

# Good News from Good Hope!



Day after day... they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ. ❖ Acts 5:42  
 Good Hope Reformed Presbyterian Church ❖ The Presbyterian Church in America ❖ April 2003

## FORE! Weeks or so Left Until the 2003 Good Hope Masters

by Mark Hegerle, Fellowship Committee

At long last, the snow has melted, and the grass is green again. That means it's time for the 2003 Good Hope Masters golf tournament! We'll be teeing it up at 1pm on **Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>** at our usual venue, Patuxent Greens Country Club in Laurel. The cost is \$50 per person, which includes greens fees, cart, and prize money. Refreshments will be available on the course, and, after the trophies and prizes are awarded, those who would like to will gather to catch a bite to eat and discuss the birdies that got away.

Since it was such a success last year, we will again be playing a scramble format, where each foursome is a team and will play their successive shots from the location of the best prior shot. In other words, all members of the foursome will tee off, and all will move their ball to the spot of the best tee shot. Later shots will be conducted the same way, and there will be one score for the team for each hole. The foursome with the lowest 18-hole score wins the tournament and claims bragging rights for the next year.

It's important to remember that Good Hope organizes a golf tournament to strengthen our own bonds of friendship and also to invite others from outside of the church to plant a seed that can be watered by the Holy Spirit.

The tournament is only a few weeks away, so now is the time to round up your winning foursome. We've traditionally had around 25 golfers enjoying great weather and a good time. Let's double that number in 2003! Invite all of your golfing friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family members to play!

To sign up an individual or a foursome, please see **Mark Hegerle** in person, or send an e-mail to [hegerle@erols.com](mailto:hegerle@erols.com). Registration closes on **Sunday, May 4, 2003**. ❖

### Daylight Savings Time

Please be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night, April 5<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Daylight Savings Time. Don't be late to church on Sunday morning!

### Maundy Thursday Service

A Maundy Thursday service will be held at Briggs Chaney Middle School on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. This service will include the Lord's Supper.

## April Building Committee Update

by Ian Macdonald, Building Committee Chairman

With the congregation's approval and contributions from **Jack Waller, Jim Haber, Craig Higgins, and Mark Hegerle**, **Bill Davis** is putting together the necessary paperwork to secure a "construction loan" from Sandy Spring Bank. **Karl Riedel** is hard at work on the plans. Those who have seen the stained glass window designs done by **Beth Rowan** are excited. All in all, there is momentum and excitement.

As you can see on the chart, there has been a slowdown. The soil borings expected in February have not yet been completed due an unanticipated complication—the weather. First it was the frozen ground and then the sloppy soil that collapsed around the borings. Now we are back on track. Another reminder that the best-laid plans are subject to revisions by our Maker! Pray that **Rob Vogel** can take the report from these borings and finalize the site plan for submission by mid-April. ❖

Building Plan Progress Report

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Soil Borings				Feb 23				Revised Mar 28				
Submit Site Plan			March 1					Revised to April 15				
Site Plan Approval					April 30			Revised to May 15				
Financing Secured					April 30							
Pay off Emanuel						May 15						
Architect Plans Done					April 15							
Construction Begins							June 30					
Pledges received	\$8K	13K										
Expense Budget								\$25K pre-construction				
Expense Actual	\$5K	7K										

■ In process    ■ Completed

## Focus on Our Missionaries: Steve and Kelly Marusich, University of Maryland

It has been a busy year already for the Marusich family. On the home front, we began the move to our new rental house as soon as we returned from visiting family in Alabama for Christmas. Since the move was very last minute, we were literally packing and unpacking boxes until the last minute before I left for Peru. But God was gracious, and we got through it. He provided many hands to help during the last (and biggest) day and even some good time to spend with a couple of students who came back early to help.

We love the house, as it gives us a lot more space and a big back yard. Jackson especially enjoys "the playground" (swing set in the backyard). He continues to grow and learn and is, quite frankly, the smartest and cutest kid on the planet. He is constantly making up stories and games for the family to play. Jackson frequently reminds us how great "the new earth" will be (his abbreviation of "the new heavens and new earth"). The other day he yelled, "Let's go to heaven, right now!" Eli is growing as well. He is now nine months old and just had his first haircut. Last week he learned to crawl and pull up—making it a very momentous week.

Over the Christmas break, eight University of Maryland students and I went to work with children and youth in some of the poorest neighborhoods in Lima, Peru, alongside some of the local churches. God blessed us in so many ways. In at least two of the neighborhoods, the children were left at home alone all day (it was summer there), and that often meant that a nine year-old was left to take care of a two-year-old. Each morning, we worked doing minor construction, repair, and painting for the churches. Each afternoon, we would go to the local public park and play Ultimate Frisbee with the kids. We used this as a way to spend time with them and love them in a tangible way. At the end of the day, we put on a short program as a way to share the Gospel.

Back on the University of Maryland campus, we have been studying the book of Daniel, focusing on the question—"What does it mean to be a Christian on a non-Christian campus?" Please pray for us as we attempt to stand for Christ.



Jackson (3½ years old) and Eli (9 months old) Marusich have both grown dramatically since this photo, taken last summer.

Thank you for your prayers for RUF and for us.

*Steve Marusich*

Good Hope Reformed Presbyterian Church  
 Post Office Box 164  
 Burtonsville, MD 20866  
 (301) 236-4151  
 Current Meeting Location:  
 Briggs Chaney Middle School  
 1901 Rainbow Drive  
 Silver Spring, MD 20905

Join us for Worship at 9:25am and Sunday School at 11:00am each Sunday.  
 www.goodhopepca.com

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# April 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 4:30pm Youth Group GG - 5:45pm Chandler GG - 6:00pm	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> Macdonald GG 6:30pm	<b>2</b> Tim Rowan GG 6:30pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> French GG - 7:00pm	<b>5</b> Don't forget to change your clocks one hour forward tonight!
<b>6</b> Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 4:30pm Youth Group GG - 5:45pm Chandler GG - 6:00pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Macdonald GG 6:30pm	<b>9</b> Tim Rowan GG 6:30pm	<b>10</b> Session Meeting at Wallers' House 7:30pm	<b>11</b> French GG - 7:00pm	<b>12</b> Men's Breakfast at Wallers' House 7:30am
<b>13</b> Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 4:30pm Youth Group GG - 5:45pm Chandler GG - 6:00pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Maundy Thursday Service at Briggs Chaney Middle 7:00pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Macdonald GG 6:30pm	<b>23</b> Tim Rowan GG 6:30pm	<b>24</b> Sunday School Teachers' Meeting at Ron & Amy Higgins' 7:30pm	<b>25</b> French GG - 7:00pm	<b>26</b> Building Committee at the Macdonalds' House - 7:30am
<b>27</b> Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 4:30pm Youth Group GG - 5:45pm Chandler GG - 6:00pm	<b>28</b> Info for April newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	<b>29</b> Macdonald GG 6:30pm	<b>30</b> Tim Rowan GG 6:30pm	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

## Human Nature and Divine Nature—Jesus Has It All Covered

When Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome, he opened his letter with a description of Jesus Christ. In this description, Paul included a contrasting statement. He wrote concerning Jesus, "as to His human nature, He was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 1:3-4) We might suppose that Paul's chief aim in this description was to teach us that Jesus had two natures—human and divine. But, more likely, in this instance, Paul was describing a contrast in the ministries of Jesus Christ. In His human nature, Jesus became just like us, fully human. And with that full humanity, He experienced the limitations of this humanity, the weaknesses of being a man. Hebrews 4:15-16 says, "for we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in our time of need." Jesus has been to the battle and through the battle of life. He is a veteran of this life, not isolated from it, but fully engaged with it. He ministered successfully in weakness, but also now ministers in power by His resurrection.

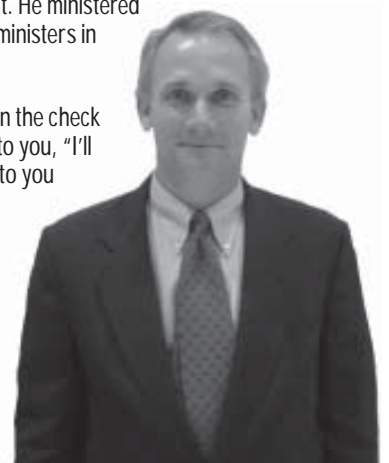
### *Men's Breakfast*

The men's breakfast group will meet on **Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30am at the Wallers' house. In preparation, please read through page 84 of *Out of the Silent Planet* by C.S. Lewis.

### *Vacation Bible School*

The dates for VBS 2003 have been set for **July 14-18**. Mark your calendar now, and please let **Chris Waller** know if you are available to help!

Have you ever gone to dinner, and, when the check was brought to the table, a friend said to you, "I'll cover it"? What your friend was saying to you was, "you're taken care of." Our Lord Jesus, our great Shepherd, our elder brother, through the weakness of becoming human and through His resurrection, which declares Him powerfully to be the Son of God, has you covered. Your present and your future. Your weakness and your future triumph in Him. He has covered it all, and He has it all covered. ❖



## Ron Higgins—A Friend in Class, A Friend Out of Class

by Kathy Haber, Sunday School Correspondent

I enjoy teaching Sunday School, and I certainly think that it is a worthwhile endeavor. Nevertheless, I feel the tension many weeks that comes from adding the time to prepare to the rest of my responsibilities. Why other people, who already have full schedules and must surely feel that same tension, are willing to teach is a question that intrigues me, and I have asked each of the teachers about it. Ron Higgins' answer was as gratifying as the other answers have been: "Looking back, I'd say that the need arose for a high school teacher, and I felt the Lord put it on my heart to fill that need. Presently, I am thankful for the experience and opportunity the Lord provided. Looking forward, I hope to continue to serve Him faithfully in this way."

Ron has been teaching the high school class for five years. One of the many challenges of teaching high schoolers is that the students are in the class for four years. But Ron doesn't consider that a disadvantage. He has a genuine desire to build relationships with his students. One reason Ron wants to know the students is so he will have insight into what they should be studying together. He wants to challenge the kids to grow closer to the Lord. He stresses studying God's Word, understanding God's character, knowing why we should obey His commands, and worshipping Him. Another reason that Ron wants to know his students is so he can pray for them. At the close of class every week, he asks each student for a specific prayer request, and he prays for each individual request together with the kids. That prayer time is important to him, and he wants to pray for each of his students throughout the week. For Ron, "it has been a blessing for me to see the kids grow over the four years, and it is always a sad day when they move up."

Ron and Amy have been wonderful role models for my own children as well. Joseph worked for Ron during the summer that Tim was a baby, and often Amy and Tim would meet Ron and Joseph for lunch. At our dinner table, Joseph would tell us about the new things that Tim was learning to do and how pleasant it was to eat lunch with their little family. We were grateful that Joseph had the opportunity to watch firsthand another loving Christian marriage and family. Ron and Amy have both been good friends to Joseph and Kate, giving them practical advice about organizing their finances and purchasing (and repairing) their home. Peter was a student of Ron's, and he benefited from systematically working through the book of Revelation. He also had the opportunity to work for Ron. Often the work was hard manual labor, which made him hot and dirty, but the environment that Ron set was clean and wholesome. Personally, I am grateful for Ron's willingness to teach the high school class, and I am also very grateful for Ron and Amy's friendship and example to my own children.

I enthusiastically tackled the project of writing this series of articles. I had observed that many of the Sunday School teachers have been teaching faithfully and well for a long time, and I wanted to recognize them. Even so, as the teachers have answered my questions, I have been impressed by their love for the Lord and their desire to serve Him, by their love and concern for their students, and by their high level of talent and skill. Thank you for answering my questions, and mostly thank you for your good and faithful service to Good Hope and to our children. ❖



Ron Higgins' current Sunday School class includes Kip French, Jeff Taylor, Rachel Grace Waller, and Nathanael Showalter. Timmy Rowan is also a class member, though not pictured here.

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