

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 2008

The Sands of Time Are Sinking...

When I was a child, some of my summer days were boring. The minute hand on the clock seemed to creep in slow motion. A turtle could leisurely cross the street faster than one tick of the second hand. We welcomed the longer daylight hours, but sometimes the days dragged on. Now, at this period in my life, the clock seems to be stuck in fast-forward. I seem to hear the spinning noise of the hour hand flying by. It won't slow down! In my younger days I was swamped with time. I was glutted with moments. Now I make statements like, "If I can just find the time..." or "Where does the time go?" I realize that time has always been the same. Its sequential pace has never changed. It does not vary. It is regular, consistent, incessant, and chronologic in its measured segments. I also realize that my awareness and attitude towards time depends on the stage and responsibilities of my life. The psalmist wrote, "Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." (Psalm 90:12) His admonition was not intended to make us frantic because the amount of days we have on earth is limited. Nor was he inciting us to resign in despair because our desired dreams and goals will never be met with the shortage of time allotted to us. The psalmist certainly is instructing us not to be cavalier with the gift of our days. But he is also reminding us that we need wisdom from God to rightly interpret and use the time He gives us to live in. The content of the days of our lives may not be uniform. Some days may seem as uneventful and boring as the early sleepy days of youth. Other days might be so packed that even a 26-hour day could not accommodate its demands. The slow days can be our teacher as well as the fast days. "How shall we redeem them?" should be our motto. "Lord, you have given me this day!" should be our declaration. Do you long for another day, a different day, a better day? At times we all do, but even in our longing we should pray, "Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." ❖



Daily Schedule of Bible Readings in June

June 1 - I Corin. 7-8	June 16 - Ephesians 5-6
June 2 - I Corin. 9-10	June 17 - Philippians 1-2
June 3 - I Corin. 11-12	June 18 - Philippians 3-4
June 4 - I Corin. 13-14	June 19 - Colossians 1-2
June 5 - I Corin. 15-16	June 20 - Colossians 3-4
June 6 - II Corin. 1-2	June 21 - I Thess. 1-3
June 7 - II Corin. 3-5	June 22 - I Thess. 4-5
June 8 - II Corin. 6-7	June 23 - II Thess. 1-3
June 9 - II Corin. 8-10	June 24 - I Timothy 1-2
June 10 - II Corin. 11-13	June 25 - I Timothy 3-4
June 11 - Galatians 1-2	June 26 - I Timothy 5-6
June 12 - Galatians 3-4	June 27 - II Timothy 1-2
June 13 - Galatians 5-6	June 28 - II Timothy 3-4
June 14 - Ephesians 1-2	June 29 - Titus 1-3
June 15 - Ephesians 3-4	June 30 - Philemon 1

Hats Off to Our 2008 Graduates!

Zach Finnell - Springbrook High School
Christopher Meyer - Reservoir High School
Esther Showalter - Washington Christian Academy
Jordan Smith - Chapelgate Christian Academy
Kristen Malanoski - University of Richmond
Theodore Meyer - University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Val Finnell - Master of Public Health, USUHS
James Flint - Doctor of Medicine, USUHS

Communion Schedule

Take time to prepare your heart as we will celebrate communion with our Lord on **Sunday, June 8th**.

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

Greetings from the Browns, as we continue the work of church-planting in the Triangle area of North Carolina. A few words here about Christ Our Redeemer (COR) mission church, Eddie's recent trip to Kenya, and our family.

Overall, we are encouraged about the church, but the past few months seem too much like treading water. While new folks have come, we have had two families move away in the past month. But that happens, and we need to move forward. Please pray that we will have a real sense of being intentional in reaching out to our neighbors. Eddie and the leadership team are currently working on long-term planning. Please pray for wisdom. One more request for prayer, and it is a biggie—we need to find a new meeting space soon!

This summer we are sponsoring a missions team to Nicaragua. Two of our college students are serving as counselors at the PCA camp Ridge Haven this summer. We also had a man ordained to the Army chaplaincy in April. He and his family attended COR, where he did his internship prior to ordination, and they are now at Fort Hood in Texas. So pray that all of these folks can have an influence for the Gospel.

Eddie spent the month of April in our previous home of Kenya. He spent a few days out in the bush with his good friend, Pastor John Ole Kiroka. Eddie spoke at a youth conference and at John's church in the village of Bissel, where 12 folks were baptized. He also participated in opening a new home for the chief of the Masai tribe in that area. It was quite an event with about 200 people, mostly very traditional, eating and singing in celebration of the new home. Eddie also preached at our former church in Nairobi and met with other pastors he mentored in Kenya. He also saw one of the camps for those who were driven from their homes in tribal post-election violence. At that time, there were about 350,000 internally displaced persons. So please pray for peace and stability in Kenya.

Our family is doing well. Our son Alan accompanied Eddie to Kenya but stayed for 6 additional weeks to visit animals and friends. He comes home this Saturday and will return to work at Lowe's and look into the local community college. Our daughter Katie graduated from East Carolina University in December. She is now working but also looking for a better position. Please keep her and her job search in prayer. Gail taught this year in a special needs class in a local elementary school, which was challenging but fulfilling. Eddie's health is good. He continues to have MRIs every 6 months after radiation treatment on a benign tumor 18 months ago. It is benign, but not friendly, since it had impinged on some nerves. After the most recent MRI, the first person to read it could not even find the tumor! The doctor said that was pretty amazing since this type of tumor shrinks very slowly if at all. But there is the secret weapon of God's people praying! So thanks for supporting and praying for us and the work here.



No, this isn't Eddie pictured here, but greetings from Kenya anyway!

God's blessings to you all,

The Browns—Eddie, Gail, Katie, and Alan

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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June 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 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	2	3 Handchimes - 5pm Session Meeting at the church - 7:30pm	4 High School/College Bible Study at the Wallers' - 7:30pm	5	6 <u>June Deacons of the Month:</u> Jim Rowan Tim Rowan	7
8 Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Communion To Be Served VBS Meeting - 12:15pm Middle School at church - 5pm Evening Worship - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins' - 8:00-9:30pm	9 VBS Meeting for Captains and First Mates - 7:30pm	10	11 High School/College Bible Study at the Wallers' - 7:30pm	12	13	14
15 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	16	17	18 High School/College Bible Study at the Wallers' - 7:30pm	19	20	21
22 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	23	24	25 High School/College Bible Study at the Wallers' - 7:30pm	26	27 Info for July newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	28
29 Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Middle School at church - 5pm Evening Worship and VBS Preparation - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins' - 8:00-9:30pm	30 Vacation Bible School 9:00am - 12:30pm daily	1	2	3	4 VBS Closing Picnic 10:30am - 12:30pm Come one and all!	5

Calling All VBS Heroes: Bible Adventure Awaits!

Ahoy all ye who love Christ and His children! Bible adventure awaits during the week of **June 30th-July 4th** with the Veggie Tales "Pirates Who Don't Do Anything!" Boatloads of fun are in store for everyone involved with this year's VBS, and there are still many ways to make a difference!

Help Wanted: Volunteers are needed during the week of VBS and in advance. For VBS week, we are still looking for: an emcee for the "Yo-Ho-Ho Show," which begins and ends each day's session; a first mate (assistant) for the craft station; additional crew leaders and shipmates—adults or teenagers who will accompany small groups of children to each activity; and a photographer for the week's events who could compile a PowerPoint slideshow for Friday's closing picnic. If you are not available during VBS week, but still want to help, there is room for you too! Any church members with an ink-jet printer could help by printing iron-on transfers for shipmate t-shirts, and anyone with sewing abilities can outfit our crew members to dress like pirates!

VBS Prayer and Set-Up: Our evening worship service at 6:30pm on **Sunday, June 29th** will include a focused time of prayer for VBS, followed by preparations for VBS to begin the next morning, including decorating the fellowship hall and classrooms. Many hands are needed!

Closing Picnic: Please join us on Friday, July 4th from 10:30am-12:30pm at the church. All VBS students and their families, as well as all members of our church family are invited to a morning of fun at the church, including balloons, snow cones, a moon bounce, and even horse rides! We plan to provide a picnic lunch for our VBS students and families, so sign up with **Mary Jane Bradford** to contribute food for this event. Even if you can't attend VBS otherwise, come have fun at the closing picnic!

Volunteers, Mark Your Calendars: A meeting will be held on Sunday, June 8th immediately following the morning worship service for all crew leaders and shipmates (small group leaders). Captains and first mates (classroom leaders) will meet at the church on Monday, June 9th at 7:30pm. Finally, volunteers should bring a picnic lunch with them to VBS on Thursday, July 3rd. After the children leave, all VBS workers are invited to Susan & Dan Bryan's home for a celebratory pool party!

Pray for VBS! This is the most important way that everyone can contribute! A list of specific prayer requests is available for all members of the prayer team and will also be sent out by e-mail every day during VBS week. Thanks to **Pam Meyer**, fliers have already been distributed to 12 Howard County elementary schools, and several unchurched children have already signed up for VBS because of this. Please pray that more students would register and that their hearts will be open to the Gospel.

Keep your eyes open for further volunteer opportunities in the church bulletin. Anyone who is able to help in these ways or who would like to be otherwise involved should contact **Cheryl Dudek** at (410) 884-6706 or pcvldudek@hotmail.com as soon as possible. There are still plenty of ways to be a part of VBS 2008! ❖