

NEW HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



December 8, 2013



New Hope United Methodist Church

Order of Worship

December 8, 2013

2nd Sunday of Advent

Entrance

Gathering, Welcome, and Announcements

Prelude

Advent Reading

“That together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.”
Romans 15:6-7 (NRSV)

* Call to Worship

On the second Sunday of Advent, we light the Candle of Preparation.

We prepare our hearts to glorify God as one voice.

As Christ welcomes each of us with unconditional love and mercy,

So we are to welcome and love one another.

All: All of this we do to Glorify God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and welcome the strangers among us so that we may all be One. Amen.

Sung Response

**O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us
adore him, Christ the Lord.**

UMH 234

Lighting the Advent Wreath

The way of the Lord is being prepared in our hearts. All the promises of God are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. We give thanks for the welcoming presence of Christ. In Christ the stranger may become a friend and those who may feel all alone might find in this place a home. May we be the home for the presence of Christ that is always extending the hand of welcome to those who are in need.

* Hymn

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

♪ UMH 213

* Opening Prayer

**In your time, Loving God, when we had wandered far,
you embraced the prodigal within the security of your arms.**

**Remind us always as we look at pain caused by others and hardship
endured, that your forgiving and welcoming love is at the center of
all things. Amen.**

* Gloria Patri

♪ UMH 70

- * Passing the Peace
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Proclamation

Hebrew Bible Lesson		Isaiah 11:1-10
Time with the Children		
Epistle Lesson		Romans 15:4-13
* Hymn	<i>Blessed Be the God of Israel</i>	♪ UMH 209
* Gospel Lesson		Matthew 3:1-12
Sermon	<i>Prepare</i>	<i>Rev. Brian Siegle</i>

Response

Joys and Concerns of the Community

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer of Confession

(The Book of Common Prayer)

**Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach
repentance and prepare the way for our salvation.**

**Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,
that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ,
our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Giving God's tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

- * Christmas Doxology ♪ on screen
- * Prayer of Thanksgiving
- * The Lord's Prayer UMH 895

Sending Forth

- * Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* ♪ UMH 211
- * Benediction
- * Response *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (refrain)* ♪ UMH 211

* 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: Mark Charnock

Flowers today are given to the glory of God in memory of W.B. French by Shirley L. French.

Today is the second Sunday of December, and the New Hope tradition is that any undesignated cash funds go toward the building/maintenance fund, which pays for church and parsonage repair, improvement, and insurance. There are offering envelopes in the pew if you would like to clarify your generous giving today.

Next Week:

Liturgist: Linda South

Scripture: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 1:47-55; James 5:7-10; *Matthew 11:2-11*

Sermon: *Go and Tell*

Note from the Finance Committee:

We rejoice to inform the New Hope Congregation that as of the end of November, we *have paid at least 100%* of all our shared ministry cost (apportionments)! Congratulations are in order for the entire congregation for this great achievement ahead of schedule!

Numbers last week

Sunday School attendance – 14

Budget Offering : \$2,355.02

Building Fund : \$0.00

Worship attendance – 49

Cemetery Fund : \$0.00

Budget funds received year-to-date : \$86,923.70

Budget projection: + \$2,141.85

Annual 2013 budget : \$91,847

Average needed each week for budget: \$1,230.82

UMCOR Disaster Response Communion offering: \$84.00

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 next week! 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 traveling 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.

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."

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.

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, Neal Christie, 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, Robin Gray, Jamie Haden, Brenda and Jeff Hall, Jessica Hall, John Hasty, Jessie Haynes, John Haynes, T.A. Haynes, Fred Hogge, Angie Horsley, Tillie Hudgins, Eleanor Jacks, Amy Jackson, Grace Jackson, Henry Jackson, Andy James, John Jiles, Billy Kemp, Whalen Kemp, Jim King, Susan Lawson, Sandy Lee, Will Leggett, 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 Sabean, 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 for whom the holiday season is a time of sadness, particularly those who have their first Christmas without a loved one present
- 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
- Those who have experienced tragedy this holiday season including vehicle accidents, violence, and the loss of homes through fire



This Week

Today – Christmas play practice – after worship

Monday – Alcoholics Anonymous – 7:00pm

Tuesday – Vernon Willis' birthday

Wednesday – Choir Rehearsal – 7:00pm

Friday – Macey Chapman's and Crystal Dunlevy's birthdays

Saturday – Play rehearsal – 10:00am

Coming Up

Next Sunday – Christmas Play and Party – 6:00pm

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

December 25 – **Christmas Day**

December 29 – Worship with Carol Sing



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. Download bulletins, sermons, flyers, newsletters, and more!

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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Accompianist: Thelma Downey

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Saluda, VA 23149

Choir Director: Stuart Conner