

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSEY



NOTES OF HOPE



A monthly publication to keep us informed.

July 2010

Edited by  
Erica Andresen

**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

**'To serve' and 'to give' should define your life**

*by Rick Warren*

Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give my life. Matthew 20:28 (LB)

We are commanded to serve God. Jesus was unmistakable: "Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give my life." (Matthew 20:28 LB).

For Christians, service is not something to be tacked onto our schedules if we can spare the time. It is the heart of the Christian life. Jesus came "to serve" and "to give"—and those two verbs should define your life on earth, too. Serving and giving sum up God's fourth purpose for your life. Mother Teresa once said, "Holy living consists in doing God's work with a smile."

Jesus taught that spiritual maturity is never an end in itself. Maturity is for ministry! We grow up in order to give out. It is not enough to keep learning more and more. We must act on what we know and practice what we claim to believe. Impression without expression causes depression. Study without service leads to spiritual stagnation.

The old comparison between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea is still true. Galilee is a lake full of life because it takes in water but also gives it out. In contrast, nothing lives in the Dead Sea because, with no outflow, the lake has stagnated.

The last thing many believers need is to go to another Bible study. They already know far more than they are putting into practice. What they need are serving experiences in which they can exercise their spiritual muscles.

Serving is the opposite of our natural inclination. Most of the time we're more interested in "serve us" than service. We say, "I'm looking for a church that meets my needs and blesses me," not "I'm looking for a place to serve and be a blessing." We expect others to serve us, not vice versa.

But as we mature in Christ, the focus of our lives should increasingly shift to living a life of service. The mature follower of Jesus stops asking, "Who's going to meet my needs?" and starts asking, "Whose needs can I meet?"

"For Christians, service is not something to be tacked onto our schedules if we can spare the time. It is the heart of the Christian life. Jesus came 'to serve' and 'to give'—and those two verbs should define your life on earth, too. "

To our brothers and sisters in Christ at Hope:

As you are aware, Susan Lisle is very ill. John, one of our caring, loving, and giving Deacons, is self-employed. At this time, his not being able to work consistently due to caring for Susan, has created an extremely serious financial position for the family, especially with medical costs continuing to build. Their neighbor-across-the-street and fellow scout leader, Cindy Anderson has contacted me with her heartfelt feelings for the Lisle's that should be shared. She has also created a non-profit bank account, 'Friends of Susan', that will be for (tax deductible) donations to the Lisle family.

Donations made out to 'Friends of Susan' can be mailed to Cindy's home (address included in her message), or I will be honored to be Hope's in-house collector of donations, if that is more comfortable for you. I am treasurer of Troop 124 and see the Anderson's on a regular basis, so hand-delivering donations will be no problem. Donations may also be made out to Hope Church, with 'Friends of Susan' in the MEMO, and a check will be sent from the church to the 'Friends of Susan' account.

We have been provided an avenue where we can give back and help this wonderful family, who have given so much to the church and to the community.

Peace be with you all.  
Nancy Massa

Cindy Anderson's message:

So how do I do this.. I am really not sure where or how to start. The Lisle Family has lived in Tinton Falls for nearly 40 years. John and Susan raised their three children here in Tinton Falls and were always an active part of not just the lives of their 3 children, but the lives of so many kids through their volunteer efforts from scouting to coaching to the PTA. They have been active in their church. I remember John telling me that Susan was off shopping and cooking for the youth group again as he stood in my door telling me about how he helps in Haiti.. This couple is one of the most generous couples that I have ever met in my life. They would always give what they could monetarily but the generosity in their hearts was so much bigger. I remember so vividly the day we moved in to our home across the street from them, they welcomed us in to the neighborhood with an ice cream cake; when they found out we didn't have a working freezer yet, they agreed to save it for us. We never did see that cake again!

When John returned from Haiti after this last trip, Susan was not feeling well. John took her to the doctor and after a few trips they found the double lung cancer. Susan has been diagnosed today with bone cancer as well; it is literally eating her bones. She is terminal. If she responds to chemo, her life may be extended another year or so. She is in the hands of God now and we can only pray that when he takes her, it is peaceful and without pain. With all of the running Susan to the doctors, John's construction business has been suffering even more now than what the economy has already done to it. So many people have asked how they can help. I spoke to John about this and I asked if I could set up an account to help offset the burden of the medical bills that have been coming in. John was humbled and if you can believe it speechless. I have set this account up through Sovereign Bank, however, any donations should be mailed as follows:

Friends of Susan  
c/o Anderson  
33 Fairfield Drive  
Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

Sincerely,  
Cindy Anderson

If you should have any questions, please feel free to ask.  
cell- 732.245.3038  
[cliz.anderson@verizon.net](mailto:cliz.anderson@verizon.net)”

## Gleaner Thank You

A great big *Thank You* to our Hope Church friends for your generous contributions to our Love Calendar project in February. We raised \$291.36. God Bless You!!

### Coming in July – David Cotton’s Bible Study on the Beach

One of the great traditions of summer at the shore is David Cotton’s Bible Study on the Beach. This 4 week program will be held each Tuesday night during July (the 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>) at 7 pm right on the beach in Ocean Grove – just south of the fishing pier. David’s topic this year is “The Heart of the Matter”. What does the Bible mean when it talks about “the heart”? Why does God care so much about our hearts? How does the Lord want to change our hearts? Come find the answers to these questions and more as we open our Bibles, open our hearts, and look into “The Heart of the Matter”.

So pack up your beach chair and Bible (shoes are optional) and plan to join in on this summer opportunity in a delightful outdoor setting.

### Web Site Up and Running

Committee is happy to announce that our new Web Site is up and running at [www.hopepresbyterianf.com](http://www.hopepresbyterianf.com). It has a new fresh face and is user friendly. Our Home Page tells you what's happening each week, and the "Latest News" will be constantly up-dated. Browse through our mission statement, educational programs, calendar, newsletter, contact lists, and much more. This new and exciting Web Site will preserve our history and promote our future. A special Thank You to Rebecca Flynn, who designed our Web Site, Mary Harris for gathering and formatting all the information, Adam Hayek and Daniel Buckley for their technical assistance. Thank you again to all who shared their time and talents to create this new Web Site.

### July Birthdays

- 6 Robert Nuckle
- 9 Sue Schmardel
- 9 Megan Tursi (born 1992)
- 10 John Waldron V
- 10 *Adam & Rachael's wedding anniversary*
- 14 Doris Woolley
- 15 Adam Hayek
- 16 Karen Schwartz
- 19 Carl Fritsche
- 21 Mike Tursi
- 22 Betsy Fee
- 25 Joanne Cotton
- 27 Dave Caffyn
- 28 Tim McGuire
- 31 Danny Mullan (father)