## Neill's Creek Baptist Church Goals for 2018

**Finish the fellowship hall renovation project with as little debt as possible.** This goal is obviously a roll over from 2017. Our goal is to be occupying our new fellowship hall, kitchen, and elevator no later than October 2018 for our Homecoming Celebration. Please continue to pray for our Construction Committee, the bid process, and our fundraising efforts.

Learn about the Christian discipline of fasting and participate in a one week fast. The Bible gives many examples of fasting and Jesus even taught his disciples this practice as something that would give them spiritual power over demons. For too long we have neglected and ignored this important discipline that is meant to accompany our prayer life. In this area we have too often chosen convenience and complacency rather than obedience to God's word. We will dedicate some time to studying about fasting and will practice a one week fast together as a church family before the building project is completed. This will allow us to spiritually prepare to enter a new physical facility and use it for the glory of God.

"Just Because" revitalization. I have sensed for some time that we need to renew our efforts to use the "Just Because" cards as an effective outreach tool in our community. We began this effort in 2014 using cards that are passed out after doing a random act of kindness. This is a simple but powerful way to sow seeds for the gospel of Jesus Christ and to be "salt and light" in Harnett County and beyond. The "Just Because" card is a creative outreach tool that people of all ages can use to minister through acts of compassion. In order to revitalize this effort we will need to do a sermon series, a social media campaign, and keep our congregation motivated and accountable to participate. We must continue to think of creative outreach ideas that will engage as many people in the church as possible.

**Improve church safety and emergency preparedness.** With tragic shootings at churches in recent years, church safety is a big concern. One of our goals for 2018 will be to improve our health and safety committee, improve our emergency response plans and protocols, and improve the overall safety/security of our church campus. To whom much has been entrusted, much is also required!