



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.

January 2019... the Contact ... Vol. XL I Issue 1

Rev. Jason Smith, Pastor

“Rather train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.” 1 Timothy 4:7-8

I have always enjoyed the sense of hope and promise that the New Year brings. The New Year is like a blank canvas for a fresh start, providing the opportunity for improvements in key areas of our lives. People make various resolutions to make positive changes. The most common resolutions are generally directed towards one's physical wellbeing, such as the resolutions to lose weight, exercise frequently and eat healthy. Obviously, these are worthy pursuits to give more time and attention to in the New Year. In fact, in the verses above, Paul acknowledges the value of bodily training. Yet, at the same time, let us not forget about how we can invest greater energy towards our spiritual health in the New Year.

In 1 Timothy 4:7-8, Paul directs Timothy to train himself for godliness. The word “train” can also be translated as “discipline.” To train for godliness or to discipline ourselves for godliness means that we must put active and intentional effort to live in godliness. This is a command, not an optional experience of the Christian life. Hebrews 12:14 says that without holiness no one will see the Lord. As Paul notes, while bodily training has some value, putting consistent effort and attention to your training in godliness has greater value. It impacts not only this life, but the life to come.

Sometimes when the personal responsibility of living out the Christian faith is mentioned, there are fears of entering into legalism. It is true that no one can live in godliness by sheer will power. On our own, our hearts do not desire the things of God (see Romans 3). Yet, at the same time, God's grace never allows believers to live in continuous ongoing sin, with no regard to His holy Word. God's grace frees us from the power of sin so that we can live in godliness. Philippians 2:12-13 helpful. Here Paul calls believers to work out their salvation in fear and trembling. That is the believer's responsibility. It is another way of Paul writing “Train yourself for godliness.” If someone who claims to be a Christian is not actively working out their salvation or training for godliness, there are good reasons for him or her to question whether they have ever truly believed in the Lord Jesus in a biblical understanding of saving faith. At the same time, in Philippians 2:13, Paul reminds believers that ultimately, it is God who is working in them, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Thus, the source of power to work out one's salvation and to train for godliness is from God. Even the desire itself to work out one's salvation and to train for godliness is by God's grace.

As we approach the New Year, consider how you have been pursuing holiness and, by God's grace, the ways in which you can pursue greater holiness in 2019. The first place to begin is by committing yourself to grow closer to the Lord by obeying His Word. Read the Bible through in the year in your own personal study, seeking to live it out. Make a fresh commitment to attend faithfully the church services, including Sunday School, Sunday morning worship, Sunday evening worship and Wednesday night Bible Study. Remember, we are not training for godliness alone.

In Him

Pastor Jason

Mission News

Would you believe that the Food Pantry has served over 1800 families since it started? On the first and third Saturday of each month, folks come and we share with them food. Where does all this food come from you ask? Trips are made to Second Harvest Food Bank, donations are received from Publix's and Food Lion and individuals like Linda and Frank Norton, Becky and John Hubbard, Barbara Barnes, Peggy Blume along with others that I don't know their names. They bring in cases of food. It is so amazing to see how the Lord has provided for the ministries here at NHBC. Jeff Smith, Terry Lacy, Mary Usher, Barbara Barnes, Hillary Ryan and Mackenzie Cooperwood are there to assist the families. Now, you may think that is all they do but at the Food Pantry and the Clothing Closet, each volunteer to striving to show the love of Jesus to each person and family. Relationships are being built and we have even seen folks attend the services here on Sunday. The hugs, the kind words of 'thank you' for helping my family and then to see them come back to give of themselves to volunteer or bring clothes in to be shared with others. It is such a rewarding opportunity to serve the Lord in this capacity.

2018 was a very interesting year for missions here at NHBC in the clothing closet. Our year started out with the plans of moving the clothing closet from one side of the SS building down to the lower side in order to open back up our Sunday School classes. It seemed like a pretty simple task and with our plans in our heads we started to work. Upon the first observation we found that over 6 rooms were filled with bags of clothes that had not been sorted yet. Several classrooms had to be cleaned out before we could even begin to

Continued below...

*NHBC on mission for the Lord....***The 'BIG' Soup Cook-off**

Saturday, January 26th – 12:00 p.m.
Family Life Center

If you would like to enter the soup cook-off event, please call the church office at 704.537.6340 to sign up. We had some UM-UM pots last year. There will be a special prize given for the winner along with 2nd and 3rd place awards.

See you there!

National Sanctity of Human Life Day

National Sanctity of Human Life Day is celebrated on January 20, 2019. National Sanctity of Human Life Day is an observance declared by several U.S. Presidents who opposed abortion. President Ronald Reagan designated January 22, 1984 as the first National Sanctity of Human Life Day. The date was chosen to coincide with the 11th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court case that first recognized the constitutionally-protected status of abortion in the United States.

Reagan issued the proclamation annually thereafter, designating Sanctity of Human Life Day to be the third Sunday in January, which represents the closest Sunday to the original January 22 date. His successor, George H. W. Bush, continued the annual proclamation throughout his presidency. Bush's successor, Bill Clinton, discontinued the practice throughout his eight years in office, but Bush's son and Clinton's successor, George W. Bush, resumed the proclamation, and did so every year of his presidency.

We will hand out the bottles on Sunday, January 20th

Daily Bible Reading 2019

For the past 2 years we have done our daily Bible reading on just a regular schedule. This year I have picked out a 365-day reading of the Bible in Chronological Order. Please be sure to pick up your copy off the vestibule table. Isn't it interesting to read and still find new information every time? Let's see what this year brings.

Mission News..continued

to paint and refresh. Several windows were held in with masking tape. 'Oh! Man, what a job and how in the world were we going to make this happen? How did Wanda ever survive and even open the closet twice a month? She was a miracle worker. So, out of the blue, (#1) the association wanted to know if we would like for World Changers to come and help. YES! (#2) When invited to a dinner at Mt. Pleasant B.C. the youth were signing up for jobs to make money for their summer camp – the light bulb came on – so I ask – can I rent the youth for a job? They came and cleared the rooms out for us. The World Changers painted all the rooms for us along with sorting out 6 rooms loaded with bags of clothes and bagging them in sizes for us, University Hills came and helped set up the new clothing closet and was there for opening day. Cornerstone B.C. youth came and helped with getting the new carpet put down and getting things set up. Ron & Ruth Hyatt, John Hubbard, Teresa Dixon worked so hard hanging racks, painting, putting in carpet etc. and New Salem Elementary School provided the new carpet for the stairs and the office area. All of this was done with very little expense to the church. This is a prime example of churches working together for a common goal. And, of course, we couldn't do any of this without the donations from Servants Heart, Trendy Tots, others bringing from their own closets and the monthly volunteers. Becky Hubbard, coordinator, Jan Ryan, Diane Yandle, Hillary Ryan, Jamarr Ryan, Brittany Ryan, Elaine Isaacson, Dan Crawford, Diane Black and I am sure others.

I was so humbled when Mr. Dan Crawford walked into the office one day and asked "What can I do to help on Saturday?" He was an answer to prayer. He has been sitting in the room with the children as they watch a movie and eat a snack while Mommy picks out clothes upstairs for them. Please pray and ask the Lord if He would have you to volunteer in either of these areas. Do you remember one of our former pastors saying to us "We are all only one breath away from being there". It is very humbling when folks are so thankful that NHBC is willing to share with them. We are blessed folks!

Calendar of Events**Standing Weekly Schedule**

Sunday
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Monday
Book Study 6:30 p.m.

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

Wednesday
Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

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

Monthly Schedule

1/1 Office Closed
1/5 Clothes Closet/Food Pantry 10 a.m.
1/6 Deacons Meeting 4 p.m.
1/19 Clothes Closet/Food Pantry 10 a.m.
1/26 Soup Cook-off 12 p.m.

Birthdays for January

1/10 Jerry Lapish
1/19 Tim Pollock
1/28 Barbara Barnes
1/29 Betty Simmons
John Hubbard

Volunteers

Nursery	Date	Deacons
Diane Yandle Christine Smith	1/6	Jim Hartis Laney Emanuel
Linda Norton Carolyn Davis	1/13	Don Jordan Jeff Smith
Teresa Dixon Jack Smith	1/20	Gerald Freeman Dan Crawford
Leah Jordan Erin Black	1/27	Jim Hartis Laney Emanuel

New Address

Please note the new address and phone number for

Ms. Peggy Blume

105 Convention Drive Apt. III

Cary, NC 27511

919-650-1884