

FEBRUARY 2023

Moments from New Hope United Methodist Church's Women's Retreat to Canyon Camp in January 2023!



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.

Pastor's Column

by Rev. Rodney Newman

We have three Sundays in February before we begin the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday, February 22. We will mark this day with a special service at 7:00 that evening. More announcements on how we will observe the season of Lent are forthcoming.

February Sermon Series

Pastor Rod continues his sermon series on the opening chapters in the book of 1 Corinthians. The church he founded in the port city of Corinth had a vibrant but somewhat turbulent beginning. He writes to them to encourage the church to move past their differences and to focus on the love of God in Christ and sharing that with others. He wants the church to be a place where everyone can find a safe haven from life's storms and to serve others. Pastor Rod's sermons are following the theme, *A Place to Belong*.

February 5

Epiphany 5

A Place to Belong: For
Something Greater

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

February 12

Epiphany 6

A Place to Belong: For
Mutual Support

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

February 19

Transfiguration Sunday

In the Presence
Matthew 17:1-9

Lent 2023 - Experiencing Life Sermon Series

February 26

Lent 1: In the Desert
Matthew 4:1-11

March 5

Lent 2: Life From Second
Chances
John 3:1-17

March 12

Lent 3: Life Through
Forgiveness
John 4:1-15

March 19

Lent 4: Life Unexpected
John 9:1-3, 6-12, 15-17

March 26

Lent 5: Life Out of Death
John 11:32-44

April 2

Palm Sunday
Life Through the Storm
Matthew 21:1-11

April 9

Easter Sunday
Saving the Best for Last
Matthew 28:1-10

New Hope UMC Women's Ministry

By Rev. Marla Lobo

Weekly Study Groups:

- Tuesdays at 9:30AM, facilitated by Shirley Yates.
- Wednesdays at 6:30PM, 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. It's not too late to join us in February!

Monthly Book Club in February!

The February meeting date for Book Club is Wednesday, February 15 at 9:30AM, 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. February's book is *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slo-cumb. The book chosen for March is *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom. March meeting date to be announced!

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.

Walk to Emmaus Returns!

By Rev. Marla Lobo

After a COVID-19 hiatus, Walk To Emmaus spiritual retreats return in 2023!

The next set of Walks is scheduled for February 2-5 for men and February 16-19 for women. The Walks will be held at New Covenant UMC in Edmond. For questions or more information, contact Pastor Marla, Mickey Miller or Linda Rinehard.

Do you seek...

- spiritual renewal?
- new understandings of God's grace and love?
- worship and community with other believers?

Are you...

- a member of a local church?
- 18 years or older?
- desiring to strengthen your spiritual life?
- seeking answers to questions about your faith?
- willing to dedicate your everyday life to God?

The Walk to Emmaus is for you.

The Walk to Emmaus has transformed hundreds of people that I've known personally—drawing them closer to the Lord and challenging them to get involved in our church and to use their gifts accordingly.
—Rick Minett, Pastor, Grace Community Church, Houston, TX

The Walk to Emmaus

seeks to inspire, challenge, and equip leaders for Christian action in their homes, places of work, and communities.

On an Emmaus Weekend, you will:
Sing, reflect, pray, worship, learn, share Holy Communion, participate in small groups, experience God's grace in community and in the world, and understand Christian love in action.

After an Emmaus Weekend...
you are invited to have a closer walk with Christ through worship, study, and active participation in your local church and by becoming active in service to the world.

To nurture Christian discipleship, the Emmaus movement offers:

- small groups of four to six people that meet weekly to reflect on their spiritual journey and encourage one another in Christian discipleship
- monthly community gatherings where Emmaus participants meet for fellowship, worship, and instruction
- ongoing communication about community events, support needs for upcoming Walks to Emmaus, and other opportunities for servant leadership

They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)

Emmaus empowers leaders to be the hands and feet of Christ.

2023 Mission & Service Opportunities

As 2023 dawns, 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. The Men of Hope undertake various service projects and philanthropic endeavors.

Young at Heart: meets on the last Thursday. 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 *Women of Faith* (formerly known as United Methodist Women) meets the 3rd Thursday at 6:30 PM. 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
4 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. *Whiz Kids at New Hope currently needs substitute tutors!*

2022 Contributions Report

by Elaine Parrent

We thank you all for your generous spirit of giving. Through your gifts all of the ministries of the church benefited, prospered, and expanded their visions of ministry not only at New Hope but also in the community. Giving provides funds to expand the orchestra and to complete the church remodel, expand the Chancel, and maintain the facility. Your giving also supported the ministries of the OK United Methodist Conference as 100% of the apportionments were paid for 2022. You were also generous with support of National and International relief efforts through UMCOR. New and exciting opportunities have started this year. We are all grateful for your continued support at New Hope UMC!

Contribution statements have been mailed. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns. Also, please remember that written authorization is needed for me to adjust your giving through Vanco. A reminder as well that Memorial Bricks may be purchased for the Prayer Garden. Information is available in the office.

We look forward to another productive year and thank you again for your continued faithfulness and generosity!

Upcoming Trip to Israel - Led by New Hope UMC Member, Chris Porter

Hello, I am Chris Porter and I am planning a group pilgrimage to Israel in the summer and/or fall of 2024 and you are invited! There will be an information meeting on Sunday, February 12 at 4PM in the Fellowship Hall. Attending the meeting **does not** commit you to the trip. It will be a time for general questions, concerns, thoughts etc.

I have been to Israel 3 times now so I can provide you any information you need on touring the Holy Land. Groups that included members from New Hope have taken trips to the Holy Land in 2016 and 2021.

I would ask that you prayerfully consider taking this pilgrimage. You will never read your Bible the same way again and your faith will be enriched.

Feel free to email me at cporter299@gmail.com if you have any questions about the trip.

I hope to see many future pilgrims on February 12!

- Chris





United Women in Faith

by Earline Baker

United Women in Faith are on their winter break. They will re-start regular meetings in March. Driven by God's love and united in sisterhood, these ladies work to improve the lives of women, children and youth.

For more than 150 years, the members of this faith organization for women have been taking action and getting things done. We believe love in action can change the world.

Although we will not meet again until March 16, 2023, we will continue to see everyone at church, and at other meetings. All ladies are welcome to visit us in March or at any monthly meeting.

Mary Martha Circle

by Mary Jo Pratz

The ladies of the Mary Martha Circle met on January 12 with 24 members in attendance. After a delicious brunch prepared by Shirley Yates and Nancy Beale we enjoyed a devotional presented by Sandi Morgan. After discussion it was decided to continue to provide a \$50 donation to the Blessings Box each month. We are excited to announce that the Annual Ham Dinner is scheduled for Sunday March 26. Watch for the reminder signs! Thank you to Lacticia and Richard Norman for the creation and printing of the Mary Martha Circle membership handbook. Welcome to our new member Judy Miller. All women are invited to join us for our next meeting February 9 at 9:30AM.

Happy February Birthdays!

Navena Alexander
Kristin Attebery
Terry Brittenham
Emma Bruce
Kirk Castner
Moiria Chockalingham
Lauren Coffman
Jerry Crawford
Kerwin Crist
Zachary Ellsworth
Regina Engling
Carrie Fagan
Julie Guilford-Stillwell
Hayden Hasty
Jeremy Hayes
Melissa Hedrick
Elizabeth Hepner
Donna Johnson
Shay Linville

Allie Johnson
Isla McClain
Matthew Miller
Diane Moore
Rose Marie Moore
Tony Moran
Amanda Moran
Bev Palfray
Dayna Powell
Nancy Quinn
Richard Reynolds
Randy Scott
Madison Scott
Mary Simkins
Anthony Smarra
Aiden Watts
Sandi Webster
Carol Whittet
Jim Yates



Happy February Anniversaries!

Earl & Earline Baker
Paul & Ann Detwiler
John & Carol Eleftherakis
Trina & Bill Geer
Bob & Janice Stine



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

- **Brian, Jennifer, & Gabe Walker, joined on 1/22/23**

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!

Stitchers

by Nancy Beale

Below are the upcoming Stitchers meeting dates for February & March 2023!

- FEBRUARY 1 and 15 from 11:00 to 3:00
- MARCH 1 and 15 from 11:00 to 3:00



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

NOTES

- No evening class on 2/12 for the Super Bowl!
- Love Your Neighbor as Yourself V-Day Party on 2/19-5-7pm. Bring non-perishable items for the food pantry! Just Dance Tournament & fun!
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on 2/21! Come and Go event-time TBA
- Ash Wednesday Service on 2/22 at 7pm

FEBRUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 5:30pm- Dinner 6:00pm-Children's Choir 6:30-7:30pm- Class	2	3	4
Sunday School Children's Church Evening class 5-7pm	6	7	8 5:30pm- Dinner 6:00pm-Children's Choir 6:30-7:30pm- Class	9	10	11
Sunday School Children's Church No evening class	13	14	15 5:30pm- Dinner 6:00pm-Children's Choir 6:30-7:30pm- Class	16	17	18
Sunday School Children's Church Love your Neighbor as Yourself V-Day Party 5-7pm	20	21 Men of Hope Pancake Dinner! Come and go	22 5:30pm- Dinner 7pm- Ash Wednesday Service	23	24	25
Sunday School Children's Church Evening class 5-7pm Lent Study Begins!	27	28				

Children's Ministries

by **Luisa Medina**

February is here and we are ready for another month of fun and learning together! The children had a great January! We had a movie night, welcomed back our Wednesday night activities, began rehearsal for our Spring Musical and hosted a successful Parents Night Out. February will be another full month for us. We will continue to meet on Wednesday evenings. This month Lent begins! Ash Wednesday service will be on Wednesday, February 22nd at 7pm. The children will not meet on the evening of Sunday, February 12th due to the Super Bowl happening that evening.

On Sunday, February 19th we will host our annual Love Your Neighbor as Yourself Valentine's Party during our regular Sunday evening meeting time. This is a fun way for us to have a great time and be good neighbors to our community. Each child is asked to bring non-perishable items for our food pantry as the "entry fee" to our party. They will then have food, join in a Just Dance tournament and have a great time talking about ways we can love our neighbors.

We are still looking for folks to volunteer with our Children's Ministry at New Hope! If you might be interested in doing that, please see me! I would love to chat with you about the wonderful children we have here. Let me know if you have any questions!

Blessings,
Luisa Medina - luisa@newhopeokc.org

New Hope Youth

by Maddy Day

Winter Spark Round Up from January!

We had 23 people who went to Winter Spark camp this year! 17 youth and 6 adults. Our scripture for the week was Ephesians 3:17-19. Our youth explored what it means to be rooted in our faith and in God's love and grace, and how our roots are connected to others!



Preschool & Children's Day Out

by Amy Aita

Preschool Ministries

This month, the kids will be busy learning all about love! The topics are: God is Love, Jesus Loves Me, Love one Another and Love the Lord with all your Heart. The memory verse for this month is 1 John 4:19 (We love because He first loved us).

The preschoolers will have a Valentine's Party on Sunday, Feb. 19th in the evening. The kids will be doing crafts and make Valentines for each other. If you have a preschooler, 3-4yr. old, that would like to join us for this or any other Sunday evening, please let me know!

CDO

February is always a fun month as we show all the love! The themes and letters for the month are: S- Science, T-Transportation, U- Under the Sea, and Dr. Seuss week.

The kids will have Valentine class parties on Feb. 9th. CDO will be closed Feb. 14th due to voting. We are always needing subs! Please see me if you are interested in helping out from time to time.

I want to thank those that let us borrow quilts for letter Q week! We all enjoyed looking at them! Thank you for your support of New Hope's Preschool Ministries!

Amy Aita - Preschool Ministries Director



CELEBRATE FAMILIES

builds strong bonds



CELEBRATE FAMILIES IS A PARENT, CHILD AND FAMILY SKILLS-BUILDING CURRICULUM DESIGNED TO HELP PARENTS AND CHILDREN CONNECT with each other, build skills and positive attitudes, and celebrate family strengths. Celebrate Families provides parents, caregivers and their youth an opportunity to learn new ways to communicate and practice skills learned each session.

For more information contact:

**prevention
WORKS**

611 Whitcomb, Suite A • Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269.388.4200 • Fax: 269.388.2070 • prevention-works.org

GIVING PEOPLE TOOLS TO MAKE HEALTHY DECISIONS

We are so excited to welcome our friends from Celebrating Families back to New Hope! Celebrating Families takes place on Thursday evenings. It is a program that works with people as a part of Oklahoma County Drug Court, Specialized Outpatient Services and Catalyst Outpatient Services. The people enrolled in the program are people who are working to overcome their addictions and get their life back on track. New Hope became the host site of this weekly program in 2016. Because of the pandemic, we had to take a break. But we are so ready to welcome them back! Each week we provide a space for them to meet, a meal, transportation, and nursery care. We are looking for groups and Sunday school classes to sign up to help provide a meal. There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering area! If your group or class would like to volunteer, please sign up there. If you are someone feeling called to help play with babies in the nursery, see Luisa or Pastor Marla for more information on volunteering! This is a vital ministry that helps bring families back together! Thank you, New Hope, for your support!

Wednesday Nights at New Hope UMC!

Join us as Wednesday Nights at New Hope resume, January 18 thru April 5, for food, fellowship, and activities for all ages.

Wednesday Night Meals in February!

- February 8 - BBQ Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Squash, Salad Bar, Pizza, & Dessert
- February 15 - Smothered Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad Bar, Pizza, & Dessert
- February 22 - Potato Soup, Baked Potato Bar, Salad Bar, Pizza, & Dessert

Men of Hope

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 6 - 7:30PM

New Hope United Methodist Church's, Men of Hope group will host a Pancake Dinner fundraiser for Shrove Tuesday on Tuesday, February 21 from 6-7:30PM at the church. Donations will be accepted for the Men of Hope's mission fund. Invite your friends and neighbors and join us for a delicious opportunity to support the ministry and missions of New Hope UMC!



New Hope Calendar - February 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 CLOSED DUE TO WEATHER NO CDO	2 NO CDO 10:00 Al Anon	3 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	4
5 9:30 & 11:00 Services 5:00 Youth, Children	6 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 3:00 Whiz Kids	7 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Study Group	8 9:00 - 2:00 CDO	9 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Mary Martha Circle 10:00 Al Anon	10 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	11 9:30 Second Saturday Outreach
12 SCOUT SUNDAY 9:30 & 11:00 Services NO SUNDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES	13 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 3:00 Whiz Kids	14 NO CDO LOCAL ELECTION POLLING PLACE 9:30 Women's Study Group 1:00 - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open 6:30 Ruth Circle	15 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Book Club 11:00 Stitches 5:30 Wednesday Night Meals Resume 6:00 Wednesday Night Classes	16 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 10:00 Al Anon	17 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 6:00-8:00 Parents Night Out	18
19 8:15 Men of Hope 9:30 & 11:00 Services 5:00 Youth, Children	20 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 3:00 Whiz Kids	21 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Study Group 6:00 Men of Hope's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	22 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 5:30 Wednesday Night Meal 6:00 Wednesday Night Classes ASH WEDNESDAY	23 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 10:00 Al Anon 10:00 Young at Heart Celebrating Healthy Families Resumes!	24 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	25
26 9:30 & 11:00 Services 5:00 Youth, Children	27 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 3:00 Whiz Kids	28 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Study Group 1:00 - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open	29 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 5:30 Wednesday Night Meal 6:00 Wednesday Night Classes			