



HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSERY



NOTES OF HOPE

A monthly publication to keep us informed.

May2006

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

Pasta and DaVinci

Can you separate fact from fiction in *The DaVinci Code*? As the movie is being released in a whirlwind of publicity, it would be great if we as Christians were able to delineate with confidence where Dan Brown has taken artistic license with the Bible and our Christian history. In a time of cynicism and belief in conspiracy theories, many folks have accepted the author's historical fiction as a highly plausible accounting of events.

Join us on Wed. May 10 for a pasta dinner and viewing of *Day of Discovery* episodes that present the case for Biblical integrity, reviewing where the Bible came from and how continuous research and translation add to what we know. Claims in passages from *The DaVinci Code* will be refuted by various scholars in this Day of Discovery DVD. You'll be able to separate myths and conspiracy theories from historical truth, and see what the Bible and contemporary Biblical scholars have to say.

6:30 Pasta Dinner (tossed salad, bread, and dessert, too.)
7:15 DVD

Please sign up by May 7 so we can prepare plenty of pasta ! Questions? Would you like to bring something? See Gwynne Mahns or Kathy Heller

Mission Committee

UPDATE ON HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The day is coming closer for our volunteers to work for Coastal Habitat for Humanity. There will be 11 of us helping to build a house at 1701 Columbus Ave. in Neptune on May 6th and 15 volunteers working on it on May 13th. The volunteers should have received a reminder notice in the mail along with a map for directions to the site. Any questions, call Marilyn Hicken 732-292-2802

Adopt-A-Highway

Be prepared to watch for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex on May 7th. The date to clean-up our stretch of Wyckoff Rd. is May 21st and we will meet at the Church at 1:00 PM (don't forget your garden/work gloves). Questions?? call Marilyn Hicken



Blanket Sunday

The hurricane season of 2005 was one of the most destructive in U.S. history. Tens of thousands of people were displaced as a result of Hurricane Katrina, but Church World Service has had a long experience in domestic disaster work, and were able to provide immediate assistance with over 48,000 blankets as well as tents, water, medical supplies and health kits. This Mother's Day give a gift of love. \$5.00 will buy a blanket for distribution to those in need. If you can only afford \$1.00 please do so as all the \$1.00s add up. Special envelopes will be in the bulletins on May 7th and 14th but will be collected on the 14th (Mother's Day). Thank you.

Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible Study Group is back studying the Book of Daniel, which is rich in ancient history and prophetic visions of Daniel. Come join us and learn what the various beasts in Daniel's visions stood for, and just how truly prophetic they were. We meet in the John Calvin Room after service back by the TV. Marilyn Hicken

Confirmation Class Joins Church on Pentecost

Our junior and senior high confirmation class members have been studying diligently under the guidance of Dan and Jessica Cotton since October. Meeting one Sunday morning a month and continuing their program at Youth Group meetings, the confirmands have been learning about the meaning and responsibility of church membership, as well as preparing their own statements of faith.. They will meet with the Session on May 16 to share their progress, and then on June 4 they will become members of Hope Presbyterian Church during the service as we celebrate Pentecost. Please join us downstairs afterwards for a special Fellowship Time to honor our new Youth members.

SAVE THIS DATE!!! Sunday, June 4th, 2006. The Musicians of Hope Presbyterian Church will be presenting a concert at 5pm. A pot luck dinner will follow the concert. Dessert will be provided by the Deacons. The Deacons will have a sign up sheet in the Narthex starting May14th. Pans will be provided to prepare either a main dish or a salad. Please plan on attending this wonderful family event where we can worship, praise, and have some fun!

Hope Presbyterian Church Needs you..... to volunteer some time to keep our church beautiful. Sextons are needed weekly to tidy things up in preparation for Sunday worship. Many hands make for light work. Teams can be formed. So consider pairing up with family and friends to help keep this church in tip top shape! Please contact Cyndie VanBavel at 732-776-8503 or at cyndie.vanbavel@verizon.net. if you can help out.

Thank you to all who dedicated flowers at Easter in memory, in honor or celebration of someone. Our church looked beautiful and brought glory to our Lord!

The Worship and Spiritual Life Committee has set up a designated memorial fund to purchase choir chimes in memory of Mary Moran. For those of you who were at the Easter service, our Bell Choir used them during the prelude. They added a beautiful effect to the music. Thoughts are that we may at one point be able to start a children's or adult chime choir. Prayerfully consider if this is something you would like to see in the future of our church. This would be a lovely way to remember Mary. Donations may be put in Cyndie VanBavel's mailbox at church, or in the offering. Please make checks out to Hope Pres. Church and notate Mary's name on the memo line. Thank you.

Remembering those that have died so that we may live freely. Hope Presbyterian Church has been invited to participate in a Memorial Day service at the Tinton Falls Fire Department on Monday May 29th at 11am. This would be a lovely way to reach out further into our community and have us represented in numbers. We will be presenting a wreath to honor those who have served our country. Please save the date and try to represent our church that day. A reception will follow the service at the fire house.



Deacon Car Wash - June 10th

Is your car dirty? If so, the Deacons would like to help you out. The Deacons will wash your car with tender loving care on Saturday, June 10th, from 10 am till 1 pm. Invite your friends and neighbors. There will be no charge, but donations will be accepted.

Looking Ahead:

Hope Backyard Picnic - Sunday September 10th

Pumpkinfest - Saturday, September 23rd (with rain date, September 30th)

SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE

There will be NO SCHEDULE CHANGE for worship this summer.

We will stick to our regular 9:30 worship time. It should be a great summer of celebrating the Living Christ in Word and song. Let's keep our momentum going strong by supporting the church with our prayers, our presence, and our giving this summer.

EXTRA, EXTRA, READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Beach Bible Study Returns!

Thursday evenings in July, 7 PM, Ocean Grove Beach by the Fishing Pier.

This summer's topic is "Biblical Extras." Maybe you've heard of them. Maybe you've been one – a person who appears briefly in the background of a movie but not long enough or significantly enough to be named in the credits.

These are the people we'll get to know this summer – the people Jesus meets in his earthly life – people who aren't named, but people who matter, people who make a difference, people who are loved by Jesus. People like you and me.

So come and bring your Bible, your beach chair, and maybe one or two of your friends.

See you Thursday evenings in July!

Christian Surfers Panama Mission Trip:

Christian Surfers is planning another missions trip to Santa Catalina from June 24th-July 1st. This year, the trip will continue to focus on building relationships with the community and local church, evangelizing to the local people and traveling surfers, organizing community activities to unite the town and help complete some minor construction/electrical work on the local church. This year we have between 12-15 people on our missions team that will partner with Crossroads Bible Church in Panama to minister to the people of Santa Catalina.

We hope that you too will partner with us through prayer. Also, many of the people going on the trip are still praying for financial support. We need money for supplies, van rentals, and small toys for the children in the community. If you would like to support someone on the trip or help provide money for the trip needs, you could give cash or *write a check to Christian Surfers (please designate in the memo area if you want your money to support a particular person going on the trip or the trip needs)*. You can give your donations to Dan or Jessica Cotton. Thank you for your support and prayers!

News from the Gleaners

Our Avon fundraising Party was a great success. A big thank you to all who supported this effort. In May we'll be hosting a Candle Party in the John Calvin Room from 6 – 8 PM on Wednesday, May 3rd. We hope you'll join us as all are welcome.

Our annual Gleaner Breakfast will be held at the Cobblestone Restaurant on Rt. 35 at 10 AM on Saturday, June 3rd.

It has come to our attention that more Bibles are needed in the sanctuary. Because of our growing Church family, and Sunday liturgies that often require congregants to read Scripture aloud as a Call to Worship or a Prayer of Confession, etc., we need more Bibles in the pews. The Gleaner ladies are happy to donate \$200.00 to purchase the Bibles. We're also very happy to assist the Church School leaders by purchasing two white boards for their use.

ASCRIBE Ps. 68:34 1	BLESS Ps. 34:1 2	BOAST Ps. 34:2 3	COME Ps. 100:2 4	DELIGHT Ps. 37:4 5	EXALT Ps. 99:9 6	FEAR Ps. 34:9 7
GLORIFY Rom. 15:6 8	HUMBLE James 4:10 9	HONOR Prov. 3:9 10	IMITATE Eph. 5:2 11	JOY Hab. 3:18 12	KNEEL Ps. 95:6 13	LOVE Ps. 31:23 14
MAGNIFY Ps. 34:3 15	(Draw) NEAR James 4:8 16	OFFER Heb. 13:15 17	PRAISE Ps. 35:18 18	QUIET Ps. 131:2 19	REJOICE Phil. 4:4 20	REMEMBER Ps. 105:5 21
SACRIFICE Jonah 2:9 22	SERVE Ps. 100:2 23	SUBMIT James 4:7 24	TELL Ps. 9:1 25	UTTER Ps. 145:7 26	VOW Deut. 23:23 27	WAIT Is. 40:31 28
(E)XTOL Ps. 145:1 29	YIELD 2 Chrn 30:8 30	(Be) ZEALOUS Titus 2:14 31	"31 WAYS-2-PRAISE" NKJV			

Rx for "Worshiper's Block"

(or, How Do I Praise When I'm Dry as A Bone?)

Choose one word each day and apply it to every aspect in your life. A daily dose of praise will help us to stay spiritually healthy and mentally focused. It's just the right medicine for preventing worshiper's block!

Bobby Sanderson, minister of music at the First Baptist Church, Columbus, Mississippi, was impacted when he read an article about worship. In that article, the author said, "I wish I could get my people to stop evaluating worship and start experiencing it." Sanderson says that he began asking himself some hard questions:

1. Is worship about God or is it about what I like?

2. Do I seek God's presence or the comfort of being with friends and doing what is familiar?

3. When is the last time God "blind-sided" me and spoke in a way I did not expect?

4. Am I so contemporary I lose the transcendence of God?

5. Am I so traditional that I forget God's relevance?

6. Do I see myself as part of an audience giving approval/disapproval to worship leaders?

7. Can God use what I don't like?

8. Am I more into music than the spoken word?

9. Do I ignore the command to sing just to get to the "message"?

10. Do I leave worship with a clear sense of what I'm supposed to do?

11. Is the style of worship more important to me than the object of worship?

12. Do I love His presence as much as the songs I sing and play?

13. Can I worship Him when it's hard work and my joy is running low?

CHURCH SIGN PROJECT

As was stated in the last news letter the Session has been on a quest to replace our old street sign with one that better suites our current Ministry needs. Pastor David had a vision and elder Steven Buckley's task was to turn a vision into a plan. This week the old sign comes out and the concrete footing for the new sign goes in. Were moving ahead. The expected time frame for installation is still by the end of June. We now have the picture, as you might have seen at church over the past few weeks, and we have included it here so even more of you can see what is coming.

