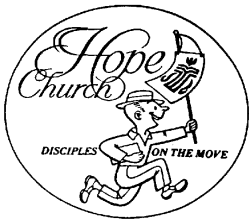


HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSEY



NOTES OF HOPE



A monthly publication to keep us informed.

April 2010

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

On Sunday March 7, members of our Chi-Rho youth group participated in the Care Pack program run by Blossom International, inc. Care Pack provides children entering foster care with a duffel bag filled with brand new items during this critical time.

Most children entering the foster care system are taken from their homes on an emergency basis and cannot bring any items with them because of this. The Care Pack program gives DYFS the ability to give these children some items that they both need and want.

The Hope Church team was on hand to receive the donated items, sort and package the items. As of January 2010, Blossom has distributed more than 1,400 Care Packs to children in foster care.

Blossom International is dedicated to providing opportunities for children and families to volunteer to encourage understanding, compassion, and social responsibility. This event was a wonderful opportunity for our own kids to help other kids their own age that are in need. A special thank you to everyone that came out!



Stewardship Corner

[A Christian Who Doesn't Serve Is a Contradiction](#)

by Rick Warren

“Now you belong to him . . . in order that you might be useful in the service of God” (Romans 7:4 TEV).

Your call to salvation included your call to service. They are the same. Regardless of your job or career, you are called to full-time Christian service. A “non-serving Christian” is a contradiction in terms.

The Bible says, “He saved us and called us to be his own people, not because of what we have done, but because of his own purpose” (2 Timothy 1:9 TEV).

Peter adds, “You were chosen to tell about the excellent qualities of God, who called you” (1 Peter 2:9 GWT).

You are called to serve God. Growing up, you may have thought that being called by God was something only missionaries, pastors, nuns, and other full-time church workers experienced, but the Bible says every Christians is called to service (Ephesians 4:4–14; see also Romans 1:6–7; 8:28–30; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 9, 26; 7:17; Philippians 3:14; 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Peter 1:3).

Anytime you use your God-given abilities to help others, you are fulfilling your calling. The Bible says, “Now you belong to him . . . in order that you might be useful in the service of God” (Romans 7:4 TEV).

How much of the time are you being useful in the service of God? In some churches in China, they welcome new believers by saying, “Jesus now has a new pair of eyes to see with, new ears to listen with, new hands to help with, and a new heart to love others with.”

Over the last few Sundays in service we have heard from various people involved in the ministries of our church. Each of these people serve God, our church and our community as God has called them to do. He calls all of us, even if it's the littlest of things. There is always a need here at Hope where you can make a difference. Not a lot of time is required, nor does it take a special skill set. It DOES require a cheerful heart and a willing spirit. And all of us have that within us! Here are some of the ways you can help:

- Usher
- Sexton (Start a team! Many hands make for light work!)
- Counting our offerings
- Prayer Chain
- Visitation
- Soup Kitchen
- Teaching Sunday School
- Parents Night Out
- Hope offers so many opportunities to glorify God. Where can you serve?

Stewardship Thought of the Month:

“No one has ever become poor by giving.” — **Anne Frank**

BIRTHDAYS

March

- 5 Carol-Jeanne Turk
- 8 Adam Hayek (2009)
- 10 Elisabeth Buckley
- 12 Jim Scheidt
- 12 Lisa Caffyn
- 18 Edith Leadbeater
- 19 Phyllis Trask
- 19 Helen Hubeny
- 20 Shannon Rivera
- 27 Rebecca Flynn
- 30 Joe Massa
- 30 Rob Weiss
- 30 Ellen Dingman

April

- 2 Jolie Evans
- 3 Chris Scheidt
- 3 Barbara Patterson
- 5 Nancy Massa
- 5 Jim McNicholas
- 7 Luke Baker (born 2005)
- 7 Margaret Light
- 15 *Fred & Maryann's anniversary (5 years in '07)*
- 17 Natasha Brown
- 26 Melissa Emmons
- 27 Billy McCabe
- 30 Brian Krajcik