

newhope news

Lutheran Church - Agoura Hills

October 2026

“Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other, but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

There is a good chance that you have heard these verses before at a wedding. It is about love's power to support and comfort. It is a wonderful thing! But this little passage is actually about more than romantic love. It is meant to be about the love of a community. It is not just two strands woven together; it could be three or even more.

You've seen this before. It is when a family comes together for a meal. It is when friends gather to support each other. It is when a church worships on a Sunday morning. There is a power in simply being together. We were not made to be a single strand. God weaves other people into the tapestry of our lives.

Our theme for our stewardship campaign this year is “Woven Together.” Over the past year, I have been amazed by the community here at New Hope. We have opened our doors to numerous support groups where people can heal. We have shared countless smiles and hugs on Sunday mornings. We've learned and grown in our many small groups. We've supported each other during moments of grief. To say it simply: your stewardship is about so much more than “keeping the lights on.” Your stewardship makes this community happen.

The book of Ecclesiastes deals with some hard issues. It wrestles with questions of pain and injustice. But even in the face of all of that, the author still finds hope in the community. God has woven us together. You are loved and supported here at New Hope, and now we love one another.

We will be talking more about stewardship during the first three Sundays in October, but for now, I simply wish to thank you all. Thank you for your faithful stewardship and for being a part of this family. You are a blessing.

Peace,
Pastor Steve Simpson





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

Continued prayers of healing for Joe Bulock, Marsha Chew and family, Sandy Cowden, Mariella Edgar, Mary Ann Fiore and family, the family and friends of Chris Fisher, Suzie Frye, Ben Henkel, Vi and Chuck Kemmerer, Beverly Larkin, Joyce Lawson, Joan and Dorr Looman, Elinor Martin, Jim and Cheryl Merrill, Katie Murray, Renee Olmstead, Karen Reed, Wayne Rickert, Madeline Swope, Don Tamburro, Jane and Rob Taschereau, and Jim Valestrino.

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



God's Work Our Hands

Thanks to everyone who participated in our 'God's Work Our Hands' service day on September 13th. We assembled 50 birthday cake kits for MANNA and 50 welcome baskets for Many Mansions in a record 25 minutes! Many hands really do make light work...and fast, too! Thanks to everyone who helped.



Bread Breakers

We had 7 people at our September Bread Breakers lunch. We invite you to join us on October 15th at 11:30 AM at Mendocino

Farms (966 S. Westlake Boulevard in Westlake Village) for a delicious meal. Feel free to bring a friend. For more information, contact Karen Ingram.



The Social Justice Small Group will meet by Zoom on October 14th and 28th from 2-3 PM. This is a safe place to discuss issues of social justice and how to respond to God's call to care for each other. Please contact Karen Ingram to receive the link.

Congregational Meeting Highlights

* A slate of candidates for Council was elected. Sue Poulson will join Council and Gail McGinnis and Burnis Reed will start their second terms in January. Ernie Salmon will begin his first official term after being appointed to Council this summer.

* The congregation approved the proposed Amended Constitution. It will be forwarded to the Synod for their comments and may come back for another vote in January.

Financial Update

Thank you for your continued generosity in 2026! Your giving through August amounted to \$276,850. Our expenditures were \$259,489. Both donations and spending are tracking with the budget, and we still anticipate a deficit at the end of the year. We will be distributing 3rd quarter giving statements this month.

Thrivent Choice Giving

Thank you to everyone that designated New Hope as the recipient for Thrivent Choice gifts, over \$4,000 has been directed to the church. One still has time to designate such funds to have funds donated before year's end.



Council 2027

Linda Barry

Joe Bulock

Mary Ann Fiore

Karen Ingram

Gaye Khan

Gail McGinnis

Sue Poulson

Burnis Reed

Ernie Salmon

Dutch Schulze

Pastor Steve

Departed Council members are John Bell and Natalie Larkin. Thanks for all your years of service to the Council and congregation.

OCTOBER IS CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH. LET'S ALL BE IN PRAYER FOR PASTOR STEVE THIS MONTH AND EVERY MONTH.



Join us for
the next

LADIES CRAFT & CHAT



SATURDAY - OCTOBER 3RD

10AM - 12PM

at the home of

Ardy
Tamburro

PLEASE SEE ARDY FOR MORE INFO

LAST NAMES "A-M"
BRING SNACKS

- drinks are
provided -

Prayer Shawl Ministry

knit,
crochet,
loom &
pray

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

We meet in the sewing room the first
Sunday of the month at 9:15a.m.

Join us next time, October 4th

For details about this ministry or to request a
prayer shawl, [tap here](#)



The Piecemakers

The ladies of Piecemakers have been very busy this year. As of today, 54 quilts with more to come before the Blessing of the Quilts during the worship service on October 11th have been made. Each year we've had a greater number of quilts being sent than in years past. We are proud of all of our accomplishments. Most of our quilts have been machine quilted, but we have a few that need ties put in. On October 4th we will have a couple to tie and we'd love to have congregational participation. It's such a wonderful experience knowing that our quilts will go out into the world to help comfort other people. If you would like to help by contributing to help pay for our batting that is used in each quilt and the shipping, we would really appreciate it. Each quilt costs \$9.50 in batting and \$4 for shipping. We've been very fortunate to have so many people contribute the fabric we use for the quilts. Thank you Piece Makers: Bonnie Bell, Holly Dolliver, Gail McGinnis, Lorie Paulson, Kathy Rogers, Alison Rowe, Bonnie Schulze, and Andy Tamburro.

Here are pictures of our recent layering and sewing of quilts. Our cupboards are full of quilts and soon will go out into the world.

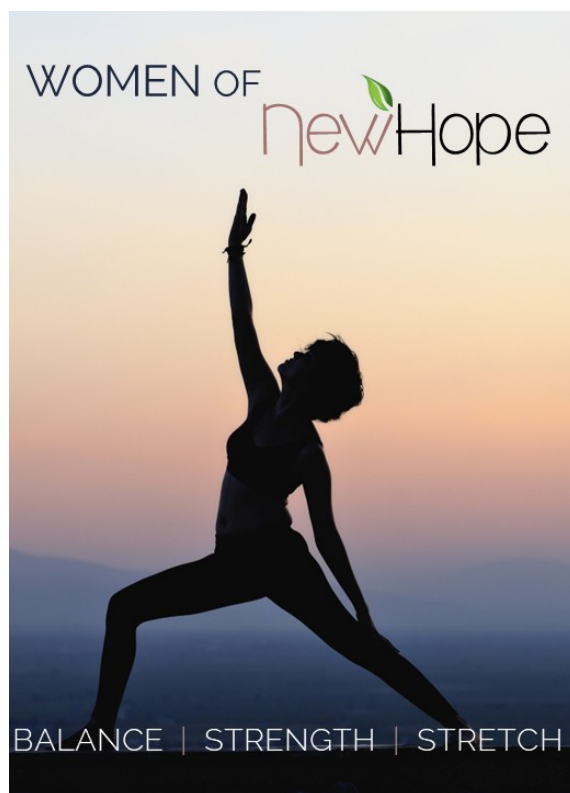




Our quilting group meets every other Thursday,
from 9:30a.m to 1p.m.

We will meet again on October 8th

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



You are all invited!

saturday exercise class

October 3rd – 9:30AM

Build muscle, tendon strength and
endurance to improve memory,
coordination and balance,
and increase flexibility.

All fitness levels welcome!

No need to sign up – come when you can.
Class tuition is \$10 weekly (cash please)

[TAP Here for more details](#)

Bring a mat, water, and \$10. We meet in the sanctuary.



The Women's Interfaith Network
is collecting

Toiletry Supplies

for
Interface Children and Family Services

Interface Children & Family Services provides mental health & trauma treatment, youth crisis & homeless services, domestic violence & child abuse prevention, human trafficking prevention & intervention, and justice services for children and adults in our community.

The Women's Interfaith Network is collecting toiletry items.

- Sign up for the items you would like to donate
- Bring them to Temple Adat Elohim (2420 E Hillcrest Dr, TO) on Thursday, October 29, 2026 between 6:30 - 7:30 pm
- Stay to help receive and sort the items (sign up required)

Sign up for the items you can donate by going to <https://bit.ly/toiletrydrive2026> or by using the QR code

Supplies needed:
(All full size bottles)

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Lotion
- Deodorant
- Body Wash
- Hair Brushes
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Amazon, Target or Walmart gift cards



Questions to: womensinterfaithnetworkcv@gmail.com



Drop your cash or coin in the Laundry Love jar!

Contact the church office for details
on other ways you can donate

*new*Hope

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.

Donate to the Altar Flower Fund

Let us recognize your special
someone or event during our
worship service announcements
and in our newsletter

Dedicate flowers online at:

[www.newHopeAgoura.org/
altar-flower-donations](http://www.newHopeAgoura.org/altar-flower-donations)





Hot Meal Program

the 3rd 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, salads, and desserts 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. Thank you to all. The frozen pies and supplies are provided by New Hope. Any questions, text Karen Reed at (805) 405-0518.

new Hope Lutheran Church

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday,
October 3rd
9 AM

We will
gather on
the patio

29295 Agoura Rd,
Agoura Hills



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

Oatmeal Packets

Cold Cereal

Canned Meat (Chicken, Spam, or Ham)

Canned Baked or Refried Beans

Condiments (Mayo, Ketchup, Mustard, etc.)

Toilet Paper or Paper Towels

Baking Items (Small bags of Flour, Cake mixes, etc.)

Canned Soup (any variety)

Personal Care Items (Soap, Deodorant, Sanitary Pads, Tampons, etc.)

Manna
CONEJO VALLEY FOOD BANK

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 fills 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 the 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 25th and November 1st and 8th, email (gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com) or call me at 805-523-7884 and I will be happy to take your order. An order form will also be in the Friday Connection. If your order will be going to the same people you have sent to in the past, I have all your information 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." Or you can Zelle the money you owe to Laurie Scott at the church. The prices and pictures of greenery are below. There is no charge for delivery. Prices include the sales tax. All orders are due to me no later than November 11th.



HOLIDAY GREENERY

22" Mixed Evergreen Gift Wreath - \$44



2 - 10' Western Cedar Gift Garland - \$55



Gift Centerpiece with LED Candle - \$44

Noble Fir Gift Door Swag - \$45

28" Mixed Evergreen Gift Wreath - \$52

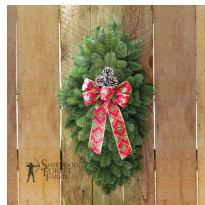


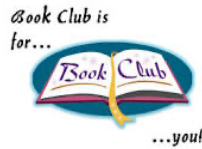
Cone Gift Basket - \$40



Evergreen Gift Set - \$82

Reindeer and Sleigh





October Birthdays

- 1 Cheri Ash
- 3 Chuck Kemmerer
- 13 Andrea Carter
- Kathy Aitkens
- 14 Kathy Rogers
- 15 Mary Ann Fiore
- 17 Darlene Daigle
- 23 Terry Paulson
- 29 John Bell



The daytime Book Club will meet at 11:30 AM on Zoom and/or at church on October 6th to discuss "How to Read a Book" by Monica Wood.

The future books we are reading are...

November 3rd - "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans

December 1st - "Wild, Dark Shore" by Charlotte McConaghy

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

Daylight saving time ends. Set your clocks back one hour on Saturday, October 31st.

"Do what you can to show you care about other people, and you will make our world a better place."

- Rosalynn Carter



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