

**WANTED:**

**CHURCH PLANTER**

**URBAN  
SCHENECTADY, NY**

Schenectady County, New York

**NEW YORK STATE  
PRESBYTERY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN  
AMERICA**

The Elder Street/Becker Street neighborhood is situated in the heart of Schenectady, NY, located in New York's Capital District, which comprises about one-million people.

The neighborhood is made up of diverse ethnic groups which include Caucasians, African Americans, Guyanese, Hispanics and others. We desire to create the first of many cross cultural PCA church plants in the Capital region of New York whose membership reflects the diverse ethnic groups living in the communities where they are planted.

Schenectady had its heyday in the mid 1900's and peaked at a population of 90,000. With a current population of a little over 60,000, Schenectady is now experiencing a modest social revival in which we hope to play a part.

Union College, the oldest planned college campus in the United States, is in close proximity. Ellis hospital is also nearby, and a substantial bus fleet opens up Schenectady, even without a car.

Central Park, located within easy walking distance, is the crown of Schenectady's numerous parks. It is situated at the highest elevation point in the city, and features an acclaimed rose garden, Iroquois Lake, and a stadium tennis court.

#### **Our Goal**

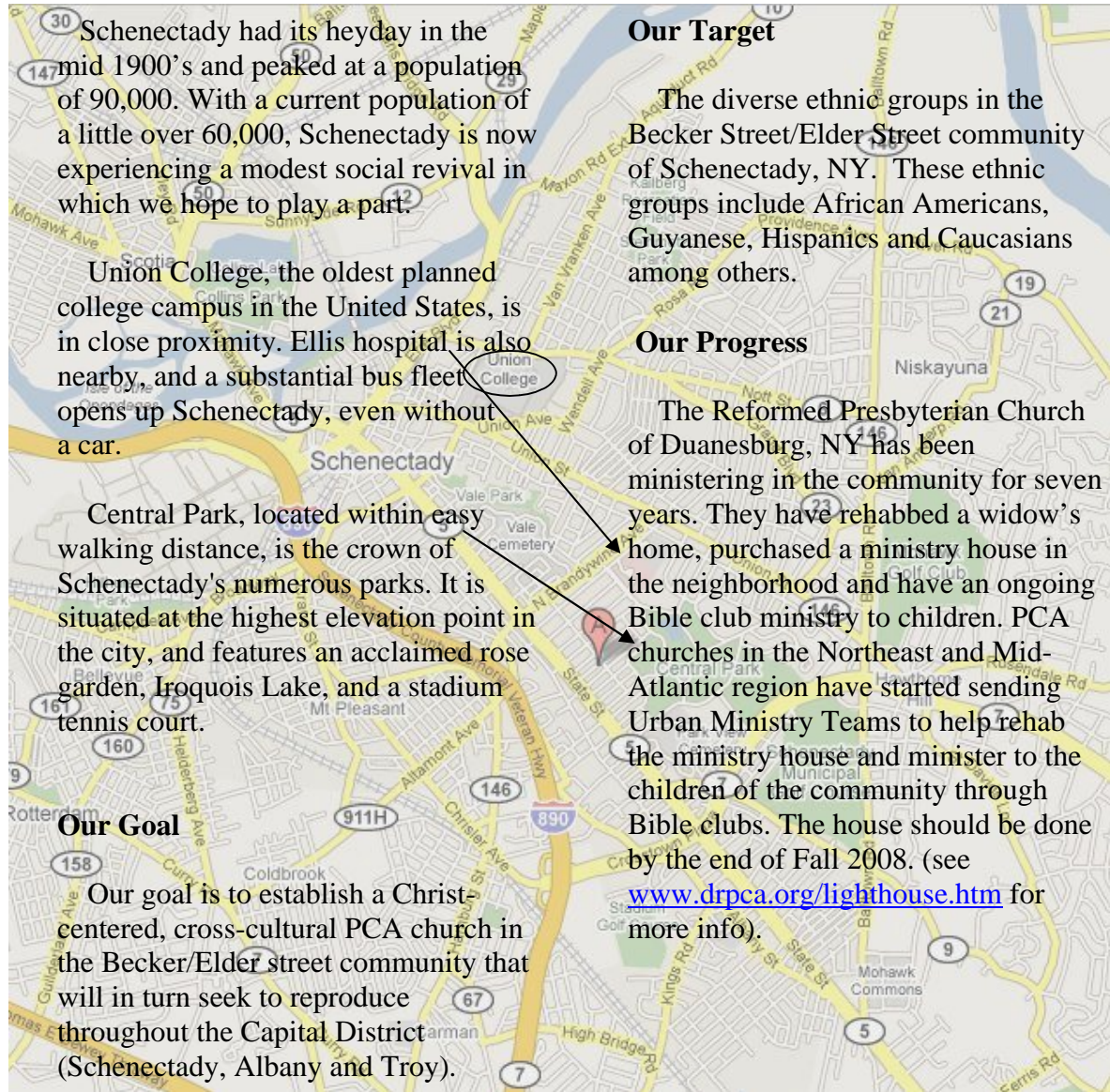
Our goal is to establish a Christ-centered, cross-cultural PCA church in the Becker/Elder street community that will in turn seek to reproduce throughout the Capital District (Schenectady, Albany and Troy).

#### **Our Target**

The diverse ethnic groups in the Becker Street/Elder Street community of Schenectady, NY. These ethnic groups include African Americans, Guyanese, Hispanics and Caucasians among others.

#### **Our Progress**

The Reformed Presbyterian Church of Duaneburg, NY has been ministering in the community for seven years. They have rehabbed a widow's home, purchased a ministry house in the neighborhood and have an ongoing Bible club ministry to children. PCA churches in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region have started sending Urban Ministry Teams to help rehab the ministry house and minister to the children of the community through Bible clubs. The house should be done by the end of Fall 2008. (see [www.drpc.org/lighthouse.htm](http://www.drpc.org/lighthouse.htm) for more info).



**Support:**

The Domestic Missions Team of DRPC will be happy to continue organizing the summer urban ministry teams and also serve as a support for the church planter. First Presbyterian Church, a PCA church in a more affluent neighborhood in Schenectady will also serve as a valuable resource and support in this ministry. Oversight will be given by the New York State Presbytery.

**The Calling and Qualifications:**

The successful church planting candidate will be ordained or ordainable in the Presbyterian Church in America. He will have a special commitment and heart for sharing the gospel in an ethnically diverse urban area. He will have a love for Jesus and His Word and a strong commitment and ability to preach. He should have interpersonal and organizational gifts that enable him to work with a team of committed believers to facilitate strong outreach to the community.

Rise up, O LORD! May your enemies be scattered;  
may your foes flee before you! (Numbers 10:35)

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We pray for God to raise up faithful workers in the Schenectady area, spreading the gospel of the grace of Jesus Christ until the knowledge of the glory of the Lord covers the land as the waters cover the sea.

For more information contact Ruling Elder Chris Nally at [Nally849@aol.com](mailto:Nally849@aol.com)



Schenectady City Hall



GE, the world's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest company, had its original headquarters in Schenectady.



Nott memorial at Union College



Proctor's Theatre, part of Schenectady's Fine Arts District