

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 ❖ October 2003

Date To Be Set Soon for Upcoming Congregational Meeting

The Session has been discussing when would be the most appropriate time for our next congregational meeting. Before we set the date, we want to have all the necessary information that we need for the topics of the meeting. At least three issues will be on the docket of this meeting. The first is a final "check and go" on our building project. The second is the budget for 2004. The third is a modification of our church name.

(1) As far as the "check and go" is concerned, we need the final completion of our architectural drawings with the most current estimates of what it will cost to construct our building. We also need final approval of our site plan with the most current estimates of what it will cost to install our parking lot, entrance widening on Highway 216, storm retention ponds, septic, etc.

(2) As far as the budget for 2004 is concerned, we will, as usual, receive a proposal from the deacons and its approval by the Session. The portion of the budget that the congregation votes on will be presented for approval.

(3) As far as the modification of our church name, the Session has discussed modifying the name of our church. The proposal is to modify our name from "Good Hope Reformed Presbyterian Church" to "Good Hope Presbyterian Church." What motivates us to consider this change? We are soon to relocate, and we must now consider our sign. By deleting the word "reformed" from our name, we are in no way deleting or discarding our reformed heritage or distinctives. It is not because of a lack of conviction that we propose the change, but a desire to preclude confusion concerning what reformed means. The Session proposes that our sign read "Good Hope Presbyterian Church" in large letters with the subtitle "Presbyterian Church in America" in smaller letters. At our congregational meeting, we can discuss the pros and cons of this proposed change more in depth.

As soon as we have gathered the information that we need for the meeting (and we think that this will happen in a matter of weeks), we will inform the congregation of the meeting date. ❖

Enthusiasm Grows for Building

by Ian Macdonald, Building Committee Chairman

The building committee meeting held on Saturday, September 27th was a much different meeting than any that preceded it. The air of excitement, enthusiasm, and movement grew as various reports and discussions unfolded. The sense that God was with us was present at the beginning of the meeting, but it grew as we all realized how blessed our efforts have been.

Bill Davis reported that he signed a note with Sandy Spring Bank on Thursday and that the mortgage with Emanuel has been paid off. That transaction, plus the money that was contributed from the accumulated building fund, gave us a debt that was over \$200,000 less than the mortgage and at interest rates that were approximately 3 points lower. The transaction also gave us about \$850,000 towards our sanctuary. Praise the Lord!

Steve Gerwin prepared a Scope of Services document for us with which to bid the Site Development Plan that is expected back from the county this week. We were all impressed and again thankful to the Lord for the very professional and thorough job that Steve has done and will continue to do throughout the site development construction phase. **Jack Waller** agreed to be Steve's gofer in getting bids for well and septic and as needed as the project moves along.

Jim Haber reported that **Jim Palmer** will have completed architectural plans for us by October 6th, and **Matt Malanoski** estimated that he could have his bids in by mid-December and be ready for construction by February 1st.

We ask everyone to continue in prayer for the building and to thank God for all the talented and dedicated people that have contributed and continue to contribute to this effort. ❖

Men's Basketball

Men's basketball will resume for the fall in October for all men in high school or beyond. Please mark your calendars now for Thursdays, October 9th and 23rd from 8-10pm at Briggs Chaney Middle School. Bring a friend!

Focus on Our Missionaries: Jill DeVere in Odessa, Ukraine

Greetings from Ukraine! Over the summer, we had a group from the States come to visit us here in Odessa. It was a great blessing for me to meet them. One girl said, as we met, "Oh, Jill, we pray for you every week." It was a wonderful reminder of how much people back home are dedicated to praying and supporting me here in Ukraine. This is very much appreciated. Thank you!

Summer English Course: As an answer to some of your prayers, this summer we had an intensive English course as an outreach for the new church plant. Four American missionaries dedicated their time to teaching each day. For some of them, it was the first time that they taught English. They each did a wonderful job and created good relationships with the students in their classes. Forty to fifty students attended our classes for two weeks. Each day we had a 30-minute chapel time. This is where we sang Christian songs in English. We also heard Valeri, our pastor at the new church, speak about the Bible. He explained in Russian what we would be learning in English from the Bible lesson that day.

One girl from our church, Galya, attended the English courses. It was uplifting as she expressed how she realized that the people in this course really need Jesus. She said that she would be praying that God would show them truth and grace. It was wonderful to me to see that she saw the need and wanted to pray and get involved in the lives of her classmates.

Continued English: To continue this English outreach, we started showing English films every Saturday night, and we also started English classes two times a week at the end of August.

New Church: Please continue to pray for the growth of our new church, not just in numbers, but spiritually as well. We are looking for more Ukrainian people who will be dedicated to help with planting this church. It has been encouraging for me to see the people that are already committed to becoming more unified and like a family. Also, please pray for our Ukrainian church planting team that God will break our hearts for the lost and give us a desire to reach out to people in our area. Thank you for all of your prayers!

Jill DeVere



The advanced class sings "Billy Boy" at our talent show during this summer's English course.

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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.goodhopepeca.com

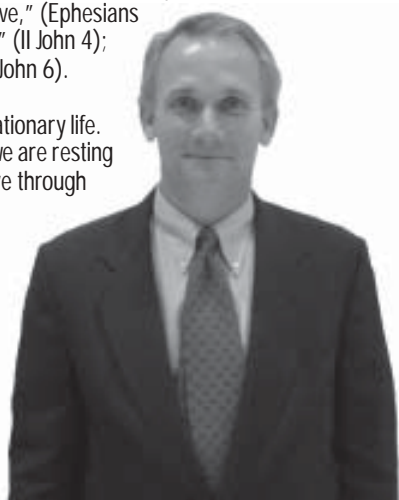
October 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 6:00pm Middle School GG - 6:00pm High School GG - 6:00pm	29	30 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	1 Whitehead GG 6:30pm	2	3 French GG - 7:30pm	4
5 Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 6:00pm Middle School GG - 6:00pm High School GG - 6:00pm	6	7	8	9 Session Meeting 7:30pm Men's Basketball 8-10pm	10 Camp Hemlock Retreat →	11
12 Camp Hemlock Retreat Worship Service - 9:30am	13	14 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	15 Whitehead GG 6:30pm	16	17 French GG - 7:30pm	18
19 Worship Service - 9:30am Communion to be served Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 6:00pm Middle School GG - 6:00pm High School GG - 6:00pm	20	21 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	22 Whitehead GG 6:30pm	23 Men's Basketball at Briggs Chaney Middle School 8-10pm	24 French GG - 7:30pm	25 Building Committee at the Macdonalds' House - 7:30am
26 Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Ron Higgins GG - 6:00pm Middle School GG - 6:00pm High School GG - 6:00pm	27 Info for November newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	28 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	29 Whitehead GG 6:30pm	30	31 French GG - 7:30pm	1

The Christian Life: A Walk With Christ

Christians are supposed to walk with Christ. How do you walk with someone you cannot see? In Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words, the word "walk" can be used physically or figuratively. It is in the latter sense that we walk with Christ. Vine lists a variety of the ways we walk with Christ. We are to "walk in newness of life," (Romans 6:4); "after the Spirit," (Romans 8:4); "in honesty," (Romans 13:13); "by faith," (II Corinthians 5:7); "in good works," (Ephesians 2:10); "in love," (Ephesians 2:10); "in wisdom," (Colossians 4:5); "in truth," (II John 4); and "after the commandments of the Lord," (II John 6).

Get up and walk. The Christian does not live a stationary life. Walking with Christ is a daily activity. Even when we are resting figuratively, we are walking in the rest that we have through our security in Christ. Walking is living out our continual relationship with our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Walking in newness of life, after the Spirit, in honesty, by faith, in good works, in love, in wisdom, in truth, or after the commandments of the Lord, are all aspects of living as redeemed, restored, reconciled, resurrected children of God. Get on your feet. Rise up in your soul. Live. Walk. Walk with Christ. Exude this lively faith that He has given and imparted to you. ❖



Sign Up Now for Retreat at Camp Hemlock!

The annual church retreat will be held from **October 10-12** (Columbus Day Weekend) at Hemlock Wilderness Brigade Camp in wild and wonderful West Virginia. Join us for the whole weekend or just come for the day on Saturday!

Prices for Weekenders: \$25 per person or \$75 per family. **Daytrippers:** \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Checks should be made out to Mark Hegerle. Price includes lodging, fun, and all meals (Friday: After-dinner snack; Saturday: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner; Sunday: Breakfast and lunch).

Please see **Mark Hegerle** ASAP to sign up and get directions to Hemlock or with any questions! ❖