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• June Block Party-Celebrating 50 Years of Service • Chaplaincy at PCRC • New Hanover UMC Youth Volunteers

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For more information visit: www.pottstowncluster.org

NEWSLETTER

A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO STRENGTHENING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE, ACTION AND KNOWLEDGE OF OUR MISSION



FALL 2017



PCRC enjoyed celebrating our 50 years of service in Pottstown at our June Block Party.

We are thankful to our sponsors: Dallas Fries, (pictured above, left), Wegman's, for supplying the hotdogs and Redner's for supplying our beverages. We thank Rainbow the Clown (pictured above, center) for joining us and making balloons for all the children. Thanks also to our community service partners: PEAK, Harris Family Ministries, Birthright and Wells Fargo for your participation.

A big thanks goes to all our staff for making the event a success: Kelli and Ryli Face painting, Josh, our resident DJ; Ryan, Jess and Ashley for running the games and Stephanie, Becca and Bryon our grillers.

It was a really fun day.

CURRENT CLUSTER NEEDS:

FOR THE DRY GOODS DEPARTMENT:

- laundry Detergent and all purpose cleaner (small containers)
- dish soap
- shampoo/conditioner
- paper towels
- twin and queen size sheets new/used (must be clean)
- blankets, comforters

FOR THE PANTRY DEPARTMENT:

- tomato products
- jelly
- canned soup
- canned fruit
- macaroni and cheese
- plastic bags
- egg cartons



For more information:
pottstowncluster.org
610.970.5995.

NEWS FROM PCRC BOARD PRESIDENT

Greetings to all.

We are making progress in our capital campaign fundraising efforts for 61 N. Franklin. Drawings have been submitted to the Borough and we are waiting to receive the permits to begin the HVAC and electrical work in the building and our plan is to have the two main mechanical renovations completed this September.

We are at 40% of the \$750,000 goal, so we still need your help. A gift of any amount is greatly appreciated. PCRC is depending on your assistance and generosity to open the Education and Administration Center. Please visit www.pottstowncluster.org to pledge your support, or fill out and return the enclosed pledge card.

Thank you for your support!

Mary Ann Glocker



NEW HANOVER UMC YOUTH

PCRC welcomed back over the summer the Youth Group from New Hanover United Methodist Church, Gilbertsville. The group spent a week at our **Outreach Center** accepting deliveries, stocking shelves, sorting food and clothes, pulling client orders in the pantry and assisting in the Dry Goods Department. Their visit gives our regular volunteers an opportunity to take some time off. We had a very energetic, hard-working and dedicated group that supported us during the week. **Thank you New Hanover UMC again for such an amazing job!**

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support in the work we do. As you will see in this newsletter, our programs and services continue to be strong, supporting many of our neighbors. We also continue to be blessed by the generous support of longtime friends to PCRC and are pleased to have opportunities to create new partners. We recently published our 2016 Annual report. If you are interested in seeing that report, you can find it on our website at www.pottstowncluster.org.

Our biggest project at this time is the renovation project of 61 N. Franklin Street. We are excited about the prospect of seeing the use of that property on the horizon and are grateful to your support for the educational and support opportunities we will be able to offer from that space. Please follow our progress on our website or on our Facebook page and help us to share our story. Thank you for all you do for us. **YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS.**

Barbara Unkley

THE CHAPLAINCY AT PCRC

The **Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities** accomplishes its mission through interfaith cooperation. The PCRC provides tangible services, support and spiritual guidance to address the basic needs of persons within and beyond the Greater Pottstown Area.

One way that PCRC serves the needs of the community is through the chaplaincy. This team consists of volunteers who minister to the needs of those the PCRC serves. The chaplains come from different churches, faiths and backgrounds. It is this mix of experience and faith that provides a rich resource for those who are seeking spiritual guidance or perhaps prayer or someone to simply listen. Many times, these faithful servants are called to speak words of comfort to those who severely lack the comfort that so many of us receive from the many resources which are available to us. The chaplains are there to share God's love in order to transform the face of anguish to a countenance of peace in the midst of many personal storms.

The chaplaincy department, as it continues to grow and expand has a mission of making a greater impact through interfaith collaboration with the worship centers in the Pottstown Community through prayer, support, referrals, resources, spiritual counseling, and education. The chaplains and the staff of PCRC work together to create a place of safety and where individuals and families can come to share their struggles without judgments. It is also a place where individuals and families can come to recognize the importance of faith and use their gifts and talents to help other community members.

We see each person with whom we have the opportunity to speak as someone who is precious in God's sight. In so doing we realize that the chaplaincy at PCRC is just one piece of a person's spiritual journey. We depend on the many faith communities in the Pottstown region to carry on the ministry of caring for our neighbors who may be enduring many difficult and challenging situations and crises.

Our desire is to help the Pottstown community become a better place. The chaplains of the PCRC are committed to serving the community believing, that if we serve well those that have the least and have no ability to repay us in kind, we are the hands of God.

THANK YOU WE NEED YOUR HELP!
TO VOLUNTEER -
Please Contact Us At:
610.970.5995

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 7, 2017

5 to 10 pm
Annual Open Your Heart Fundraising Dinner
Sunnybrook Ballroom
tickets \$75

DECEMBER 1, 2017

5 pm
Sponsor Appreciation Event at Cluster Outreach Center
57 N. Franklin Street

For additional information
Call: **610.970.5995** or visit
www.pottstowncluster.org



BOSCOV'S AND VANGUARD

This summer PCRC was blessed to receive an awesome donation from Boscov's of brand new clothes for the pantry. Hundreds of clothing items for men, women and children came in which resulted in a total reorganization of the department.

Vanguard's **All Cans on Deck** fundraiser brought in 17,000 pounds of food to the pantry and Vanguard staff spent two days volunteering in the pantry, helping us to sort, stock and reorganize the pantry as a result of their donation.

THANK YOU BOSCOV'S AND VANGUARD!