



MCC Material Resource Center



*Sharing God's Love
in the name of Jesus Christ*

www.mcc-harleysville.org

Newsletter - Spring 2010

Material Resource Center Coordinator



MRC Coordinator - Sharon Swartzentruber

On April 12, 2010, the MCC Material Resource Center (MRC) Board of Directors voted to hire Sharon Swartzentruber as the first MRC Coordinator. She is employed 25 hours per week coordinating the activities of the entire operation at the new location at Hagey Center Drive. She will work in coordination and cooperation with Steve Halteman, who was hired in 2009, and who will continue in the position of warehouse manager.

Sharon brings much valuable experience with Mennonite Central Committee to this task. From 2008-2009, she directed the work of volunteers at Cumberland Valley Relief Center. From 1990 to 1997, Sharon and her husband, Conrad, served with Mennonite Central Committee in Indonesia, first as community development workers and then as co-country representatives. She has also been a Tour Group Leader for MCC trips from the US to Laos, Cambodia, Indonesia and Sri Lanka and served on the MCC U.S. Board of Directors and Executive Committee, as well as the MCC East Coast Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Her most recent assignment with MCC, just prior to coming to MRC, was to head up the quilt auction at the Pennsylvania Relief Sale in Harrisburg this spring.

Other items on her resume include substitute teaching in grades K through high school, teaching conflict resolution skills and facilitating group activities with middle school girls in McConnellsburg, PA and Frederick, MD. Sharon is a graduate of Morehead State University, Morehead, KY. Sharon and her husband have three sons and live in Sellersville, PA.



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MRC Coordinator

Sharon Swartzentruber

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Contact Information

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www.mcc-harleysville.org
Newsletter by Leinbach Design

Make a Difference!



Sharing God's Love in the name of Jesus Christ

Open House Invitation

Stop by and visit the new
MCC Material Resource Center
during our Open House

Saturday, June 5, 2010

2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Dedication at 2:00 p.m.

Light refreshments

737 Hagey Center Drive, Unit C
Souderton, PA
(just next to Hagey's Bus Service)



MCC Material Resource Center

Sharing God's Love in the name of Jesus Christ

Your donation, large or small, is important to fulfilling our overall mission of providing disaster relief, building stronger communities and encouraging peace. Send your gift of \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500 or whatever you feel led to give to:

MCC Material Resource Center of Harleysville
737 Hagey Center Drive - Unit C
Souderton, PA 18964

Make checks payable to MCC Material Resource Center of Harleysville.



Recycling

MRC is accepting corrugated cardboard for recycling. Cardboard can be dropped off at our new location, Monday thru Friday from 9 am to 3 pm.

Upcoming Event



Learn to sew this Kaleidoscope scrap wallhanging at our October Class. More information coming.

Building Campaign

God has blessed us with a new location. It's amazing how much can be achieved when people like you join together with MRC to bring change to the world.

However, we still need your financial gift to help complete our building campaign.

Your generous giving to our building fund offers us to fulfill new hope in the name of Christ to families and communities around the world. Give a gift & make a difference.

“Why Knot!” Week at West Swamp Mennonite

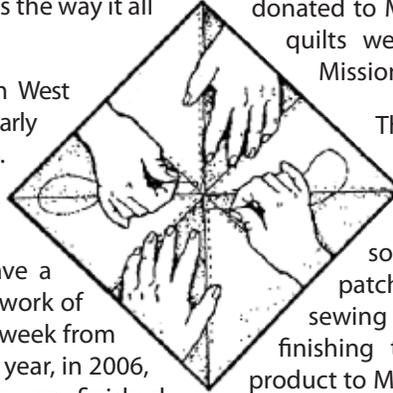
Every year for the last five years, Mennonite Central Committee has been the recipient of many beautiful comforters made during a week-long event held at West Swamp Mennonite Church. This is the way it all began.

Sometime in the 1980's, women from West Swamp Mennonite began meeting regularly to prepare and knot comforters. Unfinished comforters accumulated – at one point to a height of 30 feet!

It was then that they decided to have a marathon type of event whereby the work of making comforters would happen all week from 9 in the morning until 9 at night! That year, in 2006, one hundred and forty-five comforters were finished in one week.

West Swamp's quilter's records go back to 1949 when records identified that a quilt was made. Although it

did not state whether that quilt was sent to MCC, it was the beginning of a good thing. Later records indicate that 25 quilts were donated to MCC in 1973. That same year, 22 quilts were made during a Women in Missions Work Day.



This year's "Why Knot" event was held from March 22-29. Many women, men and teens contribute to this project by sorting fabrics, ironing, cutting patches, sewing them together, sewing backs, knotting the comforters, finishing the edges and delivering the product to MCC Ephrata or Harleysville Material Resource Centers.

Good job, West Swamp!! Many persons around the world will be warmed and blessed.

Chinese Students Learn About Volunteering

Martha Stern was once a missionary nurse, having served in Africa for 34 years. These days she is a missionary of another kind – living and working at Philadelphia House, a residence for International Students, who attend St. Joe's University. Many of the students are part of an exchange program from China's Nanjing University.

Martha decided she would like to show these students what volunteerism in America is like. She has been bringing 6 to 8 students to the Material

Resource Center where they help to assemble and check kits and also knot comforters.

Leo, one of the students, is a new Christian and leads a Bible Study at International House. He is delighted to help us process items that will serve others worldwide.

Thanks, Martha and students, for allowing the Material Resource Center to be a place where all can be helpers in making this world a better place to live.

MRC Happenings

- Annual Oyster Lover's Express trip - over 135 people traveled by motorcoach to Tilghman Island, Maryland, to enjoy eastern shore oysters prepared a dozen different ways at the Harrison's Chesapeake House. If oysters are not your "thing" you can join the group anyway, there are a lot of other choices on the buffet!
- Oyster Dinner 2010 - Mark October 23, 2010 at 6:30 pm down in your calendar for our annual Oyster Dinner to be held at Christopher Dock High School. The Oyster Dinner Committee is excited at the potential to host 300 this year.
- Three quilts were donated to the PA Relief Sale.
- In April, 2 tons of cardboard was baled for recycling.
- In April, 600 health kits, 168 relief kits, 108 comforters were sent to MCC.
- Over the last 12 months, 20 churches have contributed 1,041 grocery bags for distribution by Philadelphia Churches.
- A truckload of clothing, shoes and purses was sold and are being sent overseas.
- Kit bags and comforter patches can be cut and/or sewed by volunteers at MRC or at home. Please contact Dorothy Detweiler at the MRC.
- Finished kit bags can be picked up at the MRC to be filled with school kit or health kit items.