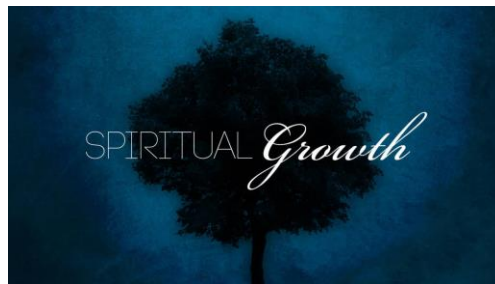


September 2020
New Hope Moravian
Church

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

2020 Watchword

“If I understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.”
(1 Corinthians 13:2 NIV)



Spiritual Growth Takes Dedication

Wait a minute! How can it be September already! It just can't be.... Where have the months gone? I had so many plans to grow more spiritually these past months of isolation and stay-at-home orders because of COVID-19. How can the growing season of spring and summer be coming to a close? Is this how you feel? Well, far too any of us (myself included); allow our time to escape us. We instead, get stuck in the daily humdrum of life instead of growing as we desire! Basically, we go through our life, desiring to grow, and yet, time quickly passes us by!

Why is this? Did we never purposely intend to grow? Have life's interruptions trumped our decision to grow? Nothing shapes our life more than the commitments we make; they either develop us or destroy us, but clearly, they define us. II Chronicles 16:9—*"For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him."*

Perhaps, it would be helpful, to look at the life of Caleb? At eighty-five he was still growing and grabbing the future (see Joshua 14:12). When he should have been enjoying retirement, he was out fighting giants and claiming mountains. Every time the sun came up it was a new adventure for him. *"Enlarge the place of your tent... do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes, for you will spread out to the right hand and to the left...."* Isaiah 54:2-3NIV

What does it take to grow? Here are a few guidelines we need to know about spiritual growth:

Our spiritual growth is not automatic. Growth today brings success tomorrow. What we sow today determines what we will reap tomorrow. Growth is our responsibility. Growth requires change and most of us are uncomfortable with change. Growth demands the surrender of our peace of mind, our security, and yes, even our full surrender and commitment to God.

God calls us to never be satisfied with our current accomplishments. Successful people and Disciples of Christ do not sit back and rest on their laurels. Instead, they continue to set new goals, and step out of their comfort-zone, and seek new challenges. They realize wins, like losses, are only temporary. Believe me, this COVID-19 pandemic, has called me to step out of my comfort zone in many ways. It has stretched me more spiritually, emotionally and physically, as it probably has many of you. If you had told me six months earlier, I'd be preaching outside of the Church on the bed of a trailer; I'd have thought you were (partaking of happy juice).

Yet, the most amazing thing, is that many of you were truly excited and willing to come and be right there with me, partaking of God's Word, right out in the wide-open space of our beautiful Church grounds. Of course, thanks to Mark B, we soon stepped up our classy outdoor Worship game, by him building me a platform to stand on and then a Cross to be in our Worship space.

We are now also broadcasting our worship services over the airways (Tune into FM 87.9)! Thanks to Steve B and Tom S and their interest in making this happen. Soon, we will be streaming our worship services on YouTube, Facebook and our Website, thanks to Steve L, Tom S. and Shawn S... Thank all of you who have work together to make this happen.

Yes, worship at New Hope has changed in the past few months but what I am seeing... "it's all good." I am seeing and hearing from many of you on the energizing spiritual experience you have also been having outside the Church walls. Yes, at times, it's been a bit warm, but thankfully God placed our dear neighbors' trees in just the right place for us to take advantage of the cool shade. We are outside in "God's country" enjoying the beauty of our Church grounds, something we probably had never done before, but now we are.

Did you know? We've even got the neighbors visiting with us and worshipping with us. We have averaged 5-10 visitors each week and we've had greater attendance this summer than in past summer months; Praise God! Well, I guess you can see I'm encouraged by all this. When one door closes, God will open a window or another door for us, we just need to be open to new and more innovative ways of worshipping. Who would have thought that we as Moravians could make so many changes, or as I like to call them (opportunities) in such a short time? And yet, with the fabulous planning and hard work of the Parking Lot (Outside) Worship Team: WE DID!

Many times, God calls His Disciples to step-out in faith and accomplish great things for His Church! To do this, we must refuse to settle for mediocre, instead we need to set our goals high and stop being so passive. God's got this; He just wants us to trust and know He's got this! This calls for us to put "first things first." Which calls us to prioritize everything in our lives... It may even require a little pruning along the way. Sometimes spiritual growth can be a bit scary, because it requires us to stretch ourselves and trust God more. This is why so many people stop growing spiritually. The challenge is too much for them...The cost is too

high! Jesus says, "Seek first the Kingdom of God." Remember to trust God, for with Him "nothing is impossible!"

Brothers and Sisters do not end your life with regrets and wasted opportunities: Shoot for the stars; God's got this! I'm ready to grow more are you? Let's do this together... Like Caleb, let's keep spiritually growing and grabbing every God given new opportunity that the future brings our way! Let's decide as "Brothers and Sisters in Christ" to grow more spiritually and relationally in Christ Jesus together!

*Blessings,
Pastor Betty*



Preschool Reopening!

New Hope's preschool plans to reopen September 8 after being closed since the end of March. Our director, Jen Morris, and the teachers have put many hours of work into figuring out how to open as safely as possible. They will be busy the days leading up to opening getting the areas ready for our students.

In the past, donations of typical school supplies have been collected. Instead, this year, Jen has asked for Clorox wipes and Lysol spray. These, as everyone knows, are difficult to find. In addition to the regular expenses of opening, there are some larger purchases being made (canopies, picnic table, rolling storage shelves, walkie-talkies, smocks). Monetary donations to help cover these larger expenses will also be appreciated. Any donations can be dropped off when you get your bulletin on Sunday mornings.

Please pray that our preschool staff and children have a successful start to the school year and remain safe and healthy.

Thank you for your support of New Hope's preschool ministry!
I will be happy to answer any questions.

Margaret Schultz, chair of the Preschool Advisory Committee



Something Special Just For You!



Sunday, September 6th, New Hope has a special treat for you! Upon your arrival to worship, you will receive your bulletin and a bagged tasty sausage biscuit with a small bottle of water. The early Christian church often broke bread together as a means of fellowship. This simple meal is a way for us to come together in unity during these unusual times.

As we gather at 9:30, please wait to enjoy your biscuit until we can pray the blessing together. Our worship service will follow shortly.

Please plan to join us each Sunday and especially Sunday, September 6th at 9:30 am for our outdoor service.



Sunday Services:

**Tune into FM 87.9
for New Hope's service over the airways!**

This gives people who choose to stay in their car an option to listen to the service on their car radio. This also gives us the ability to conduct a service if the weather is bad. Pastor Betty

and the music can be under a shelter or inside the church building and broadcast to people parked in the lot.



The New Hope Board of Elders approved singing and responding to responsive reading with the continued restrictions for safety - being masked and families sitting at least 6 feet apart from fellow worshippers.

Congregation participation is a vital part of worship. With this in mind, please follow our safety precautions of masking and safe distance (at least 6 feet).

The use of our FM transmitter has been a great addition for those worshipping in their cars. Steve Larson will continue to read the congregation response in the liturgy, and we may participate following the above mentioned guidelines.

New Hope is on YouTube!

Click on the link below

<https://youtu.be/GlgXoztrnTk>

This will take you directly to our New Hope YouTube channel so those of you who are interested can view this past Sunday Service from August 30.

A link for each Sunday's service will be included in the weekly Thursday update.

- Once the link takes you to the video, just click on the play button (the filled-in sideways triangle) and the video should start playing shortly.
- You can expand or enlarge by clicking on the broken box looking icon ("fullscreen") on the lower right of the video screen.
- Adjust volume using the speaker icon and enjoy!

Restrooms in the church are open before, during and following Sunday worship. The Board of Elders do ask that you enter through the main front doors to use the restrooms. We also ask that only one family at a time use the restrooms. Please sanitize your hands as you enter and exit the restrooms, masked and practice social distancing.

We look forward to seeing you on Sundays!



ECCCM
Eastern Catawba Cooperative Christian Ministry, Inc

Volunteers mean everything to ECCCM operations! ECCCM is using social distancing measures, as well as requiring masks. Food pantry has been redesigned to allow for greater distance between workers, and they're scheduling no more than 10 people at any given time.

In order to maintain a safe number of volunteers at a time, please call to schedule volunteer hours.

ECCCM is in need of volunteers who are willing to learn and work some of their more specialized positions. First, they need people who would be interested in working the client food pick up door. This involves assembling a food cart by selecting food items for the clients based on their distribution system. When the cart is complete, the volunteer takes the rolling cart out to the client vehicle just outside the pick-up door. At this point, the client will load the groceries into their vehicle.

Second, they need **grocery van drivers**. Looking for those who would be interested in going to designated grocery stores to pick up food for them. Basically, this involves using the ECCCM van to pick up food from specific stores, and upon returning to ECCCM, helping to unload and weigh the newly arrived food. This position requires a valid driver's license, and a good driving history.

Current Needs:

Empty 1-dozen size egg cartons – Styrofoam or cardboard-paper type.

Bags! Please save your plastic and paper grocery/shopping bags and donate them to ECCCM!

Greatest need is **Financial Contributions**

To make an online contribution: <https://www.ecccm.org/donate/>

**Please call Christina to schedule volunteer hours.
(828)465-1702 Ext 123**

ECCCM thanks you!!

Mark Your Calendar for September

Thursday, September 3rd – ECCCM Workday

Monday, September 7th – Labor Day Holiday



Tuesday, September 8th – New Hope Preschool Opens

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

Sunday, September 20th –



Tuesday, September 22nd – First Day of Autumn



Thursday, September 24th – October Newsletter Articles due to Office



September Birthdays

6th – Nancy Miller
14th – Anita Scism
15th – Janie Setzer
16th – Ashley Larsen
18th – Steve Bumgarner

Pray Every Day September 2020

1. On that day the root of Jesse will stand as a signal to the people. Pray for Safiatu Braima.
2. You are worthy oh Lord, to receive glory and honor and praise. Pray for Moravians in Peru.
3. Anxiety weighs down the human heart, but a good word cheers it up. Pray for the Theissens in Mexico.
4. From His fullness, we have received grace upon grace. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya.
5. I know your affliction and your poverty. Pray for Alas de Socorro in Honduras.
6. Sunday. May the God of peace sanctify you entirely. Pray for Armando Rusindo Foundation.
7. We have our hope set on the living God. Pray for Justin Rabbach(BWM).
8. He is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach.
9. Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. Pray for Annie B Missions (Star Mt).
10. We who have found safety in Him are greatly encouraged. Pray for Steve & Ann Marx.
11. Hear my prayer, Oh Lord and give ear to my cry. Pray for the Harrison's with Greek University.
12. Be careful how you live, not as unwise people. Pray for Unity Women's Desk.
13. Sunday. Bless the Lord Oh my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS Ministry.
14. Rejoice in the Lord ; Glory in the Holy One of Israel. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx (MAF).
15. Those who have faith are children of Abraham. Pray for Jenna and Andrew Craver in Alaska.
16. Honor the Lord with your wealth. Pray for Alan and DeeDee Jobst in France.
17. I, the Lord your God hold you, Do not fear. Pray for K and C in the Middle East.
18. No one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. Pray for Charlie & Vickie Brent-Texas.
19. God is wise in heart and mighty in spirit. Pray for Dr. Benno and Teresa Marx.
20. Sunday. Welcome one another just as Christ has welcomed you. Pray for Moravian volunteers.
21. Every day I call on you. Help me, oh Lord. Pray for Adopt A Village in TZ.
22. How long will you hide your face O Lord ? Pray for those still suffering loss due to disasters.
23. He will swallow up death forever. Pray for Moravian ministers bringing the word to their congregations.
24. The good person out of the heart produces good. Pray for food programs providing nutrition to the needy.
25. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Pray that our country will turn back to God.
26. I am with you to save you, says the Lord. Pray for all those suffering from the COVID-19 virus.
27. Sunday. Let the same mind be in you as in Christ. Pray for the leaders of our churches and our country.
28. Come and see that the Lord is good. Pray for medical personnel serving in the war against Covid-19.
29. Love truth and peace. Pray for PEC members and other church leaders.
30. Blessed are those who endure temptation. Pray for Police and Fire fighters everywhere.



September 2020 NEWSLETTER

newhopemoravian@gmail.com
Web: www.newhopemoravian.com
(828)294-4802

***New Hope Moravian Church
2897 Sandy Ford Road
Newton, NC 28658***