

# Bower Hill Community Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

May  
2005

A place to Believe, Belong and Become!

## What do we do Now?

A few weeks ago, I asked some people if they missed the Year of the Bible program that we completed last December. With some hesitation, they confessed that they did not miss the challenge of having to stay on task by reading every day. They also said, that without the daily discipline, they found it easy to skip devotions. It was clear that while they really wanted to do something now to keep growing spiritually, they found that without the daily readings and the church commitment, it was easy to get caught up in other things and not do anything.

A few days after this conversation, someone else shared that they missed the Year of the Bible project, because it was something that many of us did together. This particular person longed for some sort of devotional project that we could encourage the whole church to participate in together. I will be bringing this idea to the Christian Education committee for their consideration, however, in the meantime, this brings up something that many of us struggle with, how are we growing in faith. This is especially important to consider right now as the educational year draws to an end and our Christian Education program takes a break for the summer.

So, what are you doing to grow in your faith? I've been thinking a lot about this question, not just because of the recent conversations I have had, but also because I have been participating in a book study on the book, Family, The Forming Center: A Vision of the Role of Family in Spiritual Formation, by Marjorie Thompson. The book which is challenging to read, makes the point that our society has become so compartmentalized that many of us have come to expect that the church is the only place where we can grow spiritually. If this is really true, then we are expecting spiritual development to take place in a very short period of time. Think about the percentage of time that we spend at church, compared to the time we spend at work, at home, watching TV, participating in sports, reading, or just resting. With this in mind, some experts are saying that we really need to empower and encourage individuals and families to spend some of that "at home" time working in an intentional way on their relationship with God. That's why the Year of the Bible was such a great thing.

So what do we do now? Do we wait for the next planned church wide program? I hope not. There are lots of ways that we can reclaim some of that "at home" time. Check out [www.upperroom.org](http://www.upperroom.org) for lots of resources for families and individuals on spiritual development. A daily devotional is a good way to start reclaiming some of that "at home time." I've just discovered a book from the Upper Room called Discipline, which has a short daily reading and devotion for every day of the year. Many people in our congregation already pick up The Upper Room magazine or These Days magazine outside the library to use as a daily devotional. Or check out the library or the Christian book store for some classic books on spiritual development. Richard Foster,

Kathleen Norris and C.S. Lewis are some authors you might want to check out. Another idea is to start a journal of prayers or daily experiences. Or spend some time wondering how God is speaking to you each day and record your thoughts.

May you look and find for opportunities to grow in faith this summer. Faithfully, Rev. Laurie Sponaugle

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# News & Events

## Joyful Noise!

An Eclectic Choir Concert to benefit the East Liberty Family Health Care Center  
Sunday, May 15th, 2005 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.,  
at the historic First Presbyterian Church & Trinity Episcopal Cathedral 320 to 325 Sixth Avenue, Downtown Pittsburgh. Tickets may be reserved for \$60 per person, with proceeds to benefit the East Liberty Health Care Center.

- Masterful Music
- Creative Cuisine
- Amazing Architecture
- Superb Service
- Astounding Auction



For more information about this event, please contact Dave Brewton at 412-361-8265; or to reserve tickets, please call Dr. Joe Lenkey at 412-963-0272.

## New Address

Tracy Keenan is serving as the pastor of Covenant Community Church in Upper Arlington Columbus, Ohio. Her new address is 3627 Darbyshire Drive, Hilliard, OH.

## Victorian High Tea

Celebrating the warmth of Mother's love!

**Saturday, May 7th, 2005, Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church, 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

**Adults— \$25**

**Children under 12—\$10**



—Hats and gloves will be admired but not required!

—Raffle/Auction and Mother's Day Boutique

—Proceeds will benefit the mothers and children of Sojourner House

For reservations call Sojourner House at: 412-441-7783, extension 10

## Honors

Peter W. Gregory is now senior Navy Chaplain at Arlington National Cemetery and Deputy Regional chaplain for Naval District Washington, D.C. A 20-year veteran of Naval service, Commander Gregory oversees the work of nine Navy chaplains and administers a budget of more than five million dollars providing care to the 77,000 sailors and Marines in the National Capital area. Gregory was also recently honored to receive Mt. Lebanon High School's Outstanding Alumnae/i Award.

## Come Walk With Me— Joan McAnulty

The Sixth Annual Pittsburgh Walk for NAAR (National Alliance for Autism Research) will take place on Saturday, June 4, 2005 at Heinz Field. The distance is three miles. Registration will start at 8:00 am and the Walk will begin at 10:00 a.m. Parking is free on the north shore. Refreshments will be provided.

Why am I going to walk three miles on June 4? Three reasons:

- 1) By walking for NAAR, I will help raise awareness of the need for research for autistic disorders that Andrew and Joshua Sponaugle and others in our congregation have.
- 2) I'm thankful to again be able to walk three miles without using a cane.
- 3) I will raise funds for NAAR, my goal being over \$100.

The NAAR is the first organization in the U.S. dedicated to funding and accelerating biomedical research focusing on autism spectrum disorders. Established in 1994 by parents of children with autism concerned about the limited amount of funding available for autism research, NAAR was created in a spirit of optimism and excitement over the opportunities for accelerating the pace of autism research. This spirit continues to guide the organization today, enabled by recent advances in the neurosciences and other scientific fields. NAAR is a 501 (c) (3) organization - contributions which are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

The research initially funded by NAAR has made a dramatic impact on the autism research landscape in the United States, Canada and Europe and has been leveraged into more than \$50 million in autism research awards by the National Institute of Health (NIH) and other funding sources.

If you want to know more about joining me for the Pittsburgh walk, contact me at 412-833-8450 or [jmcanulty@adelphia.net](mailto:jmcanulty@adelphia.net)



## Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

The Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 15th, following the second service, in the Sanctuary.

The Nominating Committee results are:

### ELDERS

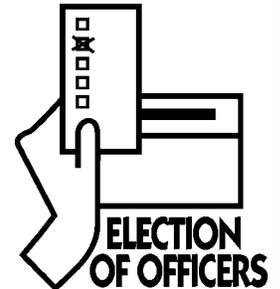
Pam Maniet  
Margie Sewall  
Dan Zabo  
Christine Henney  
Pat Jacobs  
Jason Rising  
Ral Warnock

### DEACONS

Betty Chidlow  
Marian Brannan  
Kathy Philson  
Carolyn Westerhoff  
Barb Hughes

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joan Bridges  
Rhonda Magdsick  
Jean Miewald  
Bev Lamb

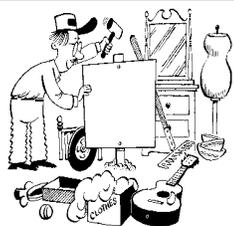


Elders and Deacons will be Ordained and Installed on Sunday, May 22nd at the 10:15 a.m. worship service.



## Serengeti Trek is Coming Soon!

We are making plans for this year's Vacation Bible School! The Trek will take place Monday June 27.- Friday July 1st from 9:00 am—11:30 am. Our theme this year will take us to Africa for a trek through some wild country where we will encounter zebras, lions, cranes, elephants and giraffes! We're looking for lots of help to make this week a special experience for the kids. The kids have been blessed by all our past volunteers and we look forward to another exciting year! If you've never shared this experience, we encourage you to consider playing a role this year. We are most in need of folks who are able to demonstrate the love of God by working hands on with the kids each day. Group leaders have the best job, with the least amount of prep work required. Group leaders are the ones who greet the kids each day and tell them how excited they are to see them. They are the ones who know the kids names the best, and the ones who are remembered long after Bible School is over. Please consider being a group leader. If you are not able to be involved during the whole week, then consider working when you can, we especially need help early on Monday for registration and late on Friday for our picnic. We always need help! This year you will also have the opportunity to be involved with helping us to create the Jungle at Bower Hill. Look for painting days in late May and early June. If you're not able to contribute time or talent, we invite you to make a financial investment by purchasing a spot! Look for the giant giraffe poster and help make our VBS WILD making a donation and placing a spot on the giraffe poster. Let's see how amazing we can make this event together. See Rev. Laurie to volunteer or call the church office at 412-561-4114. And don't forget to invite any kids you know!



## Flea Market '05

Yes, we will have a flea market on November 19th, 2005! Collections will begin on July 15, 2005 and will end on October 15th. No books, computers or clothes. Last year's money went to the Senior High Trip and remodeling the ladies room. Please participate in this event! —Jean Grabow

# On A Mission:

SHIM News



## 26th Annual Holocaust Observance

This year, Bethel Presbyterian will be hosting South Hills Interfaith Ministries 26th Annual Holocaust Observance Service. It will be on Sunday, May 15th at 7:30 p.m. This time, survivors and veterans who were involved in the liberation of the death camps will be honored.

Bethel Presbyterian Church is located at: 2999 Bethel Church Road, Bethel Park, PA, and their phone number is 412-835-0405.

## Flood Relief Mission

It's been many moons since our last local mission trip, so the Mission Committee is planning a mission activity on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> with Hosanna Industries. We will be helping to repair and rebuild the homes of victims of last September's floods somewhere in the Pittsburgh area. We will not find out the exact location until Hosanna Industries matches volunteer groups with different sites. We will need to be at our work site by 9:30 a.m., so we'll probably meet at the church that Saturday morning sometime between 8:30 and 9:00. The workday usually ends at 4:00, sometimes a few minutes later. Lunches will be provided. All volunteers are asked to wear long pants and work boots, and no tennis shoes. One thing you might want to bring along with you is a water bottle. Anyone planning to join the Mission trip will need to fill out a volunteer registration form. The form includes a parental consent section which needs to be filled out for any volunteer under the age of 18. Volunteer forms will be available on the tables outside the sanctuary or on the bulletin board in the hall outside the church office. Please fill out a volunteer form for each person who wants to take part, then bring them with you on the day of the work trip. We hope to see you on Saturday morning, May 14<sup>th</sup>, ready to work.

## Situation Report , New Jersey Flooding : April 14th, 2005—Rhonda G Stewart,

Presbyterian Center (USA) Central Receiving Service - Mission Support Services

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is responding with funds and personnel to flooded communities along the Delaware River in western New Jersey. A total of \$30,000 from the One Great Hour of Sharing offering has been sent to New Brunswick and Newton Presbyteries to assist flood survivors and support the witness of Presbyterian churches in Phillipsburg and Stockton, N.J.

# DISASTER RELIEF



*Help those in need*

PDA staff members have been in contact with both presbyteries and the pastors of First Presbyterian Church in Stockton and Harmony Presbyterian Church in Phillipsburg. Several Presbyterian families are out of their homes in both communities. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Team member Rev. Laurie Kraus will travel to Stockton early next week to assess the damage and determine pastoral/spiritual care needs. Follow-up visits by PDA staff and volunteers are being planned for both communities. Those wishing to respond financially may do so by designating gifts for U.S. Disaster, DR000015.

Donations may be sent through normal mission giving channels. Gifts by credit card can be made by calling PresbyTel at (800) 872-3283 or online at <http://www.pcusa.org/pda/donate/accounts.htm>.

## Campbell Labels and Box Tops for Education—Joan McAnulty

Thanks to all of you who have brought the many Campbell Labels and Box Tops for Education to the church office this past winter. We continue to collect them toward another van for the Hopi Christian Mission in Arizona.

Please take any labels you now have to the marked envelope on the counter in the church office. The labels and box tops will be counted, packed and sent to the school later this month. Following this, we will continue to save labels for a shipment next year.





### Wallace Memorial Food Pantry

The food pantry appreciates your donations of canned fruits and vegetables during the month of MAY.

**Donations will be collected on the second Sunday in May (May 8th).** Please contact Jason Rising at 412-851-1503, jaydr@adelphia.net, for more information. As always, your support is greatly appreciated! —Jason Rising

# On a Mission:

### Faith leaders to call for 'Hunger No More'

Capital gathering in June will include PC(USA)'s Kirkpatrick—by Evan Silverstein

LOUISVILLE - An interfaith convocation on hunger organized by Bread for the World (BFW), a Christian anti-hunger group, will bring together a host of prominent U.S. religious leaders, including the Rev. Clifton Kirkpatrick, stated clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The gathering, "Hunger No More: An Interfaith Convocation," is scheduled for June 6 at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC. The event, part of a larger conference in the capital, will address hunger in the United States and around the world. Participants will urge President Bush and members of Congress to join Christians, Jews, Muslims and people of other faiths in a national commitment to ending hunger.

The event is part of a conference called One Table, Many Voices: A Mobilization to End Poverty and Hunger. Call to Renewal and America's Second Harvest are co-hosts with BFW of the June 4-7 conference at American University in Washington, which will include a "lobby day" on Capitol Hill.

Bread for the World is a 54,000-member, non-partisan Christian organization founded in 1974. Its members lobby for public-policy changes addressing the root causes of hunger and poverty. The 47,000-member non-partisan organization is backed by 2,300 churches and more than 45 denominations and church agencies, including the PC(USA) and the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP). For more conference information, visit [www.onetableconference.org](http://www.onetableconference.org).



### Any Soldier, Inc.

Members of Bower Hill Community Church have an opportunity to participate in an exciting project over the next several weeks. The original mission of the sponsoring group, Any Soldier, Inc. was to send letters and care packages to U.S. soldiers in a particular unit, who never received mail. The program has expanded and now serves all branches of the service. The Koinonia group will assemble and ship letters and care packages to the men and women overseas. The Mission Committee has approved the project and will absorb the shipping costs. Gift box items and letters will be collected at Bower Hill during April and May. Packages will be shipped twice: May 1 and June 1. Donated items and letters can be left in the baskets inside the

portico entrance of the church. When choosing what you will donate, due to size and mailing restrictions, kindly limit your items to things on the following list: stationery, greeting cards, disposable razors, sunscreen, deodorant, small packages of baby wipes, beef jerky, white cotton crew socks, small flashlights, batteries, hand held games, cards, CDs, DVD's and Beanie Babies. Please do not include aerosol cans, homemade treats or anything that could melt.

For additional information, visit the sponsoring website at [AnySoldier.com](http://AnySoldier.com). or call Betsy Hohlfelder 412-341-1029.



# Education and Nurture:

## Adult Education Schedule (Mission Month)

### Adult Education Class



May 1—Steve Boisvert,  
Fair Trade/Presbyterian  
Coffee Project

May 8—Herb Dankmeyer,  
Hosanna Industries

May 15—Dennis Narey, Allegheny County  
Emergency Operations Manager

May 22—John J. Zanardelli, Executive  
Director/CEO of Asbury Heights

May 29—Rafael Sciuillo, Executive Director of  
Family Hospice

## Bookworms

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



May - *Mountains Beyond Mountains*,  
by Tracey Kidder, at the home of Jean Miewald.

June - *Runaway*, by Alice Munro, at the home of  
Margaret Zabo.

July - *No Crueler Tyrannies*, by Dorothy Rabinowitz, tba.

## The Bower Hillers

The Bower Hillers will meet at noon on  
May 25, 2005 at Jamie's in Dormont for  
an afternoon of food, fellowship and  
fun. Muriel Moreland, President of the  
Dormont Historical Society, will be our guest speaker  
and her topic will be "Think About It." Our hosts are Jim  
& Joan McAnulty, who can be reached at 412-833-8450.



# Worship News:

## Summer Worship Schedule

This year's summer schedule will begin on  
Sunday, June 19th. This summer, there will be  
one service, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The  
worship format will be in the traditional style,  
with a more contemporary style of worship the  
last Sunday of each month. The summer schedule will  
end with Kickoff Sunday  
on September 11th, 2005.



## Communion Servers for June

The following people are scheduled to serve communion  
on **Sunday, June 5th, 2005**. If you are not able to attend  
church on June 5th, please arrange for a substitute.

Mary Good

Zoe Kelly

Diane Leeson

Ron Linaburg

Pat Murray

Betsy Orner

Jack Pattison

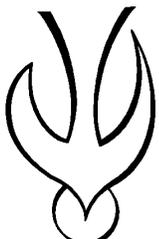
Bill Spangenberg

Choir: Dick Westerhoff & Phyllis Yohe



## Pentecost Sunday

On May 15th, we will celebrate Pentecost  
Sunday. During Pentecost, we celebrate the  
arrival of the Holy Spirit and the  
birth of the church. As a part of  
this celebration, we encourage  
everyone to wear something red to  
church on Sunday May 15th to  
help us celebrate.



PENTECOST

## Kid's Own Worship Leaders for May

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

May 1—Bev Lamb

May 8—Sherri Kohler

May 15—Diane Leeson

May 22—Christine Henney

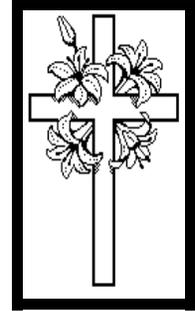
May 29—Kathy Philson



# Joys and Concerns

## *MEMBERS AT HOME:*

Lois Conley, 1150 Bower Hill Rd, 1116A, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Matt Dunfee, 966 Worthington Woods Blvd, Worthington, OH, 43085  
Kenn Fetterman, 2236 Kingridge Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
Barbara Love, 360 Jefferson Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
Kathryn McKee, 1929 Spring Valley Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Jim & Mildred Redmond, 101 Manor View Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15220  
George & Verna Rose, 136 North Wren Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Loretta Schweinbratten, 2960 Bethel Church Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15102  
Morris Standfest, 921 Old Hickory Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15243



## *MEMBERS IN CARING FACILITIES:*

Bette Carson, Masonic Home, One Masonic Dr, Elizabethtown, PA 17022  
Peggy Craig, Asbury Villas, 730 Bower Hill Rd, #110, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Raymond Craig, Asbury Villas, 730 Bower Hill Rd, #110 Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Catheryn Deemer, Broadmore Assisted Living #205, 3275 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA 15017  
Bob Gavett, Asbury Heights, 700 Bower Hill Rd., #6423, 15243  
Tooie Sharkey, Asbury Heights, 700 Bower Hill Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Audrey Weber, Windsor Place, One Windsor Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

# Upcoming Summer Schedule

June 5th

Sunday School Teacher Celebration for preschool-12th grade in Fellowship Hall	9:00 am
Adult Education	9:00 am
Contemporary Worship	9:00 am
Traditional Worship	10:15 am

June 12th

Contemporary Worship	9:00 am
Adult Education	9:00 am

Traditional Worship	10:15 am
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June 19th—September 4th

Summer Worship	9:30 am
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(On the last Sunday of the month, June 26, July 31, & August 28, worship will be contemporary).

Special Sundays

June 5th: Presentation of Bibles & Honoring of Graduates at 10:15 am Worship Service  
July 3rd: VBS Celebration Sunday  
July 10th: Youth Mission Trip Sunday  
August 14th: Nadine's Last Sunday

## COMEDY CORNER



### 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

**General Office:** office@bhccml.com

**Our Web Page is:** www.bhccml.com

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