



HOPE HICKORY



HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

GIVE HOPE. CREATE COMMUNITY. BE THE CHURCH

HICKORY, NC



HISTORY OF HCC

"Launching, Never Landing"

In October of 2015, in Shelby, NC, the Lord began to move the two bodies of long-established Second Baptist Church and young-portable Element Church, toward the possibility of merging together. The two bodies became one in March of 2016 and Hope Community Church was born.

2 years later in early 2018, as the church continued to grow the leadership of HCC began to feel God's call to reach more of Cleveland County and launched their Upper Cleveland Campus on September 23rd, 2018. In just the first 5 years that HCC has been established, between the 2 campuses, we have been able to celebrate over 200 people who have publicly expressed their faith through baptism and that number continues to rise.

HCC has long had the motto of "Launching Never Landing." With that, the drive to continue to expand the reach and influence in which the Lord allows us to have is constantly pursued. The next step of "launching" was to plant our first church. Not another campus, but a planting a new body with the goal of complete autonomy. Pastor Kenny Hall and his wife had long been anticipating getting into the church planting world and that dream came to fruition in Hickory, NC when we launched weekly services in the Highland Rec Center in December 2022.



2016

HCC IS BORN

Element Church & 2nd Baptist Church Come Together



2018

UC CAMPUS

HCC launches the Upper Cleveland Campus In Burns Middle School



2022

LAUNCH OF HOPE HICKORY

WHY HICKORY?

As we set out on this journey to see where the Lord would lead us to plant this church, two parameters that we tried to stick to were:

1. Suburb of a Big City

2. A College Town.

We feel as if the Lord has blessed the DNA of HCC to be able to effectively serve and reach these types of demographics. Hickory, just under an hour from Charlotte, NC is also home to Lenoir-Rhyne University. According to the research of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, LRU was on their list of colleges in North Carolina that have little-to-no church engagement. Research also shows that, within a 3-mile radius of LRU, there is a population of 42,609 and 16,883 households. Within that number, approximately 11,676 of those households are unreached with the Gospel. The NCBSC views this area as one of the largest "Pockets of Lostness" in the state. While there is a list of 17 churches within that 3 mile radius, 14 of those church are said to be declining. There is a huge need for the community and the campus to have the Hope of Jesus Christ displayed and proclaimed.



LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Highland Rec

We have partnered with **Highland Recreation Center** in Hickory which is not only a beautiful facility, but also serves as the headquarters for the Parks and Recreation Department for the City of Hickory. We set up portable services on Sunday Mornings with worship in their spacious conference room and children's ministries can in the lobby area and gym. The worship space has a capacity of 250 and is only one mile from LRU's campus.



Pregnancy Care Center

The pregnancy Care Center of Catawba Valley has been such a sweet relationship. They love and care for the unborn, expecting mothers, and new families probably better than any organization in Catawba County. We have been able to add them to our Labor of Love day to help give their facility a lift. We have partnered with them in baby bottle drives, and we have begun an initiative called Project 1:5 where we are able to have our congregation put together a list of needs for new mothers and young families in their ministry.



Conover School

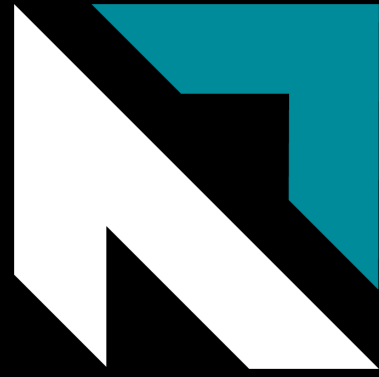
Statistically speaking, the special needs community is the most unreached people group in the U.S. Most churches are not able or resourced to meet the special needs of families with those on the spectrum. We do not have those resources either in this stage of the life of our church, so if they can't come to us, we will go to them. Conover School is a school that specifically serves the special needs community giving them a unique place to get a quality education. We partner with this incredible school by providing whatever needs they might have. We have done landscaping, pot hole filling, parking lot painting, provided breakfast, an adopt a teacher program, and more to try and serve this school that is making such a great impact on our community.



MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS

NC Baptist

Hope HKY Is a part of the NC Baptist church planting network. NC Baptist has supported us from day one and a big reason why this church plant has become a reality. Along with NC Baptist, We believe we can do more together as churches embrace a unifying vision to take the gospel of Jesus Christ to all the nations. Local, autonomous churches voluntarily work together to support missions and ministries near and far.



Equip Church

One of our favorite aspects of our church planting story has been our partnership with Equip Church. Pastor Brandon Smith met Pastor Kenny early in the planting process and decided that his core team would worship with Hope HKY for the 2023 year until they planted in Longview Elementary. The two bodies were able to seek the Lord together, as the Equip team got to learn first hand some of the church planting growing pains and be even more ready to launch when their time came In Sept. 2023. Churches help plant churches and we have been able to experience that first hand in a beautiful way.



Gathering House

Hope HKY has partnered with a ministry on campus at Lenoir-Rhyne University called The Gathering House. This ministry, led by Karen Johnson (aka Momma K) exists to share the gospel with the students of Lenoir-Rhyne University by expanding the intimate space of "home" to create a community that is set apart for cultivating and facilitating Christian relationships and discipleship. GH has weekly bible study meetings on Monday evenings help in the ARC Building right off of campus.



OUR VALUES

HCC's Values are right in the name! We exist to:

GIVE HOPE

The biblical definition of Hope is: "**a confident expectation.**" What every human being needs in this life more than anything else is the confidence, hope, and assurance of salvation that only comes through Faith in Jesus Christ. (Eph. 2:8-9). We also know from scripture that "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." (Rom. 10:17). Therefore, if we are dedicated Giving Hope we must have a devotion to the Word of God and faithfully preach and teach **His Word**.

CREATE COMMUNITY

The church should be a place where every man, woman, and child no matter their ethnicity, upbringing, or social/economic background should be treated as **family**. (Gal. 3:28). If we are to be the light of the world (Matt. 5:14), the church must be a beacon of **unity** in the midst of a divided world. If we are to effectively serve and reach a community, we must first be able to **serve each other** within the church family. We never want church to be merely a formal Sunday Morning gathering, but a community of believers that does life together. That looks like meeting together throughout the week for smaller bible studies, gathering for meals, attending each others children's ball games, being there for each other in crisis, ect. Jesus said the whole world would recognize us as His disciples, if we loved one another the way that He loved us. (John 13:34-35). That's the standard for our community.



BE THE CHURCH

Once we are a body that is founded on the Word of God and united as a community, we can then effectively "Be the Church" and **serve** and **reach our city**. If what happens in our churches on Sunday mornings stays in our churches on Sunday Mornings, we're failing. We will always look for ways to serve our community, our schools, and the **families** and **students** of Catawba County as the Lord leads and opens doors.

OUR VISION

HCC exists to Give Hope, Create Community, and Be the Church by:
Reflecting the Glory of God in Ourselves, Our Homes, and Our City.

Reflecting the Glory of God:

Ephesians 5:1 tells us to “**be imitators of God, as beloved Children.**” Moreover, Jesus tells us to love one another, just as He has loved us (John 13:34). The more that we are in His Word and in step with His Spirit, the more that we will be able to begin to reflect the Creator in Whose Image we were created in (**Genesis 1:26-27**). And that’s start with:

Ourselves:

The famous Golden Rule that states, “**Do unto other as you would have them do unto you,**” actually comes from Jesus (**Matthew 7:12, Luke 6:31**). Another way to put it is, “what you want other people to be for you, you first have to be for other people.” To get the most out of our walk with Christ, we have to focus first and foremost on our personal walk with Him. We should focus more on how God can work in our lives, personally, to benefit the people around us rather than solely focusing on what other people may or may not be doing.



Our Homes:

One of the primary values of our church is to be focused on Building Godly Families. Why? First off, because the church is supposed to be a family, the Family of God, and we are supposed to be an example to the community. Second, discipleship was always first and foremost supposed to begin in the home (**Deut. 6:7**). And finally, if you look at the current climate of our society and culture, the nuclear family probably is taking the biggest hit. We need a community of believers, especially young adults, that are willing to stand up for the values that God intended for family by being an example, speaking the truth in love from Scripture, and leading people into life-giving faith that can transform individual families and eventually transform entire communities. Our messages and ministries will be built around how they can strengthen the faith, marriages, and mission of those within our church to help cultivate **multi-generational faith**.



Our City:

Our relationship with God is personal, but not private. We must be intentional in carrying out our faith into our schools, workplaces, communities, and wherever else the Lord would send us to throughout our weeks. We also want to be intentional as we can with students at our local university because they have incredible potential for Kingdom impact unlike any other season of life. In a season, where students will be trying to “find themselves” and are looking for purpose, meaning, and direction; the church should be willing to step in and show them Jesus and His mission that they are called to participate in. In His will, they will find all of the purpose and meaning they are looking for. Also, the best way to disciple college students is to get them around the table with Godly Families. So the more we are focused on building Godly families, the more we will be able to effectively disciple the students in our city.

OUR TEAM

Kenny Hall

Pastor

Pastor Kenny Hall has been on staff with Element/ HCC since moving in faith to Shelby, NC to work voluntarily as the Student Pastor in 2014 after completing his Christian Studies degree at North Greenville University. He was brought on full-time staff in 2016 when Hope Community began. Under his leadership, RAD18 Student Ministries was grown and Hope College was birthed. In 2019 he transitioned to the roll of Teaching Pastor when the UC Campus was opened. He and his wife, Rachel, were married in December of 2019 and their son Fletcher was born June 23, 2022! Pastor Kenny was joined by a team of 11 other families from HCC that are followed the Lord's call to be a part of this church plant.



Emma Shappley

Children & Family

Hope Hickory wants to be a church that is focused on Building Godly Families. One of the ways to establish that vision, is for us to be intentional about our first hire being someone to coordinate our Children's and Family Ministries. Emma is a native of Mississippi and came to North Carolina in 2014 where she attended Gardner-Webb University completing a degree in both Missiology and Public Relations. She worked as an Admissions Counselor for the University after graduation for several years and for the past year she has been the Market Activities Coordinator for the Foothills Farmers's Market in Shelby. Emma has actively served Hope Community Church during her time in Shelby through the worship team, kids ministry, and RAD18 Student Ministries. She is a lover of deep community, concerts, waffles, & simplicity.



Jalisa Kale

Worship

Jalisa is a native of Kings Mountain, NC where she and her family currently reside. From 2011 until 2019 Jalisa served as the corporate worship leader at Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Shelby North Carolina. She transitioned to Hope Community Church Shelby in 2020 where she actively served as an intern and worship leader in partial fulfillment of course requirements for her divinity degree. Jalisa is passionate about worship and desires to help create a safe place at Hope Hickory where individuals from all walks of life can come in and experience complete freedom in worshipping our Heavenly Father.



CORE BELIEFS



THE BIBLE

GOD WROTE A BOOK

The Bible is God's Word to all people. It was written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit.



THE TRINITY

GOD: THREE IN ONE

One God has existed in relationship with Himself for all eternity. He exists as one substance in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



THE SON

GOD BECAME MAN

Jesus Christ is completely human, but at the same time completely God. He is the only plan for bringing people who are enemies of God back into a right relationship with God.



SALVATION

GOD'S ONLY WAY

The blood of Jesus Christ, shed on the cross, provides the only way of salvation through the forgiveness of sin. Salvation occurs when people place their faith in the death and resurrection of Christ as sufficient payment for their sin.



THE FATHER

GOD IS GREAT, GOD IS GOOD

God is great: He is all powerful, all knowing, ever present, unchanging, completely worthy of our trust, and above all, holy.



THE HOLY SPIRIT

GOD IS ALWAYS PRESENT

His presence assures us of our relationship with Christ. He guides believers into all truth, and exalts Christ. He convicts people of their sin, God's righteousness, and the coming judgment. He comforts us, gives us spiritual gifts, and makes us more like Christ.



MAN

GOD'S IMAGE BEARERS

Man is made in the image of God and is the supreme object of His creation. Man was created to have fellowship with God, but became separated in that relationship through sinful disobedience.



ETERNITY

SOMEWHERE FOREVER

Man was created to exist forever. He will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation.



THE CHURCH

GOD'S DESIGN FOR COMMUNITY

The church is a local community of baptized believers unified through faith in Christ. It is committed to the teachings of Christ, to obeying all of His commands, and it seeks to bring the gospel to the world. The Church works together in love and unity, intent on the ultimate purpose of glorifying Christ. The church is not a building but the people.

We believe that God's mandate is not for us to 'go to church, have church, or play church' but to 'be the church' for God's glory to be revealed and reach those far from Him!

BUDGET GOALS

\$200,000

Our goal for this next year is to raise our budget by 25%. God blessed us so much by exceeding our budget goals in year one and we are expecting even greater things In year two! With an increase in giving, we will be able to support staff members, effectively give to missions, pay the rental fees of Highland Rec, cover children's curriculum costs, keep a hospitality budget, upgrade our portable AVL system as needed, create outreach funds, and have a healthy service project budget to serve our community.

WAYS TO GIVE

If you would like to partner with the ministry of Hope Hickory through giving, you can do that by:

CHECK: Make payable to **Hope Hickory** and send to **3906 Brickfield St. Hickory, NC 28602**

ONLINE: Scan the QR Code here to set up a one-time donation or recurring giving.

Or go to **hopehickory.org** select the **GIVE** tab.



**VISIT: [HOPEHICKORY.ORG/CONTACT](https://hopehickory.org/contact)
FOR MORE INFO OR QUESTIONS**



@HOPE_HKY

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