

Back to School Breakfast

Bring your appetites Sunday, Sept. 10th! You're going to "flip out" over delicious pancakes as we kick off the new year in Sunday School with a Church Family Gathering! You and your family are invited!

The kickoff morning will highlight our 2017 VBS theme – "Hero Central – Discover your Strength in God!". In the spirit of Pentecost, everyone is encouraged to wear red as a show of love and support as we embark on a new Sunday School year to "Do good. Seek peace and go after it!" (Psalm 34:14b).

Here is the schedule for the morning:

8:45 am – Early Worship Service (note this will be the first Sunday back to the two service schedule)

9:30-10:15 am – Lower Level - A congregational breakfast of pancakes, biscuits & gravy*, sausage and fruit salad will be served. Gluten free and sugar free items will be available too!
*(Allen Rudolph and Men's Fellowship will once again serve up their famous biscuits & gravy!)

10:15-10:45 am – Upper and Lower Levels - Sunday School Classes Birth through Adults

Following breakfast, children, youth and adults are invited to attend a Sunday School class for a mini-lesson and to meet this year's team of Sunday School teachers. (See Sunday School classes and locations on back.)

In the Sunshine Rm., Pastor Chris will lead an introduction to New Hope's newest adult Sunday School class, "This We Believe, Eight Truths Presbyterians Affirm". Two other ongoing adult classes will be meeting too! In the Conference Room is the "Contemporary Issues" class and in Rm. 103 downstairs is the "Reflecting on Faith" class. Both welcome new folks to come and meet the class and get a taste of the class' formats and studies.

11:00 am – Late Worship Service

To assist the Church Family Gathering Planning Team, please RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 7. This will ensure there are enough pancakes and seating for all the New Hope families that morning!! We welcome folks to volunteer to make fruit salads, help with setting up the lower level Saturday morning (9 am), and clean up on Sunday following Worship. Signups will be in the Narthex for volunteers at the CFG table. Thank you!

Be a Hero for our community! We are asking New Hope Families to bring food items for the Oasis Food Pantry that morning. Oasis is also collecting 24 count crayon boxes and birthday candles for their children's "Birthday Bag" program. Please help make a difference for other families in our area!

Come! Please join us Sunday Sept. 10 at 9:30, for this wonderful Church Family event full of Formation, food and fun! There's something for everyone and a stack of pancakes waiting for you!!



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR...



On the day after white supremacists marched on Charlottesville, Virginia, which resulted in the death of Heather Heyer, I preached a sermon, still partly numb that such a thing could happen. In America. In 2017. Recent years have included several incidents that have touched

the raw nerve of race in America.

It was just three years ago that Michael Brown was killed in Ferguson, and yet, it has already been three years. The city of Ferguson and the greater St. Louis area received national attention for months following that day. The Fargesn Media Project is a series of seven videos, developed in seven episodes, "each telling an untold story of the people and places that surround the history of Ferguson." "Fargesn" is a Yiddish word meaning "forgotten." It is an informative and compelling series and you can find all seven videos here, <http://www.fargesn.com/>.

In one particular video, I remember watching two African American young women relate their frustration at how white Americans continue to be bewildered by why African Americans are so frustrated with the difficulty of race in America. With despair on her face and hopelessness in her voice, one of the young women said something like, "I'm just so tired of white people asking black people why we're so angry. I'm not going to keep explaining it. I'm tired of explaining it over and over to you. Don't ask me anymore. I'm done. You're just going to have to figure it out yourself."

That struck me, because it caused me to realize my desire to pretend like there's not really a problem or, if there is, then it's someone else's problem. This young woman's line in the sand put the onus back where it belongs, which is on me to engage the struggle. No longer could I complain about it, whine about it, point fingers, or merely wish things were different. This young woman's words drew me into being a part of the solution, which I have wanted to avoid because the solution

seems so elusive and difficult and messy and hard. And it might make me confront something about myself I would rather not know.

In the wake of the events in Charlottesville, I learned that white supremacy is a social movement with a political agenda and white supremacists do not merely bring their bigotry to whatever town they come to. No, by coming they empower and embolden the bigotry that already exists there. And more and more, they aren't worried about anonymity.

On that Sunday following the march in Charlottesville, I quoted William Faulkner who wrote, "The past isn't dead. It isn't even past." I said it then and I say it again and I will keep saying it: the Gospel of Jesus Christ condemns such hatred and bigotry and fear-mongering and violence. There is no gospel in it and courageous moral leadership demands that we not only believe that, but act in ways that reveal we believe it.

May we all stand up, speak out and work against all that seeks to tear us apart. No one is going to do it for us. If it's going to be done, we will have to do it. The Gospel demands nothing less. May it be so and may it be so.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris".

The Journey Begins

Do you ever find yourself searching for more meaning in your life of faith? Have you ever wanted to explore the foundational questions of the Christian faith, not to measure yourself against a prescribed set of “must dos”, but rather to ask questions and discover a fullness of life you’ve always hoped for from your faith? We invite you, then, to become a Traveler on The Journey.

The Journey is a process led by members of the congregation, and we focus on the questions you raise and on building relationships with God, oneself and others. The Journey is a powerful process that transforms the individuals who participate – and in so doing, the congregation itself.

We want to welcome all people into a deeper relationship with Jesus and with each other so we can live faithful lives of discipleship in God’s world. The Journey is a four-step process, the first of which, Come & See, and begins with lunch on Sunday, September 24th at 12:30 p.m. To sign-up, call the church office, or, email/call Ruth Irvine at ruthirvine@sbcglobal.net (636-300-1573). If you have questions or want to talk about this, you may contact Linda Dencker, Lynn Harmon, Ruth Irvine, Chris James, Terry Martinez, Del Phillips, or Margo Van Mill. Find out more...Come & See!



Music Notes

Did you know that participating in a musical ensemble has been shown to be beneficial for the body, mind, and spirit? We invite anyone who likes to sing to join the choir. Choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:15. No experience is necessary and you do not need to read music to join the choir. We welcome all who love music and love singing.

Last spring New Hope hosted a hymn festival. At this event we began to learn about the history of hymns. Some of the earliest Christian hymns come from the Greeks of the 3rd century.

Many of the words used by musicians today come from the Greek language. They include the word music itself, which meant “the art of the muses.” The muses were goddesses, each representing a different art. Examples of music-related words coming from the Greek include symphony, orchestra, harmony, and chorus.

Consider the words of this familiar hymn. “This is my Father’s world, and to my listening ears, all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.”

The term “music of the spheres” was coined by a man named Pythagoras, who was born about 570 years before Christ. You will probably remember him from your studies of mathematics. What you may not know is that Pythagoras was the founder of a school. His followers devoted themselves to the study of philosophy, mathematics, astronomy, and music while observing a rather strict moral code. Pythagoras discovered the principles which form the foundation of harmony in western music.

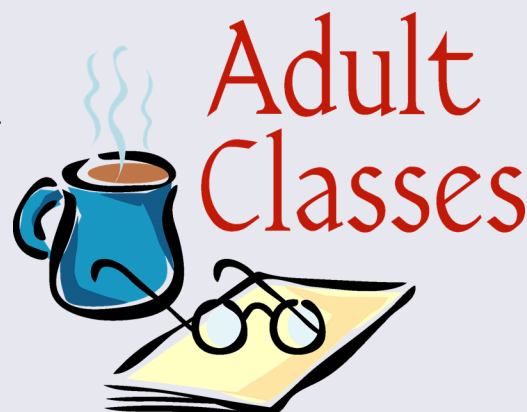
He also concluded that “music was the ordering principle of the world.” Why did he have this opinion? See next month’s Music Notes to learn more.

Peace,
Gay

(Sources include “Music of the Spheres, or the Metaphysics of Music” by Robert R. Reilly - Intercollegiate Studies Institute - home.isi.org)

Adult Education Opportunities

The Journey is about "... proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through instruction, worship, symbols, and art to people we encounter in our communities." (from Go Make Disciples)
Come join us! The Journey begins with lunch on Sunday, September 24th at 12:30 p.m. To sign-up, call the church office, or, email/call Ruth Irvine at ruthirvine@sbcglobal.net (636-300-1573). If you have questions or want to talk about this, you may contact Linda Dencker, Lynn Harmon, Ruth Irvine, Chris James, Terry Martinez, Del Phillips, or Margo Van Mill.
Come & See!



This We Believe:

Eight Truths Presbyterians Affirm

Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Sept. 10, 2017 – Jan. 28, 2018

Led by Dr. James

So that we can order enough books for the class, please sign-up in the Outreach & Information Center in the lobby, or call/email the church office at (636) 936-2200; lbrown@nhpres.org by Sun., Aug. 27.

The Contemporary Issues Class combines a wide variety of discussion topics with pertinent Bible passages and stories. Issues concerning the specifics of Christian faith, doubts, concerns, understanding, and application are woven into open, accepting conversation about current events and life's challenges.

Reflecting on Faith class meets in Room 103 and is a self-led class that uses the "Feasting on the Word" curriculum and follows the weekly lectionary.

Bible Study of Galatians on Wednesdays from 10:00-11:30 am, beginning September 20th, for six weeks. Everyone is welcome to come and you are encouraged to sign up early so you will have your study book in time for the class. The cost of the book is \$13.00 and checks can be made payable to New Hope Presbyterian Church with a note in the memo line for "Bible Study Guide." You can sign the registration form located in the Narthex, Childcare will be available. Please request childcare by calling the church office by September 13th. Call the church office, or email Anne Finks at annefinks@gmail.com to enroll.

Sunday Schedule Beginning September 10th



Our two-service fall schedule will resume on Sunday, September 10th:

8:45am—Worship and the Lord's Supper

9:45 am—Christian Formation for all ages

11:00 am—Worship and the Lord's Supper

Spaghetti Luncheon



Join us for a Spaghetti Luncheon!

Sponsored by The Senior High Youth Mission Trip
Sunday, September 24th, 2017
12:30 pm

Enjoy Spaghetti & Meatballs, Salad, Rolls, Drinks and
Dessert

Free-Will Offering Accepted

Rummage Sale

Are you planning on some fall cleaning? Do you have unwanted items in your basement or garage? Are you getting ready to clean out stuff to get ready for the Christmas gifts that will soon be arriving? Don't throw it out! We're having a church wide rummage sale on Saturday, November 4th! Start saving your unwanted items now. And ask your family and friends to do the same. We will begin accepting items on October 29th in the lower level. If you need assistance moving items, please contact the church office.



Deacon Picnic



September 17th—Congregational Picnic, 12:30 p.m. at the Pavilion, hosted by the Diaconate.

Please, for those attending the picnic, bring a pot luck dish based on your family name:

A-G salad
H-M veg side dish
N-Z desert.

Please plan on joining us on September 17th!

Deacon Blood Drive

The Deacons will be sponsoring a blood drive at church on Monday, September 25th. The Blood Drive will take place between 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm in the Blood Mobile, which will be located on the lower 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 is 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.



Women's Circles

Agape Circle—Ladies, you are invited to join the Agape Circle which meets the first Thursday of each month at 1:00 PM to 2:30, in the conference room. This year our study will be Philip Keller's book, A Layman Looks at the Lord's Prayer. We did his book on the 23rd Psalm last year, and it was an insightful and enjoyable study, which led to great discussions. Please consider joining us. For more information contact Susan Phillips at (314)368-3732 or Susan.e.phillips@sbcglobal.net.

Joy Circle— an evening Bible study led by Katie Ward, would like to invite you to join us on the first Thursday of each month from 7:00—9:00 pm in the Conference Room at church. We follow the Horizon Bible Study, "Come to the Waters." We are a close group, supporting one another, enjoying fellowship, friendship and fun. Contact Katie Ward at 636-447-5188 or katewynn31@outlook.com

Female Connection

Lunch and a Show on 9/24

We are starting the fall season with the production of the Church Basement Ladies at the Playhouse at Westport Plaza. Please mark your calendars to join us for the 2 PM matinee on Sunday, September 24. We need at least 10 ladies to sign up to attend in order to get the group rate of \$25 each. Below is information about the show:



Church Basement Ladies, a celebration of the church basement kitchen and the women who work there, features four distinct characters and their relationships as they organize the food and the problems of a rural Minnesota church. From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young bride-to-be learning the proper order of things, the book and music give us a touching, funny look at their lives as we see them handle a record breaking Christmas dinner, the funeral of a dear friend, a Hawaiian Easter Fundraiser, and a steaming hot July wedding. They stave off potential disasters, share and debate recipes, instruct the young, and keep the Pastor on due course while thoroughly enjoying, (and tolerating) each other. Funny and down to earth, audiences will recognize these ladies as they begin to see the Church year unfold from below the House of God. This is most certainly true!

Presbyterian Women



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

Tip Toe Through the Tulips

Presbyterian Women will again be selling Spring Flower Bulbs. Brochures will be available in September. Prepaid orders must be received by October 1. Please support PW and beautify your garden by supporting this project which helps fund scholarships and other PW beneficencies.

PW Notes

Presbyterian Women will not meet in September due to a very full church calendar. However, we will be holding our Spring bulb sale. The first meeting of the 2017-2018 year will be a luncheon after Worship on October 15. This will be a business and informational meeting. Please save the date and plan to stay for fellowship with the women of New Hope. Every woman attending New Hope is a member of Presbyterian Women and is always welcome.

Fall Gathering

Ladies of the church, please save the following two dates for special events held at New Hope. The church will be hosting the Presbyterian

Women Giddings-Lovejoy Fall Gathering on Saturday, September 23rd 9 A.M to 2. P.M.

Earth Care

The New Hope Earth Care team is planning a trip to Shaw's Garden this fall. The trip will include a tour of Gateway Greening's community garden site, guided tour at Shaw's Garden and lunch at Mona's restaurant on the Hill. This event is planned for Saturday October 7, 2017. It is intended to be an intergenerational outing so plan to bring the whole family or just yourself.

Gateway Greening is a non-profit organization that educates and empowers people to strengthen their communities through gardening and urban agriculture. New Hope has partnered with Gateway Greening in the past for youth stay mission events and recently an adult stay mission day. They are located at 2211 Washington Avenue, St. Louis, Mo. 63103

The Missouri Botanical Garden (Shaw's Garden) is one of the oldest botanical institutions in the United States and a National Historic Landmark. It is known informally as Shaw's Garden for founder and philanthropist Henry Shaw. Garden admission fee is \$12 for adults (ages 13 and over), children and under are free. The Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Boulevard, St. Louis, Mo. 63110.



Mona's restaurant, an American-Italian establishment features Roman-style pizzas and housemade pastas. It is located at 5257 Shaw Avenue, St. Louis, Mo. 63110.

If you are interested in attending please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex indicating how many people will be coming and if you are able to drive other participants to and from the event.

We will leave the church parking lot at 8 :00 am to arrive at Gateway Greening at 9:00 am; leave there at 10:30 to be at Shaw's Garden at 11:00 am; leave there around 1: 00 pm for Monas.

It should be a great day to enjoy God's marvelous gift to us, the awesome Earth!



Ministry, Mission and Evangelism News

Festival of Sharing

For thirty-five years, Festival of Sharing has been held in Sedalia in October. The outpouring of love in action blessed people in Missouri and around the world with much needed food and personal items. Experience the first ever ShareFest in St. Louis! On Saturday, October 8, a mini-Festival of Sharing will be hosted by Immanuel UCC in Ferguson to package food, receive Festival of Sharing packs, worship, share a meal and distribute food and packs to St. Louis area social care agencies. www.festivalofsharing.org This year New Hope will collect Missouri Readin' and Writin', Missouri Student Dental, and Missouri Women's Prison packs. Watch for sample packs and lists of needed items later this month.



Peacemaking Offering

On October 2nd, 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.

School Snacks

Kids are heading back to school. That means that New Hope will collect snacks for the students at Harvest Ridge Elementary in Francis Howell District. Your contributions allow counselors and teachers to have peanut-free snacks on hand for kids who need them. Pick up lists of suggested snacks and drop off snacks in the outreach and information area.

Contact: Linda Carr 636-487-1604 or Mary Powers 314-277-5440



ShareFest St. Louis



New Hope will participate in ShareFest St. Louis, a Festival of Sharing event, in several ways.

- Collect Readin' and Writin' kits and Student Dental kits by October 8. Lists of items for each kit are in the information area.

On Saturday, October 14 starting at 9:30 a.m.

- Deliver kits to Immanuel UCC in Ferguson, MO.
- Package nutritious soy-rice meals in assembly line fashion.
- Share a noon meal followed by worship with volunteers from the St. Charles/St. Louis area.
- Distribute kits to local non-profit agencies on-site.

Website: festivalofsharing.org

Watch for additional information in News and Opportunities. Sign up in the information area of the narthex and make a note if you want to carpool.



September Birthdays

Earl Bostic	09/03	Nathan Nowakowski	09/17
Carl Doerr	09/03	Connie Pettit	09/18
Rick Cassetta	09/06	Jeff Connor	09/19
Mary Powers	09/06	Kirk Garten	09/20
Kristin Judd	09/07	Elaine Barbee	09/21
Cary Lippert	09/07	Kimm Besgrove	09/24
Stan Whiteley	09/07	Katie Besselman	09/24
Sammi Bordes	09/09	Rick Waldo	09/24
Dean Isbell	09/09	Shelley Geiger	09/26
Laura Eikmann	09/10	Robin Murphy	09/27
Elizabeth Langley	09/11	William Reilly	09/27
Rachel Eikmann	09/12	Debbie Phillips	09/29
Aleuria Alderson	09/15	Patrick Tilk	09/29
Theresa Edwards	09/15		

September Anniversaries

Herb & Kathy Gibbs	09/09/1989
Eberhard & Deb Mackin	09/12/2010
Randy & Sylvia Malta	09/18/1982
Michael & Ann Ray	09/23/1978

FINANCIAL CORNER

CONTRIBUTIONS	to-date August 2017	YTD
Budget	35,145.00	281,160.00
Actual	25,604.00	261,782.00



SEPTEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30am Christian Ed 10:15am Worship	4 Labor Day Church Office Closed	5	6 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	7 1:00pm Agape Circle 7:00pm Joy Circle	8	9 9:45am Oasis Food Pantry
10 8:45am Worship 9:30am Church Family Gathering 10:00 Christian Ed 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Advent by Can- dlelight Planning Meeting	11 7:00pm Session Meeting 7:00pm Deacon Meeting	12	13 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	14	15	16 8:30am Men's Breakfast
17 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship 12:30pm Deacon Picnic	18	19 9:30am PW Coordinating Team	20 10:00am Galatians Bible Study 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	21 7:00pm Employment Ministry	22	23 9:00am PW Giddings- Lovejoy Fall Gathering
24 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship 12:30pm <i>The Journey</i> 12:30 Spaghetti Luncheon 2:00pm Female Connec- tion	25 3:30pm Deacon Blood Drive 7:00pm Formation for Discipleship Committee	26	27 10:00am Galatians Bible Study 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	28	29	30 Anti Racism Coalition

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