

May 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



Hallelujah! Praise The Lord!

¹ Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heaven!

² Praise him for his mighty works; praise his unequalled greatness!

³ Praise him with a blast of the ram’s horn; praise him with the lyre and harp!

⁴ Praise him with the tambourine and dancing; praise him with strings and flutes!

⁵ Praise him with a clash of cymbals; praise him with loud clanging cymbals.

⁶ Let everything that breathes sing praises to the LORD! Praise the LORD!”

(Psalm 150)

There were two farmers, one an optimist, the other a pessimist. The optimist would exclaim, “Wonderful sunshine!” The pessimist would respond, “I think it’s going to scorch the crops.” The optimist would say, “Fine rain!” The pessimist would come back with, “I’m afraid it may turn into a flood.”

One day the optimist said to the pessimist, "Have you seen my new bird dog? He's really something!" The pessimist said, "You mean that mutt penned up behind your house? He doesn't look like much to me." The optimist said, "Let's go hunting.

So, they went out and shot some ducks. The ducks landed on the pond. The optimist ordered his dog to get the ducks. The dog obediently responded. But instead of swimming after the ducks, the dog walked on top of the water, retrieved the ducks, and walked back on top of the water!

The optimist was beaming as he said to the pessimist, "Now, what do you think of my new bird dog?" The pessimist replied, "Can't swim, can he?" (Source: Bible.org)

Maybe you have people in your life that takes -- a gloomy, negative look at things and always sees the dark side of things? The glass is not half full; it's half empty. If you propose a plan, the pessimist points out multiple reasons (why) it won't work.

Maybe you wrestle with a negative tendency yourself. Perhaps, you grew up with patterns of negative thinking and that negative pessimistic mind-set got passed down. What is the answer for this negativism? GOD! Our singing praise to God is where the power of positive thinking comes from. It comes from no other.

As Psalm 150 states: *"Let everything that breathes sing praises to the LORD! Praise the LORD!"* God-centered thinking does not mean that we look at things through rose-colored glasses. Instead, it means we view things from God's perspective. When we focus on God's GOODNESS to us, it's hard to be pessimistic.

I wonder how many of us could honestly say our life is characterized by "praising God?" A God-centered person gives praise to God in the (good times and the bad). As God's people, we must focus on God's GOODNESS in all circumstances; Be people of praise.

Psalm 150 is a celebratory psalm of King David; it is a psalm of praise. The praise is divided into three parts: 1) Verses 1 & 2 tell us for **what** we should praise God for; 2) Verses 3-5 tell **how** we are supposed to praise God; and 3) Verse 6 tells us **who** is to praise God (everything and everybody is called to give Him praise).

Just so we're clear, when we're talking about praising God, we are not talking about just repeating "Praise the Lord" over and over. We are talking about praising the Lord with our words and our actions. Praising God can be expressed through our singing and music (lifting our hands, kneeling, lying prostrate, etc.). Also, through our testimony before others... Basically, (ask yourself) is there enough evidence to convict (you) of being a Christian? This can be reflected in our prayer time, our unselfish and sacrificial services, and in the giving of our tithes and offerings. If we want "praising God" to characterize our lives and keep us God-centered: Psalm 150 instructs us how!

We at New Hope are truly blessed! God is at work; in the lives of our people; lives are being blessed; ministries are being done in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and spiritual faith and care is being given. (Most importantly) God's name is being lifted high in the homes of our people (their families and friends) and in our community. Clearly, God has entrusted us with the awesome responsibility of nurturing and caring for others. And with that responsibility comes the challenge for us to leave a lasting legacy of faith to our present and future members, and also all their (family and friends).

God calls us to be God-centered so that this positive legacy of “praising God” will be passed onto all of our present and future members at New Hope.

I hope by now you can now see how “praising God” helps to put things into perspective? And that throughout the day you will pause to focus on Him, to pray about problems that come up, to give thanks to Him for who He is. When you do, you are putting God at the center of your life. Then, you are “praising God and becoming more God-centered.

May WE all step up to the challenges of saying every day: Hallelujah! Praise The Lord!

In Christ Love & Service,
Pastor Betty



Last Handbell Practice will be
Wednesday, May 1 at 6:15 pm

Last Choir Practice will be
Wednesday, May 15 at 7 pm

Wednesday, May 22nd at 6 pm

**Handbell & Choir Members meet at
PJ's Bethlehem Seafood & Steak
349 Rink Dam Road, Taylorsville**





Everyone Deserves Cake on Their Birthday!

May's Mission Project is making birthday cake kits for Ashure Ministry (ECCCM). Each kit will have everything needed to bake a cake, except the eggs. Bags and a list of items for the kits are available at church. To avoid breakage, please get vegetable oil that is in a plastic bottle.

Thank you for helping our neighbors have a happy birthday!

New Hope's Mission Committee



I cannot express the gratitude I feel towards New Hope Moravian Church and Preschool for presenting Margaret Schultz and I with a plaque for our 30 years of service to the Preschool program. Both of us feel that this little school is a major mission of the church. It's our longest continuous hands-on service to the community for which New Hope is well known. Our own children were students as well as those of church member's grandchildren, relatives, and friends. So many children have grown up at New Hope after coming to preschool through the years.

I also wish to thank all church members and staff for assisting in any way to help the Preschool program be so outstanding for all these years. Your volunteering, fundraising, reading books, art projects, providing music time (Steve & Jane), Halloween and Christmas parties, W.F. designated funds, etc. have been so beneficial. The dedication of the Advisory Committee members has assisted in the overall operation of a well-managed school for the little ones.

There are many ways to help and have fun. Just contact Jennifer Morris at the church phone number. She will be glad to share some ideas.

Thank you again for the many surprises during our special preschool recognition worship service on April 21st.

Sincerely,

Malissa Bumgarner

First Director & a Forever Advisory Committee Member

Financial Update for First Quarter of 2024

To keep the congregation more informed the Board of Elders is giving a quarterly update on our financial status. Some months are higher in expense since we pay for some items once a year, like insurance.

Our monthly budget for 2024 is \$10,822.00. The following reflects what our monthly giving and exact expenses were for the first quarter of 2024:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
January	\$11,228.00	\$9,049.00
February	\$9,925.00	\$9,919.00
March	\$11,237.00	\$14,111.00

As always, please prayerfully consider your giving. There are several ways now to give that offers you more convenience:

1. Drop off your donation in the offering plate as you enter the Sanctuary.
2. Drop a check in the mail preferably to: New Hope Moravian, C/O Mark Bumgarner, 2249 Dove St, Newton, NC 28658 (the church mailbox is not monitored regularly)
3. Donate online option: To New Hope via credit card or direct debit (automatic bank to bank transfer). The Moravian Ministries Foundation of America (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/>.

The Board appreciates everyone's financial support of our church.

Mark Bumgarner
Stewardship and Commitment Chair



MAY
THURSDAY | 2024
09

**GLEN OAKS
GOLF CLUB**

245 GOLF COURSE RD
MAIDEN, NC 28650

11:00 AM REGISTRATION
11:30 AM LUNCH
1:00 PM SHOTGUN START

\$110 | **\$440**
One Player | Foursome

REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

LUNCH RANGE BALLS
GREEN FEES MULLIGANS
CART FEES TEE BUSTER
REFRESHMENTS PUTTING RULER

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

JOSH FARMER
J.FARMER@ASHUREMINISTRY.ORG | 828.465.1702 EXT 116

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE;
PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

ONLINE REGISTRATION: ASHUREMINISTRY.ORG/GOLF



Provincial Men's Spiritual Retreat June 28-30, 2024

Laurel Ridge Camp &
Conference Center

Men Whose Hearts God Has Touched
1 Samuel 10:26

Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher, Session Leader

Schedule:

Friday 4-6pm - Registration

Dinner - 6:00pm, Worship 7:00pm

Sat All Day - Worship, Sessions, Fellowship, & Free Time

Sunday 10am - Morning Worship & Depart

Registration Fee (Includes Meals)

\$317/Single Occupancy

\$192/Double Occupancy

\$152/Triple Occupancy

Please contact Scarlett Dowdy with any Registration questions.

scarlett@laurelridge.org



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.**

➔ **May Cleaner: Dan Greaser**

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 May

Wednesday, May 1st – Handbell Practice 6:15 pm –
**** Last Handbell Practice ****
Chancel Choir 7 pm

Thursday, May 2nd – **National Day of Prayer in the United States**
Scripture 2 Timothy 3:16-17



Ashure Ministry Volunteer Day

Sunday, May 5th – **Sunday School 9:00 am**
Worship Service 10:00 am

Moravian Music Sunday



Wednesday, May 8th – Chancel Choir 7 pm

Thursday, May 9th – Ascension of the Lord

Sunday, May 12th – **Sunday School 9:00 am**
Worship Service 10:00 am

Ascension Sunday



Wednesday, May 15th – **Preschool Graduation 5 pm**



Chancel Choir 7 pm
**** Last Choir Practice ****

Thursday, May 16th – Last Day of Preschool

Sunday, May 19th – Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am

Day of Pentecost - Communion

Praise and Play

Wednesday, May 22nd – Handbells & Choir Members:
PJ's Bethlehem Seafood & Steak 6 pm

Sunday, May 26th – Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am

Trinity Sunday

Monday, May 27th – Memorial Day Holiday



Tuesday, May 28th – June Newsletter Articles Due



May Birthdays

- 1st – Pat deBlois
- 2nd – Brenda Cortes
- 3rd – Albert Cortes
- 9th – Claire Schultz
- 21st – Carolyn McDonald
Susan Wiles
- 27th – Karen Warren

Pray Every Day May 2024

1. Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
2. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Pray for Moravians in Peru.
3. I lift my eyes to the hills where does my help come from? Pray for Joey Yokeley with Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
4. My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. Pray for Vani and Shanti Pradhan in India.
5. May there be peace within your walls and security within your cities. Pray for the Unity Women's Desk.
6. Have mercy on us O Lord, have mercy on us. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek InterVarsity.
7. Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
8. Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
9. Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, to those who are upright in heart. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS Ministry.
10. The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Pray for PEC members, bishops and other church leaders.
11. He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
12. Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. Pray for disaster relief volunteers.
13. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
14. If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahaus.
15. I wait for you Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope. Pray for the Rajpur Foster Child Project.
16. O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. Pray for Moravians in Labrador.
17. How good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters live together in unity! Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
18. Praise the Lord, all you servants of the Lord who minister by night in the house of the Lord. Pray for Anna Faircloth with YoungLife.
19. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord. Pray for short term mission teams.
20. Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing praise to his name, for that is pleasant. Pray for the refugees from Ukraine.
21. Give thanks to the Lord of lords; to him who alone does great wonders. Pray for summer camps and campers.
22. When I called, you answered me; you made me bold and stouthearted. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
23. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life. Pray for Annie B Missions and Star Mountain.
24. The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your love, O Lord, endures forever. Pray for Alan and DeeDee Iobst in France.
25. O Lord you have searched me and you know me; You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. Pray for Sunnyside Ministry in Winston Salem.
26. You hem me in, behind and before, you have laid your hand upon me. Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach.
27. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya and Ray of Hope.
28. Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Pray for Moravians in Nicaragua.
29. I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy. Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
30. Praise be to the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle. Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leone.
31. He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield in whom I take refuge. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.



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