



November 2014

The New Hope News

PASTORAL WORDS

The months between pastors is an important and exciting time. One of the opportunities an interim provides is a time to step back, take a deep breath and see where we have been and imagine where we perceive God wants us to go.

The task of an interim minister, such as me, is to help in that “deep breath” time in any way I can.

There are two things we will be working on the remainder of this year. The first is to encourage the strongest support we can for 2015. The second is to classify how we can best organize ourselves to work together to be a witness to God’s grace and power in these challenging times.

First, Stewardship. This is a deeply personal matter but very critical to the life of a congregation. Each of us is called to respond in tangible ways to God’s love with our time, talents and resources. To ensure our ability to provide for the next pastor, I am asking each of us to prayerfully consider an increase in our *estimated* giving for 2015. The Session needs this information to

plan for next year. The Pastor Search Committee needs this information as they consider extending a call to the next pastor.

Second task, Organization. Clarifying how we work together is another important task to accomplish. How is New Hope organized now? Are there more effective ways we can organize ourselves to be a stronger witness for Jesus Christ in the future? There is a lot of talent and commitment in this congregation. How can we use it best? The Session will be looking at this in our November meeting.

My first two months as your interim pastor has introduced me to many wonderful people. There is a good spirit to move ahead into the next stage of life for New Hope. I am glad to be part of that and I welcome the opportunity to serve in these two important tasks during the next two months.

Pastor Frank Jump

New Hope Presbyterian Church



CHRISTMAS CARDS

The American Red Cross in Bethesda, MD, is responsible for donations for “Recovering American Soldiers” at Walter Reed Hospital and veterans served by the VA. They are in need of unsigned Christmas Cards with stamped, blank envelopes for patients to send to their loved ones. They need these by November 21st, and the Outreach Committee is urging our New Hope Family to support this wonderful ministry. Donations may be brought to the Narthex no later than November 16th. We will package them in bundles of three cards/ envelopes with a messages such as *“Merry Christmas from New Hope Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga, TN.”*

Thank you for your support!



Let's Remember our Soldiers

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New Hope Session October Highlights

The following items were discussed at the Session Meeting held on October 19, 2014:

- ✍️ **Carol Green** was received into membership.
- ✍️ **The PNC Nominating Committee** presented the proposed list of PNC members. The PNC members will be voted on at a Congregational meeting on November 2nd.
- ✍️ **The minutes** of the September 10th Session meeting were approved.
- ✍️ **The 40th Anniversary** of New Hope Church was discussed. The Wednesday Night Supper was well attended and it was great hearing stories of the founding of our church. The Strengthening Committee will report back to Session with recommendations for the February 23rd anniversary.
- ✍️ **The Session** had a preliminary discussion of budget issues for the rest of 2014. It was decided that we would put a hold on the expenditure of funds except for the general maintenance of the building and grounds until we call a new pastor.
- ✍️ **Session** is still looking for an adult or student to work with our older youth.
- ✍️ **The PW** reported that the yard sale brought in approximately \$400 for the General Fund. The Outreach Committee will make recommendations on doing this again in the future.
- ✍️ **The Outreach Committee** reported that the Snack Pack program is on track and thanks everyone who contributes to the project.
- ✍️ **The Session** discussed the possibility of reducing the number of members on the Session and revamping the committee organization. This will be discussed in full at the November meeting.
- ✍️ **The Session** decided to implement a stewardship program for the 2015 budget year. This would be completed by Thanksgiving. More information to follow.
- ✍️ **Marilyn Suber** was elected as our representative to the Presbytery meeting on November 11th.
- ✍️ **The Strengthening Committee** reported that there will be no potluck dinner in November or December. The annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Thanksgiving Day.
- ✍️ **Marilyn Suber** is requesting church members to bring in blank, stamped Christmas Cards to be distributed to service members.
- ✍️ **The Session** voted to authorize the PW to ask the congregation to participate in a PW Thank Offering on November 9th.
- ✍️ **The Finance Committee** reported that it is beginning to prepare recommendations for the 2015 budget.

The next Session meeting will be November 9, 2014.

Submitted by: Peter Savard, Clerk



Fall Stewardship Plans

God's amazing grace invites each of us to respond to God's gift with our gifts of time, talents, and re-

sources. As the Session plans for 2015, they know there needs to be a clear picture of our church as we prepare to call our next pastor.

As our search committee considers candidates, they need the strongest financial picture we can provide in order to offer attractive support for the new pastor.

Soon, you will receive a letter with information about our support in the past and a request to indicate your estimated support for 2015. Please prayerfully consider your response to God's grace in these next two weeks.

We will have a service of dedication for our estimated gifts on Sunday, November 16th.

New Hopes Newest Member!

Ms. Carol Green has been received into our New Hope Church family by a letter of Transfer from Brainerd Presbyterian Church.

We are delighted to have her as a part of our congregation!

Wednesday Night Bible Study

The series "**The Experience of God: It's not what you think**" continues for the first three Wednesdays in November. Rev. Jump is leading this study on the ways lives are touched by the Holy. These touches are often misunderstood, but they are the doorways into a deeper relationship with God.

The program begins at 6:30pm in the McMillan Building.



It's Time To Celebrate!

On November 9th, Presbyterian Women will celebrate the funding of 30 life saving projects - 17 in the US and 13 international - totaling

\$699,125. They were funded by the 2013 PW Thank Offering that New Hope supported last November; they provide education, safe housing, clean water, health care, help for prisoners, justice for women, and so much more. More than 40% of the projects funded health ministries.

Our Synod of *Living Waters* was the recipient of two grants. One for \$28,000 was awarded to the Nation's Ministry Center in Nashville to purchase a used van to transport low-income refugee families to after school tutoring, medical appointments, job fairs, and other needed services. The second grant in the amount of \$25,000 was for the *Partnerships for America - Cuddle Me Program* in Bristol, Virginia. It will provide more than a million diapers to families with low incomes, resulting in healthier children and allowing children to go to day care while parents work.

Some of us have been active in or have church and PW friends in other synods and it is with joy that we learn that projects were also funded for the Synod of Lincoln Trails, Synod of Mid-America, Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, Synod of the Northeast, Synod of the South Atlantic, Synod of the Southwest, Synod of the Sun, and Synod of the Trinity. Our next PW Thank Offering will be received at New Hope on Sunday, November 9th.

Please join us in this opportunity to fund more life-saving projects world-wide in 2015. Our goal is \$900,000.



OUR Wednesday night supper in October was such a success we are going to have another on November 12th. Please join us at 6:00pm for food and fellowship prior to our Bible Study time.

THE proceeds from the October yard sale have been donated to the churches General Fund. Thank you to all who participated in this event!

CHANNEL 3 is holding their 30th Annual Christmas drive for the Chattanooga Food Bank. We will have a box in the narthex to place your donated items. This box will be picked up Monday, November 24th.

LADIES MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ON MONDAY, **November 3rd** the PW Officer's will hold their board meeting at 12:00 noon in the McMillan Building.

THE PW CIRCLE Meeting will be held on Tuesday, **November 11th** at 10:00 a.m. All the ladies are invited to join us!



The Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Thanksgiving Day at 2:00pm in the McMillan Building. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Please let JoAn Wright know if you are planning to attend and what you would like to bring.



Presbyterians for
Earth Care

Join in viewing a Webinar presented by PCUSA Environmental Ministries for Earth Care Congregations. (that's us) CREATION CARE: BASIC BIBLE 101 Monday, November 10th, from noon until 1:00pm.

We will hear about creative, accessible and helpful biblical foundations for creation care ministry. Presenters will include a biblical scholar and a theologian to share how earth care is core to Christian ministry and how scripture undergirds eco-justice work. You will need a computer and 1 hour of your time. You must register ahead of time at: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/893445570> . I am going to try this, and will let you know how it works.

Would you like to be a part of the Earth Care team. We will have a meeting on Wednesday, November 19th at 5:15 pm in the McMillan Building. We will discuss current projects and plan for future ones. If you have ideas, please come and share!

Thanks, Rosie for the Earth Care Team

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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, November 2nd following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee to seek our next installed minister.

A committee of eight persons will be presented as representatives of our congregation. They are Lynne Brock, Jon Geerlings, Beth Hibbard, Gerai Kocher, Peter Savard, Erin Townley, JoAn Wright and Ron Young.

There can be nominations of others in the meeting, but any nominee must be willing to serve and understand the task before placing their names in nomination.



Thanks to my New Hope family for the prayers, cards, hugs and kind words. I am so blessed to be able to return to Church!

Norma Capone

lots of fun at Trunk-Or-Treat

Wow! The costumes (adults and children) were fabulous, the cars were decorated, the inflatable was fun to jump in, the hotdogs were delicious and the candy was abundant! Trunk-or-Treat was well attended and so much fun. Please check out the pictures posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex to see how great we looked.

All-in-all, about sixty-two took part in this fun afternoon: 13 children from New Hope, 17 children from the community, 20 adults from New Hope, and at least 12 parents of the visiting children. Our special thanks to Lynne Brock for the use of the inflatable and to Krissy and Lloyd Parker for setting it up and making sure everyone was safe while playing in it. The hotdogs were a big hit and we thank Melinda and Randy Lowe for donating them and for Lloyd Hoover for his superb grilling. Thanks also to all those that donated candy, decorated their cars and shared in the joy of the day.



Urgent Prayer Requests for Madagascar

Elizabeth and Dan Turk, missionaries supported by New Hope, request prayer for the political situation in Madagascar. The deposed President (elected in 2001 and 2006, but ousted in 2009 by a military coup) returned October 13th and again was deposed by the military. Please pray for the President, leaders and particularly the security forces - that they will exercise restraint and respect the rights of the people. Also, pray for the church as it witnesses for peace and justice in the midst of deep political divisions.



Elder of the Month

Andy Sanislo

STAFF

Interim Pastor
Rev. Frank Jump

Music Director
Janet Sump

Organist
Larisa Abrahamyan

Office Secretary
Debbie Cessna

