

**In Our Prayers & Thoughts**

*“Blessed be God, who bears our burdens  
day after day.” Psalm 68:19*

Primrose Battle	Cliff Reynolds
David Briggs	Enid Smith & Doug
Jan Bozeman	Linda Thomas
William Cooney	Anita Van Cleave
Brad & Michelle	Hillary
Foster & family	Angie
the Hall family	Sue
Eldon Harlow	Bridgette
Roger Kucera	Alexander
Sue Moran	Damian
Kathy Nelsen	Courtney
Jessica Pankote	

Please notify us if you or a family member wishes to be placed on the prayer list. Let us know if the prayer concern needs to be a continued one, otherwise names will be removed the first of the month.

*These are the Birthdays and  
Anniversaries for the last part of  
December and the first part of  
January.*

*If we don’t already have your  
celebrations, please let us know.*

**December Birthdays** *(partial)*

22 Sally Ruggia  
24 Jason McEwen  
30 Aaron Nelsen

*No Anniversaries that we know of*

**January Birthdays** *(partial)*

3 Blanche Sanchez  
6 Jemaul McEwen  
6 Leighanne Nelsen  
12 Patty Wissink

*No Anniversaries that we know of*

**TODAY’S EVENTS**

**Sunday December 28**

- Fellowship Coffee Time 10:30 am Everyone is Welcome!
- Worship Service 11 am (Sanctuary) (Streaming live on YouTube and our website)
- Christ Central Worship Service 2 pm (Magee Parlor)
- Lincoln Taekwondo 5 pm – 7:45 pm (Shepherd Hall)

**THIS WEEK**

**Monday December 29**

- Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Shepherd Hall

**Tuesday December 30**

- Lincoln Taekwondo 6:30 pm Shepherd Hall

**Wednesday December 31**

- New Year’s Eve
- Bible Study 6:30 pm Shepherd Hall studying the lectionary texts for the coming Sunday. Everyone is welcome to attend

**Thursday January 1**

- The office will be closed

**Friday January 2**

**Saturday January 3**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sunday January 4** Epiphany Sunday

**Sunday January 18** Human Relations Day – special offering

**Monday January 19** Martin Luther King Jr’s Birthday

**Tuesday January 20** Executive board 6:300 pm Conference Room



**New Hope United Methodist Church**

1205 North 45<sup>th</sup> Lincoln, NE 68503

**Worship 11 am  
In-person & On-line**

*“Transforming Lives and Community Through Jesus Christ”*

**December 28, 2025**

**First Sunday after Christmas**

*God of the Universe, Guide Our Steps*

**Prelude** Dr Denis Plutalov

**\*Welcome the Light of Christ** “There’s a Song in the Air” UMH 249

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Congregational Breath Prayer** (see inside page)

**Call to Worship** (see inside page) / **Opening Prayer**

**\*Passing of the Peace** *Let us welcome one another in the Spirit of Christ*

**\*Songs of Praise** “Sing We Now of Christmas” UMH 237 v. 1, 2, 3  
“Heralds of Christ” UMH 567

**WE LIFT OUR PRAYERS AND OFFERINGS TO GOD**

**Lighting the Prayer Candle**

**Morning Prayer Song** “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” UMH 349

**Silent Prayer / Pastoral Prayer / The Lord’s Prayer** (see inside page) UMH 895

**Giving Back to God (offering)**

**Offertory** Dr Denis Plutalov

**\*Doxology** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 95

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

**First Reading** “This is the Day” Pastor Sally & Pastor Helen

**Gospel Reading** Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 NRSV 2 (NT)

**Response:** One: The Gospel of Jesus Christ. **All: Praise the Living Word.**

**The Word in Song** “In the Bleak Midwinter” UMH 221 v. 1

**Children’s Message**

**Message** “Fire for Justice” Pastor Helen Paus

**Closing Prayer**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**\*Sending Song** “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” UMH 251

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude** Dr Denis Plutalov

*\*Please stand in body or in spirit*

*The Call to Worship, Songs and Prayers are also on the screen  
NRSV = pew Bible, UMH = U M Hymnal, TFWS = The Faith We Sing, WS = Worship & Song  
AAHH = African American Heritage Hymnal*

**Congregational Breath Prayer:**  
*Leader:* God, who calls into action,  
*People:* help us respond to your call.

**Call to Worship**  
*Leader:* In worship, we hear God’s story and we ask,  
*People:* “What did God do long ago?”  
*Leader:* In worship, we hear God’s story, so we ask,  
*People:* “What is God doing, here and now?”  
*Leader:* In worship, we are called to listen, God is speaking.  
*People:* Listen, it may be time to act.

**Lord’s Prayer:**  
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Sermon Notes:**

***We wish to welcome you!  
We are very happy to have you worshipping  
with us today!***  
***If you are looking for a church home, we hope that you  
have found it among us. Please let us know if you would  
like to become a member.***

- ❖ If you know someone in the hospital or recuperating at home, who needs a **pastoral visit or phone call**, please let the church office know at 402-466-5238.
- ❖ There are **children’s activity bags** hanging in the back of the sanctuary if your child would like to use one during worship. We also have a play area in Magee Parlor (at the back of the sanctuary).
- ❖ There are **large print hymnals and Bibles** for your use on the table at the back of the sanctuary.
- ❖ If you would like to **give to New Hope electronically**, you may use the QR code sheets in the pews. You may also sign up for an automatic withdrawal for your donation using the paperwork on the table at the back of the sanctuary or sign up by going to our website or to [app.myvanco.com/login](http://app.myvanco.com/login)
- ❖ If you have an **announcement for the bulletin**, call 402-466-5238 or e-mail [newhopeumclincoln@gmail.com](mailto:newhopeumclincoln@gmail.com) by Thursday morning please.

**Outreach Ministries of New Hope UMC**


**The Closet at New Hope and Diaper Depot**

*Both ministries will be closed until further notice for reorganization. We are hoping to reopen early next year.*

**Next Week’s Scriptures**  
***Epiphany Sunday***  
***January 4***

Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm 147:12-20  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:(1-9) 10-18

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Church Secretary:** Kathy  
**Office phone:** 402-466-5238  
**E-mail:**  
[newhopeumclincoln@gmail.com](mailto:newhopeumclincoln@gmail.com)  
**Office hours:**  
Tuesday, Thursday 11 am – 3 pm  
and Fridays 11 am – 1 pm  
Office is closed Mondays and Wednesdays  
**Pastor Helen:**  
**Cell:** 402-613-2331  
**E-mail:** [helenpaus@gmail.com](mailto:helenpaus@gmail.com)  
**Office hours:**  
Monday/Wednesday visitation and networking  
Tuesday/Thursday office and meetings 10:30 am – 3 pm  
Please call before you come as her schedule is subject to change  
**Check us out Facebook: New Hope UMC – Lincoln, NE**  **click like it!**  
[www.facebook.com/newhopeumc.lincoln.ne](https://www.facebook.com/newhopeumc.lincoln.ne)  
**Website:**  
[www.newhopeumclincolnne.org](http://www.newhopeumclincolnne.org)  
**You can also watch the worship service on our website and on our YouTube channel**  
[youtube.com/newhopeumc](https://youtube.com/newhopeumc) or  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCUYN6K9erlxbubfUEc1E02Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUYN6K9erlxbubfUEc1E02Q)