

Bower Hill Community Church Presbyterian Church (USA)

July
2005

A place to Believe, Belong and Become!

One

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has.” –Margaret Mead

This month I begin with the words I ended with last month as Leonard and I continue to think and pray about poverty and the AIDS pandemic. We continue to wonder what we can do individually and as a community of faith.

Our first answer was to see if a small group of people could make any difference. So in the first service, we spent the last 5 weeks taking up a special offering to help feed the hungry. The people at that service were challenged to donate \$1000 in just 5 short weeks, collected from “frivolous spending” as they matched ½ of what they spent to eat out. We met our goal, raising \$1017, which World Vision says will feed 200 children and their families for a year. We made a difference.

The challenge continues and we wonder what else we can do. Recently our attention was drawn to a campaign against poverty and AIDS called ONE. The hope of ONE’s founders is for the campaign to grow one person at a time. Its lofty goal is to challenge the Federal Government to commit one percent of the US budget to combat AIDS and poverty. Here is the ONE campaign’s declaration.

WE BELIEVE that in the best American tradition of helping others help themselves, now is the time to join with other countries in a historic pact for compassion and justice to help the poorest people of the world overcome AIDS and extreme poverty. WE RECOGNIZE that a pact including such measures as fair trade, debt relief, fighting corruption and directing additional resources for basic needs – education, health, clean water, food, and care for orphans – would transform the futures and hopes of an entire generation in the poorest countries, at a cost equal to just one percent more of the US budget. WE COMMIT ourselves - one person, one voice, one vote at a time - to make a better, safer world for all.”

As we continue to pray about the issues of AIDS and poverty and our role in fighting against them, we are inspired by the work of the ONE campaign and the organizations that have come together to partner for this campaign including Bread for the World, Oxfam America, Save the Children, World Vision, Church World Service and Heifer International.

We encourage you to learn more about ONE and its partner organizations. There is much work that can be done by each one of us to make a difference in the world.

Let us pray for God’s guidance and help as we work with and for Him.

Revs. Laurie & Leonard Sponaugle



**THE CAMPAIGN TO MAKE
POVERTY HISTORY
WWW.ONE.ORG**

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News and Events

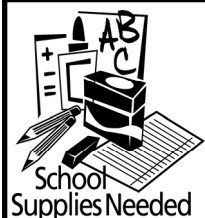
Coming in July to Bower Hill Community Church: The Brunch Bunch



Beginning in July, and continuing through August, there will be an opportunity for church members *and* visitors to have brunch together at local restaurants following worship. The dates are July 10th, July 24th, August 14th, and August 28th.

A local, family-friendly restaurant will be chosen and announced on each of the (4) Sundays (Bob Evans, TGI Fridays, Applebees, etc... suggestions welcome)! A block of tables will be reserved in advance. Anyone wanting to go out to brunch would simply meet at the restaurant following the service. However, it might be helpful to gather in the Friendship Room before leaving to get a final count. Tables will be reserved under "Bower Hill Community Church." This is a great opportunity for fellowship.

Community Building meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00. If you're interested in serving on the committee, please contact Diane Leeson. Also, suggestions for fellowship activities are always welcome.



SHIM Back-to-School Event

Once again Bower Hill is partnering with South Hills Interfaith Ministries (SHIM) in their Back-to-School event. We hope you save the date of **Friday, August 12th** (4:00-7:00 p.m.) and plan to volunteer to help this year. We will need face painters, Rita's Italian ice servers, moonwalk attendants, craft helpers and more. It truly is a great day and a chance to bring some real joy to the lives of some needy kids in the South Hills area. If you are interested, please call Betsy Hohlfelder at 412-341-1029.

You may recall that last year we had a drive to collect calculators for the program. This year we would like to have **50 backpacks** that we could donate to SHIM for distribution at their event. Please consider buying a backpack and bringing it to the church office. Backpacks for kids of all ages are welcome...SHIM only requests that **we do not NOT purchase the kind with wheels**. If you would rather someone from the Mission Committee do your shopping for you, simply make a check payable to Bower Hill Community Church and include "SHIM Backpacks" on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity and interest.

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



Bookworms

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



July 19 —*No Crueler Tyrannies*, by Dorothy Rabinowitz, at the home of Mary Lauffer.

August 16—*Delights & Shadows*, by Ted Kooser, at the home of Margaret Zabo.

Youth News

As a church, we have commissioned Madeline Good, Ben Hohlfelder, Rick Jacobs, Casey Jones, Shannon Jones, Allison Lease, Darena Lease, Tim May, Lesley Olinger, Scott Olinger, Nora Shnorhokian, and Nadine Wade to serve at Workcamp in Sarnia, Ontario from July 2nd—9th. We are looking forward to sharing our Workcamp experiences with the congregation in worship on Sunday, July 10th. Please keep the team in your prayers during the week ahead. You are welcome to send words of encouragement, a packaged treat, a reminder that you're praying for us, etc., to the team by email ("Email a Camper" at www.groupworkcamps.com).

Middle Schoolers and Sr. Highs: Please look at the flyers in your Summer Packet for all of the details of our July and August events! Hope to see you there!

On A Mission:

Golf Outing

SHIM is selling tickets for the 84 Lumber Golf Classic at Nemaocolin Woodlands Resort, which will take place September 12-18. SHIM benefits directly from each ticket they sell, and you can buy them by calling 412-854-9120. As you probably know, SHIM center is now a teaching site for Faith Tech, an initiative of the University of Pittsburgh which offers free introductory computer classes to the public. The next session of classes begin the week of July 11th. If you'd like to register for Faith Tech Classes, call 412-648-TECH. To support Faith Tech, SHIM is seeking high school students and adults as volunteers to teach classes, monitor open computer labs, and to assist with classes as needed. If you're interested in volunteering, call Kathy Ganley at 412-854-9120.



Wallace Memorial Food Pantry

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

Donations will be collected on the second Sunday in July (July 10th). Please contact Jason Rising at 412-851-1503, jaydr@adelphia.net, for more information. As always, your support is greatly appreciated! —Jason Rising,



2005 Toast to Life Gala

On Saturday, August 20, 2005 Family Hospice and Palliative Care will celebrate its 25th anniversary with the 2005 Toast to Life Gala. The dinner/dance will be held in the Carnegie Music Hall foyer. At the event, long-time volunteer, Kathi Kropf will be honored for her tireless support of Family Hospice and Palliative Care. A silent auction will be held throughout the evening. Tickets are \$150/person.



Family Hospice has purchased the Ward Home and will soon be our Bower Hill neighbor - another great reason to support such a worthy event.

Even if you cannot attend, we are looking for monetary and silent auctions donations. For more information please see this year's event co-chairs, **Susan & Dave Hicks.**

NAAR Walk

On Saturday, June 4th, several members of Bower Hill participated in the NAAR walk to raise money for autism research. They were encouraged by the love and sponsorship of this congregation. Together we raised \$665 for NAAR. Thank you for your support and your prayers.



Worship News:



Worship Plans for July

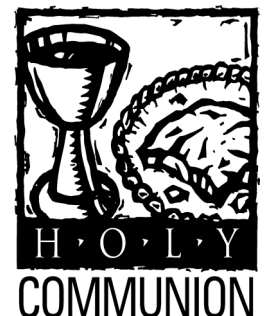
Don't forget that there will be one worship service during the summer at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary!

- Sunday July 3rd: VBS Sunday Rev. Laurie will preach
- Sunday July 10th: Youth Mission Sunday Come hear about the Youth Mission trip to Canada as the youth lead us in worship.
- Sunday July 17th: Traditional Worship Rev. Leonard will preach
- Sunday July 24th: Mission Sunday a speaker from the New Wilmington Missionary Conference will preach.
- Sunday July 31st: Contemporary Worship Rev. Laurie will preach

Communion Servers for August

The following people are scheduled to serve communion on **Sunday, August 7th, 2005.** If you are not able to attend church on August 7th, please arrange for a substitute.

- Eleanora Freas
- George Freas
- Linda Johnson
- Phil Johnson
- Kirk Ketchum
- Mary Ketchum
- Anne Mitchell
- Gordon Mitchell



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:

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Dianne Scott: di@bhccml.com

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The Reverend Leonard Sponaugle: le@bhccml.com

Yara Toury-Vanzin: ya@bhccml.com

Nadine Wade: na@bhccml.com

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