

# Worship center will host financial summit May 5

BY DAVE BENJAMIN  
Staff Writer

JACKSON - The Hope of Glory Worship Center will host a financial summit on May 5 from 9 a.m. to noon. All residents are invited to attend the free event. Registration is required and must be made by April 25. Call the church office at (732) 833-4807 or visit [www.thehopeofglory.org](http://www.thehopeofglory.org).

The financial summit will be held at the Elms Elementary School, 780 Paterson Road. A continental breakfast will be held from 8:15-9 a.m.

"Nothing empowers a person more than the feeling of being in control of their future," said Christopher D. Soleberry, pastor. "In an uncertain world, questions such as how can I save for retirement? how can I plan for a college education for my children? how are we going to survive on Social Security? how valuable is my home? and how can I save with limited resources? provide little confidence in not only acquiring, but maintaining the American dream."

He said these issues are of interest to people raising a family and to people entering their retirement years.

"Leaders in the financial industry are participating in this one-day event and will present their specialties," said Soleberry. "They will also be available to answer questions from residents concerning their financial condition."

A resource table will be available at the conclusion of the seminar. Residents will have the opportunity to make personal connections, which may lead to business opportunities.

"Cooperation for this event has been outstanding," said Soleberry. "Other industry leaders have decided to participate in this seminar freely by providing their firms' expertise at no cost."

The pastor said Merrill Lynch, Wachovia, Ocean County College, Pru-dential Investor, Professional Planning Services, the state of New Jersey and others are coming at no expense to those who attend.

"This outreach is a must for the parent, student, married or elderly couple that has a concern about their future," he said. "They will have personalized instruction from some of the leaders in the financial industry who will help them better manage their money."

A representative of Ocean County College, Toms River, will be available to speak with high school students and their parents about financial aid.

For people who may be unemployed, representatives of the state will discuss the One Stop Career Center, as well as technology in the workplace.

Soleberry said anyone who has asked the question, "How can I save when I barely make enough?" should attend the event.

"Manage your money," he said. "Don't let money manage you."