

April 2024

New Hope Moravian Church

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



2024 Watchword

“As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.”
Colossians 3:12



“Pray Without Ceasing”

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Colossians 4:2 (NIV).

At the beginning of 2024, many of us made resolutions to make some changes in the New Year. How’s that going? When we made these resolutions, our intentions were good. And with the beginning of a New Year, we felt like we had hope for a new start.

However, as the months have slipped by, I am mindful that perhaps many may have forgotten the (one) most important resolution? Did we make the resolution to pray more in the New Year? Beginning a New Year brings many challenges and choices, and we can find ourselves overwhelmed with our new (to do) list. Nevertheless, in the midst of our desire to make new choices, we must never forget that our greatest desire should be to establish our daily prayer time with God. There is NOTHING more important! The word “prayer” appears 164 times throughout the books of the Bible. Scripture tells us, He is the God that hears us. He is the God with a heart who has compassion on us. He is the Almighty, loving, merciful, gracious God.

Proverbs 3:5- *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.”*

Jeremiah 29:12-13- “Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

Matthew 6:9-13- “Pray then like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.’”

Matthew 18:20- “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

Mark 11:22-25- “And Jesus answered them, “Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.”

Luke 11:9-13- “And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

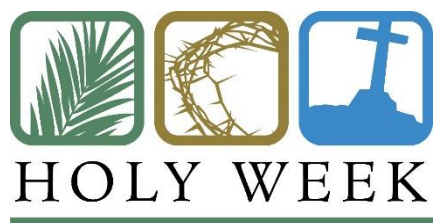
Romans 8:26-27- “Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”

In Colossians 4:2, Paul proposes that we reframe our perspective of prayer. He calls us to see it as an authentic adventure and journey with God. Paul exhorts us to devote ourselves to prayer. He calls us to prayer without reservation. The original language interprets this word as *‘strength’*, which means, “Invest your strength in this.” Fervent prayer is not something we practice passively; it’s an exercise that takes effort and determination. Prayer like anything else in life takes outright effort and dedication!

Just as we need to constantly nurture our relationship with others, so it is with God. Prayer does this because it becomes intentional—Complete prayer time is persistent prayer time. It's something God invites all of us to do daily. He calls us to draw near (to Him) and talk and communion with Him. Through prayer we develop an intimate and personal relationship with our Creator. Through regular prayer time, God gets to know us better; we also get to know God better. Therefore, prayer time is not just a resolution we make; It's a challenge for us to start living a life of faith and “pray without ceasing”. This year 2024, let's decide to make regular prayer time, a priority in our lives. Let's give ourselves completely to prayer, avoiding life's trivial distractions and interruptions. This year let's intentionally choose to draw closer to God's presence each day. When we do, we will experience greater joy in communicating with God, and we will reflect the heart of Christ Jesus to those around us. So, start today and dedicate yourself to prayer!

In Christ Love & Service,
Pastor Betty

Holy Week & Easter Events



Thursday, March 28	Holy Week Reading 6:30 PM Maundy Thursday Communion
Friday, March 29	Holy Week Reading 6:30 PM Good Friday Lovefeast
Saturday, March 30	Great Sabbath No Service
Sunday, March 31	Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 AM Breakfast following Easter Morning Service 10:00 AM No Sunday School Children's Easter Egg Hunt following Worship



JOIN US FOR AN

EASTER

EGG

HUNT

MARCH 31, 2024
FOLLOWING 10:00 WORSHIP

New Hope Moravian Church

Bring your own basket!

Souper Bowl of Caring Results!

Souper Bowl of Caring
2024

**THE STATS
SO FAR...**

\$4,103,291

donated to food charities
across the country



**TACKLE
HUNGER**





Spring CLEANING DRIVE!

It isn't just about tidying up – it's a heartfelt effort to extend support to those in our community who are facing a crisis. Our thrift store is calling for donations of household items like gently used clothing, kitchenware, small appliances, decor, and small furniture. These donations aren't just about decluttering; they represent a continual message of support for those in need. Our Spring Cleaning Drive is a real way to make a difference right here in the lives of those in Catawba County! We are thankful for all of our supporters who continue to be so true and faithful in their service.

**Drop off donations
Monday-Friday
from 8:30am-4:30pm
at 245 East N Street,
Newton, NC.**





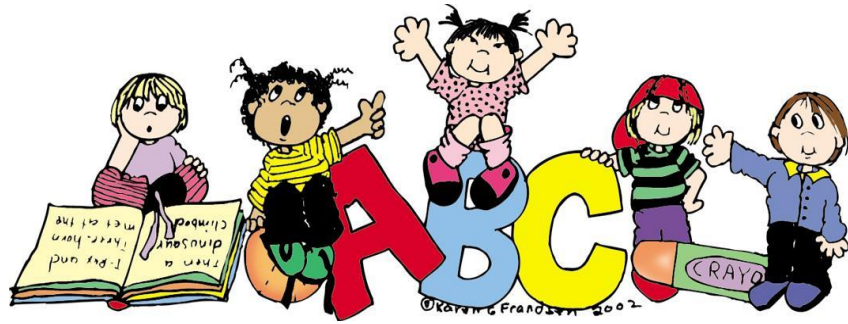
Donation Guidelines

Acceptable Items

- Gently used clothing and shoes
- Jewelry, purses, accessories
- Baby items
- Toys with no missing parts
- Electronics with all parts and cords
- CD's, DVD's, Blu-Ray's, video games
- Home decor and artwork
- Furniture gently used and clean
- Books
- Toiletries and personal use items
- Kitchen items: small appliances, dishes, cutlery

Unacceptable Items

- Furniture in poor condition
- Large appliances
- Used mattresses
- Any type of TV, computer, or printer
- Car seats
- Torn, stained, dirty clothing or any rags
- Used underwear
- Used humidifiers
- Any medical equipment
- Large rugs, or carpets
- No recalled infant/childrens items



New Hope Preschool Celebrating 30 Years

New Hope Preschool is celebrating its 30th anniversary on Sunday, April 21st.

There will be a Family Fun Day Event from 1:00 - 3:30 pm for present and former students and their families, the staff of the preschool and our New Hope church family. This will be a special time for the children to play on the playground with hot dogs and drinks provided by the church. It would be a great opportunity for fellowship between parents and our church family. To make this day memorable *Twist the Balloon Man*, a magician and balloon artist, will be here from 2-3 pm. He is sponsored by our church.

How can you help?

Plan to attend this celebration and show your support for our preschool program.

Make a monetary donation to cover the expenses of the food and magician. A collection hat will be in the vestibule for donations... cash or checks made payable to New Hope Church.

A rain date for this event will be the following Sunday, April 28 1:00-3:30.

New Hope's Preschool

Celebrates 30 Years of Outreach

Mission Statement

The mission of New Hope Moravian Preschool is to provide a loving and Christian atmosphere where children can grow and thrive in a positive, nurturing environment. We strive to meet the social, academic, and spiritual needs of each child so that we can prepare them to meet the demands of their next learning experience.

- 1992- During a church planning retreat the idea for an outreach mission of starting a half day children's program at New Hope was born.
- 1993- A volunteer committee began a one-year research project into the feasibility for us. Ex: Visited Moravian and non-Moravian Childrens Morning Out (CMO's) programs.
- 1994- In July we posted a sign out front announcing a children's morning out with phone number to call. Our summer "Pilot Program" opened July 20 with 8 students, 1 day a week and all volunteer church staff. The Pilot Program was a huge success and parents wanted it to continue!
- 1994- That fall CMO officially opened as a ½ day, year-round, 2 days a week program with paid staff and volunteer Director & Assistant. Materials and needed items were donated by church members and Women's Fellowship funds.
- 1995-Name change from CMO to Preschool due to addition of curriculum.
- The playground was expanded & fenced using Grant Funds from the Moravian Southern Province. Later updated to code using Smart Start Grant Funds & separate toddler playground area was added. 2021-major overhaul with donated & fund-raised income.
- Eventually the 2 days a week went to 3 days and changed to follow the public-school schedule with summers off.
- Later increased to 4 days a week with a transitional kindergarten room.
- Operated from day one as a structured program with emphasis on education, socialization, and school readiness in a Christian atmosphere. Chapel time in sanctuary was added.
- Outside educational programs were brought in such as the Science Center, Stretch-N-Grow, Music, Library Book Baggers to enhance our teaching. Community helpers, such as Police, Fire, Mailman, etc. visited and did little presentations. Many still come today. Field trips were made available for the older classes.
- 2010- Lunch Bunch offered. Paid extra 30 min at school with students bringing bag lunches.
- 2011- Summer Camp added June-Aug for ages preschool-6th grade with focus on fun.

Students

The program started with 8 students. Now averages 35+ using 5 classrooms, 5 teachers, 1 Director and 2 assistants. Summer Camp averages 40. Waiting lists are maintained for both. We've served students from 15+ different denominations. Have had numerous children of Minister's from other denominations. Students have been invited to any New Hope children's activities, such as VBS & Egg Hunts. Families are invited to worship services and other activities, such as Candle Tea & Shrove Tuesday Pancakes.

Administration

Preschool Director reports to the Preschool Advisory Committee which oversees the program. Advisory Committee Rep reports to the Church Board monthly. Current Advisory members: Margaret Schultz, Malissa Bumgarner, Shannon McDonald, Nancy Miller, Jane Bumgarner & Director. Annual audits done by Greg Simpson. Current Teachers & staff:

Directors

Malissa Bumgarner-	member	1994-1999	5 yrs.
Jessica LeQuire-	member	1999-2010	11 yrs.
Lauren Westmoreland-	member	2010-2016	6 yrs.
Jennifer Morris-	2016-current	Cert. School Teacher & had child in CMO.	
Margaret Schultz-	Member & Volunteer Assistant Director (for countless years)		

Teachers and Staff

First Official Teachers: Carolyn Ramsuer, Myra Johansen, Kathy Medvic, Malissa Bumgarner-Director, Margaret Shultz- Assistant. All had children in the pilot program and continued with the opening. Current Teachers: Patty Holland, Dana Florez, Amanda Grant, Kristy Bowman, Hannah Woodring. Jennifer Morris- Director, Kelsey Green, and Kristie Henderson- Assistants.

Reassurances for Parents and Staff

Interior Doors: NONE CLOSED for the protection of students and staff. Exterior Doors- Locked with doorbells. Staffing: Background checks and drug screenings done on all staff, including substitutes. All staff are trained in CPR/First aid with other workshops offered. Facility: inspected annually by the Fire Marshall and water tested quarterly.

Firsts

New Hope was instrumental in starting the first Half-Day Directors Association in Catawba County through the Partnership for Children Agency. Participated in Smart Start funded training events for staff. Wrote for and utilized Smart Start grant money for educational materials, curriculum, upgraded classroom furnishings and playground.

Impact

Increased communities' knowledge and perception of the Moravian Church, such as being a Christian Denomination. Building used rather than sitting empty all week is good stewardship. Only ½ day program in the Startown area and centrally located in Catawba County. We frequently hear from area

elementary schoolteachers who love getting our preschool students since they know our participants are school ready.

Research has shown there are long term benefits of attendance in early Ed/Preschool increasing success of high school & college graduates. Our first-year students are all grown-up, educated, some with their Master's and PhD's from NC institutions as well as Cornell and The Julliard School of Music to name a few. Many now have families of their own. How can our first-year students be in their 30's already?

Many thanks to all New Hope Moravian members and those who have been teachers or volunteered in numerous ways. Appreciation is expressed to groups like the Board of Elders, Women's Fellowship, and Chicken Pie Committee for all the support through the years. What a blessing this outreach mission project has been to countless families in our community.

Sincerely, The Preschool Advisory Committee



The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.



**American
Red Cross**



New Hope Moravian Church

2897 Sandy Ford Rd.

Newton, NC 28658

Monday, April 15, 2024

2 PM to 6:30 PM

Contact information:

828-294-4802

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS



Golf Fundraiser

Friday, April 19, 2024
2:00pm

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Reynolds Park Golf Course

2391 Reynolds Park Rd,
Winston-Salem, NC 27107

--

Hosted by:

Bobby Jones, Hope Moravian
Former Owner of Hillcrest Golf Course
and
Art Sorensen, Home Moravian
Chair, Laurel Ridge Board

--

Proceeds will benefit

Building CommUNITY
Capital Campaign Projects

REGISTER BY APRIL 1, 2024
\$75/person -- \$300/team

Waiting list after first (paid) 26 teams/104 players

THE FIRST HOLE-IN-ONE ON HOLE #16 wins a 2-year lease on a new vehicle!

--

50/50 RAFFLE

--

Registration Includes
18 holes of golf
Dinner by Mr. Barbecue
Goodie bags with prizes

MAIL PAYMENT and
individual player
names (1) &/or team
player names (4),
emails and phone
numbers to:

Golf Fundraiser C/O
Laurel Ridge 124
Pendry Drive Laurel
Springs, NC 28644

For more information:
Art Sorensen
asorensen1959@gmail.com
336-407-2192

www.laurelridge.org

All Women of the Southern Province are invited to a Spiritual Life Retreat!

Ask, Listen, Move:

Following Jesus' Loving Lead to be Set in Motion by
God

ASK
LISTEN
MOVE

Friday, April 19, 2024 – Sunday, April 21, 2023

Retreat Facilitator: Rev. Christy Clore

Laurel Ridge Camp and Conference Center
Higgins Lodge

**For further information please contact:
The Provincial Women's Board**

336.722-4911 or pwbmcsp@gmail.com



Church Cleaning: Please consider **cleaning the Church.**

Through the years, we have been blessed with volunteers who signed up to clean the Church. We hope to continue this so there will be no added expense to the Church budget. It only takes an hour or so each week at your convenience. Do a whole month or just one or two weeks. **Sign-up list on Church bulletin board...**

NO CHURCH KEY... NO WORRY. Arrangements can be made to let you in the Church. Cleaning supplies are provided, or you can bring your own. **Let's ALL work together to keep New Hope clean & looking good for ALL who enter here to worship.**

➔ **April Cleaners: Craig deBlois & Carolyn McDonald**

Board of Elders Small Bulletin Board- In the vestibule you will find (for transparency) at the Fellowship Hall doors summaries of the Board of Elders meetings, Quarterly Average Attendance Report and Quarterly Financial Report. Please look for these updates.

STAYING CONNECTED AT NEW HOPE

WORSHIP:

- 1) Inside
- 2) Parking Lot (Tune to FM 87.9)
- 3) YouTube

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

DONATE:

Online Giving

<https://mmfa.info/new-hope-moravian-church-north-carolina-donation-form/>.

Please contact Tom Schultz at newhopemoraviantreasurer@gmail.com with any questions.

SOCIAL MEDIA:



Facebook & Instagram
@newhopemoravian



Mark Your Calendar for April

Monday-Thursday, April 1-4 – No Preschool or Catawba County Schools

Tuesday, April 2nd – *Happy Birthday, Pastor Betty!*



Wednesday, April 3rd – No Handbell or Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, April 4th – **Ashure Ministry Volunteer Day**
(formerly known as ECCCM)

Sunday, April 7th – **Sunday School 9:00 am**
Worship Service 10:00 am

Second Sunday of Easter

Wednesday, April 10th – Handbell Practice 6:15 pm
Chancel Choir 7 pm

Sunday, April 14th – **Sunday School 9:00 am**
Worship Service 10:00 am

Third Sunday of Easter

Praise and Play

Board of Elders Meeting 11:15 am

Monday, April 15th – Red Cross Blood Drive
2:00-6:30 pm



National Tax Day



Wednesday, April 17th – Handbell Practice 6:15 pm
Chancel Choir 7 pm

Sunday, April 21st – Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Preschool 30th Anniversary Celebration

Monday, April 22nd –



Wednesday, April 24th – Handbell Practice 6:15 pm
Chancel Choir 7 pm

Thursday, April 25th – May Newsletter Articles Due

Sunday, April 28th – Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am

Fifth Sunday of Easter



April Birthdays

2nd – Pastor Betty Helms

16th – Kristine Wiles

23rd – Caron Simpson

Trevor Bumgarner

24th – Amy Johnson

Pray Every Day April 2024

1. Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya and Ray of Hope.
2. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. Pray for peace in Ukraine.
3. I will sing of your love and justice; to you, O Lord, I will sing praise. Pray for the Raipur Foster Child Project.
4. Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry for help come to you. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
5. Do not hide your face from me when I am in distress. Turn your ear to me; when I call, answer me quickly. Pray for Moravians in Honduras and Nicaragua.
6. Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Pray for the conflict in the Middle East.
7. The nations will fear the name of the Lord, all the kings of the earth will revere your glory. Pray for PEC members, bishops, and other church leaders.
8. The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. Pray for Adopt-a-Village in Tanzania.
9. The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
10. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach.
11. O Lord my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahuas.
12. May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the Lord. Pray for the Unity Women's Desk.
13. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Pray for Moravians in Peru.
14. Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare his praise? Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS ministry.
15. Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men. Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
16. My heart is steadfast, O God; I will sing and make music with all my soul. Pray for City With Dwellings in Winston Salem.
17. I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples. Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leone.
18. For great is our love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
19. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and let your glory be over all the earth. Pray for short term mission teams.
20. Save us and help us with your right hand, that those you love may be delivered. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek Intervarsity.
21. With my mouth I will greatly extol the Lord; in the great throng I will praise him. For he stands at the right hand of the needy one, to save his life from those who condemn him. Pray for Anna Faircloth with YoungLife.
22. Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
23. He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord. Pray for Alan and DeeDee Iobst in France.
24. From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
25. Not to us O Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. Pray for Annie B Missions and Star Mountain.
26. I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live. Pray for Moravian churches in Czech Republic housing refugees.
27. Praise the Lord, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. Pray for the Board of World Missions.
28. The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
29. I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done. Pray for Estamos Unidos Moravian Ministry.
30. Do good to your servant, and I will live; I will obey your word. Pray for Joey Yokeley with Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



April 2024 NEWSLETTER

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