

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.



October 2022... the Contact ... Vol. XLIV Issue 10

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

*How can I give you up, O Ephraim?
How can I hand you over, O Israel?
How can I make you like Admah?
How can I treat you like Zeboiim?
My heart recoils within me;
my compassion grows warm and tender.*

Hosea 11:8

Hosea 11 provides an incredible description of God's loving mercy and grace. The Lord is pictured as a Father who has done everything He can for his wayward son, but nothing works. Now He is struggling, "How can I give you up, O Israel?" In other words, "How can I destroy my people?" This passage reveals the emotional side of God.

The Lord is not like us in our emotional fickleness and inconsistency. Nothing catches Him off guard. Nothing hinders His sovereign purposes. Nothing threatens his divine perfection. Yet, this does not mean that God is distanced from us, unable to understand our difficulties and limitations. Because God is personal, He experiences emotions. Historically, theologians have called this "divine affection." His anger is perfect anger. His sorrow is perfect sorrow. His love is perfect love. His compassion is perfect compassion.

In Hosea 11, God is not confused, but He does lament having to punish his people for their sins. Sin is always a serious matter. Yet, in this passage, we receive precious insight into God's heart, which shows the depth of his compassion for his people. Just the thought of the destruction of his people makes God's heart shake and, immediately, mercy flows out. Even though His people have sinned grievously, God's heart does not grow cold, his heart grows warm and tender.

In Hosea 11:9, the Lord says, "For I am God and not a man, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath." When we think of God's holiness, it should make us think that, as sinners, we are doomed, destined for eternal Hell. But here, God's holiness makes Him refuse to come in wrath against His people, but to show compassion to his people. This is surprising. Thus, God says, "For I am God and not a man."

How is his possible? How can God remain holy and show compassion to sinners? Standing on the other side of the cross, as Christians, we know that it is possible because the Heavenly Father sent His Son Jesus to save us by laying down his life for our sins so that we may have eternal life. Because of the saving work of Christ, God can be both just and the one who justifies (Rom. 3:36).

We will face many problems in this fallen world, and have many unanswered questions, but through it all, we must never doubt God's compassionate heart. When we start too, let us turn our eyes back to Jesus and remember his saving work on the cross. Do not despair, if you are in Christ, God is for us, not against you. He loves you and calls you to come to Him for all things.

Pastor Jason

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newhopecharlotte.org

Deacons on Call

October 2nd
Jim Hartis

October 9th
Jeff Smith

October 16th
Gerald Freeman

October 23rd
Don Jordan

October 30th
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.

Join us on Facebook &
Hartis SS Room

1st and 3rd Saturday 10:00 a.m.
H₄F (Hope for Families-cloths &
food)

Birthdays for October

Terry Lacy 4th

Hannah Smith 5th
Karen Davis

Gerald Freeman 12th
Doug Sweetser

Christine Smith 15th



Homecoming 84

Sunday, October 9th

Some parts of the service have not been finalized at the printing of this newsletter so please watch the bulletin for updates. We do want to share that the meal following the morning service will be catered. The only thing that our folks will be ask to provide will be our well-known desserts. Please note that the kitchen is in the process of being remodeled so please bring whatever you need to serve your dessert. (spoons, knives, etc.)

Please mark your calendar and plan to be here as we celebrate another year of the Lord's work being done on this corner.



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

News Flash!!!!

Pastor Jason, Christine and children will be away the weekend of October 1st and 2nd for a family wedding. Doug Sweetser will be bringing the message. Please pray for a safe trip for the Smith's and for the Lord to speak in a mighty way through Doug.

New Address
4629 Lightkeepers Way 6A
Little River, SC29566

Mark your directory...
.please for
Jeff & Teresa Smith

Email: jefftw1n1957@gmail.com
Phone: Jeff – 704.607.4697
Teresa – 704.517.6813