



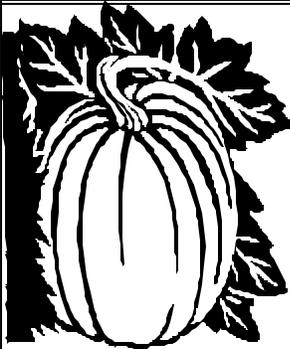
HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSERY



# NOTES OF HOPE

A monthly publication to keep us informed.

October 2003



Edited &  
Published by  
Elisabeth Buckley

## Our Mission Statement

We believe that God has gathered this congregation and staff at this time and place in order to:

**Introduce** people to the enduring love of Jesus

**Invite** them to become part of his family

**Instruct** them in the Scriptures

**Include** them in the celebration of worship, and

**Inspire** them to serve God according to their gifts

## FROM THE PASTOR

*"I thank God for you every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now..."* Philippians 1: 3-5

These stirring words from the beginning of Paul's letter to the Philippians are a wonderful indication of how I feel about you, the church family at Hope Presbyterian. Joanne and I have been so moved by the outpouring of cards and notes and words of support and encouragement. This past year has been a blessing to us in so many ways.

Most of all it's been a thrill to share the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with you and to see your response, both as individuals and as the family of God. We have pulled together, kept our eyes on Jesus, and moved forward toward sharing the Good News with others. These, I believe with all my heart, are marks of a healthy church.

Yes we have some problems, financial and otherwise, but if we continue to worship and minister with an enthusiastic love for Jesus, others will find that love contagious and will want to come and share in worship and fellowship in His Name.

Let's continue to praise the Lord with energy and integrity. Let's continue to love one another as Christ loved us. Let's continue to take that love and caring beyond the walls of the church. Let's not settle for half-hearted discipleship or lukewarm worship. Let's pray together that the Lord will lead us to the future He has in store for the people of Hope.

We do thank God for you, and we do pray for you – as we cherish your prayers *for* us and your partnership *with* us. From our hearts to yours, thank-you and God bless!

David and Joanne Cotton

### **Praise Gathering**

Mark your calendar and make plans to join the *Praise Gathering* at Brick Presbyterian Church on **Sunday, October 19 at 3 o'clock PM**. The program will feature the combined vocal and bell choirs of Hope Church and the Brick Church; other instrumentalists from both churches plus a premiere jazz duo featuring our own Carl Fritsche and Christy Tompkins, the choir director at Brick. We may even talk our male-voice quartet into singing again. Come to Brick and support your church musicians while enjoying a wonderful afternoon program that will set your feet to tapping and your heart to praisin' !

### **Calling All Worship Committee Members**

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 7 at 7 pm. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this important planning meeting. If you're a committee member and not able to attend, please call the church office to let us know.

### **Pumpkin Fest of Hope**

October 4<sup>th</sup> is the date of our famous Pumpkin Fest of Hope, so mark your calendars it will be from 10 am to 3 pm. It once again this will be a community awareness and outreach event. So please invite your friends! Any money raised will be put together for the purpose of the whole church. This event will again include a craft fair, the sale of pumpkins mums, cornstalks, and hay, and the opportunity for children of all ages to come get there picture taken with Mr. Pumpkin. Please consider volunteering your time for set-up Friday evening October 3<sup>rd</sup> and on Saturday during the actual event if you have all ready done so it not too late! See Lou Eckert if you are interested.

### **Christian Education**

Our fall education program for all ages began on September 14th. for children and adults with great teachers and junior choir at 11:30 with the kids singing praises! But it is not too late to join a class if you were hesitant. One adult class meets in the manse a study of Ezekiel and Daniel and the other one in the sanctuary which is a survery of the New Testament. Starting on Tuesday, September 30 at & 7:30 the popular large group Bible Study with Rev. David Cotton.

### **New Members Class**

For Adults Will Be Forming If you are interested see Rev. Cotton or Jean Buckley. A confirmation Class will be available for those interested in grades 7 and up.

### **Gleaners purchase new counter for Kitchen**

At the September session meeting Marilyn Gifford made a presentation on behalf of the Gleaners to replace the old counter that we serve coffee from with a new modern one. The only problem the Gleaners had was the quoted price was \$3,790.00 and they only had \$1,600. After some discussion the session authorized a loan of an additional \$2,400.00 from our invested Emmons estate funds to cover the shortfall and some additional items so that the project could move forward. The Gleaners will repay the loan over the next few years as funds become available. If you would like any details please contact Marilyn.

### **New Church Computer**

Late last winter our church received a bequest from the estate of Connie Doidge in the amount of \$2,500.00. At the May session meeting Rev. Cotton suggested that we allocate this money to purchase the church its own new computer. The one we have been using belongs to Gwynne Mahns and it was showing signs of its old age and limited functionality. A small committee was set up and it was decided to purchase a new DELL PC and a HP multi function printer. The new computer has arrived and it has been basically set up by Daniel Buckley. You can see the new PC in the John Calvin room now but it will be moved shortly into the church office.

### **Korean Congregation**

In April our church was approached by a small local group of Korean Presbyterians asking if they could use our facility to meet in on Sundays and Wednesday evenings. At that time they were meeting in their pastors home. This group is associated with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church denomination. At the May meeting of session we asked one simple question, what would Jesus do? A motion was made, seconded and carried to extend the use of our facilities to the Korean congregation for a period of one year. We wish Rev. Yang and his members well in their ministry while they are with us. On September 21st the Korean congregation was blessed by a wonderful Sunday evening program were the Rev. Forest Prosser, of their presbytery from Tennessee, gave a sermon recognizing them as what we would officially call a new church development. The party afterwards, which was held on our grounds behind the manse, was a wonderful experience in which a few members of our congregation shared in.

### **Peacemaking Offering**

On Sunday October 5th, World Communion Sunday, we will be receiving the Peace Offering which is one of the special offerings that we collect each year on behalf of denominational programs. We are called at this critical time to recognize the task of peacemaking as a central declaration of the Gospel. On this day we join with Christians around the world to celebrate the unity that we find at the Table of the Lord. Our congregation gets to keep 25% of the offering for local peacemaking activities. The other 75% will help our partners in the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly in their efforts to make this a more peaceful world.

### **Stewardship 2004**

Our local stewardship program here at Hope Church to support our total budget expenses for 2004 will start with a sermon from pastor Rev. David Cotton on Sunday October 12th. The period of informing you of the needs here at Hope Church will end on Sunday November 9th with the receiving of pledges and committing them to Gods work. We hope you find the information helpful in determining what level of giving you might be able to share from what God has blessed you with.

**Newsletter** We want to better inform out members and friends of the activities of the various organizations of the church. Committee Chairs and organizations of the church let us hear from you because much of the success of this undertaking depends upon you, so write an article, or just give us the facts and we will write if for you! The November "Notes of Hope" deadline for articles is Wednesday Oct 22 via email to [esbuckley@monmouth.com](mailto:esbuckley@monmouth.com) or the Sunday before the Wednesday in church to Elisabeth Buckley.