

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 ❖ September 2006

Instructions for Daily Living

Christian—here are a few instructions for daily living which come from Romans 12:9-13. “Love must be sincere.” Our love for others is not to be a sham, a fake, an act. “Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.” What is evil, what is good? Why should we hate what is evil? Why should we cling to that which is good? Take some time to think about these questions. Open your eyes and assess whether you hate what is evil and grasp for that which is good. “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love.” Devotion—is this an outdated concept, or is commitment to one another essential for spiritual maturity and balance? What do you think? “Honor one another above yourselves.” Demonstrate respect. Give respect to your brothers and sisters in Christ. Value them. “Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.” Christianity is not a fad. Affection for Jesus should not wane. What is your spiritual temperature? “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” Be expectant while you wait. Be willing to relax and shoulder the burden of affliction. Do not stop praying. Find a way to talk to God. Be mindful that we are welcome, and our acceptance is sure and wide open because of our Savior Jesus Christ. “Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.” Do not be callous. Be sensitive to financial needs, encouragement needs, heart needs. Provide a warm haven for those who need a harbor in which to rest. Let us engage ourselves to follow these instructions. They bring vitality to our lives as Christians. ❖



Come Celebrate!

All ladies are invited to a bridal shower for Beth Petro on **Saturday, September 23rd** from 2-4pm at Chris Waller’s house (15009 Timberlake Drive, Silver Spring).

Jay Carbonella and Beth are registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond, Crate & Barrel, and Target. For more information, please contact Claire Pottle at (410)964-3746 or Chris Waller at (301)384-5772.

Communion Schedule

Take time to prepare your heart as we will celebrate communion with our Lord on **Sunday, September 24th**.

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a congregational meeting for **Sunday, October 8th** 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 will be posted in ample time for your prayerful consideration.

Please note that this is a new date.

Serving Our Little Ones

We are thankful for the children that our congregation has been blessed with. Please take advantage of the opportunity to spend time with these little ones by signing up for nursery duty with **Bill or Marcy Davis**.

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

We recently had a sober reminder of the insecurity of this world when rocks were thrown through the windows of the church. Nobody was there at the time, and nothing was stolen. It was likely nothing more than simple-minded vandalism. At the same time, the pastor continually receives threatening e-mails and phone calls. Over time he has learned to brush them off, but an event like this carries more emotional weight. Join with your brothers and sisters in praying for God to protect His children and to orchestrate things for great good in the life of this congregation.

I would also encourage us all to pray for the Middle East at large and for all of the political leaders involved. After studying theories of international politics for three years, I find that I am actually more perplexed by the tensions that are consuming so much energy (and blood) in this part of the world. There are so many layers, so many variables, and it is impossible to sort them all out. I believe that most people in the Middle East just want to live a peaceful life, put bread on the table, and watch their kids grow up, just like all of us do. But political, economic, and spiritual dynamics, coupled with fallen human nature have created a web of fear and oppression that will not be unraveled easily. Pray that things would not escalate. Pray that God would raise up leaders who would be brave and just. And as those who have tasted mercy, let us pray for God to show mercy.



Lisa and her parents visiting the famous library in Ephesus this summer.

On a more personal note, we recently enjoyed a family vacation on the Aegean Coast of Turkey. We were joined by Lisa’s mother, father, and aunt, which made the time a lot of fun. As part of the trip, we visited ancient Ephesus (see photo of the famous library), then saw places visited by the apostle Paul many centuries ago.

As a prayer item, please think of Lisa as she has begun teaching Conor and Emma at home this year. It’s going well so far, but there is a learning curve for all of us. We thank you all for your prayers and support.

Blessings,
Chris and Lisa

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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September 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-8:00pm	28	29	30	31	1 Wallace Presbyterian Church Youth Group Labor Day Retreat Depart at 4:00pm	2 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
3 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am	4 Wallace Presbyterian Church Youth Group Labor Day Retreat Return at 5:00pm	5	6 Session Meeting at Waller's House 7:30pm	7	8	9 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
10 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am	11	12	13	14	15	16 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am
17 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Sunday School - 11:00am Youth Group - 6:00-8:00pm	18	19	20	21	22	23 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am Bridal Shower at Chris Waller's - 2pm
24 Musical Ensemble - 8:45am Worship Service - 9:30am Communion To Be Served Sunday School - 11:00am	25	26 Info for October newsletter due to Kate Haber today!	27	28	29	30 Work Party at 216 Property - 8:30am

Finish Line in Sight

by Steve Gerwin, Building Committee

If building this new church is a marathon, we are now running the final lap within Olympic Stadium. The list of projects is growing shorter each weekend. We hope to seed during mid-September after a lot of grading, weather permitting—too dry or too wet and this may be delayed. Pray that we get some rain soon, but not too much. Floors should be finished by the end of September, as well as the parking lot lighting and all sidewalks. Our site contractor, roads, parking, and storm detention pond are 100% finished! Painting inside should also be finished within the next few weeks. We passed our inspection for our reforestation area, 462 trees later! We actually have air conditioning in the building, as well as phone service. Even an intrusion alarm is nearing completion. Pray that our final inspection for the occupancy certificate will go smoothly.

You get the theme here—done, done, done! The last few weeks in September may be your last chance to work on the building before we gain access. Then there will be some minor jobs after we move. The grace of the Lord abounds at this project—what a thrill this has been! ❖

