



Agape Herald

The Newsletter of the Presbytery of Huntingdon
Mission: Loved by Jesus Christ, called to love others.
www.huntingdon.org

October 2004

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Mission Opportunities!

Visits with Pakh 5 Nan
Friends!

Workday at Krislund!

A Restoring Retreat!

And More!

Rejoice!

MANUEL AND THE KILLER TEETH

Kaufmann, General Presbyter

Submitted by Joy

Sleety snow tap-tapped on the tent. Although it was only nine o'clock at night, it had been dark for almost three hours. We were in our sleeping bags, the good kind that allow a person to stay comfortable when it is below freezing. It was then that the sound started. It was an odd sound, somewhere between a hoot owl and a coyote... "oooouhhhh" "aaaaoouuhhh...." The sound continued intermittently for maybe ten minutes.

"Bill, what do you think that is?" I asked my husband, or more accurately, I asked my husband's nose, the only part of his person one could see emerging in the darkness from his mummy bag. "Do you think it is the cook or the guide snoring?" Bill, not given to lengthy conversation when he is snuggled in his sleeping bag said, "I don't know." Another ten minutes went by. "Maybe one of the crew is having a bad dream." I speculated. "Don't know," murmured Bill, "but I do have to go to the bathroom." "While you're out there, please try to figure out what that noise is." "OK", this said wearily as he pulled on coat and hat and gloves and boots. Meanwhile another round of eerie sounds began.

Bill returned and said it was emanating from our guide's tent. Now we both went out into the snow storm to investigate. "Manuel! Como estas? Estas bien?" (Manuel, how are you? Are you alright?) "It's my teeth." he says. "They hurt." Then he started to moan again, for moaning in pain was what the noise was. Now, as a pastor, I've visited with a people in the hospital a few thousand times, and never heard anyone in this kind of pain. So we ran to get over-the-counter pain medication from our medical kit. After 15 or 20 minutes, the meds kicked in, and we all drifted off to sleep, Bill and I promising ourselves to chat with Manuel about dental care the next morning.

The next morning, Manuel insisted he didn't need a dentist. ("I've never seen a dentist in my whole life - 28 years - I just chew coca leaves!") We tried to convince him to go into town an hour and a half walk away and take a van to Lima, but he was stubbornly insistent that he didn't need a dentist, he could treat the problem himself. So we started the day's hike, and after 15 minutes Manuel fell to his knees moaning. He started scooping up small handfuls of snow, pressing them to his neck. "Manuel, what is with your neck?" "It hurts." "Manuel, you have an infection, and it has gone to your lymph system. If you have an abcess under a tooth with a bad infection in it, it could kill you. Son, go to the dentist now!" After 10 minutes of diplomacy, and a lot of pain in the offending teeth, Manuel finally



Krislund Korner

The "After Ivan" Edition

High Waters, No Power, Strong Fellowship

Our prayers have been with those who have suffered from the aftermath of hurricane Ivan. Flooding in regions near the Camp included Mill Hall, Coburn, and Spring Mills. The Camp was spared from long-term impacts. Minor flooding in basements, a small mudslide, uprooted trees, and rutting in roads was the extent of our damage. Although the road to the Camp from Lamar was closed for a couple of days to repair flood damage, it is now open. A quilting group in the Lower Lodge took advantage of the electric-less weekend to enjoy walks and extended fellowship with one another.

Fall Work Day, Fast Approaching (10/02)

Many volunteers are needed for this year's fall Work Day. Beginning at 9:00 and going until 3:30, we request persons of all ages to come and help us prepare the Camp for the winter. Tasks include painting, dismantling tent and wagon covers, cutting and splitting firewood, light carpentry, cleaning lodges, and much more. Krislund will provide a delicious lunch for our faithful volunteers. Please call the Camp office and let us know how many will be coming (814.422.8878). Come and be part of the Camp team on Saturday, Oct. 2.

Donate an Acre Subscribers Invited to Banquet, 10/17

Participants in the Donate an Acre campaign are invited to a special appreciation supper and entertainment on Sunday, October 17. A tour of "historic" Krislund and the new property will occur at 4:00, followed by a scrumptious supper in the newly remodeled Retreat Center. If you are interested in the Donate an Acre program, which assists in the purchasing of the 1,500 acres surrounding the Camp, please call the Camp office or visit our website: www.krislund.org.

Fall Youth Retreat Returns, Nov. 12-14

Past youth retreats at Krislund have been lots of fun and sources of spiritual inspiration. This fall's retreat promises more of the same for youth in 6th-12th grades. Entire youth groups and their leaders are encouraged to attend. As in the past, excellent savings are available for the leaders (note: 2 adults come free with groups of 10 or more). Brochures have been mailed out and are available upon request. Send questions and brochure requests to: jerkrislund@juno.com.

Summer Internships Planned for High Schoolers

Current high school juniors will have the opportunity to register for a three-week summer staff internship, starting this summer. The first week will be training for the next two weeks as an assistant counselor. Various internship "classes" will be available throughout the summer of '05. More details will be available in the new summer brochure, scheduled for release in November.

Mission Work Group Orientation, Oct. 30

Does your church sponsor persons on work projects, or is your church interested in exploring the exciting prospect of sending members to work on a mission site? Krislund Camp is listed in the PCUSA's mission handbook and hosted more than six groups this year for projects lasting from 3-7 days. Work projects at Krislund are diverse and can be easily adapted to the interests of almost any work group. The Camp gladly provides no-cost housing for all work groups and a meal plan can be arranged. An orientation meeting will be held on Saturday, October 30 for work group leaders interested in bringing a group to Krislund in '05. ***The meeting will begin at 10:00 am and end at 1:00. Work projects for next year, skills needed, and cost estimates for materials will be presented. Lunch will be provided. For more information, call 814.422.8878.***

**Presbytery Resource
Center Relocated
in Bellwood.**

Marie Carlson,,
Center Coordinator
Office Assistant

Submitted by
Cen-
and Presbytery

The Resource Center has moved into the Presbytery Office in Bellwood. Marie Carlson, Office Assistant, is available to assist you Monday, Wednesday, or Friday, from, 8:30 am-1:30 pm. (Resources can be ordered any time the office is open, but shipments will be made only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.)

Please stop by or call the Presbytery Office at 742-2200 on those days to borrow resources. Watch for our catalog to go on the WEB in the next few

The Dreaded Dragon

Submitted by Lynn L.

Illingworth

Pastoral Care Consultant

The mythical legendary dragon gets a lot of attention in Holy Writ. It should. This dangerous and belligerent amalgam of parts of various animals such as crocodiles, serpents, lions and a host of pre-historic animals has basically been a symbol of evil in most cultures going back to primitive times.

In Old Testament times it was God's (Yahweh's) perpetual enemy. The clearest samples are found in Psalm 74:12-17 and indirectly in the book of Job. Mention is made in the prophets; however, it is when we come to John's Book of Revelation that the vicious battle takes place between the seven-headed beast with ten horns and seven diadems and the archangel Michael. Don't ask me to explain the dragon's features. I'll leave that up to John and your own scrutiny. It must have been ferocious, nevertheless the dragon is thrown out of heaven to earth and becomes 'the deceiver of the whole world.'

There is a difference between western and oriental cultures on how to deal with the beast. In our culture the trend is to slay it. Not so in the oriental mind. There it can be a symbol of imperial power. It has been used to conquer wickedness and the Chinese when they want rain will make a dragon out of wood and paper to use it in a ritual. If there is no rain; it is destroyed.

How is it reflected in our day, in our own personal lives? We are now living in broken world; evil is a reality. Simply put in the words of John, it can be called the Devil and Satan. The bottom line is that it is impossible to slay it. Why? We as human beings cannot destroy evil. It continues to prey on the soul. The late C.S. Lewis wrote a classic: "The Screwtape Letters" where an old codger demon through letters determines to train a rookie with the tricks of the trade. Lewis believes that God has given us free-will and thus, like Adam and Eve in the Garden, we still eat of the tree of good and evil.

Years ago when I started my career as a minister, I was exchanging thoughts with an old Episcopal priest on the Devil. He told me, "Lynn, the best way to get rid of the Devil (evil) is to love the hell out of it." God set in force a healing power called love to deal with evil. In the life, ministry, healing, crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, the power of eternal love broke through the hide of the dreaded dragon and will bring us spiritual triumph and wholeness in life.

Take a Fall Pause

Submitted

by Tracie Bullis

In the fullness of these Fall months, as we transition from the free play time of summer to the winter cloisters, plan to step out of the fray for a day and be attentive to your spiritual life. And plan to do it in a beautiful setting, crying to the glory of Fall colors ...

On Saturday, October 16, the Huntingdon Presbytery gathers in a retreat time at Krislund Camp, to engage together in the theme Offering Cups of Living Water Through Tools of Spiritual Formation. The Revs. Lynn Illingworth and Paula Curtis-Burn will lead us through morning and afternoon sessions that increase our attentiveness to the tools of spiritual formation.

The Retreat begins at 9 AM, with a lunch feast enjoyed together before we end at 3 PM. The day of learning and lunch is \$10, and is open to everyone.

Please plan now and arrange your calendar to pause for the day on October 16. For more information, contact Jane Illingworth at: jti14@innernet.net

Cut and send attached reservation form to:

Jane Illingworth
treat
HC 83, Box 419
Shade Gap, PA, 17255.
Name _____
Church _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Program on Hunger

Submitted by Peggy Kendall

all

On October 11 at noon there will be a keynote address by Dr. Glenn W. Geelhoed, MD, MPH, PhD, held at the Pasquerilla Spiritual Center on the Penn State Campus. The Center is a 5 minute walk from the Nittany Lion Parking Deck adjacent to the Nittany Lion Inn.

Dr. Geelhoed is professor of surgery, international medical education and microbiology and tropical medicine at George Washington University Medical College. He will speak on **Hunger And Our Responsibility To It: Malnutrition and Obesity.**

Dr. Geelhoed has a strong interest in global health; his work includes identifying and training native peoples to conduct specific medical practices among their own people. For 34 years he has been recruiting students and other doctors to join him as a medical missionary all over the world.

The recipient of many awards, Dr. Geelhoed has published several books including **Out Of Assa: Heart of the Congo (Medical Adventures in Central Africa.**

There will also be a premiere screening of a new film by Penn State on **Hunger in Central PA.**

October Prayer Calendar

3: Multi-Media Resource Center

Marie Carlson, Coordinator

10: Committee on Ministry

Rev. Sam Strohm, Chairperson

17: Administration Umbrella Team

Elder Ted Kiffer, Chairperson

24: Leadership Umbrella Team

Rev. Alice M. Meloy, Chairperson

31: Discipleship Umbrella Team

Rev. James Hanly, Chairperson

Hunger Café

From 5:30-8:00 p.m. the second annual Hunger Café will be held. Hunger Café is an outreach educational event focused on regional and world hunger. Student groups with direction provided by Penn State faculty and staff work together to offer a community meal that helps participants understand global food issues. There will be a display of hunger posters by students and a performance by the PSU choir "The Essence of Joy." A silent auction of student created rice bowls and chop sticks will be held followed by a post meal auction of artist created ceramic plates and table and chairs.

For tickets - \$10 for students, \$20 adults- call 814-863-0249.

For other info contact Peggy Kendall 238-7875 or pkendall@penn.com

MANUEL AND THE KILLER TEETH *continued from page 1*
us to see how fortunate we are to live in a place where basic health care is readily available and even taken for granted. Manuel had not only never seen a dentist, he had never owned or used a tooth brush in his life. He really meant it when he had said, "All I ever use for my teeth (and all other health care) is to chew coca leaves (claimed to have a mildly narcotic effect, and therefore able to mildly dull pain.)

But his example also made me think about life as a Christian. It took a real crisis that involved genuine pain to get this nice young man to consider any other way than the way to which he was accustomed. He kept thinking he could handle it by himself. In fact, the crisis had to be to the place where it could have killed him before he was willing to consider different ways to think of the problem, different solutions, different behaviors. Are there areas in my life where God would like to make some changes, but I stubbornly insist that I can handle the problem alone? Are there areas in the lives of our congregations where this is true? In order for God to break into our thinking, do we need to be in a crisis, even a life-threatening crisis before we can hear God's new message for us? Before we can receive God's healing answers for our challenges and problems? Before we stop trying to "go it alone" and really listen for God's leading?

My prayers are with all of you in all our churches as you seek to discern and then live God's will. Oh, and all is well that ends well. The next day Manuel met us on a back country road, having made it to the dentist in La Paz the previous night. He proudly displayed his mouth, complete with two big fillings and 12 more smaller holes to be filled later that week at trek's end. He showed us his new tooth brush and even gave a demonstration of how he would use it, he said "every day for the rest of my life." Thanks be to God for those crises that bring us to new visions of health and wholeness! May it be so in our congregations. Blessings!

Rev. Kaufmann may be reached at

gnrlpres@atlanticbnn.net

PAHK MEN VISITING

Two young men from Pahk 5 Nan, in Thailand are visiting in Huntingdon Presbytery. Kraisor Wuttiwong and Rangsarit Suanta arrived September 26th and will stay until October 8th. This is part of the on-going Partnership of sixteen years that has enabled folks from our Presbytery and from the Pahk to visit each other.

Our visiting partners are having a busy time within the Presbytery for two weeks. Many churches have asked to meet the pastor and elementary school teacher who are with us. However, to give as many as possible the opportunities to meet these men and to show them our churches and communities we want you to know their tentative schedule as of 9/19/04.

Please feel free to contact the church where they are scheduled in order to be a part of the time they visit. These two men will inspire you. They are excellent examples of the vibrant nature of our partners in Pahk 5 Nan. They witness every day from a spiritual community amounting to less than one-half of one percent of the population.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

During September they visited in Philipsburg, Sinking Valley, State College, and Curwensville. They also attended the Presbytery Meeting and brought greetings from Pahk 5Nan. Their schedule for October is as follows. If you would like to visit please call one of the contact persons.

Saturday Oct 2: Duncannon Presbyterian Church, Carlisle Presbytery.

Pastor Krisana Pountajak is from Thailand

Sunday Oct 3: Hollidaysburg Church

Contact: Alice & Jim Sturniolo: 696-0006

Monday Oct 4 : Altoona Churches, pot luck meal, Contact: Trav Young: 943-0484

Tuesday Oct 5: State College Church

Contacts: Marcia and Dave Beppler: 692-8914

Wednesday Oct 6: Tour Big Valley and visit Belleville Church

Contact: Sam Strohm: 717-935-2337

Thursday Oct 7: Upper Spruce Creek Church

Contact: Elizabeth Lake: 632-8370

Friday Oct 8: Hollidaysburg Church

Contact, Alice and Jim Sturniolo: 696-0006

Saturday Oct 9: 5:30 a.m. departure from State College Airport----- bid them farewell !

Pastor, Kraisor Wuttowong and Rangsarit Suanta are visiting throughout the Presbytery. They bring greetings from Pahk 5 Nan in Thailand.

PRESBYTERIAN HOMES LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

Submitted by Carol Berster

As part of a two-year review of the Homes' five facilities, the Board of Directors of Presbyterian Homes in the Presbytery of Huntingdon has authorized the construction of a new 16-bed personal care facility on the campus of its Windy Hill Village Continuing Care Retirement Community in Philipsburg. Initial plans indicate that the new unit will be ready for occupancy by November 2005. At that time, the current Moshannon Heights Personal Care facility, also in Philipsburg, will be closed. It is expected that the residents remaining in that home, which is now voluntarily closed to new admissions, will be transferred to the new facility. The new unit will bear the name "The Heights at Windy Hill Village".

The closing of this facility was a difficult decision for the Board to make and for the management to recommend because so much history belongs to that building at 2nd and Presqueisle Streets. The stately 7-story "Philips Hotel" has stood watch over downtown Philipsburg for nearly eighty years. Since 1961, she's been known as the Presbyterian Home of Moshannon Heights.

This decision deals directly with the realities of today and the Board's mandate to choose a course that will provide the absolute best care for the residents and families who place their trust and confidence in the Presbyterian Homes. It is anticipated that by the time the new building is ready for occupancy, there will be 16 residents ready and willing to move right in.

Presbyterian Homes looks forward to a future of continued community involvement, the fulfillment of our mission, and performing the best compassionate care for residents of all faiths throughout Central Pennsylvania.

Carol A. Berster, CEO, Presbyterian Homes, may be reached

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The Joint Camp and Conference Committee for Camp Krislund voted Friday, September 24 to approach lenders to rewrite two loans with which the camp purchased additional acreage.

"Balloon" payments will be due in February of 2006 if the loans are not rewritten. JCCC members are quite confident the lenders will want to rewrite the loans. The "Donate an Acre" campaign continues, and is enormously helpful in paying down the loan. Why not consider who in your life is worthy of acre, either as an honor or a memorial? Everyone wins if you donate an acre to Krislund!

Presbytery Calendar

- Oct. 4 10:00 am LUT at Huntingdon Church
- Oct. 6 10:00 am Clerk's training at Bedford Church
- Oct 7 10:00 am-1:30 Judicatory meeting at Mt. Aloysius
- Oct. 12 Session Records Review
9:00 am Personnel Committee at Presbytery Office
- 5:00 pm Krislund Board meeting
- Oct. 13 9:30 am Quarterly staff meeting /Presbytery Office
4:00 pm DUT at Pine Grove Mills
- Oct. 16 9:00 am-3:00 pm LUT retreat at Krislund
- Oct. 17 2:00 pm Installation of Rev. Nichol at
Fruit Hill Church
- Oct 19 10:30 am Nominating Committee/Presbytery Office
1:30 pm AUT at Presbytery Office
- Oct. 21 9:00 am Synod meeting and EP Forum at Carlisle
1:00 pm COR at Presbytery Office
- Oct. 25 1:00 pm-5:00 pm Self Development of People
training
- Oct. 26 1:00 pm Council Meeting at Presbytery Office
- Oct. 28 11:00 am COM w Carolyn Jones/Presbytery Office
1:00 pm COM meeting at Presbytery Office
- Oct. 29 5:00 pm Krislund Consultation with 6 Presbyteries
- Oct. 30 9:00 am-3:00 pm Lay Pastor training at
Tyrone Church



Agape Herald

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PRESBYTERIAN HOMES HONORS

ALICE QUAY

Steiner,

Submitted by Jim

Director of Development for Presby-

terian Homes.

Some people have the power to affect others....and some people enable others to empower themselves. Alice Quay has been recognized for both as the 2004 recipient of the Presbyterian Homes' Meritorious Service Award.



Well-known throughout Blair County and beyond for her tireless and inspirational volunteer efforts for many years, Ms. Quay now resides near her family in Wayne, PA. She returned to our area September 12th to accept this prestigious award presented by Carol A.

Berster, CEO of the Presbyterian Homes, at the 14th Annual Benevolent Care Dinner, hosted by the Hollidaysburg Auxiliary, and held at Westminster Woods, Huntingdon. Ms. Quay was nominated and selected for the Meritorious Service Award by employees and volunteers of the Presbyterian Homes in the Presbytery of Huntingdon.

(Pictured: Alice is congratulated by Terry Goldstein, President of the Board of Directors.)

Accompanied by her four children, Martha, Beth, Cora, and John, Alice addressed the audience, offering some pertinent history of the Homes and tell-

Avenue Presbyterian Church in Altoona where she ultimately served in just about every capacity, including 20 years as a Sunday School teacher for 3rd & 4th graders, and was one of the first women to become an ordained Elder.

Alice was a founder of the Blair County Association for Retarded Citizens, and established a pre-school program for young kids with special needs, first held at the Broad Avenue Church long before public school special education. Her other contributions in the community include Altoona Ecumenical Council activities, Contact Altoona, and her dedication to the residents of the Presbyterian Home of Hollidaysburg. Bible studies, Valentine's Day parties, moving residents in, and serving communion were just a few of the ways Alice ministered to the folks at the Home.

A true friend to our residents, much of Alice Quay's time and talents have been devoted to making the quality of life the best it can be for our folks and so many others throughout Central Pennsylvania.

She has been honored by numerous other awards and has the distinction of having served as moderator of the Huntingdon Presbytery at age 85! Many of you will remember Alice and won't be surprised to hear that she hasn't changed a bit. Impeccable in appearance, and articulate as ever, Alice took time to reunite with old friends and acquaintances while accepting her award in the low-key unassuming manner befitting a woman of such character and class. The Meritorious Service Award seems to fit very well.

May God Bless Alice Quay!

Mr. Steiner can be reached at 814-695-6371, ext.

Agape Herald is published monthly by the Presbytery of Huntingdon. It is the responsibility of the Communications Subcommittee of the Administrative Umbrella Team. **Editorial and Production Team**

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Submission deadline is the 3rd Monday each month for the following month's publication.

Sturdy Homes Being Built in Haiti

Submit-

ted by Kay Lewis

CODEP is beginning a small home building project in the area where Rodney and Sharyn Babe are working in Haiti. Homes near the road where materials can be transported more easily will be constructed of concrete block. Those in less accessible areas will be wooden homes using pressure treated lumber and tin roofing.

All homes will be about 12' x 24' which will include a small covered porch area. Construction will be supervised and assisted by visiting US groups. Costs will vary according to materials used and donated supplies but are expected to run between \$4000 - \$6000. A group led by Bill Harshman and John Conrad is hoping to help with this project in 2005. If you are interested in learning more, you may reach Elder

Church Profile: Shade Gap Presbyterian Church, Shade Gap, PA

Submitted by Mary Frances Jaymes

Nestled in a tiny valley, the Shade Gap Presbyterian Church is located at the intersection of Routes 522 and 35 in the town of Shade Gap in Huntingdon County. The congregation will be celebrating 204 years in the Lord's service at their homecoming service on October 17, 2004.

At the 175th year milestone in the congregation's history, the church was described by a local historian: "When traveling north from Burnt Cabins to Shade Gap on Route 522 . . . a view of outstanding quality is spread out before the traveler. . . . It's one of those rare scenes, complete in itself, to which one has only to mentally add a frame. . . . The Shade Gap Presbyterian Church is . . . the first thing that catches the attention of the onlooker. It is a small red brick structure with white trim and steeple with some larger trees on its grounds and smaller evergreens scattered here and there."



The writer describes the church much as it is today. There have been a few changes. Some of the tall, stately trees that were in the area of the church have been removed. New plantings have been utilized and a Memorial Triangle garden has been planted to the left of the church steps.

The congregation first worshipped in a log meeting house. The present brick sanctuary was built in 1848. James Hudson deeded the land for the consideration of \$1.00 to the trustees of the Presbyterian Congregation of the Little Aughwick (the church's first name). In return, the trustees promised to keep "in repair . . . and good order for use, the brick house that was then being built, or any other house that the congregation . . . may choose to erect as a place of worship."

Eighty thousand bricks were used in building the church. The cost was \$300. The McShane bell that hangs in the steeple was made in Baltimore, Md. in 1890. A mini historical display in the vestibule of the church shows the carbide chandeliers that graced the ceiling of the sanctuary prior to electric lights.

A beautiful feature of the church is the stained glass. Eight windows depict the life of Christ. The original clear glass was replaced with these stained glass panels in 1954. Many of the windows were given in memory of dear ones who attended the church earlier and are now buried in the adjacent cemetery. A plaque in the rear of the sanctuary identifies these memorials.

Through the years, members of the congregation have sought to serve the community in a variety of ways. In the 1840's, Rev. McGinnis, the pastor of the church, started the Shade Gap Academy. One of the goals of the school was to educate future pastors and teachers. The academy had an excellent reputation. Students came from as far away as Baltimore and Philadelphia to receive an education. Today, the congregation actively supports a variety of missions, both here and abroad.

Members have also been active in Huntingdon Presbytery and in the mission and worship of Bethany Parish, of which the Shade Gap church is a part. Each year, the Parish has combined services on Easter, Pentecost, and World Communion Sunday as well as a shared candlelight Christmas Eve service. Parish congregations also worship together when there is a fifth Sunday in a month.

The congregation of the Shade Gap Presbyterian Church is a close-knit family who takes pride in continuing the Lord's work and using the talents God has given. The congregation meets each Sunday morning at 9:30 for worship and 10:30 for Sunday school and at other times throughout the month for study and fellowship. We believe strongly that the Lord has a plan for our congregation. He has led us for 204 years. We continue to listen for God's will and seek to follow God's way, building on