

News of *Hope*



July 2023 57885 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI

www.newhopeuu.org 248-474-9108

" Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass on a summer day listening to the murmur of water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is hardly a waste of time."

—John Lubbock

The above quotation speaks to me because it seems to indicate that retirement might mean that I'll actually have some time to watch the clouds float across the sky. I hope that some of you get to lie on the grass, or better yet, in a hammock or on a chaise lounge, and also watch the clouds.

It's been a strange month for me and maybe for some of you. I feel like I threw a wrench into our church life, when I announced my retirement. Some of you already knew. Some of you probably guessed, and some of you were surprised. Really, though, it shouldn't be too surprising, considering how long I have been a religious educator.

I have loved my chosen profession for all 34 years! Oh, there's been a rough spot or two, but basically it's been a joy. When I worked with programs with volunteer teachers in classrooms, it was fun to watch the teachers become more skilled, as the kids grew stronger and wiser and kinder.

I have loved leading our adult Sunday services using some of the techniques and programs from the children's classes. In my experience, adults enjoy a challenging game or a creative art project or a movement exercise every bit as much as youngsters. New Hope has been a wonderful congregation to work with, because we have a circle of friendship and acceptance that is graced with enthusiasm and humor. We are young at heart!

While I am on my usual vacation in July, we will take the first couple of **Sundays off** from church services to celebrate the **July 4 holiday** and also the **South Lyon Pride Festival** on **July 8**. We are asking all New Hoppers to try to attend the Festival at **McHattie Park** on that Saturday. New Hope is a co-sponsor of the event. We will be giving away rainbow flags and bubbles and friendship bracelets, made especially for us by Tracie Naffin. Please come visit our booth, have a seat and chat with our South Lyon neighbors for a while.

On **July 16**, Denise will use a UUA resource that provides all the elements of a service. Rev. Phil Lund, the MidAmerican Region Congregational Life Consultant, will discuss how to be "hopeful in these hard times" and to "find out how we can—individually and collectively—behave magnificently in defiance of all hurt and heartbreak around us."

The last two Sundays of the month (**July 23 and 30**) will be **TED Talk Presentations** by Brene Brown on Vulnerability and Shame. Dr. Brown is a genial speaker with lots of humorous experiences, which highlight topics that are especially meaningful to our human existence. Please join us as we watch and then discuss her ideas.

A BIG THANK YOU to those who worked at **Charity Poker** at the end of June. Keeping New Hope in the black is in all our interests. We are able to maintain our financial health because everyone contributes to the cause. Your good work is very appreciated.

Also thank you for your good wishes and kind words about my coming retirement. It makes it easier to talk about, when I know that you all understand, and a lot of you have already done it!

I'll end with a summer wish for you all from Van Morrison:

"Smell the sea, and feel the sky. Let your soul and spirit fly."

Love, Kathy



Sunday Celebration of Life Schedule for July 2023

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!

July



July 2 – No Service. Have a wonderful 4th of July!

July 8 (Saturday) South Lyon Pride Fest –McHattie Park, South Lyon, 12pm-5pm

New Hope will be sponsoring a booth at the 3rd annual South Lyon Pride fest. Please join us for a few hours to help man the booth and to check out the all the activities. There will be a DJ, drag queen performances and a number of interesting vendors. Those from New Hope who went last year had a great time.



July 9 – No Service

July 16 – Not Foolishly Romantic

Denise will use a UUA resource that provides all the elements of a service. Rev. Phil Lund, the MidAmerican Region Congregational Life Consultant, will discuss how to be “hopeful in these hard times” and to “find out how we can—individually and collectively—behave magnificently in defiance of all hurt and heartbreak around us.”



July 23– The Power of Vulnerability

We will listen to a TedTalk by Brene Brown on Vulnerability. Always a wonderful and funny speaker, Brené Brown explains why vulnerability is so important and how it can improve our lives. Denise will lead the service.

July 30 – Listening to Shame

Brene Brown expands on her TedTalk we listened to last week and talks about shame, which she feels is an unspoken epidemic. Brene “explores what can happen when people confront their shame head-on.” Patricia will lead the 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.



July 2, no Church service, Happy July 4 Holiday!

July 8, noon to 5, South Lyon PrideFest in McHattie park.

July 9, no service. Please attend the Pride Festival

July 12, Lunch Bunch, Draft Horse Brewery in New Hudson

July 24, Board Meeting at New Hope, 3 pm

August 7, Animal Blessing at Fox Trot Farm



Announcements

If you have a pledge payment for New Hope, please send it to: Mike Kelleher, treasurer, New Hope, PO Box 375, New Hudson, MI 48165-1375, or put it in the basket at church. Thanks!

Remember: volunteers are needed to greet, host hospitality and clean up after each service. Sign-up sheets are on tables in the front room. Do you have a good idea that you'd like to share? We need someone to lead the July 30 Sunday service.

Please help stock the Blessing Box and bring Peanut Butter and Jelly for Active Faith Also, remember to sign-up for Charity Poker!

Greeters



The calendar for dates in July and beyond are wide open for greeters. Please sign up if you are available. Email me kzaenger@comcast.net to sign up or use the sign-up sheet on the hospitality table.

SERVICE PROJECT for July

Needed donations to the Veteran's Medical Center in Ann Arbor

- comfort items such as combs, brushes, razors, and deodorants
- men's & women's underwear, all kinds and sizes, sports bras
- sweat pants, sweat shirts, hoodies, and tee shirts

(All items must be new and unused in original packages)



Hospitality for July

July 02, 2023 No Service
July 09, 2023 No Service
July 16, 2023 Denise
July 23, 2023 Sue
July 30, 2023 Patricia

