

# May ☺ hope

NHCC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MAY 2022

## The Other Two Guys —Pastor Josh Huisman

**Luke 23:39-43 (NIV)**

***<sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup> But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup> We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."***

***<sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."***

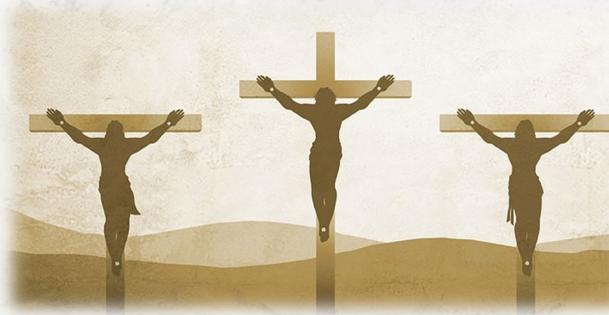
**M**y original plan for Easter Sunday was to preach on the two thieves who were crucified with Jesus. After all, is there any greater example of faith in all of Scripture? Think about it, Jesus is being

crucified just like them. One thief chooses to deny him and the other chooses to believe in Him. To believe in Jesus in a moment like that would require an extreme amount of faith.

Both thieves observed the mocking and jeering of the crowd, and both would have noticed the special attention Jesus received from the Roman soldiers. Thief number one looks over at Jesus and decides to join in on the hate. He lets anger and resentment build up inside and his response is to jeer at

Jesus by saying, "If you are who you say you are, save yourself and save us!" This is the same selfish approach to life that put that thief on the cross in the first place. I wonder what raced through his mind when Jesus breathed his last and the sky grew dark, the earth quaked, and the lightning crashed.

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## Other Guys...Cont. from Cover

The second thief recognizes the gift he has been given in such a dire moment. He becomes a shining example of the good news and grace of Jesus in action! He knows he is being “punished justly” and “getting what he deserves” but he is wise to notice that Jesus has done nothing wrong. He then asks Jesus to remember him when he enters into His Kingdom.

Jesus responds with the words we know so well, “Today you will be with me in paradise.” And just like that, the second thief is saved. There was no baptism. No communion. No works of service. Only belief! Jesus gave him the reward of “new life” that would begin immediately upon his earthly death.

We can learn a great deal from the thief on the cross. We may feel we are undeserving and far away from God, but the thief on the cross reminds us that Jesus is always close to those who ask him to “remember us.”

### Prayer

*Heavenly Father, I know I can get caught up in fictional scenarios that cause anger and bitterness to rise up in me. I know that these things can distract me from putting my complete trust in your hands. Help me to control the things that only I can control and to turn loose of all the things that only You can control. Like the second thief on the cross, help me to choose you even when life seems to be at its lowest. In Jesus Name, Amen.*

**I CHOOSE JESUS**  
the One who first chose me.

## The News Around New Hope



### Behold Play & Easter Weekend

The Behold event was great. Lots of people in the room to watch! It was so awesome to see all the people from New Hope working together to make the event a success. Easter Sunday was great as well! It was powerful to see the sanctuary packed with people all weekend. HE IS RISEN!

### Gallery Refreshing with Paint

We know the Gallery needs new carpet, but that is too cost prohibitive right now. Sean McDonald and I have been talking about freshening up the gallery with a fresh coat of paint. Now that Easter is over we will begin this process. We'll be able to save money by doing this project in house, with Bo Cochran and I putting together a color scheme. Everything that is currently on the walls in the gallery will be removed so the walls can be prepped for painting. I was looking back and I think the gallery walls were painted back in 2011 or 12, so it's time to rethink the space. The hope is to brighten up the space with the main color being lighter.

### Water Fountains

As part of the "updating" we're going to put in updated Water fountains that have a bottle filling option by the restrooms.

### Speaking of Restrooms

Countertops & Wood furnishings have been selected for the women's bathroom. We already have the sinks and faucets ready to go too! Work should begin on that soon.

—Pastor Josh

# NHCC Missions Team

—Randy Smith



This month we would like to give everyone an insight into missions at New Hope Community Church and the team. Hopefully we

will be able to answer the questions someone might have regarding how the missions team is funded, how various ministries are chosen, levels of support, ongoing evaluation, and who can be on the missions team. To begin, we will start with the Missions Team Charter:

- **Purpose:** Our sole purpose is to align ourselves with Christ's mission statement, Luke 4:18, *"The spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."* First, He desires to bring good news to the poor (not just poor financially, but poor in spirit). Second, He seeks to free prisoners (whatever we are imprisoned by, chasing careers, money, things, status, fame). Third, He brings sight to the blind, (again not just physically blind but spiritually blind). Fourth, He comes to release the oppressed; the Lord is a Warrior, who will boldly defend the oppressed, the weak, the helpless, the defenseless, and the forgotten from their oppressor. Finally He will proclaim the year of the Lord's favor (await the return of Christ).
- **Goals:** To recommend to the Elders, local,

regional, and international ministries that our entire church body can serve and support. As a body of Christ which recognizes tithing as a principle taught in the Bible, the Mission Team is selected from among members of the body of New Hope Community Church who accept fiduciary responsibility to be good stewards of the tithe of New Hope Community Church. With understanding that this support is not only financial but also with all of our gifts and talents emboldened by the Holy Spirit.

- **Eligibility Requirements:** Possess a passion for service to and for others as a reflection of God's unconditional love and mercy "while we were still sinners" to each of us. You must be a member of New Hope Community Church to be a member of the Missions Team.

Next, let's go over some of the common questions people may have about our team, such as *how the Mission Team is funded*. Ten percent of all money given to the church through tithes, offering and gifts is put directly into missions. Each financial year the Missions Deacon is given the church budget by the Elders and the team uses ten percent of that figure as their budget.

*How do we select a missionary or ministry to support?* When a member of our church brings or suggests a ministry that aligns with our church, an evaluation form is tendered, the ministry is researched, and a time for the leader of the ministry to

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## Missions...Cont. from Page 3

visit a team meeting is arranged. Ministries must have a 501c3 designation to be considered for funding support. Unfortunately not all ministries can be accepted, although due to the passion of the team each one is carefully considered.

*How is funding distributed?* Each fiscal year, once a missions budget has been determined, the team takes ninety percent of that number and lets out monthly funding to existing and any new ministries that have been accepted, and keeps ten percent for safety hold. During the final months of the financial year the team takes that ten percent plus any accrued extra money through generous giving to the church and sends gifts to existing or one time donations to deserving ministries. All monies coming into church missions must be spent during the current fiscal year. The Missions Deacon then submits the team recommendations to the Elders for approval.

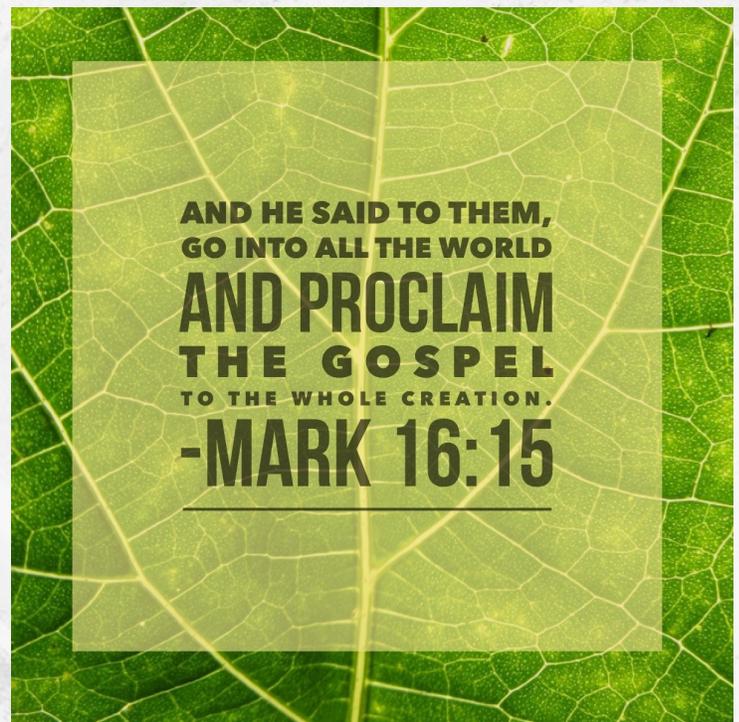
*Evaluation of current supported missionaries and ministries:* Evaluation of missions financially supported by New Hope Community Church is an ongoing process but every two years each team member is assigned a ministry or ministries to contact and send out an evaluation form. All missions are required for the form to be completed by a board member and returned to the missions team. The forms are reviewed at a team meeting after all are received. Decisions on increasing or decreasing funding are made during this meeting. In the event a ministry is no longer going to be funded the contact is notified the team discusses and sends a parting gift.

*Leadership: How is the team structured?* An elected Deacon is appointed over the Missions Team and charged with leading the team, communicating with the Elders, leading all team meetings and submitting any funding decisions

made by the team to the Elders for approval. All meetings regarding decisions are parliamentary in manner, a motion must be made by a team member, seconded and voted on. A simple majority is needed for decisions. The Missions Deacon is required to visit an Elders meeting periodically and a monthly Deacon meeting, as well as supply all team meeting minutes and reports to the church leadership.

If you know of any missions or ministries you would like our church to look at, have ideas for putting boots on the ground locally, or would like to be part of the decision making process on the missions team, please reach out to someone you may know on the team or myself, Randy Smith. Hopefully I covered everything but if you have questions please let me know!

—Randy Smith  
Missions Deacon



**Registration is now open for Create Hope Studios 2022 Summer Camps and Clinics!**

## **Dance Clinic: June 27 - July 1st \$65**

- Ages 3-5 Monday and Wednesday 10:00-12:00
- Ages 6-11 Monday and Wednesday 10:00-12:00
- Ages 12 and up Tuesday and Thursday 10:00-12:00
- Performance for parents for all ages Friday 10:00-11:00

Space is limited, so don't wait  
to reserve your child's spot  
in these great classes!

## **Ages 6-8 Artful U Art Camp \$155**

- June 7 - June 10

## **Ages 8-12 Artful U Art Camp \$175**

- June 21-June 24

## **Ages 6-12 Arts Alive: Art and Drama \$175**

- July 12-July 15

## **Private Drum Lessons Summer Session \$120 a month**

- Ages 6-18
- Once a week, June 1- August 1
- Classes offered Monday-Friday



Scan QR Code  
to Sign Up!

*Many years ago, Senior Pastor Josh Huisman had an idea to create a space here at New Hope Community Church that could simply be used by creators to create. He envisioned a place where kids and adults could strengthen their skills in the creative arts and use those skills in the kingdom of God to bring God glory. With his vision and Lauren Cochran as the director, Create Hope Studios is finishing its third year and currently provides classes in music, dance, art, and writing.*

*On Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> our 2021/2022 students will perform in our CHS Showcase at 6:30 p.m. at New Hope Community Church. Our students would love the support of our New Hope Church family. So, we invite you to come and enjoy the displayed artwork from the students of Van Maarth Arts, feel the rhythm in the ballet, jazz, and hip-hop routines, see the writing come to life in a short skit written by our writing class taught by Martha Bolton and hear the musical talent of our music students. This free showcase will definitely be a night to remember.*



# Project Life for Tennessee

## Tennessee Action Council 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament Recap

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual

Project Life For Tennessee Golf Tournament held on April 25<sup>th</sup> was a wonderful success, with 82 golfers enjoying a beautiful spring day in Middle Tennessee (with some rain, of course!). Proceeds will benefit Project Life’s mobile pregnancy clinic ministry and Helping Hands bags for children entering foster care.



NHCC Children’s Minister, Lauren Cochran, provided a powerful testimony in her keynote address and NHCC members Dan Zimmerle and May Bennett spoke on behalf of the organization. Thank you to all who played, sponsored, volunteered, provided silent auction items and donated for these vital ministries!

## Annual Baby Bottle Drive Kickoff!

Our annual NHCC Baby Bottle Drive will be kicking off on Mother’s Day, May 8 and continue until Father’s Day, June 19. Contributions will be used directly for the Helping Hands ministry which provides new duffel bags and toiletries to children entering foster care in Williamson and surrounding counties, as well as Project Life For Tennessee which partners with pregnancy centers to provide mobile clinics offering ultrasound, pregnancy testing and Christian counseling to women and families.



Baby bottle banks will be available in the

NHCC vestibule beginning May 8<sup>th</sup>. Please gather your change, cash, checks or use the QR code on the bottle to make a donation. If you like, a donation can be made in honor or memory of a special mother or father in your life, or other loved one, by adding a note on your check or in your on-line credit card transaction using the QR code or our website, <https://projectlife4tn.org/>. The baby bottle banks offer a unique opportunity to talk with your children about the importance of caring for those in need in our community.

*Tennessee Action Council (TAC) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization and donations are fully tax-deductible. (Please provide donor identifying information with cash donations if a statement is needed for tax purposes).*



Thank you for your prayers and support!  
*Children are a gift from the Lord, Proverbs 127:3*



# Events you won't want to miss!



SUNDAY, MAY 15 | 7:00 PM

## A NIGHT OF SONGS & STORYTELLING WITH GORDON KENNEDY

OPENING: JOSH HUISMAN

new@hope COMMUNITY CHURCH 605 Wilson Pike Brentwood, TN

TICKETS & INFO: [bit.ly/nhsongs](http://bit.ly/nhsongs)

*All proceeds from this concert go to support New Hope Missionaries in Ukraine: Sergei & Ellina Lesnik, and Andrey & Yulia Shepelinko.*

About the artists: Gordon Kennedy is a multi-Grammy Award winning songwriter and record producer, a virtuoso guitarist, and a music industry visionary in Nashville. With his love for storytelling, vintage guitars and his deep knowledge of music history, he has emerged as one of Music City's most beloved Ambassadors. Kennedy's live shows are a treasure trove of colorful backstories and outstanding performances that one only as talented and immersed in rich experiences can truly deliver.

Opening Act: Josh Huisman. Josh recently released a 4 song EP called Seasons. The first single, *Chase the Sunset*, is the perfect addition to your summer beach playlist.



## New Hope Kids is gearing up for our **NHK Summer Fun Nights!**

To kick things off, we would like to invite you to join us and the New Hope Students for a cookout and kickball event!

Fun for the whole family!

Come to eat! Come to play! Come to eat and play!

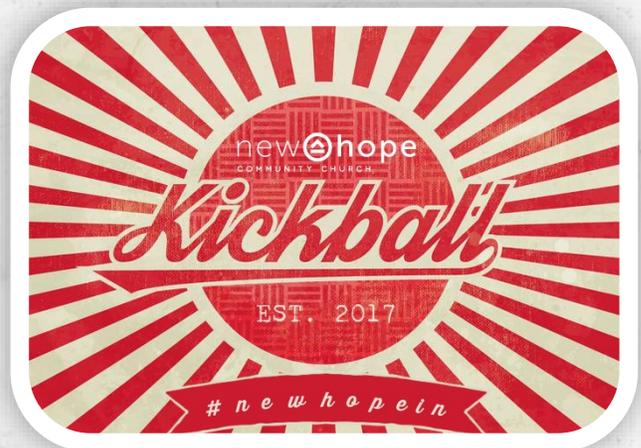
**Wednesday May 25<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

In the back field

\$10 donations for food per family. Signup online or on the New Hope App

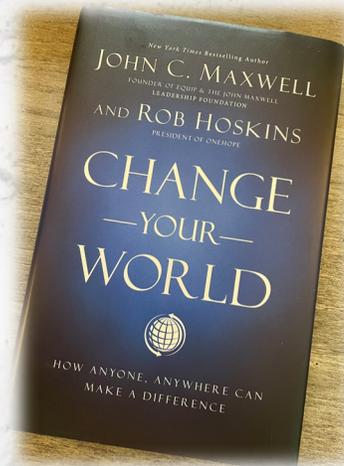
Free t-shirts for kids and youth playing kickball.



We have a new staff person on board! Meet Gavin Booser and his wife Maddi. The church leadership went through a pretty lengthy process to find Gavin. We received many resumes and ended up going through an interview process with two people. Gavin rose to the top in those interviews. We believe God has brought Gavin and Maddi to New Hope to lead our high school ministry. When you see Gavin & Maddi please give them a warm welcome!



## A Book You Should Read



research on where I could receive leadership training and accountability. John C. Maxwell is one of the premier names in Leadership and he had the perfect program for me. His newest book is called Change Your World. Here is the description: *"Problems surround us: division, anger, violence, corruption, poverty, homelessness, and family breakdown. Too often, we feel powerless to do anything about them. We wonder, 'Why doesn't somebody do something?' The good news is, somebody can. YOU can be the one*

Last year I realized I wasn't doing enough to grow intentionally as a leader. I began to do some

*who changes the world around you. In Change Your World you will learn from John C. Maxwell and Rob Haskins, and also the experiences of teenagers, single moms, businesspeople, and volunteers who saw a need, felt compassion, and took action!"*

On a personal level, I often wonder what difference I can truly make in the world since I'm only one person. *Change Your World* shifted my thinking and encouraged me to look at my influence from a different perspective. Even if I am only influencing one other person in this world in a positive way, then I am a leader who is making a positive impact on this world! I was even inspired to write a song about it!

—Pastor Josh