



January 2017 New Hope News



2016 WATCHWORD

Christ says, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me." John 15:4 (NRSV)

New Hope Moravian Church

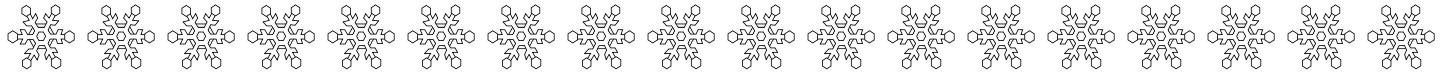
New Year 2017 ~ In God We Trust

The night before Jesus was crucified, He took the time to tell Peter and the other disciples what to expect—that He would die, be raised from the grave, and meet them later in Galilee (see Matthew 26:31–32). He was arrested that same night by armed men and taken before the high priest. The other disciples scattered, but Peter followed behind Jesus—at a distance. When they got to the high priest's courtyard, Peter hunkered down from a distance and patiently waited to "see the end results." But Jesus had already told Peter and the others what was going to happen and what the end would be.

The Bible says, "Peter followed Him at a distance to the high priest's courtyard. And he went in and sat with the servants to see the end" (Matthew 26:58, NKJV). Many Christians today want to follow Jesus at a distance. They give themselves a little wiggle room; they watch which way the wind will blow and see what the end will be. When Jesus is portrayed in a good light or when it's comfortable, they will stand up for Him. But if Jesus is mocked or cursed or insulted, or rejected; they keep their distance until they know how things will go. No one wants to be ostracized or rejected.

We as Christians, have become somewhat passive in our efforts to reach out to others for Christ. Despite our saying, "*In God We Trust.*" Do we trust God for "the end results" of our lives? Or are we more like Peter and stand at a distance waiting to see how the wind will blow? Are we more comfortable staying at a distance? Are we reluctant to reach out and let others know of our faith? It's safer that way... isn't it? But why...why do we stand at a distance? Why do we play it safe? We already know the end of the story! You and I have the Word of God, and we know there are trials and troubles in this life; wars, famines and earthquakes. We also know, one day the Lord Jesus Christ will come back to get His Church. We know because of our faith and trust in Him, we will be with Him in Heaven for all eternity. We know what happens in the end to the devil and his demons, and we know what the end is for every person who rejects God's offer of salvation through Jesus Christ. So, my question is, "Why would anyone want to follow Jesus at a distance?"

As we enter the **New Year of 2017**...It is a good time for each of us to re-examine ourselves and how we are living our lives for Christ. Are we "all in"? Or are we trying to maintain a little distance between us and our Lord...When it suits our earthly and worldly needs, we're "all in." But when we are being "ridiculed or persecuted" or life gets a little tough; we're not "all in." Instead, we'd rather follow from a distance. We'd rather wait and see which way the flow of those around us will go! This year, I challenge you to stop sitting on the sidelines as a spectator of Christ. I challenge you to get "all in" with your Savior. I challenge you to give Christ "first place" in your life. I challenge you to get "all in" with Christ Jesus our Chief Elder! Let's together stop standing from a distance in our commitment to God! This year, let's run our race of faith with purpose on the front-lines of service to God and others.



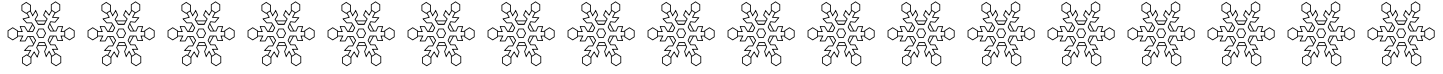
This decision may not be accepted among many of those around us. Yet, the only hope, we have for our families, our communities and our country is "seeking first" the Almighty God and His Son, Jesus Christ. We have got to get "all in" with God and stop being just spectator's on the sidelines. As believers and followers of Christ, our faith must shine, if we are to be a light to others. We must become more pro-active in our witness to the world around us. We cannot just stand in the distance, and simply watch and wait to see what will happen in the world. Jesus our "Chief Elder" has conquered sin and death. He is victorious, therefore, we are victorious. Thus, we need the world to know that as His Church, we stand not at a distance, but we stand united; as one body serving God's Kingdom. We are His Covenant people...and He is our God!

God "rules by His might forever; His eyes keep watch on the nations" (Psalm 66:7, NASB). God is the only hope for our families, our communities and our country today. This is why, as His faithful followers in this **New Year of 2017**, we must boldly take up our Cross and follow His lead in all we say and do. We must say to ourselves and others *"In God We Trust."* We must be led by the Holy Spirit and committed to trust God and be led by His Holy Word.

Thank you for seeking God's Truth and for boldly sharing the "Good News" of Jesus Christ with others. God's Truth is the "Good News" the world desperately needs to hear!

May God richly bless you,

Pastor Betty



Coming in January...

Join your New Hope Church family in the fellowship hall from 10-10:40 for a "Did You Know Study" about the customs and practices of the Moravian Church. Some of the subjects to discuss are the pioneer church, the liturgical church, the church year, important dates in the Moravian Church and the church family. Leading the discussions will be members of our church family.

Watch your Thursday Update announcing the beginning Sunday. Come and join us as we refresh our history and understanding of why we do what we do in the Moravian Church.



What is the origin of the Moravian Star? Do they come in colors?
How many points does our star have?

Read on for the answers! Enjoy

The Moravian Star originated in Saxony, Germany in 2 towns of Niesky and Kleinwalka in 1830. The star was used as a craft project to help demonstrate geometry lessons to young boys attending the Moravian schools.

In 1830, Pieter Verbeek, a graduate of the Moravian Boys School in Niesky opened a bookstore where he sold the stars. His son, Harry carried on his father's business and opened the Herrnhut Star Factory of Germany in 1880. As business grew, stars were exported to America and Europe. Sadly, the factory was burned by the Soviets during World War II. In 1950 the East German government attempted to run the business and then transferred ownership to the Moravian Church.

Moravian Stars range from 6-100 points with the traditional being 26 points. They come in various sizes, white or red, lighted or unlighted. Traditionally stars are hung the first Sunday of Advent and remain up to Epiphany. New Hope's Moravian Star will adorn our sanctuary until the end of Epiphany - February 28th.

The Worship Committee



**American
Red Cross**

American Red Cross Blood Drive

When: Monday, January 16th
2:00pm-6:30pm

Where: New Hope Moravian Church

How: To schedule an appointment, go to www.redcrossblood.org,
enter sponsor code: "New Hope Moravian"

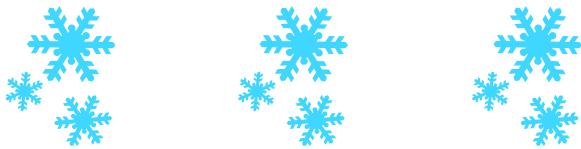
Dear New Hope Members,

Thank you for the kindness and concern sent my way during my recent surgery and recuperation. The wonderful meals, welcomed visits and heart-felt prayers were greatly appreciated. I truly feel that I have found a Christian home because of the warmth and friendliness of this congregation and Pastor Betty.

Thanks for making me feel part of such a wonderful group of people.

In Christian love,

Roberta Frazier



During the candle tea we collected 525 lbs. of food for ECCCM.

Also, we collected \$412 dollars for Sipes Orchard home the Sunday we had the director speak to us from there.

Something our church can be proud for.

Mark Bumgarner,
Stewardship Chair



*I am so truly blessed!
Thank you for thinking of
me during the holiday
season! I am grateful for
your support and generosity.*

Thank you!

Joy



Candle Tea 2016

I am writing this article just after our Candle Tea and I am still feeling overwhelmed by the large turnout we had at this year's event. We had our largest crowd of 650 people come through our doors this year. I want to say thank you to all of you who helped make our day such a success. This year I would like to take a moment to say a special thank you to the men of our church who worked so hard helping us. They are there to help set up, put stars together, work at various responsibilities all during the day and then these same men are there to help us put it all back together to be ready for Sunday. The men in the parking lot are our guests' first greeters, men help in the sanctuary as a greeter, a host and dieners, our band members (all men) played almost all morning when there had to be a last minute change and then there are the men who check out guests and helped them take packages to their cars. We say thank you to all those wonderful men in our lives who give their time and energy to this special day.

Thank you to those tireless women who worked (some all three days) to make sure everything was just right by Saturday morning. Candle Tea takes a lot of work and it is done by faithful women who take on responsibilities and make sure everything is done in a timely manner. There is a lot of work done all during the year through planning, contacting vendors, securing publicity, making quilt squares (and Pat making a quilt), working on crafts and getting silent auction items donated. Women are responsible for making sure there are items purchased to resale the day of the bazaar, woven baskets are our best sellers! There are last minute things done by members who set up our bakery, begin to wrap candles and decorate our sanctuary. Then there are the women who clean our bathrooms and another makes sure we have fresh flowers at the sinks. This year was a year of change for our Putz and thanks to Pam Prevatte our new Putz is beautiful and was a success! Our new diener and her team made sure there was plenty of Moravian coffee and sugarcake to serve our guests. Several other women worked in our bazaar area during the day to help our guests and vendors and some sold quilt tickets all day. A special thank you to our youngest members who served our guests coffee and sugarcake during the morning. We also want to say thank you to Phyllis Little and Amy Campbell who came and shared their beautiful music with our guests. Forgive me if I have left anyone out as everyone played an important part in our day....again Thank You.

Women's Fellowship will be meeting in January to have follow-up discussion on our 2016 Candle Tea. We encourage all women of the church to join us in this discussion and any other business for the upcoming new year. Watch your bulletins for date and time for our next meeting.

Cheryl Hendrix



COMING
SOON

Coming Soon!!! Please Mark Your Calendar

**Sunday, February 12, 2017,
New Hope will be celebrating
our 34th Anniversary.**

This year our focus is on inviting all members, former members, and guests to attend our 11:00 worship as we acknowledge this special date. We need your help in contacting friends and families of New Hope and extending an invitation to them! *A reception will follow the Anniversary Lovefeast Service.* Our Guest Speaker will be announced in the February newsletter.

Please help get the word out for our celebration and join your church family February 12th.

Many Thanks,
The Worship Committee



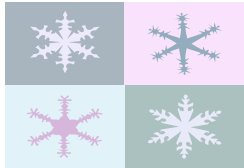
New Hoppers will gather Friday evening, January 27th at 6:30 for a shared meal of soup and sandwich.

Following the meal a brief program will be given. Please mark your calendars for this fun evening of laughter and fellowship.

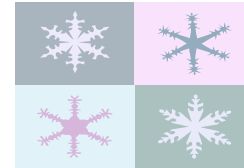
Bring your favorite soup-crackers and/or sandwiches to share.

See you January 27th!





Pray Every Day - January 2017



1. Serve God with single minded and willing heart. Pray for Phil & Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
2. You, our God, have been just in all that has come upon us. Pray for Joe Jarvis & the Cuban Moravian Church.
3. "Be merciful, just as your father is merciful." Pray for the Medical Clinic & church in Ahuas, Honduras.
4. I rise before dawn and cry for help. Pray for Phil and Ashley Sineath in Campus Outreach Global.
5. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Pray for the Unity Women's Desk.
6. Epiphany. The dawn from on high will guide our feet into the way of peace. Pray for BWM board & staff Sheila Beaman, Sam Gray, Jill Kolodziej, Justin Rabbach, & Judy Ganz, Executive Director the Mission.
7. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. Pray for Annie B. Mission with Star Mountain in Palestine.
8. A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench. Pray for Vani Pradhan and the Nepali Moravian Outreach.
9. Jesus said to the one who had been healed, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you." Pray for the Solar Program & the Food Program in Sierra Leone Moravian Church.
10. Woe to those who call evil good and good evil. Pray for Mission Areas of Sierra Leone, Cuba, & Peru.
11. The righteous know the rights of the poor. Pray for Ruth Snyder & Claire Wilson "Changed Choices."
12. The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. Pray for Dr. Louis & Susan Sutton with WEC.
13. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. Pray for Kevin & Charity in the Middle East.
14. You have made the Lord your refuge. Pray for Charlie & Vickie Brent serving in campus ministry in TX.
15. "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent serving with Campus Crusade in Croatia.
16. I am the first and the last; besides me there is no God. Pray for Michael, Cecilia, and Blessing Tesh serving in the Ray of Hope Orphanage in Kenya.
17. Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God. Pray for Drs. Bill and Peggy Hoffman with HIV/AIDS ministry in Tanzania.
18. I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. Pray for the Wings of Mercy Aviation Ministry in Honduras.
19. God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. Pray for Ed Dehnert and Barb Weide Alaska Bible Seminary, Bethel, AK.
20. Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble with it. Pray for the Woo Family.
21. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives." Pray for Rob and Anne Thiessen, in Mexico.
22. The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? Pray Safiatu and Mohamed Braima in the Mission area of Sierra Leone.
23. Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest. Pray for Steve & Ann Marx with MAF in Nampa, Idaho.
24. Whatever the Lord pleases he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps. Pray for Brian (pilot) & Heather Marx serving with MAF.
25. Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage. Pray for Dusty & Christin Harrison serving with Campus Ministry at Clemson University.
26. "Anyone who comes to me I will never drive away." Pray for ministers, Sunday school teachers & church leaders.
27. Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword." Pray for Jill Koloziej and the Antioch Servants.
28. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Pray for Allen & Deedee lobst in Spain in campus ministry.
29. I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me. Pray for Justin Rabbach & our mission efforts.
30. "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine," says the Lord of hosts. Pray for volunteers in soup kitchens and feed the hungry.
31. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and was and is to come, the Almighty. Pray for our service men and women and our government.