

Revelations

Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon ~ Pittsburgh, PA 15202

Don't just go to church— BE the church! Sunday Services cancelled for CPCBA on June 8th!

The church has left the building...and on Sunday, June 8th, the community will be glad they did! We will be putting our faith into action by canceling regular Sunday services to practice very purposeful acts of kindness throughout the community. Volunteers from both the church and the community will be joining together to serve. If you've put off registering, you can still participate.

Below you will find the list of service projects and project leaders. See a more detailed listing on the church website at www.cpcba.com. Please pray about where God is calling you and your family to serve, give the project leader a call, and obtain directions and instructions on anything you may need to bring.

Grab your friends and neighbors and come out and make a difference in your community!

We'll all gather back at the church at 5:00 PM for a catered dinner and an evening of celebration. If you haven't already done so, please let your project leader know how many will be attending the dinner so that we can get the count to the caterers.

Faith in Action T-shirts are still available for a bargain price in the narthex. They're only \$3 for kids and \$5 for adults. Please wear them on the 8th to identify yourself as part of the church group and to let the community know why we're serving.

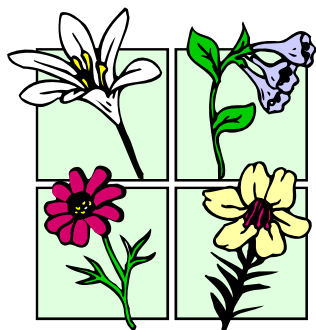
This is a church-wide event! We're shooting for 100% participation! Together, let us demonstrate our love of Christ and our discipleship through our actions. Together, we truly **can** make a difference in our community.

faith
in ACTION
BE THE CHURCH

New Summer Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Start Time!

Starting June 15 through August 31, one service of worship will be held in the fellowship hall at **9:30 a.m.**

*Note this is different
from our previous
summer worship time.*



JUNE
2008

Faith in Action Project Summary and Project Leaders

IN THE COMMUNITY:

North Suburban Adult Services (Walt Robertson)

Facilities improvement through painting, plaster work and general clean up.

Pleasant Valley Men's Shelter (Merle Culley)

Primarily cleaning: the kitchen and outside property. Also some general repairs.

Avon Park Clean Up (John Warren)

Great for families! General park and trail clean-up.

2nd United Presbyterian Church of Wilkinsburg (Lee Dillon)

Worship with them at 11:00 a.m., lunch at 12:00 and yard work until 4:00 p.m.

The Shepherd's Door (Jody Jackson)

Strong arms are needed to help clean out the basement apartment.

AT MASONIC VILLAGE

World Vision AIDS Caregiver Kits (Barbara Koch)

Assemble AIDS Caregiver Kits; transportation to CPCBA for dinner & worship

IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AT CPCBA

Dignity Robes (Gail Buchanan)

Cut and/or assemble robes for women undergoing radiation for breast cancer.

Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (Maureen Kowalksi)

Assemble donated shirts, pants and shoes for victims to wear home from the hospital.

Greeting Card Project (Kristin Dillon)

Cards for shut-ins, service men and women, and our sister church in Malawi.

Fleece Blankets (Kate Colville)

Make and deliver fleece blankets for pediatric patients at AGH Suburban Campus.

Phone: (412) 761-1233/766-1800 Fax: (412) 766-1801 E-mail: cpcba@verizon.net Web site: www.cpcba.com

June Summer Worship Highlights

June 1 will mark the last two worship services in the sanctuary before we move to Faith in Action and then the summer schedule. Newly-elected Deacon Robert Nadin will be ordained and installed during the 10:30 service. After worship, everyone is invited to the fellowship hall where we will honor Claire Wilwohl for her 28 years of service to the church as a member of the staff. **BYOK** –bring your own Kleenex. (And also be prepared to share the laughter.) At **2 p.m.**, the Northgate Schools Baccalaureate service will be held at Bellevue Christian Church; then at **4 p.m.**, CPCBA will host the Avonworth Baccalaureate.

June 8 is the day we mark a revolution in worship and mission. Throughout Faith in Action Sunday, there will be hands-on mission for all ages and ability. At 5 p.m., we will gather in the fellowship hall for dinner, followed by a **WOW** service where we will celebrate the mission of God and what a blessing it is to be able to give our talents in the service of the kingdom. Remember –Don’t Go to Church (in the morning). Be The Church all day!

June 15 will be the **first summer service at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.** This is a new summer worship time –it’s exactly in the middle of the 8:30 and 10:30 regular services.

Vera White will be the guest preacher. Vera is on the staff of Pittsburgh Presbytery, serving as Director of New Church Development, Stewardship, and the Committee on Ministry . She has assisted our Pastoral Nominating Committee in its work. Vera is also an elder from and member of our neighboring Hiland Presbyterian Church. Since it’s also Father’s Day we will observe the time-honored tradition of having the men cook hotdogs for the fellowship time after the service.

June 22 is Bring Your Neighbor to Church Sunday when we will celebrate with a Strawberry Fellowship Hour following the service.

June 29 - Communion

Prayers of the Pastor Nominating Committee

Over the course of this past year, the Pastor Nominating Committee prayed for God’s guidance and the revelation of his plan for our church.

The following is a list of some of the scripture readings that we felt directed our committee. These were incorporated into the closing prayer of the Special Meeting of the Congregation on May 18 during which Rev. Dr. Page Creach was elected as the next installed pastor of Community Church.

We would like to thank the congregation for their support and prayerful encouragement throughout our yearlong process.

O Lord you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago. Isaiah 25:1

Those who know your name shall trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you. Psalm 9:10

Set your troubled hearts at rest. Trust in God always; trust also in me. John 14:1

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

You will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:12

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21

See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God, they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them. Revelations 21:3

And all the people responded with a great shout when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. Ezra 3:10

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God. Amen. Philipians 1:9-11

**Bring Your Neighbor to Church Sunday
June 22—9:30 a.m.**

The Fellowship & Evangelism Committee encourages you to invite your friends and neighbors to come for a sweet treat on Sunday, June 22.

Following the 9:30 a.m. worship service, stay for the Strawberry Festival Fellowship Hour.



Your Giving Can't Get Much Easier Than This!

-by Mary Witul, Stewardship and Finance Committee
 Now I realize that what I'm about to suggest is not for everyone. However, if you use your computer for electronic banking and would like to simplify your life by writing fewer checks then read further. You can add CPCBA as a bill to pay and get the bank to cut the check and send it to the church monthly or even quarterly. Several of you do this now and can attest to the ease of the process.

When I went to set up the payment I was asked to type in the phone number and the system responded with the church's name and address. I was then able to determine the frequency, amount and end date of payments. I set the system to make only 2 more quarterly payments to finish my pledge for this year. FYI, we have looked into CPCBA making automatic debits to members' accounts but there is a \$250 set up fee and a \$20 monthly charge that CPCBA would have to pay so that's not the most cost effective approach. Further, the system would allow only monthly debits and would have a longer lead time for set up and for changes to take effect.

Again, this electronic method would not be appealing to, let alone feasible for some members. For others it would bring welcome relief to have one less thing to remember in the rush to get the family ready and out to church. If you have any questions, you may contact me at 412 734 2772.



by Deacon Douglas Tjelmeland

Spirit With Spring

Recently elected to the 2010 Deacon Board class is Bob Nadin. We are very happy to have him there to fill that class vacancy. What a day Mothers Day was! A great day for our mothers accompanied with the recognition of our 12 wonderful youth in Confirmation Class of Baptismal Promises with Laying on of Hands followed by Communion. The Deacons were busy bees preparing for fellowship after Benediction for a packed church and started off by handing out delicious boxes of chocolates for the beautiful mothers. A huge cake was presented for the Confirmation class for all to partake. Again the Zagat Guide would be proud of our service. Speaking of Zagat Guide, please don't forget our fathers and their duty of grilling for us all on Father's Day, June 15th. What service!

Please mark on your calendars August 24th for our Annual Church Picnic at Avalon Park.

To recap a truly strong day on Sunday, May 18th, our church was blessed when a birthday wish was fulfilled for Rev. Dr. Page L.D. Creach. It was an absolutely moving day and the hopes of our congregation and our Pastoral Nominating Committee is reflected in Isaiah 40:31 "But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

1970's Ben Avon Youth Group to Hold Reunion Saturday, June 21 in Sewickley Information about Former Members is Needed

The *Together Group*, an active community youth group in the 1970's sponsored by the Ben Avon Presbyterian Church, the Woodland United Presbyterian Church and the Ben Avon United Methodist Church is holding a reunion on Saturday, June 21 at the home of Andy and Sandy Clem in Sewickley.

Members of the congregation may remember their musicals *Tell it Like it Is*, *Life, Love, and It's Cool in the Furnace* that were enjoyed by many in the community and served as a focus for the youth group that numbered more than 60 teens. (Jack Ferguson, Jane-Ellen Robinet and Dan Herchenroether were active members J) The leaders, Joan Murdoch (and David), Marge Fisher (now living in Hilton Head) and her children David and Linda, as well as former pastor, Rev. S. Hayden Britton and his daughters will be coming to this reunion.

The group is seeking the addresses and or emails of anyone associated with the group for any amount of time. Please contact Kate Sutliff Wilson, at nosliwnhoj@comcast.net for further information.

The Last (Almost) Capital Fund Update

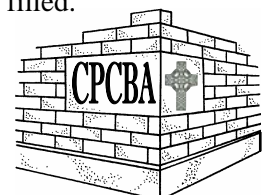
- Ross Dillon, Treasurer

As the Capital Fund Campaign officially ends on June 30th, updated results through late May are as follows:

Total pledged:	\$394,891
Total received:	\$341,101
Total expenditures:	\$203,764
Balance in Capital Campaign a/c	\$137,337

Over twenty projects have been completed. Nearly \$20,000 has been distributed to missions as part of our ongoing tithe commitment. Eighty-six percent of the funds pledged have been received. Fifty-eight percent of the pledges made have been filled.

Let's try to complete our pledges by June 30 but remember, the fund will still receive your contributions after the end of June.



Pastor Nominating Committee Reviews Qualities Sought (and Found) in the Next Pastor of CPCBA

On May 18, the congregation was filled with a sense of hope and optimism as we contemplated what the future might look like at Community Church as the Pastor Nominating Committee’s chosen candidate, the Rev. Dr. Page Creach, preached her candidating sermon to the congregation of CPCBA.

After hearing Old and New Testament readings offered by Dr. Jerome Creach, and their daughter, Adair, we listened intently to Page’s sermon entitled, “The Investment of Faith”. Following this special morning of vibrant worship and inspiring music, we convened a special meeting of the congregation to consider the election of Dr. Creach as the second installed pastor of the Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon.

During that meeting, and prior to the vote, a report was given by the Pastoral Nominating Committee, which included a review of the qualities that they hoped to find in the next pastor of CPCBA. The following is an excerpt of that report:

“The PNC was hoping to find a person with high energy - a vibrant, active pastor who might help us to create an exciting, dynamic atmosphere at CPCBA. We wanted a skilled preacher who would deliver sermons with a strong scriptural foundation, yet with a message that would be relevant to today. We hoped to find someone who had respect for tradition but could also be forward-looking and capable of introducing change. The PNC sought a pastor who was moderate in theological perspective – not extremely to the right or left. We hoped to find someone who was a natural evangelist – who might help us to draw new members. The PNC wanted a mission-focused pastor. We also searched for someone with a strong personal faith, whose life was continually guided by the Holy Spirit. We very much wanted to find a pastor who would preach inclusiveness – who would welcome all people through the doors of our church. Our committee hoped to find a pastor who could challenge and inspire us; an individual who would encourage our spiritual vitality and ultimately our stewardship. The PNC sought a pastor who would be a strong leader of our staff, and who would be present in the church as much as is reasonable to expect. We hoped to find a pastor who would relate well with all the ages and generations in our church, as all our members are valued and important. The PNC searched for someone who would guide us, encourage us as a congregation to step forward and learn to lead, who would allow us to learn from our own mistakes, and share in our personal joys and sorrows. We believe that we have found all these qualities in Rev. Page Creach and we enthusiastically present her to you as our chosen candidate. We are excited for the future of our church and believe that she is the person whom God has chosen to lead us as our next installed pastor.”

In a nearly unanimous congregational vote of 178-2, Rev. Dr. Page Creach was elected as the second installed pastor of Community Church. She will join us in ministry on August 1 after completing her commitment to the First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown where she is currently serving as an Interim Associate Pastor. As a congregation, we are excited to welcome Rev. Creach, and her family, here in our life together at Community Church and see the future as filled with hope and great opportunity to further Christ’s mission in the world.

If you were unable to be present in worship on May 18 and would like to hear the sermon preached by Rev. Creach, please contact the church office, as video and audio copies are available.

Keys of the Kingdom

In an effort to improve safety and security, the Rostrevor entrance now has a crash bar. That means you can just push on the door to get out when it’s locked. You still need a key to unlock and lock the door, and still need to set and turn off the alarm system. PLUS, the new bar necessitates a new key. If you have an old key (prior to May 15), it will open some interior doors. You’ll need a new key for the entrance. See Leslie Miller.

Spic & Span

We will no longer have a custodian on staff at CPCBA. The new mode of keeping the church clean will be via Mike Booker and his family, who operate their own cleaning service. Andy Kolenda and the property committee are working out how to handle necessary maintenance and repairs. We want to say a special thank-you to Leslie Miller who has so ably acted as interim custodian while we were making this transition.

An Installation Celebration For CPCBA & Pittsburgh Presbytery Sunday, September 21 10:30 a.m.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 21, when the Rev. Dr. Page L.D. Creach will be installed by Pittsburgh Presbytery, as Pastor of Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon, during the combined 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Elder and clergy representatives of the presbytery will take part along with members of CPCBA.

Book Donation Thank You

The Outreach Committee would like to thank those of you who donated books for the North Hills Youth Ministry Counseling Center’s (NHYMCC) Annual Book Sale. The money raised at the sale provides scholarship funding for clients in need of professional mental health counseling and/or tutoring services.

The mission of NHYMCC is to build hope and understanding through faith-based counseling and support services for youth, adults, couples, and families in our communities. NHYMCC is a non-denominational community service organization that provides family, marital, individual and group counseling, along with preventive, educational and advocacy services.

The North Hills Youth Ministry, Inc. was created in 1966 by the North Hills Ministerial Association to be a unique non-denominational outreach ministry to teens, initially supported financially by member churches. It was and still is primarily financed and supported by local community, with its direction provided by a board of directors rooted in local churches.

Originally, the focus was on alienated teenagers who had no positive relationships with other adults or institutions. In the 1980s, the ministry moved toward an emphasis on professional counseling for teens. The professional focus gradually has broadened and now includes both counseling and prevention programs. Services are available for youth, adults, couples, and families.

Parent education programs are growing and currently provide multi-week courses, workshops for parents on specific child-rearing themes, community presentations on family issues, parent support groups, and professional leadership-training seminars. They are also an accredited Act 48 provider and offer a variety of seminars for professional educators to obtain continuing education credits.

In 2001, they implemented their Youth Development Program. This program provides a combination of counseling, tutoring and mentoring services for youth currently in their counseling program, thereby delivering a broader range of much needed and effective help.

Documentary Movie to Be Shown

The B-I-B-L-E, yes that’s the book for me... “For the Bible Tells Me So,” a documentary about gay and lesbian persons and their relationships with their families, will be presented on Thursday, June 26, at 7 p.m. The 98-minute film explores the way that the church and people of faith have interpreted the Bible with regard to homosexuality. Discussion time will follow. There’s a sign-up sheet on the desk in the narthex. The number of attendees will determine which room is used for the viewing.

HEARTH Shower Thank You

Thanks to all of you for responding so quickly and efficiently to the call for the Hearth Shower items.

On Wednesday evening, May 7th, Sherry Dugan and Jody Jackson delivered and attended the small gathering held in one of the apartments at Benedictine Place. They were greeted by the director and two of the residents and given a tour of the facility while stories were shared and new friends were made.

Hearth appreciates CPCBA’s continued support and are in the final stages of planning a new facility on sight. It will provide eleven affordable housing duplexes for families in need. Rather like a transition home until these families can get back on their feet and avoid the possibility of homelessness. There is a definite need in the North Hills that this project will address.

Again thanks to the wonderful members of this church that don’t just jump but leap to the call for missions.

**North Hills Youth Ministry Counseling Center Book Sale to Be Held June 13-18
Volunteers Still Needed to Staff Tables**

The NHYMCC Book Sale returns to Clayton Community Youth Center at Memorial Park church, 8800 Peebles Road in Allison Park Friday, June 13th through Wednesday, June 18th (Closed Sunday).

Our church has volunteered to cover the evening shift **Monday, June 16th** and we **STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS!** There are two time shifts, and it’s a great time---just ask those who’ve volunteered in the past. A total of 20 volunteers are needed, 10 to cover each shift. The sign up sheet is out on the desk in the narthex. Hope to see you there!

Reservation Deadline for Bus Trip to Lancaster Extended to June 30

You can still sign up for the bus trip to the Sight and Sound Theater to see *In the Beginning* and *Abraham and Sarah: A Journey of Love*. The reservation deadline has been extended to June 30. A deposit of \$50 per person is required with registration.

The package includes deluxe transportation, one night’s lodging, the two shows, dinner and breakfast. Cost ranges from \$245 to \$325 per person depending on room occupancy.

Registration forms can be located on the desk in the narthex, or call the church office at 412-761-1233 to have one mailed to your home.



Junior Choir Acknowledgements

Sunday, June 1 will be the last Sunday of the program year for the Junior Choir and Bell Choir. The Junior Choir enhanced our worship services during the year as well as participating in the Choristers Guild Children's Choir Festival in March.

Those singing in the choir this year were Katie Abramowich, Jessie Bauer, Robbie Colville, Kyle Crilley, Matt Crilley, Michael DeSimone, Eva DiNino, Amanda Miller, Emily Oliver, Ariel Richter, Isaac Schmitt, Angie VanGorder and Heather VanGorder.

We thank these young people for their voices, talent and dedication.

Bell Choir Acknowledgements

The Bell Choir is an intergenerational choir which is very flexible. Not only do they play as a group for the "prelude" at least once a month, some also join in accompanying the other choirs when needed.

Those playing in the Bell Choir this year on a full time or part time schedule were Barb Barcoucky, Peter Barcoucky, Stacey Bednar, Laura Cranville, Jean Henderson, Leslie Miller, Sarah Miller, Sandy Stauffer, Bertie Werley, Adam Van Gorder, Dave Van Gorder, and Mary Van Gorder.

Do you notice the family connections in this list? Hint: it's a fun thing for family members to do together. We thank these members for their talent, time and dedication throughout the year.

Chancel Choir News

by Dave Anderson

June 1st will be the Chancel Choir's final Sunday before our summer vacation. It has been a wonderful choir season and I am most grateful to each person who has contributed their time and talents in furthering the vitality of the music of our church.

Without listeners, music is just physics. Listeners transform physics into art. I know that the music of CPCBA is appreciated and valued by you, the listeners. How do I know? You tell me. Every week Adda Ferguson, Betty Haughin, Andy Deen, Gene McBride, Paul Fitting, Ed and Sandy Stauffer, Nancy Hamilton, Lee Dillon and numerous others take a moment to express their appreciation for the music that was offered that morning. Nothing is as encouraging to me as these words of affirmation that the music we do touches you.

Lest you think that there will be no music until September, let me put that notion to rest. There will music aplenty offered by choir members, instrumentalists, including a stirring tuba solo, and invited guests. As we did last year, we will have two Sundays with the CPCBA pickup choir, in which anyone who has ever so much as wondered what it would be like to sing in a choir will meet an hour or so before church to quickly learn an easy anthem which will then be presented in the morning worship service. I must caution you that pickup choir carries with it the potential for addiction. Last year Leslie Allen sang one Sunday with the choir, and she hasn't missed a Sunday since.

A happy summer to yous, yinz, and y'all.

Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon Directory

Interim Pastor	Carol Divens Roth
Christian Education Director.....	Melanie Hughes-Holcomb
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries	Todd Tracy
Director of Music/Choir Director	David Anderson
Associate Music Director/Organist	Barbara McKelway
Administrative Assistant	Mary Susan Anderson
Clerk of Session	Peter Herchenroether
Treasurer	Ross Dillon
Trustees, President	Steve Mellon
Deacons, Chair.....	Andy Deen
Junior Church, Coordinator	Jan Davis
Wooden Ladder Preschool.....	Larry Skerlong
Financial Secretaries:.....	Barbara Barcoucky
.....	Chuck Hamilton
.....	Deb Sadowski
Web Masters	Susan and Marty Houser

Committee Chairs:

Christian Education	Clair Cranville
Fellowship & Evangelism	Nancy Hamilton
Nominating Committee.....	Jennifer Knuth
Outreach.....	Judy Hay, Kate Colville
Property.....	Andy Kolenda
Stewardship & Finance	Wendy Herchenroether
Worship	June Weletz

Deacon Comfort and Joy Contacts

(for meal assistance, transportation, grief support, etc.)
Patti Timpani (412-766-1645) or Daryl Johnson (412-766-0895)

Deacons Visitation Ministry

Woody Cunningham (412-761-7154) or Ed Stauffer (412-761-0704)

(Please help the Deacons share the concern of our community by letting us know whether you, or a friend or family member, would welcome a visit. Requests can be made to any Deacon.)

Church Office Hours are Monday-Friday—9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

† Phone: 412-761-1233; 412-766-1800 † Fax: (412) 766-1801 † E-mail: cpcba@verizon.net † Web site: www.cpcba.com
Chapel is open daily from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm for prayer and meditation.

**Community Presbyterian
Church of Ben Avon
Mission Statement:**

Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon aspires to a greater service of God through a ministry mindful of the needs of our congregants, neighbors and, through the Presbyterian Church (USA), the world community.

We actively bind together this community of Jesus Christ through warm fellowship, inspiring worship, nurture, learning and a long, rich tradition.

We are led by the Holy Spirit to use our abundant blessings and diverse talents progressively for evangelism, discipleship, stewardship and mission.

Revelations

Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon
7501 Church Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15202

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"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." Revelation 22:21



The Art of Waiting

- by Rev. Dr. Page L.D. Creach

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future and a hope." – Jeremiah 49:11

A lot of our lives are lived *waiting* for something and most of the time this is not the fun part. It is hard to wait for the reunion of loved ones; for the child to be born; for the hard work days to end; for the school year to be over; for the report to be done; for the warm weather to come; for the time long prepared for to arrive; for the relief to be delivered; for the party to begin.

What do you do in the meantime?

Jeremiah told the people that God had plans for their future good to be sure, but they would have to wait. However, Jeremiah counseled that God wanted them to live now *into* the time to come. He spelled this out for them in the forty-ninth chapter. They were to tend to their families and their relationships. They were to make plans for life together in the place where they were, and to pray for the present and future welfare of the community.

So as I *wait* for the great day of August 1, to begin as your pastor and to join you in God's work in this

community of faith and life, this is what I hope we will be doing also.

I want you to know that in this waiting time I am making plans to build on the good foundation that you have laid for the glory of God and the good of the world. I am contemplating who you are and discerning how you demonstrate Christ and grow in Christ where you are.

I am making plans to live with you: to raise my family with yours; to enter into new friendships with you; and to seek God together. I am making plans to enjoy worship with you; plans for Christian study that will help us grow up into Christ; and plans for a fellowship that others will want to join, saying: See how those Christians love one another! And I am praying for our future together.

Join me in the enthusiastic present that we have already begun. Plan and pray for our future work in the world that also waits for something good to happen tomorrow.

In Christian hope and love,
Page