

HERE'S HOPE

Newsletter for the Congregation and Friends of Hope Church
www.lakewoodhope.com

November 2010

PLEASE TAKE

NOTICE

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING IS HEREBY CALLED FOR **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2010** IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO ELECT FOUR ELDERS TO THE SESSION CLASS OF 2013; ELECT AT LEAST THREE PEOPLE FROM THE CONGREGATION TO SERVE ON THE ELDER NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2011; ACT UPON ANY CHANGES TO THE TERMS OF CALL FOR THE PASTOR FOR THE YEAR 2011; RECEIVE THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR OF 2011; RECEIVE THE AUDIT REPORT FOR THE 2009 FINANCIAL RECORDS; RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REGARDING LOAN BALANCES; AND ANY OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS THAT MAY COME FORTH.

BY ORDER OF THE SESSION,

JAMES S. MARKS, CLERK

WHO TO CONTACT

FOR:	PHONE	CONTACT
Hope Church	364-8318	Veralynn in the Office
Pastor at home	244-1299	Rev. Barbara Hicks
Pastor's cell #	245-3690	Rev. Barbara Hicks
Clerk of Session	364-8873	Jim Marks
President of corporate matters	814-1404	Chris Earle
Treasurer	367-5233	Chris Szolkowski
Music Director	275-1937	Irina Bessedá
Sexton	364-8873	Jim Marks
Senior Youth Group	528-3459	Peggy Wuestneck/ Jessica Johnson/
Junior Youth Group	492-6948	Maria & Chris Earle
Food Pantry	367-6627	Ken Williams
Flowers	276-6925	Judy Ward
Quilting Group	363-8816	Jean Horner
Redevelopment	364-8873	Jim Marks

Calendar of events:

- **Sunday Worship Services are 9:30 and 11:00**
- **Sunday School classes are at 9:30**
- **Sunday Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups 7:00 p.m.**
- Covered Dish Supper every 3rd Sunday of the month
- Monday evenings Bible Study 7:30
- Wednesday mornings Bible Study 9:45
- 3rd Wednesday of every month Lunch with the Pastor!
- Thursday afternoons Quilting 1:00
- Thursday evenings Choir practice 7:30 p.m.
- Last Monday of every month Salt Shaker's Breakfast

The following groups meet in the Fellowship Hall

Monday evenings Boy Scouts

Wednesday evenings AA

Thursday evenings Daytop NJ Family Association

Saturday evening NA

Sunday afternoons AA

How to speak Presbyterian

It has been estimated that 58 percent of the members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) did not grow up in the denomination. For readers in that category, here is a short run-down of the lingo you are likely to hear in a Presbyterian church that you may not have heard in another church.

Communion table or Lord's Table

This is the table at the front of the sanctuary that holds the bread and the wine for Communion. Sometimes other items are placed on this table, such as the Bible, a cross or candles.

The reason this is called a Lord's Table rather than an altar is that on the night in which he was betrayed, when Jesus was eating the Pass-over meal with his disciples, they were sitting at a table (Luke 22:14).

An altar is a place for making sacrifices. In the Reformed tradition we believe that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was sufficient once for all. This sacrifice does not have to be repeated with a Mass or other Communion on an altar.

Committee members needed!

If you are interested in joining any committee please contact the committee chair.

Administration	Chris Earle & Ron Hoffman
Buildings & Grounds	Ken Beyer & Tony Travisano
Christian Education	Hillary Bryce & Jacquie Revier
Fellowship	Carol Urm & Chris Earle
Membership / Stewardship	Cathie Strauss & Bob Blake
Mission	Al Manus & Peggy Wuestneck
Redevelopment	Jim Marks & Jacquie Revier
Worship	MaryAnn Hayes

Elder Nominating:	Al Manus & Cathie Strauss
Harvest Home AdHoc	Ron Hoffman & Chris Earle
Presbytery Commissioner	Hillary Bryce

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR...



Dear Friends,

As I write this I am thinking about the Stewardship Dinner that was held a few days ago. The food was great and we were blessed to hear our own Sarah Strauss sing a beautiful song while accompanying herself on the guitar. She is one talented young lady! Following dinner we had an opportunity to hear from folks who are involved in the myriad of programs here at Hope. We heard about the great things happening in our youth program, mission, education, worship and more. I was happy to hear all of the good things happening here at Hope. We have so many opportunities for folks of all ages!

As Thanksgiving approaches I give thanks to God for this congregation; for all the people who give generously of their time, talent and treasure, so that these programs can continue and for the blessings and challenges God gives to us as a church family so that we might continue to grow in our faith and love for God and for one another.

This fall the Adult Bible Study classes have been participating in a study entitled, "Spirituality for our Everyday Life." We have talked about how we might become aware of the many spiritual moments that occur while we are living day to day. Even in the mundane tasks of our days there can be moments of spiritual awareness if we have eyes to see and ears to hear. All of us have become more aware of how God is working in our lives every moment of every day. The key is to be aware and to listen to hear God's voice.

This week I came across the following story. I do not know the author, but the sentiment expressed is important for us to think about.

GETTING OUR ATTENTION

A man was waiting to check out in a grocery store. The line was long and his attention was drawn to a woman with a child in a stroller behind him. The child was obviously severely cognitively disabled, and seemed oblivious to everything and everyone around her. The mother was continually putting herself in the child's face. She sang itsy bitsy spider and did all the motions. The child's eyes focused on nothing. Every once in a while the mother would wave her hand in front of the child's eyes and say, "I love you! I love you!" But the child never responded in any way.

As the man watched this sad scene he began to pray. He prayed for the mother who was trying desperately to reach her child with love. He prayed for the child that apparently didn't have the ability to be aware of her mother's great love for her. In his prayer a thought exploded in his mind: Is God like the mother of this child trying to get my attention – trying to let me know how much he loves me? Am I like the child totally unaware of all that God is doing to communicate "I love you! I love you!"?

May God open our ears so that we all can hear the words we long to hear...I love you!

Blessings,

Barbara



Stewardship Corner

by Robert Blake and Cathie Strauss

Our annual stewardship dinner was held on October 17th. We all ate a wonderful meal and conversed about the dreams and aspirations for our church in the coming year. The program consisted of witnessing to the current programs successes. We dreamed about what we can do as a congregation in the future. We heard Chris Earle present the proposed budget for 2011 prepared by the Administration committee. On behalf of the Redevelopment committee, Jim Marks spoke of the 3 year building program proposal commitment to pay off the current mortgage.

You may pick up copies of HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2009, and the proposed budget for 2011, entitled "Operating Fund" in the narthex. Please make yourselves aware of the commitments we are asking you to vote on at the Congregational meeting November 14th after the 11 AM worship service

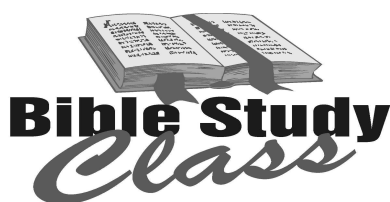
Pledge cards for current expense, mission, and redevelopment and a pledge commitment for the building program are also available in the narthex. The pledge drive thrust is on thru November 21st. We will dedicate our pledges at worship services on November 28th.

Many thanks for our dinner meal prepared by the Stewardship committee members. I would expressly like to thank Ann Blake for her hard work and dedication.

Looking for a delicious cheesecake?

Just in time for Thanksgiving!

Contact Beverly Blauvelt any Sunday morning, before or after 11 AM worship or you may call her at 609-259-4244.



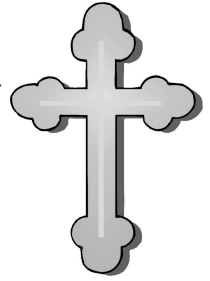
ADVENT WILL COME EARLY THIS YEAR!

The Adult Bible Study classes will begin our Advent Bible study the week of November 8th. This year's study is entitled, "Christmas from the Backside." The study will open up new possibilities of insight into the biblical Christmas story of Jesus' birth by entering the Gospel scriptures through the "back side" - through a unique starting point, a creative retelling, a new "lens," or the eyes of a minor or unsympathetic character.

Everyone is invited to attend one (or both) of these Bible study classes. We meet on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room of the church with Patty Williams leading the discussion, or Wednesday mornings at 9:45 a.m. in the manse with Barbara Hicks leading the discussion. We hope you will make some time during this most busy of seasons to join us as we dig deeper into God's word and find new meaning for our celebration of Jesus' birth.



Every two years we hold a confirmation/commission class for our 8th and 9th graders. This is a 14 week class that helps the students explore what it means to be a Christian and a Presbyterian. Through homework and class work the students are introduced to the tenets of our faith and the polity (government) of our denomination. At the end of the class each student is given the option of being confirmed if they feel ready. One of the main assignments is for the students to write a statement of faith. This statement is then read out loud at for the entire Session. The Session members can then examine the students as to their understanding of all that they learned.



Throughout the years here at Hope we have had some incredibly deep and excellent statements written by our children. This year was no exception. In the past months we have been reprinting these statements so that you were able to see the fine work these students have completed.

Statement of Faith

By Ethan Gorsak

I believe that God is the creator of the world and the father of all man. He loves every one of us and forgives us when we sin. He is the one and only God and I will attempt with all of my power to follow in His ways.

I believe that Jesus is the one and only son of God. He was sent to us to save us from our sins and to give us eternal life rather than death. He is our Christ and Savior which I am greatly thankful for.

I believe that the Holy Spirit shows its magnificent influence in our lives on a daily basis. It is the spirit that has been present at many of the events that many people would call miracles. It is the spirit that I pray will be with me throughout the rest of my life.

I believe that the Bible is the word that God wants us to live by. It tells us of many of the times when God's influence was felt and of the experiences of his son, Jesus. I will read and live by the word of the Bible.

I believe that the church is the sanctuary which we visit in order to worship God together. It is where God lets us know of his word and it is a place of peace. It is the place where I will worship God in unison with my fellow Presbyterians.

I believe that church membership shows the willingness of a person to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. By becoming a member of the church, a person shows that they are ready to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and to become an active member of the church. I am ready to make this commitment.



Celebrate our heritage, support our 2011 youth mission trip, dig out your boots, find that petticoat, freshen up that bandana, get ready for the event of the fall season: Square/Country Western Dance, Whitesville Fire Department, November 13th, 7 – 9:30 pm, Couples \$25.00, Singles \$15.00, Youth (Grade 12 and Under) \$7.50. Light refreshments. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

Hope Presbyterian Church Reaches Out to the Community

A big thank you is extended to the members of our congregation who supported this year's back to school drive through donations of backpacks, paper, pens, pencils, etc. to be given to students in the Lakewood Public School system. Donations were delivered to the Lakewood Township Board of Education in early October. Another big thank you goes out to those of you who initiated the response to the clothing drive for the homeless in our community. Collected items were delivered to the homeless camp in Lakewood. Your thoughtfulness and generosity was greatly appreciated.

Colder Weather in the Forecast

The seasons are changing and colder weather will soon be upon us. For those in need, colder weather can be additional hardship.

Up until **November 21st** the Mission Committee will be conducting a **fall/winter apparel drive** for the homeless of Ocean County.

Donations can be brought to the church for distribution.

There is also a need for fire wood. Contact Al Manus for additional information at 732-363-7776, 732-267-7266, or amanus987@yahoo.com.



WE ARE COLLECTING INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED SNACKS AND CANS OF COFFEE FOR THE NEWLY OPENED VETERAN'S AFFAIRS OFFICE ON ROUTE 70 IN LAKEWOOD. ITEMS COLLECTED PROVIDE VETERANS WITH REFRESHMENTS WHILE THEY ARE SEEKING HELP. OUR GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CURRENTLY PROVIDE MONEY TO BUY SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN REFRESHMENTS IN THIS SITUATION.

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DONATIONS IN THE RED MILK CRATE IN THE NARTHEX. MANY THANKS IN ADVANCE, KEN WILLIAMS

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

By Carol Urm

Salt Shakers Breakfast Group: Our breakfast group will meet at the Jackson Diner on October 25th and November 29th at 9:30 AM. All members and friends are welcome to come.

The more the merrier!

Zumba: Our new class is going strong. This form of exercise/dance is very popular now. We have about 10 people who attend. The price is \$5.00 per lesson, Classes are from 6:15 to 7:15 on each Tuesday evening in the fellowship hall. Come out and try it! You may find a new interest.

Ballroom Dancing Lessons: The Fellowship committee is sponsoring a new venture. Our own member, Janis Aumack, who taught for Arthur Murray Studios for 24 years, has volunteered to teach Ballroom dancing. We will meet for the first time on Friday, November 5th from 8-9 PM in the Fellowship Hall. There will probably be an eight week set of lessons, when we see what the interest is. A nominal fee will be charged after the first free lesson, depending upon the response. Come on out if you like dancing! We will have a lot of fun.

Car Rally Scavenger Hunt: Watch for a notice of this event in the coming year. Our own member Colleen Crawford has offered to set this up for us sometime in the Spring. This sounds like a lot of fun, so watch for the announcement. If you would like to help and assist Colleen with preparation, contact her at 732-730-3468.

There are ongoing ideas for fellowship activities in the coming year. If you have new ideas, please speak to Chris Earle, or Carol Urm. We will consider any viable options.

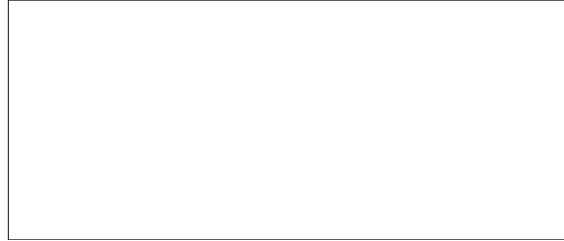
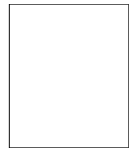
HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
TO...

Laura Bryant, Hillary Bryce,
Gerald Crawford, Miley Ferriolo,
Claire and Ron Hoffman, Bill Kaufhold,
Vera Lawton, Samantha Smith
and David Stearns

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKEWOOD

Hope Church
617 Hope Chapel Road
Lakewood, NJ 08701

Phone: 732-364-8318



Hope Building Hope.

Be sure to visit Hope Church's website at: www.lakewoodhope.com

Newsletter Deadline is the 15th of each month.

**E-mail any news to Secretary@lakewoodhope.com
OR Cathie99@optonline.net.**



**Church
Office
Hours**



November

The Rev. Barbara Hicks' Office hours for 2010 are as follows:
Monday through Thursday: 10:00-2:00
Friday: Off
She is always available by telephone, or cell phone.

