



New Hope Church Newsletter

Summer 2022

New Hope Church – ECO
22 Cortez Drive
Washington, PA 15301

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Summer Worship Service
10:00am

Covenant Order of
Evangelical Presbyterians

Sunday School
kickoff will start
10:00am,
September 11, with
outside worship Ser-
vice and Picnic to
follow.

Car Cruise & BBQ
September 24

May God, the source
of hope, fill you with
all joy and peace by
means of your faith
in him, so that your
hope will continue to
grow by the power of
the Holy Spirit."

-Romans 15:13

Pastor's Message

What can we make of the world today? The circumstances of life in the time and place God positions His people are often confusing. Christians are called to God by His grace through faith in Jesus Christ. We are Holy people, separated out for Divine purpose for such a time as this, a time of upheaval of Biblical principles of virtue, ethics and morals. To many it seems like the world is turned upside down; what was once good is now bad, what was once forbidden is now mainstream, what was once considered disobedience to God's precepts are ignored and rationalized. Sadly, today's culture is not only embraced by non-Christians, but have led Christians astray as well. Many churches have been affected by the culture instead of infecting the culture for Jesus. Today there is a smorgasbord of organizations and churches that will accommodate any level of man-made immoral values. No wonder the world is a puzzling time for so many who resort to "doing what seems right in their own eyes" (Judges 17:6; 21:25), instead of following God-given Biblical values.



The deterioration of Christian morals is not surprising. We encounter many people from various walks of life at our New Hope City Center mission on 47 North Main Street in Washington, PA. There seems to be an increasing number of the 20-40 year old's who have no conception of Christianity, have never gone to a church or been exposed to Christ. Often the lack of a church upbringing is a multi-generational problem where parents and even grandparents never entered a church and have no understanding of the gospel message of Jesus Christ. Generations of individuals who have no idea what even the simple Biblical "Golden Rule" of Jesus in Matthew 17:12, "*Do to others as you would have them do to you.*" In other words, have no moral compass or foundation. The prevailing view is that churches lay on you these antiquated laws from an old book that have little to no relevance in today's world.

How are we Christians to navigate in these waters? The church is an outpost of God's kingdom. We are ambassadors of Christ who live to sow the seeds of the gospel of Jesus Christ to a dark and fallen world that "whosoever believes will not perish but have eternal life" and walk in

Pastor's Message (Continued from page 1)

relationship to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The church continues to Christ! So, we assemble to come out of the wilderness on Sunday worship, Bible study, in groups of believers to be refreshed, encouraged, empowered to go out into the world shining the light of Christ in dark places. We are emissaries of hope to the hopeless. We steer through rough waters navigated by God.

There is *nothing new under the sun* (Ecclesiastes 1:9). We are not encountering what other believers in other times have not conquered through Christ. From the beginning of time to the time of the apostles, to our present age, we are set aside for God's purpose to give the hope of salvation to a fallen world. So, do not despair, but rejoice that you have the opportunity to boldly proclaim what God has done for you; He restored your relationship to Him. We are children of God, born again, born from above, new creations in the family of God. *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* (Mat 28:19-20)

Church Retreat and Prescription Update



Members of session, volunteer staff leaders, Pastor Tom and moderator Justin Amsler met in early February 2022 at Agape Camp in Hickory to discuss projects and the 2020 prescriptions for advancing the mission of New Hope Church. This retreat was a great event.

In December 2020, Pastor Henry Yoder and Reverend Justin Amsler presented the findings of their New Hope Church congregational survey and analysis. The presentation highlighted five commendations and six concerns resulting in ten prescriptions. The purpose of this

consultation report was to make changes at New Hope Church to better position it in fulfilling its mission to the community. The church has been busy implementing most of the recommendations and you can see evidence of those changes around the church.



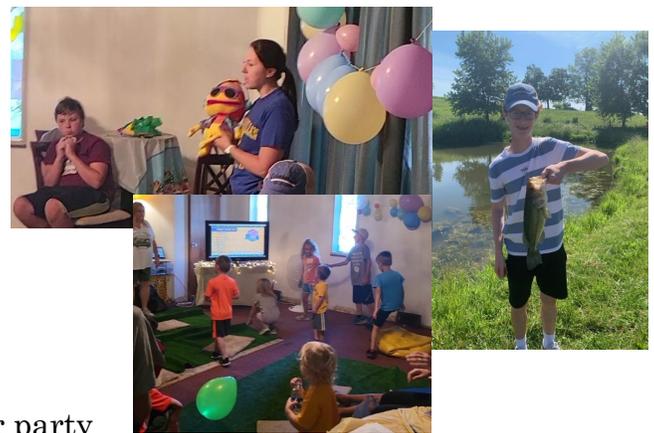
Redesigned church entrance. Church entry way now has a new welcoming entrance with a screen monitor that has church events posted and a coffee station open to all.

Thanks to everyone who helped get the nursery remodeled. This project was made possible by the personal efforts of Curt and Karen Beton who tirelessly worked on the painting, floor removal and new flooring. Monitor screen can be used for multiple applications including being networked with the service.



Youth Update

VBS ran from June 6-9 with a “Food Truck Picnic” on Thursday evening..Well attended and fun for everyone!



Youth group will kick back off with an end of summer party on

August 26th from 6-9pm slip 'n slide, fire, and food!Regular youth group meetings will be on the first Wednesday of every month beginning **September 7th - 6-7:30pm.**

Game nights will be back in October - no date determined yet!

Christian Counseling Associates of Western PA

christiancounselingwpa.com



CHRISTIAN
COUNSELING
ASSOCIATES

The church continues to support Christian Counseling Associates by leasing two rooms in our church building for counseling availability in our region. Christian Counseling acknowledges that Jesus Christ can powerfully work in our lives to bring about healing and relief. They provide a full range of services to those who need counseling for any individual, marital, or family concern. When desired, psychiatric referrals for medication management are available for those who struggle with more serious emotional problems. CCAWPA will be adding a third room to officially make this a major office site for the Washington and surrounding region.

Deacons' Update

The deacons of New Hope Church have been active over these last few months with several projects. We have connected with a contact at Trinity Middle School and donate monthly with food boxes to school families in need. It is all done anonymously, but we put a New Hope Church Brochure in the box so they know we are reaching out to them. It is hard to believe that we have so many families in our school district that still need food.

We collected money and made food boxes to a family in our Cortez Drive neighborhood who is facing a medical issue due to COVID. We supplied an Easter dinner, complete with a ham and candy filled eggs for the children. It was well received and greatly appreciated. We received a thank you note and some drawings that are posted on the bulletin board by the office.

We celebrated our 50 + year members with a beautiful devotional with a personal note from pastor tom and a delicious luncheon on Sunday May 22.

We have an active food pantry where the donated food items are used to fill our monthly food box distribution along with supplying a food pantry at the New Hope's harmony house cafe. We are always in need of canned soups, canned fruits and spaghetti sauce. Donated items may be placed in the basket is by the front door.

During the summer months, we will focus on visitations to homebound.

Our next mission project for month of July will be school supplies of any kind.

So watch for sales and pick them up for our July project. The teachers do request for the crayons to be the smaller packs of crayons. I asked why is that and The teachers say, when I say get out your red crayon, the student looks in their pack and there are 3 or 4 different shades of red !

If anyone knows of a need that could addressed, please see a deacon or call church office and we will be in touch.

Gwen Gongaware,
Donna Pauley

New Hope City Center

We are very excited to announce that on January 30, 2022 we finally purchased the 8,000 square foot building space where New Hope City Center is located. Many private donors, churches, and companies have blessed our mission and donated to raise the funds needed to purchase the building including an interest-free 10-year loan graciously provided by a local church. We know that the Lord will continue to prosper the great plans He has for His ministry here. We seek your continued support to make this God-driven vision an ongoing presence in the heart of Washington.

We celebrated our 6-Year Anniversary serving our community May 6, 2022. Come visit our Harmony House Café outreach at 47 North Main Street in Washington, PA. Open T-W-Th-F 8:00am to 2:00pm. A “place of peace” moved by the Spirit of God for the local community and those in recovery. Where all are welcome to enjoy good coffee, good food and to build good relationships in Christian ministry.

Learn more at www.newhopecitycenter.org

