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.

NYSO

704.537.6340

You can reach us at any of the nhbcchar@att.net Like us on Facebook

February 2023... the Contact ... Vol. XLV Issue 2 Rev. Jason Smith, Pastor...pastorjasonsmith@newhopecharlotte.org

"Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act." Psalm 37:4-5

In this dark and fallen world, people love to pamper themselves, indulging in every comfort, food, and material possession that make them feel happy and relaxed. But this should not be the case with God's people. We are called to pamper ourselves with the Lord, taking in all His goodness. This is what it means to delight yourself in the Lord. If we are trusting in the Lord, we will find in Him our greatest joy and deepest satisfaction. He will give us the desires of our hearts.

Of course, this promise in Psalm 37 does not guarantee a nice and easy life. However, as we trust the Lord in all circumstances, whether good or bad, we will be continuously comforted knowing that God is sovereign over things. Indeed, we will find strength in His steadfast love and grace.

When we are delighting in the Lord, our hearts will be shaped by the Lord. So, this is no blank check promise that we can ask God whatever we want selfishly and expect Him to give it to us. No, when we are delighting in the Lord, we will desire the right things. We will desire what the Lord desires. We will desire what brings Him glory. This explains why Psalm 37 speaks about committing our way to the Lord. When we delight in the Lord, the only appropriate response is to surrender to Him. But this is a sweet and precious surrender for He will satisfy our hearts. He will never disappoint us.

In this new year of 2023, I pray that our faith in the Lord will grow stronger and that, by God's grace, we will appreciate more the beauty and majesty of Christ Jesus.

Pastor Jason

### Deacons on Call

February 5<sup>th</sup> Gerald Freeman

February 12th Don Jordan

February 19th Jim Hartis

February 26<sup>th</sup> Jeff Smith

# Birthdays for February

12<sup>th</sup> Janet Sweetser

16<sup>th</sup> Mary Rorie

18<sup>th</sup> Dan Crawford

27<sup>th</sup> Wayne McCarver

28<sup>th</sup> Gary Brown



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<sub>4</sub>F (Hope for Familiesclothes & food)

## Church Council Meeting February 19, 2023

Immediately following the morning worship service. Please let the office know if you plan to stay for lunch and the meeting by signing the sheet located on the vestibule table. Lunch will be catered.

#### Relations to each other...

In John 15:12-17, Jesus gives His disciples' a commandment 'that you love one another". As the disciples were friends of Jesus, and no longer slaves, because He has made known to them everything that His Father has told Him, Jesus told them that He had chosen them to go and bear fruit. New Hope Baptist Church has been bearing fruit for the Lord since 1938. A lot of that fruit has gone out of the doors of NHBC into the jungles of the world – from Charlotte, NC to all points of the world. If we could collect information from all former members, I am sure that we could and would see how the Lord has used members to spread the gospel.

John 13:34 says – "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

This verse was shown to me in such a mighty way last week when I received a call on my car phone and the caller said someone just called me from this number. Well, I knew it wasn't me because I was driving, and USAA was monitoring my driving. I ask, I'm sorry, who is this? It was Mr. Gerald Freeman and Ms. Wilma. They showed such great excitement that they had reached me. From a special memory, they were visiting a tree that Ms. Wilma use to play under as a child but what touched me so much when they shared how much they loved me, how they felt the Lord had meant for them to be in touch with me and they couldn't wait until I could get back to church following my surgery. It had been a long time since I had felt such warm heart pouring love. And I knew it was genuine. This is February, and according to the world, this is love month. I know that the Lord puts people's names on your heart everyday.

During this month, would you consider taking those chosen names that the Lord gives you and give them a call. (If you need a number, call the church office for assistance)

John 13:35 "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another"

Lord, may the words that leave my lips be not only pleasing to You but an encouraging word to who ever I am speaking to and those in hearing distance. May they see, hear and believe that they have just felt the Lord beside them. I know this will be a very difficult thing to do but with God – ALL things are possible!





What can I give to Jesus On this special Valentine's Day? How can I tell Him I'll love Him, And follow Him, come what may?

How can I show I need Him? Should I send a red heart, with lace? How can I thank Him enough For his sacrifice, love and grace?

What Valentine can I give Him,
My adoration to impart?
I'll give to Him what He wants most;
I'll yield to Him my heart.

