



Intersections

Franconia Conference Snapshots (Jan. 2012)

Pastoring after the Storm

Gwen Groff (bethanym@vermontel.net)

The community response to Tropical Storm Irene, which hit Vermont on Sunday, August 28, 2011, was a moving train I was not pushing. People became more expressive of their compassion. Neighbors who normally barely waved at each other had conversations and came into each other's houses and helped sort through one another's chaos. Neighbors in isolated pockets shared meals and water, sump pumps and generators. In this community of independent, self-sufficient Vermonters, people gave and accepted help.

Read the full stories at franconiaconference.org



Financial Update

| | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Revenue | \$577,990 | \$623,100 |
| Expenses | \$670,998 | \$673,851 |
| Credit Payment | \$ 21,202 | \$ 20,833 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Net | (\$114,210) | (\$71,584) |

God's new thing in 2012

Ertell Whigham (ewhigham@franconiaconference.org)

As I think through all of the ways that we have heard and seen God working among us in 2011, I continue to be encouraged by the unlimited possibilities of what can be accomplished when we share our God-given time, talent, and resources with a genuine spirit of cooperation. Isn't it amazing, our God, the same yesterday, today, and forever, can renew all things and is even expecting to transform our lives, our congregations, and our relationships so that the message of Jesus Christ might break forth through us in 2012.

Two are better than one

Mary Lou Cummings (cominghome@verizon.net)

Perkasie and Plains congregations are creatively working together to provide lots of new experiences for their junior youth by joining their programs. The groups clicked right away. Now the two groups meet together for fun experiences most months, and they bring their friends—with about 15 or more showing up. All agree that it is a lot more fun to do these things with more people.



Board members visit congregations

Jim Laverty & Rina Rampogu

Over the past year members of the Franconia Conference Board have been visiting Franconia congregations. During our visits we celebrated each church's vision and mission, clarified the role of Franconia Conference and communicated the board's desire to be servants of the conference churches, to stand beside the good work each church is doing for their members and the world and to be accountable to Franconia churches in a new and better way.

Frankenfield ministers in "thin spaces"

Sheldon C. Good (sheldon@mennoweekly.org) with Steve Kriss (skriss@franconiaconference.org)

After eight years of serving as youth minister at Salford, Marlene Frankenfield began in the joint role of conference youth minister and Christopher Dock campus pastor. After these years of leadership development at Christopher Dock and Franconia Conference through chapel-planning, retreat planning, walking with youth pastors, and calling forth new youth ministers and leaders, Marlene's work shaped space for new leaders, even now, collaboratively, across boundaries and in-between spaces, with real hope and committed service even in the midst of questions.



We are Messengers of Joy

Jennifer Malloy (jmalloy@indcreek.org)

Indian Creek Foundation's chaplain Pamela Landis and Sharon Weisser and Carol Menser from Spring Mount, took part in a Faith and Hope Pilgrimage to St. Louis, Missouri, where the group took part in trolley tours, participated in ecumenical worship, and experienced the fellowship of other Faith and Light members from all over the United States. Faith and Light Groups are individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability who meet together on a regular basis to share friendship, pray together, and celebrate life. The theme of this year's pilgrimage was "We are Messengers of Joy."

