

# Word of Hope

*Mount Hope United Methodist Church*



*October 2011*

## ***Pastor McGill Writes: Persistent Prayer is Powerful!***

I am always looking for things that will help each of us live a victorious Christian life. One major way of being victorious is to be successful in our prayer life. I know that many of you are avid readers and are always looking for ways to strengthen your faith and life. This is why I encourage you to purchase Cindy Jacobs' book entitled, *"The Power of Persistent Prayer."* You can order it on amazon.com or at your local Christian bookstore.

I love it when Mrs. Jacobs makes her case for persistent prayer. I am sure you have prayed for someone until you were simply exhausted. You considered quitting. Then she encourages you with "Don't give up! Persistent prayer works and you will see the answer come."

In the section called, "Why Pray?", she reminds you that "prayer ushers in order out of chaos, pulls peace out of confusion and destruction, and brings joy in the midst of sorrow. It takes what satan meant for evil and brings us good."

Her chapter on fasting is an eye-opener! I haven't fasted and prayed for awhile so when Suzanne and I took a Monday to fast and pray, our flesh let us know how much it would have liked it if we would have skipped the chapter. Now, before you jump into fasting, you need to read the chapter, "Check with Your Doctor." Then ask the Holy Spirit to show you how and when to begin. If you are serious about breakthrough in prayer, I believe mixing prayer with fasting is essential. All the great persons of

faith throughout history fasted. John Wesley, our founder of the Methodist church, is a good example. You will be thrilled to see the examples of the move of God in his life that Cindy shares in her book.

Then there is the chapter on "Intergenerational Prayer." You will love this chapter as you discover how to leave a "generational blessing" on the future generations of your family. You will be amazed at what God will do with your prayers for your family members.

Well, by now you can see I really like this book and the nuggets Cindy Jacobs gives in helping all of us to be overcomers through the power of prayer. I can't encourage you enough to buy the book, read and be blessed.

## ***October Blessings***

As you know October ushers in the fall with all of its beauty in God's creation. We here in Pennsylvania have the privilege of experiencing the beauty of the trees changing and displaying what I like to call their real colors. All of us enjoy a ride through the country or mountains to see this display of beauty that God has placed in His creation for our enjoyment.

Another way for you and me to partake of God's goodness is in the celebration of our family

relationship with God through Jesus by participating in the celebration of communion on World Communion Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is one time each year that all believers in Christ united to remember and celebrate our unity in being the family of God. Partaking of the sacrament is a celebration of the beauty of God's active Presence in our lives.

Then another opportunity to celebrate the beauty of this fall season is for the Church family to

gather in praise and thanksgiving for 204 years of being a witness for Christ to this community on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Anniversary Sunday. What an opportunity we have to rejoice together in the beauty of God's Presence as we together remember with thankfulness the call of God on us as the Mount Hope Church family to continue to be a light set on a hill calling others to Christ.

*Pastor McGill*

## Music Ministry

### **Christmas Cantata**

*We who have run for our very lives to God have every reason to grab the promised hope with both hands and never let go.* Hebrews 6:18

Have you ever felt hopeless?  
Ever been consumed by despair?  
Ever wondered how you could

possibly go on? This is a message for you, a message of HOPE. This year's Christmas Cantata is entitled "Hope is Born: *Emmanuel*". Would you like to help us share this message of hope to the congregation? Rehearsals for the cantata will start on Thursday,

October 6 at 7 pm in the choir room. We would LOVE to have you join us! The Christmas Cantata will be presented on Sunday, December 18. Any questions, please ask a choir member or Sharon Kope. We look forward to seeing you!

### **How Sweet the Sound Children's Choir**

Can you hear the sweet sounds of children's voices singing? Then you must be thinking about the "How Sweet the Sound" children's choir that will be starting up on Sunday, October

2nd. We will be meeting at 8:45 a.m. in Room 103 on the first floor.

If you have a child who loves to sing and make a joyful noise, then this is the group for them: ages 5 – 12.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 610.494.3359 or [dkelly@nemours.org](mailto:dkelly@nemours.org).

I look forward to sharing music with your child! Donna Kelly

## Education

### **Operation Christmas Child**

Bring the joy of Christmas to a child by taking part in Operation Christmas Child. Demonstrate God's love by filling a shoe box with toys, school supplies and other items

designated for a child who has suffered because of war, natural disaster, poverty, illness or neglect.

Copies of the instructions how to properly fill the shoeboxes are

available in the Narthex and in the Sanctuary on the literature table.

Filled boxes need to be dropped off at the church by November 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Bible Studies Resuming**

**ARK Bible Study:** First and third Monday through May; 7:15 p.m. at the Owsleys

**SELAH Bible Study:** First and third Monday at 7:30 p.m. Contact Debra DePrinzio for the location.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP:** second and fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Lounge.

**FUZZIE SLIPPERS GIRLS BIBLE STUDY:** Second and

fourth Monday, beginning Oct. 10th at 7:30 p.m. in the SrHi Youth Room

**KELLI GIRLS:** First and third Tuesday, beginning October 4th at 7:00 p.m., SrHi Youth Rm 6

**20's BIBLE STUDY:** second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Halls

**CIRCLE OF FRIENDS:** Third Tuesday of each month; 7:00 p.m.

in Room 104. "Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God" by Francis Chan.

**MUDDY BOOTS BOYS BIBLE STUDY:** Every Wednesday, beginning October 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the SrHi Youth Room 6

**LADIES BIBLE STUDY:** Every Thursday in the Lounge at 1:00 p.m.

### **Mount Hope Children's Center**

Our October Bible Verse: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Genesis 1:1

We had an exciting start in September. This month is Fire Prevention Month and Aston-Beechwood will be visiting us with a new program including "props". They are scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. The program will be in

Habbersett Hall, with a real fire drill first.

The children will take the trip to Ramsey's Farm again this year. At the end of the month we will be taking our class pictures, having teddy bear picnics and harvest celebrations. We began our study of the Fruit of the Spirit with "Love" in September and will be learning about

"Joy" in October. October's chapel will be on October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. We've standardized our Chapel time to 9:25 AM, finding this is the best time to have the parents attend. This would be a great time to come up and visit to see what's happening at the Children's Center. Call me for information at 610-558-0442.

Kris Leary, Director

## ***Sunday School News***

### ***Teachers Dedicated***

Thank you so much to all the teachers who have volunteered to staff the Sunday school this year. We so appreciate you!

Lisa O'Neill, Beth Temme,  
Carol Reynolds, Amanda Wallace,

Eileen Bailey, Cindy Sereikis, Joanne Slawter, Laurie Paige, Annette McCoy, Holly Paige, Valerie Burgess, Kris Leary, Pat Donaberger, Karen Mills, Joe Owsley, Howard Adams, Russ Blaskovich, Ellie

Moyer, Barbara Kriebel, Ron Reynolds, Bud Bergeman, Debbie Keiser, Audrey Spitko, Dick Weller, Joanne Bostwick, Liz Anderson, Debra DePrinzio

### ***Sunday School Classes Resumed Regular Schedule***

Open to everyone! Classes for all ages! Every Sunday morning from 9:30 – 10:30.

#### **Children and Youth:**

Toddler Nursery in Rm 102;  
Preschool in Rm 103; Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> grade in Rm 208; 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

in Rm 211; 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade in Rm 214; 6,7,8<sup>th</sup> grades in JrHi Rm (2); 9,10,11,12<sup>th</sup> grades in the SrHi Rm.

**Adult Classes:** Christian Book Club in Rm 104; Co-Weds in the Lounge; Merri-Weds in Rm 113 (to the left of

the Habbersett stage); Pairs & Spares in Fellowship Hall (Rm 3-5); Supporting Sisters in Rm 213; Willing Workers in Rm 106.

### ***Thank You to Summer Teachers***

Please join the Education Committee in saying "Thank You" to those who gave freely of their time during the months of July and August so that our regular teachers could enjoy some time off.

Debbie & John Heilman, Annette & Patrick McCoy, Norris Shier, Justine & Julianne McAbee, Pastor Ealy, Linda & Russ Blaskovich, Amy Messick, Janine Wiciak

"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some

evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Ephesians 4: 11 & 12

### ***Men's Retreat***

The annual Men's Retreat is scheduled for Friday September 30th thru Sunday October 2nd, 2011, at America's Keswick, Whiting, NJ. This year's retreat topic is "Love & Relationships as Men" featuring speaker John Spadafora.

Who can come? Men and boys 10 years and up. The sponsor of the retreat is the Delaware County Men's Fellowship, a consortium of Delaware County Christian churches that gather together once a year at the beautiful Keswick conference grounds. This setting provides an exciting opportunity for fellowship,

music, good food, excellent teaching, discussion and a time of challenge and encouragement for all who attend. In addition to our group discussion and instruction, there's time for swimming, volleyball, Softball, basketball, ping-pong, and an exercise room. Outside activities include canoeing, tennis, horseshoes, nature trails, miniature golf and a golf course nearby.

The cost of \$126 per person will be defrayed by our fundraisers: instead, cost will be about \$65 which includes lodging and all meals from Friday night thru Sunday morning.

For those that can't commit to the entire weekend, join us for all day Saturday at a cost of \$45. This cost will include all Saturday meals and available facilities. Don't miss out on this great event!!

For information and registration contact Chris Bergeman 610-485-7117. You may also go to the Delaware County Mens Fellowship website at <http://www.dcmensfellowship.org> to receive more information regarding this great weekend of learning and fellowship.

### ***Ministry Fair***

Sunday, October 2, 2011 Mount Hope will be hosting a Ministry Fair from 9:30—12:30 in Habbersett Hall. It has been 5 years since we last displayed the various ministries of the church in this way. It is an opportunity to browse through

Habbersett Hall in between the services and check out all that God is doing here at Mount Hope. If you are not presently involved in a ministry, it is also an occasion to ask God in what area(s) He would like you to serve Him. In addition to the

Ministry Fair, the Sunday School will be holding an Open House. Feel free to sit in on any of the classes and see what each class is presently studying. If you haven't already, consider joining in. Pastor Ealy

## ***Approval To Drive Vans***

Often the Transportation Committee receives last minute requests to use the vans for various events. In order not to delay your trip or to ask the Committee to waive the requirement, we want you to be aware of the pre-planning you need to consider to drive the vans.

Our requirements and standards in order to qualify to drive the Mount Hope vans have been taken from the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference's guidelines titled "Safe Sanctuaries for the Reduction of Child Abuse."

In order to drive the church-owned vans, you must be at least 25 years of age and have a current driver's license. You must also have a current Criminal Record Background Check and a current Child Abuse History Clearance free of any record of such offense. Photo copies of your license, the Background Check and the Clearance must be on file in the Church office.

New background checks and clearances must be obtained every three years. Mount Hope Church will

pay for the clearances required to be in ministry with children and youth. Forms are available in the church office, or may be filed online.

After you have provided the above documentation, contact the Transportation Committee. A member of the committee will take you out for a practice driving session.

Questions? Please call Dave Lee, Chair (610.494.1771) or Jack Mitch (610.872.2013).

## ***Angel Food Ministry on Hold***

Unfortunately the Angel Food Ministry has had to suspend operations – we hope temporarily – due to increased food and

transportation costs. At this time, Angel Food has been unable to find suppliers of quality foodstuffs to continue to provide food at

sufficiently reduced costs to make their ministry viable.

## ***Congratulations to New District Superintendent***

We welcome the Reverend Thomas C. Haugh as our new Superintendent of the Southeast

District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. Rev. Haugh's installation was celebrated on

Sunday, September 25, 2011 at St. Daniels United Methodist Church, Chester PA.

## ***Cindy Babiak Appointed to Ridley Park UMC***

Our former Youth Director, Cindy Babiak, has been appointed as pastor of Ridley Park United Methodist Church. Cindy grew up in the Ridley Township area. She is a registered nurse at Crozer Chester

Medical Center in the maternity department. She has been involved in youth ministry at Mount Hope for the past eleven years and was on staff as Youth Director for the last two years. She is a certified bereavement

counselor who also enjoys family counseling. Cindy sensed her call to pastoral ministry during her work in youth ministry. Cindy has completed the first phase of credentialing toward ordination.

## ***The Bible Talks About Angels***

Our "Heaven Is For Real" Sunday in September was great. We learned of Colton Burpo's visit to the heavenly realm. The Bible has much to say about angels. Here are a few scriptures:

*He (Jacob) had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.* Genesis 28:12

*For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways ...* Psalm 91: 11.

*Praise the LORD, you His angels, you mighty ones who do His bidding, who obey His word.* Psalm 103: 20

*See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.* Matthew 18:10

*This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ...* Matthew 13:49

*And He will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.* Matthew 24:31

### ***Musts for Your Reading List!***

I highly encourage you to read the following books. You will be amazed at the impact they will have on your life. Your walk with Christ will change, your understanding of the LOVE of God the Father for you will be transformed, and your life lived by the empowering Holy Spirit within you will amaze you!  
“*The Power of Persistent Prayer*” by  
Cindy Jacobs

“*Satan’s Dirty Little Secret*” by  
Steve Foss

“*The Autobiography of George Muller*”

“*When Heaven Invades Earth*” by  
Bill Johnson

“*Release the Power of Jesus*” by Bill  
Johnson

“*The Supernatural Power of a Transformed Mind*” by Bill  
Johnson

“*Who Stole My Church*” by Gordon  
MacDonald

All these titles are now available in the Mount Hope library; stop by the Word Wagon. To purchase your own copies, [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) appears to have the best prices.

Pastor McGill

***Please forgive our “No-Frills” appearance due to a recalcitrant computer program!***

***Red Cross Bloodmobile - Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>  
1:30 – 7 pm in Habbersett Hall***

***204<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sunday***

Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>:

Our annual celebration always includes plaques for our newest 50-year members. This year we'll honor David Lee, Sr. and Thomas Lord.

We'll also have certificates for the latest 25-year members, a rose for every member of 50 and more years, and a carnation for everyone who has been a member 25 – 49 years. We so

appreciate your love of God and faithfulness to the Lord's ministry carried out by Mount Hope Church.

***Preparation for All Saints Sunday***

Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>

We again this year will give honor to our members who have gone on into the Lord's Presence since this time last year. If your loved one had united with Mount Hope Church in

full membership, we would like to include their picture in a powerpoint presentation shown that day. Either email your digital photo to office@mthope.org, or bring your photo/portrait to the church and place

it in Donna Kelly's mail slot in the Narthex. Donna will scan your photo and return the original to you. Please be sure to clearly identify the individual, and your name, too, so we may be sure to get it back to you.

***Upcoming October Highlights***

***Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>:***

*Aston Community Day. 930  
Worship Band float. Mount  
Hope exhibit.*

***Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>:***

*World Communion. Free blood  
pressure screening.  
Ministry Fair. Sunday  
School open house.*

***Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>:*** *Red  
Cross Bloodmobile, 1:30 –  
7:00 p.m. in Habbersett  
Hall.*

***Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>:*** *204<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary Sunday.*

***Thursday – Sunday,  
October 13 – 16<sup>th</sup>:*** *Emmaus  
Walk for Women*

***Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>:***  
*Baptism*

***Thursday and Friday,  
October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>:***  
*MHCC Fire Awareness  
Programs, 9:00 a.m. in  
Habbersett Hall*

***The Church Family***

***Baptism, September 18:***

*Katherine Irene Barclift,  
born June 6, 2011,  
daughter of Thomas and  
Cecilia Barclift*

***Death, September 1:***

*Elizabeth Alexander*

***Changes of Address:***

*Ashley Marshall  
114 Huntington CIR  
Coatesville PA 19320*

*Erika Ward, 2226 Post ST,  
Jacksonville FL 32204*

*Joanne Johnston,  
742 Goodale DR,  
Aston PA 19014*

*Michael Mack, Unknown*