

While in prison. "One of the men who was to judge him in line with the Roman law at the time was a man named Asterius, whose daughter was blind. History says Valentine prayed with and healed the young girl with such astonishing effect that Asterius himself became Christian as a result." In spite of Valentine's testimony, legalism won out and in the year 269 AD, because of his faithful stand for the gospel and marriage, he was sentenced to a three part execution of a beating, stoning, and finally decapitation. The story of his life says the last words he wrote were contained in a note to Asterius's daughter which he signed, "from your Valentine."

"Valentine has come to be known as the patron saint of lovers. Before you enter into a Christian marriage you want some sense of God in your life—some great need of God in your life." If anyone wants to be married or is currently married the only way to enjoy the life God intended is to first enjoy God, by understanding His love demonstrated in grace and forgiveness and then learning to be satisfied so much in Christ you are able to replicate God's love without desire for repayment. This is why singleness is not a lesser status... because happiness does not come from marriage it comes from Christ. Marriage is just one avenue to fulfill God's calling. A faithful single living for the glory of God has tremendous potential to bring many to the gospel. God does not withhold any spiritual gift or fruit of the spirit from a single person and their covenant with Christ in salvation is a marriage covenant with God, the perfect spouse. Far too many people are not faithful in their covenant to God so they cannot be faithful in the covenant to their human spouse. Singleness can breed selfishness, anxiety, depression, impatience, indifference, difficulty, failure to live a disciplined life, faulty reliance, addiction to vices... but so can marriage! Marriage is susceptible to all these things because far too many marriages depend upon people-centered fulfillment rather than Christ-centered fulfillment. Compatibility may allow you to get along but God designed marriage as a picture of the gospel, of Christ and the church and the physical acting out of two people in an entirely selfless relationship living out in full display for others the greatest love story ever told! Wedding vows are not us saying I love you now... wedding vows are us declaring in the name of almighty God I will love you and demonstrate love to you because of Jesus. It is saying in the most intimate, personal, and transparent way I will be Jesus to you in every situation.

"If Valentine were here today, he would say to married couples there comes a time when you're going to have to suffer. It's not going to be easy to maintain your commitment and your vows in marriage. Don't be surprised if the 'gushing' love that you have for someone changes to something less "gushing" but maybe much more mature. And the question is, is that young person ready for that?" "So on the day of the marriage they have to take into context, Love—human love and sexuality is wonderful, and blessed by God—but also the shadow of the cross."

Christ Love Conquers All!



Bringing moms and their tween daughters
closer to each other and closer to Jesus

February 28th



First Presbyterian Church Lake Placid

Contact Stephanie Davidson for more info



(863)381-5371

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A GUITARIST AND BASS GUITARIST TO JOIN OUR WORSHIP TEAM

SEE PASTOR DAVID TO SIGN UP

ATTENTION please

Due to fair week

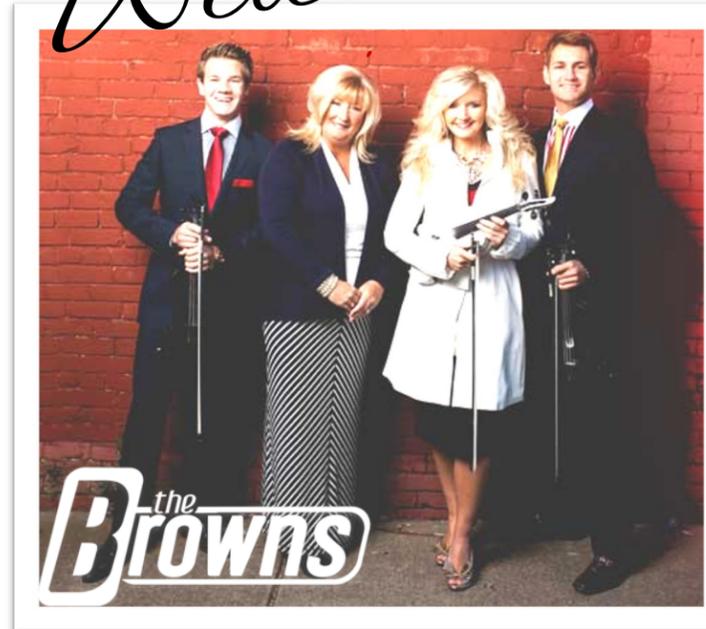
WEDNESDAY NO NIGHT SERVICES

New Hope Baptist Church
TO KNOW JESUS & MAKE HIM KNOWN

WORSHIP GUIDE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2018

Welcome



Evening Worship Service

595 **Send the Light**

Invocation & Welcome

437 **Greater Is He That Is In Me**

572 **I Love to Tell the Story**

Worship Through Testimonies & Prayer

52 **He Leadeth Me!**

O Blessed Thought

NICARAGUA MISSION TRIP TESTIMONIES

288 **Where He Leads Me**

This week we celebrated Valentine's Day, a commercialized day wherein objects are sold so one can prove how much they love someone. A special day to many "love birds" and a difficult day to those who are widowed or single. Valentine's day can be a joyous reminder of love or a lonely time of sadness. The 15th of February was the feast day for the Roman festival of love on which the Romans honored the goddess of women and marriage, Juno. During this festival, called Lupercalia, young men and women would draw names out of a box and they would spend time together and exchange gifts. Cupid, the god of love, was believed by the Romans to be involved in this, as the son of Venus, the goddess of love. It was thought a shot from his arrows made one fall in love, and to this day he is depicted as a chubby little boy with golden wings usually holding a bow and arrow. Christians began to make their own celebrations as opportunities to share the gospel and attempt to Christianize the secular society. In 495 Pope Gelasius declared February 14th St. Valentine's day. For a time his plan probably had an effect and it did replace the celebration on the 15th... but if we think about what we know today about this holiday most have no idea about the Christian martyr named Valentine. Saint Valentine was man of love but not in the depiction we understand from the holiday we know which bears his name.

The origin of this holiday for the expression of love really isn't romantic at all. "He was a Roman Priest during the reign of Emperor Claudius who was an active persecutor of Christians and the church. There was also a law which prohibited the marriage of young people. This was based on the hypothesis that unmarried soldiers fought better than married soldiers because married soldiers might be afraid of what might happen to them or their wives or families if they died. Valentine lived in a very permissive society and polygamy would have been much more popular than just one woman and one man living together. And yet some of them seemed to be attracted to Christian faith. The Christian Church held marriage very sacred between one man and one woman for their life and encouraged this relationship as a picture of the gospel. There was a dilemma for the Christian church pertaining to this vital issue of law and faith. Valentine and other believers stood for the gospel and encouraged marriages and performed them in secret so as not to invite greater persecution upon the couples. Valentine was eventually caught, imprisoned, and tortured for performing marriage ceremonies against the command of Emperor Claudius the second.

Thank YOU SO much

I want to thank you all for your prayers, thoughts, and phone calls.

Please continue the prayers. I still have a long way to go.

God Bless,
Jackie Barker



Happy Birthday!

February 20
Dean Moore

February 23
Lyn Winter

February/March 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
18 the Browns	19	20	NO SERVICES	22	23	24
HARDEE COUNTY FAIR						
25	26	27	28	1 MARCH Meal Delivery: MaryAnn Wilson	2	3
				PIONEER PARK DAYS		
4 Guest Speaker: Ken Wilson 11AM	5 7pm Deacon's Meeting	6 House & Grounds Meeting 7PM	7	8 Meal Delivery: Sue Mannery	9	10
SPRING FORWARD						
SPRING BREAK						
18	19 6pm Stewardship Meeting	20	21 Business Meeting 7p	22	23	24

Sunday Services

Wednesday Services

Nursery.....17
Morning Worship...95
Evening Worship. ..20

Adult Bible Study.....7
Students.....15
GA/RA (elementary).....35
Mission Friends (pre-s).....10
Nursery.....2
Women's Study.....8
Leaders.....12
Total.....89

Giving Record

Tithes & Offering.....\$2,683.00
Designated.....\$00
Budget Needs/Week..\$7,056.00

1999 State Road 64 East - Wauchula, Florida 33873
(863) 773-2101 - www.newhopewauchula.com

Rev. Christopher M. Bishop - Senior Pastor - 781-5572 (Cell)
Rev. Marc Pollard - Student Pastor - (318) 286-5032 (Cell)
Rev. David E. Radford - Minister of Music - 781-9675 (Cell)

COUNTING COMMITTEE - FEBRUARY 2018
Hugh Bradley, Laura Barker, Pauline Hendrickson

WEEKLY CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Sundays

9:30 A.M. Media Center Open
9:45 A.M. Sunday School - Education Building
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship Service - Sanctuary
Kids' Church K-5
6:30 P.M. Evening Worship - Sanctuary

Wednesday

5:00 P.M. Women's Bible Study
6:30 P.M. Wednesday Night Live (TUPOS)
G.A.'s, R.A.'s, Mission Friends - Kids Bldg.
Women's Bible Study
Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study - Ed. Bldg.

USHERS OF THE WEEK

Marlon Pendergrass
David Moore
David Suttles
Justin Davidson

DEACON OF THE WEEK

February 18-24
Adam Bunch 673-0206
February 25- March 3
Kord Robertson 781-5383



If you're visiting us for the first time, we invite you to fill out a visitor packet in the pew in front of you and drop it in the offering plate.

We're so glad you're here!



FEBRUARY



MARCH



March 4th
Guest Speaker
Ken Wilson
Church Planting



APRIL

