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East African Presbyterians Inspire Atlantans

From Atlanta, hands are reaching out to East Africa in love and admiration. Many are Presbyterian hands, eager to affirm the amazing work of the Presbyterian church of East Africa.

“In Kenya, 400 ordained ministers are serving 3.6 million Presbyterians,” says David York, who visited Presbyterian College in Nairobi in February. “A single minister may serve up to 18 churches. That’s like our staff at First Presbyterian being spread over all Atlanta.”

Priority on Pastors

Despite thinly stretched personnel and resources, new congregations are springing up all over Kenya — an average of 100 a year. There is a pressing need for more ordained pastors to serve them.

For a number of years, seminary students from Kenya have come to Atlanta to study at Johnson C. Smith seminary, part of the Interdenominational theological Center (ITC). But the expense and distance make this an unrealistic option for many Kenyan pastoral candidates.

Led by the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, congregations and individuals are rallying to enlarge the Pastoral Institute of Presbyterian college. The Presbytery’s capital campaign includes funding for

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Hanbit Church Soon to Have a New Home



Hanbit Presbyterian Church will soon have a new home on Parsons Road just off Medlock Bridge Road in Duluth. Hanbit, led by Sung-Joo Park has been meeting at Shallowford Presbyterian Church and has grown to over 200 members.

The New Church Development (NCD) Commission, working with the congregation, purchased the property last year. The congregation began planning to construct a church building and started a capital campaign to finance the construction. Jae Chong, the architect, is a member of the congregation. The construction company is Group VI. Jim Pace a member of First Presbyterian Church, Peachtree City owns the construction company. The congregation is very excited about the prospect of a new



church home. They have already held morning prayer meetings on the site and hope to be in the new building in time for the holidays at the end of this year.



Make a Joyful Noise in the New Presbytery Choir!



WANNA SING IN A CHOIR? We have a plan for the November 27th Presbytery meeting at Eastminster Church in Stone Mountain. Several people have asked if we might have a choir made up of presbytery members, so we’ll try it at that meeting. The regular meeting will begin at 10:00, so we’ll have a choir rehearsal at 9:00 a.m. in the choir room. We’ll need to know how many people are interested so we can have enough music ready for the rehearsal. If you want to sing in the PRESBYTERY CHOIR, please notify John Roark at Buford Church (770/945-6711) or notify the Presbytery Office by November 15th. This is an opportunity for some possibly-frustrated singers to once again “make a joyful noise to the Lord.”

East African Presbyterians Inspire Atlantans

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construction of a dormitory to house students preparing for the ministry. Dr. James Costen, former president of the International Theological Center in Atlanta, serves as missionary-in-residence and is spearheading fundraising in the United States to enlarge the College's ministerial education resources and transform it into Presbyterian University.

In God's Time



David York made his February trip representing Atlanta First Presbyterian Church, which is supporting the Institute through its annual mission conference. He accompanied Jim Costen at the laying of the cornerstone for a new library.

The faith of Kenyan Presbyterians intrigued David. He notes that they will start a project like the library even if they have only enough funds to partially complete it. "If you ask them when it will be finished, they will answer 'In God's time.' They go as far as they can with the project, then accept that they must wait until more money is available to continue. But they have strong faith that ultimately, it will be done."

Keeping Students in their Culture

Among the Pastoral Institute's enthusiastic supporters are Robert and Kay Patillo, members of Trinity Presbyterian Church. Their foundation has included the Kenyan seminary in its gifts to promote education and leadership development.

"To me it only makes sense for pastors to be trained in the context

of their own culture," says Robert, who sits on the board of Columbia Seminary. "Why yank them into a strange culture, and force them to learn a different language, money system, and food? Then just when they begin to get comfortable with the new culture, it's time to go back to the old."

The Patillos' interest in Africa is not confined to Presbyterian College. Their foundation also supports a Kenyan hospital that specializes in treating burn victims, especially children. Because much cooking is still done over kitchen fires, burn injuries are common in Kenya. The hospital was founded by Stan Toppie, a medical missionary whose brother Jim serves on the board of the Patillos' foundation.

Shepherding Future Leaders

Not far from Presbyterian College, in the Nairobi suburb of Nyeri, is Mount Kenya Academy, a 1st through 8th grade school that serves day and boarding students. It, too, has caught the imagination of Atlanta Presbyterians. "I feel these children will be future leaders of Kenya," says Cindy Candler of First Presbyterian. "This school is the most special thing I've ever been involved with."

Cindy first visited Mount Kenya Academy in 1995, eager to meet the dynamic founder, Charity Mwangi. In the headmistress, Cindy found a dynamic, resourceful leader who has created an outstanding school from very meager resources.

Mrs. Mwangi started the school in 1983. Her own oldest child had reached school age, and she was dissatisfied with the educational options available. Her husband located a piece of land with a suitable building. Mrs. Mwangi began developing a school to her own exacting standards, growing it one grade at a time. Now with 230 students,

the headmistress plans eventually to add a secondary school. Although Mount Kenya Academy has Presbyterian ties, students of all faiths are welcomed.

Cindy visited the school recently on behalf of the First Presbyterian congregation and will return later this year. As part of its 150th anniversary observance in 1998, First Presbyterian pledged funds to build a chapel for Mount Kenya Academy. Grace Chapel will be dedicated in October and Cindy is looking forward to attending the service.

Among Presbyterians, the Atlanta-Kenya ties continue to grow, freely spreading blessings on both sides of the world.



Stewardship Dates to Keep in Mind

August 18, 2001—As part of the Fall Leadership Conference at Peachtree Church there will be 4 workshops offered on stewardship: 1) Basic Issues in Stewardship, 2) Stewardship Campaigns, 3) Generational Issues in Stewardship, 4) Stewardship in Racial-Ethnic Churches. All pastors, stewardship committee chairs, and stewardship committee members are encouraged to sign up

September 25, 2001—Pre-Presbytery workshop. The authors of *The Big Book of Presbyterian Stewardship* will offer a workshop on comprehensive stewardship issues in the local church. Again, all pastors, stewardship committee chairs, and stewardship committee members are encouraged to attend.

OUR PRESBYTERY AT THE 213TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Joanna Adams

Featured preacher for the Covenant Network, Elected to the Board of Directors, Presbyterian Foundation

Frank Arnold

Award for long term mission service, Presbyterians for Renewal

Ernestine Cole

Presented Marilyn Washburn to receive *Woman of Faith* Award

Betty Durrah

featured speaker, Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary gathering

Charles Easley, Sr.

Elected Self Development of People Committee

Brenda Gales

Health Ministries

Keith Hill

Coordinated lunch for Presbyterians for Renewal

Kirby Lawrence Hill

Year of the Child, Moderator, Planning Team

Camille Josey

Presented the minority report for the Assembly Committee on Ordination Standards

Laura Mendenhall

Preacher for the General Assembly morning worship

Forrest Palmer

Recognized as a Geneva Press Author

David Wallace

John C. Smith Theological Seminary

Ted Wardlaw

Moderator, Church Polity Committee

Marilyn Washburn

Received a *Woman of Faith* award

David York

Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary

Mary Zumot

Elected, Peacemaking Advisory committee

Mission Personnel Appointments

Mission Volunteers International – 7/ 2000 to 6/ 2001

Mina Ashley Chae Serving for eleven months as an Administrative Officer/English Teacher with the Presbyterian Church of Korea in South Korea. She is a member of Hanbit Presbyterian Church.

Marsha Snulligan Haney Served for two weeks as a Missiology Professor with PERSETIA (The Association of Theological Schools in Indonesia) in Indonesia. Martha is a member of our presbytery

Mission Volunteers(USA)

Ellen Coble Serving Georgia Tech/Westminster Christian Fellowship. Ellen is a member of North Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Emory Campus Ministry Needs your Help

A Letter from John Morgan

Dear Friends,

As we approach the fall semester, the Presbyterian Campus Ministry at Emory University needs your help. We ask you and your church to join us in the following ways:

1. If members of your church attend Emory or are employed by the University, please refer their contact information to me as soon as possible so we can invite them to be a part of our ministry.
2. Choose one or more Thursday evenings for which your church will provide elders to serve communion during worship and/or a homelike meal after worship. If you would like to volunteer, contact Marilyn Washburn at 404-288-5553 or mwash01@emory.edu.
3. Advise me of ministries you provide for college students, such as college-age classes and/or fellowships, and recreational or service opportunities. We will be preparing a directory of such opportunities for new students.
4. Pray for this ministry on a regular basis, in your session meetings and in your congregations worship.

Thank you for your support of this ministry. I look forward to hearing from you and working in partnership with you and your congregation.

Sincerely,



Rev. John Morgan

jmorga3@learnlink.emory.edu



Be a part of an
exciting new vision... a
Global Village!



Starting this fall, groups at Calvin Center will create a global village representing the four countries in partnership with our presbytery: **Haiti, Kenya, Nicaragua, and Palestine**. Starting this fall, groups can help clear the land, make bricks, build houses and outbuildings, build animal pens, dig a well, prepare land for gardens. By next summer, groups will be able to experience life in a village as orientation for international mission trips and immersion experiences.

Do you want to be a part? Contact...

Sara Humphrey at the PATH office for more information (404) 228-7728 answertohunger@firstpresatl.org

John Hicks at Calvin Center to make reservation for your group to participate (770) 946-4276 presbyjohn@aol.com

Mardee Rightmyer at the Resource Center to help create curriculum (404) 898-0711 mrighmyer@presbyteryofgreateratl.org

Highlights of July 10 Meeting of Presbytery



- Korean Community Presbyterian Church hosted the meeting with many volunteers, an excellent lunch and beautiful Korean dancers in native costume
- Adopted a new presbytery committee structure, including 5 new ministry teams, two ecclesiastical committees (Committee for Preparation for Ministry and Committee on Ministry) and a smaller Coordinating Council of 20 persons
- Approved the pastoral changes shown below
- Installed the new Presbytery Youth Council
- Debated and endorsed a lawsuit filed in federal court on behalf of several clients against the City of Atlanta, seeking to have the city's Urban Camping and Public Urination Ordinances declared unconstitutional, null, and void
- Recommended that all its minister members and Christian educators participate in four hours of training to combat racism, beginning in the fall, 2001



We Welcome New Pastors and Celebrate Pastoral Changes

- **Jim Irwin**, East Tennessee Presbytery, as interim pastor, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Tucker
- **Rindy Trouteaud**, pastor Clifton Presbyterian Church
- **Jill Ulrici**, associate pastor, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Atlanta
- **Jonathan Mack**, associate pastor, Church of St. Andrew, Atlanta
- **Mark George**, pastor, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Conyers



New Inquirers and Candidates for Ministry

Approved as Inquirers:

- Hanna Kim
- Jill Morehouse
- Jason Robbins

Received as Candidates:

- Phillip Dennis
- Sung Hee Lee

Connecting with Immigrant Fellowships

Presbytery staff sponsored a workshop for twelve Immigrant Fellowships that are presently nesting and thriving at churches in our presbytery. The workshop was held at the presbytery office on Thursday, June 21 with 20 fellowship leaders and church representatives in attendance, representing 10 countries and 9 languages. With this diversity represented, Mardee Rightmyer, Resource Center director, led a devotion appropriate for the occasion including scriptural verses from Revelation 21:22-26 and a short video entitled *It is in Everyone of Us*.

The workshop served several purposes toward affirming the presbytery's concerns and support for the issues, needs and ministries of the Immigrant Fellowships serving within our bounds. Foremost among them were as follows

1. To review presbytery guidelines for immigrant fellowship that were established by the Division of Church Growth and Ministry in 1997
2. Sharing information on pastoral ministry and the requirements of the Committee on Ministry for fellowship leaders
3. Assistance, information and materials available through the presbytery office for Christian Education, worship and other ministry programs
4. Allowing fellowship leaders and church representatives to express their expectations and concerns relative to the presbytery's relationship to their ministries and missions.

The workshop also provided an opportunity for the Self Development of People Committee to inform the group of funding opportunities through its program in the presbytery. Rev. Charles Black led the discussion of criteria for grants proposal and the availability of technical assistance in the preparation of proposals. He was assisted by committee members John Latta and Babara Gifford.



Reminder!

Deadline for the Fall Leadership Event
Registration must be in the Presbytery Office by **4:30 pm, Friday, August 10**
Visit <http://www/presbyteryofgreateratl.org> for details