

## Report to Cabinet March, 2017

The Ethiopian Partnership team is now concentrating on the March 18 Presbytery meeting, where we are planning a 30 minute presentation from the Haspels. The Haspel[s] have a schedule of presentation in various Churches in Suquehanna Valley Presbytery, if you are not able to attend Presbytery perhaps you can make one of the other presentation.

Arriving on Thursday: coffee and dessert time at Union Endicott

Friday morning: gathering for coffee hour.

Friday evening: dinner in Oneonta with the 2 combining churches.

Saturday: Presbytery & EPMT meeting with the Haspels

Sunday: 10 service at Northminster

Sunday: Lenten Luncheon Owego Presby.

John and Gwen Haspels are children of missionaries (Charles and Lois Haspels and Bill and Martha Adair) and grew up in Ethiopia and Sudan. They met at boarding school in Egypt. Both attended Sterling College, Sterling, KS. John went on to get his Master of Divinity from Fuller Theological Seminary. Gwen received her diploma in nursing and they were married in 1970. The next 40 years were spent in mission work in South Sudan and Ethiopia. The last 20 years were spent with the Suri and Suri-Baale tribes of southwest Ethiopia. They have 4 children ( 3 working in mission) and 14 grandchildren. In October 2014 John and Gwen were wounded in a shooting on a remote road in Ethiopia as they traveled to a work site among the Suri-Baale. After care in South Africa they returned to the US for further treatment. They have been part of a ministry of forgiveness and reconciliation. John has returned 8 times to encourage the church among the Suri and Suri-Baale and Gwen was able to return in Oct. 2016 to see and be seen by the Suri and Suri-Baale people. God continues his work to grow the church in this remote part.

The Committee is also inviting anyone who may be interested attending the Ethiopian Mission Network Meeting in Monongahela, Pennsylvania, from May 4<sup>th</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup> to let us know so that we can register them. Please contact a member of the committee to get more information.