

## New Sunday School Class Info & Locations!

Sunday School classes at New Hope gather to fellowship, study, and serve. Each class is unique and we invite you to explore the different opportunities.

**AIM: (Adults in the Middle of Life):** This group typically discusses the Sunday sermon in detail. Meets in Room 211.

**Friends and Believers:** This multigenerational group undertakes a variety of studies of interest to class members. Meets in Room 208 (new location).

**JOY:** This servant-centered class of seniors undertakes a variety of book-based studies. Meets in Room 316 (new location).

**Life Together:** This multigenerational undertakes significant studies of interest to class members. Meets in Room 304.

**New Beginnings:** This class of seniors explores a variety of book and video-based Christian Studies. Meets in Room 311.

**Open Forum:** In this multigenerational class, group members take turns identifying and discussing a topic of the week. This class meets in the Fellowship Hall.

**Rebuilding Hope:** Young adults gathering to study the Bible, book by book. Meets in Room 209.

**Wesleyan:** This class of seniors undertakes book-based studies. Meets in Room 210.

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

# September 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. He often taught in parables and we will hear several of them the first three weeks in September.

The gardeners among us will appreciate Jesus agricultural stories. A sower slings seeds across their field. Another has an enemy creep in at night and plant weeds in the garden (as if the weeds needed any help!) A mustard seed grows into a great tree. These are everyday stories Jesus uses to teach profound truths.

## September 3

Pentecost 14  
Reckless Hope  
Matthew 13:1-9

## September 17

Pentecost 16  
Snapshots of What Could Be  
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

## September 10

Pentecost 15  
Where Did These Weeds Come From?  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

## September 24

Pentecost 17  
Youth Sunday  
Abiding in God  
John 15:4

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**Join us in welcoming the incoming members of our New Hope UMC community!**

- Rhonda McGuire (8/13/23)
- Anita Roesler & George Clevenger (8/27/23)

## 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 our Cub Scouts troop for a kick-off carnival with games and snacks! Contact Troop Leader, Brad Quiroz ([bradq1234@hotmail.com](mailto:bradq1234@hotmail.com)) for more info.



### 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](mailto:yamrider02@yahoo.com)) or Girls of BSA Troop Leader, Brad England ([bgengland@gmail.com](mailto:bgengland@gmail.com)) for more info.



## Men of Hope

All men in the church are invited to attend the upcoming Men of Hope meeting, Sunday, September 17 for breakfast and fellowship at 8:00AM.

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## Wednesday Night Meal & Activities Return this month!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Wednesday Night Meals  
return on September 6  
@ 5:30PM**

All are invited to join us on Wednesday Nights, starting September 6, for a community meal (donations encouraged) and evening activities for all ages!



### Wednesday Night Meals September Menu

**9/06:** Baked Chicken, Fried Potatoes, Carrots, Salad Bar, & Dessert

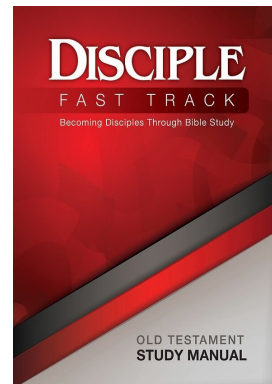
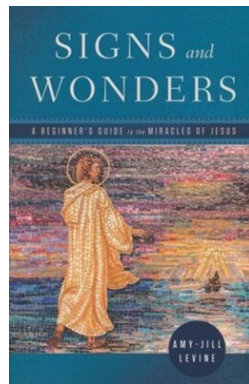
**9/13:** Spanish Spaghetti, Green Beans, Salad Bar, Bread, & Dessert

**9/20:** Mexican Chicken Breast, Spanish Rice, Salad Bar, & Dessert

**9/23:** Baked Fish, Lemon Garden Rice, Grilled Squash, Salad Bar, & Dessert

## New Bible Studies Coming to New Hope UMC this Fall!

- **Men's Bible Study:** begins Thursday, Sept. 7 @ 9AM, Room #210, led by Jeff Hiller.
- Participants will gather at the church to study the bible, pray, and fellowship.
- **Women's Morning Study:** begins Tuesday, Sept. 12 @ 9:30AM, led by Kathryn Witzel & Shirley Yates. This study explores selected miracles of Jesus in a historical and theological context. For each miracle, she discusses not only how past witnesses would have understood the events, but also how today's readers can draw meaning from Jesus's words and actions.
- **Disciple Fast Track Study:** begins Wednesday, Sept. 13 @ 6:30PM, led by Pastor Marla. This study explores the Old Testament and discusses major theological Christian themes such as Creation, Covenant, Atonement, Wisdom, and Hope.
- **Women's Evening Study:** begins Sunday, Sept. 24 @ 5PM, led by Teresa Coffman



## Strengthening Families Resumes in September!

Beginning on Thursday, September 14, our partnership with Specialized Outpatient Services (SOS)/Drug Court/OKDHA resumes in September! Each Thursday evening, parents recovering from addiction and their children meet for a meal & study at New Hope. They work through the Celebrating Families & Strengthening Families curriculum guided by the SOS staff. Sunday School classes and other groups at New Hope are invited to provide the dinner meal which is served at 5:00PM each Thursday. Individuals are invited to volunteer in the nursery on Thursday evenings. Look for more information and sign up at the Welcome desk.



**STRENGTHENING FAMILIES**

EVERY THURSDAY BEGINS 9/14!

Strengthening Families is a skills-based, 14 week long program for families in high risk situations. This program will meet at New Hope UMC on Thursdays beginning September 14th! This is a collaboration between Oklahoma County Family Treatment Court, Specialized Outpatient Services, DHS and New Hope.

How can you help? We need volunteers to help:

- Provide Meals!
- Play with babies in the nursery!

For more information, contact Luisa at [luisa@newhopeokc.org](mailto:luisa@newhopeokc.org) or Marla at [marla@newhopeokc.org](mailto:marla@newhopeokc.org)

## Stitchers

by Nancy Beale

The Stitchers group will be meeting on Wednesday, September 6 and Wednesday, September 20 from 11AM - 3PM.



## Ruth Circle

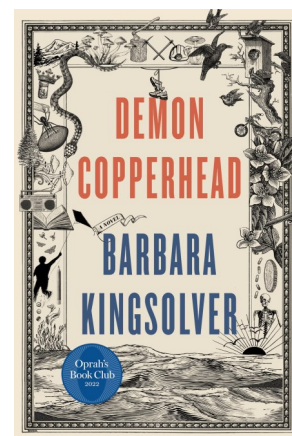
by Doris Korner

Ladies, please join us at the church, Tuesday, September 12, 6:30. We'll be celebrating Elaine Parrent with a farewell Salad Supper potluck. We'll also be starting a Bible study "Half Truths" by Adam Hamilton, which includes a short video, individual books not needed. We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm. The fourth Tuesday of the month, we meet at a restaurant. We welcome all ladies.

## Women's Book Club

by Debbi Marshall

The Women's Book Club resumes in September with the intriguing, Pulitzer Prize winning selection: *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver. You may be familiar with this author from her 1998 bestseller, *The Poisonwood Bible*. Join us when we resume on **Wednesday, September 20 at 9:30 am**. Everyone is welcome!



## Mary Martha Circle

by Mary Jo Pratz

The Mary Martha Circle meets the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Our time together is filled with good food, prayers and fellowship. Please join us as we plan for our upcoming activities to benefit the many programs of New Hope.

## Women's Ministries - August Ladies' Night Was Great Fun!

by Rev. Marla Lobo

On Friday, August 11, 34 women gathered for games, food and fun! Participants got to "mix it up" during the evening playing three different table games and getting acquainted with new friends! Watch for upcoming details about a Fall ladies fellowship gathering!

## Second Saturday Outreach & Items Needed

Our next outreach to our unhoused neighbors will be **Saturday, September 9.**

The Second Saturday team will meet at New Hope UMC at 9:30AM to prepare food & supplies before traveling to downtown OKC. Please join us!

You can also contribute to our Second Saturday Outreach through donations. The program is currently in need of personal care items: wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, pain & allergy remedies, and any other health or beauty aids. Donated items can be left in the Second Saturday section of the church's Donation Center.

### OUR DONATION STATION HAS MOVED!

All donations may now be dropped off at our new Donation Station, **located in the Youth Room Closet.**

Need assistance? Check in at the Front Office for directions to the Donation Station or assistance unloading your donation items!



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## Project Transformation and Whiz Kids

Our programs for elementary children to improve their reading continues to be successful!

In June and July, New Hope hosted 28 children for **Project Transformation**. 100% of these children maintained their reading levels and 56% improved! Without intervention, such as Project Transformation, children often lose two to three academic months of learning. This loss is known as "Summer Slide."

**Whiz Kids** returns for the 2023-2024 school year. Whiz Kids, sponsored by City Care, is an extraordinarily successful, faith-based, city-wide, one-on-one tutoring/mentoring program for kids in 1st-5th grade. We finished the 2022-23 school year with 33 children and 94% of the children improved their reading over the school year! Currently, we seek to expand our pool of substitute tutors. Substitute tutors play a vital role and meeting with a child when their regular tutor cannot be present. We also invite you to pray for the program or make a financial donation to the Whiz Kids @ New Hope fund. Contact Pastor Marla or Luisa with any questions!



## 2023 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 *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.



### 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

## Happy September Birthdays!

Bryce Almond  
Wesley Barrick  
Julian Brimacombe  
Keith Castner  
Nichole Coffman  
Pat Crist  
Sunne Day  
Jennifer Echohawk  
John Eleftherakis  
Linda Felan  
Danny Goodman  
Sam Gosdin  
Gerald Grady  
Gillian Hasty  
Lairyn Hayes  
Janelle Hillemeier

Sherry Hogg  
Elizabeth Jackson  
David Johnson  
Brian Johnson  
Jordann Klein  
Ji Kusel  
Margaret Lawson  
Bonnie Malone  
Robin McLaren  
Pat Mize  
John Moore  
Janelle Nelson  
Lynnda Parker  
Elaine Parrent  
Elaine Pierce  
Mary Plender

Colby Powell  
Mary Jo Pratz  
Linda Rinehard  
Allan Seay  
Jane Ann Slane  
Zayna Snipes  
Drew Stogsdill  
Jerome Valentour



## Happy September Anniversaries!

Bob & Roseanna Kaiser  
Larry & Peggy Morgan  
Cody & Kristal Osborne  
Sue & Richard Reynolds  
Dale & Linda Rinehard  
Jonathan & Kari Russell  
Jim & Shirley Yates



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### 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!**



# Preschool & Children's Day Out

by Amy Aita

## Preschool Ministries

This is an exciting month as we look forward to hopefully cooler temps and fall being right around the corner! This month, the preschoolers will be learning about creation. We will be doing some fun crafts/activities to go along with our lessons each morning. Sunday evenings lessons and crafts will also be about creation! We always love having new kids on Sundays! The preschoolers, ages 3-4yrs. old, meet on Sunday mornings and evenings from 5-7pm. We will not meet the evening of September 3rd due to Labor Day. I can always use more volunteers on Sunday mornings! Please see me if you would like to help out from time to time.

## CDO

CDO is off to a great start for this new school year! We have a few new teachers and some new kids! Classes are full and we have some great things planned. This month the kids will be learning letters C, D, E, and F. We have a new theme this year for letter C. We will have cultures week where the kids can learn about different cultures. If you have anything we can show the kids or can be displayed the week of Sept. 4th for cultures week, please let me know! Another favorite theme is Dinosaurs! The kids will get to make fizzy eggs the week of Sept. 11th.

We are always looking for subs! If you or someone you know might be interested, please let me know. Thank you for your support of New Hope's Preschool Ministries!

Amy Aita - Preschool Ministries Director

## Youth Ministries

by Maddy Day

Our youth are now in the full swing of classes and extracurricular activities! Wes and Maddy have been attending some sports events and cheering on some of our youth and camp friends! We are so proud of all the hard work our young people are putting into their sports and arts! If you, or your youth, has sports, arts, or anything they would like Wes and Maddy to attend reach out to Maddy, [maddy@newhopeokc.org](mailto:maddy@newhopeokc.org), and let them know!

We have also begun our planning for Youth Sunday, which will be held Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>!!!! Our youth will be facilitating worship in both the 8:45am and 11:00am services! Our young people will also be writing most of the liturgy with some guidance from our adult volunteers!

Our youth have established the theme of “Abiding in God” based on the scripture John 15:4 which reads, “Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.” (NRSV) Carly Smarra will bring us the message and we are excited to hear what she has to share with us!



# WARM FUZZIES



## WARM FUZZIES TO BE COLLECTED IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

by Julie Guilford-Stillwell

One of New Hope United Methodist Church's longest on-going mission projects for our community is the dearest one to many of our members. "Warm Fuzzies" is a name given to a collection of soft and cuddly stuffed animals given to children by first responders to calm them during frightening crises. Records weren't kept the first few years, however we know since 2009 our congregation has given 6,247 of these items of comforting love to children in traumatic times of their lives. JOY Sunday School Class sponsors this project by not only donating animals but also by emptying the collection box regularly, storing and individually placing each item in a clear baggy to keep them clean and making sure they are delivered to EMSA Headquarters and the OKC Police Dept. From there officers are able to pick up two or three to put in their emergency vehicles for just these circumstances.

We have heard many expressions of gratitude from first responders for helping them with a way to show compassion and caring to scared or injured children at such a scene. We divide the fuzzies into two groups. EMSA likes to have more human characteristics like arms, legs, feet to use as a diagnostic tool for the child to point out on the fuzzies' body where he or she hurts. The police are pleased to have birds, fish, apples, etc. to let the child know they are a trustworthy adult gifting them a 'friend' for the child to hug. In 2014 the first responders asked if we could also ask New Hope congregation for donations of warm blankets, as they found many children living in places unheated or under-heated during the cold months of the year. These can be handmade or store bought. We have been given fleece tied blankets that don't require sewing skills, quilts, crocheted afghans in sizes at least large enough to wrap around babies to preteens. (Flannel receiving baby blankets are too small and too lightweight to be of much help.) Since their request, we have provided 368 crucially needed blankets.

Covid, of course, took a toll on our collections with less attending church but watching online. Before Covid they sat in our laps through our church services, so we could hug love into them and pray for the children who would need them, but Pastor Rod still does bless them and their mission at the end of October during services. Our numbers last year were very low: 127 fuzzies and 2 blankets.

Please consider making this project part of your personal mission work, because it will always be a necessary one. JOY class members will be willing to answer any questions you have or accept the fuzzies and blankets as you wish to give them. Or you may feel free to call me, Julie Guilford at 405.623.3082. Thank you.

# New Hope Calendar - September 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	2
3 8:45 & 11:00 Services No Children's Activities No Youth Activities	4 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	5 9:00 - 2:00 CDO	6 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 11:00 Stitches 5:30 Community Meal 6 & 6:30 Wednesday Night Activities	7 9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 - 2:00 CDO	8 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	9 9:30 Second Saturday Outreach
10 8:45 & 11:00 Services 5:00 Children's Activities 5:00 Youth Activities	11 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 6:30 Ruth Circle	13 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 5:30 Community Meal 6 & 6:30 Wednesday Night Activities	14 9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30am Mary Martha Circle 5:00 Strengthening Families	15 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	16 11:00 - 4:00 CCYM Fall Summit
17 8:00 Men of Hope 8:45 & 11:00 Services 5:00 Children's Activities 5:00 Youth Activities	18 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boys & Girls of BSA	19 9:00 - 2:00 CDO FALL SEMESTER BEGINS 9:30 Women's Bible Study	20 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 11:00 Stitches 5:30 Community Meal 6 & 6:30 Wednesday Night Activities	21 9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 5:00 Strengthening Families	22 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	23
24 YOUTH SUNDAY 8:45 & 11:00 Services 5:00 Children's Activities 5:00 Youth Activities 5:00 Women's Bible Study	25 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boys & Girls of BSA	26 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 9:30 Women's Bible Study 1:00 - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open	27 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 5:30 Community Meal 6 & 6:30 Wednesday Night Activities	28 Young at Heart TBD 9:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 - 2:00 CDO 5:00 Strengthening Families	29 10:00 - Gym Open for Walking	30