

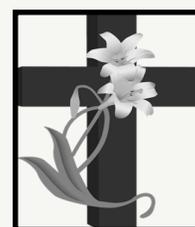
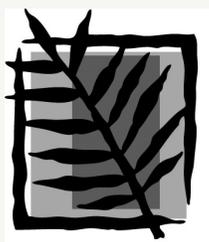
NEW HOPE PRESS

EASTER (APRIL/MAY) 2015

Holy Week and Easter

What does it mean?

Each of our worship services during the Triduum (and the whole of Holy Week) give us all a pretty good spiritual “work out.” Not only do we come together a lot, there is a lot we do together in worship besides listening. The richness of meaning calls us to do a lot of praying, singing, moving, and processing, as we gather, pour water, tell again the story of our faith, and share bread and wine. The Triduum invites us to discover how each day is significant to the other. Just imagine reading J.K. Rowling’s, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* without reading the first two books in the series. Something would be lost. So too, each day of the Triduum—Thursday to Friday, Friday to Saturday, and Saturday to Sunday—brings something indispensable to the meaning of the whole event.



Remembering by Doing

One of the distinguishing features of Christianity is that it is an historical religion. The liturgical year that shapes our worship reflects God’s acting in history, especially Jesus’ arrest, betrayal, trial, crucifixion, burial, and resurrection. Together, this concentration of events creates an intensity of liturgical experience over a very short time span. It is the very intensity of this experience, in fact, that has formed and renewed God’s people over hundreds of years. We remember what God has done for us in Jesus Christ by enacting it in our worship, locating ourselves within the larger story of God’s people, and living out God’s Word at the Font and at the Table. It is a very active sort of remembering. In giving our lives over to this week, we taste new life of the crucified and risen Lord.

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Please join us this Lenten season!

Palm Sunday
March 29th
Word & Sacrament
at 8:45 am & 11:00 am
Easter Egg Hunt at 12:15 pm

Maundy Thursday
April 2nd
Word & Sacrament
at 7:00 pm

Good Friday
April 3rd
Service of the Word at 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil
April 4th
Service of Light, Word, Baptism, & Eucharist
at 7:45 pm

Easter Sunday
April 5th
Word & Sacrament
at 8:45 am & 11:00 am

Easter Egg Hunt



Join us on Palm Sunday, March 29th, for the annual Easter Egg hunt at New Hope! Sponsored by the Youth Group, the hunt begins after the 11:00 am worship service. Children between the ages of 2 years old and 5th grade are invited to participate and are asked to bring a basket to gather their eggs. Please meet at the front door and ask your children to wait until instructed to begin the hunt!

FLOWER CROSS

What better way to celebrate the glory of Easter than with fresh flowers? Many of you know of New Hope's tradition of creating a "living cross" for Easter morning, but for those who may be new to us, here's an explanation and invitation. We fill a wood and wire cross with fresh greenery and flowers from our gardens for a beautiful symbol of resurrection. Please bring cuttings from your gardens (or your local Shop-n-Save!) to church Sunday morning and insert them into the cross. We'll be there to assist you if you'd prefer that we do it. Happy Easter!



Easter Lilies



You may order a "live" lily to adorn our sanctuary on Easter Sunday and take it home with you after the 11:00 am service that day. You may also purchase a "virtual" lily, the cost of which will go to the Deacon's Benevolence Fund. Whichever you choose, you may still dedicate your gift in memory, honor or gratitude to someone. The list will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

Please use the envelope provided on the Information Table for your order. The cost of either the live or "virtual" lily is \$10.00 each. Checks can be written to NHPC. Orders must be received by March 29th.

Maundy Thursday & the Liturgy of Footwashing

On Thursday, April 2nd, New Hope will gather for our annual Maundy Thursday worship. Maundy Thursday gets its name from the Latin “mandatum” which means “command” and refers to the new commandment to love one another which Jesus gave to the disciples at the Last Supper, the night before his death (John 13:34). After supper on that night, Jesus got up, tied a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples feet, saying, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)

To that end, we will get to experience the liturgy of footwashing during our Maundy Thursday worship. This will be completely voluntary. No one will be compelled to participate. In fact, this is no different than anything we do when we worship. No one is ever forced to engage in particular acts of worship. Rather, the footwashing, like everything else in our liturgy, is offered as a gift for worshipers. You may choose to participate or not. The choice is yours.



At an appointed time during the service, worshipers will be invited to come forward to have their feet washed. Then, the person whose feet are washed, will turn and wash the next person’s feet. This is an intimate experience of servanthood that Jesus demonstrates for us, and many may choose not to participate because it asks us to be vulnerable. We don’t like to expose our feet in public. We hide them, cover them and dress them. But to have one’s feet washed is to expose ourselves and that is difficult. Nevertheless, the liturgy of footwashing will be offered on Maundy Thursday as an act of our own servanthood to one another. What follows is an extended commentary on the liturgy of footwashing found in *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship*:

“A powerful symbolic response to the Word, representing the way of humility and servanthood to which we are called by Christ, is the act of footwashing, practiced within the church since at least the fifth century. The practice of footwashing in first-century Palestine may have been as common as when today a host helps guests take off their coats, a waiter seats diners, or a driver holds the taxi door for passengers. Hospitality underlies all such welcoming gestures.

“However, if the focus of footwashing today is primarily on the act itself and not its meaning, then footwashing often is perceived as a quaint rite that can become a fad to enliven worship. Churches should be cautioned to resist including footwashing for its quaintness, and rather to consider its dramatic, potent message.

“The difference between yesterday’s footwashing and today’s common courtesy is that the person expected to wash guests’ feet was at the bottom of the household pecking order. In the prevailing practice, according to the way of the world, therefore, footwashing was a lowly task performed by menials, with or without pay. What is startling if not jolting about the footwashing story in John is not the act of footwashing, but the identity of the servant who washed others’ feet—Jesus, God-with-us, the least likely person. The focus is on the person washing feet, not on the act. Following the footwashing, Jesus took on himself the humiliation of the cross, the ultimate symbol of his selfless love for others.

Maundy Thursday & the Liturgy of Footwashing Continued

“The life of servanthood is affirmed again and again by Jesus as the life to which he calls people. Recall such poignant sayings of Jesus as “The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many” (Matt. 20:28; Mark 10:45); “The greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. . . . I am among you as one who serves” (Luke 22:26, 27b). In response to the command of the gospel, footwashing is an example of the servanthood that Jesus urges on all who follow him. In essence, Jesus’ act of footwashing says to us, “I have descended; you, too, descend.” “In the priesthood of all believers (not hierarchies of power), all members of the body of Christ can “kneel” before each other and wash one another’s feet as did our Lord and Savior himself—neighbor to neighbor, perhaps even stranger to stranger. More important, as the priesthood of all believers, our corporate kneeling before others for the earthy task of footwashing symbolizes our servanthood within and beyond the body of Christ.

“Churches whose members dare to wash one another’s feet may find themselves transformed so that they also turn toward other neighbors in service—the family next door, the single parent, the retired, the unemployed, the unwanted child, refugees, prisoners—and begin to see the image of God in the face of the world. Washing another’s feet may help us minister in the church by joining other Christians in caring, not only for one another, but for the world God loves.

“Therefore ask who is washing feet. Not a hired butler or maid, not a person paid to perform what the world views as menial tasks, but someone called to Christ’s ministry of serving others. Focus on the person washing feet, for he or she symbolizes the radical nature of servanthood.”

(Reprinted by permission from *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship* © 2003 Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 114-115.)

Youth News

New Hope Youth Group Spring 2015 Activities

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|-----------------------|---|
| Sunday, March 29th— | Youth Ushering at both services. After the second service, join us as we “hide” eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt |
| Saturday, April 4th— | 9:30 am Easter Vigil Practice
7:45 pm Easter Vigil |
| Saturday, April 11th— | OASIS Food Pantry from 9:45 am—11:45 am |
| Sunday, April 12th— | Bowling at Cave Springs (Meet at church at 1:50 pm. We’ll return to church at 5:00 pm). Cost is \$5.00 and includes bowling and shoe rental |
| Friday, April 17th— | Retreat at Mound Ridge. We will return on Sunday, April 19th |
| Sunday, April 26th— | Field Day (hopefully outside!!!) |



Spotlight on Mission

One Great Hour of Sharing

“I was hungry and you gave me food.” - Matthew 25:35.

All across the world, our church works in countless communities where people lack access to basic necessities like food, clean water, education, or sanitation. Your gift to “One Great Hour of Sharing” supports programs that work to end hardships.

Please consider giving to the “One Great Hour of Sharing” collection on Palm Sunday, March 29th and watch for inserts in the coming weeks giving more information about “One Great Hour of Sharing.”

Shoe Collection Update

New Hope donated 685 pairs of shoes during 2014. In the first two months of 2015, thirty-nine pairs of shoes have been donated to support clean water projects.

In January of this year, Shoeman Water Projects joined Water for Panama to form Solea Water. Solea Water is dedicated to alleviating water poverty to bring hope to communities in Latin America. They collect shoes to reduce waste, provide affordable shoes in a secondary market, and create economic opportunities in developing countries to fund water programs.

Solea’s goals are:

- ensuring that people have access to clean drinking water and do not die from readily preventable water-borne diseases
- making sure that children are healthy enough to go to school and women have the time to go to work as well as care for their families
- developing healthy communities that can devote time and resources to other social, cultural and economic pursuits than fetching water.

www.soleawater.org

Presbyterian Women

PW Regional & Church-Wide Gatherings



Saturday, April 18 PW Giddings-Lovejoy Spring Gathering will be at First of Union Presbyterian Church in Union, MO. “God’s Extraordinary Blessings” is the theme. The speaker will be Rev. Dr. Mary Williams, currently a chaplain at a hospital in Joplin, Mo. The cost for the lunch will be \$10.00.

June 18-21 The Church-wide Gathering of Presbyterian Women 2015 will be in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The theme is “One Body, One Spirit”. Contact Mary Powers for additional information and to register for these events. marystahr@charter.net or 636-978-1135

A Taste of Pampered Chef

Presbyterian Women hope that you join them for an evening with Donna Huffman and your church friends. On Thursday, April 23rd at 6:30 pm, Donna will offer light appetizers and desserts with a Pampered Chef presentation. Dessert will follow. This event is open to men and women. Please RSVP to Donna by Tuesday, 4/21 at cookindonnastl8286@yahoo.com.

Child care will be provided if requested. Please contact Mary Powers by Tuesday, April 21st (marystahr@charter.net.)

If you cannot be present, you may order by visiting Donna’s website at www.pamperedcheh.biz/donnahuffman. Catalogs are available on the Information Table.

April Birthdays

Sue White	04/01	McKenzie Larrew	04/11
Benjamin Moore	04/02	Sandler Reidt	04/11
Betty Osiek	04/02	Carol Botkin	04/12
Ruth Reilly	04/02	Susan Phillips	04/13
Deb Garten	04/03	Xavier Steele	04/13
John Moore	04/03	Tina Johnson	04/14
John Dittmar	04/05	Amy Connor	04/15
Kelsey Etling	04/05	Katelyn Ward	04/17
John Gerard	04/05	Linda Carr	04/22
Willie Hantack	04/05	Eli Cox	04/24
Zachary Sayer	04/05	Rick Etling	04/24
Caleb Calvin	04/06	Jordyn Johnson	04/24
Calvin Lippert	04/07	Karen Merod	04/25
Barbara White	04/07	Marion Hamilton	04/26
William Judd	04/08	Jacob Hurrell	04/26
Jennifer Everly	04/09	Philip Wahler	04/27
Susan Greene	04/09	Jennifer James	04/28
Chris Truett	04/09	Martha Lamey	04/28
Sally Usai	04/09	Jacob Saxer	04/28
Clark Hurrell	04/11	Jonathan Hamilton	04/29
Madison Larrew	04/11	Patty Nekula	04/29



April Anniversaries

Mike & Sue Ellis	04/01/1989
Dave & Barbara Lynn	04/04/1987
William & Linda Judd	04/09/1983
Norris & Marge Dalton	04/16/1943
Jim & Jane Cox	04/17/1999
Earl & Juanita Bostic	04/19/2002
Bradley & Katharine Harmon	04/19/2008
Jerry & Rhonda Dyer	04/23/1983

May Anniversaries

A.J. & Danielle Ward	05/05/2001
Cary & Margaret Lippert	05/06/1989
William & Ruth Reilly	05/12/1984
Kim & Linda Carr	05/16/1987
Kurt & Jody Romkey	05/19/1990
Rick & Jackie Etling	05/21/1994
Jay & Ann Rademan	05/21/2005
Phil & Bridget DeKeuster	05/22/1999
Logan & Anita Phillips	05/24/2009
Paul & Martha Hacker	05/25/2013
William & Ruth Irvine	05/25/2002
Rick & Vicky Koonley	05/25/1985
Christopher & Jennifer James	05/27/1995
Bob & Arlene Lynch	05/27/1950
Dave & Barb Knes	05/28/1966
Ken & Barbi Smith	05/29/1999
Al & Kathy Beamer	05/31/1976

May Birthdays

Grant Wagner	05/03	Ryan Dittmar	05/18
Tyler Sayer	05/04	Marissa Malta	05/18
Carol Dodds	05/05	Robert Dencker	05/21
Rick Koonley	05/05	Grace James	05/21
Ella Tutschulte	05/05	Gordon Almquist	05/23
Danielle Ward	05/05	Luke Hantack	05/23
Emily Hardee	05/07	Sophia Bommarito	05/24
Edward Nowakowski	05/08	Carolyn Doerr	05/25
Bryan Yarde	05/09	Ken Pinkley	05/27
Maggie Cox	05/12	Juanita Bostic	05/28
Garry Clayton	05/14	Ruth Irvine	05/28
Ryan Judd	05/14	Maddy Snyder	05/29
Eilyn Yarde	05/16	Jim Parker	05/30
Isabella DeKeuster	05/17	Shannon Rera	05/30
Stacey Bordes	05/18		

APRIL 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	2 Maundy Thursday 10:00am Jubilee Circle 1:00pm Agape Circle 7:00pm Joy Circle 7:00pm Worship	3 Good Friday 7:00pm Worship	4 Easter Vigil 9:30 Easter Vigil Practice 7:45pm Worship
5 Easter Sunday 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Worship	6 Church Office Closed 7:00pm Deacon Meeting	7 5:00am Election Board 7:00pm A.A.	8 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	9 6:00pm Boy Scouts	10 9:00am PW Coordinating Team	11 9:45am Mid High Youth at Oasis Food Pantry
12 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Worship 1:50pm Youth Bowling	13 10:00am Prayer Shawl	14 7:00pm A.A. 7:00pm Session Meeting	15 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	16 5:50pm Employment Ministry Committee 7:00pm Employment Ministry	17 Youth Retreat	18 8:30am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
19 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Children's Choir	20 7:00pm Ministry, Mission & Evangelism Committee	21 7:00pm A.A.	22 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	23 7:00pm PW Meeting	24 3:00pm Boy Scout Blood Drive	25
26 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Worship 2:00pm Piano Re 3:00pm Youth Group	27 7:00pm Formation for Discipleship Committee	28 7:00pm A.A.	29 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	30		

<p>New Hope Presbyterian Church 1580 Kisker Road St. Charles MO 63304 Phone: 636/936-2200</p>	<p>Fax: 636/447-7676 E-mail: office@newhopepc.org Website: www.newhopepc.org Preschool Phone: 636/922-9900</p>
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