

# NEW HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

# E VOICE

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New Hope Lutheran Church, 4801 Sun Valley Drive, El Paso, Texas 79924; Jeff St Clair, Pastor  
E-Mail: [NEWHOPE4U@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:NEWHOPE4U@SBCGLOBAL.NET), Phone: 915 821-2079 Website: [www.LutheransinElPaso.org](http://www.LutheransinElPaso.org)

## MY RISEN CHRIST

Yes, Easter 2011 is now history and I begin (what I call) my Christian journey for the year. I begin by gathering my thoughts and impressions of Lent, Holy Week, Good Friday and culminating with Easter morning when God clearly triumphs over sin, death and evil! Every year I begin the year with a slightly different mission from the year before. Since I did not participate in the Wednesday Soup and Service, I found my own way of meditation and study. This year, I found the references in the Old Testament to the Easter story (Isaiah 7:14 and 53:5) so vivid and easy to paint a picture in my mind of the events. The grief that I experienced on Good Friday was real and will influence my challenges in the future. How could I not come away with the feeling that Christ died for me and my commitment to share this event with people around me that need reassurance will be my challenge for the year. I hope to become a better evangelist by bringing people to Christ and hopefully bringing them to New Hope Lutheran Church. I am still not sure how this action will take place. My

## CHURCH CALENDAR FOR MAY

Sunday Worship Services	9am and 11am
Sunday School	10:15
<b>The Siffords baby shower</b>	<b>May 1, 3pm</b>
Finance Meeting	May 4, 6:30pm
Outreach Meeting	May 5, 7:00pm
Mother's Day Breakfast	May 7, 9:00am
<b>Mother's Day/Bake Sale</b>	<b>May 8, 10:00am</b>
Education Meeting	May 10, 7:00pm
<b>Pryor Wedding</b>	<b>May 21, 1:00pm</b>
Future/Property Meeting	May 25, 7:00pm

prayer time is still committed to the "mode of action". I pray that each of you will look at your assets of evangelism and pursue them with me.

*You can put Easter in the grave but it won't stay there!* Let's use that as a motto!

Joyce Palmer, The Editor

## THE TRIVENT CORNER

Many thanks to New Hope's Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Members who chose to direct their Choice Dollars to New Hope. New Hope received \$474 from Thrivent Financial in 2010 and so far this year in 2011 has received \$1052. Thrivent Choice is a new program which began in 2010 and gives benefit members of Thrivent Financial the opportunity to direct some of Thrivent's profits from its fraternal benefit products to organizations which they care about. Other recipients include national organizations such as ELCA World Hunger. Thrivent Choice replaced the old care in congregations program and giving plus programs and places more emphasis on the individual member's choice. If you want more information about Thrivent Financial or Thrivent Choice you can visit with Kathy Hamblen, Howard Swan or Virginia Walker all of whom serve on the locally elected chapter board for the El Paso County of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

The other exciting thing is that New Hope was able to tap into the Care In Communities fund of the El Paso Chapter of Thrivent Financial to assist with the serving of Easter dinner at the Opportunity Center for the homeless. Care in Communities provided \$200 for the purchase of hams which were served by Thrivent members and members of New Hope on Saturday evening April 23rd at the Center. New Hope members provided offerings for the accompanying items for the meal and also made cupcakes for dessert.

**YOUR CURLY FOCUS**  
**SHIRLEY MADDOX**

Shirley was born in Manteo, NC, on Roanoke Island which is situated between the mainland and the Outer Banks. She moved to Hampton, VA as a teenager, married her high sweetheart and finally settled in Strasburg. She was widowed in 2007.

Shirley moved to El Paso in December 2010 to be closer to her grandson, Daniel and her son and daughter in-law. She also has a daughter, Sandra who lives in Maryland with her husband and two children. She is a freelance graphic artist.

Shirley considers herself to be a "late bloomer", having completed college in 1995 with a BA in Theatre and Costume Design. She travelled to various theatres to work in their costume shops. She also worked for a production company and



then became an archives researcher.

Shirley's hobbies are card-making, scrap-booking, sewing, reading, and playing bridge. She was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Strasburg, VA for 27 years where she served two terms on Council, played in the hand-bell choir, was a member of the contemporary choir; just to mention a couple of activities. Shirley finds New Hope to be most warm and welcoming and she looks forward to continued fellowship.

### CHURCH ACTIVITY



Top Right: New Hope Sanctuary on Easter morning. A beautiful sight!  
Upper and lower left: The Youth Group, Alec, Lindsay, Jessica, Jacob and Nicolas, hosted a breakfast at 8AM Easter morning. Great job and good food! Thanks to Kendra and Luis for leading them.