



# 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)

## March 2005

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## CHRISTIANS IN CONFLICT

*Submitted by Joy Kaufmann, General Presbyter*  
*"If your brother does wrong, go and take the matter up with him, strictly between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others with you, so that every case may be settled on the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, report the matter to the congregation; and if he will not listen even to the congregation, then treat him as you would a pagan or a tax-collector."* Matthew 18:15-17



We all hope that conflict never comes to our lives or our church. But if we are honest with ourselves, we have to admit that as soon as we put more than one person in a room together, there will at some point be some disagreement - and that is conflict. Matthew's gospel gives a good and Godly model for dealing with conflict. First we are to start informally and in a friendly fashion. If that doesn't work, still we are to be informal, but take two or three persons along when we talk honestly with the parties involved in the conflict. If that doesn't help resolve the conflict, then we are to take the situation in a more formal way before "the congregation", in our Presbyterian system of governance represented by the presbytery's Committee on Ministry. And if the efforts of the COM to work with persons involved in conflict is ineffective, then we have provisions for the removal of pastors and elders. We always hope that we don't reach this last stage! But we do have decent, orderly provisions in place for how to proceed following the Biblical pattern of conflict resolution.  
*continued on page 2*

## Highlights of the February 5 presbytery meeting.

*Submitted by Virginia Rainey, Clerk*  
Presbytery rejoiced at its February 5, 2005 meeting—to sing along with the Westminster college-aged choir of State College, to hear the evangelistic message of the Youth With A Mission team visiting McVeytown from Rumania, to celebrate the moderatorship of retiring Moderator Carl Campbell and the completion of the loan repayments by Winburne and Presbyterian Homes.

In other business, Presbytery increased (for the first time since 1986) the minimum pulpit supply compensation to \$75. It approved changes in the terms of call for Linda Hendrian and the Moshannon Valley Parish to half time, approved the call of the Hublersburg Trinity U.C.C. to Paula Curtis Burn, and dissolved the call of Richard Gardiner and the Huntingdon Presbyterian Church. Three more congregations and a parish completed their 2004 session records review. DUT highlighted its upcoming mission trip to Thailand.

Elder Ted Kiffer of Petersburg Bethel was installed as Moderator. A dozen lay pastors completed educational requirements for the commissionable lay pastor program and eight took the examinations and were qualified as commissionable. Presbyterian Homes gave its annual report to the presbytery.

*Dr. Rainey may be reached at:  
statedclerk@atlanticbbn.net*

## Christians in Conflict....con't

Why mention this topic?

Well, we are in Lent, and conflict is surely one of facts of church life that grieves the heart of God. On the one hand, conflict is a normal part of human life and therefore church life. On the other hand, Lent is that time in the church calendar when we intentionally reflect on every characteristic in us, individually and collectively, that led Christ to the cross. Our ability to find ways to fight with one another is a stepping stone on the pathway to the cross. It is so easy to think of "those people back then" and not reflect upon our own complicity in behaviors that led Jesus to the point of crucifixion.

One of my learnings as your General Presbyter is that sessions often wait *way to long* before calling for help from the COM. Your Committee on Ministry members are just presbyters like you, elders and pastors together, all seeking to strengthen our pastors and churches. They also bear the solemn responsibility of helping congregations and pastors in times of trouble. If session members either wait because they fear no one can truly help them or wait because they don't think their conflict is particularly serious, it is a sure bet that COM will need to work with the church for a much longer time than if the session had just dealt with it and invited COM in. A lot of people don't realize that COM cannot just insert itself in the life of a congregation. Rather, except in the most dire circumstances, COM needs an invitation from the church's governing board, including the moderator.

When times of conflict come to our churches, those of us who work with the pastors, elders and other church members always keep the persons involved in our prayers.

## Krislund Korner The Pre-Spring, Summer Camp Sign Up Edition

### Summer Camp Registrations Are Arriving / Did You Sign Up Yet?

The 2005 camp season is less than three months away! There are twenty-three camps to choose from and new offerings for junior and senior high students. Improvements to the summer facilities will include bath-house renovations, new Nitefest amphitheater seating, remodeled bathrooms in the Upper Lodge, a completed Retreat Center, a new advanced team building course and "vertical playpen", water basketball at the pool, and a few "surprises." Download a schedule and application from [www.krislund.org](http://www.krislund.org) or call the office for a brochure (814.422.8878).

### Women's Retreat: "Rest, Renew, Revive" (April 22-24)

It will be a weekend filled with laughter, spiritual encouragement, relaxation, great food, and fascinating workshops. Here are some of the workshop titles: "Are You a Worn Out Woman?" and "Resting with Scripture." There will also be silk scarf painting, scrapbooking, and a shopping trip to Woolrich. Accommodations are available at the Camp or the nearby Comfort Inn. For more information and an application, call 814.422.8552, or e-mail [jackirearick@krislund.org](mailto:jackirearick@krislund.org).

### Needed: Adult Volunteers For One Week During Summer

Why let the youth and college staff have all the fun! Join us for an unforgettable week of service, spiritual nourishment, and super enjoyment. Call 814.422.8878 for an application to be part of Krislund's Adult Volunteer Program. Warning: you will **really** have a great time!

### Jr. High Retreat (Ap. 1-3) & Sr. High Retreat (May 6-8)

What better way to get your youth and adult volunteers away and spiritually invigorated, than at a Krislund youth event??? Discounts are available for groups; and youth leaders with 5 or more youth come free (good for 2 adults). Fun, fellowship, lots of food, and faith-building make up this weekend. For more information and/or a brochure, e-mail [jackirearick@krislund.org](mailto:jackirearick@krislund.org).

We do our utmost to remember that every individual involved is someone for whom Jesus died and rose again. We also remember that together we are the Church and God's gifts to one another. So please, if your congregation is in the midst of a situation for which the pastor and elders have not found a solution, call COM in sooner rather than later. The COM chair this year is The Rev. Samuel "Sam" Strohm, and the person chairing the Subcommittee on Ministry with Congregations is The Rev. Barry Vance. Both men are compassionate, honest and wanting what is best for pastors and members of churches.

It is always better to "take two or three with you" than having to "take it to the congregation". But please don't wait until you believe you have to "treat someone like a pagan or tax-collector"! Intervention sooner rather than later is actually the more Christlike thing.

Lots of love to all of you this Lenten season.

Rev. Kaufmann may be reached at 814-742-2200

## **The Summer Youth Institute at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary**

The Seminary is seeking young persons to participate! Thirty-six high school seniors are gathered from across the country to participate in the two-week program. Youth are challenged to grow in their faith, engage in academic study, and explore their understanding of the Gospel and its implications for today's world.

Participants must be present for the entire program, arriving July 9 and departing July 23. During this time, it will not be possible to participate in other programs, activities, or receive visitors.

Applications received by March 15 will receive priority. The Lilly endowment, the McFeely-Rogers Foundation and the donors who support the seminary offer full scholarships to all students accepted into the program.

If you need an application, please call Alice Meloy, 717-349-685.

Recommendations are to be made through either a minister, youth leader, or adult who knows the applicant well. This is a wonderful opportunity, but time short. Selections of participants will be made April 1.

For further information, contact Rev. Mary Eleanor Johns, Director of the Summer Youth Institute, 412-362-5610 or 1-800-451-4194, [www.pts.edu](http://www.pts.edu) email: [ysi@pts.edu](mailto:ysi@pts.edu).

## **Join other Presbyterians for a Fun Cruise**

The Broad Avenue Church is planning a cruise to Bermuda. The ship, the *Norwegian Crown*, will sail from Philadelphia on Sunday, October 2, and return to that port on the following Sunday, October 9. The congregation is hoping to have a lot of Presbyterians sailing together on the Norwegian Line, leaving from Philadelphia.

For the church, the cruise is a fund raiser to help defray the costs of a number of necessary improvements to the building and also assist in financing the church van.

For more information call Shirley Long at 814-941-4855 or the church office, 814-943-8459.

## **UPCOMING CONFERENCES**

### **INTERGENERATIONAL PEACEMAKING CONFERENCE** - Celebrate 25 years of peacemaking

Where: Ghost Ranch, NM

When: June 20 - 26, 2005

Theme: Transforming Fear into Love

Who: all ages and stages of Christians

Register: by calling the presbytery office for a registration form or online @

[www.pcusa.org/peacemaking/conferences/2005](http://www.pcusa.org/peacemaking/conferences/2005)

### **PASTORS' RETREAT NETWORK** -Strengthening Pastors for Spiritual Renewal

Where: Delafield, Wisconsin (262-646-7772) or  
New Bedford, Ohio (800-331-8439) or  
Vanderpool, TX (830-966-6270)

When: various times

Vision Statement: To revive the Christian Church by strengthening and better equipping Christian pastors, to lead their church in building the Kingdom of God.

Who: pastors

Register: online @ [www.pastorsretreatnetwork.org](http://www.pastorsretreatnetwork.org) or by calling 888-622-3809

### **NEW WILMINGTON MISSIONARY CONFERENCE**

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Where: New Wilmington, PA

When: July 23 - 30, 2005

Purpose: to join with others who have a spirit for deepening the missionary spirit and cultivating the life of fellowship with God by promoting service and witness for Jesus Christ.

Who: all ages and stages of Christians

Register: online @ [www.NWMCmission.org](http://www.NWMCmission.org) or by calling the presbytery office for a registration form.

### **INTERNATIONAL HEALTH MISSION CONFERENCE**

Hear from overseas partners re: health issues

Where: Paradise Valley, AZ

When: April 8 - 9, 2005

Purpose: to learn more about health needs in our global community and to hear more about what Presbyterians are doing

Who: older teens and adults of all ages

Register: online @ [www.MBFoundation.org](http://www.MBFoundation.org) or call the presbytery office for a registration form & information.

## Presbytery Calendar

March 1	9:30am Personnel Committee at Presbytery Office 1:30pm AUT at Presbytery Office
March 2	10am Self-Development of People at Tyrone Church 1pm Ministry to Congregations at Presbytery Office
March 3	Noon 717 Clergy Cluster at McVeytown Church 4-7pm DUT at Pine Grove Mills Church
March 5	9am CLP training at Tyrone Church
March 8	Noon NW Clergy Cluster at Philipsburg Church 4pm Financial Committee at Krislund 5pm JCCC at Krislund
March 10	10am Ministry to Congregations at Presbytery Office 11am Ministry to Ministers at Presbytery Office 1pm COM at Presbytery Office
March 15	10:30 Nominating Committee meeting at Pres. Office 1pm Council Meeting at Presbytery Office
March 16	7pm Thai trip planning meeting at Presbytery Office
March 23	9:30 Quarterly staff meeting at Presbytery Office
March 25	Presbytery Office Closed for Good Friday
April 1-3	Youth Retreat at Krislund
April 2	10am CPM meeting at Presbytery Office
April 5	9:30 Presbytery meeting at Alexandria Church 3pm Enrichment with Judd McConnell "Hospitality" 5pm JCCC at Krislund
April 12	10am Presbytery Women Spring Gathering
April 16	Noon Special Council mtg. at Pine Grove Mills Church
April 19	9:30am Staff meeting at Presbytery Offices
April 20	Women's Retreat at Krislund
April 23	Annual Board of Pensions Benefit Consultation in Philadelphia
April 27-28	

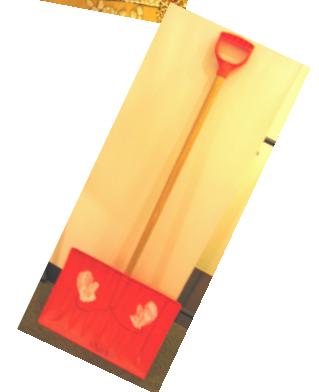
### Retired Clergy Group Meeting.

*Submitted by Lee McCardle*

Our Retired Clergy Group will meet for lunch on Tuesday, March 22 at 11:30 a.m. in the Perkins Restaurant at State College. We each will order from the menu and pay for our own meal.

This is our hobby meeting. Show and tell us about your hobby. Or show and tell us about a good book you are reading. All retired clergy are invited to attend.

If you wish to receive more information or an email meeting reminder, contact *Rev. McCardle at: leemccardle@adelphia.net*



### Bellwood Children Raise Funds for Tsunami Relief

*Submitted by Linda Vance*

When the children in the Logan Valley Presbyterian Church in Bellwood heard about the devastation and the children who were homeless as a result of the "great big wave," they decided to do something. They made very individualized art work and put it up for silent auction in the church narthex.

With a little help from the congregation and lots of help from parents and teachers, the children made about 35 unique pieces of artwork and raised \$372 which they sent to the Presbyterian Tsunami Relief Fund.

*Elder Vance can be reached at lindaleevance@aol.com*

## All Welcome to Seminar

*Submitted by Alice Meloy, Chair  
Discipleship Umbrella Team*

On March 5th at the Tyrone Presbyterian Church Dr. Charles Curley will lead a seminar on the Old Testament, "From Kings to Exiles: The Prophets in Their Times and Places." The seminar runs from 9:30am to 3:30pm.

Although this is required of Lay Pastors, it is a study of great value to all students of Scripture. The prophets are highly relevant since some of the issues faced then are similar to those we face today.

*To Register, call Rev. Meloy at 717-349-2685 or the Presbytery Office at 814-742-2200 before March 4th.*

## New York City Spring Fling!

*Submitted by Chuck Monts, Pastor,  
Hollidaysburg Presbyterian Church*

The Hollidaysburg Church is inviting travelers to join them in a Learning-Service-Fellowship-Worship-Enjoyment experience.

Space is limited to the first 25 registrants to travel to NYC May 19-22.

### AMAZING AGENDA

#### Visit the Presbyterian Office of the United Nations

Hear about the mission of that office, about the history of the Church's presence across from the U.N. about an assortment of world concerns and efforts to bring peace and healing to God's world.

#### Visit United Nations

Visit and learn about the mission of Covenant House (homeless shelter for youth)

#### Fellowship

Facilitated by Rev. Kathy Colebank

#### Worship

Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem

#### Fantastic Dinner

Korean Restaurant

#### Sights and Sounds of City

Tickets included to Lion King on Broadway

**Cost: \$250** (includes room, meals, transportation, tickets) *scholarship funds available*

Rooms are at the West Side YMCA to make the stay affordable

**Registration and Payment:** Send your name, address, church affiliation and payment to The Hollidaysburg Church, Walnut and Penn Sts. Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. **For information:** 1-814-695-9019



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## Catastrophes Happen *submitted by Jim Kimmel*

Unfortunately, it too frequently requires some kind of major catastrophe to draw our attention to the need for mission funds to aid those suffering from such a disaster. The tsunami tidal waves catastrophe was one of those occurrences.

As happened with the war in Viet Nam, the electronic age brought the tsunami disaster right into our living rooms. It awakened us to the disastrous effects as only the actual pictures on our televisions sets could do.

People all over the world began to react to the suffering of those living in the affected areas. The staggering number of the dead left us numbed. And so, we reacted. We saw the need and we responded. We responded with funds, with physical assistance, and with food and medicines. We took up special offerings. We re-adjusted our mission giving. The response across our presbytery has been outstanding. Large churches, small churches, church organizations and children, teens and adults all became involved. This is a perfect example of what mission giving is all about.

Again, it is unfortunate that it takes a major catastrophe for such response to happen. However, it established again that Presbyterians care and are willing and able to respond.

Let it be said, however, that our Presbyterian congregations respond to not only major events, but to the many needs that are present in our own back yard. When a fire happens, or a death or serious illness occurs, or when a family needs food and fuel, Presbyterians respond. When a family's home burns to the ground, their personal loss and suffering is as great as the ones who lost their homes in the tsunami.

So all of this represents what mission giving is really all about. Be it for a swimming pool at Krislund, or a church building in Pakh 5 Nan, or a shipment of funds, food and service to Tsunami victims; that is part and parcel of the mission of our denomination. Mission giving is our Christianity in action.

*Elder Kimmel may be reached at hsk235@innernet.net*

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

### **“Oops, We Goofed!”**

While we were proofing and double checking our facts last month, we got a little ahead of ourselves. We reported that the Mission Unified Giving is divided with 55% going toward Presbytery supported mission, 38% to General Assembly supported mission and 7% toward Synod supported mission. But, those percentages will not go into effect until 2006. The 2005 percentages are as follows:  
Presbytery Projects 50%  
Synod Projects 10%  
General Assembly Projects 40%.

## Clergy Profile

*Submitted by Dave Benfer*

Our featured guest this month is the past editor of The Clergy Profile. Honorably retired in 2001 by Huntingdon Presbytery, Rev. Lee McCardle pastored in Mill Hall, PA for 22 years and Lemont, PA for 4 years (Northumberland and Huntingdon Presbyteries, respectively).

Born in 1936 as a birthright Quaker in Chester County, PA, Lee was active in 4-H, Boy Scouts and the Grange. His dairy farm family became members of Fagg Manor PC in Donegal Presbytery, where Lee was baptized as a teenager. The family later became members of Dilworthtown PC near West Chester, PA.

Having served our country in the Air Force for 4 years, Lee and his lovely wife Peggy were married in 1961 and are the proud parents of 3 sons, and grandparents of 3 grandsons. Lee did his undergraduate work at Cheyney University and earned his MDiv. at Lancaster Theological Seminary in 1975.

God's call into pastoral ministry occurred in 1964; "I was baptized in the Holy Ghost in a PC, and my heart was drawn to a vision of service and learning with God's people. That dream energized me through many highs and lows in my ministry."

Lee is one who enjoys art, sculpture, music and writing and frequently uses those topics as conversation starters in visitations. His encouragement to his fellow servants in ministry is to write it down; for example, "...privately write about the events in your ministry...that special funeral service...that personal encounter...a unique home or hospital visitation...assemble your writings into a book, and give copies to interested people and to the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia." Why? Lee says, "It's the one evidence you can leave behind that shows how real human beings dealt with matters of faith and Christian service in these so-called post-Christian times."

*Rev. Benfer may be reached at:  
dbenfer@uplink.net*



## THE PARADOX OF EASTER

*Submitted by Lee McCardle*

I'm getting old. And I long for the Lenten seasons of yore. No longer do I fast and pray like I did back in the day. No longer do I sacrifice a meal a day during holy week. No longer do I engage my Lord in a 24-hour prayer vigil seeking guidance for my life. It's as though the Lenten doctrines of my church are out of touch with me - or as some would say, I am out of touch with my church. Yes, Easter is a paradox to me.

I've not much time these days for the obligations, sacrifices and disciplines of Lent. Oh, I enjoy the fragrance of the Easter lilies and the palm fronds and the beautiful Easter music and the obligatory sermons which proclaim, "Christ is risen from the dead." My problem is that I am in a crisis of belief. There seems to be no common faith in church doctrine nor in the secular rules of our day, no common faith in creation or evolution, no agreement about moral values and especially no agreement on what constitutes intellectual discipline. Everybody has a right to live and believe as they want, or so I am told.

The difference between my old religion and today's secular religion lies in the ancient questions of hope and faith. My teachers taught that nothing could be proved absolutely, therefore I learned to believe in something beyond logic and reason in order to mature in life. I learned to risk it all, to let it all hang out in the name of the Holy Ghost, in order to grow as a man in God's world.

When I look around our world, I don't see much deep and abiding faith. But I still have hope for revival. Maybe it will take a spiritual tsunami in our own lives to focus attention on the Almighty God who offers new life in this Easter season. The good news is that while we humans are hell bent on waging wars against one another, God is calling us to pray and fast and to love one another. And that's what I want in my Easter egg basket this year!

*Rev. McCardle may be reached at:  
leemccardle@adelphia.net*

## **Presbyterian Homes is Looking for Pictures** *Submitted by Jim Steiner, Director of Development*

All of a sudden, it's March! Again! Those calendar pages keep flipping over whether we're ready or not! Early in the year is a great time to take stock...to appreciate...to reevaluate...to plan ahead. Maybe for some, a fresh start.

It's also the season for remembering, reminiscing, looking back to the "good old days". You will likely agree that memories of certain people make us smile and think of who they were. It is people who provide a frame of reference for our recollections. Through them, we picture snap-shots of a certain time, a place, or their effect on an event. The memories we have of family in particular give us our roots, our heritage, and a good measure of entertainment!

Many of us collect and save these slices of time, keeping them as sort of living souvenirs of who and what has shaped our current existence and, perhaps, as a prediction of our future.

You would have liked Uncle Lou. Everybody did. Now here was a character. Fighter pilot turned barnstormer and crop duster. He and Aunt Vera never had kids, but they were the secret envy of a lot of us because of their solid character, their kind of gypsy lifestyle, and unabashed sense of humor. You see, they operated an airport in Butler, PA. during the summer, then hightailed it to the Florida Keys for the winter. The best of both worlds! As the captain of a 48-foot charter cruiser, Uncle Lou prowled the waters between the U.S. and (sometimes a little too close to) Cuba, deep sea fishing, helping his clients snag the big ones. His fishermen became his friends, like baseball great Ted Williams, routinely landing tournament trophy fish. He provided experiences that lasted forever. I think Uncle Lou loved it more than they did!

I was privileged one January to visit the seaside hotel on Islamorada where the region's Marlin Tournament trophy is on display, named in his honor. A lasting tribute to an unforgettable character.

One way that the Presbyterian Homes receives the kindness and generosity of our benefactors is through gifts in memory of loved ones. We are establishing a "Keepsake Memorial" consisting of photos arranged permanently on a portable display. These photos, provided by you, will create a traveling work of art-in-progress that will perpetuate the cherished memories of loved ones for all to see.

To start, anyone or any group who has made a memorial donation to the Homes may send a photo, any size, color or black & white, old or new, that will show the character, the personality, the loves of that person whom God has taken home. The photo cannot be returned, but will become a part of this on-going collage to be shown at the Homes, the churches, and at appropriate events throughout the Presbytery. There is no fee whatsoever for participation.

Please take just a minute to think back to YOUR "Uncle Lou," your mom or dad...your friend. Send us a serious portrait, a fun group shot, someone in uniform, wedding photos, hobbies, or anything that might exude personality. We'll make that photo part of our Presbyterian Homes' "family album" and share your fond memories everywhere we can.

*Please send photos to Jim Steiner, Director of Development, PO Box 595, 120 Holliday Hills Drive, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. Phone 814-695-6371 ext. 305. No digital photos, please.*

## **Sinking Valley Youth Help Can Meat for World Hunger**

*Submitted by Kay Lewis*

Each year the Central Pa. World Hunger Assoc. has a meat canning project that is held at A.J.

Peachey & Sons in Big Valley. This year several adults and young people from the Sinking Valley Church once again joined in the effort.

On Valentines Day, they shared their love through work. The participants cut meat and helped with the canning. The majority of the meat is distributed world wide by the Mennonite Central Committee. About 10% of the meat is kept for local use by local organizations to feed hungry people. Examples of local use include Meals on Wheels, Church Homes, Salvation Army, Shelter Services, Food Banks, and Soup Kitchens in Central Pa. Much of the meat has been used in European and former Soviet Union countries in crisis. Since the beginning of this project in 1975 more than 2,271 cows have been butchered, yielding 348,900 cans of meat, 74,000 cans of broth and 55,000 cans of pork.

*Elder Lewis may be reached at  
Kaylewismd@aol.com*