

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 ❖ June 2003*

What Do Good Hope's Building Project and Rome Have in Common?

by Ian Macdonald, Building Committee Chairman

This month's trivia question: What do our building project and Rome have in common? Answer: Neither was built in a day! Once again, we seem to be back on track with a "firm" date of June 5th for Rob Vogel to submit our site development plan to Howard County.

The major accomplishment of the month was receiving notice that we have been approved for a \$1 million loan from Sandy Spring Bank. As soon as the final details are in place, we will draw funds to pay off the mortgage due to Emanuel Church. Approximately \$250,000 from the building fund balance will support this payoff. Then we will make use of the remaining money as needed. This is probably more money than we will need, but it gives us the comfort of knowing that we will have enough to finish.

Karl Riedel, with the help of a mechanical engineer with whom we are contracting, is preparing architectural plans for preliminary submission to the county. Depending on what they say about the lack of sprinkler provisions in the plan, we will regroup to decide whether it is wise to leave them out. On one hand, the county would like them in there. On the other hand, if they're not needed, we can save \$75,000.

Based on what is now happening, the accompanying Gantt chart has been modified and updated. Special thanks to all of the building committee, but particularly to Bill Davis and Jim Haber who are carrying the heaviest parts of the load now. And very special thanks to God for showing us the way. Continue to pray! ❖

Building Plan Progress Report

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Secure Financing						Thanks, Sandy Spring Bank!						
Pay Off Emanuel												
Submit Site Plan						Scheduled June 5						
Site Plan Approval												
Architect Plans Done												
Building Permit												
Construction Begins												
Pledges Received	58K	13	20	25	42							592K Pledged
Expense Budget								335K pre-construction				
Expense Actual	55K		3	7	2							

■ In process ■ Completed

in the States raising support and two Ukrainian leaders who will be moving here to Kiev soon to serve as the organizers of the church. They will be trained and coached as they are planting this new church. It's a great plan, and I am thrilled with it, but...

Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.

A few weeks ago, we had a meeting in my office with some church leaders from around Europe. After several hours of discussion, a Polish pastor said that he wanted us to come to Poland and share with them some of the things that we had been doing in Ukraine so that they could learn from us and we from them. I



The Huber family enjoys a lake outing with the rest of their Kiev team.

Family in Kiev, Ukraine

said to him, "Brother, let me make something clear. I don't know why God is working in this place. It certainly isn't because we are such great missionaries with super ideas or incredibly dedicated. He seems to work in spite of us, as the saying goes. We haven't manufactured this—God has done it according to His plan, through His power, and according to His perfect timing."

Unless the Lord builds the house...

It was Easter Sunday here (a week after your Easter), and we were walking to the theater where we were about to have the first worship service for the second church plant here in Kiev. It was beautiful and chilly as we walked. I was anxious, but hopeful. We went into the theater, and I was disappointed not to see more people, but our young Ukrainian pastor was jubilant. He was rejoicing in the resurrection of our Lord and in the birth of this new small church. Please, God, help her to grow—Lord, build the house.

Unless the Lord...

My dear friends of Good Hope, God is at work in Ukraine. And so is the adversary. Some of our churches are really struggling. As I see this, I am confronted by my own incredible limitations. I can't fix it; I can't build it—neither I, nor our great team of co-workers, both Ukrainian and American. The Lord must build this house. He has given us tools to build, yet He must build. He has given us weapons to fight, yet the battle belongs to Him. Dear friends, we need you to use the tool and weapon of prayer. Beseech the Lord for these churches. Ask Him for deep spirituality for the members. Ask Him for vibrant and visionary leaders. Ask Him for unity and repentance. Ask Him for growth in maturity. Ask Him to save the lost and perishing through us. Ask Him for more laborers, both Ukrainian and American.

In just a few minutes, I'll be leaving to go teach at our seminary for two weeks. The class is my old favorite—Covenant Theology. I love to teach it. I love to see the students' eyes light up as they discover the beauty of the Scriptures and the glorious face of Christ throughout. But only the Lord can work His truth down deep into the hearts of His people. Pray with us that the God of the covenant will be faithful to His covenant and that He will look upon the Ukrainians and say, "I will be your God, you will be my people, and I will dwell in your midst." To the praise of the glory of His grace. For unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. (Psalm 127:1) ❖

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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

June 2003						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 4:30pm Youth Group GG - 6:00pm Chandler GG - 6:00pm	2	3	4 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	5 Session Meeting at Waller's House 7:30pm	6 French GG - 7:00pm	7 Men's Breakfast at Waller's House 7:30am
8 Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 4:30pm Youth Group GG - 6:00pm Chandler GG - 6:00pm	9	10 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	11	12	13	14 Youth Group Laser Tag with Wallace Presbyterian - \$10 10am
15 Worship Service - 9:25am Communion To Be Served Sunday School - 11:00am Chandler GG - 6:00pm	16	17	18	19	20 French GG - 7:00pm	21
22 Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 4:30pm Youth Group GG - 6:00pm	23 Info for July newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	24	25	26 Youth Group All Day Trip to CreationFest \$33 per person	27	28 Building Committee at the Macdonalds' House - 7:30am
29 Worship Service - 9:25am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 4:30pm Youth Group GG - 6:00pm	30	1 Youth Group Trip to Ocean City →	2	3	4	5

In Times of Trouble, "Be Still, My Soul, The Lord Is On Thy Side!"

In his letter to the Corinthian church, Paul wrote, "We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and He will deliver us. On Him we have set our hope that He will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many." (2 Corinthians 1:8-11) Because of persecution, Paul and his companions felt that their lives were over. As they looked at the reservoir of their own strength and ability, they felt they did not have sufficient inner resources to assuage the troubles that were upon them. The obvious conclusion to them was that their time must be at hand. They "felt the sentence of death." To them, the end had come.

In 1752, Katharina von Schlegel penned these words: "Be still, my soul, the Lord is on thy side." You probably recognize this quote from the first line of the hymn, "Be Still, My Soul." Very little is known about the circumstances under which Katharina von Schlegel wrote the lyrics to this hymn. It seems that there is a connection to Psalm 46:10, where the psalmist writes, "Be still, and know that I am God." The psalmist begins his psalm with these words, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." I would suppose that Katharina von Schlegel found strength and confidence in her God and therefore could address her soul and say, "Be still, my soul, the Lord is on thy side."

Paul and his companions had concluded at first that death was upon them. But having escaped its clutches, they concluded that their difficulties were designed to bring a comforting lesson. In reflecting on his severe trouble, Paul wrote, "but this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead." He can raise us from our worst peril, and, if He has the ability to do this, He can deliver us from any other. Therefore, we should rely on Him!

Maybe you are experiencing troubles at the present time. Maybe these troubles are not upon you as a direct result of persecution. Yet, that foreboding sense of death, destruction, and failure hangs over you. Listen to the apostle, hum the tune, and sing the song. "Be still, my soul, the Lord is thy side." He can deliver you. Depend not on yourself but on your Savior's matchless ability and strength, and you may yet sing and proclaim not only in anticipation but also in retrospection, "the Lord is on my side." ❖



Good Hope Continues to Grow Up

by *Kathy Haber, Sunday School Correspondent*

In April, the Sunday School teachers and youth group leaders were invited to attend a meeting to make sure that the youth program of the church is on track. Here are a few highlights of the meeting.

We looked at the children listed on our Sunday School rolls and found that our children are growing up! We have many more children in middle school and high school and fewer preschoolers than we had just a few years ago. Beginning in June, we will offer the following classes: **Beginners**—children who are two, three, and four years of age; **Primary**—children who are in kindergarten through second grade; **Juniors**—children in grades three, four, and five; **Middle School**—students in grades six, seven, and eight; and **High School**—students in grades nine, ten, eleven, and twelve. Our teachers consider leading these classes to be a privilege, and all children are gladly received.

Our Sunday School curriculum is organized into quarters that correspond to the seasons: fall, winter, spring, and summer. It has been our custom to use the beginning of the summer quarter, the first Sunday in June, as our Promotion Sunday. Also, we have a long-standing practice of presenting Bibles to the children who are being promoted to the Junior class. This year, these children are **Edward Chandler, Paige Davis, Maggie Gerwin, Daniel Hegerle, Benjamin Lyon, and Katherine Malanoski**.

Recognizing that our children are growing older, we want to add a Growth Group for those who are now attending high school. We are currently looking for a crew to lead this group. We need some who can help with the music, some who are willing to teach, and some who can add - fun! Please consider if you are able to add your gifts to this team of leaders. The last part, and possibly the best part, of the meeting was praying for the children of Good Hope. ❖

Vacation Bible School—July 14-18—Cloverly Elementary School—9-11:30am

Don't miss the opportunity to be part of Good Hope's VBS! This year, we will study the character and experiences of Jonah. Our curriculum offers a clear presentation of the Gospel, as well as opportunity for our covenant children to be challenged to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus. Invite your friends and neighbors! Teacher's assistants are needed in all age groups, as well as adults and teens to help with crafts, skits, and music. Please let **Chris Waller** know where you would like to serve! If you are not available the week of VBS, you can still help by distributing fliers and providing refreshments! The following craft supplies are being collected for VBS: **Gift wrap or paper towel tubes** (no toilet paper rolls, please), and **plastic lids** such as those from margarine, yogurt, sour cream, or coffee containers. Please help us collect these items, and please pray for all VBS preparations! ❖

Champions Crowned in 2003 Good Hope Masters Golf Tournament

by *Mark Hegerle, Fellowship Committee*

Patuxent Greens, May 10—On a day where the morning recalled the refrain from the children's song, "the rains came down, and the floods came up," twenty golfers prepared to battle the elements and claim the title of Good Hope Masters champion. Some prepared by practicing their putting; others prepared by racing to the golf course to make their tee time. Nevertheless, by the time the first ball was struck, all participants were praising God for holding back the rains and allowing the tournament to proceed.

The team including **Mitch Black, Tommy Black, Steven Heger, and Fernando Rivero** pulled out a narrow victory, shooting a team score of one under par 70. Four of the five other teams finished within three strokes of the winners. Evidence of the fact that the event wasn't rigged was seen as the tournament organizer's team limped in well behind the pack at 79.

By his team's victory, Fernando became the first team member to repeat as Masters champion—in 2002, he was teamed with winners **Jack and Caleb Waller** and **Pete Jordan**. The difference was that this year, rather than going fishing, Fernando drove and putted his team to victory in person!

In individual skill competitions, **Randy Whitehead** muscled his way to claim the trophy for the longest drive (his second!), and **Mark Hegerle** placed what turned out to be the sole shot on the designated green to remain the only player to win the "closest to the pin" title in the three-year history of the Good Hope Masters. Thanks to all who participated in the 2003 tournament, and keep in mind that it's never too early to start practicing for next year! ❖

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