## Welcome to New Hope Church

A Christ-centered community for all peoples, moving toward Jesus and taking others with us.



## donate & volunteer newhopechurchmn.org/christmasshop

### GIVE ONLINE

NEED PRAYER?

**NEWS & GIVING REPORT** 

#### Home for Christmas Message Series

newhopechurchmn.org/christmas

Sundays, December 5–26. We all long for home, especially in a season of weariness and separation. Come home for Christmas and celebrate the arrival of the promised child. Watch at newhopechurchmn.org/watch.

#### **Christmas Eve Gatherings**

Friday, December 24, 2:30 & 4pm, Worship Center or livestream. "Make room" for the birth of our king. From the manger to the cross to the empty tomb, King Jesus is still on the move! Visit newhopechurchmn.org/christmas.

#### **Christmas Shop Volunteers + Donations**

Sign up to volunteer on December 10 or 11. We are collecting new, unwrapped gift donations for ages 0–18. Drop off at the Main Campus by December 5. Shop online! Visit newhopechurchmn.org/christmasshop.

#### Silver & Gold Christmas Luncheon

Thursday, December 9, 12–2pm, Family Center. Enjoy devotions, a plated dinner/dessert and Christmas carols. Invite a friend! Cost: \$8. Make reservations at 763-536-3219 by December 6. Visit newhopechurchmn.org/seniors.

#### **Need Prayer?**

Share requests and pray for others on an interactive prayer wall. Visit newhopechurchmn.org/prayerwall.

#### **News & Giving Report**

Log in to myNHC for details on hospitalizations, births, deaths and new believer stories. View the weekly giving report.

#### Ways to Give

Thank you for your generous giving to New Hope Church. You can give through the NHC App, by check or online at newhopechurchmn.org/give.

# Get the most current information at newhopechurchmn.org







#### GALILEE'S PROMISE Isaiah 9:1–7

#### CONNECT

1. Think of a major change in your life when there was a "before" time of hardship and then an "after" time of restoration. Share one or two of these stories around your group.

#### **GOING DEEPER**

- 2. Read Isaiah 9:1–2. Is God's heart for judgment or for restoration? Which one gives God joy?
- 3. Read Isaiah 9:3–5. What is God promising to deliver His people from? Create a comprehensive list as you read.
- 4. Looking at the list you made, which of those do you feel afflicted by? Which do you need deliverance from? Let each person in your group pick at least one. Then take the time to pray for these things, asking the Savior to deliver you from them.
- 5. Read Isaiah 9:6–7. How does God accomplish His deliverance? Does He break oppression by being even more oppressive or by being something else entirely?
- 6. Read Isaiah 9:6–7 again as though you knew nothing of Jesus or the New Testament. If all you had were these two verses, what would you conclude about what this child will be like?
- 7. Think of the people of Israel in subjection to Rome, living under constant oppression, corruption and fear. How could these two verses give them hope?
- 8. As you approach this holiday season, where do you face dark, difficult times? How can these verses give us hope today in every darkness we face?

#### ACTION

9. God loves to take His people from a difficult "before" into a redeemed and beautiful "after." He also loves to use His people to accomplish this for others. Take time to pray and ask God to bring someone to mind who is in a difficult "before" season (this person may even be in your group). How can you minister God's love to them to help bring them to a redeemed and beautiful "after"?