

News_{of} Hope



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

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"Gratitude turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion into clarity. It makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow."

— Melody Beattie

November is the month of thanksgiving, not just because of the holiday, but because it is a time of plenty. Traditionally the harvest is done, the corn is in the silos, the vegetables are in the cellars, and our world snugs down for winter. Here in the north, the winds start to blow cold and we are reminded of the weather that is coming. Right now the trees are beautiful in their fall outfits, but in a few short weeks, they will be just branches against the sky.

At New Hope, we will be warm and safe in our community of like-minded friends. For this, we will give thanks, because the world has become a place of uncertainty, of distrust and of war. There is little we can do to fix any of these problems at the moment. So we must be extra vigilant to make our own places in the world safe and kind and loving to all we encounter.

Our first November service will be called "Forgive". It is a word that is easy to say and good to do, but is sometimes a very difficult goal to reach. Even when we manage to achieve it, we still have the task of living with the consequences. How is it possible to forget? Or deal with not forgetting? Every one of us has examples of this in our lives. What do you do?

On November 12, we will celebrate life with a Drumming Service. It has been a long time since we've enjoyed New Hope's percussion skills. Come join us as we make a joyful noise and create a beat that matches the rhythms of our hearts. Drumming can teach us that even though we all start at different times with different sounds, we can blend together into a creative and wonderful whole.

After our recent discussions about being enough and then not doing enough, our Thanksgiving Service will be about "More Than Enough". We will hear a wonderful story by Dawn Star Sarahs-Borchelt called "When you have more than enough". Here at New Hope, we are blessed with great friends and opportunities to help improve our little corner of the world. We are grateful for all that we have, and for our ability to share with others. Come join us as we give thanks together.

Our September Social Justice Project helping the **Livingston County Animal Shelter** was a great success. Besides the \$695 in donations, we also provided many needed towels, toys, dog and cat foods and bedding. **Thank you to everyone** for helping to make the lives of the animals in the shelter more comfortable! **Special thanks to Sue Myers** for leading this effort.

Our October/November Project is to provide toys, books and games for all ages, for the **Children's Birthday Table** at Active Faith. When children have birthdays, their parents are invited to choose a gift from the Table. We will provide a nice selection for them to choose from. Corinne is our contact person. **Thank you, Corinne!** Enjoy shopping for the kids!

As my retirement gets closer, I am grateful that many of you are working together to move New Hope forward into the future. We are blessed with a wonderful group of people who are devoted to the good health and smooth functioning of our little church. This is a small and mighty congregation. I know that you will continue to work together to benefit our neighborhood, our community and each other.

We end with wisdom from Oprah Winfrey.

"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough."

Blessings on you all! Stay warm and safe!

Love. Kathy



Sunday Celebration of Life Schedule for November 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!

SUNDAY, November 5, 10:30 AM "Forgive"

Have you ever been ghosted or disowned by a friend or relative? Has someone you trusted betrayed you? It is easy to say forgive, but it is much harder to do it, and much harder still, to deal with the pain of remembering. We can forgive, but we can't forget. What does it mean to forgive? How do you do it? Come share your thoughts with us.



November 12, 10:30 AM – "Life As A Drumming Circle"

Have you ever participated in a drumming circle? We haven't had one at New Hope for a few years now. It seems like a good thing to do when the skies turn gray and the leaves fly. It can warm us and make us feel part of something alive.

Join us as we create our own form of a drumming Sunday Service. Bring your drum or any percussion instrument you might have. If you don't have one, don't worry. New Hope has lots of good ones.

SUNDAY, November 19, 10:30 AM - "More Than Enough"

This service is inspired by a story by Dawn Star Sarahs-Borchelt. As Thanksgiving approaches, we are all planning to feast with family and friends and maybe, strangers. As we enjoy having our treats, are we also thinking about how much is enough, or not enough, or more than enough? Join us as we explore some of the history and traditions of this American Holiday from our Unitarian Universalist perspective.



SUNDAY, November 26, 10:30 AM - No Church - Holiday Weekend

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 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.

Please help stock the Blessing Box and bring Peanut Butter and Jelly for Active Faith
We donated \$690 and lots of supplies to the Animal Shelter. THANKS!



Social Justice Project for October and November

We are stocking the Birthday Table for Active Faith Children these next few weeks. Have some fun shopping for new toys, games, and books for young people of all ages. They need to be unwrapped and not for Christmas. The children and their parents thank you!

November

November 7,
Book Club, 3 pm,
New Hope, *The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11*
by Garrett M. Graff

Lunch Bunch,
November 8, 12:30,
location TBD

November 16,
Women of Hope,
6:30 pm, potluck

November 20,
Board Meeting, 3 pm,
New Hope



Hospitality

11/05 Robyn
11/12 Sue
11/19 Corinne
11/26 No Service



Greeters

11/5 Robyn
11/12 Sue
11/19 Corinne
& Mike
11/26 _____

The calendar for all dates in December and beyond are wide open for greeters. Please sign up. It's fun to greet everyone. Email me @ kzaenger@comcast.net to sign up or use the sign-up sheet on the hospitality table.