



Pastor's Page

June 2014

New Hope Presbyterian Church

The New Hope News



Friends in Christ,
On May 18, we had the tremendous blessing of baptizing three of the young people into membership in the church of Jesus Christ, sealing them as Christ's own forever,

and celebrating as another young man made a public profession of the faith into which he was baptized, proclaiming his faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Each of these four young people have listened to the call of the Holy Spirit within them, and they have followed as Christ has led them deeper into faith. We as a church celebrate the transformation taking place within their lives.

As a church, we're always called to be listening for the voice of the Holy Spirit, for it is always leading us into new seasons of life in the hopes of drawing us closer to Christ. Sometimes, as the case is in confirmation, that is a joyous celebration of life and new beginnings. Other times, it is a difficult transition, one we're not ready for, one that challenges us to grow in ways we hadn't considered or hoped for. When Paul says that all things work together for good, I believe he meant all things, but it certainly takes hard work to see how some things fit into that picture.

I'm reminded of the comment made about high school seniors, most of whom spend their remaining year in high school counting down the days until graduation and then spend the next week lamenting about how they wished it would never end. Life changes, moves on, and we try to listen for the still small voice of the Holy Spirit whispering to the depths of our souls.

So as we enter summer, I'd challenge you to look around and hear how God might be calling you. Hopefully, you've joined us on the adventure of Rich Warren's *Purpose-Driven Life*. Has God called you to something new through that? Perhaps you've been watching as the children of the church are growing up. Is God calling you to be involved in their lives, to help the church fulfill its baptismal promises to teach these kids about faith in Christ? Perhaps you feel like adult education or fellowship opportunities can be expanded to reach certain people or groups. We welcome your voice.

The church is always changing, being born again into a changing world, and yet we remain firmly rooted in the foundation of Jesus Christ. We are called anew each morning to gaze with wonder at how God's mercies are new each day. May our sense of wonder carry us forward into God's new day.

In Christ,
Keith

June Sermon Series

- 06/01 "You Were Created to Become Like Christ"
Week 4 of "Purpose Driven Life"
- 06/08 "You Were Shaped For Serving God"
Week 5 of "Purpose Driven Life"
- 06/15 "You Were Made For a Mission"
Week 6 of "Purpose Driven Life"
- 06/22 "Wrapping Up Our Purpose Driven Life"
- 06/29 "Journey Onward"
Acts 20:1-16



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As we have been reading together "The Purpose Driven Life", we want to get your feedback.

Please let Keith Jones or Andy Sanislo know what you thought of the "Purpose Driven Life" six-week; 42-day study and devotional.

If there are any "days" or topics you would like to further discuss, explore, or understand, or if you have ideas as to how New Hope can do what Rick Warren says, please share that with them.



According to an organization called DoSomething.org (www.dosomething.org/facts) the average person generates over 4 lbs of trash each day and about 1.5 tons of solid waste per year. Over 75% of waste is recyclable, but we only recycle 30% of it.



Another fact: 25 million trees could be saved each year if every American recycled just one-tenth of their newspapers! But the number that really caught my eye and made me look twice to count the zeros, was that Americans throw away 25,000,000 plastic bottles every hour! Seriously?? Twenty-five million bottles each hour? Wow!

As summer temperatures climb and our need to keep hydrated increases, lets remember to fill reusable drink containers from the home faucet. Carry an extra one or two in the car. And if you must grab a plastic bottle from the refrigerator or vending machine, always add it to your weekly recycling bin. Thanks.

Rosie and the Earth Care Team

New Hope Session

The following items were discussed at the Session Meeting held on May 4, 2014:

- ◆ **Members** of the confirmation class were examined by the Session and approved for confirmation.
- ◆ **The** minutes of the March 2nd Session meeting were approved.
- ◆ **The** clerk presented a report of building use requests that were approved since the last Session meeting.
- ◆ **A** request for transfer of membership was approved.
- ◆ **A** note was received from Church Women United thanking New Hope and our PW for hosting their state meeting April 11th & 12th.
- ◆ **A** proposal to have the labyrinth sprayed was discussed.
- ◆ **Session** approved a request from AA to expand their meeting program to Monday thru Thursday.
- ◆ **Keith** talked about the April 2nd **Jews for Jesus** presentation. There was a consensus that we would like to repeat the presentation next year. Keith will make the arrangements.
- ◆ **Several** committees submitted 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 June 8, 2014.

Submitted by: Peter Savard, Clerk



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

We are happy to have a scout troop helping us with Sack Packs next year -they will pack some sack packs for a merit badge.

Our next 2-Cents-A-Meal collection will be July 13th. No loose change? No problem! Folding money gladly accepted.





Presbyterian Women

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

PW hosted the coordinating team members of Presbyterian Women Presbytery of East Tennessee on May 14th. It was our first meeting following the election of officers at the Spring Gathering held at Erin Presbyterian Church in Knoxville and we are fortunate to again have such dedicated and compatible officers. We are looking forward to a great year.

Dinner at the Tea Cottage on the evening of May 22nd was wonderful and we had 32 women in attendance – our best ever! Teena always does a superb job of planning and organizing this spring event and we all enjoy the food, atmosphere and visiting so much.

Our Horizon's Bible Study for next year will be "Reconciling Paul"; if you would like to order a study book, please let Marilyn Suber know.

PW will not have regular Circle meetings during the summer months, but we will continue to meet for lunch on the second Tuesday of each month and we invite all women of the church to join us.

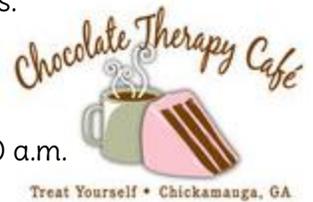
Coming up this summer...

Tuesday June 10 Chocolate Therapy Café

Car pool from the church at 11:00 a.m. – Lunch at 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday July 8 Cookie Jar Café

Tuesday August 12 Beyond the Garden Gate



Treat Yourself • Chickamanga, GA



We invite all the women of New Hope to join us and share in our great fellowship.



Join us the last Sunday of the month, June 29th following our worship service for a potluck Dinner in the McMillan Building!

The church will provide the beverages. Please bring items to share that are prepared to serve. There will be ovens to hold food at serving temperatures.



Do you have an anniversary, birthday or other special occasion to celebrate?

Why not share your event by placing flowers in the sanctuary for Sunday worship? A sign up sheet is available in the Narthex to save your date. You may bring your own flowers, order from a florist or contact Robin Smith. If you would like us to order the flowers please send payment to the church office, or place it in the offering plate.

Thank you from the Worship Committee.

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.



You are such a blessing!

I really appreciate the birthday cards; what a great surprise! My New Hope family has helped me during this illness and recovery.

I Thank God for you!

Norma Capone



Congratulations to Erin Meulenberg!

She graduated Cum Laude from the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga with a BS in Exceptional Education.

Congratulations to Alex Meulenberg!

He received the English award from Grace Academy. He will attend Collegiate High at Chattanooga State in the fall.

Elder of the Month

JoAn Wright

STAFF

Pastor
Rev. Keith W. Jones

Music Director
Janet Sump

Organist
Larisa Abrahamyan

Office Secretary
Debbie Cessna