

# HERE'S HOPE

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

May 2011

## Mother's Day Plant Sale

You may pick up your plants on May 1st and 8th  
There is a lovely variety of flowers and vegetable plants.  
There are order forms available in the Narthex. Call Jessica Johnson (732) 534-7644 or  
Barbara Johnson (732) 370-0045 for more information.



Pastor Barbara Hicks had her knee surgery on April 26th and is doing well. We wish her all the best for a speedy recovery. Prayers are always welcome! She will be on medical leave until June 7th.

If you are in need of pastoral care contact our Parish Associate, Lynn Manilla at 732-657-4266.

The office is still open for regular business, Monday and Thursday 10:00 to 2:00.

If you need to speak with someone after hours contact our Clerk of Session, Jim Marks.  
732-364-8873



## Adult Bible Study

Classes will continue to meet on  
Monday evenings at 7:30 and  
Wednesday mornings at 9:45.

Monday classes are with Patty Williams in the Fellowship Room. Wednesday classes are with elder Cathie Strauss in the manse.

Current study for the month of May will be centered around "The Wired Word" an internet provided introspective inquiry into the Christian response to current events surrounding us in the world.

Bring your opinions!

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.

**Support the CAR WASH on May 1st!**

## A PLEA TO THE MEMBERS

This call to worship is a reminder to all members to respond to the call of discipleship. We join each other to work and worship each week. Together, we can fulfill the ministry of Christ to which we are called. In the hectic days of life we are sidetracked by the secular responsibilities to our family and communities. Yet as faithful followers, we are bound to one another.

Renew and reactivate your commitment to this church by attending worship. Through joy and in sorrow, we are a family of faith that prays and stays together. Step up to the plate and be counted.

We are supportive of the mission and goals of the Presbyterian Church, USA. This means that we give our apportioned per capita of \$35.00 per member to the work of PCUSA. This financial support is not part of current expenses and does not remain here for our own local mission goals and work. To be a member in name only is costly to everyone.

## **The 2011 per capita is \$35.00 per church mem-**

**ber, which is an increase of just pennies from 2010.** Last year, the suggestion of members remitting their per capita by their birthday was made and embraced by our members. We would like to encourage our members again to celebrate their birthday with this contribution to our church.

Just a reminder recently confirmed teens are now church members. Though a pledge is not expected from our youth members, submitting their per capita does show their willingness to stand and be counted as a member of Hope.

**Membership is defined by active work and worship  
Are you ACTIVE or INACTIVE?**

## 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/<br>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.

### **Moderator**

This is the person who runs a meeting of elders or deacons or a presbytery or committee meeting. In a club or other gathering he or she would be called the "chairperson" or perhaps "president."

While the moderator of a board of deacons is usually a deacon, the moderator of a session is a teaching elder. The moderator of a presbytery may be either a teaching elder or a ruling elder.

### **Book of Order**

This is the rule book for the Presbyterian Church. It contains the guidelines for church life, including structure, worship and collective action. It not only tells us how to do things but also explains why. It was developed and can be modified by the General Assembly, with the ratification of a majority of the presbyteries.

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...



As I write this article, I am still thinking of our glorious Easter services. The Sunrise service was truly that with the sun rising in the distance and a clear blue sky greeting us as almost thirty of us gathered in the cemetery to sing praises and hear again the good news that Jesus is risen! A big thank you goes to our Parish Associate, Lynn Manilla who brought us an inspiring message at that early hour.

The 9 and 11 am services were crowded and joyful. I was thrilled to see so many of you in worship. The sanctuary looked beautiful and there was a real feeling of hope in our church. I was especially happy to see our returning youth—now young adults --who were home from college or from jobs and who came to church. I thank all of them for humoring me and coming down for the children's message at both services.

A special thank you goes to Chris Earle and his crew who once again put on a marvelous Easter breakfast. I had some of the eggs and bacon and they were scrumptious!

Now May is here and the church year and activities move ahead. Youth groups continue to meet on Sunday night but now with more urgency since the mission trip to Maine is just around the corner. Bible studies continue to meet as does Sunday school and choir and all the other things that make us a vibrant church. I hope you are part of the joy of fellowship and work and worship that is Hope Church.

In May we celebrate a special day—Mother's Day. This will be my third year without my own beloved mother. I miss her so very much but I think of her with love and gratitude for who she was and how much she loved and cared for us. So in honor of mothers, I am including a poem by Maya Angelou which I found to be a beautiful tribute not only to mothers but also to the God who gave us our mothers.

Blessings,  
*Barbara*

## BEAUTIFUL CHRISTIAN SISTER

by Maya Angelou

'A woman's heart should be so hidden in Christ  
that a man should have to seek Him first to find her.'

When I say... 'I am a Christian' I'm not shouting 'I'm clean livin'  
I'm whispering 'I was lost, Now I'm found and forgiven.'

When I say... 'I am a Christian' I don't speak of this with pride.  
I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say... 'I am a Christian' I'm not trying to be strong.  
I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say.. 'I am a Christian' I'm not bragging of success.  
I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say... 'I am a Christian' I'm not claiming to be perfect,  
My flaws are far too visible but, God believes I am worth it.

When I say... 'I am a Christian' I still feel the sting of pain.  
I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say... 'I am a Christian' I'm not holier than thou,  
I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!

### **BOOK STUDY GROUP**

Hope's Book Study Group will discuss the book, Little Bee by Chris Cleave. This #1 New York Times best seller 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 will meet in early summer, after Pastor Hicks returns (date to be announced). 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 speak with Patty Williams.

### **Food Contributions Needed to Address Needs of Ocean County Combat Veterans Served by the Vet Center in Lakewood**

The Vet Center in Lakewood has communicated a need for food contributions for combat veterans and their families served by the Lakewood Vet Center. The food needs in our community are significant. Please remember our veterans and those in need in an economy characterized by continuing significant unemployment.

Our thanks to Ken Williams for delivering the collected donations on a regular basis.

The box is always in the narthex and ready to be filled!

### **FRIENDSHIP DAY ~ A DAY OF HOPE AND RENEWAL**

Dear Members and Friends,

The Session of Hope cordially invites you to participate in Friendship Day, June 12<sup>th</sup>. This Sunday event will couple our Annual Church Picnic with an exciting outreach into our community of friends and neighbors. It is an opportunity for our community of faith to show what a great fellowship of Christians can accomplish for our church. Nationally, attendance in worship services and activities has diminished. This is a chance for us to invite those people with whom we work and play and associate with to join our church for a day of worship, fun and fellowship. You are the key.

These cards of invitation are yours to hand out at will to someone who might like to accompany you to church on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. The day will begin with the worship service at 10 AM, and then the picnic at Pine Park.

**Be a Friend, Invite a Friend**

E-Mail recipients may pick up their invitation cards after church worship services

### **Tuesday, May 24th 6:30-8:00 PM, Hope Church, Fellowship Room Hosted by Christian Education in cooperation with Earth Treasures Jewelry**

Sell your unwanted gold or silver and help the Youth Group earn money for their mission trip this summer. 15% goes to our youth, you get the rest! This is an awesome fund raiser where you do not have to buy ANYTHING! *You actually make money!* Earth Treasures of Eatontown will pay cash that night. They are reputable, Better Business Bureau members that will pay top market value. Contact Peggy Wuestneck (908) 229-5989 or Rhonda Fletcher (732) 905-2789. Refreshments will be provided by the Christian Education Committee.

### Hope Flea Market

May 14th, rain date May 21st  
Route 70 Flea Market in Lakewood.  
Many helping hands needed.  
Please call Elaine Flechtner at (732) 350-2598 for details.  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO OUR CHURCH.



### EASTER BREAKFAST THANKS

The fellowship committee would like to thank Chris Earle and men for the wonderful Easter breakfast that they served. It takes many hours of work to prepare breakfast for over 100 people. It is so nice for us to come in and have breakfast together to celebrate the morning of our risen Lord. Thank you to all of those hard workers.

### MAY 15 COVERED DISH SUPPER

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT will be our theme. Bring your favorite dish from your heritage or favorite discovery of exotic flare. We will enjoy trying new recipes. Please bring a copy of the recipe and we will share them. 5:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.

### SALT SHAKERS MAY 30TH

The salt shakers last Monday breakfast before summer will be at the fellowship hall on Memorial Day, May 30<sup>th</sup>. The mission committee will be serving pancakes all morning from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Please bring your friends and neighbors. Proceeds will help to fund the mission trip to Maine.

### 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. Speak to Irina Bessedas, music director or any choir member to learn more. Come join the fun!

### ROAD RALLY and SCAVENGER HUNT

Exciting new fun!

On Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM, the Fellowship committee is sponsoring a road rally/scavenger hunt planned and set-up by Colleen Crawford. We will meet at the fellowship hall and arrange ourselves into groups of four. Colleen will give us lists and directions. The car driver must be at least 25 years of age because of insurance. Each person is asked to bring, a non perishable item that can be a part of an Italian dinner. Sign up with Carol Urm 732-364-2182 or Colleen Crawford 732-370-3648. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion gathering. What fun!

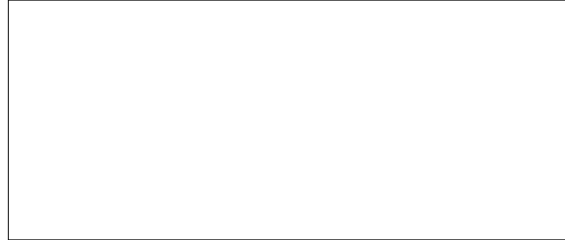
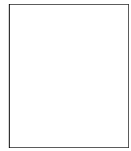
HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY

Michael Bryce, Bill Cheesman, Dawn Gaudenti,  
Jacqueline Horner, Colin Johnson, Leah Johnson,  
Sally Krutulis, Al Manus, Diane McCambridge,  
Karren Mikkelson, Katie Revier, Nancy Rossnagel,  
Maddison Stearns and Alex Wuestneck

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKEWOOD

Hope Church  
617 Hope Chapel Road  
Lakewood, NJ 08701

Phone: 732-364-8318

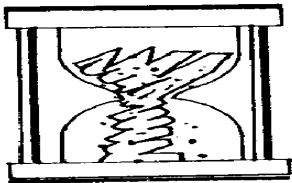


*Hope Building Hope.*

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

