



DECEMBER 2011

Children’s Ministry.....	4
Youth Ministry	6
Adult Ministry	3
Music Ministry.....	2
Administration	6
Fellowship	7
Outreach	7

Tidings of Comfort and Joy

Rev. Steve Norden · norden@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445

We’ve just entered into the most wonderful time of the year and the happiest season of all. At least that’s what the Christmas song would have us believe. For most of us, I would venture to say that this is definitely true. There is something about this season of giving that gladdens the heart. And, for those of us who claim the title “Christian,” the joy and hope that fills our hearts because God has entered history in this baby whose birth we celebrate is magnified during this season.


Still, I’m aware that not all feel this way. For some, the Christmas season is filled with pain and a sense that hope is nowhere to be found. This came into sharp focus for me recently as I accompanied officers from the Dublin Division of Police as we made a death notification. For this family, life is forever changed and the Christmas season will always bring a painful memory.

Some churches intentionally acknowledge the pain of the season that some experience by offering a “blue Christmas” worship. I honestly haven’t given much thought to what this might mean for us at New Hope, but it may be something to which we should pay attention.

I have no intention of being morose or trying to dampen anyone’s enjoyment of this season. I will invite all of us to be more sensitive to those for whom this is a difficult time of year. Perhaps we can reach out with understanding and compassion, not with the intent of making the pain go away but lightening the burden.

The joy that I experience during Christmas is one that fills my heart. I’m not going to pray that this joy is lessened. I simply will pray that my heart will be expanded to include those whose hearts are wracked by pain or are burdened by despair. The love that was born on Christmas is a love that reaches and touches all.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP
Christmas Eve: 5, 7, 9, and 11 PM
Christmas Day: 10AM



See page 2

HOPE MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS
SPiRiT of the SEASON
Sunday, December 11
6:30pm



See page 2

preschool registration



Early Registration Begins January 3
See page 4

4739 W. Powell Rd.
Powell, Ohio 43065
614.766.5445
NewHopeWorship.com
Facebook.com/NewHopePowell
Twitter.com/NewHopePowell

MISSION OF NEW HOPE CHURCH:

To **Reach** People for Christ · To **Root** People in Christ · To **Release** People to Serve Christ

Christmas at New Hope

Join us this Christmas as we celebrate God's great gift to us, the birth of Jesus Christ!
For more information, visit NewHopeWorship.com/Christmas.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5:00, 7:00, 9:00, and 11:00PM

5:00PM Family Friendly Service - This service is designed for families with young children. Our Kids WOW Children's Choir will sing, and all children will have the opportunity to help act out the nativity scene. Nursery care is available for children age 3 and under, but children of all ages are welcome to experience the church service!

7:00 & 9:00PM Candlelight Services - Our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Services feature familiar Christmas music and a retelling of all that happened on that Holy Night in Bethlehem. Children are welcome, but please note there will be no nursery care. The cry room will be available.

11:00PM Candlelight Service with Communion - Join us in quiet celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. We will also celebrate the sacrament of Communion. There's something very special about this service...come and be filled with awe in the still of the night!

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

One service at 10:00AM

10:00AM Family Worship Service - Make time on Christmas morning to celebrate the true meaning of this holy day. Come as you are, and bring the whole family! There will be no nursery care, but children of all ages are welcome to attend church with their families.

Celebrate the Spirit of the Season!

Join us Sunday, December 11 for
a special evening of Christmas music

*Featuring Adult and Children's Choirs,
Orchestra, and Handbells*

Invite your friends and family!



Adult Ministry

Rev. Sarah Palsma · palsma@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x15

Be Still...

As the anxiety and stress of the Christmas season begins to kick into high gear I am reminded of the words from Psalm 46: “Be still, and Know that I am God!” The season of Advent is a time for us to be still while we wait with eager expectation for the coming of Christ.



Spiritual leader Edward Hays once wrote, “Take time to be aware that in the very midst of our busy preparations for the celebration of Christ’s birth in ancient Bethlehem, Christ is reborn in the Bethlehems of our homes and daily lives. Take time, slow down, be still, be awake to the Divine Mystery that looks so common and so ordinary yet is wondrously present.”

This year the RCA has organized its daily Advent devotional around the theme of the Jesse Tree. The Jesse Tree is a Christmas tree decorated with symbols that remind us of God’s promise for Jesus’ birth, beginning with the testimony from the prophet Isaiah: “A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.” (Isaiah 11:1) Rediscover God’s blessings and promises for all of us during the hustle and bustle of this time of year. Find links to this devotional and a family-focused activity based devotional at NewHopeWorship.com/Christmas.

I pray that you will take time this season to be still in the presence of God.



New Year’s Discipleship Opportunities

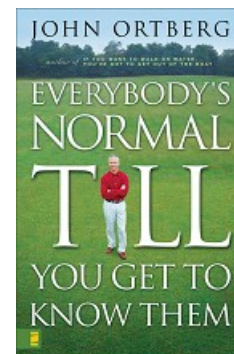
Keep a look out for new discipleship opportunities at New Hope in the coming year. Here’s a preview:

Everybody’s Normal Till You Get to Know Them

Sundays at 11:00AM, beginning January 8

Facilitated by Maria Hodge

Beginning on Sunday January 8, **Maria Hodge** will be facilitating discussion on John Ortberg’s book “Everybody’s Normal Till You Get to Know Them” during the 11:00AM Sunday school hour. During this 13-week study you’ll get a thought-provoking look at God’s heart, at others, and at yourself. Come explore what it means for all of us, as unique and different as we are, to live in community with God and one another.



Children's Ministry

Brooke Morris, Director · morris@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x13



Important Dates to Remember in December

- 12/7 6:00-8:00 Last Kids WOW!
- 12/10 10:15-1:00 Kids WOW Dress Rehearsal and Birthday Party for Jesus
- 12/11 9:30 Sunday School, 6:30 Christmas Cantata
- 12/18 9:30 Sunday School
- 12/25 10:00 Family Worship

Kids WOW continued through November with the themes Happy Birthday Pinki, Members of God's Army, Thanks Be to God, and "Whoos" Making Wise Choices. Through those themes we made our way through 2nd Samuel, 1st Kings, and 1st & 2nd Chronicles learning the purpose and important people of each book, and we tied in a life lesson from that book to our own lives. Our last theme for December will be God Never Gives Up! We will wrap up on Saturday, December 10 with a dress rehearsal and Birthday Party for Jesus, and on Sunday, December 11 at 6:30 the Kids WOW Choir will perform in the Christmas Cantata.



Kids WOW is for ages K-5th grade and runs Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00PM. Our next session will run for six weeks starting January 18. WOW includes a themed dinner, choir practice, and bible time. For more information or to register your kiddos please visit NewHopeWorship.com/WOW or contact **Brooke Morris** at morris@NewHopeWorship.com or 614.766.5445 x13.

The Christmas Eve Family Worship Service will be held at 5:00PM. Kids WOW Choir will sing and all kids will be involved in a spontaneous nativity. We are looking for five adults to help with the nativity - help kids into "costumes" and assist them in moving from place to place during the reading of the Christmas story. Please contact **Brooke Morris** or **Pastor Sarah** if you are able to help with this.



The 9:30 Sunday School classes will begin the winter curriculum of the Rock Solid Series. The lessons for December, Hope is Born, share the story of the birth of our Lord. The new curriculum guide that outlines the weekly faith topics and shares the reading and verse for that week will be passed out the first Sunday in December. We urge you to read these stories and discuss with your children before they come to Sunday School, so they can have a meaningful connection on Sunday morning. Thank you to **Shannon Summers** for her help in organizing and distributing the curriculum.



Congratulations to **Zach and Alissa Weiser** on the birth of their daughter, **Haddie Maxine**, on November 18. Haddie is welcomed by big sister **Hayden**, Grandparents **Michael & Diane Shelley**, and numerous Aunts, Uncles, and cousins at New Hope.

Children's Ministry

Brooke Morris, Director · morris@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x13

Ark of the Covenant

It always makes me smile when kids have that “aha” moment where they connect the Ark of the Covenant from Indiana Jones with the Ark of the Covenant in the Old Testament. It is an often needed prop in Kids WOW, Sunday School, and VBS, so I am hoping to get a replica made that we can keep in our “props” closet. Please consider sharing your time and talents on this meaningful task! For ideas, visit arkcovenant.com/LifeSizeReplica.htm or ehow.com/how_4914310_make-covenant-replica-sunday-school.html. Contact Brooke Morris with any questions; we can help with materials, etc.



Thank you to **John Eagon, Phil Weiker, Bill Zahn, Ken Hammond, Tom Lewis, Jim Underwood, and Mike Shelley** (my forever helpful father) for painting my office and to **Lesly Moreno** for helping me clean out and organize the bookshelves, filing cabinets and desk. My office has been turned into a beautiful place to work and to welcome others. Please stop in anytime to visit!

New Hope Preschool

Lynn Riley, Director · preschool@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.2446



As always November and December are busy months for the preschool. In November we received a renewal for our 2 Star Quality Rating Program. The teachers and I work very hard to continue to meet the requirements of a 2 star program. We are continually working to improve the program to make it the best it can be.

We had another successful Turkey Trot Fundraiser for the preschool and again met our goal. The children made their own turkey hats and gobbled through the halls going under, over, and through the obstacle course. They even stopped in the hula hoops to do a turkey dance!



In December the children will have their Christmas Programs for families and friends. Pastor Steve and Pastor Sarah will talk to the children at the end of the program about Jesus' birth and the meaning of Christmas.

2011 has been a year of growth and excitement at the preschool. We opened the Green Room, added a Bible Story teacher, and added four new staff members to our team. New Hope Preschool would like to wish all of you a safe and joyous holiday!

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT BEGINS IN JANUARY

New Hope Preschool enrollment for 2012-13 will begin on

Wednesday, January 4 at 8:30AM for current families, church members, and returning families.

Enrollment will be open to the public on **January 23 at 8:30AM** in Fellowship Hall A.

All enrollment paperwork will be available in the “forms library” online at NewHopePreschool.com.

Youth Ministry

Bob Cline, Director · cline@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445

High School Ski Trip

High School youth - any interest in a high school ski trip this winter? We would spend Martin Luther King Jr. weekend (January 14-16) skiing at Holiday Valley in New York. We have a great housing opportunity in Ellicottville, NY to help keep costs down. Cost is approximately \$250 with own equipment and \$300 for rentals. All costs include lodging, food, lift tickets, and transportation. Please email **Bob Cline** at cline@NewHopeWorship.com if you are interested.



GENESIS 2012

Genesis 2012 is an incredible weekend of Christian fellowship, spiritual growth, and bonding for high school students. Two thousand teens take over the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa (yes, Spa) complete with two pools, six indoor tennis courts, dodgeball, great meals, and incredible group sessions. Join us to hear main speaker Ben Glenn "The Chalk Guy" and music by Downhere for an unforgettable weekend.

This year's Genesis retreat is March 9-11. Cost is \$175 per person, but through fundraising we are able to reduce the cost to \$50 per person!

For more information on the retreat visit Genesis2012.org. Please email **Bob Cline** at cline@NewHopeWorship.com ASAP if you are interested so we can get our rooms reserved!

Administration and Finance

Sandy Moberger, Church Administrator · moberger@NewHopeWorship.com · 614.766.5445 x37

Financial Update

	October 2011			Fiscal Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	%	Actual	Budget	%
Income	\$66,335	\$66,521	100%	\$249,635	\$266,085	94%
Expenses	\$57,599	\$70,245	82%	\$263,748	\$280,981	94%

At this time of year we often reflect on all the gifts we have received from God. We have a church community blessed in so many ways, that we seek to become a blessing to others. We are so grateful for the gift of your time and talents, but we also need your gifts in the form of financial support. Did you know that utilities in this building run almost \$4000 a month? We want to offer as many programs and services but we can't do so without your support. As we work to keep our expenses under control prayerfully consider your financial commitment to New Hope as we continue to strive to **Reach, Root and Release** people for Christ.

Fellowship

Thanksgiving Advent Potluck Supper

Thanks to all who were able to come to the potluck supper. It was a glorious time to be together in celebration and to enjoy the sharing of tasty food items. Thanks to all as this event cannot serve its purpose of fellowship without your participation. Our next Thanksgiving Potluck Supper will be November 18, 2012 - save the date!



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 12, 2012
11:00 AM

Planning Meeting: January 18

Please come and join the Mother-Daughter Tea committee to make this a great event for all

Call Loretta Rolle

We need your ideas and help!

Outreach

Thanks for Supporting Operation Christmas Child!

The Outreach Committee members extend deep appreciation for the generous support of Operation Christmas Child. Gift wrapped shoe boxes were collected and filled with a variety of gifts for children of different ages. Monetary donations were given as well. The shoe box gifts are a powerful tool for sharing the life changing message of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your faithful support in helping children in underserved areas. Every box that was packed represents one more child who will have the opportunity to hear the good news of God's love.



Potato Drive Follow Up

A big thanks to all who contributed to our potato food drive! We were able to deliver 479 pounds of food and monetary donations to the Dublin Food Pantry. Our goal of providing enough potatoes for 250 harvest baskets was accomplished with your generous donations. Your continual support of this community organization is greatly appreciated.

Our next food drive will be our Souper Bowl of Caring food drive which will be held on Super Bowl Sunday (February 5, 2012). Just a reminder, any non-perishable food items you would like to donate between food drives can be placed at any time in the blue bin located outside the Fellowship Hall.

Thanks to the men of New Hope who participated in two November work projects. These included painting the office of Children's Ministry Director Brooke Morris and the fall yard cleanup at Russ & Joan Nippa's home.

New Hope Church Calendar - December 2011

For more details, please visit NewHopeWorship.com/Calendar. Know of a church-related event not listed? To schedule items on the church calendar, please contact **Office Administrator Nancy Green** at office@NewHopeWorship.com or 614.766.5445 x10.

Thursday, December 1

6:40pm Praise Band Rehearsal
7pm AA
7pm Emerging Disciples
7pm Enriching Disciples
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 4

9:30am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Contemporary Worship
9:30am Middle School Sunday School
11am High School Sunday School
11am Traditional Family Worship
12:05pm Handbell Rehearsal
5:15pm Middle School Youth Group
7pm High School Youth Group

Monday, December 5

7pm Communication Team
7pm Financial Peace University
7pm Intercessory Prayer

Tuesday, December 6

7:15pm Equipping Disciples

Wednesday, December 7

5:30pm HIS Place
6:00pm Kids WOW
7pm Emerging Disciples

Thursday, December 8

6:30am Early Birds Men's Group
6:40pm Praise Band Rehearsal
7pm AA
7pm Emerging Disciples
7pm Enriching Disciples
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 10

Christmas Cantata Dress Rehearsal

Sunday, December 11

9:30am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Contemporary Worship
9:30am Middle School Sunday School
11am High School Sunday School
11am Traditional Family Worship
12:05pm Handbell Rehearsal
5:15pm Middle School Youth Group
6:30pm Spirit of the Season Music Program
7pm High School Youth Group

Monday, December 12

7pm Financial Peace University
7:15pm New Hope Preschool Board Mtg

Tuesday, December 13

12pm Senior Sages
6pm Deacons
6pm Elders Meeting
7:15pm Equipping Disciples
7:30pm Consistory Meeting

Wednesday, December 14

7pm Emerging Disciples
7pm Fellowship Team

Thursday, December 15

6:30pm Early Birds Men's Group
6:40pm Praise Band Rehearsal
7pm AA
7pm Emerging Disciples
7pm Enriching Disciples
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 18

9:30am Adult Sunday School
9:30am Contemporary Worship
9:30am Middle School Sunday School
11am High School Sunday School
11am Traditional Family Worship
5:15pm Middle School Youth Group
7pm High School Youth Group

Monday, December 19

7pm Financial Peace University

Thursday, December 22

6:30am Early Birds Men's Group
6:40pm Praise Band Rehearsal
7pm AA
7pm Emerging Disciples
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve

5pm Family Service
7pm Candlelight Service
9pm Candlelight Service
11pm Candlelight Communion Service

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

10am Traditional Family Worship

Tuesday, December 27

7pm Mission of Mercy Team Meeting

Thursday, December 29

7pm AA

Friday, December 30

2pm Red Cross Blood Drive

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

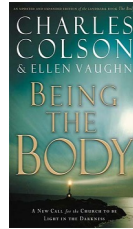
CHRISTMAS EVE - Sunday, December 24

5:00PM Family Friendly Service
7:00 & 9:00PM Candlelight Services
11:00PM Candlelight Service with Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY - Sunday, December 25

10:00AM Family Worship Service

Recommended Reading



“Being the Body”
by Chuck Colson and
Ellen Vaughn

Joe Enneking, Adult Education Committee

Chuck Colson and Ellen Vaughn originally published a book titled “The Body,” which encouraged Christians of diverse backgrounds to see themselves as part of the universal body of Christ. It challenged us to a new sense of unity, realizing that we blunt the Gospel message every time we divide over petty issues and personal turf. Ten years later, they revisited this subject with a book titled “Being the Body” which contained fresh stories and insights from more recent headlines. Even if you have read the first book, you will find this one even more compelling.

To read more about how working in unity has enabled the church to bring about great change in the lives of people and nations, please visit NewHopeWorship.com/BookReviews.



4739 W. Powell Rd.
Powell, OH 43065
614.766.5445
NewHopeWorship.com
[Facebook.com/NewHopePowell](https://www.facebook.com/NewHopePowell)
[Twitter.com/NewHopePowell](https://twitter.com/NewHopePowell)

Sunday Worship Schedule

Living Water Contemporary Service 9:30AM · Traditional Worship Service 11:00AM

Rev. Stephen M. Norden, Senior Pastor

614.766.5445 · norden@NewHopeWorship.com

Rev. Sarah Palsma, Associate Pastor

614.766.5445 x15 · palsma@NewHopeWorship.com

Bob Cline, Director of Youth Ministry

614.766.5445 · cline@NewHopeWorship.com

Nancy Green, Office Administrator

614.766.5445 x10 · office@NewHopeWorship.com

Gail Headlee, Communications Coordinator

614.766.5445 · webmaster@NewHopeWorship.com

Holly Huber, Accompanist

614.766.5445 · huber@NewHopeWorship.com

Christine Loy, Director of Music

614.766.5445 x14 · loy@NewHopeWorship.com

Sandy Moberger, Church Administrator

614.766.5445 x37 · moberger@NewHopeWorship.com

Brooke Morris, Director of Children's Ministry

614.766.5445 x13 · morris@NewHopeWorship.com

Lynn Riley, New Hope Preschool Director

614.766.2446 · preschool@NewHopeWorship.com

Does your committee or group have information to share with New Hope?

Contributions to the Sharing the Faith Newsletter are welcomed!

Please submit any articles to newsletter@NewHopeWorship.com.

Deadline for the January newsletter is December 16.