

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH E VOICE

January 1, 2012
Volume 3, Issue 1



New Hope Lutheran Church, 4801 Sun Valley Drive, El Paso, Texas 79924; Jeff St Clair, Pastor
E-Mail: NEWHOPE4U@SBCGLOBAL.NET, Phone: 915 821-2079 Website: www.LutheransinElPaso.org

REFLECTION AND PERDICTION

The year 2011 is now history and 2012 is looked upon by your Editor as a year full of hard work and excitement for all of us. What do I mean by hard work - we at New Hope are blessed to have a congregation that cares for each other and strive to make the world a better place by involving ourselves in community volunteer activities as well as keeping a vigil eye on the *State of our Church*. We ended the year in an acceptable financial state. Howard Swan, a member of church council and all council members worked diligently to rewrite/edit the Church Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions to conform to the 2009 ELCA Rocky Mountain Synod Model Constitution for Congregations. In addition, Howard was the "engineer" behind our new church Website. It is awesome. Take a look. We continue to struggle with additional new members. I pray that with the excellent leadership of Pastor Saint Clair and a "core" of dedicated members, we will continue to attract people who are looking for a new church home.

On a personal note, this past year has been bitter-sweet. I finally got into a "retirement mode" after working for over 50 years. My husband and I took several short trips and enjoyed our home, children and family pets. I enjoyed a full year as a member

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2012

Sunday Worship (Traditional) at 9AM and (Joy & Grace) at 11AM. Sunday school and Adult conversation at 10:15AM

Choir practice Wednesday at 7PM

Bible Study every Wednesday except the 4th of Jan at 9:30am

Finance Stewardship	Jan 3 at 6:30pm
Outreach Meeting	Jan 5 at 7pm
EPIPHANY	
Christian Education	Jan 10 at 7pm
Book Study "Same Kind of Different as Me"	Jan 14, 9am
Property Meeting	Jan 24 at 7pm

Annual Reports are due to Council President on Jan 29

of the Steering Committee for the City of El Paso. I find city/county politics very exciting and yet perplexing to say the least. Then on November 9th my husband suffered a massive stroke. Our entire world changed in a matter of minutes. He is improving but will be hospitalized for months. I ask that you continue to pray with us for God's Power to work with him to regain a quality of life. This will be a life-long FAITH JOURNEY! May 2012 be a year full of blessings for all of us!

Joyce Palmer, The Editor

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

Josh Pryor was very grateful to be able to spend two weeks with his wife and family after spending a few months in Afghanistan. He left El Paso to return to his base in Afghanistan on December 23rd. We hear that he did arrive safely. Our beloved, **Martina Jackson**, had breast surgery shortly before Christmas and yet she was able to make it to the Christmas Eve and Day service. She will continue her treatments after the New Year. Our warm thoughts and prayers are definitely with her during this time. My husband, **Ed Palmer**, is making progress every day but still has many months to go in therapy to regain a quality of life. Prayers for him and the family have definitely been felt with warmth and love. Your continuance is sincerely appreciated!

NORBERT AND ALICE BRAUNER

Norbert and Alice attend the 11AM worship service as “regulars” but certainly are known to the entire congregation by their involvement in many church activities and always willing to make our church a better place!



Alice was born and raised in New York State. Norbert (on the other hand) immigrated to America from Germany where he survived the turmoil of WWII and completed his apprenticeship and school prior to arriving in Rochester, NY in 1956. He was drafted into the Army and married Alice in 1957. They have two children, daughter, Karin, who lives in Austin, TX and son, Michael, who lives in San Antonio. They have four grandsons.

Norbert spent nearly 25 years in the US Army, retiring in 1981 as a Chief Warrant Officer 4. They served around the world but according to Alice

Germany is her 2nd home because of its perpetual natural beauty! During Norbert’s duty in the Army, Alice served as Treasurer of the Officers Wives Club. After retirement from the Army, Norbert completed his degree at Park College and entered US Army Civil Service at Ft Bliss where he retired the second time in 2000. He dabbled in contract work before his final departure from the work force in 2011.

We are blessed to have the Brauners in our church family and pray the Lord will give them many good years of retirement together!

ITEMS OF INTEREST

WATOTO CHILDREN’S CHOIR

The Watoto Children’s Choir will entertain our church family on February 8th at 7PM in the Sanctuary. They were awesome last year and we are blessed to have them again this year.

If you would be willing to provide housing that night for one adult and 2 or 3 children, please contact Susan Hernandez at sreedhz@aol.com. The folks will goto your home after the concert. You provide a place to sleep (air mattress is ok) and break fast the next morning and a sack lunch. Then you provide transportation to New Hope. This experience is a true blessing. Talk to those who did it last year - the Gannon’s, Virginia Walker, Karen Miller, George and Thania Drake, the Slapes, Lupe Montoya or Betty Ziegler.

MEMBERS OF NEW HOPE COUNCIL

President	Susan Hernandez
Worship Committee	Karen Miller and Susan Hernandez
Education Committee	Karen Miller
Service Committee	Kendra Ask-Carlson
Hospitality Committee	Vicki Gannon
Communication Committee	Howard Swan and Joyce Palmer
Finance/Stewardship	Karen Miller and Howard Swan
Property Committee	Andrew Haggerty

EPIPHANY ‘GOOD GIFTS’ BRUNCH

January 8 at 10 - 11am in the Office/Classroom Building. All proceeds go to ELCA World Hunger.