

New Hope United Church of Christ, Meyersdale PA

“Greetings! We are *New Hope Church*. New Hope because we grew out of four small rural churches with ‘no hope’- that was over 35 years ago. We are a caring group of God’s children who try to do His will, but sometimes stray from the path. We are a conservative, fun loving but serious group in need of a pastor/teacher sent by God to help us grow, keep us faithful, and to emphasize that our hope is in God- which is not new”.



New Hope United Church of Christ is nestled in the beautiful mountains of southwestern Pennsylvania. Our earthly home is in the Laurel Highlands of the Allegheny Mountains which are a part of the Appalachian chain. We are in a very rural area of southern Somerset County – “America’s County”. We enjoy the fresh air, cool summer evenings, breathtaking fall foliage, and picturesque winter snowfalls. Located between Somerset, PA and Cumberland, MD, we are very close to the *Flight 93 Memorial* and also to the Quecreek Mine Rescue site. We are within easy driving distance of four resorts, numerous ski slopes, biking, golf courses, pristine trout streams, white water rafting, and numerous outdoor activities. Throughout the year, this area hosts numerous celebrations to pay tribute to our rich history including the Meyersdale Maple Festival, Somerset Mountain Craft Days, and Bedford Fall Foliage Festival to name a few. We encourage you to log onto the Internet at www.somersetcountychamber.com or www.laurelhighlands.org to explore the region and learn more.

Our local school district boasts small class sizes and provides preparation for a variety of career path options. Classroom sizes remain small at several nearby community colleges, creating a warm and personable experience where you are not treated like ‘a number’. If you prefer a bigger campus experience, we are close to a state college just down the road, a large urban college, and a major university – all within an hour’s drive.

You could say we have the best of two worlds- a peaceful, laid back area we call home, and easy driving distance to major cultural districts such as Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and Washington, DC where we enjoy theatre, opera, zoos, theme parks, and our professional sports teams. Though we are a rural farming community, we are not far from reliable air transportation. We have easy access to a local airport providing daily flights to ‘get away’ vacation spots, as well as easy access to two major International airports. In addition to our own local community hospital 10 minutes away, a state of the art health care system is within a 25 minute drive. Access to health care at renowned health care institutions is within easy driving distance.

New Hope is a church family who worship, pray, sing, work, eat, and play together, keeping focused on Christian love and fellowship. With God’s grace and guidance we have faced and conquered many challenges in our short existence, beginning with the merger of four congregations and erecting a

beautiful building. Over the years we have had a very active youth group. At present, many of our former youth have moved away, but we are 'growing a new crop'. Young and old alike enjoy our puppets and our music program. Though we are relatively small in number, our church is known for its community outreach to both members and non-members. We are known for the community dinners we have prepared and served to raise funds for various projects and benefit dinners. *New Hope* does not thrive on quantity, but rather on quality.

We are seeking a Pastor of faith who is called by God, to accept us as we are and join our church family, a community of fellowship and friendliness. We seek to be a "Lighthouse Church" in our area, one that will guide the Christian sojourner as well as non-believers away from the rocky perils and pitfalls of earthly life to follow our Lord and Savior to eternal life and safety. We seek a Pastor who can see our potential, will work enthusiastically alongside us, and lead us in making our light shine more brightly in the community. Grace and Peace unto you as you prayerfully consider this asking the Conference Office to submit your Ministerial Profile to us. Then we will send you our more complete Local Church profile.