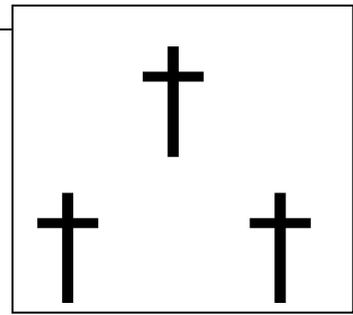


April 2018
New Hope Moravian Church
Newsletter



New Hope Moravian Church - 2897 Sandy Ford Road - Newton, North Carolina 28658 - 828-294-4802 – [website](#)

2018 Watchword

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

Ephesians 3:20-21 (NKJV)

Pastors Message

Celebrate Jesus Resurrection Every Day!

Well the month of April has arrived and this year Sunday April 1, 2018 ushers in Easter morning. The long awaited day for many Christians arrives; the sun rises for Easter Sunrise and then Christians later gather for their traditional Easter Morning Worship Service. At both services, I say: "The Lord is Risen! Then the congregation says, "The Lord is Risen indeed!" Easter is the day Christians all across the world celebrate Jesus Resurrection. This great day of celebration comes after, we as Christians, have experienced and traveled forty days on our lengthy Lenten journey....

We've celebrated "Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week (our readings each night), and The Upper Room on Maundy Thursday with Communion just as Jesus and His disciples came together. There we receive Jesus' words, "*This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins*" (Matthew 26:28NIV).

Then, as is our tradition, we celebrated our Good Friday Lovefeast; on Good Friday, we once again traveled to the foot of the Cross where, we heard, Jesus echoing cry of, "*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me*" Mark 15:34.

On our Lenten journey this past year, we've heard the words of finality that Jesus spoke with His last breath, "*It is finished!*" (John 19:30). Jesus paid our sin debt in full; Jesus paid a sin debt we could not pay for ourselves. Fortunately we are no longer separated from God the Father. Our Lenten journey, also took us to the empty tomb to hear again the story of the women who traveled there early in the morning; to find the tomb empty. We heard once more the words of the angels at the empty tomb, "*He is not here, but has risen*" (Luke 24:6). So, now what do we do? Where do we go from here? The pivotal culmination of God's life-changing Day of Jesus Resurrection is over; or is it...?

Brothers and Sisters, Easter, is so much more than just one day. Jesus' Resurrection Day should be an essential part of every Sunday worship celebration we have. When we come together to worship on Sunday, we should come to collectively receive once more the fruit of the Cross and the Resurrection of Jesus — as we come receiving the forgiveness of our sins and the certainty of our eternal life with God. Easter should be celebrated "every day" as we live with "hope" trusting in God through Christ. "Every day" should be a day of celebration, knowing Jesus is "the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). God sent His Beloved Son...Jesus Christ is our only "hope!"

So what do after celebrating the empty tomb and “Jesus Resurrection”? We follow the example of the first witnesses of the empty tomb. After the two angels reminded Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women that Jesus had risen, the Gospel of Luke tells us *“they remembered the words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest”* (Luke 24:8-9). They went forth from the tomb changed by the Resurrection of Jesus. They went forth from the tomb to share their witness of God’s power over sin, death and Satan himself; to others.

So where do we go and what do we do? We are to follow the example of Jesus’ first disciples. After Jesus walked through locked doors to appear to the eleven disciples and to show himself to Thomas, seven of the eleven disciples went back to their fishing business (John 21:1-14). They went back to their vocations in life and took the witness of the Resurrection with them. They lived each and “every day” in joy and celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus by carrying out their discipleship duties and responsibilities.

Perhaps, this year, we need to stop and think how much we are like the women at the empty tomb and the eleven disciples; we too, are to be “every day” witnesses to the Resurrection of Jesus. As Jesus true disciples, we need to let others know of Jesus Resurrection and the hope we have of eternal life. Like the women at the empty tomb and the eleven disciples, we have vocations that avail us the opportunity to reach out to those in our homes, work-places and communities. We have been given the task of spreading the “Good News” of Jesus Christ to the world around us. God has given to each of us a special gift to share with others. Most of us are not fishermen, but all of us have a particular calling on our life. Our calling can be: father, husband, mother, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandparent, employee, retiree, friend and neighbor.

We are all called to celebrate “Jesus Resurrection” by sharing God’s grace and mercy; we are to celebrate and communicate it “every day” by sharing God’s joy, love, peace, and forgiveness through Christ. We are to live each and “every day” with constant joy and celebration of “Jesus Resurrection.” We are to share “every day” the words of our Easter Morning Liturgy and our hymn of celebration that declares Jesus Resurrection: *Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord!* Moravian Book of Worship (MBW) Page 94 & 543....

Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord!

*Sing hallelujah, praise the Lord!
Sing with a cheerful voice;
Exalt our God with one accord,
And in His Name rejoice.
Ne'er cease to sing, thou ransomed host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Until in realms of endless light
Your praises shall unite.*

*There we to all eternity
Shall join the angelic lays
And sing in perfect harmony
To God our Savior's praise;
He hath redeemed us by His blood,
And made us kings and priests to God,
For us, for us, the Lamb was slain!
Praise ye the Lord! Amen.*

In Christ Service,
Pastor Betty

Easter Sunday Services, April 1

Sunrise Service: This service starts in the sanctuary, then we process silently to "God's Acre"- the graveyard for the conclusion.

(Dress is casual and warm)

Breakfast: After the Sunrise Service there is a country style breakfast served in the Fellowship Hall for all. Yum, Yum!!

No Sunday School.

Music Dept.: Handbells warm up at 10:00 AM
Chancel Choir warm up at 10:30 AM.

Easter Putz: Available for viewing this morning. This lovingly prepared scene that represents the truth of the Easter story will add so much to your Easter experience. Many thanks to Anita for sharing this talent with us.

Easter 11:00 AM Service: A beautiful service with flowering of the cross (bring flowers from yard, etc) and decorated with Easter lilies given "in honor & memory of" adorning the sanctuary. A service of song and gratitude for the risen Lord.

**There will be no handbell or chancel choir practice on
Wednesday night, April 4th.**

This will be our Easter break.

The Putz:



NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY IN THE WORKS

Still not too late to get in our New Hope Family & Friends Book.

Anita Scism is taking photos, collecting photos you already have and correct contact information in order to update our pictorial church directory. Please contact Anita who will arrange a time to handle getting you taken care of. Our Book does include college age, our young adults that grew up here and are still connected in some way, families that may have moved and friends of New Hope.

You can e-mail a personal photo or questions to Anita (aksinfows@yahoo.com) or bring a copy and it will be returned to you after it has been scanned. We need up to date mailing addresses and emails for all. The office is coordinating with Anita on the updates.

Thanks so much! The sooner we get this all in to Anita, the sooner we have an up to date directory.

The Catawba Valley Community Chorus

The Catawba Valley Community Chorus will present their Spring concerts:

- Sunday, April 29, 2018 at 4:00PM at Grace Reformed UCC, 117 East J Street, Newton, NC
- Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 4:00PM at St. Marks Lutheran Church, 3216 West Main Street, Claremont, NC.

Each concert is free with a free will offering accepted. We have 4 members who are in this chorus

CIRCLE MEETING: PAT DEBLOIS' HOUSE

Tuesday, April 17

The new book starts: Bible Basics: A Study of Genesis

By Nancy Chandler

All women of the church invited to attend. Do not have to own the book.

Fay Ayers, Leader

Mission Committee Update-

1) First Thursday at ECCCM where everyone's a WINNER--better than the 1st Tuesday NC Lottery scratch-off!!

Our 1st Thursday volunteer day each month is an opportunity for us to have a physical presence at ECCCM. Regular volunteers, Dan Greaser and Wayne Hutto, who usually work 9 to 11 a.m. would like to have others join them. Perhaps make plans to meet at the church to car pool and enjoy breakfast together before reporting to work. Assignments usually are working with staple groceries in the food pantry area. Sorting clothing donations is another area where regular help is needed.

Although we have an assigned day, volunteers are welcome at any time. John Furrage volunteers weekly with duties different from those on the 1st Thursday.

Upcoming 1st Thursdays: May 3, June 7, July 5 and August 2.

2) In our continuing support of Open Door Ministries efforts to provide assistance for Catawba County's homeless population, the Mission Committee will be collecting needed supplies to be combined into kits. These items are available at the dollar stores, Walmart and others.

Your donations can be brought to church and left at the back door table where we previously placed ECCCM food and plastic bags. Plans TBA about assembly of the kits.

Homeless Relief Kit Items:

Tooth brushes /paste, Finger nail clippers, Kleenex small packets, Band Aids, Chap styx, Work or sports socks, Bars of Soap, Wash cloths, Hair combs/ brushes, Breath mints, Can opener, Feminine hygiene products, Safety shaving razors, Matches

Also, please include any travel size bottles of shampoo/conditioner and body wash you might have on hand.

Thank you from the Mission Committee!

Camp Nurses needed for Moravian Mission Camp at Laurel Ridge

From Scarlett Dowdy:

Laurel Ridge is looking for a camp nurse to serve at 3 of our mission camps.

If there is someone in your congregation that may be able to volunteer a week as a nurse please contact Scarlett Dowdy Program Manager, scarlett@laurelridge.org or call [336-601-3034](tel:336-601-3034).

We can use EMT's, retired or active nurses, PA's, and doctors.

The weeks needed are:

MC1 June 24-30

MC2 July 1-7

MC4 July 22-28

Mission camp is housed in Higgins Lodge. The camp Nurse stays in the host room. Keeps all medicine for campers and distributes them daily as needed. Laurel Ridge keeps a supply of other over the counter medicines and band aids, etc. Assesses any injuries along with the Program Manager or Director(s) to decide if a trip to the hospital is necessary. If a camper is sick, they are sent home if they have a fever. Medical records are kept electronically and all recording is done in our registration program.

Scarlett Dowdy
Program Manager
336-601-3034
Laurel Ridge Camp Conference and Retreat Center

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**Women's Day Seminar: Nourish Your Mind, Body and Spirit**  
**Saturday- April 14, 9:00 AM- 2:00**  
**Unity Moravian, Lewisville, NC**

Let's get a group up to go learn about these issues, support our fellow RCC Church and possibly do this for our own community. Sessions include: "Women, Wisdom, and Wealth", "Women and Emotional Wellness", "Life is About Balance: Inside and Out", "Standing with Our Sisters". Pastor Betty and Malissa Bumgarner are attending.

Contact: Unity Moravian Church to receive Registration Information. There are brochures in the Narthex.  
[www.unitymc@unitymoravianchurch.org](mailto:www.unitymc@unitymoravianchurch.org), 336-945-3801 (9-2:00, M-Th) Cost is \$20.00. Fee and registration must be received in advance by **Registration Deadline of Wednesday, April 4**

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The 2nd Annual Aging Well Conference

DATE: April 7, 9am to 2pm
PLACE: Clemmons Moravian Church

The conference will include workshops on aging, memoir writing, healthcare system navigation, healthy living, the impact of the opioid epidemic, and self-help for caregivers. The afternoon program will feature the **Cherry Street Ensemble**.

COST: **Only \$15 which includes lunch** (\$10 for pastors, educators, and students)
Register online at **Moravian.Online/AgingWell** Printed registration forms are available in the narthex. Questions-Pam Prevatte

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**The Spiritual Life Retreat for Women** will be held at Laurel Ridge Friday, April 27 through Sunday, April 29.

This is a wonderful time: great fellowship, good food, beautiful scenery, and a relaxing spiritual experience. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Kay Ward will be presenting the program, "Come to Your Senses." This annual event is sponsored by the Provincial Women's Board.

If anyone is interested, there are forms available to register in narthex at the church. Please register soon as the spaces go quickly. Questions- See Pam Prevatte

## Pray Every Day April 2018

1. Easter Sunday. Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. Pray for Safie and Mohamed Brahma in Sierra Leone.
2. Stay with us because it is almost evening and the day is nearly over. Pray for the Thiessens in Mexico.
3. Do you realize that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? Pray for Ruth Snyder and Claire Wilson and Changed Choices.
4. You have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings, I sing for joy. Pray for the Teshes in Kenya.
5. Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth. Pray for Alas de Socorro in Honduras.
6. Jesus rose early on the first day of the week and appeared first to Mary Magdalene. Pray for the Harrisons with Greek University
7. What ever you did not do for the least of one of these, you did not do for me. Pray for Moravians in Peru.
8. Sunday. It depends not on human will or exertion, but on God who shows mercy. Pray for Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation.
9. The Lord is in the right, for I have rebelled against His word. Pray for Justin Rabbach and BWM.
10. Since my mother bore me, you have been my God. Pray for the Raifords in Mexico.
11. Who is mightier than you, O Lord? Your faithfulness surrounds you. Pray for the Sineaths in Camps Outreach.
12. In Jesus Christ, we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace. Pray for Annie B Mission at Star Mountain.
13. Behold, here I am, let the Lord do to me as seems good to Him. Pray for Helen Gullede in AK.
14. Let the one who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the Lord. Pray for Unity Women's Desk.
15. Sunday. See what love the Father has given us that we should be called the children of God; and that is what we are. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS ministry.
16. Human ways are under the eyes of the Lord. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with MAF.
17. Bring the homeless poor into your house. Pray for Alaska Bible Seminary in Bethel AK.
18. Behold, children are a gift of the Lord. Pray for Moravian Volunteer Resources.
19. The Lord of hosts will protect Jerusalem; he will deliver, spare and rescue it. Pray for Radio station in Sierra Leone.
20. If we love one another, God lives in us and His love is perfected in us. Pray for Dr Benno and Teresa Marx in Washington state.
21. Hé arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still." Pray for Moravian Disaster Relief in TX.
22. Sunday. O Lord, in you, I take refuge; save me from all my pursuers, and deliver me. Pray for Moravian Clinic and church in Honduras.
23. Cast all your anxiety on Him, for He cares for you. Pray for the food program in Sierra Leone.
24. Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens. Pray for Allen and Dee Dee Iobst.
25. All things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
26. Joseph remained in prison but the Lord was with him. Pray for Charlie and Brenda Brent in TX.
27. Bless the Lord, oh my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
28. You are a letter of Christ, written not with pen, but with the Spirit of the living God. Pray for 15 Mission Areas and 5 Mission Provinces.
29. Sunday. Take courage, I have conquered the world. Pray for Moravian Ministers everywhere.
30. God proved His love for us, that while we were still sinners, He gave his life for us. Pray for newly elected boards of the Moravian church.

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## **April 2018 NEWSLETTER**

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