

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 Presbyterian Church ❖ The Presbyterian Church in America ❖ April 2007

He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

When our loved ones die, we lay them down in a coffin, and then we lay them down in a grave. The word "cemetery" literally means "a sleeping place." It is a place where the bodies—but not the souls—of the deceased lie. There bodies are pictured as sleeping—they are not animated with life, but immobilized with death. After His crucifixion, Jesus' body was taken down from the cross and laid in a grave. He yielded up His spirit to His Father, but His body was laid in a grave.

The word "resurrection" literally means to "place" or "stand up." On the third day after His death, Jesus' body was resurrected. It was not simply taken from a horizontal position to a vertical position, but rather His lifeless body was animated by the return of His spirit. He was alive again! His spirit was never dead, but safe with the Father. Now His spirit was reunited with His body, never to be separated again. Jesus' death and resurrection are a model for all believers. If we die before the Lord returns, our bodies will sleep in the grave, our spirits will go to be with the Lord, and when He comes again, He will bring our spirits with Him and reunite us with a new resurrected body. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies." (John 11:25)

At Easter, we remember His sacrificial death on our behalf to cover our sins, and we celebrate His resurrection, which also assures us of our own. Our resurrection will take place in the future, yet its monumental value and importance cast a radiant glow all the way to our present day living. We rejoice with the certainty of our future in hand. We live with daily anticipation of our Heavenly Father's guidance and presence now and through our eternal days. We fear not, because our Savior conquered our greatest foe. "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:54-57) We may lie down for a while, but we stand forever. Hallelujah! ❖



Vacation Bible School Is Coming in July!

Mark your calendars now for VBS, which will be held during the week of **July 2nd-6th**! Our VBS program will be geared towards children in kindergarten and elementary school. If you would like to assist with VBS this summer, but have younger children who will need childcare, or if you have older children who would like to help during VBS week, please contact **Cheryl Dudek** at (410) 884-6706 as soon as possible. ❖

Easter Schedule

Join us on **Thursday, April 5th** at **7:00pm** for a Maundy Thursday service. The Lord's Supper will be served, so take time to prepare your hearts for communion with our Lord.

An Easter sunrise service will be held at **6:30am on Sunday, April 8th**, followed by a continental breakfast for the early birds. Please contact **Bobbie Macdonald** if you're available to bring food or assist with the breakfast.

Our regular worship service at **11:00am** will also be held on Easter Sunday, but there will be **no evening service** or youth group activities on Sunday, April 8th.

Youth Group Schedule

The middle school youth group will continue to meet on Sunday afternoons at **5:00pm** at the church. They will meet every week in April except for Sunday, April 8th.

The high school youth group will meet on Sunday nights from **8:00-9:30pm** at Craig and Wendy Higgins' home. They will meet every week in April except for Sunday, April 8th.

Focus on Our Missionaries: *Steve and Kelly Marusich, University of Gloucestershire*



The chapel at the University of Gloucestershire

Greetings to all of you at Good Hope PCA from the Marusich family. As you may or may not know, we are no longer your emissaries to the University of Maryland. (That position has been taken over by the very capable **Chris Garriott**.) Now we are your missionaries to England! As of last spring, Kelly and I accepted a call issued jointly by Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) and Mission to the World (MTW) to start the first RUF in Europe. We will be working with MTW church planters **Tim and Sara Horn** in a town called Cheltenham at the University of Gloucestershire.

Though we Presbyterians may associate the United Kingdom (UK) with John Knox, the Westminster Confession, or Charles Spurgeon, we would be some of the few who do so today—especially inside of the UK. Less than 3% of the entire population there attends any kind of church. We are hoping to be a part of a revival to renew the Church and to call many people to faith.

Since last June, we have been building our support team. At this point, our hope is to move to the UK by August 15th so that we will be there for the start of a new semester at the University of Gloucestershire in the autumn (They don't call it "fall" there!) and so that our kids can begin their new schools. Please pray that God would bless and work beyond our efforts and that He would be preparing people to hear the Gospel even now before we arrive.

In the meantime, we need to sell our house here in College Park and complete our MTW training, so please pray for those to be accomplished as well. As always, thank you for your generous support, prayers, and encouragement.

We praise God for you!

Steve for the Marusichs

Join us for Sunday School at 9:45am and Worship at 11:00am each Sunday.
Evening Worship is held each Sunday at 6:30pm.

Good Hope Presbyterian Church
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April 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Middle School at church - 5pm Evening Worship - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins' - 8:00-9:30pm	2 April Deacons of the Month: Bill Davis Ron Goodrich	3 Deacon Meeting at the church - 6:30pm	4	5 Maundy Thursday Communion Service at the church - 7:00pm	6	7 Work Party at the church - 9:00am
8 Sunrise Service - 6:30am Continental Breakfast Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am	9	10	11	12 Session Meeting at the church - 7:30pm	13	14 Work Party at the church - 9:00am
15 Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Middle School at church - 5pm Evening Worship - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins' - 8:00-9:30pm	16	17	18 VBS Planning Meeting at the church - 7:30pm	19	20	21 Work Party at the church - 9:00am
22 Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Middle School at church - 5pm Evening Worship - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins' - 8:00-9:30pm	23	24	25	26 Info for May newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	27	28 Work Party at the church - 9:00am
29 Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Middle School at church - 5pm Evening Worship - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins' - 8:00-9:30pm	30	1	2	3	4	5 Work Party at the church - 9:00am

Sign Up Now for the Next Session of Good Hope Supper Clubs!

By definition, Supper Clubs are groups of 6–10 adults meeting together once a month to eat a meal and enjoy each others' company, developing closer friendships among Good Hope's church family.

One person or couple hosts the first month's supper club, whether it is at their home, a park, a restaurant, etc. Typically it is held in someone's home, and the host decides on the menu and provides the main course. Others bring an addition to the meal. Sometimes the host sets a theme for the evening or plans an activity to allow people to get to know each other better.

During this evening of fun, calendars are checked, and the date of the next month's meeting is decided. The next person on the list will host. After each person/couple has had an opportunity to host, we divide into new groups, and the fun begins again.

Supper Clubs serve two purposes:

1. They give an opportunity for the church body to get to know each other better, many times forming close friendships with people who they didn't know before.
2. They provide a place to invite newcomers to our church to quickly make them feel included in the church family. The clubs are kept small to allow room for invitations. If everyone is so welcoming to the visitors of our church, it is possible for our guests have a date at a supper club every weekend of the month!



The next rotation of Good Hope's Supper Clubs will begin in May, and each group will meet for dinner once during the months of May, June, and July. Please contact **Shelley Smith** at jcats5@comcast.net or (410) 465-6002 by **Sunday, April 22nd** to join this session of Supper Clubs! ❖