



## December Sermons & Scriptures

December 5	Advent 2	
	<i>The Time is Now</i>	Luke 3: 1 - 6
December 12	Advent 3	
	<i>This is Good News?</i>	Luke 3: 7 - 18
December 19	Advent 4	
	<i>Birth Announcements</i>	Luke 1: 39 - 45
December 24	Christmas Eve	
	<i>Allow 4-6 Weeks for Delivery</i>	Luke 2: 1 - 20
December 26	Christmas 1	<i>Christmas Meditation</i>

**Children** - Sunday, December 5 - 6:00 p.m. 



**Chancel Choir program!** December 12 - 6:00 p.m.

**Family Ministry Christmas Event**  
 Sunday, December 19 - 5:00 until 7:00  
 Kingfisher Aquatic Center (meet there)

Tuesday, December 21 - noon - **Blue Christmas Service** *See Page 2*

Sunday, December 26 - 10:00 a.m. - **Christmas Carol Sing** - only service today.

## Advent Devotionals

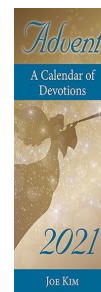
by Rev. Marla Lobo

We invite you deepen your journey this season with an Advent devotional. God speaks to us in different ways, so we have three offerings for you to choose from:

*An Advent Calendar of Devotions* – is a wonderful, reflective collection following the traditional format of a daily Scripture reading followed by a devotion.

*Close to Home* is an Advent devotional that includes Scripture, art, poetry, songs, and reflection for the Season of Advent.

As always, the Upper Room is available for your Advent journey.



## Advent Devotionals



2021

Pick up or request  
your copy today

**January Study**  
See Page 2



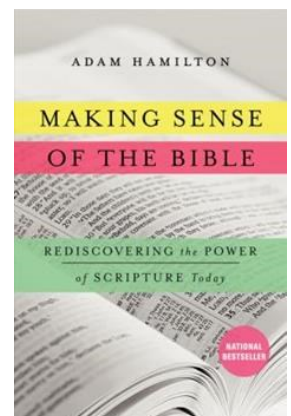
## Reminder:

For any monies to be credited as a 2021 donation, they must be received in the church office *by 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 29.*

If you are mailing a check, allow at least ten - twelve days for it to get here due to holidays and slow mail delivery.

You may also make donations online or via text by going to our web site [www.newhopeokc.org](http://www.newhopeokc.org), clicking on the About Us heading and scrolling to Giving. That provides a link and also information about texting funds.

The church office will closed all day Friday, December 31. It will open again Monday, January 3, 2022.



Thoughts  
from Pastor Rod  
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Advent is probably my favorite season in the church year. It's filled with so many festivities, shining lights, and vibrant colors. It invites us to enjoy the laughter of children and the memories of Christmases long, long ago. These themes are only made more significant by Advent's unblinking honesty about the real world. Cooing babies remind us of those whose cries of hunger go unmet. The sweetness of rocking a baby to sleep often mingles with worries about what dangers await them outside the door.

Underneath all of this persists the steady rhythm of the heartbeat of hope. Advent propels us forward, believing in a better day, stretching our vision past our limited scope to God's expansive horizon. I pray for us all a blessed Advent – one filled with honest lament and unbounded joy, of familiar traditions and happy surprises, of healing and hope.

Reverend Rod Newman

## Blue Christmas

by Rev. Marla Lobo

A service of hope and healing will be December 21 at noon followed by light lunch.

Throughout Advent, we proclaim hope, love, joy, and peace in the midst of difficulty. This is the Church's gift to the world: our faith story grounded in the presence of God that came and dwelt among us in the midst of hardship.

But often, the loss of a loved one, marriage, job, relationship or countless other circumstances can leave the hope, love, joy, and peace of the season as distant feelings.

So, on the day of the "longest night"– the Winter Solstice– you are invited to join us for a Blue Christmas worship service where we will remember and acknowledge our grief & loss and be reminded God's healing and hope.

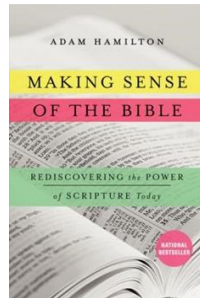


## Winter Adult Study

by Rev. Marla Lobo

Beginning in late January, you are invited to take part in a study of "Making Sense of the Bible" by Adam Hamilton. This study explores how we understand the nature of Scripture and how we should interpret it.

Stay tuned for more details!



## Helping Hands Food Pantry

by Mickey Miller

Hi, Everybody, the food pantry was open only one time in the month of November for regular food pantry, but we did make 31 food baskets to give out for Thanksgiving. Everybody that came was very very thankful for what we were giving them. I'm sure they had a wonderful Thanksgiving,

And I hope that everybody here had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Our food pantry will resume regular operations again in December and be open two times in December.



## Thank You Scout Troop!

We want to express our sincere thanks to the Scout troops who call New Hope home!

They collected hundreds of food items from our neighbors which will fill our pantry and Blessing Box in the coming weeks.

And, they donated 17 large bags of warm clothing for our homeless

neighbors that we will give to those who come to our Second Saturday Outreach to the Homeless!

If you have been thinking of ordering a Prayer Garden brick to honor of someone, now would be a very good time. Three orders have been turned in. We aren't charged an extra fee if we order at least five at a time so a couple more would help!

Bricks are \$50 each and there are half-sheet order blanks in a box on the credenza in the south glassed-in area. Thank you!



# DECEMBER

## Birthdays



## Anniversaries

Dave & Donna Reynolds  
 Greg & Roseanne Wells  
 Bob & Margaret Mills  
 Tommy & Carrie Fagan  
 Mike & Jenni Owen  
 William & Kathleen Reed  
 Robert & Kristy Goff  
 Keith & Jerry Tippett



Aileen Foster  
 Barbara March  
 Fred Hillemeier  
 Cade Wetzel  
 Dusty Rowland  
 Deloris Freeland

Steve Clark  
 Roland EchoHawk  
 Katie Seay  
 Kellie Seay  
 Allie Seay

Rebekah Hasty  
 Kelly Tower  
 Margaret Mills  
 David Stewart  
 Patti Saiz  
 Alyssa Miller  
 Richard Norman  
 Lynda Powell  
 Dan Korner  
 Keith Elwood  
 Mychael Hamlin  
 Max Murrell  
 Casey Pattillo  
 Roger Hurt  
 Ken Langert  
 Paul Stillwell  
 Barbara Moody  
 Laura Langert  
 Teresa Van Sickle  
 Leah Medina  
 Christian Plender

### Christmas Card Express!

Wesleyan Sunday School class will now be in charge of our in-house Christmas card exchange -- an easy and less expensive way to send cards to friends here at church.

Please write the recipients' names on the front of cards and give them to the class member at the table on Sunday mornings.



25 cents per card is the fee and the class will use proceeds toward various outreaches.

Class members will put cards in the mailboxes alphabetized by last name so please check if you have mail!

**Young at Heart** will enjoy fellowship at 11:30 on Thursday, December 16.

Jose Medina will prepare lunch and the fee is \$5.00. A sign-up sheet is on the counter so we know how many to expect.

### Ruth Circle

by Rosie Wells

Ruth Circle is having their annual Christmas party at Alice's house at 6:30 p.m. on December 14th.

Please let someone know what you are bringing so we don't duplicate. Don't forget to bring your gift card.

### Men Of Hope

There will be NO monthly men's breakfast in December. We will have breakfasts again starting in January 2022. We hope to meet again at the church, but that will all depend on where we are with the construction progress.

The Men recently set up the nativity scene on the front lawn of the church. We hope it brings you some joy in this Christmas season.

As always, if someone needs help with small jobs (think light home maintenance for example) please let me know. The Men of Hope are ready and willing to help when we can.

I can be reached at [cporter299@gmail.com](mailto:cporter299@gmail.com)

from the **UMW** Leadership Team

We express our gratitude to Elaine Pierce, Shirley McIlroy, and Earline Baker for their work planning the wonderful Social event. Thanks also to Nancy Beale who helped with decorating and all to helped with clean up. Our sincere thanks to all our members and guest who enjoyed entertainment, fun games, and great food. It was a truly a time for fellowship and Thanks-giving.

Reminder: UMW will not meet in the winter months. Our next meeting is on St. Patrick's Day (March 17) at 6:30 p.m.

*Thank You!*

"Dear New Hope Friends,  
 Thank you so much for the calls, cards and prayers for our daughter Christi. She is making slow but steady progress as she battles cancer. We appreciate all of your expressions of love, concern and hope.  
 Sincerely, John & Barbara March"

Thank you to those who provided poinsettias during this blessed season! The Sanctuary will be bright with 54 red plants!

You may take them home after service Christmas Eve.



## Children's Ministry

Season's Greetings!

December is here and that means that we are at the finish line of 2021. We have had a great year together! From our Valentine's Party to Spring Break fun, to Holy Week and our Easter Egg Hunt, to Promotion Sunday, camps and VBS, to Tent or Treat and everything in-between! We have learned a lot about the "I Am" statements of Jesus, loving our neighbors, The Lord's Prayer, learning our Bibles and so much more. Thank you for such a fabulous 2021!

The special season of Advent has begun and so has our time of preparation for the savior. As we prepare our hearts and minds for the Christ child, we have a special challenge for our children! Each child will be given a cardboard box to keep at their houses for all of December.

Each day they will add a special non-perishable food item. In January, the children will bring their boxes back to church for those items to be donated to our Blessing Box!

Our Christmas performance is Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>! Our whole church family is invited to attend and support some of New Hope's youngest. The show begins at 6 p.m. and is directly followed by a wonderful reception, provided by our Mary Martha Circle ladies, with snacks and a special guest!

We had just two big rehearsals! *The first December 1<sup>st</sup> The final dress rehearsal is on Saturday, the 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.* Our children have been working SO hard on this show and I can't wait for our church family to see it!

This year, preschool, youth and children have combined our Christmas parties to create one Family Ministry Christmas party! It is a swim party! (yes, you read that right..haha!)

We are headed to the Kingfisher INDOOR Aquatic Center. Our families are invited to meet us there.

We have reservations from 5 - 7 pm on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Food will be provided, so just bring your family!

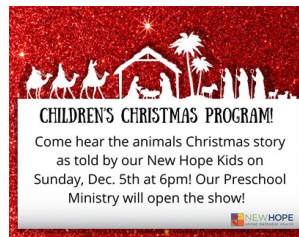
On Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, the youth group has invited us to participate in their Christmas Movie and Pajama Night at the church! This is a come and go event from 5 p.m.-9 p.m. Come in your best Christmas pajamas and stay for one movie or all of the movies!

Your family is invited to join us for Christmas Eve services at New Hope! We will have two services -- one at 6 p.m. and one at 8 p.m. The 6 p.m. service will have nursery care available for those 2 and younger. These are some of the most special services of the year and I pray your family will join us.

Ms. Lois and I are so looking forward to next year with you all! Thanks for letting us be a part of your child's faith journey!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

Have a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!  
Blessings,  
Luisa Medina



## Preschool Ministry

Preschoolers will be learning about advent during the month of Dec. The kids will be learning about what the advent candles mean and all December crafts and lessons will focus on the Christmas season.

We will not meet on Sunday evenings in December since there are other special Christmas events on those nights.

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> the preschoolers will sing a song before the elementary kids perform their Christmas play.

Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> will be a fun evening for all New Hope families! We will go to Kingfisher Aquatic Center for some water fun!

On Christmas Eve, nursery will be available during the 6 pm Christmas service for birth-2yrs. old.

Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> when there is only one service at 10:00 a.m. nursery will also be available. We will not meet for evening class.

## CDO

December is such a fun month at CDO! The kids will be doing lots of Christmas activities and crafts. The letters and themes for the month are: L-Lights, M-Merry Christmas!, and N-Nativity. The kids have been working hard on their for their Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> Christmas program.

CDO will collect new, unwrapped toys for newborns-18-month-olds from Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>-Dec.

12<sup>th</sup>. This is benefitting Skyline Urban Ministries. If you would like to donate, please see me. The kids will have class parties on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> and that is also the last day of CDO before we go on break.

Classes will resume Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Please see Amy with any questions and as always, thank you for your prayers and support of New Hope's Preschool Ministries!  
Merry Christmas!!  
Amy Aita- Director

# New Hope in DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9 - 2 - CDO 11 - 3 Stitches  6:00 - 7:30 Children's Rehearsal  6:30 - Choir	2 9 - 2 - CDO	3	4 10:30 - noon Children's Dress Rehearsal  11:00 JOY SS class' Christmas party
5 Services - 9:00 & 11:00  6:00 - Preschool & Children's Christmas Program	6 10:00 - prayer team  3 - 5 Whiz Kids	7 9 - 2 CDO	8 9 - 2 - CDO 6:30 - Choir	9 9 - 2 CDO 9:30 a.m. - Mary Martha Circle  CDO Christmas Program	10 Scouts Lock-in	11 9:15 Second Saturday Outreach
12 Services - 9:00 & 11:00  6:00 - Carols of Hope Christmas Concert	13 10:00 - prayer team  3 - 5 Last Whiz Kids until 1/10/22	14 9 - 2 - CDO 1 - 3 - Pantry Open  6:30 Ruth Circle Christmas Party	15 9 - 2 - CDO 6:30 - Choir	16 9 - 2 - <i>LAST</i> CDO until January 11  11:30 - Young at Heart lunch here	17	18
19 Services - 9:00 & 11:00  Meet at Kingfisher Aquatic at 5:00 - Family Ministry Christmas trip. (5-7 p.m.)	20 10:00 prayer team  5:00 - 9:00 Youth & Children movie & pajama night (come & go)	21 Noon - Blue Christmas service	22 6:30 - Choir	23	24  Christmas Eve Service s 6 & 8 p.m.	25 Happy Birthday, Jesus! no services on Christmas Day
26  ONE service - Christmas Carol Sing - at 10:00 a.m. no evening events	27  OFFICE CLOSED	28 1- 3 - Pantry Open	29	30	31  OFFICE CLOSED	January 1  Wishing YOU a heavenly 2022

Sunday, January 9 Trustees meet; Tuesday, January 11 CDO resumes