HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSEY



NOTES OF HOPE



A monthly publication to keep us informed.

January 2008

Edited by Erica Andresen Published by Steven 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 found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Invite them to become part of the family of God

Instruct them in the scriptures, God's word to us

Involve them in the ministry of the church, according to their gifts

Inspire them to go into the world, making disciples of others

Stewardship

Our role as God's stewards is one of many dimensions – grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and challenged. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover the joy of Christ. Our pledges for 2008 will require us to be committed all year long and to continuously give, even when we are challenged. A pledge means a promise, and that promise is personal between us and God. We need to practice good stewardship all year long, not just in our giving, but in our actions as well. Some of the ways we can practice good stewardship in 2008 is by strengthening personal relationships with others by sharing faith stories and the joy of Christ. Perhaps foster a regular prayer life as a spiritual discipline that connects faith and generosity.

As Hope Presbyterian Church enters 2008, there will be challenges, big and small. Thankfully we are a congregation that really knows how to pull it together and be there for one another when times are tough. For such a small church we can really "bring it"! We will really need to band together this year. This is a pivotal year financially for us. Even if you are not going to be present one or a few Sundays, it is crucial that since you have pledged so much a week that you make it up somehow in future weeks. Your pledge has helped us to determine what we can spend and helped us to formulate our budget for this year.

If we fall short, we need to take funds from our savings which is dwindling. This is not a healthy way to manage a church. For those that haven't pledged yet, the Stewardship/ Finance Committee asks that you prayerfully consider your gifts and your stewardship each and every day as we look forward to keeping Andrew on as our full time pastor beyond 2008.

Stewardship and Finance Committee

Pot Luck Dinner and Game Night – Saturday, February 2nd

Save the date. The Deacons are sponsoring a pot luck dinner and game night on Saturday, February 2nd, beginning at 6pm. If you can make it, please bring a covered dish to share, and desserts and drinks will be supplied by the Deacons. It will be an evening of great food and great fun. Invite a friend! A sign-up list will be available on the visitors table.

The Deacons