

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
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January 2023... the Contact ... Vol. XLV Issue 1

Rev. Jason Smith, Pastor... pastorjasonsmith@newhopecharlotte.org

1 Timothy 4:7-10 "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. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe."

The new year provides a good opportunity to examine one's life. If you were to carefully reflect on your daily activities and habits, what you think and worry about the most, what brings you greatest joy, what easily frustrates and angers you, how you spend your time and resources, and the topics/issues that consume most of your conversations, what would this time of serious introspection reveal about your deepest values, priorities, and devotions? Would it reveal a life that seeks to honor God above all else? Would it reveal true godliness?

Unfortunately, for many of us, our lives do not reflect what we want to be true. As Christians, we truly want "to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God" (Col. 1:10). If not, we have every reason to question whether we are truly Christian, at least from a scriptural understanding of being a Christian. Yet, even so, it often feels like we are failing to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord. Indeed, there may be areas of our lives that betray the kind of person we want to be, especially with our ongoing struggles with specific stubborn sin.

In this new year, we should first recognize and be grateful that our standing before God is not based on our ability to walk in a manner worthy of Him. In our power, we cannot do so. We always fall short. Our standing before God is secured in Christ alone, in His righteousness.

But still, in Christ, we have new spiritual life. We have been born again. Thus, in this new year, we should also examine our lives based on what God's Word teaches us. We should confess our sins, and then, by God's grace and empowerment, we should live in obedience for His glory. Or to put it in the words of the Apostle Paul, written above, we are to "train for godliness."

Where do you need to grow spiritually? What areas of the Christian life do you need to give greater focus and discipline? What about reading God's Word? What about praying without ceasing? What about being active in the community of believer, the church? What about being a witness of Jesus Christ to a dark and lost world?

Concerning 1 Timothy 4:7, pastor David Mathis writes, "Take regular action to get more of God in your mind and your heart, and echo his ways in your life-which will make you increasing like Him ("godliness"). It's a gift, and we receive it as we become it."

Pastor Jason

Deacons on Call

January 1st
Jeff Smith

January 8th
Gerald Freeman

January 15th
Don Jordan

January 22nd
Jim Hartis

January 29th
Jeff Smith

It's a New Year folks – but some things just do not change. One of our ladies has been moved to a new nursing home and she needs to know that she is being prayed for and is loved. Would you help her new year start with a positive message from the Lord by sending her a card? You will bring sunshine to her day...

Barbara Ivester

The Five Oaks Nursing Home/Rehab

413 Winecoff School Road

Concord, NC 28027

Her birthday is January 3rd

Make sure you tell her that you are from NHBC

When we think of a new year...a new beginning...dwell on this!

Jeremiah 29:11 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.'

Lamentations 3:22-25 The Lord's lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. ²³ They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. ²⁴ "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I have hope in Him." ²⁵ The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the person who seeks Him.

Birthdays for January

28th
Barbara Barnes
John Hubbard

29th
Jeff Smith



Church Council Meeting

Sunday, January 22, 2023

We will plan to meet immediately following the morning service with lunch from Jersey Mike's.

Please give this meeting your sincere thoughts and conversation with the Lord.

What will 2023 hold for NHBC?

What is the Lord telling us to do and are we willing to listen to Him?

Are we willing to step out on faith and give all of ourselves to carry on His work here on this corner? He is coming back for His children and it won't be as long as it has been. May He find us faithful in what He has for us to do!

Did you ever think or has it ever crossed your mind..

Is there any type of business, over the years, that you thought their job security was totally safe from being extinct?

I remember thinking one day when someone told me about cell phones being used in cars while driving. "How are they going to be able to run lines to the cars", I ask myself. Well, we know the answer to that one.

Would you have thought that one day you can call or go on the computer and put in a grocery order and it would be delivered to your front door?

What about the cars that can drive themselves to the next destination? Well, that's still a little new and still needs work.

I just knew for sure that a doctor's profession was pretty safe to the end of time until Mr. Bud told me about this Dr. Robot that was set up to do surgery. "Get out," was my response.

And, these are just a very few things that have changed over the years that we thought we would never see go away.

Is there anything in this world that will not become extinct or be handled by a none feeling – none thinking – none caring robot?

Yes, there is, folks!

It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." Deuteronomy 31:8

"Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the ages." Matthew 28:20

I believe that this is true and for certain, so why fear what is to come, because you and I know what is waiting for us at the end. He is and will always be there for us and NOTHING will change that! Do you believe it?

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)