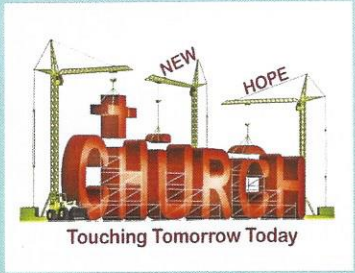


TOUCHING TOMORROW TODAY



Resurrection Edition

April 2021

Virgil Humes, D. Min., Pastor

New Hope Church

Wayne, MI



Pastor and Velicia

*"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change."
(Ps. 46:1-2a, NRSV)*

Over the last thirteen months, the world has changed — we've converted to virtual church and God is still our refuge and strength. I hope this letter finds you safe, well, and secure in the love of God. I love you, miss you, have not forgotten you, and I am praying for you!

Each day we wake up to new information about the COVID-19 pandemic and its global influence as vaccines begin to impact the reduction of infections, serious illness, hospitalizations, and deaths. Thank you for all you have done and the sacrifices you have made to care for your well-being, that of your loved ones, your neighbors, and your church!

Some have donated to the benevolence fund and in other ways to aid members and

From Pastor's Desk

friends who have suffered personal and financial hardships during this crisis. Many of you have set up online giving (via Givelify, the church website, PayPal, or bank account), brought your tithes to the church or monthly drive-bys, or continue to mail your checks for tithes and offerings, giving sacrificially to the Lord. The work of the church continues! Thank you for your continued financial support and faithfulness to your church. Thanks be to God for cheerful givers!

More than \$175,000 of renovations are taking place at the Wayne Campus sanctuary, lobby, and offices (including ventilation upgrades to clean the indoor air of COVID-19 contaminants, a new sound system, stage lighting, carpeting, fresh paint, wainscoting in the sanctuary, a new welcome center in lobby, and the refreshing of offices). Completion is expected by the end of May with hopes of returning to safe in-person worship soon afterward. Thanks to Curtis and Ezio for leading our contractors and volunteers during this significant construction project.

This is the second Easter that we will forgo in-person worship due to pandemic-related public health guidance to maintain the safety and wellness of members and friends. This means that Easter Sunday, the Church will still be scattered throughout the community and country, meeting virtually on several social media platforms. Easter is the great crescendo moment of the worship

life of the Church, where we shout the Good News of our resurrected Lord: "He is Risen, Indeed!"

But the first Easter about 2,000 years ago wasn't announced in full sanctuaries. The news first came in the quiet of the garden.

In other words, the first Easter, the disciples were sheltered-in-place. And yet, Jesus walked through their locked doors to meet them right where they were! He met them in their fear and doubt and made it very clear that Jesus of Nazareth, whom the Romans crucified was the Lord God almighty, the great shelter and refuge, a very present help in times of need, even when all the earth should change.

This Easter, we have an opportunity to worship like those early disciples and find that while the pandemic world has closed the door, Jesus opens the door to new life!

More than ever before, I am eager to say to you this Easter Sunday, "He is Risen!" I may not audibly hear your response, but the angels of God will hear you cry out from your homes and declare, "He is Risen, Indeed!"

Peace to your home.

Get vaccinated!
Pastor Humes

New Hope Church — Taylor Campus



Blessed Are Those Who Mourn

Written By Jackie Morrison

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.”
(Matt. 5:4, NIV)

According to Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt, grief educator, grief is what you think and feel inside when you experience a loss. Mourning is expressing those feelings, getting them out. It’s interesting to know that Jesus in all that he talked about in his famous Sermon on the Mount, discussed the importance of expressing our feelings when we are grieving.

When we think of grief, we think of the deep sadness we feel inside when we experience the death of a loved one. But for those of us who have experienced a significant loss, we realize that that grieving is so much more than sadness. Grief affects us emotionally, physically, behaviorally, and spiritually.

Some Common Reactions to Grief:

Emotional

Afraid
Alone
Angry
Guilty
Anxious
Sad

Physical

Appetite change
Difficulty concentrating
Restlessness/fatigued
Oversensitive to noise
Tightness in chest/throat
Heartburn

Behaviors

Acting out
Avoiding others
Crying
Keeping busy
Overreacting

Spiritual Issues

Anger
Change in beliefs
Difficulty praying
Searching for meaning
Faithful

Struggling with this spiritually? Christians sometimes feel that grieving is against God. But God gave us our emotions — we only use

them when we need to. One of my favorite people in the Bible is King David. We find that 1 Sam. 13:14 refers to King David as “a man after God’s own heart.” Yet David was always very true and honest with God about how he felt. God always came through for him. And scripture encourages us in 1 Pet. 5:7 to cast all your cares on Him, for He cares for you. Our spirituality does not negate our need to mourn.

We not only grieve the death of someone loved, but we grieve many other losses — divorce, loss of a relationship or job, moving away/relocation, family members going to jail, natural disasters (e.g., 9/11, tsunami, COVID-19)

The pandemic has limited certain types of support available when we are grieving. Funerals and memorial services are restricted to a certain number of people. We can no longer show compassion with a handshake, a hug, or a touch. Family gatherings are nonexistent and have been replaced with drive-bys and Zoom calls. Because of the lack of these rituals, many have found themselves experiencing grief on another level.

Grief: What Helps?

- **Permission:** Allowing ourselves to feel the pain — not avoiding or denying it. It is okay not to be okay.
- **Support:** Finding good listeners — people who understand us and our pain.
- **Self-care:** Reading, walking, exercising, journaling, worship, meditating. In other words, doing things we enjoy.
- **Having information:** Learning about the grieving process. What is normal, natural, and necessary.

New Hope’s Grief Support group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. via Zoom. For more information, please contact the church.

Member Spotlight—Anthony Davis



This edition of our member spotlight

focuses on Anthony Davis. Known as “Deacon Anthony” to many, he has been a member of New Hope since 2000. Within the church, he is involved in many ministries including the Deacons Ministry, Men’s Ministry, Christian Education, and Boy’s Mentoring.

Davis grew up in Brooklyn, New York, and eventually moved to Michigan. He shares that there are many things he likes about New Hope — one of them being the people. He describes other New Hope members as part of his family, especially being from New York and having a fewer family members here. He also mentioned his love for Pastor Humes and the love shared among New Hope members.

Deacon Anthony is also involved in the Accounting Career Awareness Program or ACAP, part of the National Association of Black Accountants. The program exposes Black students and minorities to careers in accounting and business. ACAP allows students to stay on Wayne State’s college campus and visit museums, Ford Field, and Little Caesars Arena. When asked why he is so passionate about this program, Davis explained that he wants to provide life skills for students who may not know what they want to do as a career. He referred back to his childhood and how a program like ACAP was not accessible to him. He went on to share how ACAP can change the trajectory of a student’s life — it has been positively impacting minorities for more than twenty years.

With Deacon Anthony playing such a large role at New Hope as a whole, he shared the hopes he has for New Hope in the future. Number one is to safely return to in-person worship. He also hopes to continue to do ministry within the Wayne and Taylor communities to help others become more connected to God. Overall, Deacon Anthony Davis has a passion for youth as well as reaching out to people within the community. He looks forward to seeing his church family again!



Sydney Neal
Junior, Canton High School

Newly Ordained Ministers

Hello, my name is Amira Wilson, and I am a junior at Canton Preparatory High School. I am also dual-enrolled at Wayne County Community College. The following is a special article about the newly ordained ministers at New Hope.

These eight ministers studied for

about four months to learn the Articles of Faith based upon biblical principles. They were questioned during the ordination process by four pastors: Rev. Forsythe, Rev. Yarber, Rev. Conely, and Rev. Gill. Now that they are ordained, according to Baptist tradition, they are authorized to conduct weddings,

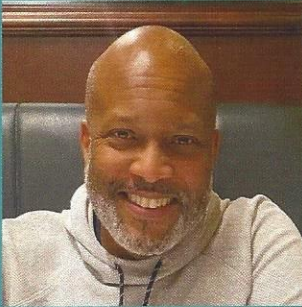
officiate funerals, and serve the Lord's Supper.

I asked each minister three questions:

1. Do you have any specialty ministries?
2. When did you receive your call to ministry?

3. Is there any advice you would give to someone who wants to be part of the clergy ministry?

Please read on for their responses. Let's continue to support and encourage these ministers as they continue along the path of service.



Rev. Patrick Burrage

My specialty ministry is Youth and congregational care. I love to teach and facilitate learning with all groups. I enjoy the interaction of our youth both sharing thoughts and learning from their exploration.

My call to ministry, came some 21 years ago, as deacon. God spoke to my heart to give and let go. He has allowed me to do the thing I enjoy which is to teach the Gospel and connect to his people. Later in 2017, God pricked my heart again to bring the word through my experiences as a teacher.

My advice for someone interested in ministry is to pray and never stop with prayer. Know that the ministry is based on the your salvation of being born again by the Spirit, knowing that you will not fall away but are kept by Christ faith unto your salvation. This ministry is about pleasing God through your faith in him, without it you cannot please him. Join us.

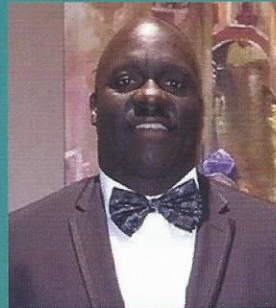


Rev. Michael Hale

I serve in a few areas of the church, but my main areas of focus are being the Campus Pastor of Taylor and helping with technology. I was offered the position by Pastor Humes for Taylor and I don't take that lightly. As far as technology, I just love new tech and figuring things out.

My call to ministry happened when I was 17. I felt God calling me to preach and speak His Word. Naturally, I completely ran away from the call because I thought I would have to become super saved, and I was still figuring out who I was. After a few years of running, I finally listened and became a minister under Pastor Humes because I felt he could help mold me into what God wanted me to become.

My advice for someone interested in ministry is to uncover the areas that cause you great concern. Those are typically the areas where you will be most impactful because they are part of who you are. Secondly, I'd say be yourself! Most of the time, we think coming into the ministry means you have to be the holiest person ever, but God doesn't want to change who you are — He desires to change *how* you are.

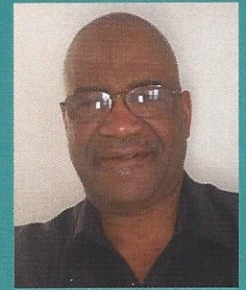


Rev. Marc King

Serving is my specialty ministry. Ministry is the function while service is the profession for which I am tasked since my conversion.

My call to Ministry came when I started loving everyone, even my enemies. The heart felt passion to teach, preach and protect others in my walk with God are components of my call.

My advice for someone interested in the ministry is to make sure that your calling is God-guided, not of your own ambition. You don't have to be specifically qualified, God will do that.



Rev. Wallace Shelton

I do not have a specialty ministry. Being in the clergy involves wearing many different hats and one must be flexible to minister in various callings as the church has need. I consider it an honor to serve in various ministries here at New Hope Church. It is a blessing to minister as part of the Clergy Ministry, Sunday school as a teacher, Men's Ministry, Music Ministry, Congregational Care, Prison Ministry, and Veteran's Support.

In my youth, I found myself always wanting to be a help to someone whenever possible. That spirit of caring for others carried into adulthood, and the Lord called me into ministry.

First, the clergy ministry is a calling from God. The Holy Spirit will speak to you and let you know there has been a calling in your life to serve at the proper time. But it is important for you to get involved in church ministry work first. There are several ministries that you can choose from here at New Hope to prepare you for the work of the ministry. There you can be groomed by caring members who can lead and guide you as you prepare for Kingdom work.



Rev. Shelby Wilson



Rev. Stephanie Burrage



Rev. Daphne Green



Rev. Carla Steward

My specialty ministry is Christian Education. From as far back as I can remember God has always given me an understanding of the bible. I enjoy teaching and making God's word understandable. Breaking down the scripture to simple language and relating it to everyday life is what I enjoy. It gives me a good feeling when someone is inspired by God's word. Teaching allows me the opportunity to grow through study.

I accepted the call to teach the Word of God in my twenties. Over the next 40 years, God worked with me to understand that my call was not limited to teaching but included preaching. I delivered my trial sermon in October 2017 — I became ordained in December 2020.

My advice to someone who wants to become a part of the clergy is to pray and speak with Pastor. A key factor is to already be involved in some ministry in the church. Having the mind of a servant is essential to ministry because it is not about them, but it is about what God has called them do.

There are several ministries that have been special to me and were based on the time of my life where I had been called to serve. My special ministries have been Sunday school teacher, a youth leader, Women's Ministry, and a Marriage & Couples Ministry leader.

My call to ministry has been a life-long process of having a personal relationship with God, my Abba/Father. I know God has called me to share His Gospel and to be a living testimony to His Word. His calling came at a time when He wanted my ear to Him completely even with the very loud noise of life surrounding me. He had to retrain my ear to listen to His voice — even with my eyes closed, to know His Word for myself, and to know He is God all by Himself.

It is the best calling to be in God's care and to focus your life on the Word of God. It is the best relationship to talk to your best friend (God) every day and to pray for others through God's care and protection. It is a daily living sacrifice to keep one's flesh, mind, and tongue under control to show the love of God at all times. We have such a great example of God's love through our pastor. I would tell anyone that to be a clergy member at New Hope is amazing and a blessed experience because New Hope is family and love.

I would like to think that wherever God guides, He provides. However, I do have a love for women/girls, teens, and worship.

In 2005, I had a dream in which I was called upon to pray over a congregation. I wrestled with it for quite a while. After several sleepless nights, I went to Pastor Humes — he informed me that he had been waiting to hear from me and then my journey began. Following several months of ministerial training, I was scheduled for my initial sermon and on Sunday, Aug. 27, 2007, I was licensed to preach the gospel.

Know who you are and how God sees you before taking this step. Be ready to sacrifice. Then, pray, pray, pray — then pray again. Ministry is not glamorous work. It is life-changing for you and those you serve. I can't say whether it was something I wanted to do but I know it is something I have been called to do. Serving in ministry requires a constant amount of sacrifice and humility.

At this current time, I do not have a special ministry, but I did when I was first called into ministry at a young age and again when I first became a minister at New Hope. My ministry in the beginning was with the youth at 17 years of age. I worked with at-risk youth and children in my neighborhood. In doing so, I established programs within my church to get them off the street and away from the drugs and gangs. I also became a camp counselor and assisted minority youth with getting scholarships to attend camp (some became camp counselors as well). I would like to say at this time in my ministry that evangelism is where God is leading me with some missionary work.

I knew I was called into ministry because of my compulsion to assist others and my desire to preach or share the Word with others. My spiritual mentors, such as my pastors and associate ministers would encourage me to teach Bible study and Sunday school or lead altar prayer. People would tell me they could see the hand of God upon me or feel the anointing when I would speak before the congregation. I had a strong desire to help others in their time of need — with prayer or a listening ear. God always directed my path and no matter what I did, God always led me back to Him. Although I am compelled to preach the Word, I am also fearful of doing so. Taking on this role as a minister is very serious and I never want to disappoint God.

I would say to anyone that has a desire to be a minister: Seek God first to lead and guide you in any and everything. Pray and pray some more! A strong prayer life will make you stronger and able to hear the voice of God.



Amira Wilson
Junior, Canton Preparatory High School

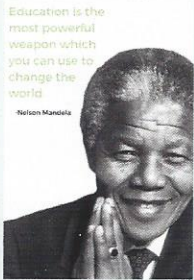
Academic Resources

Test Prep Websites

- **CollegeBoard**
<https://www.collegeboard.org/>
Offers free sample questions, tutorials and practice tests for the SAT and ACT
- **Khan Academy**
<https://www.khanacademy.org/>
Free online education platform for assistance in core subject areas and SAT test prep
- **PowerScore**
<https://www.powerscore.com/>
Free test preparation platform for SAT and ACT
- **The Princeton Review**
<https://www.princetonreview.com/>
For a fee, offers test preparation services, tutoring and admission resources

Helpful Websites

- **The Common App**
<https://www.commonapp.org/>
Resources to help find a college and apply to college
- **Michigan Community College NetWork**
<https://www.michigancc.net/contact/mcc.aspx>
- **Michigan Student Aid**
<https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid>
Learn about and apply to MI State Aid programs, and search for local scholarships based on your county plus much more...
- **Sallie Mae**
<https://www.payingforcollegeresource.com/>
Tools and resources to help pay for college and scholarship opportunities with Sallie Mae



Before & After:

How to plan for the unexpected inevitable

Virtual Event

Saturday, April 10, 2021

10-11 a.m. | Presentation

11-11:30 a.m. | Q&A Session

Please join this valuable session with guest speaker Nadia Vann, Esq. and get equipped to ensure that your assets are protected while giving you greater peace of mind. Ms. Vann will cover estate planning and navigating and executing powers of attorney.

Join the meeting:

[https://resa-net.zoom.us/](https://resa-net.zoom.us/j/96291408699)

[j/96291408699](https://resa-net.zoom.us/j/96291408699)

Meeting ID: 962 9140 8699



Before and After: Seven Essential Estate Planning Considerations

Written by Nadia D. Vann, Esq.

There are many common questions and issues that can arise when planning for your future care and your family after your passing. Here are seven helpful tips to assist with your planning:

1. **Power of Attorney:** Make sure you have a financial power of attorney and a health care power of attorney. In most cases, these will ensure the court does not have to get involved in and make decisions about your life if you are unable. These decisions do not automatically fall to your spouse or children.
2. **Beneficiary Designations:** Make sure your beneficiary designations are up-to-date and consistent with your estate planning objectives. Don't name a person as beneficiary unless you want them to become the owner of the property at your death. Make sure you review your beneficiary designations often to guarantee that you are leaving your property and assets to the right beneficiaries.
3. **Transfer on Death (TOD) Designations:** Your will and trust do not control assets that designate an outright beneficiary or that are owned jointly with another person. Assets that designate a beneficiary will pass to the named beneficiary, regardless of the terms of your will or trust. Similarly, assets that are owned jointly will pass to the surviving joint owner, regardless of the terms of your will or trust.
4. **Joint Ownership:** Don't title assets jointly with another person unless you want the joint owner to become the sole owner of the property at your death *and* you are willing to put the property at risk for the joint owner's liabilities.
5. **Pre-planning Your Funeral:** Remember, you don't control what happens to your body after you die. Take steps to ensure your wishes are upheld.
6. **Choose Carefully:** Make sure the agents and fiduciaries you name in your power of attorney and will are well-suited to carry out their responsibilities.
7. **Charitable Giving:** Consider a gift to a charity as a part of your final planning in order to support the causes that you care about and the people who have supported you.

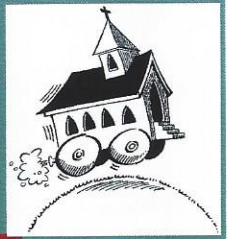
If you would like to learn more about how to plan for your before and after, join guest speaker Nadia Vann, Esq. on Saturday, April 10 from 10-11:30 a.m. via [Zoom](#) as she facilitates a valuable information session, Before & After: How to plan for the unexpected inevitable.

Bio: Nadia D. Vann is an attorney practicing in the areas of estate planning and special needs planning across the lifetime.

New Hope Drive-By

Next Event: Saturday, May 1

11:00-12:30 p.m.



New Hope Wayne Campus Renovations



Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Youthful Souls & Temples of Christ
 Darrlyn Harrison & Min. Daphne Green
 Zoom:
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/81299379798?>
 Password: 164593

Leaning on Faith - Mrs. Johnson
 Call: 978-990-5000
 Password: 537796#

Young Adult-Khadijah Richardson
 10:00 a.m.
 Zoom:
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85132235038>

Young at Heart - Dantonio Thompson
 Zoom:
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/732488687?>
 Password: 072788

Inspired Spirits - Mary Lewis
 Call: 978-990-5000
 Password: 664537#

Growing in Christ - Min Shelby Wilson
 Zoom:
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/83551540496?>
 Password: 374829

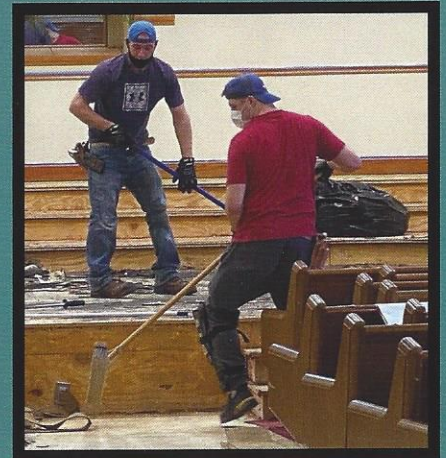
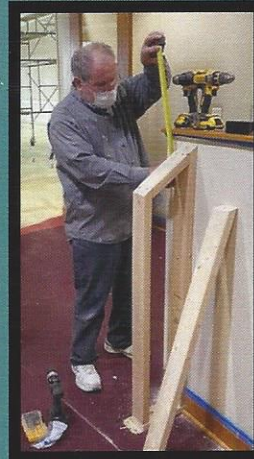
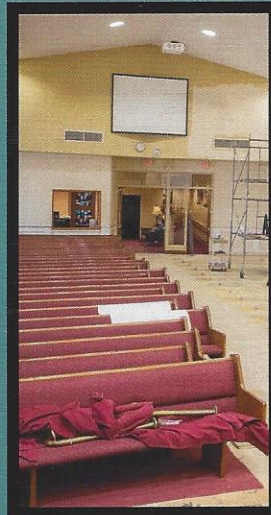
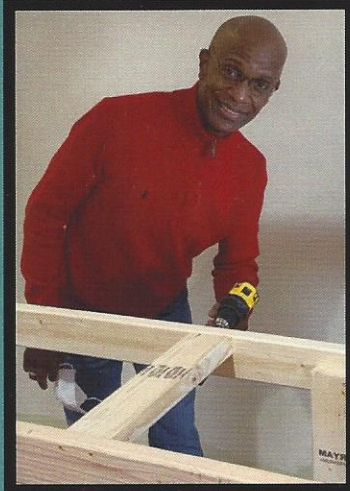
New Birth - Ramona Parker-Muhammad
 Zoom:
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/88269336378?>
 Password: 106969

Monday Night Bible Study
 5:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 Zoom:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/7485994616?>
 Password: 277234
 Call-In Number: 646-876-9923

Taco Tuesdays
 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
 Facebook-YouTube-Church Ap

Checklist for Life Podcast
 Wednesdays
 6:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
 Facebook-YouTube-Church Ap



One Church/Two Locations

New Hope Church

Wayne Campus:
 33640 Michigan Ave. 48184

Church Telephone: 734-728-2180
 Fax: 734-728-5904
 Email: newhopewayne@comcast.net

Taylor Campus:
 8900 Pardee Road 48180