

# newhope *news*

***Lutheran Church - Agoura Hills***

**September, 2025**

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“Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.”  
(Romans 12:9-16)

“Let love be genuine.” That is an interesting statement because it implies that love can also be fake. The word “love” can be something just held on the surface. It can be a facade, or a window dressing, used to hide what is truly underneath. It can be a veneer used to trick or deceive. We can say we have love, but that does not mean that we actually follow through with it. Love can be fake. What does it mean to have a genuine love?

A true love cares for the well-being of others, whoever they may be. Paul, who writes this letter to the church in Rome, tells his fellow Christians to extend hospitality to strangers and associate with the lowly. He calls them to love the people who were normally ignored or excluded. For a society built on a system of honor and reputation, this would have been a hard idea to accept. But Paul, guided by the path of Jesus, reminds us that we are called to love the people who need it most.

Who are the people most in need of love today? Which people are excluded or ignored? Where is compassion needed the most? These are the places you are called to love, and this is what it means for love to be genuine. It is a love that serves others.

You are loved by the Lord, and you are sent out to be a beacon of that grace. With a genuine love, you can be the presence of Christ in the world. Wherever you see a need for love, let it shine!

Peace,  
*Pastor Steve Simpson*



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

Jim Olmstead passed away this morning. Prayers of comfort for Renee and family.

Continued prayers of healing for Joe Bulock, Steve Chew, Sandy Cowden, Mariella Edgar, Joy Elazary, Mary Ann and Lou Fiore, Suzie Frye, Lyla Grant, Kara Henkel, Vi and Chuck Kemmerer, Joyce Lawson, Dorr and Joan Looman, Elinor Martin, Jim and Cheryl Merrill, Katie Murray, Karen Reed, Phyllis and Wayne Rickert, Madeline Swope, Jane Taschereau and the Shaver family.

Prayers for our servicemen - Heather Brown, Keith Brown, Farrah Hayden, and Ikenna Olelewe.



## The Piecemakers

The Piecemakers are working towards matching last year's quilt count for the quilt pick up in October. Last year we donated 44 quilts and so far we are up to 35 quilts made this year to date. We really appreciate all the fabric contributions from members and friends that have been brought into the church. We still purchase the batting, other notions, and shipping costs that we need to complete the quilts, so if you feel so inclined, we'd love your donations.

The Piecemakers,

Kathy Rogers, Gail McGinnis, Bonnie Bell, Bonnie Schulz, Ardy Tamburro, Holly Dolliver, Alison Rowe, and Lorie Paulson

## Social Justice Small Group

The Social Justice Small Group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month from 2-3 PM. If you would like a safe place to discuss issues of social justice and how to respond to God's call to care for each other, you are welcome to join. Please contact Karen Ingram to receive the link.



Summer is over and children's Sunday School resumes on September 14th. Classes will be held on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. We are using the Spark Children's Bible this year to share Bible stories and will be learning some songs. All children are welcome! Returning teachers are Gaye Khan, Lorie Paulson, Ardy Tamburro, and Karen Ingram.



## LWR Hygiene Kits

Sunday, September 7th is God's Work Our Hands day in the ELCA. We are again assembling 200 personal hygiene kits for Lutheran World Relief. Please join us in the youth room following worship. Volunteers will receive a Thrivent tee-shirt for helping. Everyone welcome!



## Supper's 8

Supper's 8 started up again and all that have attended enjoyed themselves and had a delicious meal. We will be meeting again soon. If you didn't sign up and would like to join us, it's not too late. Let Gail McGinnis know ([gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com](mailto:gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com)) and she will add you to the list. We'd love to have more adults join us.



# NewHope Kids

bring your backpacks to church on  
September 7<sup>th</sup> for a special  
**Backpack Blessing**



God's work. Our Hands.  
Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> 11:15a.m.

Help us assemble Personal Care  
Kits for Lutheran World Relief.



PERSONAL CARE KITS



**Prayer Gathering Scheduling update** – due to Labor Day falling on the first Monday of September, we will not hold our monthly prayer gathering in September. We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday, October 6th.

The Monthly Prayer Gathering is a time set apart for prayer — You're invited to pray in a small group or spend personal time with the Lord, bringing to Him whatever is on your heart. Printed prayers, books on prayer, and topic suggestions will be available to guide and inspire you. These include prayers for the world, our nation, those in need, healing, employment, peace, and more. Join us, won't you? All Are Welcome.





## Hot Meal Program

the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month

**Volunteer to bake & deliver  
pot pies to Holy Trinity  
church. Pies & supplies are  
provided by New Hope.**

*Sign-up Sunday in the Narthex!*



New Hope Church participates in the Harbor House Hot Meal Program by providing 50 hot chicken pot pies each month. Our New Hope volunteers bake the pies then deliver them to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on the 3rd Monday of each month, between 4:00 - 4:30 PM. In September, we will be sending out assignment requests for our 4th and last quarter of 2025 (October, November, and December). Emails to follow. Thank you to all. The frozen pies and supplies are provided by New Hope. Any questions, text Karen Reed at (805) 405-0518.

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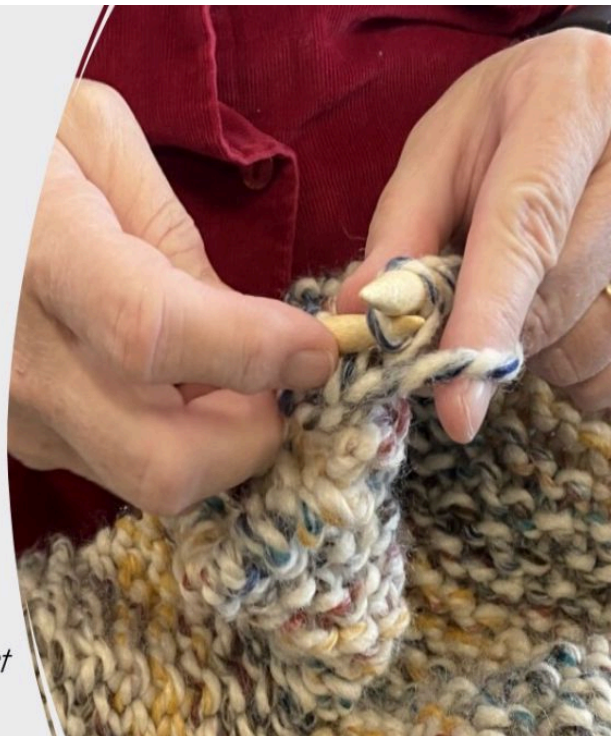
## Prayer Shawl Ministry



*knit, loom, crochet, & pray*

*Created to comfort and support those  
in need or to celebrate special events*

*For details about this ministry or to request  
a prayer shawl, [TAP HERE](#)*



**We will meet on Sunday, September 7th at 9:15 AM.**



Join us for the next  
LADIES  
CRAFT & CHAT

SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 6 10A.M-12P.M

at the home of  
**Bonnie Bell**

DRINKS are PROVIDED -  
LAST NAMES "N-Z" BRING  
SNACKS

PLEASE SEE BONNIE FOR MORE INFO



Our quilting group meets every other Thursday,  
from 9:30a.m to 1p.m.

We will meet again on August 28th

See Kathy Rogers for more information about this ministry,  
or how you can donate to the cost of materials.



PEPPERDINE

# WORSHIP

## SUMMIT

2025

Featuring



**Kari Jobe and Cody Carnes**  
Worship Artists



**United Voice Worship**  
Music Ministry



**Francis Chan**  
Author and Speaker



**WAVES WORSHIP**  
University Ministry

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025  
5 PM | MALIBU CAMPUS

A powerful evening of worship and fellowship

..... Free Food | Live Music .....



**Register Today**  
[GO.PEPPERDINE.EDU/WORSHIP25](https://go.pepperdine.edu/worship25)



**PEPPERDINE**  
UNIVERSITY





# Trauma, Health and Safety Expo

Join Los Robles Health System and local partners for a high-impact day of fun, learning and lifesaving skills as we celebrate trauma survivors and their incredible emergency response teams. From first responders to full recovery, discover how we can come together to protect our community.



For more event details and to RSVP, please call **877.888.5746** or scan the QR code.

**Saturday, September 27 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Conejo Creek North Park | Lakeside Pavilion  
1379 East Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA, 91362

Enjoy hands-on activities for all ages:

- Trauma survivor stories
- Touch-a-Truck: climb aboard emergency vehicles
- Blood drive and free health screenings
- Live hands-only CPR demos
- Car seat safety checks
- Injury and fall prevention & "stop the bleed" training
- Helmet, bike, and pedestrian safety initiatives
- Food trucks, and more!



newHope  
Lutheran  
Church

Helping neighbors in  
our community have  
**clean laundry**



*Drop your quarters in the Laundry Love jar!*

The cost of washing is \$2.50 for small loads and up to \$6.50 for large washers. Drying time is \$.25 per 5 minutes.

God bless you for your prayers and continued support of Laundry Love, helping the needy in our community! Volunteers are also appreciated! See Burnis Reed for more information.

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### ITEMS NEEDED FOR MANNA THIS MONTH

Please place any of these "top priority items of the month" in our Manna Box in the hallway.

Canned Pasta Sauce

Canned Refried Beans

Shelf-Stable Drinks - Juice, Gatorade, etc.

Toilet Paper, Paper towels, or Tissue

Boxed Mashed Potatoes

Canned Chili

Canned meat - Chicken or Spam

Coffee, Tea or Hot cocoa

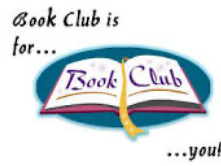
Condiments - Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Mustard, etc.

Flavored Rice - Rice-A-Roni



Manna  
CONEJO VALLEY FOOD BANK





"Life is full of beauty. Notice it. Notice the bumble bee, the small child, and the smiling faces. Smell the rain, and feel the wind. Live your life to the fullest potential, and fight for your dreams."

-Ashley Smith

## September Birthdays

- 1 Suzie Frye
- 8 Kevin Barry
- 10 Bill Speer
- 15 Kathy Ham
- 17 Moeed Khan  
Renee Olmstead
- 18 Phyllis Rickert
- 27 Lou Fiore



The daytime Book Club will meet at 11:30 AM on Zoom and/or at church on September 2nd to discuss "March" by Geraldine Brooks. The future books we are reading are...

October 7th - "All the Beauty in the World" by Patrick Bringley

November 4th - "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon

*The deadline for all articles for the October newsletter is September 25th. Be sure to email them to [gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com](mailto:gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com)*



**SAVE THE DATE  
SEPTEMBER 28TH  
Congregational Meeting  
right after church**

**New Hope Lutheran Church**  
**29295 Agoura Road**  
**Agoura Hills, CA 91301**  
**818-889-8700**  
**[www.NewHopeAgoura.org](http://www.NewHopeAgoura.org)**

