

NEWS 'N VIEWS

April 2008

An occasional newsletter from the Moderator and Stated Clerk to Teaching and Ruling Elders of the Philadelphia Presbytery (PCA)

Brothers, in an effort to be more diligent in our communication we are planning to send out this newsletter via email at least once between meetings of the presbytery. We hope you will support our effort in at least two ways:

1. **READ IT!** We know dozens of emails will come your way each day. We will try to be concise and organize the material in a way you can read quickly. But it is important to stay as informed as possible of presbytery news.
2. **FORWARD IT!** This is going out to Teaching Elders. Most of you can forward this on to your Ruling Elders as an email. If not you can reproduce it to include in your monthly elders' "packet." Your REs need to feel that they are part of our presbytery. Thank you for your commitment to the work of the Lord in our city and presbytery.

PRESBYTERY GROWTH

1. Erik Larsen was ordained and installed as Assistant Pastor of New Life Glenside on March 2.
2. Jason Hsu was ordained to serve in the ministry of City Church mission on March 16.
3. The commission to examine officer candidates for Creshim Valley will meet on Wednesday, April 9. If all goes well, they will be received as a particular church on May 11.

PASTORS' WIVES BRUNCH

Your wives are receiving an invitation to the Pastors' Wives brunch on Saturday morning, April 26, at the home of John and Shelley Julien. Unfortunately, some will be affected by the fact that PCRT is on the same weekend. But if it is possible to come, please encourage your wives to come (including YOU babysitting the kids!). This brunch is proving to be a wonderful way for our wives to get to know one another as well as being spiritually challenged and encouraged.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY – JUNE 10-13

Planning is well underway for this year's General Assembly in Dallas. It is likely that our overture requesting a study committee on the role of women in the diaconal ministry of the church will be discussed. You should have registered by now if you are going. Committee of Commissioner Appointments need to be finalized (submitted to Atlanta) by Friday, April 11, 2008.

RULING ELDERS

1. Administration
2. Christian Education
4. Covenant Seminary
6. Interchurch Relations
7. Mission to North America
9. PCA Foundation

TEACHING ELDERS

3. Covenant College
5. PCA Retirement & Benefits
8. Mission to the World
10. Ridge Haven
11. Reformed University Ministries

OVERTURES: 1 RE and 1 TE appointed:

RE
TE Tuck Bartholomew (November 2007)

** RAO 14-2 and 15-2 provides further details on Commissioners**

STATUS OF THE COMPLAINT

On March 19, 2008, the Stated Clerk received notice from L. Roy Taylor, Stated Clerk of the PCA regarding the status of Proposed Judicial Case 2008-1 (Complaint of TE Timothy Witimer, et. al. v. Philadelphia Presbytery). Crossroad's Complaint has been forwarded to the Standing Judicial Committee (SJC). The SJC will review the Record of the Case and determine if and when a hearing should be called. This may or may not happen before our next Stated Meeting of May 10, 2008. We just wanted to let you know that this matter is proceeding, and that an additional meeting of presbytery may be called.

PRAYER GROUPS

At our February presbytery meeting a time was given over to dividing into five smaller groups for prayer, based on the location of our churches and missions. This season of prayer was very well received and we hope to make it a regular part of our meetings. This is an important step in making our presbytery a pastoral community as well as a place to do church "business." We hope you will support this effort by your participation.

CITYREACHERS

CityReachers Greater Philadelphia will launch on Sunday, April 13, 2008 when 140,000 Philadelphia-specific New Testaments will be distributed to the very doorsteps of "home subscribers" of The Philadelphia Inquirer in Philadelphia and Chester counties. Together with International Bible Society-Send The Light (IBS-STL), we have partnered with local churches, parachurch organizations, and individuals in the Greater Philadelphia area to begin an effort to reach more than 600,000 homes with God's Word. (<http://www.ibs.org/cityreachers/project.php?id=8>).