General New Hope History Outline

October 22, 1868	Church chartered by 6 members, witnessed by 3 presbytery; first church name is New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Christ
October 25, 1868	First Church Service; received 4 for baptism
1869	First pastor elected, Thomas H. Bacon ($14.50 a month)
March 8, 1869	First Lord's Supper administered
December 1869	First offering ($7.50)
1869	New Hope Cemetery started with first burial of Martha E. Inman (wife of later deacon S.C. Inman)
June 16, 1870	First Building Team, charged with drafting a house of worship (Jesse Hicks, J.T. Noble and G.M. Kerby)
November 1870	2 acres of land donated by Sister Ann Wooten; first house of worship built (original location is 1.25 miles from our current location); before this, we met regularly in the homes of James Trammel and Jesse Hicks.
September 9, 1871	Began renting our building as a school house to the State of Texas for free school purposes.
July 1878	First "Camp Meeting" (revival) – added 10 to our numbers (8 baptisms; 2 letters)
Fall 1879	New Hope bought land at our current location; constructed new House of Worship
October 1879	First missions giving ($2.00 associational missions [equals $49.02 at today's rates])
December 11, 1880	Sold first house of worship to State of Texas for $30
April 1890	First Sunday School organized
September 1891	Pastor's salary $75 a year
1897	Brush Arbor built for revivals and summer services
July 1901	First started supporting Buckner's Orphan Home (Dallas, TX)

1902	Church membership 52
December 7, 1916	BYPU: Baptist Young People's Union started (discipleship program through SBC; in 1934 program name changed to BTU Baptist Training Union) [equals 57 years of this discipleship program at New Hope]
August 1921	Revival: 41 received for baptism, 7 on statement, 5 on letter
1929	Great Depression: This year we have on record 6 families committed to regular giving
October 11, 1931	First mention of nominating committee (appoint Sunday school and BYPU workers for coming year)
1932	[Great Depression] Pastor's salary: $10/month, plus food supplies
1935	Added Men's and Ladies' Bible Studies programs
1941	First Choir
May 25, 1941	Created a new class to be taught during the Sunday School hour in order to better train the teachers
February 21, 1942	First organized WMU and Brotherhood, followed shortly by YWA and GA Programs [equaling over 50 years of these programs at New Hope].
July 6-17, 1942	First VBS (90 enrolled; avg. attendance 70); makes 79 years of offering VBS to our community
1943	Budget $930 ($765 pastor's salary)
February 1943	Voted to be a full-time church
September 1943	First written record of giving to Cooperative Program ($36/yr – cooperative only; already giving to associational missions); today (2017) New Hope gave $198,184.52 to Cooperative Program (Cooperative, plus missional giving equals $254,068.78). This makes 80 years of giving to the Cooperative program
March 1947	Vote to drill a well
March 1948	Ground-breaking for Parsonage
June 1949	VBS held a month long (Jun. 20- July 21)
1950	Texas Baptist Children's Home opens; our pastor D.E. Simpson was instrumental in its founding and served as board member and Treasurer
August 1950	Held a shower for Texas Baptist Children's Home
July 7, 1959	Spanish-speaking revival held under tabernacle

1960	Church membership 209 (population of Cedar Park 200)
1963	Renovation project (added more Sunday School rooms, a baptistery, indoor restrooms and telephone) – yes we were still using outhouses until this point!
1966	Sanctuary built (what is currently administration offices/senior wing)
1974	"First Baptist Church" added to our name; incorporated by the state of Texas; Texas Historical Commission erects a plaque
1975	"Red brick" building additions built
1980	Last recorded summer revival (making 102 summer revivals at New Hope)
1984-1985	New Hope honored by the BGCT as fastest growing church for percentage increase in Texas
1985	Crisis point, in faith added two full time staff members, even though we weren't sure we could afford to pay them.
October, 20 1985	Family Life Center dedicated; used for worship services; old sanctuary remodeled for education space
1985	HIS Kids Preschool starts as a 2-day Mother's Day Out program (making 38 years of offering Christian preschool education to the public)
1987	Youth Building Built (old Bell building)
1987	First Harvest Fun Fest (currently Fall Fun Fest; making 34 years offering it to the community)
1989	New Worship Center dedicated
March 5, 1995	Children's Building Dedicated
1995-1996	Honored by BGCT for fastest growing Sunday Schools in Texas for 5th largest numerical increase in enrollment among churches with enrollment of 1,001-2,000
1996	Created Vision 2000 Admin Team (8 members); this team charged the church to earnestly pray and seek God's direction for New Hope (should we relocate?)
July 1997	32 months in a row of new record monthly averages in attendance
April 1997	Created New Member Workshop (monthly workshop to help new members (children, youth and adults) develop a growth plan for their walk with Christ); growth areas to plan for: worship, instruction, stewardship and evangelism
Easter 1997	Sunday School: 975; Worship: 2,061

July 1997	32 months in a row, New Hope set monthly records in average attendance for month; Bible Fellowship enrollment 2,406; 87 new members in one quarter
July 25, 2004	Land Dedication for future building space
2005	Land Paid Off
2009	Renovation of Worship Center
January 2012	Begin 3D Church Model: Discover Christ, Develop in Christ, Deploy for Christ
April 4, 2013	First hosting Easter at Cedar Park Center
April 3, 2016	Grand Opening of Education Building, Atrium and South parking lot
October 22, 2018	150 Year Anniversary