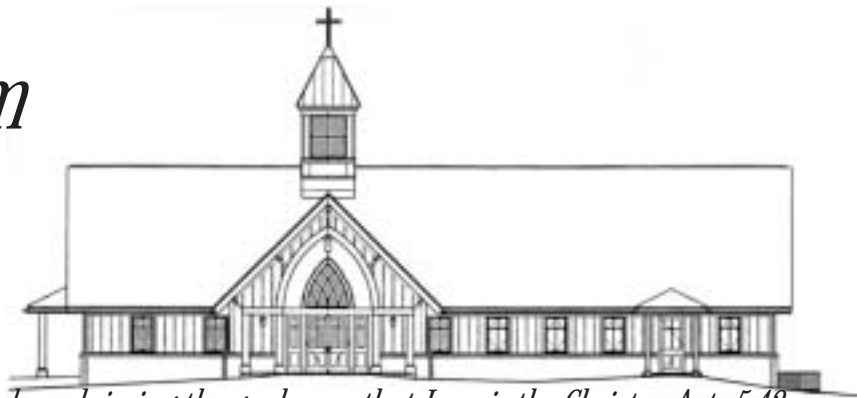


# Good News from Good Hope!



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 ❖ June 2007

## It's No Laughing Matter

Sometimes a friend will play a joke on another friend for the sole purpose of embarrassing his friend. Often the embarrassment, which is meant to be funny, turns out to be humiliating. The Lord is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. He has a sense of humor and is not opposed to laughter. However, He never plays a joke on us to shame us. He is not in the business of tricking us.

The apostle Peter wrote, "As you come to Him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to Him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame.'" (1 Peter 2:4-6) We build our lives on stone, the Stone that does not crumble or shift by the changing tide of circumstance or time. While life may seem like a tragedy or comedy at times, the script is not being penned by someone who is just writing for entertainment. Nor is it being written to express some speculative philosophical statement. Rather life—and the individual lives we lead—have a sure foundation. The events which we experience are the mortar which He uses to erect an edifice for His glory.

You may be going through an experience that makes you feel like you are being laughed at or that you are a fool. Remember, many a prank has been pulled that has backfired on the one who perpetrated it, and the outcome of a matter will show what He has made you to be. It's okay to be laughed at, especially when you can laugh at being laughed at. Ultimately, life will not be described by a statement like "the joke's on you," but as a question like "the joke's on who?" because "the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame." ❖



## Hats Off to 2007 Graduates!

Esther French  
Matthew Gerwin  
Lindsey Haak  
Keith Higgins  
Barry Lockhart  
Sam Malanoski  
DeDe Orlando  
Cindy Rowan  
Nick Rowan  
Caleb Waller

## Promotion Sunday

Students should begin attending their new Sunday School classes beginning on **Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**.

## Building Dedication

As part of our morning worship service on **Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**, there will be a dedication of our church building, as we thank the Lord for His provision of this place to worship Him.

## Focus on Our Missionaries: *Eddie and Gail Brown in Cary, North Carolina*

Greetings from the Browns, as we are church planting in Cary, North Carolina at Christ Our Redeemer (COR) PCA. **Thanks to you** for your support, encouragement, and prayers! All of that and all of you mean so much to us as we seek to see God plant a new congregation. Some words here about the progress of COR and our family.

**What is happening at COR?** We are encouraged by what is happening at COR and give God praise, but we need always to push ahead in faith. Our attendance continues to grow slowly but, we trust, surely. We've averaged around 70 or so the past several weeks. And with four babies due soon, that will increase biologically. As grateful as we are for that kind of growth, we are also grateful for a new family that has come to Christ and become communing members recently. We've begun a one-night-per-month prayer meeting that focuses solely on reaching the lost. Much of this prayer meeting deals with our own need to repent for our lack of concern for those without Christ. **Pray that we will be disturbed to not see people coming to Christ and divinely stirred by God's Spirit to seek and love the lost into the Kingdom.**

We are grateful to have a new place to meet. It is larger, and the rent is smaller! What a blessing! But our current facility may be sold and torn down, so we are already thinking about a new place. Renting here is very expensive, **so we ask for wisdom to be led to the right location when the time comes.**

It is gratifying to see community developing as people spend time together outside of the church. We are encouraged to see people caring for each other. Our largest group is twenty- and thirty-somethings with preschool children who need support and encouragement. Pray that we will love each other well while not ignoring those outside of Christ and His Church. You can visit our church online at [www.christourredeemer.org](http://www.christourredeemer.org).

**What is happening with our family?** It has been a challenging time for our family over the past few months, with my illness in November, Gail's mom dying in January, and our son Alan leaving to study in Africa on May 1<sup>st</sup>. All of this while church planting. So a word or two about us:

Eddie is feeling well and has a normal schedule. He had an MRI a few weeks ago and everything looks okay. Pray that the treatment he had earlier in the year will

continue to be effective and that the tumor, which is not cancerous, will not grow or do any nerve damage. He feels blessed to feel well each day.

Gail needs your prayers, as it has been a stressful and sad time for her. She and her parents are very close, so losing her mom was hard. And having our nest empty on May 1<sup>st</sup> was sad—especially with our baby going so far away!

Our daughter Katie will, Lord willing, finish at East Carolina University in December. She has a job/internship this summer working with at-risk young people. We praise God for supplying this employment and internship all in one.

Alan is in Kenya studying with the Kenya Wildlife Service. They have an institute out in the bush, which is not the safest place to be—snakes, lions, and sometimes people. A group that claims to be the continuation of the Mau Mau has beheaded some people outside of Nairobi recently as intimidation with the elections approaching.

Thank you for your prayers for our family and our church-planting work!

*Eddie and Gail Brown*



Gail, Alan, and Eddie Brown at the Good Hope Missions Conference in February 2004.

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

Good Hope Presbyterian Church  
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Fulton, MD 20759  
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*Good News from Good Hope!*

# June 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> 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	<b>28</b> June Deacons of the Month: Matt Malanoski Jim Rowan	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> VBS Meeting at the church - 7:00pm	<b>31</b> Missions Meeting at the church 7:00pm	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am <b>Communion To Be Served</b> <b>No Evening Worship or Youth Group Activities</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Deacon Meeting at the church - 6:30pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Session Meeting at the church - 7:30pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> VBS Registration Day at the church 10am - 12noon
<b>10</b> 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	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 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	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 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	<b>25</b> Info for July newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	<b>26</b> VBS Meeting at the church for specific helpers - 7:00pm	<b>27</b> VBS Meeting at the church for specific helpers - 7:00pm	<b>28</b> VBS Meeting at the church for specific helpers - 7:00pm	<b>29</b> VBS Meeting at the church for specific helpers - 7:00pm	<b>30</b>

## VBS—A Water Park Adventure: Riding the Wave of God's Love!

Vacation Bible Study is just around the corner, during the week of **July 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>**! Lots of fun is in store for everyone involved with "A Water Park Adventure: Riding the Wave of God's Love." Mark your calendars for some important upcoming events:

**Registration Day:** Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12noon at the church. We are encouraging pre-registration for those who will attend VBS through a morning of fun at the church, including balloons, snow cones, a moon bounce, and maybe even pony rides! Invite your neighbors and friends to sign their children up (ages 5 years old through those entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade this fall) by coming to the church on June 9<sup>th</sup> (or e-mailing goodhopevbs@yahoo.com). Even if you can't come to VBS, come have fun with us on Registration Day!

**VBS Prayer and Set-Up:** Our evening worship service at 6:30pm on Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup> will include a focused time of prayer for VBS week, followed by some preparations for VBS to begin the next morning.

**How can you help?** (1) Donate bottled water or bake cookies to distribute on Registration Day. Cookies should have no nuts and should be packaged in baggies with 3-4 cookies per bag. (2) Let us borrow your beach towels to use during VBS week. Beach towels should be clearly marked with your name, so we can return them after VBS. (3) **Pray for VBS!** A list of specific prayer requests is available for all members of the prayer team and will also be sent out by e-mail during VBS week.



Keep your eyes open for further volunteer opportunities to be announced in the church bulletin. Anyone who is able to help in these three ways or who would like to be otherwise involved should contact **Cheryl Dudek** at (410) 884-6706 or pcvidudek@hotmail.com as soon as possible. There are still plenty of ways to be a part of VBS 2007! ❖