

DHPC *Weekly* Direction

A Publication of Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Georgia

July 5, 2009



A special thanks from The Mission Team

Druid Hills Presbyterian is known for the generosity of its congregation, and the Mission Team thanks you for all you do to help our neighbors.

During the months of July and August, the Mission Team is asking for donations to restock the Community Fellowship pantry. You are probably aware that the need for assistance in our neighborhood has steadily grown over the last year, and larger numbers of guests are being served on Sunday afternoons.

There are currently three DHPC groups serving meals, and the church is providing the food to create these meals. The groups are young adults, youth and the Alpha Sunday School class; their help is most appreciated. If you would like to help serve on Sunday afternoons, please contact us and we can find a place for you at this most important table of service.

We would like to suggest items you may purchase and bring to the church. They are: large containers of instant tea, with sugar and lemon; large cans of beef stew; large cans of vegetables, green beans or mixed vegetables; and

large cans of fruit cocktail or peaches. Please place items in the box which will be provided outside the Historical Room.

Many thanks for your help with this vital neighborhood ministry.

-Marion Reeves and Anne Townsley

A message from the pastor

Dear friends,
I was touched to read that you have put me on the prayer list while I am away on study leave in Chicago. It is comforting to know that I am being held in prayer even as I continue to pray for you.

This has been a rich time of study in my Doctor of Ministry in Preaching program. I look forward to sharing more of what I have learned and experienced here upon my return. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Grace and peace,

Jane

Top reasons for attending a church retreat

4. Weaving Together the Generations

In the tapestry of life each generation brings its own piece of the creation through its fortitude, awareness and experience. At times generations in our society may be considered segregated. In fact it has been said that sports and church are the last places where generations come together on a regular basis. What does an intergenerational church look like? We will explore the weaving together of generations through planned and unplanned activities at our church retreat.

For your input of intergenerational activities that you have seen enrich this vision, please email Susan at shagoodrd@msn.com

Meanwhile, mark your calendar for our Camp Calvin Retreat, October 10-11, 2009

There will be no Sunday Lunch in the month of July. Please mark your calendars for our next lunch, which will be held on August 9, 2009.

Building blocks

10 Presbyterian churches construct houses, relationships in Fort Collins

By Toni Montgomery

Special to Presbyterian News Service

Editor's note: This is one in a series of stories about congregations engaged in significant outreach and evangelism ministries, reflecting the General Assembly's commitment to "Grow Christ's Church Deep and Wide." Jerry L. Van Marter.

STATESVILLE, NC

One church doing community outreach by working with Habitat for Humanity is not all that unusual, but 10 churches joining together to share in the project is surely out of the ordinary.



"PresBuild" in Fort Collins, CO, is a joint effort between the 10 Presbyterian churches in the area that aims to build homes for deserving local families as well as assist Habitat for Humanity on both the local and international levels.

The partnership is an example of how it's still possible to help others even in challenging times, in keeping with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly's commitment to "Grow Christ's Church Deep and Wide" by reaching out into churches' communities.

While all of the churches involved in PresBuild are

Presbyterian, they are not all PC(USA), so the effort also shows how differences can be put aside to work toward a common goal of strengthening the community.

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Collins – a member of the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks – started the ball rolling. The church had participated in a Habitat build in 2005 and had money left over from that project that it wanted to use toward another home, but there wasn't enough to do it alone.

Dale Preston of First Church approached Bob Vangermeersch, a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church, with the idea of working together on the program. Together, they decided to approach other churches in the area to enlist their help as well.

The overall project goal was to raise \$100,000 for the new home plus \$10,000 to go to Habitat International, the branch of the organization that works to build homes in developing countries.

But Preston and Vangermeersch made it clear to the churches they approached that financial participation, while welcome, was not necessary.

"We told them we didn't need money if they didn't feel comfortable asking for contributions," Preston said. "We told them all we really needed was for them to send a volunteer to the meetings and to sponsor one work day to provide lunch."

Preston and Vangermeersch succeeded in getting all 10 of the Presbyterian churches in Fort Collins to participate. Some immediately agreed to raise funds, but even those that didn't found that their members were willing and eager to donate. PresBuild easily raised the money pledged for the project.

"What we really wanted was the volunteers, and we got plenty of those," Preston said.

Construction on the home started in March with a "Blitz Build" – a head-on approach that project manager Bob Hand called "organized chaos." Workers prepared the foundation and floor prior to the work weekend, and with the help of more than 80 enthusiastic volunteers, the one-day blitz produced exterior walls, roof trusses and second-level flooring.

The project included many with little construction experience. Volunteers were divided into teams that combined experienced workers with people with some or no skills.

"We want people to learn and to enjoy the process," Hand said. "And they learn fast."

Jim Fischer of First Presbyterian, one of the regular volunteer workers on the project, was one of those who learned everything on the job site.

"I got my carpentry experience working on the Habitat house that First Presbyterian sponsored in 2005," he said. "Then I worked on my basement and deck at home."

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You pick up tricks along the way.”

Among those volunteers on site, the future owner of the home – Teresa Greene – can be found working as well. She visits the work site often along with her two grandchildren, Garrett and Tabri. Teresa is a widowed grandmother who adopted her two grandchildren in 2007 when her daughter became unable to care for them.

“I want the children to grow up in a stable, permanent home in a safe neighborhood,” she said. “And it will be wonderful when each of them can have a bedroom of their own. Habitat is the only way that I could afford a house and a house payment.”

Teresa will pay a mortgage to Habitat for her new home and will also contribute 300 hours of “sweat equity,” a requirement for all prospective Habitat homeowners. Some of this time will be spent helping to build her home as well as providing food for project volunteers, attending classes in personal finance and working with her mentor.

She has also visited each of the 10 churches participating in PresBuild to speak briefly during worship services, giving the project a personal touch.

Volunteers on site now know Teresa and the children well. Garrett has been taken under the wing of several of the workers on site.

“Two of our regular volunteers, Eric and Brac, took time to work with Garrett and teach him now to swing a hammer and make the headers for the garage doors,” said Cathie Waugh, Fort Collins Habitat development director. “They showed him how to drive a nail in with force as well as take a nail out when it goes in crooked. Thanks to our volunteers’ mentoring, he got to share in the ownership of working on his home.”

“It is overwhelming to know that hundreds of people are coming together to help us have a home of our own. To say ‘thank you’ is so ... much deeper,” said Teresa Greene. “I don’t have words to describe how grateful I am. I am blessed.”

The volunteers from the 10 churches participating in PresBuild feel they are blessed as well for what they’ve gained by building the home, which is scheduled to be completed and dedicated on July 26.

While sharing a driveway lunch break recently, Waugh summed it up: “We enjoyed warm fellowship, laughs and a sense of true belonging – all over a simple sandwich and a bowl of soup,” she said. “We realized once again that Habitat is about building homes, but more importantly, it is about building community, family and a sense of importance and self-worth.”

Toni Montgomery is a free-lance writer in Statesville, NC, where she is also church secretary for First Presbyterian Church of Statesville.

This week at a glance!

Sunday, July 5

9:30	Sunday School	
11:00	Worship	Sanctuary
2:00	AA Meeting	
3:30	Volunteers arrive for Community Fellowship	McIver Hall
4:30	Community Fellowship	McIver Hall
6:00	Dogwood AA (7 days a week) (Park and enter at back patio)	

Tuesday, July 7

10:00	Staff Meeting	216
11:00	Worship Planning Meeting	216

Saturday, July 11

4:00	Women’s AA	McIver Hall
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Sunday, July 12

9:30	Sunday School	
11:00	Worship	Sanctuary
12:30	Finance Team Meeting	Historical
2:00	AA Meeting	
3:30	Volunteers arrive for Community Fellowship	McIver Hall
4:30	Community Fellowship	McIver Hall
6:00	Dogwood AA (7 days a week) (Park and enter at back patio)	

Communion Servers:

July 5 Linda Sue Allman, Jane Boyd Lee, Kenyon Thweatt, J. Wade

July 12 Jim Earhart, Linda Davis, Miriam Herrera

Ushers

July 5 Coby Armstrong (head), Adam Ralls, Chris Conte, Fadi Safar

July 12 Bill Ellard (head), Phil Sauerbrun, Will Young, Mary-Elizabeth Ellard

If you are scheduled to usher and have an unavoidable conflict, please arrange for a substitute and contact your head usher or Mary-Elizabeth Ellard ASAP.

Greeters

July 5 Frank Merl, Jim Earhart, Albert Danso

July 12 Frank Merl, Linda Miller, Kenyon Thweatt

This Week in Worship:

July 5 Rev. Cader Howard, preaching
Ezekiel 2:1-5, Mark 6:1-13

Sunday School (9:30 A.M.)

McNair no class
(Room 218)

Clarion Class Abraham
(Room 214)

Alpha Class Fruit of the Spirit: kindness
(Room 216) (2 Samuel 9)

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Donations to the Memorial Fund

In memory of:

Frances Curry

by Mrs. Elizabeth Jennings

Evelyn Gladden

by Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Wideman

Lucy Jones

by Dorothy Granberry

Mrs. Barbara Hull

Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Irwin, Jr.

Mrs. Elizabeth Jennings

Mrs. Martha Moore

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Wideman

Ms. Katharine Wright

Presbyterian Women of DHPC

Donations to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund

In memory of:

Lucy Jones

by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Merl

Rebecca Nunan

by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Merl

Donation to the McNair Concert/Lecture Fund

In memory of:

Lucy Jones by Ms. Stella Hurst

Donation to the Music Fund

In memory of:

Lucy Jones

by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Edenfield

Church News

Sympathy:

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Gigi Muirheid and the family and friends of Sandra Allmond who died June 24, 2009. The memorial service was held on June 27 at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church in Atlanta. Gigi and Sandy were longtime friends and teachers at The Marist School.

The sympathy of the congregation is also extended to the Reverends Jill and Joel Tolbert and family on the death of Jill's mother, Alice Patterson, on June 25, 2009. A memorial service was held on June 28 at Rehoboth Presbyterian Church. There was also a memorial service June 29 at Henry Memorial Presbyterian Church in Dublin, GA where Alice was an elder and very active member for many years.

Usher and greeter orientation

There will be an orientation and refresher course for ushers and greeters on July 12 at 1:15 P.M. All ushers and greeters are asked to attend an orientation and refresher course in the sanctuary. This training is for new and experienced ushers and greeters both. We all want to learn from each other. "What do I do? Where do I stand? What if there's a medical emergency? When do I give them the bulletin? I've done this before, but sometimes I still feel so awkward. Do I really need to smile this much?" We'll address all those questions and more. Most of all, we will get comfortable with the best ways to show forth Christian hospitality to everyone who comes through our doors. We will wrap up at about 2:45 P.M.. Ushers and greeters who do not attend that day will be asked to do make-up training. -*Mary-Elizabeth Ellard*

Happy July Birthday

Mr. Leland Moffitt (2); Mr. Rasul Ali-Bobo; Mr. Kenneth Wideman, Mrs. Cameron Howard (4); Meredith Moseley (7); Mrs. Cecile Hooks (9); Mr. Charles H. Boyter (10); Mr. Adam Ralls, Mr. Carl Sweet (12); Mr. Joseph Foster, Mrs. Lizzie Jury (13); Mrs. Helen Hatch (16); Ms. Anne Smith (18); Mrs. Mary Grace Earhart, Ms. Lou McDonald, Mrs. Yolanda Tamsen (21); Ms. Betty Davis (23); Clark Isaacson (24); Mr. Santana Herrera (26); Wesley Edmisten (27); Emmy Mabry (30)