



October @ hope

NHCC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER || OCTOBER 2023

Choose Joy

—Pastor Josh Huisman

Psalm 94:18-19 (NIV)

When I said, "My foot is slipping," your unfailing love, Lord, supported me. When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy.

It is October and the fall season is officially upon us. Only a few weeks ago we were experiencing 100 degree temperatures with a heat index that felt like we were walking on the surface of the sun, but thank you Jesus, those days are gone now!

We are free to look ahead to my favorite time of year. Fall weather! The hills of Tennessee are "fixin" to turn all kinds of orange, yellow, and red as the leaves change color and fall to the ground. It's absolutely beautiful and it reminds me why I love being here. This time of year brings me joy.

I recently read that the part of the brain that controls our emotions (*fear, anger, anxiousness, joy, contentment, and love, etc...*) is called the limbic system and it's buried deep inside the mind. You'll notice that the first three emotions I listed are the opposite of the second list of three. According to studies, the limbic system struggles to run two opposite emotions at the same time. In other words, I can't be anxious and joyful at the same time. I can't be fearful and content at the same time. If that is true it seems like fear, anger, and anxiousness are running away with the prize in our culture today. Perhaps you can relate?

Enter God's Word. You know, God, the One who created everything, including you. The One who knit you together in your mother's womb (Psalm 139). The One who instructs you in His

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pure joy when you are facing trials (James 1:2-4). The One who instructs us not to fear and the He who knows all our anxious thoughts. God's Word reminds us to step back from our chaotic emotions to allow room for the other emotions to breathe. Be still and know that He is God (Psalm 46:10)

To be still is to choose God. It allows your God-made limbic system the chance to run a different emotional program: Joy, Hope, and Love. When you're fearful, angry, or anxious you won't notice the beauty that is all around you. Whether it's the beauty of creation or the wonderful ways God has blessed your life. Fear, Anger, and Anxiousness will always lead you to complain and see the bad in your life. That only leads to sorrow and despair.

But Joy, Contentment, and Love will let hope flourish and you will begin to notice the good in your life. The joy of the Lord is seeing a beautiful Tennessee hillside in the fall. It looks like every color of creation is represented in the changing season. God made that...God made you. God sees you. You're gonna be okay.

Psalm 94:18-19 is a reminder that God is present with us when we are slipping into negative emotions. We must choose to be still and acknowledge His presence in those anxious times. Don't let your limbic system run in the wrong direction. I know that can often be difficult to do, but the Psalmist reminds us that the consolation of the Lord will bring us joy. Choose joy. And enjoy the fall weather.

Blessings,
Pastor Josh



At the beginning of the current church fiscal year, (in July) the Elders created a new ministry team for men headed by Deacon Bo Cochran. Each month via this newsletter, the Men's Ministry will provide updates and information about activities and events centered around men and service projects.

Recent Service Projects:

On September 23 a group of men worked for three hours, cleaning



beds, trimming trees and general landscape work using 100 bags of mulch to help some people in need. On September 21, Chris McDonald worked at the new Nashville Rescue Mission Family Center helping prepare 400 beds for use when the facility opens in November.

Upcoming Event:



On Saturday November 11, at 5:00pm there will be a movie night in the pavilion with food. A large screen will be installed in one side with a projector used to put up the movie. A sign up will be coming soon we would love to see as many men as possible and invite your friends. There will be a time of devotion and prayer.



Matthew 9:35-38:

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples,

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

The harvest season is a beautiful time to celebrate the goodness of God and to remember those around us who may not have the hope of Jesus that we have!

Kids Preschool-5th Grade are invited to join us for a special Fall Harvest Night. We will begin in the Kids area with worship and a harvest lesson from Matthew 9:35-38. We will talk about ways we can share Jesus with our friends and those around us.

Afterwards, we will move outside to the pavilion and enjoy **bonfire s'mores, pumpkin decorating, and a hayride**. Kids will also be making a fall treat bag to give to a friend inviting them to come to church. This is a great opportunity for kids to invite a friend to church! (Kids are allowed to dress up but please nothing scary.)

hope ^{at} home



Worry. We all do it, even as we tell someone else don't do it and Philippians 4:6 says don't worry...about anything. Easier said than done right?

However, we can forget what follows the command "do not be anxious about anything" **but in everything.** The "but in everything" shows there is a solution coming for the problem we ALL have, adults and kids alike. And saying, "don't worry" is not the part we need to hear most but instead, we need to hear and live out the **"but in everything."** It is after those three words we are told how to respond to our worry. Pray and petition God with our worries. Praise God and thank him for his faithfulness in our worry. God already knows we are worried, and he also knows what we are worried about. What he wants, is for us to call out to him! Call out to him like a child calling for their mother or father. No matter the hour, no matter the worry, just call out to him. When we do, He promises, that the peace of God which goes beyond anything in this world will protect our heart and our mind,

of which the enemy wants so desperately to destroy. We call...and **God protects.** Satan on the other hand wants us to spin on that hamster wheel of worry, telling us to focus on our circumstances, fears, and anxious thoughts. He wants to keep us in the chaos. But God... says call out, and I will steady your heart and mind. I will give you peace that makes no sense.

Like us, our kids have worries too. They may not be as life altering as adult worries, but they may alter their life if left without guidance on how to respond to their worry. Parents, we have been called to train our children, to lead them and guide them in the way of the Lord. God never said we wouldn't have troubles to worry about, **"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you WILL have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."** **John 16:33** but he also did not leave us here without the solution. So, next time you or your child is worried, remember the **but in everything** and together pray your worries to your Father who is always ready to listen and feel the peace of Jesus!

For further information, visit the Hope at Home wall, where you can find special booklets that pertain to anxiety and depression in both children and adults.



Greetings and welcome to the October Missions Spotlight. This month the Missions Team has been blessed to share an update from one of the international ministries receiving support from our church, New Hope Bible College in India. Please enjoy the letter from Pastor John George, and see how, for a small church, we have a large global reach for Christ!

Also, a group of volunteers from NHCC served dinner on September 4, to the women and men at the Nashville Rescue Mission. McKenzie Charpentier volunteer coordinator for NRM, updated progress on the Family center for women and children that is currently under construction and mentioned November as a move in month. As the time comes nearer the Missions Team will be announcing a new volunteer opportunity surrounding the Family Center. Thank you for your giving and continue prayers for all the ministries receiving support from our church.

—New Hope Missions Team



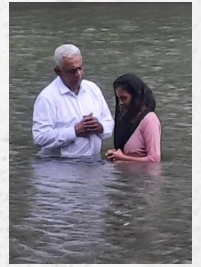
Update from Pastor John George:

Dear Prayer

partners of the ministry, Greetings to all of you in the precious name of the Lord. It's been a small while since I am coming to you with an update of New Hope Bible College. It was only God's grace that we were able to continue this work after the Covid-19 pandemic. Two years ago we started a graduate program, M.Div (Master of Divinity). The first batch will graduate in February 2024. Currently we have 24 students on campus and another 20 students online. Our B.Th course has only two batches, because we lost one batch during the Covid pandemic.

Our previous graduates are working in different parts of India and bringing lost souls to Jesus Christ. They are labouring in a very hostile environment not even counting their lives as precious. Today, one of our pastors who graduated from the bible school several years ago was attacked by a group of anti-christians. He was doing an open air meeting along with other pastors in his team. Kindly pray for Pastor Sunny and his co-workers.

Back in May of this year, totally trusting in the Lord, we started an expansion of the college building, an additional floor above the existing third level. This will help to accommodate students with more dormitories. Our Lord was so gracious to us, that we have finished most of



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the work. We still have a distance to go forward to finish it up, which we are hoping and praying for by the end of October 2023. Kindly keep this in your daily prayers.

I am planning to go back to India on October 2nd for a few months and seek your earnest prayer for divine providence and protection. Kindly continue to pray for the mission fields in India especially for more labourers to harvest in His field.

We would like to thank you for your prayer and generosity which you have shown to this humble work of the Lord over the past several years, and it is our prayer that the Lord may reward you in

multiple folds in every area of your life. If you would like to continue supporting the ministry with your tax deductible contributions please mail your check to the following address, earmarking " New Hope Ministries".

Covenant Foundation
P.O. Box 1822
Brentwood, TN 37024-1822

" Then He said to His disciples, " The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore Pray the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest ". Mathew 9 : 37-38 "

Pastor John George
Executive Director
New Hope Ministries India.

pastorjohngeorge@gmail.com





Women's Ministry Corner!

- ♦ Women's Wednesday Evening Connect Group: 6-7:30pm in Room 5
- ♦ Sunday Morning Prayer: 9:45am in Room 101
- ♦ 3rd Sunday Single Women's Lunch: Meet at the Welcome Desk after Sunday morning service
- ♦ "Perfectly Imperfect" Women's Art Event: October 14th 1-3pm, sign up by scanning the QR code!



HELLO

JOIN OUR TEAM OF SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS

Greetings Everyone,

For those of you that don't know me, I'm David Bennett. I have the honor of serving on the board of Deacons at New

Hope Community Church. One of my responsibilities on the board is to have Greeters scheduled each Sunday. We have seven spots we need to fill each week. For those of you who are currently serving as greeters, thank you for your support. We still can certainly use more volunteers.

Being a Greeter is simple. You will be assigned one of our entry doors. Our Greeters usually start Sunday's from 9:45 am to 10:15 am. It's a great opportunity to meet new guests as well as our regular church family. It also lets our members and guests feel special, welcomed, and recognized. We have Greeters that like to work every week, and some once a month. Schedules are very flexible.

If you are interested in being a part of the Greeter team please email or call me. I'll be happy to answer any questions and explain how we schedule. It's a great way to share the gift that God has given us to serve.

**Scan the QR code to
sign up to volunteer!**



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



The middle school wrapped up summer with a trip to Nashville Shores in August. We had a great time on the waterslides, obstacle course, wave pool, and lazy river, in spite of the thunderstorm in the middle of the day! Stay tuned for details on fall activities! We build a stronger middle school community when we spend time together!

The middle schoolers have been learning from the D6 (Deuteronomy 6) curriculum, which is from the same company as the Hope at Home wall. Each student is given a devotional, called Velocity, to take home that corresponds with our lessons at church. The devotionals offer them a chance to dig deeper into the lessons at home, read articles about things that pertain to their age, read their Bibles, and memorize scripture. We have been splitting into smaller groups with our leaders for our lessons and games which allows for more discussion.

You may have noticed that the middle schoolers also have their own 9-Square game and basketball hoop now, since both the middle school and high school groups are growing! God is good!

See you on Sunday mornings at 8:45am and Wednesday nights at 6:00pm in the middle school room!

—Sarah Huisman



Financial Report

You can also view weekly updates on the giving page of our church website!

New Hope Community Church Report to Congregation for the Period Ending August 31, 2023

	Month Ended 8/31/2023		Year to Date 8/31/2023		YTD Actual	YTD Budget
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	8/31/2022	8/31/2022
REVENUES:						
Tithes and Offerings	82,558	68,227	159,896	153,510	120,880	148,846
Rental and Other Income	34	675	80	800	1,458	400
Create Hope Studio Income	777	3,797	3,852	4,580	4,072	4,214
Total Revenues	83,369	72,699	163,828	158,890	126,410	153,460
EXPENDITURES:						
Personnel Costs	35,500	36,880	71,187	73,760	68,622	72,863
Outreach and Missions	8,256	7,533	15,990	15,066	12,089	14,517
Ministries:						
Adult	753	942	1,359	1,883	2,060	1,316
Children	805	875	1,631	1,750	1,410	1,317
Nursery	88	375	564	750	247	397
Pastoral Care	0	0	0	0	0	50
Worship Arts	2,405	3,058	5,367	6,117	4,765	4,250
Youth Middle School	(8)	492	547	984	1,258	700
Youth High School	719	633	1,686	1,267	931	858
Create Hope Expense	1,062	1,871	4,003	2,579	3,627	3,260
Administrative & IT	4,193	4,124	8,388	8,248	7,633	7,308
Building, Maintenance & Utilities	14,990	12,412	27,629	24,823	22,792	21,022
Church Activities	1,855	1,742	3,647	3,483	2,699	2,043
Communications	149	300	307	600	621	667
Insurance	5,013	2,141	14,836	12,047	4,092	4,706
Rental Expenses	0	83	300	167	0	250
Total Expenditures	75,780	73,461	157,441	153,524	132,846	135,524
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	7,589	(762)	6,387	5,366	(6,436)	17,936

Restricted Accounts

Due Artful U	878.71
Endowment Fund	68,120.76
Benevolence Fund	24,370.53
Maintenance Reserve Fund	133,554.19
Beautification Fund	5,601.48
Project Fund	(108,469.88)
Worship Arts Equip. Reserve Fund	4,096.08
Furniture/Office Equipment Fund	(2,344.61)
Camps - Youth	0.00
Unspent Budgeted Missions	3,750.56
Designated Missions	150.00
Staff Education Fund	2,795.85
Kitchen Insurance Claim	3,244.01
Total Restricted	135,747.68
Pinnacle Bank Balance and CD's	228,634.44
Restricted Funds Total	135,747.68
General Fund Balance	92,886.76



Here are our current favorite worship songs!

Lauren: Firm Foundation *by Maverick City Music*

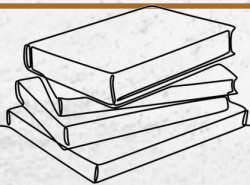
Austin: Run Devil Run *by Crowder*

Karyn: Jesus Is *by Carrollton*

Sutton: More Than Able *by Elevation Worship*

Josh: Living in Your Goodness *by Shelly E. Johnson*

Gavin: Rattle *by Brandon Lake*



A Book You Should Read:

—Pastor Josh Huisman

Recently, I had Jeff Allen on my podcast to talk about his new book 'Are We There Yet? My Journey From a Messed Up to Meaningful Life.' The opening chapters introduce the reader to a tortured man and his disdain for life. Jeff looked for meaning in all the wrong places. Money, drugs, and alcohol couldn't heal an anger inside of him that often turned to blinding rage. His nationally known comedy act became filled with anger and bitterness toward his wife and marriage. The jokes were a product of their homelife, which often left his wife

Tami in tears. In one particular argument Jeff stood on a stool and screamed at Tami until she crumbled to the ground in defeat. This style of "living" was a learned behavior from Jeff's childhood days in Chicago, and now he was inflicting the same damage to his wife and family. This story and many others are very difficult to read in the first half of the book.

Andy Andrews wrote the foreword to the book and he cautions the reader to push through the difficult moments because the second half of the book will introduce you to a whole new man. In a way that only God can, Jeff

has an encounter with the Lord that will lift him out of his "meaningless" life and into a Christ-following meaningful life. The story becomes one of salvation, healing, and reconciliation. I received this book five days before my conversation with Jeff on the podcast. I finished the book in four. It is truly inspirational.

