

Presbytery of Des Moines

Equipping pastors and congregations
in South Central Iowa with the tools
to carry on God's awesome love.



The Wider Circle E-News

Mark your calendars this week for:

- **April 9 – Two Rivers Regional Partnership** is sponsoring a Seder Meal and Communion Service on Maundy Thursday, 6:30–8 p.m., at **First Presbyterian Church**, 3100 Easton Blvd., Des Moines.
- **April 10** – The Presbytery Office will be closed in observance of Good Friday. We will reopen on Monday, April 13 at 8:30 a.m.
- **April 15** – Older Adult Ministries Task Force meeting, 1 p.m., Presbytery Office, Urbandale
- **April 14** – Retired Pastor's Luncheon, 12:30 p.m. at **Calvin Community**, Des Moines
- **April 16** – Lunch & Learn Series, *Web site Writing and Optimization*, Noon, Presbytery Office
- **April 18** – Personnel Committee Training, 9 a.m. to Noon, **First Presbyterian Church, Newton**
- **April 18** – The interfaith workshop "Cool Congregations" is sponsored by **Westminster Presbyterian Church** and Plymouth United Church of Christ.

April 8, 2009

www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org



We are located at:

2400 86th Street, Suite 20
Urbandale, IA 50322-4306
515-276-4991

officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org

Office Hours are:

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily

This Week's Highlights

- Weekly Calendar Update
- OGHS Update from PDA
- Synod Mission Program Grants Announced
- 2009 Synod School Teachers
- Joys and Concerns
- 2008 Flood Damage Data
- Disaster Grants Available to Volunteer Youth Workers



Where is your Treasure?

As Presbyterians prepare to take the [One Great Hour of Sharing \(OGHS\) offering](#), Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) staff express their appreciation and thankfulness for the continued generosity of Presbyterians in the United States that enables us – together – to witness the healing

love of Christ to disaster survivors around the world. This year the OGHS theme is "Where is your Treasure?" [See how your treasure is helping disaster survivors](#) find hope out of the chaos of the disasters that have impacted their lives.

Synod Partners in Mission Program Grants

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies continues to support church transformation, immigrant ministries and new church development through Mission Program Grants. This year alone the synod is providing more than \$70,000 to support

five programs, including the immigrant ministries of Familia de Fe in Bloomington, Minn. (www.cpconline.org/index.php?content=Familia_de_Fe) and Knox Indonesian Ministry in St. Paul, Minn. (www.knoxpresbyterian.org/KnoxIndonesianMinistry.dsp); the new church developments of Sun Prairie (Wis.) Presbyterian Church (www.sunprairiepresbyterian.org/) and Chain of Lakes Presbyterian in Blaine, Minn. (www.colpres.org); and a congregation transformation at **Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian in Des Moines, Iowa** (www.cgpresbyterian.org/).

The Cottage Grove project extends the church's reach to Sudanese immigrants. These projects also receive financial support from individual presbyteries and the General Assembly of the PC(USA). Mission Program Grants provide supplemental, short-term, and start-up funding for new congregations, transforming congregations and congregational-based ministries that reflect the denomination's commitment to inclusiveness, diversity and ecumenicity. Additional information about Mission Program Grants can be found at www.pcusa.org/missionprogramgrants/.

Continued from above...

Do you know any of the speakers at 2009 Synod School this summer?

This summer's worship leaders for Synod School have ties to our Presbytery and are the Rev. Burns and Lorraine Stanfield. Burns is a pastor at Fourth Presbyterian Church in South Boston, and Lorraine, a physician in Boston, are regular Synod School participants. They, along with another couple from the Boston area will be leading the evening worship times. Other teachers from our churches and the classes they teach include:

Kim Coulter	Des Moines, Westminster	<i>What Are Web 1.0 and Web 2.0? The Computer Revolution and How to Keep Up with the Kids</i>
KayLynn Coulter	Des Moines, Westminster	Senior High Youth Assistant
Rev. Mark Davis	Clive, Heartland	Senior High Youth Coordinator and <i>Intersection of Science and Religion</i>
Carol Ferrell	Clive, Heartland	Synod School Committee & Dean
Jennifer Giles	Clive, Heartland	<i>Basketweaving 101</i>
Rev. Suzanne Gorhau	Centerville, First	<i>Creative Worship for Traditional Churches</i>
Christine Hoffman	Clive, Heartland	Elementary Co-Coordinator
Jim Hoffman	Clive, Heartland	<i>Achieving Personal Success</i>
Rev. Shamaine Chambers King	Windsor Heights, Windsor	Senior High Youth Faculty
Dennis Klein	Clive, Heartland	<i>Intersection of Science and Religion</i>
Sara Lamb	Winterset, First	Junior High Youth Faculty
Martie Larsen, CLP	Clive, Heartland	Senior High Youth Faculty
Kathy Mahler	Clive, Heartland	<i>Hope on the Mountain</i>
Rev. Tim Maxa	Sharpsburg & Lenox, United	<i>Ultimate Sports</i>
Derrick Ogden	Clive, Heartland	<i>Introduction to Figure Drawing</i>
Jodi Stanfield	Des Moines	<i>Yoga: Vacation Style</i>
Mac Stanfield	Des Moines	<i>One Nation Under (insert your deity here): Separation of Church and State in American History and Law</i>
Rev. Ken Stuber	Des Moines, First	<i>The Darkness and the Light</i>
Scott Valentine	Clive, Heartland	Senior High Youth Faculty
Anna Williams	Clive, Heartland	Senior High Youth Faculty



This year's theme is *Building a Culture of Peace*. If you'd like to attend, catalogs, registration materials and scholarship information are available in the Presbytery office or online at: www.lakesandprairies.org/school.html.

Joys and Concerns

Pray for the honorably retired **Rev. Dale O'Connell's** recovery from rotator cuff surgery in February.

Pray of thanksgiving for the honorably retired **Rev. John Beran** who was in Zibawe, Africa for most of January—March. Welcome back home!

Did the floods of 2008 hit your Church?

The Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance is looking for information on religious places damaged by the 2008 floods to help The Partners for Sacred Places, a company based out of Pennsylvania, www.sacredplaces.org/. This organization goes into communities after a disaster (offices set up in New Orleans and Galveston) to help fix up and rebuild churches and religious places. This is an important step in a communities recovery efforts and they are wanting to set up an office in Iowa, but we're missing an important detail – we're needing addresses and contacts for religious places that were damaged. The data compiled will be shared with the Rebuild Iowa Office (RIO), and with the Partners for Sacred Places so local churches are aware of the benefits that the Partners for Sacred Places can provide.

Please send information on any damaged religious places along with a contact for that church/synagogue/mosque, etc. to **Don Hampton (Indianola, Trinity United)** at dbhampton@att.net or 515-961-6808.

Grants Available to Disaster Volunteer Youth Workers

Do Something.org has disaster grants available to youth working in disaster preparedness or emergency response.

The grants are \$500 and will be given out each week this year. You can find more information at:

www.dosomething.org/grants/disaster.

To remove your name from our mailing list, e-mail Kim Coulter pbcommunication@presbyteryofdesmoines.org.

Questions or comments? E-mail us at officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org or call 515-276-4991.

Learn more about the Presbytery of Des Moines at: www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org.