



HAPPY March! From: Congregational Life

Hello. This is Jill Giles, Jennye Giles Wendy Petit, your Congregational Life Committee. We wish you a prayerful Lenten Season. Here's the CL news:

Hospitality: The April sign-up for concessions is on the piano.

Special Events: Join us on March 16 for the monthly luncheon. This St. Patrick's Day celebration is at **The Oaks** directly after worship. Sign-up sheet is by the bulletin. Invite a friend!

Meal Train: Do you know someone that could use a home-made meal delivered to their residence? Please text or email. Thank you.

Congregational Care: March Birthdays: 3/8-Cathy Van Dyjk, 3/17 Ron Day, 3/20 Bill Schulenberg, 3/22 David Mann, 3/26 David Sadler, 3/30 Jennye Giles. March Anniversaries: Bruce and Iris Hymel, 3/25.

Calling and Visiting: Thank you, church family, for calling our members in need, praying for Christ's peace on earth and for loving one another. Contact: Jill Giles (240) 374-9422 if you are aware of any special needs of others.

Transportation: We are currently providing transportation for the Atria residents. Thank you, Helen and Dave Galer, for helping! Thank you, Hal, for assisting, as well. To make a request for transport contact one of our committee members.

To volunteer to serve on the committee, receive care or request care, please call Jill Giles: (240)374-9422 or email at Jill4nia@gmail

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MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR by Cindy Mood

Greetings New Hope!

I'm excited to share some wonderful news about our congregation's communication efforts! As we continue to grow together in faith and community, we recognize the importance of sharing our message of hope with the wider world.

A couple weeks ago, we started revitalizing our digital presence with some exciting changes:

1. We've welcomed Khawesi Brann, a trusted colleague of mine, to help manage our website and social media platforms. Their expertise will help us share our church's story more effectively with both our congregation and our community.

2. We believe that every member of our church family has a unique story of faith worth sharing. These stories reflect God's ongoing work in our lives and can inspire others on their spiritual journeys. And so, we invite each of you to consider sharing your own story of faith, service, or community. Whether it's a brief testimony, a reflection on a church event that touched your heart, or simply what our congregation means to you - your perspective matters.

Our church has always been a beacon of hope, and now we're taking steps to ensure that light shines even brighter. If you'd like to share your story or have questions about our new communications initiatives, please [visit this link](#) or reach out to myself or khawesitx@gmail.com.

Together, we can spread the good news that has transformed our own lives and continues to transform our community. Keep up with us via our [website](#) and make sure you are following New Hope on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

With hope and gratitude,

Pastor Cindy Mood



Rev. Cindy paid tribute to Black History Month throughout February. Her sermons were interesting, educational, and very much needed at this time.

Rev. Cindy asked for two more Sundays off this coming year as she had prior commitments. Session approved this and Rev. Cindy was quite thankful and appreciated our consideration of her needs.

On March 9 and 16 Rev. Cindy will be in Kansas visiting her family. We offer prayers for safe travel and for her family. Elder Linda Owens will provide pulpit supply on March 9 and Rev. Barbara Retzloff will join us on March 16.

Ash Wednesday, March 5, signifies the beginning of the Lenten Season. Good Friday is April 18. We will have our Ash Wednesday and Good Friday services at Noon each of those days at the Owens home. Many thanks to Linda and Terry. We will celebrate Easter on April 20.

Respectfully,

Iris Hymel



Join us on Friday, April 18th at noon for our solemn Good Friday service as we gather to remember Christ's sacrifice on the cross. This meaningful midday service provides space for quiet reflection and contemplation of the crucifixion through Scripture readings, prayer, and sacred music. The service timing allows those working nearby to step away during their lunch hour for this important observance.

Through the power of word and music, we will journey with Jesus through his final hours, deepening our understanding of his ultimate sacrifice and what it means for our lives today. The service will be appropriately brief while maintaining the gravity and significance of this holy day. All are welcome to join us (26634 Morton Rd) as we mark this pivotal moment in our faith.

A graphic for an Ash Wednesday service. At the top, a black banner contains the text "New Hope Presbyterian Church" in a gold, sans-serif font. Below this is a photograph of a shallow, light-colored ceramic bowl filled with dark ash. A small, rustic wooden cross is placed in the center of the ash. To the left of the bowl, there are green palm fronds. Overlaid on the image is the word "Ash" in a large, elegant, gold cursive font, and "WEDNESDAY" in a bold, white, sans-serif font below it. At the bottom of the graphic, a black banner contains the text "March 5 - 12:00" in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below this, in a smaller gold font, is the address "26634 Morton Road, Katy, TX 77493" and the website "newhopepckaty.org".

New Hope Presbyterian Church

Ash
WEDNESDAY

March 5 - 12:00
26634 Morton Road, Katy, TX 77493
newhopepckaty.org

Join us for our Ash Wednesday service on March 5th at 12:00 PM as we mark the beginning of the Lenten season. During this meaningful midday service, you'll receive the imposition of ashes - a powerful reminder of our mortality and need for repentance. Whether you're a regular member or simply seeking a moment of spiritual reflection during your lunch hour, all are welcome to participate in this ancient Christian tradition. The service will be brief yet profound, allowing you to return to work while carrying the day's significance with you. Our noon timing makes it convenient for those working nearby to step away during their lunch break. No need to RSVP - simply come as you are.

Sign up for a Digital Discussion Group

HOSTED BY
NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Groups run between
Ash Wednesday (3/5)
and Easter Sunday (4/20).

Participate on
your own time.
Participation via GroupMe.

1ST 30 PEOPLE TO SIGN UP GET A FREE BOOK!

For more information visit newhopepckaty.org

Join us this Lenten season for an engaging digital discussion group centered around Matt Rawle's thought-provoking book "The Final Days: A Lenten Journey through the Gospels." Running from Ash Wednesday (March 5) through Easter Sunday (April 20), this flexible study allows you to participate on your own schedule through GroupMe, making it perfect for busy schedules and diverse time commitments. As an added incentive, the first 30 people to sign up will receive a FREE copy of the book! This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your faith journey during Lent while connecting with fellow church members and the community in a modern, accessible format. The discussion will help us explore the Gospel narratives of Jesus' final days, bringing fresh insights to this sacred season. To join, simply scan the QR code or visit newhopepckaty.org for more information. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of our Lenten community, even if you can't make it to in-person studies. Sign up today to secure your free book and join us on this meaningful journey through Lent.



MISSION AND OUTREACH

By Debra Caldwell

"Souper Bowl" Sunday was February 9th. The congregation donated 54 cans and packages of soup which Terry Owens delivered to the Katy Christian Ministry food pantry. Thank you, Terry, and New Hope!!!



Another huge thank you to everyone who participated in the Feed My Starving Children food packing event! Thank you, Helen Galer, for organizing our team. We helped pack enough meals to feed 82 children for a year!



The New Hope Garden club will meet at Katy Branch Library at 6 PM on March 18. Harris County Master Gardener, Teresa See, will give a presentation on Texas Superstar Plants followed by our business meeting. It isn't easy to become a Texas Superstar® plant. We'll take a look at some of the toughest, most reliable and best-looking plants that make the cut.

One Great Hour of Sharing

March 5-April 20, 2025

Your gift will “support efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From the initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.”





Building Congregational Vitality

Please sign up to participate in a
Focus Group!

“ The purpose of this kind of listening is to lead the congregation into new partnerships, participating in God’s mission in new ways.”



New Hope is working with John Knox Presbyterian Church, and [LEADS Connect](#), a consultant company that guides churches through a "a process of connecting leaders to each other and congregations to their neighborhoods." As Rev. Cindy Mood wrote, “The work involves **listening** - listening to God in scripture, listening to one another in our congregation and listening in our community. Please contact the church office to sign up or schedule a phone call to talk with a member of the team. We want to hear from you!



YOUR SESSION AT WORK

Linda Owens, Clerk to Session

Session met on February 19, 2025, and we voted to:

Accept version 2 of our 2025 budget, which the congregation received at the Annual Meeting on February 23, 2025.

Increase Rev. Cindy Mood's Sundays off to eight and to add 2 sick days per year.

And celebrated the:

Ten people having signed up for the on-line Lenten study.

Putting up a New Hope banner every Sunday. Special thanks to Barry Bettes for finding the banner in storage and delivering it to the Owens' home.

Jill Giles having set up an after worship lunch at The Oaks in Cane Island on March 16, 2025.

The collection of 54 cans and packages of soup and a \$20.00 donation which Terry Owens delivered to Katy Christian Ministries.

The increase in our UBS balance of \$82,725.00 since August.

Scheduling of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday Services at noon at Owens' home.

The session appreciates your continued prayers as we work to find a new place to worship.



<i>March 2025</i>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	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

March 2	Communion Service—Rev. Cindy Mood preaching
March 5, noon	ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
March 7, 10:00 am	Stephen Ministry Zoom Meeting
March 9	Elder Linda Owens preaching
March 10	Rev. Barbara Retzloff preaching
March 16	Lunch at the Oaks following Worship
March 23	Rev. Cindy Mood preaching