



---

## The Merry Month of May!

by Rev. Rodney Newman

I suppose the month of May evokes positive feelings due to the blossoming of Spring, moderate temperatures (usually), and emerging from the vestiges of winter. It's also graduation month and promotion Sunday and the beginning of the summer school break. So this month, we'll pray for all those in transition in any part of their lives. We'll pray as we watch the skies during severe storm season. And we'll maintain our prayerful vigilance for God to watch over our lives and our church as we continue our life together.

## May Sermons

My sermon series during Eastertide is titled *Recognizing God Among Us*. How do we see God in special moments as well as in our everyday lives? I will be attending our daughter's graduation the third weekend of May and I have invited Sharri Hiller to be our guest preacher. Sharri and her husband, Jeff, joined New Hope several months ago after moving to OKC. They both have served the United Methodist Church in a number of ways for many years, with Sharri now serving as Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries and also as an Associate Conference Lay Leader. We end the month celebrating the third most important holiday in the Christian year – the Day of Pentecost and the Holy Spirit empowering the church.

### May 7

Easter 5

Voice Recognition

John 10:11-18

### May 14

Easter 6

Recognizable Address

John 14:1-14

### May 21

Sharri Hiller

Guest Preacher

Ascension Sunday

### May 28

Pentecost

Power Sharing

Acts 2:1-6, 14-21

---

### New Hope United Methodist Church

11600 N. Council Road Oklahoma City, OK 73162

phone (405) 721 -5015

[www.newhopeokc.org](http://www.newhopeokc.org) and on Facebook

Sunday worship services 9:30 (traditional) 11:00 (contemporary)

Sunday School Classes also at those times.

## **A Word About the United Methodist Church**

On April 22, a special session of the Oklahoma Conference of the United Methodist Church accepted the request of 55 church to disaffiliate from the denomination. This is in addition to the 29 who left in a session last fall. Each of these churches had their reasons to disaffiliate and we grieve their loss. A core tenet of United Methodism is that we are a connectional church, sharing fellowship across the miles and over time, uniting our resources to serve more effectively than we can alone.

While we will miss these congregations, I want you to know that this does not affect New Hope's ability to continue our mission and ministry undeterred. We remain in connection with the vast majority of churches who remain United Methodist – we continue to learn from and support each other, our children and youth continue enjoying United Methodist camps and missions, and we can have confidence that we are governed by the policies and oversight of our denominational leaders.

One of the ways we participate in the United Methodist Church is through giving some of our resources to support these larger ministries. The amount each church is asked to give is in proportion to their income compared to that of all other churches in our Conference. Our leaders have made the decision that the total amount asked of our churches is reduced by the amount that had been assigned to the churches that have disaffiliated. In other words, the remaining churches are not asked to make up for their loss.

It can be difficult to understand the nuances of what's happening in our denomination at this time. The secular press and scattered rumors can add to the confusion. If you have questions, please talk to me or Pastor Marla. These events have been prompted by a provision in the United Methodist Book of Discipline that allows local churches to disaffiliate from the denomination under certain circumstances. Most of our churches, including New Hope, have chosen to just keep doing what we've been doing for years. No vote is needed to maintain our historic and current relationship with the denomination. The UMC has served us well and New Hope has contributed to strengthening our common ministry in return. I appreciate this congregation remaining focused on our ministry and celebrate its spirit of cooperation and care.

Blessings, Pastor Rod

# New Hope UMC Women's Ministry

By Rev. Marla Lobo

## Weekly Study Groups:

- Tuesdays at 9:30AM, Fellowship Hall, facilitated by Debbi Marshall
- **Remaining Dates: May 2 & 9**

Debbi Marshall will lead an Upper Room devotional study beginning Tuesday, April 18. Participants need a copy of the Upper Room and a Bible. The study will review several of the prior week's devotionals, read the scriptures from different Bible translations, and have discussion.

- Wednesday at 6:30PM, Class Room 311, facilitated by Pastor Marla
- **Remaining Dates: May 3 & 10**

Pastor Marla will lead a study on Footnotes: Major Lessons from Minor Bible Characters. Each week we will read the Scriptures pertaining to our character, watch a video, and have discussion. Participants need to bring a Bible. Study will feature lessons on Tychicus, Joanna, Epaphras, and Quirinius.

## Monthly Book Club: 3rd Wednesday, 9:30AM, Class Room 311

At each gathering, participants discuss a book that has been selected by the group. The monthly book club is facilitated Judy Murnan and Debbi Marshall. You are invited to join any of their upcoming gatherings!

- May 17 @ 9:30AM, *Lessons in Chemistry*, by Bonnie Garmus

## Monthly Daytime Fellowship Group: 2nd Wednesday, 1-3PM, Fellowship Hall

Fun and fellowship are an important part of our life together! Each month, you are invited to join us at New Hope for fun, fellowship, food – and bunco! Bring a snack to share. All are welcome and feel free to bring a friend! **Upcoming gatherings: May 10.** The daytime fellowship group is coordinated by Elaine Pierce.

## Project Transformation is Coming to New Hope!

Project Transformation is a summer literacy day camp for elementary children living in low-income households who are behind in their reading. This is the 22<sup>nd</sup> Summer for Project Transformation in Oklahoma, a ministry of our Oklahoma United Methodist Conference. And, for the first time, New Hope will be a host site! United Methodist churches in Tulsa, Muskogee, El Reno, and Enid will also be hosting Project Transformation camps this year!

In addition to reading, campers experience many fun activities including art, recreation, crafts, STEM, and field trips!

Thirty-five children from Ralph Downs Elementary will take part in Project Transformation at New Hope! The day-to-day operations of the camp will be handled by six college students employed by Project Transformation. Here are the days and times of camp:

**Monday-Thursday, 9 AM – 3 PM**

**June 5 – July 27 (no camp June 19 and July 3 & 4)**

Your help is both appreciated and needed to help ensure a great experience for our campers. Here are some ways you can be involved. Sign up information will be coming soon!

**Tutor Children.** We seek 12-15 tutors Monday-Thursday from 10-noon to read one-on-one with campers. Sign up for the dates that fit your schedule. Come one time or many times!

**Provide Snacks.** Provide an afternoon snack for our campers. Choose one or more days to provide the snack. (You can deliver your snack ahead of time.)

**Provide Monday Dinner.** Each Monday evening, New Hope will feed the six college interns serving at our site. You can bring a meal, take them out to dinner, invite them to your home or offer a gift card for them to eat a meal out. Choose one or more days. This is a great opportunity for Sunday School classes and other groups to extend hospitality and get to know our college interns!

**Serve Lunch Meal.** – help heat and serve the lunch meal. Food for campers will come on trays from the Oklahoma Regional Food Bank. Time: Monday-Thursday from 11:30 AM -12:30 PM. Choose one or more days!

**Help with Family Fun Nights.** During the Summer, New Hope will host two fun nights for campers and their families. More details to come!



## **A Note from New Hope UMC's Finance Chair**

Hi Friends,

The decision was made at our last Finance Committee meeting to send Statements of Giving mid-year and end of year. The mid-year will be e-mailed to all who have shared their address with us; the end of year will be mailed. Please check these when you receive them and call our Business Manager with any questions. Also, you are certainly welcomed to request a statement at any time of the year if you need one.

If you haven't shared your e-mail address with us – now is a great time to do so!

Finance Chair  
Jackie Dawes

### **Men of Hope Lunch**

The Men of Hope are hosting a cookout lunch on Sunday, May 21, at 12pm! They will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and desserts. Donations welcomed and all funds will go toward the Men of Hope missions.

### **Young at Heart**

**by Shirley McIlroy**

For the month of May, we are planning a trip to the Crystal Bridge and Botanical Garden with a lunch stop. In June, we will be traveling to Norman to visit the Fred Jones Museum with lunch at Kendals. Our Young at Heart meetings are on the 4th Thursdays of the month! For all those who, regardless of age, are still Young at Heart - this group is for you!

**Our congratulations and appreciation to Pastor Marla Lobo on  
20 years of volunteerism and ministry with Whiz Kids!**



---

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

- **Monica Hiller (4/16/23)**
- **Rhonda Coleman-Jackson (4/16/23)**
- **Michele Diesselhorst-Reese (4/16/23)**
  - **Nancy Quinn (4/16/23)**
- **Rev. Linda Brinkworth (4/23/23)**

**In Memoriam**

We remember and honor those from the New Hope family who have recently transitioned into life eternal and send prayers of comfort and peace to their loved ones.

- **Clyde Coulthard**



## United Women in Faith

by Carola Smith

At our March meeting, we voted to begin our meeting with the business session at 5:30pm. We welcome ladies interested in learning about the mission of United Women in Faith locally and globally to join us. We have planned several informative and interesting programs for this year and continue to support church and community ministry and mission projects. We look forward to seeing you. For any questions, please contact Elaine Parrent in the church office.

We will gather on May 18 for our regular meeting. Elaine Parrent will be giving the lesson from our 2023 program book. The theme for this year is "Mosaic of Faith" - we are all part of God's story.

## Mary Martha Circle

by Mary Jo Pratz

The ladies of the Mary Martha Circle would like to say a heartfelt "Thank You" to our New Hope family for your support at the Annual Ham Dinner! Through your generosity we will be able to continue to support our programs for this year. At our last meeting we enjoyed the delicious brunch prepared by Mickey Miller and Nancy Nowlin. Elaine Pierce brought an uplifting devotional encourage us to plant positive "seeds" in our daily lives. During our business meeting the group voted to provide two scholarships to New Day Camp this summer. This will be a positive experience for two deserving children. Pastor Marla Lobo provided information about Project Transformation and the opportunities for volunteering this summer. Our next project will be to provide the snacks for our Vacation Bible School. We invite all ladies to join us the second Thursday each month at 9:30 for fellowship, good food, devotionals, praise and prayers.

## Ruth Circle

by Doris Korner

The Ruth Circle began and continues as an evening fellowship and worship/Bible Study. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6:30. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, we eat together at various restaurants. Call the church office for location or ask Doris Korner or any Ruth Circle member, we would love for you to join us.

## 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 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 *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 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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!*

## A Thank You from Oklahoma School for the Blind

Dear Members of New Hope UMC,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the donation of beeper eggs valued at \$1,250.00 that was recently given to Oklahoma School for the Blind. We hold an Easter Egg Hunt each year for our students and these are a welcome addition.

Thank you again for your support of our school and students.

Best regards,

Rita J. Echelle, Superintendent  
Oklahoma School for the Blind





## Happy May Birthdays!

Earl Baker  
Earline Baker  
Regina Bookout  
Larry Buchanan  
Tray Coffman  
Seth Day  
Maddy Day  
Ann Detwiler  
Harrison Echohawk  
Lindsey Fagan  
Lura Fink  
Delores Garver  
Barbara Gayle  
Ron Harper  
Carter Hayes  
Garrett Johnson  
Amelia Kwok  
Matt McClain  
Annette McGahee  
Benjamin Miller  
Larry Morgan

Ivory Morgan  
Roger Patty  
Graham Rains  
Sue Reynolds  
Linda Roberts  
Gary Roller  
Leroy Saiz  
Susan Smith  
Robert Stewart  
Tyler Stone  
Andrew Van Sickle  
Brandy Wright



## Happy May Anniversaries!

Terry & Jean Brittenham  
Vita & Denning Crowe  
Melvin & Margaret Lawson  
Gerry & Carole Rhodes  
Linda & Jerry Rice  
Gary & Virginia Roller  
Robert & Linda Tennyson



## Children's Ministries

by Luisa Medina

Greetings!

Happy end of school! It is crazy to think we have already reached the end of the school year and the beginning of summer! We had a fabulous April together. We celebrated Easter, had an egg hunt, "egged" our yards, and helped lead worship! We have a lot more fun lined up for May and this summer also.

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, the Upper Elementary kiddos are headed to Six Flags Over Texas for a very full day together! We will meet at church at 8am to load up on the bus and head down there. We will spend a few hours in the park having fun, then head back home. We hope to be back by 9pm or so. The cost is \$40 per person.

This month is Promotion Month also. This is the time where we say good bye to our 5<sup>th</sup> graders leaving for Youth Group and hello to the incoming pre-k kiddos! On Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> we will have a special (secret) breakfast with our 5<sup>th</sup> graders. We will pick them up from their house and surprise them with a special morning together. Promotion Sunday is May 21<sup>st</sup>. We are so excited to welcome our new Children's Ministry family members and so sad to see our 5<sup>th</sup> graders go. On this Sunday, we will also recognize the kiddos moving from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade! They will receive a bible also.

Mark your calendars for an all church family Movie Night on the Lawn on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>! We will say hello to summer break together! The movie will begin as soon as the sun goes down enough! So grab your lawn chairs, invite a friend and make plans to join us!

Looking ahead, we are getting SO excited for summer camps! Our New Hope Children get to participate in two camps through our United Methodist Conference. The first one is called Sunshine Camp and that is for incoming 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> graders, and the last one is called Growing in Grace Camp and that is for incoming 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders. If you would like to help send a kid or adult to camp, you can do so by making a donation to the church and marking "Children's Camp" on the memo/notes.

As always, we are so thankful for our church family who continues to support our children!

Blessings,

Luisa Medina - [luisa@newhopeokc.org](mailto:luisa@newhopeokc.org)

# Preschool & Children's Day Out

by Amy Aita

## Preschool Ministries

The month of May is busy! We will be wrapping up the school year on May 11<sup>th</sup>! That same day, we will celebrate Mother's Day with all of the CDO moms as we host a breakfast for them. That evening, the Pre-K students will graduate! The first week of May is Teacher Appreciation Week. We have the best teachers, they deserve all the thanks and praise! CDO will be on a break for almost a month before the summer session begins on June 6<sup>th</sup>. We are looking forward to a fun and busy summer!

We have some spots still open for next school year if you or someone you know is looking for childcare! Contact me for more info.

We are also always needing subs! Let me know if you can help us out.

## CDO

May is a busy month as we look forward to Mother's Day, Promotion Sunday, Ascension Sunday, and then Pentecost. If your child will be entering Pre-K next school year, they will be recognized on May 14th during first service before promoting to Children's Ministry.

Thank you for your support of New Hope's Preschool Ministries!

Amy Aita - Preschool Ministries Director



**KIDS SUMMER CAMP**

<b>1st-2nd Grade Camp</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sonshine Camp at Camp Canyon</li><li>• June 24-25</li><li>• Cost is \$53 for kids and \$37.50 for adult shepherd (each child must bring adult!)</li></ul>	<b>3rd-5th Grade Camp</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GIG Camp at Camp Canyon</li><li>• June 12-13</li><li>• Cost is \$116.50</li></ul>
---	---

REGISTER AT  
[OKCAMPS.ORG](http://OKCAMPS.ORG)  
SELECT "PAY WITH CHURCH" AT CHECKOUT



UPPER ELEMENTARY  
**SIX FLAGS DAY!**

05.06.23 8AM-9PM

Calling all 3rd-5th graders! We are headed to Six Flags Over Texas on Saturday, May 6th! Cost is \$40 per person. You can pay this online or by check/cash!

Sign up by May 1st so we can get tickets!

## **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](mailto: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 May 2023!

- MAY 3 & 17 from 11AM-3PM



## **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

# Youth Ministries

by Maddy Day

In April we have celebrated creation with an Earth Day outing! We took a trip to Route 66 Park to have a day enjoying God’s beautiful creativity that is creation! We spent the day fishing, playing games, and hanging out, enjoying each others company!

May is an excited time for our youth! It is the time where school ends and summer vacation begins. As we head into the summer months, we also get to welcome the new 6<sup>th</sup> grade youth into our program! May 21<sup>st</sup> is Promotion Sunday where we recognize and welcome our upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders! We will be celebrating and getting to know our new 6<sup>th</sup> graders on May 24<sup>th</sup> with a trip to Frontier City!



**Graduating this month? Let us know by scanning the QR code below or emailing Youth Director, Maddy Day at [maddy@newhopeokc.org](mailto:maddy@newhopeokc.org)**



# New Hope Calendar - May 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b> 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 3:00 Whiz Kids	<b>2</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Study Group	<b>3</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 11:00 STITCHERS 6:30 Women's Study Group	<b>4</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO	<b>5</b> 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	<b>6</b> 8:00 Upper Elementary Trip to Six Flags
<b>7</b> 9:30 & 11:00 Services 5:00 Youth, Children	<b>8</b> 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking 3:00 Whiz Kids	<b>9</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Study Group 1:00 - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open 6:30 Ruth Circle	<b>10</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 1-3:00 Women's Fellowship Event 6:30 Women's Study Group	<b>11</b> 9:00 - 2:00 LAST DAY OF CDO 9:30 Mary Martha Circle 6:00 CDO/Pre-K Graduation	<b>12</b> 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	<b>13</b> 9:30 Second Saturday Outreach
<b>14</b> MOTHER'S DAY 9:30 & 11:00 Services NO Youth & Children's Activities	<b>15</b> 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	<b>16</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO	<b>17</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Book Club 11:00 STITCHERS	<b>18</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 5:30 United Women in Faith	<b>19</b> 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> PROMOTION SUNDAY 9:30 & 11:00 Services 12pm Men of Hope Fundraiser Lunch Family Ministries - Movie Night on the Lawn!	<b>22</b> 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	<b>23</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 1:00 - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open	<b>24</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO Youth Trip to Frontier City	<b>25</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CDO Young at Heart (TBD)	<b>26</b> 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> PENTECOST SUNDAY 9:30 & 11:00 Services NO Youth & Children's Activities	<b>29</b> MEMORIAL DAY - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			