

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.



November 2022... the Contact ... Vol. XLIV Issue 11

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

Philippians 1:3-6 - I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

G.K. Chesterton once said, 'I would maintain that thanksgiving is the highest form of thought; and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder.' As Christians, we do not appreciate the spirit of gratitude as evidence of the new life found in Christ as we should. Apart from Christ, we are not naturally thankful. We are naturally selfish. In fact, in Romans 1:18-3:22, Paul provides a blistering indictment against humanity, revealing our depravity and showing how we deserve God's eternal wrath, and the sins that we would expect are mentioned, such as sexual immorality and murder. Yet, in Romans 1:21, Paul also mentions something that we may not often think of as sin, humanity "did not give thanks to him." We often think of ingratitude as simply an unattractive quality in a person, but Paul viewed as something much worse. Ingratitude condemns us before the Holy God. It is a form of idolatry that robs God of His deserved praise and glory.

In our sinful flesh, we often assume that everyone, including God, should think the way we think, and everyone should serve our needs. When things do not go our way, we complain, and we accuse. But, as believers, as we grow in Christ, expressing gratitude to God becomes a way of life. This is why Paul instructed believers to "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1Thess. 5:18). Thankfulness is an expression of worship, acknowledging that you are not entitled to God's blessings, but still are benefited by the goodness and graciousness of God, realizing that He is our continuous praise and devotion.

One of God's greatest gifts is the church, the community of God's people. As we enter November, the month of Thanksgiving, let us express gratitude to God for New Hope. I pray that we will become deeply thankful for New Hope as Paul is for the Philippians. I pray that we will consider the community of God's people here at New Hope as the manifold, abundant, all-sufficient grace of our God, who deserves our praise.

Pastor Jason

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Deacons on Call

November 6th
Jeff Smith

November 13th
Gerald Freeman

November 20th
Don Jordan

November 27th
Jim Hartis

Calendar of Events Standing Weekly Schedule Sunday

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

Wednesday
Adult Bible Study
6:30 p.m.

Birthdays for November

Bonnie Edwards 4th

Loretta Dickens 18th

Leah Jordan 25th

Jason Smith 30th



Happy Thanksgiving!



Please pick up your box located in the vestibule and fill with suggested items on the list - have your box back to the church by Sunday, November 6th. If you would like Nancy Aldridge to do your shopping for your box, please give your money to her immediately. She will make sure your box gets done.

Shopebox

Folks, I am rerunning this article due to when I looked back at the October Contact on my computer, it was totally out of line and some info was missing. I hope that your Contact was in complete form. I just completed transfer to a new computer so hopefully this will not happen again.



Deacon Sponsored Thanksgiving Meal Saturday, November 12th at 1 PM

This year, we are doing our Thanksgiving Meal a little different. We will enjoy our fellowship on Saturday, Nov. 12th in the Family Life Center. We will also be honoring our volunteers from the clothing closet, the food pantry and the dental house. These folks have given of their time to make these 3 ministries possible. If you are currently involved with any of these ministries then you know how important they are for our community. Please, plan to attend this Thanksgiving Luncheon and help us all show to all these volunteers how much we appreciate them. And let's have a wonderful Thanksgiving family fellowship with all our family and friends.

FYI to our wonderful church family that are the best cooks in the world - please bring at least 2 to 3 large bowls of vegetables and of course dressing for the turkey to accommodate for our special guest. We are not saying do not bring you special desserts but we will have a special made cake also.