

HOPE - LINE



Hope Presbyterian Church
2110 Cypress Gardens Boulevard
Winter Haven FL 33884-1556
Phone: (863) 324-6382; Fax (863) 324-1096
Website: www.hopepreswh.org
E-mail: hope@hopepreswh.org

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011

Pastor: Dr. Thomas E. McGrath
Morning Worship - 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Church School - 9:30 a.m.

2011 Fall Kick-Off for Christian Education

September 11

Adult Re-Confirmation Class

Friendship Hall Adult

Children's Church

Youth of Hope

Confirmation Class

Children's Morning Program

See Christian Education Page...

Fellowship Dinner "Church Picnic"



Program presented by
**Metro Crime Prevention
Of Florida**

Complete details inside...

Holiday Boutique Mini Bazaar



**Saturday, October 8
8 a.m.—12 Noon**

Look inside Hope-Line for details

Golf Tournament

**Willowbrook Golf Course
S.R. 544 Winter Haven**



**Saturday, October 15
8:30 a.m.—12 Noon**

See Deacons' Desk article...

From the Pastor...

Welcome to the book-length edition of the *Hope-Line*! In spite of our encouragement to "be brief," our enthusiastic contributors are eager to share good news and keep you fully informed about the exciting opportunities of our growing programs. So find a comfortable chair, settle in, and enjoy!

Tom



WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

Donna Sullivan, Moderator

In appreciation for her dedication...



Please join the Chancel Choir, Bells of Hope, Youth Choir and the Session in celebrating **Ada Gribble's** 20-plus years of service to Hope Presbyterian Church. A reception in her honor will be held on **Sunday, September 18**, in Friendship Hall immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Plan on enjoying some light refreshment and entertainment at the event. Monetary "notes" of remembrance honoring Ada may be posted on the musical wall in Friendship Hall.

The word **acolyte** is taken from an ancient Greek word that meant *companion, attendant, or helper*. Acolytes at Hope Church are responsible for lighting and extinguishing the candles on the Communion table before and after the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. Acolyte rotation begins **Sunday,**

September 18 for Hope's de-light-ful youngsters.

RIISING 2ND GRADERS THROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES:

If you would like to participate as an **ACOLYTE** during the Worship Services, please contact Glenda McDivitt (860-7369).



THE WORSHIP AND FLOWER COMMITTEES

wish to thank everyone who provided the beautiful Chancel flower arrangements this year for our worship services and shut-ins. The **2012 Flower Calendar** is available on the **green** stand in the Narthex. **Now** is the time to sign up for Chancel flowers if you want to reserve a special Sunday in 2012.

It will soon be time to order **poinsettias** to brighten our sanctuary in honor of Christ's birth. The forms for ordering the poinsettias will be published in the next issue of the **Hope-Line** and in the Sunday bulletins.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

A fun event during the Holiday Season here at Hope Church is the "Hanging of the Greens." Everyone is invited to assist the Flower Committee in decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas. "Hanging of the Greens" will take place after the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service on November 20. Lunch will be served in Friendship Hall — pizza, sandwiches, cold drinks and dessert. Please plan to join us for a really good time!

2011 WORSHIP CALENDAR

September 11 through December 25, 2011

Worship Service times are 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. unless otherwise stated.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 11—Kick-Off Sunday
Sacrament of The Lord's Supper
Chancel Choir

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 2—World Communion
Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 6—Sacrament of The Lord's Supper
(Daylight Saving Time Ends)
Sunday, November 13 – Cornucopia
Sunday, November 20—Christ the King/Reign of Christ



Thursday, November 24—Thanksgiving
Sunday, November 27—1st Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER

Sunday, December 4—2nd Sunday of Advent
Sacrament of The Lord's Supper
Sunday, December 11—3rd Sunday of Advent
Christmas Cantata presented by the Chancel Choir
(Deacons deliver poinsettias)
Sunday, December 18—4th Sunday of Advent
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
Chancel Choir
Dr. McGrath
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Scenes from the Nativity by children and Youth of Hope
Chancel Choir
Dr. McGrath
Saturday, December 24—7 p.m. Christmas Eve
Family Worship of Candlelight, Carols and a
Joyous Celebration of the Birth of Christ
Sacrament of The Lord's Supper
Nativity Tableau
Sunday, December 25—Christmas Day
Christmas Family Worship
One Worship Service –10:30 a.m.
Chancel Choir
Dr. McGrath

From Discord to Harmony From Dissonance to Consonance From Suspension to Resolution

When Dr. McGrath called to tell me that Ada Gribble was retiring as Hope's Director of Music, you could have knocked me over with a feather. I found the news devastating. One of the key reasons we joined Hope Church was the quality of the music program. I can honestly say that I have not sung with a finer church choir or with a better director since my days in college. My respect for Ada's musicianship and spirituality deepened every year. I also know Ada well enough to realize that her decision did not come lightly or easily.

Change can be unsettling and can conjure all sorts of scenarios in one's mind. I envisioned it taking us a year or so to find a successor who could pick up the baton where Ada left it, and who could continue to build on the solid foundation she laid during her 20-plus year tenure at Hope. I imagined individual commitment to the choir flagging and the quality of the music program suffering mightily. I was so troubled that I couldn't sleep. For several days I prayed almost continuously for God's guidance and mercy.

Dr. McGrath, in his wisdom, quickly called a meeting of interested parties where committees formed to honor Ada's service to Hope and to search for a new director. The recognition committee is chaired by Nancy Porter and has set Sunday, September 18 as the date to honor Ada. Please plan to stay after church that day to enjoy light refreshment and entertainment in tribute to Ada. Meanwhile, the search committee got to work and names quickly began to surface. George Arndt, a search committee member, was particularly zealous in making contacts and following through to explore candidates' interest and willingness to serve Hope Church.

Within a matter of days one name kept coming up as the Go-To person for counsel and guidance through the process of finding a successor. One name kept coming up as the best source of information about possible candidates. And when I asked Ada, if it were possible, whom she would pick as her successor, that same name was her immediate answer.

When Dr. McGrath called to tell me that John Anderson was interested in the position of Director of Music at Hope, you could have knocked me over with a feather. His was the name that kept coming up as counselor, guide, go-to source and Ada's would-be successor. God answers prayer!



John Anderson accepted our call to become Director of Music at Hope on a part-time basis. He began work in August. John's full-time job is chairman of the music department at Polk State College here in Winter Haven where he has established an outstanding music program. John is an imminently qualified musician who will build upon Ada's excellent musical legacy. In addition, John's wife, Margie, will be joining him in his ministry with us. Margie is an excellent musician (soprano and pianist) in her own right.

John has deep experience in sacred music and traditional worship. He's led music ministry at First Presbyterian, First Methodist and First Baptist churches in Bartow. For almost 10 years he was conductor and guest talent coordinator for Walt Disney World, where he conducted a 1250-voice Candlelight Cast Choir. He is humble, nurturing, encouraging and deeply spiritual. He invites anyone wishing to sing in the chancel choir to do so; auditions are not necessary. As Dr. Ron Burks, senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Bartow, told me, "*I have often seen John take 'borderline' singers and in short order turn them into soloists. I've seen him lovingly push people to do their very best for the Lord...and always with thanks and praise.*"

John's full-time responsibilities at Polk State College keep him very busy. In his part-time position at Hope, he will oversee all the music programs at Hope. However, his schedule does not permit him to lead the Voices of Hope (the youth choir) or the Bells of Hope. We continue to seek God's guidance in finding directors for these two important elements of music ministry at Hope. Please keep these two issues in your prayers.

Ron Hatley, Chancel Choir President



FELLOWSHIP DINNER
Wednesday, September 14, 6 p.m.

We are beginning our fall season with an “indoor picnic!”

**Dinner menu is hamburgers, hot dogs,
baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, dessert and beverage.**

Program: **Metro Crime Prevention Safety Workshop** by retired law enforcement officers who volunteer their time in order to enhance the safety of our communities.

Learn how to protect yourself against identity theft, purse snatching, fraud, scams and much more!

The picnic is at 6 p.m. in Friendship Hall. Adults pay \$7.50 and children under 18 eat free...but

EVERYONE needs a reservation by noon on Sunday, September 11.

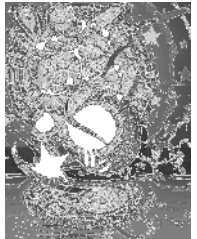
You can make your reservation online anytime, just go to www.hopepreswh.org/dinner.html and click sign up online. Or you can check the Reservations box on Sunday’s pew pad or call the Church Office (324-6382).

If you would like to volunteer to help set up, serve, or clean up at the Fellowship Dinners, please contact Jackie Billo (969-3386).

BAZAAR NEWS AND NOTES

The Holiday-Themed mini-bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, October 8 (8 a.m. till Noon.)
(The regular big annual Bazaar will be held in February)

There have been some really nice holiday items donated already, many BRAND NEW. We have miles and miles of Christmas lights, and yep, they work. Plenty of collectible ornaments...not-too-scary Halloween decorations, and lovely things to decorate your holiday tables.



Please keep Autumn, Halloween, Thanksgiving or Christmas things you’d like to donate separate from your other donations. It would be helpful if we can easily sort Holiday vs. all other items. If you bring stuff packed together, we may miss the holiday items.

As you prepare your donations we request a couple of favors of you, please. If you are bringing fragile items, like sets of dishes, please make an effort to loosely wrap them so they don’t get broken as we transport things.

Small items may be left in the passageway in Friendship Hall known as the Service Area, but anything large or heavy requires a phone call to Nancy Porter (324-4837) to arrange delivery to the church. Please don’t leave things outside.

Reminder: We cannot accept clothing, shoes or toys.

We continue to be able to make donations to worthwhile efforts. Here’s more information about how some of the proceeds from the last Bazaar are being allocated:

- Once again we were able to pay for the carpet cleaning in Friendship Hall.
- Two new Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) were purchased for the church.
- A new programmable sound board for the sanctuary was funded by the bazaar.

Remaining bazaar funds are dedicated to supporting the design and construction of a new sign being planned for the church.

Thanks for your support, Bazaar Committee

Steps to Facility Use Scheduling at Hope

- ◆ Because of our very busy church program, a *Facilities Reservation Request* is needed for every event, activity, or meeting of all groups, both members and friends, who use Hope Church and its facilities. *To prevent scheduling conflicts* and to ensure that each meeting and event is successful, and all of the requirements are met, the *Facilities Reservation Request* must be completed and submitted in a timely manner.
- ◆ Request forms are available on the church website www.hopepreswh.org and in the Church Office.

All new events will need Annual approval by the Administration Committee and/or by the Session.

- ◆ You may wish to e-mail marti@hopepreswh.org or call the Church Office (324-6382) before you complete the Facilities Reservation Request.
- ◆ *Upon receipt of your Request the church Master Calendar will be checked. If there is no conflict with the Location, Date and Time, your event will be scheduled and Marti will contact you to confirm the final details.*

Your continued cooperation is greatly appreciated.

*The Church Office will be closed **Monday, September 5** in observance of **Labor Day**.*

HOPE'S NEW CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY is here! Copies are available in the Church Office or can be mailed upon request. **Thanks to everyone** who helped make it such a success. —Membership Committee



CHURCH REGISTER

DEATHS

Virginia Cheshier, Friday, March 25, 2011.

Dan A. Williams, Tuesday, April 5, 2011.

Eugene Cranmer, (David Cranmer's father), Thursday, April 7, 2011 in New York.

David Cranmer, (Marge and Al Fairbairn's son-in-law), Friday, April 8, 2011 in Sayre, PA.

Dick Tolbert, (Elizabeth Tolbert's husband), Tuesday, April 12, 2011.

Buford Price, (Doris Price's husband) Sunday, May 1, 2011.

Si Hughes, (Pam Moeller's father and Justin's grandfather), Friday, May 6, 2011.

Adrienne Altman, (Heath Altman's wife, Madeleine and Avery's mother), Tuesday, May 24, 2011.

Shirley Crawford, (Greg Dill's aunt), Thursday, May 28, 2011 in Lakeland.

Ron Sullivan, (Carolyn Sullivan's husband), Monday, May 30, 2011.

Elizabeth Wells, (Laura Wells-Dawning's mother), Wednesday, June 1, 2011.

James F. Hubbard, (Rick Hubbard's father), Saturday, June 4, 2011.

Joan Mowery, (Jan Carmichael's sister, David Carmichael's aunt), Monday, June 13, 2011.

Herbert Cook, (Peter Cook's father), Friday, June 24, 2011.

Bob Carter, (Dot Carter's husband), Monday, June 27, 2011.

Edward Gulis, (Gail Knippenberg's father), July 3, 2011 in Ohio.

Bruce Bower, Monday, July 11, 2011 in Tennessee.

Rosemary Rouse, (Shirley Hester's sister, Pam Zinsmeister's aunt), Thursday, July 21, 2011.

Jim Gamble, (Louise McMaster's brother), Friday, July 22, 2011.

Ruby Carnes, Saturday, July 23, 2011.

Judith Winjum, Monday, August 1, 2011.

Bertha T. Causey, (Phillip Causey's mother), Saturday, August 6, 2011.

Donna Hamill, Friday, August 19, 2011

MARRIAGE

Kim Maxwell and Adam Bass on Saturday, July 30, 2011.

BAPTISM

Abigail Elizabeth Carter, daughter of Gary Oren Ellingson and Lisa Ann McNatt-Ellingson on Sunday, May 22, 2011.

IN MEMORY OF—IN HONOR OF

GIFTS

MEMORIAL GIFTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED:

In Memory of Donna Hamill by Lowell and Cheryl Croskey.

In Memory of Ed Huber by Michael and Rosalia Borsenik, Florence Lance, Big Lots Region One Team and Dewayne Tanner.

In Memory of Josh McVay by Clifford and Penny McVay.

In Memory of Buford Price by Bill and Jean Adams, Don and Janet Combee, CLW Real Estate Services Group, Ian Ajac and Marjorie Daniel, Dave Ellis, Cornelia Furse, Eleanor Henderson, Carolyn L. Hyde and Ray Moore, Nell Parker, James and Linda Quisenberry, Bob and Judi Randolph, Isabel Rumbold, Don and Ann Wainscott.

In Memory of Bill Ragatz by John and Sally Lackner.

In Memory of Ron Sullivan by Bernice and Fletcher Brown, Jim and Linda Eubanks, Judith and John Hanson, Don and Ann Wainscott.

MEMORIAL GIFTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FOR:

GARDENS OF HOPE:

In Memory of Bob Carter by Bill and Jean Adams, Fletcher and Bernice Brown, George and Mary Lou Brown, Carter Associates, Marvin and Ruth Carter, Don and Janet Combee, Eleanor Henderson, Richard and Jeanie Madaus, Jim and Donna Phillips, Lila Ptak, Robert and Judi Randolph, Paul and Sylvia Thompson, Transylvania County Library Staff, Anna Yount, Norman and Pat Warren, Richard and Catherine Webb, T. Adair and Harriett Wheaton, the Wheeler Family, William and Judith Zebley.

In Memory of Jennie and Robert Carter by Ginny and Harold Watters.

SACRISTY FUND:

In Memory of James Gamble by Louise and Barry McMaster.

MUSIC FUND:

In Memory of Trude Harris by Robert "Ed" Harris.

BILL HOOVER HANDBELL FUND:

In Memory of Si Hughes by Don and Ann Wainscott.

A GIFT HAS BEEN RECEIVED from Robert W. Drago **IN HONOR OF** his mother, Marge Drago.

A PRAYER FOR THE GARDENS OF HOPE

Father, may those who visit our gardens
find a peaceful and prayerful refuge.
They may arrive in need of comfort or courage,
or to spend time in praise and joy;
or just to relax in prayerful meditation.

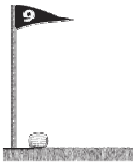
May their spirits be nourished by Your Presence
in the Garden: by the music of the chimes,
the rustling of leaves, the sighing of the pines;
by birdsong and the sighting of a colorful butterfly.

And when our visitors leave
may they go in peace,
refreshed by Your Love.
Amen.



FROM THE DEACONS' DESK...

GOLF TOURNAMENT

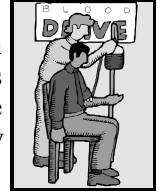


WHAT?	2011 GOLF TOURNAMENT
WHEN?	Saturday, October 15, 2011 Tee-time is at 8:30 a.m.
WHERE?	Willowbrook Golf Course
WHY?	To support community missions while having fun, fellowship and great food (Swamp Boys BBQ). To have a chance to win great prizes! To have a great day!

Those who participated in last year's event know what a wonderful day and experience it was! We hope you will plan to join us again this year. The registration fee is still just \$55 (lunch included). If you are unable to attend you may want to consider donating a hole sponsorship or perhaps your business would like to be a sponsor. Sponsorships are available for \$50, \$75, and \$100. If you have any questions, need registration forms or more information regarding sponsorships, please contact a deacon. Hope to see all you golfers (invite your golfer friends) on October 15!

THE MID-FLORIDA BLOODMOBILE

Ten (10) units were collected at our last blood drive making the total units collected for Hope Presbyterian Church at 757 units. This is a lot! Please take advantage of this or if you know someone who can use these credits let us know. Next bloodmobile date for Hope Church will be Sunday, October 16 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Please make this precious donation. **A photo ID is required at the time of donation.** Thanks to all who have given generously to this worthy resource!



HELP REQUESTED—HELP RECEIVED—HELP STILL NEEDED!!

At times this summer it has been especially difficult for us to fulfill our usual complement of deacons to usher each Sunday. Due to vacations, illnesses and some prolonged periods of absence, we have had to call on former deacons to help us with this. Many Elders have also assisted us with this duty. We are grateful for this support and I, as moderator, and Cindy Chelius, as Sunday coordinator, want to extend a heartfelt thanks to each of you who has been willing to help us with this most important service. **THANK YOU ALL!**

YOUR HELP TO THE COMMUNITY



We continue to be blessed with generous donations to the Deacons' Fund and have been able to make over \$2000 in donations to the following charities—Lighthouse Ministries, Salvation Army, The Farmworker Center in Auburndale and a local Hope Creative School family. We also sent a small donation of \$100 to Take Them A-Meal.com, the meals program available for our use when helping out with meal delivery scheduling to people in need. Thanks to all for this outpouring of love for those in our community. Family Emergency Services has also received several grocery carts of food items through your generosity.

Marsha Long, Moderator

HOPE CHURCH SIGN IDENTIFICATION PROJECT

Several months ago the Session gave approval for a small group of interested members to investigate the feasibility of replacing the church sign at the corner of Cypress Gardens Boulevard and Duval Road. The folks on this committee are: Heather Lee-Blackwell, Don Combee, Molly Griner, Ron Hatley, Nancy Porter and Mike Summers. The committee meets once a month and has met four times as of August 2011. The first hurdle was to determine if we could replace the existing sign without having to go to Polk County for a variance...which can be a long, drawn-out ordeal. Well, we have overcome that possible obstacle and now know that a new sign would be okay with Polk County.

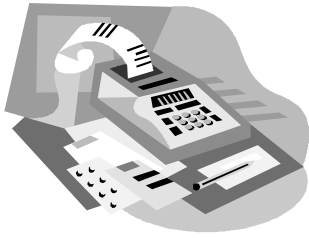
There are three main areas where the committee is focusing its attention:

1. The proper location of the sign where it can be seen the best from Cypress Gardens Boulevard.
2. The size and design of the sign and the area immediately around it.
3. The cost.



The congregation will be kept updated periodically as more information is available. No final decision will be made without the approval of the Session and no monies will be spent until such approval. You may at this point be asking, "How can the Church afford to pay for a new sign?" First, we have commitments from the Presbyterian Women (Bazaar) and the Men of Hope together to pay for what we hope will be a minimum of half the cost. Second, if the Perkins "Dine to Donate" Program continues to be successful perhaps some of these funds could be used. Third, if the church finances improve, we could perhaps squeeze out a small contribution to the sign. Fourth, maybe a fundraiser of some sort run by the Presbyterian Women and Men of Hope. And finally, we are hopeful that perhaps some members and/or friends of Hope Presbyterian Church would make voluntary contributions once the sign is approved. This project will take time, but be assured the committee will keep you advised of its progress.

2011 FINANCIAL UPDATE



Here we are in the second half of 2011. Seven months already under our belt!! Before going forward lets take a minute to look at the past. In 2009 the Session approved a budget with a deficit of \$99,000. To get through the year we had a supplemental giving campaign "Together We Can". Thanks to your support we made it through the year. In 2010 the Session approved a Budget with a deficit of \$94,000. Thanks to your support, thanks to some special gifts, and thanks to a serious effort to find ways to reduce operating overhead, we made it through 2010 without a supplemental giving program. In 2011 the Session approved a budget with a \$49,000 deficit—a much improved picture!

We will have to use some of the special gifts to make ends meet in 2011. But the really good news is that for the first seven months of the year we have not had to use special gift reserve funds, and with 100% certainty we will NOT have a supplemental giving program!! By finding more expense savings, combined with your support of Hope Church and possibly using a small amount from reserves, we will get through 2011.

God has been good to Hope Church. We need your continued prayers as we prepare to put together a budget for 2012. Pray for God's guidance as we each individually decide what level of support we can continue to give to Hope Church. Pray too that God will guide the Session and the committee moderators as we continue to look for ways to reduce expenditures and improve operating efficiencies.

While 2011 is not yet finished, your continued support is very much appreciated. It has been and will continue to be a good year at Hope Presbyterian Church. God Bless Hope Church and God Bless you !!

STEWARDSHIP November 6, 2011

November 6, 2011.... Still a ways off.....but with time going by so quickly, it will be here sooner than we think.

November 6, 2011.... Daylight Savings Time Ends!!

November 6, 2011.... Communion Sunday at Hope!!

November 6, 2011.... Stewardship Sunday among Presbyterian Churches

It is because November 6 is Stewardship Sunday that I am writing this brief article. In September we begin preliminary planning for our 2012 Operating Budget. In October a preliminary 2012 Operating Budget will be presented to the Session. In November/December the Session will approve a Final Operating Budget for 2012.

During 2011 we continued to look for areas of saving in the expense structure of the church....and we will continue doing so again in 2012.

At the end of seven months in 2011 (when I am writing this article) I am extremely pleased to say that giving by members and friends of Hope has exceeded budget expectation. A special thank you to all. And praise God for his continued Blessings to Hope Presbyterian Church.

On Stewardship Sunday, I will give you the latest brief financial update. We will also collect 2012 pledges at both services. So at this time please give prayerful consideration to what you can continue to give for the remainder of 2011 and also what you can give in 2012.

Pledging is not a requirement at Hope Church. What does it do?...it is a tremendous help to us in projecting the revenue side of the Operating Budget.

We look forward to seeing you on Stewardship Sunday, November 6. Until then may God continue to Bless you and to Bless the work of Hope Presbyterian Church.

—Don Combee, Moderator
Finance Committee of the Session

WOMEN OF HOPE

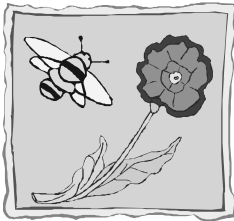
CIRCLE OF FRIENDS—6 p.m.—first Monday of each month in various restaurants or homes. Contact Jeanie Madaus (326-6056) or Ann Wainscott (439-2737).

MORNING GLORIES—10 a.m.—first Tuesday of each month in Church Parlor. They will begin studying “*Lost Women of the Bible: The Women We Thought We Knew*” by Carolyn Custis James. Contact Nancy Reddout (318-9868) or Nancy Porter (324-4837).

GIRLFRIENDS—9 a.m.—second Wednesday of each month in Room 234. This circle is tailored for young moms and career women. Contact Cyndi Bloom (875-3129).



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN HELP SHOPS 2011 BEE BLESSED, BEE A BLESSING



Thursday, September 22, 2011, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

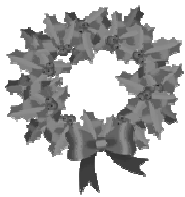
First Presbyterian Church
637 6th Street NW
Winter Haven, Florida

Fee is \$8 per person and includes a luncheon and all materials.

There will be sign-up sheets at the September Circle meetings.

Or call: Nancy Porter (324-4837), Cyndi Bloom (875-3129), Patrice Hatley (318-1838).

A Bible Study session will be followed by two additional sessions from the following choices: Mission Projects, Fabulous Fund Raising, IT may BEE for Me (to improve computer skills), Moderators, Circle Leaders, Treasurers, Secretaries and Historians, Spiritual Life, Mission Interpretation and Crafting Together. Lunch will be served at 12:15 p.m. *All Presbyterian Women are invited to attend.* Please register by September 16, 2011. Thank you!
Donna Phillips, Moderator



GIRLS AND WOMEN OF HOPE—

Come join us for our annual

CHRISTMAS TEA

Saturday, December 3

from 2 to 4 p.m. in Friendship Hall.

This year our theme is:

“The Twelve Days of Christmas.”

Don't miss this wonderful annual event.

Watch the bulletin for updates!

WILLOWS OF HOPE

The Willows of Hope welcome widows of all ages, whether you lost your husband this year, 30+ years ago, or any number of years in between. We meet each month on the second Sunday, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. We usually gather in the Sunset Room for a brief meeting and then head out to share lunch together.

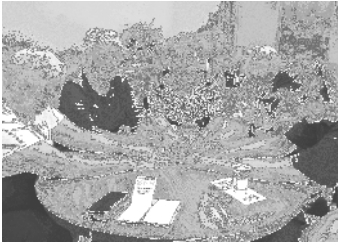


What else do we do as a bunch of widows? We get together for fellowship, we eat out, we go to the theatre...we have FUN! But most importantly, we support each other.

If you are a widow and are interested in joining *The Willows of Hope*, we'd love to have you attend our next meeting on **Sunday, September 11**. We'll be deciding on a number of activities for the upcoming months. Don't miss it!

If you have any questions about The Willows, please contact Ava Vanyo (863-324-3172).

PRAYER GROUP OF HOPE



The Prayer Group of Hope meets every Wednesday at 11 a.m. During this prayer time, we pray for those listed on the published Prayer List (located each week in the Narthex). We also pray for special requests that come to us from other sources, including pew request cards, emails, phone calls and in person.

During our time together we prayerfully remember our Church, our Staff, Elders and Deacons, and volunteers. We also include prayers for Hope's members in alphabetical order, on a continuing basis. To date we are on our 7th rotation, meaning each member of Hope has had a prayer offered on his or her behalf seven times.

Our prayer time embraces prayers of thanksgiving, praise, and confession, as well as intercessory prayer. We invite and receive the presence of the Holy Spirit to lead us as we pray.

All prayer requests are treated with utmost confidentiality and respect. No prayer request is too large or too small to be considered. The Prayer Group welcomes anyone who may wish to join us, even for one time. You may join in praying out loud, or silently.

CREATION CARE

Recycling at Hope

Results from our beginning months of recycling at Hope have shown incredible participation and success. Recycling bins have been placed throughout our buildings, as we've all been learning the process.

In case you've been gone during the summer, we invite you to look around as you return to Hope for these recycling bins. Recycling is EASY! Each recycling bin lists what is recyclable, and all recycling items can be placed directly into the bins, NO SEPARATING NEEDED.

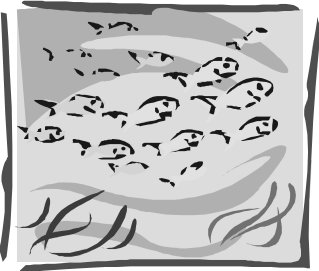
By incorporating a recycling program at Hope, our church is "practicing what we preach" when we say we wish to be better stewards of God's beautiful Creation.



"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."

-Psalm 24:1 NIV

HOPE CHURCH FAMILY MEDICAL NEWS—Carlos Gabriel MD and Bond Clinic are proud to announce the grand opening of The Better Bladder Center, formed to cure bladder problems without using surgery or medicine. If you have any questions, call Terra Arbour at 855-ALL-BETTER (855-255-2388) or visit us at www.BetterBladders.com.



GOLD FISH WITHOUT NAMES

We are sure that everyone who attends Hope Church has observed the beautiful gold fish pond in the Narthex. Today it is home to 12 gold fish and two... , the latter being bottom feeders that help to keep the pond clean.

Normand Fiske and Don Combee, just about every morning, can be seen by the pond feeding the fish. Normand cleans the pump filter once a week and Don cleans the bigger filter every other week.

You may even, on any given day, find Normand and Don standing by the pond talking to the fish. Yes...you read that right...talking to the fish. They have become very close over the years. In fact, recently one of the fish passed away and Normand and Don were found discussing whether they would request a funeral.

Now they have decided it is time to name the fish. There are twelve...so they have been considering naming them after the "months of the year." Now here is the latest...since there are 12, they are considering "the disciples."

Before making a final decision they thought..."Let's see if anyone has any other suggestions." So, here's your chance!!! And you do have to name all twelve!!!

NOTE: Some may be thinking Normand and Don to be a little touched, but they have given their permission for us to print this article.

You may send your gold fish names to: info@hopepreswh.org.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP COFFEES & WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

HELP WANTED!!! HELP NEEDED!!!

Over the years most of us, both members and friends of Hope, have enjoyed Sunday morning coffee fellowship after 8:30 and before 10:30 services. Likewise many have enjoyed the Wednesday evening Fellowship Dinners from September to May of each year.

It is certainly our plan to continue both!!! But to do so we need your cooperation and we need volunteer helpers for both.

SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Coffee, sugar, creamer, etc. are all provided and set up each Sunday morning.

What we need to complete this fellowship experience is volunteer hostesses/hosts. This can be done by one family, two or more families, or any church group or circle. All you need to do is supply some goodies (cookies, donuts, cheese, fruit, juice, etc). You set up outside (or inside) Friendship Hall by 9 a.m. and stay with the table until approximately 10:15 a.m.



It is not a lot of work. It is a lot of fun. And it is a great way to meet other members and friends of Hope.

We'd love to have a more complete Sunday morning coffee fellowship by Kick Off Sunday, September 11. If you want to sign up please use the sign-up book found by the coffee cart each Sunday morning. Or you can call Jackie Billo (969-3386), Al Peach (324-1746), or the Church Office (324-6382).

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNERS



We always enjoy the Fellowship Dinners!!! Great Food!! Great Programs!! Great Christian Fellowship!!

Almost always we have set-up help and servers. But there are many times where we could use clean-up help.

The problems begin when the clock strikes 7 p.m.!! Everyone is gone like a flash of lightning. Once the dinners are complete there is still lots of clean-up to do. The offering baskets must be collected; salt/pepper shakers, sugar packets must be collected; tables must be wiped clean; dishes/utensils washed; garbage must be taken out; kitchen counters and floors cleaned. These responsibilities generally fall on the same 3 or 4 people who find themselves still cleaning up, sometimes as late as 8:30 p.m. If we had 6 to 8 volunteers we could cut the clean-up time dramatically. Can you help?

CONCLUSION

It is safe to say that everyone would like to see the above very popular Hope Fellowship Programs continued. And it is the desire of the Session and the Fellowship Committee to see these Programs continued. To do so we need your help!!!!

If you are willing to help please call or see one the following individuals: Jackie Billo (969-3386); Al Peach (324-1746); call the Church Office (324-6382); or better yet, complete the following and place it in the offering plate on Sunday.

I am willing to volunteer _____ Coffee Fellowships _____ Fellowship Dinners

Please call me. Name _____

Telephone Number _____



Christian Education

Holly Dills-Director of Christian Education



Fall Kick-Off 2011



Sunday Mornings

Nursery infant -age 3 (Room 246) will be available from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Children's Celebration of Hope 4 years - grade 5 (Room 247) can look forward to lots of fun as they start with a snack, sing songs, then a craft. At 10:15 a.m. join their families for worship in the Sanctuary. During the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service children will have the opportunity to go to **Children's Church** where they will continue the lesson for the day.

Busy Bags are available for children to borrow during the Worship Services. Located in the Narthex.

Some Adult classes will also be offered including:

Friendship Hall Adult Church School
This class will continue with informational and interesting video series as well as topical discussions. Meetings in the Friendship Hall at 9:30 a.m. Our newest class is our **Re-Confirmation Class** for Adults in the Church Parlor at 9:30 a.m. Watch the bulletin for dates, times and subjects to be discussed.

Sunrise Center (AKA Children's Library) is ready for business. With school just around the corner and Children's Church in full swing, many hands are needed to keep these programs active. Recently ALL MY BOOKS program was added to the Library computer, allowing *All* of the Library books to be entered for a record of our collection. It is an ongoing process, as loaned books are returned, they are added. The recent total is 2,337 books, videos, etc. They may be found by title or author, and subject headings are being added.

Ava Vanyo was instrumental in acquiring the library program and giving us instruction for entering our collection. Ava also gifted the library with a new computer MOUSE! Hooray! Sherry Summers kept me working to accomplish the whole job! THANKS!

Thanks to all those who have remembered the Sunrise Center with gifts of books, service, and loving use of the facility! Please feel free to browse, to have books for your family, children, grandchildren, etc. Our collection has grown through your gifts, from 200 books fifteen years ago, to the recent over 2,000 count! Thanks to ALL!

Ann Wainscott, Sunrise Center

We NEED Yellow Smiley Stickers for our books!



Youth of Hope Grades 6-12. Watch the bulletins, read those text messages and e-mails to keep up with the latest and greatest fun events.

Adult Library continues to receive new and gently used reading material. Please stop by and check us out or just check out a book. (Carol Stasiak, Librarian).

Hope Book Club meets the third Monday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary Sunset Room. Come join us for coffee and snacks in a casual, fun atmosphere. Experience different authors and writing methods. September selection is *A Lantern in Her Hand* by Beth Streeter Aldrich. Everyone is welcome.

Questions, call Christine, 863-585-4218.

If you feel you are being called to lead or assist with our wonderful Christian Education programs, please call Holly or a member of the Christian Education Committee.

Polly Burkhart, Stacy Woodward, Pam Willis, Bill Dawson, Sandy McMaster, Cyndi Bloom, Tom McGrath, and Holly Dills

Youth Of Hope

Save the dates:

September 11 11:30a.m. -1 p.m.
Luncheon and Sunday Sundae

September 25 11:30a.m.-1 p.m.
Luncheon

Watch the bulletins for details regarding dates and times.

Confirmation Class

Are you ready to commit yourselves to learning about God, our church, Presbyterian history, and what your role might possibly be in the church? Then this is the class for you. You just might learn something and have some fun too.

This class is for students
Grade 6 and up.

More information to
come on starting date.

Please contact Holly.



Cedarkirk News

Grand 40th Anniversary Celebration
and Homecoming

September 3, 2011

Visit: www.cedarkirk.org, for
more information

Contact Info:

Holly Dills
Director of Christian Education
324-6382 or
holly@hopepreswh.org

So-long Summer...

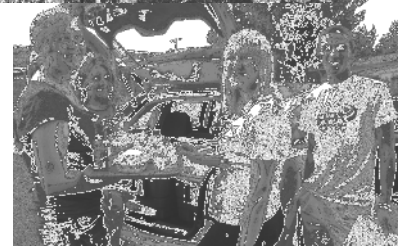
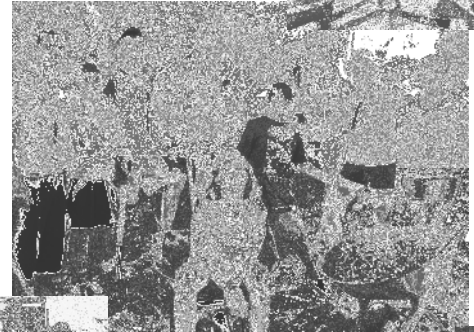
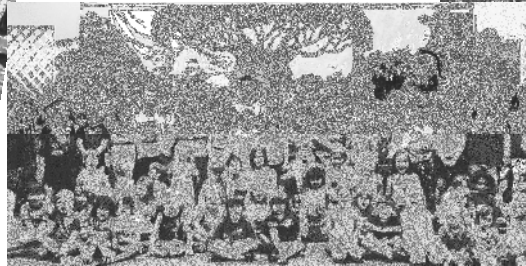
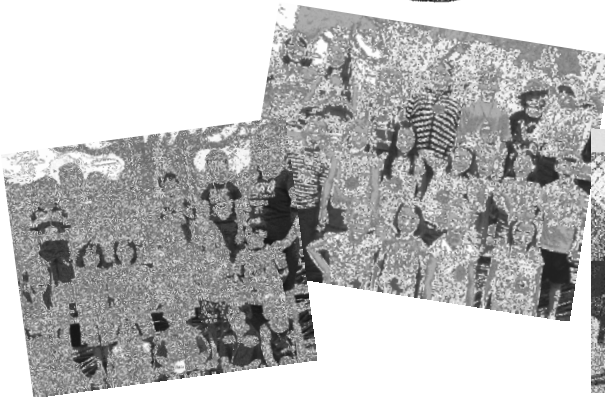
VBS kicked off our Summer fun! Youth of Hope and volunteers helped the little ones make crafts, singing songs, dancing, and rejoicing in the Lord.

A very big thanks to our many volunteers who served with a happy heart and spirit. We had a "BAOBAB" blast!



In July, Youth of Hope worked a Week of Missions serving local community missions, packing lunches for the homeless, delivering with Meals on Wheels, and even shoveled and spread mulch for our own Hope Creative School playground.

Some of the other highlights included a progressive lunch, going to Rainbow Springs, canoeing and kayaking, and some of our youngest members attending summer camp at Cedarkirk.



Hope Creative School News-Fall 2011

Hope Creative School is off to a great start once again. Our new friends were greeted by our Hope Church welcoming committee on the first day of school. There were few criers (mostly moms) as the children settled into their new surroundings. We are well under way to a great new year!

As we move into fall, we are preparing for Community Helper day, Scholastic Book Fair and much more. So mark your calendars.

Holly Dills

- September 5 Labor Day-NO School
- September 19 Teacher Work Day-Student Holiday
- September 30 Community Helper Day
- October 3-7 Scholastic Book Fair
- October 14 Hispanic Heritage Day
- October 24 Teacher Work Day-Student Holiday
- October 31 Halloween Parties
Halloween Parade-9:15
Trunk or Treat-12 p.m.



Meet our Teachers

- Kim Gill-4 year olds
- Yvonne Bates-3 year olds
- Grace Vega-2½ year olds and Spanish
- Stephanie Dean-2 year olds
- Mary Nance-PEP and Music
- Debbie Dekle-MMO
- Tasha Ray-Extended Care
- Teresa Butler-Extended Care/Sub
- Cyndi Bloom-Staff Assistant

Save those Box
Tops and Campbell's
Soup Labels!



Hope Creative School

Holly Dills-Director of Christian Education

Welcome...

Wow! What a great first week at Hope Creative School. Everyone seems to be settling into their new surroundings.

The children have been busy learning about themselves, making apple crafts, and getting to know each other and their teachers.

September is Community Helper Month. On September 30 many of our local Community Helpers will be here to greet the children. More information to come about this very fun and educational day.

All of our special classes are now in full swing. In music, there's a whole lot of singing going on. The children are also getting to

know different kinds of musical instruments.

Mrs. Vega has introduced many of them to colors and numbers in Spanish and they may even come home with a Spanish song or two.

PEP is our Physical Education for Preschoolers. Mrs. Nance has them hopping, jumping, running and playing.

Library is on Thursdays. Our wonderful Librarians, Ann Wainscott and Sherry Summers, are hard at work, making sure everyone gets to read or at least listens to a story.

Scholastic Book Fair will be at the school from October 3 -7. Please plan to stop by. Books will be available for purchase.

Hope Presbyterian Church starts Fall Kick Off on September 11 at 9:30 a.m. with many Sunday Morning Programs. Please check out The Hope-Line (Church Newsletter) for all the latest church news. You are always welcome to join us on Sunday morning. Our Worship Services are offered at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

If you have any questions, please call 324-6377 or e-mail: hopecreative@hopepreswh.org
Peace and blessings,
Holly



August/September 2011

Please Note:

- ☺ Please turn your Hope Creative T-shirt order in by September 9.
- ☺ Please turn in Driver Consent Forms, Volunteer Affidavits, and Field Trip Permission Forms.
- ☺ Tuition is due the 1st of each month.
- ☺ Chapel starts September 7.
- ☺ United Way-Success By 6 Library is open. Ask your teacher for details.
- ☺ Hope Presbyterian Church Fall Kick Off 9/11.

Introducing HCS Staff

Debbie Dekle-Mother's Morning Out

Tasha Ray-Early Morning Arrival/Extended Care

Teresa Butler-Early Morning Arrival/Extended Care

Grace Vega-2½ Year Old Teacher and Spanish

Stephanie Dean-2 Year Old Teacher

Yvonne Bates-3 Year Old Teacher

Kim Gill-4 Year Old Teacher

Cyndi Bloom-Staff Assistant

Mary Nance-PEP and Music

Pam Willis-Bookkeeper

Holly Dills-Director of Christian Education



Calendar

Tuition Due	9/1
Labor Day-No School	9/5
T-Shirt Orders Due	9/9
Teacher Work Day	9/19
Student Holiday	
Community Helper Day	9/30
Scholastic Book Fair	10/3

Published by:

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2110 Cypress Gardens Boulevard
Winter Haven FL 33884-1556
(863) 324-6382

Address Correction Requested



Sunday, September 11

DINE TO DONATE

As you are reading this article we are about to complete one year in the “Dine to Donate” Program at Perkins Restaurant on Cypress Gardens Boulevard in Winter Haven. When dining at Perkins.....breakfast, lunch, dinner....as an individual or group....and you have a “Dine To Donate” coupon (available on the church Narthex tables), Perkins contributes 10% of your bill to Hope Church.



Since its inception Perkins has contributed \$1627 to Hope Church. Some of these funds have been used as follows:

1. Installed two “Welcome - Hope Presbyterian Church” yard signs—one on Duval Road and one on Suwannee Road (along with funds from the Men of Hope and the Presbyterian Women).
2. Helped the Men of Hope with the financing of the improvements around the church flag pole.
3. Helped with the maintenance of the planter between the Sanctuary and Friendship Hall.

When you have the urge to go to breakfast, lunch or dinner—consider Perkins Restaurant, bring a “Dine to Donate” coupon, enjoy a good meal and earn money for Hope Church. Your participation since inception of the program is very much appreciated.

MEN OF HOPE

Who are we?? Men’s Luncheon Group?? Hope Men’s Group?? Well, at our June 2011 luncheon and by a unanimous vote we are now the **Men of Hope**!! Our attendance has been very consistent and we have and will meet through the summer months, meaning we have 12 luncheons a year.

Recently completed was the brick patio area around the church flag pole. If you have not noticed....take a look....we think it looks great!! The Men of Hope are now looking at the possibility of offering to members and friends of Hope the opportunity to have a brick(s) engraved **In Memory Of..., To Honor...,** or just with a name(s). Details are being worked on and will be announced to the congregation sometime in the late fall.

To all Men of Hope.....members and friends.....if you haven’t joined us, why not give it a try. Our monthly luncheons are very informal and we are a very friendly group of guys. We’d love to see some new faces!! We meet at Perkins Restaurant on Cypress Gardens Boulevard in Winter Haven at noon on the last Wednesday of each month.

— Don Combee