

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

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Blanchard, MI

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our Sunday bulletin*

September 9, 2018 Stewardship Presence
9:45 a.m. – 83

Tithes and Gifts

General: \$2,465.00

Building: \$212.00

Total: \$2,677.00

**September 16, 2018 – Seventeenth Sunday
after Pentecost/in Kingdomtide**

Loving Father, Redeeming Son, and Holy Spirit: with our every breath, the very air that fills our lungs draws us closer to you. The water, food, and air that keep us alive are gifts from your goodness. Every gift we offer back to you is a result of our use of these basic gifts through your creation. As we bring our gifts to you this morning, remind us once again that the sky, the sea, the ground we walk on, and all the plants and animals are foundational blessings for which you have given us both charge and accountability, not just for our use but for what we leave for the generations that follow. We pray, through your love, that we may be found faithful stewards. In Christ, we pray. Amen. [Psalm 19]

September Administrative Meetings

Pastor Parish – no meeting
Finance — Wed., Sept. 12, 6:30 p.m.
Church Council – Thurs., Sept. 20, 7:00 p.m.
Staff Meeting – Mon., Sept. 24, 6:00 p.m.
Trustees – Thur., Sept. 27, 9:00 a.m.

**SEPTEMBER MINISTRY
OPPORTUNITIES TO REMEMBER**

- S 9/16 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship**
T 9/18 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 9/19 10:00 a.m. "Covering the Book"
Bible Study
2:00 p.m. Worship Design
3:00 p.m. Praise Too Practice
3:20 p.m. Kingdom Kids
3:45 p.m. Tech 'n Check
4:30 p.m. Choir
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper
6:00 p.m. Uncommon Worship
6:00 p.m. Memorial Committee
Th 9/20 7:00 p.m. Church Council
S 9/23 9:45 a.m. Worship
M 9/24 6:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
T 9/25 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
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4:30 p.m. Choir
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Supper
6:00 p.m. Uncommon Worship
T 9/27 9:00 a.m. Trustees



Birthdays this week:

19th – Hailee Lotarski
21st – Nancy Lepkowski
Pastor Greg

Anniversaries this week:

20th – Tom and Sally Nester



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

MISSING: Memorial plaques from the benches in the Memorial Garden.

Please return them or let us know the information on them, we would like to replace them, if necessary.

Thank you,
Carolyn Young and Donna Keefer



Apple Pie Sunday will be September 30!

There will be a table in the Narthex to order your pies every Sunday through the 30th.

Prices remain the same!
\$9 per pie, or \$25 for 3 pies!

HELP! HELP! HELP!

New Hope Local Missions is sponsoring a Mecosta County, Millbrook family who has been without water since early June when their well died. We are asking for your help in raising \$3,250.00 for the drilling of a new well before winter sets in. They have been getting water from neighbors by the bucket.

Please make your donations out to New Hope Local Missions (Well). You can put the donation in the collection plates on Sundays or deliver them to the church office. Also, please do not take anything out of your normal tithing for this donation.

If you need more information, please contact Don Santer, Director of Missions



The United Methodist Men are having a
mum sale!

**Saturday, September 22 from 10a to 2 pm
and again on Sunday, September 23,
after church service.**

**10 inch pots
a variety of colors available
\$10 each.**



If you have questions, see John Durante
or Bob Herndon.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

5:30 P.M.



**BAKED CHICKEN
MASHED POTATOES
& GRAVY
CORN
DESSERT
BEVERAGE**

PUBLIC INVITED --- FREE-WILL OFFERING

Dear New Hope Folks,

Our church conference this year will be 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 28, 2018. At church conferences, everyone has voice, but only church members (18 years and older) have the added responsibility of voting.

Unlike previous years, this will take place at the Heritage United Methodist Church in Pierson, Michigan (19931 West Kendaville Rd, Pierson, MI 49339, 231-937-4310 umheritage.org) instead of New Hope.

We will be leaving the church at 1 p.m. if you wish to carpool. Please be there before that time if possible.

Any questions, please see Pastor Greg.

United Methodist Women

The UMW had a wonderful summer brunch on August 18th. The Director of S.O.S. and the S.O.S. ladies were our special guests. There were twenty nine ladies present.

We are now in the process of planning the October Bazaar. The Bazaar/Bake Sale/Cookie Walk will be Saturday, October 27, from 9 am until 2 pm. If you can help in any way, we'll be so appreciative of your time and talents.

Vendors/Crafts – Betty Stewart
Food/Kitchen – Sue Reed
Cookie Walk – Nancy Santer
Bake Sale – Mary Coles
Cashiers – Annette Coles

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!!!

Submissions for the Newsletter are due
BY OCTOBER 1st

The newsletter will be for the months of November, December and January.
Questions? Contact Gen in the office.



Wish List

Some items are needed for Crocodile Dock!

- ~~Small single jingle bells~~
- ~~2 green twin size bed sheets~~
- Small battery operated tea lights
- Clothes pins (with spring in them)
- Multiple plastic fish (different sizes)
- Bag of small plastic bugs
- Inflated swim ring
- 10-15 small plastic people

Questions or need more information?
Please contact AnnMarie Buchner or
Bev Rothenberger!



Operation Christmas Child

Answered prayers

When Vadik received a backpack in his shoebox gift in a hard-to-reach country, he exclaimed, "Mom! How does God know that I needed a backpack?" With tears of joy in her eyes, she responded, "He knows everything, son." Vadik replied, "It is so good that there is a God!"

from Special Report magazine by Samaritan's Purse

Backpacks make great gifts, but make sure it is not a big, bulky one. It has to fit in a shoebox! With a lightweight, but well-made, backpack and a little planning, it is possible to get other items in also, some that are useful things like pencils or hygiene items, and some for fun like stickers or a small musical instrument.

Celebrate With Us

Families are being reunited. Inmates are leaving jail with a new-found devotion to Jesus Christ.

Their lives are changing. Hear about these triumphs, and help us to continue God's work in Michigan county jails.



Mecosta County Jail

Event Details:

Thursday, September 27

6:00 pm Fellowship

6:30 pm Dinner

**Trinity Fellowship
Evangelical Free Church**

15085 220th Avenue

Big Rapids, Michigan 49307

Registration is required.

**Please contact Larry or Nancy Karcher,
or sign up at the
Information desk in the Narthex.**

RSVP by September 17

(No children please)

Hebrew Word Study Revealing The Heart of God

Insights and explanations of the ancient Hebrew language are shared in the book, Hebrew Word Study, by Christian writer, Chaim Bentorah. This book explores the scriptures of the Old Testament from the Hebrew scholars who wrote it in the first place! Dick Wheeler hopes to inspire and amaze us as he was when he read this book. He asks, "How many of us have read scripture from the Old Testament and while we knew what it said, we really had no idea what it meant?"

Join us in this new Bible study starting Sunday, October 7, at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please let Dick know you are interested in this study and he will give you the first scripture assignment. He can be reached at 231-250-0214, or emailed at dwids@charter.net.

EMPTY
IS THE NEW
FULL



Women's Bible Study—Begins October 1

Mondays at 7pm

@ New Hope 7296 9 Mile Rd., Mecosta

RSVP by September 21 to Gen—231 972 7542 or 231 972 2838

Cost is \$15 for materials

Our plates are full, piled high and spilling over with commitments, responsibilities, and activities. Schedule-driven living leaves us empty and spent in all the wrong ways. But emptying our schedule for Sabbath offers fullness that helps us move from day to day with more peace, more joy, and more opportunity to *Breathe*.

lifeway.com/breathe



EXPLORE

from your pastor's point of view 9-16-18

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

Tackling This Subject Again...

I expect that for most of us, this will be a review, but it's a good review! Giving is essential to exploring a deeper faith.

God's Word is Full of Giving

God is a great giver and He's looking for other givers! In the Bible.... "believe" – mentioned 272 times; "pray" – 371 times; "love" – 714 times; "give" – 2162 times. [total words: 700,000+]

(source: Rick Warren's *40 Days of Community* - Bible versions will vary! 😊)

A Giving Commitment Prayer

"Father I know you love me and want what's best for me. I recognize that all I have, or every will have, comes from You. I want to please you more than owning more. I want You to have first place in my life.

So, I will strive to tithe, as You have requested, out of gratitude for all You've done for me. In expectation that You will continue to provide for me, I want to begin investing for eternity.

Help me to remain cheerful and faithful in my giving. Make it a habit in my life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

"Developing the Habit of Gifts"

(Mark 12:41-44, Luke 6:38)

All scriptures NIV unless noted.

Intro – "The healthier we are, the more unafraid we are to give. Giving simply makes us happy." (Dr. Carl Menninger)

I – We Give Because We See the Need To...

not just because we have to!

God gave so He wants us to give. (John 3:16)

Giving to God draws us closer to God. (Matthew 6:21)

Giving is the antidote to materialism. (I Timothy 6:16-18)

Giving strengthens our faith. (Proverbs 3:5-10)

Giving is an eternal investment. (I John 2:24-25)

Giving blesses the giver. (Matthew 6:4, 10:42 – Luke 6:38)

Giving makes us happy. (Acts 20:35)

II – The Best Way is to Strive For the Tithe and Beyond...

Below are eight Biblical reasons in God's word for tithing. Look them up and see what God is trying to say to you.

God commands tithing. – Leviticus 27:30

Jesus commended tithing. – Matthew 23:23

Tithing demonstrates that God has priority in my life. –
Deuteronomy 14:23

Tithing reminds me that everything was given to me by
God. – Deuteronomy 8:18

Tithing expresses my gratitude. – Psalm 116:12,
Deuteronomy 16:17

God says that refusing to tithe is stealing from Him. –
Malachi 3:8-10

Tithing gives God a chance to prove He exists and wants to
bless me. – Malachi 3:10

Tithing proves that I really love God. – John 14:15,
2 Corinthians 8:7-8

Bottom Line – Make a commitment and then stick with it!

UPCOMING MESSAGES – 9:45 am (starting Sept. 2 only one service)

"Exploration" Message Series - thru November 25

Starting September 12, "uncommon" serv. starts on Wed. nights 6 pm.

Sept 23 – "Developing the Habit of Service" (Matt. 23:11, I Chron.28:9)

Sept 30 – "Developing the Habit of Witness" (2 Timothy 1:7-8)

Oct 7 – "Shaped with Spiritual Gifts" (I Corin. 12:1-7, Romans 12:6-8)

Oct. 14 – "Shaped with our Heart & Abilities" (James 1:16-22)

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.