New Hope Lutheran Church
lcmc
NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CIRCLE, MONTANA

Bits from Blayne

Friends in Christ, grief is a strange thing. I've come to realize that sometimes we grieve someone long before they're called home to the Lord.

Over the past 15 months, I've walked through much of the grieving process with my dad. We talked about his funeral, made plans for the business, and discussed what life would look like for our family after he was gone. In some ways, I consider that a blessing. In other ways, those were terribly difficult conversations to have. I've described it as grieving someone in reverse.

That doesn't mean I'm finished grieving. Far from it. But it does mean that I've had time to come to terms with things that others are only now beginning to process. And through it all, I've been reminded that grief and faith are not opposites. We can grieve deeply while still trusting completely in the promises of Christ.

At Dad's funeral, I had the opportunity to speak about suffering, something our family has come to know quite personally. But more importantly, I spoke about the promises of God in the midst of suffering, and the hope that is ours through Jesus Christ. If you have an opportunity, I would encourage you to watch that sermon. Not because it was mine, but because the message is one I believe we all need to hear from time to time. The funeral service was livestreamed and can be found on Stevenson & Sons Funeral Homes' website, under Ron Watts' obituary.

I also want to take a moment to thank you, my church family.

I've often described the relationship between a pastor and his congregation as something like a marriage. We are joined together in ministry, walking through life's joys and sorrows, caring for one another along the way.
While I've been called to serve as your shepherd, I've learned that there are times when the shepherd needs to be cared for, too.

And you have done that for me.

Through your prayers, your kindness, your encouragement, and simply being present, you've reminded me how blessed I am to be part of this congregation. You've become far more than people I preach to on Sunday mornings. You've become family.

I don't take that relationship lightly, and I don't take your love and support for granted.

Thank you for walking alongside me and my family during this season. Thank you for allowing me to be both your pastor and a fellow brother in Christ, who sometimes needs the very same grace, comfort, and encouragement that I am called to share with you.

+In Christ,
Pr. Blayne

Worship Schedule

Date	Time	Minister	Lector	Readings
November 1 Bring Food Bank Items	**4PM**	Pastor Blayne	Frank Wright	Revelation 7: (2-8) 9-17 Psalm 149 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12
November 8 Communion Harvest Festival Potluck	**4PM**	Pastor Blayne	Frank Kasten	Amos 5: 18-24 Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 Matthew 25: 1-13
November 15 Sunday School @9	**10AM**	Pastor Blayne	Teri Ann Vejtasa	Zephaniah 1: 7-16 Psalm 90: 1-12 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30
November 22 Communion Council Meeting	**4PM**	Tiffany Smotherman	Denise Haynie	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95:1-7a 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 Matthew 25:31-46
November 29 1st Sunday of Advent	**4PM**	Pastor Blayne	Duane Nelson	Jeremiah 23:5-8 Psalm 24 Romans 13: (8-10) 11-14 Matthew 21: 1-9

Join us for a Harvest Festival Potluck



Sunday, November 8 following the service.



✏️ Please submit information for the monthly newsletter by the 20th of the month. Send it to NewHopeLutheranNewsletter@gmail.com ready to cut and paste into the newsletter. Thank you!
~Cheryl

Contacts

Mailing Address
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Email
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Church Council
Duane Nelson, President - 406-485-2423
Thomas Fritz, Vice President - 406-974-3336
Denise Haynie, Secretary - 406-939-3856
Wanda Robinette, Treasurer - 406-939-3404
Ron McFarland - 406-853-3348
Frank Wright - 406-974-2042
Peter Ferm - 406-529-3478

Event Contacts
Baptisms - June Nelson - 406-485-2423
Weddings - Wanda Robinette - 406-939-3404
Funerals - Frank Wright - 406-974-2042

Facebook Group
New Hope Lutheran Church

Location
1400 B Ave, Circle

Cash Flow - Sep 2026
9/1/2026 through 9/30/2026

Category	9/1/2026-9/30/2026
INFLOWS	
Div Income	1.93
Offering	4,933.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	**4,934.93**
OUTFLOWS	
Building Maintenance	105.95
Donation	
Worship Building	750.00
TOTAL Donation	750.00
Internet Expense	19.15
Misc. Obligations	
Piano Tuning	90.00
TOTAL Misc. Obligations	90.00
Music	50.00
Pastoral	
Contract Pastor	1,500.00
TOTAL Pastoral	1,500.00
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	**2,515.10**
OVERALL TOTAL	**2,419.83**

Financial Report submitted by Wanda Robinette.

Sunday School

November 15 - Children's Sunday School @ 9AM

Council Meeting
Sunday, November 22
following service

Bible Studies

None at This Time

NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Find information, resources, online small group study sessions, Daily Prayer and Readings, and more!
www.theNALC.org

lcmc
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

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www.lcmc.net

New Hope Lutheran Church **Council Meeting** **September 20, 2026**

The council meeting of New Hope Lutheran Church was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by President Duane Nelson. The council members present were Frank Wright, Duane Nelson, Ron McFarland, Peter Ferm and Denise Haynie.

Correspondence – ILT sent a letter asking for contributions for the scholarship fund, Pathways Scholarship. We also received a newsletter from NALC.

The minutes from our previous meeting were read, Frank made a motion to approve the minutes. Ron seconded.

Ron gave the **treasurer's report** in Wanda's absence. Peter made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Denise seconded.

Committee Reports:

Worship Committee- Blayne will be gone on October 4th , Tiffany will be filling the pulpit. October 11th will be our potluck Sunday, starting after the 4pm service, we will need someone to set up and help serve communion as Frank will be gone. October 18th there will be Sunday School at 9 a.m., church at 10 a.m., with our monthly council meeting to follow. Salem will have church at 4 p.m. the 18th. October 25th we will have worship at 4 p.m. with communion.

Finance: None

Education – We had our first day of Sunday School this morning with Amber Wright teaching and Ali Ferm was her helper. There were 4 children in attendance.

Building – The rodent control houses outside the church seem to be working, the bait is almost gone. We will need to refill them. Ron will use Pramitol to control the weeds around the church in the spring. His estimated spring expenses will be $275-$300. The salt could be used, but it must rain in order for it to work. The roster outside of the church needs to be updated.

Old Business:
The piano tuning is done, $90 is owed to Chuck Sawyer from Miles City.

New Business:
November will be our annual birthday month; we will tentatively set our Harvest Festival for November 8th with worship at 4 p.m. and Harvest potluck to follow.

Pastor's report: None

Next meeting, October 18th at 11:00 a.m.
Newsletter items are due by the 20th of each month!

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Haynie



1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

New Hope Lutheran Church
PO Box 457
Circle, MT 59215

Happy Thanksgiving