

# **INFORMATION FROM AROUND THE PRESBYTERY**

## **October 2008**

### **Presbytery office....We're here!!!**

"Here" is now 2060 Union Rd, W Seneca, NY 14224, with phone number 668-1995 and fax number 668-5336 and a new general email – [info@pbywny.org](mailto:info@pbywny.org). Since we now have a REAL webmaster, he gets that address. Don't worry, Brad is great about forwarding information to the office, but please replace that address with the new one for general emails.

Mary Lee Talbot is working out and about, also! She has a mobile phone number you can reach her at – 716-961-8447 – or you can call the office to leave a voicemail message with her. Her email address is [MaryLeeT@pbywny.org](mailto:MaryLeeT@pbywny.org). She has been busy visiting churches and planning events, so be sure to be in touch with her about all that's going on.

Check out our newly updated website – [www.pbywny.org](http://www.pbywny.org) – and let Brad know if you have any comments and/or suggestions. All the comments we have heard so far have been very complimentary – be sure to check it out and add your 2¢ to the mix!

The staff is planning to have an open house at the new location; timing is the issue right now, but please stop in when you are in the area! We want everyone to see this wonderful new space we have to work in.

### **Celebrations**

Be sure to congratulate the following folks on these occasions:

#### **Ordination Anniversaries**

Lowell Avery	10/22/1989	Nancy Bassett	10/23/1989
Howard Boswell	10/14/1984	Bronwen Boswell	10/18/1987
Stan Bratton	10/22/1967	Stu Buisch	10/27/1996
Laura Norris Buisch	10/11/1992	Jason Cashing	10/21/2007
Carolyn Grohman	10/29/1989	Awun Sam Hwang	10/01/2003
Steven Jelensperger	10/14/1984	Dae Eock (David) Kim	10/17/1999
Leslie Latham	10/07/2007	Deb Packard	10/20/2002
John Woodring	10/21/1990		

#### **Wedding Anniversaries**

Bob & Lena Bellingham	10/1/55
Hyun Jin & Min Sook Kim	10/24/87
Jon & Cathy Rieley-Goddard	10/21/89
Deb & Craig Wright	10/25/80

#### **Birthdays**

Howard Boswell	10/14	Bronwen Boswell	10/23
Stu Buisch	10/16	Jim Burton	10/17
Elena Delgado	10/20	Bill Hennessy	10/22
Dave Kunselman	10/20	Kenneth Miller	10/26
Rocky Munson	10/04	Stacy Otto	10/05

## **Are you interested in a Church Library?**

**Wayside Presbyterian Church** in Hamburg is hosting a get-together to offer support for church libraries through the National Church Library Association. This informal gathering for churches is free, but advance registration will help so that enough copies of materials are available. A light snack will be provided and our facility is handicapped accessible. Contact Moe Conley at 627-7344 to reserve a seat or for more info. The date is October 29, 2008 from 2-4pm at Wayside Church – 5017 Lake Shore Road (corner of Amsdell) in Hamburg.

## **185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Youngstown...**

First Presbyterian Church in Youngstown celebrated their 185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Dinner Dance in their fellowship hall on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **Flag flown over U.S. Embassy in Baghdad**

On Sunday, August 10, Army Reserve Major John Berlin presented to the **Amherst Presbyterian Church** an American flag that had flown over the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. It was given in recognition of their participation in "Project Michael." "Project Michael" was an unofficial service personnel initiated mission project to help children in Iraq, especially in the Baghdad area. Major Berlin told of how he and several friends initiated the project to distribute contributions from friends in the U.S. and their home churches through the local Coptic Priest. The priest would visit the green zone in his van pulling a trailer full of garbage bags full of garbage. He would leave the green zone with the trailer full of bags of garbage, but inside the van would be garbage bags full of children's clothing, school supplies and toys, especially soccer balls. These items were distributed to families through his parish school. Major Berlin told the congregation how fulfilling a project it was for him and his friends and how it benefitted not only the children, but the relations between Americans and Iraqis. The flag and certificate will be on display in the church's narthex.

## **Featured in "Sharing the Victory"...**

"The Niagara FCA Huddle in **Lewiston**, NY is making quite a statement. A fashion statement, that is." That's how the article in this national magazine began. It went on to tell about First Presbyterian Church's "A Show of Modesty" fashion show with the youth group members as models. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes Huddle was featured in the August/September 2008 issue. Contact Pam Kilmer (Huddle Coach) about the fashion show and the article.

## **Wurffel-Sills Scholarship Recipient**

*Sara Gleason* of **Colonial Village Church** was 1 of 3 recipients of the Wurffel-Sills Scholarship from the Synod of the Northeast. Sarah has been a YAD alternate and a YAD to Synod, and is attending Medaille College, majoring in Childhood Education. The Synod awards these scholarships each year, check with your church office or the Synod website, [www.synodne.org](http://www.synodne.org), if you are interested in learning more.

*Did you know....If you call the 800 order number from an unwanted catalog, you can be removed from their mailing list. It works. Think of the trees that can be saved by doing that simple thing!*

## **Fifth Sunday Jokefest**

One of our churches does something special each month that has 5 Sundays in it. One of the ways they celebrate the joy of the gifts of humor that God has so abundantly bestowed is to share favorite church stories and jokes. How do you celebrate the various gifts God has bestowed on your church – and do you set aside each “Fifth Sunday” for something special?

## **Job Opening at University Presbyterian**

**University** Presbyterian Church is looking for a Minister with University Students. The position is for 10 hours a week, mid-August through mid-May. Contact the church at 836-7660 for more details.

## **Hidden Treasures**

**United** Church in **Randolph** included little ads in their newsletter for projects folks had going to earn funds using their “hidden treasures.” At the end of September they collected all the funds. I saw ads for a prayer shawl, hand-crafted bead & jute jewelry, an offer to write notes, letters & cards, new brooms, and cookies mailed to a special person! Contact the church about this interesting project to see how much they raised and what they did with the funds raised.

## **Challenge to raise funds for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**

Members of **MacAlpine** Church in Buffalo were challenged to contribute to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance using 2 Corinthians 8:1-6 as a model. The Benevolence Fund at the church provided matching funds up to \$5,000 – and guess what? In 2 weeks the church is able to send a check to PDA for \$5,000!!!! Are there others churches in the Presbytery up to this challenge? Contact Rev. Lee Clark if you are – he’ll be interested to hear where this challenge is going.

## **Piano available**

*Jeannette Pridmore* has an upright piano in good condition. If you are interested in the piano, call her at 873-3965.

## **Save This Date for a Special Worship!!!!**

It may seem like a long way off, but mark your calendars for January 18, 2009! In celebration and honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, our church is going to be having a weekend “*Celebration of Our Diversities*”; and the Worship and Music Committee has invited **Dr. Melva Costen** to be our keynote speaker/music leader! Dr. Costen is well-known in the music world; among her many accomplishments have been the large number of African American spirituals that she has arranged for our Blue Presbyterian Hymnbook, of which she was the chairperson. She will be with us in worship on January 18, and in the afternoon will direct a “*Celebration of Our Diversities*” with the congregations and choirs of many of our local Presbyterian churches...and guess what? *Your church is invited also.* It’s going to be an exciting weekend – one that you won’t want to miss!!! Call Joanne Hollenbeck or Jim Burton at 649-1970 at the Hamburg Presbyterian Church.

## **Out of Chaos, Hope**

A **fourth annual Presbytery-wide trip to the Gulf Coast** to assist our denomination’s continued disaster/relief work in the region is planned for January 11 - 17, 2009. In cooperation with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), we will be staying at

The Olive Tree Volunteer Village #9 (site of the former Eastminster Presbyterian Church) in New Orleans. Per person cost is \$500 which includes room and board (dormitory style accommodations and three meals a day for 6 days), roundtrip airfare and ground transportation. You must be 18 years of age to participate.

If you can swing a hammer or a spatula, there is a need for you! Whether you know anything or nothing about rehab, if you're willing to be a go-for, listen to homeowners' stories, help prepare meals for the team, there is a place for you! Last year's group included college-age students and people in their mid-80's, parents and their young adult children, couples, siblings – all discovered they could make a meaningful contribution to the on-going restoration of hope and rebuilding of NOLA.

Join the more than 31,000 Presbyterians who have contributed over \$19 million in estimated volunteer labor since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck the Gulf Coast in August, 2005. Spend a memorable week of transformation with members of our Presbytery as we experience the power of hope coming out of chaos.

If you have any interest in the upcoming trip or want to support the trip in some special way, please contact us. To learn more about what Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is doing, go to [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org) and search "PDA".

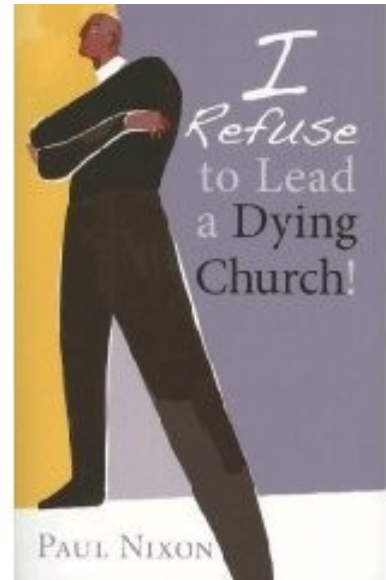
2009 Mission Trip coordinators: Chris LaMendola (Westminster: [clamendola@roadrunner.com](mailto:clamendola@roadrunner.com)), Karen Ziegler (Deerhurst: [krnziegler@yahoo.com](mailto:krnziegler@yahoo.com)), Buddy Hubbard (East Aurora: [fpcea@aol.com](mailto:fpcea@aol.com)), Mary Lee Talbot (Director of Spiritual Nurture and Discipleship: [MaryLeeT@pbywny.org](mailto:MaryLeeT@pbywny.org)), Elena Delgado (Westminster: [EDelgado@westminster-bflo.org](mailto:EDelgado@westminster-bflo.org))

### **Sharing Information**

This quick information sheet will be sent out monthly, as time allows. To have information included, please send it to the Presbytery office, attention Jan. Email it at [JanT@pbywny.org](mailto:JanT@pbywny.org) or fax it to 668-5336. **The deadline for the next mailing is October 23.**

An opportunity to  
hear  
**Paul Nixon**

author of  
*I Refuse to Lead a  
Dying Church!*



One viewpoint on how to transform  
mainline churches into effective  
ministries for Christ

**7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17**

**Chautauqua Suites Meeting & Expo Center**

**215 West Lake Rd., Mayville, NY 14757**

**716-269-7829**

**Directions:** About 90 minutes from Buffalo—from the I-90 W/New York State Thruway W toward Erie, take exit 60 for RT-394 toward Mayville/Westfield. Turn left at N Portage St/RT-394. Continue to follow RT-394

Arrangements by the Presbytery of Western New York  
Congregational Transformation Ministry Team

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