

# 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 ❖ May 2007

## A Search For Buried Treasure...

The main theme of pirate movies is often a search for buried treasure. Gold, silver, rubies, and jewels are hidden in the sand or dirt. A tension usually builds between the pirates and a "good guy" or group of good characters to see who will discover the treasure first.

The image of treasure hidden in the dirt is also used in the Bible. Paul speaks of the Gospel as a treasure that resides in jars of clay. Christians are like clay pots. Our bodies were originally made from the earth. We are fragile and temporary, yet that which gives eternal life is within us. Paul wrote, "For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made His light shine in our hearts to give us the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." (II Corinthians 4:6-7)

We are redeemed pirates who have found the gold. We have treasure that resides within us, but is not intended to stay hidden inside of us. Jesus said, "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16) Jesus, the Light of the world, is the light within us. He has opened our eyes and given us the salvation which He obtained through His death on the cross. We are to share our salvation and its effect on our lives with other people. By our treatment of others we glorify our heavenly Father. We are clay pots, and it's okay to be cracked, as long as the Light shines out. ❖



## Vacation Bible School Is Coming in July!

Mark your calendars now for VBS, which will be held each morning from 9:00am-12:30pm 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." Anyone who is interested in helping in any way, shape, or form should contact **Cheryl Dudek** at (410) 884-6706 or [pcvldudek@hotmail.com](mailto:pcvldudek@hotmail.com) as soon as possible. Cheryl needs assistants of all ages, so please let her know if you're available to help for any part of VBS week. Availability every day is not necessary!

## A Few Musical Notes

Interested in singing with the choir on Sunday mornings? The choir will now be singing once a month during Sunday morning worship and will rehearse most Sunday evenings from 5:30-6:15pm. However, since the choir will sing during worship on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, there will not be choir rehearsal on the 6<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup>. Please contact **Sarah Lantz** if you're interested in participating with the choir or if you'd ever like to take part in a small instrumental or vocal ensemble.

## Missions Committee Meeting

The missions committee will meet on **Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00pm at the church. Please contact **Craig Smith** with any questions, and stay tuned for upcoming missions news.

## Focus on Our Missionaries: Gene and LuAnn Bowman in El Paso, Texas

The latest newsletter we sent out started with, "Where does the time go?" It seems our lives get busier and busier. There is so much happening here on the US/Mexico border, and we can't keep up with it. Or, we should say, we can't keep up with God.

Gene has been spending a lot of his time concentrated on the purchasing of a piece of land in Juarez to build a community center. We had to set up a Mexican Corporation so that we could buy land in Juarez. That was an ordeal in itself. But it is official, and we now have an agreement on a piece of land. God has certainly blessed and brought in the \$265,000 needed to make the purchase. After the purchase is complete, we will begin work on grading the property and then constructing a wall around the perimeter. Please pray that God will bring in the funding necessary to begin the work on the property.

Over the past few years, Joyce Huizinga from Alabama has been traveling to the border to teach sewing to our women in Juarez. In February, she completed the third of three classes, teaching a group of nine women "how to teach sewing." It is our hope that these women will then teach others within their churches or community and provide possible income for them or clothing for their families. This is also a great outreach for the Gospel of Christ.

In March, Gene and I took our regional directors, the Mayos and the Nantts, to Cloudcroft, New Mexico for a leadership retreat. During the retreat, we took time to examine our relationships with Christ, with our spouses, and with others. We also focused on leadership training for members of the BEAMM team and on strategic preparation for reaching our Vision 2004-2020 goals.

We are now gearing up for the short term teams coming this summer. We thank God for Gary Whiting from Village Seven in Colorado Springs who will assist us this summer by leading the construction part of our work. Please pray for Gary as he and his wife Kay have a real heart for the border and are prayerfully considering full-time work with us. This comes at a great time because our goal is to enlist more teams to come so that we can begin work on the community center.

The "Bowman Motel" is always open. We still have the privilege of hosting guests often as they come to either visit our ministry or assist in some way. We invite you to come and check out the exciting things that God is doing here on the US/Mexico border. "Nuestra casa is su casa." Better yet, send a team from Good Hope, and join us in our ministry!



For His glory,  
*Gene & LuAnn*

*Good News from Good Hope!*

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

# May 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</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>30</b> May Deacons of the Month: Joseph Haber Mark Hegerle	<b>1</b> Outreach Meeting at the church - 7:00pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Work Party at the church - 9:00am
<b>6</b> Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am <b>Communion To Be Served</b> Middle School at church - 5pm Evening Worship - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins - 8:00-9:30pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Session/Deacon Meeting at the church - 7:30pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Work Party at the church - 9:00am
<b>13</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>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Missions Meeting at the church 7:00pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Work Party at the church - 9:00am
<b>20</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>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Work Party at the church - 9:00am
<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> Info for June newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Work Party at the church - 9:00am

## Free Saturday Mornings?

Though we have been meeting in our building for almost 6 months now, there are still a number of items remaining to be finished up on the property. Just last month, we finally met our obligations for landscaping. We had to overcome last year's drought, a very windy and cold winter, and changing expectations from Howard County, but in April we crossed the finish line, with the help of many Saturday morning volunteers. Of the major projects still outstanding are correcting the storm pond erosion problems, putting up the front sign (including lighting), and tightening and cleaning up the outbuilding and grounds. We may even put a new roof on the outbuilding as it looks very tired. Being a good neighbor means keeping our property looking its best. Hopefully before summer arrives, we will finish the outdoor jobs and rediscover what it means to sleep in on Saturdays. Until that time, we will be out on Saturday mornings finishing up—the good news is that the list is getting real short. **Steve Gerwin** sends out periodic e-mails about upcoming work on Saturday mornings. If you would like to help, but aren't on Steve's regular distribution list, contact him at Gerwin1125@aol.com or (301) 384-9883. ❖



Good Hope's first ever Easter sunrise service was a meaningful time for those who were able to wake up before the sun and brave the freezing temperatures!