

## New Hope Presbyterian Mission Statement

We seek to fulfill Christ's greatest commandment to love God with heart, soul, mind and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves, by assuaging the hunger of our neighbors and ourselves for food, fellowship, and faith to satisfy the body's longing for sustenance, the heart's longing for belonging and the spirit's longing for connection with the Triune God, revealed to us most fully in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



The whole family of New Hope would like to say "Thank YOU" to **Krissy Parker** for all the wonderful things she does and the love that she shows the children that spend Sunday mornings with her! The parents are able to enjoy their worship time knowing that their children are in such good hands.

We also want to thank **Gerry and Don Kaller** for all of their hard work and organization in keeping the Nursery stocked and running smoothly. There are so many behind the scenes details that are taken care of by them because of the love they have for New Hope and it's ministry.



For 6 weeks in May and June, we'll dive deeply into Rick Warren's *Purpose Driven Life*. This classic has been recently updated and invites us into the deeper waters of discipleship. Sunday worship will be based upon one week of the book, and the congregation is invited to participate by using the book daily for devotional purposes. More information will follow. See Keith or Andy Sanislo if you have questions.



Polly Anna Black made a final request before her death in July 2013. She asked that any money left in her estate be given to New Hope Presbyterian in honor of the women who took care of her during her final journey in this life. A check has been given to the Presbyterian Women of New Hope so that they can continue their mission work. This last act of kindness is Polly's way of saying, "Thank You."

### Elder of the Month

Hank Saeger

#### STAFF

Pastor  
Rev. Keith W. Jones

Music Director  
Janet Sump

Organist  
Larisa Abrahamyan

Office Secretary  
Debbie Cessna



# Pastor's Page

April 2014



Friends in Christ, If you're like me, your mind is constantly on the move. It jumps from one thing to the next, searching out things to ponder or rabbit trails to fol-

low, allowing distractions to push in. Every once in a while, I'll pull into a parking lot and realize that my mind was so preoccupied with something that I have no memory of actually driving the car. Clearly a part of my mind brought me here, but it did it without my knowing.

I don't know if there has ever been an age where people were so readily distracted. I can easily catch up on the news from the other side of the world without much effort. Want to know how the Australian effort to find a Malaysian Airlines plane that was manufactured in Seattle is going? It doesn't take long to find out. If there aren't any compelling news stories, there are plenty of advertisements trying to lure our attention away. No, I wasn't hungry, but yes, that

hamburger looks delicious. I'll have two, please. Where was I?

In this day and age, it takes a constant will to live under the easy yoke of Christ. Christ promises to give us his peace, but we have to will ourselves to attend to his calling, and it's a struggle to turn away from so many distractions and consciously focus on his grace and voice. Over the years there have been many spiritual mentors who have chronicled their efforts to help others. Books like *The Imitation of Christ*, *Mansions of the Heart* and *The Cost of Discipleship* can help us in our own endeavors to pursue Christ with our hearts, minds and bodies.

In May and June, we'll have the opportunity to join together in Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life*. In April, we're simply going to marvel at the glory of the resurrected Christ. We'll join in song and worship, and we hope that the joy of Easter will drive us to want to know more, to serve more, to love more, and hopefully we can gather to be strengthened and go forth to serve.

In Christ,  
Keith

New Hope Presbyterian Church

# The New Hope News

## April Sermon Titles

04/06/14 - Prison Break II  
Acts 16:16-40

04/13/14 - Palm Sunday  
Handbells/Youth Choir

04/20/14 - Resurrection!  
Cantata  
Matthew 28:1-10

04/27/14 - The Unknown God  
Acts 17:16-34

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## New Hope Session Highlights

The following items were discussed at the March 2nd meeting:

- New perspective members were examined by the Session and approved for membership.
- The annual Presbytery Statistical Report was approved.
- The clerk presented a report of building use requests that were approved since the last Session meeting.
- The Session recommended that the Administrative committee revise building use guidelines.
- Session had a discussion of how caregivers can identify and address congregants who have not been in church for an extended period of time.
- The proposed Session meeting schedule was discussed. The schedule is tentative and subject to change.
- Keith talked about the April 2 **Jews for Jesus** presentation.
- The new elders submitted brief statements of faith and were examined by Session.
- The Worship Committee is suggesting that unleavened bread be used in the Maundy Thursday service.
- Lizz Savard discussed the Presbytery Meeting February 22nd.
- Troy Ivey presented a preliminary budget report as of February 24, 2014
- Session was reminded about the budget shortfall and the need to watch spending carefully.
- Pastor Keith discussed the Presbytery marriage initiative. He discussed the curriculum and presenting it to the congregation.
- Trinity church will be closing on Easter Sunday. – Congregants may visit us as they look for a new church home.

The next Session meeting will be May 4, 2014.

Submitted by: Peter Savard  
Clerk of Session

## NEW HOPE ON THE WEB

New Hope Church has a new online home. Our website has been completely revised. It is all about providing you with the latest information about what is happening at New Hope. Go to the site to look for:

- ✓ a link to Keith's daily blog
- ✓ a list of this week's activities and times at church
- ✓ a list of current sermon topics with links to the appropriate Bible selections
- ✓ notices of current special projects and events
- ✓ current and past newsletters which are available in the Info Center along with current news from PW and other church groups
- ✓ a complete and up to date calendar showing all events and groups meeting here

Eventually we would like to put together photo albums of special events and church activities. Our goal here is to create a site that would not only provide information to prospective new members, but also provide up to date, useful information for our present members. Check it out at [www.NewHopeChattanooga.org](http://www.NewHopeChattanooga.org) and let us know what you think. If you have comments or would like to have something posted on our site, please send the information to Debbie ([newhope@epbf.com](mailto:newhope@epbf.com)) or Peter ([pgsavard@gmail.com](mailto:pgsavard@gmail.com)).



## My 2 Cents A MEAL



2 Cents

The next 2-Cents-A-Meal collection will be April 6th. Your spare change is used to purchase items to help fill the sack packs for East Brainerd Elementary! Our goal is to put more food in each sack, so your generosity is greatly appreciated.



The response for our Purse Ministry has been tremendous (20 or more at this time) and we will be ready to present the filled purses to the Chattanooga Room in the Inn soon. We are grateful for the generosity of everyone that donated! PW provided dinner for the residents at Chattanooga Room in the Inn on March 24<sup>th</sup>. We will provide lunch for UTC Campus Ministries, 808 Hope, on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The group of students continues to grow and we are now providing for 70+ people. It is exciting to see the increased participation. PW will host the state meeting of Church Women United on April 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. We will provide refreshments during registration as well as dinner on Friday and breakfast on Saturday. The annual PW Spring Gathering will be held on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, at Erin Presbyterian Church in Knoxville. The theme is "Doors of Opportunity" and keynote speaker, Kathy Reeves, Mission Associate from Louisville, will talk about the PW Mission Experience to Appalachia in June 2013. *The registration deadline is April 16<sup>th</sup>, so if you would like to attend, please let Marilyn Suber know. Cost is \$8 for lunch and we can car pool to Knoxville.*

### Coming up soon...

Mon. April 7 12:00 Noon PW Board Meeting  
Tues. April 8 10:00 am Circle meeting & brunch

We invite all the women of New Hope to join us at our April 8th meeting to enjoy the food, fellowship and Bible study.

## Easter Lily Sale



On Sunday, March 30th an order form will be available on the table in the Narthex for those wishing to purchase an Easter Lily in memory or honor of loved ones. The cost is \$7.00 a plant. You may place your payment in the envelope provided.



New Hope applied for and received recertification as a

PCUSA Earth Care Congregation through January 2015. This is our 3rd year to be certified, and we are one of two certified congregations in the Presbytery of East Tennessee. New Hope qualified for this distinction by intentionally doing activities throughout the past year to act as a steward of God's earth. We completed tasks in the areas of worship, education, facilities and outreach, such as recycling paper and plastic, using washable communion cups, maintaining a meditation labyrinth, donating used materials to Habitat ReStore, holding VBS with an earth care emphasis, installing a tankless water heater, and planting trees to name a few. This is all good work, but we need to continue and expand our efforts. If you have any ideas about ways to make us even 'greener', or projects you could suggest to be better stewards of our earth and resources, please speak to or email Rosie Sanislo. An Earth Care Task Force committee meeting will be held soon. All are welcome to participate.



## Easter Egg Hunt

This year's Easter Egg Hunt will be on Easter Sunday, April 20th at 10:00am! Weather

permitting, it will be held on the playground and surrounding

area. Bring the kids and their baskets! We are currently collecting **plastic eggs** and **goodies** with which to fill them (If you would like to drop them off already filled, that would be appreciated as well). Please **NO** chocolate. There will be a collection box in the Narthex for easy donating. If you have any questions or would like to help fill eggs or hide them, please contact Ashley Gerskin at [AandMGerskin@gmail.com](mailto:AandMGerskin@gmail.com)

