



July/August 2014

The New Hope News

Looking at the Upcoming Transition...

One of the first things members learn about the Presbyterians is that we are a "Connectional Church." That is certainly the case in the process of selecting a new pastor. I am Rev. Sandy Winter and I will be your "connection" (liaison) to the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM) during the search process. I am pleased that I will be walking along beside you during this time and hope that I can be helpful. I was ordained in 1980 and have served churches in Northern California and Tuscaloosa, Alabama. In 2006 I retired to Chattanooga, because I have a son and grandchildren here. I preached at New Hope once – the Sunday before Keith became your pastor!

So what lies ahead?

Two important things will happen shortly. 1) The Committee selected to work with Judd Shaw (our General Presbyterian) on locating an Interim will make that selection. Soon you will have an interim minister in place. 2) There will be a Called Congregational Meeting to elect your Pastor Nominating Committee. (PNC) This is the committee that will do the work of nominating a new pastor. They will have periodic congregational meetings to update you on their process, but the specifics of their work need to be confidential.

When the PNC is in place, you will go through the process of a congregational mission study, looking at where you have been and where you are, but more to the point, *where you want to go* as a church. Don't be tempted to just hurry and fill in the blanks on the Mission Study. It will be of great help to you as well as to those who consider coming to New Hope. The remainder of the process will include gathering names of potential candidates, studying their information, narrowing the list, interviewing some, inviting someone to meet with the committee and preach in a "neutral pulpit" (i.e. not New Hope.) At some point the PNC will present a candidate to the congregation. And the congregation takes the vote!

If you are not on the PNC, *do not feel left out*. One thing you can do is to support them by not asking them to give you information that they have to keep confidential. And especially, don't rush them! In this process *it is much more important to be careful and intentional than it is to be in a hurry*. The most important thing is your prayers - keep the committee members and the candidates being considered as well as the entire process in your prayers!

Rev. Sandy Winter

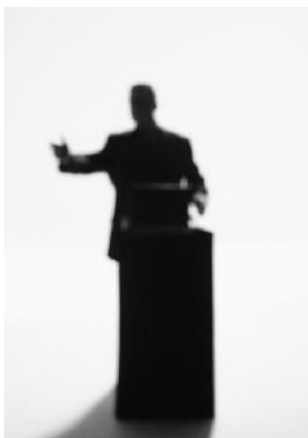
Guest Preachers

07/06 Rev. Don Kaller

07/13 Rev. Judd Shaw

07/20 Jacob Geerlings

07/27 Rev. Carol Howard Merritt



Inside This Edition

Thinking Green	2
Potluck	2
Session Highlights	2
PW News	3
Bible Study	3
Pastor Nominating Comm.	3
2-Cents-A-Meal	4



Remember to give your comments and suggestions about the *Purpose Driven Life* to Andy Sanislo or you may drop them off at the Church Office.



Green Consumption

According to a resource called Enough for Everyone (part of the Presbyterian Hunger Program; www.pcusa.org/justliving), a major contributor to the global environmental crisis is human consumption. While consumption is necessary, overconsumption and wasteful consumption are not, and should be minimized. Each positive change we make carries global implications and honors God.

Let's start by questioning our consumption: So much of what we buy on a regular basis is suggested through advertising, which creates the illusion of need. Before making a purchase, turn to God and ask: "Is this something I need? Do I need it now, or can I wait until I find a more sustainable option? Is this something I can use multiple times? Is the packaging biodegradable, recyclable, or will it pollute creation by remaining in a landfill? How long do I expect this item to last and what will I do with it once it can no longer be used? Is there a more sustainable option, a more ecologically friendly option or an option that was produced locally?"



Being a savvy consumer is being a green-thinking consumer.

From the Earth Care Team

New Hope Session Highlights

The following items were discussed at the Session Meeting held on June 8, 2014:

- ♦ Judd Shaw, the head presbyter, was present to discuss Keith leaving New Hope and the process of finding a new pastor.
- ♦ Keith's last day will be Sunday, June 29th. His last day in the office will be Wednesday, June 25th.
- ♦ Session appointed a committee to work with Judd to locate an interim pastor. The committee consists of Andy Sanislo, Marilyn Suber and Lizz Savard.
- ♦ Coverage for Sunday worship has been arranged through the end of July.
- ♦ Session has called a Congregational Meeting on July 6th to request the Presbytery to dissolve the relationship with Keith.
- ♦ The Buildings & Grounds committee submitted its reports prior to the meeting. There was no further discussion.
- ♦ Troy Ivey submitted a financial report for March and April.

The next Session meeting will be July 30, 2014.

Submitted by: Peter Savard, Clerk



Join us the last Sunday of the month, July 27th following our worship service for a potluck Dinner in the McMillan Building!

The church will provide the beverages.
Please bring a dish to share.

It's a great time to have a delicious meal and wonderful fellowship!

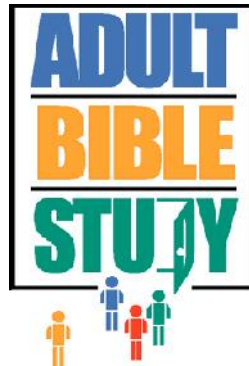




PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In a few short months our congregation will need to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee, whose duty it will be to nominate a new pastor for election by the congregation. The process of calling a new pastor is an adventure, and an opportunity to uniquely serve God and New Hope. Please pray about how you can contribute your time and talents. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please speak to me or contact me by email.

Thank you,
Rosie Sanislo
Chair of 2013 Nominating Committee



Upcoming Sunday Night Adult Studies & Discussions

Sunday Night Adult Studies and Discussions will begin again in mid-August from 6:15 - 7:30pm.

Currently planned studies are:

- 1) **Purpose Driven Life** - review of each week's topics (six weeks)
- 2) **Mere Christianity** - C.S. Lewis study of the classics (six weeks)

See Andy Sanislo for more information, to indicate your interest and to sign up.



Presbyterian Women

Nurture Faith, Support Mission, Work for Justice & Peace, & Build Community

The women at New Hope, as well as friends and family, enjoyed a delicious lunch on Tuesday, June 10th, at **The Chocolate Therapy Factory** in Chickamauga, GA. We have pictures posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex so you can see some of the lovely decor and the smiles on our faces as we enjoyed our time together and the great food.

Our PW Birthday celebration and special offering taken on June 8th was generously supported by our New Hope Family and we are so pleased to report that the amount received was \$1,059.00! As you know, this money will go to support the **Blue Corn Mothers Alliance** of Albuquerque, NM, that provides a wide range of services for Albuquerque's Native American women who experience domestic violence. What a joy it is for us to respond to God's call to reach out in love to others in need. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously.

Our Horizons Bible Study starting in September will be ***Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians*** by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty. Books are now available at \$9 each for anyone wishing to spend some time this summer previewing the study. Please see Marilyn when you wish to purchase a book.

Women of the Bible - a dramatic presentation by Anita Gutschick will be back in the Chattanooga area on Saturday, August 23, 2014, 9 am - 2 pm, at the Clear Creek Church of Christ in Hixson. The program is titled, **"Women of the Bible, They Are Just Like Us."** Cost of the event is \$5 and will cover lunch. Several New Hope women attended one of Anita Gutschick's performances at Rivermont Presbyterian Church in January and loved it. Anyone interested in attending should contact Marilyn or Gerai so that reservations may be made early; this is an opportunity you will not want to miss. *"Come and be challenged to look deep within yourself, and see how faith can strengthen your life and relationships."*

Coming up soon:

July 8 Lunch at **The Cookie Jar Café** in Dayton, TN
Carpool from New Hope at 10:30 a.m.

Aug. 12 Lunch - TBD - *Perhaps at a tea room in Hixson*



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.

My Two Cents

Your pennies really add up! Your offering of .02¢ for every meal adds up to \$1.80 per person per month!

Our next 2-Cents-A-Meal collection will be July 13th.

No loose change? No problem!
Folding money gladly accepted.

Thank you for your continued generosity in support of Sack Packs for East Brainerd Elementary!



Thank You. For the encouragement. For the support. For the ways you have graciously included our family in your lives. For the time and energy you pour into Christ's church. For the times we

have worshiped together. For the opportunities to break bread together. For being patient with me. For your kindness. For the countless ways in which you have exhibited the kingdom of God at work in our lives and the world around us. For the many blessings you have rained upon us.

Thank you.

Most of all, for the love you have shown to us. We will carry you in our hearts forever, and we are immensely honored and humbled by the opportunity to serve here and the chance to count you all as friends. We have experienced so many blessings here, and our lives are richer for our time here at New Hope.

Thank you.

With love,
Keith, Rachel, Caleb & Danielle

Elder of the Month

July - Lloyd Hoover

August - Ron Young

STAFF

Music Director
Janet Sump

Organist
Larisa Abrahamyan

Office Secretary
Debbie Cessna