

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH E VOICE

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COUNTY FAIRS, FESTIVALS & FAITH

As a little girl, growing up on a ranch/farm in the Northern Plains, my Dad would plant corn and wheat to feed the ranch cattle in the winter. After the planting was complete in the spring, he would comment, "Now it (the planted grain) is in God's Hands until harvest." I often wondered (as a typical 4-year old) how the fields could be "held in God's hands"! This was just another example of my Dad's faith in God that I was so fortunate to acquire.

Now my family and friends enjoy the harvest festivals and county fairs in our Great Southwest. There is the Greek Festival, the Oktoberfest and the Chile Festival (just to name a few.) Each culture celebrates the gift of God's love and grace in the bountiful products of food, drink and music. What better way to praise our God and thank him for the baklava, wurst or chiles that we enjoy when we visit the County Fairs, Festivals and other harvest celebrations. I can't help but feel God's love as I walk through the booths and

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

Sunday Worship Services	9am and 11am
Sunday School	10:15am
Bible Study every Wednesday	at 9:30am
Blessing of the Animals	Oct 2, 3:00pm
Cristo Rey Anniversary	Oct 2, noon
Finance/Stewardship	Oct 4, 6:30pm
Outreach Meeting	Oct 6, 7:00pm
Church Council Meeting	Oct 9, 12:15pm
Education Meeting	Oct 7, 7:00pm
Name-that-Tune	Oct 23, 4:30pm
Property Meeting	Oct 25, 7:00pm
Craft Fair	Oct 29, 9am-4pm
Reformation Sunday	Oct 30
Trunk or Treat	Oct 30, 4-6:30pm

eat the tasty native food. For example, at the Chile Festival, an abundant harvest is only possible after workers have toiled and kept the faith during harsh conditions in the hot sun in the Southwest. Let us all pause and give thanks to God for the many blessings of harvest and keep our faith for the future.

Joyce Palmer, The Editor

NEW HOPE MEMBERS IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Lucille Hemphill is back in Dallas visiting her Ophthalmologic Surgeon who will do (yet) another procedure to finalize the treatment for her Detached Retina. Her surgeon has found blood in the eye socket so she will have to stay in Dallas for 2 or 3 more weeks until the blood is absorbed by her body. (At press time Lucille is now home and her eyesight is improving.) She still needs our prayers of hope that recovery is rapid and she can resume driving and living an independent life again. **Maureen Maker's** daughter Susan Kraft had bypass surgery in September and is now recuperating. She needs our prayers to regain her strength and quality of life. **Annette Powell** continues to struggle with her overall health. She will need continued prayers for her understanding of her condition so she can better provide for herself. **Alice Brauner** is recovering well from her back surgery but now is plagued with an open wound on the surgery site. She continues to work with the Wound Care Nurse who visits her every day. Continue Alice in your prayers for a complete speedy recovery.

CHURCH FRIENDS & FAMILY**CLARENCE & BETTY MLADEK**

The Mladeks hail from Cleveland Ohio. Clarence had a trucking business for over 20 years. He had a truck accident when he was paralyzed from the waist down. Betty came into his life at that time. He still had 5 children at home and Betty stepped right in to care for Clarence and the children. They moved to Orlando, continuing in the trucking business, raising Clarence's children until 1986 when the last child left home. They sold their home and moved into a mobile home with lots of acreage in grassland. The high-humidity climate took its toll on Clarence and they decided to move to El Paso (Chaparral, NM) in 1996 when Clarence retired from trucking.

Betty went to work for Hoover in 1997 and is still employed there today. Clarence talks so highly of Betty and all she has done for Clarence and his children. Betty has two



children and 2 grandchildren; Clarence has 8 children (oldest was killed in VietNam) and 23 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Clarence and Betty will celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary in November.

Betty likes to sew, read and go camping. Clarence enjoys reading, wood working and camping. The Mladeks have been members of this church long before it became New Hope. They are active ushers, greeters and coffee makers as well as delivering Meals on Wheels.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Adult Retreat was held on September 10 and conducted under the masterful guidance of Pastor St. Clair. We studied the Book of Revelations. There were 25 people who participated. The lively exchange of ideas was fulfilling and of course, the knowledge of the Book of Revelations was skillfully presented by Pastor Jeff. The lunch was awesome and fellowship with other Lutherans from the city was exceptional. God's love and grace was certainly evident in the reactions and comments.

The Rummage Sale will be September 30 and October 1st. This event requires lots of hard work in preparation but through the support of our church family workers, the doors were opened on time and in style. The church traditionally takes in close to \$2,000 which is a big help for miscellaneous expenses through the year.

"Most of the workers"

