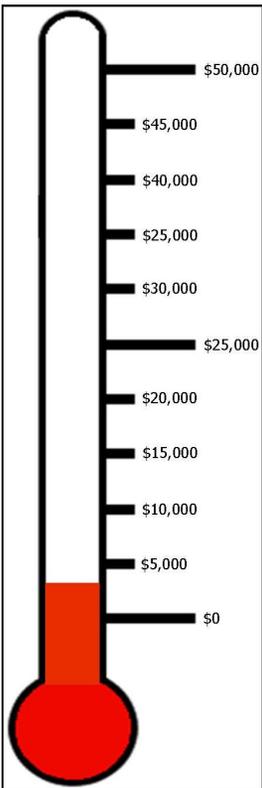


# “The Houses that Joy & Peace Built” Newsletter

January 2012 Volume 2, Issue 1



## THE VOTES ARE IN!!!!

June 2012 may be the highlight of the entire year as the Faith Community will join together with Greater Erie Area Habitat for Humanity and construct **TWO** houses, side-by-side and complete all the work in only 21 days! This will be a first time event, not to be missed!



Together with over 40 churches represented and more than 300 volunteers each year, we have successfully completed “The House that Faith Built” in 2009, “The House that Hope Built” in 2010 and “The House that Love Built” in 2011. Each of these houses was built in only 21 days and now is the home to a wonderful family. Planning is currently underway for our next themed accelerated builds taking place in June 2012.

If you missed the big announcement, the votes are in!!! Next years’ builds will be “The House that Joy Built” and “The House that Peace

Built.” This year we plan to finish our work in the neighborhood of Elm & East 23<sup>rd</sup> Streets by building **TWO** houses side-by-side in just 21 days on our remaining 2 lots. This means in 2013 we will be going to a new neighborhood.

Now is the time to get your church involved! We are anxiously awaiting your church’s confirmation to participate in this year’s builds. Please make sure to get your church commitment sheet back to the Habitat office as soon as possible. If you need a copy of the commitment sheet, please contact Britney at [britney@habitateerie.org](mailto:britney@habitateerie.org).

To help **TWO** families this June we are going to need double the prayers, double the volunteers and double the treasure. Our goal for the combined faith community is to contribute half of the cost of materials to build the two houses. This year it means \$50,000. It’s a lot of money but by the grace of God, we will get what we need to purchase the building materials. Thanks to Christmas mission gifts, \$3,530 or 47% of the foundation cost for one house has been raised. Our goal for Feb./March is \$11,470 so we can excavate and build a secure foundation for Joy & Peace. Please consider holding a fundraiser or contributing a financial gift toward our goal! If you are able to hold a fundraiser, please let the Habitat office know. We would be happy to promote and attend any events. Lets change the lives of two families this year!! Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

## HABITAT ERIE SELECTED FOR THRIVENT BUILDS GRANT

Greater Erie Area Habitat for Humanity learned recently that it has been awarded \$34,375 to build one home in Erie.

This grant, providing 55 percent of the cost of construction, comes from Minneapolis-based Thrivent Financial for Lutherans’ unique partnership with Habitat for Humanity International: Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity. The 2012 commitment will fund the construction and rehabilitation of 142 Habitat for

Humanity homes in 32 U.S. states, including one home built by Greater Erie Area Habitat in Erie, PA.

“The Thrivent Builds alliance is helping Greater Erie Area Habitat increase the number of families served in our community,” said Nancy Milkowski, Executive Director “We are so grateful for Thrivent’s support of our efforts to provide decent, affordable homes in partnership with families in need.”

“The House that Joy Built” will be the house funded in part by the Thrivent Builds Grant. This is the second “Faith Build” to receive one of these grants. To find out more about Thrivent Builds and all their great work, please visit their website, [www.thriventbuilds.com](http://www.thriventbuilds.com).



## WANT MORE HABITAT UPDATES?

Check out our new website, [www.habitateerie.org](http://www.habitateerie.org)! We have launched a new website that is your connection to all Habitat happenings. Sign-up for our e-mail newsletter, keep up to date with upcoming events, check out our current projects and learn about our new families.

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