

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a saviour, which is Christ the Lord
 Luke 2:11

December 2014

The New Hope News

PASTORAL WORDS

LIFE as usual means life moving along. There is a relentless 'pushing on' to creation that carries us with it to (literally) 'God only knows where'.

THAT is clearly evident in our life together at New Hope these days. The committee to find the next pastor has begun it's work. Soon you will elect a congregational nominating committee to suggest a class of elders for 2016. This Advent season points us all towards our celebration of Jesus' birth. Life pushes us forward into God's future.

OF course all that is not without concerns and apprehensions. The future is never clear. Not even tomorrow is clear to us on a personal level, despite all our careful plans. In this trembling, fragile, rapidly changing world, it is normal to feel concern and apprehension.

THIS season offers Biblical comfort in bold words, "*O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love*" (Psalm 130:7, NIV). The words point us beyond the temptation to think we can control tomorrow.

HOPE is a crucial part of our faith. It enables us to live calmly even in the midst of change and uncertainty. No time of year points us toward hope more than Advent.

MY word to you this season could be nothing better than Paul's words to the believers in Rome. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Rom. 15:13, NIV)

Pastor Frank Jump

New Hope Presbyterian Church



Advent is a season of anticipation for we Christians. We mark the season with special music and the lighting of our Advent wreath, one more candle each of the four Sundays.

December 7th - Communion

December 14th - Children's presentation

December 21st - Christmas Cantata

December 24th - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:00pm.

Jacob Geerlings will be the Worship Leader

Please make a special effort to join us in worship this Advent season. Rekindle your hope with us at New Hope.

Congregational Meeting

There will be a brief congregational meeting following the worship service on December 14th. The purpose of this meeting is twofold.

1. To suspend bylaw articles 4.2, 4.3, and 4.7. These articles govern the size of the Session and the terms of Session members.
2. Elect the Nominating Committee. This committee will nominate candidates for the Session class of 216.

Inside This Edition

Wed. Night Bible Study	2
Get Involved	2
Session Highlights	2
PW News	3
Think Green	3
Pastor Nominating Comm	3
Newest Member!	4

NEW HOPE SESSION NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were discussed at the Session Meeting held on November 9, 2014:

- ✎ Electing a new Nominating Committee. It was decided that the current committee had graciously taken on more than their original responsibility and a new committee should be elected. Session would like to extend its sincere thanks to committee members Rosie Sanislo, Lizz Savard, Bert Piatt, Dewey French and Dorothy Taj.
- ✎ The size of the Session. There was discussion of the number of Session members. It was felt that 12 is too many members. It was finally decided that 9 members is a more workable number.
- ✎ The organization of Session committees. The number of committees, committee names and involvement of congregation members was discussed. It was decided that further discussion would continue at the next Session meeting although change may be more appropriate after the new pastor is in place.
- ✎ Buildings & Grounds committee reported that a fraudulent purchase was made at Lowes on our Suntrust card. The card has been reissued and the purchase has been credited.
- ✎ The worship committee presented a schedule of supply pastors to cover Frank's absences in November and December. The list includes; Tricia Dillon Thomas on 11/23, Henry Paris on 11/30, Jacob Geerlings on 12/24, Don Grohman on 12/30 and Henry Paris on 1/4.
- ✎ The Strengthening committee reminded everyone of the Thanksgiving dinner. They also reported that Lynne Brock, Shaun Townley and Mary McMillan are putting together a remembrance video to mark our 40th anniversary.
- ✎ The Youth committee reported that a new Sunday School curriculum has been purchased.
- ✎ Rev. Jump submitted a written report outlining his activities over the past two months.



The next Session meeting will be December 7, 2014.

Submitted by: Peter Savard, Clerk

TIME TO GET INVOLVED

The Pastor Nominating Committee has met and begun the journey that will lead us to calling a new pastor for New Hope. Over the next few months we will be pursuing the path that God has set for us, but we cannot do it alone. On December 7th we will be asking the congregation (you) to provide us with some incite as to what you feel is important, or not important, to consider as we look at pastoral candidates. We will gather this information back on December 14th.

This is YOUR church and it is vitally important that we consider everyone's thoughts as we move through this process. Please take a few minutes and seriously consider the things that you feel are important in our next pastor.

We will be updating the congregation periodically so that you know how the process is proceeding.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

The Pastor Nominating Committee



Thank you for the good initial response to the Session's request for indications of support in 2015. Many responded on November 16th with their "estimate of giving" cards.

The cards can be presented any Sunday in the offering or they may be mailed to the church. If you have not yet responded, please continue to prayerfully consider how you can support New Hope in 2015.



"Three Nights in Corinth - A Biblical Cruise". The Greek city of Corinth had a culture much like the one we live in today. Paul's letters to the Christians in that city will be the subject for Rev. Jump's Bible Study the first three Wednesdays in December. The study begins at 6:30pm. Dinner is provided on the second Wednesday, December 10th, (cost is \$4 per person/\$15 for families) and you are encouraged to bring your own food on the 3rd and 17th.



The committee elected to search out and nominate our next pastor, held their first meeting on November 20th. The Rev. Judd Shaw, our General Presbyterian, outlined their work and the process they will follow.

Members of the committee are: Lynne Brock, Jon Geerlings, Beth Hibbard, Gerai Kocher, Peter Savard, Erin Townley, JoAn Wright and Ron Young. The committee has selected Ron Young as the chair person and Peter Savard as secretary. The Rev. Sandra Winter will be the liaison person from the Presbytery to meet with and advise the committee. The nominating process is not quick. Be patient and keep these people in your prayers as they work to discern that person who will be our next pastor. They will report to us regularly as their work progresses.



In my travels west to the canyon lands areas in September, I dined in a national park restaurant that did not offer drinking straws in their beverages. Why not, you ask? When it comes to being more environmentally conscious, most of us do not think twice about the little plastic disposable straw. First developed in the 1960s, plastic straws became an item of convenience, so what is the problem? Every day in the US, we use 500 million straws—enough to fill over 46,400 large school buses PER YEAR! It turns out that straws are among the Top 10 marine debris items, and plastic constitutes 90% of all trash floating in the world's oceans. This is dangerous for all marine life and sea birds. We are killing our planet with waste that does not biodegrade.

Next time you are in a restaurant, decline to use a plastic straw with your drink. Cut back on your use of straws if you can. When it comes to lessening our environmental impact and leaving a softer footprint, every action counts! Read more about it at bestraw-free.org. The movement was started by an eleven-year-old boy concerned about our plastic use!

Thanks from Rosie and the Earth Care Team



We had a great response to our PW Birthday Offering. We collected \$1,270.00 and it will be used to fund mission projects. **THANK YOU!**

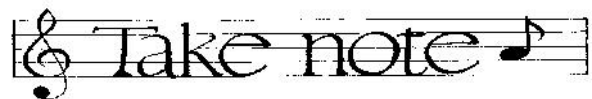
We appreciate the donations made to the Chattanooga Area Food Bank. On Tuesday, November 18th we packed sack packs at the Food Bank with the assistance of Don Kaller, Peter and Lizz Savard, Dixie Saeger and Cheri Perry. We put together 360 bags for the "Feed the Children" project!

ON MONDAY, **December 1st** the PW Officer's will hold their board meeting at 12:00 noon in the McMillan Building.

THE PW CIRCLE will be getting together on Tuesday, **December 9th** at the home of Teena Bledsoe at 10:00am. All the ladies are invited to join us for this special treat! Please let Teena know if you will be attending.

On Wednesday, December 10th the PW will be hosting a Chili Cook-Off. Please dig out your favorite recipe and join us. Cost is \$4.00 per person, but no charge for those who cook chili. We will have a prize for the best chili.

On Thursday, December 18th we will be going to "Beyond the Garden Gate" in Ooltewah. All ladies of the church are invited. Please RSVP to Teena Bledsoe by the 14th.



Advent Happenings

- 11/30 Music by: Gary & Colleen Smith
Advent Readers: The Patrick Family
- 12/07 Carol Medley/Handbell Choir
Advent Readers: The Townley Family
- 12/14 Youth Musical
"Christmas Around The World"
Advent Readers: The Ivey Family
- 12/21 Adult Choir & Youth Choir
"Light In The Stable"
Advent Readers: The Brumfield Family
- 12/24 Advent Readers: The Talley Family



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.

New Hope's Newest Member



Caroline "Carol" Green

I was born in McDonogh, MD, on Nov. 3, 1926. I graduated from Annapolis High School and Towson State College in 1949. I taught school for four years and in 1953 married Jim

Green the day he graduated from the Naval Academy.

Jim and I raised four children, Jim, Linda, Bob and Jane. During most of the Navy time, Jim was in the submarine service ending up on the Nuclear Submarine Skipjack. In 1961, he left the service and came to work with TVA. I was involved mostly with neighborhood affairs, Grey Ladies and community committees; we were both involved with Presbyterian Church activities. We moved to Chattanooga in 1977. After Jim retired we moved to Santee, SC, a small town community where we both were involved with the Bradford Village doings. Jim did a lot of gardening and mowing and I was very active

in the Garden Club. We moved back to Chattanooga when Jim was diagnosed with Progressive Supra Nuclear Palsy. He passed away in 2009. Our younger son passed away in 2011 with liver cancer.

My tremendous faith in the Almighty has been my strength in dealing with sadness. I spend a lot of time with people in Creekside who need a smile, hug, or pat on the back. It's amazing how people can be ignored. Those are the ones I am drawn to.

I feel blessed to have found a church like New Hope - it feels like home.

Carol Green



Thanks to all who contributed 192 Christmas cards / stamped envelopes for the patients at Walter Reed Hospital to send to their loved ones and friends. We



especially appreciate Lynne Brock, Sarah Ivey, the Tabor children, and Melinda Lowe for preparing and mailing the 64 bundles.

Outreach Committee



New Hope women are invited to attend the Church Women United meeting on Friday, December 5th, at 10:30am at Rivermont Presbyterian Church. Gifts of socks and toiletries will be received for clients of the Community Kitchen.

For more information please see Mary McMillan or Marilyn Suber.

Elder of the Month

Jon Geerlings

STAFF

Interim Pastor
Rev. Frank Jump

Music Director
Janet Sump

Organist
Larisa Abrahamyan

Office Secretary
Debbie Cessna

7301 Shallowford Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421

Phone: (423)892-0853 / Fax: (423) 892-0368

NewHope@epbfi.com / NewHopeChattanooga.org