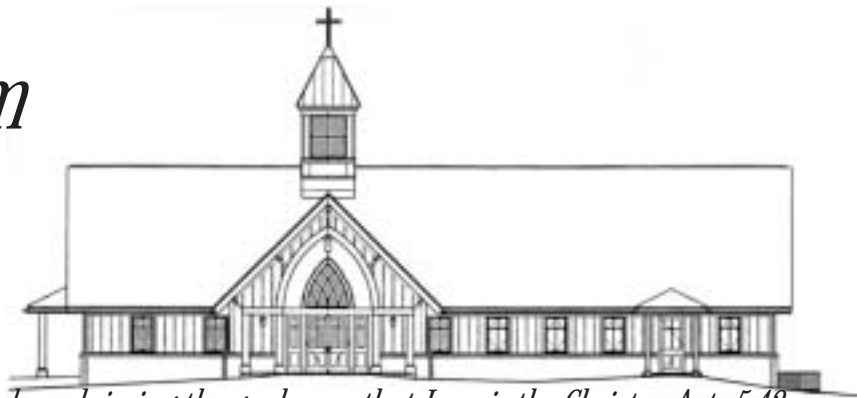


# Good News from Good Hope!



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 ❖ November 2007

## Christmas Is Around the Corner...

The annual Good Hope Children's Christmas Play will take place on **Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00pm. Practices have already begun, and parts are being chosen! Please have your children on time for each Sunday morning practice, which takes place at the beginning of the Sunday School hour. The middle schoolers are using some of their youth group time for practice as well. Adults and older teens who would like to help are greatly needed! We need a set-up crew, props, and assistance with younger children. Please speak to **Chris Waller** if you are willing to serve in this way. ❖



### Let's Give Thanks Together!

A Thanksgiving service will be held at the church on **Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>** at 10:00am. Youth groups and evening worship will not be held on Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Time To Fall Back!

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, in observance of **Daylight Saving Time**.

### Christmas Carols Are Coming!

The choir is in need of additional voices as we prepare for the Advent season. Please consider joining us! Your commitment is not long term, but will aid in our worship and celebration of Christmas. Practices will take place on Sundays at 5:30pm on November 4, 11, and 18. There will be no practice during Thanksgiving weekend. For the month of December, we will agree upon a practice time, since there are events on Sunday nights that conflict with the 5:30pm time slot. No experience necessary—will train. Contact **Kim Monroe** for further information.

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

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you are called in one body. And be ye thankful. (Colossians 3:15)

Sometimes, in the midst of a busy schedule, we can become impatient with God and wonder, "Why is this taking so long?" But we are supposed to give thanks in everything. Not just things that seem to be "going our way," but in EVERYTHING. This ministry along the US/Mexico border belongs to God, and we are only His instruments. It is not our time schedule that we are supposed to work within. It is His.

We started this spring by finding a great piece of land and making a down payment in the hopes of settling and beginning the process of building the Juárez Community Center. But through some complications with the owners of the land, this process has been held up. One of the owners had a financial obligation which needed to be cleared before we could settle, and we just heard that he has taken care of this. We are still waiting for a settlement date. BUT, we are supposed to be thankful in everything. We don't know the mind of God and the reasoning behind this, but we are trusting God that He will continue to make His will known concerning this land. Please pray for the details to be worked out because we paid a \$20,000 deposit, and we cannot afford to lose it.

We are blessed with six new missionary families and church planters who are in the process of coming to BEAMM (Border Evangelism And Mercy Ministries). In addition, we had over 140 short-term members come to Tijuana, Juárez, and Laredo this summer to help with construction, VBS, and English camps.

### Missionary Update

Good Hope has supported **Steve and Kelly Marusich** for several years as missionaries with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at the University of Maryland and most recently as they prepared to move to England to reach out to college students there for Christ.

Steve and Kelly will no longer be moving to England and appreciate your prayers as they consider their next steps in seeking the Lord's calling in their lives. Steve will serve as interim pastor at Wallace Presbyterian Church through June 30, 2008. ❖

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, we are traveling to Atlanta for Mission to the World's Global Missions Conference. If you have not signed up, you are missing a real treat. Please pray for Gene as he prepares for one of the seminars offered—"Mexican Immigration to the United States: What Does it Mean to the PCA?" And pray for the BEAMM Partnership meeting to be held the day before the conference. We are very thankful for our partners and for the encouragement that they have been to BEAMM.

We are looking forward to traveling east for Christmas to spend time with our children and grandchildren. It has been 5 years since we were all together for Christmas. Please pray for safe travel and a good time of refreshment, fellowship, and relaxation.

God has been so faithful to us and to BEAMM, and we could never do Him justice in just a few paragraphs. We encourage you to check out our newly remodeled website to see what is happening here along the border at [www.beamm.org](http://www.beamm.org).

Thank you, brothers and sisters, for your faithful support and encouragement to us. May God bless you as you minister to your community surrounding Good Hope.

For His Glory,  
*Gene and LuAnn*



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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## *Good News from Good Hope!*

# November 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am Middle School at church - 5pm Evening Worship - 6:30pm	<b>29</b> Whitehead Growth Group - 6:30pm	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> James Growth Group 7:30pm	<b>1</b> Macdonald Growth Group - 6:30pm	<b>2</b> November Deacons: Ron Goodrich Tim Rowan	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Daylight Saving Time Ends Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am <b>Communion To Be Served</b> <b>Friends &amp; Family Luncheon</b> Evening Worship - 6:30pm High School Youth Group at the Higgins - 8:00-9:30pm	<b>5</b> Whitehead Growth Group - 6:30pm	<b>6</b> Jim Haber Growth Group - 5:30pm	<b>7</b> James Growth Group 7:30pm	<b>8</b> Session/Deacon Meeting at the church - 7:30pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</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>12</b> Whitehead Growth Group - 6:30pm	<b>13</b> Jim Haber Growth Group - 5:30pm	<b>14</b> James Growth Group 7:30pm	<b>15</b> Macdonald Growth Group - 6:30pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</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>19</b> Whitehead Growth Group - 6:30pm	<b>20</b> Jim Haber Growth Group - 5:30pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Thanksgiving Service at the church 10:00am	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Sunday School - 9:45am Worship Service - 11:00am	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Info for December newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>

## *Return and Give Praise to God—The Value of Giving Thanks*

They asked. He gave. One said thanks. Nine did not. Luke reports the particulars of an encounter that Jesus had with ten lepers who asked Him for healing. "Now on His way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As He was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met Him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, 'Jesus, Master, have pity on us!' When He saw them, He said, 'Go, show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked Him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, 'Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then He said to him, 'Rise and go; your faith has made you well.'" (Luke 17:11-19)

United in voice, ten lepers pleaded for help. They needed it. "Have pity" was their cry. They said, in effect, "Look at our condition. Please be moved by it! Freedom and enjoyment have fled from us. Shame, suffering, and alienation fill each moment of our lives, and we cannot escape. Please, Lord, help us." Jesus did. They followed His instructions, and as they did, they were each given the healing that they urgently requested. Once liberated, one ran back to Jesus; nine ran away from Jesus. One could not contain his gratitude; nine seemed to be so enamored with their delicious liberty that they forgot the One who had made them free. To paint the contrast even more starkly, the grateful one was a foreigner, unschooled in the ways of God; the ungrateful ones were fellow countrymen, citizens of God's people, students of His tutelage. Should the nine have known better, behaved better, responded better? Jesus' reaction to their absence answers that question.

Jesus' last statement to the grateful leper is intriguing. He said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." Were the other nine made well by their faith? Is it possible that they were healed, not on the basis of their faith, but on the basis of God's mercy, power, and grace alone? The word "well" which Jesus used can include the idea of wholeness. Is it possible to be healed, but not whole—that is, physically healthy, but spiritually sick? Was Jesus saying to the grateful man, your faith includes a recognition and expression of gratitude to the One who healed you, which gives you wholeness—both outwardly and inwardly? Your soul is alive and is drinking at the fountain of God's blessings. The others may be healed, but are not whole. Their lack of gratitude indicates this. They may be feasting on their freedom, but starving as they stifle expressions of joy to Him who granted their physical restoration.

May we never leave behind or fail to show our appreciation to Him who has come to our aid when we called. ❖

