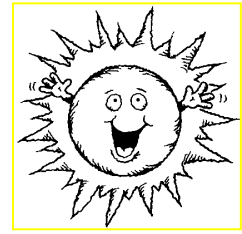




News of New Hope

New Hope United Methodist Church
200 E New Hope Road
Goldsboro, NC 27534-7642



July 2007

Summer at New Hope

May ushered in summer with the beginning of softball practice. The team, coached by Jim Harr and managed by Mike Acree, practiced each Sunday afternoon in preparation for the June-July season. If you haven't been to a game, check the schedule on page 5. Hope to see you there!

June began with a joyous celebration of 50 years of service to the community. Guests attending included several former pastors and their families. It was really exciting to see old friendships renewed and to hear the stories told to catch up on family news. Bishop Al Gwinn brought the message and District Superintendent Milton Gilbert assisted. Charter members were recognized.

After the service, the celebration continued with lunch and a continuous slide show of the growth of the church and the members who made it happen.

Special items were available for sale. There are still a few afghans for sale, as well as the note cards, history books, and "I love my church" magnets. The Homecoming Committee was chaired by Iris Cox.

June also saw the arrival of the cowhands who took "A wild ride through God's Word" - also known as Vacation Bible School.

Directors included Becky Davis and Gina Harr. Leading the singing was Hope Hicks. Drama directors were Eleanor and Martin Armstrong. The children shared their love by making stuffed bears, each containing a heart and a holding a letter from a child to a child in Africa.



During the month, two of our young people joined others of the Dance for Christ group in a mission trip to Jamaica. (More on that next month.) The language of dance crosses all cultures and Erin Acree and Jami Lavin have many stories of their experiences to tell you.

The Transformation Team continues to meet and to learn about strategic planning for the church. The group will be reporting to the Administrative Council in the months to come as New Hope moves forward in its ministry to the community and in sharing God's word.

July 8-Transformation Team @ 4

July 12 – Softball

July 13-16 Annual Conference – Greenville

July 17-Softball

July 23-28 softball playoffs

July 19 – UMW/ UMM @7

July 22 – Newsletter deadline

July 22-Transformation Team @ 4

July 23-27-Annual Conference Session (Youth) @ Methodist College

July 26- Goldsboro District Older Adult Luncheon @ 11:30 @ Mt. Carmel UMC, Pikeville

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July Memory Verse

Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God; for God is love.

1 John 4:7-8

Church Teams

UMM

-Mike Acree, President

UMW

The New Hope UMW held its last meeting on June 14th. During the business meeting they voted to fund sending a new Boy Scout to summer camp.

Six members joined others in the district on the trip to Duke Gardens and Chapel. Members participating included Jane Fields, Phyllis Brunson, Betty Acree, Peggy Gerken, Iris Cox, and Marian Adair.

The UMW are planning to attend the Goldsboro District Older Adult Luncheon on Thursday, July 26th at Mt. Carmel in Pikeville. Young fiddler and singer, Samantha Casey and the Blue Grass Jam will be performing for the attendees.

- Jane Fields, President

Trustees

May God Bless All,

-Dan Cox, Chair



Age Level & Family Ministries

Hee-haw! Another successful VBS theme centered around the Avalanche Ranch. Over 30 young cowhands learned God is real, God is with us; God is strong; God is awesome; and God is in charge.

Thank you to all who purchased prairie dogs—which turned into wild cows!

-Gina Harr & Becky Davis,
Coordinators

Finance Team

Quarterly giving statements will be available soon. Please pick yours up and save us postage.

— Roger Lewis, Finance
Committee Chair

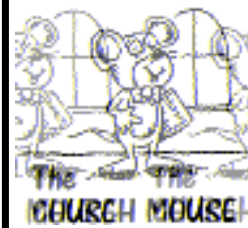
— Ed Porter, Financial
Secretary

Scouting Report

Thank you so much and God Bless all those involved in letting this brand new scout go to camp! He is so excited. He does plan on selling lots of popcorn this year to pay for camp next year. By this statement, I think he is very grateful and will be willing to pass on the kindness to someone else when they need it.

Scouts are quietly serving in many ways. Troop members helped the American Legion place flags on graves for Memorial Day. And another roadside cleanup is coming soon.

—Doris Offield,
Scouting Coordinator



Dear Church Family —
Oh, boy, oh boy!
I just love the days when all those little ones come to see me!
Well, they really

don't come to see ME, but I can enjoy them. This year they were joined by such giant sized animals and I had to watch out for the stampede!

Someone called the church a “ranch” during that week. There was singing, and crafts, and stories, and fun.

One Sunday Pastor Martin talked about the parts of an egg. Now, I'm used to seeing them scrambled at the Saturday breakfasts—that's not what he was talking about. He compared the shell, white and yoke parts that make up an egg to God. God is in three parts: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We are each filled with the Holy spirit—that's how God powers us to do what needs to be done each day.

Another Sunday, Pastor Armstrong talked about changes. He started by making faces for the children—sad, happy, disappointed. Then he talked about the Bible story of how a fellow named Paul changed. The goal is to living Christ-like. What do you need to do to change?

Mr. Fix-it visited the children one Sunday. That's what his children called Pastor Martin. Seems he had tools to fix anything—well, almost anything. He did admit that sometimes he, himself, had to turn to God for help in fixing things in his life.

And that Sunday, he talked to the grownups about how Dads are the spiritual leader of a home. He reminded the Dads to “seek first the Kingdom of God and the rest will come. ... Pray for things that are to happen. Meditate by repeating scripture. Get involved with raising children.

—I'll see ya' in church Sunday.

A. Churchmouse



Swimming With God

By
Jessica Dearth

I read a story once that says “Is there anyone who doesn’t know how to swim? If you do know how to swim, pretend that you don’t and the most water you have ever been in was in a bathtub. Now you decide you want to learn to swim, but the only pool available is ten feet deep everywhere; there is no shallow end. I think you’d be a little reluctant to just dive in. I could tell you that the water would support you, that you would float. I could show you in an encyclopedia that the density of the human body is ever so slightly less than that of water. I could explain Bernoulli’s laws and Pascal’s laws, and Archimedes’ principle, so that you would become intellectually convinced that your body would float. Now are you going to jump in? Probably not. You believe me when I tell you that you can float. But you are not ready to act on it yet. You can tell me that you have absolute faith in what I have told you. You can quote back to me all the scientific details. You can study books on swimming, and quote them back to me word for word, chapter and verse. You can tell me how much you *love* swimming. But until you get wet, it doesn’t mean a thing.”

As Christians’ we have a tendency to be the swimmer sitting on the side of the pool *thinking* about jumping in. We think that since **we can recite** our creeds, **pray** the Lord’s Prayer, **do** our devotions, and **go** to church every Sunday that is all we have to do. Like the swimmer **who can** recite back everything there is to know about swimming he still isn’t swimming until he gets in the water. You must do more than say **you believe** in Jesus, you must commit yourself to Him and commit to following His example. This means you have to stop thinking about what gratifies you and start serving His Church. You must **put your needs** and **your wants** aside and tend first to God’s people. It means that you must **stop** serving yourself and **start** serving others first. By serving others, you are serving Jesus Christ.

Once you start serving, you will realize that it **isn’t about you**, it is about worshiping and glorifying God. If you are whole-heartedly committed to Christ nothing else should ever be your priority. Television shows, the beach, fishing, camping, even your family can wait. **God is first** and when you serve others, you are showing that God

is first in your life and nothing else is as important as Him. The Message states it as, “God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense.” Every time you keep your commitments to God and live your life according to His will, His spirit fills you more and more with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These are all apart of God’s character and your goal should be to become more like Him.

So what will it be? Will you jump in feet first, head first, will you do a cannon ball, a somersault, a jack-knife, or maybe you’ll do a belly-flop. No matter how you come in, **you must come**. Only the water that you will be entering will be living water and you must let yourself be immersed in it. It is imperative you **let God’s love be your buoy**. His love will support you if you let it. He will let your faith be a living faith and He will change you. God is committed to you and your faith must be more than believing. **Go ahead and jump in, God will not let you drown.**

James 2:17 *Faith without works is dead.*

Remember
your church in
your will.



July 2007



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

***Sunday
Schedule**

8:45 First Hope
9:30 Coffee
Fellowship
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship
4:00 2nd & 4th
Transformation
Team

5:30-7 UMYF

<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
8*	9	10	11 <i>Choir 7 pm</i>	12 <i>Softball</i>	13	14
15* <i>Transformation Team @ 4</i>	16	17 <i>Softball</i>	18 <i>Choir 7 pm</i>	19 <i>UMW 7 pm</i>	20	21
22* <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	23	24	25 <i>Choir 7 pm</i>	26	27	28 <i>Softball championship game</i>
29* <i>Fifth Sunday Hymn Sing and Covered Dish Transformation Team @ 4</i>	30	31				

Additions to the
calendar of events
may be found in
Sunday's bulletin or
posted on the church
bulletin board.

SUNDAY SCHOOL at NEW HOPE **UMC**



Have you been to Sunday School lately?

If not, then you are missing something special!!! Our church family at New Hope UMC has many different opportunities for its members to learn more about our faith.

We currently have three adult classes. The first one is the Betsy Edwards Class which meets in the Boyette Building.

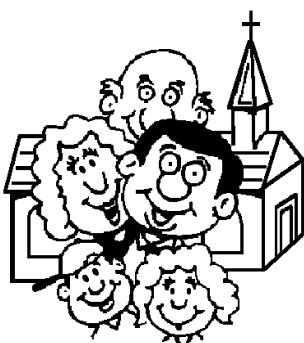
Next is the Roaring Lambs Class and they meet in the James Carlisle Room.

Finally, there is the Disciples Class which meets in the Fellowship Hall.

For our youth from middle school through high school, we have a class that meets in the Youth Room.

For the children, provide materials for children from preschool to 5th grade and then miss and match classes based on the current need. Please be on the lookout for more information about Sunday School in future editions of the *News of New Hope*. Come and join us!

-Eleanor Armstrong
Education Team Chair



Food Pantry Ministry

Your contributions to the food pantry have provided help to 16 families during the past 3 months.

Five families have been given assistance with electricity bills, gas for hospital trips, and other non-food necessities.

During the first half of 2007, donations to this fund have been \$401 while \$811.67 was dispersed to help needy families. With a little math, you can determine that the Discretionary Fund is in need of monetary support.

We offer communion the first Sunday in each month. What better time than this to bring your contributions of canned goods, dry goods, and packaged food to stock the Food Pantry?



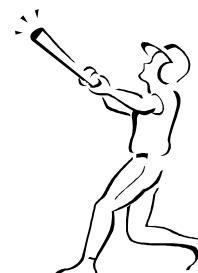
Softball Season

Here we are in the last month of the softball season. New Hope has been holding its own, even with traveling, VBS, and rained out games.

The schedule has been revised and the playoffs are now scheduled for the last week in July.

Games are played at Trinity Baptist Church off Hwy 111 South. Bleacher seats are limited, so bring your lawn chairs, insect repellent, sun screen, and water bottles. And don't forget to bring your cheers and applause to help the team on to victory!

Date	Game
7/12	Trinity
7/17	Faith
7/23	Playoffs: 4 seed vs 5 seed
7/24	3 seed vs 6 seed
7/26	1 seed vs winner 7/23
7/27	2 seed vs winner 7/24
7/28	Championship





Prayer for Healing

- † Aline Lavin
- † Alma Andrews
- † Barbara Gardner
- † Billy & Beulah Sutton
- † Billy Baggett
- † Bob Jennette
- † Carla Bedford
- † Dee Meadows
- † Elsie Turner
- † Ethel Boyette
- † Jennifer Harris
- † Jennifer McNab & family
- † Jessie Stone
- † Joe Turner
- † Josephine Sutton
- † Keith Reed
- † Lois Capps
- † Luby & Byron Bryan
- † Maggie Gwatney
- † Ralph Armstrong
- † Rob Withey
- † Stephen Balevic
- † Sue Wallace
- † Tamara Toner
- † Tonya Tillman
- † Will Davies

Prayer for Bereavement

- † Ernest & Jovita Chase & Family
- † Family of Donald Moore
- † Family of Carrie Murphrey

Prayer for Thanksgiving

- † Birth of Evangeline daughter of Jennifer & Bill Harris
- † Our church family at New Hope
- † Our Pastor & His Family
- † Our Youth at New Hope
- † Safe return of Dance for Christ mission trip participants, Erin Acree and Jami Lavin
- † Christian friends

Prayer for Intercessions

- † Roger & Carla Bedford
- † Members of our armed forces
- † Our sister church in Pascagoula, MS
- † Mike Helsabeck
- † District Superintendent Chuck Cook & wife, Glenda
- † David Merritt
- † Michael Pinkney



A Note From the Keys

The choir loft was filled with “critters” on the Sunday after VBS. Avalanche Ranch was the theme and the children led the congregation in celebration. Yee, haw!

And now, the Chancel Choir will resume practice on Wednesday evenings at 7. there’s always room for another member! Two legged people preferred.

In Christ,

- Hope Hicks,
Director of Music Ministries

News of New Hope

The News of New Hope is published by New Hope United Methodist Church for members, visitors, and others interested in the activities and mission of the church. For submissions of articles, announcements, or interviews, you may email nhumc2@bellsouth.net or drop them by the church office.

Church: (919) 778-1124

Parsonage:

(919) 778-3801

[http://www.gbgm-umc.org/
NewHopeNC/](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/NewHopeNC/)

District Web Site:

<http://goldsborodistrictumc.org>

The Food Pantry

Food needs:

Canned meat, canned vegetables, canned fruit, spaghetti, macaroni, crackers, peanut butter

Cash donations are used for emergency gasoline, electricity, medical supplies, rent

**Remember your church in
your will.**

Celebrate

Birthdays

- 7/2 Amy Miller
- 7/9 Scott Disch
- 7/9 Keith Tackett
- 7/11 Norma Jordan
- 7/12 Mandee Wade
- 7/17 Joanne Gray
- 7/18 Millie Smith
- 7/18 Savannah Landers
- 7/20 Tom Potter
- 7/21 Katie Hampton
- 7/21 Will Collins
- 7/23 Ben Tackett
- 7/24 Philip Tackett-Dingus
- 7/31 Ian Jacobs
- 7/31 Glenn Coltrane
- 7/2 Marion & Robert Adair



- 7/5 Shorty & Roger Lewis
- 7/23 Dawn & Tom Potter
- 7/25 Margaret & Jack Edmonds
- 7/30 Sharon & Allen Mumford



(Continued from page 8)

who trusts Christ as their personal Savior.

This is the same Spirit that Christ was controlled and empowered by when He was on earth. It is obvious through reading scripture that Jesus Christ exhibited all the fruit of the Spirit as he moved among and interacted with those he came across in His earthly life. What is a great blessing to us is that we have been given, as Christians, the same access to God's Holy Spirit as Jesus the Christ. In many ways that totally blows my mind. What a gift! We are not meant to live without these attributes in place, and active in our lives as human beings.

It is like this. Love experienced by us without the Spirit generating it is not love as God designed it to be and experienced. It will actually be something else that will be self serving. Love as God intended it to

be is other-centered, not self-centered. Look at Christ and His purpose. His purpose was to live, and die, and be resurrected for us, not for Himself. He thus exhibited and acted out real love. This love was generated in Him by the Holy Spirit of God.

Another example is joy. Joy is the experience of true, lasting, and enduring bliss that never fails or falters. Joy in the Spirit is not affected by circumstances good or bad. Spirit-generated joy is the state of a human's spirit that remains in place no matter what happens. Spiritually content may be a better way of describing this fruit of the Spirit. Contentment is living with a total confidence that God is in control and all will be worked out for His purpose and for our own good. This is not generated from somewhere within us it is brought to us through the presence of the Spirit.

This is just the beginning.

—Martin

ITEMS FOR SALE

- Afghan: 72"x54": \$50
- Note cards: \$5 / pack
- History of New Hope book: \$8
- Ribbon magnets: 2 for \$5



Martin's Musings

Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23 says this: *“By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.”* In the verses before the above scripture Paul spoke of how the desires of the flesh are opposed to the desires of the Spirit. He reveals in this chapter that there is this constant tension between the natural person, the flesh, and the spiritual person when it comes to what God intends for us to be as we live in this world. The flesh is so strong that God gives us at the point of our conversion, the fruit of the Spirit so we can live a Christ-like life while still on earth.

This fruit of the Spirit is exactly that; of the Spirit, meaning it comes from no other place. These qualities cannot be generated in the form that God wants us to have them, unless the Spirit of God generates them in us. They are not down deep inside us where only God can get to them and bring them to the surface. These spiritual qualities simply do not exist in us unless the Spirit of God is in us. The Spirit of God comes to live in us at the point of conversion which is the moment when a person says that they accept the gift of eternal life which God gives anyone

(Continued on page 7 Column 2)



The News of New Hope

New Hope United Methodist Church
200 East New Hope Road
Goldsboro, NC 27534-7642

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Music Director: Hope Hicks
Secretary: Janice Rouse
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