

News_{of} *Hope*



New Hope, A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

February 2021 57885 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI www.newhopeuu.org 248-474-9108

In our house, the Christmas decorations, the tree and the ornaments and the wall hangings, are gone now. But, what I call the “winter decorations” are still in place. Monica’s nutcracker collection is still on the fireplace mantel and my different kinds of snowmen are still on the piano. The garland and lights still grace the front porch and there are wreaths or sprays at every door.

I cannot remove the winter holidays all at once. For my whole life, Christmas time has been a season of warmth with family, friends, fun and food. I am always loathe to see it go, and especially this year. After so many months of pandemic news and quarantines and masks and staying home alone, Christmas was a reminder of how the world is supposed to feel, even if our visiting was all on zoom.

This year, Christmas also felt like a safe haven from all of the political noise and strife. What a few months this has been! My most fervent New Year wish is that we, the people, try to put our disagreements behind us and move forward together, trying to figure out programs and ideas that will benefit all the people in our country, not just the privileged few. I know that this sounds Polly Anna-ish, but it is truly how I feel. (And I know that I will be disappointed, but still I hope....)

At New Hope, we are continuing to thrive in this strange environment. We gather as a community each Sunday morning. We have a monthly Lunch Bunch and Women’s Group and Board meetings. We continue to be a social justice presence in our community with our donations and our activities under the leadership of Deb Edford. Bonnie Campbell has called on us all to start collecting shoes for our Soles 4 Souls event, which will happen when it is safe to resume activities.

Our treasurer, Mike Kelleher, has done such a great job of shepherding our finances that we were able to give our long-time renter, Mary, free rent for the month of January after she had shoulder surgery. Our president, Denise Harris, and others, helped Mary with transportation and errands while she was recovering. Thanks to all who assisted and were such good neighbors.



I am grateful to be a part of a church community who cares about others and who steps up to help when we are needed. This is not a normal time. When the pandemic has passed, we will look back on it and be glad it is over. We also will know that we have learned some lessons. Our internet communication skills have all improved! We do not need to touch each other to be together. It is possible to create real community in cyberspace, and to accomplish great things like winning an important election in cooperation with like-minded people all over our country.

Now we must continue the work we started. We must stand up for the folks who cannot advocate on their own behalf. We must hold leaders accountable for decisions that encouraged lies and endangered lives. We must support those who uphold our values and stand for justice and equity. Now is the time for all good people to stand up and speak out!



Stay safe and be well!
Love to all, Kathy

Sunday Celebration of Life Schedule for February 2021

In the age of Covid-19, New Hope meets online at 10:30 AM on Sunday mornings. If you wish to join the service, please contact Denise Harris at jutta474@yahoo.com, or Kathy Silver at ksilver192@gmail.com. You will be notified of the link before the service. Please join us!

SUNDAY, February 7 – Celebrating Black History Month

We will use our time on Sunday mornings during the month of February to learn more about Black History in the United States of America. If you have some topics that you would like to explore during the next few Sundays, please share your ideas with us and we will try to incorporate them into our services this month.



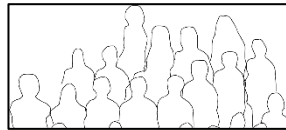
SUNDAY, February 14, 10:30 AM – “Meet the Loving Family”



In 1967, Richard and Mildred Loving of Virginia were arrested because they had an inter-racial marriage, which was forbidden by Virginia’s Racial Integrity Act. Their case made it all the way to the US Supreme Court, which ruled that Virginia had violated their civil rights. Come and hear the story and celebrate love on this Valentine’s Day.

SUNDAY, February 21, 10:30 AM – “Black Women Who Should Be Famous”

For centuries in our country, there have been amazing Black Women who have done fabulous things that we have never heard about. Let’s celebrate some of these women as we share their stories and accomplishments. Join us as we learn!



SUNDAY, February 28, 10:30 AM – “The Lie of Racism”

Join us for a TED Talk by John Biewin about the lie that invented racism. According to John it all started in the 1400’s in Portugal. It is an interesting history that we all should know and understand, so that we can work better to fight against it. Knowledge is power!

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.



A flame within a chalice (a cup with a stem and foot) is a primary symbol of the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition. Many of our congregations kindle a flaming chalice in gatherings and worships and feature the chalice symbol prominently.

Hans Deutsch, an Austrian artist, first brought together the chalice and the flame as a Unitarian symbol during his work with the Unitarian Service Committee during World War II. To Deutsch, the image had connotations of sacrifice and love. Unitarian Universalists today have many different interpretations of the flaming chalice, including the light of reason, the warmth of community, and the flame of hope.

Calendar



February 5
Lunch Bunch
on a Friday,
12:30, on zoom

February 8
Board Meeting,
6:30 on zoom

February 11
Book Club,
3:00 on zoom

February 18
Women of Hope,
6:30 on zoom



Social Justice Projects for February

Each year, New Hope has made contributions to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Program “*Guest At Your Table*” during the holiday season. Even though we are not in church to collect donations, we can still invite a guest to our table by sending donations to the UUSC. Further details will be provided soon. Thank you!