

New Hope United Methodist Church

Hilltopper

Harrisonburg District

December 2014



Prayers
Presence
Gifts
Service
Witness

Merry Christmas

CHURCH WIDE CHRISTMAS DINNER

Sunday, December 14th

5:30 pm

Covered Dish

Drinks will be furnished

Followed with entertainment

By

Cousins 4 Christ

(A free will offering will be received)

(awesome group)



Special points of interest:

- Nurses Corner
- Activities & Events
- Anniversaries & Birthdays
- Advent Message
- UMW
- COM & Adm Council

Community Tree Lighting New Hope Community Center

Hot Chocolate, Cookies & Santa

Friday, December 12th at 7 pm



Christmas Music Spectacular

Sunday, December 21st at 10:30 AM is our special worship dedicated to Christmas music. Come hear our adult choir present a mini-cantata and our children lead us through the Christmas story in action and song.



Christmas Eve Service

December 24th

9:00 pm



FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

*“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
Those who dwelt in a land of darkness, on them has light shined.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.” (Isaiah 9:2;7a.)*

Long ago the prophet Isaiah foretold that God was going to do a great thing. One was to come into our world and shine on everyone living in the shadow of death. He was to be both “Wonderful Counselor” and “Mighty God.” Such a message of hope has sounded through the ages to the present; it is a clarion call of redemption for every generation. Our preparation as believers, over these next four weeks, including four Sundays, is to ready ourselves for the Advent or “coming” of Christ Jesus once again.

Each Sunday in Advent has its distinctive theme: the Lord’s coming in final victory (First Sunday), John the Baptist (Second and Third Sundays), and the events immediately preceding the birth of Jesus Christ (Fourth Sunday). May these events of old and observances in our time renew our faith as we give thanks to the “King of Kings!”

Pastor Tom Murphy



ADVENT STUDY

Thee Seekers Sunday school class began an Advent Study on **Sunday, November 30th** at 9:30 am. The title is **Not A Silent Night by Adam Hamilton**. They are viewing videos and exploring Christmas events through the eyes of Mary. The study begins with years just before Mary’s death and work backward to the announcement of Jesus’ birth. Chapter include: Beginning with the End; The Piercing of Mary’s Soul; Amazed, Astonished and Astonished; Mary, Full of Grace; It Was Not a Silent Night.

“As Mary learned, God doesn’t promise a perfect, peaceful life or a silent, holy night. She was blessed, God-favored, and grace filled, yet her troubles did not end. That’s how life was for Mary, and that is how life is for us. Life doesn’t go according to our plans. Sometimes it’s hard and painful and scary. Yet, in the messiness of life God is at work, bringing blessing out of pain. That is the message of Christmas”

Come join us as we prepare for true message of Christmas.

United Methodist Women

Met on Monday, November 24th with 7 present. Our meeting was opened with reciting our purpose followed by prayer concerns. Pat Ewers led our commitment service followed by brief blessings activity and prayer. Officers for 2015 were approved. New forms/information for United Methodist Women was shared. All ladies are now welcome as United Methodist Women and no longer required to be part of circles or organized unit but are involved in purpose of knowing God, experience freedom, develop creative and supportive fellowship and expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church. We are excited about this change and hopeful more of our ladies will be a part of United Methodist Women at whatever level they are most comfortable.

Approved were mission giving to: RISE; Emily Howdyshell (mission trip); Valley Mission; Camp Overlook; John Morse (Haiti mission trip); gifts for prison ministry and speaker at the UMW Sunday in March 2015.

A box for Kingsway Prison Ministry will be provided for supplies for incarcerated ladies including junior legal pads, chapstick, and toothpaste.. A scripture verse will be applied to each item by Kingsway Prison Ministry office in Harrisonburg

Reading Program 2015

As we enter into the winter months and are not out as much, it is a good time to read as part of our spiritual discipline. Books are available in the Wesley Sunday School Classroom and there is a sign out sheet so we can record for those books read. **All** are invited to join United Methodist Women in reading. It is open to all including our children and there are children's books on our Reading Program list.

Some of the books available include: Strong Was Her Faith; One Simple Act; Immigration and the Bible; The Journey; The Call: Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly; Poverty; and For the Love of God. Also new books on loan from the District library. Please be sure to sign all books out and enjoy reading.

Mission Opportunities

Valley Mission—ongoing project of cereal. Bring your boxes of any kind of cereal and leave in Wesley Sunday School Classroom. Regular deliveries are being made. Thank you !!!

King's Way Prison Ministry— Each year our ladies sponsor a drive for the following items for prison ministry Christmas which include chap stick, regular size toothpaste any kind, and junior legal pads (5 x 8). Items will be collected through 12/14 and then delivered to Kingsway office in Harrisonburg.

SACRA— Staunton Augusta Church Relief Association is an organization that provides assistance to those in need for a variety of services including heat, groceries, rent, etc. A benefit concert is being held on Monday, December 8th at 7 pm to 9:00 pm at Memorial Baptist Church (organ prelude at 6:30 pm). Wonderful way to enjoy evening of Christmas music by a variety of groups as well as support this worthwhile organization.

Henry Fork Service Center—ongoing project of saving our Campbell Soup labels.

Mission Trips

March 2015 Haiti (potato bar fund raiser following worship on 1/11/2015)

Fall 2015 Tangier Island

See John Morse. More details will be forthcoming as available.

Children's Ministries



December Children's Choir

During the season of Advent, our Children's Choir will rehearse each Sunday at 9:10 AM. This is in preparation for our Children's Christmas Musical on December 21 at 10:30 AM. We hope all children can participate!

Children's Church

Lectionary Readings

12/7

Isaiah 40: 1-11
 Psalm 85: 1-2; 8-13
 2 Peter 3: 8-15
 Mark 1: 1-8

12/21

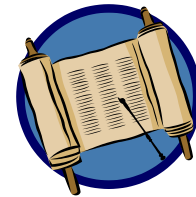
2 Samuel 7: 1-11; 16
 Luke 1: 47-55
 Romans 16: 25-27
 Luke 1: 26-38

12/14

Isaiah 61: 1-4; 8-11
 Psalm 126
 I Thessalonians 5: 16-24
 John 1: 6-8; 19:28

12/28

Isaiah 61: 10-62:3
 Psalm 148
 Galatians 4: 4-7
 Luke 2: 22-40



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS December 2014

Acolyte

12/7 Cindy Deavers
 12/14 Clara Breeding
 12/21 Taylor Meier
 12/28 Penny Pence

Morgan Craun

12/21 Tonya Meier &
 Taylor Meier
 12/28 Betty Stout &
 Courtney Stout

12/21 Henry Breeding &
 Charlie Bill Fretwell

12/28. Daryl Deavers & John
 Morse

Children's Message

12/7 Cheryl Bennett
 12/14 Dana Breeding
 12/21 Al Tuten

Nursery

12/7 Robin Craun &
 Martha Fretwell
 12/14 Sylvia Herman

Ushers

12/7 Al Tuten & Lewis
 Whitmer
 12/14 Helen Shiflett &
 Kim Maugans

Hi Noon

Next meeting is December 11, 2015 at Mt. Horeb Presbyterian Church

CONGRATULATIONS

Kylie Armstrong will be graduating from JMU on December 13th with her bachelors in nursing. She will begin work at RMH on January 12th on the orthopedic and observation floor.



Our congratulations and best wishes Kylie.

Remember our Military -

SPC. VIERS, ANDREW
C CO. 3-187 IN
TASK FORCE IRON RAKKASANS
KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN
APO, AE 09355



In honor of All Saints Sunday

Display of candles and signature quilt honoring those loved ones who have joined their Heavenly Father



Web Page

Web Page: myhnumc.weebly.com

Reminder to check out our church web page frequently for updates including the church calendar.

Nurse's Health Corner

As we prepare for the cold and flu season, many activities exist that can help you and your family stay healthy during the winter months. The number one activity that can reduce the spread of germs is hand washing. Also, NEVER put a finger in your eyes, nose or mouth! December 1 – 7th is National Hand Washing Week, promoting better hand washing or “Hand Hygiene” to adults and children alike. The CDC’s (Centers for Disease Control) focuses on proper hand washing to prevent the spread of germs and infectious disease.

Hand washing is like a "do-it-yourself" vaccine:

- **Wet** your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
- **Lather** your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
- **Scrub** your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
- **Rinse** your hands well under clean, running water.
- **Dry** your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

If soap and clean water are not available, use an alcohol-based product.

When should you wash your hands?

- Before preparing or eating food
- After going to the bathroom
- After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has gone to the bathroom
- Before and after tending to someone who is sick
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After handling an animal or animal waste
- After handling garbage
- Before and after treating a cut or wound

Other activities exist that help us stay healthy. Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces remove and destroy germs. The bathroom and kitchen are areas that have frequent traffic and should be disinfected frequently. Practicing safe food preparation and handling can prevent the spread of harmful bacteria and germs. Safe food practices include cleaning your hands and surfaces often, separating preparation, cooking and food serving areas to prevent cross contamination, and cooking and storing foods at the appropriate temperatures.

Help your body's immune system be strong by getting your annual flu vaccine. It is not too late to get your flu shot. The vaccine helps your body create antibodies to the flu viruses contained in the vaccine. It can prevent you from getting the flu or decrease the severity if you are exposed to a different flu strain. Realize that many colds and sore throats are caused by viruses. Antibiotics do not help with this type of infection. Be willing to leave the doctor's office without medication if your physician feels the cause is viral and not bacterial. Remember that antibiotics kill good bacteria found in our bodies that actually protect us. If you do receive an antibiotic for a bacterial infection, please use as directed and complete the full course of treatment. Using antibiotics for viral infections and not completing the course of treatment help certain bacteria become resistant to antibiotics through being overexposed to antibiotic treatment.

Some information regarding hand washing was obtained from the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>. Henry the Hand at www.henrythehand.com/ has many child oriented activities to educate children about hand washing practices. This information is provided as education and should never take the place of a physician's consultation.

Information provided by Dana H. Breeding, RN Health Educator from Community Wellness, at Augusta Health. To contact her related to the above information, please call 332-4988 or 932-4988.

New Hope United Methodist Church—Sunday School Opportunities

Come join us for Sunday morning bible studies, music, and fellowship as we share in building our relationship with God and others.

Study and worship opportunities are available for **ALL** ages

Sunday school classes:	9:30 am
Worship Service	10:30 am

Classes are available for children and youth (infants through high school) using materials published by Cokesbury.

Every third Sunday each month, Courtney Joyner, our music minister, offers instructional music/songs for a children's choir followed by a presentation during the Worship Service. (Watch for upcoming changes for children's music in near future).

Our adult classes include:

Fidelis – this senior adult class studies the Adult Bible Series by Cokesbury and engages in group discussions.

Pathfinders – the Pathfinder's class is comprised of young adults. The format relies on faith-based videos with discussions following. Primarily they deal with life situations and relate them to the Bible. One of their recent studies centered around the social principles of the United Methodist Church.

The Seekers – an adult group who seek to grow in their faith through sharing joys and concerns in prayer as well as study of the scripture through the use of a variety of materials including short videos. Their informal discussions lend to participation as one is led by the Holy Spirit.

Wesley – the Wesley class is mostly members of the “young” retirement age who review and discuss the teachings of God's word. Generally lessons are “traditional” using the Adult Bible Studies series from Cokesbury although other video-based curriculum has been used in the past. They typically enjoy a class outing once a month.

New—our **youth** are meeting on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm with Cindy Deavers as their mentor/teacher for their weekly Sunday School spiritual growth opportunity. At the same time their parents are meeting with Pastor Tom Murphy. The youth are encouraged to join us then for regular worship services on Sunday mornings.

TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Met on November 2nd. Our focus was on “Coming to Terms with History. Questions considered included: (1) what are our happiest memories of this church? (2) what are our not so happy memories of this church? And (3) how would we describe New Hope Church now?

Our new assignment questions include: (1) what of our past would we like to keep? (2) what of our past would we like to let go? (3) consider being chairperson responsible for reporting to Administrative Council and to the Congregation

Next meeting Sunday, December 7, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

Commission on Ministries

Met on November 10th with 13 present. Carolyn Fretwell opened the meeting with devotions with scriptures from Revelation and Proverbs.

Highlights included:

- new youth Sunday School class meeting on Wednesday nights with Cindy Deaver and their parents meeting with Pastor Tom.
- John Morse will be leading a mission team to Haiti in March 2015 and requested permission for his Sunday School class to sponsor a fund raiser for this mission in January (11th) of a potato bar following worship service.
- Julie Botkin is exploring options of a community breakfast, bible study, music, crafts, games for k-12 grade at the Community Center on Saturday morning. She will work with a committee to develop more specific details.
- No coordinator has been achieved for children's ministries but ideas are being explored for a more consistent program.
- Our worship paraments have been restored to their storage area; positive response to the candle-light All Saint's recognition. Veteran's display including poppy was placed in the Narthex honoring our veterans.
- The importance of prayer for the church and plans for new year to offer opportunities for more participants.
- Reviewed the three-week plan for stewardship.
- Spent remainder of meeting working on adding events to the 2015 calendar. Committee chairpersons are encouraged to get their dates entered as soon as possible.

Administrative Council

Met on November 20th with 14 present. Meeting was opened with devotions led by Cindy Deavers with scripture from Hebrews 12 followed by prayer.

Highlights include:

- Tax exempt status had expired and has now been reissued to our vendors
- Received for payment bill for parsonage renovations; approved using line of credit to meet full obligation along with our building fund donations to date
- COM report (see above article) for details
- Teresa Barr has taken temporary leave as custodian in preparation for surgery and LeVerne Herring will be filling in during this time. No Staff/Parish Relations Committee meeting in December as officers have agreed to remain except for lay leader change. Al Tuten will be assuming the Administrative Assistant position in 2015.
- Trustees continue diligently working with various projects including organ inspection, boiler/furnace, roof, dusk/dawn lights, replacing ceiling tiles, relocation of flags and work at the parsonage.
- Review of report on upgrading technology for the church
- Meetings for 2015 will remain on 4th Thursday except for November when it will be third Thursday with Linda Wheatley as new chairperson and Bruce Rogers remaining as secretary.

Anniversaries & Birthdays for December

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1-Steve Broyles | 16-Carrie Reed |
| 1-Robert Corbin | 16-Wyatt Markow |
| 1-Diane Miller | 16-B.F. Caricofe III |
| 2-Leslie Shaver | 16-Dwight Craig |
| 2-Robin Craun | 16-Shelvie Critzer |
| 3-Richard Booth | 16-Paul Whitmer |
| 3-Josh & Cheryl Bennett | 17-Kim Maugans |
| 3-Herman & Carolyn Pace | 17-Tim & Suzanne Lank |
| 4-Matt Carr | 20-Amye Bergman |
| 5-Susan Baldwin | 21-Emily Howdysshell |
| 5-Charles Darrah | 22-Keith Chittum |
| 5-Michele Taylor | 23-Julia Botkin |
| 6-Clarissa Booth | 23-Cheryl Howell |
| 6-Karen Whitmer | 25-B.F. Caricofe, Jr |
| 7-Betty Gruber | 25-Wally Smith |
| 7-Beth Rosen | 26-Carl Caricofe, Sr |
| 8-Peggy Corbin | 26-Jesse Hartman |
| 9-Josh Dively | 26-Larry & Nadine Hinebaugh |
| 9-Mac Craig | 27-Jeffrey Shipe |
| 10-Bernie Powers | 28-Logan Kraisser |
| 12-Mary Jane Shaver | 28-Mathew & Tanya Keys |
| 13-Jennifer Bottenmiller | 29-Christopher Dively |
| 13-Jake & Julie Botkin | 30-Kim & Karen Maugans |
| 14-Brenda Price | 31-Andy & Dana Breeding |
| 14-Dawn White | 31-Gary & Kathy Lewis |



If we have any incorrect information or are missing information, please leave updates in mailbox in church library for Hilltopper or email wsharding@verizon.net

Happy 90th Birthday

RICHARD BOOTH

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS— December

- | | | |
|--------|---------|---|
| 12/1 | 9:00 am | Verona Food Pantry volunteers |
| 12/1&2 | 7:30 pm | Waynesboro Choral Society Christmas concert "Once Upon a Time" |
| 12/5 | 6:30 pm | Wesley Class & Friends Christmas Dinner |
| 12/6 | 2-5 pm | Birthday Celebration for Richard Booth |
| 12/7 | 2:30 pm | Mabry/Shiflett Christmas Party with Nadine Hinebaugh |
| 12/7 | 6:00 pm | Transition Committee meeting |
| 12/8 | 7:00 pm | SACRA benefit concert at Memorial Baptist Church in Staunton (features Faithful Men and many other wonderful musical talents) |
| 12/9 | 1:30 pm | New Hope Chorus |
| 12/11 | Noon | Hi Noon at Mt. Horeb Presbyterian Church |
| 12/14 | 5:30 pm | Church-wide Christmas Dinner (covered dish) followed by Cousins 4 Christ entertainment |
| 12/15 | 9:00 am | Verona Food Pantry volunteers |
| 12/19 | | Youth Christmas caroling |
| 12/24 | 9:00 pm | Christmas Eve Service |
| 12/25 | | Merry Christmas |
| 12/29 | 9:00 am | Verona Food Pantry volunteers |

New Hope United Methodist Church
PO Box 86
New Hope, Va 24469
Web Page: mynhumc.weebly.com

Address Service Requested

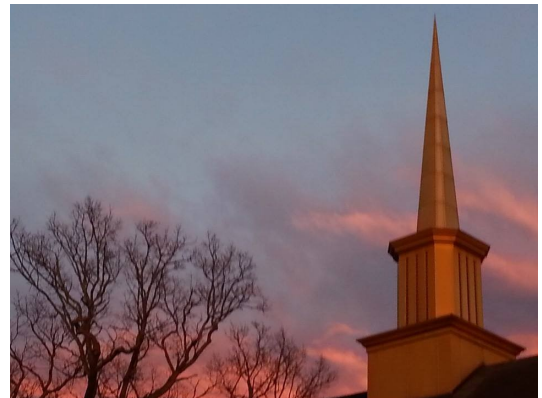


HILLTOPPER

Mission: Growing in discipleship, living our faith and reaching others

Identity: The New Hope congregation is a family of sharing and caring Christians who gather for worship and fellowship and through whom opportunities for spiritual growth are offered for all ages.

Vision: The people of New Hope will allow God to make a lasting and holy difference in us and through us as we apply ourselves to worship, prayer, study, witness and service



New Hope United Methodist Church

55 Round Hill School Road

New Hope, Virginia 24469

363-5940

Rev. Tom Murphy, pastor

Email: newhopechurch@newhopetel.net