

# New Hope Lutheran

## CALENDAR

Mar 6 - Worship - Pastor Jessica Cain 9:30 a.m.

Mar 8 - Deanery - Zion - Fredericksburg 9:00 a.m.

Mar 13 - Worship - Pastor Jessica Cain 9:30 a.m.

Mar 17 - New Hope's hosts Lenten Lunch at First Baptist church—12 noon.

Mar 20 - Palm Sunday Worship - Pastor Jessica Cain 9:30 a.m.

Mar 20- Council Meeting - after worship service

Mar 24 - Maundy Thursday—Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Meal, Worship with communion 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Mar 25 - Good Friday Worship Service 6:00 P.M.

Mar 27 - Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m. - Yett Park

Mar 27 - Easter Worship Service Pastor Jessica Cain 9:30 a.m.

## HOLY WEEK

**Palm Sunday Mar 20**

**Maundy Thursday Mar 24th - Lutheran Church of the Resurrection - Wimberley - Meal, and worship 5:30 to 7:00**

**Good Friday Mar 25th Worship 6:00 p.m.**

**Easter Sunrise Sunday Mar 27 - 7:00 a.m. Yett Park**

**Easter Worship 27th 9:30 a.m.**

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**Rev. Jessica Cain**

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**WORSHIP**  
**(9:00 - 9:25 a.m. )Food & Fellowship)**  
**9:30 a.m. Worship**

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## Pastor's Corner

by: Rev. Jessica Cain

Every week, we recite our mission statement at the end of worship: “Worshipping God. Serving others. New Hope, where all are welcome.” I think each of us firmly stands behind this statement. But, like anything that we recite, pray, or say on a regular basis, we can get in the rut of *saying* these words without *thinking* about them or *meaning* them.

### *Worshipping God*

Worship is a time that we specifically set apart so that we can praise the Almighty One. We gather together in thanksgiving for what the Creator has done and is doing in our lives. In worship, we hear the Word, sing praise, pray with joy as well as lament, and are fed at Christ's table. All of this happens for God's glory and our strengthening. Is this why New Hope gathers each week? This sentence comes first in our mission statement because it drives all else that we do. If we are not worshipping God, if we have not allowed God to be the central, all-encompassing power in our lives, then we must first return to this foundation.

### *Serving Others*

Our service to neighbor is a part of what God calls each of us to do. Jesus tells his disciples that the first commandment is to love God, and the second it to love neighbor. Part of loving our neighbor is living in service to one another. It is making ourselves servants of all. This is not just service *for* others, however. We care called to be in service *with* others. We are not here to dole out charity but to build relationships, learn about our neighbors, and serve with a deep concern for how God is already at work in that place and time.

### *New Hope*

Naming ourselves is a part of our mission. New Hope grew out of a negative situation; much seemed hopeless. Yet those who began this ministry firmly believed that God was still at work amongst them. While we are always committed to our hope in Christ—hope that we have been redeemed, that Jesus has conquered sin and death, that eternal communion with God awaits us—we have a new kind of hope about our place in this community. We have hope that God is specifically working in this group, that the Spirit is filling us and sending us out to do a new thing in Blanco.

### *Where All Are Welcome*

We firmly believe that Christ came, died, and rose again for the sake of the world. Through the biblical witness, we see how God is at work amongst those who are rejected by family, friends, and society. We know that the Creating One loves the created ones. Therefore we are committed to seeing the face of God in all we meet. Yet this is a challenging task. Saying that all are welcome is quite a different matter from actually being welcoming to all—young and old, rich and poor, male and female, straight and LGBTQ, black and white, cradle Lutherans and those who have never attended church...the list goes on. This is perhaps the most challenging aspect of our mission statement. Yet if we are committed to worshipping God, serving others, and holding fast to our hope in Christ, then an attitude of radical welcome may well follow. Having a mission statement is one thing. Reciting it each week is another. Living it out is yet another. It is only through God's grace, and the Spirit's leading that we can hope to fulfill this mission. I pray that we can continue to trust God's calling and guidance for New Hope.

## Refreshment Corner

Each Sunday Morning one of several talented cooks provides a variety of delicious breakfast treats served between 9:00 and 9:25 a.m. Everyone is welcome to come early and enjoy the food and fellowship.

### Schedule

Mar 6 - Foegelle  
Mar 13 - Knoll/Villarreal  
Mar 20- Greathouse  
Mar 27 - Granberg  
Apr 3 - Johnson  
Apr 10 - Tomlinson  
Apr 17 - Knoll/Villarreal  
Apr 24 - Foegelle

## Birthday's/Anniversaries

### BIRTHDAYS

Mar 5 - Melanie Honeycutt  
Mar 11 - Pete Foegelle  
Mar 13 - Susan Villarreal  
Mar 22 - Ashleigh Abadie

## FREE COMMUNITY MEAL Report

Our original free community began on September 13, when New Hope hosted a free community meal as part of God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. This is an initiative by the ELCA to encourage congregations to reach out into their communities on the same day other congregations across the nation are doing the same.

New Hope Lutheran held a Free Community Meal each month after the initial meal. October through February a dedicated team of people passed out dozens and dozens of flyers to individuals in the community and prepared and served the meals. Some meals were more successful than others. The fourth Sunday in March is Easter and it was decided not to have a meal that day.

One of the best ways for us to become better known in Blanco is to reach out to those in need in our community and the congregation will evaluate the free meal program to determine how we move forward in the future. Please continue to pray about this endeavor as we attempt to serve God through serving our neighbors.

## Lenten Lunches

New Hope Lutheran is teaming up with St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Mt. Horeb and Kendalia Church to serve Lenten Lunch on Thursday March 17th at the First Baptist Church 12:00 noon. New Hope is furnishing a Green Salad and Dressing. If you can help serve please contact Pastor Jessica.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP

New Hope Lutheran and Lutheran Church of the Resurrection are combining their Maundy Thursday Worship Service in Wimberley. **5:30 to 7:00 - Meal and Worship with communion.**

## Easter Sunrise Service

**Easter Sunrise Service will be held at 7:00 a.m. Sunday March 27th at Yett Park. New Hope Lutheran will have their regular Easter Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.**

## ALL FAITHS MEDICAL MINISTRY



**Medical Equipment Ministry:** During the more than 20 years that All Faiths Chapel occupied the location where New Hope meets today, its members created and maintained a ministry that provides equipment to local residents who have special medical needs. The storage building on the property houses wheelchairs, walkers, powered hospital beds, braces of many different types, crutches, breathing assistance equipment, and assorted other items. These are available on a no-charge basis with a checkout list. New Hope has committed itself to continuing this ministry in conjunction with the people who founded All Faiths.

If you have a need, call either **Connie Granberg: 833-4423**, or **Alan Cooper: 833-4301**.