



PSEC *Communitas*

PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE + UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

178 UCC churches in southeastern Pennsylvania

Focus On: Revitalizing Internally and Externally

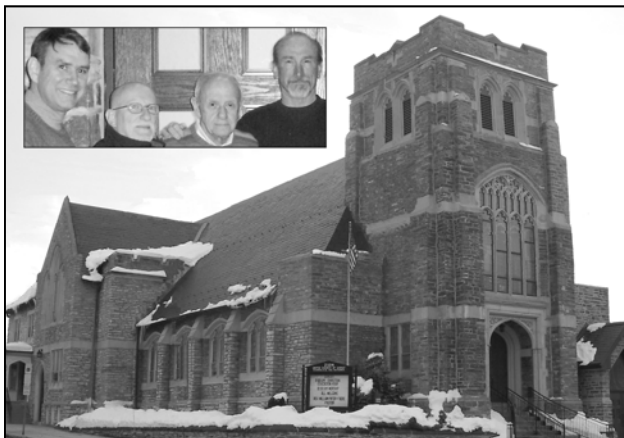
Accessibility Project Dedicated February 14 at Zion UCC, Womelsdorf

The current church building of Zion UCC, Womelsdorf (Heidelberg Association) was built in 1917. Its massive stone building has dramatic, steep exterior steps leading up to the sanctuary. But those steps are difficult to climb for those with mobility problems, impossible for those in wheelchairs and impassible when icy.

In June 2009 after several years of discussions, the congregation voted to install an elevator and accessible restroom. The work began in late September and finished in mid-January 2010.

The new elevator takes persons from the street level up to the sanctuary and down to the social hall. The Consistory noted that it is not just the aging membership of the church that needs this project; persons of all ages can have temporary or permanent disabilities that prevent them from attending worship or church events without these changes.

Zion UCC is in the third year of PSEC's Revitalization Program. Pastor William Pifer-Foote states, "It is very appropriate that we revitalize our building as we revitalize our congregation. While the church is not the building, the church building reflects the mission of the congregation to the entire community of faith." It was impractical to make the entire building accessible, but the main public areas will now be served. The congregation has voted to air condition the sanctuary and install new pew cushions by this summer.



Inspection Team: Rev. William Pifer-Foote, Elder Paul Sheidy, Business Mgr. Donald Schwartz, President John Eiceman

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., Mar. 16, 9:30 am—Service of Word and Sacrament will be celebrated in the Church House in Collegeville. All are welcome.

7 pm—**Spirit on Tap** *change of date* *Finding God in the Movies* (Dr. Lee Barrett) at Reading Crowne Plaza, Reading.

Fri.-Sat., April 23-24, Spring Youth Event at St. John's UCC, Lansdale. Our youth (ages 13-18) will prepare to lead a creative worship on Saturday at the Spring Meeting of the Conference. Adult Mentors share, network, and learn! Youth make new friends, explore leadership, and deepen faith. Additional information and online registration available at www.psec.org or call 610-489-2056.

Sat., Apr. 24, Spring Conference Meeting and Youth Event A Praying Community at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lansdale. Bring your family to the yearly Spring gathering of our PSEC church family. The keynote speaker, Rev. Kate Huey, Minister of Covenantal Stewardship in Local Church Ministries, will invite us to look at new ways of becoming a praying community. There will be a dozen workshops for adults and activities and workshops for children ages 6 through 12. Childcare for children up to and including age 5 will also be offered on Saturday. To register online or download a pre-meeting packet, visit www.psec.org or call 610-489-2056.

Boundary Training—The Conference is sponsoring two different boundary training workshops this spring:

- Thursday, **April 29**, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, at Trinity UCC in Telford, led by Wanda Sevey of the Council for Relationships. This event will be more extensive than the basic course which will be held in May, including case studies and issues relating to the internet. There will be a \$20 fee that includes a light lunch.
- Saturday, **May 22**, 8:30 am-12:30 pm, at Zion (Red) Church, Orwigsburg, led by John Ries of Bethany Counseling Ministries. There is no fee for this event.

Both clergy and lay leaders are encouraged to attend these events. Register online at www.psec.org or download a form and register using postal mail.



PRAYER PARTNERS - Your prayers are welcome for Trinity UCC, Rehrersburg, and Rev. Joseph D. Long as they minister to their neighbors: the local food pantry, senior citizens, people of Haiti, and the victims of hurricane Katrina.