

# March 2013 New Hope News



## 2013 WATCHWORD

**“I will give them one heart, and put  
a new spirit within them.”  
Ezekiel 11:19**

## *New Hope Moravian Church*

### **“Guidelines for Growth”**

Wait a minute! It's March already! It just can't be.... Where have the winter months gone? I had so many plans to grow spiritually and relationally during the cold months. How can the growing season of spring be right around the corner! Is this how you feel? Well, far too many of us; allow our time to escape us. We instead, get stuck in the humdrum of life instead of growing as we desire! Basically, we go through our life, desiring to grow, and yet, time quickly passes us by!

Why is this? Did we never purposely intend to grow? Has life's interruptions trumped our decision to grow? Nothing shapes our life more than the commitments we make; they either develop us or destroy us, but clearly they define us. II Chronicles 16:9- "For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

Perhaps, it would be helpful, to look at the life of Caleb? At eighty-five he was still growing and grabbing the future (see Joshua 14:12). When he should have been enjoying retirement, he was out fighting giants and claiming mountains. Every time the sun came up it was a new adventure for him. "Enlarge the place of your tent... do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes, for you will spread out to the right hand and to the left..." Isaiah 54:2-3NIV

What does it take to grow? [Here are a few guidelines we need to know about growth:](#)

Growth is not automatic. Growth today brings success tomorrow. What we sow today determines what we will reap tomorrow. Growth is our responsibility. Growth requires change and most of us are uncomfortable with change. Growth at times, demands the temporary surrender of our peace of mind and security. God calls us to never be satisfied with our current accomplishments. Successful people and Disciples of Christ do not sit back and rest on their laurels. They continue to set new goals and seek new challenges. They realize wins, like losses, are only temporary.

God calls His Disciples to step-out in faith and accomplish great things for His Church! To do this, we must refuse to settle for passive comfort zone mentality or let too-much success go to our heads. This calls us to prioritize everything in our lives. It may even require a little pruning of unnecessary things and people in our lives. Sometimes growth is just plain lonely. This is why so many people stop growing. The cost is too high! Jesus says, "Seek first the Kingdom of God." For with God nothing is impossible! Do not end your life with regrets and wasted opportunities.

I'm ready to grow are you? Let's do this together... Like Caleb, let's keep growing and grabbing the future! Let's make a determined decision to grow spiritually and relationally in Christ Jesus!

# March 2013 Newsletter

## New Hope Moravian C.M.O.

February has flown by! We have been so busy this month with Valentine's Day, President's Day, and Dental Health Month. The highlights of the month were the visit from the tooth fairy, our valentine's party, and learning new, spring music with Ms. Jane and Mr. Steve. The children also learned a lot about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Be sure to ask them to share some facts!



Thank you to everyone that attended the Zumbathon to support Ashlyn Karre's girl scout gold award project on our playground. She earned \$300. She is getting very close to her goal of \$2500. Her last fundraiser will be a Spaghetti Dinner after church on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 12 in New Hope's fellowship hall. Come let the Girls Scouts of New Hope serve your family spaghetti, salad, French bread, and dessert. She will be taking donations and will also give a brief presentation about her plans for the playground. We hope to see you there!



**Pre-registration for the 2013-2014 school year has begun. Current students have until March 15<sup>th</sup> to pre-register. After the 15<sup>th</sup>, registration will be open to the public. The registration fee is \$55. We have already had outside calls for next year. Get your forms in soon to save your child's spot. Summer Camp registration forms will go home next week.**

We will kick off March with a celebration of Dr. Seuss. On Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate his birthday and Cat in the Hat will visit to read some of our favorite Dr. Seuss classics. The 2 and 3 year-old classes will also be learning about transportation and spring while Ms. Angela's class will study the animal life cycle.

Ms. Angela's class has been working very hard on learning sight words. She will be sending home beginning reader books for you to read with your child at home. Please look for more information in her weekly newsletter.

**Please keep Ms. Patty and her mother in your prayers. She will be traveling to Texas to be with her mother while she recovers from knee surgery. Ms. Patty will be out March 6-12. Ms. Lauren will take her place and Ms. Amanda Sain, Leela's mom, will also help.**

We will have an Easter Party and Egg Hunt on March 28<sup>th</sup> at preschool. The children will enjoy a special snack and egg hunt during their fellowship hall time. A sign-up sheet for candy and snack will be put on the sign-in table soon. Also, please plan to join us on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> for New Hope's Lenten Fair. We will have games, crafts, food, and an egg hunt for all ages. Everyone is welcome!

**We will be closed April 1-4 for Easter holiday.**

## **Family Fun Night**

**Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Hosted by Steve and Jane Bumgarner**

**(h) 828-465-1543**

All members of the New Hope Family are invited to a “Family Fun Night” at Steve and Jane Bumgarner’s home. The fun, fellowship and games (including the return of Pictionary) begin at 6:00 pm.

Everyone is asked to bring a “finger food” to share with the group. Plates, napkins, utensils and drinks will be provided. So come on out on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> for good food, fellowship, games and conversation with your New Hope family.

The Bumgarner’s live just a short distance from New Hope. Their home is located off Robinson Road, between the intersection of Sandy Ford Road and Highway 10, at 3165 Weidner Road.

“Y’all come... ye hear!”

### **Directions to Jane and Steve Bumgarner’s House**

#### **From New Hope Moravian Church:**

Since everyone knows how to get to New Hope, if you leave the New Hope parking lot and turn left onto Sandy Ford Road, go to the first stop light (about 1 ½ miles) and turn left onto Robinson Road. The Catawba Country Club Golf Course will be on your right after you make the turn. Go to the top of the hill and take the first right turn which will be 9<sup>th</sup> Tee Drive (Don’t be confused by the fact that the road to the left is also 9<sup>th</sup> Tee Drive.) Go to the end of 9<sup>th</sup> Tee, which is only one block long, and turn left onto Weidner Road at the stop sign. The Bumgarners are the second house on the right after you turn onto Weidner Road. It is the brick house with black shutters.



## MUSIC NOTES

### What is a hymn? And can your voice be added to the hymn (or the anthem)?

The Moravians' song-centered worship, once described by Count Nicolaus Zinzendorf as 'hours of song,' continues today in the gathering, reflecting and departing hymns of the service as well as the numerous liturgies, communion services and lovefeast odes. The hymns we sing together in the Moravian service offer praise to God and add much to the scriptures and messages offered to God during the worship.

The "official" definition of a hymn by the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada is as follows: 'A Christian Hymn is a lyric poem, reverently and devotionally conceived, which is designed to be sung and which expresses the worshipper's attitude toward God or God's purposes in human life. It should be simple and metrical in form, genuinely emotional, poetic and literary in style, spiritual in quality, and in its ideas so direct and so immediately apparent as to unify a congregation while singing it.' That's quite a definition that covers all aspects of a hymn but a much easier one to remember is: '**A hymn is a congregational song that expresses biblical truth, theology, poetry and music.**'

Why am I telling you all of this: Well, we could use come more voices in our chancel choir to sing the hymns and the anthems in our praise to God during the worship services. Please pray about this and consider adding your voice to our choir. **We practice on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 PM following the Brass Band rehearsal and your voice is always welcomed.** Come join us.

Keep a song in your heart but also share it with others,

Phyllis Little, Director of Music



# Highlights from the Board

The Board of Elders met on Monday, Feb. 11, 2013. The physical needs of the church have been prioritized by the Stewardship committee. The steeple needs to be cleaned and coated, so that it will not get so dirty again. The windows on the back side of the church must be replaced as the sun has damaged the framework. We know the carpet needs attention, but the first two concerns that must be addressed are the steeple and the windows.

Did you notice anything missing this week? Thanks to a special donation and additional funds from Women's Fellowship, the steeple is currently being cleaned and coated. This job costs \$3800. Thanks to Mark Bumgarner for getting a better price than what we previously had we would have to spend. We are hoping to have it back up by Easter. The windows will be a more expensive job, and, because of the damage, will need to be done as soon as we can raise the money. More information will be coming to you on exactly how much it will take and how we can raise the money. We also will be looking at carpet and a picnic shelter, but these are in the future.

We agreed that because of the cost of filling boxes and especially the cost of mailing them that we would send \$10. gift cards to our college students. We know they will enjoy spending them. Graduation Sunday is coming up and we are trying to find a suitable date. May 12th is the first choice, but it will be finalized when we have the chance to check with the students. We want to have as many here with us as possible to celebrate.

Another calendar change was to move the Children's Love Feast to September 22. We are planning to have a Praise service on September 29 with participation from Friedberg Moravian Church.

Updates from all committees were discussed. Hopefully each committee will be getting news out to the congregation through the newsletter.

The Board is planning a Lay Ministry Renewal weekend. Pastor Betty is heading this up, and while we are still in the planning stages, we are hoping for something in the early part of 2014.

# Christian Education Update

On February 9th, a Valentine party was held in the Fellowship Hall for children to have snacks and make Valentines. Children made them for their family and friends and also made extra for Meals on Wheels.

The Souper Bowl of Caring collection netted \$302.75. This was sent to The Corner Table, the soup kitchen in Newton that our church supports. This is a worthy cause and so many deserving people will benefit from it. Thanks to all of you who made this possible.

The Lenten Fair will be coming up on March 23. It will be held during the morning so kids can hunt for Easter eggs and participate in other activities in the church. Even if you do not have kids, please think about helping with this worthy event. It is much fun to hang out with the kids and help with crafts and supervision. The committee will be organizing this at our next meeting on March 7 at 7:00 PM.

Also, please do not forget that we will be having a yard sale on April 27 to raise money for the youth and other church projects. Please continue saving your treasures. I will provide instructions in the April newsletter as to when and where you can bring items to sale. Since this is a church-wide event, feel free to be creative in thinking of things to sell. Some will be making pies to sell.

The children of the church and community are so important to us. Please consider working with this committee to provide them with fulfilling experiences at church.

To Our Dear New Hope Family,

Thank you for your cards and prayers following the passing of my father.

Each card contained something special to me. Please continue to pray for my mother, Jane, as she goes through this time of healing.

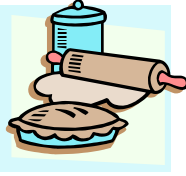
Love, Pat

## March Birthdays



7-Ricky Miller  
11-Bob Warren  
16-Molly Cline  
17-Cheryl Hendrix  
18-Emily McDonald  
18-Kimberly McDonald  
21-Travis Simpson  
27-Hugh Long

## Chicken Pie News



A million thanks to all who made the chicken pie sales so successful! We have had many good comments and rave reviews of our pies. Below is what we have done as a congregation working together.

We made 334 pies.

We have sold 330 pies.

The profit after purchase of chicken is approximately \$2,350.00.

On Thursday, 1-31-13, we had 14 volunteers helping.

On Friday, 2-1-13, we had 20 volunteers helping.

On Sat., 2-2-13, we had 31 volunteers helping.

Let's keep up the good work as we work together to glorify God  
and for our church,  
Your chicken pie committee

\* \* \* \* \*

\* The Senior Friends group met on Friday, February 22. \*

\* This was our first meeting and a great time was had by \*

\* everyone. The next meeting will be on Friday, March \*

\* 22 at 6:00 PM for a covered dish supper. The group \*

\* also decided to pick another name since we don't feel \*

\* so "senior." Friday seems to be a good day to meet \*

\* as it gives those who work something to look forward \*

\* to, and they can stay up late. We also discussed \*

\* arranging other events at different times so that \*

\* others in the congregation could participate. \*

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