



**Our vision at New Hope Baptist Church is:**  
to be a multiethnic family of faith,  
united by God's grace,  
remaining faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ,  
growing in obedience to God's Word,  
and  
sharing the Gospel with a distinctive witness in word and deed.

*September 2018... the Contact ... Vol. XL Issue 9*

*Rev. Jason Smith, Pastor*

Colossians 4:2, ***“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.”***

The book of Colossians teaches us about the all-sufficiency of the Lord Jesus Christ. Colossians 2:10 sums the message of the book up well where Paul writes that believers are “complete in Him.” Why would you look anywhere else? Why would you chase after any substitute for Jesus? Do not settle for less than Jesus. You lack nothing in Jesus Christ. Life is about the Lord Jesus and we find our greatest hope and purpose in the gift of new life that we receive in Him by faith.

In Colossians 4:2-12, Paul provides final instructions and greetings. These final instructions are not random, as if they were just thoughts that happened to cross Paul's mind as he concluded the letter. These final instructions arise from the truth that Jesus is the all-sufficient one. And where does Paul begin? In 4:2, Paul offers a command on prayer, ***“Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving.”*** The implication is clear: if we want to experience the fullness of Jesus, we need to be believers who pray. This command to pray is not directed towards believers individually. The instruction is plural, meaning that Paul is calling believers to continue earnestly together in prayer, being vigilant and with thanksgiving. If we want to be a church that bears the fruit of the Gospel, we need to be a church that prays together often, with gratitude.

Colossians 4:2 is a simple, yet very profound verse about prayer. Paul does not just write, ***“Pray to God.”*** He describes how we are to pray to God. We are to devote ourselves to prayer. This means that prayer should be a consistent part of our lives. Praying with other believers should be a consistent part of the walk of faith. Paul also writes that we are to be vigilant, meaning we should be alert in prayer. Alert prayer helps believers to avoid spiritual fatigue or apathy, and discouragement. It becomes clear that both personal and corporate prayer is vital for maintaining a strong faith in the Lord Jesus and for a church to remain active in ministry sharing the Gospel to surrounding community. Let us be praying for New Hope, both at home and with other believers that God would produce in us the fruit of the Gospel.

In Him

*Pastor Jason*

## Homecoming 2018

**Celebrating 80 years of serving the Lord here at the corner of  
W.T. Harris and Idlewild Road!**



Our guest speaker will be Rev. Ricky Mason.  
Ricky served here at NHBC as youth director.

Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us on this special day. If you know of any of our former members please give them a call and invite them back for this special event.

Date: September 30, 2018

Service begins at 11:00 a.m.

Luncheon following the AM service

***For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*** 2 Corinthians 5:10

*When I think of things done while in the body – good or bad – I think about the clothing closet. We have finished serving the community in the old closet and are about to open the new closet to those in need. Now, I know I am going to miss someone (and I pray I won't) but it is important to me to say this. There have been **long hours and hard work** put forth in preparing the lower part of the Sunday School building for the closet. Thank you to Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church Youth in Monroe for cleaning the rooms out in preparation for the World Changers who followed them the next week. They painted each room – sized and processed all the bags of clothes and even left a special painting for the clothing closet. Then came Cornerstone Baptist Church Youth that did some moving of furniture – folding clothes, hanging clothes and construction work. We must add University Hills Baptist Church that has helped on the Saturday's that the closet is open – helping to prepare the rooms and helping to get the clothes hung for the new opening. It has really been a wonderful fellowship to partner with the other churches in this wonderful endeavor. Now to get to the help from New Hope. Please go to the back page for the remainder of this article.....*



## NHBC on mission for the Lord....

.....I have to start by saying a HUGE thank you to Wanda Hartis, Sandy Tucker and Jerry Lapish for the **fantastic work** they did, starting with the very foundation of the clothing closet. Due to health reasons Wanda had to step down. Becky Hubbard has taken on the responsibility of the closet. Please pray for her. Thank you to Teresa Dixon for helping with the transition with making sure that the closet continued to run. That was hard work. Thank you to Jan Ryan, Mary Usher, Mackenzie Cooperwood, Elaine Isaacson, Teresa Dixon, Ruth Hyatt, Jane (friend of Mary Usher), Tiffany (friend of Jan Ryan), Jamar Ryan (son of Jan & L. Hillary), Ron Hyatt for hanging shelves-repair work, John Hubbard for helping with shelves along with other projects, Hillary Ryan for hanging bulletin strips and pictures along with many request from the ladies each day and we even saw our Building & Grounds Chairman, Mr. Terry Lacy helping with the shelving and always ready to move any thing that we needed moved. He was always ready to help on a moment's noticed. Thanks to Jeff Smith for putting down new flooring in the hallway and new carpet (free carpet provided by New Salem Elementary School) in the sign out room. A special thanks to everyone that provided materials that has made the clothing closet so special. We will have an open house on Homecoming Sunday for everyone to come and see what New Hope is doing to serve the community through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thank you, everyone!

Carolyn

### The Library

There is beauty in a summer night  
When stars show us their precious light  
Soon dark as pitch until the sun  
Rises up and brings forth dawn  
Summer's blessings soon behind us  
Autumn brings a softer breeze  
The colors sing like a splendid choir  
Gently blanketing the earth indeed  
Such beauty in the autumn foliage  
As only God can make a tree

September brings a new year and a time of reflection. New Hope had an amazing summer it is only a testament to how great a God we have that even with few hands, big hearts and dedication make a difference in our lives and in the lives we serve, to honor our Lord.

I pray that we remember that the smallest gestures often make the biggest impact and that we use the gifts we have to continue to serve each other and the community around us. The Library is a great meeting place to share a good book with someone who may be looking for encouragement or encourage you. I was able to bring in ten new titles and I welcome you to find a treasure at the New Hope Library.

#### BOOK STUDY

Happy September! It is time to embark on a new book. I have prayed on and chosen, Jerry Bridges' book, "The Pursuit of Holiness" for our book study which should take us into mid-December, God's will. By the time you are reading this we should be on the second chapter. I welcome any one who is available on a Monday evening at 6:30 to join us at the Library. It is a time of prayer and reflection to learn what God is teaching us through this book on living a holy life.

Blessings to all and I hope to see you soon!

Flaine

### JOY 'End of Year' ~ 'Beginning New Year' Celebration

Join us for a final wrap up for 2017/2018 and the new beginning 2018/2019 celebration at 12pm in the Family Life Center on September 8<sup>th</sup>. This celebration will include lunch and time of fellowship. You will also receive the schedule for 2018/2019. Please sign up.

### Women's Prison Ministry Red Boxes

This year the Women's Missionary Union will be collecting Ladies' Knit Gloves (one size fits all) ~ any color ~

These gloves will be given to the women in prison. Please bring your gloves to the church by October 7<sup>th</sup>. This project is sponsored by the Metrolina Baptist Association WMU Leadership Team.

### Calendar of Events

#### Standing Weekly Schedule

**Sunday**  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Choir Practice 5:00 p.m.  
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

**Monday**  
**Book Study** 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
H4K (Children's' Ministry) 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
Prayer Mtg./Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

**Friday**  
Open Gym 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

#### Monthly Schedule

9/8 Men's Breakfast 8 a.m.  
Clothes Closet/Food Pantry 10 a.m.  
JOY Luncheon 1:30 p.m.  
9/9 Deacon's Meeting 4 p.m.  
9/16 Choir Practice 5 p.m.  
9/22 Clothes Closet/Food Pantry 10 a.m.  
9/30 Homecoming 2018 '80'  
No Evening Service

### Birthdays for September

9/5 Laney Emanuel  
Sean Smith  
Gwendolyn Purser  
9/6 Erick Foster  
9/9 Mark Ammons  
9/14 Teresa Dixon  
9/27 Jim Hartis

### Volunteers

<b>Nursery</b>	9/2	<b>Deacons</b>
Teresa Dixon		Gerald Freeman
Jack Smith	9/9	Dan Crawford
Leah Jordan		Jim Hartis
Erin Black	9/16	Laney Emanuel
Diane Yandle		Don Jordan
Christine Smith	9/23	Jeff Smith
Linda Norton		Gerald Freeman
Carolyn Davis	9/30	Dan Crawford
Teresa Dixon		Jim Hartis
Jack Smith		Laney Emanuel



### Congratulations

... to Elaine Isaacson who won 4<sup>th</sup> place, or honorable mention in a national submission for the religious entries via Writers Digest. You will find a copy of her writings on the vestibule table so pick up a copy and enjoy.