

Back to Sunday School Breakfast

Bring your appetites Sunday, Sept. 8th! 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 time for food and fellowship. All ages are invited to attend a Formation Class! Meet new people! Reunite with old friends and classmates!

Come learn and grow through faith experiences as a church family!



Here is the schedule for the morning:

9:00-9:45 am – Lower Level - A congregational breakfast of pancakes, biscuits & gravy*, 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!)

9:45-10:00 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.

New Hope's two adult classes, "Contemporary Issues" and the "Matthew for Everyone" class, will meet together in the Sanctuary so Adult Class organizers can share an overview of each class! Both class groups welcome new folks to come and get a taste of the classes' formats and studies.

10:15 am– Worship Service

To assist the Church Family Gathering Planning Team, please RSVP by Thursday, Sept. 5th. This will ensure there are enough pancakes and seating for all the New Hope families that morning!! We welcome folks to 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 information table. Thank you!

As we as a congregation are so blessed, we are asking New Hope Families to bring food items for the Oasis Food Pantry that morning. Please help be a blessing for other families in our area!

Join us Sunday Sept. 8th at 9:00 AM, 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!!

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 8th at 11:30 p.m. in the Sunshine Room on the lower level. 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, Amie Tilk, or Margo Van Mill. Find out more . . . *Come & See!*

Music Notes

I’d like to invite all interested adults to consider joining the choir this year. Choir rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary beginning September 4. You don’t need to be able to read music, and you don’t need to have a voice like Pavarotti. You just need to commit to rehearsals and be willing to work with others. Singing in a group provides so many physical, emotional, social, and cognitive positive effects. You can read about them in an article by Jaime Babbitt entitled “Your Brain and Singing: Why Singing in a Choir Makes You Happier” on choraldirectormag.com. With so many benefits, why not take advantage? They’re FREE except for your time!

As choir members we work hard but we have fun, too. There’s room for YOU in the choir. We hope to see you there.

Peace,

Gay



Deacon Picnic



September 29th—Congregational Picnic, 11:30 a.m. at the Pavilion, hosted by the Diaconate.

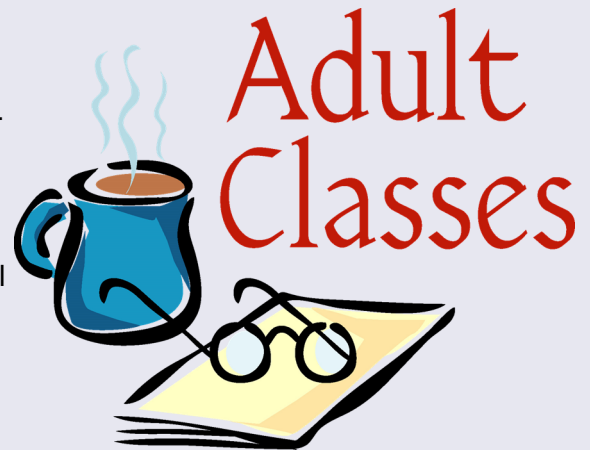
Please, for those attending the picnic, bring a pot luck dish based on your family name:

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

Please plan on joining us on September 29th!

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 8th, immediately following worship. 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, Margo Van Mill, or Todd Rasche.
Come & See!



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.

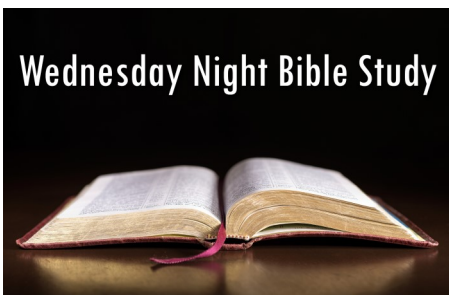
Matthew for Everyone—Beginning September 29th, during Sunday school hour, we will begin a new Bible Study based on the N.T. Wright's For Everyone Bible Studies.

We'll begin with a 25 week study of the Book of Matthew. This study is designed to help understand Scripture in fresh ways, with thoughtful questions, prayer suggestions, and useful background and cultural information.

The class will meet on Sundays at 9:15 am in Room 104. We will host a preview of the class on September 8th, at 9:45 am, after the Back to Sunday School Breakfast.

Wednesday Night Dinner & Study

Wednesday Night Bible Study



Please consider joining us for a new session of Wednesday night Bible Studies beginning September 25th. We will have a nine-course session that meets weekly until November 20th.

Dinner will be from 5:30-6:00 p.m. followed by Bible study from 6:00-7:20 p.m. After dinner, during the study, there will be separate activities for elementary-age children based on the curriculum "Illustrated Earth" There will be interactive stories and fun activities that celebrate God's creation. Childcare will be available for children through Pre-K.

Chris James will lead the Bible study and volunteers and paid child care workers will lead the children's activities. The cost for dinner is \$5.00 per person, max. \$12.00 per family, and is paid each week.

Register by noon on Wed., Sept. 12 by calling or emailing Laurie Meinert in the church office (936-2200 or lbrown@nhpres.org) or by signing up on the clipboard in the Outreach and Information area of the Narthex.

Earth Care

In June, the PCUSA and Presbyterian Mission issued the Climate Care Challenge.

“As people of faith, we believe that God created this world, called it good and told humans to care for it. We are blessed to have this sacred task.”

It challenges participants to make personal steps to help decrease their personal impact on the earth. Here are some of their ideas in bold, followed by ideas of how to carry out the task.

1) Walk/bicycle, take public transportation, carpool, drive more efficiently, and avoid air travel.

We live in a suburb with inefficient public transportation and carpooling is not always feasible. We can, however, drive more efficiently. Increase your speed slowly and anticipate the traffic and slow down before applying the brakes. See if your car has a moment-by-moment miles per gallon readout. Try it for a day to learn how driving habits can affect your gas mileage.

2) Eat a (more) plant-based diet or grow your own food.

Changing your habits to include just one night a week of meat-free eating will reduce your impact on the earth. Livestock and meat production produces more greenhouse gas, requires a lot more water and uses more fossil fuels than growing vegetables and grains. Make a simple meal with grilled locally grown vegetables tossed in pasta and sauce.

3) Plant a tree or help restore a wetland.

Also don't over-water your lawn. Keep the grass slightly longer in the heat of the summer to shade the roots. Create landscapes with drought resistant plants or create rock gardens with native plants or succulents.

4) Reduce your energy use: replace your light bulbs with LEDs, add insulation, air dry clothes or do an energy audit.

Wash your clothes in cold water. Today's detergents no longer need warm water to fully clean.

5) Reduce waste: recycle, compost, and buy less.

Yes, recycle whatever you can, but also shop smart for your food and pledge to eat leftovers. Americans throw away about 150,000 tons of food each day, which is about a third of the daily calories that we consume. Surprisingly, fruits and vegetables were the most likely to be thrown out (because of their short shelf life) followed by dairy and meat.

6) Purchase renewable energy or carbon offsets.

7) Talk about why you care about climate change to your friends and family.

Share one or two of these ideas with your close friends or family.

Thank you from your Earth Care Committee.



Fair Trade Market

The Fair Trade Market will be held Sunday, September 15th. It features artisan-made crafts, coffee and chocolate. These make wonderful gifts and promote safe and economically viable opportunities for people in developing countries.

The fair trade market proceeds will benefit PW, which provides scholarships, programs and charitable giving throughout the year.

Children and Youth Sunday School

It's almost that time again, and the staff and volunteers at New Hope are excited about starting another Sunday school year!

We're also excited about a new curriculum that we'll be using in the children and youth classrooms! The DWELL Sunday school curriculum actively engages kids in God's story using interactive games, reflective wondering, dramatic storytelling, and a whole lot of fun. This curriculum will be used in the Nursery through the Youth Sunday school classes. DWELL is grounded in a Reformed perspective. With DWELL, colorful story symbols create visual timelines; songs with kid appeal help memory verses stick; and wonderfully illustrated take-home pieces provide support to families. A carefully-crafted scope and sequence covers the entire arc of God's story - creation, fall, redemption, and restoration - at each level. Each year explores both Old and New Testaments in deepening ways as kids grow. Through it all, DWELL invites kids to find their place in God's story, living into and out of it for the rest of their lives.

As the DWELL curriculum is a sequence based curriculum, each week will build on the previous week and each year will build on the previous year. With the start of this new curriculum, we'd like to invite you to start a fresh approach to your children's Sunday school class. With regular Sunday school attendance, children not only learn about God (and that's the best reason to come!), they also make friends, find mentors in teachers, form good habits, and have fun!

When your children attend Sunday school on a regular basis:

- they will find the age-appropriate Bible teaching their young minds are so eager to absorb.
- we all know that parenting can be tough, but when you have Sunday school teachers working to mentor your children, they can provide another source of guidance.
- if you want your children to make more friends, Sunday school is a great place to find them. As they learn and play together on Sunday mornings, they will be able to form healthy friendships with children whose parents have the same priorities as you.
- if you start consistently taking your kiddos to church when they're young, they will forever learn the good habits of church attendance. For the rest of their lives, they'll benefit from the knowledge they gained in Sunday school.
- finally, don't forget the importance of play and fun. With our talented teachers, great activities, and friends they enjoy, your little ones will love going to Sunday school every week. This is a great way to show your kids learning about God can be really cool.

To help you bring your children to Sunday school on a regular basis, we've started a new adult Sunday school class! Beginning September 29th, during Sunday school hour, we will begin a new Bible Study based on the N.T. Wright's For Everyone Bible Studies. We'll begin with a 25 week study of the Book of Matthew. This study is designed to help understand Scripture in fresh ways, with thoughtful questions, prayer suggestions, and useful background and cultural information. The class will meet on Sundays at 9:15 am in Room 104. We will host a preview of the class on September 8th, at 9:45 am, after the Back to Sunday School Breakfast.

We hope you and your children will join us on September 8th for breakfast and a preview of the 2019-2020 Sunday school year. And we hope that you'll be as excited about it as we are!



Talk To Me

Talk to Me—New Hope Embarks on a Series of Listening Sessions

“In the beginning....” Of course you all recognize the first verse of Genesis, and John begins his Gospel, “In the beginning was the Word.” “The Word”—not God, not Jesus, but the Word. And every week before the Scriptures are read we are exhorted to “Hear the Word of God....” Clearly, words are important, and they give us stories. Between Genesis and John, there are hundreds of stories: Abraham and Sarah; Moses parting the Red Sea; Naomi and Ruth; David and Goliath; Mary and Joseph traveling to Bethlehem. Jesus used stories as one of his main teaching tools: the Prodigal Son; the lost sheep; the Good Samaritan. But the stories didn’t stop with Christ’s crucifixion and resurrection, not even with his ascension into heaven. The disciples in that upper room overcome by a great wind and flames of fire began speaking in languages of every listener, spreading the Good News throughout the world. Paul and others began writing letters. But it would be shortchanging our creative God to think the stories stopped once the scriptural canon was declared. Recently, in a sermon on the Lord’s Prayer, the Rev. Dr. Christopher James quoted David Adams, who has written:

The very fact that the Prayer developed over time means that the members of the faith community gradually mingled their voices with the voice of the One they worshiped, his words becoming their words and their words becoming his. With the growth of the tradition of the Prayer and our praying of the Prayer, we witness something striking: people living into Christ, bonding with him, identifying with his deeds and words so completely that who he is and who they are begin to merge. They speak with him and through him.

Your story has brought you here—maybe carried by your mother or after wandering through your own desert for a number of years—but you are here, and we want to know about it. During the month of October, our congregation will be conducting listening sessions, not to ask you to be on a committee or increase your pledge, but simply to listen to your story. What brought you here? What are your interests and passions? Where do you see God moving in your life or how are you struggling? We hope to interview about half of our members and friends, so about 120 people. We plan to do this basically by asking the every other person on our church’s rolls, however, if you would like to volunteer to be interviewed and share your story, we would be happy to oblige. Just let me know. Some of you will be asked to be listeners, others asked to share your story. Whatever your role, we hope you will say yes and enjoy this time of holy conversation, one to one. “Talk to Me.”

-Linda Dencker



Harvest Ridge School Snacks

Between January and May, New Hope provided nearly 600 snacks for students at Harvest Ridge Elementary School. Students returned to classes during the second week of August. Let's continue collecting snacks so these kiddos can focus on learning rather than grumbling tummies.

Lists of recommended snacks are in the Outreach and Information area. Donations may be placed in the container marked for Harvest Ridge. Thank you, New Hope!



Advent By Candlelight

Important New Hope News! The ABC Committee is excited to announce the date of the 2019 Advent by Candlelight, a special evening for the women of our church, supported by the men of our church. Mark this important date on your calendar: Tuesday, December 3rd at 7 P.M. in the church sanctuary! Our theme this year will be "Songs of the Season" with a focus on bringing Christ into our hearts through music, scripture and readings. Also, the committee is inviting ladies from Breeze Park to celebrate with us.

Reservation forms, with hostess guidelines, will be available in the Information and Outreach Center in mid-October. Don't miss this evening of fellowship dedicated to the Glory of Christ. Be certain to invite friends in your neighborhood and from other churches to include in this celebration of Advent. Keep your eye on the Sunday Bulletin for further announcements. See Ann Schmid (636-699-2142) or Rhonda Dyer (636-362-3750) with any questions.

September Birthdays

Earl Bostic	09/03	Kirk Garten	09/20
Carl Doerr	09/03	Elaine Barbee	09/21
Rick Cassetta	09/06	Ann Wienstroer	09/22
Mary Powers	09/06	Rosemarie Besselman	09/23
Kristin Judd	09/07	Katie Besselman	09/24
Cary Lippert	09/07	Rick Waldo	09/24
Stan Whiteley	09/07	Shelley Geiger	09/26
Sammi Bordes	09/09	Robin Murphy	09/27
Dean Isbell	09/09	William Reilly	09/27
Laura Eikmann	09/10	Debbie Phillips	09/29
Elizabeth Langley	09/11	Patrick Tilk	09/29
Aleuria Alderson	09/15		
Nathan Nowakowski	09/17		
Connie Pettit	09/18		
Jeff Connor	09/19		

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

SEPTEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am Christian Ed 10:15am Worship 11:30am Harmony Faith Family	2 Labor Day Church Office Closed	3 7:00pm Cub Scouts	4 6:15pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	5 1:00pm Agape Circle 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Joy Circle	6	7 10:00am Choir Workshop
8 9:00am Congregational Family Gathering—Back to Sunday School Breakfast 10:15am Word & Sacrament 11:30am The Journey	9 6:15pm MME Meeting 7:00pm Session Meeting 7:00pm Deacon Meeting	10	11 6:15pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	12 6:30pm Boy Scouts	13	14 10:00am Music Rehearsal
15 9:00am Plow Share Crafts 9:15am Christian Formation 10:15am Word & Sacrament	16	17 7:00pm Cub Scouts	18 6:15pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	19 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Employment Ministry	20	21 8:30am Men's Breakfast
22 9:15am Christian Formation 10:15am Word & Sacrament 11:30am The Journey	23 7:00pm Formation for Discipleship Committee	24 7:00pm MCU	25 6:15pm Handbells Rehearsal 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	26 6:30pm Boy Scouts	27	28 9:00am Listening Campaign Training
29 9:15am Christian Formation 10:15am Word & Sacrament 11:30pm Deacon Picnic	30					

FINANCIAL CORNER

CONTRIBUTIONS

August 2019

Year To Date

**Budget
Actual**

34,227.59

273,820.72