



January 2019

SHARING OUR FAITH

New Hope's Monthly Newsletter



RESOLVING TO LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE & LEAVE A LEGACY

Rev. Steve Norden, Senior Pastor

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NEW HOPE CHURCH

A Ministry of the Reformed Church in America

Rev. Stephen M. Norden, Senior Pastor
Rev. Sarah E. Palsma, Associate Pastor

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00AM

Contemporary Worship
Sunday School for ages 3 through
5th Grade

10:15AM

Sunday School for Adults and Youth
KidSpace for ages 3 through
5th Grade

11:15AM

Traditional Worship
School House Sunday School for Kids

4739 W. Powell Rd.

(Next to the Columbus Zoo)

Powell, OH 43065

614.766.5445

NewHopeWorship.com



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NEW HOPE'S MISSION

To **Reach** people for Christ, **Root** people in Christ, and **Release** people to serve Christ.

It's a new year and I imagine that many of us have resolved to start doing things and stop doing others. I'm writing this on the second day of January so, since this column is late by nearly a week and one half, perhaps I should resolve to be more timely in my submissions for the church newsletter!

It was over two decades ago that I was introduced to the writings of Steven Covey by my mother-in-law. One of Dr. Covey's more memorable quotes was "to live, to laugh, to love, to leave a legacy." That seems to be wise counsel for framing new year's resolutions. As we enter into this new year, I would encourage us to live more fully and exuberantly. I recognize that I may be more risk tolerant in some areas than other people, but I still find myself holding back and playing it safe in far too many areas of life. Mary Oliver's poem "When Death Comes" challenges me, particularly in its last lines.

"When it's over, I want to say: all my life

I was a bride married to amazement.
I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.

When it's over, I don't want to wonder

if I have made of my life something particular, and real.

I don't want to find myself sighing and frightened, or full of argument.

I don't want to end up simply having visited this world."

Are we all able to find more cause for laughter during this year? As I look around and observe what is happening in our culture, it appears that there is a pall of grim hopelessness that hangs over us like a dark cloud. We recently saw the movie "Mary Poppins Returns." It may be a function of age but I enjoyed the first edition so much more. The song Uncle Albert sang, "I Love to Laugh" fills me with mirth: "I love to laugh, long and loud and clear; I love to laugh, it's getting worse every year.

If you were with us on Christmas Eve, you heard me quote/sing a song composed by Hal David and Burt Bacharach that was popular over 50 years ago, "What the World Needs Now is Love." In a world that is filled with anger and polarizing language and behavior, I would invite us to love generously and extravagantly with a love that's not just for some but for everyone.

Finally, and most significantly, I would challenge us to consider the legacy we leave. With that, I hope that you join us in worship over these next several Sundays as we consider together what it means to live a significant life. There is so much that distracts and deters us from leaving a legacy of significance, so much so that Jesus' words "for what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?" are incredibly haunting.

May you and yours enjoy all of God's greatest blessings in this new year as you live, laugh, love and leave a legacy!

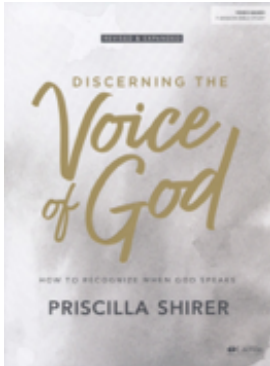
ADULT MINISTRY

Rev. Sarah Palsma, Associate Pastor

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Upcoming Women's Bible Studies

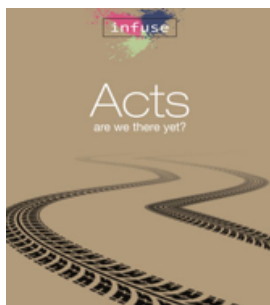


Discerning the Voice of God by Priscilla Shirer

Thursday Mornings from 9:30 am - 11:30 am, January 10 - February 21

Location: Church Library

Become acquainted with the Voice that has spoken from a fire and a cloud, with visible signs and an invisible Spirit, through a burning bush and burning hearts. Hear from some of the most well known Christians in history about how God speaks to them, and discover for yourself how you can discern the voice of God. Learn how surrender unlocks His many blessings intended for us, centers us in His will, and helps us discern His voice in everyday life. Nursery care is available.



Acts: Are We There Yet?

Monday Evenings 7:00pm to 8:30pm, January 7 - February 25

Location: Youth Room

In this study on the second half of the book of Acts, you'll follow Paul and his missionary companions as they preach the good news of salvation throughout the Gentile world of the Roman Empire. Witness painful rejection as well as acceptance and transformation as the Holy Spirit works through these courageous witnesses. They gave everything they had to tell the story of God's love through Jesus Christ.



Ladies - Join us for our annual Women's Retreat February 22 & 23 in Dayton, OH. At this year's retreat, we will explore the book of Esther with Dr. Carol Bechtel, Professor of Old Testament at Western Theological Seminary.

"God Save the Queen: An Exploration of the Book of Esther"

"Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." – Esther 4:14

Queen Esther is one of Scripture's most fascinating persons. Esther goes from being a Jewish outsider, to a participant in the biblical version of "The Bachelor", to the queen of a great nation, to the savior of her people. Her story is filled with drama, intrigue, courage and justice. Come hear how God

equipped and called Esther for a specific purpose at just the right time. Who know? Perhaps you too have been called by God for just such a time as this.

Registration ends on Sunday, Feb. 3.

LIVING A SIGNIFICANT LIFE

ADULT MINISTRY

Rev. Sarah Palsma, Associate Pastor

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Join a small group and participate in the six-week study “When the Game is Over It All Goes Back in the Box” by John Ortberg. Games are typically a lot of fun to play, whether you finished first or last. But no matter the outcome once the game has been played all of the pieces go back into the box. Such is life. No matter how skillfully you play it, a time arrives when the game of life comes to an end. With his trademark humor and gift for storytelling, John Ortberg shows what it takes to really win at the game of life. This study will help you live with an eternal perspective, keeping your eyes on the true prize – the one that unlocks the gate to the kingdom of God. Sign up online at newhopeworship.com/adults.

Small Group Meetings

Register online at newhopeworship.com/adults for one of the small groups below. Group meeting times vary from Sunday mornings during the Adult Education hour (10:15 am to 11:05 am), to Wednesday and Sunday evenings. Small group meetings will kick-off the week of Sunday, January 6 starting with Sunday morning groups meeting at 10:15 am.

“Apples to Apples” Group
Sundays at 10:15 am
Facilitators: Russ and
Kate Kerscher
Location: Adult Room A

“Monopoly” Group
Sundays at 10:15 am
Facilitator: Mark Dutton
Location: Library

“Scrabble” Group
Sundays at 10:15 am
Facilitators: Anne & Rick
Farley
Location: Cry Room

“Name That Tune”
Group
Sundays at 10:15 am
Facilitator: Kathy Wisne
Location: Choir Room

“Clue” Group
Wednesday Afternoons
(12:30 to 2:00 pm)
Facilitator: Pastor Sarah
Location: Library

“Ticket to Ride” Group
Wednesday Evenings
(7:00 - 8:30 pm)
Facilitators: Ken &
Diane Harris
Location: The Youth
Room

“Trivial Pursuit” Group
Sundays at 6:30 pm
Facilitators: Bonnie and
Tom Fussner
Location: Fussner Home

“Pictionary” Group
Sundays at 6:00 pm
Facilitators: Beverly &
Kevin Robinson
Location: Robinson
Home

YOUTH MINISTRY

Lindsey Allen, Director of Youth Ministry

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The last several months have been difficult for our family. We lost my beloved grandfather, Mark's treasured grandmother, and tragically lost Mark's best friend from college to a heart attack. Grief and joy have been close friends in our lives recently.

Where one exists, the other follows closely behind. As painful as this season has been in our lives, it has also been a beautiful season of deep reflection and honesty. So as we begin another year, I wanted to share with you things we have gleaned from the losses of 3 of the most esteemed people in our lives.



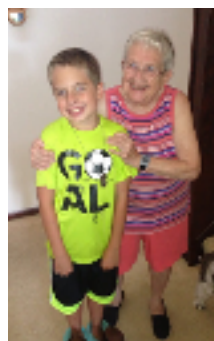
Poppa - My Grandfather: He is one of the most remarkable men I have ever known. He possessed gifts that in our current cultural climate seem to be incredibly

rare. One of the most beautiful things about my grandfather: he could disagree with you on everything in this life, and yet you would still, no matter who you were, feel loved, respected, and cared for by him. Few people on this earth possess this gift, but he

did. He knew that it was the person that had value simply for who they were and who their Creator was; their value was not contingent on if they thought the same way he did, or believed in the same things.

Another thing I loved about my Poppa as I grew older was being given the gift of watching him live out his faith in Jesus through his actions and love for others. He never stopped caring for anyone who had the honor of being in his presence. And he NEVER stopped growing in his faith and seeking the Lord's face, or asking tough questions about his faith. At the beginning of this past year I went to visit him and there lay my Poppa, 94 years old, with a Bible study next to his bed because he was still actively pursuing a deeper relationship with His Father in Heaven. I tell this story to the youth at New Hope. I encourage them to look to a man who, even at 94 and 95 years old never stopped pursuing God, continued to ask tough questions, and to see that a beautiful life lived in faith is not one of perfection or knowing all of the answers, or one without doubt. A life of faith was lived out by my Poppa because of the imperfections, the unanswerable

questions, the doubts; and because he never let those things deter Him from seeking the face of the God who loves him.



Grammie - Mark's Grandmother: She was an incredible force of love and life and service. She loved God deeply, her family well, and lived out

God's calling on her life to be of service to others. Her obituary made me laugh out loud because her service seemed to have no end. Grammie was 95 when she passed away. Until the moment she became sick this year she never stopped caring for those around her and serving her community using the specific gifts God gave her. She was an active member of her church, was a member of the Olivia Circle, PERI, Shelby County Farm Bureau, Sidney-Shelby County Senior Center, Tar Hollow volunteer, United Methodist Women, and Paws for Jesus dog trainer. She was a 4-H advisor for a total of 67 years for the Sow and Grow Club and PawPrints Dog Club. As you can see, she valued serving others.

Grammie understood that she was blessed to be a blessing, and lived her entire life understanding Christ's great call to give her life away in service and care for others. Lives were changed because of her devotion to them and not saying "No" or "Not now" when God called her to be His light in all facets of life.



Adam -Mark's best friend from college: As we said our

goodbyes to Adam, we had the privilege of listening to his childhood friends share stories of Adam's life, his love and devotion to his wife and 4 young children, and the hope he had in Jesus. I continue to reflect on what one friend said, "Adam was the youngest of 3 brothers, so he was the first to introduce to all of us the "cool" things his older brothers

taught him. Things like: how to make a mixed tape, how to use call waiting, how to talk to a girl. But Adam was also the first of us to know the value of honesty. And he was the first to be honest about his struggles. He knew that when the stakes were high, he would want to be honest about his struggles, and his hope even in the darkest moments, was always found in Jesus." I share these stories because each of these people loved Jesus with all that they were here on earth; and now they get to love God and be loved by Him with all that they are in Heaven with Him for all of eternity.

I am so thankful that each of them knew Jesus this side of heaven. Their joys were all the more joy-filled, and their sorrows were never experienced alone.

After walking this road of grief for several months now it has only made me more acutely aware that I want all of our loved ones, and

even those we don't understand, to know the hope we have in Jesus, to know and understand the love He has for us, for them...no matter what. What a treasure knowing Jesus is. Living our lives filled with gratitude for His unending love for us, we can reach out and serve a world that is hurting and has little hope.

As a church body we encourage our youth to love and serve God by loving, serving, and caring for others in our church and in the community.

So I encourage you: find a place to serve, give of your time and talents, never stop asking questions and growing in your faith, show kindness to all people regardless of whether you understand them or not, love people without an agenda, and by your life's successes and failures share the hope you have in Jesus. It matters.

NOVEMBER BUDGET

	November			YEAR TO DATE		
	Budget	Actual	% Difference	Budget	Actual	% Difference
Total Income	\$78,933	\$76,716	-2.8%	\$1,040,377	\$1,125,328	8.2%
Total Expense	\$101,425	\$100,695	-0.7%	\$1,038,574	\$1,023,200	-1.5%

DECEMBER BUDGET

	December			YEAR TO DATE		
	Budget	Actual	% Difference	Budget	Actual	% Difference
Total Income	\$142,418	\$162,440	14.1%	\$1,182,795	\$1,287,428	8.8%
Total Expense	\$150,221	\$92,693	-38.3	\$1,188,795	\$1,115,893	-6.1%



MUSIC MINISTRY

Christine Loy, Director of Music Ministry

loy@NewHopeWorship.com • 614.766.5445 x14 • NewHopeWorship.com/Music



A new Worship Choir season begins starting Thursday, January 10th at 7 pm!

If you've always wanted to sing, step out in faith! Find out what the Worship Choir is all about and join us for a rehearsal beginning Thursday, January 10th at 7 pm,. The Worship choir sings at either the 9 am or 11:15 am services. No music reading or audition is required and is open to all 9th grade through senior adults! We look forward to having you join us in worship this month. Childcare is available for children 5th grade and younger.



A huge "thank you" to the many ministry partner volunteers who made our Christmas season so memorable through music! Special thanks to our worship choir singers, band & orchestra members, tech team members, youth, and Junior Worship Choir participants for your time and talents. We are looking forward to working with all of you again in the upcoming winter and spring.

— YOUTH SUNDAY WORSHIP TEAM —

Calling all Middle and High School Youth! Join us in preparing for Youth Sunday on February 17th by leading in worship and music. We will start practice mid-January. If you are interested in joining our youth worship team, please contact Christine or Lindsey.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Rachel Tate, Children's Ministry Team Leader

tate@NewHopeWorship.com • 614.766.5445 x11 • NewHopeWorship.com/Children



Happy 2019 Friends!

We are excited to serve God alongside you this year! As we look at the calendar and all of the activities we have planned for 2019, we pray for those of you who will help teach Jesus' stories to our younger brothers and sisters in Christ.

As our church investigates what it means to *live a significant life*, we will be teaching the children what the word significant means. Simply stated, significant means meaningful, or likely to have an influence or effect on something. Simply said, we each have the ability to positively impact others every single time we interact with them...if we choose to live significantly. That's awesome.

That also means that in those moments of potential engagement, we get the chance to be Jesus' heart, hands, and feet. We have the opportunity to positively and lovingly influence someone's day, sharing Jesus' light in the process.

Thankfully, the lesson we share with the children is simple. The Bible lays it out for us in Matthew 22:26-39 (NIV).

Verse of the Month

Please challenge your children to memorize the verse of the month! Once your child has the verse memorized, please visit a Children's Ministry Team Member to recite the verse and receive a treat!

"His love endures forever!" Psalm 118:1

36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

To teach that simple yet powerful message to your children; to help them know that they get to choose to live in a significant and purposeful manner, the Children's Ministry needs your help. We need many hands and feet serving in all areas of our ministry: Sunday School, WOW, Club 45, JWC, Easter Egg Hunt, Celebration Sunday, Sports Camp, VBS. Please prayerfully consider serving in the Children's Ministry here at New Hope in 2019. It's a wonderful space to see just how living significantly will change your life.

Blessings,

Rachel Tate



Club 45 will be visiting the Delaware County Humane Society on January 13. Thank you to everyone who has donated food, towels, and toys! Please visit our website to register for this event as space is limited.

Mark your calendars for February 3 and March 13! We will be creating treat boxes for our college age students in February. In March, Club 45 will host the first Lent Soup Supper.



Children's Education

Rachel Warren |
Warren@newhopeworship.com

Kindergarten through 5th graders are invited to Winter WOW where we will discover what it means to keep in step with the Spirit. We'll learn all about the fruit that the Holy Spirit produces in our lives! Join us for fun and fellowship with dinner, crafts, music and games each week! For more information

and to register, visit newhopeworship.org/wow!

Our programs require many volunteers to help keep our children safe as they learn about Jesus. We are blessed to have so many parents, families and church members serve in our programs. *Thank you* to all that serve in Children's Ministry!



Children's Outreach

Sarah Bartula | Bartula@newhopeworship.com

We have some amazing events coming in 2019. Be sure to mark your calendars with the events below and stay tuned as registration and support team sign-ups are sent your way.

Easter Egg Hunt: April 7, 2019

Sports Camp: June 10th - 13th, 2019

VBS: July 22nd - 26th, 2019



Children's Music

Dez Takas | Takas@newhopeworship.com

What an amazing season of Junior Worship Choir! Between leading worship on Sundays to our fun-filled Christmas Program "One Starry Night", the spirit of our Lord and Savior was felt by all! Thank you to all of the children who participated this season, and to all of the parents and staff who helped to make it all happen. There will be no rehearsals until mid January when we start our new season of JWC. Please watch for emails about upcoming dates and times for the new season. If you know anyone who would like to join the JWC please have them contact Dez Takas, Children's Music Ministry Coordinator at takas@newhopeworship.com.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Rachel Tate, Children's Ministry Team Leader

tate@NewHopeWorship.com • 614.766.5445 x11 • NewHopeWorship.com/Children

Nursery
News

Did you know that the Nursery supports many of our ministries? Our Nursery Team provides child care for infants from birth through three-year olds on Sunday mornings, for Choir rehearsals, during many Children's Ministry events, and for numerous other activities!

We are consistently seeking Nursery Support Team members to greet Nursery families at the Welcome Center, and to help with our youngest disciples on Sunday mornings. Please check out our website to get involved! Youth (6th grade and older) are welcome to help but must meet with Rachel Tate first.

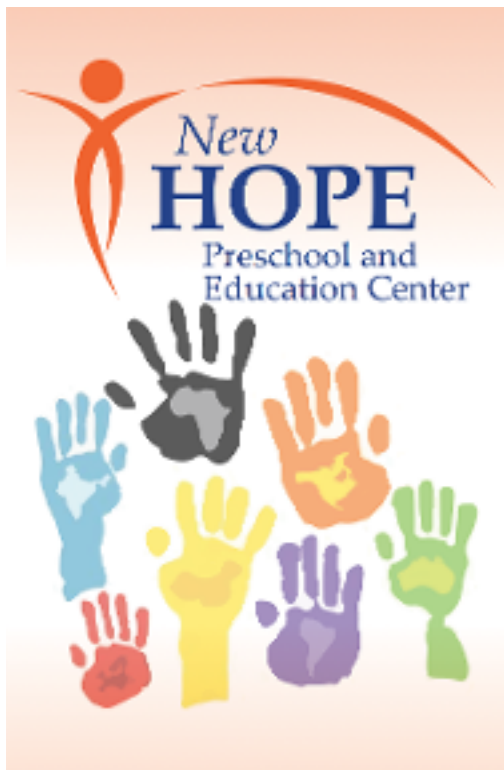
The Nursery is filled with amazing little disciples hungry for *Goldfish*! We are always accepting donations as we cannot seem to keep the bowl full!

As we approach flu and cold season, please remember that sick children feel better in bed than in church. We appreciate everyone keeping their germs to themselves. That being said, we are also seeking donations for *Clorox Disinfecting Wipes*. Remember friends, "Wash your hands and say your prayers because Jesus and germs are everywhere!"

NEW HOPE EDUCATION CENTER

Suzie Lawson, Director

preschool@NewHopeWorship.com • 614.766.2446 • NewHopePreschool.com



Happy New Year! We enjoyed a wonderful December with the excitement of Christmas and the joy in the children's hearts. We celebrated with our families with Christmas programs and fellowship on December 19th and 20th. Each classroom participated by singing songs, acting out the Nativity story or playing hand bells. It was a truly a wonderful way to prepare for Jesus' birth.

New Hope Preschool and Education Center will begin enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year in January. We look forward to enrolling our current families, church members and any past families on January 7th beginning at 8:00 am. On January 16th at 8:00 am, we welcome enrollment for new families. Registration forms can be found on our website at newhopepreschool.com under our "Parent Resources" tab. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Our Parent Night will occur on Monday, February 25th. We are gathering gift cards, merchandise, and services that can be used to help raise funds for our community outreach, Nationwide Children's Hospital. If you have a business or service that you would like to donate towards our silent auction, please contact us at 614-766-2446 or Aimee Seggerson at meyeram@hotmail.com. We will be accepting donations until February 15th. On behalf of the students, parents and faculty of New Hope Preschool and Education Center, thank you for your consideration!



Salvation Army Bell Ringing Thank you!

Jesus said "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." On Saturday December 8, New Hope members put Jesus' words into action by ringing a bell for the Salvation Army, raising more than \$1,650 and saving the cost of hiring paid bell ringers. This was the 12th year New Hope sponsored a location to ring a bell. In 2007, 11 people rang for 11 hours at one store; this year more than 30 New Hope members rang for 26 hours at three stores. Thanks to all those who rang a bell and those who supported this outreach

Meet our Missionaries!

The financial benevolences of New Hope Church support over twenty outreach organizations, three national missionaries and seven global missionaries. Our global missionaries serve in areas you may never go, but your financial giving is helping to make an impact in Jesus' name through their work. Get to know the different missionaries we support in each newsletter, and please keep them in your prayers.



Felipe and Janelle deWaard-Silva have been called to work with Roma youth in the Jiu Valley to build trust, perseverance, character, and courage through rock climbing. Roma people are heavily discriminated against. And Dallas, the neighborhood closest to their gym, is one of the poorest in the valley. Many parents move away to find work but leave their children behind in Dallas. These children receive little education and have to beg or steal to make ends meet.

Felipe and Janelle's ministry provides youth in Dallas with an environment where they can experience safety and respect, develop life skills and character, pursue education, and come to know the love of Christ.

Please Pray:

- For the youth at the gym- that they continue to grow, for their family and living situations, and for the provision of materials needs.
- For our family as we adjust to being a family of four.
- For the spiritual health and growth of our church, our pastors, and us as the youth leaders.
- For opportunities to expand our climbing gym and for the wisdom and financial support to do so.

Looking Ahead - January Calendar

Sunday, January 6

9:00 am - Worship, Kids Sunday School
10:15 am - KidSpace, Adult & Youth Sunday School, Confirmation
11:15 am - Worship, School House Sunday School
5:15 pm - Middle School Youth Group
7:00 pm - High School Youth Group

Monday, January 7

7:00 pm - Journey
7:00 pm - Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm - Intercessory Prayer

Tuesday, January 8

6:00 pm - Elder & Deacon Meeting
7:00 pm - Consistory Meeting

Wednesday, January 9

12:30 pm - Women's Bible Study
6:00 pm - Journey
7:30 pm - Bethel

Thursday, January 10

9:30 am - Journey
9:30 am - Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm - AA

Friday, January 11-12

Confirmation Retreat

Sunday, January 13

9:00 am - Worship, Kid's Sunday School
10:15 am - KidSpace, Adult & Youth Sunday School, Confirmation
11:15 am - Worship, School House Sunday School
2:00 pm - Club 45
6:00 pm - PW Gopal Worship Night

Monday, January 14

7:00 pm - Journey
7:00 pm - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, January 16

12:30 pm - Women's Bible Study
5:30 pm - HIS Place
6:00 pm - Journey
7:00 pm - Walking with Others
7:30 pm - Bethel

Thursday, January 17

9:30 am - Journey
9:30 am - Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm - AA

Sunday, January 20

9:00 am - Worship
10:15 am - KidSpace, Adult & Youth Sunday School, Confirmation
11:15 am - Worship
5:15 pm - Middle School Youth Group
7:00 pm - High School Youth Group

Monday, January 21

7:00 pm - Journey
7:00 pm - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, January 23

12:30 pm - Women's Bible Study
7:30 pm - Bethel

Thursday, January 24

9:30 am - Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm - AA

Sunday, January 27

9:00 am - Worship, Kid's Sunday School
10:15 am - KidSpace, Adult & Youth Sunday School, Confirmation
11:15 am - Worship, School House Sunday School
5:15 pm - Middle School Youth Group
7:00 pm - High School Youth Group

Monday, January 28

7:00 pm - Outreach
7:00 pm - Journey
7:00 pm - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, January 30

12:30 pm - Women's Bible Study
5:30 pm - Kids WOW
7:30 pm - Bethel

Thursday, January 31

9:30 am - Journey
9:30 am - Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm - AA

For a detailed online calendar, please visit our website at newhopeworship.com/calendar.