

# Bower Hill Community Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

*A place to Believe, Belong and Become!*

MAY 2006

*Come Alive!*

*“Don’t ask yourself what the world needs, ask yourself what makes you come alive, and do that. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.” --Dr. Howard Thurman*

Last month, I was delighted to share some of the new things that are happening at Bower Hill Community Church in the months ahead. There are exciting things happening within this church and within the hearts and lives of those who are helping to make things happen. I found these words by Dr. Howard Thurman especially relevant as I continue to reflect on the new things that are happening around our church and within our church family. We are indeed a people who have come alive!

We have come alive as small groups working on the Surfing the Edge process have been meeting to envision Bower Hill’s future. We have come alive as the Hunger Action Team is making plans to take action against hunger. We have come alive as people, young and old, worked together to make the spaghetti dinner a wonderful community event. We have come alive as teachers and storytellers shared their gifts to inspire our children and youth in new ways this year.

It is with a deep sense of gratitude that I look on the generosity of our members in sharing their gifts and passions to make things happen within our church. In recent months I have seen a profound display of the Community that we as Bower Hill COMMUNITY Church have been called to. While God continues to call us to grow in faith as individuals, God also challenges us to grow and work together as a community. This is where our strength is. This is the way that we can make the most impact on the world. As we join together in common ministry, we are able to do so much more than we as individuals could do. The Hunger Action Team is just one living example of the possibilities that exist when people come together to share their different gifts and work together toward a common purpose. Remember that old commercial that went something like... “if you told 2 friends, and they told 2 friends...and so on and so on and so on.” It’s all about impact and spreading the word! Well that is one of the hopes of the Hunger Action Team, that though our efforts, we can impact the world by inspiring others in the Mt. Lebanon community to care about and do something about Hunger.

As excited as I am about the Hunger Action Team and its efforts, I know that this is not the mission that will make everyone in the Bower Hill family come alive. This is just the beginning. It is my hope and prayer that all of us will find something to do in service to God that we are passionate about. Something that makes us come alive! Last Sunday, the Rev. Dr. Dan Merry challenged us to find something to do and just do it. Let us, as a community, be in prayer for one another, that each of us might find something to do that makes us come alive, for the world surely needs people who have come alive. Let us also remember, that as our awareness grows for what we are called to do, surely within this community of faith there are others who would be delighted to join us in pursuing our passions as we reach out to the world. Let us continue to come alive as we love and serve God!

Rev. Laurie Sponaugle

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# Hunger Action Team



## What is the Hunger Action Team?

It all began with the One Great Hour of Sharing offering and our Lenten Study. For three weeks we met during Lent to talk about Thirst and Hunger. It was not enough! The group that got together did not just want to talk about it, they wanted to do something! So plans began to take shape. All the plans on this page started with a group of people who wanted to do something about hunger. We hope our group will grow! Our next meeting will be held May 10 at 7:00 pm. Join us and get in on the action!

## Hunger Awareness Event

Hunger Sunday and the Mississippi Truck project are just the beginning of the Hunger Action Team's work! We are planning a major Hunger Awareness Event for October. We expect to have projects and activities all around the church to raise awareness about hunger. There will be projects for children and adults of all ages and interests to participate in. In addition to awareness, we hope to raise money to help feed people around the world. If you feel that God is calling you to be a part of this major effort, you are invited to join the Hunger Action Team at its next meeting on Wednesday May 10th at 7:00 pm. Come and share your gifts with our team and help plant seeds of hope!



## Hunger Sunday

On Sunday June 4th, the Hunger Action Team will be sharing some of the stories we heard about Hunger during our Lenten Study. Come to worship and hear what inspired us to take action! This will be a day to celebrate and dedicate the food that has been collected for Mississippi and to commission our two truck drivers. World Hunger Day is scheduled for Tuesday June 6th, we encourage you to come to worship to begin thinking about how God is calling you to respond to hunger.



## Hunger Offering



On June 4th, we will take up our first special offering for Hunger relief. Session has decided that on the first Sunday of each month, before communion is celebrated, we will take up a special offering to help those who are hungry. Some churches call this the 2cents a meal offering and place 2cents in a bowl at every meal for every member of the family, some bring in all their loose change, others just donate whatever they feel called to give. We hope you will support this offering!

## Hunger Offering

## Book Project

On June 4th, Hunger Sunday, the challenge will be issued to continue thinking about Hunger and what God is calling us to do about it. Copies of the book *Ending Hunger Now* will be available after worship. We hope you will consider being a part of this book study! We plan to discuss the book in early September, so there is plenty of time to read!



## Let Us Be Their Strength....

Approximately 1000 Katrina flood victims eat at the Christus Victor Lutheran Disaster Center, in Mississippi, three times a week. Unfortunately, the Center's food supply is dwindling faster than it is being restocked. Please help "Fill our Truck" with non-perishable food items. Collection dates are for the later part of May; more info will be in the bulletins. Volunteers are needed to help get the word out, if you have any ideas, please let us know! We also need volunteers to help at the food collection site (the Middle School Youth Room) some of the times when the site will be open are Tuesday May 30- Friday June 2 from 3-7 pm and Saturday June 3 from 9am-12pm!

We are very grateful for volunteers John Zoll and Jim McAnulty who will be driving the truck to Mississippi! Keep them in your prayers!

**To get involved with this effort contact:** Elaine & Pete Dalmaso: 412-334-1012, Wendy Mazzini: 412-561-0604, Joan & Jim McAnulty: 412-833-8450, Betsy Hohlfelder: 412-341-1029, or John & Karen Zoll: 412-235-1710.



# On A Mission

## SHIM Back-to-School Event

While most of us are probably thinking about the approaching end to another school year, South Hills Interfaith Ministries (SHIM) and Bower Hill's Mission Committee are already planning for an exciting "Back-to-School" Event for the kids SHIM serves through its food pantry or school based programs. This year's event is scheduled to take place from 4:00-6:30 p.m. on Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup>.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with this program, SHIM provides new backpacks and school supplies to its kids. Bower Hill helps by arranging for carnival-type activities, a disc jockey and food...all of which help to make it a really fun event. New to this year's program is the participation of the South Hills Beauty Academy to provide free haircuts for all children who participate. SHIM is expecting to serve about 350 kids in 2006, which is about a 30% increase over last year.

How can you help? We encourage you to **purchase and donate a backpack**, which we will take to SHIM for the Back-to-School event. Any type of backpack is fine (except for those on wheels). If you don't feel like shopping but would still like to help, **please give a donation, made payable to Bower Hill Community Church, and indicate SHIM in the memo line.** Monies collected will be given to SHIM for the purchase of backpacks or other school supplies of which they are in need. We ask that you bring your backpacks or donations to the church by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Finally, we will be looking for volunteers to help with the event in August. It is a very fun and worthwhile day, guaranteed to make you glad that you helped. If interested, please contact Betsy Hohlfelder at 412-341-1029.



## More Mission News:

**Clairton Book Drive:** The Clairton Book Drive is underway. Please bring gently used books to the church and help to fill the bookshelf in the Narthex, put there by our youth groups. National Geographic magazines are also acceptable. For many of the Clairton students (and their parents), the books that we provide will be the only reading materials available for the summer. Content appropriate books will be delivered to the school in early June, so your deadline is Monday, May 29th.

**Field Trip:** Your Mission Committee is sponsoring a field trip to the Regional Environmental Education Center in Upper St. Clair on Thursday, May 11th, from 9:30 to 2:00 for approximately 70 Clairton 5th grade students. Anyone interested in attending and helping with "crowd control," please contact Dave Hicks (412-833-7753). There is a \$7.00 fee to visit the center.

**Family Hospice:** Be sure to be in church on May 14th to hear a representative from our neighbor, Family Hospice, who will be participating in the 10:15 worship service, and will meet with church members in the library after the service, who might be interested in volunteer opportunities with Hospice.

## Victorian Tea

Sojourner House is having a Victorian Tea Fundraiser at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church on Saturday, May 6th, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Please contact Sojourner House at 412-441-7783, for more information.



## Wallace Memorial Food

### Pantry

—Jason Rising



Old Mother Hubbard experienced something that the Food Pantry is all too familiar with—bare pantry shelves! According to the staff at Wallace, they are very much in need of everything—especially diapers and baby food. Please give generously. Remember that the collection box will be in the sanctuary on May 14th. The collection box is kept in the narthex every week and you are welcome to make donations whenever you are able.

Volunteers are needed on Saturday May 13 from 1-6pm to help unload a donation truck.

Please contact Jason Rising at 412-851-1503, jaydr@adelphia.net, for more information.

# Church News

## Back By Popular Demand: All Church Bowling

Community Building is sponsoring another bowling party at Dormont Lanes. This is a multi generational event. Lane bumpers are available for children. If you've never bowled before, this will be the perfect opportunity to try it. Dinner at a local pizza place after bowling is optional for those who wish to continue the fun.

**Date:** Sunday, May 7th, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$5.00/ **per person** for two hours of bowling (includes shoe rental).

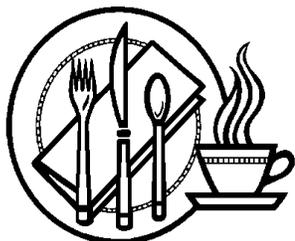
\*The committee will not be collecting money; please pay Dormont Lanes when you arrive. Thanks!



### Bower Hillers

The Bower Hillers will meet Wednesday, May 24th at 12:00 p.m. at Peter's Place. This month's hosts are John & Phyllis Yohe, who can be reached at: 412-279-7795. The speaker will be Rev. Tom Cummins,

member of the Scott Conservancy. Look for details by mail and in upcoming bulletins.



### Geraniums

Decorate the church or your own garden! Proceeds from the sale will help the Senior High Work Trip and the Deacons' Ministry, "Feed My Sheep."

Price is: \$4.50 for each 4 1/2 inch plant.

To place an order, please call the church office or Cindy Waller at 412-571-1346, by Monday, May 22nd.



### Walk for Autism Research—Joan McAnulty

The Seventh Annual Pittsburgh Walk for Autism Research will take place Saturday, June 3, 2006 at Heinz Field, 900 Art Rooney Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. The distance is three miles. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the Walk will begin at 10:00 a.m. Parking is free in the lots adjoining Heinz Field. (Due to Heinz Field Security issues - No dogs permitted - Heinz Field reserves the right to turn anyone away that shows up with a dog on Walk Day - Also, no one will be permitted to leave the parking lot during the Walk. If you need to leave the venue before the Walk ends, then you must park offsite).

Again this year, there will be a Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian U.S.A.) team walking to help raise awareness of the need for research for Autistic Spectrum Disorders. We will raise funds for Autism Research.

A surprising 1 in 166 children is diagnosed with autism. Money for research is vital to address this crisis. In this congregation, our pastors' two boys suffer from autism. There are also many others.

To join the Bower Hill Community Church walking team, contact Joan McAnulty at 412-833-845 or <jmcanulty@adelphia.net>

To donate to Autism Research, make your check payable to Bower Hill Community Church, with the memo of "Autism Research," then place it in the collection plate or send it to the church office. The funds collected will then be given as one check to Autism Research.

# Worship News

## Coffee Hour & Greeter Schedule

### Coffee Hour

May 7—Carolyn Westerhoff and Joan Zakor  
 May 14—Donna Williams  
 May 21—Janis Shaw  
 May 28—Carolyn Phillippe and Diane Leeson

### Greeters

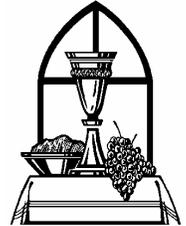
May 7—Chuck & Mary Laufer, Ron & Judy  
 Linaburg, Wendy Mazzini  
 May 14—Roberta Sarraf Moore, Jim & Joan McAnulty, LuAnn McNickle  
 May 21—Doris Olinger, Anne Noland, Jeanne Olsen  
 May 28—No greeters.



## Communion Servers

The following people are scheduled to serve communion on **Sunday, June 4th, 2006**. If you are not able to attend church on June 4th, please arrange for a substitute.

Mary Good  
 Zoe Kelly  
 Diane Leeson  
 Ron Linaburg  
 Dave Green  
 Nancy Green  
 Anne Mitchell  
 Bill Spangenberg



## Preaching Schedule

### Sunday May 7—Communion Sunday

9:00am Rev. Laurie Sponaugle Family Worship— Obedience	10:15 am Rev. Leonard Sponaugle John 10:11-18
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### Sunday May 14- 9:00 am & 10:15 am

Rev. Leonard Sponaugle & Speaker from Family Hospice

### Sunday May 21- 9:00 am and 10:15 am

Rev. Leonard Sponaugle

### Sunday May 28 -9:30 am Summer Worship Begins

Rev. Laurie Sponaugle- "Reflections on the Dominican Republic"



## Kid's Own Worship

May 7—Donna Williams

May 14—Michelle Patrick

May 21—Diane Leeson

Thank you to all our wonderful



Kid's Own Worship Volunteers!

## Summer Worship Schedule

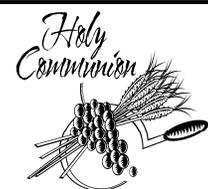


Believe it or not, Summer is almost here! Last year, the session decided that the Summer Worship Schedule would be in effect from Memorial Day Weekend until Labor Day Weekend. So, from May 28th until September 3rd, we will celebrate worship together with one service at 9:30 am. This year, the summer worship experience will be a blended service which will include some favorite praise songs from the first service and some favorite traditional hymns.

## Favorite Hymn?



Do you have a favorite hymn? On June 11, July 9, 30 and Aug. 13 we will begin worship by singing requested hymns. Look for an insert in the bulletin to make your request and to share a bit about why the hymn is important to you.



## Summer Communion

As you may know, we celebrate communion differently at both our worship services. The first service celebrates communion by intinction, and the second celebrates by common method. During the summer we will be honoring both these methods of celebrating communion. In June and August we will celebrate communion by the traditional method, passing the bread and small cups down the pews and in July and September, we will be celebrating by intinction, coming forward to break the bread and dip it in the cup.

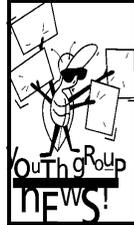
# Education & Youth News

## Youth Events For May

### Middle School Activities:

Sat 5/6 2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.: Food Collection Contest A scavenger hunt with a mission! You will be split into teams and sent on a shopping spree to stock the Wallace food pantry. The team with the most points wins! (You might want to bring along some food items from home as well).

Sun 5/7 11:15 am - noon: Deliver food to Wallace.



### Senior High Activities:

WWJD - Everybody is familiar with the standard phrase What Would Jesus Do, but what about WWJE? What Would Jesus Eat? The high school youth group will explore that nugget at an outing to Pittsburgh's top-rated Middle Eastern restaurant, Amel's, in May. Mary Good will accompany them as they explore food themes from the Bible and enjoy fellowship and dining. Youth are to select the date based upon their schedules.

## Adult Education For May

May 7—Rev. Dana Gold,  
Infinite Family Interactive

May 14—Pittsburgh Aids  
Task Force

May 21—Sara Waller and  
Margaret Zabo speak about the  
Margaret McKee Fund



## Bookworms

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

May 16—*The Tipping Point*, by Malcom  
Gladwell, at the home of  
Anne Mitchell.

June—*3 Cups of Tea*, by Greg  
Mortenson, TBA.



# Nominating Committee

## Nominating Committee Session Report – April 24, 2006

We nominate the following people for the class of 2009:

### **Deacon**

Mary Good  
Margaret Zabo  
Elaine Delmasso  
Phyllis Yohe  
Ben Hohlfelder

### **Elder**

Diane Leeson  
Debby Hayes  
Nina Helbling  
Bill Cadwell  
Phil Johnson  
Matt Maniet (to fill unexpired term class of 2008)  
Note: We have 2 more Elder positions to fill.

### **Administration and Personnel**

Susan Hicks  
Dick Rothrock

### **Nominating Committee**

Betsy Hohlfelder  
Rick Jacobs  
Joan McAnulty  
Ginny Starr



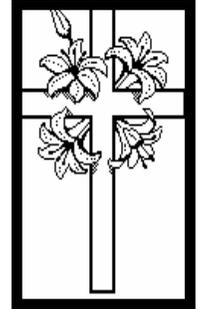
**The Semi Annual Congregational Meeting to elect officers will be held on Sunday, May 7th, following the second service.**

**Ordination & Installation of Officers will be held on Sunday, May 21st, during the second service.**

# Care List

## **MEMBERS AT HOME:**

Lois Conley, 1150 Bower Hill Rd, 1116A, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Matt Dunfee, 966 Worthington Woods Blvd, Worthington, OH, 43085  
Pete Fenton, 708 Bower Hill Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Kenn Fetterman, 2236 Kingridge Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
Jane Kohman, 1300 Bower Hill Road, #1430, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Barbara Love, 360 Jefferson Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
Jim Redmond, 101 Manor View Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15220  
Verna Rose, c/o Gretchen Rose, 134 Grove Avenue, Woodridge, NJ 07095  
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  
Raymond & Peggy Craig, 714 Bower Hill Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Catheryn Deemer, Broadmore Assisted Living #205, 3275 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA 15017  
Ruth Fenton, Asbury Place, 760 Bower Hill Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Bob Gavett, Asbury Heights, 700 Bower Hill Rd., #6423, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Pat Metheny, Asbury Place, 760 Bower Hill Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Bill Nuernberg, Friendship Village #123W, 1290 Boyce Rd, Upper St. Clair, 15241  
Harry Retzer, 493 Castle Shannon Boulevard, #520, Pittsburgh, PA 15234  
Tooie Sharkey, Asbury Place, 760 Bower Hill Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15243

# Elders & Deacons

**Administration & Personnel:** Chairperson, Pat Jacobs; Woody Hughes; **Buildings & Grounds:** Don Lamb;  
**Christian Education:** Chairperson, Pam Maniet; Dan Zabo; **Community Building:** Chairperson, Diane Leeson; Lynne Wohleber;  
**Evangelism & Membership:** Chairperson, Glenn Child; Betty Ewing;  
**Finance & Stewardship:** Chairperson, Kurt Kerner; Dick Junker, Jason Rising;  
**Mission:** Chairperson, Dave Hicks; Jackie Holdsworth;  
**Nominating & Presbytery:** Chairperson, Tim Lease; Margie Sewall;  
**Music & Worship:** Chairperson, Anne Mitchell; Steve Mangin;  
**Youth Ministries:** Chairperson—Curt Philson; Christine Henney

### **Deacons Class of 2006**

Barbara Brown  
LuAnne McNickle  
Lee Ferrero  
Joann Vosburgh  
Donna Williams

### **Deacons Class of 2007**

Bob Bridges  
Nancy Green  
Theresa Child  
Dave Stewart  
Cindy Waller

### **Deacons Class of 2008**

Marian Brannan  
Betty Chidlow  
Barbara Hughes  
Kathy Philson  
Carolyn Westerhoff



# COMEDY CORNER



## OUR CHURCH STAFF

*David Daugherty, Director of Music Ministries*

da@bhccml.com

*Jim Kline, Custodian*

*Dianne Scott, Financial Secretary*

di@bhccml.com

*Rev Laurie Sponaugle, Co-Pastor*

la@bhccml.com

*Rev Leonard Sponaugle, Co-Pastor*

le@bhccml.com

*Yara Toury-Vanzin, Administrative Secretary*

ya@bhccml.com

THE CHURCH OFFICE

[412] 561-4114

Monday - Friday

8:45 am - 4:45 pm

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

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