

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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newhopecharlotte.org

June 2023... the Contact ... Vol. XLV Issue 6
Rev. Jason Smith, Pastor... pastorjasonsmith@newhopecharlotte.org

Philippians 1:21 "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain."

In the opening chapter of Philippians, the Apostle Paul shares an update about his circumstances while imprisoned by the Romans. Paul is uncertain about what will happen to him. His desire is to continue in ministry for the progress of the Body of Christ and he is confident that eventually he would be released. However, his release is not guaranteed, and he knows that things could become worse, leading to his death.

Yet, whether the best outcome occurs, and he is released, or the worse outcome occurs, and he is sentenced to death, Paul remains hopeful. He remains joyful even as he had every reason to despair. Because Paul's identity is in Christ alone, regardless of what happened to him, it would be a win-win outcome. To live is Christ and to die is gain.

This is an empowering perspective on life, and no one can have this confidence in the face of a fallen world, full of threats, except for the true child of God through faith in Jesus. When you set your eyes on Jesus and seek his glory above all else, no matter what happens, you will be just fine. Truly, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Recently, there was a remarkable testimony of this truth. On Thursday May 18th, news came out that Timothy Keller, an influential pastor, author, and theologian, was discharged from the hospital to receive hospice care at home. His son shared that he prayed with his family, "I'm thankful for all the people who've prayed for me over the years. I'm thankful for my family, that loves me. I'm thankful for the time God has given me, but I'm ready to see Jesus. I can't wait to see Jesus. Send me home."

As it turns out, his time in hospice care was short. The next day, Friday May 19th, Keller breathed his last breath. Among his last words were, "There is no downside for me leaving, not in the slightest." Keller lived with a Philippians 1:21 perspective. May God help us to live with this perspective as well.

In Hm

Pastor Jason

Happy Father's Day to all of our Dad's!

6/18/23

In remembrance and in honor!

Clothing Closet News

Please mark your calendar that the Clothing Closet will be closed for the month of July. They have not had a break in a long time so they are giving all the workers and volunteers the month to vacation and rest. They will re-open again on August 5th. Thank you, ladies, for all that you do to show the Love of Jesus to the folks that visit the closet.

Deacons on Call

June 4th
Don Jordan

June 11th
Jim Hartis

June 18th
Dan Crawford

June 25th
Don Jordan

Honoring our Pre-School Graduates

Nathan Italia
Grandson of Thane & Diane Black

Lake Forest Church,
Huntersville, NC

What's Next: Kindergarten



Birthdays for June

June 9th
Eric Ferdinand

June 12th
Thane Black

June 20th
Joyce Privett

June 24th
Mary Usher

June 25th
Ron Hyatt

Honoring our High School Graduates



Gerell Hart-Smith

Grandson of
Debra Hart

Central Piedmont
Community College
High School
Equivalency Diploma

Ani Sadler

Granddaughter of Debra Hart

*Graduated from
Milton High School
Milton, MA*

*She will be attending
Bridgewater State University in Milton, MA*



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
H.F
(Hope for Families-
clothes & food)

Honoring our College Graduate

Kelly Elise James
Magna Cum Laude

*Granddaughter of
Gene & Carolyn Davis*

*Western Carolina University '23
Bachelor of Science
Criminal Justice*

*Kelly will be
entering the working world!*

