
Great Expectations

Newsletter of New Hope Lutheran Church Columbia, MD

January 2016



POLITICAL OR PARTISAN PREACHING?

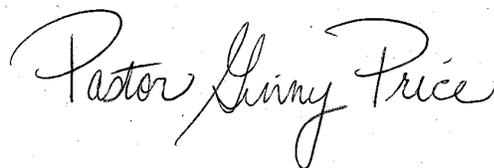
These days much of our public dialogue of opinions and beliefs are narrowly defined as partisan. *You have to be a Democrat to espouse that view! Only Republicans would say that!* Labels are quickly slapped on a particular stance and that's the end of it. There is little room for nuance or even learning about a particular position, because once the label is attached, there is no removing it. Personally, I find these partisan labels to be very constricting, inhibiting free thinking and the free exchange of ideas, often preventing the beautiful art of compromise.

But now let's complicate matters and introduce faith in the mix. One of the most common concerns through the years that I've heard expressed by people in the congregation is – "No politics in the pulpit, preacher!" Let's talk about this a bit. Politics in a broad sense is defined as 'an ethic of influencing a collective group of people for the preservation, safety and peace of the people'. Partisan on the other hand is a firm adherence to a political party, often exhibiting blind, unreasoning allegiance. It's true, partisanship doesn't have a place in the pulpit (except if you would consider extreme circumstances, i.e. Nazi Germany, where preaching against the hate of Hitler's National Socialist party was not just appropriate, but necessary – which by the way only a portion of the Lutheran church was courageous enough to do so!). So a preacher sharing the Gospel of Jesus shouldn't use the pulpit as a place to tell listeners how to vote, even if the preacher is running for office!

However, sermons *should be* deeply political, if by politics we mean the definition above. Our faith is not a private affair. That, my friends, would be how our faith informs our daily lives as a community. Jesus was very political in this sense. Our faith is not separate from what goes on in the community. In fact, our faith should positively influence the body politic, esp. being the voice of justice for the widow and orphans.

So maybe next time we hear the lessons read or a sermon on a Sunday morning, ask the question: what are the political implications of what we hear from God's Word? How is God calling us to live in our community today? Perhaps, we could challenge each other – not out of partisanship – but out of a deep care for the community in which we belong.

Peace,
Pastor Ginny



GREENER GIVING IN 2016 AND BEYOND

Historically, the Finance Team has ordered boxes of giving envelopes for each year for all members. Prior to the beginning of each calendar year, the boxes of giving envelopes are put out for pick up in the church entryway. Over time the Finance Team has found that many members choose to not use their giving envelopes. Also, at the end of each calendar year the Finance Team has recycled any remaining, unassigned sets of giving envelopes.

In an effort to be better stewards of the church's monetary resources and reduce unnecessary paper waste, the Finance Team is working to reduce the number of sets of envelopes it orders each calendar

year to those that will be used. Giving envelopes will continue to be available for all members who choose to use them.

The 2016 giving envelopes are currently available for pick up on the table in the coat room in the church entryway. If you do not want your 2016 giving envelopes, please place them in the box under the table and the Finance Team will recycle them.

For years beyond 2016, the Finance Team will be surveying members of the congregation to determine whether they want to continue using giving envelopes. Using that information, the Finance Team will purchase giving envelopes for those members who have requested them. If you have any questions about giving envelopes, please contact the Finance Team at Finance@NewHopeLutheran.org.

2016
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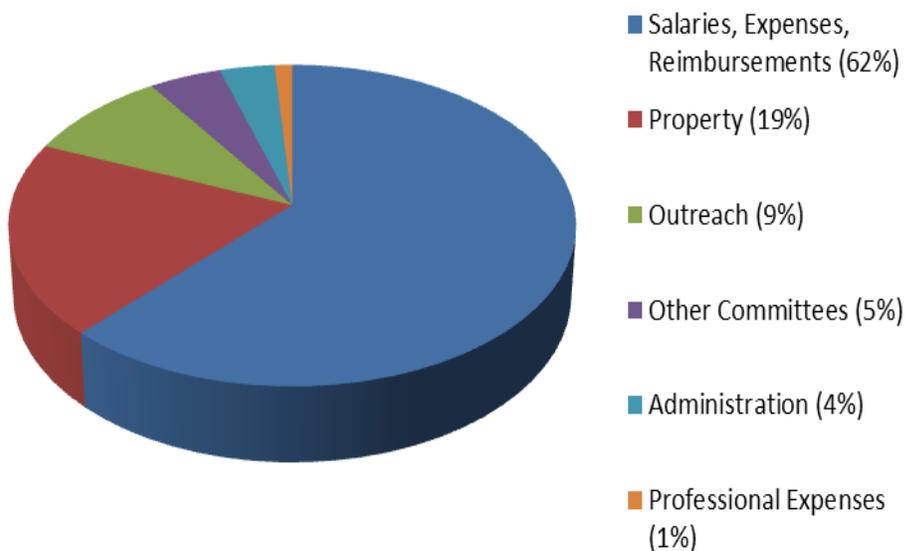
Paperless giving is also available.
Make financial contributions online with
Go to www.NewHopeLutheran.org
and click on the Simply Giving link.

2016 GENERAL FUND BUDGET APPROVED

At the November 15, 2015 annual meeting, the 2016 spending budget was approved. Total spending approved for 2016 was \$591,202 and includes a (\$24,969) faith factor. The faith factor is the shortfall between projected 2016 giving/income and projected 2016 expenses. The (\$24,969) faith factor represents about 4.2% of total 2016 expenses.

A faith factor has frequently been included as part of New Hope's approved annual budgets. However, because of the generosity of the congregation, New Hope has consistently stepped up and covered projected shortfalls between giving/income and expenses. For example, for 2015, the projected faith factor was (\$30,118) and at November 30, 2015, the faith factor has been eliminated and year-to-date actual giving/income exceeds actual expenses by \$8,834.

Here is a breakdown of projected 2016 expenses by category:



***INTRODUCING THE NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS
ELECTED AT THE NOVEMBER 2015 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING***



Larry Dadin has been a member of New Hope since 1992. He sings in the choir, plays on the church volleyball team, is a counter, is a sound technician and has served on the audit committee. Larry attends the 10:00 service with his wife Cathy.



Dennis Howser-Doty (youth rep) has been a member of New Hope since 2004. He has served at Both Baltimore stations, He has participate in the National Youth Gathering in Detroit. He has completed confirmation, first communion, and has been baptized at New Hope when he came to the US from Russia. He is currently in the Boy Scouts of American and working on his eagle advancement. He is the son of Linda Howser and David Doty, and is the brother of Julie and Evelina. He is the youth rep on council and is proud to be apart of the church as a youth.



Charles Nicholas has been a member of New Hope since 1996. Charles enjoys serving as a lector at the traditional services. He served on the church council 1994-96, as well as on two call committees. He and his wife Janice have two black cats, now about six years old.



Sharon Norris has been a member of New Hope since 2014. Sharon worked a great deal of Outreach this past year serving at the Rt. 1 Day Center, the Baltimore Station, heading up dog toy production for God's Work Our Hands Weekend and cookie making for the MLK Day of service. She is also a volunteer for her daughters Girl Scout Troop and at Trinity School. She is married to Jay and they have a daughter, Katherine.

The newly elected officers for 2016:

Charles Nicholas - President
Charlie Bailey - Vice President
Jada Garrett - Secretary
Deena Lentz - Treasurer

Thanks to everyone on council
who is willing to serve and lead the congregation in this way!

SONG OF THE MONTH

Our theme for Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) this month is reading and listening to Scripture. The song we've chosen to accompany that theme is "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil." Some of the images in its words come from a well-known parable of Jesus, sometimes called the parable of the sower. This parable is one of the stories that appears in three of the Gospels. When you get a chance, read through one of them:

- Matthew 13:1-23
- Mark 4:1-20
- Luke 8:4-15



In the parable, a farmer is planting seeds. The farmer spreads the seeds everywhere, even in places where most people would not plant them: on the road, in a patch of rocks, and in a field full of thistles. These get eaten by birds, wither for lack of water, and get crowded out. But some of the seed is spread on good soil, and it grows and flourishes and produces a hundred new grains for each one that started growing. Jesus then explains that the seeds are like God's word, and the different places the seed lands are like the different people who encounter God's word (or maybe like one person at different times).

I would like to be open to receiving and living by God's words, but there are certainly times when I know that God's not getting through because I'm not paying attention, or because I want to go my own way. This song is a prayer that God would prepare all of me ("my heart" also refers to my eyes, my ears, and my mind) so that the seeds of the Word which come to me land in "good soil." Then love and peace can grow in me, and I can share them with those around me (becoming a farmer myself!).

Growing



Faith Together

Spiritual
Practices

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

*Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your Word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow
and peace is understood.*

*When my heart is hard,
break the stone away.
When my heart is cold,
warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost,
lead me on your way.*

*Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.*

Breakfast at Route 1 - January 23

**Our day to serve breakfast at
Route 1 Day Resource Center is
Saturday, January 23, 9:30 -11:45 am.**

You must be 18 or older to serve. Food donations must be hot, ready to serve and delivered to church between 9 and 9:15 am Saturday, or delivered to the center by 9:30 am on Saturday. Sign up on the sign up board at church, or use this link to sign up online. <http://bit.ly/1YgoLoP>



**New Hope will be honoring
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr
Monday, January 18
with a morning of service projects.**

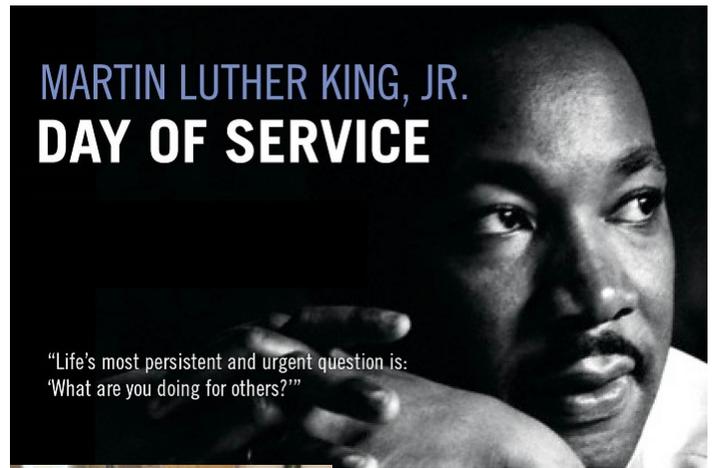
9:30 am - 12 pm

Children of all ages are welcome.

Activities to choose from:

- Tie fleece blankets for Lutheran World Relief
- Make jars of bean soup for Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
- Braid t-shirts into dog toys for local shelters
- Make winter survival bags to hand out to the homeless
- Bake cookies for local fire stations.

If you would like to help with any of these events, contact Kathy Piet,
(kampers1@verizon.net / 410-992-0645).



New Hope "Getting Busy" with Service Projects of MLK 2015



**New Hope's
2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off
to support
Bridges to Housing Stability
Sunday, January 31, 2016**

Do you have a favorite Chili recipe?

Would you like to see how yours compares to others here at New Hope?

New Hope is having their 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off after the 5th Sunday Service.

If you would like to enter your chili in the competition, contact Kathy Piet (410-992-0645 / kampers1@verizon.net).

The winner of the cook-off will represent New Hope at Bridges to Housing Stability's 6th Annual Hotter Than Thou Chili Cook-off on March 6.





Red Cross Blood Drive for New Hope

Every two seconds someone in America needs blood!!

Monday, January 18 - Friday, January 22

You can donate at any of the centers listed below.

All you have to do is click on the donor center of your choice and you will be directed to the site and its operating hours to make an appointment. The blood drive will span 5 days, which gives you more options and times to donate.

Additional blood drives (4 times this year): April 18, July 18, and November 7.

Our New Hope contact is Linda Yergey (LcYergey@gmail.com).

IMPORTANT: In order to keep track of participation...

1)Go to <http://www.redcross.org/blood> and type in the zip code of the center you wish to donate blood.

2)Send an email to Lynn Machovec, (Lynn.Machovec@RedCross.org) with the day of your appointment and the center where you are donating.

WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU TO HELP SAVE LIVES!!

Timonium Donor Center - 2405 York Rd. Ste 300, Timonium MD 21093

Columbia Donor Center - 10400 Little Patuxent Pkwy Ste 400, Columbia MD 21045

White Marsh Donor Center - 8114 Sandpiper Circle Ste 118, Nottingham MD 21236

Frederick Donor Center - 141 Thomas Johnson Dr. Ste 120, Frederick MD 21702

Glen Burnie Donor Center - 7310 Ritchie Hwy Ste 1007, Glen Burnie MD 21061

Mt. Hope Donor Center - 4700 Mt. Hope Dr, Baltimore MD 21215

Fairfax Donor Center - 2720 Prosperity Ave. Ste 200, Fairfax, VA 22031

Rockville Donor Center - 11820 Parklawn Dr Ste 510, Rockville MD 20852

E. Street Donor Center - 2025 E. Street NW, Washington DC 20006



amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.



**Are you ordering things
from the internet a lot these days?**

Don't forget to order through Amazon Smile.

**A portion of each sale
will go to the youth group.**

If you haven't signed up already, go to smile.amazon.com, choose New Hope Lutheran Church, Columbia, MD as your charity and shop!

Two important things to know:

1. There are a lot of New Hope Lutheran Churches, so be sure to keep scrolling until you reach New Hope, Columbia, MD
2. New Hope benefits from this only if you start your Amazon shopping at smile.amazon.com. For your convenience, a link to Amazon Smile is on the Home page of New Hope's Website (www.newhopelutheran.org) under Quick Links in the middle column.

Thank you for supporting the youth! ~ Cindy Ranker



Join us for *South Pacific* at Toby's!

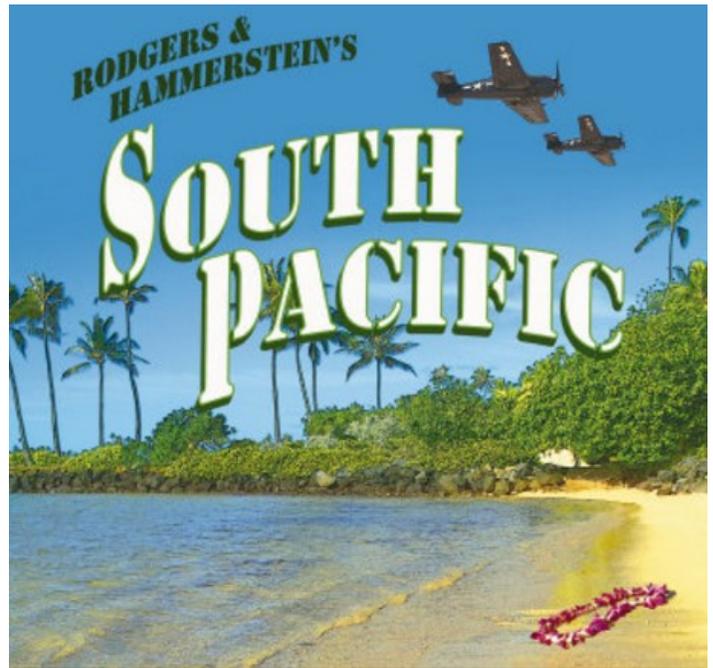
Come one, come all - families, friends, singles, couples! On **Friday, February 26**, you're invited to join a group from New Hope to see *South Pacific* at Toby's Dinner Theatre.

This Rodgers and Hammerstein classic features some of the most beautiful music ever composed for theatre. Love transcends both the harsh realities of war and social stereotypes in this sweeping tale that won a Pulitzer Prize and 10 Tonys. South Pacific features songs such as "Gonna Wash That Man Right Outa My Hair," "Some Enchanted Evening," and "Bali Hai." This lush, exotic musical tells two love stories, both filled with the passion of wartime romance and the challenge of overcoming prejudice for love.

The evening will begin with an all-you-can-eat buffet, with lots of choices to suit different tastes, served from 6:15 – 7:30 pm. The show will start at 8:00 pm, allowing plenty of time to socialize. As a group, we qualify for a special price; adult tickets are \$49.55 (more than 15% less than the regular price), and children 12 and under pay \$39.05. The ticket price includes dinner (including coffee and iced tea), show, all taxes, and tip. (Other beverages are available for purchase.)

Make reservations by filling out a form from the bulletin board in the narthex (gathering area) near the sign-up board. Place your forms and checks in the box on the organ marked "Toby's". We have a limited number of seats available, so don't wait!

Deadline for signup is Sunday, January 24!



New Hope goes to Toby's Dinner Theatre!

Shows in 2016:

South Pacific – Friday, Feb. 26

Peter Pan – Friday, April 22

Hairspray – Friday, July 29

Sister Act – Friday, October 21

A Christmas Carol –
Friday, December 30



Interested in having your
baby **baptized**?
Is your child asking
questions about
communion?

Contact:
Pastor Ginny or
Cindy Ranker





COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PRESIDING BISHOP EATON

*Our Presiding Bishop, the Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
has written an open letter to the Muslim community.
You can find the full text of the letter below.*

Dear Muslim Sisters and Brothers,

Grace and peace to you. I am writing on behalf of many Christians in this country who wish to share a word of solidarity, love and hope with you in these difficult days.

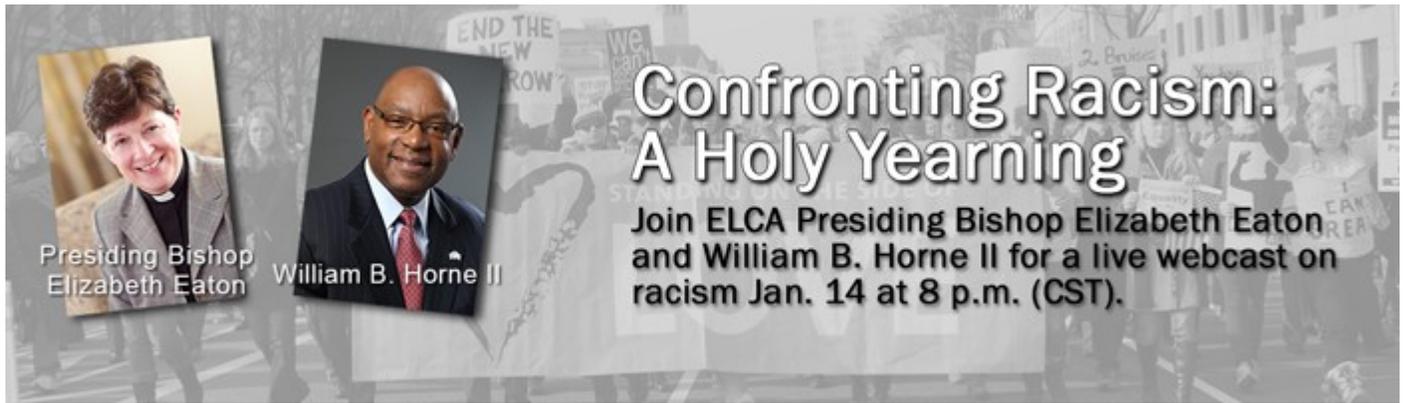
In this season of Advent, we, your Christian neighbors, are preparing to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who commanded that “you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart ... [and] you shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:30-31, NRSV).

In our love for you, our Muslim neighbors, we are distressed by the ways in which you are being forced to bear the fears held by many in our nation. Therefore, we renew our commitment to find even more effective ways to protect and defend you from words and actions that assault your safety and wellbeing. We believe God calls us to resist what is divisive, discriminatory, xenophobic, racist or violent, and we want you to look to us as allies and friends.

The global refugee and migrant crisis and the acts of terror committed in this country and around the world are challenges that demand our collective efforts and our common prayers. Therefore, we will seek to stand shoulder to shoulder with you as agents of peace, justice, understanding, welcome and reconciliation for the sake of the world that God so loves.

In this holy season, when we anticipate the light that the darkness cannot overcome (John 1:5, NRSV), we are reminded of God’s gift of life abundant for all. Together with you, we are committed to building a stronger society based on the dignity of each human being, the value of diversity, the holiness of creation and the common good. We pledge our partnership and invite our local communities into continued dialogue and engagement to this end.

In peace,
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Racism remains an enduring crisis in the United States. As Lutheran Christians, we must continue our involvement in and commitment to the important work of naming racism as a sin – a violation of God’s intention for humanity.

Please join me for another live webcast on “Confronting Racism: A Holy Yearning” – **Jan. 14 at 8 p.m. (CST), 9 p.m. (EST)**. This conversation will focus on offering a variety of perspectives on the U.S. criminal justice system. As with the previous webcast, we will continue to ground the webcast by two commitments. One is this church’s proclamation of Christ and the confidence that this good news brings to set us free from the captivity of racism. The second is this church’s enduring commitment to address the complexity of racism and end discrimination.

Joining me once again for this conversation is host William B. Horne II, an ELCA member from Clearwater, Fla. Together we welcome:

- **Judge Yolanda Tanner**, an ELCA member and an associate judge for the Baltimore City Circuit Court.
- **Leonard Duncan**, an ELCA member who will share his experience of incarceration, poverty and homelessness. Duncan is a student at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and an ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarship recipient.
- **Charlene Guiliani**, an ELCA member and former police sergeant. Guiliani is a student at Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, and an ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarship recipient.

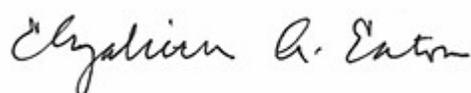
Through our church’s social statements “The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries” and “Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture,” the ELCA collectively has expressed its calling to confront racism and advocate for justice and fairness for all people. You can access these social statements at <http://www.elca.org/en/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements>. In addition, I have made several public statements on behalf of the church on the subject. Those statements are available at <http://www.elca.org/Resources/Presiding-Bishop-Messages>.

You may read more about this webcast at www.ELCA.org/webcast, where a link to the live webcast will be provided. A live stream also will be available at www.Facebook.com/Lutherans. If you would like to submit a question to be considered during the live webcast, please send it to livinglutheran@elca.org and provide your name and your congregation’s name, city and state.

Join me for this important conversation.

God's peace,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



BIRTHDAYS

3	12	23
Lance Ernst	Belinda Baggett	Jennifer Lastova
Karl Greaser	Alan Madden	24
Sarah Adams	13	Sandrine Pirard
Damien Pladna	Sophie Janne D'Othee	Amanda Frekot
4	15	25
Eric Bricker	Annetta Jones	Scott Myers
5	Sarah Brodine	Evelyn Rose
Daniel Lentz	Audrey Schwab	Jocelyn Mathews
8	16	26
Karyn Hessler	Larry Green	Roxanne Bublitz
9	17	27
Linda Hanewinckel	Ann Kukulies	Cynthy Patterson
Debbie Rizzo-Meyer	Judy Saltzer	28
Ryan Loes	Timothy Biermann	Robert Frekot
10	19	Lena Kroll
Julie Lassen	Rosemary Prola	Sylwia Krysiak-Delang
Andrew Phillips	Megan Frekot	29
Kate McFee	Tommy Myers	Bethany Tindall
11	20	Reagan Farris
Kathy Boschulte	Deepa Gazula	30
Kim Thomas	22	Todd Palmer
Kathie Bell	Lillian Brodine	31
Leila Boschulte	Shannon Nabors	John Adams
		Jhonna Seifert

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1
Ann & Alan Kukulies (85)
29
John & Donna Adams (72)
30
Bill & Mary Thomas (77)

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

1	13	<i>Additional January</i>
Pat Heady	Jack Taylor	<i>Baptisms</i>
6	16	Jane Ketchum
Paul Pinther	Andrew Baglione	Amanda Bevans
8	25	Julian Beckmann
Tom Myers	Katie Hessler	Griffin Riddler
Colton Smith	30	
9	Travis Harrington	
Brian Nabors	Linda Southworth	
10	31	
Lauren Palmer	Scott Myers	
Carly Zayac	Steven Waters	

go to www.NewHopeLutheran.org to view the most current calendar.

January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2 4p Court of Honor - Wilson 6:30p AA
3 8:30/10/11:30a Worship 12:30p Striking the Greens 6p HS Youth Group	4 5:30p GScouts 1214 7p Single Again	5 10a Staff Meeting 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal 5p Daisy Troop 7:30p Joyful Noise	6 10a NH Bible St. & Lunch 7p Tr 373 7p Real Faith/ Real Life 7p Pumplin Reh 7:30p Confirmation Parents and Students	7 1p Fellowship Bib St. 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal 5:45p Venture Crew 6:30p Handbells 6:30p Den 4 7p Den 2 7p MOHR 7:30p Choir	8 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal 6p GIFT Dinner	9 9a - 5p MSMTA Exam 6:30p AA
10 8:30/10/11:30a Worship Pie Sunday 10a Sunday School 9:15a Sarah's House Breakfast 12:30p Mathews Reception 6p HS Youth Group 7p Tr 373 PLC	11 5:30p GScouts 1214 7p Single Again 7p Pumplin Rehearsal	12 10a Staff Meeting 12:30p Pumplin Rehearsal 7p Council 7p Craft Night 7:30p Joyful Noise	13 9:30a MOMS Club 10a NH Bible St. 5:30p Confirmation 7p Bert Team 7p Tr 373 7p Pack Committee 7p Den 6 7p Pumplin Rehearsal	14 1p Fellowship Bib St. 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal 5:45p Venture Crew 6:30p Handbells 7p Den 5 7p MOHR 7:30p Choir	15 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal	16 8:30a Brownie Badge Event 6:30p AA
17 8:30/10/11:30a Worship 10 Sunday School 6p HS Youth Group 6:30p GScout 1009	18 Office Closed 9:30a MLK Day of Service 5:30p GScouts 1214 7p Single Again 7p Pumplin Rehearsal	19 10a Staff Meeting 12:30p Racial Justice 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal 5p Daisy Troop 7:30p Tr 373 & Crew 7:30p Joyful Noise	20 10a NH Bible St. 5:30p Confirmation 7p Tr 373 7:30p Stephen Min.	21 1p Fellowship Bib St. 2:30p Pumplin Reh 5:45p Venture Crew 6:30p P.Derby Set-up 6:30p Handbells 6:30p Den 4 7p Den 2 7p MOHR 7:30p Choir	22 RoadTrip - HS Youth 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal 6:30p Pinewood Derby	23 RoadTrip - HS Youth 9a Brownie Journey Day 9:30a Rt 1 Breakfast 10a Pumplin Rehearsal 6:30p AA
24 8:30/10/11:30a Worship 10a Sunday School RoadTrip - Returns 6p MS Youth Group	25 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal 5:30p GScouts 1214 7p Single Again 7p Pumplin Rehearsal	26 10a Staff Meeting 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal 7p Craft Night 7p Pumplin Rehearsal 7:30p Joyful Noise	27 10a NH Bible St. 4p Pumplin Reh 5:30p Confirmation 7p Tr 373 7p Den 6 7p Pumplin Rehl	28 1p Fellowship Bib St. 2:30p Pumplin Reh 5:45p Venture Crew 6:30p Handbells 7p MOHR 7p Den 5 7:30p Choir	29 2:30p Pumplin Rehearsal	30 9a - 5p MSMTA (Snowdate) 6:30p AA
31 5th Sun. Celebration and Chili Cook-Off 6p HS Youth Group						

MLK Jr Day of Service – Monday, January 18, 2016

Join the New Hope family
to serve our community that day.
If you have any questions contact
Kathy Piet (kampers1@verizon.net).





(410) 381-HOPE (4673)
info@newhopelutheran.org
www.newhopelutheran.org

A congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)

opposite Kings Contrivance Village Center
at the corner of
Guilford Road & Eden Brook Drive.

Sunday Worship:

8:30 & 10:00 & 11:30 am

Holy Communion Served at all services

Pastor: The Rev. Ginny Price

Diaconal Minister: Cindy Ranker

Associates in Ministry

Music: Sue Pumpplin & Sharon Punte

Parish Administrator: Sharon Punte

Great Expectations Newsletter Editors:
Carol Henderson & Sharon Punte

Up Coming Events

GIFT Dinner - January 8 @ 6p

Confronting Racism: (Webcast) -
January 14 @ 9p

5th Sunday Celebration and Chili
Cook-off January 31 @ 10a

See inside for additional News!

New Hope Lutheran Church
8575 Guilford Road
Columbia, MD 21046
(410) 381-HOPE



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Time Value:
Please do not delay
January 2016