



VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1 JANUARY 22ND, 2010

Connections

The Weekly Calendar of the First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown



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A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, "If you choose, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!"



Mark 1:40

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Church Calendar

Week of January 22-31

January 22-23	Leadership Retreat and Session Meeting	Princeton Theological Seminary
January 23	3:00PM Memorial Service for Mildred Perrine	Sanctuary
January 24	Sermon Main Street: Gifts of the Body	1Cor 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21
January 24	Sermon ML: Revolution	Mark 1:14-20
January 24	Youth: Bowling 6:00PM	\$10 meet at Brunswick Lanes Rt 130; See Ginger Marcus, Tom Walton or Mary Maleski for Permission slip
January 30	Ghana Mission Trip Dinner	6:00PM Fellowship Hall
January 31	Annual Meeting of the Congregation	Fellowship Hall immediately following worship

Ongoing

Carol Duryea is selling gift cards during coffee hour	Support the Adult Mission Trip
Dine @ City Streets	20% of your bill will be donated to FPCH mission trips
4:30-6:00 Community Supper First Baptist Church	Call to Action: Food donations and Volunteers needed - see page 2
Gazing as Spiritual Practice with Barbara Hecht	Seeing our Christian faith through the work of well known artists.
5-7pm KIDS CLUB - see "CE Youth" on page 2	

Upcoming

February 7	Souper Sunday
February 7	Jr Sr High Movie Night
February 12-13	Youth Lock In
February 17	Lenten Soup Suppers begin
February 21	Pancake Breakfast

Service

Please pickup your 2010 offering envelopes in the Narthex
Karen Compton, Denise Snow, Courtney Dahlinger, Jill Marcus
Marcia Alig
TBA
John Grover

<http://www.pcusa.org/pda>

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance account #DR000064
see "Prayers for Haiti" on this page

Prayers for Haiti

Presbyterian Mission to Haiti

From Rodney Babe:

Thank you for your prayers. The situation in Port-au-Prince is very dire. Our 4th story apartment was one of the casualties. Sharyn had returned from teaching yesterday and was in the apartment for about an hour when the quake struck. Details are still difficult to write, but a wall and the ceiling (concrete) collapsed simultaneously. As they collapsed, she was thrown from her computer station and high backed office chair. The concrete slabs hit the chair which caused them to slide to the side rather than crushing her. She began to crawl toward an open space. About that time, another wall fell partially crushing her. Again there was some room to wiggle and she managed to continue to crawl toward open spaces as the building collapsed totally.

Eventually the 4 stories became a single story of rubble. She continued to crawl and eventually made it to the street. All told, perhaps 3 minutes.

Neighbors carried/ dragged her away from other buildings and walls. Eventually she went to a hospital that was overflowing and was given a couple aspirin-all they had for medicine. The hospital was closed shortly afterwards due to damage.

She finally got to the U.S. embassy. She was on a backboard by this time and was examined by a missionary doctor and the embassy doctor, neither who had x-rays. They both fear she has a broken back.

The embassy arranged for helicopter evacuation to a U.S. military hospital in Guantanamo, Cuba. This seemed prudent because she was in intense pain and had significant swelling of the entire waist area. She also had increasing problems breathing. She had some cuts and many bruises developing and was unable to move her right leg, although she has feeling in it and can wiggle her toes.

(cont'd next page)

- Gift Cards**
- Wednesdays**
- Third Saturday**
- Wednesdays Jan. 6-Feb. 10**
- Wednesdays Jan. 13-May**

- February 7**
- February 7**
- February 12-13**
- February 17**
- February 21**

- Offering**
- Greeters January 24**
- Liturgist January 24**
- Greeters January 31**
- Liturgist January 31**

▶ **Haiti Disaster Relief**

Connections Debuts

Welcome to the first issue of FPCH's weekly calendar publication. The purpose of Connections is to feature those calendar items taking place during the current week, and to highlight important upcoming events and action items.

We will publish electronically every Friday and you will receive your copy via email or you can download it from the church website, and URLs in this document are live. A limited number of copies will be printed and will be available in the Narthex on Sunday morning.

As this is a fledgling publication we expect it to evolve over time. We hope it will provide information to our church family regularly and immediately.

Calendar entries should be submitted to: connections@hightstownpres.org



Preparing for Youth Sunday service January 17th

Local Mission Opportunities

CE|Youth

Haiti (cont'd)

She was medically evacuated about 2 p.m. today. I was not permitted to accompany her as only seriously injured people were put on the medivac helicopter. I do not know when I will have computer access again as I am leaving the embassy soon. In Port-au-Prince, there still is no phone service or electricity.

Thank you,

Rodney

A Note from Presbyterian World Mission: Please keep Sharyn and Rodney in your prayers, as well as all of the people of Haiti. Rodney has asked that we let you know that his computer and e-lists have been lost. He will send updates as he is able. If you feel called to support earthquake relief in Haiti, please give to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance account #DR000064. (See www.pcusa.org/pda for more information.)

Recap of the November 30th Seminar on Education Loans

As part of our ongoing effort to build awareness within the local community, our church has partnered with the local branch of PNC Bank to offer free educational seminars on financial topics. More of these free seminars are being scheduled for 2010. PNC has offered to present seminars on topics ranging from teaching your children about money to preparing for retirement.

If you have a topic that interests you, please submit a Pipeline to Session card with your interest or contact Mark Dahlinger, Tammy Barkalow or Ron Niebo.

Community Supper

The First Baptist Church of Hightstown has a Soup Kitchen also known as The Community Supper. It is coming up on its 1st year anniversary next month in February 2010. We now serve over 200 meals to the people of our community. We have a hot meal every 3rd Saturday of the month and serve the meals from 4:30pm - 6:00 PM. The volunteers meet at FBC at 3:00pm to help set up and to cook the meal. We are in constant need of:

Individual Dessert fruit cups; Green vegetables; Paper towels, napkins, disposable plates, bowls and utensils. These items are always needed the week prior to the Soup Kitchen which would be by or on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Contact Adrienne Cheshier with any questions on how you can help and to donate: (609) 308-2381 and please leave a message.

Tools of Hope Offering

On January 24th please give generously to the Tools of Hope offering - envelopes will be in the bulletins on the 24th, and also in the offering boxes in the Narthex if you haven't picked yours up. In this way, we can make sure that people around the world don't feel forgotten, and help people get on their feet and stay on their feet and help others. Thank you!

The Mission Committee

Deacon Food Box

The Deacons collect non-perishable food items every Sunday! You can place your food donation in the Deacons Food Box in the Narthex at any time. Thanks!

CE|Youth

Sunday school will continue the theme of Design Your Own Sunday School in February. The children will, either through cooking or art/games, study King Josiah, who as the king of Judah helped the people to remember as God's people what it meant to be faithful and obedient to God.

KIDS CLUB, beginning on Wednesday, January 13 will learn about what it means to be God's people during the first session and look at mission work in Germany, Italy, Mexico, America, and China.

KIDS CLUB is for children in Kindergarten - 5th Grade. This midweek program is held every Wednesday evening, beginning with games at 5 PM and followed with a meal at 5:15 PM. After the children eat they enjoy activities in art and music. Children from all churches are invited to attend this program!

We cannot speak of the ministries for children and youth without mentioning the youth. The Sunday morning Dave & Donuts has been revamped and they will be studying the Gospel of Mark. They meet every Sunday morning at 9 am in Fellowship Hall. ALSO! Junior and senior high youth groups have started back up! Look online for the updated Youth newsletter for all upcoming events!

Update on Missionaries in Haiti

Announcement from FPCH

Dear Members and Friends -
Following is an update on missionary Sharyn Babe. As you will recall, we sent you her husband's email account of her experience during the earthquake and her subsequent medical condition. You will read here that she was moved from the US military hospital in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to a hospital in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Please continue to pray for Sharyn and everyone who has been affected by this catastrophe.
Thanks much.
Laura Stubaus

Longtime PC(USA) partner hospital destroyed by earthquake

Presbyterian World Mission learned today that Hôpital Sainte Croix (Holy Cross Hospital) in Leogane, a major focus of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) mission in Haiti for decades, collapsed in the Jan. 12 earthquake. Deaths and injuries resulted from the collapse, but the number of dead and injured and their identities have not been released. The hospital is a ministry of the PC(USA)'s partner church in Haiti, the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti. Several major Diocesan buildings in Port-au-Prince were destroyed, including the Holy Trinity Cathedral, the bishop's home, the Sisters of St. Margaret convent and College St. Pierre. The earthquake also destroyed church buildings in Grand Colline and St. Etienne. Four people were killed while worshipping in an Episcopal congregation in Trouin. We anticipate additional reports of casualties from our partner church. Please continue to lift up our brothers and sisters in Haiti in your prayers.

Presbyterian World Mission has accounted for all its mission personnel serving in Haiti. Sharyn Babe, the mission worker closest to the epicenter, sustained injuries when her apartment building in Port-au-Prince collapsed. She is receiving treatment at a Fort Lauderdale, Fla., hospital. Her husband, Rodney, who was not home at the time of the quake and was not seriously injured, is attempting to join her in Fort Lauderdale. Another PC(USA) mission worker, Mark Hare, and his wife, Jenny, live in Papay, a town about 100 miles from the epicenter. The Hares have told Presbyterian World Mission that Papay did not receive major damage and that they are safe. Pix Mahler, who serves under mission appointment as the partnerships facilitator for Haiti, was not in the country at the time of the earthquake. She works primarily from her home in Virginia. Our mission personnel have expressed gratitude for all the prayers and other expressions of concern offered for them and for the people of Haiti.
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is responding to the crisis and is accepting donations through PDA account number DR000064. PDA is also offering worship resources and updates of the situation. (See www.pcusa.org/pda for more information.)

If you know of groups or individuals who are missing in Haiti, the U.S. State Department asks that you call 1-888-407-4747.

The Babe family is so appreciative of all of your prayers. Your care is a great solace to them at this difficult time. At the same time, they are asking that their privacy at the hospital be respected for the moment. Sharyn is exhausted and needs

time to recover.

I know that Sharyn would be very happy to know that you are all thinking of her. If you would like to send notes of prayer, support and care, please use the following address:

Sharyn Babe
c/o Presbytery of Tropical Florida
440 E. Sample Road, Suite 208
Pompano Beach, FL 33064

The presbytery has promised to deliver anything that comes to them on a daily basis. Keep those prayers for Rodney coming. He is still looking for a way to travel to the U.S. to be with Sharyn.

KT Ockels
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