemn evening to remember what Jesus did for us. A last video message from the world's greatest evangelist will be a part of the evening. It's going to be special night as we take the time to remember that only Jesus' death could pay the price we owed. A quiet time of spiritual reflection will end the service.



**GOOD  
FRIDAY**

**HE IS RISEN**



Easter Sunday, April 1, 8:00 a.m., 9:45 a.m., and 11:15 a.m., we will be continuing their "Recognizing Christ as Our Risen King" series as we will celebrate the Risen Christ. The blended services start at 8:00 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. (with hymn sings at 7:45 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.) and our smaller, "uncommon," contemporary service begins at 11:15 a.m. An Easter Breakfast will be served before and after the 9:45 am worship service.

Holy Humor Sunday, April 8, at 9:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., we will be celebrating the "last laugh" that Jesus had over death.

*Holy Humor*

*Thank You*

Thank you to Mark Stanley and the three others that brought cake and ice cream to help celebrate Mark's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday, and to Mrs. Stanley for making the delicious cake.

Thank you,  
Marjory Hyder

Hello New Hope!

Well it's time again for those in need to apply for the holiday food voucher. The forms will be at the Information desk starting the first Sunday of March. If you or someone you know needs help with food for the upcoming holiday, please fill out a form and give it to Don or Nancy Santer or to the Church office. Vouchers will be given out two weeks prior to Easter on April 1st. 2018.

New Hope Missions



# from your pastor's point of view...3-11-18

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

Dear Family and Friends,

This week is our last week on the "Truth About Heaven" series. I am incredibly thankful for all the good conversations, comments, questions, and positive responses to this journey we've taken over this past ten weeks. God has been good! And the Spirit has let us know heaven will be incredible too. It is a great promise in the midst of these crazy days.

And, speaking of such, we've had some crazy days of late. With every-thing happening at CMU last week and everything else "unique" that has happened in our world, homes, and community, crazy may not even begin to describe it!

But here's the good news, this crazy is only temporary. I have it on good authority that we should be getting ready for something even better. ☺

Today, we're talking about getting ready for heaven first, only, and foremost because of God's bodacious Grace, fault-less Truth, and tremendous Love.

*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]*

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

"The Truth About Heaven" series

(*"Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven" pages 281-300*)

### Intro – "Are you ready?"

Remain pure...remember His promises...keep focused on our earthly purpose(s)...keep strong in our faith/profession...and show progress by being ready! (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13)

### How?

(Philippians 4:8-9)

- 1) Grow in searching out God's will.
- 2) Grow in the practice of prayer.
- 3) Grow in committing to God's word.
- 4) Grow through the work of the church.

"May the Lord give you a heart of anticipation, a spirit of optimism, and a fresh determination to take as many people with you to heaven as possible." (David Jeremiah, p. 300)

### Bottom Line & Application

"We can't be sloppy or undisciplined in our thinking anymore. We can't be casual in how we think about life. We have to "roll up the sleeves of our mind" and be tough-minded about life, looking at everything from the perspective of eternity, anticipating the moment when Jesus Christ will be revealed from heaven. If we float along with our culture, we will be victimized by it. We are God's people. We are different. We have a future and a hope." (David Jeremiah, p. 284)

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

#### ***"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)
- March 30 – "The Night Our King Died" – John 19:17-30 (Good Friday 7pm)
- April 1 – "Our King Rose Again" – John 20:1-20 (Easter 8, 9:45, 11:15 am)
- April 8 – "Why Jesus Got the Last Laugh..." – John 16:33, 1 Corin. 1:17-19

*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.*