



Advent at New Hope United Methodist Church

Children's Ministries Christmas Play | December 3 | 6PM

Carols of Hope | December 10 | 7PM

Holden Evening Prayer Service | December 13 | 6PM

Blue Christmas Services | December 21 | 12PM & 7PM

Fourth Sunday in Advent Morning Worship | December 24 | 10AM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services | December 24 | 6PM & 8PM

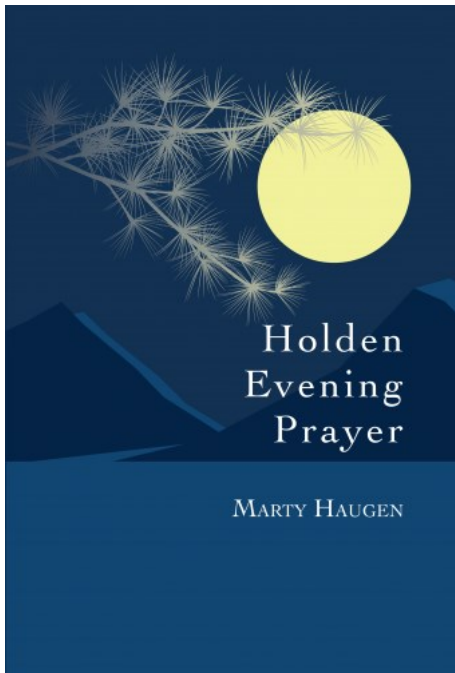


**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 10, 2023
7:00 PM**

NEW HOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
11600 N Council Rd. Oklahoma City, OK 73162

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 8:45AM (traditional) & 11:00AM (traditional with choir & orchestra).
Sunday School Classes meet at 10:00AM.



Holden Evening Prayer December 13 @ 6:00PM

This traditional evening prayer service includes hymns, psalms, and prayers set to very singable melodies. Participants are invited to sing along or simply enjoy the beauty of the music. This is an opportunity to pause amid the bustle of the holiday season for a time of reflection and peace. Our musicians will provide an improvisational interlude and holy communion will be served. You're welcome to attend and invite your friends.



Blue Christmas Services Thursday, December 21 @ 12PM & 7PM

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.



New Hope United Methodist Church 2023 Christmas Poinsettias Dedications

In Memory Of:

- Brian Bakeman: in memory of Ann Bakeman
- Linda Brinkworth: in memory of Phyllis & Owen Bennett
- Beth Brown: in memory of Richard Brown
- Teresa Coffman: in memory of Scott Coffman
- Charlotte Coulthard: in memory of Clyde Coulthard
- Kerwin & Pat Crist: in memory of Rhonda Steinlicht
- Jackie Dawes: in memory of Jack & Lavonne Hatfield, Kaye Merriam
- Pat Downing: in memory of Gene Downing, Nellie & Norman Calvin
- Keely Ellsworth & Family: in memory of George Smith
- Mary Lou Ellsworth: in memory of Douglas Ellsworth
- Rick Ernest: in memory of Charlene Ernest, Kaye Merriam
- Doug & Jaci Finch: in memory of John R. Key, Betty & Elliott Hale, & Dick Fenner
- Jason & Rebekah Hasty: in memory of Blaine Wofford
- Sharri & Jeff Hiller: in memory of Bud Riggs, Russell Hiller
- Glendon & Jayne Hudson: in memory of Ray & Marilou Mueggenborg
- Lisa Lohmann: in memory of Carolyn Dozier, Arnold & Hazel Lohmann
- Judy & Roger Murnan: in memory of Our Parents, Monte McDonald
- Frances Murrell: in memory of William J & Iris Rodgers
- Max Murrell: in memory of Jesse & Marie Murrell
- Richard & Lacticia Norman: in memory of Our Parents & Grandparents
- Jenni Owen: in memory of Michael Owen
- Roger Patty: in memory of Bill & Delores Patty
- Cheri Parker: in memory of Donald Parker
- Ray & Ellen Peed: in memory of Albert Engel
- Lynda Powell: in memory of Leslie Thompson, Aline Thompson, Vicki Thompson, & John Powell
- Mary Jo Pratz: in memory of Phillip Pratz, JT Hyatt
- Blair & Jeannie Schoeb: in memory of Our Parents
- June Skaggs: in memory of Bob Skaggs
- Lucille Smith: in memory of Jerry Smith

In Honor Of:

- Phyllis Armstrong: in honor of New Hope Church
- Teresa Coffman: in honor of Vince & Jewell Foxhoven
- Charlotte Coulthard: in honor of Loved Ones Lost
- Rick Ernest: in honor of Amy, Luis, Landon, & Evan Aita
- Claude & Sherry Husbands: in honor of Our Children & Grandchildren
- Richard & Lacticia Norman: in honor of Our Children & Grandchildren
- Cheri Parker: in honor of Chris Parker & Preston Parker
- Elaine Parrent: in honor of My Oklahoma Family
- Ray & Ellen Peed: in honor of Our Children & Grandchildren
- Blair & Jeannie Schoeb: in honor of Our Children & Grandchildren
- Lucille Smith: in honor of My Children & Grandchildren
- Kelly Tower: in honor of Military Families

Advent Sermon Series

by Rev. Rodney Newman

Many churches follow a common prescribed series of Bible readings to guide their worship. I don't always choose sermon texts from this resource but I will be turning to the reading from the Gospel of Matthew between now and the beginning of Advent. In the second half of the church year, we focus on the teachings of Jesus.

December 3

Advent 1
Learning to Tell Time
Mark 13:24-27

December 10

Advent 2
A Story with No Beginning
Mark 1:1-8

December 17

Advent 3
Identify Yourself!
John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24

Advent 4
An Impossible Possibility
Luke 1:26-38

December 24

Christmas Eve
Peeking into the Manger
Luke 1:46-55

2023 End of Year Giving

We appreciate your gifts to the church throughout the year! Please note that in order for giving to be recorded on your 2023 Giving Statement, money must be in our office no later than **Thursday, December 28th**.

Thank you!

Scouting Troops at New Hope UMC!

Cub Scouts - Troop 599

Cub Scouts start up again on **Mondays at 6:30pm** at New Hope UMC. If you are interested in Cub Scouts and your youth is between Kindergarten - 5th Grade, you are invited to join us. Contact Troop Leader, Brad Quiroz (bradq1234@hotmail.com) for more info.



Thank You to our Scouting Groups for their collection and donation to the New Hope UMC Food Pantry in November!

Boy Scouts - Troop 162 & Girl Scouts of BSA - Troop 6162

Scouting for ages 6th grade - 18 yrs meet at New Hope UMC on **Monday evenings at 7pm**. You are invited to join us! Contact Boy Scouts Troop Leader, Lee Walker (yamrider02@yahoo.com) or Girls of BSA Troop Leader, Brad England (bgengland@gmail.com) for more info.



From the Girls of BSA - Troop 6162:

Thanks to all the New Hope UMC Sunday school classes who donated or pledged a donation to buy all tents for troop and had additional money to buy other items needed. It is much appreciated and a testament of the giving nature of those who attend our church!

Men of Hope

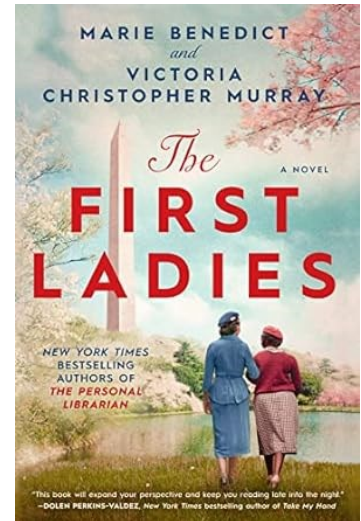
Men of Hope will not meet in December to avoid conflicts with the holiday Season. Their 2024 meeting schedule is forthcoming. The Men of Hope are also preparing to welcome their incoming president, Jeff Hiller, effective January 24, 2023!

Women's Book Club

by Debbi Marshall

The New Hope Womens Book Club will meet **Wednesday, December 20 at 9:30am** for Brunch & Book Talk. Bring a snack to share and the names of books you have recently loved to share with others!

Then - join us **Wednesday, January 17 at 9:30am** to kick off 2024 with our first selection of the year, *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. This fictionalized biography spotlights the extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune, known as The First Lady of the Struggle.



Brunch & Bingo - Women's Ministry Event!



The New Hope Women's Ministry Team invites all women to kick off 2024 with a fun fellowship event: Brunch and Bingo! Join on **Saturday, January 20th from 10 AM -1 PM**. Please bring a brunch food to share and an item that can be selected as a prize by bingo winners! The value of each prize should be \$5 or less. We hope you will join the fun and bring a friend! If you have questions, contact Pastor Marla at marla@newhopeokc.org.

Save The Date!

**Art and Soul: New Hope Women's Ministry
24-Hour Winter Retreat**

March 1-2, 2024 (Friday/Saturday)
at Canyon Camp. Details coming soon!



Stitchers

by Nancy Beale

The Stitchers group will meet only on Wednesday, December 6 from 11am-3pm this month! Contact Nancy Beale for more info.



Ruth Circle

by Doris Korner

All ladies are invited to join us at the church on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm for Bible study and fellowship and the 4th Tuesday of the month for a dinner out, location to be determined. If you have any questions, call Doris Korner or the church office.

Mary Martha Circle

by Mary Jo Pratz

A very heartfelt "Thank You" to our New Hope family for your generous spirit! Thank you, also, to the ladies who made the wonderful baked goods. Because of your donations the Mary Martha Circle bake sale was a tremendous success. The funds raised will allow us to continue to support our many ministries and missions into the new year. Wishing you all the joys of this blessed season.



Christmas Post Office!

The Wesleyan class is providing their annual Christmas Post Office in the Gathering Area!

Mail a Christmas card to other congregation members for \$0.25 per card! Now through Sunday, December 24.

The Wesleyan Class uses the proceeds to fund their mission projects.

WARM FUZZIES



Warm Fuzzies Thank You!

Hurray, New Hope congregation, for being so generous with your donations to the Warm Fuzzies and Blankets project! Hundreds of children in traumatic situations will be comforted by first responders by the gifts you gave.

Thank you so very much.

Our final totals were: **420** Warm Fuzzies & **52** Blankets, Quilts, Throws.

- Julie Guilford (representing the JOY Sunday School Class)

Thank You for your Skyline Donations!

Thank you New Hope for your generous giving to Skyline. 230 gifts were received in three weeks! Your generosity allowed a parent to have a gift for her child on Christmas morning, and a senior citizen has a blanket to help keep warm. Skyline was given 93 toys, 67 items of clothing including warm socks, sweaters, jeans, hats and gloves. Plus jewelry, beauty items, books & more. I am blessed to be part of a very giving church. Thank you again for your bountiful and kindhearted giving.

- Melody Beard, chair Mission Council.



Congregational Care at New Hope UMC

New Hope has trained and deployed a 21-member Congregational Care Team to provide care to church members. To submit a prayer or care request, you can do the following:

- Write your request on the back of the Let's Connect card in Worship and take it to the Welcome desk.
- Email volunteer@newhopeokc.org or call the church office at 405-721-5015.
- Tell a member of the Congregational Care team. (Each Sunday, they will be wearing a name tag.)
- Email confidential requests to Pastor Marla at marla@newhopeokc.org.

2023-2024 Mission & Service Opportunities

We invite you to explore the many ministry and mission opportunities at New Hope! Meet new friends, learn new things, serve God and community in new ways! Here are a few opportunities you want to check out:

Men of Hope: meet the 3rd Sunday of each month at New Hope for breakfast at 8AM. The Men of Hope undertake various service projects and philanthropic endeavors.

Young at Heart: meets on the 4th Thursday of each month. This fellowship group often travels to locations of interest in the OKC metro and sometimes around the state. Young at Heart gatherings always include great fellowship and good food!

Women's Circles: The *Mary/Martha Circle* meets the 2nd Thursday at 9:30AM. The *Ruth Circle* meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM.

2nd Saturday Homeless Outreach: New Hope comes alongside neighbors who are currently homeless with friendship, encouragement, food, clothing, bedding, and toiletry items. The 2nd Saturday of each month from 9:30 AM-Noon, volunteers from New Hope travel downtown and across OKC to support our homeless neighbors.

Food Pantry and Blessing Box: The New Hope Food Pantry and Blessing Box provides shelf-stable food to our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. The Blessings Box is available at all times and the food pantry is open the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month from 1-3 PM.

Stitchers Sewing Group: Blankets, pillowcases, and more are created by the Stitchers and given to patrons of social services agencies such as The Infant Crisis Center and the YWCA. All skill levels are welcome! The Stitchers sewing group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 11 AM - 3 PM.

Whiz Kids: Each Monday afternoon from 3-5 PM during the school year at New Hope, Whiz Kids brings together caring adults and elementary-age children for one-on-one tutoring and mentoring. New Hope partners with Ralph Downs Elementary.



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

Preschool & Children's Day Out

by Amy Aita

Preschool Ministries

This is such a special time of year teaching kids about advent and Christmas! Joy is the theme for each lesson this month. The bible stories will come from the books of Matthew and Luke. We will do many crafts and activities focused on Christmas.

We are looking forward to the Christmas Family Ministry Event on Dec. 17th at Main Event from 5-7pm. Please let me know if you and your family plan to attend so we know how many to expect.

Childcare will be provided for the Carols of Hope service on the 10th and for the Christmas Eve services at 6pm and 8pm for those that are 3yrs. old and younger.

CDO

CDO has a lot of fun things planned for the month of December! The themes are: Merry Christmas and Nativity. The kids and teachers have been working hard to prepare for the Christmas Performance on Dec. 7th! Each class will perform then families are invited to stay and enjoy dinner and see Santa.

This is the most giving season of the year so CDO is collecting toys for children in need this Christmas as we have paired up with a non-profit called OKCity Infant Crisis Nursery. They need toys for young kids and gifts for teens, plus diapers, wipes, and even wrapping paper to wrap the gifts. If you would like to donate a new unwrapped gift, let me know please. Thank you!

The kids will celebrate Christmas together on the 14th with class parties and that is also our last day for this semester. CDO resumes on January 9th.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Amy Aita - Preschool Ministries Director
preschoolministries@newhopeokc.org

The youth are up to fun things this December and Holiday season! We are kicking off December with a Youth Christmas Party at the Chickasha Festival of Light. We will be riding down together, playing games on the way down of course, drinking hot chocolate, eating Christmas snacks, looking at beautiful lights, and enjoying the fellowship together!

Our next big December event will be at The United Methodist Church of the Good Shepherd in Yukon. We will be joining our friends there for a Youth Christmas Lock-In! We will be playing games, listening to Christmas Music, and celebrating our United Methodist connections with other youth groups from around our district!

We will also be celebrating the holiday season with our Family Ministry friends at Main Event for a Family Ministry Christmas Party! We are so excited to celebrate the birth of Jesus in fellowship with all of our church family and friends! We wish all of you a Merry Christmas and look forward to hearing all about the holiday adventures when we see you this month!

HELLO December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 12/3:** SS, ~~NO SN~~, Children's Play
- 12/6:** Youth Christmas Party
- 12/10:** SS, ~~NO SN~~, Carols of Hope
- 12/15-16:** Youth Christmas Lock-In
- 12/17:** SS, Family Ministry Christmas Party 5-7pm
- 12/21:** Blue Christmas 12 & 7 pm
- 12/24:** ~~NO SS~~, ~~NO SN~~, Advent Service 10:00 am, Eve Services 6 & 8 pm
- 12/27:** Spark Payment Due
- 12/31:** ~~NO SS~~, ~~NO SN~~, New Year Service 10:00am

Food Pantry

by Mickey Miller

I want to thank everyone at New Hope for all of the money and effort that they have given and made to make our food pantry a success. We recently had our Thanksgiving basket giveaway, and we gave a gift card for their protein, mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, green beans, corn, yams, pumpkin, cranberry sauce, rolls, pie crust, Cool Whip, and cream cheese. They had the makings of a fantastic Thanksgiving dinner, and this was all thanks to the generous people of New Hope.

At this time I want to thank everyone that has worked in the food pantry and if I forget to name you, please forgive me. We couldn't do without Debbie, Cindy, Nancy, Pat, Francis Rick, Steve, Kelley, Bob and Marla. I want to thank you again so much for all the effort that you have put out the entire year. Thank you thank you. We gave out the holiday baskets to over 35 food pantry clients who truly appreciated them. We also gave Exodus House 13 food baskets for their clients at Exodus House. Have a wonderful holiday season.

Exodus House

by Mickey Miller

Well, everything's up and running and they're getting some new residents down at Exodus House. They have a new facilities manager, so there shouldn't be too much trouble getting things picked up. If you've got a donation, you have to call Exodus House. Exodus House had their anniversary party in October and Marla and I both went. It was a lot of fun. They had a chili cook off and had a raffle for all the different baskets that were brought in to be raffled. Marla and I had made a made in Oklahoma basket and the young lady that wanted it was very happy. They also had their Thanksgiving dinner on November 7 and Marla and I attended that as well. Lots of good food, everybody brought a dish, and Wesley gave all of the residents of Exodus House all sorts of Christmas decorations and presents - it was a lot of fun! They're now gearing up for Christmas. Look forward to having a new resident in our apartment and I hope that they enjoy coming to our church.

New Hope UMC Members!

**Haven't seen your birthday or anniversary in the New Hope
Newsletter yet? Need to update a phone number or address for your member profile?**

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

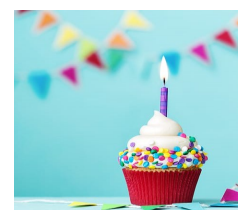
Thanks!

Happy December Birthdays!

David Bonham
Richard Canterbury
Steve Clark
Diana Diggs
Roland Echohawk
Keith Elwood
Aileen Foster
Brandon Hamlin
Rebekah Hasty
Fred Hillemeier
Dan Korner
Audrey Kwok
Ken Langert
Laura Langert

Barbara March
Bob Marshall
Logan McLaren
Leah Medina
Alyssa Miller
Elizabeth Miller
Margaret Mills
Barbara Moody
Max Murrell
Richard Norman
Noah Paul
Christian Plender
Carole Rhodes
Melissa Roberts

Dusty Rowland
Patti Saiz
Allie Seay
Kellie Seay
Katelin Seay
Paul Stillwell
Kelly Tower



Happy December Anniversaries!

Steve & Debbie Barnett
Ben & Lois Clarkson
David & Allison Hutchins
David & Helen Johnson
Dustin & Elanore McClarry
Bob & Margaret Mills
Ben & Kathleen Reed



**Join us in welcoming and celebrating the newest members of our
New Hope United Methodist Church community!**

- **Ray & Patty Newsom, joined 11/05/23**
 - **SuAn Burton, joined 11/12/23**
 - **Judy Powell, joined 11/12/23**
 - **Carolyn Wall, joined 11/12/23**
- **Tina & Cadence Mangum, joined 11/19/23**
 - **Joey Pedigo, joined 11/19/23**
 - **Ann Perkins, joined 11/19/23**
 - **Maci Leonard, baptized 12/03/23**
 - **Don & Pam Harris, joined 12/03/23**

New Hope Calendar - December 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 10:00 Children's Play Rehearsal
3 ADVENT 1 8:45 / 11:00 Services 12:00 Mission Council Mtg. 2:00 Handbells Reh. 5:00 Children's Activities 5:00 Youth Activities 5:00 Women's Bible Study	4 3:00 Whiz Kids 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boys & Girls of BSA	5 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Handbells Reh.	6 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 11:00 Stitches 6:00 Carols of Hope Dress Rehearsal	7 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 10:00 Men's Bible Study 6:00 CDO Xmas Program	8 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 6:00 Scouts Lock In 6:00 Grinch PJ Party	9 9:30 Second Saturday Outreach
10 ADVENT 2 8:45 / 11:00 Services 2:00 Handbells Reh. 7:00 Carols of Hope	11 3:00 Whiz Kids 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boys & Girls of BSA	12 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Bible Study 1:00 - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open	13 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 6:00 Holden Evening Prayer	14 9:00 - 2:00 CDO FINAL DAY 9:30 Mary Martha 10:00 Men's Bible Study 5:00 Strengthening Families Xmas Party	15 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 6:00 Scouts Xmas Movie Night	16 Children's Christmas Caroling
17 ADVENT 3 8:45 / 11:00 Services 5:00 Children's Activities 5:00 Youth Activities 5:00 Women's Bible Study	18 3:00 Whiz Kids 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boys & Girls of BSA	19	20 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Book Club 11:00 Stitches 5:30 Final Community Meal 6 & 6:30 Wednesday Night Classes/	21 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 10:00 Men's Bible Study 12:00 Blue Christmas #1 7:00 Blue Christmas #2	22 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	23
24 CHRISTMAS EVE ADVENT 4 10:00 Worship 6:00 Xmas Eve Service #1 8:00 Xmas Eve Service #2	25 OFFICE CLOSED - Christmas	26 OFFICE CLOSED - Christmas	27	28	29	30
31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 10:00 Worship						