



Adopt-an-Angel Program



The deacons have just completed helping the Salvation Army with the Adopt-an-Angel program. Genevans fulfilled 123 requests. The Adopt-an-Angel program helps families realize Christmas wishes that otherwise would have been very bleak.

As we move into the new year your deacons will continue to serve our Geneva families. Another class of deacons will come on board in May and will be offering their energies in God's service.

2011 was a very challenging year for our nation as well as some of our Geneva families. Job worries and financial concerns have touched many of our friends and families yet God continues to bless his children with the really important needs of their souls. May the Lord bless and keep all of his children throughout the coming year.

In God's service, Alan and Linda Prince

Boxing Night Event Brings in the Donations for Homeless Ministry

Eight high school youth and several adult advisors stayed outside all night in the church parking lot the night after Christmas for our annual Boxing Night tradition. The weather this year wasn't too cold, though it started raining, then snowing, around 6:00 AM. For the 17th year, the high school youth group has participated in this very cold activity to raise awareness for the homeless situation in the Detroit area. This overnight event kicks off an almost-three week period this year of collecting warm clothing, coats, blankets and toiletries for Fort Street Presbyterian Church's Open Door Ministry.

The youth had several visitors during the activity. Ben Ogden of Open Door Ministry came to talk to the group about homelessness in Detroit. He led a discussion about how hard it is to be homeless and what agencies and organizations are around to help. Dave Willerup, former Geneva Pastoral Intern and now pastor at Nottingham Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania was in town and came by as well. It was during Dave's stint as Intern that Geneva's Boxing Night tradition started. He told us about how the event began at Geneva and shared stories about the past. Several Geneva families showed up that night with donations, as well as hot chocolate, cookies and even McDonalds to encourage the youth. The event also attracted the local media to the scene, which brought more attention to our cause. Channels 2 and 4 brought film crews and the youth were featured on several news programs. Many Boxing Night alumni showed up throughout the night to offer support and encouragement to the high schoolers. Many of them had tales to tell of the Boxing Nights they attended. At 2:00 AM, a two-hour "no talking" rule starts, and no one may speak. The kids really get a sense of what a homeless person might be going through at this point, when they are bored, and tired, and cold. After a week of collecting donations the youth room was half full of bags and bags of clothing, blankets and coats. Many thanks to those of you who encouraged the youth and supported their mission. Your generosity to this effort is very much appreciated.

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Boxing Night Event cont.

The donations will be collected through January 13 and we'll take them to Fort Street on Saturday, January 14.



Michelle, Travis, Beth, Madelyn and Steven trying to stay warm during Boxing Night



Billy settles in for the evening during Boxing Night

SAVE THE DATE AND START THINKING ABOUT DONATIONS!

The annual youth fundraising dinner and auction will be held on Saturday, March 31, 2011. We will begin collecting auction donations the first week of February. We'd love it if you could donate new items, certificates for services or restaurants, or artwork! All profits from the night will be used to send 8 middle school youth, 6 high school plus 6 advisors to Cincinnati, OH and Washington, DC this summer! Thanks for your support of our youth missions.

A WARM THANK YOU

To Pastor Smith and the entire blessed staff and congregation of Geneva Presbyterian:
This card is from an individual who has been touched by your generosity. I am a member of AA and through your church -- it is my home group. It amazes me beyond words that you have let a group of drunks be in your church for 26 years. The church I grew up in shunned people like me from their congregations. I left feeling God hated me (still do). However being in your church I can see the possibility of God loving me. I feel peace and serenity here. Your staff is truly sent by God. Thank you for the gifts you have extended by the hand of God. No matter what happens or where I end up, I will always speak very highly of your church. It shows the hand of God everywhere. Thank you so much for your acceptance and understanding of people who are not perfect -- something my old church will never be able to do.
From a grateful and humbled friend.

Geneva's Mission

We are a church that has been drawn together by God to:
Embody the fullness of Christ; *Exalt* God through Christ-centered worship;
Edify each other in the faith through Godly nurture and Christian love; *Equip* God's people to Engage the world with Spirit-empowered ministry.

Geneva Presbyterian Church (USA)
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The Geneva Gems is published 11 times a year to keep members and friends informed of programs and events of the church. Article submissions should be received by the 25th of the month. E-mail articles to Denise Barkume at genevagems@genevachurch.org or place it in the Geneva Gems mailbox.

January

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Jan 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10am Worship		7:30pm Nominating Committee 7:45pm Men's Group	6pm Prayz Team 7pm AA (F)	3:30pm Angel (WA)		
8 10am Worship 7pm Session (F)	9 6:45pm Habitat Meeting (L) 7pm Deacons	10 12pm Lunch Bunch 7:45pm Men's Group	11 6pm Prayz Team 7pm AA (F) 7:30pm Women's Bible Study (LH)	12 1pm Band	13 9am Session	14
15 8:30am Worship 9:45am Education Hour 11am Worship 6pm Bowling	16 10am Staff Meeting (L) 7pm Children's Ministry Team	17 7:45pm Men's Group	18 6pm Prayz Team 7pm AA (F) 7:30pm Women's Bible Study (LH)	19 1pm Band	20 1pm Lindsey Anderson Ordination	21
22 8:30am Worship 9:45am Education Hour 11am Worship	23	24 7:45pm Men's Group	25 6pm Prayz Team 7pm AA (F) 7:30pm Women's Bible Study (LH)	26 1pm Band	27	28
29 8:30am Worship 9:45am Education Hour 11am Worship 12:30pm Congregational Luncheon 1pm Congregational Meeting (W) 6pm Bowling	30	31 7:45pm Men's Group	Feb 1 6pm Prayz Team 7pm AA (F) 7:30pm Women's Bible Study (LH)	2 1pm Band 6:30pm First Friday (LH)	3	4

Current Elders on Session

Worship / Education

Children - Cindy Revezzo

Youth - Dan Degener

Adult Discipleship- Dave McCreedy

Worship - Cindy Thomas

Clerk of Session - Cindy Thomas

Local Mission - Sandy Stoecklein

Global Mission - Bill Stuart

Fellowship - Jackie Van Netta

Hospitality - Keith Christenson

Stewardship - Chuck Ten Broeck

Membership - Cindy Foley

Property - Stu Delaney



DEACONS

JULIE GRAUNSTADT -

MARILYN GARDNER -

SARAH CLAY -

MARILYN HOREN -

JACKIE MARCHEWKA -

DAVE & ROSEMARY -
LESLIE

JOHN & ROBIN WOLSKI-

ALAN & LINDA PRINCE -

VIRGINIA KENNEDY -

FAMILIES

ADEDEJI-BRUSKI

BUNCH- DAUBENMEYER

DEGENER-FRANKS

FRIEDOW-HARRIS

HARRY-LESLIE

LOWMASTER-OSTASIEWICZ

PASKIEWICZ-SANTTI

SCHENKEL-TERRILL/SPRAGUE

THOMAS-YANG/BUU

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