HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TINTON FALLS, NEW JERSEY



NOTES OF HOPE



APRIL 18, 2010

A monthly publication to keep us informed.

June 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

GROW 1 MINISTRY FAIR

Our Grow 1 Stewardship Ministry Fair was a good success. Lots of energy and time and creativity were put into this event. Our commissions and ministries put together a combination of their works that represented what our church has to offer. Each ministry offers ways that each congregant can get involved here at Hope. Whether it is volunteering your time at our upcoming Yard Sale, baking, cleaning, singing, ringing, knitting, or praying, there is something here for you at Hope to do that will glorify God and reach the hearts and souls of others, and still have fun and find great fellowship! Consider this year how you can Grow 1 step closer to being involved and raising the bar a little higher in your life by becoming involved in something that really matters.



Even mundane work can be an offering to God

by Rick Warren

May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us-yes, establish the work of our hands. Psalm 90:17 (NIV) God establishes the work of our hands by giving us gifts that will make a difference in the lives of others. That's what success is-being what God meant for you to be. Jesus said, "My purpose is to give [you] a rich and satisfying life." (John 10:10 NLT) You may be thinking, Well, Rick, what about work that needs to be done but doesn't express my gifts; it just has to be done? Any homemaker knows exactly what I'm talking about.

I would say to you that every job, even the one you are suited for, has mundane parts. Every job has some parts to it that you won't like, but you can still worship God through those parts of the job. "Every job has some parts to it that you won't like, but you can still worship God through those parts of the job."

And I would suggest you adopt this attitude: "Maybe this job that I'm in right now is a phase of my life and I'm not going to be here the rest of my life. But this is where I am for now; therefore, I will worship God right now." The apostle Paul says, "Take your everyday, ordinary life-your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life-and place it before God as an offering." (Romans 12:1 MSG) "Lord our God, may

A LITTLE STEWARDSHIP HUMOR.....

Top Nine Reasons We Should Tithe

- 9. Your church started a new stewardship drive: every time you give, your chances of winning increase!
- 8. There's no money for new choir robes, so the choir has started wearing their bathrobes during the ser vice.
- 7. The last few Sunday's the Treasurer has gotten up half way through the service and turned the heat/airconditioning off.
- 6. The Preacher has worn the same suit every Sunday for the past three years.
- 5. The Ushers are starting to drool and growl as they collect the offering!
- 4. The Treasurer has started wearing sackcloth and ashes!
- 3. You tried to call the Church Office last week but found that the phone has been disconnected!
- 2. Parking meters had to be installed in the church parking lot.

And, the Number One Reason to Tithe...



"I think it's called subliminal advertising!"

A WORD FROM THE FINANCE MINISTRY

As everyone knows by now the session has started to takes steps to reduce our budget deficit for 2010. The operations commission is also looking into other cost savings in the area of our buildings and grounds. What I'd like to talk to you about today is our offerings. Through the first quarter of 2010 our general offerings are short by \$3,750 which is 18% and our building fund is short by \$150 which is only 3.5%. Even though the session and finance are making cost saving changes all members need to be diligent in their offerings. For those of you who have email you will be receiving a quarterly statement of your giving if you haven't already: for anyone else please contact me directly and I will get a statement to you. If you have any questions, would like to talk about the church finances or have some cost savings ideas of you own please feel free to contact me any time.

Scott Van Bavel 732-522-3296 cell 732-493-0994

Update on Staff

Even though Steven Buckley and Robyn Tibert resigned their positions to help the Church financially, they are still around helping as volunteers.

Steven no longer checks the Church phone (Pastor Andrew does that now), not the printing of the newsletter (Erica Andresen has taken this over), but he is around working on the Church directory and annual reports as a volunteer, and as a help on the Xerox machine and ordering office supplies.

Pastor Andrew has taken over the writing of the Bulletin and liturgies from Robyn, but she remains as chair of the worship committee.

Many thanks to both of them for all their work and dedication to God and to Hope Church.

Brian Krajcik - Moving Up

For the past few years, members and friends seated in the Hope congregation have watched a talented student musician, blessed with vocal and instrumental skills, develop into a confident young man, sharing his multiple talents to praise the Lord with us on Sunday mornings. Now Brian Krajcik is taking on a new and more comprehensive role in the music ministry here at Hope Presbyterian as our new Music Director.

Watching him juggle studies and musical activities at the University of Delaware, his commitments here at Hope, student teaching at Woodstown High School, and international travel with the UD Chorale (they actually won the Grand Prix, highest recognition, at a competition in Estonia), Brian's ability to multitask impresses. Certainly this is a critical skill necessary to manage our Choir, Praise Team and Bell Choir, in addition to his obvious musical credentials.

Speaking of those credentials, Brian is graduating from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education with a concentration in piano and a minor in vocal performance. Twenty or so friends from Hope traveled to Newark, Delaware several months ago to support and enjoy Brian's incredible Senior Recital. This fall, Brian will begin studies at the prestigious Westminster Choir College. How will Brian's new role impact our worship here at Hope? Well, as you can imagine, Brian has plans and goals in mind for the Choir, Praise Team, and Bells. In terms of worship, Brian sees music as a crucial way to connect with God... an integral part of the service, rather than an add-on. Moreover, he sees the musical components as "spiritual food", one way that some may come closer to God during their time in church.

Brian envisions opportunities for adding fellowship and prayer into the practice sessions, supplemented by opportunities to attend concerts and dine out together. Eventually, Brian hopes to work toward more community outreach performances and interaction with other churches through choral and bell festivals, as these programs move forward.

Please keep Brian and our music programs and participants in your prayers during this period of adjustment, as all work together to glorify the Lord through the talents with which they have been blessed.

<u>June Birthdays</u>

- 1 Charles Massa
- 1 Gwynne Mahns
- 2 Jean Buckley
- 4 Wendy McNicholas
- 5 Riley Mullan
- 7 Betty Janin
- 7 Laura Crutchley
- 9 Susan Kalmar
- 13 Nicole Lignos ('95)
- 15 Matt Scheidt
- 16 Rob & Tammy Weiss' wedding anniversary (2001)
- 24 LeeAnn Tursi
- 25 Dorothy Van Pelt
- 26 Donna Anderson Sweeney
- 27 John Schwartz