

NEW HOPE NEWS



JULY 2025

God's work. Our hands.

New Hope Lutheran Church

4801 Sun Valley Drive El Paso, TX
79924

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Newhope915.com

10 AM – Worship

Interim Pastor: Jeff Swanson

505-850-3339

pastornewhopelutheranelpaso@gmail.com

Vicar: Thania Drake

915-799-0448

Vicarthaniagmail.com

President: Vicki Gannon

Vice President: Steve Marshall



Birthdays

4 – Virginia Walker
12 - Steve Marshall
13 – Thania Drake
23 – Vicki Gannon

Anniversaries

26 – Leta Marsh

CHURCH CALENDAR

JULY 2025

Blessing Corner: Operation Santa Claus/School Supplies

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

		01	02	03	04	05
			Crochet Group 1pm Outreach 6:30pm Zoom			Katie's Food Pantry 9am – until food runs out
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Worship 10am Fellowship 11am		Dove Circle 1pm	Crochet Group 1pm	Finance Meeting 9am Retired Teachers 9:30am Quilting 1pm		Katie's Food Pantry 9am – until food runs out
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 10am Fellowship 11am Council Meeting 11:15am		"Get Together" Lunch 12pm	Crochet Group 1pm			Katie's Food Pantry 9am – until food runs out
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship 10am Fellowship 11am Service Meeting 11am		Property Meeting 1pm	Crochet Group 1pm Game Night 7pm	Quilting 1pm		Katie's Food Pantry 9am – until food runs out
27	28	29	30	31		
Worship 10am Fellowship 11am Birthday Cake Sunday			Crochet Group 1pm			

JULY 4TH

The 4th of July, Independence Day is observed as a federal holiday in honor of the Declaration of Independence. It commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 by delegates from the 18 colonies. The Declaration of Independence is America's revolutionary Charter of Freedom and the document upon which the nation's founding principles were established. The Declaration of Independence is one of the most important documents in the history of the United States. It was an official act taken by all 18 American colonies in declaring independence from British rule.



New Hope News



As you travel and may worship elsewhere this summer, if you notice something special let Susan or a member of our worship team know so that we can talk about your take-aways at our next meeting!

Thanks to all who work to provide meaningful worship for us each week, those who provide a message, those who create music, those who do all the tech work! Thank you! Special cheers to Jeff Strom who has solved our latest U-Tube challenges! Thanks to all of you who have embraced technology as we work into the future.

Mark your calendars for August 3rd "Back to School Sunday" where we will bless learners and educators for the new year ahead.

New Hope News

Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly Report-2025

The Synod Assembly was held on May 22-24 in Albuquerque New Mexico. The theme of the assembly was "Dios esta aqui"(God is here).As your congregational representative, Howard & I were able to get a much better sense of the large region covered by our synod staff from the Denver office; the area covers Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico & our El Paso area. Bishop Meghan Johnston-Aelabouni & her staff are looking into a new office facility in a much safer part of Denver. She also has proposed that she & her staff travel to cities & spend perhaps a week assisting those churches with their local needs.

Bishop Meghan in her first 10 months as our new bishop has made changes in the staff & their assignments to better serve the needs of churches. Staff have prepared training materials & workshops-some on Zoom-to address the shortage of called & ordained ministers. These are available for lay people who are leading worship & activities in their congregations. At a workshop on congregational lay ministry teams, lay leaders shared the innovative ways that they are using to share ministry duties in their churches without ordained ministers. Staff are available for support & equip their efforts to continue to keep their churches open for worship, fellowship & potential growth.

The voting members at the assembly voted to fill positions on the Synod Council & on committees & for various business matters. Vicar Thania Drake was elected to serve on the nominating committee. Several resolutions regarding "Honoring Indigenous People through Faith, Respect & Action", "Renewing Our Welcome: Strengthening Our Reconciled in Christ Commitment" & "Campus Ministry" were passed by the assembly. The synod budget & giving by each congregation was printed in the assembly hand book for review.

A concern for the Bishop & staff is the status of properties owned by the synod. In addition to the need for a new office space, the staff & council are looking into what to do with a retreat facility which is not being utilized & the cost of upkeep.

Bishop Meghan & her staff are open to innovative, forward-thinking ways to assist congregations in the synod to maintain & enrich worship as we look to the future. Her vision is to "relate, support, connect, & equip the people & ministries of the synod" so everyone may encounter Jesus. "Dios esta aqui"-God is certainly here.

New Hope News

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the synod assembly as representatives for New Hope. It was an opportunity to get to know the Bishop & her staff & realize the resources available for us to enrich our ministry to El Paso.

We would recommend that at the next congregational meeting that a change be made in our constitution to reflect the need to cover the cost of travel. Travel costs are now excluded for reimbursement in the constitution. The budget for synod expenses would also need to be adjusted. In the past the synod provided assistance with travel costs.

Christine & Howard Swan

NEW HOPE UPDATES

We seek in every way to be at peace with one another, to go the extra mile. We seek to be patient, kind, and gentle knowing that our Lord has dealt with us tenderly. Having been forgiven, we are quick to forgive and slow to anger. This is the Christian life, and it is the life of Christ, for our sake.

New Hope is open, and we joyfully and safely gather in person for worship every Sunday at 10am. Let us continue to share God's love. Face Coverings are now optional. All are welcome to receive Communion.



Pastors who will be presiding and preaching in JULY

July	6 -	Ron Brooker, Retired ELCA Pastor
July	13 -	Vicar Thania Drake
July	20 -	Mike Hamilton, Retired ELCA Pastor
July	27 -	Rick Green, Retired ELCA Pastor

Here are some ways for you to be a part of the worship service

1. Attend in person - all safety precautions will be in place (wear a mask, practice physical distancing, and hand sanitizer is available)
2. If you do not feel comfortable coming into the building, you can listen to the service on the radio in your car in the church parking lot. Virtual Services - begin broadcasting the service between 10:00 and 10:15 on channel FM 90.1
3. Watch the service on YouTube.

NEW HOPE UPDATES

New Hope's expenses continue during this time. Please do not forget your offerings. We are grateful for all who send their offerings to New Hope. Thank you for your faithful commitment and your financial support to New Hope. It is very much appreciated and New Hope is truly blessed.

Here are some ways to send your offerings to New Hope:

1. Mail your offering to new Hope to 4801 Sun Valley El Paso, TX 79924
2. Place your offering in an envelope, marked Karen and drop it in the mail slot in the back of the Office/classroom Building
3. Use bill pay through your bank and your bank will mail a check to New Hope
4. Use Thrivent Choice through Thrivent.com. Click on personal donation, select New Hope Lutheran Church El Paso, Texas and then follow the prompts.
5. Place your gift in the offering plates.

Please keep everyone in your prayers. Check on church members, elderly, friends, neighbors and family. Be sure to wash your hands, do not touch your face, practice physical distancing, wear a mask or face covering when out in public, get both vaccine shots. If you feel sick, please stay home. Take care of yourself and others.

TITHES/OFFERINGS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

☐ MEMBER ☐ VISITOR

☐ \$_____ CASH

☐ \$_____ CHECK# _____



"Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38

2025 BLESSING CALENDAR

January – ELCA Good Gifts/ELCA World Hunger

February – Soup-er Bowl Sunday

March – Opportunity Center

April – Bunnies, Beanies & Blankets – UMC Children's Hospital

May – La Posada Home – Domestic Violence Shelter

June – Borderland Rainbow Center

July – Christmas in July (Operation Santa Claus) & Blessing of the Backpacks – school supplies

August – Church Supplies (Replenish New Hope's paper products)

September – God's Work, our Hands

October – Blessing of the Animals (Humane Society)

November & December – Luterana Cristo Rey

These blessing corners will be funded through New Hope and Thrivent Action Team.

If you have a Thrivent product you likely qualify to sponsor an Action Team. If you need help setting up a project or need ideas about what to do or simply want to delegate the task to someone else, we can help you accomplish that end.

Blessings
COUNT THEM ONE BY ONE

BLESSING CORNERS



Operation Santa Claus began informally in the early 1920's, when New York postal clerks began chipping in their own money to buy gifts for poor kids whose notes to Santa ended up in the dead-letter office. As the number of letters grew, the clerks asked for help from the public. The programs most dramatic growth has come in the last two decades.

New Hope will be collecting toys and books to be delivered to needy children in the community at Christmas time!

Please bring the toys by July 27 and place in the back of the church under the Christmas tree.

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING



Blessing of Educators and Students

Backpacks and School Supplies

Calling all students and all adults who serve in the education system, whether public or private, primary, secondary or university. Whether teacher or support personnel.

Those in the community who serve in education and students will receive a special blessing.

Sunday, August 3, 2025

New Hope Lutheran Church

10:00am Worship Service

New Hope will be collecting donations of school supplies for the month of July to be given to students and schools in our community.

See you on **Sunday, August 3rd** for this special time of blessings at **New Hope!!!**

TRANSPORTATION

Help with Transportation To Doctor's Appointment



For those who find yourself looking ahead, wondering how you are going to get to your next doctor's appointment, etc., take heart!! New Hope now has a Transportation Committee that will do cartwheels to get you to your appointment.

Please call Kathy Hamblen 915-740-2534

Please give 1-2 week notice to plan arrangements.

VIRTUAL SERVICES

WE ARE ON THE AIR

Each Sunday between 10:00 and 10:15 we will begin broadcasting service on 90.1 fm. If you would like to come to the parking lot or live within 1 mile of the Church you should be able to pick up our signal.





We have made some significant updates and upgrades to our systems, and we are now STREAMING LIVE once again every Sunday UNDER MAINTENANCE

Service videos will not longer be uploaded as individual files as the live recording will be available. So be sure to subscribe and turn on notifications so that you will receive the email that we are broadcasting. <http://youtube.newhope.social>

Having trouble finding them:

On our YouTube home page look under PAST LIVE STREAMS or also under the VIDEOS tab and you will find all our content Remember to hit subscribe and set the notifications so that you know when we are LIVE or posted new content.

THRIVENT

Thrivent Choice "Make a Personal Donation" Maybe you have heard it said many times "follow the prompts" to make a personal donation and have no clue what that actually means or how it works! So here's a little cheat sheet, I did some exploring to figure it out.

First of all, you don't have to be a Thrivent member to use this feature.

Second, it's a way to give via your credit card and rack up more points or miles and the organization (New Hope or someplace else) will get a record of your personal donation and should track that gift for you in the same way as if you had put a check in an envelope, it should be recorded by them for you

Third of all this is DIFFERENT than designating Thrivent Choice dollars for those of you who are Thrivent members

Fourth, it's not so easy as just having a link which is specific to New Hope, maybe we will do that in time, for now below is a cheat sheet to help you if you want to use the Thrivent choice personal donation system

1. go to thrivent.com
2. search box type in "thrivent choice"
3. once in thrivent choice click on "make a personal donation"
4. follow remaining prompts which are self explanatory

NEWS AND EVENTS

We Are On YOUTUBE!

Search

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN
CHURCH EL PASO

And be sure to subscribe!

Subscribe to our

You  **Channel**

Flowers

Please see the flower calendar in the back of the sanctuary. Flower Dates are still open.



Are you getting the
message?

We are committed to improving our communications and congregational messaging. If you are not getting the message, let Karen Miller know and we will get you added to the email distribution list so that you do not miss out on upcoming events.



NEWS & EVENTS

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

To order a memorial plaque for the memorial wall, please see Karen Miller.



**JOIN US
On
90.1 FM**



RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

New Hope collects aluminum tabs to be donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT



THRIVENT CHOICE

The member advised charitable grant program from Thrivent Financial. Eligible benefit members are designated Choice Dollars that they can direct to help make a difference for New Hope

THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS

Apply to lead your volunteer team in a onetime fundraiser, service activity, or educational event to support an unmet need in our community and how you can help.



OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

New Hope has several places in which you can come together to grow in community as we study the word together, as we share conversation, and as we discover God's presence in our lives. All we need is you to join in the discussion when your schedule permits. The spirit is at work among us as we grow in relationship with each other. All of these opportunities are open to all members, guests and friends of New Hope.



DOVE CIRCLE (Women's Bible Study)

An Invitation for all women of New Hope and friends to join in Bible Study and Fellowship every 2nd Tuesday of the month. Meetings are held at New Hope in the Office/Classroom building.

"The Gather" magazine is used for the Bible Study, led by Pastor Jeff Swanson or Dove Circle individuals.

The Dove Circle sponsors events, such as the spring and fall rummage sales and craft fair and other events as needed.

Schedule for 2025

January - July

August - December

July Meeting – July 8



OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

Opportunities To Help

New Hope has several ways in which we come together to help others and our community. As we conduct our daily lives think of those that will be aided by your participation.



KATIE'S FOOD PANTRY

Katie's Food Pantry distributes food to our neighbors every Saturday, 9am – until food runs out. Always looking for volunteers to help. See Mary Anez or Pastor Jeff if you are interested in helping. Items needed are bottled water, Gatorade, Plastic grocery bags (new or used), garbage bags (33 gal or larger)



JUST FOR FUN

4TH OF JULY

word search for kids

F Z R P A R A D E F O U R T H R N K
I R H G A B V R I G H T S H X E V X
R Y D O M Q S E P J U L Y I L D W B
E I N D E P E N D E N C E R L O F R
W J C U R L I B E R T Y S T F N R I
O X S T I A V S T A T E S E L A E T
R A G I C Z I S U M M E R E A T E A
K S O N A M W H I T E G X N G I D I
S L U Q R E V O L U T I O N J O O N
M K T H A O U N I T E D V Z K N M F
D E U U V W D E C L A R A T I O N M
X V V M W B L U E R L J A G N E B Y

AMERICA
BLUE
BRITAIN
DECLARATION
FIREWORKS
FLAG
FOURTH



FREEDOM
INDEPENDENCE
JULY
LIBERTY
NATION
PARADE
RED



REVOLUTION
RIGHTS
STATES
SUMMER
THIRTEEN
UNITED
WHITE



Peace
be with
you