

NHBC
704.537.6340

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.

You can reach us at any of the
avenues listed here
nhbcchar@att.net
Like us on Facebook
newhopecharlotte.org

March 2023... the Contact ... Vol. XLV Issue 3
Rev. Jason Smith, Pastor... pastorjasonsmith@newhopecharlotte.org

1 Peter 2:9 "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

New Hope faces an uncertain future. Many of you are saddened to see how our church has decreased in active attendance over the last 20 years. You may even struggle to understand why God has not blessed us with greater numerical growth. I feel this way too.

However, I would caution us with two clarifications. First, it is important to recognize that the numerical decline at New Hope is not an isolated problem. Most churches in our country have experienced significant numerical decline. We are living in a post-Christian country. Nevertheless, this does not reflect a failure in God's church. The Gospel is as powerful as ever and still produces a great harvest. The universal church remains strong. As our Lord Jesus said, "On this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it" (Matt. 16:18).

Just because our experience of the church at New Hope may not live up to our expectations for the church that does not neglect the significance and impact of the church as a whole. I still believe that the church, the Body of Christ, is one of God's most precious blessings and that the church, God's people, remains the foremost avenue in which He uses to accomplish His purposes in this world.

But second, and this is crucial, we should never take for granted the work of God at New Hope, even when there is no immediate numerical growth. Every act of obedience to God's Word, every prayer and supplication offered to God, every expression of Christ-like love, every humble and selfless deed done for the welfare of another person, and every word of encouragement is an indication of God's gracious work in and through us. This recognition will keep us joyful and grateful even when it feels that we have more questions than answers and we do not know what's next for our church. Assuming that New Hope is a place of faithful Bible study, consistent prayer, and true fellowship among believers, we need not worry about all the unknowns. We can trust God and know that, in His timing, He will take care of us and lead us to where we need to be.

More than ever our congregation needs to seek God's will for our church, and His power to obey. As we do, we must remember the high privilege of being counted as God's people and the high calling of proclaiming the Good News that salvation is available in God's Son, the Lord Jesus. We may have to make some very difficult decisions in the days ahead, but as we do, we cannot afford to lose sight of who we are as the church. As 1 Peter 2 says, we are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of God's own possession, who joyfully proclaim who wonderful and excellent God is!

New Hope, this is who you are. Believe it.

Pastor Jason

...the work of God at New Hope

Deacons on Call

March 5th
Dan Crawford

March 12th
Don Jordan

March 19th
Jim Hartis

March 26th
Dan Crawford



Our Pastor – Rev. Jason Smith



Agape
Dental
Ministry

Serving
Mecklenburg
and
Union
County
Free Dental
help



H4F Hope for Families

Birthdays for March

10th
Courtney Smith

20th
Debra Hart

24th
Becky Hubbard

31st
MacKenzie Cooperwood



Clothing Closet

Open on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. The closet provides free clothes to families and they are equipped with sizes from

0 to 3x



The Food Pantry

The pantry is also open on the 1st and 3rd Saturday each month. There is a variety of foods available for anyone that comes.



Operation Christmas Child

We have processed over 550 boxes for Samaritans Purse. The greatest joy are the letters we receive from the children that get one of our boxes.



Calendar of Events Weekly Schedule

Sunday
9:30 am
Sunday School

11:00 am
Morning Worship

Wednesday
6:30 pm
Adult Bible Study

1st and 3rd Saturday
H4F
(Hope for Families-
clothes & food)

... as you can see folks, New Hope Baptist Church is very mission minded on this corner of Charlotte. The most amazing stories that we could share are from the folks that we serve BUT the ultimate amazing story is how the Lord blesses these ministries each day. When you think that you can't go on – whether it is from total exhaustion or the lack of supplies – the Lord always comes through. **When you have done it to the least of these "His Children", Jesus said you have done it unto Me.**

We will continue to serve Him as long as He allows us to. Please pray for these ministries and if you would like to be a part, please call the church office at 704.537.6340 let us know. We will direct you to the ministries. Believe me, your life will take on a whole new meaning and you will be blessed