

HERE'S HOPE

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

August 2011

ADULT BIBLE STUDY NEWS!

Our two Adult Bible Study Classes will begin our fall schedule on September 12th and September 14th respectively. This fall we will begin a study based on the book, What's The Least I Can Believe And Still Be A Christian? By Martin Thielen. We will talk about the ten things Christians *don't* need to believe and will cover such topics as: God causes cancer, car wrecks, and other catastrophes; good Christians don't doubt, true Christians can't believe in evolution, God loves straight people but not gay people, bad people will be "left behind" and then fry in hell, and much more.

This can lead to some provocative discussion as we search the scriptures and discuss just what is it that we must believe in order to call ourselves Christians. In the spring we will continue with the book as we discuss the ten things Christians *do* need to believe.

The classes are open to everyone and we would welcome your participation. All you need to do is to show up on Monday, September 12th at 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room, or on Wednesday, September 14th in the manse.

If you have any questions, please speak to Patty Williams or Barbara Hicks.

Join us at God's Abundant table to celebrate "Feasting With God."

Explore adventures in table spirituality. Mondays,
July 18 & 25 and August 1, 8 & 15.

From 10:30 to noon.

A light luncheon will be offered.

Contact Patty Williams at 609-286-2590 or
patty@monmouthpresbytery.net OR Renee Naden
at 732-905-0141 or thenadens@yahoo.com
for more information.

BOOK STUDY

On Sunday, September 18th immediately following the pot luck supper the book study group will meet to discuss the book, Little Bee by Chris Cleave. All are welcome to join us. If you have read a good book and would like the group to read it and discuss it, bring it with you because we all love a good book!!!

If you have any questions, please speak to Patty Williams or Barbara Hicks



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL "PandaMania"

**Monday August 8, Wednesday August 10, and
Friday August 12**

9 AM to 12 noon and 12 to 3 PM extended day

Hope church would love to have all kids, ages 3 years through fifth grade join in Vacation Bible School "PandaMania." There will be fantastic songs, creative crafts, games, snacks and lots of fun. Preparation is being made to take you on an adventure into the world of discovery. It will be where you venture to share the love of Jesus with the children of your community and your family.

Family faith conversations at home are the biggest predictor of whether a child remains in the church as an adult. Provide your kids with an opportunity to "practice" faith conversations at VBS--so they can spark lively conversations at home that always come back to God's love.

This is a program that gets kids-and their families talking about God. Surprising questions and eye-opening Bible verses invite families to dive deeper into God's Word and experience God's love.

MAKE THE PLAN TO ATTEND!

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	942-0780	Tammi Beyer
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:

- Summer Sunday Worship Service is at 10:00
- 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.

Election

No, this doesn't refer to how commissioners are selected to go to the General Assembly. It is a theological term that means God makes the first move in acting to redeem sinners. People within the covenant of faith are called "the elect." Reformed (or Presbyterian) theology teaches that we are incapable of saving ourselves from our sins, and that God "elects" or "chooses" to save us.

Predestination

This word, similar to *election*, often raises questions for people of other denominations. Basically predestination means that our election by God occurred not only before we were born, but so far back in time that it happened "before the creation of the world" (see Ephesians 1:4).

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	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...



Dear Friends,

From time to time folks ask me questions about why we do what we do in worship. The Presbyterian Church has set up guidelines for congregations in the way our worship services ought to be run. These guidelines are written in The Book Of Order which is the book of our church's polity or government. Because we adhere to The Book of Order you could walk into any Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation on any given Sunday and with a few minor exceptions, you would feel very much at home.

One of the most often asked questions is, why do we sing *all* of the verses of a hymn? As most of you know, during the year when we have two services we limit the verses we sing to just two for the 9:30 service but sing all verses at the 11. We do this because of the time constraints on the 9:30 service.

Singing all verses of a hymn is an important part of the worship service as a whole. My job as worship leader is to make sure that every element of worship tells the story of God and of God's Son, Jesus. The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, Scriptures, Sermon, Prayer of Dedication, Pastoral Prayer and all the hymns are chosen and written to enhance the theme of the particular Sunday and its message.

Hymn writing was most prolific during the 19th century. Many of the great hymns of the faith came out of that period. When I choose a hymn for us to sing, I look at each word in each verse to see if the story of God's love is found. Sometimes the most important words of the hymn are found in the middle verses. At other times all the verses build until there is a climax in the last verse of the hymn that brings the message together.

For instance, I often hear moans when we begin to sing the Christmas Carol, "We Three Kings" because this hymn has five verses. But if we look closely at those verses we see why. In the first verse we are told that three kings are following a star and are traveling to see where that star takes them. They are taking with them gifts. Each of the next three verses tells us what those gifts were and why they were important. They are important because each of them shows us a different aspect of who Jesus is. Finally the last verse praises God for God's amazing gift of the Christ Child.

Each verse is crucial to the story of that wonderful night. Which verse should we delete? None.

You may not be a great singer; you may not enjoy singing, but we are told to sing praises to God and to worship God with hymns—and so we do. I encourage you to take the time during our hymn singing to read the words of the verses and see if you can find the words that tell us the story of God's love, and then lift your voice in praise to our God who is our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

Blessings,

Barbara

S.O.S "Stewardship over Summer"

It takes **\$2,687.50** each week to run the church: Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring.

God never takes a vacation.

Our church needs your support to continue in the ministry to which it has been called.

Are you able to do your part?

Watch for progress in the narthex.

Progress depends on you!!!

Can you commit?



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!

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

Jump Start Your Fall Planning

Thursday, August 11th, 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Some of the focal points will be:

- Facebook Page - congregation / youth etc.
- Spiritual Walk with Families
- Gifts of Sacraments DVD & Leader's Guide
- Milk & Honey Cooking school
- Red Tent Gathering: Build Community. Celebrate Women. Engage Life. An interactive Biblical experience for women of all ages.
- Feasting on the Word. Lectionary curriculum for all ages.

This even is open to any interested persons.

Please RSVP to Patty Williams at 609-286-2590 or patty@monmouthpresbytery.net

RECYCLING

Let's be responsible and do our best to help the planet. It's the only one we have! A small step is to follow the recycle procedure the township wants us to follow. There are blue bins located in the narthex, or the secretary's office labeled "Paper", "Bottles & Cans" or "Trash."

PLEASE take the time to dispose of your trash and / or recyclables in the proper receptacle.

Thanks from B & G

Enjoy the summer.

Even if you are tired, go to the movie, or dinner, or whatever.

Even though you have a hundred other things to do, go for a walk on the beach with your children.

They won't be little for long.

September will be here before you know it.

Very clever Anagram!
PRESBYTERIAN:
When you rearrange the letters:
BEST IN PRAYER



BLUEBERRY PANCAKES!!!!

We challenge you to see how many words you can make out of the above heading!

Why? Because on Sunday July 31 after the 10:00 am service, we will be serving up all you can eat Blueberry Pancakes in Fellowship Hall. There will be games and fun for everyone!


The cost is \$3.00 per person with a family limit of \$15 for delicious all you can eat Blueberry Pancakes! When you buy your ticket you can submit your list for judging. The winner will receive a prize and bragging rights!

PICKLE MAKING

WANT TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE THOSE DELICIOUS PICKLES WE ENJOY AT HARVEST HOME ?

COME TO THE FELLOWSHIP HALL ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17TH AT 10:00 A.M. AND FIND OUT!

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



Janis Aumack, Thomas Beyer, Jaclyn Blaho,
Samantha Blake, Lauren Blythe,
Colleen Crawford, Maria Earle, Carl Gaudenti,
Denise Gilmore, Kristen Huy, Sue Huy,
Andrew Mikkelson, Cheryl Rivera,
Courtney Stearns, Allan Strauss,
Judy Ward, Matthew Williams & Patty Williams

Copies of the photo directory are still available on narthex table to anyone needing them. Please add these addresses of our **new members**.

Corie and Joseph Valente
30 Cherry Tree Circle
Howell, NJ 07731

Stacey-Ann and Edward Kosarin
180 North New Prospect Road
Jackson, NJ 08527

New addresses for:

Beverly Daniels

25 Tennis Court

Brick, NJ 08727

Albert Manus

4102 Springview Drive

Jefferson, MD 21755

Ed Chertowsky

9035 Par Court

Hudson, Fl. 34667

Charlie and Donna Smith

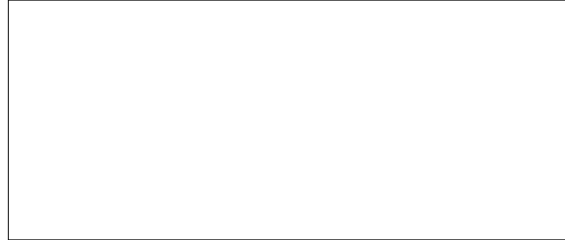
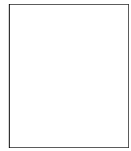
15 Peacock Place

Howell, NJ 0773

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKEWOOD

Hope Church
617 Hope Chapel Road
Lakewood, NJ 08701

Phone: 732-364-8318

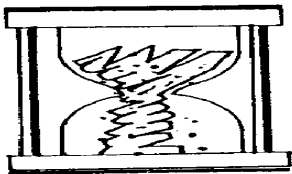


Hope Building Hope.

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

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.

Pastor Hicks is away from August 15th to August 29th.
If you need pastoral care during this time please contact our
parish associate, Rev. Lynne Manilla. All other calls
should be directed to Jim Marks, the Clerk of Session.

