

A Vision for First Presbyterian Church

Lancaster, PA

(Endorsed by the Officers of First Presbyterian Church on January 27, 2007)

Discovering the Heart of Christ in the Heart of the City

What are the elements which will guide us as we develop this vision?

1. Inspiring Worship

We believe that worship transforms us individually and corporately through the Holy Spirit, and although we embrace various worship styles we are united as a community in Christ.

2. Extravagant Hospitality

We are committed to the ministry of extravagant hospitality where all feel the welcome of Jesus Christ.

3. Spiritual Growth

Our spiritual growth is nurtured and guided by studying the scriptures, and informed by theological reflection, discussion, prayer, and putting our faith into action.

4. Commitment to the City

We continually discover the Heart of Christ through our commitment to serving the diverse needs of the city in which we are located.

5. Caring Community

We are a community of diverse people who have chosen to be united by our love for God and our care for each other.

6. Outreach and Mission

We reach out to extend the love of Christ to our neighbors and our world through multiple outreach ministries.

First Presbyterian Church, 140 East Orange Street, Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 394.6854 office (717) 394.1778 fax church@fpclanc.org www.firstpreslanc.org

A to Z

Mission Commitments

First Presbyterian Church

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

2008

*Supported through our Annual Budget,
Blue Challenge and other Offerings*

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Arbor Place – The Mix at Arbor Place is dedicated to meeting the academic, recreational, social, and spiritual needs of Lancaster's inner-city teenagers, ages 13-19 at 520 North Street. Arbor Place currently needs help in renovating a home they own. If you can contribute your skills or materials in any of the following areas, please contact Arbor Place at 717-393-1523, www.arborplace.org. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on February 10 & 17, 2008.

Blanket Sunday - \$5.00 purchases a blanket through the Church World Service (CWS) Blanket program. The Blanket Program support a variety of self-help textile-oriented development projects and provides blankets for use in disaster situations. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on September 7, 2008.

Brightside Opportunity Center - The Bright Side Opportunities Center is focused on four core areas; Health and Fitness, Education and Leadership development, Business and Entrepreneur training, and Youth Development. It is located at 515 Hershey Ave, Lancaster, PA 17603, 717.394.0731, www.bsocenter.org. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on January 20, 2008.

Christmas Donations – Each Advent the Mitten Tree and Swedish Heart tree are two projects sponsored by Caring in the City which provide gifts and clothing to those in need. Water Street Rescue Mission, Milagro House and Crispus Attucks have been past recipients. Jesus Helpers contributes gifts to neighborhood families each December.

Christmas for Kiambaa – This offering has been taken annually since 1999 to provide funds for the elders of our sister church in a small village in Kiambaa, Kenya. The elders use the money to buy staples (flour, corn meal, blankets, etc) for the elderly and those with special needs. They distribute these staples on Christmas Day. The poorest of the poor are served through this offering for a third world congregation. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on December 7, 2008.

Christmas Joy FPC Special Help - This offering is shared equally with the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Presbyterian-related Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges. The Pension fund helps active and retired ministers, as well as other church workers and their families, deal with urgent financial needs. The Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges provide educational opportunities to young men and women who might otherwise be unable to further their education. This offering is received on Christmas Eve.

Choices - The mission of the United Disabilities Choice program, which meets in our church building, is to encourage people with disabilities to find, focus and use their gifts and talents and to enhance self-esteem, confidence, independence, decision making skills and encourage personal growth. Around 20 adults come to FPC, every Monday through Thursday, for art, music, computer, and other classes, presentations, Bible Study, and field trips. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on October 12, 19, & 26, 2008.

Community Meals – Dinners are served Monday – Friday at downtown churches and weekends at Crispus Attucks. Tuesday dinners are served at First Reformed Church. The Caring in the City Committee is responsible for 3 meals in 2008 to be served at First Reformed Church.

Connections and Future Generations – Connections is a summer camp experience and Future Generations is an after school tutoring program hosted by our church for at-risk children in partnership with the Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. These programs are supported in our Mission Budget and are the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on February 24 & March 2, 9, 2008.

Council of Churches - Lancaster County Council of Churches has been providing ecumenism and outreach to Lancaster County for over 60 years. They help with food banks, community meals, a clothing bank, the CROP Walk, emergency medical aid, prescription assistance, and transportation assistance. Food or clothing donation drop off hours are Monday through Friday: 10am to 3pm at 344 North Marshall Street, Lancaster, 717.291.2261, www.lccouncilofchurches.org. This organization is supported in our Mission Budget and is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on April 27, 2008.

Crispus Attucks - The mission of Crispus Attucks Community Center is to improve the quality of life for residents, provide services to disadvantaged people, bridge cultural and educational gaps that exist and preserve the African-American heritage in the community. CACC is located at 404 S. Duke Street and 407 Howard Avenue in downtown Lancaster, PA, 717.394.6604, www.cacc-lancaster.org. For 14 years, the Crispus Attucks Emergency Homeless Shelter has provided shelter and meals for those in need. Each client receives a needs assessment and referrals to appropriate service agencies offering legal assistance, veteran's benefits, rehabilitation, and assistance obtaining temporary or permanent housing. The Center is the weekend dinner site for Lancaster's Community Meals Program. Each year, 300 individuals/families are housed at the shelter. Crispus Attucks is also in a youth

New Church Development in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

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 celebrated the worship at Easter with the sister Oromoo Church from Washington D.C. and will celebrate the week-end retreat / conference at Camp Hebron from June 27 -29 /2008.

Prayer: 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), mariaacruz59@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. Our primary focus is 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. A block party was held last fall with over 100 people attending and two families starting to attend as a result of the outreach. A Christmas outreach touch 60 families in the neighborhood this past year. A Haitian fellowship now shares the facility with Resurrection Chapel.

Prayer:

- Funding from GA, Synod, Presbytery, and Partner churches to launch Resurrection Chapel.
- Vacation Bible School in the neighborhood June 30 – July 2 (more volunteers needed).
- Development of home cell groups this year.

New Church Development in **Chester County, Pennsylvania**

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:

- Last April, we were blessed with the attendance to the Ninth National Multicultural Conference, in San Antonio Texas. The conference theme was “all nations and tongues” It focuses on Evangelism in multicultural settings.
- We celebrate that three new families have been added to us worshiping the Lord Jesus and taking responsibilities in our church’s live. This is a result of the small group ministry witch was established during the last year.
- The “all boy” youth group that meets every Friday, at Kennett P.C. facilities, has been a real blessing, this group is growing in number and faith. Fourteen kids and eight youth will participate in VBS at Westminster P.C. West Chester Ten campers will attend Donegal Camp this summer

Prayer: For them, support them with your contribution for scholarship and we would like to see more sister churches sending to us “Covenants of Support” forms.

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 95 households as “regular participants/members.” Of those 95 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.

Prayer: For a discerning spirit as to how to navigate and enhance our relationship with Westminster and for the people in our congregation who are struggling and striving to live out our mission statement.

intervention program, a youth computer lab, and local cultural programs. The First Presbyterian Church Caring in the City committee organizes our volunteers to serve meals at CACC. For more information contact Marva Godin [marvagodin@hotmail.com] or Linda Wagenseller [ljjwags@verizon.net].

Domestic Violence Services of Lancaster County (DVSLC) Temporary emergency housing is provided to abused women and their children. Priority is given to women who are being physically abused. Normally, women are provided with up to 30 days of housing at DVS Services. Contact DVS at 717.299.9677 or the 24 hour telephone hotline at 717.299.1249. www.caplanc.org/dvslancastercounty. This organization is supported in our Mission Budget and is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on July 20, 2008.

Donegal Presbytery Mission – We are involved with regional mission projects like Bridge of Hope in Coatsville , Homes of Hope in Lancaster County, Assess in York, and Care Center for Christ in West Chester, PA, (a complete list and description is found at www.donegalpby.com/MissionWIP_LocalMissionProjects.htm) and international projects like the Hunger Program (<http://www.geocities.com/donegalpbyhunger/>) and partnerships with the Mthatha (Umtata) Presbytery of the Uniting Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa [geocities.com/donegalpbyhunger/umtataweb.html](http://www.geocities.com/donegalpbyhunger/umtataweb.html)). This is the combined mission effort of Presbyterian churches in Lancaster, York, and Chester Counties and is supported in our Mission Budget.

FPC International Mission –

Kenya - We have formed a partnership with a Presbyterian Church in Kiambaa (near Nairobi). Through visitors to and from that community, we have forged personal relationships which have, in turn, led to a bonding of faith-based interests. Their faith is an inspiration to us. We have provided resources to help them build a new community center. We supplied funds which were used to purchase lunch every day for the clinic staff. In addition approximately \$100 worth of medicine for the clinic was purchased each month; finally we paid the full salary of one clinic nurse. In addition to this, an anonymous donor from our church sends \$20,000 per year to the Kiambaa Church to be used for: 1.Scholarships to needy high school and college students. 2. Food for famine relief to needy families. The Lankia Community Center which includes the clinic, nursery school and community social hall is apparently functioning well. For more information contact Zane Brown, chair of International Mission, at hzb49@yahoo.com.

Honduras - Our Honduras mission was extremely productive in the year 2007. We successfully executed the remaining shipments from the Sanctuary Renovation Tihe. Five forty-foot shipping containers filled with medical equipment, supplies and humanitarian aid were delivered to Honduras. The used value of this equipment equaled \$120,237.00 (manifests attached). This brings the total value of humanitarian aid from the Sanctuary Renovation Tihe to over \$200,000.00. This could not have been accomplished without the following partnerships: Christian Commission for Development, Office of the First Lady of Honduras, Mission Relief Services, Central American Relief Efforts, and the Presbytery of Honduras. In July 2007 we helped send thirty-one missionaries to Honduras for a one week mission trip. On this trip alone we saw between 800 and 1,000 patients. These patients had optical, dental, and general medical problems. To help provide medicines for these patients, FPC helped fund over \$37,198.00 in medicines to Honduras (invoices attached.) The attachment contains a list of participants in this July Mission.

As the demands of our Honduras Mission outstripped FPC’s ability to fund those demands, we at FPC helped start an organization called Central American Relief Efforts. In doing this we have managed to help send over \$250,000 in material aid to our friends in Honduras. For more information contact Steve at ssmentzer@comcast.net, www.carelieff.org, or 717-203-4942. These two partnerships are supported in our Mission Budget and the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on May 4, 11, 18, 25, 2008.

FPC Special Help - This offering is taken annually and is used throughout the year to provide help for First Presbyterian Church members and friends who find themselves in difficult circumstances. Here are but a few examples of how this fund has been used in the recent past: a person who had lost a job and faced eviction unless their rent was paid; a person who had no health care insurance and needed medicine for a sick child; a person who lost a sibling and did not have the money to travel to the funeral. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on December 14 & 21, 2008.

General Assembly Mission - Through the Presbyterian World Mission we support over 450 mission workers. Presbyterian missionaries are teachers, church planters, doctors, public health specialists, chaplains, and human rights advocates. They teach theology, church history, Greek, Hebrew, and English. They preach and evangelize. They organize and host mission teams from the United States. They accompany, they listen, they work in partnership with the Body of Christ in 71 countries. For more information visit: www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/missionaries. This combined effort of Presbyterian Church nationwide is supported in our Mission Budget.

Habitat for Humanity – Lancaster Area Habitat for Humanity builds new homes and renovates or repairs older homes in partnership with families in need and community volunteers. The office is located at 443 Fairview Ave, Lancaster, PA 17603, (717) 392-8836, www.lancasterhabitat.org. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on August 3 & 10, 2008.

Lancaster Area Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (LAVORP) Using principles of Restorative Justice, LAVORP, through victim-offender mediation, has been bringing victims of crime and their offenders together in face-to-face meetings since 1995 at #303 53 N. Duke Street, Lancaster, PA 17602 - 717-397-2404 (www.lavorp.org). This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on July 27, 2008.

Lancaster Book Challenge - The Lancaster Book Challenge is a community-wide initiative comprehensive campaign to promote early reading successes and raise literacy awareness and help teachers to teach the love of reading to children. www.lancastercampaign.org/initiatives/book_challenge. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on September 14 & 21, 2008.

Lancaster School District - This organization is supported in our Mission Budget.

Medical Supplies – We raise funds for equipment and medicine used in our clinics in Africa and Honduras. See “FPC International Mission” for descriptions. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on June 1 & 8, 2008.

One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance enables congregations and mission partners of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events. It is considered the “most bang for the buck” offering in that it is divided between the Self Development of Peoples Fund (helping people to help themselves); the Presbyterian Disaster Fund (responding to disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis, etc.); and the Presbyterian Hunger Program (supports work internationally, nationally and locally to relieve the root causes of hunger). This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on March 16, 23, & 30, 2008.

Open Arms Christian Day Care Center - Is a state-licensed, not-for-profit child care center that provides care for children of ages six months to six years. It operates at First Presbyterian Church from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays. For more information contact Rachel Reich (Director) at 717.394.1471. This organization is supported in our Mission Budget and is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on November 2, 9, 16, & 23, 2008.

Pastors Discretionary Fund - This offering is taken annually and is used throughout the year to provide help for people in Lancaster (non – members of First Presbyterian Church) who find themselves in difficult circumstances. We often help with rent, security deposits, utility bills, bus tickets to get to work or look for a job, and with other emergency situations. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on January 6 & 13, 2008.

Peacemaking - Les Ellis Memorial Peacemaking Offering--The Peacemaking Offering is the second of three denomination-wide offerings which are taken during the year. It is received by most congregations on World Communion Sunday, celebrated the first Sunday in October. At First Presbyterian Church we dedicate the first \$1000 received to this offering with 25 percent of the offering received to be retained by our congregation, 25 percent to be used by synods and presbyteries, and 50 percent to be used by the General Assembly ministries through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. In addition, we take anything above \$1000.00 and give it to a special Peacemaking Project identified by our Mission Funding Team in memory of Les Ellis, a leader in this church who was committed to Peacemaking in his personal life. In past years we have purchased generators for projects in Africa, a pediatric respirator for a hospital in Honduras, and provided scholarship funds for needy children in our sister church in Kiambaa, Kenya. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on September 28 & October 5, 2008.

Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian Church - The members of Presbyterian Women accept the purpose of the worldwide organization to nurture faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church(USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

- **Mission Study** – Malawi is a landlocked country about the size of Pennsylvania located in southeast Africa. The Presbyterian Women through the Thank Offering have given a grant to the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian. In 2007 First Presbyterian PW sent 76 knitted baby caps, 25 baby gowns and 14 double sheets to Malawi. The caps and gowns are not only treasured by new mothers, but are also used as an incentive for expectant mothers to use the hospital for prenatal care and for delivery of their babies. The result... healthier women and babies.

Communication Media

Presbyterian Media Mission

Presbyterian Media Mission (PMM) of Pittsburgh is a partner agency of the Synod of the Trinity. It produces nationally recognized radio, television and video programs to present the gospel to un-churched listeners. PMM is also related to the General Assembly and receives financial support from several presbyteries in the Synod. For more information, contact PMM, 901 Allegheny Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15233; phone: (412) 323-1400, extension 311; FAX: (412) 323-2256 or e-mail: pmm4u@nauticom.net

Presbyterian Appalachian Broadcasting Council

Presbyterian Appalachian Broadcasting Council (PABC) produces radio and television spots to communicate the gospel to a wide audience in a geographic area that includes part of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. For more information about PABC, write to Presbyterian Appalachian Broadcasting Council, P.O. Box 40472, Nashville, TN 37204.

Networks

Eastern Church Transformation Network

The Mission of the Eastern Church Transformation Network is consistent with the mission of the PC (USA) Office of Congregational Transformation. We exist to assist congregations in finding new ways to respond to God's calling in the midst of a changing culture and community. Providing leadership and planning for workshops and training events; Supporting the efforts of the Network for Church wide Transformation; Providing consultations to presbyteries and churches on redevelopment issues and opportunities; Providing and identifying resources; and Providing leadership training for clergy and lay leaders. Presbytery Endorsement: Carlisle, Donegal, Lehigh and Philadelphia.

Adults with Disabilities Network

The mission of the Network for Adults with Disabilities is to provide opportunities for Christian Fellowship and spiritual growth for adults with disabilities. Presbytery Endorsement: Carlisle, Donegal, Huntingdon and West Virginia. The Network for Adults with Disabilities will sponsor and implement a 3-day retreat for adults with disabilities. This retreat is designed to provide opportunities for adults with disabilities to share worship, communion, Bible study, arts & crafts, outdoor recreation and fellowship. Many participants are unable to attend church due to particular living arrangements (such as care homes) or accessibility at their own church. Due to their varied disabilities, many of these adults experience marginalization in the community of their own churches. This retreat provides a loving environment in which they can truly be part of a faith community.

Presbyterian Youth Connection — Presbyterian Youth Connection (PYC) operates at all levels of the Presbyterian Church (USA): congregation, presbytery, synod and General Assembly.

Ecumenical Campus Ministries— Ecumenical Campus Ministries provide spiritual growth and faith development for students at non-church-related colleges and universities in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Funds are provided to encourage the Synod's associated presbyteries and the Westminster Foundation of West Virginia to establish innovative ministries on college and university campuses near them. For more information, please contact the Rev. Dr. Tom Robinson via email: trobinson@syntrinity.org.

Presbytery/Church Leadership

Executive Presbyter Forum

The Executive Presbyter (EP) Forum is an informal consultation convened by the Synod's Co-Executives and presbytery executives. The bi-annual event provides an opportunity for executive presbyters to study, share concerns, and support one another; the agenda is set by the Executive Presbyters. An annual Executive Presbyter and Spouse Retreat is held in the Fall.

Trinity Youth Conference

Trinity Youth Conference (TYC) Network is sponsored by the Synod of the Trinity. It is a week-long conference to prepare high school students and young adults, age 15 through college age, for church leadership. The participants experience a community of faith outside of their home churches, and their faith is renewed and recharged. It is held at Camp Living Waters in Schellsburg, Pennsylvania.

The Conference has antecedents back to 1947 in the Synod of the Trinity. It has evolved to a youth-led program, and each conference is planned by seven youth/young adults and four adults. For the most part, the youth serving on the planning committee determine the theme, workshop topics, recruit leadership, and lead small groups and activities, making it a leader training event. Plans are ready for the 2008 youth conference to be held July 27th through August 2nd at Camp Living Waters in Schellsburg, PA. The 2008 theme, "Constant Thirst" is based on John 4: 13-14a. Plan now to be a part of this vibrant group. For registration info and complete details, please visit the TYC website or contact Jason Best.

Youth Advisory Delegates

Youth Advisory Delegates (YADs) are two high school or college-aged representatives elected from each presbytery to either the Synod of the Trinity or the General Assembly. The Synod provides special YAD training as a resource to presbyteries. For additional information, contact Catherine Gray in the Synod office: 800-242-0534 ext. 244.

- **Giving Opportunities:** Presbyterian Women, as individuals, in First Presbyterian, Lancaster are part of the Unified Budget of the church, to which we pledge annually. As an organization, we pledge a specified amount for mission to be channeled to the Presbytery and Synod levels of PW.

- **Each circle gives to a global and a local mission.** Global - Simoo Tribe (Maasai Land, Africa), Rodney and Sharyn Babe in Haiti, Munga District in Kiambaa, Kenya Local - Clare House, Mom's House, Tabor Community Services, Habitat for Humanity, Relay for Life, Shelter for Domestic Violence, Youth Social Service Agency and Silent Samaritans of the Samaritan Counseling Center.

Presbyterian Women also combines giving with Synod of the Trinity women to fund:

- Three Quarter Recovery House which will be built in western Pennsylvania to help women who have addictive tendencies (\$22,902.07)

- Uniforms for Haitian women who want to study nursing, volunteer at a Women's Build with Habitat for Humanity in Waynesburg, PA June 11-13, 2007

- Trujillo Technical School in Trujillo, Colon, Honduras (computer classes for homeless street children ages 12 to 22)

With Presbytery of Donegal women to fund:

- "Un tata", a program to help grandmothers in Africa who care for their grandchildren
- "Swing Circles" for Camp Donegal (enough money was raised to build a total of five sets of swings)

With Presbyterian Women Churchwide (all Presbyterian women throughout the world) to fund:

- Birthday Offering, celebrates the beginning of "Women of the Church" which goes to five predetermined projects each year
- Thank Offering to help projects such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, literacy, violence and women's concerns with at least 40% supporting health ministries and the remaining for new creative ideas for mission (\$983,134. in 2007 for 29 projects – 16 in the U.S. and 13 internationally)

With Church Women United (all women belonging to all churches throughout the world) to fund:

- The Fellowship of the Least Coin, an ecumenical offering of the "least coin" of each country which aids to advance the causes of justice, peace and reconciliation and to support a variety of projects that help women and children achieve a better life.

With Church Women United of Lancaster County to:

- Buy sweatshirts and pants for patients at Clark's Summit and Danville State Hospital
- Make health kits for migrant ministry: Manos and Vantage Houses, United Council of Churches, and Shelter for Abused Women

Additional giving goes to:

- Funding for school uniforms in Honduras
- Sewing garments which are distributed from New Winsor, MD to specific missions of the PC(USA)- 76 baby caps, 25 baby gowns and 14 sheets were sent to Malawi
- Soup labels collected for John Hyson School, a Presbyterian School in New Mexico, for the purchase of equipment
- Manage the Hershner Fund (for local projects, \$800. in 2007 to Samaritan Counseling Center) and the Kepler Fund (for international projects)

We invite all women of the church to join us. For more information contact Jacalynn McCord-Sweitzer, Co-Moderator (jackie.mccord@gmail.com) or Jane Faust, Co-Moderator (717.464.6744).

Samaritan Counseling Center - The Samaritan Counseling Center fosters hope and healing through professional counseling,

consultation and education while respecting and integrating personal and spiritual values. The main office is located at 1803 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601, 717-560-9969 or www.scclanc.org. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on April 6, 13, 20, 2008.

Sending Fund - The Sending Fund is our own church's fund to which qualified members of our church may apply for financial aid toward education for the ministry or the mission field. This fund is supported in our Mission Budget and is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on August 17 & 24, 2008.

Souper Bowl - Souper Bowl" - Presbyterian Church USA anti-hunger program which utilizes Super Bowl weekend to mobilize youth to fight hunger and poverty in their local communities.www.souperbowl.org. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on February 3, 2008.

Synod of the Trinity Mission - The Synod of the Trinity is the regional administrative office of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The mission of the Synod of the Trinity is to provide support, resources, and nurture to its presbyteries as they seek to be faithful to Christ's commission in their support of vital, mission-oriented congregations. In addition, the Synod initiates and carries out Synod-wide mission in light of larger mission strategy of the General Assembly. See the website for a full description at www.syntrinity.org. This is a mission effort (of Presbyterian churches in Pennsylvania, most of West Virginia, and some churches in Ohio) is supported in our Mission Budget.

Theological Sending Fund - This fund is to aid men and women who are seeking to fulfill their calling as pastors in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and is supported in our Mission Budget and is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on January 27th & December 28, 2008.

Transitional Living Center (TLC) - TLC provides a transitional shelter program with supportive services for homeless individuals, couples and families who are in need of temporary housing as they transition to permanent housing. The TLC facility has 54 rooms each with a private bathroom (two rooms are equipped for handicap needs). Clients stay an average of six months. TLC facility is fully staffed and operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and offers an average of 14 life-skills classes, workshops, and support groups on a monthly basis. TLC has served over 7,700 since opening in 1986. On average, 60% of TLC's rooms are occupied with homeless households transitioning emergency shelters, while the other 40% are occupied with homeless who have moved in directly from the streets due to lack of availability at emergency shelters. TLC is located at 105 East King Street, Lancaster, 717.397.0156, www.tlclancaster.org. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on July 6 & 13, 2008.

Uniforms for students – The Caring in the City Committee collects donations to provide school uniforms for needy students in the School District of Lancaster.

Winter Homeless Shelter Project – Each winter several Houses of Worship in Lancaster City take turns offering overnight emergency shelter to individuals and families that are homeless and are unable to obtain other shelter. Each of these congregations will be providing a clean bed, in a safe and warm environment with overnight volunteers to ensure security. The shelter will rotate in one-week shifts between facilities. Volunteers are needed to set-up, greet, sign in, stay the night, and clean up. For more information contact Beth Manners (299-1126 between 9am - 3pm) or Cindy Brazina (684-6916). This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on November 30, 2008.

Youth Mission - We conduct Junior & Senior High summer work-camp trips to western PA and Charleston, SC, respectively. Youth have opportunities to experience new settings, meet different kinds of people and complete improvement projects, allowing them to grow in their faith. This year we are launching a new mission trip opportunity for Senior Highs that will travel by train to Ship Rock, New Mexico, summer 2008, for a work- camp and cultural experience on the Navajo Indian reservation. The trip is filled with 17 youth and 7 adults participating. This is the focus of our Blue Challenge offering on June 15, 22, & 29, 2008.

who works in partnership with community groups, churches, and groups of cooperating congregations. It assists Appalachian organizations to build, repair and/or weatherize hundreds of homes for Appalachian families. They have enrolled hundreds of students in G.E.D. programs; created a church/community jobs hotline; and opposed a solid waste landfill on a Cherokee reservation. For more information on the mission and ministry of CORA, write to CORA at PO Box 11908, Charleston, WV 25339-1908; call 304-720-2672.

Davis-Stuart, Inc.

Davis-Stuart, Inc. is a Presbyterian therapeutic residential center for youth, ages 12-18 years, in West Virginia. It is a private, non-profit corporation supported by gifts from individuals, groups, churches, corporations, foundations, private trusts, the Synod of the Trinity, and the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. For more information, write to Davis-Stuart, Inc. at Route 2, Box 188-A, Lewisburg, WV 24901, call: 304-647-5577.

Personal & Family

Presbyterian Women

For more than a century, the mission of the whole church has been supported by women's organizations within our congregations. These organizations have allied themselves to each other at the presbytery, synod and General Assembly levels. Historically, they have been known by various names - "The Women's Presbyterial Society," "Presbyterian Women in the Church," and "The United Presbyterian Women." Presbyterian Women are passionate believers who feel called to nurture their faith, support mission worldwide, work for justice and peace, build an inclusiveness among women, children, and all peoples through a caring community. For more information about Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Trinity, contact Barbara Keister of the Philadelphia Presbytery. The 2007 Presbyterian Women's Gathering, "Growing in Service-Hearing God's Call", will held June 14-16 at Waynesburg College.

Presbyterian Men

Presbyterian Men is the official men's organization of the Presbyterian Church (USA). This organization boasts a mailing list of over 9,000 members throughout the denomination. Chapters exist on the local, regional, and national levels of our Church's structure. Presbyterian Men is a lay-led organization, and they meet annually at their National Gathering.

Presbyterian Men in the Synod of the Trinity meet in April and October in Bedford, PA. Their primary focus is evangelizing men throughout the Synod. For additional information, contact Eric Harrison at ErHarris4@aol.com.

The Synod of the Trinity is the regional administrative office of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). It encompasses all of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the State of West Virginia (excluding the counties of Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan, and Pendleton) and in Ohio (the counties of Belmont, the southern sector of Columbiana, Harrison, Jefferson, and Monroe).

The mission of the Synod of the Trinity is:

- To provide support, resources, and nurture to its presbyteries as they seek to be faithful to Christ's commission in their support of vital, mission-oriented congregations.
- In addition, the Synod will initiate and carry out Synod-wide mission in light of larger mission strategy of the General Assembly. You can find a full description at www.syntrinity.org.
- This is mission effort of Presbyterian churches in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio is supported in our Mission Budget.

Advocacy

Justice Advocacy

Social and Racial Justice witness is achieved through the advocacy for racial harmony and through the ongoing study of and focus on timely and emerging justice issues in the church and the community. Leadership relating to justice in and on behalf of the Synod is encouraged and nurtured.

Coalition on Appalachian Ministries

The [Coalition on Appalachian Ministries](#) (CAM) works to develop and strengthen congregations and their leaders in the region for their mission as stewards of God's grace in the home, neighborhood, school, workplace and natural environment. CAM also responds as an organization to the mission opportunities offered in the Appalachian region.

CAM is affiliated with five Presbyterian Reformed Churches: Christian Reformed Church, Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Reformed Church in America, and the Presbyterian Church (USA).

CAM is responsible for two Bicentennial Fund projects through the Synod of the Trinity. One provides scholarships for CAM educational events; the other provides funds for housing projects. For more information, write to CAM at: 1329 Wears Valley Road, Townsend, TN 37882-3417; call: 865-448-5940.

Commission on Religion in Appalachia

The mission of the [Commission on Religion in Appalachia](#) (CORA) is to express God's love through the empowerment of the people of Appalachia by working for justice. CORA is an ecumenical group

2008 Blue Challenge Offering

January

6 Pastor's Discretionary
13 Pastor's Discretionary
20 Brightside Opportunity Center
27 Theological Education Fund

February

3 Souper Bowl
10 Arbor Place
17 Arbor Place
24 Connections

March

2 Connections
9 Connections
16 One Great Hour (Palm Sunday)
23 One Great Hour (Easter)
30 One Great Hour (Youth Sunday)

April

6 Samaritan Counseling
13 Samaritan Counseling
20 Samaritan Counseling
27 Council of Churches

May

4 International Mission
11 International Mission
18 International Mission
25 International Mission (Memorial Day)

June

1 Medical Supplies
8 Medical Supplies
15 Youth Mission
22 Youth Mission
29 Youth Mission

July

6 TLC
13 TLC
20 Domestic Violence
27 LAVORP

August

3 Habitat for Humanity
10 Habitat for Humanity
17 Sending Fund
24 Sending Fund
31 Campus Ministry at Millersville

September

7 (Labor Day) Blanket Sunday
14 Book Challenge
21 Book Challenge
28 Peacemaking

October

5 Peacemaking Worldwide communion
12 Choices
19 Choices
26 Choices

November

2 Open Arms
9 Open Arms
16 Open Arms
23 Open Arms Thanksgiving Nov. 22
30 Homeless Winter Shelter

December

7 Christmas for Kiamba
14 FPC Special Help
21 FPC Special Help
24 Christmas Joy
28 Theological Education Fund

Notes about the Blue Challenge Offering

- The Blue Challenge Offering is the “extra mile giving” offering which is taken every Sunday.
- It supports mission opportunities that are not included in the Mission Funding Budget which represents approximately 12% (12 cents of every dollar pledged).
- The Blue Challenge allows the Mission Funding Committee to introduce the congregation to a variety of ministries which might otherwise go unnoticed.
- It allows each of us to respond to the opportunities that make the most sense to our own beliefs about the mission of Jesus Christ outside the walls of the church.
- 100% of every dollar raised is given directly to the cause or project for which it is raised.

Outside groups that use the facilities of FPC as a base of operations or as meeting space:

- **AA** – Alcohol Anonymous meet upstairs in the Wellspring Room.
- **Choices** - Adults with disabilities use classrooms on our ground level, Shirk Hall, & Activities Room.
- **Future Generations** – Uses our Youth Area for an after school tutoring program hosted by our church for at-risk children in partnership with the Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.
- **Grant Street Coalition** - This neighborhood action group meets regularly in our Activities Room.
- **Open Arms Christian Daycare** – Utilizes our first floor classes and office space, Shirk Hall, our kitchen, and our outdoor courtyard play area to offer caring day care, Monday through Friday, 6am to 6pm.

* **SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER, LANCASTER** 1803 Oregon Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601 717-560-9969 or Fax 717-560-9553 or 800-400-7789 www.scclanc.org. The Samaritan Center of Lancaster County is an interfaith ministry which offers pastoral counseling to individuals, couples and families; educational programs for denominations and churches; training for professionals; and consultation services to churches and other community organizations. Counseling is provided a team of clergy, physicians and therapists. Contributions to the Samaritan Center are placed in the "Samaritan Fund" which is used to subsidize those unable to pay the full counseling fee and afford such services and to provide an opportunity for family therapists in training to experience the special need of homeless and low-income families.

* **SERVICE MINISTRIES OF LANCASTER COUNTY (Lancaster Council of Churches)** 447 E. King Street, Lancaster, PA 17602 717-291-2261 www.lccouncilofchurches.org. This is a multi-program ministry of 117 congregations and the Presbyterian, Methodist, and U.C.C. judicatories in Lancaster County. The Programs include food banks, budget advising, heating fuel assistance, rent assistance, and homeless prevention. This is the referral agency for a number of other agencies in Lancaster County. Over 400 volunteers from local churches are involved in these human services.

***ONESIMUS PRISON MINISTRY** One Lighthouse Drive, Kirkwood, PA 17536 717-529-6071 The Onesimus Prison Ministry seeks to make disciples of inmates of the Chester County Prison. Bible studies are offered. The New Vine Fellowship is a rehabilitation program for persons with chemical addictions or other life controlling problems. The goal is to equip those in the group to rid themselves of the problem and also to restore the individual's self-worth, self-esteem, and self-confidence. One-on-one counseling is provided to inmates, working with them and their families, to prepare for the return of the inmate to the family and the community.

* **OXFORD AREA NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES CTR** 35 North Third St. Oxford, PA 19362 610-932-8557. The Center has operated for 25 years in rural southern Chester County providing information and referral, interagency and client-agency liaison, supportive counseling and intervention, and a wide variety of direct services (food, clothing, rental assistance, transportation, fuel, etc.) The Center seeks to be a place where people with problems seek help, county social service agencies find space to meet with community residents, and neighbors who want to help are linked with those who need help. An example is the "Adopt a Friend" program where over sixty volunteers are linked with seventy housebound senior citizens.

* **PA. HOME OF THE SPARROW** PO Box 1323, Malvern, PA 19355 610-889-2052 www.Homeofthesparrow.org This agency is a transitional shelter for homeless women and children. They currently operate three houses, up to 13 families, and provide a minimum of 9,125 shelter nights per year. The purpose is to provide housing for homeless women and children who are committed to improving their lives with extensive training and support in vocational and life skills to help them break the cycle of homelessness in order to live with dignity as productive members of our society. Recently, they purchased a property in West Chester which will provide housing for 6 additional families.

PITTSBURGH PROJECT - 2801 North Charles Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15214, tel: (412) 321-1678, fax: (412) 321-3813 <http://www.pittsburghproject.org> The Pittsburgh Project is a community development organization with a 22-year track record of developing leaders and serving the city's most vulnerable residents. We operate a progressive series of after school programs for urban young people, deploy over 2,500 people annually to perform free home repairs for Pittsburgh's in-need elderly homeowners, outfit college students for urban service and leadership, and spearhead economic development and anti-violence efforts in our Pittsburgh neighborhood.

***PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S VILLAGE** 452 South Roberts Road, Rosemont, PA 19010 610-525-5400 and Fax 610-525-8396 www.pcv.org Presbyterian Children's Village serves children and their families through child welfare, prevention, behavioral health and educational support services. The Village is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Its Mission is to promote the healing of the spirits of children, families and communities broken by violence, neglect, addiction, poverty, mental illness, racism and other serious societal problems.

* **RELEASED TIME CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** 611 Fairway Drive, Lancaster, PA 17603 717-393-9029 . Released Time provides one hour of religious education per week per student during the school year to second and third graders in the Lancaster School District. The program's objective is to provide character development, sense of worth, moral training and a foundation of biblical knowledge that will help them on their journeys of faith. In 1996 - 1997 there were 200 children who participated in this program. Input from students and parents give positive feed back to this project.

Donegal Presbytery Aid to Local Mission Projects includes Mission in Chester, Lancaster and York Counties

(www.donegalpby.com/MissionWIP_LocalMissionProjects.htm)

The following projects and ministries with an ASTERISK are validated for support. The projects without the asterisk have been funded, but have not pursued the validation process. The Mission Within The Presbytery Division assessed the ministry as part of the validation process.

ACCESS - YORK, INC. PO Box 743, York, PA 17405-0743 717-845-8226 www.access-york.org Shelters: York 846-5400 Hanover 637-2235 ACCESS provides a broad spectrum of services to victims of domestic violence. Also provided to the community are volunteer opportunities, community education events, and training for other organizations and institutions. Emphasis is placed on outreach and proactive efforts to break the cycle of violence. Programs include a Hispanic outreach effort, transitional housing, children's programs, and legal advocacy.

* **BRIDGE OF HOPE** 1516 Olive St., Coatesville, PA 610-380-1360 www.bridgeofhopeinc.org 24 E. James St. Lancaster, PA 17602 717-394-7707 Mailing address: PO Box 1223, Coatesville, PA 19320. The mission of Bridge of Hope is to end homelessness for women and children with the help of trained mentoring groups within congregations. Bridge of Hope offers a combination of rental assistance, life-skills training and on-going mentoring relationships to help homeless mothers and their children achieve permanent housing, stability and financial self-sufficiency through employment. Our goal is to exemplify God's love and to promote physical, emotional, social and spiritual wholeness.

CARE CENTER FOR CHRIST 127 S. Matlack #129, West Chester, PA 19382 610-436-6226 Email: bajones@aol.com. The Care Center Ministry was established in 1982 as a Christian Worship Community to provide personal counseling, support, service referrals and community advocacy for the residents of the southeast area of West Chester. The Care Center building is located on South Matlack & Barnard Street across from a 95-unit subsidized housing project. The neighborhood is a mix of black, white, and Hispanic residents.

Over the years the Care Center programs have included after-school activity clubs, Friday night recreation pre-school, after-school tutoring, and holiday parties, in addition to counseling and case management support provided by the director, Rev. Carl Guthrie and a volunteer staff. The Center has an active volunteer recruitment network in area churches and at West Chester University. Their mission is to serve man in need and to provide opportunities for those seeking to help others.

* **CHESTER COUNTY MIGRANT MINISTRY** PO Box 265, Kennett Square, PA 19348 610-444-0387. The Migrant Ministry unites the churches in witness and outreach to seasonal farm workers in the Chester County area who are isolated from the larger community by working location, language, and prejudice. Chaplain Huete is responsible for regular visits to 35 farms. Volunteers also help with the programs to share the Gospel, provide Christian fellowship, transportation, language and medical assistance, and opportunities for counseling. A soccer league with 12 teams has proven to be an excellent way to reach young workers.

***CONTACT – LANCASTER**--601 S. Queen St., P.O.Box 2454, Lancaster, PA 17608-2454 717-299-7388 lgascho@caplanc.org www.contact-lancaster.org . CONTACT Lancaster Helpline is a community service, which responds to human need by providing a 24-hour telephone helpline. It is staffed with trained volunteers, who give confidential, non-judgmental support to callers, who show compassion for all individuals, who affirm the value and resiliency of each caller and when appropriate, provide callers with referrals and interventions.

DOWNTOWN KIDS PROJECT - Central Presbyterian Church, Downingtown, PA 610-269-1576

* **GOOD WORKS -- COATESVILLE** 610-383-6311 www.goodworksinc.org This ministry consists of home repair done on three Saturdays per month in Coatesville and West Chester. Repairs primarily consist of plumbing, carpentry, heating, and window replacement. An average of six homes per workday are repaired by volunteer crews and staff support. Volunteers come from several churches and community groups averaging about 60 workers each workday. The objective is to show God's love for families living in sub-standard housing and to replace hopelessness with the hope of Jesus Christ.

* **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - CHESTER COUNTY** P.O. Box 1452, 621 Lumber St., Coatesville, PA 19320 610-384-7993 Web: www.hfhcc.org

* **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - LANCASTER** 443 Fairview Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603 717-392-8836 or Fax 717-390-3767 www.lancasterhabitat.org

* **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - YORK COUNTY** – 36 N. Highland Ave., York, PA 17404 717-854-6168 or Fax 717-854-1970 Habitat for Humanity is an ecumenical housing ministry that provides affordable housing for any qualified low to moderate income families without regard to race, religion, nationality, sex or creed. All our houses are owner-occupied by families who have invested 500 hours of sweat equity with Habitat and are repaying Habitat a "0%" interest mortgage over 20-25 years. Our objectives include building 8 houses per year, selecting 8 families each year to occupy and purchase more homes, and moving all eight families into their own home within twelve months of the construction start date. Through committee reports to the Board of Directors and site visits, we monitor the progress of each project. We invite churches, individuals and groups to help us.

* **TLC (Transitional Living Center)**, 105 East King Street, Lancaster, PA 17602 717-397-0156 or Fax 717-397-1782 www.tlclancaster.org The purpose of TLC is to provide a transitional shelter program with supportive services for homeless individuals, couples and families who are in need of temporary housing as they transition into permanent housing.

HOME OF HOPE - TRANSITIONAL HOUSING OF DONEGAL - P.O. Box 552, Mount Joy, PA 17552 - Phone 717.735.7540 - Fax 717.735.7543 www.loveinlancaster.org Mission: Mobilizing the Church to offer hope to homeless families by providing transitional housing and supportive services.

HOPE HOUSE - Donegal Presbyterian Church, 1891 Donegal Springs Road, Mount Joy, PA 17552 717-653-1943 or Fax 717-653-1352 Email: donpreschurch@desupernet.net Web: www.donegalpresbyterianchurch.org

* **HOUSE OF HIS CREATION** 91 Newport Pike, Suite 203, Gap, PA 717-442-4890 or 877-4MyChil(d) or Fax 717-442-5228 www.hohc.org The Coatesville House provides housing, education, counseling, spiritual care and referral services to young women who find themselves pregnant with nowhere to turn. Prospective mothers are assisted toward the delivery of healthy children and are enabled to become nurturing parents and independent contributing members of the community. Information on adoption services is provided if requested by the prospective mother. The Lititz House provides respite care, temporary housing, and case management services for HIB/AIDS impacted children up to the age of 17. The House of His Creation provides a place for children to stay when the parents cannot care for them due to hospitalization. By providing Christian services to hurting young women, children, and families, House of His Creation seeks to help them discover the love of a family as well as the love of Jesus Christ.

LA IGLESIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN TOUGHKENAMON, P.O.Box 59, 147 Church Street, Toughkenamon, PA 19374 610-268-3428 Email: je777ing@aol.com

* **LEHMAN CENTER -- YORK** The Lehman Center 400 West Market Street, York, PA 17404 717-845-5771 Hotline: 1-800-635-6619 www.cassouthernpa.org This group is a subsidiary of the Children's Aid Society. It is a program dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect through a variety of services and programs. The Center operates a 24-hour crisis nursery for children, ages birth through 6 years old who are at high risk for abuse and neglect. In 1997 there were 637 admissions to the crisis nursery. There were 6834 hotline calls received and 355 referrals were made. It provides a unique art therapy for children as well as programs to help parents in the middle of crisis and stress.

MASON-DIXON COMMUNITY SERVICES 5 Pendyrus Street, Delta, PA 17314 717-456-5559. This agency operates in southern York County and northern Hartford County in Maryland. It assists low income families and individuals with emergency food and help in meeting utility bills. Mason-Dixon also provides counseling, information, and referral services.

Resurrection Chapel (formerly Memorial Presbyterian Church, 426 S. Queen Street, Lancaster PA 17603 717-394-0480. The vision of the Resurrection Chapel and of The Presbytery of Donegal is to revitalize the congregation as it becomes a multi-cultural presence and worshipping community that meets the needs of the Hispanic, Anglo, and African-American people living within its ministry area. The continuing congregation and leadership team are seeking to carry out a ministry of evangelism that is responsive to the great commission - this vision includes the hope that all members, new and old, will become one unified Body of Christ working together to further God's Kingdom in Lancaster. Initially a Hispanic Pastor, full-time, and an Anglo Pastor, half time, will provide worship, education and fellowship opportunities in Spanish and in English. The Presbytery will be an active partner in this re-development project as it begins in order to provide a good foundation and better program for the Church and the community. We encourage churches in our Presbytery to give financial and hands-on support.