
PRESBYTERY of DES MOINES
Older Adult Ministries (OAM) and Congregational Health Ministry
April '09 E-Newsletter

These e-mails go to each church in our Presbytery and are for your information to use if applicable by each of you and in your churches.

The e-mail articles are by, with and for Older Adult Ministries and healthy congregations. Please send ideas, articles, etc. that you would like included. In sending e-mails, let's all put in the subject line Presbytery OAM E-mail so none of it gets deleted as spam mail.

In faith,
Darlene Shepherd
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Joy for the Journey: Equipping the Saints

Honoring Our Older Adults in May

Each year the PC(USA) sets aside the first Sunday in May to acknowledge older adults as one of the gifts with which God has blessed us. Older adults represent the gifts of wisdom gained through living a life in faith, hope through hard times, lived with perseverance, and generosity in loving and stewardship.

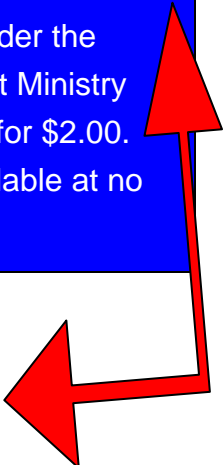
In the *2009 OAM Planning Guide* you will find ideas to celebrate on May 3, or another time, and/or for activities throughout a week.

- What ages will you honor?
- Design a symbol of their gifts
- Form carpools to help elderly members attend worship.

It's not too early to Register for the 2009 POAMN/ARMSS Joint Conference in Tucson on Sept 28 –Oct.2 (see ad below).

To make reservations go to www.POAMN.org. While on that site, you might join the POAMN Organization, learn the purpose and who this is.

Also, you can order the 2009 Older Adult Ministry Planning Guide for \$2.00. This is also available at no charge online.



- Reserve a section for special seating – consider giving each a lapel pin. Bookmark, flower, etc. to recognize the esteem of the congregation.
- Plan a celebrative worship service, community-wide health fair...community project for all ages...

The Planning Guide – Joy for the Journey: Equipping the Saints has 33 pages of ideas to make this day memorable for the entire church.

Mark your calendars for Aging and the Ministry in the 21st Century with the Rev. Dr. Richard Gentzler, Jr., who will be in the Des Moines area Saturday, June 20, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Walnut Hills United Methodist Church, 12321 Hickman Rd. in Urbandale. He is the current director of the Center on Aging and Older Adult Ministry for the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church. Rev. Gentzler writes and publishes the newsletter Center Sage.

Cost for the all-day conference is \$25 which includes materials, lunch and breakout sessions. To register, print and complete the form in the attached brochure by June 1. Send form to First United Methodist Church, c/o Christine Anders, 1001 Pleasant St., Des Moines, IA 50309.
