

*"Let the light of Jesus shine through you!"*

## Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast

The New Hope Methodist Church will be hosting their annual Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 8 to 11 a.m. A delicious breakfast of pancakes (plain or blueberry), sausage, biscuits & gravy, apple sauce, and beverages will be served. A freewill donation will be collected, so give as your heart directs. There will also be a bake sale at this event so you can take a special treat home with you! It is a great way to kick off your Memorial Day! Hope to see you there!



## Let's Be Good Stewards of Our Home!

We are called to be stewards of all God has given us – and that includes the planet on which we live! To make our community more beautiful, the Retreat & New Hope Methodist Churches are seeking YOUR help with their spring roadside cleanup. Volunteers would be greatly appreciated to help out on **Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** when the churches will be cleaning the HWY 82 roadside between Retreat and Red Mound.

As in years past, we will work in two groups. One group will meet at New Hope, and another group will meet at Prairie View Elementary School to make a game plan and distribute the supplies. Both groups will then begin cleaning up the roadside, meeting in the middle around Worman Road. Currently, the group starting at Prairie View is planning to meet and begin the cleanup work at 9 a.m. that day.

If you would like more information on this community ministry and learn how to get involved, please reach out to Jeff Nelson today! 😊



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### Upcoming Events

**Communion Sunday**  
Sun. May 5<sup>th</sup>

**New Hope Board Meeting**  
Sun. May 12<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m.

**LP Methodist Women**  
Tues. May 14<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m.

**Retreat Board Meeting**  
Tues. May 14<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.

**Retreat Crafters Group**  
Sat. May 18<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m.

**Memorial Day Breakfast**  
Mon. May 27<sup>th</sup>, 8 – 11 a.m.  
@ New Hope Methodist

**Church Basement Quilters**  
Mon. May 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>  
9 a.m. @ Liberty Pole

**Sunday Bible Study**  
Sun. May 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
8:30 a.m. @ Liberty Pole

**Wednesday Warriors**  
Each Wednesday, 3:30 p.m.  
@ New Hope

**Food Pantry Open**  
Wednesdays: 5 – 6:30 p.m.  
Thursdays: 9 – 11 a.m.

### Get a Spiritual Boost and Dive into the Bible with Us!



We invite you to renew your spirit as we jump into God’s Word, grow in our faith, and discover how it applies to our lives today! Everyone is invited to join us for our Sunday Bible study at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> at the Liberty Pole church. This Bible study is open to everyone, so come as you are and be ready to dive into the Living Word!

#### Sunday Morning Bible Study

Sundays, May 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 a.m. at Liberty Pole



### Developing Deeper Friendships

#### May Online Studies

Friendships – Relationships – Community. God created us to be in community with each other **and** with Him. We see this desire throughout the stories within the Bible and we see it around us today. However, due to the recent isolation caused by a global pandemic, our society is more isolated and fragmented than ever! That time of isolation has led to an epidemic of loneliness and a mental health crisis around the world. It has revealed the importance of being connected with people and the God who loves us, yet often we do not enjoy these connections like we could or as God intended.

We invite you to join us in our May Online Bible Studies as we are inspired, challenged, and offered practical wisdom about developing and maintaining deeper and more meaningful friendships. We will also look at what it means to be a friend of Jesus, taking a glimpse at the privileges and responsibilities that come with such a relationship! Use the links below to join the studies and come along with us as we grow in our relationships with each other and with Jesus!



- **21 Days to Sweeter Friendships** – starting May 1<sup>st</sup>  
<https://bible.com/p/66196602/f6864af7c3f9e55d645820e53e687af7>
- **Friendship With Jesus** – starting May 22<sup>nd</sup>  
<https://bible.com/p/66196630/a5304f9526189411f6336459f3a0eec6>

*These online studies and more can be accessed through the Bible App or [bible.com](http://bible.com) website, which are free resources. In addition to wonderful devotional and reading plans, they provide a verse of the day, and you will be able to read the Bible in a wide variety of versions. The Bible App is available in your app store on your mobile device, or accessible online at [www.bible.com](http://www.bible.com).*

*Please note that Bible.com online will no longer support Plans with Friends. You will need to open the Bible App on your mobile device to continue to use this feature.*



### Give to Your Church Anywhere, Anytime



It is easier than ever to financially support the ministries of your church! Safe and secure online giving is available for the Liberty Pole, New Hope, and Retreat Methodist Churches on our website: <https://www.driftlessministry.org>! Simply click on the “Giving” tab in the main menu or head directly to <https://driftlessministry.org/giving/> and discover just how easy it is to give from the comfort of wherever you may be. I think you’ll be surprised!

**Liberty Pole, New Hope & Retreat Methodist Churches** – Visit us online at: [www.driftlessministry.org](http://www.driftlessministry.org)

### Prayers for May

Each day of the week, use this simple prayer starter as part of your conversation with God.

#### Monday

Lord, as the sun rises on this new morning, I step into the new week with gratitude and joy in my heart. This IS the day that You have made, and I will rejoice and be glad in it.

#### Tuesday

Heavenly Father, I give thanks for the blessings of seeing another day. Walk beside me as I endure the challenges of today and give me the strength I need to face those challenges. May I walk in faith and in Your strength.

#### Wednesday

Lord, often I magnify my flaws and failures. Help me to come to the full realization that I am fearfully and wonderfully made and created in your image. Help me to love myself while, at the same time, remaining humble.

#### Thursday

Lord, on this morning, I seek your guidance and wisdom for the day ahead. Help me make decisions that align with your will and purpose. May your Holy Spirit be my compass, leading me toward righteousness and love.

#### Friday

God, thank you for this day. Thank you for seeing me through another week and bringing me to the weekend. May this weekend be filled with rest, refreshment, and quiet time with You. My life can seem so overwhelming and confusing, but I know that You are there by my side always.

#### Saturday

Abba Father, I lift up those in need of your love, healing, and comfort. Be with the sick, the lonely, and the brokenhearted. Bless those who labor for justice, peace, and the well-being of others. May your love shine through us as we extend a helping hand to those in our community.

#### Sunday

Gracious Lord, I awaken today with a heart ready to praise You. With every breath I take, I am reminded of the countless blessings that You have showered upon me. Each one bears testament to Your unceasing goodness! God is Good!



### Make a Difference! Attending Upcoming Church Meetings!

Being an active part of your church is **vital** to the life of your church! We encourage everyone to come and participate in the discussions at your respective church board/council meeting. All church members have a vote, and all ideas are welcome. Join us at your next church meeting and make a difference!

#### Liberty Pole Church Board Meeting

- To Be Determined -

#### New Hope Church Board Meeting

Sun. May 12<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 a.m.

#### Retreat Church Board Meeting

Tues. May 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6 p.m.





### Food Pantry Needs

The New Hope Food Pantry welcomes your generous donations to help those in need in our communities. This month the pantry is seeking donations of **spaghetti, mushroom soup, strawberry jelly, & stuffing**. If you wish to donate items or funds, feel free to drop them off at any of our three churches. You may also drop them off during the pantry's open hours: Wednesdays, 5 – 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays, 9 – 11 a.m.



*The New Hope Food Pantry is located at  
E2286 State Highway 82, De Soto, WI 54624*



### Make It Sew!



Those creatively fun ladies known as the church basement quilters are at it again. If you love to sew or do any other craft, you are invited to join the group for a time of fun, fellowship, and crafting. The group will be meeting on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. So pack up your sewing machine, quilting projects and lunch and head over to Liberty Pole to join in on the fun. Also be sure to bring your energy and your sense of humor! You are sure to have a “laughing” good time!



### Donating to Each Other!



In March, the Retreat Methodist Church acquired a new life-saving tool that can be utilized in the event of a choking emergency! The church's fellowship hall is now home to a new LifeVac Anti-Choking Kit. The LifeVac is a non-powered, non-invasive airway clearance device developed for resuscitating a victim with an airway obstruction when current choking protocols have been followed without success. The church is excited to offer this life-saving tool to its visitors to better protect them and their loved ones.

After acquiring the device, the church became inspired to provide this tool to both the Liberty Pole and New Hope churches as well! So as part of their first quarter mission, Retreat donated a LifeVac tool to each church so that they too can be prepared to protect their members, friends, and visitors.



### Retreat Crafters Group News

The Retreat Crafters Group will be meeting on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in the Retreat Methodist Fellowship Hall. Along with their normal crafting and fellowship, they will be discussing various projects and events happening in the church! So pack a lunch, bring a project you are working on, and be prepared to have some fun and fellowship!



**“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”**

~ Romans 15:13 ~

### Food Pantry News

A huge thank you to the Retreat Methodist Church and those who donated at the Easter Community Breakfast! The Food Pantry received your generous donation and we greatly appreciate it! Your continued support helps those in our area struggling with food insecurity.

We also wanted to share a thank you we received from one of our food pantry patrons! This gentleman expresses gratitude every time he visits. He only takes what he needs and won't take things that he believes others might need. He shared with us the reason for his need and we are grateful to be able to serve him during this difficult season of his life. He is a wonderful friend to everyone at the pantry.



**“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’**

~ Matthew 25:40 NIV ~



### A BIG Thank You!

A BIG Thank You goes out to both Terry Nelson and Gary Nummerdor for the many hours they put into the remodeling of the entryway to the Retreat Methodist Church. While the project is still ongoing, we are all very appreciative for all of your hard work and dedication. Thank you also goes out to the other hands who have helped along the way, whether it was helping with the construction from time to time, preparing the sanctuary for painting, or putting everything back – your assistance is greatly appreciated! A special thank you also goes out to Lynnell Nummerdor for creating the beautiful wall hanging that now is displayed in the back of the church! No picture is available at this time, so come see it in person on Sunday morning!



A big thank you also goes out to Karen Tryggestad for her professional work in repainting our sanctuary! The fresh coat of paint certainly gave a new life to our worship area!

Our sanctuary refresh is still ongoing at Retreat, and we also want to thank everyone for their ongoing patience during this time. These projects can get a little messy from time to time so we thank you for your understanding.



### Liberty Pole Methodist Women



The Liberty Pole Methodist Women group will be gathering on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the basement of the Liberty Pole Methodist Church! All area women are invited to come and participate in our meeting and fellowship! One of the topics of discussion will likely be the upcoming 150<sup>th</sup> celebration!

**“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what the will of God is, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”**

~ Romans 12:2 ~



### Let the World Hear Your Mission Cry!



As part of their second quarter mission, the Retreat Methodist Church is collecting books for Mission Cry! This ministry has been empowering native missionaries and making disciples around the world. They do this by asking people like you and me to share their bookshelves that are filled with Bibles and Christian books. They then take those books and send them around the world, sowing God’s Word into the lives of those who cannot afford it!

Through the months of May and June, the church will be collecting books for this ministry. If you would like to donate your gently used Bibles or Christian Books, simply bring them to church with you and drop them off or reach out to Robbin Henchen (1-608-804-0314). You may also give financially if you wish to do so. The church will then take all the donations and drop them off at their location in Cashton. We pray that you will join us on this mission and however you choose to give, you will be letting the world hear your Mission Cry!



### Thanks for Your Support!

The Retreat Methodist Church extends a heart-felt thank you to everyone who came out to their Grilled Pork Chop Dinner on April 13<sup>th</sup> to support their ministry. It was wonderful to see all of your smiling faces as you came through the serving line! A HUGE thank you also goes out to all of the wonderful volunteers and donors who helped to make the event a success. We greatly appreciate each and every one of you!



### A Loving Community Supporting Others

It was wonderful to see so many people come out and enjoy fellowship with one another during the Easter Community Breakfast on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. There were plenty of wonderful conversations over a delicious meal! Plus, the kids sure enjoyed the Easter egg hunt!

While the meal is absolutely free to all, those who wished to donate gave very generously! The donations were split evenly between the New Hope Food Pantry and the Vernon County Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Each organization received \$268.00 thanks to the loving generosity of the community!



### Faith UMC Memorial Day Dinner

Everyone is invited to the Memorial Day Dinner at the Faith United Methodist Church on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The menu includes chicken & noodles, beef & noodles, salads, dinner rolls, beans, desserts & beverages. The cost is \$14 for adults, \$8 for children ages 7 to 12, and children 6 and under are free. Carry out dinners are available the same day, just call (608) 625-2112 to place your order. There will also be a raffle during the event! Items to be raffled off include a fire pit with grill (and accessories), firewood with carrier, and twenty (20) pounds of ground beef! Raffle tickets are \$5 each or you can purchase five tickets for \$20! The winning tickets will be drawn at 1 p.m. at the end of the dinner. For more information on this event, call Jean at (608) 606-4582. Proceeds will benefit the Women of Faith local mission fund.



*The Faith United Methodist Church is located at S3297 Salem Ridge Rd, La Farge, WI.*



### Remember and Honor



Memorial Day is more than the “unofficial start of summer”. It’s more than graduation parties, family gatherings, fundraisers, sales and parades. Memorial Day is about pausing from our busy lives and *intentionally* taking time to reflect and honor the men and women who lost their lives in service to our country. It’s about paying our respects and giving thanks to those who gave everything just so that we can enjoy the freedoms that we often take for granted.

This Memorial Day (Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>), I encourage you and your family to set aside some time to remember and honor those who lost their lives in service to our country. Whether you visit a local cemetery, attend a special Memorial Day service, support the local VFW or American Legion, or participate in a parade, be sure to remember the purpose of this day. Remember and Honor those we’ve lost and don’t be afraid to thank any veterans and active military members that you encounter for their service and dedication.



### Congratulations Class of 2024!

As another school year comes to a close, we want to take a moment to honor all of the individuals who are graduating as the Class of 2024! We celebrate not only your academic achievements but also the remarkable people you have become. Graduation is a reflection of your growth, resilience, and dedication. As you embrace the world beyond your school walls, remember that your journey is just beginning. Embrace every experience, learn from every setback, and cherish every triumph. And never forget that as you head out on your next adventure, your community and your church will always be here cheering you on and offering you support and advice should you seek it. We are so very proud of you. Your potential is limitless, and we can't wait to see all that you will accomplish! Congratulations graduates!



**The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you;  
he will never leave you nor forsake you.  
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.**

~ Deuteronomy 31:8 NIV ~



**Shining Celebrations!**

**Birthdays**

Jeanette Smith – May 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Brynn Deaver – May 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Bill Marohl – May 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Doug Caley – May 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Clayton Thompson – May 11<sup>th</sup>



Brian Funk – May 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Joy Hubbard – May 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Deanna Lohr – May 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Loann Beach – May 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Bailey Gianoli – May 27<sup>th</sup>



Pete Amrhein – May 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Tavin Hagen – May 29<sup>th</sup>  
 Britany Deaver – May 30<sup>th</sup>  
 Rachel Diehl – May 30<sup>th</sup>

**Anniversaries**

Eric & Renee Baker – May 6<sup>th</sup>

Brent & Casey Johnson – May 28<sup>th</sup>

Stacy & Jeffrey Matson – May 28<sup>th</sup>

Did we miss your birthday, anniversary, or other special day?

Let us know! E-mail us at [newsletter@driftlessministry.org](mailto:newsletter@driftlessministry.org).

**Join Us for Fellowship Sundays!**

The next Fellowship Sunday at the Retreat Methodist Church is coming up on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and everyone is welcome to stick around after worship and join in the wonderful fellowship. This month's hosts at Retreat are **Carol Gilman and Lynn Nelson**. We hope you can join us after worship on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> for some wonderful fellowship time!

This month's Fellowship Sunday at the Liberty Pole Methodist Church will be held on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to join us following worship as we enjoy some snacks and have great fellowship together.

These Fellowship Sundays are a great way to catch up with your faith family. Be sure to check them out and enjoy some quality time with your family and friends at the church!



**Church Contacts**

**Interim Pastor: Rev. Drew Filkins**  
 (517) 899-3408  
[pastor@driftlessministry.org](mailto:pastor@driftlessministry.org)

**SPRC Chair – Barb Robson: (608) 606-5809**



**Lay Leaders – Debbie Groves: (608) 648-3684**  
**Barb Robson: (608) 606-5809**  
**Jeffery Nelson: (608) 379-2933**

**Food Pantry – Debbie Groves: (608) 648-3684**  
**Robbin Henchen: (608) 804-0314**





# May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>LP: Liberty Pole</b> NH: New Hope R: Retreat	<b>Driftless Ministries</b> Rev. Drew Filkins (517) 899-3408 <a href="mailto:pastor@driftlessministry.org">pastor@driftlessministry.org</a>		<b>1</b> Wednesday Warriors 3:30 – 5 p.m. @ New Hope  Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.	<b>2</b>  Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  HWY 82 Roadside Cleanup 9 a.m.
<b>5</b> Fellowship Sunday (R) Communion Sunday 	<b>6</b> Basement Quilters 9:30 a.m., Liberty Pole	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Wednesday Warriors 3:30 – 5 p.m. @ New Hope  Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.	<b>9</b>  Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> LP Bible Study: 8:30 a.m.  NH Board Meeting 11:30 a.m.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> LP Methodist Women 5:30 p.m.  Retreat Board Meeting 6 p.m.	<b>15</b> Wednesday Warriors 3:30 – 5 p.m. @ New Hope  Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.	<b>16</b>  Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  Retreat Crafters Group 10 a.m. @ Retreat
<b>19</b> Fellowship Sunday (LP)	<b>20</b> Basement Quilters 9:30 a.m., Liberty Pole	<b>21</b>  Submission Deadline	<b>22</b> Wednesday Warriors 3:30 – 5 p.m. @ New Hope  Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.	<b>23</b>  Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> LP Bible Study: 8:30 a.m.	<b>27</b> Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast 8 – 11 a.m. @ New Hope 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  Food Pantry Open 5 – 6:30 p.m.	<b>30</b>  Food Pantry Open 9 – 11 a.m.	<b>31</b>	

# Shine

Liberty Pole, New Hope & Retreat Methodist Churches  
c/o Jeff Nelson  
120 Rosewood Ln N  
West Salem, WI 54669

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**DETAILS INSIDE!!!**