



GA Vice-Moderator Visits Presbytery

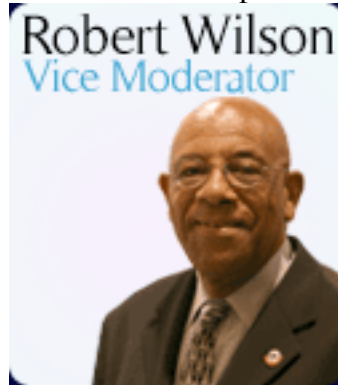
By The Rev. John Hall, Commissioner 217th General Assembly

On May 24th, Elder Robert Wilson, vice-moderator of the 217th General Assembly of the PC USA joined 20 members of the PNNY at the Potsdam PC for lunch.

Wilson addressed the denomination's strengths and the challenges it faces. He saw strengths in its rich Reformed tradition, history and connectionalism.

Among the challenges facing our denomination, Mr. Wilson spoke of reaching the 190 million unchurched individuals in

the United States. He pointed out that we could more than make up



for the membership loss due to churches leaving the denomination if we could but bring in a small fraction of those who are

unchurched in our midst.

He also brought up restructuring the denomination at both the national and regional levels as funds are dwindling due in part to churches who withhold funds for both per capita and mission. There are also 20 to 25 churches in the process of leaving or seriously considering leaving the denomination.

For info on Mr. Wilson and his background go to: <http://www.pcusa.org/gamoderator/robert.htm>



**Malawi
Youth Choir
Coming
June & July**

12 young adults, their Choir Director Grace Chiumia, Pastor Norman Harra and his wife Elizabeth will be sharing the good news of Jesus Christ from June 24 – July 24th.

1. Mzuzu Youth Choir Color Posters: www.oldfirstchurchbenn.org/mzuzu.html
2. Malawi Choir Visit Coordinator: Fred Garry at (315) 782-1750 or fpcfred@twcny.rr.com

Mississippi Mission Trip

On April 14th 12 team members from Chipman, Potsdam, Ogdensburg and Canton left for the third "Drop-in-the-Bucket" Mission trip to the Gulf Coast. They stayed in the Handsboro PC hall fitted with plywood bunks, outdoor showers and use of a common kitchen. The team worked on mudding and sanding sheetrock, removing debris, installing siding on the parsonage. Some members are interviewing homeowners for future work projects.

The most important element for both volunteers and homeowners was the human contact, and the need for the homeowners to tell their story of Katrina. A common theme heard was "thank you for being here."



Teams came from many States

A fourth trip plans to return to Gulf Port on October 14th. Dick Paradis of the Ogdensburg PC is the Team Leader. 🌿

Projects That Need Your Help

1. MINC Emergency Fund

The MINC Emergency Fund helps people whose homes are in such disrepair that heating them is a challenge or when people have to choose between heating and eating.

MINC, a resource after all other avenues have been exhausted, is funded exclusively by donations. Outreach Workers, Janet Campbell and Sheryl Evans, receive phone calls from individuals asking for help, often after having been referred by other agencies



With your help
MNC can keep
the children in
this house warm

In 2006, the Fund disbursed \$13,897.41. 40% was spent on fuel, 22 % on electric bills, and the remainder on food, medicine, water bills and a huge variety of needs. 🌿

2. Project Homecoming



Photo by Deborah Corrao

The Presbytery of South Louisiana is seeking skilled and licensed volunteers to come to New Orleans this summer to assist in rebuilding. Adults (18 and over) can make arrangements to stay at the PDA volunteer village to work with Project Homecoming. Please read the attached release and forward it to anyone interested.

Thanks for your commitment to the rebuilding of New Orleans. Contact Deborah Corrao: deb@pslrecovery.org 🌿