



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Congregational Life is planning a small Halloween Gathering after service on October 27. The Owens have graciously agreed to the use of their home for this fellowship. I will send an email to the congregation as we move closer to the date to finalize the plans. This gathering is to “substitute” for Trunk or Treat. The suggestion was made that we dress for Halloween. We will play games and vote on best costume. Let’s do this and make it fun for all.

Iris Hymel, Congregational Life Elder

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women are holding a Zoom meeting on October 2, 2024. We will decide on a monthly basis how we will meet, but we will meet. We are continuing our Horizon Bible Study. All women of the church are welcome to attend; please consider joining us.

Iris Hymel, Interim Moderator

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 1

*Congregational Life
& PW*

Page 2

Mission / Outreach

Page 3

Congregation Vitality

Page 4 & 5

Words of Worship

Pages 6

Financial Reports

Page 7

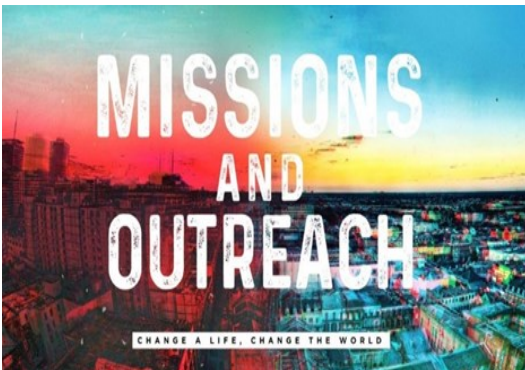
*Birthdays, Anniversaries,
Coming Events*



MISSION AND OUTREACH

By Debra Caldwell

You Are Invited to Celebrate Mission & Outreach Across the Presbytery!



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 10 AM-2PM
LOCATION: ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN
5020 W. BELLFORT AVE
HOUSTON, TX 77035
LUNCH IS INCLUDED/EVENT IS FREE!

Join the New Hope Team at the Day of Celebration on Saturday, October 26. The event will include worship and sharing ways congregations are already practicing innovative ministries through mission and outreach.

Registration Link: <https://www.signupforms.com/registrations/39096>

Please join the New Hope Garden Club at 7 pm, Tuesday, October 22 for a presentation on **Holiday Plants** by Harris County Master Gardener Jo Ann Stevenson followed by refreshments and a short business meeting. Contact Debra debicaldwell33@gmail.com for more information.



**Peace and Global Witness Offering
Equipping Peacemakers in Congregations
and Around the World**



Your donation will provide resources to deal with conflict, provide nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global siblings, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere. We will collect this Special Offering in conjunction with World Communion Sunday on October 6.

Building Congregational Vitality

According to Presbytery Mission,

“Congregational vitality is evident in a worshiping community when its structural systems, finances and discipleship practices are aligned in such a way that the community is actively engaged in the mission of God in their local community and the world, and they are powerfully focused on growing as disciples in the way of Jesus Christ.”

As the flight attendants tell us, “You need to put your oxygen mask on first before you can assist others.” For the past three years our focus has been on survival and the more practical aspects of congregational vitality but as we enter a new chapter, we can begin to do the work of building New Hope’s *“spiritual strength and its capacity for purposeful mission.”* PC (USA) has seven marks of a vital congregation:



Lifelong discipleship formation: First there is personal transformation, as people seek wisdom and follow Christ. About half of our survey respondents want more emphasis on Christian education for adults. Second is social transformation, as people go into their community and grapple with issues such as inequality, oppression, and injustice. Matthew 25 <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/>

Intentional authentic evangelism: Presbyterians are often uncomfortable with the ‘e’ word—evangelism. Authentic evangelism occurs when we show we are Christians by our love and by our actions. We share the good news because it is part of who we are, and it flows from us to others. Thirteen of 32 people who completed our survey said that we need more emphasis on sharing the good news of the Gospel with the unchurched.

Outward incarnational focus: Now is the time for New Hope to turn outward and be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ for people in our community who are suffering, marginalized, or in need.

Empower servant leadership: We can help every member to discover their gifts for ministry and service and provide the training leaders need for committee and task assignments.

Spirit-inspired worship: Worship is not meant to be entertainment; it is for and about God. Worship should be thought provoking and prepare us to go out in the world and do good work.

Caring relationships: Welcome and show hospitality to *all*. Develop healthy ways to deal with conflict and seek reconciliation within our congregation and community.

Ecclesial health refers to clarity in mission, keeping core values in ministry, fiscally responsible stewardship, developing a sustainable budget, and other aspects of well-being. It also refers to asking fundamental questions about “why” and “how” we are a congregation and a part of the larger church.



Words of Worship

Hello New Hope!! The months of August and September have been very busy! The church building has sold and we are meeting at present at the home of Linda and Terry Owens each Sunday at the same time, 10:30 am for worship. We hope you'll join us, if you haven't yet!

The first thing I must do is give a huge Thank You to Linda and Terry Owens for opening their home to us each week for worship. Another huge Thank You goes to Linda Owens for providing us with stimulating and thoughtful sermons, particularly when our pulpit supply has been vacant. We appreciate your guidance.

Thank You goes to Rev. Judy Pistole for guiding session through the process of selling our building and the work to find a new home for us. Rev. Judy has been a "rock" for us numerous Sundays in the pulpit and helped us to train four Elders so that we may continue to provide communion on first Sundays. Please continue to pray for Rev. Judy while she is at her daughter's having cataract surgeries! We hope to see her soon and hope she'll be seeing us very clearly

Our last Sunday in September was a 5th Sunday of the month. Pam Nicoletti did really great video sermons on the book of Esther and James 5:13-20. This is the third time Pam has provided video sermons on our lectionary and it has been an interesting alternative worship service each time! Thank You Pam for all the work you've done for us!

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Words of worship (continued)

I should also recognize JoAnn Franklin for continuing to help keep worship on track for us. She has been the pulpit supply contact person and provides the Sunday bulletin each week via her "home/church office". Thank You JoAnn!!

Now on to new information. The pulpit supply for October is complete as follows:

October 5th - Linda Owens Preaching, with Pam Nicoletti and Lavita Golightly assisting with

Communion. This is World Communion Sunday!

October 13th - Rev. Judy Pistole Preaching (great to have you back!)

October 20th - Rev. Cindy Mood Preaching

October 27th - Linda Owens Preaching

Before we can blink, Thanksgiving and Advent will be here!! We hope to see all of you soon!

Lavita Golightly, Moderator for Worship



Bank Balances: as of September 27, 2024

Operating Account	\$19,271.45
Special Account	\$9,365.08

Our income to date is \$101,739 and our total expense is \$87,290.4 which give us \$14,449 income over expense.

Our income over expense ratio has gone down about three thousand dollars since last month. Congregational giving is a little below budget: Giving \$76,148 and Budget is \$76,927.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Fiona Day 10/01
 Jill Giles 10/02
 Christina Saenz 10/10
 John Ryall 10/18
 Daniel Sadler 10/18
 Noah Martinez 10/26

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Georgene Rosato 10/11/ 74 50 years
 Ed & Pam Nicoletti 10;28/83 41 years

October 2024

Su	Mo	Tue	We	Th	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



COMING EVENTS

- 10/6 Peace Global Witness Offering
- 10/6 Communion Sunday—Linda Owens preaching
- 10/13 Judy Pistole preaching
- 10/14 Columbus Day office closed
- 10/20 Cindy Mood preaching
- 10/22 Garden Club Meeting at 7 pm
- 10/26 Day of Celebration—St. John's Presbyterian Church 10-2
- 10/27 Linda Owens preaching