

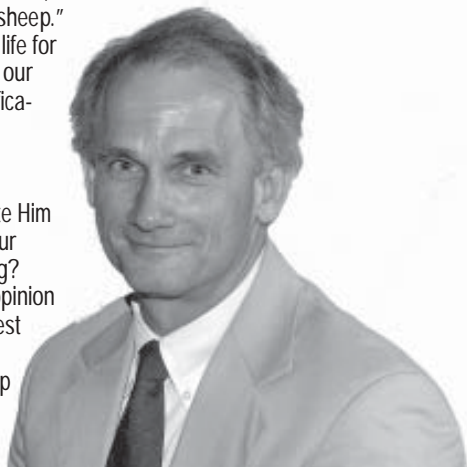
Good News from Good Hope!



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 2006

The Good Shepherd and His Sheep

Jesus had an opinion of Himself. He thought of Himself as being good at what He did, and we could even say good at what He still does. He likened Himself to a shepherd. He said, "I am the good shepherd." (John 10:14) The quality of His shepherding, according to Jesus, is good. Jesus likened those who follow Him to sheep. He said, "I know my sheep and my sheep know Me—just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father." (John 10:15) These sheep have the capacity to know Jesus. What do we know about Him? We know He knows us. We know He cares for us and loves us. Notice, He did not say, "I am a good shepherd," but "I am the good shepherd." By saying, "I am the good shepherd," Jesus identifies Himself with definite distinction. He is the good shepherd of His sheep. No other shepherds are as good as He is in regard to His sheep. Jesus said, "I lay down my life for the sheep." (John 10:15) He gave His life for us, His sheep. He died for our sins and rose for our justification. He is our redeemer, protector, provider, and guide. Are you one of His sheep? How would you rate Him as a shepherd? What is your opinion of His shepherding? Would you agree with His opinion that He is good? With honest reflection and contemplation, I think we as His sheep would conclude Jesus is our good Shepherd, wouldn't you? ❖



October Youth Group Events

Craig and Wendy Higgins will host the youth group at their house (2407 Starcrest Drive, Silver Spring) on **Sundays, October 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd** from 6:00-7:30pm for a time of fellowship, music, and Bible study. All middle school and high school students are welcome!

On **Sunday, October 29th**, the youth group will travel to Wallace Presbyterian for the Reformation Celebration Service at 6:00pm. This will be a good time to visit with friends made on the Labor Day Retreat!

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a congregational meeting for **Sunday, October 15th** after the worship service for the purpose of electing Elders and Deacons, as well as for taking off the table the discussion concerning the church name. The slate of officer candidates is included for your prayerful consideration. For Elder: **Dale Haak, John Hadeed, Craig Smith**. For Deacon: **Ron Goodrich, Joseph Haber, Matt Malanoski**.

Communion Schedule

Take time to prepare your heart as we will celebrate communion with our Lord on **Sunday, October 22nd**.

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

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support. God has used your "partnering with us" to give us the encouragement we need during our busy and sometimes discouraging times. At times we feel so alone, and that is when God will reveal to us our brothers and sisters who have been holding us up before Him in prayer. Praise the Lord!!

By the time you read this article, the Vida Nueva church building should be completed. This summer, with the help of our work teams, we demolished the old building that was used as the sanctuary, storage, kitchen area, and small Sunday School rooms, then rebuilt a brand new sanctuary. You can go to our website (www.beamm.org), and check out the whole progression. During the construction this summer, Vida Nueva met with the Tierra Prometida congregation for worship. The result of this has been that they are now merging into one congregation and will meet in the new building. Tierra Prometida has been struggling these past few years because of some issues, so it was exciting to see how these two congregations came together and worked alongside each other and are now becoming one church.

This spring and summer, Gene put aside his "leader" hat and put on the "short term coordinator" hat to help fill the empty position. We almost cancelled the summer teams because the job is so demanding, and Gene felt he did not have the time with his own responsibilities. But, through prayer, God revealed that we needed to do this, and it turned out to be such a blessing. We know the importance of short term teams. After all, that is where we got our start in missions! It is not all about building buildings, holding English camps, and Vacation Bible School. It is much deeper than that. God changes lives, and we saw that this summer. We also experienced God's faithfulness. There were several trials this summer, one of them being the sudden death of LuAnn's father, and God just brought the right people at the right time.

On a personal note, we did take a two week vacation in August. We spent one of the weeks at Bethany Beach with our daughter Jen and her family. The other week we visited family and friends and especially helped out LuAnn's step-mother with some things around the house. Also, our daughter Sara had a baby boy on August 6th. That makes our fourth grandchild!

Please pray for our Partnership meeting coming up on November 10-11 at Chapelgate PCA in Maryland. We purposely picked the East Coast to give our eastern supporters the opportunity to come and hear and hopefully partner with us on the work here on the border. Information is on our website, if you are able to attend!

Thank you for allowing us to share in your newsletter. There is so much more we could be reporting on, but space does not allow. We praise God for His faithfulness to us and to you. Our desire is to live for Him and to give Him the glory in ALL things.



God bless,

Gene & LuAnn Bowman

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

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b style="text-align: center;">1 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-7:30pm	2	3	4	5	6	<b style="text-align: center;">7 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
<b style="text-align: center;">8 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-7:30pm	9	10	11	<b style="text-align: center;">12 Session Meeting at Route 216 Property 7:30pm	13	<b style="text-align: center;">14 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
<b style="text-align: center;">15 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Congregational Meeting 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-7:30pm	16	17	18	19	20	<b style="text-align: center;">21 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
<b style="text-align: center;">22 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Communion To Be Served Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-7:30pm	23	24	25	26	<b style="text-align: center;">27 Info for November newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	<b style="text-align: center;">28 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
<b style="text-align: center;">29 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Reformation Service at Wallace - 6:00pm	30	31	1	2	3	<b style="text-align: center;">4 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am

Almost There...

by Ian Macdonald, Building Committee Chairman

Our new home should be ready to receive us in October, with an anticipated date of October 15th looking increasingly probable. The determining factors now are related to various governmental approvals and permits. Plumbing inspection is expected no later than early next week. Electrical should also follow soon after. A recent check of the fire sprinkler system met with approval, and official inspection should be easily obtained. **Steve Gerwin** is working to get sign-off on water and septic areas. Lastly will come the building inspection—the final step towards issuance of an occupancy permit.

Work groups continue. The last of the flooring is almost done, and **Glenn Taylor** was leading his team of **Matt Malanoski** and **Dale Haak** to finish the hardwood floor in the sanctuary. **Jim and Kathy Haber** were painting doors, and **Jack Waller** and **Craig Higgins** were working up high putting finishing touches on the ceiling. Outside, **Tim Rowan** was powering his CAT and preparing for seeding and for the green grass enhancer that **Mark and Daniel Hegerle** were spray painting. **Stuart and Cathie Showalter** were helping Tim with his leveling, rock smoothing, and rock removal project. **Steve Gerwin** was everywhere, but mostly behind the wheel of his yellow machine. It is great to observe this dedicated group of believers getting the job done. Continue to pray for this project and its completion. ❖