

# NHM Magazine

FALL/HOLIDAY 2014

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Photo by Pastor Grant Thigpen

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8:30am - 12:00pm on Friday

**7675 Davis Blvd., Naples, FL 34104**  
**Phone 239.348.0122 / Fax 239.348.0131**  
**[newhopeministries.org](http://newhopeministries.org)**

## A Word from Pastor Grant

**"Faith comes by hearing the Word of God."  
Romans 10:17 (KJV)**

Four times it is recorded in the Bible that the just shall live by faith: Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11 and Hebrews 10:38. It is also written in the Bible that faith comes by hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17).

No one is justified or made righteous by being a good person or by doing good deeds. A person is justified by God's grace, through faith (Ephesians 2:8,9).

Romans 4: <sup>1</sup>What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. <sup>5</sup>But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness.

In the Old Testament, Abraham

was made righteous by faith. He believed God's Word and God considered him righteous! That's the same way we New Testament believers are justified. We became Christians because we heard the good news of the completed work of salvation. We heard of the vicarious and atoning death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We heard that the sinless Son of God took the sins of mankind upon Himself according to His Father's will.

**We became Christians because we heard the good news of the completed work of salvation.**

When we heard this wonderful story of redemption, faith graciously appeared to us. Hearing God's Word made it possible for us to believe that our sins were paid for, we were forgiven and God wanted us to be His children. We believed in our hearts

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# What do the Blood Moons Signal to Believers?

by Michael Sedgwick

Perhaps believers are generally missing the true significance of the current cycle of blood moons. The blood moons may be a signal and warning to the unsaved to come to Christ. But for believers, they may be a warning that we need to be busy about our Father's business. This includes witnessing and engaging in intercessory prayer.

**The churches in America are generally asleep in complacency, when they should be interceding for America and Israel.**

The prophetic signs in God's Word point to a falling away and to deep sin. As a result, many Christians seem to have the attitude that since all this will happen, there is nothing we can do about it, nor will our prayers change anything.

The church can and should be praying for a revival for tens of millions of additional Americans to get saved (2 Chronicles 7:14). Such a revival would not contradict end times Bible prophecy. God is looking for believers to stand in the gap in prayer (Ezekiel 22:30).

Believers can also pray away terrorist attacks and economic collapse in America. We can do this with the help of the Holy Spirit, if we are not asleep and complacent spiritually. Perhaps God is giving us signs to wake us up and be

more fervent in prayer and in our witnessing.

Astronomers call a series of four consecutive blood moon eclipses a "tetrad." The word tetrad refers to a group or set of four.

Several blood moon tetrads have occurred in the past 500 years. But three of these tetrads of blood moon eclipses have been unusual because they:

- ♦ Occurred on Jewish feast days
- ♦ Included a total solar eclipse somewhere in the series

The fact that these blood moons all occur on Jewish holy days is beyond normal probabilities.

The pattern has been that a significant event for the Jewish people occurs within a year of the first or last eclipse in each blood moon cycle. They were accompanied by a tragedy for the Jewish people that ended in their triumph.

1. In April of 1492, the Edict of Expulsion in Spain required all Jewish people to convert to Catholicism or leave the country. While the Jews were fleeing Spain, Columbus discovered America. The United States would become a home to the oppressed, and a refuge to the Jewish people.

2. In 1948 the Nation of Israel was born. God gathered the Jewish people that had been scattered among the nations and brought them back to their land.

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A Word from Pastor Grant: continued from page 3

that Jesus died for us and was raised from the dead for us and we confessed with our mouth that Jesus was Lord (Romans 10:8-10).

It was by hearing the Word of God that we had faith to be justified and it is by hearing the Word of God that we have faith to live the proper lifestyle of those who are righteous. Remember, the just shall live by faith.

Everything we need to know in order to live a victorious life of faith, walking justly before God, is in His Word, the Holy Bible. Everything I must know in order to live an ever-increasing life of faith is in the Word. Without faith

it is impossible to please God, but with faith it is not only possible, it is the glorious honor and responsibility of every Christian. Pleasing God by faith in His Word is the normal lifestyle of a child of God.

We have faith to receive Jesus as our Savior and it is by hearing His Word that we have faith to serve Him and please Him every day of our lives.

We started this life of righteousness in faith, we continue in faith and we complete our life of righteousness in faith by hearing, receiving and obeying God's Holy Word.



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# What's Cookin'?

with Chef Brian Elwell

**Q:** What's involved in preparing a typical Wednesday evening meal?

**A:** Tuesday is prep day and is spent preparing the 4 or 5 side salads for 200 people (off season) to 400 people (in season). We cut the onion, celery, and prepare whatever product (chicken, pasta, etc.) we'll use in the salads. We'll also season the main course meats, and bake the cake.

On Wednesday we go right to the logistics of the day by making the iced tea, cooking the meat, cutting the lettuce, preparing the vegetable, making any sauces, making the soup, portioning the dessert. It's always a step process.

**Q:** What type of equipment do we have in the kitchen?

**A:** This is a full commercial kitchen. There is an 80 gallon pot that we use for soup or boiling pasta. We have a large walk-in cooler that will actually hold food prep carts. There's also a walk-in freezer we use when we have the opportunity to purchase supplies at a good price to store for future use.

The stackable convection oven can roast approximately 400 pieces of chicken at once. We use the spider top stove for sauces, the grill for charbroiling steaks, hotdogs and hamburgers. A recent pancake breakfast utilized the flat top griddle. Our



"combi" oven uses steam, heat or both, so we have the ability to proof bread and then bake it without opening the door. We also have a metal probe for temperature cooking meats like prime rib and the oven will automatically shut off when the meat reaches the perfect temperature and an alarm will beep to notify staff that it's time to remove the meat.

**Q:** What is the seating capacity for the Banquet Room?

**A:** We typically have 33 tables with 8 chairs, which equals 264 place settings. During season, for our Wednesday night dinners, we expand to 40 tables for a total of 320 seats. Because the buffet lines are open from 4:30pm to 6:15pm, we are able to feed many more than that. Last season our largest crowd was 425.

**Q:** Describe some community functions you have prepared meals for.

**A:** The facility is available for the public to rent for all types of events; wedding receptions, fund raising events for local non-profit organizations. A very large quilt show has been held here for two

years. In the past we've honored the Emergency Services workers of Collier County. We've worked with the Hunger and Homeless Coalition to feed the needy, held a fundraiser for the Pregnancy Resource Center, and held a breakfast to raise money for the staff of Nana's Diner, after their building burned down. Recently NHM held an appreciation luncheon for the staff at Calusa Park Elementary.

**We could have any number of great ideas... but we need people willing to get involved, to make it happen.**

**Q:** How do you accomplish all these things?

**A:** We have a great facility but we need laborers to make it all happen. Each event is labor intensive. Everyone likes to do the fun stuff like prep the food, but there are many behind the scene jobs that need to be done on a regular basis: mopping the floors, washing the dishes, cleaning the walls. The hoods and ovens need to be cleaned monthly, the fryer oil needs to be changed and we need volunteers who are willing to do this. We must be a good steward over the facility by maintaining it.

We could have any number of great ideas, we've got the equipment and the facility, but we need people willing to get involved, to make it happen.

**Q:** Do we work with the Harry Chapin Food Bank?

**A:** Yes, we have a food pantry available to the community every Tuesday and Thursday, but we are struggling to find volunteers to maintain it. It's more than just giving out food bags. We must train our volunteers to get the right information, so that we're in compliance with the Harry Chapin Food Bank. The government requires demographic statistics as to who is receiving the food, how much, how often, etc. There is a limit as to the frequency.

**Q:** What upcoming events are scheduled?

**A:** We have the Hallelujah Fest coming up the end of October and we will be preparing hamburgers, hotdogs and fried chicken meals, which will be for sale in the dining room, at the concession stand, as well as at an outdoor tent location.

In November, we will host the 6th Annual Hunting Banquet. It's so popular that we expand beyond the dining room and set up tables in the gymnasium.

**As always, we are in need of volunteers and serving staff to make it all run smoothly.**



3. In 1967 Jerusalem was reunited with Israel for the first time in almost 2,000 years.

A tetrad of blood moons started this past April and coincides with Jewish feast days:

- ♦ April 15, 2014 – Passover
- ♦ October 8, 2014 - Feast of Tabernacles
- ♦ April 4, 2015 – Passover
- ♦ September 28, 2015 - Feast of Tabernacles

### No one knows the events that these blood moons may represent.

Unlike the first three tetrads discussed, the tetrad of 2014-2015 contains a Shemittah Sabbatical Year. God commanded that the Israelites let the farm land rest every seventh year (Lev. 25:1-7). In the Old Testament, the Shemittah year is sometimes associated with judgment. Shemittah years are also discussed in the popular book, *The Harbinger*.

A Shemittah Year began on September 25, 2014 (Feast of Trumpets) and will conclude on September 13, 2015 (also on the Feast of Trumpets).

The year 2001 was a Shemittah Year. The United States was attacked by terrorists on September 11, 2001.

The year 2008 was another Shemittah Year. The U.S. stock market collapsed 777 points on September 29, 2008. This was the greatest one-day decline in the history of Wall Street.

The current Shemittah Year that overlaps 2014-2015 also occurs within a series of four blood moons that all take place on Jewish feasts.

Many believe that God is sending the world, including America, warnings of coming judgment during this Shemittah Year.

The churches in America are generally asleep in complacency, when they should be interceding for America, and for Israel. Let us obey the command in Psalm 122:6 – “pray for the peace of Jerusalem.” This verse also teaches that those who “love” Jerusalem “shall prosper.” Let’s diligently pray for America.

How can YOU make a difference this Christmas season?

Starting Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> you can pick an angel off the tree.

Make it a family tradition and help someone who is in need.

Items are needed by December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Angel Tree 2014

## What Does Thanksgiving Mean to You? Our Children Replied...

Caleb, who is 9 yrs. old, said, “Thanksgiving means we celebrate everything Jesus has given us. Also, we must give to the orphan, widow and needy.”

Nora, age 7, said, “Thanking God for everything we have.”

Dinah, age 8, commented, “God gives us food.”

4 year old, Abram, said, “Giving money away and food away, and we celebrate and eat turkey.”

Victoria, age 6, replied, “Giving thanks to God.”

5 year old, Avery, says, “It means all about my family.”

“It’s God’s birthday and the whole family gets together to eat.” said Billa, age 6.

Falyn, age 6, replied, “It means eating turkey.”

Sergio, age 9, said, “Spending time with family and giving thanks to God.”

8 year old, London, said, “Grandma will cook a turkey, but I don’t like stuffing.”

Kyle, age 6, said, “People came on ships and found Indians and the Indians kind of attacked and there was a little war. Then the Indians had a feast and became friends with the Pilgrims.

## Thanksgiving Trivia

- Pilgrim leader, Governor William Bradford, organized the first Thanksgiving feast in 1621. He invited the neighboring Wampanoag Indians to the feast, which lasted three days.
- Mashed potatoes, pumpkin pies, corn on the cob, and cranberries were NOT foods present at the first Thanksgiving feast.

leeks, dried fruits, maple syrup and honey, radishes, cabbage, carrots, eggs, and goat cheese are thought to have made up the first Thanksgiving feast.

- The pilgrims didn't use forks; they ate with spoons, knives, and their fingers.
- The heaviest turkey ever raised was 86 pounds, about the size of a large dog.



# NHSM Graduates: Where Are They Now?



## 2004 Graduates: Randy and Valerie Wix



Randy & I joined New Hope Ministries around the year 2000 and, shortly thereafter, started at the New Hope School of Ministries. Because of our hectic schedules, we decided to attend one night per week, which worked out great for us. It took both of us two years to complete, but it was well worth the time we dedicated to it.

Since leaving Florida and moving to Alabama, we have found a wonderful church, of about 400, in the little town of Arab (A-rab). We have been active with the children's ministry, women's & men's ministries and choir. We have also graduated from the church's one year school, taking Journey to Freedom and Discovery classes. NHSM helped prepare us for these classes.

In 2006, the Lord provided an incredible opportunity to purchase the local Christian bookstore. We renamed it Heaven Bound Christian Bookstore and Gifts. If that name sounds familiar, one of my favorite stores in Naples was Heavenbound, so we borrowed the name! We have been able to minister to lots of folks with prayer, hugs or just listening to their problems. The most joy we get is being able to talk to our customers about the Lord and explain how He has impacted our lives in a most positive way; to be a beacon of hope for those who might be struggling.

Thank you to all the teachers and classmates for being a part of this journey with us.

## 1993 Graduates: Wayne and Jacqueline Wood



Greetings from Knoxville, Iowa! Wayne and I have been here for almost two years, and we are so amazed at what God has accomplished in this short time. As expected in coming somewhere new, there was a time of getting acquainted with the peo-

ple. However, God has accelerated our mission here and we have seen victory after victory.

We had no idea that God would

use us as lead pastors in the Assembly of God. We are currently licensed and attending school to receive our Ordination in April. We fit right in at our District Office, as the Administrator and his wife formerly taught in the school system in Immokalee.

Knoxville is a small town south of Des Moines. We have the largest lake in Iowa just outside of town, and are so thankful God did not land lock us!

Many changes have taken place in our church, Eagle Rock, but the most exciting is to see the growth of the people! The church held a Prayer Vigil, the building was open for 72 hours straight with constant prayer, and God really showed up! The Lord has

## 1991 & 1992 Graduates: Steve and Jeannette Bellman

Steve and I have so many fond memories of our spiritual beginnings at New Hope Ministries. We still consider it our home church and always will. The foundational teaching we received at the NHSM was invaluable and has carried us through many trials and tests. A pastor once characterized being in the ministry as a "roller coaster ride," and we can say "amen" to that. NHSM prepared us for the ride.

Since moving to Sioux Falls in 2006, Steve has been an Associate Pastor at Family Worship Center, as well as Chaplain for our local Christian Motorcycle Association chapter.

been moving in mighty ways, adding many new members, and delivering people from bondages.

Eagle Rock has an outreach once a year at the end of March. We call it the BRRR BQ, and it is the first barbecue of the season. A Celebrate Recovery program will begin in October and we are excited to see the growth from this ministry. "The Heaps Blessing" provides items for children at a local school.

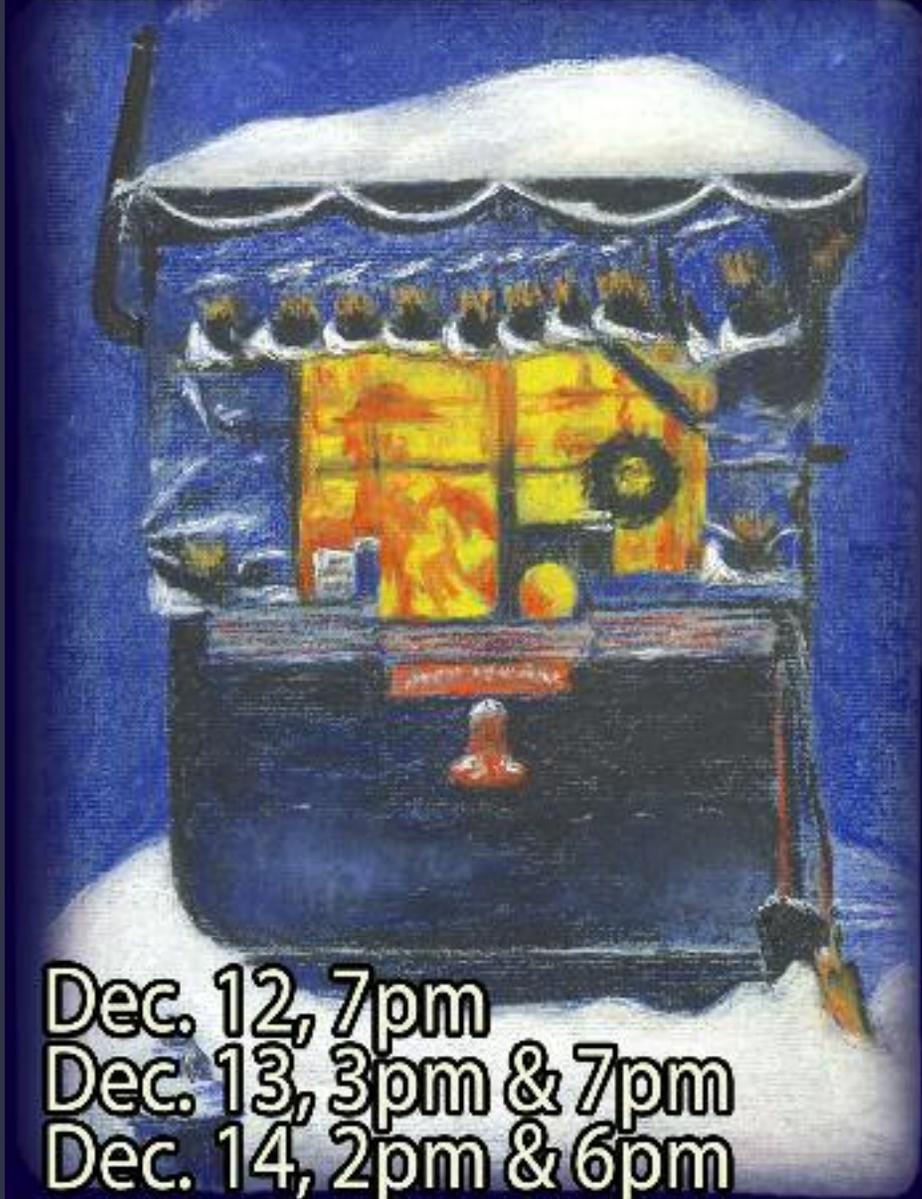
There have been many times that our teaching at New Hope School of Ministries has been beneficial. We could never have imagined the impact of that teaching, not only on our own lives, but the lives of others.



For the last two years I have been involved with the Dawson McAllister Association. Its Sunday evening call-in radio broadcast discusses issues with teens and young adults. I am a Hope Line coach and have the privilege of speaking hope, love and the grace of Christ to many who are hurting. Also, several times a week, I hold Bible studies in our county jail, as well as one-on-one counseling. It's been an exciting time to speak truth into hopeless lives in an increasingly dark world and watch them grow in grace.

NEW HOPE MINISTRIES PRESENTS

# THE CHRISTMAS POST



Dec. 12, 7pm

Dec. 13, 3pm & 7pm

Dec. 14, 2pm & 6pm

 7675 Davis Blvd | Naples, FL 34104

It's early morning on Christmas Eve, 1947, in mythical Homesboro, Indiana. Hattie McGee's "newsies" are hawking the morning edition of *The Christmas Post*, and Herzog's Department Store is about to open. Maxwell Seldon, sales manager, is bracing for his biggest sales day ever. Elliot Herzog Jr., owner of Herzog's, can smell money in the air. Brother Sam and his carolers from the tiny Central Avenue Community Church are hoping for enough donations to keep their soup kitchen open.

Alice Garfield is on a collision course with a disaster. A young widow whose faith and pocketbook are both stretched to the limit, Alice is desperately trying to find "a little more Christmas" as a commission salesperson at Herzog's this Christmas Season. (Unbeknownst to Alice, her daughter, Katie, is secretly attempting the same, working in disguise as one of Hattie's "newsies.") However, when the final sales day of the season ends that afternoon, Alice is still short the funds she needs to buy presents for her kids, and it seems that Christmas is certainly ruined for her.

In a good-hearted attempt to help a late-arriving customer, Alice secretly re-opens the store, only to have an uncontrollable mob of shoppers suddenly - and disastrously - descend on her from everywhere. When the dust settles, Alice has lost her job, all her Christmas earnings, and is about to lose her last bit of faith. But then, with the encouragement of friends and the store's bookkeeper, Dixie, she takes a bold leap of faith and confronts her "by-the-book" boss, Mr. Herzog. As her fellow sales people, Brother Sam, and the mob of shoppers come to her rescue, Alice realizes that she has been focusing on her problems, instead of focusing on God. As the show comes to a close, Alice rediscovers that faith in Jesus is the true key to believing in Christmas.

# To Haiti and Back

by Tony Sculles/with Anthony Sculles

## Each day Tony sent an update, via text message, to his wife and 6 children at home.

**07-27-2014:** All settled in our dorms. The ministry is Mission of Hope. We are in a place called Bercy. It is supposed to be near the water, but can't see it because we got here after dark. So far no rougher than camping. The bugs aren't bad, but we'll see. Anthony and I got to run thru Miami airport with our name on the loud speaker! Haiti airport was controlled chaos: 2 hours to exit. We've seen lots of shacks I wouldn't want Jack (our dog) to live in. We had a nice surprise church service at the main campus. It was lots of young people serving the LORD.



**07-28-2014:** It's been a long day. Wheexting...(Whining+texting). Saw our first naked child in a village we visited: WEPT. Took everything in me not to break down right there. It's still hard to concentrate to text. *Saints* went well first day. 150 kids - could be double tomorrow!!! I had the kids make Indian sounds to encourage each other, when it's not their turn to shoot the bow and arrow. Kids r kids. Had a kid hug me and told he loved me. I could not do anything but pick him up and hug him. I don't think I'll have any trouble sleeping tonight.

**07-29-2014:** 6:15am - Went tarantula hunting with Anthony and a couple of boys last night. They get about the size of your hand. They're pretty harmless though. We got one, but didn't get a pic. We'll try to before we leave. Anthony wants to bring one home!!! On a sad note, a lady who was here from Vegas passed away while planting some trees with her group. She was 70 and this was her 7th mission trip. She was one of the most involved members of her church. The youth pastor is bunking below me. The group is probably going to change in a way that can't be known now. Gotta go set up the field before breakfast.

10:30pm - *Saints* went smoother today, it always helps when everyone has an idea what to expect. Anthony is enjoying himself. He is so tender with the kids, you would be proud of him. There are quite a few younger people on campus. We don't always get to work with them, but it is refreshing to see many youth living life different. Village time this afternoon was nice, I only almost bawled once. I hope that does not mean I am getting hardened. Culture is very interesting. Had a chance to talk to a young Haitian man about when he becomes a father. He wants to be a good one. He will have to learn to ask his children to forgive him when he messes up (and he will). He genuinely seemed like he was considering what I had said, or at least he did not laugh too loud. When they find out I have seven children, it sometimes builds a bridge. Sorry no wifi tonight to send lots of pics. Had ice cream though. Yummy. Stubbed my toe. I HATE flip flops. If

God wanted us to wear them, he would have just given us 2 toes!!!!

**07-30-2014:** I had a tarantula on me as I was carrying the equipment out to the field. Coach Rick got sick. He is flat on the bed. The Haitian coaches are going to run the program tomorrow. That was the goal from the start. Program ran today without him. I was "Mr. Rick" but did not need to do much different. Just felt a little more responsible. I have such a good group of people to work with, it made it easy. Just got back from a play area about 15 minutes by bus. The kids love my hair and beard. Some plucked a few for a souvenir and showed me. I played jump rope with about 6 girls. I stunk, but they appeared to be having fun.

**07-31-2014:** *Saints* went great today! Rick was up and moving at 75%, which is enough to inspire almost anyone. Rained really bad last night, so our field was a mud festival. Kids did not mind, but my 2nd shoes will be buried in Haiti. The kids don't whine if they don't get a turn at something. I guess they know "life ain't fair." The boys love to arm wrestle and you better not let them win or they think you are a "girly man." Had to say goodbye to a real sweet boy today, who was there everyday by me. Cried a little while I prayed with him - which confused him a bit - but I think the interpreter explained that I wasn't physically hurt. Anthony is like a rock star to the kids. Had a small lunch (thankful for beef jerky). Went to Bercy to plant some trees with some of our group. The soil is very rocky so you have to use a pic axe to open up a hole then remove soil. Hard work, but there were several of us, so not too tiring. Dinner is at 7:30 tonight, just chillin' now. Devotions afterwards, then hopefully a

little better sleeping tonight. Tomorrow is rest day at the beach. Hope to snorkel and maybe fish



a little. Might even get a hamburger!! Saturday workday, all day, then Sunday flight departs Port-au-Prince 1:55, arrive Miami 4:30. Drop off Ft. Lauderdale, Naples 9:00. Last night I think I was looking at Port-au-Prince across the bay, but is it so smoky or polluted I could not see it for 3 days. I thought I was looking at the ocean, not a bay, and not a huge bay at that!!! The rain last night must have washed a bunch of something away.

**08-1-2014:** Just suffering for the LORD in Wahoo Bay. Day of rest and relaxation. They say they want us to realize Haiti could have a potential for tourism. Who am I to argue with them?! I did catch a boat for \$5 a person and he took us to the reef to snorkel. Reef was pretty and the water was clear. The sad part is, almost all the fish are no bigger than my hand and I really had to search them out. The wifi promised only seemed to work on some of the phones, so limited pictures. Coach Rick is doing ok, but still not himself. Hard to watch him suffer. Tomorrow we are going back to Bercy and then Leveque in the afternoon. We are keeping an eye on tropical storm Bertha. We might get a little more rain than usual on Sunday, when we are scheduled to fly out.

Anthony is talking about doing it again next year!? One day at a time. Devotions asked about our sabbath rest and are we obeying it?? One

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# Teen Testimonies

My family and I have visited many different churches in the last few years, but never really found the right one. Then we were invited by a family friend to visit New Hope. It didn't just give us a sense of feeling welcome, it gave us the feeling of being part of a family bigger than the people that are biological. We got attached to the people and everyone made it feel like a safe and positive environment. They made it a place that my family and I wanted to be a part of and get involved in.

After a few months the pastor told me about Breakthrough. I didn't think too much of it, but I gave it a try. Being a typical teenager, the last thing that goes through the mind is the Word of God, and honestly by jumping from church to church, I was one of those teenagers, until I went to Breakthrough. When I first began, I wasn't used to all the energy and being welcomed by people I didn't know, and I wasn't used to the environment. The people who were involved didn't make things awkward, they made me feel welcome. The first day I met Pastor Jason and his wife, Ms. Danielle, they made things not feel so uncomfortable and helped me in the sense of coming out and being able to talk to people I wasn't familiar with. Going to Breakthrough has changed my life in a lot of different ways.

I look forward to going to Break-

through because I can understand and relate to the messages that are preached and can apply them to everyday life. I learn more about the scripture and how to grow and keep up a relationship with God. I have learned that there is no better way to live your life than to be a Christian. Like I always say, "I have to 'recharge;'" Sunday gets me to Wednesday, and Wednesday gets me through to Sunday.

**Jazlyn Millan, Age 17**

So, I was asked to write an article about what Breakthrough means to me. I'm sitting here thinking about it, and it's hard to actually put it into words. Because honestly, Breakthrough means everything to me. It has completely changed my life and placed me on the right path. I owe them my life.

A couple years back I was invited to come to Breakthrough by a close friend of mine. When I got there I was very close minded and just mad at God for the way my life was going. I was just drifting through life with nothing to lose because I felt that I'd already lost. Always making stupid decisions and never thinking about my future. To be honest, I was just going to be with my friend and didn't care much for the place. Don't get me wrong, the people were awesome and welcoming,

but the idea of church just didn't sit well with me.

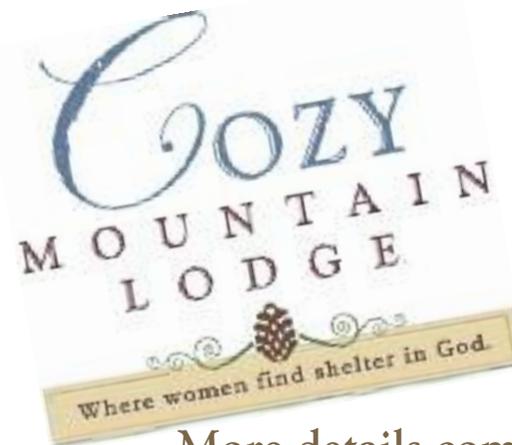
After going on and off for a couple of months, my mind began to ease the thought of inviting Jesus back into my life. I started going more consistently. The questions I had, began to be answered. I felt myself becoming more and more happy as the Wednesday and Sunday services passed, and I began to realize that the people that surrounded me at Breakthrough were becoming my family.

I envision my life as a locked door wrapped in chains by my experiences. My heart and mind on one side, and Jesus on the other. Breakthrough was the key that unlocked that door and broke those chains, so Jesus could be let into my life to impact my heart and mind.

When that happened, my life

began to change. I began to understand why God had allowed the trials into my life, like my father passing away when I was 9, and my mother being diagnosed with breast cancer when I was 14. Two things that nobody should have to go through, but God allowed them to happen for a reason. They have made me stronger as a person and stronger as a son. If I had never gone to Breakthrough, I don't know when I would have come to that realization, and I don't know where I would be now. What I do know, is that at Breakthrough I have a family. A family that I can trust with anything. A family that will be there for the rest of my life, and a family that I will meet in the great beyond, when the time comes. Like I said, "Breakthrough means everything to me."

**Conner Lucas, age 17**



**At this event, women find shelter and comfort in God as they explore the Bible account of Ruth and Naomi through a variety of activities, worship, discussion, quiet reflection, Christian service and more.**

**More details coming soon!  
January 23 and 24, 2015**

To Haiti and Back: continued from page 15

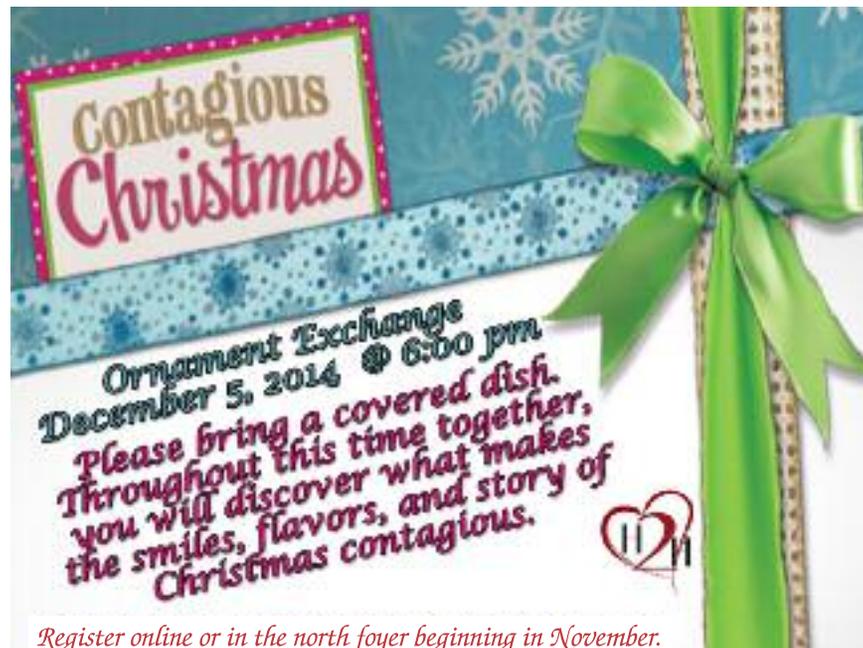
word came to mind when I thought about our daily schedule at home and it was: RIDICULOUS. How did we do it for so long? How can we expect to continue at this pace? How can it be changed? I really don't know. LORD help us!

**08-2-2014:** Got back from Leveque, which was the very 1st village we visited last Monday. Played with some kids. I've come to wonder whether the poverty is secondary to the break down in the family. The toughest spots I've seen is where the father or mother left or died, and they are joining other people to survive. I've watched kids walk down the street to their humble homes or to their playground, with no fear of strangers. Yes, many homes are small, and concrete floors are a luxury, but they play and appear to have a sense of community that I have only read about or

seen on TV. They seem so happy!!

Looking forward to sleeping in my own bed tomorrow night. A/C will be nice also and of course the kids. Hope it hasn't been too hard. Say "hi from Haiti" to HopeZone tomorrow. I'll be at a Creole worship service then to Port-au-Prince airport by 11:00 for a 1:55 flight. Not looking forward to noise and confusion, but a small price to pay for getting home.

Thank you to everyone who helped Anthony and me go to Haiti; for your prayers and financial support.



*Register online or in the north foyer beginning in November.*



**Lydia Torres** has been working at New Hope Ministries since February of 2001. Throughout the years she has worked in several different areas of administration. Currently, she is administrative assistant to our Children's Ministry Pastor, Steve McGraw, and receptionist, answering incoming calls. Lydia also maintains the New Hope Ministries Events calendar and has the task of scheduling volunteers for Hospitality, Guest Services (located in each of the foyers) and Spanish translators. Volunteers are needed in each of these locations for every church service and Lydia coordinates the calendars for each of these areas of ministry.

In previous years, when son, James, and daughter, Gabriela, were teenagers, Lydia volunteered as a leader in the youth department, and as a chaperone for youth camp and various out of town events, such as Acquire the Fire, Rock the Universe and Night of Joy.

Lydia has the heart of a servant and can be found volunteering at

various events at NHM. She served as an usher for many years, is involved with Impact Singles, volunteers with Habitat for Humanity, the Harry Chapin Food Bank, Angel Tree distribution and packing items for Operation Shoebox.

Lydia enjoys reading self-help books, and likes a good mystery now and then. She listens to all types of music, but is partial to Gospel R&B, such as Marvin Sapp and Israel Houghton, and Latin sounds of the band, Salvador.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Lydia attended Marymount Manhattan College in New York City, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology. She and her two children moved to Naples in 1992. Her parents returned to Puerto Rico about 20 years ago, and Lydia makes summer visits whenever possible.



# A Father's Blessing

by Cindy Crain, sister-in-law of Jerri Flowers

The first time the doctor came into the room and sat down with us, he wanted to place my father-in-law in a rehabilitation facility. The family agreed to pray about it. The next day he returned and advised that we could still put him in a rehabilitation facility, but wasn't optimistic. I looked at him and asked, "What would you do if it were your daddy?" He simply looked down and said, "I would bring him home." That's all we needed to hear.

Alzheimer's is a cowardly disease. It steals your memory, thinking and behavior. During this time my prayer was, "Lord, please don't let him forget who we are. I don't know if we could take that." Well, praise God, He is faithful. We placed Dad in a bed in the office where his trophy animals were hanging on the walls. We believed this would help him, knowing how much he loved to hunt and the surroundings would be familiar. We would point to several of the animals numerous times a day and tell him that these were animals he had taken while hunting. At one point he smiled and said, "These must have been some dumb animals." He could still remember!

Dad was a family man. He was everything a person could want

in a father. He led by example and a soft word. He loved the Lord and never missed an opportunity to talk about Jesus. Even with the Alzheimer's stealing his memory, he could still remember enough to reflect upon those things that were most significant. He kept counting on his hands for one solid hour to be certain he had tithed each month for the year. His mind was almost gone, but he remembered those things that were important.

His voice had become so frail that it was barely a whisper. I could understand his words most of the time. He began to pray. Through tears, I laughed and told him we were supposed to be praying for him. He then whispered that he wanted us all to be raptured and go to Heaven together.

**Alzheimer's is a cowardly disease. It steals your memory, thinking and behavior.**

On July 22nd, something was different. It began when his oldest son, Larry, came into the room. I called Larry to come closer and, as his dad whispered words to me, I repeated them. He began

to tell Larry how much he loved him, what a good son he had been and how proud he was of the man that Larry had become. Next was his daughter, Jerri. Then the youngest, Greg. He spoke lovingly to each of his children. He blessed us and told each of us what we meant to him. He spoke life into each of us. His heartfelt remarks to us were an expression of praise and love, spoken by a man that was so important in our lives...our father. Many tears were exchanged. Then he spoke to our mom. The words he whispered to the love of his life, his wife of almost 66-years, were endearing. We listened intently as our hearts broke. Yes, we knew where he was going...but remember, Jesus wept. When Dad was through speaking, he smiled and said, "I'm almost ready." We knew what he meant.

July 23rd, he opened his eyes again, smiled and said, "I'm going to heaven in 2 days." We all looked at each other. I said, "Did he just say what I think he said?" My daughter said, "Yes." It was two days later that the Lord saw fit to take Malcolm Crain home.

When we have something that we dearly treasure, we take special care of it. We sometimes place it at the top of our list...a priority. The same is true of our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Dad did this with each of us. His family. He called our names out daily. We knew

wherever we were, whatever we were doing, our name had been before the Throne of God. Through tears my husband said, "He prayed for us every day." I assured him that his dad's prayers would still come before the Lord. God would honor those prayers... The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

**He called our names out daily. We knew wherever we were, whatever we were doing, our name had been before the Throne of God.**

Dad's entire life was a blessing. He knew the Lord intimately and wanted his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren to have that same personal relationship. Malcolm Crain left his family a heritage—the reward of a blessing. Based upon God's Word, He blesses those who bless, as well as those who are being blessed. What an awesome added benefit! See how good God is?

In closing, if our family could tell you one thing today...it would be that it's never too late to seek your parents' blessings or give a blessing to your adult children. Start today.

Listen to  
Pastor Grant's Sermons  
on your Phone or Tablet!



Download the  
"New Hope Naples"  
Podcast today!



*presents:*



**PINK Impact 2015 will be a two day simulcast event for women, offering an opportunity to be transformed and empowered through worship, artistic expression & dynamic teaching from nationally known and respected Bible teachers.**  
**May 1 & 2, 2015**



## OCTOBER 2014

October 31:  
Fall Festival



## NOVEMBER 2014

November 4:  
Vote: General Election

November 8:  
6th Annual Hunting Banquet

November 26:  
No Wednesday Night Dinner

November 27 & 28:  
Office closed

## DECEMBER 2014

December 5:  
H2H Contagious Christmas  
Ornament Exchange

December 12, 13 & 14:  
NHM Christmas Production,  
*The Christmas Post*

December 24:  
Office closing at noon  
No Wednesday Night Dinner

December 25 & 26:  
Office closed

December 31:  
Office closing at noon  
No Wednesday Night Dinner

## ONGOING WEEKLY/MONTHLY:

**Impact Singles:** Friday evenings. Send a request to [impactsingles@aol.com](mailto:impactsingles@aol.com) to be added to the mailing list.

**Music Rehearsal:** Tuesdays, 7:00pm, Sanctuary. Sing? Play an instrument? Join us.

**Heart2Heart Bible Study:** Thursday mornings at 10:00am, Hope-Zone; Thursday evenings at 7:00pm, Ministry Center, Rm 207. (Free childcare is available for either session, but your child must be pre-registered.) Contact Marie Gonzper for further information at [mariegonzper@gmail.com](mailto:mariegonzper@gmail.com), or call/text her at 239.404.0191.

**Men's Ministry:** Thursdays, 6:30pm, Ministry Center Dining Rm. All the King's Men, fellowship and teaching. Contact the church office, 239.348.0122, for details.

**One Flesh:** First Friday of the month at 6:30pm, Rm 207, Ministry Center. For married couples with teens and/or "empty-nesters." RSVP - [sgunden@comcast.net](mailto:sgunden@comcast.net) or 239.262.0142.

**2 to 1:** Second Friday of the month, 7:00 to 9:30pm, upstairs in the Ministry Center. For couples who are engaged or married 20 yrs or less. Bible study, fellowship, worship and fun. You must RSVP for free childcare, available for ages 1 to 13. Call or text Kathleen, 239.280.6827, or email [eddieandkathleen@gmail.com](mailto:eddieandkathleen@gmail.com). Bring your bibles and invite friends!

**Breakthrough Student Ministries:** For all Jr. High and High School Students. Wednesdays at 7:00pm/Sundays at 11:00am, in the Ministry Center, Rm. 209.

## JANUARY 2015

January 1 & 2:  
Office closed

January 23 & 24:  
H2H: Cozy Mountain Event



## **NEW HOPE 6TH ANNUAL MINISTRIES**

### **Hunting Banquet**

## **DINNER, DOOR PRIZES & GRAND PRIZE**



**GRAND PRIZE: KUBOTA RTV 500**



**WHEN:** NOVEMBER 8, 2014  
**WHERE:** NEW HOPE MINISTRIES  
7675 DAVIS BLVD  
NAPLES, FLORIDA

**NEW! OUTDOOR BOW SHOOT**  
4PM - 5:30PM  
CASH PRIZES - CALL FOR DETAILS

**REGISTRATION:** 5:30 PM OR ONLINE  
NEWHOPEMINISTRIES.ORG

**BANQUET:** 6PM - 8PM

**TICKETS:** \$20.00 OR RESERVE A TABLE  
MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

**FOR MORE INFO:** CONTACT ELIZABETH POTTER  
**EMAIL:** ELIZABETHPOTTER@NEWHOPEMINISTRIES.ORG  
**PHONE:** 239.348.0122

**MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN**

