



Advent at New Hope

We invite you to join us in December for a variety of opportunities to reflect and celebrate the season of Advent.

Weekly:

- Sunday Worship at 9:30AM (Traditional) & 11:00 AM (Blended)
- Sunday School for all ages 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM
- Self-guided Advent Prayer Labyrinth

Special Moments:

- Advent Come and Go Prayer Labyrinth: Weekly, Mon-Fri. @ 9am-3pm
- Children's Ministries Christmas Program: Sunday, Dec. 4 @ 6pm
- Sanctuary Come and Go Reflection Time with Live Music: Tuesday, Dec. 6 & Dec. 13 @ 6-7:30pm
- Carols of Hope featuring the New Hope Choir & Orchestra: Sunday, Dec. 11 @ 7pm
- Blue Christmas Worship: Wednesday, Dec. 21 @ 12pm & 7pm
- Christmas Eve Worship: Saturday, Dec. 24 @ 6pm & 8pm
- Christmas Day Worship: Sunday, Dec. 25 @ 10am

New Hope United Methodist Church
11600 N. Council Road Oklahoma City, OK 73162
phone (405) 721 -5015

www.newhopeokc.org and on Facebook

Sunday worship services 9:30 (traditional) 11:00 (contemporary)
Sunday School Classes also at those times.

Advent is a personal favorite season of the church year. Getting all preparations done for celebrations and making sure all is ready for our special services come with their share of anxiety but even those activities can warm the heart. We get to keep before us the wonder of the season, the joy of children, and the possibility of cherishing relationships, old and new. I encourage all of us to be intentional about paying attention to the specialness of this time of year and the many ways God continually comes into our hearts.

Advent Sermon Series

Our Advent sermons this year will follow the lectionary readings from the prophet Isaiah. This prophet lived many years before Jesus would be born but the times were similar – military oppression, anxiety over the future, feelings of desperation. Yet in this dark time, the prophet saw the light of God breaking through – sometimes tentatively, other times shining brightly. The sermons will follow the themes of the four Advent candles – hope, peace, joy, and love.

November 27

Advent 1
A Vision of Hope
Isaiah 2:1-5

December 11

Advent 3
Joy Once Again
Isaiah 35:1-10

December 24

Christmas Eve
A Flickering Light
Isaiah 9:2-7

December 4

Advent 2
The Peaceable Kingdom
Isaiah 11:1-10

December 18

Advent 4
Love Finds a Home
Isaiah 7:10-16

December 25

Christmas Day
Announcing the Good News!
Isaiah 52:7-10



Walking a labyrinth is a slow, quiet, meditative process. It is a way to embody prayer; to let our whole selves be attentive to God. A labyrinth is not a maze. There is one entry point, a single path to follow, and the exit is following that path in reverse. As you walk in,

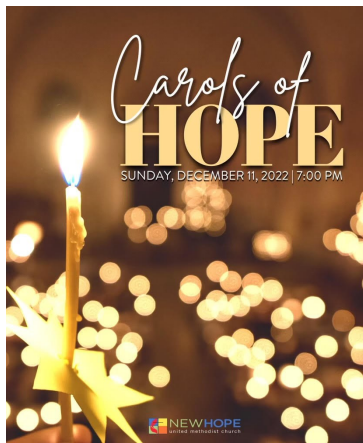
you are walking towards God, the center of the labyrinth. As you exit from the center, you are going with God back out into the world. If you choose, you can pick up a sheet with ideas for praying the labyrinth as you walk. **Mondays - Fridays in December, 9:00AM-3:00PM**



Sanctuary Come and Go Reflection Time

The busyness of the season can leave us feeling drained and in need of rest. We invite you to pause from the holiday hustle for a time of respite. Enjoy the beauty of our Sanctuary and listen to live, seasonal music. Linger as long as you want. Come as you are. If you choose, you can pick up a sheet describing ideas, such

as prayer and meditation, for your time in the Sanctuary. Or, you are welcome to just sit and recharge. **Tuesdays, December 6 and December 13, 6:00-7:30PM**



Join us for a musical celebration of the season of Advent as we look forward Christmas, seeking to proclaim God's love and light. Featuring the New Hope Chancel Choir and the New Hope Chamber Orchestra! **Sunday, December 11, 7:00PM**

For many, the Christmas season is not a joyous one. Struggling with the death of a loved one, facing the loss of a relationship, coping with the loss of a job, living with a chronic disease, and many other circumstances can leave us feeling "blue" rather than joyous. We invite you to join on the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year, for a special service that acknowledges our grief & loss and reminds us that God is ever present to offer us peace, hope, and love.

Wednesday, December 21, 12:00PM and 7:00PM. A light lunch will be served following the noon service. All are welcome to stay for lunch.





New Hope Women's Ministry RETURNS in 2023!

By Rev. Marla Lobo

Weekly Study Groups:

**Tuesday at 9:30 AM*

** Wednesday at 6:30PM*

Monthly Book Club

** Wednesday at 9:30 AM*

Daytime and Evening Fellowship

*24 hour Winter Retreat
January 27-28
at Canyon Camp*

We are so EXCITED to share that women's ministry gatherings return to New Hope beginning in January of 2023! By women and for women, there are a variety of ways to connect. We look forward to seeing you in January and hope you will bring a friend! Here is a bit of info about each kind of gathering:

Weekly Study Groups:

- Tuesday at 9:30AM starting January 17 facilitated by Shirley Yates.
- Wednesday at 6:30PM starting January 18 facilitated by Pastor Marla.

The first study for each group will be the book: "Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times" by Adam Hamilton. Future studies will be selected based on the interests of each group.

Monthly Book Club:

Wednesday at 9:30 AM starting January 18 facilitated by Debbi Marshall. Each month, women in this group will select a book to read and discuss. Books may be fiction or non-fiction.

Women's 24 Hour Winter Retreat:

Join us in January as we commit to spending 24 hours recharging and deepening our relationship with God. We'll worship together, learn & practice new tools to connect with God, and have time for fun too! Our retreat will be led by Pastor Marla. More details and the sign up sheet will be available in the new year!

Friday, January 27 at 4 PM to Saturday, January 28 at 4 PM

Canyon Camp Conference and Retreat Center

\$65 per person – includes lodging, food, and transportation.

Scholarships available.

Fellowship Groups:

Fun and fellowship are such an important part of our journey together! In February, we will begin a daytime and an evening women's fellowship group. For the February gatherings, we'll meet at New Hope for fun, fellowship, food – and bunco! Future gatherings will be based on the interests of the groups. Daytime fellowship group coordinated by Elaine Pierce.

Evening fellowship group coordinated by Aly Simon.

Men of Hope

by Chris Porter

The Men of Hope will not meet in December due to the business of the season. We will meet again in January 2023. The Men would like to thank the congregation for their support throughout 2022 which allowed us to award the Don Parker Memorial Scholarship to Anya White.

If anyone in the congregation needs small repairs done or things moved, as examples, the Men are ready and able to help. Please email me at cporter299@gmail.com if any help is needed. We will have a new President in 2023 so we will provide their contact information to the congregation as soon as possible.

The Men want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

-Chris

Update on the New Hope Holiday Bazaar

by Carola Smith

Ruth Circle wishes to thank the congregation for supporting the annual Bazaar on November 5, 2022. The total amount raised by our groups - Ruth Circle, Mary Martha Circle, and United Women in Faith - was \$2,945.00. This money will support missions chosen by the above listed groups.

See you next year for our 2023 Holiday Bazaar on November 4!



Interested in sending a Christmas Card to someone at New Hope? The Wesleyan Sunday School class will host the Christmas Card Post Office in the Gathering Area, beginning on Sunday, December 3 through the Advent season.

You are welcome to leave cards for others at a cost of \$.25 per card. Proceeds will go to fund a mission project chosen by the class.



United Women in Faith

by Earline Baker

The United Women in Faith met November 17 for the last General meeting of 2022. We welcomed Pastor Rod, and Sharri Hiller, a guest. Delicious hors d'oeuvres were enjoyed by all. Janice Stine was elected as secretary.

Nancy Beale was awarded the United Methodist Women Special Mission Recognition pin. This is one of the United Methodist Women's five channels of Mission giving. It is a way to honor those who serve and to show our love and appreciation for all they have done. We were sorry that Nancy was ill and unable to be with us. In appreciation Debbie McGlohon was honored for serving six years as Treasurer of New Hope United Methodist Women.

Proceeds of the UWF Bazaar projects were discussed. The Executive Team will meet to discuss which non-profit organizations will benefit from our extra-giving. The General membership will be contacted for their suggestions and votes.

The United Women in Faith do not meet in the cold winter months since meetings are at night. The next meeting will be March 16, 2023.

Wishing you God's blessings for a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.

Jesus, take us by the hand, help us see you in every sister, every person, and love others as you have loved us.

Mary Martha Circle

by Mary Jo Pratz

The women of the Mary Martha Circle met on November 10 with seventeen members in attendance. We all enjoyed a delicious brunch prepared by Mickey Miller and Frances Murrell. A sincere thank you to all for supporting our bake sale and RADA booth during the recent bazaar. It is through your generosity that we are able to perform our ministry and missions activity. One program of Mary Martha is to create and distribute Thanksgiving Baskets to members who are not able to join us. This year we created and distributed 16 "goodie" baskets. Additionally, we voted to contribute \$200 to Exodus House for the purchase of Christmas gifts for the residents. Our next activity will be to provide sandwiches, chips, cookies and drinks for attendees to our Children's Christmas program on December 4. This is a wonderful way to end our year and to begin the season of giving. Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 8 at 9:30. All women are invited to attend!

New Hope Prayer Team

by Rosie Wells

Prayer Team meets every Monday at 10:00am. We send cards and pray for our church family and their friends and relatives. Come when you can there is no commitment required. Our main event is the November Bazaar. Please come join us!

Ruth Circle

by Rosie Wells

We began as the ladies who worked and could not attend daytime groups. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. The 2nd Tuesday is our meeting for fellowship and worship at 6:30pm and the 4th Tuesday, we eat at various restaurants together. Please join us!

Young At Heart

by Shirley McIlroy

Here are our upcoming Young at Heart Dates for 2022:

December 15 - Covered Dish Luncheon and Games at New Hope, we will be meeting a little earlier than usual in the month of December due to the Christmas holiday!

If you have any ideas for our group, please share them with our committee members - Greg Wells, Shirley McIlroy, Mary Jo Pratz, Mickey Miller, Elaine Pierce, & Pastor Marla.

May we always be Young at Heart!

Happy December Birthdays!

Richard Canterbury
Steve Clark
Diana Diggs
Roland Echohawk
Keith Elwood
Aileen Foster
Brandon Hamlin
Rebekah Hasty
Fred Hillemeier
Roger Hurt
Dan Korner
Audrey Kwok
Kenneth Langert
Laura Langert
Barbara March
Logan McLaren
Leah Medina
Alyssa Miller

Elizabeth Miller
Margaret Mills
Barbara Moody
Max Murrell
Richard Norman
Lacricia Norman
Noah Paul
Christian Plender
Carole Rhodes
Melissa Roberts
Dusty Rowland
Patti Saiz
Allie Seay
Kellie Seay
Katelin Seay
Natalia Sierra
John Smith
David Stewart

Paul Stillwell
Kelly Tower
Teresa Van Sickle



Happy December Anniversaries!

Steve & Debbie Barnett
David & Allison Hutchins
David & Helen Johnson
Dustin & Elanore McClarry
Bob & Margaret Mills
Jennifer & Mike Owen

Ben & Kathleen Reed
Greg & Rosanne Wells



Join us in welcoming and celebrating the newest members of our New Hope family!

- Pam Bray, joined 10/30/22

Youth confirmed into membership on Confirmation Sunday,
November 20, 2022

- Landon Aita
- Wesley Barrick
- Caleb Leonard (baptized)
- Kayelynne Osborn
- William Osborn
- Cole Wigley (baptized)

*Members! Haven't seen your birthday or anniversary
in the New Hope Newsletter yet?*

Email your important dates to Ministries Coordinator, Katie at
katie@newhopeokc.org to make sure we have them in our
membership records!

Stitchers

by Nancy Beale

Below are the Stitchers meeting dates for the remainder of
the year. Join us in the Fellowship Hall!

- DECEMBER 7 and 21 from 11:00 to 3:00



Helping Hands Food Pantry

by Mickey Miller

Hello everyone! Our food pantry has been bustling and busy as usual. On November 8, we gave food out for 30 people. The next Tuesday we gave out food baskets. We had 38 people signed up on our list so each of them got a basket and a card for \$25. That way each of them can decide whether they want turkey, beef, ham, etc. for Thanksgiving. I hope that all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas!

Thank you so much for everything you have done for the food pantry and our patrons!

Exodus House

by Mickey Miller

In November, we delivered 16 Thanksgiving baskets to the residence of Exodus House along with a gift card for each of them to purchase whatever else they may need to complete their Thanksgiving meal. Our apartment is now vacant but we are expecting a couple of new residents before the middle of December so it will very soon be occupied again. Exodus House had their Thanksgiving dinner at Wesley Methodist Church on November 15. It was a potluck dinner and the turkey was provided and it was very good to see one of our former residents, Allie, who has received a promotion at work along with a raise. We look forward to meeting the new residence when they move in.

Thank you for your support!

Blessing Box Needs

The Blessing Box continues to be used regularly by our neighbors.

Items we can always use are:

- Canned tuna
- Canned chicken (large)
- Canned fruit and snacks
- Boxes of instant white rice
 - Hearty soups
- Chef Boyardee products

New Hope Youth

by Maddy Day

Confirmation

Over the past 3 months the youth have been working through confirmation! They have been exploring what it means to be a member of the United Methodist Church, what we believe, and how we should be living our lives. We had some amazing adult mentors who were willing to hang out with some young people, play some games, be a little silly, & share the wisdom they have. We are extremely grateful for our congregation who have supported our youth through this journey as they confirm what they believe and become full members of the church! Sunday, November 20, 2022 we had 2 youth be baptized and 6 youth confirmed and become full members! The youth know that confirmation doesn't stop there. They understand that it is a continuous journey in their relationship with God and are ready for the next steps that come!

December Activities

With school coming to a break the youth are ready to play and hang out with each other! The youth will be heading to the Chisolm Trail Park in Yukon for a Christmas Light Scavenger Hunt. We will be exploring through the lights, drinking hot chocolate, and enjoying each others company. We are also excited for our annual Family Ministry Christmas Party. This will be our last get together before Christmas and the New Year arrives.

Winter Spark: January 13-16

Winter Spark is our annual district winter retreat open to youths in grades 6th-12th. Our theme this year is "Rooted" based off our guiding scripture, Ephesians 3:17-19. We will be exploring the foundations of United Methodism and what our faith is rooted in! Our youth are super pumped for Winter Retreat and I can't wait for them to share everything they have experienced with our congregation!

If you or your fellowship group/Sunday School class are interested in sponsoring a person to go to camp, please see Youth Director, Maddy Day for more information on how to designate your gift.

Preschool & Children's Day Out

by Amy Aita

Preschool Ministries

December is a busy month but such an important month as Christ followers! This month the preschoolers will be learning all about advent. We will be doing lots of crafts and fun activities to get ready for Christmas!

We will not be meeting on Sunday evenings for reg. class since we have so many activities going on on Sunday evenings. Dec. 4 the Children's Ministry kids will do their Christmas performance at 6pm. The preschoolers will be singing a song either before or after the performance. If you have a 3-4yr. old that would like to sing, let me know! We will be practicing in Sunday school and we will practice on December 3 after the Children Min. kids dress rehearsal in the sanctuary.

Dec. 18 will be the Family Ministry Christmas Party! Please let me know if you plan to attend!

Please see the Facebook page and other social media for info about Christmas Eve services and Christmas Day/New Years Day services. There will be childcare only for the 6pm Christmas Eve service. The Christmas Day and New Years Day services will be family services with no childcare offered.

CDO

December is such a fun and busy month at CDO! The kids will be learning and doing all things having to do with Christmas! We will celebrate together on Dec. 8 with a performance by the kids and then a dinner and special visitor appearance. The last day of the semester is Dec. 15. We will have class parties that day. We will resume for the spring semester on January 10. Thank you for your support of these ministries! I wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Amy Aita - Preschool Ministries Director

Children's Ministries

by Luisa Medina

Greetings!

It is December and all of the fun hustle and bustle of the holiday season is in full swing! Our Christmas play is on Sunday, December 4 at 6pm! We will perform our show and then have an all church party with a special guest directly following the performances! Make plans to come and watch our kiddos! They have been hard at work on this show since September and are so excited for our church family to see it.

Blessings,
Luisa Medina

New Hope Calendar - December 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 10:00 Al Anon	2 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	3
4 9:30 & 11:00 Services 6:00 Children's Ministries Christmas Program	5 10:00 - Prayer Team 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	6 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 6:00 - 7:30 Sanctuary Come & Go Reflection Time	7 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 11:00 Stitches	8 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Mary Martha Circle 10:00 Al Anon 6:00 CDO Christmas Program	9 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 7:00 Scouts Lock-In	10 9:30 Second Saturday Outreach
11 9:30 & 11:00 Services 7:00 Carols of Hope + Reception	12 10:00 - Prayer Team 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	13 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 1:00 - 3:00 Food Pantry Open 6:00 - 7:30 Sanctuary Come & Go Reflection Time 6:30 Ruth Circle	14 9:00 - 2:00 CDO	15 9:00 - 2:00 CDO (Last Day of Semester) 10:00 Al Anon 12:00 - 2:00 Young at Heart	16 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 7:00 Cub Scouts Movie Night	17
18 9:30 & 11:00 Services 5:00 Family Ministries Christmas Party	19 10:00 - Prayer Team 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	20	21 11:00 Stitches 12:00 Blue Christmas Worship + Lunch 7:00 Blue Christmas Worship	22 10:00 Al Anon	23 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	24 Christmas Eve 6:00 Christmas Eve Worship 8:00 Christmas Eve Worship
25 Christmas Day 10:00 Service	26	27 1:00 - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open	28	29 10:00 Al Anon	30 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	31 New Year's Eve