

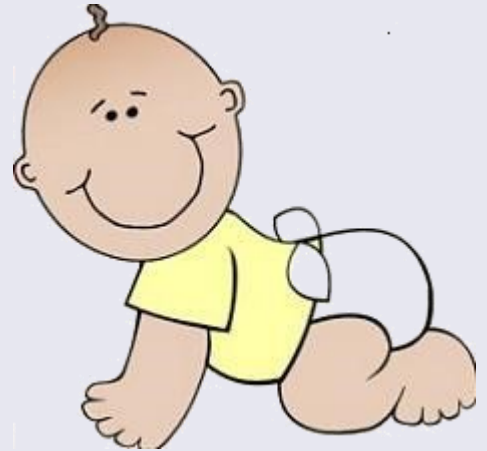
Easter Sunday, April 1st

On this holy day of days, we join together for the Festival of the Resurrection, Easter Day, at two services of worship, 8:45 & 11:00 a.m. Through word and sacrament, praise, prayer and joyful song, we will wonder anew at the new life made available to us in the resurrection of Christ. All are invited to bring fresh flowers to adorn the "living cross" as a sign of the glory of the risen Christ in our midst.



Diaper Drive

What could be more precious than gold, frankincense and myrrh? Diapers. All babies and toddlers need them, but many families in the St. Louis area lack the funds to make this necessary purchase. Diaper need is a growing problem in our country, and has negative impacts on moms and children. Unfortunately, no state or federal programs offer diapers. In response, the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank was created. Please join us on Sunday, April 8 as we welcome back Jessica Adams, Executive Director of the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank, to discuss how we can help alleviate the struggle these families face. She will be briefly speaking at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Additionally, we will accept an offering during the worship services earmarked for the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank. There will be special offering envelopes in the bulletin. If you cannot help financially, they are always looking for volunteers. We will also have a box for you to bring diaper donations to the church from April 8-May 6. This month-long diaper drive will ensure that the Diaper Bank is well stocked. They especially need the large size diapers (size 4 and up) and training pants. Need more information? You can visit their website at www.stldiaperbank.org or contact Alyssa Murray at amurray03@live.com.



Church Work Day



The Administration & Support Committee is planning a spring work day on Saturday, April 21st, after the Men's Fellowship Breakfast. Our plans are to tackle special projects and to "spruce up" the church, inside and out, in preparation for the spring season. Everyone is invited to help! There will be projects for all types—big and small! Please plan on joining us on April 21st!

New Hope— Earth Care Congregation

New Hope completed the Earth Care audit and we received our recertification as an Earth Care Congregation in March 2018. The Earth Care audit measures accomplishments or progress in four key areas of congregational life: Worship, Education, Facilities, and Outreach. To receive certification as an Earth Care Congregation, we must show activity, emphasis, or progress within each of these areas of focus in our attention to caring for creation. This is measured in achieving a point-total of 25 in each area of focus, for a total of 100 points needed for certification.

We will promote the stewardship of creation by becoming an “earth care congregation” of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Care for our environment is a prominent theme in scripture and a great concern for our time, especially our younger generation. By doing this, we hope to welcome and include all, serve others and be God’s love in the world .



Earth Day is Sunday April 22, 2018. New Hope wants to celebrate Earth Day and also participate in earth friendly events. The first a collection of electronic device no longer used. This is to promote recycling electronics at the end of their useful life. Here are a few reasons this is important:

1. Electronics contain precious resources that are wasted when buried in a landfill. For example the EPA reports recycling one million cell phones recovers 50 pounds of gold, 550 pounds of silver, 20 pounds of palladium, and 35,000 pounds of copper.
2. Some components of electronics contain toxic and hazardous materials, especially old tube televisions and CRT computer monitors. One CRT can contain 5-8 pounds of lead!
3. Recycling electronics creates local jobs. According to the coalition for American Electronics Recycling, every 172,000 pounds of electronics recycled creates one job directly, indirectly creates two additional jobs.
(Information provided from St. Louis County recycling website)

New Hope will be accepting the following items for recycling during the month of April, 2018:

PC's	Keyboards	Servers
Laptops	Computer Mice	Switches
Macs/iMacs/MacBook's	Computer Speakers	Network Hubs
iPads	Headsets	Firewalls
Android Tablets	Webcams	Wireless Access Points
Microsoft Surface Tablets	Modems	Raspberry Pi's
Chromebooks	Routers	Arduinos
LCD Computer Monitors	Internet Gateways	Computer Components
Cell Phones & Smartphones	All Cables & Power Cords	iPhones
Android Phones	Phone Chargers	Phone Accessories
VOIP Phones	Land Line Phones	Cordless Phones
Rotary Phones	Satellite Phones	Walkie Talkies
Two-Way Radios	HAM Radios	CB Radios

There will be a collection bin in the Outreach and Information area of the Narthex for these items. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Earth Day is Sunday April 22, 2018. New Hope will be celebrating Earth Day with special curriculum and activities during the formation hour. A blessing of the Earth Care Garden is planned. Red bud seedlings will be handed out at both services to be planted at your home. Check the New and Opportunities for more information about Earth Day.

New Hope—Earth Care Congregation Continued

NHPC Earth Care Garden

Many of you may have already noticed the construction behind the church. It's our new NHPC Earth Care Garden! Development of our vegetable garden is an outgrowth of our strategic planning goals to "Be God's Love in the World" and to "Serve Others."

Many, many thanks go to Todd Rasche, Greg Marshall, Bryan Eikmann, and Bill Irvine who built the raised bed several weeks ago. And more thanks go to Bryan, Greg, and Patrick Tilk who just recently spread top-soil and compost mix and put the finishing touches on the garden. So now we are ready to plant tomatoes, zucchini and green beans for the OASIS food pantry once the growing season warms up a bit.

We'd love to have five to ten people who would help plant and maintain the garden during the growing season. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Ruth Irvine or Cindy Martin.



Earth Care activities are planned for the Formation/Sunday School session on Earth Day. Red Bud seedling will be given out like last year to be planted. Please watch the News & Opportunities for more Earth Day activities.

Music Notes

"In the churches of the Reformation there have been two main streams of church song. On the one hand, there has been hymnody with Luther as its fountain head; on the other, metrical psalmody after the example set by [John] Calvin. Luther carried on the tradition established by the Latin hymn; Calvin gave his adherence to a still older tradition...the...days when the Church had no other means than the psalms for the singing of its praise." (Millar Patrick, *The Story of the Church's Song*).



John Calvin believed that the best songs for praising God were the "Psalms of David, made and imparted by the Holy Spirit" so that "the words come from God." The church had discovered that by employing non scriptural texts, heresies and unorthodoxy had proliferated. So Calvin and others began to translate the psalms into French and turn them into metered, rhyming, paraphrased versions of these texts. Calvin required the music for the psalms to be "... simple, to carry majesty suitable to the subject, and to be fit to be sung in church." Psalms were sung only in unison, and no instrumental accompaniment was allowed in worship. One of the more famous songs from this time is the tune of OLD HUNDREDTH to which we sing the text *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*.

Numerous "Psalms" were published on the Continent, in England, and eventually even in America. In fact, the first book published in America was a psalter, the *Bay Psalm Book*, 1640. But by the end of the 17th century, metrical psalmody was "deplorable in the extreme" according to Millar Patrick. Just at that time the first important author of English language hymnody began to write hymn texts. Who was he? Are some of his hymns still sung to this day? See next month's Music Notes.

Presbyterian Women



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Everyone is invited to participate in A Festival of Hymns on Sunday, April 22nd from 5 to 7 pm. We will join together to sing some of our favorite old and new church hymns. Please let Nancy Seals know if you have a favorite hymn you would like to be included. We are asking everyone to bring an appetizer to share during the event. We can't wait to see you on April 22nd!

Youth Fundraiser—Bake Sale & Car Wash

On Sunday, May 6th, the Youth Mission Trip participants will be sponsoring a bake sale and car wash. There will be lots of baked goodies for sale in the Narthex and cars will be washed between, during and after services. The rain date for the car wash will be May 20th. All profits from the car wash and bake sale will benefit the Youth Mission Trip to New Orleans, Louisiana. So bring your dirty cars and appetites to church on May 6th!



2018 Vacation Bible School



This year's Vacation Bible School, "Hero Central—Discover Your Strength in God!", is scheduled for July 9 - 13 from 9:00 am until noon. Please plan to be a part of this great week of sharing God's love with boys and girls age 2 through fifth grade. There are many, many opportunities to help! Volunteer forms will be available soon on the Information and Outreach area of the Narthex. We need your help to make this year's VBS a success. Please consider volunteering!

MME AND MICAH 6:8 NEWS & EVENTS

Are you looking for ways to serve those in need with your time and talents? Here are some upcoming events and opportunities to serve our community in a variety of different ways. One (or more) may be just right for you!

Sacred Conversations + Action: (For more details please contact Jane Cox)

Meetings are now consistently the 4th Tuesday of each month from 7pm to 8:30pm.
Location will vary from church to church etc.

Focus is primarily on Education issues (OSS, minority representation in AP courses, diversity in hiring, and Memorandum of Understanding between schools and local police)

Anti-Racism Collective: (For more details please contact Jane Cox)

St Charles County Action Network - born of ARC workshop we hosted. Vigils are held the second Sunday of each month. Next meeting will be April 8th at Suemandy and Mid Rivers Mall Dr. at 12:30p.
Future locations are TBD

Harvest Ridge Elementary School Support: (For more details please contact Mary Powers)

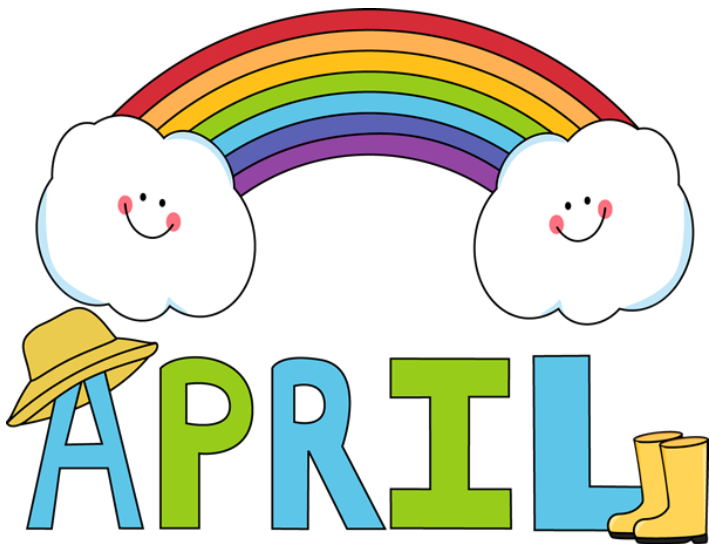
Help families eligible for financial assistance and reduced fees complete the necessary paperwork.
Several NHPC Members have volunteered and we can use more help.

Please stay tuned for future news regarding news and events regarding Community Council of St. Charles Coordinated Entry program, Oasis Food Pantry, Mission trips

Yours in Christ,
Kirk Garten, Mary Powers, Alyssa Murray, Jane Cox and Jim Cox

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 2nd.

<i>April Birthdays</i>			
Sue White	04/01	McKenzie Larrew	04/11
Benjamin Moore	04/02	Susan Phillips	04/13
Ruth Reilly	04/02	Xavier Steele	04/13
Deb Garten	04/03	Amy Connor	04/15
John Moore	04/03	Katelyn Ward	04/17
John Dittmar	04/05	Linda Carr	04/22
Kelsey Etling	04/05	Eli Cox	04/24
Willie Hantack	04/05	Rick Etling	04/24
Caleb Calvin	04/06	Marion Hamilton	04/26
Calvin Lippert	04/07	Jacob Hurrell	04/26
William Judd	04/08	Philip Wahler	04/27
Jennifer Everly	04/09	Jennifer James	04/28
Chris Truett	04/09	Martha Lamey	04/28
Clark Hurrell	04/11	Jonathan Hamilton	04/29
Madison Larrew	04/11		



<i>April Anniversaries</i>	
William & Linda Judd	04/09/1983
Jim & Jane Cox	04/17/1999
Earl & Juanita Bostic	04/19/2002
Jerry & Rhonda Dyer	04/23/1983

APRIL 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Easter</i> 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship	2 Church Office Closed 7:00pm Deacons' Meeting	3 5:00am Election Board 7:00pm Cub Scouts	4 6:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	5 1:00pm Agape Circle 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Joy Circle	6	7
8 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship	9 7:00pm Session Meeting	10	11 6:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	12 6:30pm Boy Scouts	13	14 9:45am OASIS Food Pantry
15 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship	16	17 9:30am PW Coordinating Team 7:00pm Cub Scouts	18 6:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	19 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Employment Ministry	20	21 8:30am Men's Breakfast
22 <i>Earth Day</i> 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship 3:00pm PW Hymn Sing	23 7:00pm Formation for Discipleship Committee	24	25 6:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Practice	26 6:30pm Boy Scouts	27	28
29 8:45am Worship 9:45am Christian Ed 11:00am Worship	30					

FINANCIAL CORNER

CONTRIBUTIONS
Budget
To-date Actual

March 2018
35,382.82
32,279.34

Year To Date 2018
106,148.46
100,247.68

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