



April 2017

NEW HOPE NEWS

WATCHWORD for 2017

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*" John 14:5-6 (NRSV)

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

Now What Do We Do?

This month, as we rapidly approach the end of our Lenten journey, toward Easter (April 16). I am reminded of our need for renewal on this Lenten journey and the many times we gather to celebrate our traditions and custom that surround Easter. We celebrate "Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, we transition into Holy Week, The Upper Room, Good Friday Lovefeast, and then, the long awaited day of Easter Sunrise and the Easter Worship arrives. When we gather on Easter morning, I say, "The Lord is risen! Then you say, "The Lord is risen indeed!" Have you ever thought; *Now what do we do?* Our Lenten Journey is over. We've traveled to the Upper Room on Maundy Thursday with Jesus and His disciples. We've heard "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Matthew 26:28NIV.

On Good Friday, we traveled to the foot of the Cross and heard Jesus lonely cry of abandonment, "*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me*" Mark 15:34. We've heard the words of finality that Jesus spoke with his last breath, "*It is finished!*" (John 19:30). Jesus paid in full the cost of our sin debt; we're no longer separated from God. We've traveled to the empty tomb to hear again the story of the women that traveled there early on the first day of the week to find the tomb empty. We've heard once more the words of the angels at the empty tomb, "*He is not here, but has risen*" (Luke 24:6). The pivotal culmination of the Day of Jesus Resurrection is over. *Now what do we do?*

The month of April this year should remind us Easter is more than just one day. Jesus' Resurrection Day, should be part of every Sunday worship celebration we have. When we come together to worship on Sunday, we come together to collectively receive once more the fruit of the Cross and the Resurrection of Jesus— we come receiving the forgiveness of our sins and the certainty of our eternal life with God. Easter should be celebrated "every day" as we live trusting in God through Christ. "Every day" should be a day of celebration, knowing Jesus is "the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25) for us.

So *what do we do now* as we depart from the empty tomb? We are to follow the example of the first witnesses of the empty tomb. After the two angels reminded Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women that Jesus had risen, the Gospel of Luke tells us "*they remembered the words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest*" (Luke 24:8-9). They went forth from the tomb changed by the Resurrection of Jesus. They went forth from the tomb to share their witness of God's power over sin, death and Satan himself; to others.

So where do we go once we leave the empty tomb? We are to follow the example of Jesus' first disciples. After Jesus walked through locked doors to appear to the eleven disciples and to show himself to Thomas, seven of the eleven disciples went back to their fishing business (John 21:1-14). They went back to their vocations in life and took the witness of the Resurrection with them. They lived "every day" in joy and celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus by carrying out their discipleship duties and responsibilities.

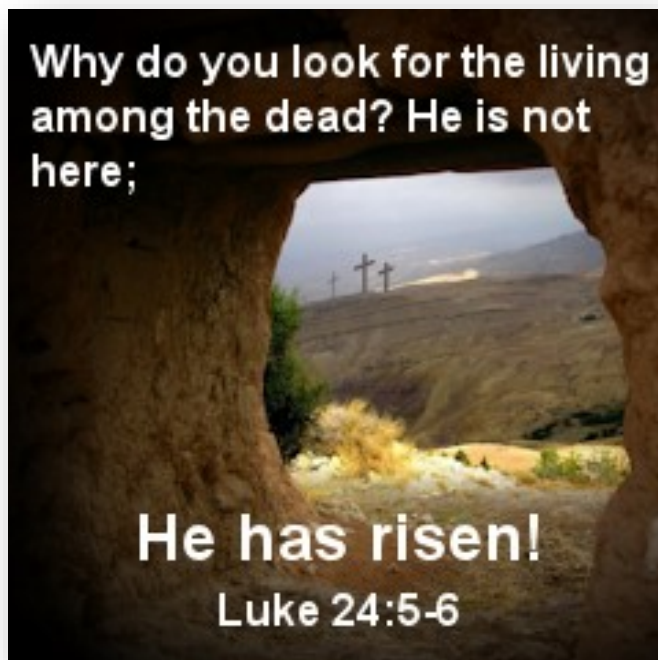
Have you ever stop to think how much we are like the women at the empty tomb and the eleven disciples, we too, are to be "every day" witnesses to the Resurrection of Jesus. As Jesus true disciples, we should make known the joy of the Resurrection of Jesus and the hope we have of eternal life. Like the women at the empty tomb and the eleven disciples, we have vocations in life that God has given to each of us as a gift. Most of us are not fishermen, but all of us have a particular calling on our life. Our calling could be: father, husband, mother, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandparent, employee, retiree, friend and neighbor. Our calling comes with new loyalties and responsibilities to God. How do we accept our calling...Clearly, by God's grace? We are to communicate our "every day" responsibilities with God's joy, love, peace, and forgiveness through Christ. We are to live "every day" with constant joy and celebration of Jesus Resurrection! Our Easter Morning Liturgy and hymn declare Jesus Resurrection: Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord. Moravian Book of Worship (MBW) Page 94 & 543....

In Christ Service,

Pastor Betty

Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord!

Sing hallelujah, praise the Lord!
Sing with a cheerful voice;
Exalt our God with one accord,
And in His Name rejoice.
Ne'er cease to sing, thou ransomed host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Until in realms of endless light
Your praises shall unite.
There we to all eternity
Shall join the angelic lays
And sing in perfect harmony
To God our Savior's praise;
He hath redeemed us by His blood,
And made us kings and priests to God,
For us, for us, the Lamb was slain!
Praise ye the Lord! Amen.



Jesus Has Risen (Luke 24)

¹On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'⁸ Then they remembered his words.

⁹When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. ¹⁰It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. ¹²Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

April at New Hope 2017

| Su | Mo | Tu | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 13 | 14 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 20 | 21 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 30 | | | | 29 |



**Lenten Fair &
EGG HUNT
10:30 AM**



April 8

HOLY WEEK



APRIL 9-15

**HOLY WEEK READINGS 7:00 PM
APRIL 9 THROUGH APRIL 14**

Palm Sunday **APRIL 9**
Service: 11:00 AM
Reading: 7:00 PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY



**APRIL 13
7:00 PM**

GOOD FRIDAY MORAVIAN LOVE FEAST



APRIL 14

APRIL 16

**EASTER
SUNRISE SERVICE**

HE IS *Risen*

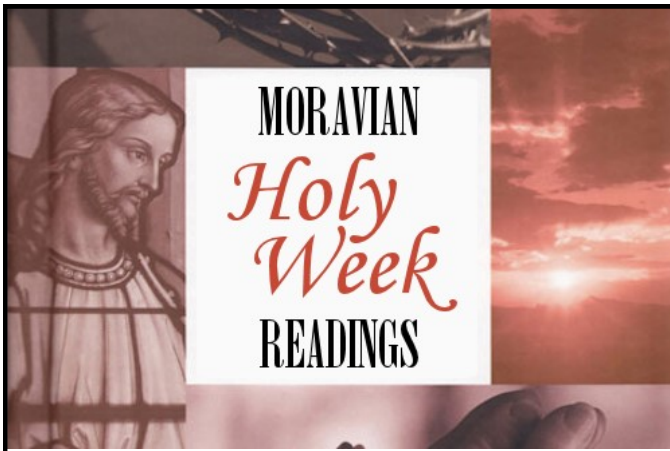


**BREAKFAST
AFTER SERVICE**

CHURCH RETREAT

Laurel
Ridge

**APRIL
29**




Holy Week, the week before Easter, often referred to as "Passion Week" by Moravians is a full week of profound reflection, reverence and prayer. The word passion comes from the noun translation of the verb pascho appearing in the gospels, where Jesus showed "Himself alive after His passion by many infallible proofs" (Acts 1:3). There, the word passion means "to suffer," particularly in reference to Christ's sufferings and death.

We gather every evening of Holy Week to read out loud from a harmony of the gospels, beginning with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and ending with the burial. There is no sermon during Holy Week - just readings and congregational singing. A single hymn verse is sung in response to each passage from the Bible - and, sometimes - there is simply silence.

On Maundy Thursday the Lord's Supper follows the reading. This is the most significant communion of the year for the Moravian Church, as it is observed on the very night when our Lord instituted this most holy sacramental meal.

We are there at His triumphal entry into Jerusalem; His cleansing of the temple; His sharing of bread with the betrayer; and His trial and crucifixion. We hear the messages He delivered and the instructions given to the twelve. We are there - with Jesus.

| DATE | DAY OF WEEK | TIME |
|--------|--|------|
| APR 9 | Palm Sunday | 7 PM |
| APR 10 | Holy Monday | 7 PM |
| APR 11 | Holy Tuesday | 7 PM |
| APR 12 | Holy Wednesday | 7 PM |
| APR 13 | Holy (Maundy) Thursday | 7 PM |
| APR 14 | Holy (Good) Friday | 7 PM |
| APR 15 | Holy Saturday - Day of Rest - No Reading | |


THURSDAY WORK DAY

APRIL 6

ECCCM

There are no time requirements so you may work as little as one hour or all day either in the food pantry or thrift store. The Mission Committee would like a record of our volunteer hours - please put your name and number of hours worked on the sheet posted on our church bulletin board.

RECORDS OF THE MORAVIANS



IN NORTH CAROLINA

Volume I by Adelaide L. Fries
can be read and researched online [here](#).



This is your church
GET INVOLVED!



Eastertide is the period of fifty (50) days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. Each Sunday during this season of Eastertide is treated as a Sunday of Easter. They are named accordingly: Second Sunday of Easter, Third Sunday of Easter, Fourth Sunday of Easter and so forth until the Seventh Sunday which is named * "Pentecost Sunday." The Ascension of the Lord is celebrated on the fortieth day of Eastertide (always on a Thursday).

As Christians, these fifty days of Easter gives us ample time to celebrate the resurrection of Christ and fully understand His mighty acts of

salvation. Time for us to grasp the impact of the Ascension of Christ and time to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost) and birth of the Church (See Acts 2).

As Moravians and faithful disciples of Christ, we should also take this time to explore and fully understand the Moravian Seal: *Vicit agnus noster, eum sequamur*, "Our Lamb Has Conquered, Let Us Follow Him." The seal focuses on the triumph of Christ over death, sin, and the power of evil through His sacrificial death. It combines faith in Christ with active discipleship in following His path of love and service.



Throughout the centuries, the letters INRI have appeared in many paintings of the crucifixion.

What is the meaning of INRI?

The letters "INRI" are initials for the Latin title that Pontius Pilate had written over the head of Jesus Christ on the cross (John 19:19). The actual words were "Iesvs Nazarenvs Rex Ivdæorvm." The English translation is "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." The Early Church adopted the first letters of each word of this inscription "INRI" as a symbol. The chief priests of the Jews complained to Pilate, "Write not, 'The King of the Jews;' but that he said, 'I am King of the Jews!'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." (John 19:19-22 KJV)



The **Shrouded Cross** is a cross adorned in a manner as to represent the burial shroud left behind when Christ rose from the dead.

Purple, representing the message of 'repentance' is also the color of Lent. The purple shroud remains on the cross from Ash Wednesday to Maundy Thursday.

The cross draped in black, represents Good Friday, a day of deep sorrow and mourning. The black shroud remains on the cross from Good Friday, through Saturday (Great Sabbath).

The cross draped with a white shroud represents the glorious Resurrection of Christ.

New Hope Moravian Church

SUMMER

C



AMP

Limited
Space

Apply
Now!

Open Enrollment for both Summer Camp
and the 2017-2018 School Year has begun

Lenten Fair & Egg Hunt

Come Rain
or Shine

Egg Hunt - Lenten Activities
Easter Games & Take Home Crafts

Saturday - April 8 - 10:30 AM

Do you know why lilies and tulips are associated with Easter?

What is the legend of the robin?

Come to Lenten Fair to learn about the events and traditions of Holy Week and Easter.

Along with the egg hunt, there will be craft activities and refreshments for the children.

Bring your baskets
and join in the fun!



Chicken Chatter



Once again, we have all come together and worked a miracle! On March 10th and 11th, we made 548 chicken pies – the largest number we have ever made. Not only has New Hope been blessed with the greatest group of people anywhere, but also the blessing of a product in such high demand that it allows us the financial ability to upgrade and improve our church building and grounds. God has certainly blessed New Hope!

The praise and glory goes to God for our successes, and I thank Him for all of you. He has brought each of us together, working side by side in harmony and love. Who would have ever imagined years ago when chicken pies were started, that we would be where we are today? The friendships that have grown, the joy of working as a team, the ability to produce such a delicious and popular item...all are shown in the laughter and smiles of everyone involved, from setting up to customers picking up. I am sure that God smiles on us and is proud of His flock.

Thank you to all who put everything aside and devote their time and efforts to our chicken pies. Thank you for the love and laughter, sharing of the music and the Tylenol, the friendships and hard work. Thank you for always answering the call to come help regardless of the task. Thank you for being a part of New Hope Moravian Church!

In Christ's Service,
Margie and the Chicken Pie Committee



Catawba Valley Community Chorus Spring Concerts

***The Catawba Valley Community Chorus will present Spring Concerts on these dates**

| Date | Time | Location |
|----------|--------|--|
| April 23 | 3:00PM | Beth Eden Lutheran Church, 400 N. Main Avenue, Newton, NC |
| April 24 | 7:00PM | Trinity Village on Springs Road (1265 21st St NE, Hickory, NC 28601) |
| April 30 | 3:00PM | Redeemer Lutheran Church, 200 N. Main Street, Catawba, NC |
| May 1 | 7:00PM | Abernethy Laurels (102 Leonard Ave, Newton, NC 28658) |

The concerts are free to the public and mostly religious in content. No admission / free-will offering will be collected.

Several of our members (Margie, Carolyn, Janie and Ned) sing with this chorus.

New Hoppers



March



New Hoppers Group Enjoys Amish-Themed Gathering March 24, 2017

The New Hoppers group held their March meeting on the 24th, and Dan and Thelma Greaser were the hosts for the month. Their long-time friends Larry and Mary Schwartz presented a very entertaining program centered around readings from Mary's book about growing up in the Amish faith. Interspersed throughout her readings, Larry gave us musical numbers on the 12 string guitar.

The potluck meal, that was provided by New Hoper members, had an Amish theme too, and featured many of their traditional dishes.

After their program, Mary was gracious enough to take questions from the group about the Amish way of life. Those in attendance expressed how much that they enjoyed the evening.

*Photos & Commentary Courtesy of
Steve & Jane*



Thank you



*to the six New Hope members who
worked in the ECCM Food Pantry
on March 2, 2017*

Ann Carr



Nancy is "The Cat in the Hat"
PreSchool March 2017



New Member Sunday
March 19, 2017

Hospitality Committee

(a subcommittee of Service and Witness)

It is so important that we make visitors feel welcomed, so this committee will be taking on a more active role in making this happen. A meeting will be scheduled in the near future for anyone interested in being a part of this committee. If you have ideas or thoughts on this, please bring them to the meeting or give me a call.

The Hospitality Committee has already been busy since the first of the year with the following:

- **Sunday, February 12th**, a reception was held to honor New Hope with its 34th anniversary. Pastor John Rainey and his wife, Donna were special guests. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and punch, provided by the members of the church, were served. The table overflowed with food and the room was filled with excitement and praise for 34 wonderful years.
- **Sunday, February 26th**, a "Poor Man's Luncheon" was provided in honor of Mr. Reggie Saddler and his wife and daughter who were our guest speaker and musicians for our worship service. Mr. Saddler and his family are well known Christian artists, and we were very honored with their presence. The fellowship hall was decorated in a red & white country motif. The food consisted of Pinto beans, Bar-B-Que, cornbread, slaw and tea. Homemade pound cake with strawberries and whipped cream was served for dessert. As is our custom, food was bountiful and delicious! Everyone had a great time and agreed we would love to have Reggie and family back again.
- **Sunday, March 19th**, we were blessed with Roberta Frazier and Pam Gilbert becoming members of our church family. A reception, in their honor, was held following the service that consisted of cake, nuts, M&M's, cream cheese filled strawberries, Moravian sugar cookies, and punch. We had a good turn out and everyone was glad to welcome in our newest members, even though they have been a part of our church family for quite some time.

Thank you to everyone who so graciously gives of their time and efforts in preparing food when needed. Karen, Margaret, Ann, Fay, Malissa, and Carolyn – special thanks to you for always being available to warm and put out food, serve and replenish, or stay and clean up. Jane, special thanks to you for always being my planning and decorating buddy. Each of you play such an important part and your help is invaluable! It makes my part so much easier. Thank you!!

Blessings to all,
Margie

Vacation Bible School



The Christian Education Committee will meet on Sunday, April 9 after worship in the fellowship hall. If you are a member or would like to help with this committee, please plan to attend. Plans are under way for Vacation Bible School. We will be making final decisions and recruiting people to help. Please contact Pam if you have questions, suggestions or would like to help.

Thank You!

Dear New Hope Church Family,

I can not thank you enough for all the prayers, thoughts, calls, texts, etc during the decline of my Dads health these past 10 months. I truly felt the prayers giving me the strength to carry on with what had to be done for him. Please keep the prayers going as we settle his affairs and adjust to life without our "Ma" and "Pa".

Many thanks also to those who provided food for Mark while I was gone. It set my mind more at ease knowing he was taken care of.

Blessings,

Malissa Bumgarner

ECCCM UPDATE

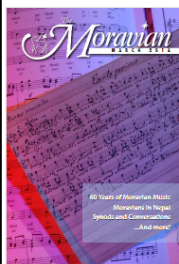
- ECCCM is still in need of "hearty" canned goods so we will collect stews, corned beef hash, chicken and dumplings, spaghetti and meatballs, Manwich, etc. during April.
- Plastic bag donations have been steady and generous. Let's keep that going.
- Our next Thursday volunteer day is April 6.

CATAWBA VALLEY COMMUNITY CHORUS

Spence Robertson, Director | Tim Warren, Accompanist

Spring Concert 2017

Schedule of Events on Page 8



March 2017 edition of The Moravian Magazine is now [available online](#)



NEWHOPERS

April 21 - 6:30 PM
Food - Fun - Fellowship

[Click Here to Register Online](#)



17th Annual ECCCM Benefit Golf Tournament
Thursday, May 11, 2017
Glen Oak Golf Club, Maiden NC
1 PM Shotgun Start



Pray Every Day

APRIL 2017



1. The love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. Pray for disaster relief for teams to Lumberton, NC.
2. Sunday. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope. Pray for Joe Jarvis and the work with Cuban Moravian Church.
3. Give us each day our daily bread. Pray for Ashley and Philip Sineath in Campus Outreach Global.
4. God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. Pray for Justin Rabbach, Director of Mission Engagement justin@moravianmission.org.
5. "You are those who have stood by me in my trials." Pray for the advisory board of the Unity Women's Desk.
6. God has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons. Pray for Annie B. Mission with Star Mountain in Palestine.
7. May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another. Pray for Vani and Shanti Pradhan and the Nepali Moravian Outreach.
8. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Pray for the proposed Radio Station and the newly established churches in Sierra Leone.
9. Palm Sunday. Being found in human form, Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death. Pray for Missionary Aviation Repair Center and pilots.
10. Thanks be to God, who gives us victory through Jesus Christ. Pray for the Moravian Mission Areas of Sierra Leone and Peru and the Mission Province of Cuba.
11. The promise is for you, for your children and for all who God calls. Pray for Ruth Snyder and Claire Wilson with "Changed Choices."
12. My heart exults in the Lord. Pray for the leaders of the Mission Societies and those that support them.
13. Maundy Thursday. The Lamb of God takes away the sin of the world! Pray for Charlie & Vickie and family serving in campus ministry in TX.
14. Good Friday- "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent serving with Campus Crusade in Croatia.
15. Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power. Pray for Michael, Cecilia, and Blessing Tesh in the Ray of Hope Orphanage in Kenya.
16. Easter. If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above where He is. Pray for Drs. Bill and Peggy Hoffman with HIV/AIDS ministry.
17. Jesus said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Pray for the Moravian Volunteer Resources.
18. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. Pray for Ed Dehnert and Barb Weide at the Alaska Bible Seminary, Bethel, AK.
19. What has the Lord answered? Or what has the Lord spoken? Pray for the Woo Family.
20. Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Pray for Rob and Anne Thiessen in Mexico.
21. We are persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed. Pray for Antioch servants and Jill Kolodziej, Director.
22. He will bring me out to the light; I will see his vindication. Pray for Safiatu and Mohamed Braima in the Mission area of Sierra Leone.
23. Sunday. Love one another for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. Pray for Steve & Ann Marx with MAF in Nampa, Idaho.
24. Those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!" Pray for Brian & Heather Marx with MAF (Bmarx@maf.org)
25. One day in your courts is better than 1000 elsewhere. Pray for Dusty & Christin Harrison Greek InterVarsity Campus Ministry (www.greekiv.org)
26. "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me." Pray for Moravian Fellowships, young congregations, and all struggling churches.
27. Do not remember the former things, I am about to do a new thing. Pray for ministers, Sunday school teachers, and church leaders.
28. Blessed be the God who has sent his angel and delivered his servants. Pray for Dr. Louis and Susan Sutton serving with WEC.
29. Pray for us that God will open to us a door for the word that we may declare the mystery of Christ. Pray for Kevin & Charity in the Middle East.
30. Sunday. If the Son of Man makes you free, you will be free indeed. Pray for the Province of Honduras, Ahuas hospital, and church.

Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. (Ephesians 6:18)