

NEW HOPE PRESS

OCTOBER 2015

Christian Education Opportunities

The 2015—2016 Sunday School Year has begun! Below is a list of classes that meet every Sunday at 9:45 am.

Birth—2 year olds meet in the Nursery

3 Year olds—Pre-K meet in the Butterfly Room

Kindergarten—2nd Grade meet in the Caterpillar Room

Grades 3—5 meet in the lower level kitchen

Mid & Senior High meet in the Youth Room

Contemporary Issues (Adults) - meets in the Conference Room



NEW ADULT STUDY!

Love Does--"*This is a study about God's love...and the most amazing thing about that love is that it's not just a bunch of rules or stuff we have to agree with. God's love is different. It changes things. It's active. It works. It risks. God's love...does.*" This 5-week study will meet on Sunday mornings, Sept. 27-Oct. 25, 9:45-10:45 a.m. in Room 103. Sign-up to reserve your book, *Love Does*, by Bob Goff, by emailing Chris James, cjames@nhpres.org.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY 2015

Consecration Sunday, October 25, 2015

The month of October is always a milestone for us at New Hope! Sunday, October 25, 2015, will be a day of celebration. First, we will be celebrating Reformation Sunday, which falls every year on the last Sunday of October. This is a day to commemorate our theological heritage in the three watchwords of the Protestant Reformation: sola scriptura (by scripture alone), sola gratia (by grace alone), and sola fide (by faith alone). It is not merely coincidence that this day is also the day we New Hope Presbyterians observe as the anniversary of our founding as a congregation!

As a part of celebrating our heritage, both in general as Reformed Christians, and in particular as New Hope Presbyterians, on Sunday, October 25, we will also celebrate Consecration Sunday. As an act of worship you will be invited to commit a portion of your gifts to be given to God through the church for 2016. This will be done as a confidential act of worship, by writing your estimate-of-giving down on a card, bringing it forward and placing it in a basket near the Lord's Table. The key element is that it will be an act of worship.

As Christians we strive to give our lives back over to the will and purpose of God in our own lives and for the world. But that is just the beginning. We worship together through voice and song, handbells and instruments. We gather for Christian education and formation, for fellowship and nurture, for mission and service. We gather to plan and coordinate the ministries of the church in committee meetings, study the Bible, and serve the larger community in Christ's name through such means as our Employment Ministry, the Oasis Food Pantry, and our Prayer Shawl Ministry to name just a few.

New Hope Presbyterians have always given faithfully to support our work together as the church in this place. We ask you to keep on giving out of your abundance so that New Hope might continue to live out God's own abundant life here in our midst during 2016!

Pastor's Article



Sacred Conversations on Race. This series of conversations arose out of the turmoil we've seen in our community and in our nation over the past year. We "learn" the specifics of each situation—whether it's in Ferguson, North Charleston, Baltimore, or elsewhere—at least the specifics as presented to us by the mainstream and social media. We begin to form opinions about who is right and who is wrong. Black Lives Matter. Police Lives Matter. All Lives Matter. We live in a time and place where sound bites shape our perception of the facts and little room is given for a holistic understanding of precipitating factors and motivations. As a society, we become polarized around one side or the other. We look for information to confirm what we already believe and then become further entrenched in our opinions.

I will never know what it is like to be a black man in America. Neither will I likely ever know what it is to be a police officer in America. What I know is that I am not self-made. I did not ask to be born, much less ask to be born white to loving, supportive and nurturing parents who had resources and opportunities available to them to give me all that I've been given. I have worked hard to take advantage of those opportunities, but I have not gotten to where I am all by myself.

What I'm learning is that scoring a run in life is not all that difficult when you're born on third base. But scoring a run is next to impossible when you're prevented from ever having an at-bat. Sometimes I will hear a white person say, "I'm not racist. I didn't do anything that all these black people complain about." And on the one hand, that person is correct. But here's another thing I'm learning. The issue is not just about whether I have done the thing that makes black people angry. The issue is that too many of us who have been born on third base have kept silent about the system that keeps others from having an opportunity to come to the plate.

For a time, I was ignorant about that. For instance, I've learned that at the end of World War II, when our soldiers returned home, federal funding was made available to help these returning heroes get a college education and buy a home. However, that funding was only available for white soldiers. Black soldiers returning home were not eligible for that. So, white veterans were given an opportunity not afforded black veterans. The blessing of this benefit became a blessing for the white veterans' children and their children's children, as well. The black veterans were consigned to make it on their own.

I never knew! I had heard of the GI Bill, but I was ignorant of such inequality. If anything, that is what these Sacred Conversations are about. We don't presume to have all the "fixes", but we certainly won't find any if we refuse to acknowledge even so much as having benefited from social and economic policies that, at the same time, disadvantage others.

If the church can't or won't be a part of pointing out inequalities that keep others down, then we ought not to presume to preach a Gospel we refuse to live. Our next Sacred Conversation is will take place on Sunday, October 25th, 1:30-3:30 p.m. All are welcome!

Faithfully,

Chris

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women will be hosting a purse auction and cookie sale on Saturday, November 7th from 2:00—4:00 pm. We are asking for donations of tins to use for the cookies. There is a crate available by the Information Table for your donation of tins. Purses and cookies should be brought on the date of the auction and purses should be filled with new items that could be found in a women's purse. This event is a fundraiser for the scholarship fund and future PW projects.

PW Fall Gathering—We invite you to participate in the 2015 Fall Gathering which will be held at First United Presbyterian Church in Belleville, Illinois on Saturday, October 17, 2015. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. with registration and coffee and will continue the theme from the 2015 Church-wide Gathering, "One Body, One Spirit". The agenda includes two workshops: Together in Service – Sani Panties, supporting Little Dresses of Africa (Bring your fabric scissors) and Highlights from the 2015 Church wide gathering. Lunch will be served at a cost of \$10. The registration deadline is Wednesday, October 7, 2015. Registration forms with directions to First United Presbyterian Church are on the information table. Please send in your own registration and make travel plans that meet your needs. Contact Mary Powers at 636-978-1135.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

Sacred Conversations

In a community and nation so thrown into turmoil over recent events, we seek to:

- create a safe space to begin exploring the issues and implications that prejudice, power, and privilege have on issues of race and racism
- facilitate open dialogue about reflecting on experiences, expanding awareness and connecting with the experiences of others, and
- take action together, across geographic and racial boundaries

As we strive to "welcome and include all" and to "be God's love in the world", we invite you to be a part of a series of Sacred Conversations on Race. The next meeting will be at New Hope on Sundays, October 25. All are welcome! Sign up by Wednesday, September 23, by emailing Chris James to reserve your lunch and request child care. In light of all that's been happening, both locally and nationally, this will be an opportunity to work toward healing and unity for our community.



October 25th (1:30 - 3:30) – Continue the conversation at New Hope

November 8th (3:00—6:00) – Closing event with worship including all participating congregations at First Presbyterian Church in Ferguson, MO

Employment Opportunity

We are now receiving applications for a part-time Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator. The job description and employment application can be obtained in the church office or on the website at www.nhpres.org.

If you know you or someone you know might be interested, please call the church office.



Trunk or Treat

Please join us for New Hope's annual "Trunk or Treat" Friday October 30th in the lower church parking lot. Please park in the upper lot if you are not decorating your car and opening your trunk.

The event will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Prizes awarded for the best Halloween costume and decorated car. Hot dogs and hot chocolate will be served and there will be games to play.

Bring your appetite and creativity and join us for a fun filled evening.



Female Connection Wine & Cheese Oktoberfest

We're having a Wine & Cheese party! All ladies are invited to attend. We are an open group and would love to have you join us for a wonderful evening of fellowship; a time to get to know each other better. We will be gathering at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 15 at the home of Lindy Stacy (8 Hope Ct, St. Peters). We are asking each person to bring either a bottle of wine or an appetizer; there are directions to Lindy's on the Information Table. For more information or questions, please contact Deb Mackin or Lindy Stacy.



Ministry Mission & Evangelism News...

10,000 meals for hungry kids

Presbyterians have a reputation for putting together a good meal, but this was over the top! On Sept. 26, about 50 New Hope members spent the morning preparing packets of vitamins, dried vegetables, soy and rice to be sent to starving children in Haiti. Thanks to them, and to many others who couldn't make it to the event but donated money, we were able to put together 10,000 meals. Ten thousand! That's enough to provide meals for 27 kids every day for a year! It was part of the Kids Against Hunger project. Donations exceeded \$3,000. Volunteers formed four assembly lines along tables in the sanctuary, scooping the ingredients into plastic bags that were sealed, placed in boxes, and put in the back of a tractor-trailer for shipment to Haiti. The group ranged from children to senior citizens, all led by about a dozen volunteers from the Kids Against Hunger branch in St. Charles County. Hunger certainly exists in America, but the situation is dire in Haiti. We learned that countless children die of starvation before reaching school age. The packets put together at New Hope offer the nourishment necessary to give hope to these young people. We expect that the project could become a regular part of our church's mission. The response was overwhelmingly positive. Thanks again to all of those whose efforts will help save the lives of children.



October Birthdays

Sam Murray	10/01	Frances Gray	10/18
Jane Rigdon	10/03	Katherine Mudrovic	10/21
Bev Waldo	10/05	Dave Lynn	10/22
Jeffrey Connor	10/08	Marian Dwinell	10/25
Herb Gibbs	10/08	Ava Tutschulte	10/25
Margaret Mortland	10/08	Jana Gerard	10/27
Kurt Groat	10/09	Jack Grundy	10/28
Edward Hritzkowin	10/09	Tracy Grundy	10/30
Kendall Barbee	10/13	Claire Murray	10/31
Bob Mocca	10/13		
Jennifer Taylor	10/17		



October Anniversaries

Ben & Kathy Kuehne	10/02/1971	Garry & Sheri Clayton	10/23/1971
Chris & Barb Griffith	10/08/1977	Kendall & Elaine Barbee	10/24/1998
Rick & Bev Waldo	10/11/1986	Derek & Rachel Steele	10/24/2009
John & Kristen Moore	10/13/2007	Brian & Meredith Saeger	10/27/2007
Robert & Nancy Matheny	10/17/1992		

FINANCIAL CORNER

OPERATING	September 2015	YTD
Pledges	34,891.00	314,019.00
Actual		



OCTOBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00am Jubilee Circle 1:00pm Agape Circle 5:50pm Employment Ministry Committee 7:00pm Employment Ministry 7:00pm Joy Circle	2	3
4 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Session Coordinating Council	5 7:00pm Deacon Meeting	6 9:30am PW Coordinating Team 7:00pm A.A.	7 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir	8	9	10 9:45am OASIS Food Pantry
11 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship	12 10:00pm Prayer Shawl	13 7:00pm A.A.	14 7:15pm Choir	15 5:50pm Employment Ministry Committee 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Employment Ministry	16	17 8:30am Men's Breakfast
18 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship	19 7:00pm Session Meeting	20 7:00pm A.A.	21 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir	22 7:00pm Boy Scouts	23	24 10:00am Wedding
25 Consecration Sunday 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship 1:30pm Sacred Conversations	26 7:00pm Formation for Discipleship	27 7:00pm A.A.	28 7:15pm Choir	29	30 6:30pm Trunk or Treat	31

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