

# 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 ❖ August 2002

## All Things Work Together For Good

"**A**nd we know that for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28, ESV) This truth has been a comfort to Christians of every generation. Its scope is unparalleled. Its depth is fathomless. Its delight is immeasurable. Its reservoir of strength is limitless for every Christian who needs to drink at its fountain.

There are some issues concerning God that we know with certainty, and there are other items concerning Him that remain mysteries to us. This we know with certainty, without reservation, without caution, without compromise, and without doubt, "that for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose." What we do not know is how He is able to work in all things. We rightly say, "it because of His awesome infinite power and wisdom that He is able to work in all things." But do we fully comprehend what His awesome infinite power and wisdom is?

Have you ever passed by a telephone repairman who is working on a junction box? With the cover off, you can see an enormous array of colored wires. To the untrained eye, it seems dizzying. How can you make sense of all those wires? Look into a pot of spaghetti that has been cooked on the stovetop, or look at it when it is served onto your plate. It is all tangled and intertwined. Now take all of the telephone junction boxes with their countless colored wires, and take all of the spaghetti in all of the pots and on all of the plates of the world, and mix them all together. Shake them, blend them, stir them up, and then pull each wire and noodle apart, one by one. You can't! The task is too big, too enormous, too tiring to even contemplate. It is impossible for us.

Yet, to God, this maze is like His daily work. Each noodle and wire represents a single occurrence in our lives, and He is working simultaneously and continuously through all of the seemingly tangled noodles and wires of our lives. He is cooking up a good meal for us. He is wiring us for sight and sound. The noodles are never overdone or undercooked. The wires are never crossed or shorted out. We may feel the heat of the Great Chef's stove, and we may feel our wires stripped by the knife of the Great Technician, but it is all for our good. Every stirring of the pot, every torque of the screwdriver's turn is an individual part of His grand design for our good.

Sometimes we feel so jumbled by the events that seem to invade our lives, but we should remember that each event is part of the wiring diagram, and each event is part of His recipe. Amazing as this is, "we know that for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose." ❖



### New Address

**Fran and Carlette Rowan** have moved to Delaware, but would love to stay in touch with the Good Hope family! Their new contact information is:

Fran and Carlette Rowan  
8 Maple Way  
Woodland Park  
Ocean View, DE 19970  
(302) 541-5557

### Sunday School Teacher Needed

A new teacher for the Middle School Sunday School class is needed, beginning in September. We commend **Becky Haber** for the fine job she has done teaching this class. Please talk to **Jim Haber** if you are willing and able to meet this need.

### Prayer Card Editor Needed

Each week, we have a prayer card inserted in the bulletin. **Kathy Haber** has faithfully prepared this card for us, but she is in need of a respite from this duty. Please speak with **Jack Waller** if you would like to take on this project.

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

**T**his summer has been a very busy one for the Marusich family. It started with the birth of **Eli Fields**, our second son, on May 30<sup>th</sup>. A few weeks after that, I attended the PCA's General Assembly in Birmingham—I couldn't miss a General Assembly that close to my hometown! The rest of the summer has been filled with missed sleep due to late night feedings, fundraising across the state, speaking at different churches, and training in North Carolina. With more than half of the summer gone, it is time to make definite plans for the fall semester, particularly planning what small groups RUF will offer on the University of Maryland's campus and what types of outreach RUF will participate in.

The family is doing well, and we are all enjoying the newest addition to the household, including Jackson (age 3), who is very protective of his baby brother—in fact, we have had to calm him down when adults have joked about taking Eli away. This usually results in a volley of, "No, you can't touch him, that's my baby brother!" along with an attempt to wrestle him away from the adult who said it.

We would appreciate your prayers, as the fall is only a few days away—at least from my perspective:

- Pray for our family, that Kelly and I would be loving parents and would model a godly home to our students.
- Pray for our continued support-raising efforts. We currently need to raise around 50% of our budget for the coming year.
- Pray for our contacts with PCA (and non-PCA) students, especially freshmen, that they would find RUF a welcoming place at the University of Maryland.
- Pray for our outreach to nonbelievers. In addition to oversight of covenant children, the church has charged us with preaching the Gospel to those who are dead in sin.
- Pray for the hearts of all the students who will be involved in the ministry—that the Holy Spirit would make each student teachable and passionate to serve in God's kingdom.



Thank you for bringing RUF's prayer needs before God's throne.

*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.goodhopepepca.com

## *Good News from Good Hope!*

August 2002						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4 <small>Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am</small>	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 <small>Worship Service - 9:25am Children's Sunday School <b>Adult Fellowship Hour</b> 11:00am</small>	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 <small>Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am</small>	19	20	21	22	23 <small>Middle School Trip to Ocean City</small>	24
25 <small>Worship Service - 9:25am Communion To Be Served Sunday School - 11:00am Evening Service - 6:00pm at Craig Higgins' House</small>	26 <small>Info for September newsletter due to Kate Haber today!</small>	27	28	29	30	31 <small>Concert featuring Jon Dick at Cedar Ridge Church - 7pm</small>



## Many Thanks for a Successful VBS

by Chris Waller, Vacation Bible School Director

**T**hank you, VBS workers! Those who taught, prepared materials, helped with publicity, and prayed earnestly all contributed to a successful Vacation Bible School. Although as VBS director I want to thank the many, many people who contributed in various ways, I realize that each person labored "as unto the Lord," and the real joy comes from knowing that they served God. Therefore, my "thank you" is not the real reward!

Our judgment that VBS was a "success" is based on limited perceptions, since we cannot see inside hearts. The Lord faithfully sent us many children who were attentive and responsive, and we clearly expressed the Gospel to them. We all realize that success depends on the Holy Spirit at work. Please continue to pray for the children who attended VBS, that the Holy Spirit would bring to fruition the seeds that were planted in their hearts that week. It was a joy and privilege to have a part in God's work during VBS. Our thanks is really due to Him! ❖



### *Communion Schedule*

The sacrament of communion will be served as part of our worship service on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. Please take time to prepare your hearts for this.

### *Evening Service*

Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> - 6:00pm at Craig & Wendy Higgins' House

### *Jon Dick in Concert*

Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> - 7:00pm at Cedar Ridge Church  
 This free concert will also feature **Karyn Hobson**  
 and **Rachel Brockman**.

### *Men's Breakfast*

The next Men's Breakfast will be held on  
 Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

### *Growth Groups*

There will be no Growth Groups during the month of August.  
 Growth Groups will resume on September 8<sup>th</sup>.