



People's to People
The Newsletter of the People's Church of Dover
United Church of Christ
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NOVEMBER 2009

Under the Bell Tower

Of Skeletons and Turkeys

When I was ten or eleven years old, for Halloween I wore a skeleton costume. It was a light-cloth black jumpsuit with a skeleton's bones painted on the front with that kind of paint that absorbs light and then glows in the dark. We lived in a neighborhood where there were lots of children (the Baby Boom, you know), and so the streets were full of ghosts and goblins and princesses stumbling from one house to the next to repeat the ritual—"Trick or Treat!" Larry was a year older, and he decided that he was too old to wear a costume and go knocking on doors, but he wanted some candy anyway. The group of two or three boys I was with saw him coming, and we decided to run away and keep our candy; so we jumped over the ditch and started running through the uncleared lot. Most of the other lots in our sub-division had been cleared for building, but this lot was still rough: it had ten-year-old trees, weeds, a briar patch, and some limestone boulders sticking up several inches above the ground. It was tough running through the uncleared lot. I was having a hard time seeing with my skeleton mask on, so I pulled it off to run. Since the glow-in-the-dark skeleton paint was on the front of my costume and not on the back I hoped—oh how I hoped that Larry couldn't see me in the last bit of lingering twilight. But he saw me—he saw us all. He called out to us and clomped into the uncleared lot with his two buddies behind him, also un-costumed. I thought longingly of the candy in my Halloween bag. But Larry couldn't see the bag in the darkness: all he could see was my skeleton paint, and that's what got his attention. He forgot all about the candy and started making fun of my skeleton. What a relief!

American Halloween is a time for fun. Over the past twenty years or so, some churches have gotten very serious about the origins of it, the Celtic ghost rituals, all the talk of the devil and getting something for nothing; so there are some who forbid their children from participating, who try to get the message out that it's a pagan holiday. Well here's what I think. I think it's an ancient pagan holiday if that's the emphasis you put on it; and it's a fun evening if that's the emphasis you put on it. My family always had Halloween for fun.



Thanksgiving, too, can be a non-religious time of family gatherings, memory-making, good food; AND Thanksgiving can also be what its name implies—a day for giving thanks. I don't mean just being grateful that we live in this great country and have all this food and family—I mean what the Pilgrims meant: a time to be thankful to God. Our economic storm this past year and the two wars have been rough—as rough as the November ocean currents through which the Mayflower sailed. We are the heirs of the Pilgrims—both as Americans and also as members of the United Church of Christ. So let's take the time November 26 to give thanks to God.

-Dan

STEWARDSHIP REPORT THROUGH OCTOBER 30, 2009

Annual Church Budgeted Income	\$216,390
Income Weekly	4,161
Budgeted Income to Date	175,150
Income Received to Date	155,110
Budget Expenses to Date	<u>- 175,153</u>
Net Difference	\$ -20,043

ATTENDANCE FOR OCTOBER

	2008	2009	offerings	
10/05	101	10/04	124	4,211.00
10/12	102	10/11	93	4,272.94
10/19	139	10/18	97	1,758.85
10/26	<u>117</u>	10/25	<u>85</u>	<u>1,194.00</u>
	459		399	\$ 18,281.35

November Birthdays

11/02	Luan (Lori) RICE
11/03	Elisabeth TOMLINSON
11/03	Andersen MOOR
11/04	Kathleen KASHMAR
11/07	Wendy REED RIDGEWAY
11/07	Marian DePUE
11/07	Hannah LINDSEY
11/08	Mary JOHNS
11/09	Sherman TRIBBITT
11/09	Orna Lee MASSEY
11/09	Sarah CONARD
11/10	Stacy CONNER
11/14	Charles A. MOOR, III
11/15	John PARKER
11/15	Sally CHILDEARS
11/16	Evan McCLEARY
11/17	George DORYLIS
11/20	Terry WARFIELD
11/21	Jesse MAYAN, Jr.
11/21	Jeremy MAYAN
11/22	Victor PIERCE
11/23	Patricia DiANTONIO
11/23	Thelma LEWIS
11/23	Sue Harris-HUNT
11/25	Jennifer DOWNS
11/25	Jessica PRITCHETT
11/28	Angela DOWNS
11/29	Irene DEAMER
11/30	Patricia THOMPSON
11/30	Ava RUDIS

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

May God Bless You on Your Birthday



IN OUR PRAYERS PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS

- Millard Biddle** – in Westminster Heath Center for therapy after hip surgery.
- Thorpe Caldwell** – in Westminster Health Center fighting a severe infection.
- Fred Hotchkiss** – home after a week in Kent General Hosp. fighting a general infection.
- Sylvia Latourette** – recuperating at home from broken ribs.
- Barba Merriwether** – in chemotherapy for abdominal cancer.
- Brenda Polasko** – recuperating at home from knee surgery.
- Mary Reed** – in treatment for cardiac arrhythmia.
- A.J. Senato** – waiting after spinal-cranial surgery for re-assessment.

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS

- Drexel Biddle** – Cliff's nephew in GA, heart and lung problems.
- Leon "Buddy" Carter** – Brenda Polasko's brother: COPD.
- Faye Downey** – Marian DePue's friend in MO with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.
- Bill Henry** – Dodds' friend suffering from advancing Alzheimer's Disease.
- Lucille Horsey** – Carol Skadsberg's friend.
- Carol Lamphier** – friend of Kathy Hanebutt, recuperating from back surgery at her son's home in North Carolina.
- Sue Leonard** – Cleah Muntz's sister: pain from spinal deterioration.
- Keith Nicolls** – Fred Hotchkiss' uncle: kidney failure.
- Debbie Yates** – friend of Pat Thompson, chronic health issues.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

- Faye Denkenberger** – friend of Marie Clement.
- Melanie Giangrant** -- friend of Judy Reed.
- Michelle Hill** – Sue Dodd's cousin.
- Barbara Jackson** – Cleah Muntz's cousin.
- Howard Killian** – Angela Downs' father.
- Gordon Minner** – friend of Jeff and Judy Reed.
- Christina Neustad** – Betsy Stewart's niece.
- Diane Nickelson** – friend of Brenda Polasko.
- Lillian Schrantz** – Cleah Muntz's sister-in-law.
- David Taylor** – Jim Miller's cousin has thyroid cancer.
- Ethan Williams** – 7-yr.-old friend of Hotchkiss family.
- Michael Williamson** – 12-year-old grandson of Pat Thompson's friend.

STORKULATIONS

To Erica and Jonathan Richard on the birth of a son, Jace Richard, on October 11. Grandparents are Jeff and Donna Baker Heller, great-grandparents are Jim and Nell Baker.

SYMPATHY

The church's sympathy is expressed to the family and friends of **Helen Moor Singleton**, who died peacefully in her sleep Monday morning October 12.

SYMPATHY

The church's love and sympathy are expressed to Rose Ann Hirth and her family in the death of her husband **Erwin ("Ed") Hirth** of heart disease, at Milford Hospital on October 24.

CELEBRATION

We celebrate with Joan Conard as her grandson Specialist **Adam Conard** returned home from deployment to Iraq.

FAREWELL

Marge Griffith is moving to Pennsylvania to live near her daughter. We will miss you, Marge. Go with God.

2010 BUDGET PROCESS

Board of Trustees budget-writing meeting, Sunday November 8, at 11:15 AM.

Receipt of Estimates of Giving from members and friends—the month of November.

Annual Congregational Meeting to elect church officers and approve a budget for 2010: Sunday December 6, at 11:10 AM.

Now is the time for us all to be thinking and praying about what we are going to write on our Estimate of Giving cards in November. The success of the church budget process depends mostly on you.

Men's Breakfast

Thursday November 18
8:00 AM at the
Countrie Eatery

Home-Bound Members & Friends

The holiday season is a wonderful time to remember our home-bound members and friends with a card or a phone call. Addresses and phone numbers are in the church directory or available from the church office.

At Westminster

Monti Bowen
Millard Biddle

Thorpe Caldwell

At Green Valley Pavilion

Betty Tomlinson

At The Heritage of Dover

Thelma Lewis

At Home

Irene Deamer
Ginny Read
Fred Stites
Louise Moore

Leonard Guth
Dale Stewart
Daisy Hill
Rose Mary Ressel

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion on Sunday December 6.

BOARD OF DIACONATE

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.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our board looks forward to many upcoming activities in November. The Spaghetti Dinner will be Sunday, November 8, from 4:30 until 6:30 P.M. The Youth of the church will set tables and serve. Our favorite Italian chefs, Chris Senato and Dave Van Kavelaar will do the sauce, and all of the proceeds will benefit our missions at Peoples Church. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend.

On Sunday, November 29, the first Sunday of Advent, there will

be an Advent Workshop following worship, in the dining room. Children and parents will make angel decorations, and each child will receive his/her own Advent Calendar. There will also be a Secret Santa Shop, sponsored by the Women's Fellowship, where youth may shop for their family at incredibly low prices. This event is sure to be a hit for both children and parents.

The CROP Walk results are in! Our church had 21 walkers and raised more than \$1,000.00. Locally, the walk resulted in a profit of over \$10,000 for Church World Services and the local food and hunger charities. There were 207 walkers this year, representing 14 churches and Del State and Wesley. Thanks to all who participated or supported this very worthy cause. Our youth raised \$600.00, with five walkers!

The board congratulates Erica and Jonathan Richard on the birth of their first child, a son Jayce. Erica has been an elementary Sunday School teacher at People's.

The Board is sponsoring a Mini-Series for Advent, addressing economic woes and insurance difficulties on the first three Wednesday evenings of December. More information will follow about these helpful presentations.

Pat Thompson addressed 22 members at the Adult Learning Opportunity last Sunday, the topic being Gentle Movement and Relaxation to Optimize your Health. Thanks to Pat for sharing her time and expertise. We are hoping that groups will form to practice this method and perhaps yoga after the first of the year.

The Board of Christian Education will meet on November 15, after worship.

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.

Jennifer

A separate newsletter was mailed to the children the last week of October. If your child is between 6 and 11 years old and did not receive a newsletter, please let me know and I will get a copy to you.

The Youth Group is getting ready for an exciting holiday season. First, we will be serving at the Spaghetti Dinner on November 8. If your child is participating, please have them to the church by 4:15. We will have a mini-meeting before we start our work at the dinner.

Following that, the Youth Group will be adopting an Angel from the Angel Tree and shopping for gifts. I will contact the children to arrange for our shopping spree once an Angel is picked.

Then, on December 19th, the Youth Group will host a Christmas Party for the Angel Tree children. More information on the party will be available in the December newsletter. We may meet in early December to talk about the details.

BOARD OF FINANCE

Budgeted income is lagging behind the budgeted amount. The Estimates of Giving are short by \$1,731.09. The In Lieu of Pledge category is short \$6,353.64 based on budget.

Acts of Faith have been truly successful this year. In addition to monetary donations, people were generous with white goods, office supplies, and other materials essential to running the church. Kudos for stepping up and helping. This program will continue through December and perhaps next year. Thank you for contributing.

The independent audit from Book & Associates is complete and available for review at the church office.

September brings us back from the beach and warm-weather activities. In the People's Church calendar, September is the beginning of budget

preparation. The trustees prefer a realistic budget based on actual expenditures and donations. The People's Church budget is roughly 50% supported by the congregants' estimates of giving. The church uses money from the endowment funds to cover its obligation to Our Church's Wider Mission. Endowment money makes up 25% of the income needed for church operations.

Along with budgeting, we are beginning the nominations process. Many people work extremely hard to make the church's events successful. They need your help. Stewardship is about TIME, TALENTS, and TREASURES. Please consider giving your talent to one of the boards in 2010.

Mission and Outreach needs an administrative person to take minutes, contact folks, and organize meetings. In addition, your help is always needed for events that fund the local missions. Among the local ministries, Missions feeds the homeless, collects gifts for children of prisoners [Angel Tree] and supports House of Pride.

The Finance committee is responsible for counting the weekly collection and the audit. The team members are only responsible to count the collection four months out of the year. There are at least two openings on the finance committee.

The Board of Management has purview over the operation of the building and the capital improvements. It is a huge job. All the things that apply to the building are the work of the Board of Management. Thank the Board of Management for replacing the air conditioner in the fellowship hall. Thank the Board of Management for the new sidewalk. The list goes on. If Building Maintenance and Capital Projects float your boat, please join the Board of Management.

The Board of Christian Education conducts the Sunday school and Vacation Bible School. Sunday School teachers are always in demand. The Christian Education board provides the Nursery. The Board of Christian Education listens to the congregant's suggestions to bring you interesting and useful Adult learning programs.

The Board of Diaconate is responsible for the liturgy. Communion is one of the visible activities of this board. Much is done that one would not notice unless it was missing. The Pastor and the Organist are paid out of the Diaconate budget. The Diaconate oversees the Memorial and Diaconate funds. The Diaconate fund helps people in need.

People give with their heart. Your talents are much appreciated by all the boards that make the People's Church run. Please look inside your heart and remember all the benefits that the church has given

you. Please ponder how you can give back in gratitude for the blessings you receive daily. ACTS OF FAITH received \$2,325.46 to date. Thank you for all your donations.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Next Board of Management meetings -
Sunday, 11/22 at 11:10am

BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH

The Mission and Outreach board is gearing up for a busy season. We have received our list of Angel Tree children and are excited to get started. We will be doing things a little differently this year by having the names available a little earlier than in the past, having them returned to us a little earlier and then providing a party for the children to come and receive their gifts. Because we are going to give the gifts to the children as a group we would like to ask that everyone try to limit their spending this year so that each child receives an equal share of presents. We are asking that each child receive an outfit (pants/shirt, skirt/blouse, dress, athletic suit, etc), a nice toy (suggestions will be provided on their tags) and a gift certificate for Boots or a Coat. We would like to limit the spending on each child to no more than \$60.00. Each child will be receiving a gift certificate from the church for groceries as well. If you feel that you are unable to provide this much for an angel, you might consider joining with someone or even providing a monetary donation in **any** amount that will help pay for the Christmas party and the Food Gift Certificates. We know that times are tough for everyone, so we are trying to make it possible for everyone to participate in some way. If you are interested in adopting one of our Angels please give me a call or talk to me at church on Sunday.

In preparation for the Angel Tree project we will have a couple of fund raisers. During the spaghetti dinner on November 8th, we will be having a Pie/Cake Silent Auction. We need donations of your best pies and cakes (even cupcakes and cookies are welcome) to make this a successful fund raiser. Please bring your baked goods to the church on Sunday November 8th (or if you are unable to bring

them to the church Sunday morning, PLEASE give me a call and I'll be more than happy to come by to pick them up). Then we need everyone to come to the Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday and buy all the wonderful goodies that will be donated. Please mark this on your calendar; we need everyone that is able to participate in either baking and/or buying these delicacies.

On December 7th we will be hosting a Cookie Walk immediately after church. For this fund raiser we again need lots of donations of cookies and candies to sell by the pound. Please bring your donations to the church the morning of the 7th (again, if you are unable to attend church that day but would like to make a donation, please call and I'll be happy to come by to pick them up.) Then we need lots of people to stay after church to buy up all these tasty treats that have been donated. Please mark this on your calendar; again we need everyone that is able to participate. This is a big project that takes everyone to make it a success.

Please look for information to follow in upcoming newsletters regarding our hosting evening meals for the Homeless men from the Interfaith Mission for Housing Shelter. We are planning to obligate People's Church to a couple of weeks in the upcoming months. I would like to ask anyone who is interested in helping to coordinate these evenings to give me a call or talk with me at church. The Interfaith Mission for Housing Shelter is an ongoing project in the Dover Community that is growing in size and expanding its services. They will be renovating their new building in the next few months and are looking for all kinds of volunteers for construction and renovation. If you have an interest in helping the shelter in their remodeling efforts please let me know and I will be sure to connect you to the right person. I continue to support their efforts by serving on their board of directors and providing laundry pick up and drop off every Monday. Anyone interested in getting involved with this mission is encouraged to call the Shelter manager Erich Gillespie at the Shelter intake center at 736-3600 or contact me anytime and I will be happy to answer your questions and help in any way that I can.

THANKS SO MUCH TO ALL THOSE CROP "WALKERS" AND PLEDGERS. The 4th Annual Dover CROP walk

was a great success with over 200 walkers raising more than \$12,000.00. We are awaiting our final totals and will provide an update when the final numbers are released. I have posted pictures on the bulletin board in the hallway of our enthusiastic walkers and would like to send out a special thanks to Jennifer Myers and the Youth group for being such big supporters of the walk this year. I hope to have a final update for the December newsletter.

I would like to again thank everyone who helps with the Kent Ecumenical Food and Crisis Food Bank donations. This food bank provides much needed assistance to members of the Dover community that would otherwise be left hungry and quite often without heat or electric. Referrals this year have been many and the support of the local churches who are members of Kent Ecumenical provide help to so many who would otherwise have nowhere to turn. They rely completely on the support of these member churches and would not exist without them. The Food Drive is November 21st at Superfresh. We will need 6 people I will have a sign up sheet on the bulletin board this Sunday. Please know that your donations are very much appreciated and provide a lifeline for many in the area.

On behalf of the Members of the Board of Mission and Outreach I would like to Thank ALL of those who continue to help and support our missions. We believe that one of the church's most important functions is to serve the community around us. Your continued support makes it possible for us to reach out to as many in need in our community as we can. Thank you!!!



Food Bank Sunday is November 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 **First Baptist Church Food Bank** for the month of June. There were 60 food items donated and \$60.00 collected. All gifts were given to the **First Baptist Church Food Bank** for the month of June. Your generous offerings are greatly appreciated.

Sue Hunt and Ruth Harris
Board of Mission & Outreach

VOLUNTEERS

Flowers

11/01	Barbara VanSant
11/08	Dave & B J VanKavelaar
11/15	Elinor Lee Baker
11/22	Jeff & Judy Reed
11/29	Jane Kent

Liturgist

11/01	George Doryllis
11/08	Mark Biddle
11/15	Ruth Gallihue
11/22	Mary Johns
11/29	Kathy Thomas

Greeters

11/01
11/08
11/15
11/22
11/29

Ushers

11/01	Mary Johns Carol Skadsberg Karl Swift Bill Hufnal
11/08	
11/15	Karl Swift

11/22 Phyllis Simpkins

11/29 Karl Swift

If you would like to usher or greet on any given Sunday, please sign the sheet in the back of the church or call Sandy McNinch. We need 1 or 2 greeter and 4 ushers each Sunday, so if you can take a turn please do so.

Sermons & Scriptures

November 1 **"Saints in My Life"**
Revelation 7:9-12; Hebrews 11:39 – 12:2

Holy Communion
All Saints Sunday

November 08 **"Mammon"**
Acts 5:1-11; Mark 12:38-44

November 15 **"Apocalypse"**
Daniel 12:1-3; Mark 13:1-8

November 22 **"Debt of Thanks"**
Psalm 65:1-2, 9-13; Philippians 4:4-7
Thanksgiving Sunday

November 29 **"Not Fear but Hope"**
Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36
HOPE

Women's Fellowship

Corporal Jeffrey Davis of the Dover City Police spoke to members and guests about personal safety in the home and around town. He gave us several very helpful tips on how to protect ourselves and our property.

The members voted to sell RADA cutlery, etc. as a fund raiser. Catalogues and samples will be available at the spaghetti dinner and from WF members.

The ladies are planning a Christmas workshop on Nov. 29th for kids to purchase new items inexpensively for their families for Christmas. Members are asked to bring in unused items from home to the next meeting.

Additional decorated glass plates are still available for \$2 and \$3 each.

We will be making candy-filled wrapped mugs for our shut-ins for Christmas this year at

the next meeting. Members were asked to bring in individually wrapped candy and a mug.

Members will also be making the cranberry relish at the Nov. meeting. Please sign up to bring apples, oranges or cranberries.

Marian brought Karen, our adopted client from Stockley Auxiliary Center, a gift bag and sugarless cookies for her birthday.

Our **next meeting will be Monday, November 9 at 12:30pm.** We will be making decorative mugs for our shut-ins and cranberry relish to sell. All are welcome to attend.

Caring Hearts Helping Hands (698-1900)

Thank you to all who helped with our Heart and Sole program. We served 167 children, with well-stocked book bags and certificates for new shoes. We are gearing-up for our Christmas program to serve approximately 120 families. If you would like to sponsor a family, please let us know.

We are not currently accepting any adult clothes, and only fall or winter clothes for children, please. We accept furniture, small appliances, kitchen items, linens, gently used board games (with all the pieces included) and always need cleaning supplies, paper products, personal hygiene items, and gifts for teen birthdays.

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.

Fran Clinton and BJ Van Kavelaar

CENTENNIAL GROUP PHOTO

Orders will be received over the next few weeks for **COLOR** photo purchases. Here are the options--

7.5" x 24" – mounted & sprayed, ready for frame \$ 70.00
7.5" x 24" – print un-mounted \$ 50.00

Clip this box and attach your check

Color Photo Order Form

Name _____
Phone _____
Option: (check one) How Many? ____
____ Mounted on acid free board, sprayed
____ Un-mounted
Check enclosed for \$ _____ Date _____

Make check payable to The People's Church of Dover

H1N1 INFLUENZA

People's Church is taking as much precaution as possible to reduce the spread of Swine Flu at church this season. We have hand sanitizer at the sanctuary entrances, and boxes of tissue in the pews. But our first defense is you. Please urge your family to cover coughs and sneezes, wash or sanitize hands often; and if sick, it's better to stay away from others. Thank you.

Your Church on the Internet

www.peopleschurchofdover.org

webmaster: Elinor Baker

www.chesapeakeucc.org

our local UCC association
webmaster: Rob Cox

www.cacucc.org

Central Atlantic Conference

www.ucc.org

National Setting: United Church of Christ

→ www.ucc.org/news

denomination's magazine: United Church News

www.iucc.org

web community and Twitter contact

www.ucc.org/disaster/swine-flu.html

information & resources about the H1N1 virus