

**In Our Prayers & Thoughts**

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

Primrose Battle	Jessica Pankote
David Briggs	Cliff Reynolds
Jan Bozeman	Etta Smith & Doug
William Cooney	Linda Thomas
Nathan Curtis	Anita Van Cleave
Brad & Michelle	Hillary
Foster & family	Angie
Eldon Harlow	Sue
Roger Kucera	
Sue Moran	
Kathy Nelsen	

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

**January Birthdays**

3 Blanche Sanchez  
6 Jemaul McEwen  
6 Leighanne Nelsen  
12 Patty Wissink  
17 Penny Taylor  
17 Windi Wissink  
25 Dawn Ashton

*No Anniversaries that we know of*

**TODAY’S EVENTS**

**Sunday January 4**

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

**THIS WEEK**

**Monday January 5**

- Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Shepherd Hall

**Tuesday January 6**

- Lincoln Taekwondo 6:30 pm Shepherd Hall

**Wednesday January 7**

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

**Thursday January 8**

- Lincoln Taekwondo 6:30 pm Shepherd Hall
- East Campus Community Organization 7 pm Magee Parlor

**Friday January 9**

**Saturday January 10**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**Sunday January 18** Warren Foundation noon Conference Room

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

**Tuesday January 27** Executive Board 6:30 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”*

**January 4, 2026**

**Epiphany Sunday**

*God of the Universe, Guide Our Steps*

<b>Prelude</b>	Dr Denis Plutalov
<b>*Welcome the Light of Christ</b> “O Little Town of Bethlehem”	UMH 230 v. 1, 2, 4
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>	
<b>Congregational Breath Prayer</b> (see inside page)	
<b>Call to Worship</b> (see inside page) / <b>Opening Prayer</b>	
<b>*Passing of the Peace</b> <i>Let us welcome one another in the Spirit of Christ</i>	
<b>*Songs of Praise</b>	
“We Three Kings”	UMH 254 v. 1, 2, 5
“The First Noel”	UMH 245 v. 3-5

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

<b>Affirmation of Faith</b>	UMH 883
<b>Morning Prayer Song</b>	“We Fall Down” WS 3187
<b>Silent Prayer / Pastoral Prayer</b>	
<b>Giving Back to God (offering)</b>	
<b>Offertory</b>	Dr Denis Plutalov
<b>*Doxology</b>	“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 95

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

<b>Old Testament Scripture Reading</b>	Isaiah 60:1-6	NRSV 649 (OT)
<b>Response:</b> <i>One:</i> The Word of God for the people of God. <b>All: Thanks be to God.</b>		
<b>The Word in Song</b>	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	UMH 238 refrain only
<b>Psalm Reading</b>	Psalm 72:10-14	NRSV 505 (OT)
<b>Response:</b> <i>One:</i> The Word of Life! <b>All: Thanks be to God!</b>		
<b>Gospel Reading</b>	Matthew 2:1-12, 16-18	NRSV 1-2 (NT)
<b>Response:</b> <i>One:</i> The Gospel of Jesus Christ. <b>All: Praise the Living Word.</b>		
<b>The Word in Song</b>	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	UMH 238 refrain only
<b>Children’s Message</b>		
<b>Message</b>	“Fear Doesn’t Stop Us”	Pastor Helen Paus
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>		

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

<b>Thanksgiving and Communion</b>		
<b>Invitation Song</b>	“Be Present at Our Table, Lord”	UMH 621
<b>Invitation to the Table / Confession and Pardon</b> (see inside page)		UMH 8
<b>Declaration of Forgiveness</b>		UMH 8
<b>Taking the Bread and the Cup / The Great Thanksgiving</b>		on screen
<b>The Lord’s Prayer</b> (see inside page)		UMH 895
<b>Breaking of the Bread / Giving the Bread and Cup</b>	Hymns	UMH 618, 614, 624, 640
<b>Closing Prayer</b>		

**WE GO INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE**

<b>*Sending Song</b>	“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”	WS 3052 v. 1, 2, 5
<b>*Benediction</b>		
<b>Postlude</b>		Dr Denis Plutalov
<i>*Please stand in body or in spirit</i>	<i>The Call to Worship, Songs and Prayers are also on the screen</i>	
	<i>NRSV = pew Bible, UMH = U M Hymnal, TFWS = The Faith We Sing, WS = Worship &amp; Song</i>	
	<i>AAHH = African American Heritage Hymnal</i>	

**Congregational Breath Prayer:**  
*Leader:* God who brings light into the world,  
*People:* remind us that fear does not stop us.

**Call to Worship**  
*Leader:* In the dark of morning,  
*People:* the stars still shine.  
*Leader:* In the depth of winter,  
*People:* The birds still climb.  
*Leader:* Do not rest in your fear.  
*People:* God is here. Let us worship God. Amen.

**Affirmation of Faith:**  
We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others to seek justice and resist evil to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Confession and Pardon:**  
Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**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**  
*Baptism of the Lord Sunday*  
*January 11*  
Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 29  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matthew 3:13-17

**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](http://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](http://youtube.com/newhopeumc) or  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCUYN6K9erlbxubfUEc1E02Q](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUYN6K9erlbxubfUEc1E02Q)