

August 2024

New Hope Moravian Church

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

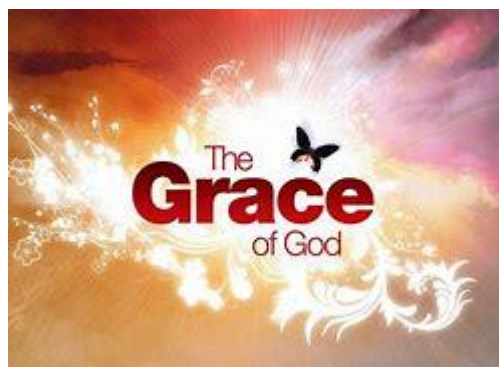


2024 Watchword

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

Colossians 3:12

Receiving God’s Grace



"God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it." (Ephesians 2:8-9 NLT).

When we read the Bible, we find grace (to be) a constant theme. In the New Testament (John 1:17), we read- “For the law was given through Moses, but God’s unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ.” Jesus, God’s dearly Beloved Son culminates the beginning and the end of God the Father’s love and grace.

The word “grace” translated in the New Testament comes from the Greek word *charis*, which means “favor, blessing, or kindness.” We can all extend grace to others; but when the word grace is used in correlation with God, it takes on a mighty powerful and unique meaning. Grace is God choosing to bless us rather than curse us as our sin deserves. It is His compassion shown to the undeserving.

Ephesians 2:8 says, "For by grace are you saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves." Clearly, the only way any of one of us can enter into a relationship with God is because of His grace toward us. Grace began in the Garden of Eden when God killed an animal to cover the sin of Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:21).

Clearly, God could have destroyed the first humans right then, for their disobedience. But rather than destroy them, He chose to (show them grace) and make a way for them to be reconciled with Him. God's unique pattern of grace continued throughout the Old Testament when God instituted blood sacrifices as a means to atone for sinful men. It was not the physical blood of those sacrifices, per se, that cleansed sinners; it was the grace of God that forgave those who trusted in Him (Hebrews 10:4; Genesis 15:6). Sinful men showed their faith by offering the sacrifices that God required, for the forgiveness of their sinfulness and disobedience to God's Word.

The Apostle Paul began many of his letters with the phrase, "Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 1:7; Ephesians 1:1; 1 Corinthians 1:3). Paul knew, he like others, needed God's grace and peace to live their life of obedience to God. God the instigator of grace; He is the great Giver of grace to those that are underserving. And yet, He continues to bless us with His mercy and grace. God shows us both mercy and grace, but they are not the same:

MERCY withholds a punishment we deserve; GRACE gives us a blessing we (do not) deserve. Through God's MERCY, He chose to cancel our sin debt by sacrificing His perfect Beloved Son Jesus in our place (Titus 3:5; 2 Corinthians 5:21). Jesus paid for us, a sin debt we could not pay for ourselves. He paid our sin debt in FULL.

God's mercy and grace goes even further ... He extends grace to His enemies. (Romans 5:10) *"For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son."*

God offers us His unmerited forgiveness (Hebrews 8:12; Ephesians 1:7), reconciliation (Colossians 1:19-20), abundant life (John 10:10), eternal treasure (Luke 12:33), His Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13), and a place in heaven with Him some day (John 3:16-18) when we accept His offer and place our faith in His sacrifice.

Grace is God giving the greatest treasure to the least deserving—which is every one of us. God's Mercy given to each of us is surrounded with His sovereign Grace!!! Charles Stanley wrote the following article that illustrates the concept of grace so well: "One of my more memorable seminary professors had a practical way of illustrating to his students the concept of grace. At the end of his evangelism course, he would distribute the exam with the caution to read it all the way through before beginning to answer it. This caution was written on the exam as well. As we read the test, it became unquestionably clear to each of us that we had not studied nearly enough.

The further we read, the worse it became. About halfway through, audible groans could be heard throughout the lecture hall. On the last page, however, was a note that read, "You have a choice. You can either complete the exam as given or sign your name at the bottom and in so doing receive an A for this assignment."

Wow? We sat there stunned. "Was he serious? Just sign it and get an A?" Slowly, the point dawned on us, and one by one we turned in our tests and silently filed out of the room.

When I talked with the professor about it afterward, he shared some of the reactions he had received through the years. Some students began to take the exam without reading it all the way through, and they would sweat it out for the entire two hours of class time before reaching the last page.

Others read the first two pages, became angry, turned the test in blank, and stormed out of the room without signing it. They never realized what was available, and as a result, they lost out totally.

One fellow, however, read the entire test, including the note at the end, but decided to take the exam anyway. He did not want any gifts; he wanted to earn his grade. And he did. He made a C+, but he could easily have had gotten an A. (article from: In Touch Ministries)

This story illustrates many people's reaction to God's solution to sin. Some people look at God's high-standard—His moral and ethical perfection—And throw their hands up. Why try, they tell themselves. I can never live up to it!

Others (make their own moral compass); They are like the student who read the test through and was aware of the professor's offer but took the test anyway. Unwilling to simply receive God's gift of forgiveness, they set about (in their own strength), tossing aside God's grace.

Dear Ones, we (can never) be good enough, or do enough good deeds to earn God's grace; Its already offered to us freely through God's Beloved Son Jesus. We like the student can take the test, but we can never rack up enough points with God to earn God's grace or eternal salvation.

God's grace truly is like the professor's offer. It appears unbelievable, but when we accept it, like the stunned students who accepted the professor's offer; We too, discover God's grace is truly free. We just need to (accept) it. God's grace cannot be earned, or repaid... All we need to do is receive His grace and lay our pride aside.

Have you accepted God's grace in your life?

In Christ Love & Service,
Pastor Betty



Thank you to all the donors and volunteers that made our blood drive successful! A total of 26 units were collected from 23 donors.

We will do it all again on October 7th.



Women's Fellowship will meet following Worship on Sunday, August 4th. Lunch will be provided. Women are encouraged to come join the discussion on the future of the bazaar portion of the Candle Tea.

Wednesday Dinner Out with Friends

Last month for our Wednesday dinners! Bring family and friends but be sure to RSVP so a head count can be made in advance to the restaurants. Meals are "Dutch Treat." Hope you can make it!

*If you plan to come, please contact us **by Monday at noon** to ensure there is enough seating.*

Jane Bumgarner's cell: 828-639-0061 email: janebumgarner@gmail.com
(Malissa B as back up at 828-244-3630)

Scheduled Gatherings:

Aug 7- Harbor Inn Seafood - **Change of location!**
255 US Hwy 70 SE, Hickory

Aug 21- Meal at Church Covered dish meal



Time To Order Your 2025 Daily Text Books

(Believe it or not!)

Pre-paid Orders now through August 7, 2024

If you want a physical Daily Text book, not the virtual version, please order now. Only pre-paid orders will be accepted as we must order directly through IBOC in Bethlehem, PA. Since our Winston offices no longer pick up Southern Province orders, we must include shipping.

Daily Text Order Forms will be given out as inserts on Sundays. Please complete and attach funds to cover the order before placing it in the offering or in the special envelope in Narthex.

**Make checks out to New Hope Women's Fellowship.
Cutoff date: Wednesday, Aug 7 for the 10% discount.**

Shipping included

If not at church on a Sunday, call Malissa Bumgarner (465-2422) to leave a message. Indicate your name, phone number, what type, quantity you want and make arrangements for payment.

<u>2025 ITEM</u>	<u>PRE-ORDER PRICE WITH DISCOUNT & SHIPPING</u>
Paperback- regular	\$12.75
Large Print	\$15.75
Journal Daily Text	\$20.75

What Is the Moravian Daily Text?

It offers an inspirational connection to the Holy Scriptures every day. This beloved daily devotional includes "watchwords"- Old and New Testament verses combined with beautiful hymn lyrics and heartfelt prayers which are selected and written anonymously by Moravians across North America. Our own Pastor Betty did the full month of May in the 2016 issue.

The Moravian Daily Text was first published in 1731 in Herrnhut, Germany. It continues today to inspire Moravians and Christians around the world with "a daily message from God that is new every morning."

PARADE OF CANS

Please help us collect non-perishable foods for
The Corner Table's Community Kitchen.

FOOD ITEMS NEEDED:

Green beans, Sweet Peas, Cream of Chicken Soup, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Crushed Tomatoes, Canned Yams, Canned Apples (not pie-filling), Rotel Tomatoes, Salsa, Mayonnaise, Vienna Sausages or Potted Meat, Mustard, Mayo, Ketchup Packets, BBQ Sauce, Chicken Broth, Pork-n-Beans, Sugar, Baked Canned Apples, Ranch, Peanut Butter Crackers, Pudding Cups, Dill Pickle Relish, Baked Beans, Egg Noodles, Instant Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Grated Parmesan Cheese

THE CORNER TABLE PREFERS THAT FOOD ITEMS BE PURCHASED IN #10 CANS, BUT IT IS NOT REQUIRED.





Special Events at New Hope

New Hope plans to make chicken pies twice this fall. The first dates are **September 19, 20 and 21**. These pies will be sold to members of the congregation and then to the community.

Apple pies will be made **Friday, September 13** from 9-12 for the October 5th sale and the bazaar.

Saturday, October 5, we will have a pie sale of chicken and apple pies made in September to the community - 9:00-12:00.

November 14, 15 and 16 are the dates for our second making of chicken pies. These are designated to be sold at the bazaar.

As you know proceeds from our pies are for the "Chicken Pie Fund", which is used to repair, maintain and improve our building and property. It also pays for the annual rental of our copier machine. God richly blessed New Hope when he gave us insight of ways to use our time and talents in establishing the "Chicken Pie" fund.

Please mark these special dates on your calendar. We are calling "all hands on deck" and we need you!

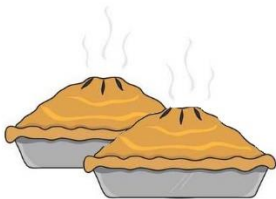
Sept 13 - Friday- 9-12 Make apple pies

Sept 19-20-21 - Make 300 chicken pies for congregation and sale

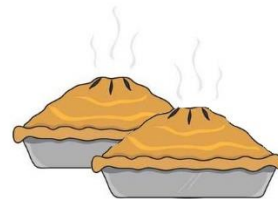
Nov 14-15-16 - Make 300 chicken pies for bazaar

More information about actual times for chicken pies will be forthcoming.

Blessings to each of you,
The Chicken Pie Committee



I'm
ADDICTED
to
MORAVIAN
CHICKEN PIE



Financial Update for Second 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 second quarter of 2024:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
April	\$10,427.00	\$14,332.00
May	\$9,950.00	\$10,300.00
June	\$11,177.00	\$10,107.00

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



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.**

➔ **August Cleaners: Tom & Margaret Schultz**

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 August

Thursday, August 1st – Ashure Ministry Volunteer Day 10 am – 12 pm

Preschool Advisory Committee Meeting 7 pm

**Sunday, August 4th – Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am**

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

**Women's Fellowship Meeting following Worship
Lunch will be provided.**

Wednesday, August 7th – Daily Text Pre-Orders Due

Wednesday Dinner Out with Friends 6:30 pm
Harbor Inn Seafood – **Change of location!**
255 US Hwy 70 SE, Hickory

Thursday, August 8th – Last Day of Preschool Summer Camp

**Sunday, August 11th – Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am**

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 13th Festival
Renewal of the Unity Communion

Praise and Play

Board of Elders Meeting 11:15 am

**Sunday, August 18th – Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am**

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Reception of New Members

Wednesday, August 21st – Wednesday Dinner Out with Friends 6:30 pm
Covered Dish Meal at church

Sunday, August 25th – Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:00 am

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Monday, August 26th – First Day of School for
Catawba County Schools



Tuesday, August 27th – September Newsletter Articles Due

Thursday, August 29th – Preschool Open House



August Birthdays

- 2nd – David Sparks
- 3rd – Katherine Wiles
- 4th – Jane Bumgarner
- 20th – Adelyn Hildebran
- 28th – Pam Prevatte
- 29th – Shannon McDonald

Pray Every Day August 2024

1. Rise up and help us; redeem us because of your unfailing love. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
2. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
3. For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisers make victory sure. Pray for the government leaders in our country.
4. Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. Pray for Safiatu Braima and Sierra Leone.
5. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! Pray for the Moravians in Peru.
6. For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king, it is he who will save us. Pray for Moravians in Cuba and the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
7. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Pray for the Moravians in Honduras and Nicaragua.
8. Return to me, for I have redeemed you. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya and Ray of Hope.
9. So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty. Pray for Laurel Ridge Mission Camp.
10. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness. Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach.
11. I will set a sign among them and I will send them to the nations. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. Pray for the work of the Unity Women's Desk.
12. I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. Pray for Blessings Flow Water Project.
13. The Lord is my portion therefore I will wait for him. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek Intersarsity.
14. For God so loved the world he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. Pray for Alan and DeeDee lobst in France.
15. That joy is mine and it is now complete. He must become greater; I must become less. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
16. I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. Pray for Annie B Missions and Star Mountain.
17. I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the son sets you free, you will be free indeed. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
18. They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with Mission Aviation Fellowship.
19. Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS Ministry.
20. 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 refugees and displaced persons in Ukraine.
21. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
22. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice Hospitality. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford in Mexico.
23. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. Pray for the Rajpur Foster Child Project.
24. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Pray for PEC members, bishops and other church leaders.
25. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Pray for the Clinica Evangelica Morava in Ahaus.
26. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men. Pray for seminarians and candidates for ordination.
27. Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Pray for short term mission teams.
28. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Pray for Joey Yokeley with Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
29. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Pray for disaster relief workers.
30. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross. Pray for Anna Faircloth with YoungLife.
31. The Lord is good, his mercy endures forever. Pray for Estamos Unidos Moravian Ministry.



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