

LOVENOTES

a publication of
**PEBBLE HILL INTERFAITH
CHURCH**

Exploring a ministry on the fringes with roots firmly planted in the center

Pebble Hill Turns 40!!!

Pebble Hill Church celebrated its 40th anniversary on Sunday, January 27th, with a celebration of "Reminiscences" featuring Denny Daikeler, one of our early members, and Elly Marshall. We were treated to an abundance of "Birthday cakes" by Beth O'Riordan. While this event marked the actual anniversary of the 1st Pebble Hill Church celebration, the celebration has only just begun. THE REAL PARTY is yet to come—sometime in the summer.

Other anniversary events will include the publication of our *Pebbles on the Hill* book of stories being compiled by Gimone Hall (there is still time for your story to be included—see page 7). More are being planned. Look for notices from our social events coordinator, Sharon Kerrick.

Pastoral Care Now Available at Pebble *Introduction to Pastoral Care*

- Reverend Diane Bull

A family. That's the Pebble Hill Church Interfaith Community. At the heart of every family is Love, our Love for Spirit (however we define it) and our love for each other. Love brings us together. Love makes the good times sweeter, and Love helps us through the tough times.

In our community you'll find that being a part of a family is a great feeling. There's the comfort of knowing that you're surrounded by people who love you, people who care for you. And that's what PHC's Pastoral Care ministries are all about. Our Pastoral Care ministries are designed to minister to your needs.

What is it that the phrase Pastoral Care encompasses? Pastoral Care is the way in which we journey with each other in times of celebration, sadness, turmoil, transitions and along the quiet stretches. Together with our shared Celebration experience, it is an essential element to hold our community together.

The term Pastoral Care may bring with it some baggage left from prior associations, yet it may also bring with it the concept of a 'soft place to land.' The term "pastoral care" is not as common as some other Pebble language. Nevertheless, pastoral care and spiritual counseling are a special service that needs to be offered to our community.

It is indeed challenging to consider how to enter the lives of others at a time of crisis in a way that is caring and helpful. How do we journey with someone through the terminal illness or death of a loved one? How do we enter a marital crisis? What do we have to offer in situations of mental illness or substance abuse?

I have come to know that one essential ingredient is to recognize that we are not responsible for fixing the situation. Except for those few situations in which provisions of some material aid is needed, I am not likely to be able to resolve the situation, but rather to be with the person or family in the midst of it. Belief in the possibility of Spirit being at work in this moment can be tremendously liberating, if we allow ourselves to live into it. Ministers are called to be instruments for the work of Love; we are called to be channels through which the Spirit can move. We are not responsible for determining what the outcome will be, for making the "right" thing happen. We are not called to be perfect; we are called to be present.

An act of true caring is never intrusive. It may be awkward. It may not be fully received by the other at the time. But it is never intrusive. True caring, i.e. love, is something which can only flow fully when we

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The Pebble Communicator Issue

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Highlights from January 9, 2008 Council meeting

Pastoral Care: A motion was passed for Diane Bull to provide pastoral counseling. She will offer regular hours in the Community Office from 3-5 p.m. three Tuesdays a month. Diane will also have a phone mailbox. In a thoughtful statement to Council, Diane spoke of pastoral care and spiritual counseling as an “essential element to hold our community together”—even though the term may carry some baggage. While ministers cannot be expected to make the “right” thing happen, they are called to be present, to be instruments of love, channels through which spirit can move.

Children’s Committee: Toni Kistner is working with children on a two-level basis: a theme for the month, plus the Celebration theme for each Sunday. Toni has decided to attend Celebration Team meetings, so she can relate her program to what’s going on in Celebration and discuss the day’s theme with the children.. Toni was given the title of Children’s Program Coordinator.

Spiritual Library Books: The library of spiritual books that was kept on the now dismantled bookshelves in the Yellow Barn are being condensed by Pebble member volunteers. Especially chosen books will remain and the rest will be sold as a PHC fundraiser or donated to the local library.

Job Jar: Carolyn Penta will revise the jobs in the job jar. Too many of them require skilled labor; there need to be more that anyone can do. Please find the Job Jar on the Web site in the Members Resource section.

Pebble Directory: A solution is in place for the Pebble directory to be maintained by the office administrator on the office PC. Jeff has identified several issues that need to be considered including (i) permission rights for confidential information, (ii) Community needs and wishes for the directory, and (iii) improved coordination between Committees to capture and update member information in an efficient manner. The digital directory (maintained in Microsoft Outlook) will be easy to update, a big advantage. The safest means to distribute the directory is via e-mail by request (in last name and first name sorted versions), so there is no risk of entrusting confidential information to our Web site. *Feedback goes to Linda Lang and Jeff Padawer.*

Camp: Summer is right around the corner! Nancy Meehan is negotiating with Iroquois Springs. You can find it at www.iroquoissprings.com

Thank you: Julian Bence and Buckingham 4-H Club for handmade school bags and supplies and Mindy Bence and Langhorne Knitting Group for baby blankets, all for Nicaragua. Suz Bartels and Siobhan Cominsky Yeager for taking care of the plants, David Szwajkowski for his service with the forum, which he is leaving.

(Continued from page 1-Pastoral Care)

suspend judgment and leave judgment in the Eternal’s hands. Love is always an active concern for the growth and aliveness of all.

Pastoral Care helps to develop a climate of trust and safety, which allows members to acknowledge the vulnerability they feel in times of need. A sense of community does not occur simply as a result of our working together on committees nor, indeed, simply as a result of worshipping together. There must also be opportunities for sharing in some spiritual depth.

Ed. Note; Rev. Diane will be available in the office from 3:00 to 5:00 pm on the 1st through 3rd Tuesdays of the month by appointment or drop in, starting Feb. 5th. Contact her at PHC, 215-348-3428.

Pebble Hill Website

Our new website is up and open for business
www.pebblehillchurch.org

We are always looking for good photos of Pebble people and activities to make the website more attractive and friendly. Photos of real Pebble people make a huge difference.

Please send photos on CD if you have a bunch, or email them individually, if they are small in number. If they are not in digital format, we can make arrangements for them to be converted. Please send photos to Jeff Padawer at jeff@paintchurch.info

UP COMING CELEBRATIONS

Feb 3 Asian Medicine/the Tao
 Music by Ann and Rafael
 Altar by Susan Manning
 Lisa Shenk will speak
 Spotlight: Anna May Windle “I Believe in Angels” a poem by her deceased aunt.

Feb 10 “Relationships”
 Valentines Day
 Music by Ann and Wanda
 Altar by Nancy Meehan
 Shawna Morris will sing a song she wrote for her honey
 Bill Mettler will tell a 1930s love story

Feb 17 “Transitions/transgenderism”
 Music by Suz and Rafael
 Ky Mettler will speak

If you would like to speak, dance, sing, or write a skit for one, let us know or come to the celebration planning meetings on Tuesdays, 7:30 pm in the Community Office. Themes are subject to change.

Larry Hall
 Celebration Coordinator
 610-847-2818
 alert@epix.net

Feb 24 Eckankar
 Music by Suz and Wanda
 Guests Chris and Lisa Gage will speak on *The religion of the light and sound of god.* www.eckankar.org

Mar 2 The Wizard of Oz
 Susan Manning will lead
 Music by Ann and Rafael

Mar 9 Spring
 Music by Ann and Wanda
 Guests from Lavender Farm will speak

Mar 16 Palm Sunday
 Music by Suz and Rafael
 Spotlight: Money-changers: Rob Kall
 Altar by Linda Lang

Mar 23 Easter
 Music by Suz and Wanda

Mar 30 John of God
 Music by Suz and Rafael
 Altar by Saralyn Daniels
 Ken Kaplan will speak

Beth O’Riordan, Our New Office Administrator

Pebble Hill would like to **welcome Beth O’Riordan as our new office administrator.** She is a newcomer to Pebble Hill and is looking forward to providing organizational support and being of service to the community. Beth will be working eight to ten hours a week in the office downstairs or at home, where she is remotely connected to the Pebble office computer and phone system.

Her areas of responsibility are many and varied. Included are: maintaining the phone, email and mail communications, computer system, records management, membership list, work order requests, copy machine, key system, bulletin boards, outdoor sign, ordering supplies, scheduling building and equipment

inspections, coordinating with the Judges of Elections, scheduling facility use and the monthly calendar, publishing the Sunday bulletin, and providing rental support.

Beth will be updating the News and Special Events page on our website. Please send event listings to her directly.

All submissions for the Sunday Bulletin should be made by Thursday at 5 p.m.

You can reach Beth at 215-348-3428, office@pebblehillchurch.org, or by leaving a note on the door of the Administration Office downstairs.

Town Meeting Minutes For 1-20-08

1. Consensus: Gary Schoenberg reporting. Information on consensus process is available on our website and a hard copy is posted on the bulletin board.

2. Celebration Speakers: Larry Hall reporting. Susan Duval will be sharing speaker names. Upcoming themes for Celebrations are posted on the website, in Lovenotes and in the Sunday Bulletin. Speakers are being solicited. All community input is valued and encouraged.

3. General Communication: The Pebble Hill Phone Tree is being put into place. Weekly news and announcements and last-minute invitations that were previously only available on

4. ElderWise: Elly Marshall reporting. A Chinese New Year Luncheon is the first project of ElderWise. It is scheduled for Sunday, February 10th, following Celebration. ElderWise meetings are the first Sunday of every month, following celebration. The first meeting is March 2nd.

5. Art Gallery: Gretchen Altabef reporting. The Art Committee is looking for new members. There is no regular meeting time. The premier Third Friday Coffeehouse was a blast! Performers and poets are being sought and your input is most appreciated. The next art gallery fundraiser project, "Open Windows" is on the horizon.

6. Passions Project: Bill Mettler reporting. Sixty Passions cards have been gathered. Data concerning

members' skills and passions will be entered online by Jillene DeCarlo. Suggestions concerning this project presentation and the use of the information are welcome.

7. Music Committee: Sixteen Passion cards were given to Larry Hall with the names of Pebble people with special musical skills and interests. Funds for musical guest performers will be available to the committee in the 2008-2009 budget.

8. General: The PHC Ministerial position will be a topic of an upcoming Town Meeting.

9. Town Meeting: Bonnie Mettler reporting. One town meeting per month will be scheduled. Council report and the upcoming agenda will be reviewed for five minutes of each Town Meeting. Additional discussion subjects are welcome and will be solicited during Announcements at Celebration.

10. Africa Fund: Bill Talvitie reporting. The Africa Fund is actively seeking support from the greater Bucks County community. Your participation and support are welcome.

11. Communication: Linda Lang reporting. A new Council Communicator is being sought; Gimone is stepping down. This position requires a volunteer to attend Council meetings and publish an informational article on council news and action items to be included in the Sunday Bulletin, Lovenotes and on the website.

Ed. Note: The next town meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 17th, following celebration.



Pebble Hill Phone Tree Keeping everyone in the loop!

Want to receive notice of special events and last minute get-togethers? The Pebble Hill Phone Tree has been created with you in mind. Weekly news and announcements and last-minute invitations that were previously only posted on the website and the E-mail list will be recorded and sent to your home. If you are a computer-free person and are interested in this service, please call the office administrator (215-348-3428) or leave your name and phone number on the door of the Administration Office downstairs.

**FUNDS RAISED FOR
NAMIBIA FAMILY**

Sunday, [Nov. 25th] during Celebration we climbed aboard Bill T's & Andy's electronic space & time shifting theater via Google Earth. We lifted off from Pebble and rocketed beyond the atmosphere and flew south and east across the Atlantic Ocean to the southwest corner of the African continent. There we flew into Namibia, over the capitol city of Windhoek and landed 20 miles outside of town at Katutura. At Vistula St. we came to our Namibian family's home--the house of eleven.

We met all eleven members of the household in pictures and then heard their voices over a speaker phone right there during Celebration. The three that captivated me the most were: Deahna, Valenteen, and Ahbrum (phonetic spellings). These three youngest siblings of the family all love Cornflakes. Their older sister, Memory, works a 14 hour shift in a restaurant and gets paid \$4 for her labor. Cornflakes at the local chain super market costs \$4.

We took up donations to buy food in bulk for the family to give them 2 months of food security while they build a home-based bread baking business. The goal is \$1400. The Pebble community responded beautifully and we collected \$1100. We need another \$300 to make our goal so their food can last their full preparatory 2 months.

Submitted by Bill Mittler

Ed. Note: the goal of \$1400 was later reached and exceeded.

Patagun! & Inchantations
in Concert

Saturday, March 1st, 7:30 PM
Pebble Hill Interfaith Church
320 Edison-Furlong Road, Doylestown, PA
Open Drum circle after the concert-- Bring your drums!
Suggested Donation \$15
All proceeds go to Pebble Hill Church

Caryn@spirtfoli.com 215-361-2709
www.patagun.com www.inchantations.com

**Carolyn Penta Leaves
for Nicaragua**

Best wishes to Carolyn Penta and Mayra Garcia Gibson on their trip to Nicaragua. They are visiting the rural hillside area of Sabalo, the Garcia family, the small one room school house, and the chapel.

An abundance of thanks for the outpouring of gifts and donations, especially to Julian Bence and the Buckingham 4-H Club for the handmade bookbags with school supplies, and to Mindy Bence and the Langhorne Knitting Group for the handmade baby blankets.

Carolyn and Mayra took with them enough toothpaste, toothbrushes, and clothing for the entire community and shoes for the little ones. While there,

they will be buying school supplies under the direction of Santo the teacher, and hopefully song books for the chapel—all thanks to the donations of Pebble members following the January 6th celebration. Maya was present for the celebration and we were all able to see slides of the family, school, church and farm.



Happy Anniversary!

JOB JAR

- Remove the lumber from around the tree near the Yellow Barn
- Rake up area of ivy around Yellow Barn
- Supply and install handicap railings at the toilets in the Yellow Barn
- Weed Whack around Yellow Barn
- Restore floor in the coat alcove in Red Barn
- Restore floor in the furnace room of the Red Barn
- Sort paint from all areas it is stored, check condition, label paint and what area it is for
- Change out toilet tank workings in Red Barn Men's Room
- Make envelopes for the collection baskets
- Change all light bulbs that are out except the high ceiling lights in the Red Barn

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Contact Carolyn Penta for details 267-337-3344

1st Fri is now 3rd Fri!



We have moved
to a new day!
Pebble Hill's
Coffeehouse
is now
open
every 3rd Fri at 7:30 pm.

Each 3rd Friday we will have a viewing of the new gallery art, followed with a talk by the artist who will also answer questions about their work. Afterwards, the mike will be opened to poets, writers, readers, performers, and acoustic musicians. All are welcome to share. Magic happens here!

Susan Manning's art work is on display in February.

For more information please contact Gretchen Altabef 215-990-9542 or Tim McKenzie 609-773-1444.

ElderWISE

The elder group has resumed gathering under the name ElderWise and the leadership of Elly Marshall. There next gathering will be on Sunday, February 10th, following celebration, when they are inviting the entire community to join them for a **Chinese New Year Celebration and Lunch**. Please bring food to share.

Future gatherings will be on the 1st Sunday of the month, following celebration . All self-identified elders are welcome. Contract Elly at (610) 847-8599.

“There are only two ways to live your life. One, is as though there are no miracles.

The other is as though everything is a miracle.”

Albert Einstein

DEADLINE

For *PEBBLES ON THE HILL*—February 15

Can you believe it? As I looked back at our stories, I found I've been collecting them since last February! So, February seems a good time to call it a day—or a year! So, the DEADLINE I've been asked about so many times must become reality.

Throughout the year the number of stories has grown and grown—and joyous surprises haven't stopped coming—just last week a wonderful reunion on the phone with a dear Pebble friend from Arizona—and a great story!

I hope that those of you who've expressed a desire to tell your story will still do so before the deadline, so no one is left out. And those of you with whom I've discussed an interview, we'll get it done, even if there's a problem meeting the deadline. With the story count in the mid-forties, I have high expectations that we will reach 50 or more!

Pebbles on the Hill needs your story!

Send stories to alert@epix.net, or snail mail to 55 Brennan Road, Ottsville, PA 18942

Call Gimone Hall at 610-847-2818 to talk about creating a story!

If you'd sooner talk than write, ask for an interview!

Write up to 1000 words:

Tell about how and why you came to Pebble (Even if you're new, you have plenty to say!) Spotlight a single event or several. What's something you feel passionate about? What group or activity has claimed your attention? Write about what Pebble means to you or how it's affected your life. About something fun or profound, about what you hope to do at Pebble or hope Pebble will do.... Write about anything at all that's special to YOU!

Remember, If you'd like to talk instead of write, ask for an interview. (We'll find a convenient time and place to do it).

In this last month, I'm still looking for stories from today's Pebble teens or kids. And yesterday's kids to share what's it was like to grow up Pebble.

If you're a former Pebble person from another era, let us hear from you, so we can get a better idea of who we are and where we've been.

Thank you everyone for all the fun and support and stories!

Many blessings,
Gimone

NEXT PEACE SOUP SUNDAY

By Gail Rocke

The next **Peace Soup Sunday** will be held on **February 10** and will be a celebration of the **Chinese New Year's**, instead of the traditional soups.

The elders will be hosting and presenting the Chinese New Year's celebration directly after the regular celebration (around 12:15pm). The Peace Soup Sunday committee (Gail & Nancy) will coordinate the lunch. People who wish to attend can bring either a Chinese dish (to feed

10), or pay the regular price of \$5.00 per person. A sign-up sheet will be passed at Celebrations or you can call Gail, at 610-349-5014.

Our March Peace Soup Sunday will be a regular soup/salad/dessert meal and will be held on March 9th. Hopefully, this will be the last Peace Soup Sunday before we can begin the Cafe in April.

Pebble Hill Church Financial Strategy

(Proposed)

Draft 11/29/07 ver 1.0

Preface

Pebble Hill Church has struggled for years to meet its financial obligations. In recent years, despite our best efforts, we have operated at a budget deficit. Obviously, deficit operation is not a viable strategy and cannot continue. Against this background, Council has developed a Financial Strategy designed around a sustainable operating budget, maintenance of our physical plant, support of our outreach programs, and allowance for growth.

The Goal

Put the financial operation of the church on a sustainable plan so that future programs and operations can be based on a reliable budget projection.

The guiding principles in designing this strategy are:

- It should be clear and simple
- It should support our mission
- It should be understood and supported in theory by the community
- It should be possible

The Strategy

The strategy has three main components listed below and described in the detail following:

- I. The operating budget will be funded by contributions from the community
- II. The physical plant expenses will be paid from rental income
- III. Outreach programs will be supported through targeted fund raising programs

I. Operating Budget

The *operating budget* is defined as all operating expenses except physical plant costs (as described below) and outreach program expenses. It includes such items as personnel costs, expenses for office and administration, celebration, insurance, telephone, internet, and the like. Expenses not specifically listed as physical plant or outreach program expenses are part of the operating budget.

Contributions from the community include pledges, plate contributions, and other unrestricted financial gifts from any source.

There will be a specific line item in the operating budget for *savings*, so that a reasonable amount of money is put aside for unexpected operational expenses and to allow for continued operations during variations in cash flow.

II. Physical Plant

Physical plant expenses include all items needed to operate and maintain the physical plant with the exception of cleaning personnel, cleaning supplies, and trash removal which are part of operating expenses. Examples of included expenses are facility maintenance and repair, maintenance and repair of electrical, plumbing, heating systems, grounds maintenance, snow removal, pest control, and utilities. In addition, capital improvements and non-administrative equipment purchases such as tables and chairs are physical plant expenses.

There will be a specific line item in the physical plant budget for a *facility reserve*. Funds in this line item are reserved for 1) unexpected (i.e., un budgeted) physical plant expenses, 2) targeted future physical plant expenses such as replacing a roof or heating system, and 3) anticipation of major physical plant expenses such as connecting to city sewer and water systems.

III. Outreach Program Fund Raising

Outreach programs approved by Council will be funded from the proceeds of targeted fund raising events which may be specific appeals on behalf of an outreach program or may be a general fund raising event such as a dance, movie, art gallery sale, etc.

Council believes that funding outreach programs in this way accomplishes a number of worthwhile goals. First, it provides a means of funding the outreach programs. Second, it involves the community in various community building social activities aside from raising money for the church operating budget. Third, it gives the community a way of "voting" to support the outreach programs of their choice.

The Roadmap to Implementation of the Strategy

Getting from where we are now (operating on a balanced budget for the first time in 3 fiscal years) to operating in compliance with this financial strategy may take several steps.

The first step is to see where we are now vis á vis this strategy. That is, for example, how close do we come now in sustaining the *operating* portion of our budget from contributions? What portion of our rental income covers our current *physical plant* expenses?

The next steps will involve the migration of our operation to the new strategy. It may be necessary to allocate some portion of fund raising event proceeds

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November '07 News from Gary & Jen Culp

Dear Friends and family,

jgculp2012@gmail.com

Alas, we are back in Sunny Sayulita and finally a quiet evening with my wonderful computer playing classical music from one of the fabulous public radio stations that bring much needed relief from the usual Mexican fare. (Not that I'm not just wild about Mexican country music, but...) Gar's off shopping in Puerto Vallarta and I have just finished my scrambled egg taco with homemade gazpacho, a bowl of ice cream – I didn't even eat out of the carton tonight, and a glass of good white wine. This while one hand scratches. I went from PA poison ivy to Sayulita mosquitoes! One I-o-n-g itch! Thank goodness for my Caladryl Clear, guaranteed to give a good night's sleep!

We arrived here on October 24 after a smooth 3 ½ day drive from Tahoe where I had spent two really special weeks playing Grandma with Kira, acting out my heart's desire to connect with her at a deeper level, while Jen and Aaron did a once in a lifetime rafting trip down the Grand Canyon with 14 other crazy people. Jen and Aaron had a fabulous time. Highlights of my grandma time included volunteering in Kira's third grade class, sewing doll clothes, helping her with her piano lessons and watching a bear forge through their compost with her fat little cub at her side! Oh, it also snowed so I got winter wrapped up in the package, too. Gar joined me after he batted down the hatches of our sweet little cabin back in PA. It got a new kitchen and a new roof this summer, as well as the magical landscaping that Gary always seems to create with guidance from the divine.

So here we are again in our winter home, starting round two. We were delighted to find everything in great shape. We arrived after dark to find Aida and Carlos, a young Mexican couple who kept the school going this summer and stayed in one of the apartments, out watering the plants - all of which had doubled, tripled and quadrupled in size so that we felt we were walking into a jungle. The outdoor lights were on and it was an enchanting reentry. School started again on October 30 after much cleaning, tossing and sprucing up. Some people are born to sit back and read a book, pina colada in the other hand. I do declare we were born to remodel and fix up! We do know how to play, too, thank goodness.

We arrived just in time for Gary to be chosen to judge the Halloween parade at the plaza (no easy task with so many cute kids) and to participate once again in the beauty of Dias Los Muertos (Day of the Dead). We took the children to the cemetery on Friday morning where many families were gathered to spend the day with the spirits of their loved ones. That evening the plaza was decorated with many alters to loved ones, candles

burning, colorful paper spirit banners hanging throughout, and free tamales for all! Six bands shared music throughout the evening. The following evening we attended a costume party at the home of a couple we met here last year. Gar deservedly won the prize for best costume and it was truly outstanding. If I can figure it out, I will attach a photo! He went as a "Katrina". Look it up, if you like. A Katrina is a skeleton dressed as an affluent man or woman, usually wearing big hats, long gowns, lots of jewels, opulent! It was an art form that became popular here in the 40's and 50's – paintings, ceramic figurines - and has become a popular Halloween and Day of the Dead costume.

The beaches are just as beautiful as we remembered and we are eager to visit our favorites. Gar came back with a staff infection on his leg that has taken weeks to heal so he has needed to be careful not aggravate it, however I think he is finally on the right antibiotic and it is looking much better. Send him some good healing energy so he can go swimming with me while the ocean's still nice and warm. We have reconnected with many people and we feel so fortunate to be able to step back in with such ease. Many of last year's challenges had to do with "how to do business" in Mexico. This year it will probably be "how to finish building the house".

We are looking forward to visitors. Jason will be arriving on Christmas day with his new love, Lanai. The family briefly met Lanai, a college friend of Jen's at Aaron and Jen's wedding 9 years ago and as it goes Jason reconnected with her this summer at Burning Man, fell in love and well, we're all excited to see just how this all plays out.

We are wondering what 2008 will bring.... gratefully, a new president, (pardon me if George is your cup of tea), a change in attitude about the environment and our responsibility to good Mother Earth as well as an end to a dreadful war, make that many dreadful wars. Do drop us a line. We love connecting and e-mail is such a marvelous invention. (I still love getting hand-written letters, though - #2 Manuel Placencia, Sayulita, Nayarit, MX). Our plan is to be here through May again this year.

Sending love and blessings to all, Jennifer and Gary

November 24 ---- A quick update before I get this on its way as it got lost as a DRAFT! Let's see, our friend's dog tried to eat a huge toad and it poisoned the little guy. Lesson 1: Keep your teeth off of big old bad toads. The Ahidja (kind of like the local Bureau of Indian Affairs) is

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having a HUGE party across the street with two or three bands, like really loud but professional and nice sounding orchestras and bands, entertaining me as I spent day 7 in bed with dengue (the rash stage – a terrible, itchy, horrible rash). I honestly think I'm better tonight. Aches and pains are nearly gone but I still need to sleep and sleep and sleep. Lesson number 2: Watch out for those dumb ole' mosquitos. Some of them are really evil and nasty! Gary did a wedding this afternoon and I'm waiting for him to take me somewhere to eat - starve a cold, feed a fever? We had a wonderful Thanksgiving, I rallied for three or four hours and we shared a wonderful feast with about 25 or 30 other Americans at our friend Mary's beautiful home. Turkey and all the fixins! The neighbors have had at least 8 or 9 dumptruck loads of dirt dumped right by the front of their door – we are trying to figure out what comes next. Are they planning to build an earth-burmed home? Are they preparing for a flood? Hmmm...ideas? Other breaking news: Gary had his license plate removed for parking in a bus stop in a neighboring town (only a second trip to town and \$5.50 to get it back). There are two movie nights happening – one showing esoteric films like "One," the other showing some great cine house movies for free on Monday nights. This is great news for a movie fan like me. Oh yes, the gas truck came to deliver gas a few weeks ago and in the midst of the delivery the truck began to leak gas (like dry ice). We took the kids away for a long walk and when we arrived back a half hour later the fire trucks from Bucerias were here – no fire but the first fire trucks I've seen and in the road right in front of our house. Lesson 3: be sure you have lots of hose connected to various sources because you never know when you're going to need it! Last spring there was a wild grass fire right behind our house and all of the neighbors were out there fighting the fire with hoses (that was the last time I was sick and the neighbor lady had to get me out of bed to help play firefighter!) There aren't too many dull moments here and we do love it! Gar's leg is healing and he may actually go swimming soon. Now if his swimming partner can get off the bed!

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to operations or physical plant until those areas are brought in line with this strategy. It may be necessary to limit our contributions to the reserves allocated for operations and physical plant. The exact modifications will be determined as we go, keeping the community informed as decisions are considered and made.

Conclusion

Putting Pebble Hill Church on a sustainable and predictable financial footing will solve many problems. It will enable better planning, provide for growth, seed our outreach efforts, and help to ensure the future of Pebble Hill Church.

**2008-2009 Pledge Campaign
“Creative Synergy”**

Last year our total pledge commitment amounted to \$44,000. This year we would like to (i) receive 100% of all pledges and (ii) achieve a 9% improvement – aiming for a total pledge commitment of \$48,000. We are working toward a vibrant and financially stable Pebble Hill community. We are counting on one another to fund our operations and maintain a healthy budget to fulfill our aspirations.

With your help we hope to increase the Celebration Committee budget for brilliant and inspired speakers and musical performers. We also plan to clean and enhance our children's space. Our financial strategy will permit us to fund greater outreach programs, build sufficient reserves, and maintain our plant and property by assertively seeking increased rental income.

We can't thank you enough for your friendship and your support of this forever young experiment in human dignity and joyful living. Together we are Pebble; together we are amazing!

Blessings and deep appreciation,
Ann Brentano
Chair Pledge Campaign

Invest in Yourself - Coaching Group

Ongoing 2nd & 4th Mondays
8 to 9:30 pm (beginning Jan. 28)
Pebble Hill Church – Yellow barn

Want to make a change? Be more assertive? Tap into inner resources?

Now's the time to empower yourself by joining a powerful support team designed to inspire & motivate. Take this opportunity to clarify your next steps and move towards your life's dreams/goals. In this group, you will learn to improve communication, manage time and stress, set goals and be more positive.

Led by Pebble member Norm Danis, MA, MS - former Counselor/ Teacher at Drexel University who specializes in teaching success skills and group facilitation. He is a long time Pathwork student who enjoys sharing spiritual wisdom and practical knowledge.

The group is limited in size so RSVP now. Cost is only \$15. For additional info or to arrange a personal session, phone Above the Norm Coaching at 215 855-2258. Suggested fee for Pebble members \$9.

**Nothing we do can change the Past,
but everything we do changes the Future**

PHC Calendar—February and March 2008

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|--|-----------|--|---------------------------|---|--|---|
| Jan. 27 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration | 28 | 29 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 30 | 31 | Feb. 1 | 2 |
| Feb. 3 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration | 4 | 5 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 6 | 7 7:00 Children's program mtng | 8 | 9 |
| Feb. 10 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration 1:00 Chinese NY lunch with ElderWise 1:00 P&SJ | 11 | 12 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 13 7:00 Council | 14 | 15 8:00 Drum Circle | 16 |
| Feb. 17 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration 12:30 Town Meeting 12:30 Membership | 18 | 19 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 20 | 21 | 22 7:30 3rd Fri Gallery & Open Mike | 23 |
| Feb. 24 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration | 25 | 26 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 27 | 28 7:30 Voluntary Simplicity group | 29 | 1 7:30 Patagun / Inchantations |
| Mar 2 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration 1:30 ElderWise | 3 | 4 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 5 | 6 7:00 Children's program mtng | 7 | 8 |
| Mar. 9 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration 12:00 Peace Soup 1:00 P&SJ | 10 | 11 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 12 7:00 Council | 13 | 14 8:00 Drum Circle | 15 |
| Mar. 16 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration 12:30 Membership | 17 | 18 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 19 | 20 | 21 7:30 3rd Fri Gallery & Open Mike | 22 |
| Mar. 23 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration | 24 | 25 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 26 | 27 7:30 Voluntary Simplicity group | 28 | 29 |
| Mar. 30 9:00 Quiet Med. 10:30 Celebration | 31 | Apr. 1 7:30 Celebration team 8:00 Mindfulness | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

How to schedule Pebble building use:

1. Go to www.PebbleHillChurch.org and click "Calendar," then "Monthly Calendar." Check to see if there is already something booked for the space/date/and time you want to reserve. If the space/date/time is already taken, pick another space/date/time.
2. Go back and click "Calendar Scheduling" then enter the requested information

- Your Name, phone number, name of event
Date & Space you wish to reserve
Beginning and end times you want to reserve,
including time needed for set up and clean up. Be sure to include AM or PM on all times.
3. "Submit" to the office manager to tentative hold the space/date/time, office@pebblehillchurch.org.
 4. Present your idea to council or contact Anne (215-860-4760, abrentano@donorperfect.com) if it is a fundraiser.

LOVENOTES

Feb./Mar. 2008

Pebble Hill Interfaith Community



320 Edison –Furlong Road
Doylestown, PA 18901
215-348-3428
www.pebblehillchurch.org
office@pebblehillchurch.org

STUDY AND SUPPORT GROUPS AT PEBBLE

- A Course in Miracles.** Thurs. 7:30 pm at Kalie Marino's, 215-672-1599.
- Bucks County Zone AA.** 3rd Mon. 7:00 pm, Yellow Barn UL
- Came to Believe AA.** Tues. 7:30 pm, Red Barn UL
- Community Drum Circle.** 2nd Friday at 8:00 pm.
Contact Caryn Cziriak 215-361-2709
- ElderWise,** 1st Sun. 1:00 Red Barn UL; Contact Elly Marshall 610-847-8599
- Eleventh Hour NA,** Sat. 11:00 pm, Yellow Barn UL
- Freedom to Live NA.** Wed. 7:30 pm, Yellow Barn UL
- Mindfulness Sangha.** Tues. 8:00 pm, Yellow Barn UL, Contact Fran Pulli 215-657-7291
- New Hope Metaphysical Society.** 4th Wed. 7:30 pm, (3rd Wed. in Nov. & Dec.), Red Barn, Contact nhms@spiritvision.com
- Peace & Social Justice.** 2nd Sun. 2:00 pm, Yellow Barn UL
- Poetry & Arts Gallery.** 3rd Fri. 7:30 pm, Red Barn UL, Contact Gretchen Altabef 215-579-1443
- Steps to Serenity OA.** Mon. 10:30 am, Red Barn UL
- Strength, Hope & Experience Women's CoDA.** Sat. 4:00 pm, Red Barn LL
- Voluntary Simplicity.** 4th Thurs. 7:30 pm, Yellow Barn UL, Contact Jim, 215-598-9762, or Karen K., 215-230-9899.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February 1 Justin Szeliga; 7 Janet Berkowitz, 9 Sally Green, Christine (Tina) Meckes; 10 Nancy Meehan, Kate Monser; 13 Jesse Gorham-Engard, Kyle Ingber, Riley Murphy, Laurie Mitchell; 20 Marie Sames; 24 Cathy Carpenter Scarpello; 25 Joe Iceman

March 2 Christopher Duval; 10 Gabriel Swanson; 15 Charlotte Batcha; 17 Eleanor Zwerdling; 19 Linda Lang; 20 Lindy Ratcliffe; 21 Barbara Gorham-Engard; 23 Maria Hobson, Lisa Schenk, Marilyn Stouffer; 24 Aaron Brough; 25 Initcirc Gaia; 26 Kyle Regan; 29 Durwood Brough, Jordan deMets; 31 Julia Altabef

Birthday Update

We're updating our outdated birthday list—be sure to get yours on the list. Look for it in celebration or on the bulletin board in the hall—or contact Karen (KHakun@aol.com, 215-345-8238).

Next LOVENOTES deadline: March 15th

Submit articles to khakun@aol.com

Anyone interested in reporting on Pebble events—or committee activities?—*gentle* feedback welcome—let me know what you want in *your* newsletter.

Thanks, Karen