

News of *Hope*



New Hope, A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

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

Remember that we are the promises we make. In trying times such as these, we must lean into our relationships and the agreements that hold us together. As Unitarian Universalists, must come together and toil side by side for the common good. We are called to live with purpose, ever mindful that our actions, like the ripples that spread when a pebble is dropped into a pond, move outward - touching those who we have yet to meet but for whom we carry direct responsibility.

The above words come to us in a letter from the UUA Committee on Appraisal, along with a new book called, Unlocking the Power of Covenant.

Here at New Hope, we have not spent much time talking about our covenant with one another. I am happy to note that we are often of one mind about issues, and we do not find it necessary to negotiate our path forward. However, at the beginning of each board meeting, our leaders say their covenant out loud together: *"If we agree in love, there is no disagreement that can do us any injury, but if we do not, no other agreement can do us any good. Let us endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace."*

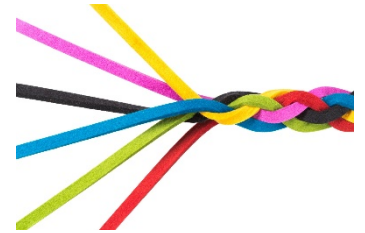
This little prayer reminds our board members that they come together with an attitude of love, for each other and for our community of New Hope. Members don't always agree on everything, but they don't need to think alike to love alike. Solutions are always possible when everyone wants to solve the problem peaceably.

As we start this new church year, I thought it would be good for all of us to take a look at the covenant New Hope created when it was accepted into the Unitarian Universalist Association.

New Hope Covenant - 7/16/08

We, the members of the New Hope, covenant together to honor our UU Principles and to work in right relationship with one another by following the guidelines below:

- We will be fully present with each other.
- We will treat each other with dignity and respect.
- We will honor our diverse perspectives and opinions.
- We will assume that each of us has the best possible motives.
- We will critically explore ideas without being critical of the person.
- We will come prepared for activities and follow through on our commitments.
- We will speak from our own experiences and protect confidentiality, when necessary.
- We will listen to each other carefully and not interrupt.
- We will always remember that we come together as a spiritual community.



Over the years of our existence, New Hope has been blessed with much good fortune and many dedicated members. Our community works because we consistently treat each other with love and respect. We function as a family without cliques and in-groups and out-groups. Everyone contributes to the health and well being of the whole to the best of their ability, each in their own way. Not all organizations are so lucky to gather such a wonderful group of like-minded people.

So we begin the 2021-2022 church year together. May we continue to create our community of spiritual growth and social justice work. May we work together, in ways large and small, to try to make the world a better, safer and kinder place.

See you in Church. Enjoy the last of summer and stay safe!

*Love,
Kathy*

Sunday Celebration of Life Schedule for September 2021

New Hope has begun meeting in person again at church. We are wearing masks. 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, September 5, No Church – Labor day Holiday

SUNDAY, September 12, 10:30 AM – “Come Together”



Please join us at New Hope for our Fall Ingathering. Everyone is invited to bring a memento of their summer to share, maybe something simple, something memorable, something creative, something humorous. After a summer of high heat and humidity and a year of zoom, we'll give thanks for being together again, in person and masked up.

SUNDAY, September 19, 10:30 AM – “Righteous Rage”

Let's talk about how we are dealing with the negative feelings we have toward those who are refusing to be vaccinated against covid, and also refuse to take precautions like wearing masks. How can we help each other to deal with this unpleasant and provocative reality that affects us all?

SUNDAY, September 26, 10:30 AM – “All Fall In!”

As we recognize the beginning of this Autumn Season, we will learn a bit about the pagan holiday of Mabon, a time of harvest and thanksgiving. We will honor Mother Earth as the days grow shorter and the nights – longer. We will learn about “Bisexual Pride Day” which was celebrated on September 23. The seasons are changing and so are we!



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.

September Calendar



5th
NO CHURCH,
Holiday weekend

7th
Lunch Bunch, 12:30
at Zukey Lake Tavern,
5011 Girard Dr.,
Pinckney

9th
Book Club, at New
Hope, The All-Girl
Filling Station's Last
Reunion, by Fannie
Flagg

13th
Board Meeting, 6:30
at New Hope

16th
Women of Hope,
6:30 at New Hope,
Chair Yoga with
Kathy Z. Bring a dish
to pass.



Greeters



September 12 Kathy Z & Dennis S

September 19 Bonnie

September 26 Corinne & Mike

October is completely open for volunteers.
The sign-up sheet is on the hospitality
table.

SAVE THE DATE

Our 5th Annual Fall Fellowship Dinner

Will be held

Saturday, October 16, 2021 @ 6:30pm

at New Hope Church

The entrée will be provided by the church
and everyone will need to bring a dish to pass.

Sign-up sheets will be out in September
We are looking forward to a fun and entertaining
evening

Corinne and Bonnie

Hospitality



I am making a little change to Hospitality for now as the covid virus is on the rise. Our wonderful volunteers will still be bringing in their delicious snacks and I will be bringing in a wrapped snack instead of my usual cheese and crackers(sorry Maizey).If you have any questions or concerns please contact me.

Corinne

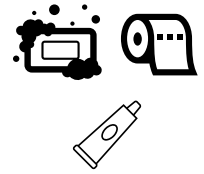
Hospitality Comm.

09/05/21	No service
09/12/21	Diann
09/19/21	Bonnie
09/26/21	Corinne

Blessing Box

The Board of Directors has approved of the re-opening of the Blessing Box. Our Blessing Box fills a need for our neighbors who rely on the Snap Program to care for their families. I will start collecting items on September 12th. Please remember small non-food items fit best in our box. Your donations contribute to a better quality of life for your neighbors, and I am grateful for all your help.

Corinne



Charity Poker



Poker dates are next month:

Wednesday, Oct. 27

to

Saturday Oct. 30,

at Five Star Lanes again.

See Dennis if you haven't signed up yet.

Thanks

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.

