

**Western Wollega Bethel Synod/Susquehanna Valley Presbytery  
Partnership Agreement.**

Release by Partnership Sub-committee.

Another exciting, interesting and rewarding visit by representatives of our Partnership Synod in Ethiopia has come and gone.

New areas of our presbytery were able to host, meet and hear Rev. Teferi Barkesa, a familiar face to many of us, Rev. Woreti Gelalcha, respectively President and Secretary of the Western Wollega Bethel Synod (WWBS) and Elder Gonfa Negassa, our first female visitor.

They brought with them reports and evidence of the fruits of our capital campaign of 2001 which was so successful thanks to the wonderful and generous response of so many churches and individuals of our Presbytery. The main thrust of that campaign was to build a multi purpose training center and provide radio communications between the Synod office in Dembi Dollo and outlying presbyteries in an essentially phone-less, road-less terrain.

Too much is happening and space lacking to do justice to the vibrancy and needs of this Partnership. To this end the Partnership Sub-committee is seeking to foster and boost the growing interest and relationship between individual churches, or groups of churches, within our own Susquehanna Valley Presbytery and sister presbyteries of WWBS. A committee member, or a participant of one of our own reciprocal visits will, by invitation, visit with your church members, young or old, bringing you up to-date news and information about this distinct and fascinating part of Africa where our charity dollars are both appreciated and well spent. Meantime, individual churches can strengthen their own bonds by directly communicating with their sister Presbyteries. Be warned, however, that language and lack of postal amenities can make this very difficult. The name of your sister presbytery is on the website under ***Ethiopian Partnership***. Each Clerk of Session and Pastor also received a hardcopy in the docket packet of March 2003. If you would like to know more about how to communicate with the presbyteries in the Western Wollega Bethel Synod please contact:- Peg Corwin at 607-785-0485.

The Partnership Sub-committee is also seeking new members to augment the committee and also replace several members who have moved out of State. If you are interested and want to know more, please contact Linda Allen at 607-433-1075 or the Presbytery office at 800-511-0086.