

News of *Hope*



New Hope, A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

May 2022 57885 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI

www.newhopeuu.org 248-474-9108

May should be a lovely mild month. I, for one, am really looking forward to warmer and more consistent weather. I feel like April has been a roller coaster, warmer one day, sleeting the next, windy the next, snowy the next. At the moment, our front field is again attracting the local ducks and geese, as well as the horses, who are excited to roll and splash in our temporary lake.

Actually the news in April has been a lot like the weather: the Ukrainian people suffering, their towns being attacked, our government trying to provide more and more weapons, medical professionals warning about a new strain of Covid, the radical right still claiming that Trump won the presidency. It seems the bad news keeps coming.

So now we have May. I hope that maybe May can bring some peace and sanity to our world. I suspect that this May will be a very busy time for New Hope members. Many of us have taken on the task of finding some friendly, like-minded folks to sign the petitions to get **four very important civil rights issues on the November ballot** in Michigan.:

1. **Reproductive Freedom For All:** *(11 weeks left)*

This constitutional amendment would repeal the 1931 law that makes abortion a felony and would enshrine reproductive freedom in our state constitution. Reproductive freedom includes the right to obtain contraception, the right to have an abortion, and prohibits prosecution for terminating a pregnancy or helping someone they are else exercise their reproductive freedom. It also makes forced sterilization illegal.

2. **Promote the Vote:** *(11 weeks left)*

This constitutional amendment would make voting more accessible. Among other things it would create early voting, guarantee the right to vote without a photo ID, make it easier to obtain absentee ballots, establish more drop boxes, and establish that audits can only be done by clerks and elected officials

3. **Raise the Wage:** *(only 6 weeks left)*

This would raise the state minimum wage to \$15 per hour for all workers.

4. **Michigan United (a.k.a. Good Time):** *(only 6 weeks left)*

This would repeal the law that requires inmates to serve out their entire minimum sentence. It would establish 'credits' to reduce the sentences of those who earn degrees or work in prison and who have good behavior.

As you can see, numbers 3 and 4 are the ones with the least time left to procure signatures. I hope every one of us takes the petitions to have others sign. We all know people in our counties who share our values. You can take petitions for more than one county if you know people elsewhere. **We the people**, who believe in liberal values, need 500,000 signatures in 6 weeks and we are only about halfway to the goal.



EVERY SIGNATURE IS VITAL!! Even if you have only one signature on a petition, it is important and will be counted. We are not worried about filling up the petition sheets. We are only worried about getting enough signatures. The important thing is to make sure that people only sign each petition once. Please help to get these issues on the state ballot. Our current legislature will never pass these laws, so **we the people** have to take a stand and make it happen.

Another important event is happening on May 22. Instead of having our usual Sunday celebration, we will have a "Service to New Hope Sunday". Together we will shine our church home on the inside and beautify our building on the outside. New Hope belongs to all of us and we are all responsible for its maintenance. We are so grateful to **Bonnie and Mike Campbell** for the regular cleaning they do on our behalf. Once a year, all of us gather together to find the hidden cobwebs and tidy up our storage areas, to plant our flower boxes and weed and mulch our gardens. We'll have lots of fun working together and maybe have pizza and pop when we are done. Don't miss it!

IN MAY

By John Burroughs

When grosbeaks show a damask rose
Amid the cherry blossoms white,
And early robins' nests disclose
To loving eyes a joyous sight;

When dandelion's coin of gold
Anew is minted on the lawn,
And apple trees their buds unfold,
While warblers flock the groves at dawn;

When purple finches sing and soar,
Then drop to perch on open wing,
With vernal gladness running o'er—
The feathered lyrist of the spring:

When joys like these salute the sense,
And bloom and perfume fill the day,
Then waiting long hath recompense,
And all the world is glad with May.

At New Hope this church year, we have talked about many important topics including transgender justice, racial justice, and environmental justice, love and compassion. As we come to the end of the church year, I am wondering if any of you have ideas or subjects you would like to see us cover this spring. Please share with me, or a board member, if you think of something.

Also, I will be on vacation in July and we will need some folks to step up to lead services while I am gone. So if you have a game to play, a video to watch and discuss, a lesson to teach, or an activity to share, please talk to me or to a board member. We will be looking for volunteers with good ideas! I am happy to help with resources if you need them.

Have a happy and healthy May!

Remember that covid is still around, so be safe!

You each are precious and valuable in all our eyes!

*Love,
Kathy*



Greeters

May 1 Robyn
May 8 Bonnie
May 15 Corrine & Mike
May 22 Sue
May 29 No Service for Memorial Day Weekend

The June dates and beyond is wide open for volunteers.

Email me @ kzaenger@comcast.net to sign up or use the sign-up sheet on the hospitality table.



Charity Poker Events 2022

Here are the poker event dates for the rest of the year. There are all Wednesday through Saturday as in the past.

June 15 - 18
Aug. 24 - 27
Oct. 19 - 22

Dennis will get the online signup for June setup soon.

Blessing Box

Thank you to everyone for helping me out with the Blessing Box. I think it serves a need in the community, especially now with food prices going up. Thanks so much!

--Corinne

Items needed:

Toilet paper

Paper towels

Kleenex

Wipes (cleaning)

Laundry detergent

Dish detergent

Bathroom or kitchen cleaner

Hand soap

Bar soap

Shower gel

Shampoo or conditioner

Children's shampoo or soap

Toothpaste and toothbrushes

Feminine hygiene products

Hair brushes, combs, etc

Chalice Lighting for Challenging Times

By Lisa Doege

"Why a flaming chalice?" the question comes.
It's the cup of life, we answer.
A cup of blessings overflowing.
A cup of water to quench our spirits' thirst.
A cup of wine for celebration and dedication.
The flame of truth.
The fire of purification.
Oil for anointing, healing.
Out of chaos, fear, and horror,
thus was the symbol crafted, a generation ago.
So may it be for us,
in these days of uncertainty, sorrow, and rage.
And a light to warm our souls and guide us home.



Sunday Celebration of Life Schedule for May 2022

New Hope Services begin at 10:30 am. If you have any questions about our Services or activities, please contact Kathy Silver, ksilver192@gmail.com or Denise Harris, jutta474@yahoo.com. Thank you and hope to see you soon!

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SUNDAY, May 1, 10:30 AM - "In Need Of Water"

Here in MI, surrounded by fresh water, most of us probably find it difficult to imagine a world without enough drinkable water. Yet in many places on Earth, and even here in our own country, there are water shortages. What does it mean to not have enough water to live? Today we'll talk about problem solving and sharing and taking care of our neighbors.



SUNDAY, May 8, 10:30 AM - "Being Brave"

How do you define Courage? When do you feel brave? Why does it seem that some people are very brave and others of us don't like to take chances? What does bravery say about us, about who we are? What does bravery have to do with spirituality and values? Come join us as we think about these things.



SUNDAY, May 15, 10:30 AM - "Spring Cleaning Our Minds"

Have you ever thought about spring-cleaning your mind? What would you throw out? What would you keep? How would you decide which was which? This is a new concept to me, but I like it. I hope that you might like it too! What ideas do you have? Come and share with us!

Sunday, May 22, 10:30 AM "Spring Cleaning New Hope"

Instead of our regular Sunday Service today, we will have a Sunday Service Day for New Hope. Each spring we take a Sunday to dust, clean, tidy and polish the inside of our building to make it fresh and new. On the outside, we will clean up the gardens, plant the window boxes, trim some dead branches and make our entrance look inviting and well-loved. Please join us as we work together for our community!

Sunday, May 22, Memorial Day Holiday - no church service

KATHY SILVER, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

*Our Services are held on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend regardless of faith, race, age and sexual orientation.

We hope you'll stay for coffee and conversation after Services.



Announcements

If you have your pledge for New Hope, please send it to:
Mike Kelleher, treasurer,
3796 Loon Lake Road, Wixom, MI 48393
or put it in the basket at church. Thanks!

REMEMBER TO HELP STOCK THE BLESSING BOX

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY IS COLLECTED EVERY SUNDAY FOR ACTIVE FAITH FOOD PANTRY. MAKE A KID HAPPY!

News of Hope/May 2022

May Calendar

May 3,

Lunch Bunch
Beckers, 30751
Milford Rd.,
New Hudson,
meet at 12:30,
RSVP Bonnie

May 9,

Board Meeting,
3 pm at New Hope

May 12,

Book Club, 3 pm
at New Hope,
book is
After the Last Border
by
Jessica Goudeau

May 19,

Women of Hope
meet at New Hope,
6:30 PM, bring a
dish to pass.



Hospitality



Signing up for Hospitality is easy, you really only need to bring in a couple of snack items to share and the clean up is quick.

Thank you to those of you who help me out each month. It is greatly appreciated!!

05/01/22 Robyn

05/08/22 Bonnie

05/15/22 Corinne

05/22/22 Sue

05/29/22 No Service