



# IHOC Monthly News

Volume VIII, Issue XI

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The past summer and fall have been a roller coaster ride for those of us who were looking forward to restarting the Hospitality Network. The good news was that even in the face of uncertainties quite a few congregations were willing to commit to being host sites. So, at first even though we were not sure we could get a full complement of congregations for the usual November to May Network, we seriously considered having the Network even if it had to be a shorter version. However, it eventually became clear that we would have to cancel our plans for two major reasons. The first was the problem of where we would house men who became sick with Covid. Even if we could find a congregation that would be willing to set aside one or two rooms to accommodate sick men, we would still have to find and pay one or more individuals to provide 24-hour supervision and we would also have to find a way to provide sick clients with three meals a day. We just could not figure out how to do this.

The second problem is the fact that it takes a minimum of 6 to 7 months obtain housing for clients who are unable to reunite with family members. A Network of less time would mean that we would probably have to turn some Network clients

However, despite having to cancel the Network for 2022 -2023 we are hoping to be able to start the Network up again in November of 2023 and we will be working hard to make that possible. IHOC is also continuing to look for a property that we can use as another transitional house, and we are in negotiations to purchase a property that looks promising.

Finally, please remember to keep us and the men, women and children currently experiencing homelessness in your prayers.



## IHOC JOINS ST. MICHAEL'S CONSERVATION EFFORTS



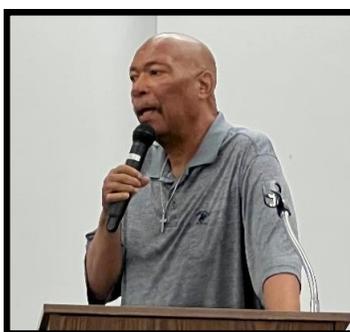
102 Chapel Ave, the site of IHOC's Transitional House, has been certified by National Wildlife as a wildlife habitat! The property is now home to two pollinator gardens and several bird feeders because St. Michael's Lutheran Church is now part of a national effort to save native birds and insects from extinction due to loss of habitat. The gardens are planted with flowering plants native to New Jersey. These plants which provide food for native birds and insects have to a large degree been replaced by ornamental flowers and shrubs which do not produce the kind of seeds and flowers needed by these birds and insects. The extra seed provided in the feeders also helps feed both New Jersey natives and migratory birds on their journeys North in the spring and South in the fall.

Our clients at 102 say that they enjoy watching the birds and have even helped to keep the feeders full of seed. St Michael's has just added a wildlife camera to one of the trees, so we will be able to share pictures of some of visitors in our next newsletter.

## “A Taste of Hope”

After two years of virtual events, IHOC was finally able to hold an in-person dinner on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was a beautiful night. The weather was perfect, St. Mary's Social Hall was beautifully decorated in fall colors and the food was delicious. The music was delightfully nostalgic and danceable. As a result, everyone had a wonderful time. Thanks to Jean Astmann for the decorations, Gary Miller, our caterer, for dinner, Tortilla Press for appetizers, Kevin and Yvette Peterson for the music, Charles Van Horn for bringing the Petersons to us, Tis So Sweet, Paula Williams and Joan Nehlig for desserts, Paula Williams, Rachel Cicalese and Sonya Jacobs for handling the tickets and reservations. Finally special thanks go to Milton Murchison and Bill Lowrey for sharing their stories.

Here are some photos of the evening taken by Cara Gaehrig.



### In Memory of Tammy M. Dixon

Tammy Dixon, Sonya Jacobs' sister died after a prolonged illness on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sonya has shared the following details of the planned memorial service.

Condolences can be sent to Sonya and the Dixon family at 10 Parsons Court, Erial, New Jersey, 08081

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF OUR BELOVED...

ELDER TAMMY M. **DIXON**  
WIFE · MOTHER · SISTER · FRIEND

SHE WAS AWARDED ETERNAL LIFE ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2022.

THE MEMORIAL SERVICE WILL BE HELD  
NOVEMBER 11, 2022 AT 6PM  
AT THE PERFECTING CHURCH  
274 DELSEA DRIVE  
SEWELL, NJ 08080

*the Family*

The announcement features a large portrait of Elder Tammy M. Dixon in a golden frame, surrounded by a group photo of her family. The background is purple with a white floral pattern.