



HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSERY



NOTES OF HOPE

A monthly publication to keep us informed.

October 2006

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 wor-
ship, and

Inspire them to
serve God according
to their gifts

Designated Pastor Nominating Committee (DPNC)

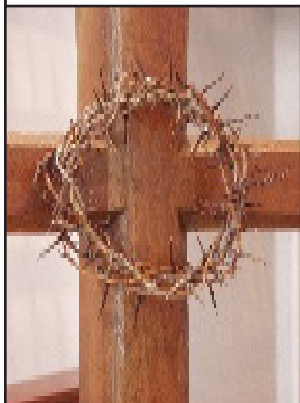
Our search process is over!

Your DPNC has selected a candidate – **and he has said yes!!!!**

The DPNC has sent all of the denominationally required documents to the Committee on Ministry (COM) of Monmouth Presbytery (MP) in preparation for its Tuesday October 3rd meeting and their approval of our candidate. The meeting is at 6:30 pm with our candidate and your DPNC at which time COM will interview the candidate and the DPNC to determine if they will recommend our candidate for approval at the Nov. Monmouth Presbytery meeting. **Please keep this COM meeting in your prayers!**

If COM concurs we can invite our candidate to preach at Hope with his “candidating sermon”. After the Worship service there will be a Congregational Meeting when the congregation will actually meet our candidate and you can ask him questions. Next two votes will be taken. One is to consider accepting the person nominated to be our next pastor and the other vote is on the pastor’s salary package, “Terms of Call”. We will mail a letter to every voting active member to inform you of the date of this important day. We are hopeful that it’s coming very soon!

These are exciting times here at Hope Church! The DPNC has voted unanimously to call our nominee to be our next pastor. We are very excited about the person we feel that God has led us to. Keep this entire process in your prayers. We promise to let everyone know the verdict soon after the October 3rd COM meeting and after the November Presbytery meeting! Lastly we would then schedule an ordination and installation service after which our new pastor would start all his pastoral duties.



Worship Committee Happenings

Remembrance Service, Sunday October 29th at 7PM – Each year we celebrate and remember our loved ones who have gone Home to Heaven. Join us for a candle lighting ceremony and quiet time to reflect and remember those in our lives who now see Christ face to face.

Keep these dates in mind:

Saturday December 2, 2 pm – Family Advent Wreath Making - details to follow in November Newsletter

Sunday December 10, 5 pm – Advent Service and Dinner

Sunday December 24, 9:30 am - Advent Sunday Morning Worship Service

Christmas Eve, Sunday December 24 7 pm – Family Service

YOU'RE INVITED!

We've all heard an impatient person mutter, "What's he waitin' for – an invitation?" Strangely enough, most people *are* waiting for an invitation - to **church**, that is!

For those of us who have found Hope and have stayed because of the warm fellowship, the diversity of people, the celebration of Jesus Christ in word and song, it's almost impossible to imagine that anyone could be apprehensive about joining us on a Sunday morning. But many people *are* apprehensive – about church, that is!

Many people who don't attend worship anywhere feel that church is a closed society, much like a country club. And sadly enough, too many churches have done little to dispel that misunderstanding. As a result, people actually do need to be invited! Is there someone in your neighborhood, at your work, in your group of friends who hasn't found a church home? The problem may not be a lack of interest – it may be the lack of an invitation!

Why not get your courage up and invite someone to worship with us at Hope this week? What have you got to lose? The worst the person can say is no. But what might be gained is *so* much bigger... Hearing about the love and forgiveness and grace and peace of Jesus Christ, singing songs that keep Him close all week long, finding strength and peace to face life's daily challenges, meeting others who are on a journey of faith – all these benefits are here, now, at Hope!

The Greek word for "fellowship," *koinonia*, is also the word for "sharing." Share with someone you know, and invite him/her to worship with you at Hope this Sunday. You might even offer a ride. They will find fellowship with you, with others, and most of all with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – right here at Hope. What are you waitin' for?

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

If you are, there will be an informational meeting downstairs at the rear of the John Calvin room on Oct. 8th at 11:00 A.M. after the Worship Service. Please let Marilyn Hicken know of your interest, or leave a message on the Church answering machine. The session wants to receive new members at our October 17th meeting.

Marilyn 732-292-2802 Church 732-542-0706

NEWS FROM THE GLEANERS

The ladies in our Presbyterian Women's Group meet on the second Monday of each month from 1 – 3 PM. An important part of our work at Hope Church involves supporting and encouraging others in their ministries. Recently, as a result of past fund-raising activities, we've been able to donate \$100.00 towards the Church School's fund for the purchase of a new Nativity Scene, as well as \$100.00 to the Bell Choir to help them purchase a 3-octave set of Hand Chimes. Our next fund raising event will be an Avon Party at the church on Wednesday, November 1st from 5 – 7:30 PM. Plan now to join us – there will be something on offer for all those on your holiday gift list. Christmas Cards will also be available at 5 for \$5.00. Your support will enable us to keep on helping others.

Operation Christmas Child

Once again Hope Church School invites you to be one of the more than 7.5 million people around the world who pack a shoebox to brighten the life of a child in need, the smallest victim of political and/or economic strife in his or her homeland. Last year our congregation sent 50 boxes with contents that would bring a smile to a child's face, and Samaritan's Purse added booklets to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in the child's own language.

This year's collection date is Sunday, November 19. Information pamphlets will be distributed in church starting Sunday, October 15. This is a meaningful project that touched the hearts and minds of those who participated last year. Please join us this year in doing the work of the Lord.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Being part of a small study group can impact lives by helping people to be more disciplined in their personal Bible Study and individual devotional time. Our Adult Bible Study group meets at noon each Thursday. As we read and discuss the Gospel of Mark, some of us snack while others eat a healthy lunch, and we're discovering that one of Mark's favorite words is 'immediately'. He seems to be in a hurry to give us the good news that God is here, and that he's on our side. This is an exciting, fast-moving study, and we'd love to have you join us.

Adopt-a-Highway

The date to clean-up our stretch of Wyckoff Road is Sunday, October 15th. We will meet at the church at 1:00 PM (don't forget your garden/work gloves). Come and enjoy the camaraderie as we pick up trash in an effort to care for the environment and serve our community. There's a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. For more information, call Marilyn Hicken at 732-292-2802

Movie Nights at Hope

Did you miss *End of the Spear* in its limited release last spring? On Friday, October 13 we'll be showing the film right here in our church at 7:30.

Based on real events, the film depicts the unexpected outcomes to our usual way of thinking after missionaries have a violent encounter with the isolated Waodani tribe of Ecuador, people who have traditionally lived and died by the spear. The film follows developments in the lives of tribe members and the missionary families through the next generation. This is a moving story of faithfulness, courage, and hope.

End of the Spear is rated PG-13 due to sequences of violence. The running time is 1 hour, 51 minutes. Please join us for this unique story, invite your friends, and join us for fellowship time afterwards.

On Friday, November 3 at 7:00, the spectacular recent version of *The Chronicles of Narnia, the Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* will be shown. This is a great opportunity to see this C.S. Lewis classic, if you missed it, or to enjoy it again. The story of four young children who stumble on a fantasy world while exploring an attic during a game of hide-and-seek. The film features state-of-the-art Disney special effects as the children ally themselves with the magnificent lion, Aslan, to battle the White Witch who has brought eternal winter to the land of Narnia. Come and cheer for the good guys in this epic struggle of good versus evil.

This film is rated PG and runs about 2 hours and 15 minutes.

A free will offering will be taken at the film presentations to support the need to replace the church's Nativity Set.

Finding and Funding the Way Forward

Hope Church is home to some of the most generous and responsive people I have ever known. We donate clothing, food, blankets, computers, coats, our time and energies to other members and to people we barely know and often never get to meet. Hope Church also supports mission endeavors in far away lands and even other local churches whose needs are greater than ours.

Sunday, October 22nd will be Stewardship Sunday at Hope Church. It will be an exciting day of reminding ourselves what we've been able to do so far in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with others near and far. We'll also be challenged to see the opportunities and ever expanding mission needs before us.

If we continue to invest ourselves and our hearts first, the funding (yes, I mean **money**!) will follow. That is the only way Hope Church can continue to grow in its generosity, teach our children, and attract new members of like minds. We are the Macedonians of Monmouth County!! I'm counting on all of us to work together to "find and fund the way forward".

John Schwartz, Chair Stewardship Committee

Thanks from the Deacons

A note of thanks to the Hope Church congregation for their wonderful support of this year's Pumpkinfest. Thanks to those who worked, shopped, and invited their friends. Despite some early wetness, it was a fine day of fellowship and community outreach. And we also made a profit of almost \$1100, which will be put to very good use during the coming year.

The proverbial Church Mouse

.. has once again invited his friends and family to take up residence in the basement of Hope Church. In an effort to deter his activities, it's imperative that whenever food and refreshments are served in the John Calvin Room, those responsible for clean-up **MUST** remove all trash from the building, wipe all surfaces and vacuum the whole area. Thank you for your co-operation.

CROP Walk - October 15th

We can help tackle world hunger together! Here's your opportunity to share in the 2006 Crop Walk for the hungry.

1. Walk - get forms from Jean Buckley jmbuckley@monmouth.com 732-544-1131
2. Pledge - support a walker with your donation
3. Donate - bring rice, beans, peanut butter (no glass) to church by October 15th. It will be donated to the local food pantry.

Location: Red Bank Regional High School, Little Silver.

Registration: 1:00PM - Walk starts at 1:30PM.