
Taking our beliefs, backed by our technological know-how, on the road

In the coming months, Rev. Wayne Peck, Jan Leo, and Community House member Stephen Jordan will take Community House's videography/story-gathering talents on the road to produce a video about the national More Light movement. Inspired by Community House, Michael Adee, Ph. D., (national More Light organizer and former CH More Light speaker) strongly recommended that Jan and Wayne produce the national More Light video. In competition with professional production firms from New York and California, Community House won out because of its commitment to GLBT concerns and the quality of its video production.

Funded through a grant from the Carpenter Foundation and hired by the national More Light board of directors, the dynamic trio will capture the stories and visions of More Light congregations throughout the country. The resulting video will be premiered at the black tie event of the 2008 National General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, in San Jose, California. "This is a most important year in making decisions about full equality in participation in the church," states Wayne, stressing that the video's intent is to bring more Presbyterians to the movement.

The video will tell the story of More Light as an equality movement, highlighting the testimonies of vital and varied congregations in Washington, DC; Chapel Hill, NC; Denver; San Jose; Atlanta; and Chicago. More Light is "a movement that holds together a number of different types of churches," states Rev. Wayne C. Peck. This diversity will be reflected in the video through the selection of the churches from various communities.

Different from other affirming movements within the Presbyterian Church, More Light defines itself by the intensity of its advocacy and its unequivocal stand to speak truth to power. This stand is witnessed in our own congregation through examples such as Post-Gazette letters to the editor and the recently won lawsuit that included Rev. Wayne C. Peck as a complainant.

This videography/story-gathering opportunity is both a fulfillment of the mission of our church as a champion for love and justice, and an expression of building Community House's entrepreneurial capacity. Go, team!

News from the Session of the Community House Presbyterian Church

Growing our Faith Community

Since moving from our former Union Place address Community House has grown in a number of ways, from developing a new, Christian Education program for our youth to boasting a wonderful choir of approximately 25 new members.

And, as with anything, there is still room to grow. This year's Session retreat in late April focused on growth through better communication: within the Session; with our current members (hence, in part, this news-

letter); in our neighborhood; and in reaching potential new members to share our progressive, special community.

To help reach out to potential new members, Session members James Buczynski, Janet Holtz, and Jen Saffron have initiated a membership committee to welcome new folks into our dynamic fellowship. (We need a name for this committee, too, so don't be shy, and nothing boring, please).

More from the Session

Spread the good news by inviting your friends and family as guests to church

We welcome you to take the guest cards located on the table under the Church Directory. The cards are complete with a map and parking information.

Please make note that Space for Grace Wednesday Agapé meals will resume in the fall, as a place for members and guests to experience the warmth and hospitality of a Community House meal.

Lastly, plan ahead. New member dinners will be held October 3, 10, and 17. These are fun, informational sessions for those interested in becoming new members. Please contact Rev. Wayne C. Peck at 412-780-1182 for more information.

Unity News publishes twice in two months!

Happily, church members contributed enough material to nearly fill an issue of Unity News.

Please be aware that this space could have been filled with much more substantive material. Instead, it will be used to remind you that contributions to the newsletter are requested by the last Friday of the month for publishing by the second Sunday of the month.

This month's deadline is July 27 for release on August 12.

Thanks to all who suggest a subject. You need not write the article. You could choose to provide an outline or be willing to talk to either Jen Saffron or Bobbi Donovan in advance.

Affirmations and Encouragements

The Celebration of lasting love

Congratulations to Marta Branch and Dion Plater, the newlyweds! The happy couple was married at Community House on Saturday, June 30, 2007, with Rev. Wayne Peck officiating. Wishing you blessings and happiness!

Award winner

Bob Baumbach recently won a regional award from Cool Space Locator (<http://www.coolspacelocator.com/>) for his 2006 architectural restoration of 900 Middle Street in the East Allegheny section of the North Side. Go, Bob!

Congratulations to our graduates of 2007!

Renard Smith graduated early in June from the PA Cyber Charter High School.

Molly Donovan graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in April.

Bailey Donovan graduated from Brentwood High School in mid-June.

Celebrations of new life

Gay Fogarty and her family joyfully welcome the birth of her 10th grandchild, Nicholas Charles Hopkins born June 15.

Marcus Williams, grandson of Del Rodriguez and son of Noora Rodriguez, will be baptized on July 7.

Diane and Peter Durand, former CH members who relocated to Nashville, are expecting their second child.

Our Stewardship Progress

Our year-to-date total contribution of treasure is \$48,459.70. Our giving to-date puts Community House on pace for an annual total of 100,796.18. That's down from our giving pace of \$102,588 last month. We set a goal of \$115,000 at the beginning of 2007. Thank you to all who are helping to keep Community House a vital part of the worshipping community in the Presbyterian Church. Don't forget to turn in your sign-up sheet for contributing your Time and Talent.

What's coming up? Camp PRAISE! Opportunities

They're going fast, but there are still a few dates when we need adult volunteers to spend some casual, fun time with the youth of the church during the sermon time. Dates that we need volunteers include July 22 (to team with Stephen Jordan), July 29 (two volunteers would be ideal), Aug. 12 (to team with Peter Donovan) and Sept. 2 (two volunteers please). No previous experience or pre-planning needed -- just an open heart and a willing attitude. We have wonderful children in this church and it's fun to spend some time with them as they play games, do crafts, work on puzzles, etc. See Darlene to claim your spot!