

NEW HOPE PRESS

SEPTEMBER 2015

Christian Education Kick-Off

Christian Education is an integral part of faith development for everyone. Sunday School, in particular provides opportunities for learners to grow in understanding of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit as they hear and reflect on stories from the Bible. Through activities and discussion learners are able to explore what these stories mean for them and how they can live them out. Sunday School is a wonderful place to share questions about God, the Bible and the Church as well as experience God's faithfulness and grace.

The 2015 – 2016 Sunday School year begins Sunday, September 13th at 9:45 a.m. Sunday School classes are available for ALL ages!

Boys and girls in the Nursery will hear a story each week accompanied by a fun activity. Teachers are excited to teach our littlest ones using the Growing in Grace and Gratitude Toddler curriculum published by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Our toddlers will hear a story each week and then be guided in an age appropriate activity.

Preschoolers (ages three, four and five) will meet in the Butterfly Room. Their curriculum, Wee Believe: God's Word for God's People, nurtures the development of faith through age-appropriate Bible stories and lots of repetition! This curriculum is also published by the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Boys and girls in the Younger Elementary Class (Kindergarten, First and Second Grades) will meet in the Caterpillar Room, while the Older Elementary Class (Third, Fourth and Fifth Graders) will meet in the downstairs kitchen. A class for the Youth (Sixth through Twelfth Grades) will meet in the Youth Room.

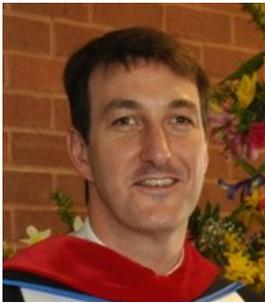
Children and youth in Kindergarten through Senior High will be using Feasting on the Word curriculum published by Westminster John Knox (PCUSA). This is a lectionary based curriculum which provides intentional connections between Sunday School and worship. Each Sunday School class will study a common Bible passage while participating in developmentally appropriate activities.

For adults, the "Contemporary Issues" class meets in the Conference Room. Various class members share the leadership using a variety of approved curricula.

Teachers will be commissioned during the 11:00 am Worship Service on Sunday, September 13th.



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR...



For the past ten months, we have been engaged in strategic planning. It all started with a Session and Planning Team retreat last fall. It continued with focus groups in November and December to explore who we are and what we're all about here as the New Hope Pres-

byterian Church. Those focus groups led to the development of a purpose statement, which reads:

The New Hope Presbyterian Church strives to...

- Welcome and Include All
- Worship God
- Grow in Christian Faith
- Serve Others
- Be God's Love in the World

These five bullet points have become goals to which we aspire and the Planning Team (Kelly Hantack, Bill Judd, Ruth Irvine, Kirk Garten, Linda Dencker, and Del Phillips) has been at work this spring and summer to develop strategies at fulfilling these goals. Some of these strategies are large in scope and others are small(er). Some will take a lot of time to implement and others will be more limited in duration. The Session will monitor and evaluate the strategies and once a strategy has been completed or fulfilled or simply "run its course", the Session will develop another strategy to meet that particular goal. So, the work of planning will be somewhat cyclical as we focus our efforts on particular initiatives (strategies) to live out our purpose together as the church.

The first of these strategies will be unfolded over a period of time, but one has already been introduced. In an effort to "welcome and include all" and "be God's love in the world", we invite all of you to join together in a series of Sacred Conversations on Race. This is a four-part conversation. It will all begin on Sunday, September 13th, 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Ferguson as a joint gathering of all participating

congregations in our presbytery. This will include an introduction to the process, as well as a service of worship. It will conclude on Sunday, November 8th (time and location TBA), with a joint worship service. The two conversations in the middle will be scheduled here at New Hope between those two dates for those of us from New Hope who have signed-up to participate. Our presbytery will provide a trained facilitator to guide the conversation and help us along. The point is "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."

With all that has gone on over the past year in Ferguson, Baltimore, and Charleston, we can no longer simply sit contented in the confines of our own experiences and opinions. This is not about "them" or about what "they should do." We are a part of the human community and, as Christians, we are called to walk alongside the marginalized and dispossessed and to see the face of Christ in our neighbor, even our neighbor who lives in a different neighborhood and looks nothing like us. Though we come in many shapes, sizes and colors, we are reminded that we all look the same without our skin on.

I have to admit that I am a bit nervous about these "sacred conversations." As a white male in America, I have benefitted from a system that favors whiteness and maleness. But that system is so deep and ingrained into the entire fabric of our society that it's hard to tease it all apart. That being said, I am also excited about the possibilities this might have for all of us as we work to understand what it is to "welcome all", "include all" and "be God's love." Those may sound quaint and a bit cliché, but if anything, they are at the very heart of what it means to be a Christ-follower. And that road isn't always easy.

Let's begin the conversation.

Faithfully,



Ministry, Mission and Evangelism News

Kids Against Hunger

I hope you've heard about the mission event we're planning. We need at least 40 volunteers to come to the church and help pack food to be delivered to hungry children in Haiti. We'll be putting dry food (rice, soy, vegetables, and supplements) into portion-control bags assembly line fashion. There is no age restriction, but we're not planning on providing child care. We ask that individuals donate \$25 each toward the cost of the material, shipping, and distribution. If you can't come in person, please consider donating anyway as we need to reach the \$2,800 minimum (10,000 meals!). You can sign up online to participate at www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4fa9a829a7fa7-kids

If you'd like to know more, please contact Jim Cox, Jim Salter, Mary Powers, or Mark Everly.



Festival of Sharing

Please visit the Festival of Sharing table in the narthex to pick up lists of items for Student Dental Pack, Personal Hygiene Pack, and Women's Prison Pack. The items should be placed in zip-lock returned to the Festival of Sharing table by Wednesday, September 30. website: www.festivalofsharing.org
Contact Mary Powers: 314-277-5440 or marystahr@charter.net

Peacemaking Offering

On October 5th, NHPC will participate in the PC(USA) Peacemaking Offering. Seventy-five percent of the offering will go to national projects and 25% will go towards a charity designated by the MME Committee. Watch for the News & Opportunities and various inserts for more information.



From the Choir...



The Choir has resumed practices on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 pm! Singers of all talents are needed and welcome to join us! For more information, please contact Brian Parrish at BParrish@newhopepc.org.

Deacon Picnic

Save the date for the annual church-wide Deacon picnic on Sunday, September 20th, immediately following the second service.

The Deacons are providing the main dish for everyone, as well as fun and games! We welcome the entire congregation, as well as friends, but do ask that you RSVP to the church office at 636/936-2200 or lbrown@nhpres.org or by signing up on the clip board on the Welcome Table.

We also ask that each participant bring a dish according to the chart below:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Last Name Initial | Dish |
| A - G | Veggie or Side |
| H - M | Dessert |
| N - Z | Salad |



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

Four Conversations

Sunday, September 13 – Kick-off event with worship including all participating congregations. *(Time and Location TBA)*

September – Conversation at New Hope with a trained Facilitator

October – Continue the conversation at New Hope

Sunday, November 8 – Closing event with worship including all participating congregations *(Time and Location TBA)*

As we strive to "welcome and include all" and "be God's love in the world", we invite you to be a part of a series of Sacred Conversations on Race. In light of all that's been happening recently, both locally and nationally, this will be an opportunity to work toward healing and unity for our community. Questions? Contact Chris James, 936-2200 x.11

Presbyterian Women

Thursday, September 24th ~ 6:30 - 8:30 pm

The New Hope Family is invited to participate in a hymn sing! Are there hymns you miss singing in Worship? PW is sponsoring an evening of favorite hymns. We'd like to have your suggestions for hymns you would enjoy singing. Please list the songs you would like to sing on the forms on the Information Table and place the form in the designated basket by Sunday, September 6th. A light dessert will be served.



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. Please call the church office with questions!

Presbyterian Women will be asked to vote on revisions to the bylaws of Presbyterian Women of New Hope Presbyterian Church on September 24 just before the Hymn-Sing. Copies of the proposed bylaws are on the information table.

Calling all ladies of New Hope! The Presbyterian Women invite you to attend the Circle Kick-off on September 10 at 10:00 a.m.. We invite all Circles (Agape, Joy and Jubilee) members, as well as anyone interested in attending Circle Bible lessons. This will be a wonderful time of fellowship, Bible study, and food! Pastor James will lead us in the first lesson of "Come to the Waters" by Judy Record Fletcher (Horizons study guide).

We hope all women of the church will be able to attend. Childcare will be available and we will meet in the "Sunshine Room" on the lower level.

Scrip Program News



Scrip is a term that means "substitute money." When you purchase scrip, you're purchasing gift certificates or prepaid cards that are used just like cash at that particular retailer. Our church receives a discount that ranges from 1% to 15% on the purchase of the cards. If you spend \$200 a month at restaurants, purchasing scrip will typically earn \$20 or more for our church youth and children programs.

We have two new mailboxes to make placing scrip orders easier. The new boxes are upstairs outside the conference room and downstairs outside the preschool office. Order forms are available next to the boxes, on the information table and on the scrip table near the church office. Your finished order form and payment check can be given to a member of the scrip team or placed in either of the locked mailboxes.

Orders will be compiled and placed on Sunday evenings and your gift cards (scrip) will be available from a member of the scrip team the following Sunday.

If you have any questions, or are interested in retailers not shown on the order form, please contact Jennifer Everly at jenniferkeverly@gmail.com or 314-369-4398.

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Calling all knitters and crocheters-- or those who want to be!-- the New Hope Prayer Shawl Ministry will be gathering again starting September 14 at 10:00am. We meet the second Monday of each month in the conference room for a time of fellowship and productivity. Our resulting shawls are shared with those in and around our congregation in times of pain, grief and joy. We like to think of them as hugs from our church! If you'd like to join or just hear more about it, come on in! And as always, if you know of someone who could benefit from a prayer shawl, let Laurie or Chris know, and we'll be sure to get one to you.

Blood Drive

The Deacons will be sponsoring a blood drive at church on Sunday, September 27th. The Blood Drive will take place between 8:30 am and 12:30 pm in the Blood Mobile, which will be located on the upper parking lot. Sign-ups sheets will be available on the Information Table. Walk-ins will also be welcome that day! For more information, please contact the church office.

Benefits of Donating Blood:

- It feels great to donate!
- You get free juice and delicious Keebler® cookies.
- It's something you can spare – most people have blood to spare... yet, there still not enough to go around.
- You will help ensure blood is on the shelf when needed – most people don't think they'll ever need blood, but many do.
- You will be someone's hero – in fact, you could help save more than one life with just one donation.

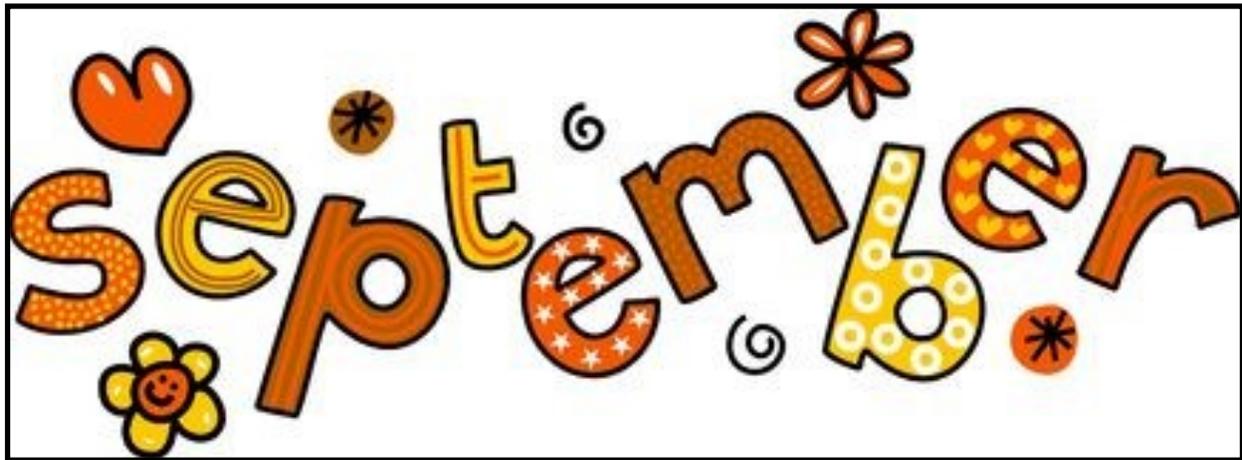


Female Connection

The Female Connection is doing volunteer work this month at the Oasis Food Pantry on Saturday, September 12. Be there by 9:45 (park across the street at Youth In Need) and a challenge to everyone to bring some fresh produce and/or snack cakes. After our work is done we will go down to Main Street for lunch. For more information, please contact Deb Mackin.



O.A.S.I.S.
FOOD PANTRY



September Birthdays

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| Bridget DeKeuster | 09/02 | Connie Pettit | 09/18 |
| Earl Bostic | 09/03 | Jeff Connor | 09/19 |
| Carl Doerr | 09/03 | Barbi Smith | 09/19 |
| Christine Martin | 09/03 | Kirk Garten | 09/20 |
| Sue Ellis | 09/04 | Elaine Barbee | 09/21 |
| Rick Cassetta | 09/06 | Ann Wienstroer | 09/22 |
| Mary Powers | 09/06 | Kimm Besgrove | 09/24 |
| Kristin Judd | 09/07 | Katie Besselman | 09/24 |
| Cary Lippert | 09/07 | Rick Waldo | 09/24 |
| Stan Whiteley | 09/07 | Shelley Geiger | 09/26 |
| Nancy George | 09/08 | Robin Murphy | 09/27 |
| Mark Phillips | 09/08 | William Reilly | 09/27 |
| Dean Isbell | 09/09 | Debbie Phillips | 09/29 |
| Laura Eikmann | 09/10 | Anna Hause | 09/30 |
| Elizabeth Langley | 09/11 | | |
| Rachel Eikmann | 09/12 | | |
| Theresa Edwards | 09/15 | | |
| Nathan Nowakowski | 09/17 | | |

September Anniversaries

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Ben & Christie Tutschulte | 09/02/2001 |
| Herb & Kathy Gibbs | 09/09/1989 |
| Eberhard & Deb Mackin | 09/12/2010 |
| Allen & Ann Sebaugh | 09/16/1972 |
| Jim & Carol Dodds | 09/18/1993 |
| Randy & Sylvia Malta | 09/18/1982 |
| Scott & Jennifer Taylor | 09/22/2001 |
| Michael & Ann Ray | 09/23/1978 |

FINANCIAL CORNER

CONTRIBUTIONS

August 2015

YTD

**Budget
Actual**



SEPTEMBER 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|---|-----------|---|
| | | 1 9:30am PW Coordinating Team 7:00pm AA Meeting | 2 7:15pm Choir | 3 5:50pm Employment Ministry Committee 7:00pm Employment Ministry | 4 | 5 |
| 6 9:45am Christian Ed 10:30am Worship | 7 Labor Day Church Office Closed | 8 7:00pm AA Meeting | 9 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir | 10 10:00am Circle Kickoff 7:00pm Joy Circle | 11 | 12 9:45am Oasis Food Pantry |
| 13 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship | 14 10:00am Prayer Shawl | 15 7:00pm A.A. 7:00pm Session Meeting | 16 7:15pm Choir | 17 5:50pm Employment Ministry Committee 7:00pm Employment Ministry | 18 | 19 8:30am Men's Breakfast |
| 20 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Deacon Picnic | 21 7:00pm Ministry Mission & Evangelism Committee | 22 6:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm A.A. 7:00pm Finance Committee | 23 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir | 24 6:30pm PW Hymn Sing | 25 | 26 9:00am Kids Against Hunger |
| 27 8:00am Blood Drive 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship | 28 7:00pm Formation for Discipleship Committee | 29 7:00pm AA Meeting | 30 7:15pm Choir | | | |

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