

News_{of} *Hope*



New Hope, A Unitarian Universalist Congregation
August 2021 57885 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI

www.newhopeuu.org

248-474-9108

Deep in our selves resides the religious impulse.

Out of the passions of our clay it rises...

We have religion when we hold some hope beyond the present,
some self-respect beyond our failures.

We have religion when our hearts are capable of leaping up at
beauty, when our nerves are edged by some dream in the heart.

We have religion when we have an abiding gratitude
for all that we have received.

We have religion when we look upon people with all their failings
and still find in them good.

We have religion when we have done all that we can, and then in
confidence, entrust ourselves to the life that is larger than ourselves.

(The words of Ralph Helverson)

I admit that for the first three weeks of my vacation, I was not thinking much about religion. Mostly I was thinking about my messy, cluttered basement and how my summer goal was to get it cleaned up. I am happy to report to you that after two solid weeks of work, my basement is much improved.

I am relieved, and proud of my accomplishment, but it has been a bitter-sweet journey. Our basement held our children's childhoods and the treasures of our parents. Monica and I spent hours flipping through thousands, (maybe millions) of old photographs, to find the special ones we had

never seen before and didn't want to miss. Even though I faithfully kept photo albums through our early years, it seems there were many people and trips that never made it into them. We remembered, we laughed, we strolled down memory lane.

Then there were the boxes of stuffed animals and baby dolls with cradles and homemade blankets and pillows. There were roller skating trophies and pictures of a tiny Monica on horseback. There were beach towels from when we had a swimming pool and sleeping bags from camp. And boxes of old papers from Church committees and boards, and boxes of books. The books are still not all sorted, but I have made a start.

Reliving our lives through cleaning the basement made very clear to me that I have much for which to be grateful. It was a good exercise for me to do this, after a year of covid and social isolation. It is always good to be reminded that we should give thanks.

Now that my basement is cleaner and the country a little safer, I can turn my attention back to New Hope and the world. Services for August will cover a variety of topics, some I have been thinking about for a while and some are completely new. We'll talk about resilience and moderation and Climate Change. We will watch a TED Talk that will be a part of the renewal of our Welcoming Congregation status with the UUA

At the end of the month we will celebrate our annual "Blessing Of The Animals". I hope that everyone will be able to attend this service. Maizie will be very disappointed if some of you are missing! We'll sit outside if possible, but inside if necessary. Please bring your favorite animal friend. It might be a real dog or cat or gerbil. It might be a photo you like. It might be a stuffed animal that has a story. Sharing our animal friends teaches us about them and about ourselves. Don't miss the fun!

See you in Church. Enjoy summer and stay safe!

Love,
Kathy



Sunday Celebration of Life Schedule for August 2021

New Hope has begun meeting in person again at church. 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 see you in church!

SUNDAY, August 1, 10:30 AM – “Roots Of Resilience”

On this summer morning, we will join together to celebrate our “Roots of Resilience”. What grounds us in our lives? Our beliefs, our values, our place in the universe, our families and friends, our communities? What holds you together when you need grounding? As we share, we will learn from each other’s wisdom and experiences

SUNDAY, August 8, 10:30 AM – “The Curse of Moderation”

What does it mean to be a moderate? What does it mean to be a Unitarian Universalist? Do the two go together? Aisha Hauser, part of the lead ministry team at the Church of the Larger Fellowship, says: “The CLF will never be a moderate organization. We want to be a force for liberation in this world and in Unitarian Universalism.” What do you think?

SUNDAY, August 15, 10:30 AM – “Climate Change Action”

As we all are aware, each day changes in the climate are causing catastrophes around the world, yet it seems that our world leaders are not doing enough to try to stem the tides. Maybe we have to change our approach. At the Conference of the Parties meeting in Glasgow, the signatories to the Paris agreement will be asked to commit to educating the world’s children about the climate so these future leaders can make better decisions to save the world. We are being asked to support this effort.



SUNDAY, August 22, 10:30 AM – “Fifty Shades Of Gay”



Today we will watch a TED Talk by iO Tillett Wright about her photography project to take pictures of 2000 people who consider themselves to be somewhere on the LGBTQI spectrum. This will fulfill an education requirement for Renewing our Welcoming Congregation Status. Please join us as we continue to learn, to understand and to love.

SUNDAY, August 29, 10:30 AM – “Blessing Of The Animals”

Each year, New Hope dedicates a service to the animals who enrich our lives. Today you are invited to bring your pets to our Sunday worship. If the weather cooperates, we’ll meet outside. I can assure you, if we have to meet inside, our animal guests will be perfectly well behaved. (In all these years, we’ve only had one accident.) There will be fresh water and treats for all! If you don’t have a guest, bring a photo, a stuffed animal or tell us a short story. Don’t miss the fun! It’s especially great when the dogs sing along with us.



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.

Calendar



Lunch Bunch meets, Wed., August 11 at 12:30 at Wixom Station, 49115 Pontiac Trail, Wixom

The Board Meeting is on August 16th 6:30 pm at New Hope

Book Club is on Tuesday, August 17th at 3pm. The book is *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett

Women of Hope meets August 19 at 6:30pm. Bring a dish to share for our potluck. Kathy Z will lead us in chair yoga.



Announcements

If you have your current pledge for New Hope, please send it to:
Mike Kelleher, treasurer,
3796 Loon Lake Road
Wixom, MI 48393

or you may leave it in the donation basket at New Hope

August Social Justice Program

Once again, New Hope's will be collecting for the Livingston Humane Society in August. Donations will be accepted August 1- August 29.

The Humane Society requested that we only donate items from the list below.

- Dog and cat food - Any brand, but it must be in original bag.
- Dog and cat toys that can be sanitized - either washable or plastic/rubber
- Peanut butter
- Blankets - clean and in good condition
- Paper towels
- Newspaper - not shredded
- Disinfecting wipes
- Checks - Made out to Michigan Humane - Livingston County

Again, please only donate items on the list. Thank you!



Hospitality

Hello Everyone!

We will now be meeting in person as our 15 month hiatus ends. I am asking for your assistance in signing up for hospitality as we begin to serve food again.

Hospitality is just a little snack to have with our coffee and conversation. Clean up is minimal and I am there to help you. I am asking this year to please not leave any food at the church, so whatever is left over please bring home, or give away to a New Hope friend. There is always coffee, tea, juice and water on the table. Thank you so much for all your help.

Corinne
Hospitality Committee

8/01/21 Bonnie
8/08/21 Patricia
8/15/21 Robyn
8/22/21 Corinne
8/29/21 Denise



LEGO HAS A NEW RECYCLING PROGRAM, HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN SEND USED LEGOS



Since there are so many bricks out there and since they last so long LEGO has now introduced a LEGO recycling program where you can get rid of unwanted bricks for free! If your kids' LEGO brick collection has grown like mine has, you have likely wondered what to do with unwanted LEGOs

According to LEGO's website:

LEGO Replay is our way of helping fans donate bricks to kids in need. We're currently trying it out in the United States. Just go to www.givebackbox.com/LEGO, print out a shipping label, box up your bricks and get them to the post office. You can also visit one of our LEGO Stores to get a free shipping label or drop your donation off in person. The bricks you send will be sorted and cleaned before being donated to Teach for America or Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston.

If you're deciding what to do with LEGO® bricks when you don't want to play with them anymore, we recommend passing them on to someone else or donating them to a local charity shop.

Bricks that don't meet our high standards after being molded aren't just thrown away. We can sometimes grind them down to make new pieces. Pieces that can't be ground down and reused in molding help generate power in our facilities. When we make too many bricks of one kind, we donate them through our LEGO Foundation to charities all over the world!