

NEW HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Committed to new hope in Christ through family, fellowship, and service.



December 1, 2013



New Hope United Methodist Church

Order of Worship

December 1, 2013

1st Sunday in Advent

Entrance

Gathering, Welcome, and Announcements

Prelude

* Advent Reading

“He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!”
Isaiah 2:4-5 NRSV

* Call to Worship

On this first Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of hope.

Hope is our assurance that God will finish what God has started.

Hope is our confidence that God will be faithful and always with us.

Hope is the light that makes a way in the darkness.

All: May we prepare our hearts with God’s hope, God’s grace, God’s love, and God’s mercy to walk in the light of the Lord.

* Response

O come let us adore him. O come let us adore him. O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord. (UMH, p. 234)

* Lighting the Advent Wreath

The first candle is one of hope. As we light this candle we are reminded of the Hope that only Jesus can give. We give thanks for the Light we can see even in the darkest of times and the knowledge that we are never left alone.

* Hymn

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

UMH 196

* Opening Prayer

(Church of Scotland)

Ever present God,

you taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

Grant that we may ever be found watching for the coming of your Son.

Save us from undue love of the world,

that we may wait with patient hope for the day of the Lord,

and so abide in him,

that when he shall appear, we may not be ashamed;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Gloria Patri

UMH 70

* Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Proclamation

Prayer of Illumination

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

Psalter Lesson

Psalms 122

Anthem

Christmas Communion Song

John A. Ray and Susan Naylor Callaway

* Gospel Lesson

Matthew 24:36-44

Time with the Children

Epistle Lesson

Romans 13:11-14

Sermon

It Is Now the Moment

Rev. Brian Siegle

Response

Prayers of the community

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All offer prayers of confession in silence.

Hear the Good News: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God's love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Glory to God. Amen.

Giving God's tithes and our offerings

Offertory

* Christmas Doxology

On screen

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, Always and everywhere

to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,

and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for the day

when justice shall roll down like waters

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,

when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with all your people on earth and all the company of heaven

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,

whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations.

You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts

and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation.

You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree.

You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away.

Your own Son came among us to be a servant,

to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.

He humbled himself in obedience to your will

and freely accepted death on a cross.

*By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.*

*On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples,
and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."*

*When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."*

*And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

*Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.*

*Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.*

*By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.*

*Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer after Communion

Sending Forth

* Hymn

We've A Story to Tell to the Nations

UMH 569

* Benediction

* Please stand, as you are able

♪ UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal (red hymn book), ♪ TFWS = The Faith We Sing (black hymn book)

Worship Notes

Liturgist: Wendell Palmer

Flowers: Given to the glory of God

Today is the first Sunday of December, and we will be celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion together. We use a common loaf and unfermented juice as the elements. The tradition of the United Methodist Church is that all who profess Christ as Lord and Savior and desire a closer relationship with him are welcome at the table, regardless of church or religious affiliation. Please come as directed by the ushers down the center aisle and return to your seats by the side aisles.

Any money left at the Communion Rail this morning will go to disaster relief through our United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). 100% of donations go to the specified cause because UMCOR operating expenses are covered by the “One Great Hour of Sharing” special offering each year.

Next Week

Liturgist: Mark Charnock Flowers: Shirley French

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; *Matthew 3:1-12*

Sermon: *Prepare*

“It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you...yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand.”

--Mother Teresa

As we prepare for the coming of Christ into the world, we are reminded that Hope enters our world through the most unexpected of ways. A baby wrapped in cloth and placed in a manger changes the course of humanity through reconciling love. The same hope that Jesus had he also gives to us. Inside all of us is Hope and our calling is to share that Hope with the world.

Prayers

"God does nothing but by prayer, and everything with it."



Anna Akers, Tim and Judy Aldridge, Harriet Ammons, Douglas Anthony, Alfred Bennett, Roland Bourne, Katrina Bradshaw, Anne Bristow, Meagan Brown, Dickie Brooks, Nancy Brooks, George Callis, Alex "Dinkie" Carter, Gene Chaffin, Kate Clark, Kristen Cole, Edith Mae Collier, Helen Collier, Mike Conrad, Barbara Crowe, Meredith Crowe, Jordan Crowell, Irene Crump, Jim and Sarah Crumpton, Tamika Daniels, Joan Dier, Charles "Butch" Dixon, Peter Dolezal, Jen Elswick, Vernelle Fletcher, Cathy Gallagher, Donna Garrett, Debbie Goodrich, Jamie Haden, Brenda and Jeff Hall, Jessica Hall, John Hasty, Jessie Haynes, John Haynes, T.A. Haynes, Fred Hogge, Angie Horsley, Eleanor Jacks, Amy Jackson, Grace Jackson, Henry Jackson, Andy James, John Jiles, Whalen Kemp, Jim King, Susan Lawson, Sandy Lee, Johnny Lewis, Leigh Brown Lindsey, Rita Michaels, Michele Murphy, Aubrey and Camille Nelson, Anita Newcomb, Marianne Nichols, Billy & Crystal Norton, Jeannie Oakes, Charlotte Palmer, Warren Palmer, Maruice Parker, Tommy and Vickie Reamer, Kelly Richards, Jeff Rilee, Louisa Roane, Debra Robinson, Rev. Jane Sabeau, Mike Salais, Karen Sallam, Abbi Schaub, Ann Shoaff, Jessica Smith, Bob Staul, Pat Stowe, Charlie Sturtz, Nell Thimsen, Chris Tomlinson, Keith Tremel, Tommy Vosnick, Jesse Walton, Floyd Gene Ward, Ruby Willoughby, Bobby Wilson, Nannie Mae Wilson, Robert Woodfin, Carolyn Yarrington, Paulette Yates

- Those who do not have the joy of a faith community to call home
- Those who are living in the midst of natural disaster and violence, especially civil war in Syria, Typhoon Haiyan's devastation in the Philippines, and tornadoes in the midwestern United States
- Those who have recently lost loved ones including Harry Kruse
- Those who have experienced tragedy this holiday season including vehicle accidents, violence, and the loss of homes through fire

Numbers last week

Sunday School attendance – 14

Budget Offering – \$1,669.50

Building Fund – \$0

Budget funds received year-to-date – \$84,568.68

Annual 2013 budget - \$91,847

Worship attendance – 67

Cemetery Fund – \$0

Budget projection: + \$1,553.12

Average needed *each week* for budget: \$1,455.66

Announcements

Talents and Gifts. If you feel that you have a skill or talent or gift that you would like to use in the life of the church, please get in touch with Pastor Brian so that he can meet with you to discuss it. If necessary, we can create a whole new ministry to use those talents.

Our Christmas Play is on the way! We have begun practicing for our Christmas Play, *Operation Christmas Child*, to be presented Sunday, December 15, at 6:00pm. It is a humorous account of the work the angels must do to arrange all of the events and circumstances required for the birth of Christ to the world. We are still looking for people to play a few speaking parts, specifically *the three wise men and Mary and Joseph*. If you have ever wanted to be involved in drama, now is your chance! See Linda South or Pastor Brian if you would like to be a part of this production.

New Hope car magnets are here! Purchase one for you and more as gifts! They are \$5 each, and are designed to be used on vehicles and exposed to the weather. Show off your New Hope pride to the community!

Chestnut Memorial United Methodist Church (1024 Harpersville Road, Newport News VA 23601, 757-595-6531) invites you and your family to **Journey to Bethlehem**, A Drive-thru Living Nativity on Saturday, Dec. 14 & Sunday, Dec. 15, 6:00 pm—8:00 pm. This is their gift to the community and it's FREE!

Certified Lay Servant Academy is coming February 23-23 at Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center. The Lay Servant Academy is about equipping laity to carry out the mission of the church. Anyone interested can take one or more courses just for the interest in the topic. For a full weekend you can take up to six classes. This format will also allow Friday and Saturday or Saturday and Sunday participation only. Anyone interested in this great way to expand your faith journey should contact Pastor Brian.

The 2013 Virginia Annual Conference Journal is now available on the conference website. Go to www.vaumc.org for index of sections of the *Journal* in a pdf file format which can be downloaded and printed. Copies on a CD may be purchased at a cost of \$10 each by calling the Virginia Conference Communications office at (804) 521-1110 or 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110.

Dec. 7 Nutzy's Rotary FUNN Run will benefit UMFS The Rotary Club of West Richmond, in partnership with The Dominion Christmas Parade and the Richmond Flying Squirrels, will sponsor the second annual Nutzy's Rotary FUNN Run 5k on Saturday, Dec. 7, to benefit United Methodist Family Services (UMFS) and the YMCA. Children eight and older can run without mom and dad. Strollers and walkers are welcome. Runners will be in the first flights and strollers in the last flight. Visit www.nutzyrotaryfunnrun.com to register.

Clergy, lay leaders invited to **Wesley Pilgrimage in England**. Immerse yourself in the Christ-centered leadership of John and Charles Wesley through a 10-day adventure in the England of the Wesleys. The Wesley Pilgrimage in England will be July 14-24, 2014, and is open to all United Methodist lay and clergy leaders. It is sponsored by the General Board of Discipleship and General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Help support UMCOR relief efforts in the Philippines. United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is sending aid, including a \$97,000 grant for emergency relief, to respond to Super Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda which hit the Philippines Friday, Nov. 8. The three active United Methodist bishops in the Philippines and at least two retired bishops are attending the denomination's Council of Bishops meeting this week at Lake Junaluska, N.C. Bishop Ciriaco Q. Francisco, who leads the Davao Episcopal Area in central Philippines which includes the islands devastated by the typhoon, is waiting to hear more about the extent of the damage there. The National Association of Filipino American United Methodists said it is trying to coordinate with responders to the disaster, including UMCOR. Support UMCOR's work through International Disaster Response, Advance #982450.

Gifts to Advance projects will be matched on #GivingTuesday. The General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) has designated **Tuesday, Dec. 3**, as UMC #GivingTuesday. On that day only, all gifts made online to any Advance project will be matched. The Advance is the denomination's giving channel that ensures that 100% of each gift supports the project designated by the donor. More than 850 Methodist-related projects and more than 300 missionaries are supported by The Advance; all of them have gone through a rigorous review process and are accountable for how funds are used. GBGM will allocate "matching funds" dollar for dollar up to the first \$500,000 in gifts to Advance projects received online on Dec. 3 between 12 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. EST. A maximum of \$10,000 per individual gift to a project will be disbursed as matching funds. A project may receive a maximum of \$50,000 in matching funds.

Credit Union to donate \$25 to local church for each auto loan. The Virginia United Methodist Credit Union (VUMCU) has launched a new vehicle loan program to benefit Virginia Conference churches. When clergy and church members finance a vehicle purchase with VUMCU or refinance a vehicle loan that they currently have with another lender, VUMCU will donate \$25 to their local church. Current rates start as low as 1.93% APR, and 100% financing is available. Call 1-866-657-0004 to apply.

Camp Overlook offering retreat for singles. Overlook Retreat and Camp Ministries in Keezletown will host a weekend retreat for those who have become "single" again through separation, divorce or the death of a spouse. A team of clergy and laity who have all experienced this trial will share brief presentations, small group reflections, and expressive worship to help you find the road to healing and wholeness. "Wounded Hearts - Healing Love" will be offered Friday evening through Sunday at 3 p.m., Dec. 6-8. Cost of \$105 per person includes lodging, meals and program expenses. Register online at www.campoverlook.org or contact the office at (540) 2MY-CAMP or e-mail CampOverlook@gmail.com.

The dates for Voices Of Youth 2014 are here: we will be traveling JULY 3-20!!!! VOICES OF YOUTH 2014 will be traveling to work alongside the UMC on the Island of Nassau in the Bahamas with BAHAMAS METHODIST HABITAT. After a time of orientation, group building, and rehearsal, VOY will be travel to Nassau, Bahamas for 1 week, then return to the VA Conference to tour presenting worship experiences in host churches throughout the conference. We are blessed to be a part of an Annual Conference that offers many mission opportunities around the world and right here in Virginia. For more information about the organization we will be working with in the Bahamas please follow this link: <http://www.methodisthabitat.org>. We are still looking for several adults interested in travelling as a part of the Adult Staff for the trip as well. All applications and information is on our website www.voyva.org or please feel free to contact the VA Conference VOY Coordinator Jenn Dixon at coordinator@voyva.org or jennydpt07@gmail.com or call at 757-348-7084!

Caretakers of God's Creation on Thursday, January 9 from 7:00-8:30 at Chestnut Memorial UMC or Thursday, January 16 from 7:00-8:30 at Susanna Wesley UMC. Caretakers of God's Creation is a United Methodist Church and Community Ministry dedicated to caring for and healing God's creation. It works with congregations across the country to enable them to make the connection between Biblical theology and a sense of responsibility to be in relationship to God's creation. "The Green Church Initiative," a Virginia Conference ministry, is one way it provides Virginia congregations with the resources they need to live out their faith as caretakers of God's creation. As all UM churches are encouraged to take part in the Green Church initiative, these meetings are designed to be the beginning of quarterly meetings of Green Church representatives to include a discussion of successes and difficulties and opportunities for joint activities.

Reaching Out on Saturday, January 11 from 10:00-11:30 at the York River District office, 236 Harpersville Rd.; Newport News, VA 23601. An informational session led by DS Joe Carson and District Program Coordinator Shan Sixbey to assist in learning more about the insights available through MissionInsite and Thomas Bandy's analysis of the information.

UMVIM training on Saturday, January 18 from 9:30-3:30 at the Wesley Foundation at the College of William & Mary; 526 Jamestown Rd.; Williamsburg, VA 23185. \$55 covers the cost of background check, booklet, and food provided by the Wesley Foundation. UMVIM training provides excellent preparation for anyone leading a mission team, even for experienced team leaders. Moreover, if a team has an UMVIM trained leader then phenomenal, very inclusive, low cost insurance is available through UMVIM.

UMCOR Early Response Team (ERT) training on Saturday, January 18 from 8:30-4:30 at Williamsburg UMC; 500 Jamestown Rd.; Williamsburg, VA 23185. \$55 covers the cost of background check, training materials, and food provided by the Wesley Foundation. ERTs respond to a disaster after receiving an invitation for help. Team members must be self-contained as they are usually assisting while limited resources are still very constrained. The training will teach the "who, what, when, where, and how of doing ministry as well as hands on experience, in the specific tasks that early responders are expected to accomplish."

United Methodists join forces in Indiana storms. Volunteers from Centenary United Methodist Church in Lebanon, Ind., helped other area residents who were in the paths of tornadic storms Nov. 17 to clean up debris. The Rev. Dan Gangler, Indiana Conference communicator, says news sources in Kokomo reported 60 homes and more than 20 businesses destroyed or heavily damaged. To help in Kokomo relief efforts, the Indiana Conference Disaster Response Team gave United Methodist-related Kokomo Urban Outreach \$4,000 for food and another \$700 for flashlights. Many residents are without electricity and have been told they won't have any until the weekend. Kokomo Urban Ministries will help provide food at noon and 5 p.m. and emergency light.

UMCOR calls for relief supply kits. Officials ask that you DO NOT self-deploy to tornado-affected areas in the Midwest or donate unrequested materials. Instead, make UMCOR approved relief kits. United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) needs cleaning buckets, health kits and school kits. See www.umcor.org for kit details.

Winkler elected president of National Council of Churches. Nov. 20, 2013 - Jim Winkler, outgoing general secretary of the General Board of Church and Society, was elected General Secretary/President of the National Council of Churches by the organization's board, meeting in Chicago on Tuesday. Winkler is a member of Fairlington UMC in the Alexandria District



This Week

TODAY – Play practice – after worship

Monday – Alcoholics Anonymous – 7:00pm

Tuesday – Wylie Crowe's and Ann Hall's birthdays

Wednesday – Choir Practice – 7:00pm

Connie Haynes' birthday

Thursday – Flora Femiani's birthday

Friday – UMM dinner – Olivia's (Gloucester) – 6:00pm

Lauren Harrell's birthday

Saturday – Pearl Harbor Day

Ann Mouser's birthday

Coming Up

December 15 – Christmas Play and Party – 6:00pm

December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Worship – 7:00pm

December 25 – **Christmas Day**

December 29 – Worship with Christmas Carol Sing-along



Don't forget to check out our website (www.newhopevaumc.org) for up-to-date information about New Hope, the Virginia Conference, and the world.

We're on FaceBook at www.FaceBook.com/newhopevaumc/

Follow us on Twitter @NewHopeVAUMC

New Hope United Methodist Church

www.newhopevaumc.org

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Lay Leader: Miriam Charnock, layleader@newhopevaumc.org

Accompianist: Thelma Downey

Choir Director: Stuart Conner