



Happy
New Year



newhope news

Lutheran Church - Agoura Hills

January, 2021

A Year of Prayer 2021

Our focus this year will be on God's gift of Daily Prayer. Through the power of the Holy Spirit we will strengthen our prayer lives and equip our parish to be a place that is grounded in prayer. Prayer is a foundational spiritual practice and a cornerstone to building a life of Christian discipleship.

Prayer has the power to transform people and communities. A long time ago, Nehemiah was called by God to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. In the book of Nehemiah, we read that before Nehemiah lays even one stone; Nehemiah prays. He prays for strength. He prays for protection. He prays for forgiveness. Nehemiah takes everything to the Lord in prayer. Perhaps before we lay one stone or one foot into this New Year we also should pray.

This Bible verse serves as our Year of Prayer memory verse. "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6). This powerful Bible verse captures God's desire for us to pray.

We have started our study of the book by Pete Greig, How to Pray. You can get How to Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People by Pete Greig (currently \$13.50 paperback at Amazon...remember to use Amazon Smile for a donation!) I would love to have you join the group discussion via Zoom:

Wednesday, January 27 – Step 1: Pause (pages 34-49)

Wednesday, February 24 – Step 2: Rejoice (pages 50-69)

Wednesday, March 31 – Step 3: Ask (pages 72-129)

(if back in person, this date will shift due to Holy Week)

Wednesday, April 28 – Step 4: Yield (pages 131-222)



So, I invite you to the discipline, the delight of daily prayer. A few reminders from the opening chapter of How to Pray. Pete Greig says the most important advice he has ever gotten about prayer is "Keep it Simple. Keep it Real. Keep it Up." That seems like wise advice for us all.

"Your prayer life is at its best, not when you're praying big, complex, gnarly prayers occasionally, but when you're praying simple, little conversational prayers continually." "Be honest with God about how you're really feeling. He couldn't care less about your 'religious self', He wants you."

He uses a simple acrostic to help us understand prayer: PRAY = Pause Rejoice Ask Yield.

In our first class we focused on Keeping it Simple: How to Have a Quiet Time. Here is some encouragement to keep a quiet time with God in 2021.

A quiet time can take many forms, but at its simplest means stopping and pausing to pray with God. This prayer tool will practically guide you on how to start having a regular quiet time.

Why have a quiet time? Corrie Ten Boom reminds us: “Don’t pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it. A person is powerful on their knees.”

We know Jesus himself kept this practice for we read in Matthew 6:6 (Message version), “Find a quiet, secluded place so you won’t be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.”

There is no fixed way to spend time alone with God, but it’s helpful to combine Bible reading with prayer and to do so at a regular time each day. There are many excellent devotional resources, but you don’t have to use anything at all. It’s worth experimenting to see what works best for you. Grieg suggests we start simply with a ten minute quiet time:

(1 min) Pause – sit quietly for a minute, stilling your soul.

(2 min) Rejoice – read a short Psalm or listen to a worship song.

(3 min) Ask – Tell God what’s on your heart. Pray through your day.

Use the Ventures in Prayer (attached) or another prayer list.

(3 min) Yield – Read a few verses from the New Testament,

-- hold the reading in mind until a phrase pops out at you and then talk to God about it.

-- Are there any sins you need to confess? Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you afresh.

(1 min) Amen - Pray the Lord’s Prayer.

I hope you will join us on this adventure of walking with God.

Pastor Craig

“Let this be your whole endeavor, this your prayer, this your desire, -- that you may be stripped of all selfishness, and with entire simplicity follow Jesus only.” Thomas a Kempis

Thank you!



My family would like to thank the church for our Christmas gift from the congregation. We are also touched by the numerous ways you bless us and gift us throughout the year but particularly in this season. We are so thankful to be a part of this church. In this difficult year, you have shown us even more support and encouragement. We are thankful for all of you, and thank you again for the gift!

Pastor Craig

PRAYER VENTURES

JANUARY 2021

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 - Give thanks and praise that God knows intimately our complexities, failures, accomplishments, questions, goals and hopes, and still looks upon us with loving kindness, newness and a desire for us to thrive as individuals and communities.

2 - Pray for our companion churches and international leaders as they confront multiple waves of the pandemic. Ask the Spirit to fill them with hope, resilience and reassurance that our faith in the presence and love of God, which we share as siblings in Christ, will unify us in caring for one another and in doing God's work in the world, using our diverse gifts, cultures, languages, resources and perspectives in every circumstance.

3 - Give thanks and praise to God that we are children of God, knowing and testifying to the good news that Jesus Christ became flesh and lived among us, and that we have seen the glory of God's only son, full of grace and truth for the world.

4 - National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. We remember and pray for victims of sex trafficking, involuntary servitude, debt bondage and forced labor in our nation and around the world, and we ask God's guidance in caring for victims and actively working to end this abuse, injustice and oppression.

5 - Pray for Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton, members of the ELCA Church Council and the Conference of Bishops. Give thanks for their humble service, their faith in Christ, their leadership and gifts, and their commitment to wrestle with difficult decisions and issues for the sake of the church and the world.

6 - Epiphany As people of faith, we are not immune from wondering about God, Jesus Christ and the Spirit. Pray that God will be patient with us, illuminating the truth of who we are as baptized children of God and the reality and certainty of the good news of Jesus Christ, the true Son of God, our Savior, Messiah, Redeemer and teacher.

7 - As the pandemic continues, pray for doctors, nurses, emergency responders and health care workers who need renewal, strength and our gratitude and recognition as they continue to serve at great personal risk and sacrifice for the sake of our health and well-being.

8 - Give thanks for the people in our lives who inspire hope, faith and courage, and whose words and actions touch us, teach us the meaning of grace and move us to become bearers of mercy in the world.

9 - In Christ we have received forgiveness of our sins and salvation through God's unfathomable grace, showered upon us every day. Praise God!

10 - Give thanks for God's love and forgiveness in baptism, which marks the beginning of our journey with our siblings in Christ to share the good news, serve all people, grow the church and strive for peace and justice in the world.

11 - Pray for parents, students, employees, and business owners whose plans and routines change day by day and week by week due to the uncertainty of the pandemic, that they might be hopeful, resilient and able to adapt, change and endure.

12 - Pray for our faith-based schools, early childhood education programs and day care centers as they provide experiential education, social interaction, stability and calm for the youngest of our children, who are often most vulnerable during times of uncertainty and anxiety.

13 - God is mighty, majestic and eternal throughout the universe, generously sharing strength and blessings with us. Give glory and thanks to God, and shout for joy!

14 - Ask God to help us practice justice, generosity and care for creation, sharing our resources with others who have few or who have lost resources or productive land as a result of natural and human-caused disasters.

15 - Pray for the young adults who have applied for a yearlong journey in international service with our companion churches and organizations through the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program, which will resume in 2021-2022 after a time of sabbath during the pandemic.

16 - Thank God for our special relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1997; pray for the church, its members and its leaders, and pray that together we will find strength and new resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these uncertain and challenging times.

17 - Jesus invited Philip to follow him as a disciple, and Philip, in turn, invited Nathanael. Ask God to help us be faithful followers, students and, at the same time, disciples eager to invite others to join in God's good work in the world.

18 - Martin Luther King Day Today, we remember the life, ministry, sacrifice and activism of Martin Luther King Jr. Pray that his life and the legacies of others who have fought for civil rights and social reform will inspire our own commitment and persistence in working for racial justice, dismantling racism and combating white supremacy.

19 - We may argue about what is legal, what we are entitled to or what we have the right to do with our bodies and lives. But Paul reminds us that we have been made one with the body and spirit of Christ; we "were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body." Pray that the Spirit will guide us to live with humility and deference for who we are in Christ and in obedience to the ways and desires of God.

20 - Inauguration Day - As members of society and the church who represent varied political affiliations and perspectives, pray together for our nation's newly elected president and vice president, that the Spirit will grant them wisdom, strength, commitment to serving all people, a deep understanding of justice and mercy, and the courage to enact change for the well-being of our communities and nation.

21 - Pray for the ELCA World Hunger Leadership Gathering, an online event happening right now that gathers ELCA World Hunger leaders for learning, networking, sharing ideas and planning for our common ministry to address hunger and its root causes.

22 - Pray for reconciliation, understanding and renewal in our divided nation so that we might work together for justice, compassion and generosity, serving our neighbors in need and the well-being of our communities as they struggle with vexing, deep-rooted problems. Ask the Spirit to inspire and guide our lives so that our values, decisions, actions and words reflect the gospel, the teachings of Jesus and the ways of God, who is good, gracious, merciful and just.

23 - Praise God that, as small and insignificant as we might be in the vast universe, we are wonderfully made and God knows every little thing about us and our human ways.

24 - In Scripture we read about Jesus' simple, personal and compelling invitations to Simon, Andrew, James, John and the other disciples to drop everything and follow him. Pray that when God calls us to follow and serve, we will respond with faith and trust, even if we do not yet know where God is leading us or what God is calling us to do.

25 - Pray for ministries, nonprofit organizations and agencies that serve the daily needs of communities, families and individuals; pursue justice and equity; build resilience to cope with disasters and crises; accompany immigrants and refugees; and bring the hope and love of Christ where there is despair and weariness.

26 - When, like Jonah, we are reluctant to forgive, practice mercy or share the gospel with those we deem undeserving, ask the Spirit to help us discern God's ways, grace and mercy for all people, and to act boldly without personal bias.

27 - Lydia, Dorcas and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith Praise God for the witness and ministry of women of the early church. Give thanks for women of all ages and backgrounds who, responding to God's call, continue to use their gifts, life experiences, knowledge and passions to grow the church, serve all people and be bearers of hope and healing in the world.

28 - Give thanks for the Lutheran liturgy and worship practices that equip us for daily life, helping us to praise God, listen to God's word and experience unity in the body of Christ.

29 - Give thanks for the self-sacrificing generosity of people who demonstrate their gratefulness for God's gift of life and their concern for their neighbors' well-being by donating blood, plasma and even organs.

30 - Remember in prayer those who continue to struggle with unemployment, underemployment and job searching as a result of the economic and health impacts of COVID-19.

31 Though our creeds do not speak of Jesus' teachings, miracles or example, give thanks that, through Scripture, the Spirit reveals Jesus to be the source of our redemption and a trustworthy guide, instructing us how to live with one another, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world today.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.

From the Deacon

New Hope needs you! We can always use more help, especially now with all the challenges that a pandemic brings to ministry. Before you argue “I don’t have any talents that the church could use,” listen to the needs that we have:

- Do you have a vehicle and a little time on Sunday afternoon? We need two people who can go to Emil’s Bake House on one Sunday per month, pick up 12-20 loaves of bread, wrap them, and deliver them to Lutheran Social Services on Monday morning. If we had two more people added to the rotation, each of us would only have to do this once a month.
- Do you like to read? We can always use new folks to read the lessons when we record for worship on Wednesday morning. We can also use singers to add to our group, one or two at a time. While restrictions won’t let us have a full choir right now, we can always use two to four singers at a time.
- Do you have a gift for cooking, and feeding people? The evening meal program at Holy Trinity is happening again, even though winter shelter is not, and Merylee Blair needs people willing to fix side dishes, salads, and desserts to go along with the main course. At this time everything is packed in individual portions, so there’s a little extra work involved.
- If you like feeding people, but not necessarily cooking, New Hope continues to provide packed lunches for both Lutheran Social Services and Harbor House.

There are many ways to help our neighbor, even during a pandemic. If any of these ways sounds like something you can do, email me at lynn@newhopeagoura.com or mail a short note to church addressed to me.

Blessings,
Deacon Lynn



From the Youth Director, Pastor Scott

1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

²We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. ³We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴For we know, brothers and sisters^[a] loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. ⁷And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, ⁹for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead

What makes us drawn to a particular message? Maybe it is a commercial for something that we would enjoy like a particular restaurant or maybe the next movie in our favorite series is coming out. Or maybe we care about what the message says about how we should behave, maybe it is encouraging people to be kind to one another or to treat each other with respect, a good message about how we should live. Sometimes we are even drawn to certain messages because of who is delivering the message. Let's all be honest with ourselves when we hear a message from someone we idolize or respect we are more likely to buy into that message than if we heard it from a complete stranger.

Then what happens when we are so drawn to that message that we start to implement that into our own lives. We decide that this message will be something that we live by, something that becomes our own personal mantra even. Then all of a sudden we become the person spreading that message to those around us. And then maybe those who respect what we say and do decide that is something they would like to live by as well. Being an example of what you are doing also known as, practicing what you preach is key to this and is a key component of faith.

We are called to live in a certain way that we know we cannot live up to. So then how can we still be good examples of people of faith? I think that the key for me is not just seeing how people act when things are going well. It is a little easier to be generous when you have plenty to give and have a good attitude when you don't have many challenges in your life. Like when Jesus talks about loving our enemies, he says "if you love those you love then what regard will you get?" How does someone live when they are going through a tough time? How do they act when they have done something wrong? Do they apologize and own their mistake or do they try to explain it away?

For me the greatest example of the idea that being an example is important is when it comes to kids, especially younger kids. I remember specific situations where it was apparent that I didn't really realize that I was being observed. Some friends of mine have a son and when he was 3-4 years old they were visiting from out of town and we were all eating breakfast. We had donuts and I am known for taking bites that are larger than normal when it comes to donuts. So I proceed as normal eating my breakfast and I look up and their son is basically trying to shove the entire donut into his mouth and is confused why he can't do it.

We see in our text what can happen when, we as people of faith, can be good role models. It allows the message of God's love for us through Jesus to spread and have a positive impact on those around us who hear the message. And as our reading says may all of this be prompted by love. Not so that we can feel good about ourselves or feel like we are better than anyone, but because we know that God loves us so much and we in turn have so much love to share with those whom we encounter. And may it all be inspired by the love of God through his son Jesus Christ.

Amen.



Let us remember the following people in our prayers.....

Matt Cowden was in the hospital.

Karen Orefice is recovering from back surgery (permanent spinal cord implant).

Nick O'Hare is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Debbie Martin's mom passed away.

Pat Henkel has lost 2 brothers and a sister-in-law in the past year.

Continued prayers of healing for Barbara Artinian, Katie Jo Ash, Floyd Bealer, Merylee Blair, Irene Bright, Elisabeth Brown, Evelyn Colby, Sandy Cowden, Faith David, Holly Dolliver, Jill and Chris Fisher, Steve Frye, Lyla Grant, Bob Green, Sandy Hansen, Del Hultgren, Sue Koons, Diane Lawson, Joyce Lawson, Reeta Leland, Joan Looman, Elisabeth and Jorgen Makitalo, Cheryl Merrill, Kathryn Murray, Ava Grace O'Connell, Nick and Cindy O'Hare, Ahoo Pilehvari, Sharon Pryor, Wayne Rickert, Jane Taschereau, Rose Topliss, Jax Rains-Turk, Fred Turner, and Britt Tsumpes.

Prayers for our servicemen - Landen Anderson, Gerren Blair, Taylor Blair, Heather Brown, Keith Brown, Patrick Clohessy, Cynthia Colby, Jonah Hershman, Kyle McCarley, Ikenna Olelewe, and Jason Retter.



Rocking Chair

Linda Barry has a rocking chair she would like to give to anyone in need of one. Please call her if you are interested in it at 818-991-9264.



To my dear friends at New Hope,

Thank you for the lovely Christmas present you so generously put together and shared with me. I am blessed to be your deacon, and I miss all of you so much! Please, do everything that you can to keep safe and be well, so that we can be together again as early in 2021 as possible. And thank you, so very much, for the spirit-lifting "flock" in my front yard before Christmas!
Deacon Lynn



New Hope Mission Endowment Fund

NOW Accepting Applications for Grant Money !!!

New Hope Lutheran Church's Mission Endowment Fund was established in 2017 to support outreach, locally and around the world, above and beyond the programs supported through our annual budget. The Mission Endowment Fund is supported through gifts and bequests and is a legacy of our faith in New Hope's role with future generations.

This year, the Committee has designated a total of \$5,000 for grants to be disbursed in 2020-2021, and is accepting

applications for those grants through January 31, 2021. We will consider any proposal that supports religious, charitable or educational projects, and we need you to let us know how we can support YOUR FAVORITE non-profit that meets these objectives. Please direct your contact to complete a Grant Distribution Request form found at <http://www.newhopeagoura.org/new-hope-endowment-fund/>, scroll down to "Submitting a Request for Funds" and click on the "Download Here" button. Once completed, the form can be sent by email or regular mail to New Hope Lutheran Church at the addresses on the form.

We look forward to receiving additional requests before the end of January to enhance our ministries in the surrounding communities and around the globe.

Mission Endowment Fund Committee

From the Treasurer



2020 - Thank you for your continued generosity in 2020! Your giving through November amounted to \$367,742, about 3% over budget. This does not include the PPP loan/grant amount. Our expenditures so far this year are significantly below budget.

2021 - Council is almost complete with the proposed 2021 budget. After approval at the January council meeting, the budget will be presented at the January Congregational Meeting.

This is my last report as treasurer. Thank you for your support over my term.

Joe Bulock

Happy New Year



MANNA FOOD PANTRY

With holiday distribution programs, we help over 20,000 people each year throughout the 101 corridor cities from the Calabasas Grade to the Conejo Grade.

Please drop off your donations at Manna Food Bank located at:

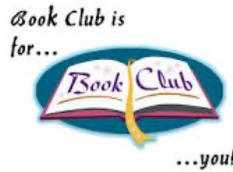
3020 Crescent Way
Thousand Oaks 91362

Donation Drop Off Hours -
Monday – Friday 7:30 AM – 4 PM
Saturday 9:30 AM – 1 PM

Any questions, call Ann Ashamalla at (818)-613-6818.

Top Priority Items

- 1 - Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate
- 2 - Baking Items - cookie/cake mix, flour, sugar, etc.
- 3 - Canned/Boxed gravy
- 4 - Boxed Stuffing
- 5 - Granola Bars
- 6 - Pancake Mix and Syrup
- 7 - Condiments - Ketchup/Mustard/Mayonnaise
- 8 - Mac and Cheese
- 9 - Drinks - Juices/Almond Milk/Protein Drinks, Soft Drinks
- 10 - Eggs



The daytime Book Club will meet at 11:45 AM on Zoom on Tuesday, February 2nd - "Caste" by Isabel Wilkerson. Please join us if you can. The future books we are reading are....

March 2nd - "Runaway: stories" by Alice Munro

April 6th - "Try Not to Breathe" by Holly Siddon

"Dear Church" Book Discussion

ELCA Pastor Lenny Duncan has written "Dear Church: A Love Letter From A Black Preacher To the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.". It is a frank discussion of race and the ELCA's role (our role) in addressing racism while helping our congregation meet the needs of our community and grow. The book is available at Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com. We are discussing the book via Zoom on Thursday, January 28th at 10 AM. Hope to see you there! For more information, contact Karen Ingram.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

A prayer shawl is a knitted or crocheted shawl that can comfort and support those in need. While stitching, the maker of the shawl prays for the recipient. Prayer shawls can be made to convey blessings for a wedding, birth, or Baptism, or comfort during an

illness or loss. If you would like to request a prayer shawl for someone, or would like information on how you can participate in this ministry, [click here](#) to contact the church office.



Join Our Heavenly Hiking Fellowship

For over a few months, we have been doing a morning hike every Tuesday and Saturday from 7:00 – 8:30 AM. We are calling ourselves the Heavenly Hiking Fellowship, and we are a fun, uncompetitive group of Christian hikers. Because the Conejo Valley is blessed with a number of amazing hikes with beautiful views, we go on a variety of hikes. Whether experienced or new, all are working to get in shape and maybe lose a little weight. We take rest stops to give new hikers a chance to catch up and get in shape. We hike for 45 minutes and then go back the way we came so people can get on with their day. If you would like to join us when your schedule allows, send an email to Terry Paulson (terry@terrypaulson.com). You'll receive a regular email update on our next hike and how to get to that trailhead. We may not be able to worship together, but we can hike together and maintain physical distance.





Social Ministry Update

As we begin this new year, I would like to send my deepest thanks for all who have helped so much to provide for our community and our sister ELCA church, Prince of Peace Houston and LSS Gift Cards - Your blessing of 119 Target gift cards for children of Harbor House and Prince of Peace Houston brought joy to many kids this Christmas who would not have had a gift.

Meals/ Lunches - Thanks to all who have provided (and continue to provide) sack lunches and make food for our Conejo Meals Program this past year.

Church Council - I am so grateful for the strong support of our Council in Social Ministry and all our programs.

I especially want to thank Pastor Craig, Deacon Lynn, treasurer Joe Bullock, Kathy Rogers, shelter coordinators Dixie Burton and Sue Koons, and all of you who have been the hands and feet of our Lord Jesus this most challenging year! We are New Hope!

Blessings, Merylee



New Hope in a Mug!

While we are spending more time at home, we can all use some daily encouragement. New Hope mugs are designed with a positive,

uplifting faith-based message to enjoy in your home. If you would like to reserve a mug for yourself or anyone that can use "New Hope," email laurie@newhopeagoura.com. (Mugs are \$5 each.)



Do you need a facial covering?

Kathy Rogers will make you a custom mask. For \$5 the money will be donated to Lutheran Social Services and to NHLC. Just email her at Kathleen.rgrs@gmail.com or call her at 818-889-4058. Above are some samples - pleated or more fitted. She can now make masks for Christmas.



SCRIP

SCRIP gift cards are easy to give and fun to receive, but did you know that a percentage of every SCRIP gift card purchased through New Hope comes back to New Hope? Contact Kathy Rogers at kathleen.rgrs@gmail.com or call her at 818-889-4058 to let her know what cards you would like to purchase. You can also have a current list of the hundreds of gift cards that can be special purchased through New Hope for gift giving. Contact Kathy Rogers for more information, she will be happy to send you a current list of the cards that are available to order.

"Surround yourself with people who make you hungry for life, touch your heart, and nourish your soul."

- Unknown

"I'm a big believer in prayer. One of my favorite passages is Matthew 6:27: 'Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?' That has given me a lot of peace."

- Rita Wilson

"Be grateful for ordinary days."

- Cathy Mattiza

"Everyone has a vocation. I mean, the most fundamental vocation is to become the person whom God created. And it's both the person you already are and the person that God calls you to be."

- Father James Martin

"We are each gifted in a unique and important way. It is our privilege and our adventure to discover our own special light."

- Evelyn Mary Dunbar



2020 VISION AND BEYOND

LSS Southern California Estate Planning Series

PRESENTED BY

Joshua Anderson

Estate Planning Attorney

PARTNER/MCINTIRE ANDERSON

Lisa Higginbotham

Regional Gift Planner

ELCA FOUNDATION

In Advance!
DECEMBER 16th

**Wills, Trusts &
Probate...Oh My!**
FEBRUARY 10th

This email has an updated link for
Session Information & Registration

**I've Got the
Power!**
JANUARY 13th

**Click here for Session
Information and
Registration!**

**Love is Eternal...
Community Property Isn't!**
MARCH 17th

**You're Set...
What's Next?**
APRIL 14th

2020/2021 SERIES SCHEDULE

For seminar details and registration please visit lsssc.org/estate-planning

December 16th - Advanced Healthcare Directives

January 13th - Powers of Attorney

February 10th - Wills, Trusts and Probate...Oh My!

March 17th - Community Property

April 14th - Estate and Legacy Planning (Dual)

* Please note these seminars are only for general information, and do not constitute legal advice or create an attorney-client relationship.



Next to the word of God, the
noble art of music
is the greatest treasure
in the world

Martin Luther

New Hope Church acknowledges with gratitude, all
the musicians who have contributed their talents to
our worship throughout 2020

New Hope Choir Members

Ann Ashamalla
Fred Dunn
Eilene Green
Mary Ann Fiore
Sandy Hansen
Robin Martin
Gail McGinnis
Terry Paulson
Sue Poulson
Jax Rains-Turk
Bryn Roos

Additional Vocalists

Zac Beeker
Lynn Bulock
Chris Cohen
Kevin Dalbey
Raymond McLeod

Pianist

David Cohen

Choir Director

Aleta Braxton

Special Guest Vocalists

Patrick Blackwell
Alannah Garnier
Jody Golighty
Alex Heston
Aviva Heston

Megan McDonald
Daniel O'Brien
Michael O'Brien
Nicol Toto
Jennifer Wallace



From Fred Dunn -

Your 2021 Conejo Valley CROP Hunger Walk is vitally important as so many people in the U.S. and around the world continue to struggle with the coronavirus pandemic and its rippling effects. The UN estimates that 130 million **more** people could be at risk of starvation, and half a billion people pushed into poverty.

Those are devastating numbers, and each of them represents a real person. I know you care ... and your participation in this year's Walk will help push back on this unacceptable, yet looming, reality.

Because of your past commitment to this cause, I wanted you to be the first to know that your Walk's online page is now live and registration is open!

You'll find our new fundraising site simple to use when registering, making donations and managing your page. Linking your favorite social media accounts to keep your friends and family updated on your progress, is easier too!

I'm your coach for this year's CROP Hunger Walk, and I'll be here to help with any questions and offer tips and tricks along the way.

So this year, will you join us to walk for the people who are feeling new hunger in our neighborhoods and the people who are spiraling into poverty around the world? Every step you take, every donation you receive or gift you give means you're releasing someone from hunger's grasp.

Ready to walk the talk? Get started here:
crophungerwalk.org/thousandoaksca

Thank you for taking a moment to reflect and act,
Jason Welle, CWS

In need of prayer?

We are here for you

Contact us through our

PRAYER WALL

at

NewHopeAgoura.org



 **4** WAYS
to
GIVE

To support the work of
New Hope Church



By Mail

Address to:
New Hope Church
29295 Agoura Road
Agoura Hills, CA
91301



Online

Secure Giving through
our website using the
PayPal option



Electronically

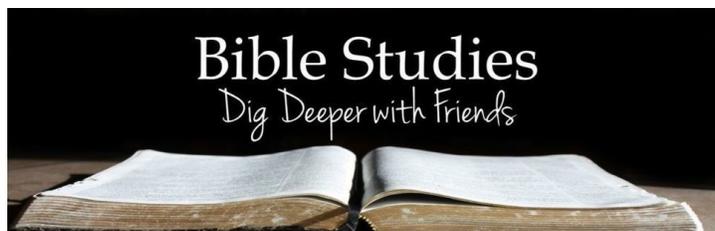
Contact the church
office for assistance
in setting up VANCO
automated giving



Volunteer

Sharing Your Time &
Talents

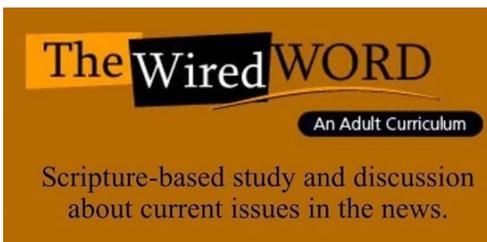
If interested in serving
contact the church
office for more
information



Are the continuing COVID-19 restrictions causing you to feel disconnected from your church family? Even though we can't be together in all the ways we have been accustomed, we can connect by taking advantage of technology! We would like to encourage you to check out our weekly Bible Studies held on **ZOOM**. ZOOM provides a "real-time" meeting environment where you can interact with all participants. If you would like help getting started, reach out to the church office at newhope@newhopeagoura.com or call us at 818.889.8700 and we will assist you. Don't miss this option to stay connected with your church family while deepening your relationship with Jesus.

Details for all our classes, including convenient links that will connect you to the ZOOM meetings, can be viewed on our website at: www.newhopeagoura.org/upcoming-events

Adult Study & Discussion—ONLINE



Sunday Mornings at 9a.m. or Sunday Evenings at 7p.m.

Join us each Sunday on ZOOM when we delve into a current event taken from the "Wired Word." If you would like to receive a preview of our weekly discussion, email Pastor Craig at craig@newhopeagoura.com to be added to the mailing list.

Women's Bible Study—ONLINE Mondays at 10 a.m.



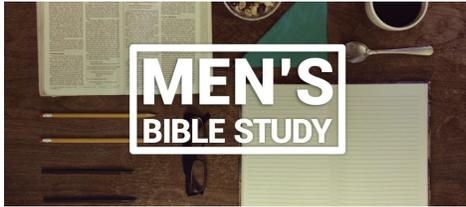
Women of all ages are invited to attend our weekly bible study when we spend time in God's word, in prayer and in fellowship. It is a great opportunity during this time of COVID-19 restrictions, to draw closer to God and to be supported by one another.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study—ONLINE at 10a.m.

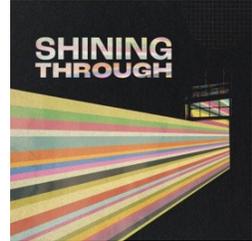


This bible study is hosted by Pastor Craig. We are currently using the study from *Gather Magazine* from the Women of the ELCA. If you would like to receive the study material each week, email Pastor Craig at Craig@newhopeagoura.com

Men's Bible Study & Fellowship—ONLINE Thursdays at 7:30a.m.

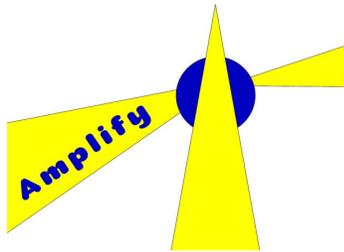


The Men of New Hope gather each week for stimulating conversations about current issues involving life and faith. They are currently in a study entitled "Shining Through" featuring Rev. Andy Stanley from North Point Community Church near Atlanta, Georgia.



Join us. All Are Welcome

Programs for our Youth



Amplify is a Sunday School program designed for children ages 4 years through 4th grade. Join us each Sunday morning on ZOOM at 9:30a.m.

Contact Merylee for **ZOOM** access information



Confirmation continues to meet as a middle school youth group with activities planned each week on ZOOM including: art projects, cookie baking, games, prayer, and good conversation.

Contact Pastor Scott or Pastor Craig for **ZOOM** access information



*Stay connected...
continue to grow...*

*Join us
online!*

 newhopeagoura.org

 [newhopelutheran](https://www.facebook.com/newhopelutheran)

 [newhopeagoura](https://www.youtube.com/newhopeagoura)

 [bible studies](https://www.zoom.us/j/9171241256)

**See website for meeting information*



January Birthdays

- 4 Jenny Fitzgerald
- 5 Avery Mansmann
Linsey Niebolt
- 6 Alyssa Taylor
- 9 Bob Davis
- 10 Pat Henkel
- 11 Reeta Leland
- 15 Tom LaVanne
- 23 Karen Ingram
- 25 Bob Green



Support Our Military

Please continue to collect personal care items and treats to support our troops. Travel size products such as soaps, shampoo, razors, lotions, deodorants, etc. are especially appreciated. Hard candies, lifesavers, and breath mints make refreshing treats to share too. Contact the church office at 818-889-8700 or by email to laurie@newhopeagoura.com to make arrangements for drop off.



Disaster Preparedness

As we enter into the fire season, now more than ever is a good time to review the Disaster Preparedness resources that have been compiled by your Church Council and posted to our website. <http://www.newhopeagoura.org/disaster-plan/>

The deadline for all articles for the February newsletter is January 26th. Be sure to email them to gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com.

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