



HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSERY



NOTES OF HOPE

A monthly publication to keep us informed.

November 2005

Edited & Published
by The Buckley
Family

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



Operation Christmas Child- a Mission in a Box!

On Sunday, November 20, church school students will collect gift filled shoe boxes from the congregation for our “mission-in-a-box” project, otherwise known as Operation Christmas Child, a division of Franklin Graham’s Samaritan’s Purse organization. How can a shoe box be a mission? Well, it can when it is delivered by plane, boat, truck, donkey cart, dog sled or camel to a boy or girl who has never received a Christmas present and may be living in the neediest of circumstances. Through your simple box, a child and family are introduced to God’s greatest gift, Jesus Christ, and many lives will be changed for eternity.

We think that this week before Thanksgiving, on the eve of the Advent season when we take time to count our blessings and reflect on God’s gift to us, is a meaningful time for us as Christians to share the Good News. We can minister to those who need so much, and who will be cheered by a shoe box and its contents. In addition, Operation Christmas Child will enclose story booklets in the child’s native language that share the story of Jesus Christ.

All you need to do is...
grab a shoe box (we have extras)
pick up a label and directions from the O.C.C. display
have fun filling it with treats and surprises for your child
please enclose a five dollar check (to Samaritan’s Purse - O.C.C.) or cash in an envelope for shipping
Include a note, prayer, or picture, if you like
Put a rubber band around the box with the label attached

Please join Hope Church School in this mission to share the Good News and bring smiles to the faces of children around the world. If you would like more information, please see Kathy Heller or Jean Buckley.

What's Cookin' in G - Force?

You may have noticed our cooking set in the G-Force corner and church school teachers in aprons and chef's hats. They're all part of our six unit theme "The Spice of Life", where we're learning about what happens when the People of God come together as a church.

We're learning that the church is a place where Christians encourage each other (Heb.3:13a), that we can prepare for worship by coming into God's house with the proper attitude (Eph. 5:19-20), that we can be joyful givers (Acts 20:35b), that service is really love wearing work gloves (1Cor.13:13), and that we have a recipe for right living in God's Word, the Bible. (Psalm 119:16b). Good lessons for all ages !

There are the recipes for the breads the church school children made for World Communion Sunday:

Pita Bread

vegetable oil
2 1/2 cups warm water
1 t. sugar
3 1/2 t. active dry yeast
1/2 t. salt
5 1/2 cups whole wheat flour, approximately

Preheat the oven to 500 degrees.

Place water and sugar in bowl. Stir to dissolve sugar. Add yeast and stir briefly. Let the mixture rest for 5 min. Mix in salt and 3 1/2 cups flour, gradually adding flour until the dough no longer sticks to the bowl. Knead well for 5 min.

Put vegetable oil on the palms of the hands. Rub the oil all over the dough to prevent crusting. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap, and then with a clean, dry dish towel. Let the dough rest for 30 min.

Divide the dough into 8 balls. Roll out each ball into a circle 1/4 inch thick. Cover the balls and lay them for 20 min. on a floured cloth or board.

Place the pitas on cookie sheets and bake until the dough is lightly browned - 5 to 8 min.

Flat Bread

1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
1 1/2 cups white flour
1 t. baking soda
1 t. salt
1 c. water
1/3 c. honey
3 T. olive oil
Extra flour and oil as needed

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Sift together flour, baking soda and salt. Add in water, honey, and oil. Mix until moist, then knead until dough is smooth.

Roll out the dough to 1/4 inch on a floured board or pastry cloth.

Cut the dough into 5 circles, using the open end of a coffee can. Score a cross on top of each circle, being careful not to cut through.

Bake on ungreased cookie sheets for 10 to 12 min. Brush the dough with oil after baking. Cool on racks.



Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

A Deacon Request

Thanksgiving is quickly approaching and the Deacons are asking you to again show your love and generosity by providing Thanksgiving feasts to our adopted families.

The white 'giving tree', displayed in the narthex, is loaded this year with footballs (!!!) which contain items for the feasts. Please take one, two or a few footballs and return the contents that you have purchased on November 20th. The Deacons will assemble the feast baskets and deliver them that day.

We continue to provide these dinners for the four families who were introduced to us from Love, Inc. and this holiday, we will also be providing for three of our church families.

You always are quick to respond with kindness and caring in sharing your blessings with others less fortunate. Thank you, from the Deacons.

Service of Remembrance Sunday evening, November 6th at 7 PM

At this service we will gather to remember those of our family and friends who have crossed the threshold between this life and eternal life.

For each loved one named and remembered, family members and friends will light a candle and place it on the communion table. As more and more light is shed in the sanctuary, readings and prayers will be said and appropriate selections of music will be played as a testimony to our faith and hope in the resurrection.

To register the names of those you will be remembering please call the church and leave the information on the answering or contact Gwynne Mahns. gwynnethmahns@verizon.net

Pumpkin Fest

