

Advent Activities

Last Day to Purchase Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

Today is the last day to purchase one or more white poinsettias for the adornment of our sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$10 each, and order forms are available in the Narthex. Please place your fully completed form and money in an envelope, and put the envelope in the box provided. The names of honorees/memorials will be printed in a bulletin insert on Sunday, December 15, when the poinsettias are displayed.

Crafts with Nan & Jan: Saturday, December 14

Join Nan & Jan for another Advent workshop on Saturday, December 14 from 10:30 AM to 2 PM. Please bring a bag lunch. Sign up by contacting Nan at nannetteriley87@gmail.com or (828) 775-7444.

Advent with the Psalms: One More Sunday, December 15

We have one last class on the Psalms next Sunday, and you are welcome to join in even if you didn't make the first two classes! We have been using the new devotional book, *Advent with the Psalms*, by Paul Galbreath, professor Emeritus of Theology at Union Presbyterian Seminary. Books may be purchased on Amazon for \$20.00.

Alternative Christmas Giving

In lieu of giving a traditional gift this year, make a charitable donation in honor of a loved one. In return for your donation (minimum \$10), you will receive a card for your loved one describing where your donation in their honor is going. Look for the Alternative Giving table in the Narthex on Sunday mornings during Advent. Unable to come to church? Send your donation to New Hope and indicate in the memo line which fund you wish to support (or, if you would like to support both funds, indicate the amount you wish to donate for each fund). We will mail or deliver your card(s) to you. This year, you are invited to donate to one or both of two funds: (1) BeLoved Asheville, rebuilding hope after Hurricane Helene and/or (2) El Refugio, a hospitality house for families visiting detained loved ones at Stewart Detention Center in Lumpkin, GA, where there are no hotels.

Equal Exchange Products

Buying fair trade products through the Presbyterian Coffee Project ensures that more of the money you spend on coffee, tea, or chocolate reaches the hardworking farmers who actually grow it. Visit the table in the Narthex. Consider giving a gift of coffee, tea, and chocolate bars for Christmas.

We light two candles in worship. The white candle reminds us of the presence of Christ's spirit in worship. The smaller candle is in a candle holder made by a member of our partner church, Iglesia El Divino Salvador in Guatemala, and it reminds us of our covenant with them.

Today's Liturgist Virginia Hebert
Today's greeters: Linda and Herschel Lewis
Today's ushers: Linda and Herschel Lewis
Today's Guest Soloists David Johnson, MD and Bonnie Runkle

A Note on Year-End Contributions

Contributions received at New Hope, or postmarked, by 12/31 will be credited to the donor's pledge balance for 2024 unless specified by the donor as a pre-payment. Pre-payments will be reported for the 2024 tax year and will be applied to 2025's pledge.

2025 Pledge Cards Still Available

Thank you to all of you who made a pledge for 2025! If you have not yet turned in a pledge card, it's not too late. Pledge cards can be found in the rack above the mailboxes in the church office. Or, to have a pledge card mailed to you (with a stamped envelope pre-addressed to the church), or a digital copy emailed to you, contact Lynne in the church office at (828) 274-0191 or officenewhope@gmail.com.

Men's Re-Treat

The Men's Re-Treat will meet for coffee and treats on Wednesday, December 11, at 11:00 AM at Fletcher Village Bakery & Café's new location: 235 St. John Rd., Suite 70, Fletcher, NC 28732. Questions? Contact Greg Kramer at (828) 734-9457.

Men's Brunch Bunch

Men's brunch bunch will meet at 11:00 AM Saturday, December 14, at Cracker Barrel (located at 5 Crowell Rd in Asheville). Questions? Contact Greg Kramer at (828) 734-9457.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, December 15 are due to Administrator Lynne Petty by noon on Wednesday, December 11.

New Hope Presbyterian Church

We are a welcoming, inclusive faith community, seeking to respond to Christ's call to love and serve, through ministries of compassion and social justice.

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www.newhopepcusaasheville.org | (828) 274-0191
Kim Wells, Pastor | Lynne Petty, Church Administrator
Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist

New Hope

Presbyterian Church

“Including, Renewing, Serving”

2nd Sunday of Advent
December 8, 2024
11 o'clock



“The Kiss of Peace”



“Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.”
(Psalm 85:10)