

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 2004

What Is Better Than Wisdom, Strength, and Riches?

In the book of Jeremiah we read, "This is what the Lord says: 'Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice, and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,' declares the Lord." (Jeremiah 9:23-24)

The writer of Proverbs says that wisdom is to be sought above rubies and gold. Wisdom enables our eyes to see more than just the light rays that fall upon the rods and cones of our eyes. It guides us in our analysis and leads us to superior thinking and profitable behavior.

The writer of Ecclesiastes give us a depressing picture of the declining days of our mortal life when our strength is gone. The loss of strength robs us of mobility. It impairs our movement and even causes us to fear. Having strength can be a very good thing.

The writer of Proverbs also states that God can give wealth and add no sorrow to it. Wealth acquired under the providential hand of God can be used for the good of the one who acquires it, and it can be used for the good of others.

In spite of the benefits of wisdom, strength, and riches, there is something more than having wisdom, strength, and riches. It is knowing God and God's plan for our lives.



Knowing Him in and of itself is sufficient. Knowing Him is a feast for the soul that wisdom, strength, and riches can never replace or provide. ❖



Fun For All at Church Picnic in July—Don't Miss August Picnic!



More photos from the July 11th church picnic are available on our church website at www.goodhopepca.com/pictures/pictures.html, courtesy of church photographer Ian Macdonald. Don't miss our next picnic on Sunday, August 29th!

Focus on our Missionaries

Our missionary feature column will return in the September 2004 issue of *Good News from Good Hope* with an update on Gene and LuAnn Bowman's work with Border Evangelism and Mercy Ministry (BEAMM) on the border of Texas and Mexico in El Paso. In the meantime, you can find out more information about some of our missionaries on-line! Further details about the Bowmans and their ministry are available on the BEAMM website at www.beamm.org/Bowman.asp.

Also, the Showalter family has a new website with the latest updates on their summer activities and translation work with the Kaan people in Burkina Faso at https://mail.jaars.org/~stuart_showalter/July04Website.htm. Our missionaries always need and appreciate our prayers! ❖

Unanimous Vote to Begin Building!

by Ian Macdonald, Building Committee Chairman

At our congregational meeting on Sunday, July 25th, the congregation heard a brief review of the financial history of the building fund and, after receiving a report on the pledges made so far, voted without question to proceed with the project. Responses to both the financial pledge questionnaire and the expressed willingness to offer "sweat equity" were judged to be more than adequate to begin our building. Don't miss the August 29th picnic at the church property to celebrate this major accomplishment!

The next steps include finalizing the mortgage offered by Sandy Spring Bank, completing the building permit process, and putting together a plan to organize the sweat equity effort.

Praise the Lord, and continue to pray for His guidance and support. See you at the picnic! ❖

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 9:30am and Sunday School at 11:00am each Sunday
 www.goodhopepeca.com

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August 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am	9	10	11	12	13 Middle and High School Youth Groups at Wallers' 7:00pm	14 Building Committee at Jim Haber's House - 7:30am
15 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am	16	17	18	19	20 Middle and High School Youth Groups at Wallers' 7:00pm	21
22 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Communion To Be Served Sunday School - 11:00am	23	24	25	26 Info for September newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	27 Middle and High School Youth Groups at Wallers' 7:00pm	28
29 Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Evening Fellowship at 216 - 6:00pm	30	31	1	2	3	4

Make a Joyful Noise!

If you are interested in participating in a musical ensemble, please speak with **Chris Waller**. The purpose of the group will be to aid in our worship by assisting the congregation in learning new songs, as well as occasional special music.

We will meet on **Sundays, August 15th and August 22nd** from 8:45am - 9:20am, and we will be leading the congregation during the service on August 22nd. You are encouraged to participate even if you are unable to do so every week. Babysitting is available!

Serving Our Little Children

We are thankful for the young children that our congregation has been blessed with. Please take advantage of the opportunity to spend time with these little ones by signing up for nursery duty or by assisting periodically with the youngest Sunday School class. See **Bill or Marcy Davis** to sign up for nursery duty, or speak with **Amy Higgins** about the Sunday School hour.

August Youth Events

The middle and high school youth groups will meet on **Fridays, August 13th, 20th, and 27th** at 7:00pm at the Wallers' house. Don't miss the fun!

Sunday Evening at Route 216

Join us for another picnic at the new church property on Route 216 in Fulton (12131 Scaggsville Road) on **Sunday, August 29th** at 6:00 pm. This will also be a celebration of the major milestones accomplished so far towards our building project! Bring your own lawn chairs or picnic blankets, and please speak with **Chris Waller** about what to bring for the meal. Following the picnic, we will have a brief worship time.

More Golf This Fall!

Due to the wild popularity of the spring men's golf event, another outing is being planned for this fall. Mark your calendars now for **Saturday, October 2nd** at Patuxent Greens in Laurel. More details to come...