



NEW HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GAZETTE

**NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IS A VIBRANT,
CHRIST-CENTERED
COMMUNITY OF PRAYER,
PRAISE AND MUSIC,
WHERE YOU MATTER!**

**WE ARE...
CREATIVE,
DIVERSE,
PRAYERFUL,
ENGAGED IN OUR
COMMUNITY,
A CONGREGATION THAT
GLORIFIES GOD BY
UPLIFTING ALL PEOPLE**

JUNE/JULY 2015

Editorial:

Chris Mears, Richard Norwood,
Kris Kozak, Mark Kozak and
Reverend Beverly Powell

Design & Layout:

Mark Kozak

**Please send any *New Hope
Presbyterian Church* news or
activities you would like to
have published in the next
issue to:**

cmearsapc@aol.com or
richard.norwood@cox.net

Issue 3, Volume 1. *New Hope
Presbyterian Church News
Gazette* is published bimonthly.

A Note From the Pastor

Good Vibrations

“**G**ood Vibrations”, for those of us old enough to remember, was a Beach Boys hit from the 1960s. But it also describes the energy that I receive each and every week from our multi-ethnic, multi-faceted congregation. I receive it from the new families who are joining our numbers. I receive it from our founding families who continue to keep the spirit fresh. And I receive it from our visitors and new members who continue to respond to our unique, and powerful, style of worship.

But why wouldn't we all be 'pickin' up those good vibrations' each and every Saturday. God is the alpha and the omega of good vibrations, and I feel his presence within our sanctuary walls whenever we meet. His vibration of spirit and truth thrums in our Bible study and in our fellowship throughout the week. We all see its spark in our youth group as they explore their unique perspectives on life. We feel it when our ground-breaking gospel choir invokes God's presence in song. And we bore witness to it in the sweet and dedicated life of our beloved George Johnson, one of the founders of our church.

God's good vibrations are there for all of us to receive. In Jeremiah 29:11, God declares. “For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” May the good vibrations carry us all through the summer and beyond. Hallelujah! God is good.

You matter!

Pastor Chineta





Our young people participated in a Ring Ceremony

Youth Ministry

The Ring Cycle

At the May 16th service, seven of our young people participated in a Ring Ceremony, formally declaring their commitment to a life of purity for themselves, for God, and for their future mates. The girls were presented with purity rings and flowers, while the boys received purity bracelets and teen devotionals. The girls and boys all received purity certificates.

"I couldn't be more impressed with the sincerity of our young people," said Min. Sheree', who leads the Youth Ministry, and who delivered a powerful message at the Ceremony on the subject of "How To Live A Pure Life", taken from Psalm 119. "They have chosen to confront some very mature subjects at a very young age," she added, "and I know their commitment to these principles will strengthen them in the years ahead."

The Hospitality Committee provided a wonderful dinner and refreshments following service, in further honor of the participants' commitment.

The young people taking part in the Ring Ceremony were Amir Kirkwood, Harley Lambert, Miles Peterson, Taylor Snowden, Joi Vaaultyn, Kaitlon Williams, and Austin Woolette.

Praise God for our New Hope Youth!

Men's Ministry

Food For The Soul

The Men's Ministry met for one of their bimonthly Prayer Breakfasts on May 24th at Chris Mears's home. Fourteen of New Hope's finest filled their stomachs with Polish-Irish Potatoes, fruit, eggs, coffee, juice, and Danish, while souls were fed with spirited discussion of Nehemiah, led by Dave Woolette.

The Ministry has become an integral part of the worship experience for many of our men, and the breakfasts have become a forum for a good deal of honest, and, at times, quite revealing testimony.

"The men have come to understand," says Mark Kozak, "that what is said at our Prayer Breakfasts, stays at our Prayer Breakfasts. That knowledge has helped to breed a lot of trust."

Dave Lamondy, Fearless Leader of the Men's Ministry, couldn't be at the breakfast because of a prior commitment. As a result, the men spent a good deal of time trash-talking Dave in his absence – none of which can be shared outside of the group – and he was assigned every new task that was discussed.

The next Prayer Breakfast will take place in July, the specific date and location to be announced.



Breakfast at Mears: Polish-Irish Potatoes, fruit, eggs, coffee, juice, and Danish

A Remembrance

George Johnson

George Johnson, one of the founders of New Hope, died on May 19th while recovering from a cardiac stent procedure. He had celebrated his 86th birthday just three days before his death.

George and his beloved Polly, with the help of Margaret Hullet, made the trek from Long Beach most Saturdays to worship with us. George and Polly were part of a small group of Presbyterian leaders—including Don Oliver and Margaret Hullet -- who conceived New Hope as a New Church Development over a decade ago, and were members of the committee who invited Pastor Chineta to become our Organizing Pastor.

George was a prominent member of our local Presbytery, as he was in the national church. He had been a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Long Beach for over 60 years, where he was an Elder and sang in the choir. He served as Moderator of both Los Ranchos Presbytery and of the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii. A civil engineer, George was also a prominent member of SciTech, a group of Presbyterian scientists who, among other things, seek to reconcile the often disparate subjects of science and faith. He received SciTech's most prestigious award in 2005.

George was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico on May 16, 1930. He graduated from the University of New Mexico in 1947 with a degree in Civil Engineering. He enlisted in the Air National Guard and was stationed in Long Beach briefly in 1951. He moved to California permanently in 1953, and married Polly Harnett in 1953. George worked for the City of Long Beach for 25 years, retired, and then worked as a Consultant for a prominent local engineering firm for 26 years before retiring again. He performed the engineering work on numerous important public works



George Johnson

projects in Long Beach, including the Long Beach Marina, the Long Beach Aquarium, and the bike path which fronts nearly the entirety of Long Beach ocean front.

"George's work was very important to him," observed Polly, "as was his work in the community. George's gentle character, and ability to truly listen to others, permitted him to harmonize the most contentious opposing points of view in almost any setting."

George and Polly have long been involved in helping to mediate issues of racial tension in Long Beach, and were often the only Caucasian residents invited into meetings during times of racial conflict or turmoil. George worked on the Poly Community Interracial Committee, and he and Polly were available day and night to be called upon for their counsel.

In addition to Polly, George is survived by two adult children, four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. His son, Brian, followed his father into civil engineering, and lives with his wife Gretchen and their two children in Santa Fe, New Mexico. His daughter, Martha, lives in Lemon Grove with her husband, Chris -- who Pastors a church in San Diego -- and their two children.



Music Ministry's Spring Concert

Music Ministry

Rockin' The House

The Music Ministry's Spring Concert, held on April 26th in the Sanctuary, provided yet more evidence that New Hope's gospel choir is one of the best church choirs in the County.

"I just couldn't be prouder of how this group has grown in worship and praise," said First Husband and Director of Music, Reggie Goodjoin. "Our choir has always seen itself as a ministry, not just a group of good singers. I think this philosophy is what elevates our game, as they say."

"That's true enough," said Chris Mears, Choir President, "but more than any other ingredient, it's Reggie. Our brother is not only a great musician, but, in his very humble way, he is also a natural leader. And he sets a very high bar, and motivates us to try and reach it."

As usual, Reggie is quick to give credit to others. "We are truly blessed to have Joan and Mark," he said, referring to Director, Joan Hall, and keyboardist, Mark Henley. "They are the glue that binds us, and we wouldn't be anywhere near where we are if it wasn't for them."

The nearly 200 guests who attended the concert were also treated to the singing of Lynette Dupree, Kathy Cunningham, and Corey Briggs. Also performing was an outstanding youth string ensemble, directed by choir percussionist Barry Silverman.

The Women of Word & Worship

Breathless

The WOWW Ministry has been so busy this Spring that its members are only now catching their breath.

"This group of women is just fantastic!" says member, Kris Kozak, a woman not given to cheap hyperbole. "We have all been working overtime to make sure that our projects have been successful. And we are only now catching our breath!"

Kozak's boast isn't idle. WOWW hosted a wildly successful "First Annual Spring Tea" which was oversold, a great problem to have. The Tea could have been called "Hatitude" as New Hope ladies, and their guests, showed out with an array of headdress that turned Michelle Mears's backyard into Charleston West. More recently, WOWW's Bake Sale, which followed the Gospel Concert on April 26th, exceeded expectations once again, both in money raised for the church and to the delight of every sweet tooth. This first rate event has clearly become a New Hope tradition.

WOWW continues to grow, and several activities have been planned for the latter half of 2015. Up next: a focus on our local community, another popular Book Club meeting, and the formation of new partnerships with other New Hope ministries. If you're interested in joining WOWW, contact Bertha Andrews.



The crowds gather around all the great items at the bake sale.

Bill Brooks - Against The Odds

Bill Brooks, who, along with his wife of 44 years, Audrey, was one of the charter members of New Hope, has lived a life full of faith, work, and family — a foundation that has served him well as he battled lung cancer. Bill was recently interviewed by the Gazette.

New Hope Gazette: When was your lung cancer diagnosed, and what is the current status of the disease?

Bill Brooks: The diagnosis was made a little over a year ago. And, after a pretty long year, I am now cancer free!

NHG: Praise God! How do you account for your success in dealing with the disease?

BB: Good doctors, taking radiation and chemotherapy at the same time, and an abiding trust that God is with me, no matter what happens. That's a defense that's hard for any disease to get through.

NHG: And then there's Audrey?

BB: And thank God for her. She has always been my rock, and she's been with me non-stop through this fight. I didn't think it was possible to feel closer to her, but her support and determination through this disease has made us even closer than we were before.

NHG: You make it sound like battling this disease has been a positive experience?

BB: I suppose in a way it has been. My faith has deepened, as have my relationships. But look, we're all going to die of something. Honestly, I don't think about death much, any more than I think about being 89 years old. I guess, in a way, I take these things for granted: getting old, and dying, are part of life. It's nothing to be afraid of.

NHG: Have church, and faith, always been a part of your life?



Bill and Audrey

BB: Yes, they have. I was raised in the Baptist Church in Washington D.C. My grandfather was a Baptist Pastor, and church was at the center of my life growing up. It stuck.

NHG: You taught 4th through 6th grade for 30 years before you became an administrator, and you and Audrey raised three children together. What advice can you give our young people about protecting their health?

BB: It's pretty simple: don't put things into your body today that you know will hurt you later. Because 'later' gets here sooner than you think. I smoked for almost 40 years when I was younger, and it eventually caught up with me. There is always a price to pay for unhealthy behavior. Don't think there isn't.

NHG: You met Pastor Chineta at Knox Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles, where you had been an elder for 25 years -- and you and Audrey were among the first members of New Hope. What drew you to this new church development?

BB: Both Audrey and I felt strongly that Chineta, and Reggie, were the right people to plant and build a new church in Orange County. We wanted to help them, and to be a part of building something important.

NHG: Good call.

BB: It was, wasn't it.



New Hope Members In The News

Anita Ford – Woman of the Year

While Anita Ford’s husband, C.J., has always thought of his wife of 28 years as his own personal ‘woman of the year’, Anita’s standing to make that claim was recently made official by Assemblyman Tom Daly, D-69th. Mr. Daly singled out Anita as one of only five women in his district to be tabbed “Woman of the Year”, in recognition of her work as Chairman of the Orange County Heritage Museum, and her decades of service as an educator of our youth.

Anita, the mother of three wonderful adult children, received the award at an outdoor festival held at Jefferson Elementary School in Santa Ana, where she has served as principal for 17 years. While Anita knew of the award, she was unaware until she actually received the award that it came

with a \$5,000 check to be used for her school. To say that she was ecstatic would be an understatement.

“\$5,000 is a huge sum of money for my school,” beamed Anita, “and we will use it to buy additional books for our library. We have needed books in Spanish for a long time, so these funds are sorely needed.”

Jefferson’s student body is almost 90% Hispanic or Latino, and provides its students with a Spanish Dual Immersion course of study – so books written in Spanish are essential to the curriculum. Anita is fluent in Spanish, and her “Woman of the Year” acceptance speech was laced with Spanish, a product of Anita’s earlier work as a Spanish Bilingual Teacher before she became an administrator.

“Spanish is a beautiful and musical language,” says Anita, “and I’m privileged to be able to converse in it every day with my students, faculty, and staff.”

Anita is a graduate of Sunny Hills High School, graduated from California State University, Fullerton – where she also received her teaching credential – and received her Masters in Educational Administration from UCI. She has also completed four years of doctoral work at UCI, work that she was impelled to stop in order to take care of her mother, who was in failing health.

While Anita’s life has clearly been one of great, and varied, achievement, her New Hope experience has become the bedrock of her deeper life. “It is difficult to describe how important New Hope has become for us,” Anita offers. “I have never quite experienced the depth of care, and community, that I find in our church. C.J. feels exactly the same way. And my choir? There is nothing, other than my family, that provides me with greater joy than singing for God!”

Anita Ford – Woman of the Year!

Marriage Ministry

Communication

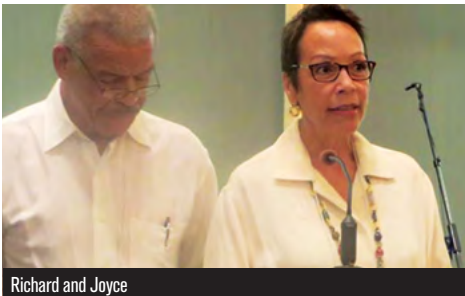
The Marriage Ministry's June 7th get together, held at the Lamondy's home, was again well-attended by New Hope's married, and nearly married, couples. The Rev. Harold Kidd conducted the more formal part of the gathering, challenging couples to improve their communication, and to find greater opportunities for keeping God front-and-center in their relationships.

"Rev. Kidd is such a dynamic speaker," said Ministry Committee Member, Joyce Norwood, "and is just a natural leader in these group settings. Whether you've been married forever," Joyce said, "giving hubby, Richard, a sideways glance," or are newlyweds, Harold provides real insight and ideas for a better relationship."

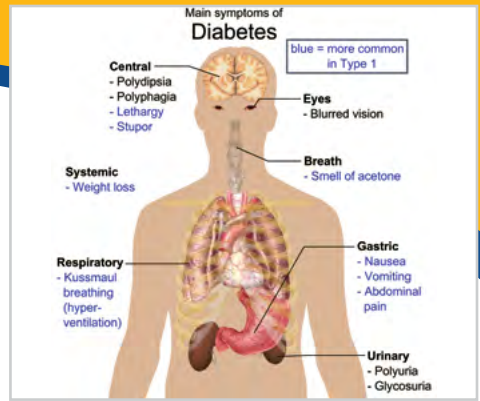
"It seems like it was just yesterday, my sweet," said Richard, with his usual deadpan.

The next Marriage Ministry soiree' is scheduled for August 17th. And Committee Member, Michelle Mears, a comparative newlywed who just celebrated her fifth wedding anniversary with Chris, said the Ministry's events will continue to focus on the relevant for New Hope couples.

"We receive a lot of feedback from our members about ways to make our meetings even more useful in their lives," said Michelle. "And we will continue to do so. If you haven't come to one of our gatherings, check it out. You won't be sorry."



Richard and Joyce



Health Corner

Diabetes - Beware, and Be Aware

Diabetes is a metabolic condition that causes high blood sugar in people either because their insulin production is inadequate, or because the body doesn't respond to insulin, or both. Insulin is produced by the pancreas. Fully 18.7% of all African Americans who are 20 years old or older have diagnosed, or undiagnosed, diabetes. The rate of diabetes in African Americans is 77% higher than in Caucasian people.

Common symptoms of diabetes include the following: frequent urination, increased thirst, increased hunger, weight gain, fatigue, the presence of cuts and bruises that don't heal, male sexual dysfunction, and numbness and tingling in the hands and feet. If you experience one or more of these symptoms, see your doctor and have your blood sugar levels checked.

The catalogue of health problems caused by diabetes is large, and includes increased eye disease (50% higher in blacks than whites), kidney disease, heart disease, and nerve damage. The good news is that your blood sugar can be significantly reduced through diet and exercise, two methods which often form the first line of treatment for diabetes. As merely one example: if you drink one sugar soda each day, your risk of developing diabetes is increased by 20%.

Control your diet, exercise more, and regularly have your blood sugar checked by your doctor.



Special Events

| JUNE | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------|
| 6/4 | MEMBERSHIP MEETING | 6:30 PM |
| 6/3; 6/10; 6/17 | BIBLE STUDY | 6:30 PM |
| 6/07 | MARRIAGE MINISTRY MTG | 3:00 PM |
| 6/09 | BOOK CLUB | 6:30 PM |
| 6/18 | CHARTERING COMMITTEE | 1:00 PM |
| 6/20 | MEN'S DAY (WOWW LEAD) | 5:00 PM |
| 6/21 | NO REHEARSAL | |
| 6/25 | PRAYER AND MEDIATION | 6:00 PM |
| 6/27 | GAZETTE PUBLISH DATE | |

| JULY | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| 7/1; 7/8; 7/15 | BIBLE STUDY | 6:30 PM |
| 7/06 | NO REHEARSAL | |
| 7/10 | CHOIR FELLOWSHIP | TBD |
| 7/09 - 7/11 | NAT'L BLACK PRESBYTERIAN CAUCUS | ALL DAY |
| 7/19 | SINGLE MOMS MINISTRY | 11:00 AM |
| 7/19 | MEN'S MINISTRY | 10:00 AM |
| 7/26 | STEERING COMMITTEE | 10:00 AM |
| 7/23 | PRAYER AND MEDIATION | 6:00 PM |

| AUGUST | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---------|
| 8/5; 8/12; 8/19 | BIBLE STUDY | 6:30 PM |
| 8/15 | BRING-A-FRIEND SATURDAY | 5:00 PM |
| 8/17 | NO REHEARSAL | |
| 8/27 | PRAYER AND MEDIATION | 6:00 PM |

| SEPTEMBER | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------|
| 9/05 | OUTDOOR SERVICE | 5:00 PM |
| 9/2; 9/09; 9/16 | BIBLE STUDY | 6:30 PM |
| 9/12 | EVANGELISM WORKSHOP | 9:00 AM |

Special New Hope Mentions:

WELCOME! New members to New Hope: Denita Mayes, Kevin Fulton, Leslie Jones, Jimmy Jones, Janet Allen, Steve Taylor, Kristina Castro, Luis Aquino and Anthony Craig

Alison Becker: Prayer Warrior Alison Becker was ordained on May 30, 2015, in a ceremony conducted at New Hope. Rev. Becker will now head to Scotland where she will serve for at least a year in Edinburgh until moving on to a more permanent posting. Stay tuned.

CJ Ford: Not to be outdone by his wife, Woman of the Year, Anita, CJ recently marked his 76th continuous week of usher service at New Hope. Take that, Anita!

Grace Lee: We have bid a fond adieu to Grace Lee, New Hope's third Intern, who added her beautiful voice and virtuoso guitar playing to many of our services, in addition to her work with our youth. We can only hope Grace will return to us soon.

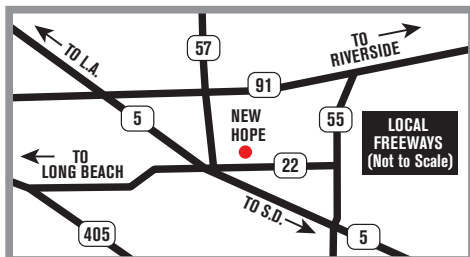
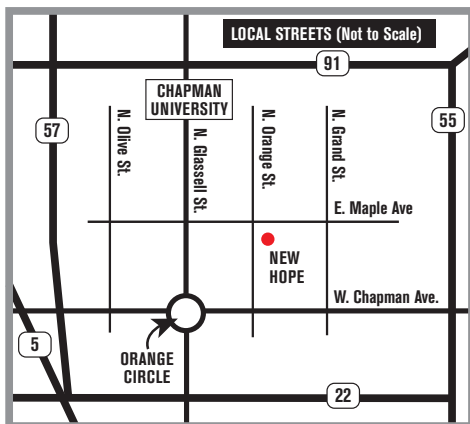


NEW HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WHERE YOU MATTER

Join us for Worship every
Saturday at 5:00 p.m.

We meet on the campus of First
Presbyterian Church of Orange



191 North Orange Street, Orange, CA 92866

PHONE: 714-288-9986

EMAIL: info@MyNewHopePres.org

WEB: MyNewHopePres.org