



FOCUS ON: Wider Church Ministries

Ariel Royer is a member of New Goshenhoppen UCC, and a board member of Wider Church Ministries and Common Global Ministries

The UCC's **Wider Church Ministries** board met Nov 4-6 in Cleveland, Ohio, for our second annual meeting of 2009. Wider Church Ministries (WCM) is one of the three covenanted ministries of the UCC; the other two are **Justice and Witness Ministries** (JWM) and **Local Church Ministries** (LCM).



The focus of Wider Church Ministries is on the mission work conducted by the UCC in the United States and abroad. We have to consider financial concerns, struggling with many of the same issues as local churches. During November's meeting we were forced to make uncomfortable cuts in the budget for 2010.

As representative to WCM for PSEC, I also serve as chair of the **Volunteer Ministries** committee, which supports the domestic ministries of the church. Mary Schaller-Blaufuss, the Volunteer Ministries Executive, shared many exciting opportunities to get involved in our church's mission, as individuals and in groups.

Companion Communities is a new program designed to place young adults in service positions for 3-months or 12-months. Volunteers are paired with a local church, where they stay during their service, working with a church-member liaison to find volunteer opportunities. The program is new but off to a very successful start! All young adults are encouraged to consider applying.

There are many other opportunities for mission. The Wider Church Ministries website www.ucc.org/wcm is an excellent resource for current information about all programs within the UCC's Refugee Ministries, Child Sponsorship, Disaster Response, LGBT Ministries, Volunteer Ministries, One Great Hour of Sharing and others.

If you would like to use your gifts and talents to serve the Wider Church, please visit the Resources in the Download Center of the PSEC website www.psec.org and complete the form "Many Gifts, One Spirit-Serving the Wider Church."

EVENTS & EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

For brochures, flyers, on-line registration and a full list of meetings and events visit www.psec.org
Check Conference Calendar or Event Contacts for cancellation information

Tues., Feb. 10, 7 pm—Theology with a Twist Inclusive Church: Body of Christ (Keith Scott, Trinity UCC, Chicago, IL) at Kutztown Tavern

Sat., Feb. 13, 10 am-2pm—Arts Workshop for All Ages at UCC Valley

Forge, Wayne, PA. **It's a FAMILY event!** Workshops for All Ages: Percussion/Drumming; Theatre Improvisation; Poetry/Writing; Sekere (African hand drums); Gospel Music; Creative Movement/Dance; Sacred Conversation on Race; Heartspeak (peace-making/conflict resolution). Visit www.psec.org for more info or to register on-line.



Tues., Feb 16, 9:30 am—Service of Word & Sacrament will be celebrated in the Church House in Collegeville. All are Welcome!

Mensch Mill 2010 Program Opportunities			
Mar 5-7	Quilting Retreat	Jul 18-23	Sports, Thrills, & Chills Canoe Camp
May 2	Camp Open House	Jul 19-23	Day Camp III
Jn 23-26	Family Camp	Jul 23-25	Grandparents & Me
	Jr Horseback Camp	Jul 25-30	Christmas in July
	Jr Outpost Camp	Aug 1-6	H2O Camp
Jn 27-Jl 2	Just Camp		Horseback Camp
Jn 27-Jl 4	Adventure Camp I	Aug 2-6	Day Camp Overnight
Jn 28-Jl 2	Day Camp I	Sept 21-23	Ventures Retreat
Jul 4-9	Nature Explorers Camp	Sept 27	Golf Tournament
		Oct 10	Volunteer Appreciation
Jul 11-16	MADD Camp	Oct 15-17	Walking With God
Jul 11-18	Adventure Camp II	Sep 21-23	Ventures
Jul 12-16	Day Camp II		
		Nov 20	Fall Work Day



PRAYER PARTNERS - Your prayers are welcomed today for St. Paul's UCC, Fleetwood, Rev. Patrick W. Morris Sr., and their Helping Hands Ministry Team as they reach out to home-bound members of their church by providing comfort and care to those in need.