

...Sharing Our Faith

The Newsletter of New Hope Church

September 2009

Special 25th Anniversary Issue

So Great a Cloud of Witnesses

Rev. Steve Norden · norden@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith...Hebrews 12:1-2a

Sometime in early 1976: I was interning as a seminary student at Second Reformed Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan. We were having dinner with the Senior Pastor, Jay Weener, when he said, "At some time during your ministerial career, you should consider planting a church." A seed was planted. The idea of being a church planter took root. *Thank you, Jay Weener, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

September 1976 to June 1977: I spent the year between my second and third years of seminary as an intern at Good Samaritan Reformed Church in Gahanna, Ohio. I came to love Columbus. I learned that a Reformed Church could be vital and vibrant in a location that was not traditionally an enclave of the Reformed Church in America. *Thank you, Harold DeRoo and Harvey Mast, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

1978 to 1984: Called to be pastor of Youth and Education at Second Reformed Church in Kalamazoo, MI, I was privileged to serve with two of the finest mentors one could ever have. Jay Weener certainly had left his spiritual fingerprints upon my life. Don DeYoung, my other mentor, helped me understand that a church should be intentional about reaching "Christ's least of these" and being a "big tent" where all are welcomed in the name of Jesus. Without being trite, if one were to look up "servant leadership" in the dictionary, you'd simply find Don's picture. *Thank you, Don DeYoung, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

January 1982: At a Synod of Michigan (now Synod of the Great Lakes) Genesis youth event, I happened to have a random (or providential) breakfast with Dick Welscott, responsible for new church development in the Synod of Michigan (now the Synod of the Great Lakes). In the course of the conversation, Dick said, "We're ready to plant a new church in Columbus, Ohio." When I asked how soon they wanted someone in Columbus, Dick told me that they wanted someone there during the summer of 1982. Since Jean and I were expecting our first child (now Billy ☺) I knew that this was an inopportune time. I told Dick, "The timing is not good. Let us know when you're ready to start a new church somewhere else." In early 1983 I received a phone call from Dick Welscott letting me know that there had been some glitches in the process. The Synod of Michigan and Holland Classis were still looking for someone to plant a church in Columbus. "Was I still interested?" was the question. As they say, the rest is history. *Thank you, Dick Welscott, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

(continued on next page)

So Great a Cloud of Witnesses (continued)

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Summer 1983: I had been extended the call to be the founding pastor for a new Reformed Church in central Ohio. After considerable prayer and reflection, I felt God was calling me to Columbus and we made the decision to move. The same day we put our house on the market in Kalamazoo, MI our son, Billy, was diagnosed with cancer. Our world crashed around us. Our plans were put on hold. A phone call came. “Steve, if God wants you in Columbus, God will find a way for you to be there. That’s what we’re praying for. Let’s wait for God’s answer.” *Thank you, Ron Lokhorst, for still being a part of New Hope’s cloud of witnesses.*

Still summer of 1983 until 1991: Planting a church requires support -- financial and spiritual. Holland Classis decided to be the supporting agent for a new Reformed Church in central Ohio. Who would be the flagship? Maplewood Reformed Church of Holland, MI, along with their pastor Dave Bruininks, makes a decision to be the “mother church” for a new Reformed Church in central Ohio. Over the years they offered significant financial and, more importantly, prayer support to a fledgling church. *Thank you, Dave Bruininks, and all the saints of Maplewood Church for being a part of New Hope’s cloud of witnesses.*

Flashback to September of 1953: The Norden family arrives in Yokohama, Japan. For 17 years Steve grows up as an MK (missionary kid) in a culture where the Christian faith is an alien religion. Russell and Eleanore serve faithfully as Reformed Church missionaries until 1991 when they retire. This experience clearly shaped a passion for reaching those who are pre-Christian, spiritually unaware or apathetic. This is one of New Hope’s reasons for being. *Thank you, Russell and Eleanore Norden, for being a part of New Hope’s cloud of witnesses.*

Spring 1983 to present: When I received the call to plant a new church in the rapidly growing suburbs of northwest Central Ohio, many wondered what this would mean for the future well-being of our family. After all, there were no guarantees that anyone would want to be part of a new Reformed Church in America congregation. And even if anyone were to become a part of it, there were no assurances of financial assistance for this new congregation beyond the five year timeframe it had been given to become self-sufficient. Especially concerned were Jean’s parents. Still, once the decision was made to move, Jean’s father was present with her at the meeting of the Holland Classis when I was installed as new church development pastor for the northwest Columbus ministry of the classis. Jean’s mother and father drove to Columbus to help with the move, and they have been present for nearly every major event in the life of New Hope Church. *Thank you, Stanley and Betty Boven, for being a part of New Hope’s cloud of witnesses. Without your material support and the support of your prayers, New Hope would not be here today.*

February 1984: Alone, on the night that I moved into our home on Gnarled Pine Drive, the doorbell rang. A neighbor stopped by to welcome me, but also to make sure that no one was breaking into the previously unoccupied house. He asked what brought me to Columbus and, when told that I would be attempting to plant a new congregation for the Reformed Church in America, a small denomination of which he was probably unaware, my new neighbor responded that his grandfather was a German Reformed Pastor. This neighbor emerged as a key leader in the life of New Hope and is still with us today. *Thank you, Rick Schuster, for being a part of New Hope’s cloud of witnesses.*

So Great a Cloud of Witnesses (continued)

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March 1984: A meeting is held in our living room for those who might be interested in a new church. Present is an acquaintance that we had made eight years earlier while I was interning at Good Samaritan Church in Gahanna. This acquaintance also became a key leader in the life of New Hope, presently serving as Elder. *Thank you, Barb Lewis, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

Interlude: Rick Schuster and Barb Lewis are two of many who have faithfully served as Consistory members, Bethel Bible students, Stephen Ministers, team leaders, committee members, and volunteered in myriad ways to extend the “good news” of Jesus through the ministry of New Hope Church. *Thank you, to the hundreds of you, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

September 16, 1984: New Hope's first worship service was held at Indian Run Elementary School in Dublin with 69 people present.

Spring 1987: A worshipping congregation had been born and was growing. As they grew, they recognized that Indian Run Elementary School in Dublin would be only a temporary home. The question of a permanent worship place was raised, and after careful, extensive searching, property was identified. New Hope's congregation recognized that without additional financial help, the purchase of 20 acres on Powell Road next to the Columbus Zoo simply would not happen. David Cooke, Bill Dykema, Wally Sparks and I traveled to Holland, MI to appeal to the churches in Holland Classis for financial support. After great deliberation, the President of Holland Classis stated: “It's time to put our money where our word and our prayers have been. The congregation of which I'm pastor will commit \$20,000 toward New Hope's property purchase.” With that pledge of support, other congregations followed suit. *Thank you, Ken Reynen and Fellowship Reformed Church, for leading the way. Thank you saints at First, Third, Rose Park and Trinity Reformed Churches for joining Fellowship and being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

Fall 1989 to Fall 1991: A capital stewardship campaign was held to raise funds for New Hope's first facility. After unanticipated challenges, ground was broken on Palm Sunday of 1991. Construction was completed and worship held in New Hope's first “permanent” home that October. *Thank you, you faithful band of pioneers who traveled from Indian Run Elementary School to 5115 S. R. 750, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

Another interlude - September 1984 to early 1992: When the Norden family moved to northwest Columbus in 1984, I quickly learned that I was not the first pastor to attempt to plant a church in the rapidly growing suburbs. In fact, many churches were being planted, and it was a challenge to identify features that distinguished one church from another. Within months, New Hope and Good Samaritan decided to run a local 30 second ad following “The Hour of Power” television program. Featuring Dr. Robert Schuller, identifying himself as a pastor of the Reformed Church in America and encouraging viewers to find a like congregation, this “commercial” has been without question the single most effective advertising tool in New Hope's history. Beyond this, the kindness extended to New Hope by Dr. and Mrs. Schuller is beyond compare. *Thank you, Robert and Arvella Schuller, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

So Great a Cloud of Witnesses (continued)

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Still another interlude - Easter 1985 to the present: During our first year in Columbus, one of the few places that we could take Billy was the Columbus Zoo. It was at this time that the amphitheater near the Scioto River was built (Water's Edge). Early in 1985 I placed a call to the Director of the Columbus Zoo inquiring about the possibility of holding a Community Easter Sunrise Service in the amphitheater. Two weeks before Easter, I received a call from the Zoo director with message, "I think it's a great idea. Let's do it." Even though it snowed on Easter of 1985, the Sunrise Service at the Zoo was a "hit." *Thank you, Zoo Director (at the time) Jack Hanna and Mayor of the City of Columbus (at the time) Dana G. "Buck" Rinehart, for making New Hope's Community Easter Sunrise Service at the Columbus Zoo a 25-year tradition, for ensuring that you and those who have succeeded you have enjoyed a great neighborly relationship between the Zoo and New Hope, and for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

Spring 1996 to August 2008: In May of 1996 a senior at Dublin Scioto High School, participating in the Dublin Schools' Young Professionals Academy and who with his family were members of New Hope, asked if he could shadow me as part of his curriculum. Over the next several years this young man was involved in the leadership of New Hope as Associate in Ministry, Seminary Intern and then as New Hope's first Associate Pastor. Today this leader serves as Associate Pastor at Marble Collegiate Church in Manhattan (the successor to the FIRST congregation of the Reformed Dutch Protestant Church on the North American continent and now Reformed Church in America) and has a bright future as a pastor in the Reformed Church. *Thank you, Steve Pierce, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

1999 to present: New Hope learned that the Columbus Zoo had purchased all the property surrounding New Hope's. The church had literally become an island in the midst of the Zoo! The Zoo made overtures about the possibility of a property exchange. After years of sometimes agonizing deliberation, New Hope and the Zoo agreed on an exchange and sale of property. A capital stewardship campaign was held during the spring of 2003. Groundbreaking for the new building occurred in August of 2004. On May 15, 2005 New Hope held its first service of worship in its present facility, tripling the size of its physical home. New Hope Preschool opened in September 2005. From its modest beginnings, today New Hope Preschool will gladly welcome over 130 children for the 2009-10 school year. New ministries have been added and a capital stewardship campaign was held in 2007 for the purpose of reducing debt to grow ministry.

From the beginning: When I received a telephone call late one evening in March of 1983 asking me to be the founding pastor of a new Reformed Church congregation in northwest central Ohio, we knew that our lives had changed. To leave a loving, supportive congregation in Kalamazoo to head to an uncertain future was a huge challenge. That challenge was greatly magnified by our two-year-old's medical condition. Through these challenges and many more, Jean has been strong and solid in her support. As the Norden family has grown, each member has added their own unique contribution to the growth and life of New Hope. *Thank you, Jean, Billy, Charlie, and Pieter for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.*

So Great a Cloud of Witnesses (continued)

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Each person who is a part of New Hope Church today has taken their place among New Hope's cloud of witnesses. On Sunday, September 13, we will celebrate New Hope's past, present and future as we give thanks and glory to God in our worship. There will be one worship service only at 10:30AM. Our guest speaker will be the Rev. Billy Norden, Pastor of Youth and Young Adults at Wyckoff Reformed Church in Wyckoff, NJ. There will be a reception following at 12:00 noon. While there is much for which to give thanks and celebrate,



we hesitate to claim that this has been done in our own strength and by our own resources, or even to be self-congratulatory or think that we've "arrived." The writer to the Hebrews reminds us that the great cloud of witnesses has and will continue to fix their eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. So, as we celebrate 25 years of service, faith and discipleship, let us look to Christ, following where He leads and serving as He calls us. And may our voices unite in saying, "To God alone be the glory!"

To the Norden Family

Many of us have been with New Hope Church for more than 20 years, and quite a few have been present from the very beginning. Many faces have come and gone. While we live in a transient area, these New Hope families have impacted us in so many ways. And yet the one constant at New Hope since September 16, 1984, and the one family who has had the most significant impact on all of us, has been the Norden family.

There have been very few Sundays over the past 25 years where we have not been greeted by the smiling faces of Steve and Jean on a Sunday morning. But their time has not been limited to the Sunday morning services. Countless hours have been sacrificed over the years for this church by the Norden family. New Hope has demanded so much of their time, which has been given unconditionally. Since the beginning, there have been committee meetings night after night on a weekly basis, choir practices, weekend weddings, snow to shovel at the crack of dawn on Sunday morning, potlucks to attend, retreats and mission trips, and the list continues. Because of their dedication to our New Hope family, these commitments often took time away from their own family.

So as we celebrate this 25th anniversary, we want to give thanks to God for bringing Steve and Jean to us! God has clearly guided their ministry here, as we have grown from a membership of seven people meeting in their home to over 450 members today. We thank Steve and Jean and the entire Norden family for their dedication, leadership, guidance, support, and their unconditional love. But most of all, thank you, Steve Norden, for being a part of New Hope's cloud of witnesses.

*With Love and Appreciation,
Your New Hope Family*





Celebrating 25 Years of faith, service, and discipleship

Join us on **Sunday, September 13** as we celebrate New Hope's 25th Anniversary! Enjoy this special time with friends old and new, as we fondly remember the past, joyously anticipate the future, and praise God for the many blessings He has given New Hope Church.

Following worship, you'll have an opportunity to reminisce, renew old acquaintances, and join together in celebrating all that God has done through New Hope Church over the past 25 years.

Worship Service at 10:30AM Luncheon and Reception at 12:00 Noon

Nursery Care will be available during worship

*During worship, **children preschool through 2nd grade** are invited to join us for a special program including story time, craft time, and a visit with our friends from the Columbus Zoo. Our theme for the day will be Noah's Ark.*

***Children 3rd grade and up** will attend worship with their families*

***All children** are invited to attend the luncheon and reception after the service*

Fun Facts about New Hope Church

First worship service: September 16, 1984

Number in attendance: 69 people

First Operating Budget: Under \$50,000

First Vice President of Consistory: David Cooke

First paid employee (besides Steve Norden): Rosanne Vassaux - first secretary in 1985

A Timeline of New Hope Church



February 1984	Steve & Jean Norden move to Columbus
September 16, 1984	First Service
1986	Property Search
1987	First Confirmation Class
1987	Trips to Michigan for Church Support
April 12, 1987	Organization
July 1987	Original Property Purchase
May 1989	Mortgage Burned
April 1991	Construction: First Church
October 1991	First Service: First Building
January 1992	Dedication: First Building
2003	New Property: Negotiations
July 2003	Rev. Steve Pierce answers "The Call" to New Hope Church
August 2004	Ground Breaking: Present Building
May 15, 2005	First Service: Present Building
September 2005	New Hope Preschool Opened
November 2005	Dedication: Present Building
June 2007	William B. Norden Ordination
August 2008	Rev. Steve Pierce answers "The Call" to Marble Collegiate Church, New York, NY
September 13, 2009	Celebration of 25th Anniversary



1984

First Worship Home
Indian Run Elementary School



1987

Land for New Hope's First Church Building



1991

New Hope's First Church Building
5115 SR 750 (Powell Rd.)



2009

New Hope Church Today
4739 W. Powell Rd.

A Message From Pastor Steve Norden (1985)

The following was included in New Hope's 1985 Church Directory.

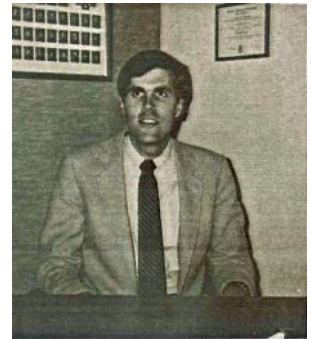
Dreams are the seeds from which greatness comes! Early in 1628, the Reformed Church in this country was a dream held by a few settlers in what was then known as New Amsterdam, now Manhattan. The Reformed Church has had a continuing ministry in this country for over 350 years! In the mid 1970's, it was the dream of the Reformed Church to begin an intentional program of church growth, planting new churches in some of the fastest growing areas of the country. In the early 1980's, it was the dream of a few forward-looking individuals to begin a new Reformed Church in the fast growing suburbs of northwest Columbus.

We who are New Hope Church are the inheritors of that dream and it is now our opportunity to carry that dream forward. Our recently written Philosophy of Ministry states it this way: "We are a people of hope who are committed to Jesus Christ. We have been called from different backgrounds, in different ways, yet made one in Him. Because of God's love for us in Christ, we seek to live lives full of joy. Our joy is expressed in uplifting worship, positive faith, sincere prayer and practical ministry." (Philosophy of Ministry - 1985)

As our logo suggests, our hope is rooted in the promises of God made in the Old Testament, symbolized by the rainbow, and finding fulfillment in the resurrected Christ. The arms of the Christ figure are open wide, symbolic of our desire to welcome all who come to us, offering them "new hope" in the person and power of Christ.

My dream is that our dream will grow. That is why there is plenty of room in this church directory. As our New Hope "family" grows, so will the number of pages in this directory. Let's use this directory as a tool to help us grow in our fellowship with and love for each other so that we can reach out together, and do something great for God!

Your pastor,
Steve Norden



Some of the fruits of those early dreams...



A Message From Bruce and Emily Pickering

New Hope Church opened its arms to us early in 1987 when our family was in crisis mode. We found comfort there and did not notice that our worship was in a school gymnasium where we sat on hard metal folding chairs...accoutrements didn't matter, only the presence of the Holy Spirit, and the genuine caring and support of those around us mattered.

Some 22+ years later, and in New Hope's third location, the Holy Spirit is still very much alive for us. During those years, we seemed to be offered exactly what we needed when we needed it for our faith journey...whether it was a sermon, a particular study class, or an opportunity to serve, and perhaps most importantly, "Be still and know that I am God."

In that time period, we also experienced the joy of burning the mortgage for the land upon which our previous building stood; the excitement of New Hope's first service in a real church building; and the awesome experience of walking from the former church building to the current building. Through all of this growth, our congregation was led and nurtured by Steve Norden with the support of his wife, Jean. Steve taught us to step out in faith through the trials and times when planning and funding were issues. We learned that God always answered our prayers. For example, when just paying for the land was a struggle, the utility company needed an easement; their payment to the church enabled us to not only make the payment, but to pay off the entire mortgage – early.

Time and change have occurred in both our lives as well as New Hope's, but God remains constant and faithful to us. The comfort we found in the early days is still with us, along with so much more. As we arrive at a point in our lives where we look at downsizing our home, we find that any location we consider as a new home must physically keep us near our church and family. We celebrate New Hope's Silver Anniversary in September and plan to celebrate our own 25th Anniversary of being a part of New Hope in 2012.

A Message from Stephanie Vermeer

I guess because I have never done it any other way, it is easy to take for granted how special my life has been because of this church. My husband Craig and I met on a high school ski trip with New Hope, and in the 15 years that followed, Steve Norden married us and baptized both of our children – what a joy to think of! We have truly "grown up" in New Hope. To stop and think of all the ways we are better people because of New Hope would take me many weeks! You have shown us how to be Christ's light in the world and, in so doing, have been the light of Christ to us.

As we all take some time to celebrate New Hope's 25th anniversary of touching and changing lives for Christ, I encourage each of you to think about and be thankful for some way that New Hope has made you a better person. I love the way that Eugene Petersen captures this kind of thanksgiving in The Message bible. His translation of Philippians 1:3-6 says, "Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart. I am so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God's Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears." Find the person at New Hope who makes you feel that way and give them a hug, drop them a note, or just say "thanks." I'm already making my list!

Members of Consistory Serving New Hope Reformed Church and Their Years of Service

ELDERS

David Cooke	1987-1989
Bill Dykema	1987-1988
Dick Jorgensen	1987-1988
Debbie Williams	1987-1989
Chuck Dudgeon	1987
	1991-1993
Walter Schneider	1988-1990
Chris Vineis	1988-1991
Johanne Rupp	1989-1991
Roland Jenkins	1990-1991
Rick Schuster	1990-1992
Lee Vermeer	1990-1992
Jennie Wolfe	1991-1993
Barb Lewis (Miller)	1992-1994
	2007 -
Charles Rolle	1992-1994
Michael Breakwell	1993-1995
Nancy Sponseller	1993-1995
Gretchen Henoeh	1994-1996
Tom Fink	1994-1996
George Bell	1995-1998
Joe Williams	1995-1998
Jim Hoekstra	1996-1999
Steve Leader	1996-1999
Loretta Rolle	1997-2000
David Chan	1997-2000
	2003-2006
Wes Mirick	1998-2001
Don Rorapaugh	1998-2002
George Myers Jr.	1999-2001
Michelle Kozel	1999-2002
John Reeves	2000-2003
Bruce Pickering	2000-2003
Sharon Mirick	2001-2004
Jack Wiese	2001-2004
Terri Klinker	2002-2005
Jean Walker	2002-2005
Mark Dutton	2003-2006
Stephanie Vermeer	2004-2007
Phyllis Kerber	2004-2007
Carol Rohde	2005-2008
Johnny Wagoner	2005-2008
Joanne Mack	2006-2009
Judy Shoemaker	2006-2009
Marla Jones	2007 -
Ed Klinker	2007 -
Martha Gallagher	2008 -
Albert Newball	2008 -
Rick Hanigan	2009 -
Scott Headlee	2009 -

DEACONS

Phil Miller	1987
Rick Schuster	1987-1988
	2002-2005
Pat Jenkins	1987-1988
Bill Judy	1987-1989
Wally Sparks	1987-1988
Tom Johnson	1988-1990
Robert Chambers	1988-1990
Loretta Rolle	1989-1991
Ben Cornwell	1989-1991
Carolyn Judy	1990-1992
Mike Percy	1990-1992
Jim Huitsing	1991-1993
Sheryl Hoekstra	1991-1993
Walt Buss	1992-1994
Bruce Pickering	1992-1994
Kris Koehler	1993-1995
Sharon Mirick	1993-1995
Dennis Robison	1994-1996
Karla Vermeer	1994-1996
Rich Coniglio	1995-1998
Larry Fox	1995-1998
Dennis Bolling	1996-1999
	2003-2006
Cheryl Vornbrock	1996-1999
Jack Versluis	1997-1998
Donna Filson	1998-2001
	2006-2009
Scott Rush	1998-2001
Ed Klinker	1998-2001
Jeanie Nippa	1999-2002
Jack VanderStoep	1999-2002
Jean Norden	2000-2003
Dave Pierce	2000-2003
Fred Henoeh	2001-2004
Dana Mack	2001-2004
John O'Brien	2002-2005
Mert VanderLind	2003-2006
Mike Shelley	2004-2007
Steve Overberg	2004-2007
J R Kern	2005-2008
Brenda Rinehart	2005-2008
Greg Chambers	2006-2009
Kathie Gardner	2007 -
Sandy Moberger	2007 -
Jack Wiese	2007 -
Rob Whittington	2008 -
John Eagon	2008 -
Denise Loftus	2009 -
Craig Vermeer	2009 -

Administration and Finance

Brenda Rinehart, Church Administrator · rinehart@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x37

Thanks To Our Clean Up Crew



Thank you to everyone who showed up on Saturday, August 15 to help clean the church. Great progress was made both inside and outside the church. Many hands helped lighten the load for all. We had over 30 volunteers show up for the morning! It was a wonderful time of fellowship and hard work for all who were here. We have re-organized most all of the storage areas inside, and will be working to maintain the areas as we begin a new program year.

Garden Club News

The Garden Club held its first meeting and will be working to design the flower beds around the church for replanting next spring. **Barb Lewis** is heading up this group. They will be meeting again on **Monday, September 21 at 7:00PM** and are planning to hear a presentation from our resident landscape architect **Marci Mirick**. If you are interested in joining, please let Barb know or just come to the next meeting. The Club has a very limited budget, and will be looking for creative ways to keep costs down. If you have plants you would like to donate to the church, please contact **Barb Lewis**. Barb is doing a great job in getting this organized and we are all looking forward to enjoying the results of her efforts. Thank you Barb!



Financial Notes



Expenses and income for the first month of the fiscal year are much as expected this time of the year with nothing remarkable to report. Revenue is down slightly, presumably due to vacations and lower summer attendance, and expenses are holding pretty consistent for the same period. We are grateful for your loyalty during trying economic times and will continue our efforts to keep expenses down.

New Hope Preschool

Lynn Riley, Director · preschool@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.2446

New Hope Preschool is getting ready to welcome new families to New Hope. Our Parent Orientation is scheduled for September 2, and classes begin on September 8.

We currently have 135 children enrolled in our preschool, and are hoping to reach 148 students. This year we opened the Purple Room, which is at capacity, and a Friday Enrichment Program for Kindergarteners that attend Olentangy Schools. We expect the enrollment to increase in this program after the start of the school year. All of our five classrooms are full each morning.



Welcome Back to
Preschool

Thank you for continuing to support the Preschool by recycling your ink cartridges and newspapers. We are always in need of washable markers, glue sticks, cups, and tissues. I hope that you all enjoyed your summer with family and friends.

Children's Ministry

Terry Reeves, Director · reeves@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x13

Thank You, Summer Sunday School Teachers!

Thank you to the following teachers for giving their time this summer to teach children age preschool through 5th grade on Sunday mornings:

Heidi Baughman, Rachel Tate, Anna Cline, Sheila O'Brien, Cynthia Redman, Leslie Mylin, Erin Lewis, Amy Timmerman, Heather Rahrig, Brian Rahrig, Marty Walker, Bill Walker, Anna Thomas, Jodi Sneddon, Sue Moberger, Tess Schuster, Bridget Miller, Diane VanderStoep, Ann Bradstreet, Scott Haring, John Reeves, Melissa Overberg, Shelly Laird, Wendi Pifer, and Buck Rinehart.

Thank you to the following youth for giving their time this summer to help in the classroom on Sunday mornings:

Kathleen O'Brien, Paige Noppenberger, Grant Noppenberger, Paul Reeves, Adam Headlee, Sam Overberg, and Erin Laird.



Fall Sunday School Classes Begin September 20



New Sunday school fall classes begin for preschool through 5th grade **Sunday, September 20 at 9:30AM**. We are excited to have expanded our preschool to four classrooms this year. Young 3's (Green Fish) will meet in the Green Room, older 3's (Purple Fish) meet in the Purple Room, young 4's (Red Fish) in the Red Room and older 4's (Blue Fish) in the Blue Room. The Kindergarteners and 1st graders (Orange Fish) will meet in the Orange Room and the 2nd and 3rd graders (Yellow Fish) in the Yellow Room. Our 4th graders will meet in Fellowship Hall "C1" and the 5th graders will meet in Fellowship Hall "C2." We have a great line-up of teachers this year, including **Maria Hodge, Wendi Pifer, Sue Moberger, Carolyn Jacob, Scott Headlee, Mandie Cratty, Carmella Wilson, John Reeves, Clay Filson, Donna Filson, Terri Klinker, and Jill Yegerlehner.** They are all eager to lead the children in their spiritual journey. In addition, **Scott Headlee** and **Maria Newball** have accepted the positions of co-superintendents for Sunday school. We anticipate a great year ahead. Don't miss out – bring your children to Sunday school.

Back to Sunday School Parent/Child Orientation!

As children head back to school, we too are gearing up for Sunday school, which begins September 20. Several changes are taking place this year, and the Children's Ministry Team wants everyone to be aware of what to expect. Therefore, a parent/child orientation for children preschool through 5th grade and their parents is scheduled for **Monday, September 14 at 6:30PM**. During the orientation children will locate their classrooms and meet their teachers. Parents will be given information regarding the curriculum we will be using, as well as room changes and safety measures New Hope is taking to ensure that every child is safe while in our care. Please plan to join us as we kick-off another great year in Children's Sunday school.



Children's Ministry

Terry Reeves, Director · reeves@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x13

KGIF - A "Journey With Jesus" to Begin October 7



Journey With Jesus

Children age preschool through 5th grade will begin a "Journey with Jesus" **Wednesday evening October 7** when they participate in the KGIF (Kids Growing In Faith) program. During the seven week journey, which will conclude December 2, "tour guides" will lead children to the places Jesus visited during his three year ministry here on earth. As part of the evening activities children will have the opportunity to participate in one of three different choirs. There will be a preschool choir, Kindergarten and 1st grade choir, and 2nd through 5th grade choir. The choirs will be presenting special music during Sunday worship services and throughout the Christmas season. Sign-up for "Journey with Jesus" will begin September 6. If you would like to travel as a volunteer "tour guide" on this special journey, contact **Terry Reeves** at 614.766.5445 x13 or reeves@newhopeworship.com.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) Ministry



MOPS meetings begin **September 9!** If you are a mother of preschoolers, please join us the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 9:30 - 11:30AM. We will eat, visit, create something (no talent necessary!), and hear inspiring speakers. Please contact **Anna Cline** to register.

Nursery News

We are so excited to see the wonderful way God has been blessing our nursery these past few months. Our nursery has been growing rapidly, and while we have a staff, we still need volunteers to make sure that all children receive the care and attention they deserve. Therefore, we are asking for your help. If you can give an hour of your time during the 9:30 Sunday service, we would greatly appreciate it. You may sign-up at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex. There is no better way to experience a miracle of God than to hold a newborn baby.



Children's Ministry Volunteer of the Month

Each month we would like to honor a children's ministry volunteer. If you have someone you would like to nominate, please contact **Terry Reeves** at 614.766.5445 x13 or reeves@newhopeworship.com.

This month we honor:



DONNA SMITH, Children and Worship Leader

Donna has been a faithful Children and Worship leader for the past four years. She received her training in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and continues to develop new ways of relating the stories to the children. Donna is a graduate of the Bethel Series and attends Bible Study Fellowship. She has a passion for teaching children, especially those with disabilities. Donna and her husband Jeff live in Powell and have three grown children.



Music Ministry

Christine Loy, Director · loy@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x14

September is NEW Choir Member month!!

Here's what other CHOIR MEMBERS are saying...

"Singing with the choir brightens my days and enriches my life."
- choir member

"I sometimes hear scripture in music and it impacts me more deeply than reading or hearing the same scripture read. If the choir affects others in a similar way I want to be a part of that."
- choir member



Join the Choir!

Thursdays 7:15PM

"I joined the choir because I like to sing...I continue with choir and come every week because it enriches my life with God's presence through the music, prayer, and friendships. I leave every practice feeling... something good...joy."
- choir member

"I love worshiping God through music and being a part of something bigger than myself."
- choir member

NOW is the time to check out the many new OPPORTUNITIES to WORSHIP the LORD this year in the choir! Participating in Contemporary... Traditional...Advent and Christmas...Outreach...FELLOWSHIP and Fun!!
Come sit in on a rehearsal to find out more. All welcome!

Questions? Contact **Christine Loy** at
614.766.5445 x14 or loy@NewHopeWorship.com

Music Ministry

Christine Loy, Director · loy@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x14

Handbell Season Begins Soon - Ringers Needed!



YOUTH BELLS
Open to 5th - 8th Graders
Rehearsals: Sundays at 4:15PM
(right before Middle School Youth Group)
Fall season begins September 13 and runs through October 25



ADULT BELLS
Open to high school age and up
Rehearsals TBA
Fall season begins mid-October and runs through November

New Hope
Handbell
Choirs

Help us grow our handbell ministry! New Hope currently has openings in both the Youth and Adult Handbell Choirs. No experience is necessary...just a desire to make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Even if you have no musical experience at all, you'll find that ringing bells is easy, fun, and a great way to become involved in New Hope's music ministry.

For more information, contact **Gail Headlee** or the Music Office at 614.766.5445 x14



It is good to
praise the LORD
and
make music
to your name,
O Most High.

- Psalm 92:1

Adult Ministry

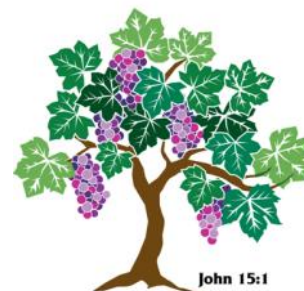
Kathy Sivard, Director · sivard@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x36

A Bible Study for Everyone!

The gospel of John has been described as “a pool in which a child may wade and an elephant may swim.” This is because it is both simple and profound. It is for the beginner in faith *and* for the mature Christian. *And...* it is a book through which you will be drawn into a deeper intimacy with the Lord Jesus Christ. Join us for an in-depth study of this remarkable account of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, led by **Kathy Sivard**.

- **Women’s morning study:** Thursdays from 9:15-11:15, beginning September 17
Nursery care for children under 2; Children’s Program for age 3-Kindergarten
- **Evening study with separate discussion groups for men and for women:**
Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00, beginning September 16

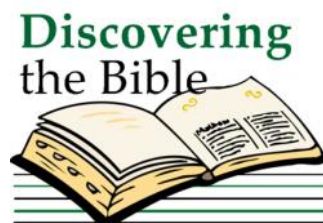
“I am
the
true
vine ...”



Sign up at the Welcome Center, online at www.newhopeworship.com, or by contacting **Kathy Sivard** at 614.766.5445 x36 or sivard@newhopeworship.com.

Discovering the Bible

How familiar are you with the book that was written *to you* by God Himself? Do you ever wonder why a particular portion of the Bible was included in the book we have today? Do you struggle to see a relationship between the Bible’s many parts?



“Discovering the Bible” is a comprehensive introduction to the Bible that goes beyond a basic exploration of the books of the Bible and their contents. Through a process of reading, reflection, discussion, and creative expression, the course also explores the people, places, events, and themes of Scripture so that participants gain an understanding of the Bible’s remarkable unity.

A new 15-class session of “Discovering the Bible” will begin with an introductory meeting on **Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00PM**. This session, led by **David Cooke**, will cover the New Testament. A second 15-class session on the Old Testament will be offered in the Fall of 2010.

Sign up at the Welcome Center, online at www.newhopeworship.com, or by contacting **Kathy Sivard** at 614.766.5445 x36 or sivard@newhopeworship.com.



Save the Date!

Women’s Ministry

Fall Kick-off Event

Tuesday, October 6, 7:00PM

Details to follow

Adult Ministry

Kathy Sivard, Director · sivard@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x36



"God As He Longs for Us to See Him" by Chip Ingram

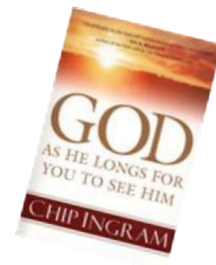
Joe Enneking, Adult Education Committee

I recently heard a statement that impressed me deeply. A bible teacher said, "What we think about God determines who we are." Of course, what we think about God is determined largely by what we know of Him.

In his book, "God As He Longs for Us to See Him," Chip Ingram makes a similar statement: "What you think about God shapes your whole relationship with Him. In addition, what you believe about what God thinks about you, determines how close you will grow to him."

God wants to see us move from knowing Him dimly to knowing him vividly. He longs for distance to be transformed into intimacy. He already knows us intimately; he wants us to know him intimately, too.

In his book, Chip explains seven attributes of God in great detail and clarity; His goodness, sovereignty, holiness, wisdom, justice, love, and faithfulness. And God says this: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and find me when you search for me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:11-13). This is a promise that God makes to all who seek to know Him.



Financial Peace University - A Biblically-Based Approach To Personal Finance



Financial Peace University, the total money makeover program taught by best-selling author and financial counselor **Dave Ramsey**, is coming to New Hope! Since 1994, this life-changing program has helped more than 650,000 families and individuals positively change their financial future, and it can help you as well. Through 13 fun and entertaining lessons, it will teach you to make the right decisions to achieve your financial goals and God's plan for your life. Topics covered include:

- Saving for emergencies
- Budgeting
- Relationship and money issues
- Buying big bargains
- Getting out of debt
- Understanding investments
- Understanding insurance
- Retirement and college planning
- Buyer beware
- Real estate mortgages
- Careers and extra jobs

FPU is for everyone...from the financially secure to the financially distressed. On average, FPU graduates have paid off over \$5,300 in debt and saved \$2,700 during the 91-day program alone!

Classes will be held on Sunday evenings from 6:00PM to 8:00PM, beginning **September 20**. Childcare will be provided. Sign-up in the church lobby, online at www.newhopeworship.com, or by contacting **Kathy Sivard** at 614.766.5445 x36 or sivard@newhopeworship.com. Questions about FPU can be directed to **Ed Siddell**.

Adult Ministry

Kathy Sivard, Director · sivard@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x36

Writers Group Forming this Fall

Everyone is a writer. Whether we express our ideas and stories verbally or in written form, we are always arranging words in a way that conveys understanding to others. Some of us compose journals and diaries. Others write for publications such as this newsletter. Maybe you have been published in a magazine or in the proceedings of a technical meeting. Our professions sometimes require that we write letters, procedures, advertising copy, or web site content.



New Hope Writers Group

If you have a desire to write more often or more clearly, or just to join others who have the same interest, we invite you to participate in a group that is being formed as part of the ministry of New Hope Church. This is an opportunity to both contribute your experience and knowledge and to learn from others. It is not a class or even a book study. We will simply choose topics and compose articles, journals, stories, poems, and maybe even embark on the great American novel. Unless there is someone who is a professional who wants to join our group, there will be no formal instruction. The intended learning method is dialogical; that is we will use our own experiences and abilities to encourage each other and to help improve our writings. We may even want to offer to compose spiritual formation materials for New Hope such as bible studies, articles for this newsletter, personal testimonies, and worship materials. Or we may have a burning desire to be published.

We intend to meet at **7:00PM on Wednesdays** beginning in early October. Please sign up for the group at the visitor information desk. For further information, contact **Joe Enneking**.

Fellowship

Annual Pig Roast

When: Sunday, October 4, 5:00PM

Where: New Hope Church

Bring dessert or side dish to share



Advent Potluck Supper

When: Sunday, November 22

Where: New Hope Church

Bring a dish to share based on the first letter of your last name

A to H: Hot side dish

I to Q: Salad

R to Z: Dessert



Progressive Dinner

When: TBA for January 2010

Where: At several homes



ANNUAL
Progressive Dinner

Chili Dinner with Talent Show

When: TBA for February 2010

Where: New Hope Church

Who: You with your talent and others with pots of chili



Outreach

Help a Child Read...Be a Tutor!



New Hope helps to support Mission Columbus, which offers a variety of ministries around the city of Columbus. One of these ministries is a literacy initiative called the Franklinton Tutoring Program, which matches volunteers with students in three Franklinton elementary schools. The schools are located in the downtown area and include Avondale, Dana, and Sullivant Elementary Schools.

The program is in need of tutors to help the students gain better skills in reading and comprehension. Each tutor is assigned a student, and is provided with a folder of materials appropriate for the student's reading level. The teacher will provide the reading assignments, the books, and any materials necessary to complete the learning activities. You don't have to be a reading specialist to tutor a child. The skills you will need are simple and easy to learn.

The tutoring takes place during the school's lunch hour on a day of the week that is best for you. Tutoring will start the week of **October 5, 2009**. New tutors are required to attend an orientation session. Orientation sessions are scheduled as follows:

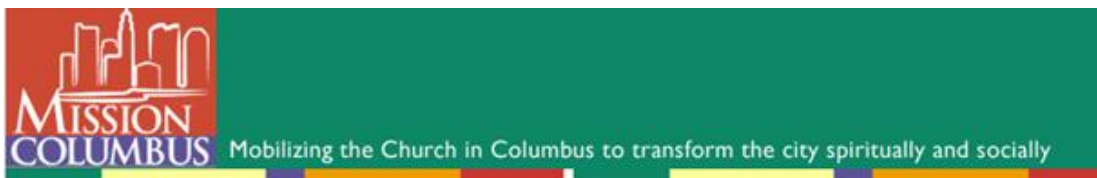
Avondale Elementary School – September 16 and 21, 12:00 noon to 1:00PM

Dana Elementary School – September 18 and 23, 12:00 noon to 1:00PM

Sullivant Elementary School – September 22 and 24, 12:00 noon to 1:00PM

If you have a scheduling conflict and cannot attend a session, please contact **Anna Feeney** at annamfeeney@hotmail.com or via phone at 614.264.8882.

For more information see the display in the narthex, or visit www.missioncolumbus.net and click the Franklinton Tutoring Program icon.



Thank You for Your Generosity!

The response to the Teddy Bears and Tote Bags outreach program was overwhelming! Your generous donations enabled New Hope to provide dozens of bags and boxes full of stuffed animals to this worthy cause. Thank you to all who participated...your gifts will bring smiles and comfort to the children caught in difficult situations through no fault of their own.



With Gratitude

getting to know...

Martha Gallagher, Elder



Martha Gallagher has served New Hope as an Elder since July 2008. She and her husband Tom have attended New Hope for about ten years, and are involved in a number of ministries and activities here. In addition to being an Elder of the church, Martha serves as a Sunday School teacher, participates in the His Place meal ministry, the Senior Sages group, and has helped organize various fellowship events including the annual Mother-Daughter Tea and New Hope's 25th Anniversary celebration. She and Tom also participate in the FISH Group ministry.

A native of Middleburg Heights, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland, Martha currently lives in Hilliard. She and Tom have a son and daughter-in-law, Thomas Robert and Laura Gallagher. Martha also has two brothers, Donald and David Tate, and a sister, Rebecca Zurcher. Many of us at New Hope also know Martha's mother, Ruth Tate, who attends worship here as well. Martha is semi-retired, working part time as an accountant for Buckeye Crating. Previously, she held Controller positions for both Bekins and Allied Van Lines. We truly appreciate Martha's number crunching ability, among other gifts she brings to New Hope!

Martha was raised in both Reformed and Evangelical United Brethren churches, and she and Tom were members of All Saints Episcopalian Church for 35 years before they joined New Hope. Martha vividly recalls accepting Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior when she was nine years old, at church camp. More recently, Martha has grown in her faith through experiences such as New Hope's Bethel Class, and New Hope's trip to the Holy Land a few years back.

**"No matter what,
I belong to God."**

- Martha Gallagher

When asked about her favorite Bible verses, Martha replied, "There are many. Some of my favorites are Hebrews 12...it speaks to how to live and endure, and was my Grandmother's favorite passage. Another favorite is Romans 14:8...it tells me that no matter what, I belong to God. Also Romans 8:38-39...that I will not be separated from Jesus Christ. It was my

Uncle's favorite verse. He was my Mother's youngest brother and was lost in World War II."

Outside of church and work, Martha's interests include gardening, cross stitch, travel, baking, reading, fishing and camping, and trap shooting. Martha also enjoys her affiliation with The Order of the Eastern Star.

Martha's strong faith and commitment to Jesus Christ shine brightly in all that she does for New Hope. We are grateful for her service on Consistory and in other ministries, and pray that she will be as richly blessed through her service to New Hope as we have been.

Elders

Marla Jones
Martha Gallagher
Rick Hanigan
Scott Headlee
Ed Klinker
Barb Lewis
Albert Newball

New Hope Consistory

Deacons

John Eagon
Kathie Gardner
Denise Loftus
Sandy Moberger
Craig Vermeer
Rob Whittington
Jack Wiese

September 2009

Sunday Worship and Sunday School Schedule
 8:15 AM – Morning Prayer Service
 9:30 AM – Living Water and Sunday School for all ages
 10:45 AM – Adult Sunday School
 11:00 AM – Worship, Children & Worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7:00pm Stephen Ministry	Labor Day	NHP begins 12:00pm Senior Seges 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting 7:00pm Fellowship Team Meeting	7:00pm NHP Parent Orientation 9:00am MOPS	6:30am Early Birds 6:20pm Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm AA	4:00pm Wedding Rehearsal	12:30pm Wedding 1:30pm Wedding Reception
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:30am Worship 12:00pm 25th Anniversary Reception 5:15pm Middle School Youth Group 7:00pm High School Youth Group	11:30am Lunch 'n Munch	9:00am WeJoySing 11:30am Lunch 'n Munch 6:00pm Elders Meeting 7:00pm Consistory Meeting	11:30am Lunch 'n Munch 7:00pm Adult Bible Study	6:30am Early Birds 9:00am WeJoySing 9:15am Women's Bible Study 11:30am Lunch 'n Munch 4:30pm WeJoySing 6:20pm Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm AA	5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal	8:30am Bicycle Ride 4:30pm Wedding
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:30am Sunday School for all ages 5:15pm Middle School Youth Group 6:00pm Financial Planning Bible Study 7:00pm High School Youth Group	11:30am Lunch 'n Munch 7:00pm Garden Club 7:00pm NHP Board Meeting	Autumn begins 9:00am WeJoySing 11:30am Lunch 'n Munch 7:00pm Mission of Mercy Meeting 7:30pm Outreach Team Meeting	11:30am Lunch 'n Munch 7:00pm Adult Bible Study	6:30am Early Birds 9:00am WeJoySing 9:15am Women's Bible Study 11:30am Lunch 'n Munch 4:30pm WeJoySing 6:20pm Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm AA		
27	28	29	30			
9:30am Sunday School for all ages 12:30pm KGIF Training 5:15pm Middle School Youth Group 6:00pm Financial Planning Bible Study 7:00pm High School Youth Group	11:30am Lunch 'n Munch 7:15pm New Hope Foundation	9:00am WeJoySing 11:30am Lunch 'n Munch	11:30am Lunch 'n Munch 7:00pm Adult Bible Study			



Mark Your Calendars

31st Annual Columbus CROP Hunger Walk - Sunday, October 11

Please join us to help end world hunger by either sponsoring a walker or walking in the annual CROP Hunger Walk and gathering pledges. We will begin at Genoa Park in front of COSI and follow either a 1.5 or 2.5 mile route along the Lower Scioto Trail in downtown Columbus. Watch for further details in the Sunday bulletins.



Important Dates in September

Look for details on these activities throughout this newsletter.

September 9 - MOPS Begins

September 13 - New Hope 25th Anniversary Celebration

September 13 - Youth Groups Resume

September 13 - Youth Handbells Resume

September 14 - Sunday School Orientation

September 16 & 17 - Gospel of John Bible Study Begins

September 20 - Children's Sunday School Fall Season Begins

September 20 - Financial Peace University Begins



A Ministry of the Reformed Church in America

4739 W. Powell Rd.

Powell, OH 43065

614.766.5445

<http://www.newhopeworship.com>

Find us on Facebook by following the link on our website

Sunday Worship Schedule

Morning Prayer Service 8:15AM · Living Water Contemporary Service 9:30AM · Traditional Worship Service 11:00AM

Sunday, September 13 ONLY: One worship service at 10:30AM

Rev. Stephen M. Norden, Senior Pastor

614.766.5445 · norden@NewHopeWorship.com

Bob Cline, Director of Youth Ministry

614.766.5445 · cline@NewHopeWorship.com

Nancy Green, Office Administrator

614.766.5445 x10 · office@NewHopeWorship.com

Christine Loy, Director of Music

614.766.5445 x14 · loy@NewHopeWorship.com

Terry Reeves, Director of Children's Ministry

614.766.5445 x13 · reeves@NewHopeWorship.com

Lynn Riley, New Hope Preschool Director

614.766.2446 · preschool@NewHopeWorship.com

Brenda Rinehart, Church Administrator

614.766.5445 x37 · rinehart@NewHopeWorship.com

Kathy Sivard, Director of Adult Ministry

614.766.5445 x36 · sivard@NewHopeWorship.com

Does your committee or group have information to share with New Hope? Contributions to the Sharing the Faith Newsletter are welcomed!

Please submit any articles to newsletter@NewHopeWorship.com. Deadline for the October newsletter is September 20.

Our Mission Statement

The Mission of New Hope is to lead people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. As a family of faith, we invite you to practice the unconditional love of Christ, live a life of continual spiritual growth, reach out in service to others, and glorify God.