

March 2022

New Hope Moravian Church

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

2022 Watchword

“If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”
(1 John 1:7)



The Lenten Season: This month of March 2022, we reflect on the days of the liturgical Church year by considering Ash Wednesday (March 2) and the season of Lent. We just left the month of February with the celebrations of 1) Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, 2) New Hope's 39th Anniversary, 3) And celebrating Valentine's Day (a day typically reserved for love and romance).

As we leave the month of February, we begin to prepare ourselves (the body of Christ) for the time of the liturgical year when we need to consider our faith walk with God... Are we being faithful or unfaithful? Are we living up to God's expectations of us? This Lenten Season is an excellent time for us to consider, "Have we loved God and lived up to His will and purpose for our lives?"

As we enter March (on Ash Wednesday March 2), we reflect on our mortality— "from dust you came to dust you shall return." We reflect on the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ on our behalf. As we receive the ashes... We say, Bring on the ashes! ... Lord, renew our FAITH!

We are not morbid people, but thinking on our mortality, brings up dreadful thoughts of our humanity. And yet, it is beneficial for us to spend time reflecting on the reality of our mortality. We do this to prepare ourselves to receive the life that God has prepared for us in Christ. And so, during the time in between the day that the Church remembers Jesus' transfiguration and the joyful celebration of Easter, we embark upon our forty-day pilgrimage of Lent.

This year it just so happens that our observance of Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent is preceded by the "Month of Love." We might even say, its sprinkled with a dose of vivid irony... Why? Because our solemn journey on Ash Wednesday reflects on our unfaithfulness, our lack of love for God, and yet, God continues to surround us with His abounding love in the mist of Ash Wednesday and on the pilgrimage of our Lenten journey.

The word Lent comes from the old English word for "spring." We could say, "Lent is "spring training" for Christians as we are tutored in faith, repentance, and holy living. It's when we should set-aside time for personal devotions and self-denial. It's a time for us to cultivate a faithful heart that dwells on God's Word and His faithfulness to us.

Beginning in the (fourth century) the observance of Lent originally became connected with a forty day fast prior to Easter. This tradition continues today as some Christians during Lent give up a particular food, or a vice like sweets, or chocolate, or coffee, shopping, or television. Some Christians choose to gather for a small meal of soup and salad (while gathering together) every Wednesday during Lent. Some choose to fast on particular days (which is not required but an elective decision). Fasting is a good way to discipline one's body and certainly opens the door for pondering in our time of denial of all God has done for us, and the ultimate sacrifice of Christ on our behalf.

Should you decide to fast during Lent, consider Jesus' words about fasting in His Sermon on the Mount, "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward." (Matthew 6:16)

The Lenten season begins with Ash Wednesday and the imposition of ashes. In the Moravian Church the imposition of the ashes is a reminder of our mortality. The ashes are the (burned Palm branches collected from Palm Sunday the year before). Genesis 3:19 says, "By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

The Sundays in Lent focus on the themes of temptation, God's mercy, the life of a disciple, and the sustenance God gives to (us) His disciples. This year it's my prayer that during the Lenten season, we focus more on God's forgiveness to (us) His disciples and the "Words of Eternal Life" found only in the Cross of Christ Jesus.

May our Lord richly bless our Lenten time together this year, as we together reflect on God's love for us and the sacrifice of His Beloved Son Jesus for us. Through our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection; WE are restored to a holy God... WE are forgiven and... WE receive the free gift of "Eternal Life."

In Christ Love & Service,
Pastor Betty



Lent begins with ***Ash Wednesday** and ends with the conclusion of the Great Sabbath (Holy Saturday - Easter Eve) - a span of forty days on the church calendar, excluding Sundays. It is symbolic of the forty days Christ spent fasting and praying in the desert while enduring the temptations of the devil. (Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke)

Lent is generally observed as a time for spiritual renewal; a time for Christians to reflect, repent, and pray as a way of preparing their hearts for Easter and the Resurrection of Christ. Although not dictated or required by the Moravian Church, many of the faithful voluntarily commit to fasting or giving up certain types of luxuries as a form of penitence during the season of Lent.

The three traditional practices to be taken up with renewed vigor during Lent are prayer (justice towards God), fasting (justice towards self), and almsgiving (justice towards neighbor).

Counting Sundays, there are actually 46 days in the Lenten penance (season) - Sundays are excluded because each and every Sunday is considered a celebration of the Resurrection of Christ.



* **Ash Wednesday** derives its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful as a celebration and reminder of human mortality, and as a sign of mourning and repentance to God. The ashes used are typically gathered from the burning of the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday.

Mission Committee News

ECCCM Workday

The first Thursday of every month is New Hope's day to volunteer at ECCCM. Please join members of the Mission Committee on March 3rd as we help in the food pantry or thrift store. There is something for all physical abilities. We will meet in New Hope's parking lot at 9:30 and then head to ECCCM, where we anticipate working until 12:00. Afterwards, anyone interested can go out to lunch as a group. Please consider giving a few hours of your time to this worthwhile organization. Contact Margaret Schultz (828-234-8184 mrs-tls@charter.net) with questions or if you will be meeting us in the parking lot.

Another way to support ECCCM is through donations to their thrift store.

Accepted Items:

- Gently used clothing and shoes
- Jewelry, purses, accessories
- Baby items
- Toys with all parts and pieces
- Electronics with cords or batteries
- CD's, DVD's, Blue-Rays, video games
- Home décor, artwork, decorative pillows
- Knick-knacks
- Furniture in good condition
- Kitchen: small appliances, silverware, plates, glasses, etc
- Toiletries and personal care items
- Books in good condition

Unaccepted items:

- Large appliances
- Used Mattresses, box springs or pillows
- TV's, Computers, printers, out of date video players
- Paint containers
- Car seats
- Out of date baby items: cribs, sleepers, strollers, pack-n-plays
- Used commode or shower chairs
- Used rags or pieces of cloth
- Used underwear
- Uses humidifiers
- Anything medical
- Large rugs, carpets

Thank you for making this year's Souper Bowl of Caring a success. We collected \$400 for The Corner Table in Newton. Your generous giving will help "tackle hunger"!

Mission Committee



New Hope's Country Store Has Reopened

Some favorite items have been restocked, with possible new items arriving soon. Our Country Store has reopened! Selling in the store are pints of Fruit of the Vine Salsa \$4 / Moravian Pickled Beets \$4/ Brushy Mtn Apple Crumb Pies \$10 (from freezer to oven) and other items are in the

making.

Anyone who would like to donate items or goods for the store, please do so. Please have your items priced. Proceeds from the Country Store during the Playground Fundraising / Matching Fund Challenge for our church family will be designated for this fundraiser.

What a great way to enjoy treats and goods made by others and/or share your talents and skills while helping to raise money for our new playground equipment! Everyone is invited to participate. The Country Store will also be available for the Preschool parents and staff.



Matching Fundraising Campaign for New Hope's Playground

New Hope's Preschool started raising money in 2019 for much needed improvements to our playground. So far, \$3500 has been raised towards the goal of \$10,000. Unfortunately, COVID slowed everything down, so now is the time for the big final push. **All donations, made now through the end of May, will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$3000.** Please consider donating, so we can take advantage of all the matching funds.

Improvements include:

- Replacing the 9-year-old residential grade wooden structure with a school quality play structure. This is the largest ticket item at \$9432.
- New swings for toddler playground
- New sandboxes with covers
- Replacement timbers along fencing
- Mulch

Look for the poster in the vestibule for pictures and updates on fundraising.

Checks should be made out to New Hope Moravian Preschool with “playground” in memo area. An envelope for donations will be with the poster.

Thank you!

New Hope Preschool Advisory Committee

Margaret Schultz, Malissa Bumgarner, Nancy Miller, Jane Bumgarner, and Shannon McDonald

Playground Fundraiser

The fundraising is in high gear! In conjunction with our matching campaign, you are encouraged to donate your loose change to the “Joyful Playground Noise”. Just drop your “noisy” coins, along with your “quiet” paper money, in the playground bucket outside the sanctuary. All donations collected will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$3000.

Our preschool also has more ways for you to help us reach our \$10,000 goal:

Yard Sale - The preschool is hosting a yard sale at New Hope on April 2nd. To participate, rent a space to sell your items. The church will have a bake sale that day, also. More detailed information is coming soon. Clear out your house for spring, make some money and support the playground improvements!

T-Shirt sale – The preschool is selling t-shirts to benefit the playground. There are adult sizes in short sleeved (\$10), long sleeved (\$15), and sweatshirts (\$20). Purchases not only support the fundraising but also show pride in our preschool ministry.

If you have questions about any of our fundraising events, please talk to a member of the Preschool Advisory Committee (Malissa Bumgarner, Jane Bumgarner, Margaret Schultz, Shannon McDonald, and Nancy Miller).

“Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him.” Psalm 127:3

Bible Study



New Bible Study Coming in March

Have you ever finished reading a passage in the Bible and ended up scratching your head because you did not understand what you just read, or you have a desire to increase your knowledge of the Bible? If so, you are invited to a new Bible study starting in March. We will be using the online bible classroom provided by BibleProject.com and led by Dr.

Tim Mackie. We have used some of the BibleProject material in Sunday School and it has been well received. Dr. Mackie uses scripture, questions, drawings and illustrations to keep one engaged in the lessons. There will be a 26 to 40 min 'classroom' video followed by discussion. The Bible study will be facilitated by Steve Larsen and Tom Schultz.

If you are interested in a preview of the Bible study (the same preview done in Sunday School on 20 Feb), contact Tom Schultz.

When: Wednesday, March 16th (Continue weekly on Wed from this date)

Time: 6:30pm to 8:00pm (Plan on 1.5 hrs max, some sessions will be shorter)

Where: Church Fellowship Hall

Please prayerfully consider making this part of your spiritual journey.
Steve and Tom



Kimberly McDonald
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Building 2 Apartment 411
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NEW HOPE MORAVIAN CHURCH

2897 SANDY FORD ROAD

NEWTON, NC 28658

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Monday - April 18, 2022

2 PM TO 6:30 PM

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-REDCROSS and enter New Hope Moravian to schedule an appointment.

*** We also need two volunteers to make baked items or bring cookies, cake, and/or refreshments for those giving blood. ***





The decision was made by your Board of Elders (100%) and the Task Force Team (100%) to make **wearing masks in the church OPTIONAL**.

Those who choose to continue to wear their mask can continue to do so and those who choose not to wear a mask can do so. Optional mask wearing allows for one to make their own personal choice. We will continue to keep the Sanctuary sectioned off and still keep our 6' spacing and all other logistics will remain the same.

All logistics with Covid are subject to change, when need be, for the protection of our congregation. Thank all of you for your patience and cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Betty or one of the Elders.

DAY OF PRAYER SERVICES FOR 2022



March 2, 2022 11:00 A.M. Home Moravian Ash Wednesday, Speaker: Rev. Emily Norris, The service will be available in person and live streamed on the Home Church Web page. Click on Live broadcasts to access the service. <https://www.homemoravian.org/index.php/live-broadcasts/>

March 6, 2:00 P.M. Christ Moravian, Speaker: Rev. Reed Lawson. Band prelude. The service will be in person only. Lovefeast.

March 9, 2022 11:00 A.M. Trinity Moravian, Speaker: Rev. Ginny Tobiassen. The service will be in person only. Lunch will be served after the service.

March 16, 11:00 A.M. Ardmore Moravian, Speaker: Rev. Joe Moore. Refreshments will be served before the service at 10:00 A.M. The service will be in person and online. To access the online service: www.FACEBOOK.com/ArdmoreMoravian/videos

March 23, 11:00 A.M. Calvary Moravian, Speaker: Rev. Adam Goodrich. Coffee served at 10:00 P.M. This service will be in person only.

March 30, 11:00 A.M. Fairview Moravian, Speaker: Rev. Tony Hayworth. The service will in person only.

April 6, 11:00 A.M. Konnoak Moravian, Speaker: Rev. Fran Saylor . The service will be in person and online. To access the online service: <http://www.khморavian.org/> Select “YouTube Chanel” at the top of the page. No Lovefeast planned at the time of this publication.

Published by The Provincial Women’s Board, Moravian Church of America Southern Province

New Hope Board of Elders- 2022

Our Head- The Chief Elder-Jesus Christ

Chair- The Rev. Betty A. Helms

Vice-Chair- Jane Bumgarner

Secretary- Malissa Bumgarner

Pat deBlois

Ashley Larsen

Shannon McDonald

Nancy Miller

Rachel Schultz

Anita Scism

Board of Elders- Monthly Meetings Second Monday of the Month.

Due to COVID-19- Meetings will be Via ZOOM@ 6:30PM

Please speak with any Board member if you have questions or concerns. We represent you!



Ways to Give to New Hope

Thanks to the Moravian Ministries Foundation of America (MMFA), we now have an online option to donate to New Hope via credit card or direct debit (automatic bank to bank transfer). The MMFA provides the portal for this electronic giving and they directly deposit any funds to the New Hope bank account. Here is the link to the online giving portal: <https://mmfa.info/new-hope-moravian-church-north-carolina-donation-form/>.

This is a great option for Friends of New Hope that no longer live in the area. These donations will be tracked for tax filing purposes. Transaction fees do apply, just under 3% for credit card transactions and \$0.75 for direct debit transactions.

The MMFA also provides a means to donate securities/stocks. Your broker transfers the securities/stocks to MMFA and the MMFA executes the securities/stocks into cash. Securities/stocks executed in this way are not subject to capital gains tax. Please contact Tom Schultz if you are interested in the process for this type of monetary transaction.

Please contact Tom Schultz at newhopemoraviantreasurer@gmail.com with any questions about the items above.

New Hope Service on



Click on the link below

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCagQSb0gw2QUC-UFiwe5ikg>

This will take you directly to the homepage of our New Hope YouTube channel. Here you can choose from different videos that are available.

Mark Your Calendar for March

Tuesday, March 1st – Shrove Tuesday
** No Pancake Dinner

Wednesday, March 2nd – **Ash Wednesday Service** – Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion **6:30 pm**. Season of Lent Begins.



Thursday, March 3rd – **ECCCM Workday**
Meet at the church at 9:30, go to ECCCM and work until noon.

Sunday, March 6th – **Sunday School 9:00 am**
Indoor & Parking Lot Worship Service 10:00 am

First Sunday in Lent – Holy Communion

Sunday, March 13th – **Sunday School 9:00 am**
Indoor & Parking Lot Worship Service 10:00 am

Second Sunday in Lent



Daylight Saving Time begins
Move clocks **ahead** one hour on Saturday night

Monday, March 14th – **Board of Elders Meeting** via Zoom, 6:30 pm

No School for Preschool or Catawba County Schools

Thursday, March 17th –



Sunday, March 20th – **Sunday School 9:00 am**
Indoor & Parking Lot Worship Service 10:00 am

Third Sunday in Lent



Thursday, March 24th – April Newsletter Articles Due

**Sunday, March 27th – Sunday School 9:00 am
Indoor & Parking Lot Worship Service 10:00 am**

Fourth Sunday in Lent



March Birthdays

1st – Allison Snyder
14th – Fay Ayers
16th – Nathaniel Allen Wiles
17th – Cheryl Hendrix
18th – Emily McDonald & Kimberly McDonald
21st – Travis Simpson
25th – Nancy Olson

Pray Every Day March 2022

1. Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Pray for disaster relief workers and Moravian Disaster Response.
2. You see at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.

3. So also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Pray for firefighters and police officers.
4. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
5. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Pray for the Moravian churches in Haiti.
6. Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Pray for the government leaders in our country.
7. I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion. Pray for short term mission teams.
8. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leone.
9. Oh the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
10. I urge you, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-this is your spiritual act of worship. Pray for the Moravians in Peru.
11. Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil. Cling to what is good. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahaus.
12. As surely as I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God. Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
13. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray for PEC members, bishops, and other church leaders.
14. No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him. Pray for Moravians in Honduras and Nicaragua.
15. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. Pray for the Raipur Foster Child Project.
16. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya and Ray of Hope.
17. And now these three remain; faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
18. Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. Do everything in love. Pray for Robert and Anne Thiessen.
19. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. Pray for Adopt-a-Village in Tanzania.
20. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach.
21. My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Pray for the medical community and workers.
22. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Pray for the Unity Women's Desk.
23. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS ministry.
24. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-it is by grace you have been saved. Pray for Steve and Ann Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
25. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
26. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek Intersarsity.
27. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
28. But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. Pray for Alan and DeeDee Iobst in France.
29. Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Pray for Annie B Missions and Star Mountain.
30. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
31. Since then you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Pray for Estamos Unidos Moravian Ministry.



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