

CHPC — Woven into the Fabric of Pittsburgh's Northside

Community House is an active participant in the goings-on of Pittsburgh's Northside. CHPC member Jen Saffron is active with the Northside Common Ministries and offers the following encouragement to all of us to take an active role in being the change we seek in the world.

Northside Common Ministries Shelter Meals are a great opportunity to provide graciousness and hospitality to our North Side neighbors in need. Each month, Community House folks cook and serve a meal to approximately 30 men who live at Pleasant Valley Shelter, one of the programs of the Northside Common Ministries.

The shared meals are an occasion to live out the Christian promise of loving our neighbors. They remind us of the grace God gives us every day. And, they provide a tangible expression our church's commitment to love and justice.

If you are interested in opening your heart to this ministry, you are in luck. We are in need of someone to sign up for Tuesday, December 11. Providers of the meal donated, cook and serve the food. The men provide set up and clean up.

In addition to Shelter Meals, Community House has provided approximately 25 boxes of food, gently used clothing, and household items so far this year to the Northside Common Ministries food pantry.

The pantry serves hundreds of North Side families in need. Please let's keep up the good work! Non-perishable food items, clothing, and household items may be left in boxes in the church's coat room, and they will be taken to the shelter once a month. Thank you!

Northside Common Ministries recently survived the flooding of their administrative offices due to a profound leak in the roof - in addition to their insurance, they are in great need of monetary donations to offset the costs of the damage. To assist them, please give cash or check in an envelope to Jen Saffron by the end of September.

For more information about Shelter Meals or any other way you can get involved to support Northside Common Ministries, please contact Jen Saffron at jensaffron@comcast.net or at 412-322-2110.

News from the Session of the Community House Presbyterian Church

Darlene Durrwachter-Rushing, Jen Saffron, and Joyce Baskins are planning a Holiday Arts Open House on Saturday, December 1 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at our church. This festive event will feature artists (primarily from the North Side) with excellent holiday crafts and

arts for sale, as well as refreshments and a general holiday atmosphere. If you know of a crafter or artist who may want to set up shop (even you!), please contact Darlene at 412-231-6105. Volunteers, please call Jen at 412-322-2110.

Growing Our Church—Around a Meal, Of Course

New Member Dinners

Join us for New Member Dinners on three consecutive Wednesday evenings, October 3, 10, and 17, beginning at 6 p.m. Conversations between those gathered will explore our shared spiritual commitment over a meal. We are excited that several folks have already signed up! New Member dinners are a wonder-

ful inquiry into what it means to live a Christian life, and what it means to be a part of our unique, progressive faith community.

If you are interested in signing up to participate, or are just curious, please call Rev. Wayne Peck at 412-780-1182.

My Week at Camp Crestfield by Ethan McLure Part 2

One of the best Bible stories that I heard was about Sampson, who God created and had super human strength. He was one of God's followers. The strength that God gave him, he once killed 30 bad men with a donkey's jaw bone. However, he was betrayed by his wife, Delilah, who took money to reveal Sampson's weakness - which was cutting off his 7 braids from his head. The great kings took him to their prison and decided to make him perform for all of their guests (which

were mostly bad people). They chained him in between two pillars with more than 300 people standing on a platform between the pillars, expecting him to die. However, Sampson's hair had started to grow back, along with his strength, and he was able to bring his hands together which made the platform fall and ended up killing all of the bad people and himself.

(to be continued in the October Unity)

A HEARTFELT THANKS!

Thank you to all of our wonderful adult volunteers for working with the children of our church from September 2006 through August 2007! This month we thank **Camp Praise volunteers**

Betsy Graf	Doug Sterling
Derwin Rushing	Kim Kunkel
Darlene Durrwachter Rushing	Nancy Hayes
Gina Spangenberg	Molly Peck
Jeanine Blackburn	Shari Ferline

Thanks to all those who have or will participate in the preparation or serving of **Shelter meals**:

the Detwiler Family	Ray Wiethorn and Scott Stegman,
Gay Fogarty,	Shari Ferline-McClure and Susie
the Springer Family,	McClure,
Cheryl Lowitzer,	Joyce Baskins and Family,
The O'Neill Family,	the Saffron-Baumbach Family.

Affirmations and Intentions

- David Perkins will soon welcome a new niece into his family - congratulations!
- For the friends and family of Jayla Brown and all victims of violence and oppression. (Contact Joyce Baskins at 412-939-0290 to join a prayer group to pray for an end to violence on our streets.)
- For Bailey Donovan during his search for healing.

Please send good news or prayer concerns to Jen Saffron, jensaffron@comcast.net, or Bobbi Donovan, bobbilee@comcast.net.

Our Stewardship Progress

Our year-to-date total contribution of treasure is \$63,790.00. Our giving to-date puts Community House on pace for an annual total of \$97,562.25. That's down for the second consecutive 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.

What's coming up? WELCOME SUNDAY — SEPTEMBER 16!

Welcome Sunday is next week. Welcome Sunday is a perfect opportunity to share our wonderful blessings that we cherish as members of Community House with our friends and family members, neighbors and co-workers. Bring someone you care about along! And, we are still looking for support in the way of contributions for our fellowship meal. A monetary donation would be welcomed from those who are not able to prepare a food donation. Joyce Baskins is doing the organizing so a call or email (at queenb63@comcast.net) to Joyce will get you involved.