

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 2004*

Thank the Lord—Ground Has Been Broken!

by Ian Macdonald, Building Committee Chairman

Actually, it would be more accurate to say that walls have been demolished... At a ceremony following worship on Sunday, September 26th, an impressive percentage of our church family convened at the site of our home-to-be to participate in a celebration. Pastor Waller read two passages of Scripture, then asked three people to pray aloud for our building project. At the conclusion, we all sang the Doxology in unison. Then it was time for the group photo, centered around a golden shovel. This photographer realized after he looked at the product that the congregation has grown past the point of easy photos—thank the Lord! Cake was served, and members were invited to take a hammer to the walls of a back bedroom that had already been partially demolished by **Jack Waller**. Each person was asked to take the pieces they demolished out to the dumpster that now sits on the property in a symbolic showing that we are underway.

At the building committee meeting held the day before the groundbreaking, we learned that Howard County will require us to have a sprinkler system in the new church building. This was not a great surprise, but a disappointment because of the cost involved. The county had some other minor concerns—they need an official letter stating that our educational intent is only for Sunday School, and they need some modification of plans so that the building plan and the site plan match up. **Jim Haber** agreed to work on the plans, and Jack will write the official letter. Good news is that a contract has been signed with Verizon, and they plan to use underground wiring to the building.

We all should continue to pray for this project and for the Lord's blessing and guidance as we go forward.
❖

Tim Higgins does his part to get the demolition process started in our new church building during the official groundbreaking ceremony last Sunday.

Play Some Basketball

Men's basketball will begin again in October for all men in high school or beyond. Please mark your calendars now for **Thursdays, October 7th and 21st** from 8-10pm at Briggs Chaney Middle School.

Sing on Sunday Mornings

The musical ensemble will meet on **Sundays, October 10th, 17th, and 24th** from 8:45-9:20am. You are encouraged to participate even if you are unable to do so every week. Babysitting is provided!

Mow Our New Property

Take advantage of the opportunity to serve our church by mowing the new church property on Route 216! Please see **Mark Hegerle** to sign up for one (or more) week(s) of mowing during October or November. A riding mower is available at the property, and this should take about 2-3 hours total.

Focus on Our Missionaries: *Chris and Lisa Moore, Mission to the World*

This summer marked one year of our family living in this Middle Eastern city. We are increasingly thankful for our wonderful home with its small yard and for the many friends we have all made here. As we look back over the summer and look ahead to the fall, here are a few notable items:

- It has been exciting to see a number of new visitors to the church. Pastor Y. continues to have contact with many people who are curious about the Christian faith. Pray with us that the Spirit would bring many to taste and see the goodness of Christ our Savior.
- This summer, our team hosted 50 visitors from one of our PCA partner churches. This week-long trip proved to be a joy to everyone involved. The experience challenged many of the American participants to greater involvement with and prayer for the work here. It was equally effective in the lives of the local believers—encouraging them in their faith and providing a living, breathing picture of the Body of Christ. A highlight of the trip was a multilingual, multicultural worship service in the ruins of an ancient church.
- Conor and I have both begun school for the year. I am continuing work on my graduate degree, while Conor is starting first grade at the local public school. Praise God that after his year of preschool last year, his language ability seems to be almost equal to other children his age. Pray with us that he would adjust well to this new phase of life and that it would be an enjoyable time for him.
- Another exciting development has been the beginning of a weekly women's prayer meeting at the church. This has been a blessed time of prayer and fellowship for the women of our congregation. Please pray for Lisa, as she coordinates this meeting. Pray that the time would bear much fruit in the lives of all those attending and that they would be founded on the Gospel of grace.
- Pastor Y. plans to rent a booth at the convention center during a book fair later this year. The book fair would give an opportunity to distribute literature, meet many people, and create awareness about the church.



We were encouraged this summer by the 50 American visitors from our PCA partner church and the experience of one body of believers receiving the sacrament of communion together.

Thank you always for your prayers, love, and support.
Chris for Lisa, Conor, Emerson, and Lydia

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

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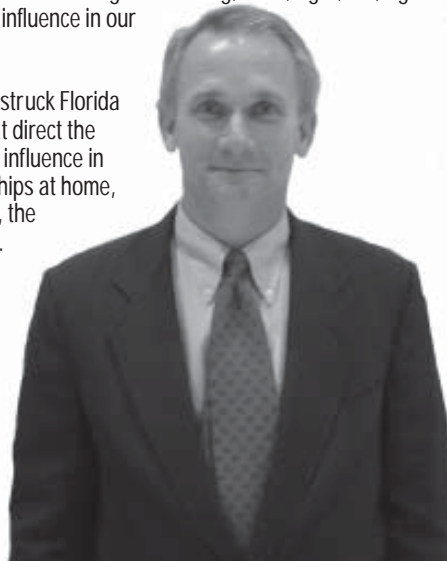
October 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Groundbreaking at 216 Property - 11:30am Craig Higgins GG - 6:00pm Youth Group GG - 6:00pm	27	28 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	29 Whitehead GG 6:30pm	30	1 French GG - 7:30pm	2 Good Hope Fall Golf Tournament at Patuxent Greens 11am
3 Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Craig Higgins GG - 6:00pm Youth Group GG - 6:00pm	4	5 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	6 Whitehead GG 6:30pm	7 Men's Basketball at Briggs Chaney Middle School 8-10pm	8 French GG - 7:30pm	9 Building Committee at the Macdonalds' House - 7:30am
10 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Craig Higgins GG - 6:00pm Youth Group GG - 6:00pm	11	12 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	13 Whitehead GG 6:30pm	14 Session Meeting at Wallers' House 7:30pm	15 French GG - 7:30pm	16
17 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Craig Higgins GG - 6:00pm Youth Group GG - 6:00pm	18	19 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	20 Whitehead GG 6:30pm	21 Men's Basketball at Briggs Chaney Middle School 8-10pm	22 French GG - 7:30pm	23
24 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Communion To Be Served Sunday School - 11:00am Craig Higgins GG - 6:00pm Youth Group GG - 6:00pm	25 Info for November newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	26 Macdonald GG 6:30pm	27 Whitehead GG 6:30pm	28	29 French GG - 7:30pm	30

Steering Currents Direct Hurricanes and Our Lives

Proverbs 20:24 states, "A man's steps are directed by the Lord. How then can anyone understand his own way?" The writer of this proverb reminds us of the providential work of God in our lives. It is the work of His hand behind the scenes of our lives that we do not fully comprehend, nor can we. The Lord directs our steps, but not in a robotic fashion, nor with audible shouting like a drill sergeant barking, "Left, right, left, right." The Lord guides by His wisdom and will, exerting His steering influence in our lives.

We have all been aware of the numerous hurricanes that have struck Florida this season. Forecasters speak of the "steering currents" that direct the paths of those monster storms. The Lord directs His steering influence in every aspect of our lives. Every step, whether in the relationships at home, the challenges and opportunities of the labor of our vocation, the friends we have, or the paths we travel on, is directed by God. How does He do this without violating our volitional involvement? We don't know, yet for those of us who know Him as our Heavenly Father and know His Son as our Lord and Savior, we are glad that He does. We are glad, because even in the midst of our deepest trial, we know that chaos does not reign, and we have not drawn the short end of the straw by bad luck. God has directed our steps. The Scriptures assure us that we know how the journey ends, even though we may not know every step of the path beforehand. We can rest in the assurance that God knows every step of the path, and He directs each one. ❖



Indelible Grace Concert

Have you enjoyed the Indelible Grace music that the musical ensemble has been teaching to our congregation on Sunday mornings recently? If so, don't miss the opportunity to hear Matthew Smith and the Indelible Grace band in concert at Chapelgate Presbyterian Church in Marriottsville on **Sunday, October 24th** at 6:00pm. This tour is sponsored by Compassion International, and a love offering will be collected during the concert. The band will be playing hymns from all three Indelible Grace CDs. For more details, contact the Chapelgate church office at (410) 442-5800.