

**NEWSLETTER**  
**February 2019**  
**RESURRECTION HOPE CHURCH**  
**OF GOD**  
**732 Stacey Place SW**  
**Lenoir, NC 28645**

Church Facebook page:

[facebook.com/ResHopeCOG](https://www.facebook.com/ResHopeCOG)

Church Website: [www.resurrectionhope.org](http://www.resurrectionhope.org)

Pastor's email :

[pastormichael53@hotmail.com](mailto:pastormichael53@hotmail.com)

### Believing in Jesus

*"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." (Ephesians 2:8-10)*

We recognize grace as unmerited favor, but grace is also the power that God, the Father gives us to obey Him from a heart of love. Faith is the gift of believing God and is evidenced through our actions. Genuine faith avails itself of the grace of God and responds in obedient belief.

God has begun a new thing in and through Christ Jesus. A new creation has begun. We are His (God's) workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works. Jesus is God's new representative for humanity. If anyone is "in Christ" they are a new creation. Old things have passed away. Behold, new things have come. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

As the Son of God, Jesus is the focus of God's activity on behalf of humanity. We have been begotten by the Spirit of God, "created" in Christ Jesus for works that point others to the Glorious Father! As we let our light shine, as Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:16, others will

see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven.

Believing in Jesus is all about embracing the truth of God as taught in and by Jesus, the Savior of the world. He is God's last word on every subject. Every one of life's questions discover their answer in and through the person of the Son!

It is most beneficial for us to know Him in truth. Who is He? He is the One promised even from Genesis 3.

He is the seed of the woman that would crush the head of the serpent. He is the created Son of the Living God. Though He pre-existed in the plans, purposes, and heart of God, He came into existence in the womb of His mother, Mary.

Jesus never saw Himself as part of an uncreated trinity. The Church, through the first three centuries of its' existence, didn't see Jesus as God. Certainly, Jesus was divinely and uniquely created, but that doesn't make Him Deity. He is however, the fully human, divine Son of the One True God.

Jesus is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. Jesus fully atoned for the world's sin, by bearing away the sin of the world. Life eternal consists, Jesus says in John 17:3, in knowing the One True God and Jesus, the Christ, the One sent by God. He came forth from God in that He had His beginning in God.

Jesus was raised out of death by God, His Father and is now the Immortalized Son, seated at the right hand of the Majesty on High. He can save forever those who draw near to God through Him, because He always lives to make intercession for us. (Hebrews 7:25)

God's promise to us, according to 1 John 2:25, is eternal life, which is life in the coming age. This life will begin when the

Lord Jesus returns to establish His Kingdom on the earth renewed.

New Beginning Blessings,  
Pastor Michel Medlock

### Lifting Our Hearts In Prayer

Phil. 4:6-7 *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”.*

One of my favorite hymns is *“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”*. Throughout this hymn we are reminded of the importance of prayer. We are encouraged to bring our burdens and cares to God.

So often we *“forfeit peace”* and go through *“needless pain”* because we try to carry those burdens alone instead of bringing them to God.

We see in Philippians 4:6-7, that we don't have to be anxious or stressed about any situation. Whether it be a personal matter or a national matter, all can be brought to our loving Heavenly Father and He will give us His peace. One thing we need to remember is that after we have brought it all to Him, we need to leave it with Him and trust that God's will is going to be accomplished in His time. We can be assured that we will never be alone through the storms of this life as we bring all to God.

God knows all our needs even before we ask (Matthew 6:32), but He still wants us to come to Him and ask (Matthew 7:7), to talk with Him, to fellowship with Him, to let Him carry these burdens that we were never meant to

carry alone. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, we are now able to commune with God and have true fellowship with Him. What a wonderful privilege! We can now come to our loving Heavenly Father with all our joys, cares, and burdens, knowing that He cares for us, hears our prayers, and will answer.

James encourages us, in James 5, to bring our struggles, whatever they may be, to God and the *“prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective”*. We are very aware that our righteousness is *“as filthy rags”*, but we have received Christ's righteousness as we accepted His sacrificial gift. It is through His righteousness that our prayers are made effective and powerful.

Let us remember to not only lift our burdens and needs to God, but to also to lift the needs of others. We are to also prayer for our leaders; in the Church: pastor, elders, and deacons, in our state: all elected officials, and in our country: the president, those in the House of Representatives and Senate. We need also to pray for God to raise up judges that will honor Him, respect Him, and will judge righteously. Paul writes in 1Timothy 2:1-4, *“I urge, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.”*

Throughout Jesus' life, we can see that He prayed and communed with His Father. He spent time with His Father, seeking God's will in all He said and did. He set for us an example to follow. We are to talk to God; praising Him, thanking Him, lifting our burdens to Him, and seeking His wisdom and direction for each moment of our lives. We are to fully place our hope and trust in

God to work all things out for our good according to His will.

In the poem, "*On the Wings of Prayer*" by Helen Steiner Rice, we are reminded that the answers to all life's problems can be answered by God through prayer.

*Just close your eyes and open your heart  
and feel your worries and cares depart,  
Just yield yourself to the Father above and  
let Him hold you secure in His love.  
For life on earth grows more involved with  
endless problems that can't be solved—  
But God only asks us to do our best, then  
He will "take over" and finish the rest.  
So, when you are tired, discouraged and  
blue, there's always one door that is open  
to you—  
And that is the door to the house of prayer,  
and you'll find God waiting to meet you  
there,  
And the house of prayer is no farther away  
than the quiet spot where you kneel and  
pray—*

*For the heart is a temple when God is there,  
as we place ourselves in His loving care,  
And He hears every prayer and answers  
each one when we pray in His name "THY  
WILL BE DONE"  
And the burdens that seemed too heavy to  
bear are lifted away on the wings of prayer.*

In this world, we will have trials, temptations, heartaches, and sorrows, but we never have to carry them alone. We can rest in the knowledge that as we bear our hearts to God, laying our burdens down at His "throne of grace"; He will help us and strengthen us. He will give us His peace that passes all understanding as we rest in the knowledge that God is in control, He will see us through every storm as His perfect will is being accomplished in our lives.

Blessings,  
Charity