

Mt. Hope Community Presbyterian Church

*Celebrating our life together in Christ!*

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**Sunday -- August 24, 2008 - 10:00 a.m.**

*\*Those who are able, please stand*

**THE PEOPLE GATHER...**

*Please sign and pass the Ritual of Friendship pad!*

*If you have a prayer request, fill out a blue card and pass it toward the center aisle!*

**Silent Preparation for Worship**

Congregation

**Bringing in the Light of Christ**

Acolytes

**Welcome/Recognition of Visitors/Special Events**

Elder Betty Noah

**\*Call to Worship** (Psalm 105.1-5)

Elder Noah

L: *“O give thanks to the Lord, call on His name, make known His deeds among the peoples.*

**P: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of His wonderful works.**

L: *Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually.*

**All: [We will] remember the wonderful works He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He has uttered,” and we will worship Him in spirit and in truth! Amen!**

**\*Hymn of Praise**

**“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”**

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**\*Invocation**

Elder Noah

For the presence of Your Spirit that has met us in this place, we offer our thanks to You, Great God of the universe. Settle our spirits and focus our minds on You and what Your Spirit has to say to Your church. Let us hear Your words of comfort, encouragement, chastisement, and love, and fit us to

carry the Gospel of Christ out into a world that desperately needs to receive it. By our living, let the world know that You are “**Our Father...**”

*(You may be seated.)*

**TO CONFESS OUR SIN...**

**Call to Confession** (Ezekiel 18.30-32)

Miss Kelsie Nury

“ ‘Therefore I will judge you...all of you according to your ways,’ says the Lord God. ‘Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against Me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone,’ says the Lord God. ‘Turn, then, and live.’” **In silence**, let us turn to God and repent of all our transgressions.

**Kyrie**

**“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior”** (v1&2)

See Insert

**Assurance of Pardon**

Rev. Carolyn Cranston

**The Children’s Chat**

Mrs. Myrna Hiller

*(If this is your child’s first time, please accompany them to the front!)*

**TO PRESENT OUR OFFERINGS WITH GRATITUDE...**

**Offering Call** (Acts 20.35)

Elder Noah

Paul reminds us of his example in giving: “*In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for He Himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’*” Let us follow the Lord’s example and present our tithes, gifts, and offerings!

**Offertory**

**“Scottish Arrangement”**

Mr. Gregory Newby

**\*Doxology**

**“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”** (verse 1)

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**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Miss Nury

**TO HEAR THE WORD...**

***Introduction of Guest Preacher*** Elder Clyde Davis

***Hymn of Preparation***            ***“Amazing Grace”***            Page 280  
(please pass your Prayer Request cards toward the center aisle)

**Hebrew Testament**            **Jeremiah 1.4-16**            Elder Noah

**New Testament**            **2 Corinthians 10.1-11**            Rev. Cranston

***Sermon***            ***“Defending Ministry”***            Rev. Cranston

***A Moment for Reflection***            Min. Aaron Wheeler

***Prayers of the People***            Rev. Cranston

**AND GO FORTH IN PEACE!**

***\*Closing Hymn***            ***“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty “***            Page 482

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

***\*Charge & Benediction***            Rev. Cranston

***\*Postlude***            Min. Wheeler

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**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 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The kits are color-coded: pink-pre-school & kindergarten; blue-grades 1-3; white-grades 4-6. Please do not take the kits home, but return them to the Narthex following worship.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Greeters** this morning are Ruthie Carrick and Kelsie Nury.

**The Flowers** that beautify our Sanctuary this morning are given by Ralph and Priscilla Boyd in celebration of their 46<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Thanks to the Deacons** for providing for fellowship time today! Fellowship Time for next Sunday will be provided by the Session.

**We welcome to the pulpit this morning the Reverend Carolyn Cranston.**

Rev. Cranston is an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). A lifelong resident of Pittsburgh, Carolyn graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a B.S. in Home Economics Education. She earned her M. Div. from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and did a one-year residency for Clinical Pastoral Education at West Penn Hospital. Carolyn serves as the Director of Alumnae/i and Church Relations at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, a position she has held since November 2000. She is Vice-Chair of the Committee on Ministry for Pittsburgh Presbytery and serves on the Conflict Resolution Committee. Carolyn has one adult daughter and three grandchildren.

Shirley Kerchner would like to express her **deep appreciation** for the continued support and encouragement received in the past many weeks.

**Persons celebrating a birthday this week** are Bruce McGinnis on August 25<sup>th</sup>, Kelsie Nury on August 27<sup>th</sup> and Priscilla Boyd on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Please celebrate with them by wishing them a Happy Birthday!

Only one week left to enjoy **Wednesdays on the Lawn**. Please check the insert for this Wednesday's menu and information.

There will be a **Community Meeting** held here at Mt. Hope on August 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p with Penn Hills Police Chief Burton to discuss the recent unrest in our community. Please mark this on your calendar and plan to attend!

It's time to decide on the **Fall Youth Weekend!** Laurelville is the Jr. High weekend and J-Town is the Sr. High weekend. We must send in \$25.00 per person as a deposit to hold the weekend we want. Total cost per person will be \$100.00. Fall weekend dates for Laurelville (Jr. High) are October 31-Novemeber 1; November 7-9 and November 14-16. Fall weekend dates for J-Town (Sr. High) are November 21-23; December 5-7 and December 12-14. **Adult leaders are also needed.** If there are no adult leaders there is no trip! Please contact Barry Irwin for more information or to volunteer as an adult leader. Thank you!

Last year a Pittsburgh missionary group went to Malawi and this year 26 Malawi Presbyterians come from The Synod of Blantyre, Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) to our Pittsburgh Presbytery congregations. They arrive on Friday, September 19. When we travel to Malawi we are always met at the airport by hundreds of joy-filled Malawians. Everyone in our Presbytery is also invited and encouraged to be part of "The Welcome Gathering at the Airport." So many times when Malawians arrive in Pittsburgh we seem to have reasons for not going out to greet them!!! Put it on your calendar now! Be part of a live global mission experience. Plan to meet them at the airport (9:30 a.m. on the Lower Level, by the stairs near Luggage Claim.) Join with other Pittsburgh Presbyterians in greeting our sisters and brothers in Christ. It is an exhilarating time of welcome! If

enough people from Mt. Hope show an interest we will arrange car pooling. Contact Ron and Marie Fowler, Megan Ochendowski or Betty Noah.

**Get Ready! The Morning Word Bible Study Group** will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> from 10-11:30a. All our encouraged and welcome to come! If you are interested in attending an evening study, please contact the office and give Rita your name and the day of the week that would work best for you!

**New Members Classes!** If you are interested in learning about the Presbyterian denomination or would like to become a member of Mt. Hope, please contact the church office immediately! Pastor Carmen will be leading a New Members Class in the very near future, and would like to know how many persons are interested. (Tentative dates: Wed. Sept 10<sup>th</sup> and Wed. Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 or 6:30p). Thank you!

**The Flower Chart Notebook for 2008 is in the Narthex.** The costs are: 1 arrangement - \$15.00; 2 arrangements - \$30.00. One arrangement is needed for August 31<sup>st</sup>, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> and Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>. Two are available for Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>.

**All of our services are recorded** and are available on the Mt Hope Web Site: <http://www.mthopechurch.org/Welcome.html>. Click on *recordings*. If you have questions, please contact Eric Schramm.

**Men's and Women's Shelter:** There is a basket in the Narthex to collect toiletry items! Thank you for your continued support!

**Penn Hills Service Association** is in need of non-perishable items, i.e., cereal, dry goods, boxed meals, etc., Thank you! The Mission Ministry

Please call the office with any **announcements** that you would like placed in the following week(s) bulletins or email them to **[mthope@mthope-church.org](mailto:mthope@mthope-church.org)** .  
**no later than Wednesday at 3:00 p.m.**

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!

**Please pray for, call, or send a card to our sick/shut-in members**

Virginia Ayres, Margie Baur, Irene & Larry Bender, May Bourne, Arlene Davis, Mabel Eibel, Pearl & Jack Frazier, Lois Getkin, Cyndi Head, Dea. Claire Heidish, Shirley Kerchner, Hilda Kerr, Dottie Knight, Robert McKnight, Lou Sanabor, Annabell Scott and Barbara Warren

**\*Recently added**

For more information such as phone numbers or addresses please contact the church office.

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**THIS WEEK AT MT. HOPE**

Wed. Aug. 27 <sup>th</sup>	2-6:30p	Produce/Wed on Lawn	Front Lawn
	6:30p	Bible Study	Front Lawn
	8:00p	Narcotics Anonymous	JK Hall
Sat. Aug. 30 <sup>th</sup>	2:00p	Gamblers Anonymous	JK Hall

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**LOOKING AHEAD**

Wed. Sept. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	6:30p	Worship & Music	Conference Rm.
	8:00p	Narcotics Anonymous	JK Hall
Thur. Sept. 4 <sup>th</sup>	7:00p	Choir	
Sat. Sept. 6 <sup>th</sup>	2:00p	Gamblers Anonymous	JK Hall

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**Mt. Hope Community Presbyterian Church**  
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**email: [mthope@mthope-church.org](mailto:mthope@mthope-church.org) website: [mthopechurch.org](http://mthopechurch.org)**  
**Rev. Carmen Cox Harwell, Pastor**  
**Mrs. Rita Hardin, Administrative Assistant**  
**Mr. Dan Hadzima, Custodian**  
**Mr. Aaron Wheeler, Minister of Music**

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