

October 2019

New Hope Moravian

Church

New Hope Moravian Church - 2897 Sandy Ford Road - Newton, North Carolina 28658
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2019 Watchword

"For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him." (2 Chronicles 16:9 NIV)



God Is For Us! - Romans 8

In homes that have football fans, Joe Namath is a household name. His exploits both on and off the field with the New York Jets earned him a spot in the NFL Hall of Fame, and a Super Bowl ring after his underdog Jets beat the Colts in Super Bowl III. Namath even had the gall to "guarantee" a victory in the championship game, and he pulls it off. Pro football fans have never forgotten the way Namath ran off the field that night, holding up one index finger, reminding the world he'd made the guarantee good.

It's unlikely the Apostle Paul was holding up a single index finger when he finished writing his letter to the Romans, but he could have. After all, Romans Chapter 8 is considered one of the greatest chapters in all the Bible. If Bible chapters had a "Hall of Fame," Romans 8 would be enshrined there.

A well-known Pastor tells the story of a professor he had in Seminary, who wanted to teach his students a lesson about grace. His story goes like this: "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, and caution the class 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. "We sat there stunned," Stanley said. "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."

(www.bing.com/search?q=charles+stanley&form).

Dr. Stanley said, "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 free gifts; he wanted to earn his grade. And he did. He made a C+, but he could easily have had an A." (www.bing.com/search?q=charles+stanley&form).

Romans Chapter 8 is the last line on the test of life. All who read the words and believe them pass God's test with flying colors. They are victorious; they get an A, so to speak. Some hear about God's holiness, and give up ever trying to make the grade. Some spend an entire lifetime angry at the God who desires to give them His mercy and grace. And then, a lot of people depend upon their own merit, morality and good deeds to get them into heaven, and they humanly do their best to work their way into God's acceptance and approval. Unfortunately, nothing less than a perfect score will do - and only by God's grace can any of us be victorious or achieve a perfect score.

Like the professor, God offers us a free gift that seems to be too good to be true. But the truth is, the only question that has final consequences is: Will you receive the grace of God, or reject it?

Romans 8:31-32(NIV) says, we are...More Than Conquerors. *"What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?"*

Therefore, it is essential that we know: God is for you! Doesn't it make a difference if you know someone is for you? My "Good News" for you today: God is for you!

The verse says, "If God is for us ..." The Greek word for "if," in this case, it doesn't mean there's a possibility God is for us! Instead, it's a certainty. No, this statement isn't about the possibility of God's love for us - it's about the certainty of God's love for each of us.

Why don't you take a moment to savor these words: "God is for you!" Maybe today, you are struggling with the loss of a job, the loss of a loved one, the loss of your health or a broken relationship. Maybe your family or friends have betrayed you, or your child or children have disappointed you... but I can say with all confidence your Creator God "is for you!" The One who opened up the oceans; the one who filled the sky with more than 100 billion stars over 100 billion galaxies: Yes, He "is for you!"

God "is for you." There is no fine print to examine....God "is for you." His availability to you is not dependent on whether or not you've been good or bad, He's doesn't ask, "If you've been naughty or nice." The Creator of the whole universe is not re-checking his list, and frowning at what you did last week, last month or last year. No, God "is for you," right now, forevermore; for all eternity!

God "is for you." He's the One cheering you on in your race of faith; He's the One whose encouraging you when life seem to go against you; He's the One whose shouting to the world around you, "That's my son; or That's my daughter; They are mine! Because God loves you so much; He wants to bless you with His abundance of good gifts forevermore. God "is for you!"

The Apostle Paul was a smart man. So, instead of listening to Satan's accusations of his shortcomings, Paul listened once more to the message of Christ. And so he leaves the dark words of Romans 7 to make a Hall of Fame statement as Chapter 8 begins. "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus! Why? Because through Christ Jesus, the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death."

Now we know why the early Christians simply referred to the New Testament as "The Good News?" When God is for you, despite all that you've ever done. How can you go wrong receiving His free gift of grace? Dear Friends, the best chapter of your life is right around the corner. Each day God give you is a new gift from God. Don't give up on yourself. God hasn't... God is for you! He loves you... Don't quit! God is for you!

*In Christ Love and Service,
Pastor Betty*



Support New Hope's Preschool

Help New Hope's Preschool ministry by donating needed items. Jen, our preschool director, has placed requested items on a display in the hallway just down from the office.

Please take a star from the display and purchase the item.
Donated supplies may be placed in the church office.

Thank you for your support of our preschool!



It's quilt time again!

Margaret has rounded up all the fabulous squares and I am working on the quilt. Raffle tickets will be available to sell in November and Women's Fellowship is counting on YOU! Candle tea and the raffling of this beautiful quilt help support our community. It seems like the need for support is getting greater and greater, so let's be grateful for what we have and share some of our blessings.

Thank you to all of you who make plain fabric look so great.

Pat



All Saints Day 2019

Philippians 1:3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.

All Saints Day will be observed at New Hope **Sunday, October 27th**. This year there will be slips of blue paper in vestibule on the table as you enter the sanctuary for friends and family to write down a name/names of a loved one who has passed away. The names will be collected in a container and listed on an insert on All Saints Day. This gives each of us a time to remember those who were dear to us that are now in their heavenly home. The list will not be read aloud but will be printed in remembrance of those who have passed.

John 3:16 For GOD so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten SON, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish but have everlasting LIFE.

Sunday School Update

On Sunday, October 27, 2019, Ray Vander Laan series resumes in Sunday School. The DVR Series narrated by Ray Vander Laan will resume on October 27th with the first lesson being "When Storms Come." This is an in-depth study of the Sea of Galilee including the study of the meaning and importance of water to the ancient Jews, as well as a

correlation between weather-related storms and the “storms” we each face in our own lives.

Ned and Janie Setzer will once again be leading this series.
Sunday School starts at 10 am.
Questions? Contact Janie Setzer.

Hospice Volunteers Needed

*Carolina Caring (Hospice) needs volunteers to provide companionship & support to patients and families in your area. No hands-on care is required, only friendship. Carolina Caring would love to have you join their Hospice volunteer family. For more information or to sign-up for the next volunteer training class on **Saturday, October 19**, please contact Sara Waugh at 828.850.7005 or volunteer@carolinacaring.org.*

From the Christian Education Committee and Small Group Bible Study Committee

Your New Hope educational committees would like to present the commencement of a Small Group Bible Study to be composed of those who are interested – as led by Pastor Betty Helms.

- An interest of participation notice will be posted on the bulletin board and in the Thursday Updates. Please sign up if you think you may be interested.
- Proposed time: Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm
- Beginning later this fall
- Topic: to be determined by the committee and those who are interested in participating in the study. Pastor Betty has a few different ideas



Mission projects for the Fall:

The Missions Committee invites and encourages members to be involved in the outreach efforts outlined below:

- Contribute to the **Save the Children**, US Border Crisis Children's Fund. Place your donation in the kettle at the sanctuary door.
 - We have received \$500 as of 9/22/2019
 - Donations accepted through October 22, Mission Sunday
- Join New Hope members in a **Day of Service** at ECCCM, Saturday Oct. 26, 9-noon where we will sort clothing
 - Where: their warehouse close to the main office; location details later on a sign up sheet
 - Let's have great participation like we did for making pies!
- Fill a **Salvation Army stocking** to brighten a child's Christmas.
 - Stockings to be distributed on Nov. 3 and returned to New Hope by Dec. 1
- Donate items during November to **Carolina Caring (Hospice)**.
 - Their "wish list" of requested items for patients and families will be provided on a bulletin insert and narthex display
 - Please bring your donations to New Hope any time in November

Please prayerfully consider how you can help meet the needs of **Save the Children, ECCCM, Salvation Army and Carolina Caring (Hospice)**.

The Missions Committee: **You are invited to join us at our next meeting after worship on October 27th**. Dan Greaser, Chair; Ann Carr, Bonnie Everhart, Margaret and Tom Schultz, Leslie Srail.

Sharing our Chicken Pies:

On **Monday, October 14**, Mission Committee members are providing a chicken pie and fixins' lunch for Salvation Army clients who attend a New Day Program at Safe Harbor. We believe there will be enough food left over for a second group of clients to enjoy an evening meal. Please see Dan if you would like to help furnish the green beans, slaw, or dessert.

600 Years of Moravian History in 3 Days

A Seminary in the South Learning Intensive
at Higgins Lodge with Craig Atwood
November 3-6

Moravian Theological Seminary and Laurel Ridge are co-sponsoring *600 Years of Moravian History in 3 Days*, a Seminary in the South learning retreat for laity and clergy. All life-long learners are invited to share this new event on the Higgins Lodge calendar welcoming Dr. Craig Atwood. For about ten years, Craig has inspired many students through his courses in Moravian theology and history at Moravian Theological Seminary.

This concentrated overview is for anyone desiring a greater understanding of the history and heritage in which our Moravian theology and tradition are grounded. The Provincial Elders' Conference is endorsing this event with generous financial support from the Bishop W. Herbert Spaugh Ministerial Education Fund. Bishop Sam Gray will serve as the retreat's worship leader. In the fall of 2018, Craig and Sam offered a similar event to Moravian sisters and brothers in Peru. The retreat begins with a Sunday night supper and ends with lunch on Wednesday.

Cost for room and meals for the entire retreat:

Single Occupancy \$205

Double Occupancy \$150

For more information or to register, contact Laurel Ridge at 1 (888) 831-5922. Salem Wing rooms will be assigned to participants registering first, except for those requesting the Bishops Wing.

Church Cleaning



Please consider signing up to clean the church. For many years this has been done by volunteers. We truly hope to continue this way in order to not have to add another expense to the budget. This only takes an hour or so each week.

Cleaning can be done anytime towards the end of the week or Saturday. If you can only manage to do this one or two weeks of any particular month, that is fine. Just put your name by the week you can on the list on the board and state "only". That way we know you are not taking the whole month.

I will be glad to meet with you to show you what is to be done and where the supplies are. Please feel free, if you wish, to bring your own. **NO CHURCH KEY.....NO WORRY**. Arrangements can easily be made to let you in.

Won't you help us keep this house of worship looking good for all who enter here to worship.

Mark Bumgarner
Vice Chair

October Cleaners: Ethan Ayers



October Hymn of the Month
#497 Holy Spirit, Mighty God
Tune: Lauds
Moravian Book of Worship

Holy Spirit, Mighty God was written in 1983 by Calvin Seerveld who was born in 1930. An extremely well-educated Christian scholar, Seerveld was professor of aesthetics at the Institute for Christian Studies in Toronto from 1972 to 1995. Educated at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, he then attended the University of Michigan and the Free University of Amsterdam where he obtained his PhD. Seerveld also studied at Basel University in Switzerland, the University of Rome, and the University of Heidelberg. He began his career by teaching at Bellhaven College in Jackson, Mississippi then at Trinity College in Polo Heights, Illinois. He was fluent in various biblical and modern languages and also was published widely in aesthetics and philosophy. He published several books and credits Dutch musician Ina Lohr for influencing his composition of hymn tunes. Most of his Bible versifications and hymns were written for the **Psalter Hymnal** (1987) where he ably served on the revision committee.

The hymn tune Lauds was written by John Wilson (1905-1992), a noted British hymnologist who studied mathematics and physics but chose a career in music instead. A respected scholar and teacher, Wilson served on the editorial committees of eight hymnals. He was also treasurer of The Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland and founded an annual hymn festival entitled "Come and Sing" at Westminster Abbey. John Wilson pointed out "singability" and "memorability" as two important factors which make for successful hymn tunes.

The tune name Lauds comes from early Monastic tradition and from the Ordinary form of the Roman Rite of Liturgy of Hours as celebrated by the Roman Catholic Church. Lauds is one of the two major hours and it took place in the morning. The name "Lauds" means "praises at dawn."

October Happenings

Thursday, October 3rd – ECCCM Workday

Sunday, October 6th – World Wide Communion

Thursday, October 10th – **Preschool Advisory Committee Meeting**, 7 pm

**Franklin Graham's Decision America Tar
Heel State Tour**

L.P. Frans Stadium, 7:00 pm

Admission is free; no ticket required

Featuring live music from Jeremy Camp and
Dennis Agajanian

Saturday, October 12th – ECCCM 50 Year Celebration

2:00-4:00 pm

245 E. N Street, Newton

ECCCM would like to invite you to join their celebration of 50 years of service to the community with cake cutting, agency tours, and much more.

For more information: www.ecccm.org

Sunday, October 13th – Mission Lovefeast

Board of Elders Meeting, 12:15 pm

Monday, October 14th – Mission Committee providing meal to Safe Harbor Clients (please see above for more information)

Tuesday, October 15th – **Women's Circle Meeting**, 1:00 pm
At the home of Bonnie Everhart
Lesson by Nancy Miller

Aging Well Fall Rally

"Keeping Joy in Your Landscape"

Tuesday, October 15th at 12:30 pm

Tickets \$10 (includes a meal)

Payment due by October 7th

Advent Moravian Church, Winston-Salem

The Aging Well Team helps congregations recognize the need for and then find meaningful ways of providing programming and resources for their members who are older adults, as they age and deal with a variety of challenges.

Join Moravians from across the province to enjoy a fellowship meal, a guest speaker, and to hear updates on various provincial outreach efforts.

Guest speaker J. Eric Elliot, archivist of the Moravian Church, will lead the event.

[Click here](#) to register.

Wednesday, October 16th – National Bosses Day

Sunday, October 20th - Eastern Catawba County Hunger Walk
Benefitting The Corner Table Soup Kitchen

3 PM – Downtown Newton
www.ecchungerwalk.com

Friday, October 25th – November Newsletter Articles due to Office

Saturday, October 26th – Day of Service ECCCM, 9 am – 12 pm

Sunday, October 27th – All Saints Sunday

Mission Committee Meeting, 12:15 pm

Thursday, October 31st –



Upcoming Out-of-Town Events:

Saturday, November 9th – Moravians Past & Future: Comenius Learning Series
9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Hope Moravian Church

This year's Comenius Learning Series event focuses on how Moravians of the past were innovators in ways of "doing church" in their own time and how Moravians today can be innovators of reinventing the church in response to an ever evolving culture. Craig Atwood, Professor of Moravian Theology at MTS, will discuss the past and Andrew Heil, Associate Pastor of Home Moravian Church, will discuss the future.

[Click Here to Register.](#)



Church Council
Sunday, November 3rd at 12:15 pm

Please plan to attend.

Pray Every Day October 2019

1. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Pray for Safiatu Braima resuming her calling in Sierra Leone.
2. Love bears all things. Pray for Phil and Ashley Sineath - Campus Outreach Global AL.
3. God shall set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed. Pray for Louis and Susan Sutton - Worldwide Evangelization for Christ, Int. in Singapore.
4. Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Pray for the BWM Meeting 10/4-5 in PA.
5. The last will be first and the first will be last. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent - Campus Crusade for Christ, Croatia.
6. Sunday. "In this place, I will give peace," says the Lord of hosts. Pray for Dusty and Christin Harrison, Greek InterVarsity.
7. The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer. Pray for Kevin and Charity - Campus Crusade for Christ, Int.
8. I sought the Lord and He answered me and delivered me. Pray for Steve & Ann Marx - Mission Aviation Fellowship, ID
9. Give thanks to God the Father at all times for everything in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Pray for Phil and Eunice Raiford - Commission to every Nation.
10. Be merciful to those who doubt. Pray for Michael and Ceci Tesh - Ray of Hope.
11. Our competence is from God. Pray for Charlie and Vickie Brent - Bridges International, TX.
12. More majestic than thunders of mighty waters or the waves of the seas, majestic on high is the Lord. Pray for Robert and Anne Thiessen – Mexico.
13. Sunday. If we have died with Him, we will live with Him. Pray for Michael and Naomi Woo - OMF, CO.
14. I will save you from all your uncleanness. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx – MAF, Indonesia.
15. God highly exalted Him and gave Him a name that is above every name. Pray for Moravian Church in Peru.
16. Do not delay me since the Lord has made my journey successful. Pray for Moravian Church in Sierra Leone.
17. In everything do to others as you would have them do to you. Pray for the Moravian Church in Cuba.
18. Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life and honor. Pray for Adopt-A-Village program in Tanzania,
19. Rise up, O Lord. Do not let mortals prevail. Pray for Jenna and Andrew Craver in Alaska.
20. Sunday. It depends not on human will or exertion, but on God who shows mercy. Pray for the Annie B Mission in Palestine.
21. Let each look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Pray for the Unity Women's Desk.
22. Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. Pray for Moravian Disaster Relief and those suffering loss due to hurricanes, flooding, and fires.
23. Return to your God, hold fast to love and justice. Pray for fire fighters, police, and first responders.
24. Our faith is the victory that conquered the world. Pray for Allen and DeeDee Iobst in Spain.
25. God does great things that we cannot comprehend. Pray for the Armando Rusindo Foundation in Cuba.
26. God is one and He will justify the circumcised and the uncircumcised in the same faith. Pray for the Board of World Mission.
27. Sunday. The Lord makes poor and rich, he brings low and exalts. Pray for the PECs that guide Moravian Provinces.
28. The people who know their God will display strength and take action. Pray for brothers and sisters in the Bahamas and Caribbean.
29. Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from God's love. Pray for congregations seeking pastors.
30. Remember the wonderful works He has done, His miracles and the judgments He uttered. Pray for all governments and for elections.
31. We have seen and do testify that the Father sent His Son as Savior of the world. Pray for your church, pastors, and teachers.



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