



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.

April 2020... the Contact ... Vol. XLII Issue 4
Rev. Jason Smith, Pastor...pastorjasonsmith@newhopecharlotte.org

Matthew 5:3- "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Several years ago, I decided to do an in-depth Bible study of the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes are among Jesus' most beautiful teachings yet are not given significant reflection. The Beatitudes describes the character of those who truly belongs to the Kingdom of God. They consist of eight descriptions of the believer's inner condition as the result of the work of Christ. Each of the them starts with a statement of blessing followed by a glorious promise. To review the Beatitude for my own walk with Christ, over the next several contacts, I am going to write a short devotional on each Beatitude from Matthew 5:1-13.

The Beatitudes beings with "Blessed are the Poor in spirit." This is an important beatitude since it begins the Sermon on the Mount. The first Beatitude is a vital starting place as it teaches that salvation is not based on our own merit or on our own ability to obey God. Rather salvation is by God's grace through faith. In the OT, the "poor" are those who cry out to God for help and depend on His grace to meet their needs. For example, Ps. 86:1-2, "Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Preserve my life, for I am godly; save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God." God's favor rests of those who acknowledge their unworthiness before him and depend on him entirely for salvation.

Jesus is not speaking of an economic poverty. He is speaking of a spiritual poverty, the poor in spirit. Those who humble themselves before God, by confessing and repenting of their sins, are blessed by God. In the Christian faith, there is no room for pride and arrogance. We can only approach God in humility and depend on his grace. For those who do, they receive the Kingdom of God. What a beautiful promise! It reminds me of 2 Corinthians 8:9 "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich." If you know the Lord Jesus, you are rich beyond measures, even far wealthier than the top 1% of this world. You have God's generous provisions for all needs. You have freedom from the shame and guilt of sin. You have the abundant joy of Christ. You have the promised of Heaven. You have the blessing of the Body of Christ. How do we experience the richness of Christ Jesus? By humbling ourselves before God and depending entirely on his grace.

Pastor Jason



Thank You

Dear New Hope Baptist Church Family,

We would like to thank each one of you for all your cards, calls and visits during the time of Buds illness and passing. We most of all appreciate everyone praying for him, and for us as well. The food you provided for us was delicious and was really appreciated. Thanks again for all you did for us.

Love
Bonnie
Robin and Julie



Calendar of Events

Standing Weekly Schedule

Sunday

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

Tuesday

H4K (Children’s’ Ministry) **6:30 p.m.**

Wednesday

Adult Bible Study **7:00 p.m.**

Friday

Open Gym **6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

1st and 3rd Saturday **10:00 a.m.**
H4F (Clothes Closet/Food Pantry)

Monthly Schedule

April 5th

Palm Sunday/Contata
11:00 AM Service

April 8th

Choir Practice **6:30 p.m.**

April 11th

Easter Egg Hunt



April 12th



Nursery Volunteers

Nursery	Date	Deacons
Christine Smith Hannah Smith	4/5	Jim Hartis
Erin Black Jack Smith	4/12	Laney Emanuel
Leah Jordan Hannah Smith	4/19	Jeff Smith
Becky Hubbard Jack Smith	4/26	Gerald Freeman



Birthdays for April

- 4/2 Juanita Williams
- Wendy Lacy
- 4/11 Gracie Frank
- 4/12 Gene Davis
- 4/19 Nancy Aldridge
- 4/22 Don Jordan
- Teresa Smith
- 4/25 Ruth Hyatt

NHBC on mission for the Lord...



Easter Egg Hunt Preparation

It's that time again, folks. Collect those huge bags of candy and those plastic Easter eggs and bring them to church by Sunday, March 15th. At that point, if you are willing to take some of these eggs and stuff them with candy, please contact the church office at 704.537.6340. Please try to purchase the regular size eggs and small individually wrapped candy pieces.

For those that ask – here is your recipe

Teresa's long lost Lasagna Recipe

1lb. Hamburger	½ teaspoon dry oregano
½ teaspoon sage	¼ teaspoon pepper
1 teaspoon garlic salt	10 oz. lasagna noodles
½ cup chopped onion	3 cups cottage cheese
½ cup chopped celery	½ cup Parmesan cheese
½ cup chopped carrots	2 beaten eggs
16 oz. Can tomatoes	2 tablespoons parsley flakes
6 oz. Can tomato paste	1 lb. Mozzarella cheese
1 teaspoon salt	¼ teaspoon pepper

Cook hamburger, sage, onion, celery and carrots until hamburger is lightly browned. Drain off fat.

Stir in tomatoes, tomato paste, salt, oregano and first ¼ pepper.

Simmer uncovered for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally while that is cooking.

Cook the lasagna noodles by package directions, then drain noodles well. (I used pre-cooked noodles)

Combine cottage cheese, Parmesan cheese, eggs, parsley flakes and remaining pepper.

Place half the noodles in a greased 9x13 baking dish.

Spread half the cheese filling, half the mozzarella cheese and half the meat sauce.

Repeat the layers.

Baked uncovered for 30 minutes @ 350 degrees.

Let stand 10 to 15 minutes before serving.

Enjoy!

Baby Shower Luncheon

for

Tabatha & Colby Brown

Saturday, March 14th ~ 12:00 noon

Tabatha is the daughter of Richard and Karen Davis and the granddaughter of Annette McCarver.

Go to babylist.com ~ insert Tabatha Brown ~ to see her registry

Dear Church Family,

It is with loving and humble hearts that we have ask Carolyn to put this in our March Contact.

The love that ALL of you have shared with us whether it was food, many delicious desserts, birthday cards, phone calls, the precious visits, running errands, and we know many more than just these and with the biggest and most needed - the prayers - we know the Lord heard every one of them. We love each and every one of you and I truly love my church. Thank you for trusting me with your prayer needs and I know God will appoint another prayer warrior to continue this very important ministry. You have encouraged us - you have carried us as the Lord instructed and we so appreciate it - more than you can ever imagine.



*We love you all
Betty and all my family*



Move those clocks forward one-hour
Saturday night, March 7th

Joe Morris

In Concert here ~ March 1st ~ 11:00 AM.

Joe is returning to share with us his wonderful voice. Joe was with us before to share his wonderful voice. Let's invite our family and friends.

Sunday, March 29th

We will observe the Lord's Supper during our AM service

We will enjoy the fellowship of one another at our informal luncheon.

The main course will be baked spaghetti. Everyone can bring those delicious desserts ~ salad and rolls will be provided.

Immediately following the luncheon, we will have our church council meeting. We will be focusing on the months of May, June, July and August.