

NEW HOPE PRESS

JANUARY 2017

The New Year at New Hope

IMPORTANT JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, January 15th ~ Ordination/Installation of Elders/Deacons
Sunday, January 22nd ~ 12:00 pm Annual Congregational Meeting



On January 15th, our new Elders and Deacons will be ordained and/or installed to their respective offices and our Elders will begin the work of leading particular ministries of the church, even as together they govern the life of the whole church.

The Journey Continues



On December 4th, seven Travelers stood before the congregation with the intent to continue their Journey and to live into their baptismal vows through ministries within our congregation and in the community both far and wide. The second voyage of The Journey has come to an end, but for our Travelers, they are continuing their journey along the path to deepening their faith and being more intentional disciples of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

It's been said before, The Journey is not easily described and understood – but to experience it is to “get it”!! The Travelers and their Companions shared their faith journeys; read and dug into scripture; worshipped; prayed; reflected on the Apostles Creed; learned about various community ministries and how to discern the kinds of ministries New Hope is involved in; explored the kinds of ministries that focused on their gifts; and, of course, spent a lot of time fellowshiping and sharing meals together.

The Journey has been a whole church ministry in supporting our Travelers throughout the last four months. The leadership team met weekly to plan each of the large and small group sessions. Lynn Harmon and Margo Van Mill led the small group activities. Companions dedicated every week to being an active participant and the “go-to” person for their Travelers. Donna Huffman, Nancy Seals and Bob Dencker coordinated and served 16 dinners. Chris James, Jane Cox and Ruth Irvine led the large group presentations. And all the following groups provided sumptuous meals for everyone in The Journey: Men's Fellowship; Diaconate; Session; Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team; Agape Circle; Joy Circle; Fellowship Committee; Formation for Discipleship Committee; Chancel Choir; Bell Choir; and The Journey Hospitality Team, Leadership Team and each of the small groups.

We continue to be humbled by the outpouring of support The Journey has seen throughout this whole year. A gigantic thank you goes to each and every one of you for your dedication to our church's disciple-making process. Your commitment to something so important certainly is indicative of the transformative nature of what we hope to achieve for the participants, and, just as importantly, for our church as a whole.

Bless you, one and all!!

The Journey Leadership Team

Linda Dencker, Lynn Harmon, Ruth Irvine, Chris James, Del Phillips, Nancy Seals, Margo Van Mill

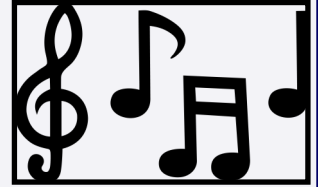
Flower Chart



The 2017 Flower Chart is available in the “Outreach & Information” area of the Narthex. Sign up for flowers to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or to remember a loved one. Flowers are \$30.00 and may be taken home after the second service each week.

Music Notes

It has certainly been an exciting beginning to my work in music ministry at New Hope. Chris, Laurie, Vickie, and so many of you have been extraordinarily helpful and kind.



Each week during Advent we used parts of the hymns O Come, O Come, Emmanuel and Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence. We sang many of the older, beloved hymns of Advent and Christmas as well as some newer hymns. I hope you found the choices meaningful. Thank you to everyone who shared your musical talents during the various Advent and Christmas services, and thank you to those who assisted in other ways for Lessons and Carols.

Research has shown there are many health benefits for those who sing in choirs. Author Stacy Horn concludes in an article found on ideas.time.com, "Group singing is cheaper than therapy, healthier than drinking, and certainly more fun than working out. It is the one thing in life where feeling better is pretty much guaranteed. Even if you walked into rehearsal exhausted and depressed, by the end of the night you'll walk out high as a kite on endorphins and good will." Over and over I have found this to be true.

Please consider joining the choir as we begin this new year. You will be blessed and will bless others through your participation.

Peace,

Gay

2017 Mission Efforts

Shoeman Collection

We are always collecting new and used shoes for the Shoeman Water Project! Once collected, the shoes get a second life through sale to exporters. Money from the sale of the shoes purchases well drilling rigs, water purification systems, and other supplies to bring clean, fresh water to those in need. To participate, give your shoes the boot by donating your used and new shoes, tied or rubber-banded into pairs into our drop off bin, located in the Outreach & Information area of the Narthex.

Homeless Collection

We are still collecting items for the homeless and there is a list of needed items on the Missions Table. Donations can be dropped off in the container in the Outreach & Information area of the Narthex. Thank you again for your caring and generosity!

Coins for Concern

Did you ever wonder what happens to the loose change in our collection plate? New Hope has a long-standing project called "Coins for Concern." In 2017 your loose change will be donated to various mission causes. Does your family have a coin jar at home? Bring it in next Sunday. Sometimes the little things make the biggest difference.

OASIS Food Pantry

There is more to New Hope's support for the Oasis Food Pantry than simply blessing the baskets. At 9:45 on the second Saturday of each month many Mid-Highs, Senior Highs, and adults from New Hope volunteer to help distribute that food to folks in need. You should try it. Second Saturday of every month.



<i>January Anniversaries</i>	
Russell & Sue Dittmar	01/11/1992
James & Sue White	01/20/1968
Edward & Julie Nowakowski	01/25/1992

<i>January Birthdays</i>			
Kay McCarthy	01/01	James Finks	01/17
Del Phillips	01/02	James Salter	01/17
Debbie Karsten	01/04	Sam Connor	01/18
Mary Hunnicutt	01/06	Roberta Looman	01/18
Katherine Groat	01/07	Fern Stewart	01/19
Grace Harmon	01/07	J. Emmett Kelewae	01/23
Paige Schrautemeier	01/07	Donna Huffman	01/25
Terry Martinez	01/08	Ed Snyder	01/25
Adam Huffman	01/09	Dannika Ward	01/27
Kristen Moore	01/11	Arlene Lynch	01/28
Chris Griffith	01/12	Joann Stewart	01/28
Marianne Thiel	01/12	James White	01/30
Jim Pettit	01/13		



<i>FINANCIAL CORNER</i>		
CONTRIBUTIONS	December 2016	Year to date
Budget	35,614.00	427,368.00
To-date Actual	45,646.00	427,766.88

2016 Giving Statements will be available at the Welcome Table beginning January 8th.



JANUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>New Years' Day</i> 10:00am Word & Sacrament	2 Church Office Closed	3	4 6:15pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	5 1:00pm Agape Circle 7:00pm Joy Circle	6	7
8 8:45am Word & Sacrament 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Word & Sacrament 2:00pm Neighborhood Assoc. Meeting	9 6:00pm Fellowship Committee 7:00pm Joint Meeting of Session and Deacons	10	11 6:15pm Handbells 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir	12 6:00pm Boy Scouts	13	14 9:45am Oasis Food Pantry
15 8:45am Word & Sacrament 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Word & Sacrament	16 Martin Luther King Day Church Office Closed 6:00pm Jubilee Circle 7:00pm MME Committee	17 9:30am PW Coordinating Team	18 6:15pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	19 5:50pm Employment Ministry Committee 7:00pm Employment Ministry	20	21 8:00am Men's Breakfast
22 8:45am Word & Sacrament 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Word & Sacrament 12:00pm Congregational Meeting	23 7:00pm Formation for Discipleship	24	25 6:15pm Handbells 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir	26 6:30pm Boy Scouts	27 5:00pm Pinewood Derby	28 8:00am Pinewood Derby
29 8:45am Word & Sacrament 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Word & Sacrament	30 6:30pm Sacred Conversations	31				

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