



Life seems to me like a Japanese picture which our imagination does not allow to end with the margin-Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

One of my favorite movies when I was growing up was *Hook* with Robin Williams. It is the story of a grown-up Peter Pan returning to Neverland to rescue his kids. He has to re-learn how to make believe, have fun, and see possibilities in everything! It is not easy to relearn things but it can be the most exciting and healthy thing to do when we get stuck in patterns that are no longer life giving for us. Peter realized that his focus on making money and success had taken him far away from his family and all the dreams that they had shared together, not to mention the priceless moments of being together.

At New Hope we are re-imagining what it means to be church and how God is calling us to move outside of the lines of “church expectations” in the eyes of our community. As we follow God’s lead by going to where people are...it can make us a little uncomfortable but I know it is our call and can give us so much joy as we see what God is doing through the relationships we build. When we seek out others in places where they are comfortable and feel safe we demonstrate to them how much we care and how important it is to us to know them. Unfortunately many people outside of the church do not see the institution as a loving, supportive and hope-filled community of believers. We have a wonderful opportunity to show them a different picture as we discover how to be authentic and faithful to Christ’s call in unexpected ways.

My vision for New Hope is that we will be a community that connects by volunteering in community organizations, that offers hospitality through the use of our building and grounds, and that embraces all opportunities to love and learn how to live that love.

Peace,

Pastor Rebecca



Dreams Day Report

Sunday January 17th we gathered after worship to dream about how God is calling us to serve our community. We found that together ideas flowed forth for ways we could connect with our community and serve as Christian disciples. We were challenged to recognize the reasons that we come to worship and to participate in this community...finding that at times we all struggle to know what we are called too and where we are called to be disciples. We have a long way to go and lots of ideas to work with. The Dream Day was only the beginning and Pastor Rebecca will be contacting you to follow up on ideas and begin forming task groups to tackle different projects throughout the year.

Remember as living stones we are being built into a spiritual house for God...let’s build it together and see what God has in mind for us and for our community!

A Community of Dreams and Dreamers

GET GROUNDED!



The Ground of the Unity is the faith statement of the Unitas Fratrum, known as the Moravian Church. We will take it section by section, please talk with Pastor Rebecca if you have questions or would like to discuss anything presented in more detail.

Section 7: The Church as a Brother(Sister)hood

The Church of Jesus Christ, despite all the distinctions between male and female, Jew and non-Jew, white and colored, poor and rich, is one in its Lord. The Unitas Fratrum recognizes no distinction between those who are one in the Lord Jesus Christ. We are called to testify that God in Jesus Christ brings His people out of "every race, kindred and tongue" into one body, pardons sinners beneath the Cross and brings them together. We oppose any discrimination in our midst because of race or standing, and we regard it as a commandment of the Lord to bear public witness to this and to demonstrate by word and deed that we are brothers and sisters in Christ.

After the reflection on unity this section reiterates our need to be hospitable and loving in all circumstances as our witness to Jesus Christ. We are a community of diverse people and backgrounds. While we may have many differences and opinions among us we are all called by the same God to call for justice and peace in the world. It is the common love for Christ that we share and that shares us with one another.

GET ROOTED!

How do you deal with people who are different than you?

Is there a relationship in your life that is inviting you to join together with someone who is different than you?



Jubilee + Dropping the Debt in Developing Nations
Community Lenten Series

February 24th: House Party @ New Hope Community Church

March 3rd: Night #1 of Book Chat @ Earth House. *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger* by Ronald Sider

March 11th: Film Screening @ Earth House
The Debt of the Dictators

March 17th: Night #2 of Book Chat @ Earth House

March 24th: Worship @ Cumberland First Baptist Church

All events begin at 7 p.m.
Come to one event, come to all.



Want to Write a Letter?

Get information about writing to our sponsored children!

Got a Dream to Share?

Talk with Pastor Rebecca and we'll get it in the next newsletter!

The Dreams of New Hope and what we are building with Living Stones

- Participate in Servant's Heart Turkey Drive thru
- Community Forums
- ESL classes
- Farmer's Market (vendor)
- Dinners of Six
- Music Venue
- Fundraisers (euchre party, papa johns, chocolate, etc)
- Car show
- Computer workshop
- Community Garden
- Summer children's programming
- Music lessons
- Cooking Class (Servant's Heart)
- Participate in local festivals
- Homeless Ministries
- Cub scouts
- Family Camping
- Craft Night
- Women's and Men's groups
- Choirs (children and adult)
- Church retreat
- Lenten series

As we build this spiritual home, we are invited to make room for others. We may share our space with other organizations, gather with groups to work towards common goals, and welcome new faces into our fellowship and mission. I believe we will find that God is reflected as we seek out partnerships and friendships in the community. Honoring that God uses us all, however different we may be from one another to build up the Kin(g)dom. This challenge is before us...as a community let us share with one another how the challenge is being lived out in our own lives and find ways to grow in faith and confidence of what we are called to do and be in Indy.

How can we help one another?



COMMUNITY ACTION OPPORTUNITIES

- Pay-what-you-can Dinner. **Saturday, February 20, 2010, 2-4pm** at Lockerbie UMC/Earth House (237 N East St.)
- Servant's Heart of Indy. **Thursday evenings and Saturday Mornings.** 317-788-9433. (5602 Elmwood Suite 212)
- **Food Collection for Servant's Heart!! Bring food in by Sunday February 14th!**
- Jubilee Lenten Series (See details on the other page)

COMMUNITY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Joint Ash Wednesday Service. **Wednesday, February 17th at 7pm** at Lockerbie UMC/earth house (237 N. East St)

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

- Congregational Meeting, **Sunday, February 14th, 2010** with a pitch-in after Worship
- Women's group gatherings, **Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm** at New Hope Community Church.
- Spirit² Discussion Gatherings, **1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 9:00pm** at a downtown location.

