

# 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 ❖ May 2005

## Know That You Can Trust God With All of Life's Risks

There are risks in life, and we should embrace them. Certainly there are some risks that we should avoid which are too extreme, too foolish. Yet there are also risks that are appropriate challenges. These risks call us to engage life with all of the energy, wisdom, and talents that God has given us.

In the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter of the book of Ecclesiastes, the author gives us several truths to consider in regard to risks. In verse one and two he says, "Cast your bread upon the waters, for after many days you will find it again. Give portions to seven, even eight, for you do not know what disaster may come upon the land." He may be speaking of generosity or business ventures or first one and then the other. In any event, he intends for us to spread out our efforts. We should be generous in our efforts.

In the third and fourth verses, he speaks of events that we cannot do anything about or fully understand. "If clouds are full of water, they pour rain upon the earth. Whether a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where it falls, there it will lie." Clouds do what they do. They carry water and drop it on the earth. Trees fall in the forest on their own timetable. These things happen, and we should not be paralyzed by the realities of life. We should not wait for perfect conditions in order to act. "Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap."

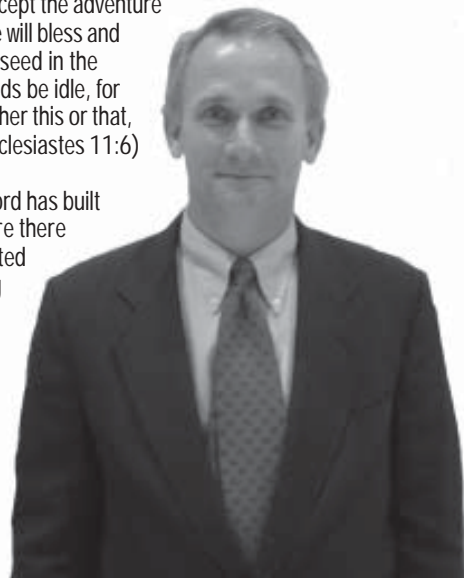
### See Your Face in Lights!

We thank the Lord for the growth that our church has experienced recently. However, having more people present on Sunday morning means that it can be hard to remember and match faces and names! We hope to improve this situation by adding photos to the next edition of our church roster. Please make your "reservation" with **Ron Goodrich** to have your photograph taken for our new pictorial directory. Ron will be circulating among us before and after morning service during the month of May to seek your scheduling. Pictures will be taken behind the stage curtain right after morning worship. There is no charge for the photos or directory, and church membership is not a requirement to be included. We would like to see all members and friends pictured! ❖

Verse five teaches us that there are certain things that are unknown and unknowable. "As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother's womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things."

Even though there are mysteries of creation and providence, we are to get on with life. Get on with what the Lord has assigned to us. Accept the adventure and the results knowing that ultimately He will bless and prosper according to His will. "Sow your seed in the morning, and at evening let not your hands be idle, for you do not know which will succeed, whether this or that, or whether both will do equally well." (Ecclesiastes 11:6)

There are unavoidable risks in life. The Lord has built these into the fabric of His world. They are there to teach us to trust Him. As we have trusted Him for our salvation through the atoning death of His Son, so too must we trust Him with all of the affairs and efforts of our lives. As He has liberated us from the guilt of our sins and from the fear of death, so too has He liberated us from the fear of failure. Whatever we do and whatever risks confront us, we do in His name and for His glory, even down to the smallest and seemingly insignificant items of our lives. ❖



## High Hopes for Good Hope

by Ian Macdonald, Building Committee Chairman

It is exciting to know that all systems are currently go for our building project. The design and permitting processes are behind us, and demolition and construction are proceeding well. Final loan papers have not as yet been signed, but there appear to be no obstructions there. Praise the Lord!

The storm water pipes have been placed, and the sedimentation pond is complete. Now it is onto the parking area... The volunteer demolition crew is making great progress as it prepares the way for **Matt Malanoski** and his contracting team.

If you have not recently visited the new church site, you should do so. There should be visible changes and signs of progress every time you go. Continue to pray for the Lord's blessing to this ongoing process. ❖



## Mow a Lawn For a Good Cause

Once again, we need volunteers to ride the lawn tractor and mow what's left of the grass at our church property on Route 216. No, it's not a glamorous or exciting job, but it is good service to the Lord, and it does help us give a witness to the neighborhood by keeping our "under construction" property as neat and tidy as possible. In addition, mowing is easier on the back than hauling bricks! Please see **Mark Hegerle** for details or to sign up. ❖

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.goodhopepca.com

## *Good News from Good Hope!*

# May 2005

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



## *What's a Little Rain? The Soggy 2005 Good Hope Masters*

*by Mark Hegerle, Fellowship Committee Chairman*

It was a dark and stormy night... That was always Snoopy's favorite way to begin a story, and it's also a fitting way to lead into this year's tale of the Good Hope Masters. While the typical reward for winning the PGA's Masters is the fabled green jacket, this year, a more appropriate prize for the Good Hope Masters was a yellow rain slicker.

More than just a distraction, the rain also served as the divider between the men and the boys—or at least a divider between those men with “honey-do” lists waiting for them at home and those with Wizards tickets or other enjoyable indoor activities to do. Of the six four-man teams that had entered, only three teams braved the on-again, off-again rain showers to challenge the title of Masters Champions.

With the soggy conditions, it was speculated that even par might be good enough to win this year's title. But **Randy Whitehead**, **Robbie Whitehead**, **Ryan Whitehead**, and **Gary Garland** had other ideas. This team of big hitters out-drove the puddles and ensured that there would be no tie-breaking putt-off to claim the trophies. They whipped the other teams and came in four under par 67, only one off of the winning score of the last two tournaments and four shots ahead of the closest challenger.

In fact, the Whitehead team nearly took home all of the trophies, as Randy Whitehead reclaimed the coveted (*Can we say that in the church newsletter??*) longest drive trophy from last year's winner, teammate Gary Garland. **Bill Davis's** co-worker **John Sadler** prevented the sweep by picking up the closest-to-the-pin trophy in unique fashion. Ask Bill why, despite this stellar tee shot, his team had to putt off of the green in order to complete the hole...

In the end, most everyone agreed that golfing in the rain beats cleaning the basement anytime! ❖