



People's to People
The Newsletter of the People's Church of Dover
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FEBRUARY 2009

Under the Bell Tower

"Sully," Obama, and Groundhog Day

The CNN and MSNBC and FoxNews reporters began calling it "the miracle on the Hudson" within a couple of hours after Capt. Sullenberger successfully ditched the US Air liner with 155 people aboard into a portion of the Hudson River where there was no boat traffic, and everyone got out alive. The 24-hour reporting of the event continued for almost two days: it was only the Obama-Biden train journey from Philadelphia to Washington that finally attracted attention away from "Sully" and his airplane. Before the ditching they were covering the Israeli invasion of Gaza intensely, and afterward the whole nation seemed to heave a sigh of national relief and focus on the events leading up to the inauguration (including the bands practicing, the workers constructing the review stand, an interview with Bono—every possible detail). Israel declared a ceasefire, and then Hamas declared a ceasefire. What happened during the week from January 15 until the 22nd?

I think this was what happened—at least in part. America remembered that the economy is not all there is to life—that individual people count, that there are pilots we can celebrate, that there are some things worth a party, that the whole world wants America to be at our best, that even in "busy" places like New York City people care, and that we care too. To twist an aphorism: Nothing feels good like feeling good. We needed that—a lot!

Some people say that February is the worst month—winter without let-up, only small holidays, Lent begins (February 25th this year), tax form preparation, snow to remove—they make a pretty good case for the worst month. When the Roman emperors reorganized the calendar ("July" for Julius Caesar, "August" for Augustus Caesar) they each took a day away from February.

But in the spirit of "Nothing feels good like feeling good," I propose this. A lot of people like winter so February is a great time. Groundhog Day, St. Valentine's Day, Presidents Day—humor, affection, respectful memory—these are worth celebrating. The word "Lent" means "spring"; and the beginning of Lent is the beginning of deepening our inner life. The sooner you send in your Form 1040 the sooner you will feel relieved. And snow? --snow persons, days off from school, sledding, skiing, building a snow fort, killing insect eggs, storing up water for spring planting and gardening, you have a good reason to spend that money to get your car washed, and television programming is not limited to reruns. God's promise to Noah:

As long as the earth endures,
seed-time and harvest, cold and heat,
summer and winter, day and night
shall not cease. Genesis 8:22

-Dan



LENTEN STUDY 2009

The paper "A Ministry of Health and Healing"
and
the book The Reader by Bernhard Schlink

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH
JANUARY 31, 2008**

Annual Church Budgeted Income	\$216,390
Income Weekly	4,161
Budgeted Income to Date	12,748
Income Received to Date	8,403
Budget Expenses to Date	- 17,754
Net Difference	\$ - 9,351

ATTENDANCE FOR JANUARY

	2008		2009	offerings
01/06	117	01/07	103	2,131.00
01/13	117	01/14	124	2,467.00
01/20	96	01/21	117	1,803.00
01/27	<u>101</u>	01/28	<u>128</u>	<u>2,002.50</u>
	431		472	8,403.50

February Birthdays

02/01	John Downs, Sr.
02/01	John Paradee
02/01	Kevin Salmon
02/02	Zachary Davis
02/02	Ethan Paradee
02/02	Chloe Hannah
02/03	Louise Warfield
02/03	Glenn Boehmer
02/04	James L. Baker
02/05	Mary Cooke
02/05	Margaret Nelson
02/06	Renee Lindsey
02/07	Dan Griggs
02/07	Cheryl Goldsmith
02/07	Virginia Bason
02/10	Leonard Guth
02/13	Suzanne Hotchkiss
02/15	Krystle R. Muntz
02/19	Cynthia Hotchkiss
02/20	Nancy Jaywork
02/20	Carolyn Otto
02/20	Lester Gallihue
02/21	Kathy Hanebutt
02/22	Christine Hopkins
02/25	Christopher Smith
02/25	Edward Bailey
02/25	Shannon Biddle

If we missed anyone, please notify the church office to get your name on the list.

May God Bless You on Your Birthday



PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS

- Mary Alice Bailey** – beginning new round of radiation therapy.
Tomris Eldridge – family stress.
Jim Miller – recuperating from surgery on his throat Jan. 20.
Mary Reed – recuperating at home.
Laura Ryan – recuperating after knee-joint replacement surgery.
Ginny Read – therapy at Jefferson Magee Rehab in Philly
Dale Stewart – resting at home after a stroke.
Fred Stites – at home slowly recovering from a stroke.

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS

- Drexel Biddle** – Cliff's nephew in GA, heart and lung problems.
Pamela Bush – Connie Biddle's sister: recurring GI problems, dehydration.
Leon "Buddy" Carter – Brenda Polasko's brother: COPD.
Eichelberger family – Allbees' friends: several medical problems.
Casey Garcia – Friend of Jane Dodd, in treatment for respiratory problems.
Bill Henry – Dodds' friend suffering from advancing Alzheimer's Disease.
Nell Holt – Harriet Griggs' mother, in rehab after a stroke.
Lucille Horsey – Carol Skadsberg's friend.
Seth Kopp – Carol Skadsberg's son-in-law, hospitalized for tests.
Sue Leonard – Cleah Muntz's sister: pain from spinal deterioration.
Chloe Niehorster – Jackie's granddaughter in NJ: mauled by a dog.
Keith Nicolls – Fred Hotchkiss' uncle: kidney failure.
Janice Rice – Jerry Rice's sister-in-law: ruptured disk.
Viola Sammons – Sue Dodd's friend in Hospice care.
Eva Smyth – Connie Biddle's mother: recuperating from fractured hip.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

- Meena Ball** – preschool friend of Dale & Betsy Stewart.
Faye Denkenberger – friend of Marie Clement.
Mary Ford – Betsy Stewart's friend.
Barbara Jackson – Cleah Muntz's cousin.
Howard Killian – Angela Downs' father.
Kathie Latourette – Sylvia's daughter-in-law.
Gordon Minner – friend of Jeff and Judy Reed.
Charlena Murdock – Reeds' friend in South Carolina.
Christina Neustad – Betsy Stewart's niece.
Diane Nickelson – friend of Brenda Polasko.
Lillian Schrantz – Cleah Muntz's sister-in-law.
Robert Sisson – friend of Jeff Reed.
Judy Smith – Phyllis Simkins' niece.
Michele Stevenson – friend of the Allbee family.
Jean Stulir – friend of Lyn Arnold: has 3 small children.

Ethan Williams – 7-yr.-old friend of Hotchkiss family.

"Ann Marie" – friend of the Allbee family.

Deborah VanNess – friend of the Allbee family.

Others whose friends or family have requested prayers without names.

DEPLOYED MILITARY PERSONNEL

Spc. Adam Conard – Joan Conard's grandson: Army: to Iraq.

Darlene Casebeer – Cleah Muntz's niece: Air Force: to Iraq.

Lenten Study 2009

6:00 PM Light Supper

6:30 PM Discussion

Discussion of Paper on "A Ministry of Health and Healing" and then the book The Reader by Bernhard Schlink: beginning **Wednesday Feb. 25**. Everyone welcome.

HELP BUILD A HOUSE IN NEW ORLEANS

This spring the UCC will participate with nine other members/partners of Church World Service in four weeks of rebuilding together in New Orleans. The project: Rebuilding homes, reclaiming lives—12 houses in East New Orleans' Little Woods community. For more information and to sign up to help, go online to

www.ucc.org/volunteer/hurricane/hurricane-recovery-volunteer.html

or phone Rev. Jerry Foltz at the Conference office at 703-346-6184.

Drive the Van

Jeff Reed will be scheduling a learning session for church members who wish to learn to drive the new church van. If you are interested please sign the Interest Sheet on the bulletin board or call the church office. Jeff will be in touch to discuss day and time.

LENTEN ORGAN CONCERT SERIES 2009

As in past years the Lenten Concerts will feature the best organists in central Delaware. Each concert will begin at 12:05 PM and run for a half hour. Everyone is welcome.

STORKULATIONS

Louise Moore is a great-great-grandmother again:

Mike & Sarah Starkey had twins on Jan. 22: **Carson** (8 pounds) and **Braden** (9 pounds 11 ounces).

CONGRATULATIONS

Woody and Debra Woodruff are grandparents: Jan.

25 Ryan and Jordanna Naftzinger had a baby boy,

Riley Naftzinger (6 pounds 4 ounces).

SYMPATHY

The church's sympathy is expressed to Vickie Healey and her family in the death January 27th. of her mother

Dorothy Russ.

SYMPATHY

The church's sympathy is expressed to Joan Conard and her family in the death November 24 of her son **Clinton Conard** of heart failure.

SYMPATHY

The church expresses our sympathy to Jackie Niehorster in the death of her brother **Charles Batot** at home in Philadelphia on January 11.

CHURCH CLOSINGS DUE TO WEATHER

will be announced on

WDOV-AM

TV Channel 27/42

WBOC-TV

45th Annual Meeting of the Central Atlantic Conference

June 12-14, University of DE, Newark

Theme:

"Save the Rock—Lord lead us to greener pastures."

Registration information and business items will soon be available on the conference website:

www.cacucc.org

Please contact us with your email address so that we can inform you when items are available:

1-800-441-1965

ajones@cacucc.org

We look forward to seeing you there.

PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW

Men's Breakfast – 3rd Thursday each month, at the Countrie Eatery on N. State Street.

February 19th

BOARD OF DIACONATE

Pastoral Evaluation Summary

A total of 55 surveys were returned.

Some of the surveys were incomplete. Either specific items or entire sections were not marked in any way (not even with N/A). This resulted in less than 55 responses on several items.

The details for each item in each category are recorded in a separate document. Those details are worthy of examination and reveal variations of responses within each category. Noteworthy are the number of responses marked N/A, especially in the categories "Pastoral Care" and "Youth Involvement".

Several of the surveys also included written comments that are worthy of review.

The following summarizes the responses for each category (Evangelism, Leadership, etc.).

I Evangelism

45% rate the pastor as Excellent
30% rate the pastor as Very Good
16% rate the pastor as Good
4% rate the pastor as Fair
2% rate the pastor as Poor
3% have no rating

II. Leadership

38% rate the pastor as Excellent
26 % rate the pastor as Very Good
16% rate the pastor as Good
7% rate the pastor as Fair
1% rate the pastor as Poor
12 % have no rating

III. Pastoral Care

33% rate the pastor as Excellent
21% rate the pastor as Very Good
11% rate the pastor as Good
6% rate the pastor as Fair
2% rate the pastor as Poor
27% have no rating

IV. Sermons

74% rate the pastor as Excellent
20% rate the pastor as Very Good
5% rate the pastor as Fair
1% rate the pastor as Poor

V. Worship Leadership

63% rate the pastor as Excellent

26% rate the pastor as Very Good
10% rate the pastor as Good
1% have no rating

VI. Youth Involvement

20% rate the pastor as Excellent
17% rate the pastor as Very Good
14% rate the pastor as Good
13% rate the pastor as Fair
4% rate the pastor as Poor
32% have no rating

The Diaconate asked Jim Caldwell to review the results of the Pastoral Review and do the percentages which we thank him for his service!

The results are listed above as reported and reviewed by the Diaconate and presented to Pastor Griggs with discussion!

If there is any questions please contact Fred Hotchkiss!
The Diaconate thanks all of the people that participated the results are a tool in keeping People's Church of Dover UCC in tune with the Members.

HELP!

We *need more volunteer USHERS*. If you can help, please contact Sandy McNinch soon (698-0186)
sandymcninch@comcast.net

The next Diaconate meeting will be
February 15, 2009 at 11:10 AM.

Our Church's Website

Have you looked at our church's website lately?
www.peopleschurchofdover.org Special thanks to Elinor Baker for all the work she puts into her job as our webmaster.

100 Years at Peoples Church of Dover

Come Celebrate May 17, 2009

Cornerstone Removal
Cover Dish Luncheon
Choral Society Concert

May 23, 24, 2009

Special Speakers and Quests

Special Services

Catered Banquet

View History Display

(do you have anything to display)

Plan to Attend

The Centennial Plate has arrived for observation and ordering!

Please see **Louise Warfield** or **Contact the office to order!**

The price is **\$20.00!**

The picture of the Church in different phases is on the front and a brief history is on the back of the Plate. Each Plate is boxed for giving as a gift. Order now so that you will be sure to get one.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Board of Christian Education is happy to announce the launch of a new younger youth group, ages 6-11 (not named yet). Jennifer Myer, the leader of this group, is a new board member, and our board has promised much support. They met January 18 for the first time and plan to meet monthly. Look for announcements about this group in this newsletter and on the Youth Bulletin Board, next to the Fellowship Room.

The board noted the departure of 6-year board member Amanda Downes and thanked her for her service. Jean Hitchens was elected chairperson, and Cheryl Goldsmith was elected secretary for 2009.

The board discussed possible topics for the Adult Class, and several ideas were noted. The upcoming February 22nd class will feature the Reverend Courtney Mys as the leader, with the topic: Religion and Science: At Odds or in Union?

The next board meeting will be February 8, 2009.

Jean Hitchens, Chairperson

Youth Group 2009

Children Ages 6-11

Purpose: To create a group that not only teaches children about Jesus, but also involves them in community service and social activities that reinforce His teachings.

Mission Statement: Teach children to incorporate the lessons of Jesus into their own lives through community service and social activities.

The Youth Group met on January 18, 2009 after service in the Fellowship Room. Six children attended. We ate hot dogs and fruit while we discussed opinions on what a youth group is and reviewed the mission statement: *to teach children to incorporate the lessons of Jesus into their own lives through community service and social activities.* Afterwards, we had a brain storming session on activities the group could do for fun and for the community. We also tried to come up with a name for the group.

The next meeting will be on February 14 from 12:30 to 2. We will be decorating placements for dinner trays used at Kent General Hospital. We will also be discussing ways to show love without using words. If time permits, we will begin a bowling tournament. Thank you to the Women's Fellowship for donating the hot dogs and to Cheryl and Jennifer Goldsmith for donating fruit and for also staying to help with lunch. Thank you to Sally Childears for helping with set up and clean up.

The Youth Group is open to any child between the ages of 6 and 11. We welcome suggestions for community service and are open to all ideas for activities. You can see me at Church on Sundays or leave a message for me at the church office.

Jennifer Myer, Youth Group Director

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management met on January 25th, 2009 after service. The Board has been busy analyzing the existing needs of the church. A proposal to replace the windows on the south wall in the basement was approved and should be done soon. Also approved was the proposal to scrape, patch, primer and paint the side walls in the sanctuary. This work will include repairs and repainting of the trim around the windows, as well as repainting the radiators with a high temperature paint. Painting is scheduled to be complete before the Centennial Celebration.

The Board is still investigating options for a new sound system for the sanctuary. Estimates for replacing the HVAC unit that was damaged in a theft attempt have come in and the Board is waiting on one more estimate. Repairs to the bell tower are on hold pending better weather. New carpets are in place for the bell tower. The Board is now developing the new rules for use of the new church van. Van request forms and conditions are in production.

If you have any concerns or questions for the Board, please contact BJ VanKavelaar or any of the members. The next Board of Management meeting is scheduled for February 22nd, 2009 directly after service.

BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH

I would like to extend a Big THANKS to everyone for such a successful 2008. We provided assistance to many people who needed our help and we should be very proud and I hope inspired to continue to do all that we can. "Whatever you do to the least of my brethren you do to me". Matthew 25:40

I am looking forward to a very busy and blessed 2009.

Sue Hunt and the Board of Mission and Outreach.

"Superbowl Sunday" Soup/Sub Sale.

Nourish your soul while nourishing your body with a delicious Turkey and Cheese, or Italian Sub and a quart of Fred's Famous vegetable soup. The Board of Mission and Outreach is having a Soup and Sub Sale February 1st after Church. Subs (made fresh Sunday morning) are \$4.00 and Soup is \$5.00 for a quart and could make a great addition to your **Super Bowl Party**. For information or to order (by January 30th) call Ruth Harris 734-7230, the church office 674-4177, or email order to peopleschurchdover@verizon.net. Pickup is

Sunday February 1st at 11:00 am. All proceeds go to the Men's Emergency Homeless Shelter and Salvation Army.

"Never place a period where God has placed a comma."

- Gracie Allen, 20th century American comedian



"God is Still Speaking" Lapel Pins on sale in the church office for \$6.00 each. This is an ongoing fund raiser initiated by Grover Biddle to support local missions.

100th Anniversary Cookbook

In an effort to reduce the price of the cookbook we are looking for sponsors to offer dedications and memorials or business owners looking for a wonderful opportunity for a little advertisement. This is a great opportunity to send a message to a loved one, or dedicate a memorial to someone, surprise your parents or your children with their picture and a message to them or have your business ad or logo be included in this historical event. The advertising/sponsor prices are very affordable and the proceeds from this fund raiser will help sponsor the Centennial Celebration as well as be an ongoing fund raiser to benefit our local mission obligations.

If you are interested in sponsoring the cookbook with a dedication or memorial or advertising in the cookbook with a donation of \$25.00 you will receive a quarter of a page for your message or ad and a free copy of the cookbook.

If you are interested in sponsoring the cookbook with a dedication or memorial or advertising in the cookbook with a donation of \$50.00 you will receive a half of a page for your message or ad and two free copies of the cookbook.

If you are interested in sponsoring the cookbook with a dedication or memorial or advertising in the cookbook with a donation of \$100.00 you will receive an entire page for your message or ad and four free copies of the cookbook.

We will also continue to receive recipes for the cookbook up through February 15th. Please email any recipes and/or pictures and stories to accompany them to shh241@comcast.net, or send them to or drop them off at the church office.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING Coming in March

The escalating global food crisis is leaving millions of people throughout the world impoverished, in jeopardy and the threat is serious. In the last six months, prices of basic food staples have increased more than 50%. For the more than one billion people already living on the UN minimum survival wage of U.S. \$1 a day, this is devastating. One Great Hour of Sharing continues to work on initiatives that address food security throughout the world. Please take a moment and give some thought to this worthy offering that we will receive in March.



Food Bank Sunday is February 1st. The items needed this month include **Beef Stew, Spam, Applesauce (cans), Jello, small boxes, and any other non-perishable items.** All

donations will go to **Holy Cross Samaritans Food Bank**. Thank you for your kind donations, they are greatly appreciated. People's Church is asking that all checks be made payable to the **People's Church of Dover**, so that one check can be given to the designated Food Bank for that month. Thank you for all your generous donations.

There are folders provided in each **pew hymnal rack containing Food Bank envelopes**. Your donation can be put in the collection plate on any Sunday.

Thank you for your kind donations to the the First Baptist Church Food Bank for the month of January. There were 50 food items donated and \$40.00 collected. All gifts were given to the Holy Cross Samaritans Food Bank for the month of November. Your generous offerings are greatly appreciated.

Sue Hunt and Ruth Harris,

VOLUNTEERS

Flowers

02/01	Linda & John Paradee
02/08	Eileen Lockwood
02/15	Smith Family
02/22	Linda & John Paradee

Liturgist

02/01	Craig Lindsey
02/08	Michelle Caulk
02/15	Judy Reed
02/22	Judy Zingaro

Ushers

02/01
02/08
02/15
02/22

Greeters

02/01
02/08
02/15
02/22

Sermons & Scriptures

February 01	"Our Demons" I Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28
	Holy Communion
February 08	"Re-Enchantment" I Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
February 15	"Jesus Outside the Camp" I Corinthians 9:24-27; Mark 1:40-45
February 22	"Cloud and Sight" II Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Women's Fellowship

Monday February 2: 12:30 PM
Rev. Griggs will speak on the topic "Humor in the Bible"

Pancake Supper for Shove Tuesday,
February 24th, 5:00 to 7:00 PM
adults - \$5.00 and children - \$3.00.
Sponsored by Women's fellowship

Caring Hearts Helping Hands (698-1900)

Our office hours are every Tuesday, 10 am - 2 pm; the first Wednesday evening of each month, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm and the first and third Saturday of each month, 10 am - 12 pm. We are always looking for volunteers to help sort and hang gently used donations that come into our warehouse next to Jonathan Landing Golf Club house. Please feel free to come by any time.

If you are interested in helping or know of any teens or college students who need hours of community service, we would be happy to have their help as well.

Thanks again for all your support. Merry Christmas and a very happy, healthy new year to all.

Fran Clinton and BJ Van Kavelaar

Opportunity for the People's Church to provide transportation

Jeff Reed has researched getting a 12-passenger van for the church to use on Sunday to pick up church members who need a ride to church.

The van could also be used for going to Church functions and youth group outings.

The van would not require a special driver's license. The cost of the vehicle could come from the investment portfolio.

The ongoing costs of ownership include:

Insurance

Gasoline

Maintenance

Providing drivers every Sunday

The item and its associated costs are not included in the budget for 2009. Perhaps someone has a creative way to pay for these costs of ownership.

If there are people who would consider using the service or driving the bus on Sunday, please contact Jeff Reed or the Church office.