



# Agape Herald

The Newsletter of the Presbytery of Huntingdon  
Mission: Loved by Jesus Christ, called to love others.  
[www.huntingdon.org](http://www.huntingdon.org)

## June 2004

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## **HELP!**

**Camp Nurse needed for  
the Week of  
June 27- July 3**

**If you can help, contact  
Sharon at:**

**[krislndsec@juno.com](mailto:krislndsec@juno.com)  
or call 814-422-8878.**

## **FOR THE COMMON GOOD**

*Submitted by Joy Kaufmann  
General Presbyter*

As this is written, we are looking forward to the birthday of the Christian Church, Pentecost. Long ago the book of Acts recorded that the followers of Jesus held all their possessions in common - maybe possible within a small community of people, but a lot more difficult, even impossible, for a community of faith such as ours. But I've been thinking lately about the appeal of holding all things in common: it implies trust among all members of the community, as well as good communication and group decision making. How blessed those earlier Christians were to be able to do such a thing.

During the month of May I was privileged, along with some others from our presbytery, to experience one of the ways in which our denomination *does* try to act together for the common good. The Board of Pensions sponsored a training event in Philadelphia and together with the Board our Committee on Ministry sponsored two training events, a pre-retirement seminar and a fiscal fitness seminar, at the Broad Avenue Church. How were these activities related to a trusting Christian community?

The speakers shared about the community nature of the Board of Pensions. Here are some of the ways in which this is so.

\* The plan is values-based, reflecting our Biblical understanding of the community of faith as one body in Christ,  
\* Those who follow Christ's call to serve in smaller congregations and thus are

lower paid receive protection, especially in retirement. For those of our pastors receiving presbytery minimum, they are likely to receive 140% of their salary in retirement. And their medical benefits are identical to their higher paid colleagues.

\* Dues (the "dreaded 30.5%") are paid on the position, not the person. Thus a large pot of money is created from which benefit needs of *all* plan members are met.

\* Those who are healthy share with those who have healthcare needs.

\* Those congregations that can afford more in pastor's salary and benefits "cover" a greater part of the total dollars given each year, so that all pastors may receive adequate benefits.

\* Members share the cost of medical benefits through deductibles and co-payments. Again, the deductibles are based on a pastor's salary, with those who are paid more meeting higher deductibles.

\* Members earning less than the national median salary calculate their pension credits *as if* they were earning national median, thus boosting their retirement income.

\* The medical, death and disability



and retirement accounts are well managed, having earned 27.5% on average last year, after three poor years. (We still outperformed Standard & Poors index.)

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## FOR THE COMMON GOOD

*Continued from page 1*

This allows the denomination to build up cash reserves.

\* When cash reserves are deemed large enough, extra pension credits are given to *all* pastors, both currently serving and honorably retired. Thus one's benefits in retirement keep up with and can even exceed inflation.

The Board of Pensions is not perfect. Believe me, having watched and sometimes helped two of our pastors walk through the disability determination process, I know dealing with the Board can be complicated and even frustrating. But the intention of the Board is excellent, and if one responds clearly when it seems that a Board staff person has not reacted as he or she should, the vast majority of the time the situation works out right. If it doesn't, you should call me. I'm getting to know the cast of characters, and all of them are persons of sound mind, good will and deep faith. Plus, you and I have the added benefit of being part of a values-based pension plan, a real rarity these days. In an era of "me first", our Board of Pensions holds before us in real, practical ways the Biblical notion that it is possible for the followers of Jesus to hold, if not all things in common, at least some of things that really matter. It's one of the gifts from our denomination to us, and I am grateful.

Blessings to you this June as we live together in light of God's marvelous gift of Jesus Christ and the sending of his Holy Spirit. *Rev Kaufmann may be reached*

*at: 814-742-2200*

*Or gnrlpres@charterinternet.com*

## Krislund Korner

## The "Pre, Pre Camp" Edition

### Lots of Room for Campers

"It's too late," some have been overhead saying in local churches. "I won't get my first choice camp" or "I'll not get my roommate choice" are common misconceptions. The truth is we have a little more than 1/3 of the summer spaces still available (approximately 400 vacancies). *Krislund registers campers throughout May and the summer months.* Many trips and main camps are available for interested campers. Now is the time to go to the Camp website, [www.krislund.org](http://www.krislund.org), to preview the summer schedule, camp listings, and to download a summer camp application. We're getting ready for a great summer of unforgettable fun, friendships, and faith building. Sign up now....or call **814-422-8878**.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Vertical Playpen: Not For Wee Ones

Rebuilt and ready, the Vertical Playpen (VPP) is a special challenge activity for older campers and adults. Imagine two large trees, twenty feet apart. Between these trees are a series of physical and mental challenges using cables, ropes, and wood stacked on top of one another. Is this hard to picture in your mind? Then come for a week this summer and see it first hand. Unlike other high rope challenges stressing individual challenge, the VPP is a two-person event stressing cooperation and mutual assistance. The VPP is just one of a lot of changes and additions to this summer's adventure program. Join us for Family Camp or one of the other 32 camps scheduled at Krislund this summer, and see the VPP for yourself. We think you will agree: it's "awesome."

\*\*\*\*\*

**Wanted:** High School or graduate males for paid summer positions. Call 814-422-8878 or e-mail Jackie at [Jerkrislund@juno.com](mailto:Jerkrislund@juno.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Silent Quilt Auction—all Summer

Stop in a see the display of 11 beautiful quilts at the Krislund Retreat Center and make your bid.

## REMINDER! Enrichment Event-Christian Education

June 22, 2004 3:30-5:00 at Upper Spruce Creek

*Submitted by Alice Meloy, Chairperson*

The next enrichment event will focus on Christian Education. Deannine Shipman, Director of Christian Education at the State College Presbyterian Church, will be leading the event. This is a rare opportunity to receive personal help as well as review usable and new Presbyterian curriculum that was written with small churches in mind. The curriculum has generated enthusiasm for its adaptability.

Deannine has invited you to send your questions prior to the event so she can offer specific help to your unique situations. You may use the address for the State College Presbyterian Church, 132 W. Beaver Ave., State College, Pa. 16801 or [d9shipman@aol.com](mailto:d9shipman@aol.com).

The Upper Spruce Creek Presbyterian Church will offer a light supper for those attending. Please register at the Presbytery Office so Deannine can prepare materials and the supper committee food. Presbytery office number is 814-742-2200.

*Rev. Meloy may be reached at 717-349-2685*

## CLERGY PROFILES

By Lee McCardle

Rev. Beth Marie Garrod-Logsdon was born 1972 in Hamilton, Ohio to parents Roger and Sheryl (Wineberg) Garrod. Beth's parents divorced when she was 11. Her mother worked 2 jobs to send Beth and her sister Christa through college. Beth is a lifelong Presbyterian, baptized, confirmed and ordained as an elder at Pleasant Run Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati. Beth and husband Joshua T. Logsdon solemnized their marriage vows in 2001 at Caldwell Chapel at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Beth graduated from Baldwin-Wallace College with her B.A. degree in 1994, and from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary with her M.Div. Beth was installed as Associate Pastor of Christian Education at the First United Presbyterian Church of Dubois in September 2001. Beth serves on Huntingdon Presbytery's Committee on Ministry and it's Ministry to Ministers sub-committee.

Beth's hobbies include reading, doing crosswords puzzles, playing video games, knitting, and "rooting for the Cleveland Browns!" She is presently reading "The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio."

Beth says, "I believe the major issue facing our churches today is unity. We all, Presbyterians and all Christians, are so occupied with talking about our differences, that we forget the foundation of our faith is truly what unites us. I truly and wholeheartedly believe God desires us to serve together supporting all whom God calls into the ministry of our churches, and that all the fighting and turmoil caused by disagreement only serves the purposes of the Tempter to weaken us as a force for good in this world."

May the Spirit of Christ strengthen Beth and Joshua in their work with the people at Dubois.

Rev. McCardle can be reached at  
leemccardle@adelphia.net  
or 814-235-0676

## DOES "DECENTLY AND IN ORDER" HAVE TO BE BORING?

By Beth Garrod-Logsdon



Do you look forward to worship each week? If heavenly worship is like your weekly worship, are you looking forward to worshipping God for eternity?

As Presbyterians, in our struggle to remain decent and in order, do we also become stagnant and boring?

Each Sunday night at youth fellowship, the youth (in their brutally honest fashion) critique the morning's worship service. The music, the movements of worship and, yes, even the preaching are discussed. "Why does worship have to be so boring?" they ask.

Does worship have to be boring? Do we want our younger members thinking that worship is boring? Do you think they are looking forward to spending eternity worshipping God? Worship is what we make it. If we are merely going through the motions, it is going to be flat and boring. But if we open ourselves to the movement of God's Spirit within us and allow ourselves to follow it's lead, then worship will become heartfelt, meaningful, and enjoyable. Spirit-led worship will encourage us to worship God with all our heart, all our soul and all our body.

"Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!"

*Psalm 150:6.*

Rev Garrod-Logsdon may be reached at 814-372-4734 or  
pastorbeth@usachoice.net

## Charles Monts Called

Submitted by Nancy Kraybill

On Easter Sunday members of the Hollidaysburg Church voted to the Rev. Chuck Monts as their new pastor.

Rev. Monts and his family will be coming to the area from Saranac Lake, moving to Hollidaysburg by July 1. Some folks in Huntingdon Presbytery might remember Rev. Monts' father who at one time lived in Reedsville where he served as pastor of the Presbyterian Church.

Elder Kraybill may be reached at  
wkk1@psu.edu

### Broad Ave. Church (Altoona) Remembers Final Exams!

College students from the Broad Avenue Church are especially remembered at final exam time. Church members pack each of them a box of non-perishable snacks and mail it off to the student.

## MISSION FESTIVAL

September 21st

*Submitted by Alice Meloy*

On September 21st, we will be joining together for a celebration of mission prior to our Presbytery meeting on September 21st at the McVeytown Presbyterian Church. We hope to highlight the activities of each

church as they obey the injunction, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation."

(In "Credo" by William Sloane Coffin he writes, "Most Church boats don't like to be rocked; they prefer to lie at anchor rather than go places in stormy seas. But that's because we

Christians view the Church as the object of our love instead of the subject and instrument of God's. Faith cannot be passive; it has to go forth."

We look forward to hearing about the activities taking place in each church, large or small. The presenter or presenters may wish to share exhibits, ethnic dress, foods, music, etc. of the areas where their mission is taking place. The Holy Spirit is a Spirit of creativity and joy. Hopefully, September 21st will be a day of both celebration and inspiration. If you have questions or suggestions, call Alice Meloy. The event is being planned by LUT in consultation with DUT. Details will follow later.

During worship at Presbytery, we will celebrate communion. Worship will be led by Rev. Dave Vogan and Rev. Joy Kaufmann.

**Most churches move to Summer Hours. Double check times if you plan to visit and attend worship.**

## Madge Quick Celebrates 102 years!

Madge Quick, member of the Bellwood Church, helped entertain at her own birthday party in May. She played one of the bells at the concert provided by residents of Epworth Manor in Tyrone. Several members of the Logan Valley Presbyterian Church in Bellwood joined Madge to reminisce about the many "church family" experiences that Madge has enjoyed. While her eyesight is failing, she remains vitally interested in the life of "her" church.

## Some Summer Youth Ministries

**Bedford Church:** *Submitted by Janet Brallier*

On June 21-25, six of our youth plus Pastor Doug Friant are attending Fun in the Sun Northeast in Wildwood, NJ. It is a Youth Conference through Presbyterians for Renewal Youth Ministry. It is for Senior High age students. This is their second year to attend. All the youth seem to thoroughly enjoy the experience.

**State College Church:** *Submitted by Peggy Kendall*

Beginning June 19 about 50 members of FISH (Fellowship in Senior High) will set up a tent community on the beach at Assateague National Seashore. Small group program and play are experienced in the sun and sand and occasionally in the wind and rain. The community takes turns preparing meals in a uniquely equipped Food Tent, which includes a pony and weather proofed pantry. This retreat includes fun, intimacy, great discussion, worship and beautiful sunsets. The theme this year is "living simply so others may simply live."

**Several Churches** will have Bible Schools or Christian Education Experiences for various ages. For example, Bellwood **Logan Valley Church** will host a community Bible School every Wednesday night beginning that the last week of June through July. **Bedford Church** VBS will be held evenings July 26-July 30. Our older youth play an active part in the skits and help wherever needed as well as some of our members. They usually do a skit, lesson, music, recreation, and craft each day. **Bellefonte Church** will host a cooperative Bible School July 26th-July 29th which is held at 6:30 p.m. Throughout the summer **State College Church** has a special program for 3's, 4's, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades. Called "By the Waters" the children will explore stories in the Old and New Testaments that have events around, in or near the water.

If you would like to share what your church is doing this summer please get in touch with one of the *Agape Herald* reporters listed on page 7. We can learn from one another.

## Jim Steiner at Presbyterian Homes

*Submitted by Jim Steiner  
Director of Development*

Who knew that my career path would lead through teaching and coaching to a fork in the road? I chose the more treacherous track into the creative world of marketing, advertising, and graphic design. Who knew that that would ultimately take me to a crossroads at the doorstep of a new client: Presbyterian Homes

Notwithstanding the cyclical nature of life, I've recently been brought back to education, teaching at the college level...and now, in a way, to my Presbyterian roots as a shy little kid in my dad's Sunday School class.

In accepting the position as Director of Development, I accept a new set of challenges that will require much help, teamwork, a firm belief in the mission of the Presbyterian Homes...and you! I'll be reaching out, so I hope you'll be receptive. Together we have a stake in providing the best healthcare for the people who need us the most. It certainly won't happen by accident.

Who knew I'd be asking you to roll up your sleeves and join in intensifying efforts to carry out our compassionate mission?

I think maybe SOMEBODY knew. I'm proud to be aboard. *Jim Steiner may be reached at jsteiner@presbyhome.com or 814-695-6371 Ext. 305*

### **Last Call: General Assembly Trip!**

This year General Assembly will meet in Richmond, VA, a reasonable drive from our presbytery. We would like to organize vans to take those of us who wish to be present for the opening of GA on Saturday, June 26, the election of the moderator that evening, and the opening worship on Sunday, June 27. Our vehicles would then head back to the Huntingdon Presbytery in time for people to be home by the evening of the 27th.

You would need to be prepared to pay for one night in a local hotel, with arrangements to be made by the presbytery staff, and to cover all meals while we travel. But transportation would be free and the company will be great!

If you would like to take part in the "Huntingdon Presbytery GA Caravan", please contact the presbytery office at 814-742-2200.

## Reverence Submitted by Lynn Illingworth Pastoral Care Consultant

When the late troubadour singer, Burl Ives sang "The Ninety and Nine" his voice made the words sound heavenly. This old gospel hymn was adapted from Jesus parable of "The Lost Sheep" (*Luke 15:1-7*), one of my favorites. While in Ireland this past March, I experienced a touch of the parable in action. Traveling through Killarney National Park in County Kerry with its steep ridges, thickets, heavy underbrush, narrow winding roads on the edges of precipices, we saw wandering blackface sheep scattered everywhere. It is understandable how sheep can be easily entangled in such environments while grazing and not realize it. What was exciting was to watch a sheep dog on whistle signals from the master circling stranded sheep and lambs in the fold. There are nine million sheep in Ireland.

Our Lord had a reason for using the number one hundred, with one missing. Like other Biblical numbers, one hundred has divine implications. It is to bring reverence to life which is lacking in our day. Come to think of it, we hardly ever hear of the word being used now. Is it because we have lost all sense of its meaning?

Reverence is respect for life. Reverence is to beautify life, to celebrate life. It is to paraphrase the first question of the "Shorter Catechism" which is to glorify God and enjoy God forever. Reverence was the motivation that caused Dr. Albert Schweitzer, noted German theologian, foremost expert on the composer J.S. Bach to study medicine and devote the rest of his life to the natives in Lambarene, Africa. We could say that reverence comes before faith, that it is certainly essential for faith. Reverence is the root to build faith.

As has been said, the heart becomes empty and lonely when it dissipates reverence. We are living in extreme times of negative actions, hatred, abuse, and devastating events—a time when anything goes. There is the need to change and build the Kingdom of God. As Christians following the Gospel we can open pathways to reverence in our daily lives. This is the great commission for us—now.

*Rev. Illingworth may be reached at 814-234-2415*

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Charles W. McGaha, Pastor of the Reedsville, East Kish Congregation recently had by-pass surgery. Chuck is now doing well and hopes to be back in the pulpit soon. Keep him and his wife, Mary, in our prayers.

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Les Papp is under a doctor's care. Please keep Les and Pat in our prayers.

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Mary McCurdy, who at one time served as matron of the Hollidaysburg Home, celebrated her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday April 18. Mary is a member of Broad Avenue Church.

## Presbytery Calendar

June 1	10:30 a.m. Nominating Committee Mtg. @ Presbytery Office
June 1	1:00 p.m. Council Mtg. @ Presbytery Office
June 3	1:00 p.m. COM Mtg. @ Presbytery Office
June 9- June 11	noon Synod Mtg. @ Waynesburg College
June 16	9:30 a.m. Presbytery Staff Mtg. @ Presbytery Office
June 17-19	Synod Women's Gathering @ Waynesburg College
June 19	9:30 - 3:30 Certified Lay Pastor Training
June 22	6:00 p.m. Presbytery Mtg. @ Upper Spruce Creek P.C.
June 26 - July 3	General Assembly @ Richmond, VA



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## Presbytery Prayer Calendar

June 6: Lewistown Congregation,  
Rev. Bruce A. Hinderliter, Pastor  
Rev. Robert L. Zorn, Parish Associate

June 13: Lewistown Highland Park Congregation  
Rev. Christina Trimble, Pastor

Madera Congregation  
Rev. Richard Berggren, Moderator

June 20: Mapleton Depot Congregation  
Rev. Harold G. Williams, Moderator

Kylertown Congregation  
Linda K. Hendrian, Pastor

June 27: McAlevy's Fort Congregation  
Elder Daniel Morris, Commissioned Lay Pastor  
Rev. Carl D. Campbell, Counselor

McVeytown Congregation  
Rev. Jeanette Rapp Mater, Pastor

General Assembly; Richmond, Virginia  
Commissioners, Delegates and G.A. Staff

## Update on Haiti *Submitted by Rodney Babe*

Sharyn and I send our continued appreciation of your constant support and commitment to this work of Christ, which calls us all together.

There is no doubt it's rainy season. The mud and water from the Cormier River continues to essentially close the only road to L'Acul and the entire southwest peninsula of Haiti. Today we rode horses past a hundred or more vehicles hopelessly mired, some up to their windshields. Help did arrive several times last week when a large loader plowed the road open. US Marines came through on another day with equipment and unsnarled a thousand blocked vehicles and pulled a hundred more from the mud. But the evening rains reinstated anarchy.

These same rains are watering the 380,000 new tree seedlings we finished planting this past Friday (May 7<sup>th</sup>). Read that again: 380,000 trees planted so far this spring. All of these were raised in family nurseries – most were grown and planted in the third and latest watershed with which CODEP (Comprehensive Development Projects) works, Gro Mon.

Moringa (benzoliv) is a small tree. It is one of those unimaginable blessings from God. The leaves of this small tree have multiple uses including animal fodder and human food. It is also a primary ingredient for our developing local fish food. Thus far this spring, CODEP members have already direct seeded 200 pounds (93 kilo) or 150,000 seeds. Leadership meetings and especially preliminary meetings for the summer school (DVBS) have begun in earnest. Last year we had 185 students with 21 teachers for a three-month program.

We thank you for continuing to lift up in prayer the disruption created by the river's closing down the road. Tens of thousands of people are affected daily. We also ask you to pray for security in Haiti as the country transitions from a primary American occupation force to one staffed by U.N. forces. This is to occur on June 1. We have also been trying to get a shipping container out of Haiti for many months now. Few people ever seem to know why there is a holdup. After months of waiting, your prayers will speed up and help it *Continued on page 8*

*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.

## **270 Boy Scouts Celebrate '04 Camporee at Krislund**

Cort

*Submitted by Steve*

*Camp Administrator*

Tents were scattered throughout the woods. The smell of freshly cooked deserts from the many dutch ovens filled the air. Scouts from 14 troops within the Juniata Valley Council gathered around the bonfire for awards. And Krislund Camp celebrated what we hope will be the first of many similar events in the future. It was a weekend of fun on the initiatives course and zip line and a first experience of Krislund for most of the adults and youth gathered here. Scout groups are invited to consider Krislund Camp for your next event. Give us a call for more information.

*Elder Steve Cort may be reached at*

## **Carol Wilson, Missionary to N. India, to Visit Sinking Valley and Lower Spruce Creek Churches**

*Submitted by Kay Lewis*

Carol will be retiring from her work at the Avalon Girls School in Patankot, North India, and on her way home to Seattle, she will be spending a month with us! She will be happy to help with the Daily Vacation Bible School at Fort Roberdeau, July 12th-16th.

If you would like to have her participate in your SS class, or come to your home for a visit, please contact Kay Lewis. Another opportunity to greet Carol Willson will be at the Mission Dinner to be held at the Sinking Valley Pres. Church on Saturday evening on June 26th from 5-7 p.m.

*Elder Kay Lewis may be reached at  
814-684-3761.*

## **Mission Dinner to Raise Money for The Babes' Summer School in Haiti**

Sinking Valley Church Saturday June 26th 5-7PM

*Submitted by Kay Lewis,  
Mission Advocate*

Just prior to returning to Haiti on April 20th, Rod and Sharyn Babe asked the Sinking Valley Mission group to raise money to help pay for the cost of a daily multivitamin and iron tablet, and providing breakfast and lunch to the Haitian children who attend their Summer School program.

The Babes noted in the past that the children show signs of malnutrition during their Summer break so to provide an all day Summer School not only helps them learn their school subjects, but when combined with a vitamin tablet and nutritious breakfast and lunch keeps them healthy. At the end of 6th grade all students in school (govt. sponsored, and mission schools, take a post 6th grade test to see if they will qualify to continue school. Haitian children in govt. schools have a pass rate of 6%! Children who attend the mission schools with which the Babes are associated have a pass rate of 60%)

Part of their higher pass rate is due to better nutrition. When asked what we could do to help them, Rodney and Sharyn asked if we would plan a money raising project to help with multi-vitamin tablets, and food for the children.

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, June 26th from 5-7PM at S.V. and bring your family and friends to enjoy a delicious meal. No reservation necessary.

*Dr. Lewis may be reached at kaylewismd@aol.com*

## **Self-Development of People Committee**

*Submitted by Kay Lewis, Chairperson*

Our Huntingdon Presbytery's Self Development of People Committee received \$6600 for projects in Huntingdon Presbytery in 2004. Our first grant of \$2000 was given to the Teen Ministry International ministry in Mt. Union.

On April 22nd Rev. Elaine Africa, representing the SDOP committee made a presentation of the \$2000 to the Teen Ministry officers. TMI obtained a bank building several years ago, and the teens renovated it. Now it is used for a weekly Bible study, and weekday after school program including recreation, snacks, and help with homework.

*Dr. Lewis may be reached at kaylewismd@aol.com*

## **Haiti Update** *continued from page 7*

arrive safely. Thank you.

For those who might be interested in visiting CODEP in the future, please contact Jim Pease (<http://www.haitifundinc.org>). If you need information from the field, please write us directly. And please, please, print hard copies of this note to share with your friends and church families. Missions is one of the best-kept secrets in many churches – share the Good News of what God is doing.

*Rodney and Sharyn can be contacted  
at codephaiti@yahoo.com*