

# HERE'S HOPE

Newsletter for the Congregation and Friends of Hope Church  
[www.lakewoodhope.com](http://www.lakewoodhope.com)

March 2011

## Call to Worship

L: You could have stayed in bed, you could be eating breakfast out.

**P: We have chosen to be in this place, feasting on God's words.**

L: You could give a cold shoulder to your neighbors, you could warm yourself in front of the fire.

**P: We have chosen to see God with more than just a sliver of our hearts.**

L: You could be chasing after the world's idols, you could be listening to television's talking heads.

**P: We have chosen to serve the One who blesses us with life.**

L: Together let us worship the living, loving God.

## BOOK STUDY GROUP



Hope's Book Study Group has chosen its next two books that we will be reading for our spring meetings. On March 20<sup>th</sup> we will be discussing the book, Mornings In Jenin by Susan Abulhawa. This is the story of one family's struggle and survival through over sixty years of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict carrying us from Jenin to Jerusalem, to Lebanon and the anonymity of America. It is a story of faith, forgiveness and of life-sustaining love. Mornings In Jenin is haunting and heart wrenching, a novel of vital contemporary importance. Lending human voices to the headlines, it forces us to take a fresh look at one of the defining political conflicts of our lifetimes.

On May 15<sup>th</sup> we will discuss the book, Little Bee by Chris Cleave. This #1 New York Times Bestseller is the story of two women. Their lives collide one fateful day, and one of them has to make a terrible choice, the kind of choice we hope you never have to face. Two years later, they meet again—the story starts there...

The Book Study Group meets immediately following the Pot Luck Supper on the above dates. We hope you will be able to join us for lively and informative discussions.

If you have any questions about the books or the group, please see Barbara Hicks or Patty Williams.

## Used Clothing Drive

Our church sponsored Boy Scout troop 250, who meets in our Fellowship Hall is holding a used clothing drive. They are collecting men's, women's and children's clothing in wearable condition. They are also looking for shoes, belts, handbags, stuffed animals, hard toys and linens. Linens are curtains, towels and bedding.

The troop is trying to raise money so they can go to the National Boy Scout Camporee in Washington D.C. next year. The troop receives money for the poundage by a company who ships the items to Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. More information about the program can be found at [www.clothingdrive.net](http://www.clothingdrive.net).

Start your spring cleaning a bit early and clean out your closets! Please place all items in tightly tied plastic bags and leave them in the Narthex. The troop will be on the church grounds from 8 AM – 1 PM on March 19<sup>th</sup> for their final pickup.

**Membership is defined by active work and worship in the church.  
Are you ACTIVE or INACTIVE?**

**Hope Presbyterian Church will celebrate our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2013.**

Participation is the key to a faithful program of celebrative events. You may be a person who loves to collect photographs, or can collate history, or who is good at record keeping, etc...Will you be there celebrating? Cathie Strauss will chair a committee to plan for the year 2013. You are encouraged to contact Cathie to offer to serve on the committee.

## 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	695-3008	Katie Revier
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!
- Wednesday afternoons Quilting 1:00
- Thursday evenings Youth Choir practice 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday evenings Adult 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 rundown of the lingo you are likely to hear in a Presbyterian church that you may not have heard in another church.

## PRESBYTERY

The presbytery is made up of a group of churches usually in a certain geographical area.

The presbytery meeting includes "presbyters," both ruling and teaching elders, who gather to make decisions affecting the presbytery. By having their representatives gather together as a group congregations both support each other and are held accountable to each other.

Look for more words in the next few months!

## **Committee members needed!**

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

Administration	David Johnson & Chris Earle
Buildings & Grounds	Tony Travisano
Christian Education	Jacque Revier
Fellowship	Carol Urm & Chris Earle
Membership	Cathie Strauss
Stewardship	Bob Blake
Mission	Al Manus & Peggy Wuestneck
Redevelopment	Jim Marks & Jacque Revier
Worship	Donna Smith

Elder Nominating: Tony Travisano & Peggy Wuestneck

Harvest Home AdHoc Ron Hoffman & Chris Earle

Presbytery Commissioner Hillary Bryce

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR...



It's that time of year again when we move into the Lenten season. I have received many questions as to why Easter is so late this year. It falls on April 24<sup>th</sup>. In other years it has fallen in early March while in other years it has fallen somewhere in between.

Easter is considered a moveable feast which means that it does not occur on the same date every year. In 325 AD the Council of Nicaea set the date of Easter as the Sunday following the paschal full moon, which is the full moon that falls on or after the vernal (spring) equinox.

Easter always occurs on a Sunday because Sunday was the day of Christ's Resurrection. It occurs on the Sunday following the paschal full moon because that was the date of Passover in the Jewish calendar, and the Last Supper occurred on the Passover. Therefore, Easter is the Sunday after Passover.

Lent is the period of the liturgical calendar leading up to Easter. The traditional purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer — through prayer, penitence, almsgiving and self-denial — for the annual commemoration during Holy Week of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, which recalls the events linked to the Passion of Christ and culminates in Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Conventionally, it is described as being forty days long. The forty days represent the time that, according to the Bible, Jesus spent in the desert before the beginning of his public ministry, where he endured temptation.

During Lent folks sometimes "give up" something they like in order to enter into this time of self-sacrifice. As a child I remember giving up sweets for Lent which was very difficult for me to do. As I have gotten older, rather than "giving up" something, I try to "take something on," whether that is more intentional devotional time, or some kind of service project.

This year, I encourage each one of you to think of something you can "take on" during the next forty days—something that will help you get closer to God, or something that will help another person. I'm also going to challenge you to make a commitment to come to worship every Sunday during this season of Lent and Easter and see what a difference it can make in your life.

On Easter morning we will gather together to celebrate the good news of Jesus' resurrection—that news that gives all of us life, hope and purpose. I hope you will be able to be here in these weeks leading up to our celebration of the resurrection so that you will be able to enter into the joy of the day more fully.

Blessings,

*Barbara*

# MISSION NEWS



## Prom Gown Drive

The Junior Prom or similar event is a big event in the lives of many young girls, but for many families experiencing economic hardship, this event imposes difficult choices. If you have a prom gown carefully packed away or hanging in the closet from a prior event, you can make a difference in a young girl's life by donating a gown.



The Mission Committee will be collecting gowns from March 13<sup>th</sup> through April 13<sup>th</sup> in the church narthex.



## **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**

On Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, we will be participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing. For more than 50 years, Presbyterians have joined with other Christians throughout the nation in supporting One Great Hour of Sharing, responding to Christ's love for all people by joyfully sharing that love with people in need. The refugee and the stranger have found food and safe shelter; those stunned by the aftermath of disasters have found relief and help rebuilding; and communities seeking to take control of their future have found partners in development. We will be hearing more about One Hour of Sharing in the weeks ahead.

# Opportunity to Support Our 2011 Mission Trip

This coming July our youth will be traveling to Calais, Maine, to join with other youth from around the country to participate in a mission outreach to families experiencing hardship in an economically depressed part of our country. Our young people will have the opportunity to work children as well as opportunity to join in specific work projects. You can support this out reach program by taking advantage of the following activities:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Sunday, March 13 <sup>th</sup>	Hope Presbyterian Church	<b>CHILI FESTIVAL</b> (chili and rice, chilidogs, eat in or take out) following services.
Sunday, April 10th	Hope Presbyterian Church	<b>CAR WASH</b> 9 am to 12:30 pm

### The Window to Nowhere

A few months ago you may have noticed a window glass hanging in the Narthex of the church. It is rather large and is blue and amber with a dirty white frame. If you haven't seen it, look up and to your right the next time you enter.

The window pane is from the old church building on the west side of Hope Chapel Road. It was removed by some of the 2010 Buildings & Grounds Committee members. Session had Ok'd it to be brought over and hung in our current facility. Eventually it will be set in a frame and backlit so it stands out more. It may even be moved again. We will have to wait and see.

It was brought over as a piece of the history of Hope. In speaking with Laura Johnson, she stated that she does not recall it every being changed, thus it is quite possible it is the real thing. Not to make Laura feel old but she said the window is at least 80 with a smile on her face. So to the best of our knowledge, or those that have been here longer, it is the original rear window from the old church sanctuary. That in itself dates it back to between 1879 and 1888.

For those of you that can remember being in the old building, you looked at that window every time you were in a pew. For those of us who happened to be there in the late afternoon on a sunny day, the reflections from the colored glass lit, and danced across, the inside walls of the sanctuary. And that was after the two rear rooms had been added on. You see when that was done, the people that constructed the addition made sure that there was a new rear window in the attic. That is what allowed the light to funnel through to continue to shine through the colored glass. It really was a magnificent sight the first time you saw the glimmer of the blue and amber mixing on the opposite wall. In more recent times it also helped that Tom Hayes had installed a flood lamp behind it so it would show up more.

So for those of you who didn't know, I hope this helps a little. For those of you who did know I hope it brings back some memories of the old days at Hope.

Jim Marks

### Calling All Songbirds

Do you like to sing? Lift your voice to God and enjoy singing His praises! The Adult Choir practices at 7:30 on Thursday evenings. We are currently learning special music for the Tennabrae service on Maundy Thursday, Easter week. Speak to Irina Bessedá, music director or any choir member to learn more. Come join the fun!

Easter Breakfast will be served at 9:30. See April's Here's Hope for more details.

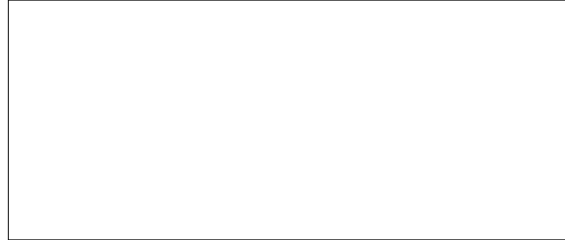
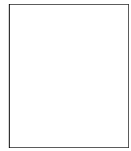
HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY

Eric Beyer, Juliet Bryce, Teddi Hayes,  
Bonnie Hehner, Kevin Huy, Erica Sapio,  
Heidi Stearns, Amanda Strauss,  
Abbey Wuestneck and John Wuestneck

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKEWOOD

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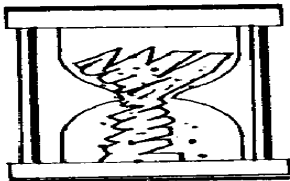


*Hope Building Hope.*

**Be sure to visit Hope Church's website at: [www.lakewoodhope.com](http://www.lakewoodhope.com)**

**Newsletter Deadline is the 15th of each month.**

**E-mail any news to [Secretary@lakewoodhope.com](mailto:Secretary@lakewoodhope.com)  
OR [Cathie99@optonline.net](mailto:Cathie99@optonline.net).**



**Church  
Office  
Hours**

The Rev. Barbara Hicks' Office hours for 2011 are as follows:  
Monday through Thursday: 10:00-2:00  
Friday: Off  
She is always available by telephone, or cell phone.

