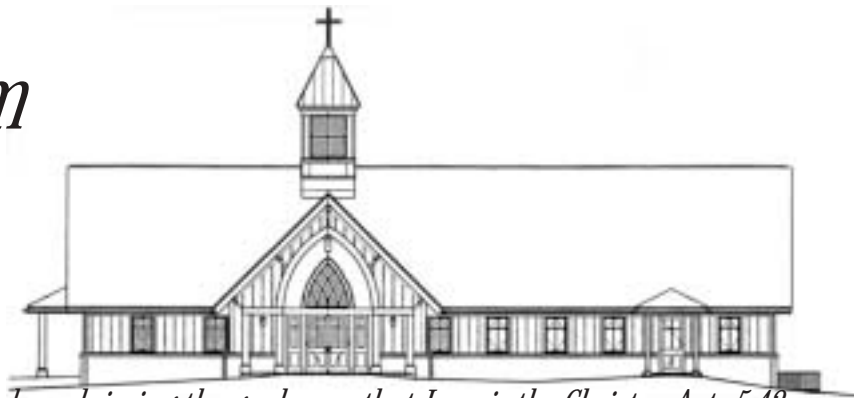


Good News from Good Hope!



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 ❖ August 2007

So Far, So Good... A Mid-Year Budget Report

by Mark Hegerle, Chairman of the Deacons

The Lord tells us in Proverbs 19:21, "Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." When considering the construction of a church building, we spent a great deal of time planning—considering estimated costs, hoped-for church growth, and expected giving. However, only the Lord could know how His plan would turn out. So far, so good...

We are halfway through the first year in our new building, and I am thankful to report that our finances are in good shape. Giving is ahead of last year's pace, but slightly behind the pace we need to cover this year's larger budget (\$3,033). That's not a problem at this point, as end-of-the-year giving is typically higher than in the earlier months. Spending is about where we projected. Though some things cost a little more than we thought, others were not as much.

Outside of the budget, we have a few "finish the building" expenses like our sign, parging the bricks on the back of the building, and buying additional furniture. These expenses are covered by the \$59,000 that we have remaining for capital projects.

All in all, the "plan" remains—be faithful in our tithing and in our pledged building fund giving, which is then applied to the \$13,000 per month mortgage. Let's continue to give generously so that we might do more to reach our neighbors for Christ! ❖

2007 Budget and Terms of Call	2007 Budget	Year-to-Date Budget	Year-to-Date Actual
Budgeted Expenses	\$324,766	\$162,383	\$151,336
Annualized Expenses			\$302,672
Non-Diaconal Giving			\$159,350
Giving less Budget/Expenses		(\$3,033)	\$8,014
Capital Funds Remaining			\$59,497

Focus on Our Missionaries: Chris Garriott, RUF at the University of Maryland

By God's grace and mercy, I've officially completed my first year as campus minister with RUF here at the University of Maryland. It has been a wonderful experience, challenging and tough at times, yet overall a real joy to be a small part of what the Lord is doing here in College Park. I'm extremely thankful for your support and prayers through this year and continue to look forward to your partnership in the ministry in year two.

One of the foundational presuppositions of RUF is that God is at work. God is the great missionary who is drawing men and women from every tribe and tongue into His family. As we enter the mission field of the university, we go with the confidence that it's not all about us, but about God's Spirit on the move working in the lives of students, calling people from darkness to light. He uses His people, the students' family, friends, roommates, campus ministers, and particular life situations to bring people to a knowledge of the Gospel. God is the Sovereign One at work, creating a longing in people to seek His face. As Paul said to the Athenians: "From one man He made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us." (Acts 17:26-27)

I consider it a great privilege to be a part of His work here at the University of Maryland, co-laboring with you. As a way of reviewing the year, I thought it might be interesting to do a "by the numbers" accounting to show what the Lord is doing:

- 14 was the number of contacts I began with last fall who had some connection with RUF. Now there are around 100 students who I know here at the University of Maryland and over 75 on the RUF e-mail list.
- Our RUF large group meeting averaged about 20 students attending during the spring semester with over 50 different students attending during the year.
- Over 60 different students have attended an RUF event (e.g., large group, small group, retreat, movie and discussion night, cook-out, after church luncheon, etc.).
- New visitors continued to come to our RUF large group meeting, even towards the end of the semester.
- 10-12 young men took part in our weekly Monday night guys Bible study. Each week we gathered over dinner, studied the book of James, and then had a season of prayer for one another. As might be expected, several "24" junkies than watched the exploits of Jack Bauer and the CTU!
- 7 RUF Seniors graduated from Maryland this year, and we had a wonderful celebration party for them, which included several parents from our group.
- Final Four—The RUF intramural co-ed flag football team made it to the Final Four! (The intramural sports program became a great way to gather friends and roommates into our RUF circle.)
- 14 freshman connections—As you know, freshmen are the future of the ministry, and we've had about 14 attending RUF events this year.
- 100+ one-on-one lunches were had with students for the purpose of getting to know them, encouragement, prayer, counsel, and sharing the Gospel of grace.



Chris Garriott with graduating Maryland senior and RUF member Chris Charles and his mother Theresa at the end-of-year party.

Obviously, big numbers are not everything and are not a true test of spiritual growth. There have been small gatherings of students digging into a Bible study or discussing and discerning a movie. There have been one-on-ones which have delved into painful issues in students' lives and how the Gospel might help them heal. There's been the scheduled get-together where for one reason or another, a student didn't show up. There's been the large group where only 12 folks attended. But through it all, God has been faithful and continues to be faithful to His promises. I'm so thankful for God's hand in directing me to Maryland and for the many new friendships and ministry opportunities that have come about this year. Certainly our God is good, and His love endures forever!

Together in Christ,
Chris Garriott

cgarriott@ruf.org and www.um.ruf.org

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

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Good News from Good Hope!

August 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Evening Worship - 6:30pm	30	31 August Deacons of the Month: Ron Goodrich Mark Hegerle	1	2	3	4
5 Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Friends & Family Luncheon Evening Worship - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins' - 8:00-9:30pm	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Communion To Be Served Middle School at church - 5pm Evening Worship - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins' - 8:00-9:30pm	13	14	15	16 Session Meeting at the church - 7:30pm	17	18
19 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	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 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	27 Info for September newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	28	29	30	31	1

Sign Up Now for Fall 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 friendships with people they didn't know.
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 such invitations.

The next rotation of Good Hope's Supper Clubs will begin in September, and each group will meet for dinner once during the months of September, October, and November. Please contact **Shelley Smith** at jcats5@comcast.net or (410) 465-6002 by **Sunday, August 19th** to join this session of Supper Clubs! ❖

Friends & Family Luncheon

Our next Friends & Family Luncheon will be held after the morning worship service on **Sunday, August 5th**. If you have not already responded, please contact **Becky Hadeed** today at (240)441-8410 or rhadeed@atsrvcs.com to let her know whether you plan to attend or not. Upcoming Friends & Family Luncheons will be held on the first Sunday of each month (September 2nd, October 7th, and November 4th). Please make the most of these opportunities and invite friends to get to know our congregation through this complimentary lunch!



We thank God for the opportunity to reach out to children from our local Fulton community through Vacation Bible School. For more photos, visit our church website at www.goodhopepca.com/pictures/pictures.html.