

## 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.



### Presbyterian Women

**Officer Meeting** - Monday, March 6 at 11am, McMillan Building  
**Circle Meeting** - Thursday, March 9 at 10am, McMillan Building  
**Circle Meeting** - Tuesday, March 14 at 2pm, Morning Pointe

### Church Women United

"Church Women United is an ecumenical expression through which Protestant, Orthodox and Roman Catholic women may express the ecumenical dimensions of their faith and work. The purpose is to encourage church women to come together in a visible fellowship to witness their faith in Jesus Christ as divine Lord and Savior, and enabled by His Spirit to go out together into every neighborhood and nation as instruments of His reconciling love."

Meetings start at 10:30 a.m. with registration at 10 a.m.

**March 3, 2017 - World Day of Prayer - "Am I Being Unfair to You?"**  
 New Zion Baptist Church, 809 E. M. L. King Blvd.

**April 7, 2017 - General Meeting**  
 Phillips Temple, C.M.E., 1321 N. Moore Road

**May 5, 2017 - May Friendship Day "Kindling New Fires of Love"**  
 followed by Potluck Salad Luncheon  
 \*\*New Hope Presbyterian\*\*, 7301 Shallowford Road



### 100 Days of Prayer

The Church Women United invite you to join them in **Praying for the Nation Campaign** January 20-April 30. For more information, please visit [www.churchwomen.org](http://www.churchwomen.org)



CHATTANOOGA AREA  
**FOOD BANK**

**Thank you** to Sack Packers Cheri Perry, Hank Saeger, Andy & Rosie Sanislo who filled 360 sacks for hungry children on February 21. That's one whole pallet, plus 1/5 of another one! Special thanks to Hank who kept the supply line filled.

### Add your voice to the Church Choir!

All are invited to join us for special anthems on Palm Sunday and/or Easter Sunday. We will rehearse on Sundays after fellowship time for 30 minutes for 3-4 weeks prior to each anthem.



*thank you* We Piatts appreciate so very much the warm outreach provided by our New Hope family in the passing of our beloved family member, Nellie Shirley. Kind words, shared remembrances, loving smiles, touching cards, caring telephone calls, a respectful memorial service, and a beautiful post-service reception have done so much to uplift our grieving family and help us on our way to living without our precious loved one. We have certainly received all these things in abundance. Heartfelt thanks to each of you!



March 2017

# The New Hope News

## Candace's Pastoral Ponders...

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 109-110)

The Lenten journey from the ashes of death to resurrected life begins on the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, which signifies a time to turn around, to change directions, to repent. This first day of Lent reminds us that unless we are willing to die to our old selves, we cannot be raised to new life with Christ. The first step of this journey calls us to acknowledge and confront our mortality, individually and corporately. In many traditions, this is symbolized through the imposition of ashes — placing a cross on one's forehead. During the imposition of ashes the words: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19) are repeated again and again. We are to remember that we are but temporary creatures, always on the edge of death. On Ash Wednesday, we begin our Lenten trek through the desert toward Easter.

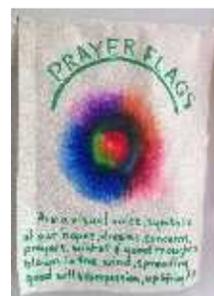
Ashes on the forehead is a sign of our humanity and a reminder of our mortality. Lent is not a matter of being good, and wearing ashes is not to show off one's faith. The ashes are a reminder to us and our communities of our finite creatureliness. The ashes we wear on our Lenten journey symbolize the dust and broken debris of our lives as well as the reality that eventually each of us will die.



Trusting in the "accomplished fact" of Christ's resurrection, however, we listen for the Word of God in the time-honored stories of the church's Lenten journey. We follow Jesus into the wilderness, resist temptation, fast, and proceed "on the way" to Jerusalem and the cross. Our Lenten journey is one of *metanoia* ("turning around"), of changing directions from self-serving toward the self-giving way of the cross.



This Wednesday, March 1st, is the start of this year's 40 day Lenten Journey. Though not widely practiced in the Presbyterian Church until recently, Lent provides a time to reflect and grow closer to God. Many Christians use practices called 'spiritual disciplines' as a means to growth, especially during Lent. On Wednesday night the adults and on Sunday afternoon the youth will embark on an exploration of Lenten disciplines. Some of these may seem familiar to you such as fasting and prayer or reading scripture while others will be new. Nathan Hale writes, "The spiritual disciplines are means by which individuals and communities can very literally 'practice' their faith. They are tools by which Christians seek to know God, yield to the Holy Spirit's sanctifying power, and surrender to the Divine Will in their lives. The disciplines can be instrumental tools as we seek to 'tune' ourselves to God's desires and see his kingdom as he sees it. These holy actions have been practiced by believers since the earliest times, and they are firmly rooted in Christ's commands and examples in the Gospels." We shall also explore some other Lenten traditions like baking pretzels, making icons, walking the labyrinth, and praying with the aid of beads. (The modern English word bead is derived from the Anglo-Saxon *bede* which means prayer.) So come out and deepen your faith as you encounter God not just through your intellect, but also through all your other senses.



New Hope Presbyterian Church

### STAFF

**Pastor**  
 Rev. Candace Worth

**Organist**  
 Larisa Abrahamyan

**Secretary**  
 Leslie Burton

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## THINKING GREEN

While I was reviewing some Earth Care materials provided by the Environmental Ministries Program of the PC(USA), I discovered a wonderful website exploding with interesting and useful information put out by the United Nations. A huge movement is now underway all over the world to meet the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals - goals to transform our world by ending poverty, protecting the planet, and ensuring prosperity for all. "Governments, businesses, and civil society together with the United Nations have started to mobilize efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Agenda by year 2030. Universal, inclusive, and indivisible, the Agenda calls for action by all countries to improve the lives of people everywhere." All facets of living on this planet are covered; each of the 17 goals are clearly stated, supported by facts and figures, and action plans to achieve the goals. There is even a section called "Take Action" or "The Lazy Person's Guide to Saving the World." Good to know that each of us can be part of the global solution by adopting some simple things into our daily routines! Check out the lists. I urge you to visit this interesting website, [www.un.org](http://www.un.org), and be amazed at the vision of a better world for everyone all over the earth. Watch for some of the UN materials to be posted on the Earth Care bulleting board in the Narthex.



For the Earth Care Team,  
Rosie

### Summary of the Session Meeting - February 19, 2017

- ◆ Concern was expressed that people without email access were not getting the updates that Marilyn sends out.
  - ◆ We are looking into alternative ways to contact people.
- ◆ New Hope will be collaborating with Northminster for Vacation Bible School this year.
  - ◆ Jon Geerlings and Rev. Worth will meet with church members to determine the best date.
- ◆ A brochure is being designed to be used to present New Hope to the public.
- ◆ A policy on building use is being developed by the Buildings & Grounds committee.
- ◆ The Buildings & Grounds committee is looking at options for rehabilitating the labyrinth.
- ◆ Rev. Worth outlined plans for the Lenten season.
  - ◆ More information will follow.
- ◆ Rev. Worth will be escorting our youth to a Youth Retreat in Gatlinburg on Sunday, February 26th.
  - ◆ Jacob Geerlings will be substituting for her.
- ◆ Rev. Worth's father will be having surgery on March 14th.
  - ◆ Rev. Worth will be gone from the 13th to the 23rd of March.
  - ◆ Diane Stocker will be substituting for Rev. Worth on the 19th.
- ◆ Rev. Worth would like to serve communion by intinction more frequently.
- ◆ The worship committee reported that, like last year, the choir would like to invite members of the congregation to participate in the choir for the Palm Sunday and Easter services.
- ◆ The Earth Care committee has applied for recertification.

Submitted by Peter Savard, Clerk of Session

Elder of the Month  
Barbara Krupp



## Spotlight on Missions



### Hope House

Written by Spencer Lim (Student intern for marketing and communication)

Hope House UTC has been tackling the task of providing understanding on campus between different groups of people. The narrative between those of different socioeconomic backgrounds and cultures and those used to their views and ways of life being accepted and heard has been rocky to say the least, especially considering the political climate in the US concerning issues both foreign and domestic. Where does the Hope House factor in to all this?

We keep our doors open to people of all backgrounds and strive to model the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ. To create more conversation and understanding between groups from different cultures, issues and backgrounds, we have begun hosting Words Work on Mondays from 8-9 pm. Here we discuss current events and how they intersect with our faith while sharing viewpoints on these topics. We have also begun showing a movie every week at the Hope House to promote understanding and conversation, as well as to expose students to something different that they may not watch on a regular basis.

Conversation is not always easy, nor is it convenient. It is, however, necessary in order to grow in understanding as one human race. At the Hope House, we condone an accepting and respectful narrative in order to couple our diverse students with opportunities to hear and learn from each other. We are reaching out to other organizations to co-sponsor events at the Hope House and on campus. In time we hope students will view Hope House as a place they can most comfortably be out of their comfort zone and unite with their fellow peers. With so many bright faces coming in and out of the Hope House on a daily basis, making sure we make use of an opportunity to promote understanding among our diverse crowd is a top priority. Our leadership team is constantly working on new ways to integrate our community at the Hope House, and we are excited for the future.



### Pancake Supper

Join us on **Wednesday, March 1** at **6pm** for a Pancake Supper!

Why pancakes?

Lent is a time when Christians give things up. Pancake Day, traditionally the day before Ash Wednesday, is the last chance before Easter to use up the fatty foods that can't be eaten in Lent. Therefore, we eat pancakes because they contain fat, butter and eggs.

Pancake Day is also known as Shrove Tuesday or Fat Tuesday.

Following supper, at 7pm, we will have our Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary.

### Passover Seder Meal

We are excited to invite you to a Christ in the Passover presentation on **April 15, Good Friday**. Missionary Rahel Landrum from Jews for Jesus will lead us in an authentic Passover meal. The presentation links the Old Testament Passover meal established in Exodus with Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God, focusing on His work of redemption. Rahel was born in Romania and at the age of twelve, moved with her family to Israel. While her Jewish father was not a believer in Jesus until late in life, she grew up attending church in Romania with her Christian mother. Before going into the Israeli army, Rahel accepted her pastor's invitation to take a short Bible course. Through that study she became convinced that Jesus' claim to be the way to God is true. Rahel has a B.A. in English from Haifa University, an M.A. in Jewish Missions from Fuller Theological Seminary, and studied at Capernwray, a Bible school in England. She and her husband Mark were missionaries in Chicago and London before their move to Sydney. So bring your family and join us for a Good Friday experience that will bring you closer to God.

