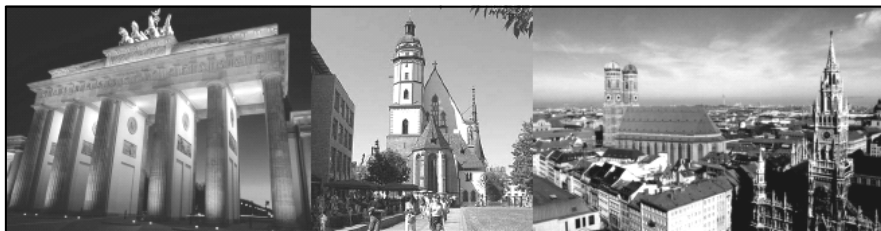




FOCUS ON: Pilgrimage to Germany



November 9, 2009, marks the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Cold-War "Wall of Shame" that separated East from West. The Church played a decisive role in what became known as the "Velvet Revolution" in the former German Democratic Republic (East Germany). Throughout the summer and autumn of 1989 candle-light prayer vigils were held in churches throughout the GDR, first in St. Nicholas Church in Leipzig, and then in other cities and towns. One TV docu-drama, "Die Nikolai Kirche," (St. Nicholas Church) that aired on German TV in 1995, ended with the chief of the secret police sitting alone in his bunker after the Wall fell. His final words were, "We were prepared for everything except for candles and prayers."

The Ecumenical Mission Team will sponsor a **Pilgrimage to Germany, May 9-17, 2010**. Hosted by Russ and Ruth Mitman, the pilgrimage will trace the sites where candles and prayers played such a significant role in the fall of the Berlin Wall and led to the reunification of Germany. It will climax with participation in the 2nd Ecumenical Kirchentag (Church Assembly) attended by hundreds of thousands of Protestants and Roman Catholics (many of whom are under 30) in Munich. A group of lay persons and clergy from PSEC participated in the first of such events in Berlin in 2003. The itinerary is available on the Conference website, www.psec.org, and brochures are available in the Church House, Collegeville.

A familiarization session will be held in the Church House on Sunday, October 4 at 7:00 P.M. There is no obligation. Just come and explore the possibilities and bring your friends.

CELEBRATING MISSION IN OUR LOCAL CHURCHES

Mark your calendars now and contact the churches for more details or cancellation information.



The Mission Board of **Christian Network Outreach Church (CNOC), Norristown** is committed to evangelizing and serving in the name of Jesus Christ. They joyfully serve twice a month in two local long-term care facilities where the residents

and their families eagerly assemble to worship God in praise and song. CNOC serves various communities by providing: free coats and clothing; school supplies to many children attending their daycare; volunteers for the Red Cross; and baskets for Thanksgiving. They have formed partnerships with local social service agencies and traveled to Old First Reformed UCC in Philadelphia to assist with distributing food and clothing to some of the homeless. They are reminded daily of Jesus' message, "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me".

Twenty two members of **St. Paul's UCC, Fleetwood**, went on a Youth Mission Trip to Pipestem, West Virginia, from July 19 - 25. They worked for the Appalachian South Folklife Center. Nine adults and 13 youth helped a disabled couple complete



greatly needed repairs to their home. The wife, a double amputee, had a difficult time getting her wheelchair up the steps to enter their home. The team built a ramp to allow wheelchair access and worked on a great number of other repairs such as painting, building and fixing doors, enclosing a wall, repairing down spouts, fixing windows and a sewer pipe. It wasn't long before the husband joined them in many of the projects. Youth Advisor John Folk said, "This trip was an amazing testament to how God can transform lives. Our group repaired the house, but in the process we saw hope growing in the folks that we were helping, and we got back so much more than we gave. Giving of ourselves and growing in faith is what it's all about."



PRAYER PARTNERS - Your prayers are welcomed today for Faith UCC, Delano and Rev. Janet L. Kline.