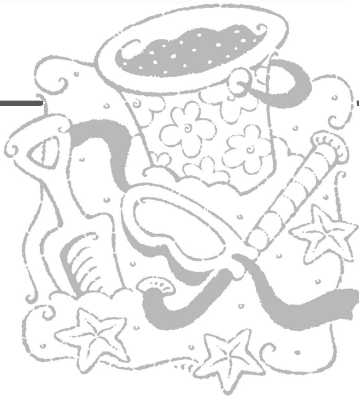


DONEGAL *Dialogue*

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As we transition

By Associate Executive Presbyterian/Acting Head of Staff, Charlie Gross

Even as we transition, The Presbytery of Donegal is on an exciting adventure in kingdom building! We are blessed, nourished, equipped, and gifted by a sending God. We are drawn close to God's heart, and we are sent into the world to be faithful reporters of what we have seen and heard.

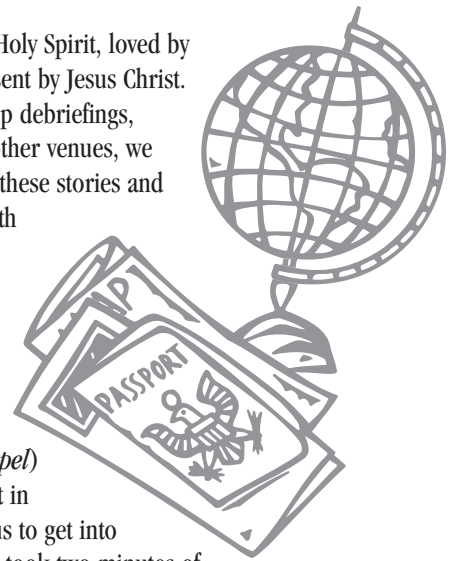
This summer offers us a chance to be sent into the world to family gatherings, vacation spots, retreat settings, mission trips, and perhaps even to Camp Donegal. We will have many opportunities to see and hear stories of what God is doing in this world. We will also have many opportunities to be used as Christ's hands, Christ's heart, and Christ's feet in this world. In this way, we are living out two of our Core Values—Mission and Evangelism.

In mission, we are sent by the Lord to make disciples and to teach. We do this through building relationships, praying for others, caring for others, loving others, and serving others. In evangelism, we become reporters who tell our personal story of what God has done and is doing in our lives. We find ways to connect our faith and hope with our service, sharing why we do what we do. We also tell stories of what God is doing in and through us as we serve in various ways around the world.

Our challenge is to help one another articulate our service and our mission activities so that we can explain that we are

empowered by the Holy Spirit, loved by Almighty God, and sent by Jesus Christ. Through mission trip debriefings, small groups, and other venues, we can practice telling these stories and sharing our faith with confidence.

One example of this was demonstrated by Martha Grace Reese (author of *UnBinding the Gospel*) at the Big Tent event in Atlanta. She asked us to get into groups of three. We took two minutes of silence to listen for God's urging, to know what story we were to share with the others. We then took just three minutes each to share a story of God's Spirit working in, through, and around us. You would not believe the power that this produces!



***As we go out into the world,
we are empowered
by the Holy Spirit,
loved by Almighty God, and
sent by Jesus Christ.***

Friends sent by Jesus, I can't wait to hear your personal stories! Practice sharing in small groups and then share them via audio or video! God is at work in this world, and you are one of His laborers! Rejoice, celebrate, and tell the story! See you in September!

The video shown at presbytery; "What does Jesus Christ mean to me?" is located at: <http://vimeo.com/5234226>

God is at work in this world, and you are one of His laborers!

Rejoice, celebrate, and tell the story!



THE PRESBYTERY OF DONEGAL

CHESTER, LANCASTER & YORK PA. COUNTIES

Grace to you and peace, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

HARD COPY—*E-news that's jumped off line!*

www.donegalpby.com

The Trimbles are here! Remember Doug and Margy Trimble, whom we bid farewell before they left for South Asia at the June 2008 Presbytery meeting? During their brief time home this summer, the Trimbles will share an update on their work at a special Sunday evening gathering on Sunday, August 2, at 7:00 p.m. at Centre Presbyterian Church (Southern York County). For directions: <http://www.centrechurchpa.org/find.htm> or call the church office at 717-993-2345.

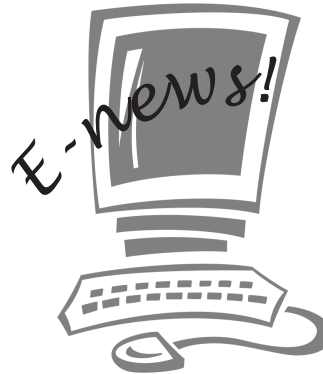
The 7th Annual Community Hymn Sings, known as "Singspiration," will continue at the Historic Old Leacock Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Aug. 2, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 6, also at 7 p.m. Old Leacock Church is located at the corner of Old Leacock Road and the Old Philadelphia Pike (Route 340), Intercourse. Lemonade will be served in the church courtyard following the event. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call the Leacock Church office at 687-6619.

Leacock church, 3181 Lincoln Highway East, Paradise, is also offering free community meals on the final Thursday of every other month beginning at 5:30 p.m. The next meal will be held on July 30. All members of the community who are in need are welcome to attend. For more information, call the church at 687-6619 or Lois Eshelman at 394-4953.

English Presbyterian Church, 133 West Market Street, Marietta, will host a Storytelling Workshop led by Michael Forestieri (<http://tellitlikeitis.com>) on Saturday, Sept. 12, from 9:30 a.m. until noon. A light continental breakfast will be served. Doors open at 8:45 a.m. There is no fee, but donations will be accepted. This event is geared toward Christian educators, Sunday School teachers, youth leaders, pastors, camp personnel, etc. Forestieri is known for his knack for seeing the potential in people and proven success in bringing out their creativity. For more information, contact Kathy Taylor 717-392-1512.

Struggling with evangelism? Here's a guide! The Hitchhiker's Guide to Evangelism Workshop will be held Wednesday, Sept. 30. If your church is in need of help with the "e" word, this workshop is for you! Topics will include: Conversion vs. Conversation; The Changing Cultural Climate; What's Your Motivation?, Building a Church of Evangelists—and more! Bill Easum and Bill Tenny-Britain will be your leaders. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the seminar will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lunch will be included. Fee: PRC Subscribers \$55, Non-Subscribers, \$75. Registration deadline is Wednesday, Sept. 23. The seminar will be held at the Parish Resource Center, 633 Community Way, Lancaster, PA, 717-299-1113. For more information and registration, please visit <http://www.parishresourcecenter.org/lancaster>. The first 20 registrations will receive a Presbytery scholarship that will lower the cost by \$25.

The Wee Kirk 2009 Northeast Small Church Conference will be held Oct. 12 to 14, at Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, Mt. Pleasant, PA. The purpose of the conference is to inspire, equip, motivate, and encourage small PC(USA) Churches and to provide rest and refreshment for the clergy and lay leaders of those churches. The conference is a ministry of Presbyterians for Renewal and is co-sponsored by the Small Church & Community Ministry Office of the PC(USA) and the Synod of the Trinity. Go to <http://www.pfrenwal.org> to register, or call the presbytery office for a brochure.



The National Youth Triennium for youth ages 15 to 19 is scheduled for July 20–25, 2010! Once again Presbyterians from all over the world, including 7,000 youth, will converge on the campus of Purdue University for five days of fun, worship, small groups, and new friendships. Chris Rowles (Wayside) was a supervising adult for the 2007 event, and he is

interested in spreading the gospel of Presbyterian Youth Triennium 2010 to the Churches of Donegal Presbytery by visiting all youth groups in the Presbytery from largest to smallest, to make a presentation. His goal is to fill a bus with kids from Donegal Presbytery for Youth Triennium 2010. To learn more, contact him at chrisrowles@comcast.net.

HELP WANTED

First Presbyterian Church of West Chester, PA, seeks a director of Christian Education (DCE)—a person who is passionate about his or her relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and who is committed to sharing that passion and nurturing it in others. We are seeking a biblically grounded, theologically informed candidate to fill the role of director of Christian education for the church. The right candidate will be called to become a senior staff member of a 2,200 member church whose Mission Statement is focused on the sovereignty of the Lord and in deepening the relationship with God through Jesus Christ. The DCE will work with the head Pastor and the Christian education committee to develop a comprehensive vision which will serve all ages of our Christian Education ministries. The successful candidate will exhibit strong leadership, communication, and organizational skills. A Bachelor degree in Christian Education and experience in leading a CE program are both required. Please access the church Web site at <http://www.firstpreswc.com> for a thorough description of the position and respond by submitting your resume, three references, and an essay describing your faith journey to DCEposition@firstpreswc.com.

The road to Ethiopia

By Larry Moir



Our time in the Presbytery of Donegal, and at Cedar Grove Presbyterian Church, has been part of the larger picture of God's purpose and will for our lives. Our involvement in the Umtata, South Africa Task Force and the relationships we have developed in the Donegal and Umtata Presbyteries have stimulated our sense of God's call to become missionaries—a call we have sensed for over a decade. So this time among you since August 2001 has been a time of preparation and discernment.

We are now being sent as English teachers to the Bethel Evangelical Secondary School (BESS) in Dembi Dollo, Ethiopia, by PC (U.S.A.) World Mission. We will be a part of a long tradition of Presbyterian mission personnel who have served in that capacity for many years. Dembi Dollo is the home of the members of the Oromo congregation of this Presbytery. Gemechisa Guja taught mathematics and general science at BESS. Many members of the Oromo congregation are graduates of the school.

BESS is located in the mountain highlands of western Ethiopia at an elevation of approximately 7,000 feet. Afan Oromo is the language of the Oromo people. By immersing ourselves in the lives of the students and staff Barbara and I will be learning Afan Oromo. Later, during school breaks, we will attend Afan Oromo classes in the capitol of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa.

There has been the particular joy in coming to know the members of our Oromo congregation and their pastor, Gemechisa Guja. This is where the sense of being a part of something greater is strongest.

We have experienced the prayers and encouragement of the entire congregation ever since we informed them of our appointment to BESS.

We encourage you to search for and recognize the far-reaching relationships we have as members of the church. In these relationships, we can see the Holy Spirit at work. We perceive the "ties that bind," even when forces internal and external seem intent on dividing us. Christ's grace works to overcome every power that seeks to hurt or divide.

Even when we resist, Christ's redeeming, reconciling love is able to restore our brokenness. In holding fast to this promise, it follows that we remain stronger when we are in mission and ministry together than when we are apart.

NOTE: We urge all to support the Moirs with your prayers and financially. Pledges may be sent to the Mission Initiative account, MI910082. They have also requested certain items they would like to take to Ethiopia. These include: English Bibles (not King James), pocket dictionaries, mechanical pencils, and pens. They will pick up these gifts at the Presbytery office on August 10. See them at [//vimeo.com/5618210!](http://vimeo.com/5618210)

Answering the call—

**Barbara and Larry
Moir are being sent as
English teachers to
Bethel Evangelical
Secondary School
in Ethiopia.**

The Donegal Digest

Bellevue (W. S. Davies)—The church hopes to host visits from one or more Russian families this summer. Families from Ukholovo Church visited Bellevue in October 2008.

Bethany (L. Kelsey)—The Bethany Sunday School collected old denim items to be made into insulation that can be used to help construct homes in areas where a national disaster has occurred.

Chanceford (H. Robinson)—Chanceford celebrated "Rural Life Sunday" on June 7, with an outdoor worship service. Attendees rested on straw bales or lawn chairs and enjoyed bluegrass music. Two calves joined in the festivities, and their presence was enjoyed by children and adults alike. Worship was followed by a chicken barbecue.

Fairview (M. Atkinson)—The men's fellowship held a breakfast and work day at Good Works warehouse in Coatesville. Women and teens were invited to join the men in donating their time to the effort.

First (J. Morgan)—The church took part in a neighborhood strawberry festival, including free food, entertainment, and, of course, strawberry shortcake and ice cream.

Highland (T. Mingle)—Special third Thursday brown bag lunches for seniors have included topics such as wood carving and stained glass creations. The August event will be a visit to Sight and Sound Theater for a behind-the-scenes tour.

Little Britain (T. Milligan)—A ten-week discussion group for high-school-age girls began on May 12. The focus of the class was developing healthy relationships by setting boundaries in dating.

Honey Brook (B. Wisneski)—On Friday, June 12, the church held a strawberry festival. The annual church picnic was held on Monday, July 13.

Paoli (R. Larson, Interim)—The summer singers, a group who offer the morning anthem throughout summer worship, began practicing in June to provide music during services all season long.

Penningtonville (J. Link)—At Penningtonville, the deacons held their annual Strawberry Festival on Friday, June 12. The event featured hamburgers, hot dogs, bluegrass, and gospel music, along with strawberries and ice cream.

Stewartstown (S. Gutridge)—On May 9, the church celebrated motherhood with a 10 a.m. brunch in the fellowship hall. Attendees were encouraged to bring an item representative of a Bible character for a brunch-time activity.

Unionville (J. Howat)—The church held a Father's Day Tie contest on Sunday, June 21. Awards were given out for the most original; wacky and wonderful; gorgeous garden; and best use of duct tape.

