

New Church Development in Chester County, Pennsylvania **September 2008 updated**

La Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana de Toughkenamon

South-eastern Chester County, PA

Contact: Rev. Ray Meute, Administrative Commission Chairman, pastor.meute@verizon.net

Rev. Nering Huete, Organizing Pastor, 610.350.7366 (cell), je777ing@aol.com

Mission:

To reach out and to be compromise of Hispanic people, families and individuals, attempting to meet their spiritual, physical and cultural needs with the love of Christ.

Celebrations:

- We celebrate the participation of 14 kids in VBS at Westminster P.C. West Chester, the 8 youth campers who attended Donegal Camp this summer, and the 34 in attendance in our VBS at La Iglesia.
- We celebrate our Mission trip to Honduras this summer. We visited 14 churches in 6 days and the \$7000 we collected was used to finance 21 small projects.
- We celebrated our 9th Anniversary and our sanctuary was at capacity. We had attendance from Baptist and Methodist Churches.
- “Back to School” – We celebrated that 52 book pacts were distributed to our kids and youth in cooperation with New London P.C..

Prayer:

- More “Covenants of Support” for the Hispanic community in general, so they will someday be living and working without fear.

Dilworthtown Community Church: A Missional Experiment of Westminster Presbyterian

1385 Birmingham Road, West Chester, PA 19382 610-399-3377 (Westminster Phone)

www.dilworthtowncc.com

Contact: Rev. Tony Sundermeier, tony@dilworthtowncc.com

Mission:

“DCC is a community on the way home, stumbling in the light.” Mission Statement: “Knowing Christ through Spiritual Formation – Making Christ Known through Missional Living”

Celebrations:

- DCC now counts over 105 households as “regular participants/members.” Of those 105 households, 70% *did not* come via Westminster. 24% of our “new” people have joined the church.
- There are over 60 people regularly participating in spiritual formation and/or community groups.
- DCC is now a Good Neighbors Church as we are working with Good Works (www.goodworksinc.org) with families living below the poverty line in Chester County. The initiative seeks to make a connection between a congregation and family in a year-long commitment of encouragement, work, and friendship.
- We worshiped over 180 people on September 7 with 40 children between Preschool and 5th grade participating in our Sunday School.

Prayer:

- For generative dialogue and practices between the Westminster and Dilworthtown campuses.
- For our leadership.
- For the people in our congregation who are struggling and striving to live out our mission.

Oromoo Presbyterian Fellowship

Hosted by Bethany Presbyterian Church, 25 North West End, Lancaster, PA 17603

Contact: Rev. Laura Kelsey, Administrative Commission Chairman, rev_laura@yahoo.com

Rev. Gemischia Guja, Organizing Pastor, 717.393.8842 (office), 717.917.3279 (cell),
guja12@hotmail.com,

Mission: Reach the Oromoo Community with the gospel of Jesus Christ

Celebrations:

- The congregation has grown to 69 members as 5 more people were added this year.
- This summer the church had a weekend retreat at Camp Hebron and offered a vacation Bible School with Bethany Presbyterian Church.
- The church has prayer groups which meet on Wednesday nights at the church, Friday mornings in homes, and overnight prayer groups that meets at the church on the first and third Saturday of the month.

Prayer:

- Oromoo would develop her youth into future leaders through Sunday Bible study and mission work.
- Look for a Sunday School teacher for the Children's School.
- Future funding for Oromo Fellowship as NCD grants decrease.
- Congregation to congregation connections with Oromo and other Presbyterians church to develop and deepen this summer

Background on Oromo:

- For more background on Oromo Presbyterian Church Pastor, Rev. Gemechisa Guja - <http://www.donegalpby.com/DPBY/Jun04/GUJA.htm>
- For the History of Presbyterian mission work in Ethiopia - <http://www.pcusa.org/worldwide/ethiopia/>

Resurrection Chapel

(formerly Memorial Presbyterian Church, currently a mission of First Presbyterian Church)

426 South Queen Street, Lancaster, PA 17603

Contact: Rev. Randy Riggs, randy@fpclanc.org Pastor of First Presbyterian Church,

Maria Chuquimia, Commissioned Lay Pastor, 717.295.4882 (home), mariacruz59@aol.com,

Elder Celso Mesias, 717.387.7090 (home).

Mission: . Resurrection Chapel seeks to serve, on an individual basis, first generation, Spanish speaking immigrants of the surrounding neighborhood, city and Lancaster County with primary focus on Mexican, Central American, South American and Cuban people who have been either without faith or who were in the past but have not recently been involved in the life of a church. Collectively, we also seek to serve the second and third generations of these individuals.

Celebrations:

- There are currently 45 adults and 12 children attending worship regularly.
- Vacation Bible School reached out into the neighborhood and was well received on June 30 – July 2.
- A Haitian fellowship now shares the facility with Resurrection Chapel.

Prayer:

- Funding from GA, Synod, Presbytery, and Partner churches to launch Resurrection Chapel.
- Development of home cell groups this year.