

newhope news

Lutheran Church - Agoura Hills

May, 2022

Happy Easter. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Easter coincides with the first glimpse of spring bursting out all over. That is unless you are in Minot, North Dakota where, during Holy Week, they had a total of 24 inches of snow and were compelled to cancel Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday Services. Uggh.

Here in the west the poppies are popping out. The Calla lilies are in full bloom. Roses are radiant in color. This abundance of growth and color is the evidence that the season has changed.

In the life of the church we have moved out of Lent with its more somber and reflective tones and into the season of Easter, full of color and resounding with 'Alleluia'. The sound of the Alleluia is a clear reminder that there is forgiveness, mercy, and hope. All of these manifest themselves in the way we speak to each other, care for each other, and share a common concern for one another.

Alleluia is the announcement that because of Jesus' death and resurrection life is different. Alleluia is the singular word that we are different.

Blessed be your Easter.

Pastor Scott



From The Deacon

New Hope: Where We Are Now

By the time you read this we will be nearly seven months into the journey of seeking a new pastor. So far in the journey:

- New Hope has a transition coach, Pastor Nancy Switzler of Oxnard, who has been trained to lead us through the process and has met with congregational leaders several times.
- After a few starts and stops, we welcomed our Interim Minister, Pastor Scott Maxwell-Doherty in late January. His job is to preach, help plan worship, and help walk us through the work of figuring out who we are as a congregation and who we want to be.
- A Transition Team has been formed to do that “figuring out” work. They have two main jobs: create and finalize a multi-page Ministry Site Profile using forms from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and recruit and equip a 7-9 person Call Committee.
- Transition Team is working on both of those jobs. You were asked on Palm Sunday to fill out some information about your thoughts on what kind of ministry the church needs moving toward the future. Those sheets were collected and used to create part of the congregation’s site profile.
- Call Committee members are being recruited and they will begin their work before the end of May. Once the full committee is formed their names will be shared with you.

Meanwhile, continue to pray for New Hope’s leaders, and especially for the person out there somewhere that the Holy Spirit is preparing to be New Hope’s next pastor.

Blessings,

Deacon Lynn





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

Bonnie Bell and family on the death of her mom, Irene Bright.

Gary McGinnis is recovering from back surgery.

Matt Cowden has been in the hospital with pneumonia and other health issues.

Continued prayers of healing for Barbara Artinian, Floyd Bealer, Evelyn Colby, Sandy Cowden, Steve Frye, Lyla Grant, Eilene and Bob Green, Sandy Hansen, Kara Henkel, Joyce Lawson, 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, Dutch Schulze, Madelyn and Stan Swope, Jane Taschereau, Rose Topliss, Susie and Fred Turner, Britt Tsumpes.

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



New Members

We welcomed the following new members to New Hope on April 10th. Be sure to update your church directory with their information.

Bonnie Northcott
2771 Lakeridge Lane
Westlake Village 91361
805-374-2815
bonniehurricane@msn.com

Jeffrey Rausch
31569 Lindero Canyon Road #8
Westlake Village 91361
818-917-9199
Rauschjk@gmail.com

Burnis and Karen Reed
2626 Calle Manzano
Thousand Oaks 91360
burnache1@aol.com - Burnis
kreed0753@gmail.com - Karen
805-405-8378 - Burnis
805-405-0518 - Karen



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.

Our next prayer shawl meeting is on Sunday, May 1st at 9:15 AM in the Amplify Room.

Graduates



We would like to recognize our 2022 high school and college graduates in next month's newsletter. Please send the graduate's name, where they are graduating from and their future plans by the next newsletter deadline, which is May 24th. The

information can be emailed to gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com.



May Social Ministry

Happy 50th Anniversary New Hope Family! A half century of this incredible congregation and much more to come.

Laundry Love is here! We are officially partners with Church of the Epiphany, Oak Park, in beginning our first Laundrylove in Thousand Oaks! Once a month, 10 single mothers will be able to do 4 loads of laundry each plus drying with money we provide on property. Soap is courtesy of a corporate donor. These women are vetted through Harbor House and New Hope/Epiphany alternate months supervising. Laundrylove is a 501c3 charity nationwide. How to Help: Quarters, Quarters, Quarters Please! I will have a container available on Sundays for quarters. If you bank or market locally, obtaining rolls of quarters would be fantastic! Our cost is \$200 monthly. It costs between \$10-12 per load for these women to do clothing. Many just don't wash routinely because they need that money for food or utilities. Please help us launch this wonderful program. Clean clothes make a huge difference in self esteem, especially for children! As always...Thank You for your generosity.

Blessings,
Merylee Blair

"Your prayers are working. They're either changing your situation, or they're changing you. Don't stop."

- Guideposts

NEW SMALL GROUPS

Several topical small groups of 10 -12 people are starting in May. Each group is open to anyone interested in participating. Sign up after worship, online, or with the facilitator. Contact the group facilitator for more information. If a topic interests you but the meeting time doesn't work, please let the facilitators know. If there is enough interest, another group may be started.

Sermon Seeds

This group will nurture and grow the messages from the weekly Gospel reading and the Sunday Sermon. You will explore thought provoking questions and apply them to current events and personal life experiences. Sermon Seeds will meet at the Fiore home on Wednesdays beginning May 11th from 10:30 AM -12 noon. A light lunch will be provided after the session.

Facilitated by Mary Ann Fiore (805-559-4380, thefiores@hotmail.com) and Mary Gallagher (818-464-6646, marygallagher@yahoo.com)

Taste of Grace

Do you want to deepen your relationship with God and others? This group will emphasize ways to experience the presence of God in a variety of spiritual practices. You will get a 'taste' of different and perhaps new ways to relate to the Divine. Contemplative practices will include Centering Prayer, Lectio Divino, walking the labyrinth, mindfulness, and the Daily Examen. The group will meet twice a month on Thursday or Friday for 90 minutes, beginning at 2 or 4 PM (the group will decide)

Facilitated by Natalie Larkin (805-816-3261, natalielarkin55@gmail.com) and Marsha Chew (805-501-9826, chewscmc@gmail.com)

Social Ministry

The Bible says we are to care for our neighbors and those in need. This small group will study the Biblical call to serve, and learn about the needs in our community and the groups who are trying to help. The group will also actively engage in a service project at least quarterly. The group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 1:30 - 3 PM, beginning May 11th.

Facilitated by Karen Ingram (805-390-9298, ksuingram@earthlink.net) and Lynn Bullock (805-405-5453, lynn@newhopeagoura.com)

Get to Know the ELCA

Do you want to learn more about the church body to which New Hope Lutheran belongs? This group will explore the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), it's structure, ministry, and social statements. Reading will be done outside of the small group, which will meet once a month for 90 minutes for discussion. Participants will decide the meeting day, time and format (Zoom, in person or hybrid).



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.



Whether you are joining our worship service online or in-person, your worship bulletin is just a click away on your phone or other device.

A link is included in our **Weekly Connection Newsletter** and is also available on our website homepage at:

www.NewHopeAgoura.org



You are not alone!

How can we pray for you today?

Prayer requests can be shared through our website and by contacting the church office:
818.889.8700

www.NewHopeAgoura.org **PRAYER-REQUEST**

New Hope in the New Year

New Member Class

You are invited to become a member of New Hope Church. It's an easy process of attending a class to receive information about the history of our church and our mission for the future. Interested? Sign up on our website or contact Laurie Scott by email to: laurie@newhopeagoura.com.

Our New Member class will be scheduled as the COVID-19 risk improves.

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

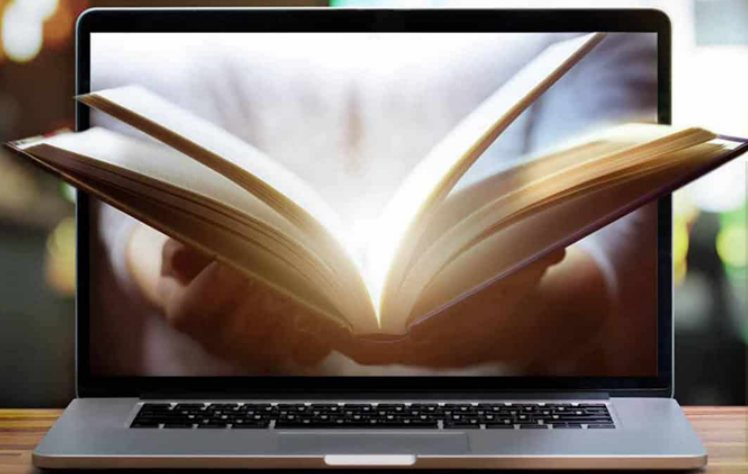
*A Celebration
of Life
for
Irene Bright*

New Hope Lutheran Church
Saturday, April 30 - 11a.m.



Please join us this Saturday in the Sanctuary of New Hope Lutheran Church as we celebrate the life of Irene Bright. A reception will be held in the Social Hall following the service.

Join us for our weekly online Bible Studies
Dig deeper in God's word with friends



See the weekly
schedule on our
website/ EVENTS
CALENDAR



NATIONAL DAY of PRAYER

YMCA
Prayer
Breakfast -
May 5th
CLU Campus

Attend as a guest of New Hope.

Limited seating available.

Tap button to reserved your seat.



JOIN US FOR
COMMUNITY
BEAUTIFICATION!



COMMUNITY SERVICE DAYS!

A volunteer-based Community Event

DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 7TH

TIME: CHECK-IN 8:30

EVENT 9 AM-12 NOON

WHERE: CHUMASH PARK

PROJECTS:

1. MEDEA CREEK CLEAN-UP
2. STAIN EQUESTRIAN CENTER
3. STAIN DRIVER TRAIL RAIL
4. CHUMASH PARK PLANTING
5. MILKWEED PLANTING

Sign up today at www.agourahillscity.org/csd
For questions email agourahillsrec@agourahillscity.org
or call 818-597-7361.

1942-2022
40
YEARS OF
AGOURA HILLS

Save the date:
May 7, 2022

New Hope Church
will be participating
in this community
event. More details
to come soon!

Donations Needed for Refugee Families

Women's Interfaith Network (WIN) of Conejo Valley invites you to join us on



Sat, May 21st at 11:00 am

Hosted at

Islamic Center of Conejo Valley
2700 Borchard Rd, Newbury Park



In support of **Conejo Interfaith Refugee Team (CIRT)**

To learn more about Conejo Interfaith Refugee Team, visit:

<https://www.justserve.org/projects/8c5f9dd9-af4d-474f-b2d5-5108831593a3>

Sign up here for specific donations and to volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BADAB2BA7FCC16-welcome>

(CIRT requests that all items be purchased new.)

Please bring all donations on Sat, May 21. Join us to sort and package collected items into refugee welcome kits.

For more information, email iccvinterfaith@gmail.com.



May Birthdays

- 2 Susie Turner
- 11 Evelyn Colby
- 13 Steve Chew
- 19 Rose Topliss
- 23 Burnis Reed
- 26 Linda Leland
- 27 Chuck Titcomb



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? It's a WIN/WIN! You can let Kathy Rogers know what you would like to order by emailing her at kathleen.rgrs@gmail.com. You can also request a list of the hundreds of gift cards that can be special purchased through New Hope for giving. She will send to you the list via email for you to see what could be ordered.

Contact Kathy Rogers for more information - kathleen.rgrs@gmail.com

The deadline for all articles for the June newsletter is May 23rd. Be sure to email them to gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com.

The daytime Book Club will meet at 11:30 AM on Zoom on Tuesday, May 3rd to discuss "The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig. Please join us if you can. The future books we are reading are....

June 7th - "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger

July 5th - "The Phone Booth at the Edge of the World" by Laura Imai Messina

Women's Interfaith Network

New donations will be collected at church for refugee families. (See the flyer on the above page.) More information will be available in the Friday email as to what is needed.

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

