

Disciples Notes

Peachtree Corners Christian Church

March 2010

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NOTES FROM THE JOURNEY

There are times in the church where you know that God has been at work. And sometimes those times occur when we least expect them.

After four sessions— in September, October, November, and January – of our Vision Team meeting, I was beginning to wonder where we were going. But after one very honest Board meeting, some conversations with church leaders, and much prayer, we held our fifth (and almost final) Vision Team meeting Feb. 28. At this meeting, God was at work, guiding us into a very clear Vision about what PCCC is to be, plus the unique Mission that will support this Vision. We will be ready to present this by late spring.

In the meantime, the Vision Team has been a Spirit-led effort, and has looked carefully at the past, the present and the future. One of the exercises we did in our February meeting was to imagine the story God would tell about us. The group, made up of Joe Austin, Joe Burchfield, Pam Callon, Louri Kearns, Jenny Miller, Will Perdue, Eddie Trumble, and myself, told this story:

“Once upon a time, there was a church that started in 1986 in Peachtree Corners, Georgia. We were “laying bricks in ‘86.” The church had hopes to be a beautiful sanctuary and a light to the community. There were lots of children and youth. It was an experimental church, almost a mission outpost from Atlanta and music was an important part of this church. But the church continued to struggle to understand why it could not grow in this thriving community. There was too much focus inward and not enough focus outward and upward.

But things are changing, really changing. It’s 2010 now. The church’s focus on prayer has begun an unbelievable transformation within the church. We have a hope to grow within the walls from the community and a desire to serve outside the walls in the community. Relationships between individuals are stronger than they’ve ever been. Four small groups meeting in homes is the basis for future expansion of our church. The leadership of this church, through prayer, is continually seeking God’s will and direction. It’s time to shift the “bricks of ‘86” and “align with him in 2010.”

God is here at work at PCCC. Please continue to pray for our Vision Team.

~Pastor Kathy

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DATES COMING UP

Mar. 19-21 – Disciple Men’s Retreat
Mar. 21, 4:00 p.m. – Board Meeting
Mar. 27, 8:00 a.m. – Work day wake up breakfast
Mar. 27, 9:00 a.m. – Work Day
Mar. 30, 12 noon – Holy Week Community Worship & Lunch
Apr. 1, 7:00 p.m. – Maundy Thursday Worship
Apr. 4 – Easter Sunday



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Don’t forget to move your clocks 1 hour ahead before going to bed on March 13th.

NEWCOMER COFFEE



If you are a new member or have been visiting with us lately, you are invited to grab a second cup of coffee and come to a Newcomers Coffee on Sunday, Mar. 14, immediately following worship. We will meet in the Disciples Classroom in the education hall to learn more about the church and its ministries from Pastor Kathy and other leaders. We will conclude by 1 p.m.

PCCC NOTES

DISCIPLE WOMEN

All women are invited to the WOW3 meeting, Saturday, March 13th at 9:30am. Join us for refreshments, a short study and some "silver cleaning". Many hands make short work!

~Arlene Floch

DISCIPLE MEN

The Valentine's Breakfast went well with 17 Guys and Gals in attendance. Flavorful food, fantastic fellowship and sincere serenading were experienced by all. Listed below are the upcoming meetings. I hope you can set aside the following dates to come. We may have an offering time in support of Cookin' For Mission Disciples Ministries at a few of these meetings. Last year, we raised \$119 for this cause and I hope we can surpass this in 2010. Further details about CFM can be found at www.gadisciples.org under the Men's link if you have any questions. Meeting time and place is 8am at the church unless otherwise publicized.

- March 13: Chung Kim speaking Christian Church in Korea and his journey to the US
- April 10: Marty Padrick will have a Real Estate Update
- May 8: Lou Mancuso will be the speaker
- June 12: Speaker to be determined
- July 10: Jack Ferguson, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), addressing atrocities in the Southern Campaign and highlighting some Georgia battles

Also, don't forget about the Men's Retreat at Camp Christian Mar 19-21. Registration is available at the Regional website mentioned above.

~Will Perdue

LENTEN PRAYER GROUPS

There are approximately 36 persons meeting in small groups during Lent at PCCC studying *The Workbook of Living Prayer*, by Maxie Dunnam.

Special thanks go to our small group leaders and hosts: Sunday night - Pam Callon, facilitator and Sandi Lilly, host; Sunday night - Jenny Miller, facilitator and Cathy Miller, host; Monday night - Eddie & Billie Sue Trumble, facilitator and Don & Lurene Braswell, hosts; Tuesday night - Joe & Margaret Austin, facilitator and Tom & Sonia Bratten hosts.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

There will be a church yard sale coming up at PCCC on May 1. More details will come at a later date.

PECAN SALES

Thank you all so much for your support of the Holiday Pecan Sales. There are still around 25 1lb. bags left. We are keeping these in the kitchen freezer for flavor and freshness saving. They can still be purchased for \$8 each. Please see Will if you would like to restock. Funds received benefit our PCCC budget.

WORSHIP FOR MARCH

Mar 7, 3rd Sunday of Lent

Psalm 63, Isaiah 55: 1-9

"Deep Longing, Deep Belonging"

Prayer is an invitation to yield to God.

Mar. 14, 4th Sunday of Lent

Psalm 32, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

"Confession Is for Everybody"

In confessing, we turn back to our God who awaits us with open arms.

March 21, 5th Sunday of Lent

Psalm 126, John 12:1-8

"Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"

Our lives of prayer must always include thanksgiving.

March 28, Palm Sunday

Luke 19:28-40 (Palms), Luke

22:15-23:56, Plus Psalms: 118:1-2, 19-29 (Palms), Psalm 31:9-16

(Passion) An extended reading of the Passion of Christ.

SPECIAL WORSHIP DURING LENT

We hope you make time to participate in the Community Holy Week Noon worship services which will take place Mar. 29-April 2 in the Peachtree Corners Community (see separate listing in this newsletter.) We especially hope you come to the Holy Week service and lunch PCCC is hosting on Tuesday, Mar. 30 at noon. We will need some help with this simple sandwich lunch; please contact Rita Trumble and Arlene Floch, Fellowship, to assist. In addition, you won't want to miss our Maundy Thursday evening worship on April 1, at 7 p.m. This special service will feature Taize music, scripture, communion, and time for reflection and meditation.

MEMBERSHIP/FELLOWSHIP

FELLOWSHIP FUN

The Fellowship Committee would like your input! We are charged with putting together fun things to do as a church family, but who are we to decide what YOU all love to do? Please start thinking about fun things you'd like to try with your PCCC family. Later this month, we will slip a brief survey in the bulletin for you to share these ideas and inspire some fun-filled events!

This month, we are planning a Work-Day, Wake-Up Breakfast. To power up our work-day volunteers, we are providing a scrumptious and creative breakfast for March 27 at 8am. Also, PCCC is hosting a light lunch following our Holy Week Service on Tuesday, March 30. But, we need your help! If you have a special cookie or brownie recipe, please bring a dozen treats for light lunch desserts.

Coming up: Plan to have a special Easter Breakfast with us! Plans are in the works to reserve space at a nearby restaurant for Breakfast between the Sunrise and Sanctuary services on Easter morning. Watch for details!

TAKE A HIKE AT STONE MOUNTAIN

All interested youth, kids and families are invited to Stone Mountain on Sunday, March 7, right after worship for a picnic and climb up the big rock. Make sure to wear (or bring) comfortable clothes and hiking or walking shoes to church and don't forget to pack a picnic lunch. The trail is one mile up, one mile down. Please let Jenny Miller know if you plan to go!



PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR

Youth (6th -12th grade), friends of youth, and interested adults are invited to Little Azio's Pizza on March 21, right after worship. Pizza, pastor or paninis are on the pastor for youth! What do we do? Talk and get to know each other through Face Time (not Face Book).

THANK YOU

Thank you for your kind words and generous gift presented during worship on Feb. 7, marking my 3rd anniversary with Peachtree Corners Christian Church. We have worked hard together, these past three years, and your words of appreciation to me mean a lot. As I tell nearly everyone who asks me about PCCC, you people are just good people – some of the best church people Dave and I have known.

~Pastor Kathy



WELCOME KIM FAMILY

Chung and Hanna Kim, along with daughter Amy joined PCCC on Feb. 7. Chung is a Presbyterian minister who is seeking transfer of standing to the Disciples, and is working towards starting a Korean Disciples congregation in Suwanee in the fall. Hanna works as an administrative and program aid at an adult day care health center in Norcross, and really sees working with seniors as her calling. Amy is in 9th grade at Chattahoochee High School, plays flute in the band, loves reading and writing stories, and according to her dad playing computer games. She is preparing to be baptized at PCCC on Easter.

Hanna and Chung have been in the U.S. since 1990, when Chung came as a student to the University of Chicago Divinity School and Hanna was working for a Japanese company (she speaks Japanese, as well as Korean and English.) They have also lived in Richmond, VA, where Chung was working on a PhD program and Laurel, MD, where he served full-time in a church. He has also served at a Korean Presbyterian church in Dunwoody, until his decision to plant a new Disciples church in the Atlanta area.

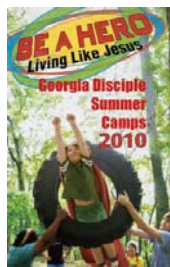
Hanna plays some piano and collects bells in her spare time; Chung likes to play tennis, golf and some flight simulator games.

According to Chung, part of his ordination and transfer requirements included choosing a Disciples church as a home church and he says, "I'm attracted to PCCC since it is a wonderful little faith community to learn about the Disciples Church."

AROUND THE REGION AND BEYOND

IT'S CAMP TIME - CAMP CHRISTIAN SUMMER 2010

THEME: "Be a Hero – Living Like Jesus"



Summer is just around the corner and it's time to think about signing up for Camp Christian. Last year, PCCC sent 10 campers to Camp Christian, with the help of ½ scholarships from the Jesus Memorial Fund. Forms are available to download online, but registrations must be collected together and sent through the church office as they require a pastor's signature and one check from the

church. Camp Registration Sunday will be April 18 at PCCC. In order to register that day, all you need to bring is health insurance information, a parent, a camper, and your check. We will again be providing scholarships for campers (approximately ½ the camping fee; amount TBD by Camp Registration Sunday.) Here are the dates for summer camp:

Junior I: Completed 3rd-5th grades – June 7-11

Chrysalis: Completed 1st & 2nd grades – June 11-13

CYF: Completed 9th-12th grades – June 14-19

YADA: Completed 12th grade-30's – June 19-20

Chi-Rho: Completed 6th-8th grades – June 21-26

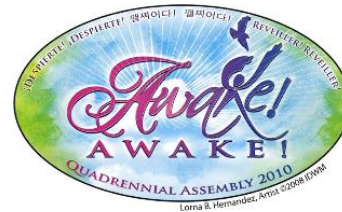
Junior II: Completed 3rd-5th grades – July 12-16

Genesis: Completed K – July 16-18

Balaam: Completed 11th & 12th grade – July 18-22

Camp Reunion Family Camp – August 13-15

Peachtree Corners Christian Church
6060 Spalding Drive
Norcross, GA 30092



CALLING ALL WOMEN

All Disciple Women, mothers, daughters, and friends are invited, encouraged, and cajoled to plan on attending the 14th Quadrennial Assembly June 23-27 in Greensboro, NC. This outstanding retreat for Disciples women from all over the U.S. and Canada, will be an unforgettable experience of worship, learning, service, and growing. Pastor Kathy will be attending the event and would be happy to make carpooling plans for PCCC women who want to go. Information about registration, costs, hotel, and meals are available at www.quadrennial.org.

OUTREACH NOTES

OUTREACH REPORT FOR 2009

As a church, we can do more together than any one of us can do apart. No where is that more true than in our mission and service. Here is a summary of our **outreach giving for 2009:**

Financial

Souper Bowl of Caring - \$71 for NCM

Week of Compassion - \$353 for Disciples disaster relief

Pennies for Peace - \$389.14

Easter Offering for Disciples - \$319.00

Pentecost Offering for new Disciples churches - \$374.00

Reconciliation for reconciliation ministries - \$466.00

Thanksgiving Offering for Disciples colleges and seminaries - \$4.00

Children's Offering to NCM - \$231.33

Disciple Men Gift Pancake Day - \$119.00

Disciples Mission Fund - \$1,623

Christmas Offering for Christian Church in Georgia - \$325 (credited to 2010)

Good Samaritan Fund - \$803 in donations for emergency housing and

family needs and \$700 disbursed for emergency housing, gas, family needs

Gifts in kind:

Many books sent to Rambo English School in Mungeli, India

School supply drive with 25 backpacks donated to NCM

4 large bags of towels for PAWS Atlanta

2 large boxes of hygiene supplies for More Hands for God

Many barrels of food donated to NCM during the year, with food drive in

November/December

120 stockings stuffed and prepared for NCM Christmas party

Toys donated to NCM for Christmas toy drive

Prayer Shawls - 40

Service:

Regular volunteers at NCM

Camp Christian workday in April

25 people serving at Vacation Bible School at NCM in June, with estimate of 120 children served

11 people serving at More Hands for God Day in October

12 people serving at NCM Christmas Party in December, with estimate of 75 children served

Pumpkin Patch Giving (from 2008 sales)

Camp Balaam - \$500

Norcross Cooperative Ministry - \$2,000

Disciple Mission Fund - \$200

Camp Christian - \$500

Gwinnett Children's Shelter - \$500

Pumpkin Patch Profits (from 2009 sales)

\$5,122.29

Pumpkin Patch Giving (from 2009 Sales)

NCM Christmas Party support - \$485

OUTREACH GIVING UPDATE FOR 2010

Wow, it is hard to believe it is already March and we here at PCCC are going into 2010 strong with outreach giving. In January, after the earthquake in Haiti, we collected \$685 for a special offering for Week of Compassion. Those dollars went directly to the efforts for response in Haiti. In February, we collected \$153 for Souper Bowl of Caring and over 50 cans of meat for Norcross Cooperative Ministry. Also in February, we collected our annual offering for Week of Compassion for a total of \$451. In conjunction with Haiti response and WoC, we also collected items for hygiene kits to replenish the stock for Church World Service. We reached our goal of 50 KITS! We gave the extra items donated to NCM. With our giving in February, we helped those in need not only in our own community but to those in need around the world. What a great start to 2010.

~Jenny Miller

UPCOMING OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

- Support NCM and several other non-profits in Norcross by participating in the annual "Corners to Crossing Race" on April 17. This year there is a 10k, 5k and 1 mile race. For more information, go to www.cornerstocrossing.com
- VBS in a Box is June 7-11. There is an information meeting coming up in April.
- Prayer Power for Job Seekers has some upcoming volunteering possibilities. Stay tuned for further information. ~Jenny Miller



NORCROSS COOPERATIVE MINISTRY REPORT FROM 2009

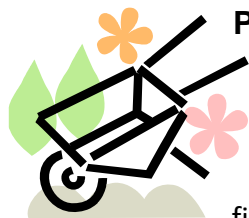
As we, the staff and board of the Norcross Cooperative Ministry pause to report on 2009, we are the first to acknowledge that the year was a challenging one. The failing economy and the sustained decline in the job market left many in our community facing overwhelming financial burdens. Even now, foreclosures and evictions remain at startling levels, and the unemployment rate continues to rise. Last year, our ministry served a record number of families, and saw a 25% increase in first-time clients. At times, our pantry shelves were scarcely stocked, and our staff and volunteers were barely keeping up with the increased demand.

Yet even as we marveled at the needs of the many, we soon came to understand the hope that is found in the **POWER OF ONE**. We experienced the effectiveness of one woman who rallied her neighborhood into collecting hundreds of coats simply by passing out flyers. **We also came to see what one small, yet committed, church was able to do purely because they answered God's call to serve those less fortunate.** In all, our ministry prospered because our community functioned as one body of compassionate individuals -- each caring for our neighbors, one family at a time.

As we enter 2010, we recognize that the economy is still down and that families in our community are still struggling. And, while we don't know how long this downturn will last, one thing we do know is that we need each other now more than ever.

By working together, with one unwavering purpose and one bond of unity, we can not only meet the immediate crises demands, but we can establish sustainable programs that will transform the lives of the families we serve for many years to come. Through the **POWER OF ONE**, we believe that greater things are yet to come for our Norcross community. We invite you to join us!

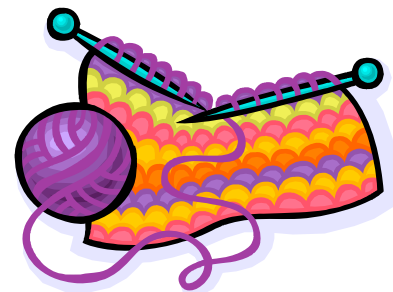
Editor's Note: This article was reprinted with permission from the 2009 NCM Annual Report. According to Shirley Cabe, Director, the "one small, yet committed, church" is PCCC.



PRE EASTER WORK DAY MARCH 27

Calling all able-bodied people of the church to participate in a beautification day for our church building and grounds. Come at 8 am for breakfast; we will start work at 9 am and continue until we are finished. The church classrooms, restrooms, kitchen, and sanctuary, and outside grounds all need to be spruced up for Easter. Let's all mark our calendars for this special work day, and make our church a place of worship that will be inviting to all.

~Joe Austin, Property Chair



PRAYER SHAWL KNITTERS

MEETING TIME: 9:30 AM, 2nd Saturday of each month

WE MEET WITH THE WOMEN'S DISCIPLES GROUP (We knit while they talk – Just kidding. We get our two-cents worth in too.)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Around 40 prayer shawls have been knitted. A special prayer is said prior to knitting the shawl and another as the shawl is placed over the shoulders of the recipient. These shawls are given to women and men for many special reasons such as:

- Death of a loved one
- Suffering a crisis
- Post surgery
- Birth of a baby
- Care givers
- Job seekers
- Hospice

Our most prolific knitters are: Lurene Braswell, Arlene Floch and Jamie Ray. Meanwhile, others have knitted several and/or just learning to knit. Note: Jamie knitted her first chemotherapy cap and gave it to Bob Blanchard.

~Margaret Austin