

newhope news

Lutheran Church - Agoura Hills

October, 2021

Dear New Hope family,

The earliest document preserved in the New Testament is 1 Thessalonians, a letter written by Paul in 51 C.E. to the church at Thessalonika. It is our first impression of what the newly born Christian faith might have been like--decades before the gospels were written. In this letter, Paul writes to a beloved community, saying: How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? (1 Thessalonians 3:9). These words express my gratitude for the enduring impact you have had upon my life.

Paul wondered whether he would ever see the people at Thessalonika again, and he cared deeply about their faith. Soon I will be far away, and although I will not see you, this family of faith will always hold a place in my heart. We have shared in both personal trials and celebrations in the past three decades. You have shown a deep kindness to me and to my loved ones which I cherish.

Saying goodbye is never easy. My last service of worship is this weekend, the first Sunday of October. We will gather for worship as Christians have done since before Paul wrote his letter to the Thessalonians. For almost 2000 years, faithful people have been parting from one another with words of Christ's peace, and we will do the same. At my last Sunday service, we will take the time to say good-byes and to release each other from our covenant in ministry. You will hold a special fondness in my heart, but after I leave here for the last time that day, I will not be able to baptize or officiate at funerals or weddings for members of this church unless they have been previously arranged. This synod-wide covenant is the practice in our faith tradition to keep boundaries clear and congregations healthy.

Paul writes, And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. (1 Thessalonians 3:12) Like Paul, I wonder how things will develop for you here at New Hope. I have hopes for your future together. I pray that God will be with you in all that you do and that you will share your abounding love with the hungry and hurting in this community and in the world. I pray that you will be spiritually nourished by your work on Christ's behalf.

Your next chapter will unfold without me, as mine will without you. Whatever comes next, know that you do not face it alone, for the God who made you and the Christ who redeemed you and the Holy Spirit who comforts you will always be with you. You also have each other in this family of faith – I hope you can discover or rediscover this profound gift you have in each other. As God has blessed you, may you be a blessing to others.

With gratitude and love for a lifetime of good memories and love,

Pastor Craig



To our New Hope Lutheran Church Family,

We are entering a time of transition in our church and we recognize that not all of the changes will be easy or feel natural. Time will heal some of this hurt and most of the change will occur when we remember that we are the church. Our relationship with God has not changed. Pastor Craig was our leader, trusted friend and advisor for many years. We thank him for dedicating so much of his life to us, our spiritual growth and success. It is similar to when we purchased the building that houses our church today. Some of us said, “We have purchased a church!” and Pastor Craig would respond, “No, we have a church. We have just purchased a building to house our church.” He has worked tirelessly to shape us into a congregation built on love and respect for each other and taught us to revere and trust the path forward led by God.

Now it is time for us to pick up the mantle of leadership for this transition period while we assess our needs, work with an interim pastor and, eventually, begin to look for a new pastor for New Hope. Our Church Council has an excellent template of the process (provided by the Synod) and all members of the church will be involved in determining our future. We will uphold the mission of the Church and the positive quality of life and love in this congregation. We also recognize the need for time to adjust to the new relationships and will reach out in care and compassion to one another.

As these changes become our new normal, we will need to turn to our incoming Interim Pastor, Deacon Lynn and the Church Council for support, guidance, and pastoral care. This will ensure our continued healing and development as a church and allow Pastor Craig to devote his attention to his new congregation. He will always be our friend but his focus as our Pastor is ended.

We have all the tools we need for a positive and successful future. When we work together and with God, all things are possible.

New Hope Lutheran Church Council

Southwest California Synod Synod, ELCA

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TRANSITION STEPS

A Resource for Congregations



Our pastor has resigned:

- What should we do first?
- What help can we expect?
- How can we grow through this change and look forward to an even brighter future with the arrival of a new pastor?

This brochure has been designed to help your congregation move thoughtfully, purposefully and effectively throughout the pastoral call process.

"The gifts Christ gave were that some would be pastors to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the Body of Christ."

Ephesians 4:11-12

"The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Holds the congregation and the office of ordained ministry in high regard. Consequently, this church body invests substantial resources in support of the congregations during times of change in pastoral leadership."

ELCA Guidelines for Ordained Ministers
Serving in Interim Ministry



Southwest California Synod

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Glendale CA 91205-1406
Website: www.socalsynod.org
Phone: 818-507-9591
Fax: 818-507-9627
E-mail: office@socalsynod.org

STEP ONE: YOUR PASTOR RESIGNS

1. After your pastor notifies the congregation, s/he sends a copy of the letter of resignation to the Bishop.
2. The Bishop meets with the Congregation Council to assess the interim needs of the congregation during the pastoral vacancy and to explain the Mission Exploration Team (MET) and call process.
3. Closure with your pastor.
 - An Assistant to the Bishop conducts an exit interview with the pastor.
 - The congregation holds a farewell celebration.
 - After the resignation, the pastor makes it clear that s/he will have no pastoral duties with members of the congregation.

STEP TWO: INTERIM MINISTRY BEGINS

1. The Synod assists with Sunday supply until an Interim Pastor is identified.
2. The Bishop appoints an Interim Pastor.
3. The Council meets with the appointed Interim, gives its endorsement, and a Letter of Agreement is signed. (Note: the Interim Pastor will not be available for Call by the congregation)
4. The Interim Pastor cares for the congregation and helps it evaluate its stewardship practices and programs.
5. The Interim Pastor oversees the audits of the congregation's financial records, membership statistics and constitution.
6. The Council selects 5-7 members of the congregation to serve on the MET.
7. The Council reviews the constitutional requirements for the selection of the Call Committee and helps form the Call Committee.
8. The Council approves a budget for the Call Committee's expenses.

STEP THREE: THE MET'S TASK

1. An Assistant to the Bishop meets with the congregation's Mission Exploration Team.
2. A member of a neighboring ELCA congregation and a member of the Synod's Renewal Table meet with the MET for four sessions.
3. Through study and reflection on the congregation's community, the MET identifies up to three new mission opportunities for the congregation.
4. The MET presents its findings to the Council and Congregation, secures their endorsement, and shares them with the Call Committee.

STEP FOUR: CALL COMMITTEE'S TASKS

1. An Assistant to the Bishop meets with the Call Committee to provide instruction.
2. The Assistant conducts a Ministry Site Profile Workshop to help the congregation develop its future pastoral needs.
3. The Call Committee prepares the Ministry Site Profile and sends it along with the MET's recommendations to the Synod Office.
4. The Call Committee forwards any names of potential candidates it receives to the Synod Office for review and clearance.
5. The Assistant presents names of candidates to the Call Committee.
6. The Call Committee interviews candidates.
7. The Call Committee recommends a candidate for Call and notifies the Congregational President and the Assistant to the Bishop. *(Candidates not chosen are informed, and released from consideration.)*
8. The Call Committee presents its recommendation to the Council.
9. The Council determines the compensation package and calls for a congregational meeting.

STEP FIVE: THE CONGREGATION CALLS A PASTOR

1. A Congregational Meeting is held to approve the calling of the nominated candidate. *(The Assistant to the Bishop is asked to be present to answer any questions.)*
2. A two-thirds vote is required to Call the candidate as Pastor with the proposed compensation package.
3. The candidate is notified of the vote by the Congregational President.
4. The Letter of Call is signed by the Congregation's President and secretary and is sent to the Synod Office.
5. The Bishop approves the compensation package, signs the Letter of Call and mails it to the candidate.

STEP SIX: YOUR NEW PASTOR BEGINS

1. The candidate accepts the Call, and notifies the congregation in writing. *(If the candidate declines the Call, go back to Step Four.)*
2. The Interim Pastor leaves, usually a week before the new pastor arrives.
 - The Assistant to the Bishop conducts an exit interview.
 - A brief farewell service is held on the Interim's last Sunday.
3. The new pastor arrives and begins ministry.
4. The Bishop installs the new pastor as soon after arrival as possible.
5. The congregation hosts a reception to welcome the new pastor and his/her family.
6. The Assistant to the Bishop will be available for continual support of the congregation and pastor as they begin their new ministry together.



The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service to others.

Mahatma Gandhi

It is that time of year for your Congregational Council to be good stewards of the monies we all contribute and develop a budget for 2022. In order to do these things, we are all called upon to make a financial commitment. Those difficult words, “make a pledge.”

This year’s Pledge Commitment theme is, ***Forward with Thanksgiving.***

Chapter 16 of Deuteronomy is a call to celebrate God’s work to free the Israelites from Egypt and slavery. In order to show their thankfulness, they were called to make a gift proportional to the size of God’s blessing upon them. Verse 17 says “*give as you are able, according as the Lord has blessed you.*”

For much of the past year we have been figuratively held captive to the impact of COVID-19. We were asked to isolate ourselves and change our work and worship habits. Through it all, people and New Hope have adapted in many ways to live our lives and continue to provide a valuable service to our membership and community.

And now we are free, mostly, to move forward. We are moving *forward with thanksgiving* for the steadfast commitment of the congregation, the service of our church and the lessons we learned from the experience. We learned that our church and faith cannot be broken for lack of a facility. Even though we are free to use our facilities, we have enhanced our ability for small groups to remain in contact and to share our time of worship with anyone, anywhere in the world.

Certainly we have much more to be thankful for. We have lives filled with loving family and friends, wonderful teachers, mentors and coworkers. Thankful for the community we live in and the creativity of New Hope Church to serve this community and share the good news. These are God's blessings manifested in and around us all.

We are asking that you and your household reflect upon God's blessings and prayerfully make a pledge in thanksgiving to continue all New Hope provides as we move forward together.

Your pledge is an estimate of what you believe you can entrust to New Hope in 2022 in response to the gifts that God has shared with you. Your pledge is a private matter and will only be seen by our Asst. Financial Secretary, Joe Bullock.

Pledge cards will be collected during our worship service on October 10th. Alternatively, your pledge card can be mailed to New Hope.

Thank you for your generosity,

Tom LaVanne

Stewardship Chairperson

Forward with Thanksgiving

The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service to others. *Mahatma Gandhi*



In grateful thanks to God, I/we give generously of our time, talents and treasures so others can experience God's love through the ministries of this church.

My/Our financial commitment for 2022 will be:

Amount \$ _____ week / month / year (please circle one)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me information about electronic giving. | <input type="checkbox"/> Please provide me with information on New Hope's Endowment Fund. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please provide me with a box of offering envelopes. | <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me information about in-kind giving (stock transfer, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to include New Hope in my estate plan. | |

Household Name _____

Phone: _____

Please return your pledge card on or before October 10, 2021.

This pledge card is seen only by the Asst. Financial Secretary, Joe Bullock.

PRAYER VENTURES

OCTOBER, 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 - Remember in prayer countries or regions where there is conflict, civil unrest or violence, especially Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Myanmar and the Middle East. Pray that God will protect and care for people who endure conflict; have been displaced from their homes and nations; suffer loss, despair, persecution or trauma; and long for peace, healing and stability. Give thanks for the work we do together through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA Witness in Society, ELCA World Hunger and our partner organizations.

2 - Continue praying for people and communities impacted by recent hurricanes, flooding, severe weather and wildfires, and for those working to recover from natural disasters. Pray that all will find comfort, strength and hope in God's loving presence and in the response and support of caring neighbors, faith communities, disaster response volunteers, Lutheran Disaster Response, and the global community of siblings in Christ.

3 - Give thanks for the teachings of Jesus that clarify God's desire for us to value, respect and accept people of all ages, genders and circumstances.

4 - Feast of Francis of Assisi (1181-1226) Pray that we will greet each day with a sense of awe, gratitude and respect for creation, for the organisms and creatures that inhabit the earth, for our pets, and for humanity in all its diversity and complexity — the handiwork of God entrusted to our care and love.

5 - Praise God for the gift of Jesus Christ — the Son of God, born as one of us and the "exact imprint of God's very being" (Hebrews 1:3) — who fulfills the promise of God's love and mercy and assures us of our salvation.

6 - Pray for ELCA congregations and our work together to serve our neighbor, share the story of Jesus, create vibrant communities of faith and reflect the radiant light of God's love, grace and justice in the world.

7 - Pray for congregational leaders, laypeople and health care professionals participating in the Addiction & Faith Conference ("Awakening Faith Communities to Address Addiction") in Bloomington, Minn., that they will be inspired and further equipped to care for people who struggle with addiction, as well as their loved ones.

8 - We should be humbled to know that God has crowned us with glory and honor, especially given how insignificant we seem in the vastness of God's creation. Give praise and thanks to God!

9 - Pray for the planning team of the 2022 Multicultural Youth Leadership Event, which precedes the ELCA Youth Gathering and focuses on youth of color. Ask God to nurture an inclusive, Spirit-inspired community, that we might celebrate our cultures together in the church, embodying equity, diversity, mutuality and oneness in Christ.

10 - Pray that the Word of God, example of Jesus and work of the Spirit will inspire, equip and guide us to be service-minded disciples bearing faith, hope, justice, peace and love into the world.

11 - Give thanks for the bounty of autumn and the people who tend crops and orchards that nourish and sustain us. Pray that we will work together year-round in our communities to help our food-insecure neighbors find convenient, consistent, affordable sources of healthy food.

12 - God, we ask you to teach us to appreciate life and see each day as an opportunity to do God's work in the world — serving our neighbor, sharing our faith and expressing our gratitude for God's steadfast love and compassion.

13 - Pray for soldiers serving in places of conflict, returning home from deployment or recovering from injuries or trauma. Give thanks for the people who attend to their well-being and daily needs, especially chaplains serving in the U.S. military and in Veterans Affairs hospitals, and congregation members providing care and support for soldiers and their families.

14 - Nothing is hidden from God, who knows our every thought, intention, desire and need. Give thanks for Jesus, the Son of God, who lived in the world with us and reassures us that, in every circumstance, God is approachable, full of grace, mercy and understanding.

15 - Give thanks for women today and throughout church history who have served as reformers and leaders, helping ground our church, institutions and ministries in the good news of Jesus Christ and the work God calls us to do in the world.

16 - Pray that the Spirit will strengthen our wisdom and skills that we might better steward our oceans, which influence weather, provide bountiful food, facilitate global trade and travel, and renew us with their beauty and power, reflecting God's creative might.

17 - Pray that, as siblings in Christ, we will encourage and assist one another in being diligent, empathetic and humble as we serve our neighbor throughout our baptismal journeys.

18 - Pray that during this lingering pandemic the Spirit will guide us to show patience, exercise flexibility and care for our neighbor's physical and spiritual well-being, and that it will inspire in us a spirit of sacrificial love and concern for one another, especially the most vulnerable.

19 - Pray for our elders, who strengthen our congregations and ministries with their experience, wisdom and passion for doing God's work in the world. Ask the Spirit to stir our creativity in reaching out to and engaging with elders who are homebound or in assisted-living facilities or senior communities.

20 - Give thanks that in Christ we have a loving, patient teacher and a clear example of how to care for our neighbors in need and pursue justice, equity and healing in the world.

21 - Give thanks that we can trust in God — our refuge, strength and hope in every circumstance.

22 - Pray for the ELCA Innovation Lab, created to help our church respond to the opportunities and challenges of introducing more people to God's grace in an ever-changing, increasingly complex world.

23 - Praise God that our salvation doesn't depend on who we are or what we do but comes to us as a gift of God's love and forgiveness through the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

24 - Pray that our faith in Jesus Christ will reassure us that God's grace, mercy and compassion can be trusted and that only God can truly transform us and make us whole.

25 - Pray for the work and ministries of our global companions during this time when we cannot accompany them in person. Give thanks that the Spirit continues to strengthen our relationships as siblings in Christ through prayer, technology, generosity, advocacy and shared resources.

26 - Give thanks for our siblings in Christ who write hymns and songs that reflect on our faith, Scripture and God's work in the world, helping us express our daily joys, sorrows and concerns.

27 - The year-round outdoor ministries and retreat centers of our church provide opportunities for spiritual growth and renewal, leadership development and ministry with youth. Pray that they will flourish as they recover from and adapt to the impact of the lingering pandemic.

28 - Praise God for the wisdom and intent of creating a wonderfully diverse humankind and world. Pray that we will respond with awe, respect and joyful thanksgiving.

29 - "The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced" (Psalm 126:3). Give joy, praise and thanksgiving to God!

30 - Pray for our neighbors who are, in increasing numbers, homeless or on the verge of becoming homeless. Give thanks for communities of faith that respond with food, shelter, clothing, social services and health care, and that work diligently to end homelessness.

31 - Reformation Day The impact of Martin Luther and other reformers has special significance for the global community of Lutheran Christians. Give thanks that we are set free by the grace and light of God to grow, change, confess our flaws and failings, and ground our church anew in the word and truth of God in Jesus Christ.

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

Dear friends,

I'd like to share with you a portion of my report to the congregation, which went out at the congregational meeting on September 26th, edited to be current.

This year I've added all sorts of duties that didn't used to be on my job description for senior ministry. I am involved in guiding, but not actually hands-on, the weekly tech rehearsal for worship. We have hired one Moorpark Community College student to help with audio production and I am the liaison between MPC and New Hope. We have also added a music technology intern to help with production.

People 65 and older (some much older) make up a large portion of our congregation. During a normal time, my work includes making hospital, rehab, assisted living and home visits as needed. Now, instead, I spend a huge amount of my time online, on Zoom meetings, and on the phone touching base with folks who need help, encouragement, prayer or just a quick visit. I'm one of two people, along with Pastor Craig, who has the ability to schedule Zoom meetings for New Hope events. Zoom is also the way I attend congregational council meetings, Tuesday morning Bible study, and Worship and Music Committee meetings. Eventually that will become a hybrid process for many meetings, and I've been involved in the technology for that. We are now having in-person livestreamed worship every week. Pastor Craig's time with New Hope will end on October 4th, and we hope to have an interim pastor in place in November. This means that worship for the rest of October will be guided by a team including Aleta Braxton, David Cohen, Tom LaVanne, Alison Rowe, and Terry Paulson. While Pastor Craig graciously provided us some guidance in that regard, we will still need to put things together for our worship leaders and tech crew on a weekly basis. I will probably be preaching more frequently, every 3-4 weeks instead of every 4-5.

I guess what I'm trying to say is that October needs to be "cut the Deacon some slack" month. Like many of you, I'm grieving the end of our time with Pastor Craig and starting to figure out how we will be blessed by others who come our way. I probably won't be as quick to return messages, emails, and texts as I have been, and more of the prayer chain requests will probably be handled by Gail McGinnis. Thank you for your understanding. Remember as the Sunday School song says, "We are the church together!"

Blessings,

Deacon Lynn



Helping those who struggle in the Conejo Valley

Dear Friends of Harbor House,

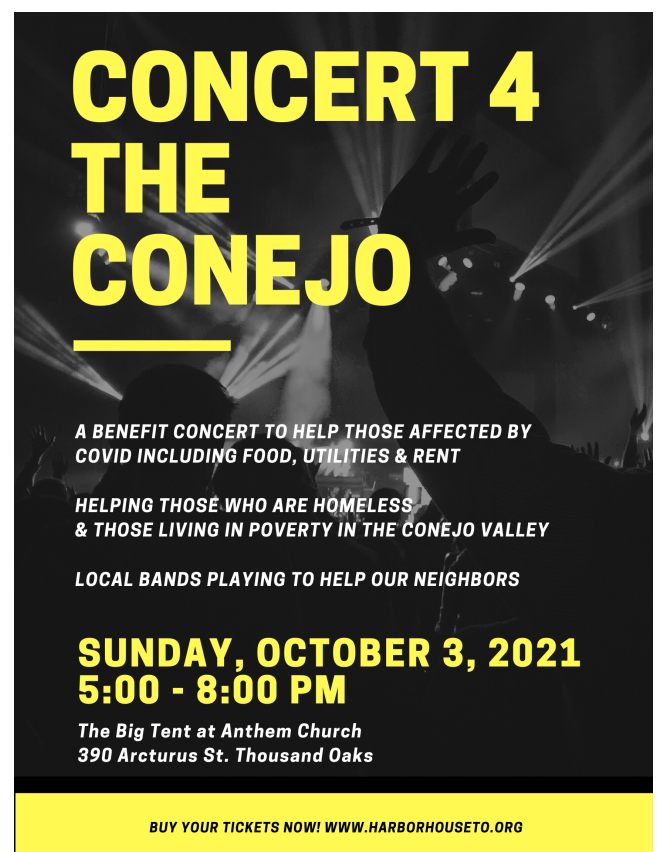
We had hoped by the Fall of 2021, we would be close to opening up our daily sit down meal program. Due to the rise of the Delta variant, we are going to be cautious and continue with our pick up program. To keep this program going, we need more people to sign up to bring lunches. We are hoping you can pick a day where you make 10 or more lunches, our sign up sheet is blank in many spots. Thank you for continuing to support this program on a daily basis. Last week we finished our 76th week of this lunch/meal program and last week we served 511 meals. Our program is open every day for anyone who needs a meal. Please help if you can.

We are also working with groups and individuals to have as many hot meals as possible during the month. In August, we had 22 hot dinners out of the 31 days which is the best we've done so far. We also have sign ups available to bring hot meals.

Besides supporting our community with meals, we are supporting our neighbors by helping with rent and utility payments. We have many people hard hit by Covid who need the help so they can remain housed with their lights on. To further support this work, we will be having a fundraiser on October 3. We hope you can join us for our first Concert 4 the Conejo. We will be outdoors and we hope you can join us for some music, fun and food.

Thank you to everyone who has helped us as work through the pandemic and continue to help our most vulnerable people. I am awed every day by the generosity of spirit that lives here in the Conejo Valley. Without you, Harbor House would not be able to do our work.

Sheri Groenveld
Operations Director
harborhouseto.org



CHRISTMAS GREENERY

It's that time of year to order your greenery. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE talk to your neighbors, friends and co-workers and encourage them to send direct delivery gifts. Everyone has a special person who is difficult to shop for and they will love receiving a fresh green wreath or other decoration that fill their home with the aroma of Christmas. The direct delivery gifts are a great idea for companies to send to their clients. It's a special way to say "THANKS." Be sure and make this unique opportunity known to all who like to have beautiful fragrant and REAL Christmas greenery surround them at the holidays. And don't forget to order greenery for your own home too! The greenery will arrive shortly after Thanksgiving. You can order greenery from Gail McGinnis after worship services on October 24th, 31st, and November 7th, email (gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com) or call me at 805-523-7884 and I will be happy to take your order. If your order will be going to the same people you have sent to in the past, I have all your info on the computer so make it easy on yourself. Checks can be made payable to New Hope Lutheran Church, just be sure to mark it for "greenery." The prices and pictures of greenery are below. There is no charge for delivery, but we do have to pay sales tax and that will be added on to the price of your greenery order. All orders are due to me no later than November 8th.



HOLIDAY GREENERY

22" Mixed Evergreen Gift Wreath - \$36

2 - 10' Western Cedar Gift Garland - \$43

Gift Centerpiece with LED Candle - \$33

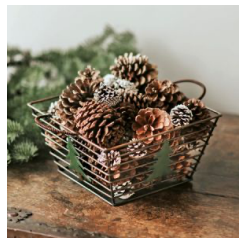
Noble Fir Gift Door Swag - \$38

28" Mixed Evergreen Gift Wreath - \$41

Rustic Pine Cone Gift Basket - \$31

Evergreen Gift Set - \$67

NEW - Reindeer and Sleigh Gift Set - \$25





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

Continued prayers of healing for Barbara Artinian, Floyd Bealer, Irene Bright, Elisabeth Brown, Evelyn Colby, Matt and Sandy Cowden, Steve Frye, Lyla Grant, Bob Green, Sandy Hansen, Del Hultgren, Sue Koons, Hans Kunz, Joyce Lawson, Reeta Leland, Jorgen Makitalo, Cheryl Merrill, Kathryn Murray, Debbie Niebolt, Ava Grace O'Connell, Cindy O'Hare, Karen Orefice, Ahoo Pilehvari, Sharon Pryor, Wayne Rickert, Nina Rose Sawaya, Madelyn and Stan Swope, Jane Taschereau, Rose Topliss, Fred Turner, Britt Tsumpes and Ralph Zbrog.

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.



Please let Marsha Chew know if you're able to be on a call list for a Thousand Oaks senior who would like rides to Sunday worship. Thank you.



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, 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, you can use this URL for the "click here" link: <https://www.newhopeagoura.org/ministries/prayer-shawl-ministry/> and it will take you to the Prayer Shawl Request form.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have a wonderful new audio-visual system and sound board! We are so excited to show it off! We are STILL in need of volunteers who would assist us with Sunday worship. Each week during the mid-week and again on Sunday morning at 9 AM the worship team (musicians, Deacon, and key volunteers) rehearse Sunday worship. We would like to invite you to be a part of the exciting endeavor of worship leadership. We can and will train you for the work as slide editor/advancer, sound director, and VMix director. Currently a small group (Calvin Beeker, Laurie Scott, and Terry Paulson) serve in those capacities. You can certainly learn it and the worshipping community needs your help! If you're interested, call or email Terry Paulson or Calvin Beeker.



Social Ministry

As we head into Fall, I would like to thank all of you who have continued to provide food and supplies for our Social Ministry Partners. We have a team of folks who have prepared lunches faithfully for many years through thick and thin, helping LSS feed those who are in need. We are now back to our 3rd Monday of the month hot meal program for Harbor House.

It is still necessary to prepare individual portions for "take away" as the meal service/shelter is not able to return yet to regular operation. We are fondly known as the "chicken pot pie church" as we have been heating and providing this entree for months. It is very much appreciated and loved by those picking up their hot dinner. Manna has continued to receive donations as they are collected at church.

I wish to thank each of you who have been so faithful to stay committed to social ministry outreach as we all negotiate these interesting times!

Blessings,
Merylee Blair



Pledge Updates

Third Quarter 2021 giving statements will be distributed this month, either in person, by email, or by mail. Please contact Joe Bulock (Asst. Financial Secretary) if you have any questions after reviewing these statements.



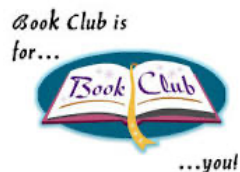
MANNA FOOD PANTRY

Food can now be brought to church to be donated. Look for the MANNA box in the narthex. If you would like to make a donation in person to MANNA, they are located at 3020 Crescent Way, Thousand Oaks 91362.

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

Top Priority Items:

1. Baking Items – cookie/cake mixes
2. Canned Spaghetti
3. Pasta Sauce (Canned)
4. Ramen/Noodles
5. Canned Stew/Chili
6. Hamburger Helper
7. Kidney Beans
8. Flavored Rice
9. Jam/Jelly
10. Condiments



The daytime Book Club will meet at 11:45 AM on Zoom on Tuesday, October 5th to discuss "A Door in the Earth" by Amy Waldman. Please join us if you can. The future books we are reading are....

November 2nd - "The Weight of a Piano" by Chris Cander

December 7th - "The Dearly Beloved" by Cara Wall



New Hope Mission Endowment Fund 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 \$10,000 for grants to be disbursed in 2021-2022, and is now accepting applications for those grants until November 30th. We will consider proposals that support 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 a contact at your charity to complete a Grant Distribution Request form found on our website. 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 to enhance our ministries in the surrounding communities and around the globe.

The Endowment Committee



Habitat for Humanity

You are invited to a first-ever Interfaith Build on either Friday, October 22d or Saturday, October 23rd from 8 AM to 2:30 PM at a construction site in Port Hueneme.

It is in partnership with Team Rubicon, a nonprofit organization that mobilizes veterans to help people prepare, respond, and recover from disasters and humanitarian crises. The build will join people from different backgrounds and faiths to put aside differences, build homes, and celebrate inclusion and diversity within our community. Volunteers will provide helping hands on the five-home site in Port Hueneme. They are partnering with 5 hardworking, local families, who are building their future homes alongside volunteers. No experience needed. Habitat staff and Crew Leads will train you and provide tools and safety equipment. Food will be provided.

Spots are limited to five volunteers from each place of worship and they fill up quickly so RSVP by responding to this email as soon as you can! Volunteers must be aged 16 and above. No cost to participate.

Katie Norris
Katie@habitatventura.org



Heavenly Hiking Fellowship

Experts say that being in nature can **boost your mood** and improve **mental health**.

Join us 7-8:30a.m.
Tuesdays and Saturdays

There is much to discover
on our local trails.



These hikes include amazing trails with beautiful views and are easy enough for kids, but still fun for adults. If you would like to join us, email Terry Paulson,

terry@terrypaulson.com

You will receive regular emails with details on our next hike where we will meet.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YouTube CHANNEL

Our subscribers are notified whenever New Hope posts a worship video or starts a live-stream service.

Click link to subscribe:

<https://www.youtube.com/newhopeagoura>

WAYS to GIVE

Thank you
for supporting
the work
of

newhope
Lutheran Church



In Person

offering plate
available at all
in-person worship
services.



By Mail

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



Online

Secure Giving through
our website using the
PayPal donate option
NewHopeAgoura.org



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

Join us for our weekly Bible Studies

Dig deeper into God's word with friends

for more information on our bible studies

visit our website at <https://www.newhopeagoura.org/upcoming-events/>



TheWiredWORD™ 

Adult Bible Study & Discussion

Weekly Study material and our zoom link is available on our website

Join us online each Sunday at 7p.m. as we look at current events through the lens of scripture.





Women's
BIBLE STUDY

We meet online, Monday at 10a.m.



Tuesday Morning
Bible Study and Fellowship
Join us online at 10a.m.



Everyone is welcome to participate





Bible Study & Fellowship

MEN
OF NEW HOPE

Join us in the church library or by ZOOM –
Thursdays, 7:30 a.m.



Let us help you recognize your special
event or someone special

To request an altar flower arrangement:
go to our website's **GIVING** menu, select
ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS and complete the
form, or contact the church office

Your personal message will be included in our
worship service announcements and the
arrangement is yours to take following our service.



Is accepting applications for grants, now
through November 30, 2021

Visit our website homepage
for details

Proposals from any non-profit supporting
religious, charitable or educational projects
will be considered.

You are not alone

How can we pray for
you today?

Whether you seek
prayer for yourself or a
loved one, we would
like to stand with you.

Share your prayer request through our website:
www.NewHopeAgoura.org/PRAYER-REQUEST
or contact the church office.



October Birthdays

- 1 Cheri Ash
- 3 Chuck Kemmerer
- 10 Reid Powledge
- 11 Nancy Rowe
- 14 Kathy Rogers
- 15 Mary Ann Fiore
- 17 Darlene Daigle
- 23 Terry Paulson
- 26 Charles and Joseph
Fitzgerald
- 29 John Bell



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. You may drop these items off in the box in the narthex.

The deadline for all articles for the November newsletter is October 25th. Be sure to email them to gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com.

New 2022 Council Members

- * **Natalie Larkin** - Faith Formation
- * **Gary McGinnis** - Facilities
- * **Merylee Blair** - Social Ministry
- * **Alison Rowe** - VP and Staff Ministry
- * **Chuck Titcomb** - Development
- * **Mary Gallagher** - Secretary and Evangelism
- * **Robin Martin** - Worship and Music
- * **Leila Mader** - Fellowship
- * **Ann Ashamallah** - Stewardship
- * **John Bell** - Treasurer and Finance
- * **Tom LaVanne** - President and Lay Ministry

Outgoing Council members are Brian Gibbons and Jim Merrill.

THANKS for all your years of service to the Council and congregation.

New Hope Lutheran Church
29295 Agoura Road
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
818-889-8700
www.NewHopeAgoura.org

