

GOOD HOPE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH PROFILE

Good Hope Presbyterian Church strives to be a Christ-centered community, loving God and loving people. We are a small, thriving church located in Fulton, Maryland, where God has been at work since its planting more than 30 years ago. Many of our members came to Good Hope because of the warm, welcoming atmosphere, the central focus on Christ in our worship, the unity we find in Christ, and the strong ministries for children, youth, and families of all ages.



God has shaped the character of our congregation in distinctive ways, helping us serve Him, each other, and our community:

- We love to serve together; most of our ministries are led by lay people and are staffed by volunteers throughout the congregation.
- We love to study the Word and dig deeply into its meaning for our lives, and God has equipped many in our congregation to be gifted teachers and disciplers of others.
- We are multi-generational, with each generation mentoring and discipling the next to grow in the Lord.
- Our worship, although traditional and liturgical, is joyous; we love to sing and worship God together, and to draw on the talents of people throughout the congregation.

OUR VISION

Our vision statement – that Good Hope strives to be a Christ-centered community, loving God and loving people – captures much of who we are and who we long to be:



Christ-Centered

The central and supreme figure at Good Hope is our Lord Jesus Christ whom we worship as Lord and Savior. We praise Him for His sacrificial death on our behalf, for His gifts distributed through and by His Holy Spirit, and for building His church through His Gospel of grace.



Community

We celebrate the work Christ has done to bring us into community, with Himself and with each other. Good Hope is made up of committed people from different backgrounds who join as one to worship and serve God. We seek to continue to grow in diversity and value one another's views and gifts.



Loving God

We desire to obey the first and greatest commandment by loving God with our hearts, our souls, and our minds, and we recognize that the fruit of this obedience will be evident in our thoughts, attitudes, and actions.



Loving People

Our hearts are open to others with whom we strive to share the warmth of His grace. Good Hope seeks to reach out to the local community and has a giving and active heart for world missions. Inside our church we enthusiastically welcome newcomers and serve each other by meeting needs in our physical and spiritual lives.

OUR HISTORY

Good Hope, formerly Wallace North, was a satellite work of Wallace Presbyterian Church. It particularized on November 22, 1992, and adopted its present name. Jack Waller arrived five weeks later as the first pastor of Good Hope. After meeting in schools for 13 years, Good Hope moved into its current building on a ten acre property in Fulton, Maryland, in 2006. The original dwelling on the property was lovingly renovated into the church building by numerous members.

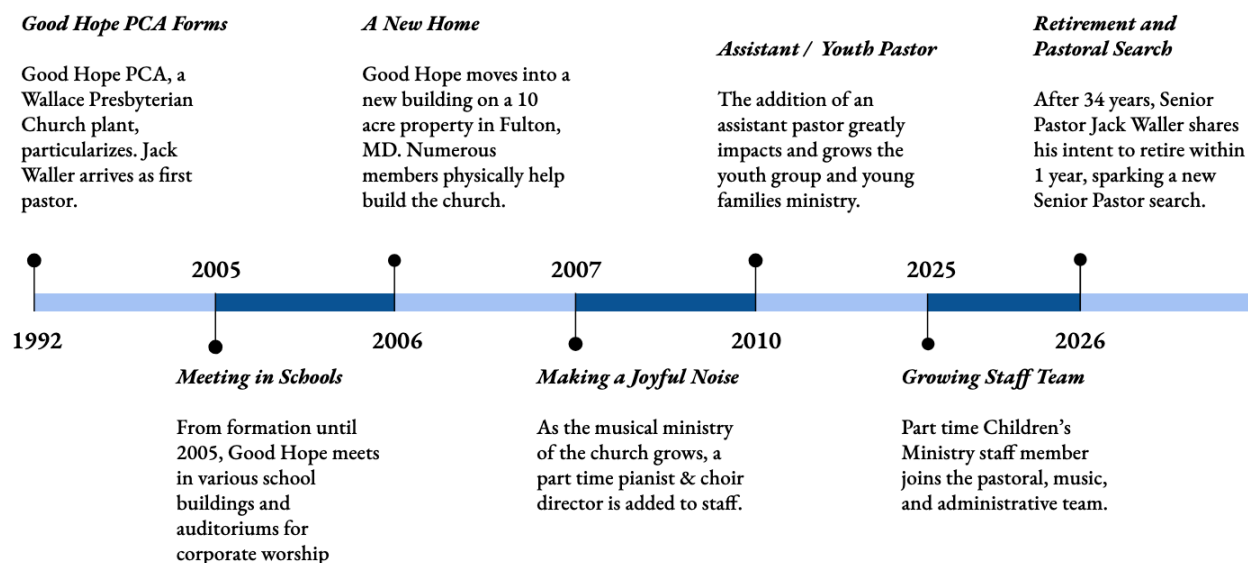


As the church has grown, Good Hope has increased its staff to support the ministries of the church, although the focus of the church has been on mobilizing the congregation to serve together. The church first added a part time administrative assistant position and then, in 2007, hired a part-time music director, who primarily played piano for worship and directed the choir. In 2010, Good Hope hired a full-time assistant pastor who focused on youth and children's ministries, leading to growth and expansion in these ministries and his eventual

promotion to associate pastor. In 2024, after our associate pastor left to become a senior pastor, Good Hope hired a new assistant pastor focused on youth ministries, as well as a director of children's ministries.



Today, Good Hope stands at a pivotal point in its history as our founding senior pastor retires following 34 years of faithful service. We have grown numerically and in organizational and spiritual maturity since our founding, and we are excited to see the work God will do in and through us in the years to come.



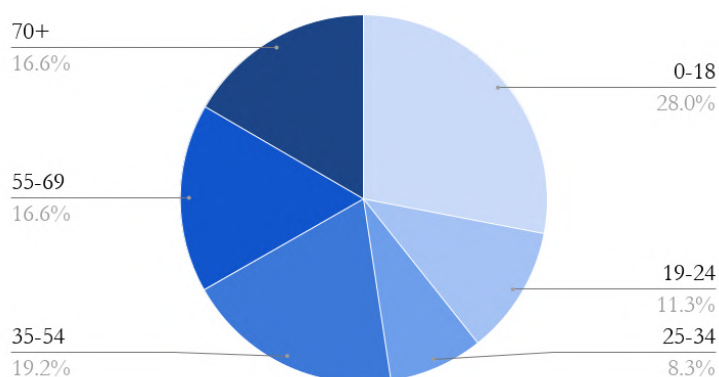
OUR PEOPLE AND OUR COMMUNITY

Good Hope is an active, healthy church that includes mature Christians, a growing number of young couples and families with children, and vibrant youth and children's ministries. Our congregation includes people with a wide range of careers in industry, trades, and government, as well as stay-at-home moms and retirees.

Good Hope By The Numbers

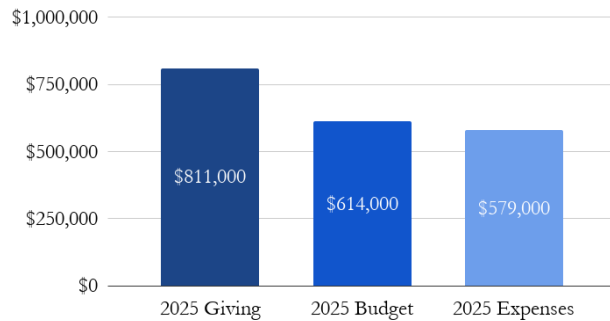
Average Attendance: 155
Communing Members: 177
Families: 60
Active Elders: 9
Deacons: 11
Staff: 5

Age Breakdown of Members

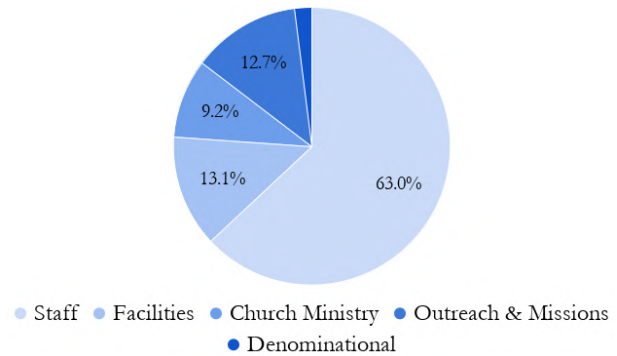


As Good Hope has grown, God has blessed the church in many ways, including financially. Our giving consistently exceeds both our budget and our actual spending, and over 12 percent of our budget is dedicated to outreach and missions. We are debt free and have significant financial reserves available for future ministry expansion.

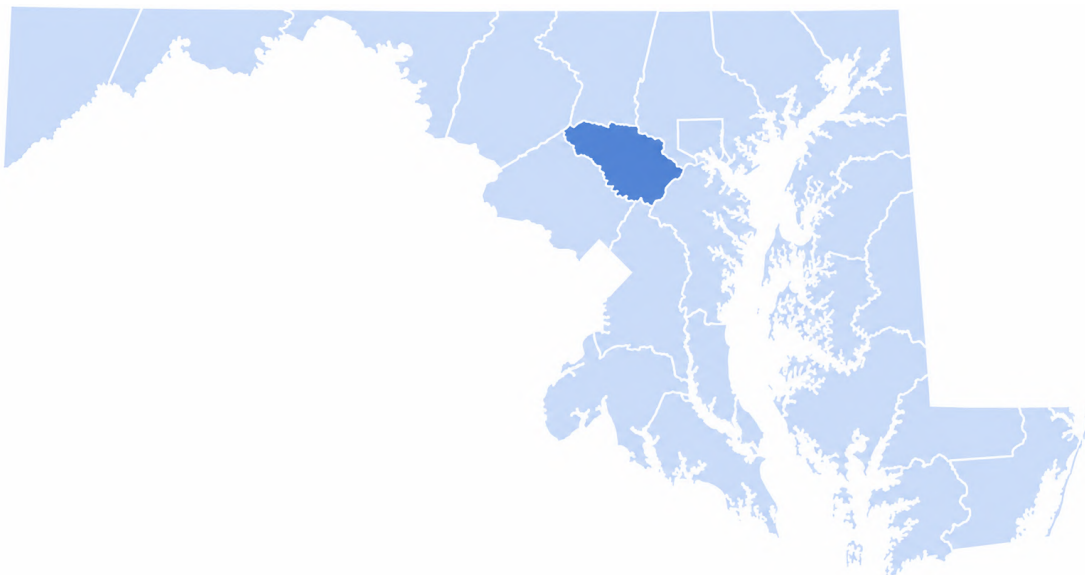
2025 Financial Snapshot



2026 Budget Categories



Good Hope is located in Fulton, Maryland, a rapidly growing community uniquely positioned between Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD, in Howard County. Howard County has a population of approximately 337,000, and with a median household income of \$153,600, it is the wealthiest jurisdiction in Maryland. While a smaller suburb, Fulton has grown dramatically in the last decade due to some large new housing developments, with several more planned to begin in the next few years. Although our congregation is centered in Fulton and Columbia, many of our members live up to 25 minutes away from Good Hope in all directions, due to cost of living and shorter work commutes.



MINISTRY APPROACH

As Good Hope has grown and developed over 30 years, we have come to appreciate the strength of teamwork in ministry and how utilizing diverse gifts increases our ability to impart biblical truths and love unto others.

Our teams are led by Session members and are composed of both men and women members of the church, spreading the work out among the church body, not just falling on the shoulders of a few, and allowing opportunities for our congregation to serve.



Equipping Team

The Equipping Team seeks to equip the congregation of Good Hope to grow and mature in Christ through ministries dedicated to teaching God's Word and discipleship in the Gospel. This team oversees:

- Sunday School for all ages
- Children's Ministry
 - Children's church
 - Christmas Play
 - Vacation Bible School

- Youth Ministry
 - Discipleship teams
 - Weekly youth group meetings
- Small Groups
- Women's and Men's Ministries



Missions Team

This team's focus is to spur the congregation on to devotion to the global cause of spreading the Gospel near and far. Team members each serve as a communication liaison between our missionaries and the congregation. They lead a monthly prayer time to spend specific time praying for our missionaries. Good Hope currently supports 11 missionaries, including both local and international missions. The Missions Team is also responsible for an annual Missions Conference.

Fellowship Team

This team seeks to promote community at Good Hope through church-wide fellowship events and activities, which will nurture and deepen our bonds with each other, planning events such as:

- Fall Bonfire
- Christmas Party
- Talent Show
- Supper for Six



Outreach and Integration Team

The Outreach and Integration Team positions itself to welcome and receive new people into our congregation. Good Hope is known for its hospitality and, while we are a very friendly and welcoming congregation, much of that is also due to the encouragement and action of this team. This team also provides training through its Evangel Group which equips and broadens awareness of ways to share the gospel.

Stewardship Team

This team cares for the physical and financial resources of the church, and to use those resources to bless our congregation and our local community. Composed of an elder, the Chairman of the Diaconate, and a Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, it maintains the stewardship of all finances, as well as the care and use of the physical properties of the church. Through the Diaconate, it distributes funds to those in need and coordinates mercy ministries, such as:

- Thanksgiving Baskets for those in need in our community
- Angel Tree, which provides gifts for children whose parents are incarcerated

Worship Team

The Worship Team oversees the components of weekly worship, as well as seasonal services such as Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday, and Christmas Eve. It seeks to maintain worship that exalts the Lord, reaches the mind and heart, and builds love and devotion to Christ. We strive to have our liturgy, normally planned by the preaching pastor, tie together cohesively to connect to the Scriptural theme of each service. To that end, we review and choose hymns and psalms with theologically rich texts and well-written tunes crafted for congregational and choral singing. Good Hope is a congregation that sings and we desire to help them raise their voices together to the Lord.



OUR FUTURE

Good Hope is a healthy, thriving church that is poised for future growth. As we enter into this time of transition, we are seeking a senior pastor who will work collaboratively with our leadership and congregation to develop and cast vision for our future. As we grow numerically, we need to develop a clear vision for how God is calling us to grow spiritually and organizationally, and to form concrete steps for implementing that vision. God has blessed us with a vibrant, serving, financially-secure congregation, but we also know that God is calling us to a greater witness for Him in our local community and our broader world, that He may be proclaimed and glorified.

