

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Peacemaker Banquet Highlights October 29, 2015

The second Peacemaker Banquet, held on October 29, was a delightful celebration of Peacemaking that happens day in and day out throughout the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee. The Outreach Committee recognized the work of peacemakers from 20 churches; this work includes: assistance to hungry and homeless people, providing a welcoming presence at worship, organizing outreach efforts and new church developments, activism, and so much more. Please see the list of Peacemakers below for more information.



Hunter Farrell, Director of PC(USA) World Mission, was our guest speaker. Hunter both thanked all present for fruitful work and encouraged those present to go even deeper when considering how to do the work of loving our neighbors. He noted that Presbyterians have a long tradition of missionaries going to 'the ends of the earth'. Currently, these Mission Co-Workers are engaged in work that is focused on the root causes of injustices which lead to poverty, violence, and powerlessness. World Mission's partners in 60+ countries encourage all to listen for and to tell stories of faith. Hunter encouraged us to support Mission Co-Workers with our mission dollars, to pray for them, and to partner with them in our individual church's mission work.



The committee wishes to thank Hillsboro Presbyterian for providing the beautiful setting and the wonderful food. Thanks are also due to participants of the Mission Fair: Nations Ministry Center, Tennesseans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, the PMT Guatemala Partnership, PC(USA) Hunger Action, Society of St. Andrews, Bread for the World, Crop Hunger Walk, PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteers, and Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance.

The Peacemakers who were honored are listed below:



**Laura Litchfield**, East Brentwood Presbyterian Church, Brentwood

As a regular ESL volunteer at Nueva Vida for many years, Laura is the driving force that connects East Brentwood with this church. Laura and EBPC are leading an initiative to secure funds for Nueva Vida to purchase playground equipment for youth and children.

**Claudia Kan**, First Presbyterian Church, Brentwood

As treasurer, Claudia serves as a vital part of the ministry of Brentwood First Church. She has overseen a doubling of mission support in the budget, to a percentage of 15%, making sure that all budgeted mission projects are adequately funded. Her sweet spirit is a true witness to God's presence.

**Judy Lowe and Bill Hutton**, First Presbyterian Church, Clarksville

Judy has long been involved in PC(USA) missions, helping FPC to become a green and responsible church. She has assisted in raising awareness of fair trade and Medical Benevolences. Bill is very active in local outreach, serving on the service committee and regularly helping with Room in the Inn, working with many of the men who stay at the church.

**Dan Garman**, First Presbyterian Church, Columbia

Dan has been serving as Project Manager for the Boys and Girls Club during an extensive renovation. His hours of hard work and leadership for the past 12 months are helping to set a new course for this organization.

**The Rev. Jeffery Kane**, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Columbia

Jeffery works for peace through the church and the community, working with area pastors, government officials, and other community leaders helping to break down barriers which prevent people from working together. WPC's Compass program works with 'at risk' teenagers identified in the judicial system, encouraging them to learn how to make decisions which will lead to rewarding lives.

**Jenn Ulschak**, First Presbyterian Church, Cookeville

With a career as a professional sign language interpreter, Jenn has interpreted for the Islamic Society of North America at their national conferences, as well as at Christian events focused on peace and social justice. As director of FPC's Peace Camp and VBS, Jenn made peace relevant to the 50 children who attended, bringing the concept of global peace to the children's level.

**Margie and Bob Gray**, First Presbyterian Fayetteville

Margie and Bob are long-term volunteers who have served in many areas. They have been church youth leaders, travelled with Living Waters to Guatemala several times, and worked locally to distribute food, clothing, and utility assistance.

**Dianne Cothran**, First Presbyterian Church, Gallatin

Dianne has been a 'bridge builder' in FPC's congregation and a tireless volunteer with children, teens, Christian Education, and mission. She has, and continues to, provide excellent Christian Leadership.

**Tut Kailiech Lam**, Sudanese-American Nuer Presbyterian Church, Gallatin

Tut has demonstrated faithful leadership in the Sudanese Church's Youth Initiative Program. He is an effective mentor to the youth, helping with homework and engaging youth in conversations concerning their faith and futures. Tut is a church volunteer in many ways.

**Adrienne Johnson**, First Presbyterian Church, Lebanon

Adrienne has and continues to work tirelessly in coordinating FPC's participation in the Compassionate Hands program which houses homeless women and children during the winter months.

**Kathy Corlew**, First Presbyterian Church, Murfreesboro

Kathy is a long time member of FPC's mission committee and the current chair of the Outreach Committee for PMT and member of its Guatemala committee. She has travelled with mission teams to Nicaragua, Guatemala, and South Dakota. She has helped to bring a fair trade event to FPC and assisted with Project Joy.

**Inez Gunnell**, Northminster Presbyterian Church, Murfreesboro

Inez is a charter member and Deacon of Northminster. She regularly helps local needy families financially and physically, buying food, medicines, furniture, and assisting with transportation.

**Michael Arwood**, Downtown Presbyterian Church, Nashville

Michael frequently serves as greeter at DPC on Sunday mornings, welcoming members and visitors alike to worship. He leads tours of the church as part of downtown Nashville's art crawl, introducing them to the historic building and community. He is the embodiment of peace and welcome to countless people stepping through the church's doors.

**Terry Appenzeller**, Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, Nashville

Terry has volunteered and been a leader in many ways at Emmanuel PC since joining in 2007. He has volunteered with Helping Hands (now known as GraceWorks West), connecting the church to neighbors, and ensuring the future health and growth of this mission effort.

**Tony McMahon**, Glenclyff Presbyterian Church, Nashville

Tony serves as RE and Chair of the Hispanic NCD committee. He works with the Hispanic Fellowship, watching children during ESL classes, cooking and helping with fellowship time. As a volunteer, Tony always says 'yes' to any job at GPC.

**Penn Cobb**, Hillsboro Presbyterian Church, Nashville

Penn is a long time peacemaker with a passion for underserved peoples. He worked to bring joy to folks in nursing homes by bringing animals from shelters for visits. Penn provides transportation for men at Room in the Inn, bringing them to worship on Sundays and ensuring that they have necessary personal care items. He has served as a 'grandfather' to children, and bakes pies for Wednesday night fellowships. Penn is a true Peacemaker!

**Tom and Marijo Westermeir**, Old Hickory Presbyterian Church, Nashville

Tom and Marijo are faithful volunteers in all mission projects at Old Hickory. They have worked with the Youth of the church and in the tutoring program helping underprivileged children, as well as the summer Children's Program.

**Kathy Ianni**, Second Presbyterian Church, Nashville

Kathy is a certified ESL instructor who has worked for many years with refugee students at Overton High School. In addition to teaching, she often helps their families with transportation and other needs. She has also been a multi-year chair of SPC's Outreach Committee.

**John K. Folger**, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Nashville

John is an activist with a long history of serving. In addition to being an active supporter of the Martha O'Bryan Center, he was instrumental in forming the Greater Nashville Chapter of Habitat for Humanity, and serving Habitat at the state level. John and his wife are currently working to solve food injustice problems in underserved parts of Nashville.

**J. B. Smith**, First Presbyterian Church, Pulaski

J.B.'s dedication to peacemaking is evident in all areas of his life. As a principal and interim Director of Schools, he worked to address needs of students and teachers. As a church member, J.B. has worked with Living Waters for the World and Solar Under the Sun in Haiti.

He has completed the Sun Solar 2 training and is FPC's primary person supporting Haiti installations.