

CALENDAR

June 4 - Worship - Pastor
Jessica Cain 9:30 a.m.

June 4 - Congregational
Gathering and Pot Luck

June 11 - Worship - Pastor
Jessica Cain 9:30 a.m.

June 18 - Worship - Pastor
Jessica Cain 9:30 a.m.

June 25 - Worship - Pastor
Jessica Cain 9:30 a.m.

June 25 - Free Community
Meal 12:00 noon -1:30 p.m.

**Congregational
Gathering
Pot Luck
Sunday April
4th after
worship**

**FREE
COMMUNITY
MEAL**

**Sunday
June 25th
12:00 noon to
1:30 p.m.
Spaghetti, Garlic
Bread, Salad,
Desserts**

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New Hope Lutheran

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Rev. Jessica Cain
pastor@newhopeblanco.org

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

VOLUME VIII—ISSUE VI

JUNE 2017

Pastors Corner

Rev. Jessica Cain

Our Listening Team has been at work since our first seminar in August of 2016. Much of our work takes place in ways that makes it difficult for the congregation to know what is happening. I thought it would therefore be helpful to give some information about what happens on the Listening Team. Please feel free to ask any of the members of the team for more information, as well.

Who are the members of the Listening Team?

Pastor Jessica, Nelson Jonas, Helen Knoll, and Becky Greathouse are the current members of the Listening Team. This team formed at the end of the summer and was officially commissioned in October. Now that Pastor Jessica is leaving as pastor/mission developer of New Hope, we are looking to add another member or members to the team.

When does the Listening Team meet?

The Listening Team does not have a regularly scheduled meeting time. We meet when we have specific tasks to accomplish. Now that we are moving into the community listening portion of our work, we will meet more often with community members than as a team. Our next regular meeting (at which all are welcome) will happen at the end of June.

What is the work of the Listening Team?

The Listening Team is the group working on the Missional River process—the goal of this process is to help us become more deeply rooted in the community. The Listening Team's task is to listen to God at work in three ways: through Scripture reading and prayer, through the congregation, and through the community. Although we are moving through these listenings, we do not leave one behind for the next. It is a building process. Currently, we are in the midst of the congregational listening, but we continue to devote time to prayer and Bible study. We will soon reach out into the community, but we will not ignore the congregation or our prayer and study as a result.

The Listening Team's goal is not to magically make more people come to worship or join New Hope. Rather, it is to make connections and build relationships in Blanco. We believe that God is already at work in each of us, at New Hope, and in Blanco. We are listening to discover where God is and how we can join in the work that God is doing. To this end, we listen to hear how God is revealed in Scripture, how you perceive God at work at New Hope, and what God is doing amongst the people of Blanco. We hope to discover places where a need exists in Blanco, and use our understanding and rootedness to help be a part of the solution. We know that communities are not as well connected as they used to be, and that shifts in the way churches work have made us even less connected to our neighborhood and the world immediately around us. The Listening Team hopes to lessen that disconnect and work to help Blanco be the kind of community where people's needs are met by the passions of others—a place where everyone knows that they are cared for as children of God.

Perhaps the work of the Listening Team sounds somewhat confusing or not very specific. In fact, the nature of this work is that we will not truly know our goals or the outcome of the process until we are near the end. We are listening *so that* we can discover to what New Hope has been called in this community. Why are we here? Why did God bring this group of people together in this place? What is God leading us to do? What are the gifts we have? What are the needs of the community? How can we be people who deepen relationships, root ourselves in the neighborhood, and create a web of community? We continue to work to discover this as our listening process continues.

FREE COMMUNITY MEAL - June 25th

12 noon to 1:30 p.m.

Our original free community meal began on September 13, 2015 when New Hope hosted a free community meal as part of God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. It has been an inspiration to watch this endeavor grow into a service to the Blanco Community that has grown and grown each month. Our May was be Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Pasta Salad, Coleslaw, Rolls, Dessert. June is Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, Salad and Dessert.

Birthday's/Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

June 3 - Christel Tomlinson

June 29 - Helen Knoll

June 30 - Bob Hounsell

ANNIVERSARY - None

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

Schedule:

June 4 - Pot Luck

June 11 - Knoll/Villarreal

June 18 - Foegelle

June 25 - Greathouse

July 2 - Granberg

July 9 - Johnson/Marshall

July 16 - Tomlinson

July 23 - Knoll/Villarreal

Proud of our Youth

Johanna won the UIL State Track Meet - 2 mile Gold Medal on Friday. Ran the 1 mile and won the second gold medal on Saturday, then came home and got ready to go to Prom.



Travis and his father Duan at the ROTC Ball

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: 512-757-4633**, or **Alan Cooper: 833-4301**.

I want to thank everyone for trusting me to represent and serve New Hope. I am looking forward to the future, as New Hope is in transition.

I would like to thank everyone for the hard work they put in, to make our medical building look wonderful. I am always amazed how New Hope gets together and gets things done.

Pastor Jessica 's contract with us will end June 30, 2017, she will continue to serve us as a supply pastor until the end of July. I would like to thank her for two wonderful years that she has spent with New Hope.

Our community meal outreach is growing. At the May meal we saw new faces and people are starting to ask when the next meal is. I would like to thank Helen for all the planning, cooking and shopping she does and everyone else for always coming through with desserts, the serving of the meal and the clean up.

Sharon Parker is going to offer free (donation only) yoga classes the second and fourth Wednesday starting June 14th, from 11 am – 12pm. at New Hope. This will be a class designed that everyone will be able to attend. All donations will benefit New Hope.

Johanna, a sophomore at Blanco High School earned the her way to compete at the UIL State Track Meet in Austin, She came in 5th in the 800 meter and she won a Gold medal for both the One Mile and the Two Mile events. Congratulations to our speed queen!

Travis has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. His court of Honor where he will be presented with the rank of Eagle Scout will be June 24th at 1pm at the Baptist Church. Everyone is invited!

We are planning a yard sale August 5th. I encourage everyone to clean out their storage and closets to find some treasures that we can sell. The proceeds of the yard sale will benefit the camping and the scholarship funds.

Worshiping God, Serving Others, New Hope, Where All Are Welcome.
Blessings
Tanja Tomlinson