



News of New Hope

New Hope United Methodist Church
200 E New Hope Road
Goldsboro, NC 27534-7642



February

2008

Goldsboro District Leadership Workshops

Each year, the district holds training sessions for the leaders and congregations of the area. The event this year will be held on Sunday, February 10th from 3:00—5:30 pm at St. Luke UMC on Pine Street. With the theme *Building Healthy Congregations* the afternoon will be in a different format than in previous years. Four presentations will be made including: *Radical Hospitality* by Rev. Chad Pullins; *Passionate Worship* by Rev. Doug Johnson; *Focused Spiritual Formation* by Rev. Wil Jackson, author of "The Rope Of Faith"; and *Risk Taking Ministries & Missions* by Rev. Martin Armstrong.

The event is open to all, however, the district is strongly encouraging attendance of lay leaders, administrative council members, worship committee members, and Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) members.

Blood Drive
February 9th
9-1:30

Jerusalem Marketplace
For Sale
Fish & Bread \$5 each
Support VBS



Memory Verse for February

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus."

-1 Corinthians 1:3

Did you know...

The electric bill is an **average** of \$873 per month;

The church contributes \$2,885.80 each month to conference **mission** initiatives;

The **weekly** expected expenditures for NHUMC is \$3,776.17;

That \$5,946 was contributed last year to other **missions**—both local and through the conference.

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- Feb. 3**— UMYF Souper Bowl collection for Soup Kitchen
- Feb. 4**— Disciple 1 & 2 @ 7pm
- Feb. 6**— Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm
- Feb. 7**— Admin. Coun. @ 7pm
- Feb. 8**— Upward Soccer evaluation 4-7 pm
- Feb. 9**— Blood Drive 9-1:30
- Feb. 10**— Boy Scout Sunday
Goldsboro District Leadership Workshop 3-5:30 @ St. Luke UMC
- Feb. 11**— Disciple 1 & 2 @ 7pm
- Feb. 14**— Valentine Luncheon for Older Adult Ministry 10-2
- Feb. 16**— Friends & Family Breakfast 7:30-10 am
- Feb. 16-17**— Upward Soccer Eagle Project Days
- Feb. 18**— Soccer practices begin
- Feb. 18**— Disciple 1 & 2 @ 7pm
- Feb. 19**— District Conn. Table @ 10 am
- Feb. 19**— UMYF @ 5 pm
- Feb. 21**— UMW/UMM @ 7
- Feb. 24**— Praise Service @ 7 pm
Newsletter deadline
- Feb. 25**— Disciple 1 & 2 @ 7pm
- Mar. 2**— Goldsboro District Lay Rally @ 3

Church Teams

United Methodist Men

Missed doing something special for your “honey” on Valentine’s Day? How about a home cooked breakfast coming right up! Pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, toast, grits ... Where? At the Friends and Family Breakfast on February 16th.

All men of the church, including visitors, are welcome to join in the activities. The UMM meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm.

—Mike Acree, President

United Methodist Women

Did you know? New Hope Methodist Women meet the 3rd Thursday each month. We invite all women to join us. We will attend UMW District Cluster meeting at Daniels Methodist Church February 12, 2008 at 7:00 pm. We will meet at New Hope and carpool.

UMW report for 2007:

Income:

Bazaar, pledge and afghan
..... \$4,200.

Pay out:

Conference Missions \$600.
Local missions:
Dance for Christ 150.
Boy Scout Camp 150.
Upward Soccer 500.
Soccer fence & building.. 500.
Apportionments..... 1,000.
Afghan..... 1,650.
Yard Work..... 300.

Hope to see some new faces at next meeting ~ February 14, 2008.

~Iris Cox, Treasurer
~Jane Fields, President

Trustees

The Boy Scouts of Troop 8 and their helpers have really worked hard on the storage building for the soccer equipment. They have toughed it out in all kinds of weather. We are really proud of all who have had a hand in this project as well as other work around the church. Recently, a special donation was made by Alma Andrews for replacement of exterior doors. God be with you,

—Dan Cox, Chair

UMYF

New counselors for UMYF are R.J. and Tanya Orwig. The youth meet at 5:30 on Sunday evenings. A trip to Raleigh to see the Hurricanes play hockey is planned for Feb. 19th .

Scouts

Two scouts are leading their troop members in Eagle projects. Chris Gustafson and crew have been working on the storage building.

Work on the fence to enclose the soccer fields will begin

shortly. This is the Eagle project for Andrew Filion.

Several scouts have been working with the registration and evaluation of the young people who are interested in the Upward soccer program.

Boy Scout Sunday will be observed on February 10th.

- Doris Offield,
Scouting Coordinator



Children’s Ministries

The theme for Vacation Bible School this summer is Jerusalem Marketplace. To help defray the cost of supplies, the market place booth has been set up in the narthex. Stop by to purchase a fish or a loaf of bread for just \$5. Just 72 left for sale!

Anyone wishing to help with VBS is asked to contact Jessica.

—Jessica Dearth,
Children’s Ministries

Date	Upward® Soccer Activity
Jan 31 -2/ 8	Evaluation
Feb. 8	Registration Deadline
Feb. 18	Practices begin
Mar. 15	First game
May 30	Awards Celebration

Prepare for Worship

By
Jessica Dearth

When an occasion that is important, big, and exciting comes along in our lives we want to prepare for that occasion. You prepare for weddings by going through a rehearsal; you prepare for an operation by taking medication and fasting while the surgeon looks over your chart; you prepare for a road trip by looking at a map to determine what route you will be taking. Even with everyday occasions we prepare without thinking about it. You prepare for cooking by ensuring you have the right ingredients. You prepare for the next day by thinking about what you have to do. We are always preparing ourselves for what is to come; we always want to be ready.

How you prepare also has an effect on the outcome of these events. You would not want your surgeon to rush looking over your charts for fear he would operate on the wrong body part. You would not want to rush when getting prepared for a road trip because you could take the wrong route and end up getting lost. You would not want to rush getting prepared for cooking your meal because you could miss the main ingredient. You take your time to guarantee that everything is in its place to make certain the outcome is what you expect it to be. With us taking so much time to prepare for big events and the little everyday tasks why don't we take the time to prepare for the single most important event in our lives?

The single most important activity we engage in is worship! Worship is *not* a job, chore, or an assignment. Instead, worship is God's gift. This gift comes through unexpected grace and not through some laborious effort on our part. It is not about completing a set of rituals or 'steps' but it is about finding new meaning which brings us closer to God. Naturally, this takes preparation on our part. Not just on

Saturday evenings or Sunday mornings right before church but throughout the entire week!

Preparing starts with cleaning your heart. You must disclose to God your hatred, jealousy, greed, or any other awful feelings you have toward someone and yourself. It is essential that you enter worship free from any form of evil. Some confess during the worship service, but nothing says it has to happen there. Just think about how much more meaningful the worship could be if you had already confessed. Think about how much further you could go with the Lord! Prepare to be grateful. You should be geared up to join the Body of Christ, ready to praise!

Worship should be focused on Christ, so our preparation must also be focused on Christ.

Too often we focus on the object of worship and not the *reason* for worship. Worship should be focused on Christ, so our preparation must also be focused on Christ. In Acts 20 verse 7 we read that Paul preached until midnight! The believers were gathered and they celebrated. They cele-

brated Jesus' life, His attitudes, His activities, His death, His resurrection, and His work through the Church. Are you as prepared? Would you be willing to stay and listen to God's Word until midnight? Are you prepared to celebrate all Jesus has done and what He will do? If not, then your focus is not on Christ and neither is your worship. Prepare by reflecting and studying God's Word.

God blesses us and we praise Him. If we are not prepared to receive God's blessings then we are also not prepared to praise and thank Him. The best worship occurs when each person is prepared to give, share, serve, participate, and to praise. Consider how God may use you to encourage others. This interaction with

God and later on with other people is worship. We prepare for worship by opening our hearts and our minds to what God wants to tell us. Unfortunately, maybe some of us do not want to hear what God has to say. Maybe some of us are scared of what God *will* say. You must remember that true worship is not about what it does for you and it isn't the primary way to deepen your personal godliness. Rather, worship is about what it does to and for the Body of Christ. Worship completes you.

You prepare for Sunday worship by your private worship. This is a daily practice. Our private worship makes us ready. We must remember that worship does not just happen -- you have to plan for it! You have to prepare for it! Last month in "Martin's Musings" he talked about resolutions and vow making. If you are like me you made a New Year's resolution and you have already broken it. Why is that? These resolutions we make have a tendency to be self-centered. When we make self-centered goals and promises they are easily broken. They benefit nobody else but ourselves. Why not make a new resolution? Maybe all our new resolutions should be to make a vow to God to prepare for worship. Martin wrote, "...vows made to God and asking His help in keeping them is seen by God as a serious spiritual activity." This vow would honor and glorify God and He will be in it and will seek success for us.

"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

~John 4:23-24



February 2008



*Sunday Schedule

8:45 First Hope
 9:30 Fellowship
 9:45 Sunday School
 11:00 Worship
 5:00 Hand bells
 5:30-7 UMYF (Rings of Fellowship)
 6:00-7:00 Praise Team Rehearsal

Goldsboro District Leadership Workshops Sunday February 10, 2008



Remember your church in your will.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Additions to the calendar of events may be found in Sunday's bulletin or posted on the church bulletin board.			1	2
* 3 UMYF Soup Kitchen fundraiser	4 6:30pm-Cub Scouts 7pm-Disciple 1 & 2	5 7pm-Boy Scouts	6 Ash Wednesday 7pm-Choir practice	7 7pm-Administrative Council	8 4-7pm~Upward Soccer registration & evaluation	9 9-1:30pm ~American Red Cross Blood Drive (Fellowship Hall)
* 10 Boy Scout Sun. Goldsboro District Leadership Workshops 3-5pm	11 6:30pm-Cub Scouts 7pm-Disciple 1 & 2	12 7pm-Boy Scouts	13 7pm-Choir practice		15	16 Upward Soccer Eagle Project Day 7:30-10am~Fr. & Fam. Breakfast Handbell Seminar
* 17 Upward Soccer Eagle Project Day	18 Soccer practices begin 6:30pm-Cub Scouts 7pm-Disciple 1 & 2	19 10am-District Conn. Table (Fellow. Hall) 7pm-Boy Scouts 5pm-UMYF Field Trip	20 7pm-Choir practice	21 7pm-UMM & UMW	22	23
* 24 7pm-Praise Service	25 6:30pm-Cub Scouts 7pm-Disciple 1 & 2	26 7pm-Boy Scouts	27 7pm-Choir practice	28	29	District Lay Rally March 2 3:00 PM



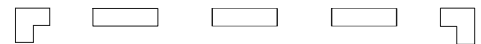
A Note From the Keys

What a wonderful way to “recharge your batteries”! Choir on Wednesday that is.

Join us at 7 pm to practice for future worship services and enjoy the fellowship and music of the Chancel choir rehearsals.

The Ringers of New Hope will be attending a Handbell Development Seminar in Winston-Salem on Feb. 16. Techniques and

*- Hope Hicks,
Director of Music Ministries*



News of New Hope

The News of New Hope is published by New Hope United Methodist Church for members, visitors, and others interested in the activities and mission of the church. For submissions of articles, announcements, or interviews, you may email nhumc2@bellsouth.net or drop them by the church office.

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Parsonage:

(919) 778-3801

[http://www.gbgm-umc.org/
NewHopeNC/](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/NewHopeNC/)

District Web Site:

<http://goldsborodistrictumc.org>



**Remember your church in
your will.**

Prayer for Healing

† Will Davies

- † Alice Josey
- † Aline Lavin
- † Berma Ramfjord
- † Beverly Flora
- † Blanche Dunavan
- † Bob Jennette
- † Cooper Bryan
- † David Herring
- † Dee Meadows
- † Dock Crumley
- † Don Wallace
- † Eleanor Porter
- † Frank Beech
- † Harold Coltrane
- † Haywood Harrell
- † Jane Mantz
- † Jenna Thomas
- † Joe Turner
- † Keith Reed
- † Larry Collins
- † LaVern Smith
- † Lisa Huff
- † Lois Capps
- † Mac Yates
- † Nancy McNeill
- † Rebecca Lancaster
- † Rob Withey
- † Sue Wallace
- † Teresa Miller
- † Terry Hampton
- † Warren Bishop

Prayer for Bereavement

- † Family and Friends of Alma Andrews
- † Family of Hughrena McDonald
- † Family of Vickie Wallace
- † Family of Malcolm Helberg

Prayer for Thanksgiving

- † For God’s hand in caring for accident victims: Jenna Thomas, Terry Hampton, Michael
- † Our church family
- † Our Pastor & His Family
- † Our Youth at New Hope
- † Christian friends

Prayer for Intercessions

- † Boy Scout Troop 8 Eagle projects
- † Our Youth at New Hope
- † Rings of Fellowship
- † Members of our armed forces
- † Upward® Soccer Ministry
- † For the leaders & students of Disciple 1 & 2 Bible Study

Our Prayers at work ...

Jenna Thomas, daughter of Gina and Jim Harr, worshiped with us on January 27th, having survived a major car accident on icy roads in Virginia.

Terry Hampton was also giving thanks in church that Sunday, having had a fall in her home.



Administrative Council Meeting

Alma E. Andrews

April 15, 1913—January 21, 2008

Chair: Jim Harr

Let's take a walk. **Get out of the boat.** Just as Peter was encouraged to take a walk to Jesus, he had to first get out of the boat. Jim challenged the members of the Administrative Council to do just that. "Get out of the boat!" The theme for this is to move out of our comfort zone and seek ways to further the ministry of Christ through the programs of New Hope.

- † Finance Committee recommended a new approach to meeting the spending plan. Information will be included in the bulletin each week concerning the needs of the church.
- † The 2007 Conference Apportionment was met, thanks to the special offerings and some of the proceeds from the FairBooth.
- † The Lay Leadership Team is looking at restructuring the Administrative Council.
- † UMYF is collecting monetary donations for the Soup Kitchen on Souper Bowl Sunday.
- † Each committee and team is asked to establish goals for the year and to bring them to the meeting on February 7th.

In preparation for the February meeting, members (and the congregation) are asked to read Romans 12:6; and Ephesians 4:11-15.

Get out of the boat!

Alma Ellis Andrews, 94, a former resident of Kirkwood Retirement Village, died Monday afternoon, January 23rd at Britthaven Nursing Home.

Alma was born in Lubbock, Texas, to the late Clifford Lee Ellis and Betty Dora Houston Ellis. She was married to the late John Andrews. Alma was a member of New Hope United Methodist Church. Friends remember her willing participation in all activities as a leader, a teacher, and an example for others.

Memorial services were held on Thursday, January 21st at her church with the Rev. Mark Armstrong officiating. In memory of her husband John's work with the Boy Scouts, an entire pew was filled with Scouts and their leaders in full uniform.

Alma is survived by her sister, Dean Jones of Lubbock, Texas; and several nieces and nephews. She is also survived by special caregivers, Nancy and John McNeill of Goldsboro, Jean Leach of Community Health and Hospice and the caregivers at Britthaven Nursing Home.

Memorials in Alma's memory may be made to New Hope United Methodist Church, 200 E. New Hope Road, Goldsboro, N.C. 27530.



She is only away—
In your thoughts and your heart
You are always together, never apart;
In your sorrow, remember—she's only away...
Though she may not be with you, the memories stay.
And, in time, when the hurt isn't too much to bear,
Whenever you look in your heart, she'll be there.

~Anonymous

Celebrations!

Birthdays

2/1 Tyndall Lewis
2/2 Barbara Chesson
2/3 Margaret Edmonds
2/4 Marjorie Smith
2/5 Charlotte Boyette
2/7 Travis Potter
2/8 Mardi Shuey
2/14 Janie Woodard
2/17 Blake Howell
2/19 Jane Shuey
2/19 Charles Conwell
2/20 Mike Acree
2/22 Jessie Stone
2/23 Randy Dearth
2/24 Sheila Coltrane
2/27 Terry Hampton

Anniversaries

2/6 Elsie & Joe Turner
2/15 Diane & Dan Kester
2/20 Janis & David Kester
2/28 Iris & Dan Cox





Dear Church Family —

B r r r r .
We've had some cold days this past month. But

that hasn't slowed down the wonderful folks here at New Hope! We've had warm soup, hot breakfasts, kind hearts, and energetic workers.

We learned about a time called "E piff any." Those Wise men let the world know that something special had happened. God was with us on earth. They brought gifts. Pastor Martin asked us, "What has been your reaction to God's presence in your life?"

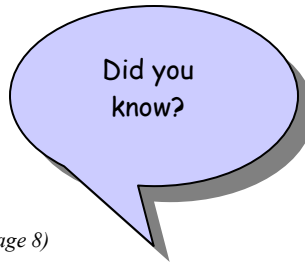
One time we learned about long pointed sticks called "arrows." All the feathers, especially, were needed to make it go through the air in one direction. Some people are like the arrow with no feather—they have nothing to help them go in the right direction. What may be missing is having church in their life.

And did you see the children try to lift that heavy piece with the cross on the top? Individuals tried. Then, Pastor Martin suggested they work together to life it. And they did! It's like the church—all working together to make it work.

Last Sunday we learned about a church long ago in a far off city. It was in a letter written by Paul that we found out that people can argue about the strangest things and get everything messed up. Christ was no longer their focus. How do we get on the team for Christ? We must all move together in our church with prayer and focus. "God guided discussion," is what Pastor Martin called it.

-I'll see ya' in church Sunday.

A. Churchmouse



Did you know?

(Continued from page 8)

The Finance Team will also carefully and consistently communicate where the church stands in its financial stewardship. It is important to be aware of the church's ministry needs. The Church needs to know what level of response is needed to maintain and see mission and ministry progress and be successful. There will be "Did You Know" messages that will inform the Body of the cost of some of the Spending Plan items. There will be as in the past reports stating the level of giving from the week before. The idea is that knowledge of mission and ministry needs combined with prayer, faith and faith-based action will result in a successful and God glorifying financial stewardship year.

The money we give goes to make Sunday school and worship possible for adults, young children and youth. New Hope UMC fully participates in the Conference apportioned giving that goes to many state, national, and global efforts to spread the good news of God's saving grace through Jesus the Christ. Our giving provides for pastoral leadership and support of specific ministries of teaching and worship that help maintain spiritual growth and well being. New Hope UMC is about to be involved in a ministry of outreach that specifically delivers the good news of Jesus Christ's gift of salvation to children and families in the immediate neighborhood around our facility. New Hope UMC is doing some very right things when it comes to significant mission and ministry. Let us all faithfully participate by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service. When the people of God unite in purpose and faith, the power of God is realized.

~ Martin

Goldsboro District Events

Older Adult Valentine Luncheon is sold out. The program, however, is open to additional people and will be held in the sanctuary of NHUMC following the 11:30 luncheon. The program of music features "The Harmony Boys."

The Goldsboro District Lay Rally will be held on Sunday, March 2, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Paul UMC. Guest Speaker will be Don Curtis, Chairman and CEO, Curtis Media Group. His topic is "The Challenges of Being Christian in the Workplace".

Martin's Musings

Living and Giving by Faith

How can a church live by faith? How can a church, Body of Christ, not live by faith? If a church does not, at some point, decide to operate as a faith driven community of believers then it ceases to be the Church of Jesus the Christ. Jesus the Christ, our Savior, determined to live by faith in God the Father. He would not have accomplished His purpose to be the Savior of the world had He not lived by faith. Our Father in heaven is faithful to our expression of faith in Him and He responds by making us successful in our endeavors to accomplish His will. We in turn must be committed to His will as the thing that we, the Church want to accomplish the most.

For the mission and ministry year of 2008 the Finance Team will be leading New Hope UMC in faith-based financial stewardship. The basic concept is to let the church body know of the financial needs outlined in the 2008 Spending Plan, and prayerfully asking God to guide all of us to be faithful in our giving to the mission and ministry of New Hope UMC. This plan in addition, challenges all the members of our church to pray and continually evaluate the commitment each has made to support the church's ministry and mission with their prayers, presence, gifts, and service.

(Continued on page 7, column 2)



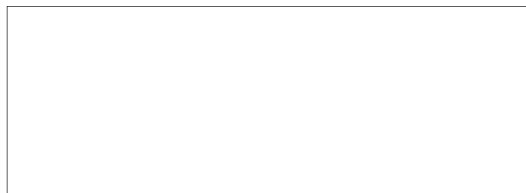
The News of New Hope

New Hope United Methodist Church
200 East New Hope Road
Goldsboro, NC 27534-7642

Pastor: Rev. Martin Armstrong
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Secretary: Janice Rouse
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Upward Soccer Begins!

Practice starts Monday, Feb. 18