

# SOCC IT TO ME

July 2016

*A publication of the Strengthening Our Congregations Committee*

## Food for Thought...Greencastle

**Presbyterian** has housed and supported the local Food Pantry for many years. The Mission Committee came up with the idea of using raised beds in the garden area of our local school farm, Tayamentasacta, to provide some fresh vegetables for our food pantry friends. Elder Jan McClain recruited and organized volunteers from the church to plant, water, weed and harvest lettuce, cucumbers, tomatoes, green beans, onions, and snap peas. So far they have provided lettuce, and will be harvesting onions soon. This is their first year trying this, and they hope to fine tune the varieties that will yield healthy eating for their friends. Many churches in the Presbytery, like Greencastle, have gardening or gleaning ministries.

surrounding areas. It provides supplemental food distribution on designated days to individuals and families who meet income requirements. **Dickinson Presbyterian Church** supports Project S.H.A.R.E with monthly contributions of canned tuna for distribution via the community food bank. Also, DPC participates in gleaning projects sponsored by Project S.H.A.R.E in the summer and fall. Volunteers harvest produce from local farmer's fields for use by those in need in the community.

At the end of each day, **Panera Bread's** bakery-cafes package unsold bread and baked goods to donate to local hunger relief and charitable organizations. They are committed to serving every community they serve, partnering with organizations to help those in need. Your church can submit an application for their on-going Day-End Dough-Nation™ program or for their event donation program, Panera Gives, by completing an application. [www.panerabread.com](http://www.panerabread.com)



**Project S.H.A.R.E.**, operates out of 5 N. Orange St. No. 4, Carlisle, and serves Carlisle, Mt. Holly Springs, Boiling Springs, Plainfield, Gardners, Carlisle Springs, and



## Not Thinking Small...contributed

*by Charlie Mae Smalls*

**Capital Presbyterian Church** is a small but vital congregation in Harrisburg. They have not had an installed pastor for a number of years, but they actively continue in worship and

mission due to their committed congregation. On Sunday, April 17, 2016, a very special worship service was held. The Central PA Friends of Jazz (CPFJ) Youth Band, directed by Capital's own Mr. Ron Waters, provided special music throughout the worship service. What a beautiful way to sing praises to God and also enjoy the many talents of youth in Central PA. This Youth Band shared in worship service three times during the past four years.

The Sacrament of Communion was also a part of this service. Rev. John Schmidt was the Pastor for this service. A Fellowship Hour followed the worship service.

## What happened at GA?

Catch up on Mark Englund-Krieger's Reflections on General Assembly. Mark's nine part blog can be found at

<http://markekrieger.blogspot.com/>

## Church Camp Has Changed!

Did you know that **Camp Krislund** is rated in the top five fastest growing Presbyterian church Camps? Check out their snazzy brochure at <http://krislund.org/>. This summer Krislund Camp will host a **LEGO Robotics** option for campers ages 5 to 8. A second course called **Mindstorms** will be offered for campers ages 9-12. They will also offer a Rocketry program for 2nd-12th grade Resident and Day Campers. Campers who will have the opportunity to design, build, and launch rockets at camp during the week. Pencil in Krislund now for next year!

**It's time to march in Paxtang's Fourth of July Parade!** Paxton Presbyterian Church is the only church in Paxtang Borough and they make their presence known! For the parade on the 4<sup>th</sup>, church members pass out invitations, participate as flag-wavers and most importantly, are **members of an all-star kazoo band**

## Meet Don Wahlig



**Rev. Don Wahlig**, the newly installed pastor at **Silver Spring Presbyterian Church., Mechanicsburg**, was baptized and raised at the Presbyterian Church of the

Covenant near Wilmington, Delaware. Don graduated from the Univ. of Delaware with a BA in English Literature, and then moved to New York to begin a career in advertising sales. While in New York, Don found a church home at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church. In the young adults group there, he met his wife, Beth, also a lifelong Presbyterian. During this time, Don earned an MBA from Columbia Business School and made the transition to become a marketing manager at American Express.

During this period Don and Beth moved to New Jersey to start their family. They are blessed with two daughters, Emma and Jane. Through a series of events and moving by the Holy Spirit, Don discerned his call to pursue pastoral ministry. He enrolled at Drew Theological School in Madison, NJ, and graduated with highest honors. He served at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church as Associate Pastor for Outreach and Evangelism, followed by Acting Head of Staff in May, 2015. Shortly thereafter, Don sensed God's hand in directing him to pursue his current position as Senior Pastor of Silver Spring where he began in January, 2016. He says, "Beth and I are convinced that the Spirit is calling me to walk alongside the congregation as together we follow Jesus Christ in leading lives of even greater faithfulness."

## Backyard Missions



Mission doesn't have to be in a distant land or even outside one's hometown. The Presbyterian Women of the **Presbyterian Church of Upper West Conococheague (Mercersburg)** have been holding two annual events at Brindle Terrace, a Senior Living Apartment complex, in Mercersburg, PA for the past several years. The Presbyterian Women hold a Christmas Party and a Spring Picnic every year for all the residents of the complex in their community activity room. These residents are independent and only require low rent housing. One of the residents regularly attends their Sunday school and Morning Worship. This year's spring event was attended by 34 residents.