

# 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 ❖ February 2006

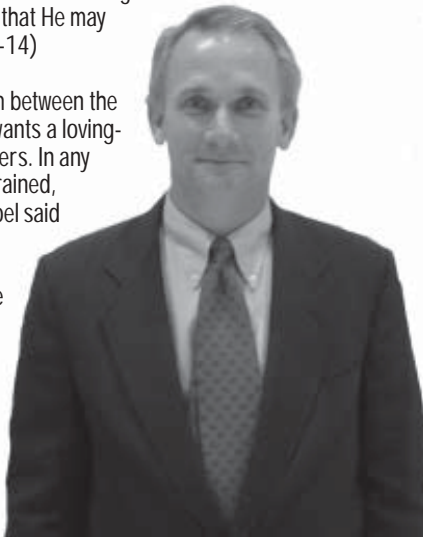
## Turning to the Lord—A Matter of the Heart

A consistent theme runs through the minor prophets of the Old Testament. Those prophets include Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. These prophets all rebuke the majority of the people for their idolatry, social abuse of one another, and chronic turning away from the Lord. Because of these sins, the Lord disciplines the people by withholding material and spiritual blessings. He points out some current deprivations that they are experiencing and promises to bring more judgment upon them if they do not repent. The theme is completed with an offer of hope that, despite the disobedience of the people, God will be merciful to them by forgiving and restoring the people.

Addressing the people of his day, Joel said, "Even now, declares the Lord, return to Me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity. Who knows but that He may turn and have pity and leave behind a blessing." (Joel 2:12-14)

With laser accuracy, Joel focuses on the crux of the problem between the Lord and His people. It is a matter of the heart. The Lord wants a loving-heart to loving-heart relationship with His sons and daughters. In any relationship of love, it is all or nothing. Relationships are strained, fractured, and fearful when our hearts are not fully given. Joel said to the people, "return with all your heart . . . rend your heart," that is, tear off anything that drapes and distracts, and give your affections completely to the Lord. Jesus gave His heart fully. "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13) Jesus gave His heart fully to the Father and fully to us by giving His life for us.

February is the month of hearts. If you could, would you mail a Valentine to the Lord? If you give one to someone else, be sure your heart goes along with it. ❖



## Join the Fun on 216 as Progress Continues on Our New Church!

by Steve Gerwin, Building Committee

Work continues on both the inside and the outside of the new church building with great progress. Inside of the building, the "trades" are working hard—plumbing, electrical, and HVAC (thanks to **Jim Rowan**). **Matt Malanoski** continues with framing, and, as always, his efforts and quality of work are to be greatly commended. This month, we hope to tie in the well and have the septic system put in. The good news is that, once the well is tied in, the major digging is over. At long last, it will be time to finalize the grade for grass. We have seen and moved enough mud! On the outside of the building, we hope to pour the handicapped access ramp and the stairs on the north side of the building. We also hope to put in the parking lot lighting. Sometime soon it will be time to plant all of the trees that **Tim Rowan** is getting for us, and that will be a major one-day project.

We still hope that folks will find a Saturday or two to come up and help out with "sweat equity." We will be working every Saturday morning starting at 8:30am—come and join the fun! ❖

## Focus on Our Missionaries: Gene and LuAnn Bowman in El Paso, Texas

Another year gone by. Praise the Lord for His goodness and mercy!!! And thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support this past year. We appreciate the encouragement you have been to us.

In our last report to you, we told you about purchasing a piece of property for use by Gracia y Paz Church and the San Pablo Seminary. But that property was sold by the owner to the business that is presently renting the building. So we are back to square one. We looked at several other options over the past months and again thought we found a property which would accommodate our needs. And again, it was sold. Why Lord?

"And we know that ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER for good to those that love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28)

For some reason, we have been out there looking at properties and trying to "match" them to what we think we might need. Why not sit down and talk about all the features we need to best assist us in our ministry with Gracia y Paz and San Pablo Seminary? Well, we did, and not only are we looking at a property that will accommodate these ministries, but we are looking at a property where we could house our short-term teams as well. Right now, we spend over \$30,000 to put our teams into a motel. So Gene, along with the key church planters, is working on a blueprint for the building which will help us in finding the property that God has for us.

We would encourage you to check out our website from time to time at [www.beamm.org](http://www.beamm.org). One new item on our website is an opportunity for you to sign up as a prayer warrior. We are looking for 2000 prayer warriors, one for each mile of the border. The only way to combat the forces of Satan is through prayer.

On a personal level, we still need additional financial support to reach 100% of our monthly need. This has been the most trying aspect of Gene's position here on the border. With all the financial needs of the team, asking for our personal needs gets set aside to the back burner. Gene's position is very demanding as he is responsible for promoting the BEAMM ministry to churches, helping to raise funds for the Mexican church planters, performing all the administrative tasks as team leader, dealing with personnel issues, working on finding property, etc. On top of that, next summer we will be without our short-term coordinator, so Gene will be responsible for assisting with those work teams also. Please pray with us in asking God for wisdom and His mercy throughout 2006.

May God continue to use us for the furtherance of His kingdom here on the US/Mexico border.

*Gene & LuAnn Bowman*



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

## *Good News from Good Hope!*

# February 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-7:30pm Rowan Growth Group - 6pm	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Macdonald GG 6:30pm	<b>1</b> Rowan/Whitehead GG 6:30pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Haber Growth Group 7:30pm	<b>4</b> Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
<b>5</b> Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-7:30pm Rowan Growth Group - 6pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Macdonald GG 6:30pm	<b>8</b> Rowan/Whitehead GG 6:30pm	<b>9</b> Session Meeting at Wallers' House 7:30pm	<b>10</b> Haber Growth Group 7:30pm	<b>11</b> Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
<b>12</b> Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am <b>Communion To Be Served</b> Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-7:30pm Rowan Growth Group - 6pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Macdonald GG 6:30pm	<b>15</b> Rowan/Whitehead GG 6:30pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Haber Growth Group 7:30pm	<b>18</b> Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
<b>19</b> Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-7:30pm Rowan Growth Group - 6pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Macdonald GG 6:30pm	<b>22</b> Rowan/Whitehead GG 6:30pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Haber Growth Group 7:30pm	<b>25</b> Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
<b>26</b> Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-7:30pm Rowan Growth Group - 6pm	<b>27</b> Info for March newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	<b>28</b> Macdonald GG 6:30pm	<b>1</b> Rowan/Whitehead GG 6:30pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Haber Growth Group 7:30pm	<b>4</b> Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am

## *Make "Time for Christmas" in Your Heart All Year Long*

*by Chris Waller, Director Extraordinaire*

Although Christmas seems like a distant memory at this point, many thanks are still owed to the multitude of people who played a part in pulling the 2005 Christmas play together! The list of willing workers would fill up the entire newsletter. Many adults and teens pitched in to set up, then tear down the set, dress characters, bake cookies, run lights and sound... Thank you! Special thanks to **Tracy Young** and **Linda Malanoski**, who outfitted the multitude of the heavenly host, which had all earned wings! Move over Ford—the Hegerle model of sports cars was adorable—thanks, **Mark Hegerle**! This year's cast of 33 members each gave it 100%. Thank you, kids, for doing your best to honor Jesus with your performance. And thank you, adults, who also honored Christ by selflessly giving to the production of our annual play. May we make "time for Christmas" in our hearts throughout the year! ❖