

DONEGAL *Dialogue*

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The Power of Our Vision and Unity in Christ

By Charlie Gross

I recently picked up a copy of Bill Hybels' *Courageous Leadership*. I am only a few pages into it, and it is gripping me, inspiring me, and making my pulse quicken in a powerful way. First, he uses this definition of vision: "Vision is a picture of the future that produces passion." Then, he makes the bold, obvious, yet in my opinion, ignored, statement of fact that, "The local church is the hope of the world. It's the God-ordained redemptive agency upon which the destiny of the entire world hangs." Strong language. But, if we are truly the body of Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, honoring, praising, worshiping, and serving God, there is no greater power! We have no business being timid, hunched over, living fetal position lives. We are in the business of changing the world, or as I sometimes have on my e-mail signature—making a dent in the universe through the love of Jesus Christ!

I have a vision of the Presbytery of Donegal as one which is not only "United through our faith in Jesus Christ, demonstrating God's love to each other, the community, and the world," but also one who harnesses spiritual power and people power to collaboratively and collegially change the world. We have the energy, we have the intelligence, we have the imagination, and we have the love. We have the gifted people, and we have the money. Let's take the next step! Let's build on our strengths, encourage and pray for those who are struggling, and go for it!

Friends, we are consistently in the top ten mission giving presbyteries in the denomination! We are passionate about mission! God's Mission! We are passionate about changing lives through Jesus Christ! Let's start some new categories of Presbyterians and become number one in faith community development and servant leader development so that Almighty God will be glorified and the world will be changed!

Two steps you can take—

Send an e-mail to the Council at council@donegalpby.com to let them know your hopes and dreams for the future.

They are visioning on Oct 31st. Join in the <http://donegalnewchurchdevelopment.blogspot.com> discussion about faith community creation and leadership development.

Extravagant Blessings!
Charlie Gross

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Bill Hybels
Courageous Leadership

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

Stewardship Giving magazine is available free (shipping charges only) for any congregation requesting it. PC(USA) produces this annual magazine in partnership with the Ecumenical Stewardship Center. Inside, readers will find stewardship-related articles, along with an eight-page guide for holding an annual stewardship campaign based on this year's theme, "New Love; New Mercy." More information and instructions on ordering the magazine and related resources can be obtained by e-mailing Jon Brown at jon.brown@pcusa.org.

"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.'" Matthew 19:14. PC(USA) has a Web site designed specifically for young children launched by the ministry of Child Advocacy and called Kids 4 Kids. This colorful, interactive, and educational site, suitable for ages 8 to 12, is designed to empower children on behalf of other children. The site features stories, games, and a tool kit to teach children about other ministries of the PC(USA).

Learn about "The Hidden Problem" the Internet and pornography addictions—at a one-day workshop (Oct. 26 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.). Register at <http://www.donegalpby.com/2009internetporn.pdf>

Hear one of the preeminent peace workers in the world—Archbishop Elias Chacour—on Friday, Sept. 25, at 7 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, 140 E Orange St., Lancaster. This is a great opportunity made possible by the Lancaster Interchurch Peace Witness and First Presbyterian Church in Lancaster. Archbishop Elias Chacour, of the Melchite Church of Galilee (Greek Catholic) is a founder of schools serving nearly 3,000 youth in interfaith and multiethnic settings, three-time Nobel Peace Prize nominee, and stirring witness for peace and reconciliation. Churches are encouraged to bring youth groups.

Mthatha Trip Planned—The Rev. Dr. Bill Hess is the new chair of the Mthatha Task Force. They are busy planning a trip for this fall. Please support this effort as we strengthen our connections across the world.

New Budget Proposed—2010 Budget proposal is per capita \$377,305 (1.9%) decrease = \$26.91 per (GA 6.15, Synod 2.10, Presby 18.66) Mission \$279,530 (3% increase) working to bring the good news of Jesus Christ in word and deed in our community, presbytery and around the world.

Get your Books Of Order Now! The New 2009/2011 Book of Order is available. If you would like to participate in a bulk order with a cost of \$8.00 per copy, please contact the presbytery office by e-mailing kathy@donegalpby.com or 717-392-4035.

...And Your Mission Yearbooks. Order your, 2010 Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study and 2010 Children's Mission Yearbook now. One of the best ways to be familiar with the worldwide ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is through the Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study. By ordering your Mission Yearbooks through our Presbytery, you can be part of our "bulk order" and save costs, but your order must be in the Presbytery Office by September 30th. The cost per copy is \$5.50 each, and the Children's version is \$6.50 per copy. Contact Kathy at kathy@donegalpby.com.

Evangelism Workshop! The Hitchhiker's Guide to Evangelism will be held September 30, at the Parish Resource Center, 633 Community Way, Lancaster, PA. Does your congregation struggle with evangelism? This workshop is for you! Topics include: Conversion v. Conversation; The Changing Cultural Climate; What's Your Motivation? Building a Church of Evangelists and more! Led by Bill Easum and Bill Tenny-Britain. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the seminar runs from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lunch is included. Fee: PRC Subscribers \$55, NonSubscribers, \$75. Registration deadline is Sept. 23. For more information and registration please visit <http://www.parishresourcecenter.org/lancaster>.

Small Churches Unite! Come to the Wee Kirk 2009 Northeast Small Church Conference, October 12-14, 2009, at Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, Mt. Pleasant, PA. The purpose is to inspire, equip, motivate, and encourage small PC(USA) Churches. Please visit <http://www.pfrenewal.org> to register or call the presbytery office for a brochure.



Fall events

New Church Development Training for Presbytery Teams: Sept. 21-24, 2009, Sterling, VA. For Presbytery and Church teams working to start a new church.

New Church Development Pastor Discernment: Oct. 15-17, 2009, Pittsburgh, PA. For those who are discerning if God is calling them to New Church Development.

Level One Coaching Skills Training: Oct. 19-21, 2009, St. Louis, MO. For Presbytery Teams already involved in congregational transformation.

New Church Development Team Training: Nov. 24, 2009, San Clemente, CA. For Leadership Teams from NCD's that are in their first five years of existence.

You can register now for these events. For more information and to register, visit: www.PresbyGrow.Net or call 1-888-728-7228, ext. 5247 or ext. 5088

Summer like no other!

A Christian camping experience can make a summer stand out for a child. If he or she only has one chance to go to a Christian camp, it's likely the memory of that summer will hold a special place in his or her heart for years to come.

Camp Donegal gave just such experiences to children throughout the summer of 2009. A packed schedule of activities greeted campers. Along with the tried and true camp songs, swimming in the pool, campfire, and scavenger hunts, this summer's theme: Follow The Leader, encouraged campers to follow Christ as disciples from daily lessons to vespers and cabin devotions by learning the six marks of discipleship.

Camps for the summer of 2009 included Critter Camp, Magical Mystery Tour Camp, Bicycle Camp, where campers biked more than 100 miles in a week, and Night Owl Camp. Those who didn't get enough should mark their calendars so they don't forget to attend the November 14, 2009, Reunion Camp, which will include songs, s'mores, and fellowship.

The Donegal Digest

Bethany (L. Kelsey)—The church has created a Memorial Garden. It is a final resting place for members who choose to be cremated but also a place where the living can go to find peace, serenity, and to meditate. Ashes will be interred there with dignity and respect and committals will be recorded on a plaque to be hung in the narthex.

Bellevue (W. Davies)—The church Board of Deacons invited church members to help them meet an area need for backpacks for elementary and middle school children by filling bags with school supplies and returning them to the church by Aug. 16, to be delivered to areas schools.

Cedar Grove (D. Salinger, Interim)—The church held its 10th Annual Peach Festival on Saturday, Aug. 22. Baked goods, white elephant items, themed baskets, books, and peach pies were sold to raise money for Samaritan's Purse and to help decrease the loan for the church's CEW.

Covenant (Dr. J. Moyer)—The church held a special "Arts Saturday" on June 12. The show included sculpture, jewelry, carvings, photography, oil and water color painting, and needlework. An evening show included comics, music, and more.

First, West Chester (Dr. W. Hess)—Outgoing youth director Josh Landis will be honored on Sunday, Sept. 27, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service and at a reception in

the social hall following the service. A memory box was set up to collect personal notes and cards to share with him and his family.

Highland (Dr. Roger Rabey)—On Friday, Aug. 28, the church hosted Taylor Mason, comedian and ventriloquist. The show included singing, stand-up, and more. Appearing with him was Drive Thru Parking, a Christian rock band playing the Philadelphia and New Jersey areas since 2005.

Paoli (Dr. R. Larson)—The church has planned a field trip to Gettysburg National Military Park for members and friends on Saturday, Oct. 17. The educational journey will visit major battlefields of the Civil War and include a re-creation of Longstreet's Assault, a walking tour of the National Cemetery, and a narrated bus tour of the battlefield.

Slateville (C. Curley)—On Friday, Aug. 21, the church held a peach social and fun night that included ice cream, mounds of peaches, and tons of funs for those who gathered to celebrate the end of summer and the return of the school year.

Unionville (J. Howat)—A potluck picnic was held on the afternoon of Sunday, Aug. 23, in Anson Nixon Park, Kennett Square. Attendees were invited to bring a dish of their choice, while hot dogs, burgers, and beverages were provided along with games and activities for all ages.



The Presbytery of Donegal

Donegal Dialogue

Newsletter of Donegal Presbytery

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HELP WANTED

Sexton needed at Nottingham—Reliable person needed for sexton position in Nottingham area for up to 7 hours per week. Forward resume with salary requirements to: Nottingham Presbyterian Church. Attn: Personnel, 497 W. Christine Road, Nottingham, PA 19362 or e-mail resume greenstonepcoffice@zoominternet.net

Part-time Youth Leader—Middle Octorara Presbyterian Church (USA) is seeking an energetic leader for its youth program. The successful candidate will devote 25 hours per month to the position. For more information please visit <http://www.MiddleOctorara.org>. Salary will be discussed during the interview process. Applications should be mailed to: Youth Leader Position, Middle Octorara Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 1199 Valley Road, Quarryville, PA 17566

Part-time Director of Christian Education—Monaghan Presbyterian Church in Dillsburg, PA, is seeking a Christian Education Director. A bachelor's degree and experience in church leadership and education is requested. Desired qualifications include commitment to and knowledge of the Presbyterian/Reformed understanding of the Christian faith, ability to work effectively with youth and families, be detail-oriented, and have skills in communication and teaching. Candidates should e-mail resume to: monaghan@monaghanpresby.org.

Director of Christian Education ("DCE")—First Presbyterian Church of West Chester, PA, seeks a candidate who is passionate about his or her relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and 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 ("DCE") for the church. The right candidate will 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 of all persons with God through Jesus Christ. The successful candidate will exhibit strong leadership, communication, and organizational skills, along with energy and enthusiasm. A Bachelor degree in Christian Education and experience in leading a CE program are both required. Please access the church website 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.