



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church™

The Hilltopper

New Hope United Methodist Church's Monthly Newsletter

August 2019

Trophy For Sale

By: David Padfield

One day last summer I was on my way to lunch when I drove by a house that was having a rummage sale. Even though I did not stop for the sale, I could not help but notice the display closest to the street—what caught my eye was a table filled with old trophies that were now for sale on someone's driveway.

I had to wonder why anyone would be interested in purchasing a *used* trophy. What could they possibly do with it? The trophies for sale probably had the name of the recipient engraved on it, along with a brief description of their meritorious actions. Who would want to put someone else's trophy on their mantle?



Later, I began to wonder why the seller wanted to get rid of their old trophies in the first place. I am sure that at one time those trophies held a lot of value, or at least some emotional attachment. Trophies usually signify some accomplishment—they serve to remind us of some success in our business or personal life. Maybe a bowling trophy loses its luster when one stops bowling. That trophy from a winning high school football season might not seem as important thirty years later when your own children are in college. What we value today might wind up in the trash or on a table at a rummage sale tomorrow.

The truth of the matter is that there is nothing in this life we can carry with us into the next. The trinkets and knick-knacks we treasure here on earth will be of no value in eternity. This being so, it makes one wonder why we spend so much time acquiring earthly possessions, but so little time preparing for the life which is to come.

Suppose you gained all that this world has to offer—what would you really have? A handful of tinsel? Jesus told His disciples: "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:24–26).



We are still in need of a Dining Room Coordinator and a Kitchen Coordinator for our Ham, Turkey, Oyster Supper in November. We ask that you consider this opportunity to take on a leadership role in our church during our biggest fundraiser of the year. Please pray and ask for guidance to see if you are being called by the Lord to take on one of these roles. If you are interested in further information or if you have any questions or concerns, please see Sam Arnold or Karen Whitmer.

Lectionary Readings for August

August 4

Hosea 11: 1-11
Psalm 107: 1-9, 43
Colossians 3: 1-11
Luke: 12: 13-21

August 11

Isaiah : 1, 10-20
Psalm 50: 1-8, 22-23
Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16
Luke: 12: 32-40

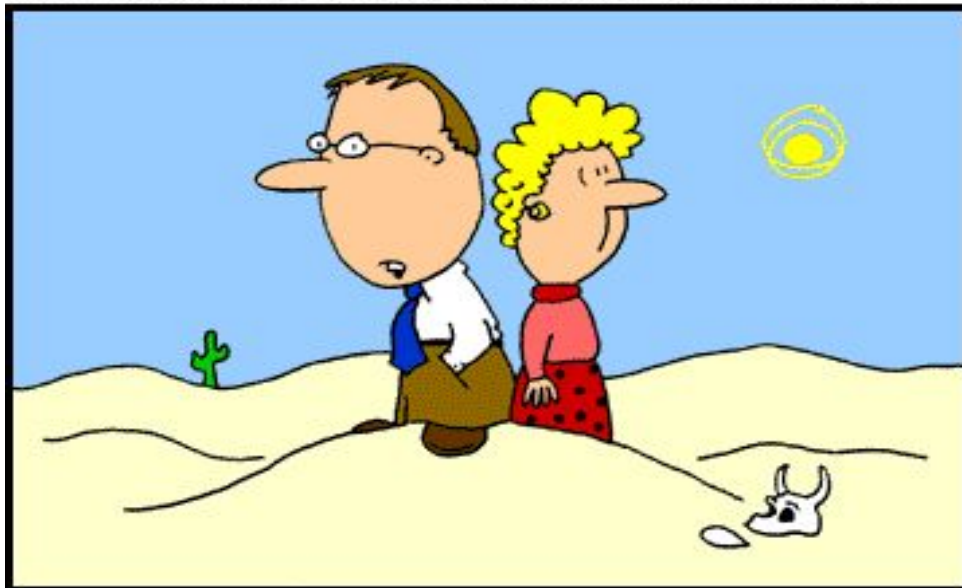
August 18

Isaiah : 5: 1-7
Psalm 80: 1-2, 8-19
Hebrews 11: 29-12:2
Luke: 12: 49-56

August 25

Jeremiah 1: 4-10
Psalm 71: 1-6
Hebrews 12: 18-29
Luke: 13: 10-17

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(See Matthew 28:19)

09-25-1998

WELL WE FINALLY BROUGHT THE GOSPEL TO
A PLACE IT HAS NEVER BEEN ... BUT WE
SHOULD'VE CHECKED TO SEE IF THERE
WERE PEOPLE HERE FIRST

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Pastor Shin, Hailey, Susie and Noah. These are a few of the gifts given by the New Hope UMC congregation.



Pastor Shin and Hailey passed their citizenship interview and now await the swearing in ceremony.

Our prayers go with them on their next journey.



Be Careful What You Wish For!

A bus full of ugly people had a head on collision with a truck.
When they died, God granted all of them one wish.

The first person said, "I want to be gorgeous." God snapped his fingers and it happened.
The second person said the same thing and God did the same thing. This went on and on throughout the group. God noticed the last man in line was laughing hysterically.

By the time God got to the last ten people, the last man was laughing and rolling on the ground.
When the man's turn came, he laughed and said, "I wish they were all ugly again."

STAY IN THE KNOW

The following are the minutes from the **JULY** meeting of the Church Council. They are available for you to help the entire church congregation Stay In The Know about what and how this group are caring for the people and the church building of New Hope UMC - in the past, the present *and into the future!*

July 25, 2019 - Church Council Meeting

Present: Pastor Mike, Sam Arnold, Debbie Arnold, Robin Craun, Wanda Harding, JoEtta Walker, Susan Coffman, Teresa Barr, Dallas Vanlear, Kevin Armstrong, Cindy Sheets, Dale Rankin, Alicia Copeland, Jennifer Strother, Andy Breeding and Karen Whitmer.

The meeting was called to order by Sam Arnold, Chairperson. Devotions were shared by Sam Arnold followed by prayer from Pastor Mike. The minutes from the May 2019 meeting were accepted as distributed.

Finance Committee: *(Kevin Armstrong reported)*

~ With 55.7% of the year complete, we have received 49.3% of the projected budget.

~ Finance of our debt relating to the flat roof repair: We are currently relying on our line of credit at 6%. This will result in approximately \$1,800 in interest yearly until it's paid off. The UM Foundation offers capital improvement loans at reduced interest rates. The terms are 36 months at 3%, 48 months at 3.2% and 60 months and longer at 3.5%. A five year loan would result in interest on \$30,000 of \$2,745.14 and a monthly payment of \$545.75. Of course less years and less interest would save us money. Do we want to pursue this line or continue with the line of credit?

- 4 year term payment period - payment of \$2,000 in interest and a monthly payment of \$666.68
- 3 year term payment period - payment of \$1,407 interest and a monthly payment of \$872.444

~ All budget requests for 2020 are due at the Finance committee meeting on August 15th, at 6:00pm.

Treasurer: *(Report given by Kevin Armstrong for Cindy Deavers. Please see the finance report that can be found in the Narthex or please see Cindy Deavers.)*

~ Apportionments have been paid.

~ The credit line was paid off for the HVAC project.

~ A draw was made in the amount of \$27,080 to pay Don Largent Roofing. The total bill was \$32,080 and we held back \$5,000 until some repairs were made.

~ A check was mailed to Heifer International in the amount of \$1,160. This was a combination of funds collected during Vacation Bible School and Sunday School.

~ The minister moving expenses have been paid and I am not aware of any outstanding bills. The amount paid included the movers for Pastor Mike, cleaning the parsonage, doing some touch -up painting and repairs and some lodging for Pastor Shin and Hailey during their transition.

~ We are working on getting Pastor Mike a credit card. We are also working on getting Pastor Mike and Dale Rankin set up as signers on the discretionary account.

~ As a reminder, please use the reimbursement vouchers when requesting to be reimbursed for items purchased for the church. They are located in the basket on the top shelf, located in the old library.

~ There was discussion about obtaining another credit card, so that Pastor Mike, Teresa Barr (Trustee's Chair) and Alicia Copeland (Music Director) could all have a separate credit card on hand to make purchases for the church.

- Kevin Armstrong made a motion to obtain another credit card for Alicia Copeland in her role as Music Director. Karen Whitmer seconded.

- Then further discussion was had about a concern that the credit card company may only issue a limited number of credit cards, and/or that there may be a fee associated with obtaining additional credit cards.
- Therefore, it was agreed that this issue be tabled until further research can be done on the subject and in the meantime, Alicia Copeland will continue to use the credit card that Pastor Shin was using before he left, which expires at the end of August 2019.

~ Kevin Armstrong made a motion to put Pastor Mike and Dale Rankin (as Lay Leader) on the discretionary fund at Dupont Community Credit Union; and that Pastor Shin and Kim Maugans be removed from the account. It was seconded and passed.

Trustees: *(Teresa Barr reported)*

~ It was reported that there are no planned major projects upcoming in the near future.

~ The roofing company did some damage to our church, we got estimates as to how much those repairs would cost us to get fixed - the estimate was \$5,000 in damages. Therefore, we have paid the roofing company the total cost we owed to them *Minus* the \$5,000. Once they return and fix those damages that they caused, we will pay them the remaining \$5,000; if they do not return, we will use the money that we held back from them to pay someone else to fix the damages.

~ The parsonage is complete; there was cleaning, painting and the floor on the porch was repaired.

~ Pastor Mike asked to have an office on the main floor of the parsonage. The room behind the nursery can be used for this purpose and a door can be easily installed there for privacy.

~ There are plans to clean out the History Room and other rooms in the church that are in need of this. If you have any personal items left in the church, please remove them. If you have church-related items that are being stored in the church, please contain those items in boxes/bins and clearly label the boxes/bins.

~ The carpet in the nursery will be removed; mainly to deal with sanitary issues and because it is old. A combination of tile and rug(s) will replace the carpet. Toys and other items in the nursery and the nursery's closet will be gone through, sorted and some items will be donated or disposed of.

~ There was an issue about leaving food in the church. Please try to avoid leaving food items in the church. If you do, please make sure these items are placed in a container that will discourage mice and insects from using these items in the church as a food source.

Worship Committee: *(Susan Coffman reported)*

~ It was reported that the Worship Committee had their first meeting with Pastor Mike. The following are some special Sundays that we will observe in the near future:

- Children's Music Retreat - September 19th-20th
- September 22nd - Children's Sabbath
- October 13th - The Dunns will come and perform again for us.
- October 20th - Laity Sunday
- November 3rd - All Saints Sunday - Remembrance SUnDay
- November 10th - Veteran's Sunday
- November 30th - Decorating of the Chrismon Tree
- December 22nd - Christmas Cantata
- December 24th - Christmas Eve Service @ 9:00pm

Nurture-Spiritual Development Committee: *(JoEtta Walker reported)*

~ The Whisper Bible Study is very successful and they are about half-way through with the study. This study is being led by George Taylor.

~ We will have our annual Church-wide Picnic on Sunday, September 29th

~ There was discussion about starting an Instagram account for the church, as another outreach tool, in the hopes of attracting younger people to our church events. There was a concern raised about privacy issues, and it was recommended that we work to get permission from parents before we post pictures of minors on any of our social media accounts.

~ Jennifer Strothers shared her desire to start a new Sunday school class called: G.I.F.T. - Growing In Faith Together - This class will be opened for anyone - male or female, young or old. Everyone was excited and supportive of this new venture. (There was a motion to start this new class, Andy Breeding seconded it and it was passed.) The class will start on Sunday, September 1st at 9:30am, starting with the book Crazy Love by Francis Chan.

- Jennifer also brought up the fact that she would like to start a Crafting Ministry.

Evangelism Ministry: *(No Report - VACANT Position - If anyone would be interested in taking over this position please see Pastor Mike.)*

Mission/Outreach Ministry: *(no report given)*

United Methodist Men: *(Dallas Vanlear reported)*

~ The UMM had Work Nights on June 18th and July 24th, wherein they trimmed the shrubs, pulled weeds, mulched and completed painting on the parsonage porch. This summer the UMM have also helped with Vacation Bible School props, scenery and staging; and the VBS picnic.

- On August 20th, the UMM will have another Summer Work Night at 6:00ppm
- On September 17th, the UMM will have their next meeting starting at 6:30pm

United Methodist Women: *(Wanda Harding reported)*

Please see our Upcoming Events page for events happening in August.

- September 7th @9:00am - District UMW Prayer Breakfast at St. James UMC with Brenda NeSmith as the guest speaker. The cost is \$12 and you must register by August 29th.
- September 21st, 9:00am-3:30pm - Bishop's Convocation on Prayer with Dr. Terry Tekyl
- October 17th at 6:30pm - District Laity Appreciation Banquet will be held at New Hope UMC, with entertainment by the *Ambassadors of Joy* from Strasburg UMC.

Staff/Parish Relations: *(Andy Breeding reported)*

- ~ Pastor Mike and Pastor Susan have arrived safely to New Hope UMC; they have felt welcomed by us and they are getting settled into their new home.
- ~ It was reported that we will now turn our focus back to finalizing our Child & Adult Abuse Program. Starting with communicating to everyone about the program and what is required of us, then we will move to getting training and background checks.

Membership: *(Karen Whitmer reported)*

As of July 25, 2019:

- 5 members have passed away this year
- 1 child was baptized
- 1 person went through confirmation and membership by profession of faith
- 3 members transferred to New Hope UMC

Lay Leader: *(Dale Rankin reported)*

- ~ In the Order of Service on Sunday Morning, the Children's Message will move back to being right after the Welcome & Announcements.
- ~ We want to encourage everyone to use the prayer request slips (located in the pews) whenever there is a prayer request. This allows us to be able to have a record of the prayer request and to ensure that everyone can hear and is aware of the prayer need.

Communications: *(Cindy Sheets reported)*

- ~ There was discussion about the need to look into upgrading our spoty church wifi and to clean up the computer/internet wires and cords under the table in the church office. There was also discussion about getting quotes on setting up internet boosters throughout the church, so that there could possibly be wifi throughout the entire church building. Cindy Sheets made a motion to get quotes from at least 3 different computer companies, to see how much they will charge and how they can help us. Teresa Barr seconded it and it was passed.
- ~ There was discussion that there are still some problems with the copier when doing 2-sided copies. Shenandoah Valley Office Equipment will be called to try to take care of this problem.
- ~ There was discussion about the continuing effort to get the church phone back up and running, and to reinstall a landline in the parsonage for Pastor Mike.

Pastor Report: *(Pastor Mike)*

~ Pastor Mike reported that on Saturday, November 2nd, we will have our Charge Conference at Verona UMC from 12pm-3pm. This year's Charge Conference will be held with several other of our neighboring UMC churches and will include lunch, the conference and a training session. The annual ministry reports from the chairs of the committees will need to be uploaded to the EVC by October 23rd.

~ It was reported that Wednesday Night Dinners will restart after Labor Day.

~ There will be a Partners in Ministry Retreat on August 24th at Manor Memorial in New Market from 9pm-4pm. Pastor Mike and Alicia Copeland will attend the retreat as representatives of New Hope UMC.

~ Pastor Mike then took time to thank everyone for their help, their mission work and their lay leadership in our church and throughout our communities.

New Business:

~ It was reported that Costco has a 5-set Panasonic phones for \$100, that will be used throughout the church and they will be paid for by an anonymous church member. Teresa made a motion to buy the phones, Dallas seconded it and it was passed.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Mike.

Next Church Council Meeting will be Thursday, August 29th at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Cindy Sheets

Brand New Sunday School **Class Coming Soon!**

G.I.F.T.
Growing In Faith Together

This class will be opened for anyone - male or female, young or old.

Everyone is invited to join this class!

The class will start on Sunday, September 1st at 9:30am, starting with the book Crazy Love by Francis Chan.



Thank You For Sharing Your Musical Gifts!



Our thanks to Courtney Stout and Brian Stout for their special music on Sunday, July 21, 2019




Our thanks to Joanie Schoffield for sharing her special musical gift with us on Sunday, July 28



BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

1 - Justin Duncan
- Taylor Meier

2 -  Winton & Ava Funk

3 - Lewis Whitmer
-  Tim & Amye Bergman

5 - Michael Harner

7 - John Dejong
- Susan Mehler

8 - Kent Darrah
- Charles Powers

9 - Monique Houser

10 - Amy Corbin
- Catherine Taylor

11 - Robert Carr
- Carolyn Fretwell
- Weston Powell

12 - Greg Killough
- Savannah Ritchie
- Alice Ward

13 - Charles Fretwell
- Mary Taylor
- Linda Wheatley



14 - Mike Stout

15 - Judith Howard
- Adam Shiflett

16 - Chelsea Bosserman

17 - Hunter Black, Jr.
- Henry Breeding
- Rose Sadano

18 - Vanessa Harner

19 -  Lester & Amy Herman
-  Glenwood & Kerry Fretwell

20 - Stoney Caricofe

22 - Randall Hinebaugh

23 -  George & Mary Taylor

24 - Steve Bosserman

26 - Julia Miller

27 - Karen Maugans

30 - Paul Abbe
- Casey Houser
- Laura Lewis

Upcoming Activities, Events and Meetings at New Hope UMC

August 2019

August 3, Saturday ~ Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 8:00am

August 4, Sunday ~ Sunday School @ 9:30am

~ Sunday Morning Worship & Holy Communion @ 10:30am

~ Back-to-School Sunday and Cookout after Worship

August 5, Monday ~ Circle of Hope family picnic (covered-dish) @ 6:00pm

August 7, Wednesday ~ 'Whisper' Bible Study @ 5:00pm

~ Sanctuary Choir Practice @ 6:00pm

August 10, Saturday ~ Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 8:00am

August 11, Sunday ~ Sunday School @ 9:30am

~ Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:30am

August 14, Wednesday ~ 'Whisper' Bible Study @ 6:00pm

~ Sanctuary Choir Practice @ 6:00pm

August 15, Thursday ~ Singles With A Testimony (SWAT) Lunch at Ciro's Pizza in Verona @ 12:00pm

~ Finance Committee Meeting @ 6:00pm

August 17, Saturday ~ Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 8:00am

August 18, Sunday ~ Sunday School @ 9:30am

~ Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:30am

August 19, Monday ~ United Methodist Women Meeting @ 7:00pm with guest speaker: Arte Frederick of District Mission Central

August 20, Tuesday ~ United Methodist Men Work Night @ 6:00pm

August 21, Wednesday ~ 'Whisper' Bible Study @ 6:00pm

~ Sanctuary Choir Practice @ 6:00pm

August 24, Saturday ~ Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 8:00am

August 25, Sunday ~ Sunday School @ 9:30am

~ Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:30am

August 28, Wednesday ~ 'Whisper' Bible Study @ 6:00pm

~ Sanctuary Choir Practice @ 6:00pm

August 29, Thursday ~ Church Council Meeting @ 6:30pm

August 31, Saturday ~ Sweet Hour of Prayer @ 8:00am



United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women

Our next meeting is August 19th, at 7 pm. Our guest speaker is Arte Frederick from District Mission Central.

During Vacation Bible School 2019, we collected \$581. That money will go towards the purchase of 2 fresh, clean water wells.

~~~~~  
Since May 2001

A total of \$19,607 has been collected.

Some of the most recent purchases are:

- ~ 1 llama
- ~ 1 folk of geese
- ~ 1 hive of honey bees
- ~ 1 clean water well



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### United Methodist Men



The UMM held 2 work nights in June and July. The shrubs were trimmed, weeds pulled, mulch put down, as well as painting of the parsonage porch was completed. The UMM also assisted with VBS props, set up and picnic.

*Thanks UMM, our grounds around the church are looking great!*

The next work night is August 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The next regular men's meeting will resume on September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.





## **Nurse's Health Corner**

### **August is National Dental Implant Month!**

Missing teeth can be harmful to your mental health, causing you to feel self-conscious when smiling and even when talking. Dental implants have, for a long time, been an excellent option for replacing missing teeth and improving the overall appearance of smiles. Many dentists have years of experience in providing this essential service, yet many people are not yet fully aware of the various options available to help them in replacing teeth that may be missing.

It has been estimated that over 120 million people in the United States have at least one missing tooth. Additionally, as much as 36 million people in the country are missing an entire row of their teeth or all of their teeth on both of their jaws. These statistics only account for the United States and are already concerning –



when worldwide stats are taken into consideration, these statistics will rise to a much more significant level.

The majority of people with missing teeth do not realize the many options that are available to help replace these missing teeth. There are also a lot of people who consider the use of dental implants to be too expensive, without knowing that affordable options are available. These are the facts that have caused the American Academy of Implant Dentistry to make August the month of Dental Implant Awareness. Simply too many people have been misinformed on tooth replacement protocols, which makes it essential for dentists and other members of the association to take part in this awareness month and spread the good news – that tooth replacement options are readily available and can be more affordable than most people think.

Many options are presented for the replacement of missing teeth in modern day dentistry. No longer does a person have to walk around with missing teeth, too afraid to smile or open their mouth to talk. The options presented in the latest dentistry facilities can provide fast and effective replacement of those teeth that had to be extracted or lost due to cavities, infection or other potential issues.

Standard dental implants are the most common option provided to patients when they wish to restore their smile and only have one tooth missing. This is also an appropriate when option when more than one tooth is missing, but not next to each other. At the moment, it is estimated that over 3 million individuals who live in the United States alone already have dental implants and are enjoying the benefits of a more confident smile offered by these solutions. Approximately half a million new patients also obtain dental implants every year, which means the use of these restorative solutions is growing rather rapidly.

When multiple teeth are missing next to each other, then other types of dental implants may also be recommended to the patient to help them obtain better value for their money, as well as to help reduce the invasiveness of the procedures that need to be carried out for the replacement of the patient's missing teeth. Multiple tooth implants are useful for cases where two or three teeth are missing next to each other. There are other options available for patients with a more significant number of missing teeth as well.

During this month, dentists and all other people are advised to take the time to spread awareness of dental implants and the associated options that can be used to restore a person's smile and help them experience a surge of confidence.



# Kid's Corner ~ What is the Bible?

by Sharla Guenther



The Bible is that big, old looking book that sits on mommy and daddy's shelf. But it's more than just a big old book! The Bible is full of adventure, mystery, and rules that we should all follow. But most importantly, everywhere you look in the Bible, you will find a promise from God.

The Old Testament Promise:  
The Saviour is coming

The New Testament Promise:  
The Saviour has come

The Bible was not written by just one person, but was written by many different authors -- each one of them guided by God.

The Bible is made up of 2 different, but connected books - The Old Testament and The New Testament. The Old Testament is made up of 39 smaller books. The New Testament is made up of 27. All of these books are also divided into chapters and each chapter contains many different verses.

We've already learned some of the stories from the Bible. It's a very exciting book! In the Old Testament, we read about the creation of the whole universe, huge floods, burning bushes and major showdowns where God helps the little guys win. In the New Testament, we will read even more exciting stories about an

evil king and a tiny baby who turns out to be the most important person that ever lived!

In the Old Testament books, the story of the beginning of the Universe and the creation of man are found. We learn about brave men like Noah, David, Daniel and Moses and we learn about brave women like Ruth, Esther and Sarah. Throughout the Old Testament, God asks His people to obey His laws, but over and over again His people disobey him. Despite this disobedience, God promised to make a way for all things to be right again.

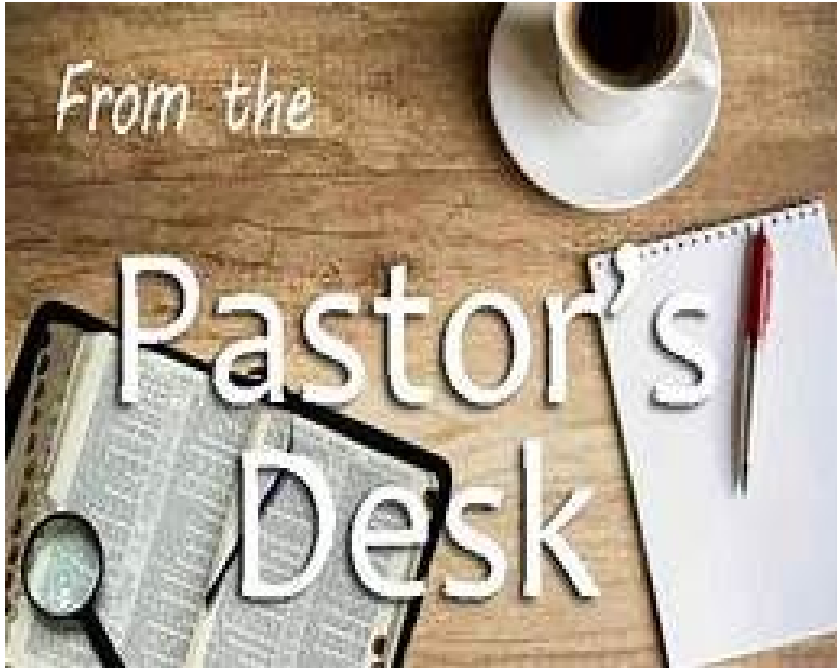
The New Testament tells us how God's promise that he made in The Old Testament came true. The New Testament is all about the birth, life, teachings, death and resurrection of a very special person named Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the saviour promised to us in the Old Testament. In the New Testament we learn what Jesus taught and what happened in His life. We also learn how Jesus made the Old Testament promises of salvation come true when He died on the cross for us. The very best part of the story is that Jesus came back to life.

The Bible is like a long letter written to us from God. He made sure there were stories that we can learn from, and if we're ever having a bad day the Bible can help with that too. He made sure there were plenty of verses to make us feel better, and tons more where He tells us that He loves us.

# From Pastor Mike's Desk

August 2019



I want to express thanks for the wonderful welcome you have given me and Susan since we arrived here just over a month ago. We are getting more settled in at your beautiful parsonage each day. Thank you for your patience, kindness, and generosity as we get to know you and the community.

The first worship service and the welcome meal was a tremendous blessing. The Wednesday evening Bible study, the Sweet Hour of Prayer meetings on Saturday mornings, and other small group settings have helped me to get better acquainted with many of you. It will take some time to put all the names and faces together but you can help me out by introducing yourself until I start calling you by name.

I'm very fortunate to serve as pastor at New Hope UMC. I have tried to spend my first

month learning about the exciting ministries at New Hope and there are many! Vacation Bible School was a great success. The trustees are working hard to address the various physical plant needs. The Planning Meeting and the Church Council Meeting showed me that there is a lot happening here.

This Sunday, August 4th is another wonderful ministry opportunity when we celebrate "Back to School Sunday" with the "Blessing of the Backpacks", a school supply drive, and a cookout after the worship service. School starts in August County on Tuesday, August 6th. Let's send our children back to school with a blessing!

I am also excited about the choir returning to worship after a summer break. Based on the special music during worship in July, I know there is a lot of musical talent at New Hope. If you love to sing, Alicia would love to have you be part of the choir.

As September approaches, I'm also praying for the new adult Sunday School class that Jennifer Strother will be leading. The G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) Class begins on September 1st. If you are not currently a member of a Sunday School class, please prayerfully consider joining this class. Small groups provide a nurturing environment to grow in faith and develop strong bonds.

I'm also looking forward to our Wednesday evening dinners which will start again in September. What a wonderful way to reach out to the community and encourage Christian fellowship in the church!

Of course, none of this would be possible without strong, committed lay leadership. I have seen this on display in my short time with you. It is great to be in ministry at New Hope. I am filled with enthusiasm as I continue to learn about everything going on and the numerous ways we can further the great ministry taking place.

I have been reflecting on Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." Relying on the Lord, I joyfully move forward with each of you. God is so good! A Thousand Blessings to each of you!

Yours in Christ,  
*Pastor Mike*

*P.S. I am on Facebook and I will accept any friend requests I receive from church members.*



**The Ham, Oyster, Turkey Supper is drawing near again.**

**Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 9th!**

**The United Methodist Men are asking for  
your support, prayers and assistance  
to help carry out this continued ministry!**

**If you have any questions, please contact Sam Arnold.**

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*If you would like to add an article or announcement to the Hilltopper, please contact  
The Hilltopper editor, Cindy Sheets at [cds3501@gmail.com](mailto:cds3501@gmail.com) or call/text at (540) 280-1860*

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*New Website Coming In August!*  
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Facebook: @MyNHUMC  
call/text: (757) 653-8537