

Mt. Hope Community Presbyterian Church
Celebrating our life together in Christ!

5th Sunday of Resurrection -- April 27, 2008

**Those who are able, please stand*

THE PEOPLE GATHER...

*If you have a prayer request, fill out a blue card and pass it toward the center aisle.
Also, please sign and pass the Ritual of Friendship pad.*

Welcome/Recognition of Visitors/Special Events Pastor Carmen Cox Harwell

Prelude Min. Aaron Wheeler

Bringing in the Light of Christ Acolytes

Silent Meditation

“For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise...from another quarter...” (Esther 4.14a)

***Call to Worship** Elder Tammy Geibel

L: *“The true Light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him; yet the world did not know Him.*

P: ***He came to what was His own, and His own people did not accept Him.***

All: ***But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of humanity, but of God.” We are all God’s children who have come to worship and praise God! Halleluiah!
Amen!***

***Hymn of Praise** *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”* Page 142

***Invocation**

Elder Geibel

Omnipotent God, we have gathered in this holy space to worship You, confess our sin, sing Your praises, hear Your Word, and respond to Your word. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, make us open to what Your Spirit has to say to us individually, and as Your body. Groom us to look more like Your Son, our Savior, so that we can point others to Christ and bring honor to Your holy name. We ask this in the name of the Christ who taught us to pray to you, saying, “**Our Father...**”
(You may be seated.)

TO CONFESS OUR SIN...

Call to Confession *(Proverbs 28.13)*

Elder Priscilla Boyd

Solomon warns that “*No one who conceals transgressions will prosper, but one who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.*” In silence, let us confess our transgressions and pray for God’s mercy.

Kyrie

“*Give Me a Clean Heart*”

See back of bulletin

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Carmen

Amen!

The Children’s Chat

Elder Williams

(Children ages 4-Grade 2 exit to Children’s Worship. If this is your child’s first time, please accompany them.)

TO HEAR THE WORD...

Hymn of Preparation

“*Here I Am, Lord*”

Page 525

(Please pass your Prayer Request cards toward the center aisle)

New Testament

Acts 1.3-9

Pastor Carmen

Sermon

“**Promises, Promises!**”

Pastor Carmen

***Hymn of Invitation** “God of Grace and God of Glory” Page 420
(You may be seated.)

Prayers of the People Pastor Carmen

TO RESPOND IN GRATITUDE...

Offering Call Elder Priscilla Boyd

Every good and perfect gift comes from God...we have nothing in and of ourselves! If we are grateful, returning a portion of God’s financial blessings to the work of His church is the least we can do. Therefore, prepare to give your gift of tithes and offerings!

Offertory “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies” Chancel Choir

***Doxology** “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow” Page 592

***Prayer of Dedication** Elder Geibel

AND GO FORTH IN PEACE!

***Hymn of Departure** “ Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” Page 482

***Taking the Light of Christ into the World** Acolytes

***Charge & Benediction** Pastor Carmen

***Benediction Response** “ Go With Us, Lord” Page 535

***Postlude** Min. Wheeler

Welcome to Mt. Hope! We are a people united in Christ, challenged and empowered by His Spirit to make a difference in the world!

Your children are loved and welcomed at Mt. Hope! We provide a nursery for infants and toddlers up to age 4. Please ask an usher for directions to the

nursery. Also a cry room is located at the rear of the Sanctuary for your convenience. **Worship kits** are available in the Kids' Korner of the Narthex for children age pre-school through 6th grade. The kits are color-coded: pink is for pre-school and kindergarten; blue is for children in grades 1-3; and white is for children in grades 4-6. Please do not take the kits home, but feel welcome to take any papers with you, and return the kits to the Narthex following worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The "**Young Children in Worship**" story today is *The Sower*, led by Gretchen Hiller and assisted by Laurie and Alaina Napolitana.

Pulpit flowers are given by the Brandon's in honor of Benjamin's 12th birthday; and by Jack and Clare Heidish in honor of their granddaughter, Allyson, who is being baptized today at a Presbyterian Church in Washington County.

Thanks to the Mission Ministry for providing for fellowship time today! Fellowship time for next Sunday will be provided by *Stewardship and Finance Ministry*.

Confirmation Class: Parents, has your child(ren) gone through Confirmation Class at Mt. Hope? If not, please call the office and let us know. The Session will offer a Confirmation Class for those who are interested! Thank you.

Mt. Hope Men's Softball League: Anyone interested in joining the team, call Andy Vitko, 412.795.4937; Joe Racchini, 724.733.4452; John Dick, 412.798.3257 us at the field. League play starts the week of April 28.

Crestfield Camp & Conference Center is hosting three **Retreats for Senior Adults**, facilitated by Rebecca Cole-Turner, Ph.D.: May 6-7 (\$65 per person); July 22-24 (\$125 per person); September 23-24 (\$65 per person)! Come and take a journey of the heart...a pilgrimage along the Celtic Christian spiritual way,

exploring the roots and expressions of this vibrant spirituality. Retreats include worship, inspirational workshops, hymn singing, crafts, hayrides, s'mores, double occupancy lodging in Scott Lodge, and all programming costs and meals. Transportation will be provided from central locations. Please check out the website for more info: www.crestfield.net!

Flower Committee Annual Flower Sale, May 10, 2008, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Order your flowers now or stop at the church on May 10. You may pick up a flyer in the Narthex; someone from the Flower Committee will be in the Narthex to assist you with your order. The **deadline** for pre-orders is May 4. We have the same great plants from Bridges Greenhouse as last year. The proceeds from this flower sale are used to purchase plants, shrubs, mulch, etc. to maintain our church gardens and outdoor areas. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Mt. Hope Women/Child(ren) Banquet sponsored by the Deacons – May 15, 2008. Are you a mom, grandma, aunt, niece, sister, daughter? Every woman is one of these and has a child or children in their life that is special to her by birth, family relationship, neighbor, or friend. (Age does not matter.) Please plan on attending the Mt. Hope Women/Child(ren) Banquet on Thursday, May 15, 2008 – Arrive 6:00 p.m. – Dinner 6:30 p.m. – Entertainment 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Save the date – more information to follow.**

The ***2008 Mt. Hope Desert Classic***, (an annual fund raiser for our youth programs) is ***Monday, June 16th*** at the ***River Forest Country Club***. Tournament fees are \$85 per person or \$340 per foursome. A sit down Steak Dinner will follow the tournament for \$25. We are putting together approximately 10 themed gift baskets (*Race for the Cure; Night at the Movies; Picnic; Pamper Yourself; Car Care; Men's Golf; Wine & Cheese; Games; Chocolate; Tool Box; Gourmet Foods*) to use as prizes and we would like your help by donating a few items to a basket, putting together a complete basket or, if you have other ideas for baskets, we would love to hear your suggestions. Please contact Megan Ochendowski with your ideas and donations: [412-374-8724](tel:412-374-8724) or email: Megan@mrboots.com. Thank you for your support!

The annual Mt. Hope Pirates Game is Thurs., August 14, which is also sky blast night! We have purchased 60 tickets in Section 331, at a cost of \$9.00/each. A tailgate will be planned; details and cost will be given later. If you are interested, see Elder Eric Schramm to reserve your tickets with payment.

We are now recording the church service to CD. If you want a copy of the service, please contact the office. The cost is \$1.50.

The Flower Chart Notebook for 2008 is in the Narthex. The costs are: 1 arrangement - \$15.00; 2 arrangements - \$30.00. You may buy one or two arrangements, or two can share the flower arrangements. May 25 is an open date.

Men and Women Shelters. There is a basket in the Narthex to collect toiletry items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, etc.)!

Penn Hills Service Association. Gas prices are up so food prices are up and donations to the Penn Hills Service Association food bank are down. When you shop for cereal, dry goods, boxed meals, etc., please consider buying one for yourself and one for a needy family. Thank you – the Mission Team.

John and Helen Dick want to thank everyone for their prayers, concerns, and cards during John's operation and recovery. It was greatly appreciated.

The **sympathy** of the congregation is extended to the Bossert family, following the death of Cecelia this past week.

Please call the office with any announcements that you would like placed in the following week(s) bulletins or email **mthope@mthope-church.org** All bulletin information must be in the office **by Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.**

PRAY FOR OUR SICK, SHUT-IN, NURSING HOME MEMBERS

Dorothy Knight Recuperating at home: Please contact the church office
for information

John Dick Recuperating at home: Please contact the church office
for information

Betty Sundin Recuperating at home: Please contact the church office
for information

If you know of persons who are **sick, hospitalized, in a nursing home, or shut-in,**
please call the church office and let us know!

THIS WEEK AT MT. HOPE

Tue.	April 28	6:30p	Session Ministries Meeting	M-P Room
Wed.	April 29	10:00a	The Morning Word Study	M-P Room
		8:00p	NA	JK Hall
Thurs.	May 1	7:00p	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun.	May 4	9:30a	Deacons' Meeting	M-P Room
			Communion	
Wed.	May 7	10:00a	The Morning Word Study	M-P Room
		6:30p	Worship & Music Meeting	Conf. Room
		8:00p	NA	JK Hall
Fri.	May 9	10:00a	Y-Srs.	JK Hall
Sat.	May 10	10a-2p	Flower Sale	M-P Room
Sun.	May 11	11:00a	Pentecost/Mothers' Day Celebration	

Mt. Hope Community Church, Presbyterian, USA
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Rev. Carmen Cox Harwell, Pastor
Mr. Dan Hadzima, Custodian
Mr. Aaron Wheeler, Minister of Music