

January 2020
New Hope Moravian
Church

New Hope Moravian Church - 2897 Sandy Ford Road - Newton, North Carolina 28658
828-294-4802 – [website](#)

2019 Watchword

“For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.” (2 Chronicles 16:9 NIV)

The 2020 Watchword will be chosen on Sunday, January 5th.



Making New Year 2020 Count!

Well, it's official, New Year 2020 is upon us...Is it me or are the years going by faster? As the New Year begins, something to ponder, “Are we making the years count?” It's been said, “Time waits for no man!” Therefore, our time must be used wisely to make a difference in the lives of others! What will our legacy be? Will the New Year resolutions we make for 2020 leave a legacy or will they fade away like dust in the air. Sure, we usually resolve to eat better, exercise more, and spend more time with family and friends. Yet, not surprising, most resolutions are forgotten—within a few weeks.

But, what if God were writing our New Year's resolutions, what do you think would be on the list? I think God would say: “Let's make some changes!” “Changes...Lord, I'm not sure I'm up for change.” Yet all throughout the Bible, we see God is a God of change. He's the ultimate Maker of change; He transforms our (hearts and minds); He transforms our circumstances through (relationships, jobs, environments, etc). All this requires a powerful shift of our familiar energies within the 365 days we are given. This shift takes more than a

change in our mind-set; it takes change in our routine. And if we are not careful in our zeal, we will find ourselves dealing with fatigue and frustration when we can't quickly check items off our list.

God doesn't have the same time management problem we do. He's the Alpha and Omega. He is The Great I Am, who was and is and is to come. He's "omni-everything." What matters is our ability to look through His lens of time, which is not restricted to a clock. From God's perspective, life should be about His priorities for us; not time—not a check list of things to do. The Bible says: "our lifespan is like a "vapor" that vanishes quickly.

James 4:13-15 says, ¹³ *Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money."* ¹⁴ *Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.* ¹⁵ *Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that."*

When we read these words, we should be more concerned about "a life well lived" for God; rather than fulfillment for ourselves. Is God saying: "Do the meaningful things now, because you may not have time tomorrow? Yes!

Instead of making a list of resolutions, we need to make time for a change. Here are a few suggestions:

1) Spend daily time with Jesus: Make your whole day a devotion to God not just the one hour you spend; Let your life be a devotion! Mary stopped everything to sit at Jesus' feet. Martha gets a bad rap, she got caught-up in the busy trap (Luke 10:38-42). In fact, Jesus gave us in verse 42 the only resolution necessary: "Mary chose wisely". Being with Jesus, changes our perspective; then interruptions are more easily received in our busy lives.

2) Look to see where God is working in your life: Then join Him...even if it is something you've never done before. Make time and be open for change in your life; look to accomplish God's eternal purposes. This is why we are here, not to fulfill our desires, but to fulfill God's will and purpose for our life.

3) Look to see new opportunities to minister to others. Stop and take time to love others...this life should not be a list of (to do's to be checked off). Remember Scripture said, "...*you do not even know what will happen tomorrow.*" Looking back, what were the most significant moments of your life? Probably when you spent time with someone you love. Special godly moments are when we stop to attend to a family or friend; a relationship.

4) Look to see what is unseen: 2 Corinthians 4:18 says, “So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” What does that mean? Be aware of God’s eternal plan; then adjust your temporal plans to accommodate. Proverbs 19:21 says, “Man proposes, but God disposes”. Make time for a change; then look to accomplish eternal purposes lead by the Holy Spirit.

5) Look to see ways to make special relationships: We all could use a little restructuring on this. We spend so much time earning a living, instead of investing in relationships with those we care about the most — our children, spouse, family, neighbors, friends, the stranger among us. There’s one comment most people make when asked, “If you had one thing you could do over what would it be?” No one says work longer hours. There are no U-hauls in heaven. Relationships require time and communication, take time to ask better questions and listen more. This old saying is true, “people don’t care how much you know, until they know how much you care.”

It takes spiritual wisdom to make godly changes; to adjust your calendar to do what is eternally important. This year, when you look at your calendar, what will shape your life? The temporal or the eternal...You decide!

*In Christ Love and Service,
Pastor Betty*



Daily Texts Apps

The Moravian Daily Texts is now available on Google Play and in the Apps Store for Apple iOS devices. Search “Moravian Daily Texts 2019” to find it in each store. This app allows you to track how often you read, a space to journal, search capabilities, a remind feature and you can save your favorites. Make this app an integral part of your prayer life.



A Special **THANK YOU** to all who assisted with our Christmas Eve Candlelight and Lovefeast Services. Once again New Hope has provided a meaningful and celebratory Christmas Eve service for our community. These services continue to provide a wonderful opportunity for outreach and worshiping as a body of one as we proclaim the Birth of Christ.

Christmas Bazaar Silent Auction.....

This year the Silent Auction had 13 items which received successful response from our greater community. Thank you to Bonnie Everhart, Margaret Schultz, Anita Scism, Ann and Almon Carr, Steve Larson, Jane Bumgarner, New Hope Women's Fellowship, and Dan and Thelma Greaser for their donations for this event.

The highest bid was for the stone topped table designed and constructed by Steve Larson.

The 13 items earned \$710.00 for Safe Harbor which was our designated recipient for this year's earnings. Several bidders commented that they were very supportive of Safe Harbor and appreciated that these funds are being sent to support the programming of Safe Harbor.



The Christmas Eve Poinsettias Placed In Honor Of

The welcoming, warm and kind folks of New Hope Moravian
Bill & Linda Samuels

Rev. Betty A. Helms, New Hope's Pastor
Malissa & Mark Bumgarner Family

Phyllis Little, New Hope's Music Director
Malissa & Mark Bumgarner Family

Brenda & Conner Ayers
Jeff & Fay Ayers

Brooke, Asher, Lola & Neela
Jane & Steve Bumgarner

Ann King
Jane & Steve Bumgarner

Jason, Tashia, Jack & Ross Little
Phyllis & Harvey Little

Adam, Megan, Travis, Leanne & Emily
Greg & Caron Simpson

Noah, Rowan, Carter & William
Grandpa & Mimi & Aunt Emily Simpson

In Memory Of

James A. Helms
Rev. Betty A. Helms/Marc, Kelly & Baby James Helms

Rachel Lail
Anita Scism

Alexander Lail
Anita Scism

Raymond & Helen Hatley
Nancy Miller

Jim Hendrix
Cheryl Hendrix

Frank & Myrtle Corpening
Cheryl Hendrix

Roby & Olie Little, Clyde & Cordie Bowman
Phyllis & Harvey Little

Ida Taylor & Harry Himelright
Jeff & Fay Ayers

David A. Hire
Ann & Almon Carr

Ray & Norma Annas
Ann & Almon Carr

Joe Kimel
Jane & Steve Bumgarner

Carroll Williams
Libby Williams

Thomas E. Schultz
Tom, Margaret, Rachel & Claire

Robert & Rachel Schilling
Tom, Margaret, Rachel & Claire

Our Parents
Dan & Thelma Greaser

Aaron Greaser
Dan, Thelma, Kimberly, Autumn, Danita & Rachel



How Does Selling Chicken Pies Help New Hope?

As requested at our November Church Council meeting, the following list names past projects that the Chicken Pie Fund has accomplished.

First... what is the Chicken Pie Fund. Established in 2014 when members of the church decided to put forth accelerated effort in the making and selling of chicken pies. Also, added a year later, were the projects of Apple Crumb Pies, Pecan Pies and proceeds from local honey (honey profits are discontinued). The proceeds of this fund are under the advice and guidance of the Stewardship and Finance Committee, with funds designated for update and improvement of our church building and grounds as well as purchase of equipment to increase and maintain our pie production.

The chicken pie and dessert pie making has become completely self-sufficient, with your time and commitment to help on pie days being the only donation we request. The work for making pies begins on Thursdays (1-3 pm) setting up the areas and assembling 500 boxes. Fridays (8 am-4 pm) are our busiest days with preparing gravy, the cooking and shredding the chicken and making dough, pie crusts and lids for the pies. The process has been streamlined and the need for helpers that day is great. Saturday (8-11:30 am) is a fun day of assembling the pies and loading our freezers for pre-orders.

Projects funded by the Chicken Pie Fund

- Refurbished CMO and Preschool sign
- Catered meal for the congregation – 83 attended May 15, 2016
- Purchased large chest freezer stored at New Hope

- Replaced 2 existing heating and air conditioning units for church (first set of 2)
- Paid for additional cabinetry for storage in hallway at church, in the fellowship hall and kitchen
- Provided shelving in the choir room
- Provided choir loft handrails and kick plates for bathroom doors
- Purchased new stove for the kitchen
- Tiled floor in the Putz room
- Purchased new faucet for the kitchen sink
- Assisted in funding the repaving and marking off parking lot
- Funded improving landscape and re-mulching
- Purchased gravel for edge of parking lot
- Paid for drain line at the sanctuary
- Replaced bad well pump
- Purchased new locks for doors
- Remodeled the men and women's restroom
- Purchased a portable lectern
- Paid for architect plans for the new storage addition
- Paid \$14,000 towards the new storage addition
- Purchased WIFI equipment for church
- Purchased used large industrial food chopper for chicken pies
- Reimbursed Pastor Betty for the purchase of the pie press machine
- Wiring for storage addition
- Purchased tents to be used when pie making, bazaar and other activities
- Purchased items for CD ministry
- Tinted the sanctuary windows
- Purchased church computer and maintaining computer
- Donation to the Yadkin View RCC toward the remodeling project of a hurricane damaged home in Lumberton
- Repaired icemaker in refrigerator
- Paid for landscaping of church grounds - 2019
- Purchased a new vacuum cleaner for the church

- All expenses for making chicken pies- flour, veggies, soup, broth, shortening, pie tins, plastic bags, boxes, butter, salt & pepper, poultry seasoning, labels, cooking utensils, etc.
- All ingredients for making Apple Crumb Pies and Pecan Pies
- Trimmed the Bradford pear trees to prevent winter damage
- Replaced all bulbs in sanctuary chandeliers with LED lights
- Replaced outdoor lights with LED fixtures
- Paid \$1633 toward the purchase of new choir robes

An approximate total of monies paid from the Chicken Pie Fund for these projects is **\$70,000**. Without the proceeds from making of the pies, many of the projects on this list could not have been accomplished or would have required many special appeals to the congregation. The Stewardship and Finance Committee has an ongoing list of future projects for the maintaining and improvement of our church building and grounds.

We encourage you to come and help on the designated days for pies. There is a job for you – small or large. Many hands make light for all!

Deuteronomy 15:10 “You shall generously give to Him, and your heart shall not be grieved when you give to Him, because for this thing, the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all your undertakings.”

Stewardship and Finance Committee



Blood Drive

New Hope Moravian Church
Fellowship Hall

**Monday, January 20th
2:00 pm to 6:30 pm**

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter New Hope Moravian to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Winter Journey at



January 24-26, 2020

Higgins Lodge

This weekend retreat offers opportunities for spiritual formation and personal growth in what is often regarded as a dormant season of the year. Participants will share fellowship, meals and worship as a large group while breaking into three smaller program tracks. The retreat schedule is balanced between programmed and un-programmed time.

Please contact Laurel Ridge for additional information or to register:
888-831-5922 or www.laurelridge.org

Whose World is it Anyway?
A Biblical Understanding of Creation Care
Rick Sides

The Path of Self-Discovery
Growing in Faith Love and Hope

Ruth Cole Burcaw

A Doorway to Embodying Peace: Tai Chi
David Harold

Worship Leader: Fran Saylor

Rate includes Tuition, Room and 6 Meals
Single Occupancy, per person \$260
Double Occupancy, per person \$160

The **Provincial Women's Board** will be having their **Spiritual Life Retreat- April 24-26, 2020**, at Laurel Ridge. We are blessed to have **Donna Hurt** as our speaker-program titled **"Our Favorites In Our Faith"**. We hope that all of you will be able to attend so **save the date, April 24-26, 2020 @ Laurel Ridge**. Sponsored by the Provincial Women's Board of the Southern Province.



Why We Should Keep on Singing

Here are some interesting facts written in an article by Jaime Babbitt. *Did you know ...*

We are altering molecules inside our brains, with different changes occurring whether listening to music, singing or singing with others. Singing produces endorphins, hormones produced by the central nervous system, which release and interact with receptors in the brain, diminishing pain and triggering an analgesic (painkilling) feeling in the body.

It has been found that music releases serotonin, a neurotransmitter found mostly in the digestive tract that helps regulate our moods, social behaviors and appetite. Serotonin produces a feeling of well-being and happiness.

Studies have shown that listening to music or singing can lower your cortisol (a hormone that relates to stress) level.

One final study showed that singing, even at the amateur level, is beneficial to people's emotional, physical and cognitive well-being.

Music is proven to lift and empower us. For that reason and for those mentioned above let's sing, sing a song, sing out loud and sing out strong!

The Worship Committee

Church Cleaning



Please consider signing up to clean the church. For many years this has been done by volunteers. We truly hope to continue this way in order to not have to add another expense to the budget. This only takes an hour or so each week.

Cleaning can be done anytime towards the end of the week or Saturday. If you can only manage to do this one or two weeks of any particular month, that is fine. Just put your name by the week you can on the list on the board and state "only". That way we know you are not taking the whole month.

I will be glad to meet with you to show you what is to be done and where the supplies are. Please feel free, if you wish, to bring your own. **NO CHURCH KEY.....NO WORRY**. Arrangements can easily be made to let you in.

Won't you help us keep this house of worship looking good for all who enter here to worship.

Mark Bumgarner
Vice Chair

January 2020 Cleaners: Mark & Malissa Bumgarner

January Happenings

Wednesday, January 1st –



Thursday, January 2nd – ECCCM Workday

Sunday, January 5th – *Epiphany Communion & Drawing of Watchwords*

Monday, January 6th – CMO/Preschool Resumes

Friday, January 10th – **Board of Elders Yearly Retreat**
Retiring, New & Returning Elders

Saturday, January 11th – **Board of Elders Yearly Retreat**
New & Returning Elders

Monday, January 20th – Martin Luther King, Jr Day

No CMO/Preschool



**American
Red Cross**
Together, we can save a life

Red Cross Blood Drive

2:00 – 6:30 pm

New Hope Moravian Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, January 21st – **Women's Circle Meeting**
At the home of Pat deBlois
Lesson by Margaret Schultz

Friday, January 24th – February Newsletter Articles due to Office



Aging Well Conference
Saturday, April 18, 2020
9 am until about 1 pm

This is an event sponsored by the Aging Well Team. There will be 2 sessions that you can attend and lunch. It will be held at Fairview Moravian Church. More information will be sent out as plans are finalized.



January 2020 NEWSLETTER

newhopemoravian@gmail.com
Web: www.newhopemoravian.com

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