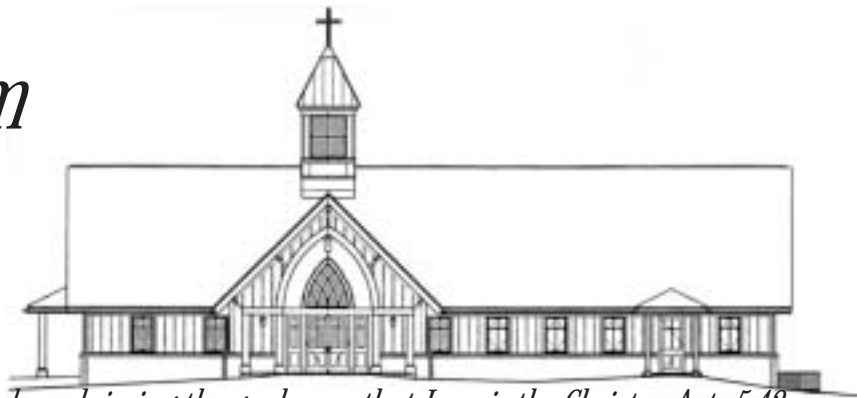


Good News from Good Hope!



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 ❖ March 2008

What's the Bottom Line? For Christians, It's the Resurrection!

A bottom line exists in Christianity. According to the apostle Paul, "If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless, and so is your faith... If the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins." (I Corinthians 15:14, 16-17)

Sometimes in the course of an important conversation when too many details are confusing the discussion, someone may ask, "What's the bottom line?" By this question, the inquirer is seeking the most important point of the conversation. The inquirer is searching for the most pertinent piece of information that must be known or else the main point will be lost. As one searches for the bottom line, it does not mean that other details are not important, but that they may not be as important. The beginning line and the ending line and every other line in between have their value, but what's the bottom line? What message must be conveyed that, without it, the main point of the conversation will be hopelessly hidden or, at best, inaccurately distorted?

The resurrection of Christ is the bottom line of Christianity. Without His resurrection, everything we are and do is temporary and without lasting value. By His resurrection, we know that His death on our behalf has been accepted by God the Father. By His resurrection, we know that our future is secure. By His resurrection, we as believers will be raised and outfitted with bodies that will endure forever. By His resurrection, we know that our lives count. Between the book ends of our birth and death, the details of our words and actions are lived in the light of His resurrection, and that's the bottom line. ❖



Focus on Our Missionaries: *The Huber Family in Kiev, Ukraine*

Try to imagine this... I was busy preparing dinner for some team members and folks who were visiting Kiev. It was 5:45pm, and the guests were scheduled to arrive at 6:00pm. Just then, the phone rings, and it is a different team member from another city who was flying through Kiev. He and his family had only one hour to catch a train to another city. He said they needed me to pack them a dinner for the train. Their taxi would be arriving in 15 minutes to pick it up! Eric and I smiled at each other and thought that only from a fellow team member would we receive a call like that. I thought that I would only ever ask my own mother (or **Diane Hegerle**) to do something like that for us. When he arrived at our place, our teammate laughed and said he thought after the call, "Did I really just ask that?" Anyway, Eric, Dani and I packed up some sandwiches, yogurt, and cookies and sent them on their way just a few minutes before our company arrived. The really odd thing is—it wasn't that odd!

Missionaries, as you know, often serve in teams. Sometimes you hear us talking about our team. But, you only know us as individuals or families, not our teammates. And so what we experience with our team is probably a bit nebulous and undefined for many of you. So I wanted to sketch a picture of our team to give you a greater understanding of our life and ministry.

Our team has changed many times over the 10 years that we've been here in Ukraine. We like to say that we are now on our 6th team. The team has included at various times anywhere between 17-30 members, when you count the children. We've had 55 total people on our Kiev city team over the years. But right now, we're at the low range of 17. Clearly, we've had to say many goodbyes...



The Kiev team—The Hubers' friend Dawn is pictured at the far left.

Last weekend, we said another goodbye to our teammate, Dawn. Dawn is leaving for the best of reasons—she is getting married. We are happy for her, though at the same time we are sad for ourselves. Dawn has been our CPA and administrator for many years. She has served well and with a cheerful heart. She has been a steady worker and a friend to all of us. Dawn arrived early in our time here, and it feels like she has always been a part of our team. Dawn is the last of 7 single women who were all at one time a part of our team. At her goodbye party we were reminiscing, and I realized that it was only she and us Hubers participating in the conversation. The other three families on our team (two of whom are new in the last year) did not know much of what we were talking about. It was good for them to hear some of the team's history, but I realized that they were left out of the conversation. It was fun and fine since it was Dawn's goodbye party, but the next day I thought, "I need to force myself to move on." But, there is a part of me that does not want to move on and fully embrace the new team. We have said goodbye to so many wonderful people who we have grown to love. Every goodbye takes a little something out of you after a while. I have to consciously offer up my heart to the Lord once again to embrace, help, and love new teammates.

The word "teammate" might bring to mind a "co-worker." Teammates are co-workers in part, but they are much more than that. The team here is like our family, our closest friends, and our co-workers all rolled into one. The kids on the team call the adults "aunt" and "uncle." It is our teammates who meet us at the airport and make sure we have a few groceries and dinner the first night we arrive. It is with our team that we have worship in English. It is with our team that we spend American holidays. We have had countless meals together in each others' homes. It is our team who gets the first call when something goes wrong. It was a team member who met Eric and me at the hospital when Dani fell off a horse. It was teammates who took care of Tim for 6 weeks when we flew to the States for Dani to have her first back surgery. It was our team ladies who shopped for a wedding dress with Dawn. It was our team who surrounded teammates with meals and a shower as they recently adopted a Ukrainian son. It is for team that we will use our precious brown sugar and cream of mushroom soup.

Our team is much like a church community. But the relationships are intensified because the culture, the language, and the people are foreign, and the team members are at least a slice of home for us. Team community is daily and tangible. And when a part of it leaves, it feels like we have lost something valuable. It is amazing to me how God can gather together such a diverse group of people from all over the States in a place like Ukraine and use them for His glory. Simply remarkable that He uses our talents, struggles, likes, and dislikes to further the growth of His kingdom. Over the years, we have truly become a band of brothers and sisters. What a blessing from the triune God who created us for communion with Himself and with others!

Blessings,
Lauren for the Huber Family

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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March 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 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	3 Mt. Airy Growth Group - 6:30pm	4 Handchimes - 5:00pm Jim Haber Growth Group - 5:30pm Deacon Meeting at the church - 6:30pm	5 James Growth Group 7:30pm	6 Macdonald Growth Group - 6:30pm	7 March Deacons of the Month: Bill Davis Tim Rowan	8 Daylight Saving Time begins at 2am. Turn your clocks forward!
9 Daylight Saving Time Begins 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	10 Mt. Airy Growth Group - 6:30pm	11 Handchimes - 5:00pm Session Meeting at the church - 7:30pm	12 James Growth Group 7:30pm	13 Jim Haber Growth Group - 5:30pm Macdonald Growth Group - 6:30pm	14	15
16 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	17	18	19	20 Maundy Thursday Communion Service at the church 7:00pm	21	22
23 Easter Sunday Easter Sunrise Service - 6:00am Early Worship Service - 8:30am Fellowship Time - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am	24 Mt. Airy Growth Group - 6:30pm	25 Jim Haber Growth Group - 5:30pm	26 James Growth Group 7:30pm	27 Macdonald Growth Group - 6:30pm	28 Info for April newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	29
30 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	31 Mt. Airy Growth Group - 6:30pm	1 Jim Haber Growth Group - 5:30pm	2 James Growth Group 7:30pm	3 Macdonald Growth Group - 6:30pm	4	5

Friends & Family Luncheon

Plan to stay for lunch and fellowship together after morning worship on **Sunday, March 2nd**. And bring a friend!

Time To Spring Forward!

Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour on Saturday night, March 8th, in observance of **Daylight Saving Time**.

Planning Ahead for Vacation Bible School

Anyone interested in helping with this year's VBS, please join us on **Sunday, March 9th** immediately after morning worship for a "pick the date" meeting. Bring a bag lunch, and drinks will be provided. For more information, contact **Cheryl Dudek** at (410) 884-6706 or pcvldudek@hotmail.com.

Make a Joyful Noise!

The choir will sing Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" on Easter Sunday. Additional voices would be welcome for this special event! Rehearsals will take place on Sundays, March 2nd, 9th, and 16th at 5:15pm. Contact **Kim Monroe** for more information about choir and handchime rehearsals.

Easter Week Schedule

Growth Groups will not be held during the week before Easter.

Join us on **Thursday, March 20th** at **7:00pm** for a Maundy Thursday service. The Lord's Supper will be served, so take time to prepare your hearts for communion with our Lord.

An Easter sunrise service will be held at **6:00am** on **Sunday, March 23rd**. Then an additional morning worship service will be added at **8:30am**, followed by a time of fellowship, beginning at 9:45am, in lieu of Sunday School. Our regular worship service at **11:00am** will be held as usual on Easter Sunday, but there will be no evening service or youth group activities on Sunday, March 23rd.

2008 Missions Conference

The 2008 Good Hope Missions Conference is scheduled for the weekend of **April 11-13**, with evening events planned for Friday and Saturday nights and a special missions focus on Sunday morning. Mark your calendar now, and stay tuned for more details to come soon! Please contact **Craig Smith** for more information about this exciting weekend.