

Bower Hill Community Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

January
2005

A place to Believe, Belong and Become!



The New Year begins with new possibilities for Bower Hill as we welcome Nadine Wade as our Interim Director of Youth Ministries. Many of you have already met Nadine, or you have at least seen her helping to lead worship on Christmas Eve. Nadine brings a wealth of ideas and a great deal of enthusiasm to the future of our youth program. She intends to begin seminary in the fall, so she will not be with us for long. I know that we will be blessed by her short time with us as we continue to look for a new permanent Director of Youth Ministries. I hope you will find an opportunity to stop by and welcome Nadine. In her note below, you will find her office hours and a little bit of information about her. I know you join me in celebrating her arrival and the gifts she brings to us at Bower Hill. Welcome, Nadine!

--Laurie Sponaule

I come to you excited to join the ministry team at Bower Hill as the new interim Youth Director! Since graduating from Grove City College 4 years ago I've served as Youth Coordinator at Parkwood United Presbyterian church and Director of Christian Education at Wallace Memorial Presbyterian Church. I am involved at the Presbytery as a leader in the Malawi Partnership and Youth Council Ministries. Currently, I'm anxiously awaiting a response from Fuller Theological Seminary in California, as I feel called to begin the Masters of Divinity program in the fall.

THANK YOU for the very warm welcome that you've given me during my first few weeks here at Bower Hill. Already you have helped me to feel very much a part of your church family. I appreciate your gracious patience as I get to know names (thank goodness for the photo directory!) and "learn the ropes" here.

Many dedicated people have shared their gifts and worked so hard to make the Youth Ministry programs as strong as they are...what an excellent foundation we have to build from! I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve beside these folks. I have heard nothing but rave reviews about the middle school and high school students at Bower Hill. What a privilege to spend these next few months getting to know you and growing in our faith together! I come with great expectations in what the Lord has ahead for us during our time together.

I'll be here at the church on Sunday mornings, Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00-6:00, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00-3:00, and for evening meetings and weekend activities. My office is an open door...stop in anytime!!! The hot chocolate is ready and waiting....

Blessings,
Nadine

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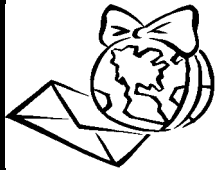
On a Mission:

OFFERINGS OF LETTERS Mission & Outreach Committee

Offerings of letters provide a mechanism for Christian church members to work together to promote God's kingdom on Earth.

The idea of offerings of letters originated with Bread for the World. Bower Hill has conducted many over the past decade on behalf of themes suggested by Bread for the World other themes. The procedure has been to set up writing tables with information and supplies during the refreshment period and ask members to write one or more letters and leave them for mailing by the church. Members were also asked to take the information and write letters from home.

The Mission & Outreach Committee has decided to try an alternate procedure, which might be more effective. Information will be provided to the whole congregation, and members will be asked to write letters at home and bring them to church for collection on a given Sunday. They will then be mailed together by the Church office.



We hope that this procedure will result in a greater participation by our members.

Global Village Update, by Jean Miewald

Habitat for Humanity Global Village currently has trips planned and available to the following countries: Ghana, Madagascar, South Africa, Zambia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Armenia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Brazil, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, and Florida. A 'repeat' trip to Cluj, Romania in early September, led by the same team as the trip I took is also being planned. These trips usually cost around \$1400 plus airfare, but remember that the Margaret McKee Scholarship fund may pay for up to 75% of your costs. Please contact me (Jean Miewald) or check out the web site www.habitat.org/gv for more information about these trips.

LABELS AND BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

Thanks to all of you who are bringing the many Campbell Labels and Box Tops for Education to the church office. We continue to collect them toward another van for the Hopi Christian Mission in Arizona. Please bring the labels and Boxtop\$ for Education to the church office and deposit them in the marked envelope on the counter.

Here's what to save: Front labels from all Campbell's products, Franco-American Gravies, SpagettiOs, AltoZ's & Pasta, Swanson Broths, V8 Juices, Pepperidge Farm Soups, Prego Pasta Sauces, UPC Code from Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls, Stuffing, Cookies, Goldfish Crackers, Snack Mixes, Frozen Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings, Puff pastry and Phyllo Dough, Tyson Project A Labels (entire label), Box Top Coupons marked "General Mills Box Top\$ for Education."

DOING GOD'S WORK-CARRYING OUT OUR MISSION —by Dave Hicks

On the evening of December 15th, the caring, compassionate touch of Bower Hill Community Church and it's members was felt by the flood victims of Oakdale, Pa. Thanks to the hard work of many church members, we were able to do a great deal to boost the spirits and provide some much needed financial assistance to many families victimized by the September floods. Due to Chan Ketchum's persistence (Chan persistent?) and concern, we helped the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church hold a dinner for the flood victims in Oakdale at the church. First, you need to understand that the Good Shepherd Church was itself, badly damaged in the flood, having had 10 feet of water in the building. Imagine our church with the offices totally filled with water and 4 more feet in the sanctuary! Initially, seeing the damage was disheartening. But seeing the members of Good Shepherd, joined by about 10 of our own members, provide a fantastic dinner for the flood victims; that was very uplifting and made us all feel very good about what we were doing.

It started with your Mission committee voting to dedicate \$1,000 to the effort, then SHIM sent another \$500. Leonard sent his letter to our congregation concerning the effort and you all responded generously with a total of \$2,715 in cash and gift cards from Giant Eagle, Home Depot and Wal-Mart. Six hams were purchased and cooked with sweet potatoes by members of the church and another seven or eight members met at the church in Oakdale to help serve the meal. All in all, approximately 80 people were served and \$4,215 in gift cards was distributed to families in need.

Thanks to all who contributed money, gift cards or food, or helped prepare and serve the food. God bless you for helping to make a difference.

Education & Nurture

Adult Education Schedule

Jan. 2—No Adult Ed.

Jan. 9—Perspectives on Health Care with Dr. Karl Bushman

Jan. 16—Health Care with Ben Snead of St. Clair Hospital

Jan. 23—Health Care with John Zanardelli, United Methodist Services for the Aging

Jan. 30—Health Care with Margery Mills, Spiritual Advisor, St. Clair Hospital



Bookworms

Please join us for an interesting evening; new faces are always welcome!



January 18, 2005—*Founding Mothers*, by Cokie Roberts, at the home of Lee Ferrero.

February 15, 2005—*Kite Runner*, by Khaled Hosseini, at the home of Betsy Hohlfelder.

A REMARKABLE ACCOMPLISHMENT

The Flea Market was a success. Approximately \$2,500 was earned and given to the church. Jean Grabow and her merry band spent countless hours sorting and marking. Most of what was not sold was given to several charities. The entire church is grateful and says thank you to all those who helped!

Thank You!

A Necessary Change

Recently, just under \$25,000 was spent on repairing the lighting in the sanctuary. This money came from the buildings and grounds portion of the Half Century Campaign. The repair of the lights was not anticipated when the campaign began, but it was necessary. The lighting in the sanctuary is complicated—originally there were 256 fluorescent lights and some incandescent lights as well. It is a three part system: the lights, a controller in the attic and switches in the sanctuary. The controller and switches were failing and could not be repaired. I am sure that all of us would have preferred to have spent this \$25,000 on, for example, new windows; but the lighting was more important.

—Leonard

Middle School Events:

Friday, January 7th @ 9:15 PM—
Late night cosmic bowling at Village Bowling Lanes

Saturday, January 15th @ 8:15 AM—
World Vision

Saturday, January 28th @ 7:00 PM—
Game Night

Worship News:

Kid's Own Worship Leaders for January

Remember that Kids Own Worship begins at 10:15 am. Please arrive in the library by 10 am to greet early arrivals.

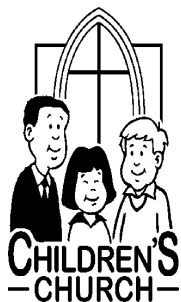
January 2—Bev Lamb

January 9—Nora Schnorhokian

January 16—Sherri Kohler

January 23—Diane Leeson

January 30—Christine Henney



Communion Servers for February

The following people are scheduled to serve communion on **Sunday, February 6th, 2005**. If you are not able to attend church on February 6th, please arrange for a substitute.

Alan & Besty Hohlfelder, Chan Ketchum, Graham & Carol Knox, Jane Kohman, Chuck & Mary Laufer

Choir Servers:

Paul & Mary Lou Frock



Wallace Memorial Food Pantry

The food pantry appreciates your donations during the month of JANUARY.

Donations will be collected on the second Sunday in January (January 9th).

Please contact Jason Rising at:
412-851-1503, jaydr@adelphia.net, for
more information. As always, your support
is greatly appreciated!



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00- 9:45 am Contemporary Worship in the Sanctuary

9:00-10:00 am Sunday School for all ages

9:45-10:15 am Fellowship Time in the Friendship Room

10:15-11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

11:15-11:45 am Fellowship Time in the Friendship Room

OUR CHURCH STAFF

David Daugherty, *Director of Music Ministries*

Jim Kline, *Custodian*

Dianne Scott, *Financial Secretary*

Rev Laurie Sponaugle, *Co-Pastor*

Rev Leonard Sponaugle, *Co-Pastor*

Yara Toury-Vanzin, *Administrative Secretary*

Nadine Wade, *Director of Youth Ministries*

THE CHURCH OFFICE

[412] 561-4114

Monday - Friday

8:45 am - 4:45 pm

STAFF EMAIL ADDRESSES:

David Daugherty: da@bhccml.com

Dianne Scott: di@bhccml.com

The Reverend Laurie Sponaugle: la@bhccml.com

The Reverend Leonard Sponaugle: le@bhccml.com

Yara Toury-Vanzin: ya@bhccml.com

Nadine Wade: na@bhccml.com

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