

## **Volunteer of the Month - Asylum Hill Congregational Church**

As part of their celebration of their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and as a reminder of their historic ties to West Middle School and the Asylum Hill community, Asylum Hill Congregational Church has begun a campaign to establish a Volunteer Resource Center at West Middle School when they return to their newly renovated campus in June.

West Middle School is in the process of building community engagement strategies to help transform the school. Lynn Estey, principal of West Middle School, has identified a Volunteer Resource Center as one of the main ways of building this engagement.

With past help from their Love Hartford committee, the school secured its “community school” designation. A community school becomes the center of community life. It is open longer hours and provides a range of crucial resources to students and their families including after school programs, GED and ASL classes for adults, job readiness programs, financial literacy training and physical and mental health services. To do this the school will need a full time coordinator along with administrative support staff and a program budget.

AHCC is committed to leading the effort for this important project, including raising half of the funds needed and reaching out to other community partners to fund the remainder necessary for the launch of this important project. A broad base of support, both financial and personal is important. Any gift no matter how small is valued, and once the school is back many volunteers will be needed to contribute their efforts to the school and their families. For more information on how you can help, contact Ted Carroll at 860-206-5063 or [ted.carroll@leadershipgh.org](mailto:ted.carroll@leadershipgh.org)

For photos of the buildings progress go to