



The Council News

Of the Lancaster County Council of Churches

December 2008

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Care For Some Change In Your Giving?

Although the economy has been in quite a slump for the past year, our donations have been coming in faithfully. Through these tough times people are using their ingenuity to come up with some pretty creative ways to give, without breaking their piggy banks. Below are just two stories with ways that you can use even the smallest amount of spare change to make the biggest difference in our community!

A Little Goes A Long Way...

You may have seen commercials recently for banks advertising programs designed to round up individual purchases to the nearest dollar and then transfer the difference to your savings account. Recently we received a donation from a family who has a change saving program of their own, but it's not what you are thinking. At the end of each day Larry and Joan Sherman unload their spare pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters into a coin jar. They have been collecting loose change in this way ever since their college years and early on had used it for projects around their home or for family trips. Now that their children are out of the house, the Sherman's have found themselves in a position to use their coin jar to give back to their community. "It is part of our philosophy in giving back to others" says Joan about how saving the change has become a daily habit. This year was the first year that Larry and Joan decided to give their chunk of change to an organization in their community. On Thanksgiving Day while their children were home, they set the coin jar out to be counted. It took several hours with everyone doing a little bit throughout the day. A couple pennies here and there certainly don't seem like a lot, but as the Sherman's have shown, when you add it all up it makes a big difference! So, the next time you feel your wallet getting heavy, consider starting your own coin jar at home and getting your family involved in saving some coin to make a "big change"!



The Sherman's dog "Maggie" with the coin jar

Thrifty Entertainment!

Lancaster County is known for a lot of things; Amish buggies, shoo-fly pie, smorgasbords, outlet shopping and maybe most of all, antiques! Along with the local love of antiquing comes a love for auctions. While antiques often make up the majority of the goods sold at many auctions, there are also everyday items that are sold for outstanding prices! George F. Steffe finds these amazing deals when he stops by Horst Auction in Ephrata and they are just too great for him to pass up. He has found great value while only spending a few dollars. Buying a big bag of afghans for \$.50 really translates to providing warmth on a cold winters day to several families. George finds other items like whole dish sets for as little as \$.75 per set. This is a great way to use a small amount of money that would normally not buy too much and use it to purchase items that are needed by several families here at the Council for a fraction of the price. Each month we publish a list of needs for the Clothing Bank, Food Bank and PA Working Wardrobe. If you carry that list with you while you are out shopping, and happen to come upon a yard sale or auction that has an item we need, you can stock up for a fraction of the normal cost! To get our needs list via the Feed the Need e-news, e-mail Lindsay at LHess@lccouncilofchurches.org and request to be added to the mailing list.

Well, there you have it! A couple of ideas to shake things up this year as you may be re-working your budget or trying to find ways to give back, even if you only have a little changes in your pocket. Thank you to everyone who has ever donated to us, the big and the small. As you can see, every little bit makes a big difference!

THANK YOU!

A special thanks to the many corporate and individual donors who made the first "Sub the Scrub" scrub drive a huge success! The original goal was to raise 450 pieces; with your help we collected over 800 and many are still being donated. That's enough scrubs to provide 88 people with the uniforms they need to work in the healthcare industry. We are very appreciative for the generosity of the following medical practices:

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| Creekside Dental Group | Manor Family Health Center |
| Dermatology Associates | Martin Food and Ankle |
| Imaging Center of Lancaster | Water Street Rescue Mission Clinic |
| Lancaster Cancer Center | LGH Women's and Babies Hospital |
| Lancaster General Hospital | Various Individual and Anonymous Donors |

Several items were donated anonymously. Please, if your office's name is not listed here and you donated to the Sub the Scrub drive, call Rachael at 291-2261 so that we may be aware of your participation.



Spirit Of Christmas Distribution

This year over 56 sponsors gave 115 families, including 323 children, a very Merry Christmas! Thank you to everyone for your very generous giving. The pure joy on each parent's face when they are given gifts for their children is priceless. We have tried to capture some of that joy in these pictures, but our prayer is that this season you are equally blessed for opening your hearts to these families. Thank you again!



Needs Lists

Food Bank

Peanut Butter

- Jelly
- Juice
- Rice
- Beans
- Hot Cocoa

Clothing Bank

- Socks - All Sizes**
- Underwear - All Sizes**
- Men's Jeans - Size 30-38 Waist**
- Children's Winter Coats**

PA Working

Wardrobe

(all clothing should be CLEAN and professional)

- Polo Style Shirts (No Logos)**
- Women's Suits, Especially Black**
- Women's White and Black Shirts**
- Women's Khaki Pants, size 16-26**
- Maternity Clothing**
- Shoes - All Sizes**

SNOW DAYS!

We follow the School District of Lancaster's Closing and Delay schedule. If you are planning on coming to the LCCC and there is inclement weather, please check with your local radio or TV station to see if the SDOL has a closing or delay or call our office at 291-2261, where a message will be posted.



You are cordially invited to the 2nd Annual

Lancaster County
Council of Churches

Unity Prayer Breakfast

Friday, January 16, 2009

7:00 to 9:00 AM

The Eden Resort
Grand Ballroom
222 Eden Road
Lancaster, PA 17601

Suggested Donation \$15.00
All donations to the LCCC are tax deductible
No donation will benefit either Political Party

Reservations Required!

TICKETS ARE LIMITED
RESERVE YOURS TODAY!

RSVP by January 12th to one of the following:

The Lancaster County Council of Churches
(717) 291-2261

www.lcccouncilofchurches.org
Pay by "Click & Pledge"

The Republican Committee of Lancaster
County (717) 392-4165

The Lancaster County Democratic
Committee (717) 299-5701

"That they may be one" - John 17:11

Open Seating

Full Tables Available
To Reserve (8 per table)

2008 Annual Fall Banquet



Rev. Dr. Randolph Riggs awarding Joyce Saeger (left) and Joyce McClintock with the 2008 Steven Mentzer Award.

The Annual Fall Banquet is a time when our friends and partners in ministry join together to celebrate the work of Christ being done through the LCCC. This year, the celebration was held at **Church of the Apostles United Church of Christ**. The churches very talented kitchen committee provided a wonderful dinner. There was plenty of time to fellowship with and meet the pastors, delegates and friends whom represent the many congregations that make up the "Council of Churches." After dinner, the assembly moved into the sanctuary where they enjoyed an outstanding musical performance by the **Central Lancaster County Home School Choir**.



The business portion

of the evening included the election of three new Board Members. Also a presentation was given showing the different ministries of the LCCC along with their share of the \$412,211 budget for 2009. The new budget was then voted on and approved. At the conclusion of the evening, the 4th Annual Steven Mentzer Ecumenical Service Award was presented to Joyce McClintock and Joyce Saeger. The Mentzer Award is presented annually to honor the cooperative ecumenical witness of a church, person, or organization which demonstrates the love, mercy and justice of God. Both women are active in the community through Church Women United, where Saeger is the current president and McClintock served as immediate past president.



Thank you to the Central Lancaster County Home School Choir for sharing their musical talents!

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Pastor Jim Day knows quite a bit about being a prayer warrior. In fact, at Country Meadows Retirement Community where he is chaplain, Pastor Day works with a group of residents who all very much believe in the power of prayer. Recently, Pastor Day along with a resident at Country Meadows visited the Council of Churches and prayed for our programs, our staff, and our clients. It was a good reminder of how much all your prayers mean to us. By God's grace we have been able to meet the steep increase in need that occurred recently; the shelves and racks keep on filling up before our eyes! Imagine, however, how much more we would be able to accomplish with the prayers of hundreds of our newsletter readers! Our staff is small and at times it is difficult to keep up with all the hustle and bustle. Please consider cutting out the staff picture below and putting it somewhere that you will see it often and be able to remember us and lift up a prayer on behalf of us and the ministry here at the LCCC.

Please pray that...

- ...those who come here will not only be fed physically, but that their spiritual hunger will be fulfilled as well
- ...our staff will remain like-minded and we will be able to accomplish our many every day tasks with positive attitudes, showing grace to one another
- ...we will have God's guidance when making important decisions about our ministries
- ...God will continue to supply the food, clothing, and other resources so that when we see someone in need we can share God's resources with them.



The LCCC Staff L-R: Rachael Martin, Tonya Smith, Butch Padgett, Virginia Ayala-Garcia, Nereida DeLeon, Lindsay Hess, Siliane Desrosiers, Raquel Rivera, Sonia Segarra, Scott Fischer