

New Hope Parish Weekly Update

February 28, 2021

New Hope Parish Covid-19 Update - REVISED **ALL PARISH CHURCHES RETURNING TO IN-PERSON** **on SUNDAY, MARCH 7**

- Masks are required at each church along with social distancing.
- We are practicing contact tracing at each church.
- If you don't feel safe, or if you are not feeling well, please stay home and let us know so we can offer up prayers.
- Parish live streamed worship is available each Sunday at 11M online by following the link on the Parish web site at www.nhparish.org.
- Parish service recording is available at any time on the Parish YouTube channel.
- If anyone is unable to watch the live stream or recorded service online a DVD or CD can be made available upon request.
- Should the situation dictate, we may need to go back to non-in-person worship with little notice.
- The New Hope Parish Council will continue to review the pandemic situation and let you know of any changes.

Weekly Thoughts

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Hope and pray you all are doing well and are staying safe and sane during these challenging times.

How's your Lenten journey going so far? This week we will be one full week into it. And even though it is only a few weeks, when you are starting any new discipline, it seems like forever going from something new and challenging to something that is routine and habit. I can remember many moons ago taking a martial arts class in Aikido. Each week we would go through the same routines based on our skill level. We would practice falling and using others' energy or momentum against them. Each time the sensei, or teacher, would give pointers on how to better ourselves in whatever movement we were practicing. It got a little tedious doing this every week, but after a while, the sensei needed to offer less and less advice as we started to perfect the moves we were learning. We went from needing to think about each part of a movement in the beginning to, after a few weeks, performing those movements out of almost instinct. This is the same for any aspect of our lives, from learning a new martial art to learning a new instrument, a new language or even adding a new spiritual discipline to your life. Each time you do something like this, bring change into your life, it may seem challenging, even undaunting, but many good things are just that in the beginning. I am reminded of something a friend once shared with me. He said, "Change isn't so bad, it's the transition that will get you every time." Isn't that the case? It's when we are going through the changes in our lives, like adding a new spiritual discipline that we may want to quit and, if you're like me, head to the fridge for a pity snack. When we are faced with those moments, that's when we need to take a deep breath, close our eyes and say a little prayer. Then we take another deep breath and listen for God's still speaking voice and then we try again to turn our challenge into a habit.

Weekly Thoughts (Continued)

As you discover the spiritual discipline God needs you to focus on and develop this Lent, remember the words from the Apostle Paul in Hebrews 12:1-13, “Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we’d better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we’re in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he’s there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

In this all-out match against sin, others have suffered far worse than you, to say nothing of what Jesus went through—all that bloodshed! So, don’t feel sorry for yourselves. Or have you forgotten how good parents treat children, and that God regards you as his children?

My dear child, don’t shrug off God’s discipline,
but don’t be crushed by it either.

It’s the child he loves that he disciplines;
the child he embraces, he also corrects.

God is educating you; that’s why you must never drop out. He’s treating you as dear children. This trouble you’re in isn’t punishment; it’s training, the normal experience of children. Only irresponsible parents leave children to fend for themselves. Would you prefer an irresponsible God? We respect our own parents for training and not spoiling us, so why not embrace God’s training so we can truly live? While we were children, our parents did what seemed best to them. But God is doing what is best for us, training us to live God’s holy best. At the time, discipline isn’t much fun. It always feels like it’s going against the grain. Later, of course, it pays off big-time, for it’s the well-trained who find themselves mature in their relationship with God.

So, don’t sit around on your hands! No more dragging your feet! Clear the path for long-distance runners so no one will trip and fall, so no one will step in a hole and sprain an ankle. Help each other out. And run for it!

Work at getting along with each other and with God. Otherwise, you’ll never get so much as a glimpse of God. Make sure no one gets left out of God’s generosity. Keep a sharp eye out for weeds of bitter discontent. A thistle or two gone to seed can ruin a whole garden in no time. Watch out for the Esau syndrome: trading away God’s lifelong gift in order to satisfy a short-term appetite. You well know how Esau later regretted that impulsive act and wanted God’s blessing—but by then it was too late, tears or no tears.” (MSG)

Siblings in Christ, with God’s help, you can do it. I’ll say it again, with God’s help, you can do it. You can become the person God wants and needs you to be. Don’t give up on Lent or yourself. You are a child of God and are more capable than you realize in helping to make God’s creation a better place.

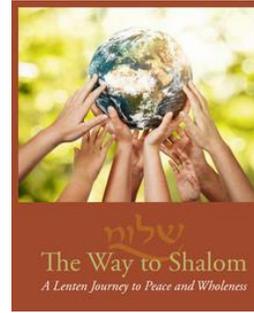
As I’ve said before, we are one day closer to worshiping and fellowshiping again the way we want. We need to continue to reach out, not only to God, but we also need to continue to reach out to each other. If you’d like a call from me, I may need a nudge. So please, in the kindest of ways, drop me a note and let me know. Please know that you each are always in my heart, thoughts and prayers. Please know too that I continue to thank God every day for each of you and for the God given love and gifts that each of you bring to our church family and to God’s creation. The world is truly a better place because of each of you.

Be safe, love and serve the Lord and always, and in all things, give God thanks.

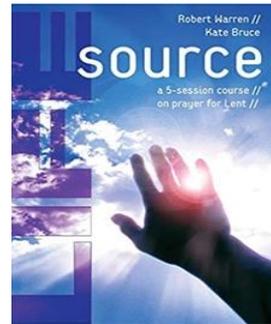
Blessings and peace, Pastor Paul

Announcements

- † There is a Lenten daily devotional from the Presbyterian Today Magazine that you can find on the nhparish.org website:
<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/today/lent2021/>. If you cannot download the link and you want a hard copy, please contact one of the church offices.



- † Join us for a bible study every Sunday during Lent at 4:00 pm via Zoom. If you would like to order the book, please follow the link below or contact your church office.
https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/071514748X/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o01_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1



- † Zoom Fellowship and Worship Meetings Are Back on Sunday at 1:00 PM. Please follow the Zoom instructions.
- † **THE PAOLA THRIFT SHOP:** will open Saturday, March 13th for sales 9:00 am-noon; for donations until 4:00 pm. Tuesday, March 9th and Thursday, March 12th – there will be sorting from 9:00 am -noon.
- † If you have anything to add to the weekly newsletter/announcement, please have your information to the Paola or Osawatomi office by noon on Tuesday.
- † If you or someone you know is unable to watch the worship service online or participate in online fellowship, please contact your church office for other ways to participate in worship. (DVD, VHS, CD, Cassette Tape, etc....)
- † To watch the live 11:00 am Service on Sunday and previously recorded services go to: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDDMsp1jmJj8LCRA8pc1SrQ>
- † **NHP Kids TV** is available at www.nhparish.org and click on **Kids TV** link.
- † **The Food Pantry in Osawatomi** is open on Wednesdays from 11:30-12:30. They are opening the Food Pantry up to Louisburg and Paola during this COVID-19 pandemic.
- † **PACA:** All food is welcomed during this unprecedented time. Macaroni and cheese is especially needed, complete pancake mix and also the 5.5 oz complete pancake mix packages, pancake syrup, jelly, cereal, cookie bag mix. Or a check can be made out to PACA Food Pantry and sent to the FPC church office.
- † **Don't forget** – In person worship at each church **next Sunday, March 7th**.
 - ♪ **Miami** – 8:00 AM
 - ♪ **Osawatomi** – 9:30 AM
 - ♪ **Paola** – 11:00 AM



February

2/1 Mike Matney
2/1 Bonnie Wallace
2/3 Scott Macom
2/6 William Coffelt
2/10 Grady Atwater
2/11 John Klahr
2/20 Elizabeth Davidson
2/24 Dee Anne Mendel

February

No February Anniversaries Listed

New Hope Parish Calendar

All meetings are on Zoom

February 24-New Hope Parish Fellowship/Outreach – 7:00 pm

February 25-New Hope Parish Care Team Meeting – 2:00 pm

New Hope Parish Prayer Requests and Praises

Parish Prayer Requests

Harold Barnett (healing and strength) and Colleen Char Bergene for healing
Mike Cox (Diana Cox's husband and Angie Pennock's stepfather)
LuAnne Debrick for healing
Grace Donham for healing
Venie Elliott (healing and discernment)
Jack Floyd (healing and discernment)
Evelyn Gabbert (healing from surgery and broken hip)
Beulah Johnson (healing and comfort)
Paisley Keith Medlen (blood disorder) (Ed & Vida Hurlbut's great granddaughter)
Kelley Wallace, prayers for healing
Liz Redd (healing)
Marsha Ratkovic (Pat Barnett's sister) breast cancer metastasized
Phyllis Stevens (healing)
Verla Thomas (healing)
Betty Ventura (healing)
Suzie Wilcox (ALS)
Paula Weir (for healing) and Bob Weir (comfort and discernment)
Connie Attebery, friend of Bonnie Wallace
Sharon Davey (health issues) (Grady Atwater)

Community Prayer Requests

Roxanne Egidy – Brain injury, Marylu Egidy’s niece
Joe Fickel prayers for comfort
Ron and Sandy Galvin prayers for healing and discernment
Judy Henderson (Sarah Kennington’s(HeadStart)-mother
Cindy Hickey – breast cancer
Riley McDougal (son of Marty McDougal) (healing and comfort)
Debbie, friend of Dee Anne Mendel
Donna Penner and her family (under Hospice care-comfort and peace)
Robert Sawin -Cancer – Judy Windler’s father
Shelly, friend of Max and Carolyn Servais, has cancer
Rebecca Sutton (cancer)
Cheryl Tunks(cancer and heart problems) (Cinda Atwater’s aunt)
Lori Martin (Comfort, healing and discernment)
Kim Walker (Comfort, healing and discernment)

Military

Chet Barnett (grandson of the Barnett’s)
Men and women who are now serving or have served in the past.

COVID-19

All those affected by this virus, including all healthcare workers, first responders, and scientists.
Evelyn Gabbert (positive)

Condolences

Family and friends of Dave Fette

Heartland Presbytery

First Presbyterian Church, Osawatomie, KS—New Hope Parish
First United Presbyterian Church, Paola, KS—New Hope Parish
Miami Presbyterian Church, Paola, KS—New Hope Parish

Throughout God’s Creation

Those affected by the wildfires in the US and throughout the world. The devastation from all the current hurricanes, and those affected by Global Warming.

Praise

That more individuals are being vaccinated for COVID.

To Join Any Parish Zoom Event With Your Computer or Phone

To Join any of the Parish Zooms from your **phone**, please do the following just before the event:

1. Call the phone number: **1-888-537-8719**
2. Enter the following information when asked:
 - Meeting ID: 929 140 2896
 - Password: 344110
3. Enjoy praising God and fellowshiping with your sisters and brothers!

Join our live Zoom Fellowship using your computer, smart phone, tablet, or a good old-fashioned landline. These are great ways to stay in touch. So, drop in and say hi!

Looking forward to seeing you. Join the Zoom Fellowship Meeting at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9291402896?pwd=ejY1TGs5U1pkWE5EdFRyTy9hT1J4Zz09>

OR

go to <https://nhparish.org/index.php/calender/>, find the appropriate date and click on New Hope Parish Sunday Live Worship & Fellowship, you will see the link. Or, use the instructions above to join from your phone. Fellowship using Zoom – **Sundays at 1:00 PM**. Catch up with everyone at our Parish Fellowships

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Matthew 14:24-33)

01-29-2001

DON'T WORRY, I'M ALRIGHT