



## The Wider Circle E-News

### Mark your calendars this week for:

- **Aug. 25** – Stewardship and Mission Interpretation Committee, 9:30-11 a.m., Presbytery Office, Urbandale
- **Aug. 25** – Nominating Committee meeting, Noon, Presbytery Office.
- **Aug. 28** – Rummage & Bake Sale, at **Fort Des Moines Presbyterian Church**, corner of S. Union and Payton on the south side of Des Moines, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a dinning room table, 6 chairs and other furniture. Come and meet members of our church and find your treasurers!
- **Aug. 25** – Presbytery staff meeting, 2 p.m., Presbytery Office
- **Aug. 29** – Compañeros Annual Dinner Fund Raiser, 3-7 p.m. at the Des Moines Social Club, [www.desmoinessocialclub.org](http://www.desmoinessocialclub.org). The fiesta afternoon includes a silent auction, tapas, and Latino music. All proceeds support the El Salvador mission and [www.OurSisterParish.com](http://www.OurSisterParish.com). Tickets are \$20, contact Office Manager Betty Dyer, 515-276-4991 or [pbydesmoines@presbyteryofdesmoines.org](mailto:pbydesmoines@presbyteryofdesmoines.org).
- **Sept. 2** – CROSS Ministries meeting, 7 p.m., Cottage Grove Ave. Presbyterian Church, Des Moines

### Joys and Concerns

Please pray for the family of the **Rev. Goanar and Batul Chol** who are hopefully at the end of a two-year process of getting Batul's mother to the United States. Goanar is currently in Sudan with his mother-in-law. Soon, they will go to Cairo, Egypt where they will hopefully obtain her visa so she can travel to the U.S.

Prayers are needed for the family of the **Rev. Adam and Rachel Nardini** (member-at-large) who's step-mother is currently undergoing cancer treatment. Adam's father is James Nardini and his wife Julene, 52, was recently diagnosed with cancer. Adam was former pastor at the **Union Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines** and youth pastor at **First Presbyterian Church in Grimes**.

Congratulations to the honorably retired **Rev. John Beran**, who's wedding was Saturday, Aug. 21, at the **United Presbyterian Church in Lenox**. The beautiful bride is **Rita Ibbotson** of Tingley, Ia., and is a missionary-nurse serving with the Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM) in Zimbabwe, Africa.

Congratulations to PC(USA) Mission Co-worker **Denise England (Audubon, First)** who is in Iowa this month for her son's wedding. **Ben and Jamie Struve** got married Saturday, Aug. 21.

Congratulations to the **Rev. Mary Beth Mardis-LeCroy** (member at-large) and her husband **Matthew** on the arrival of a baby girl on Tuesday, August 17. **Elizabeth Ruth Mardis-LeCroy** weighed in at 6 lbs., 5 ozs. Mother and Ellie are doing great. Congratulations can be sent to Mary Beth and Matthew at 118 Water St., #424, Des Moines, IA 50309, or [mardis-lecroy@yahoo.com](mailto:mardis-lecroy@yahoo.com).

**The Rev. Ben Wilson**, pastor at the **United Church of Deep River** is leaving. The United Methodists operate by sending and removing pastors on a regular basis. They had a special celebration on June 27. We wish him well in his next call. New pastor at **United Church of Deep River** will be the **Rev. Michelle Williamson**. She comes to us from the Whitfield Methodist Church in Sioux City, Ia. She will be living in the North English parsonage and will be serving Deep River, North English, Barnes City and Millersburg churches. Welcome!

The honorably retired **Rev. Sara Speer Palmer**, part-time temporary supply pastor at **First Presbyterian Church in Ottumwa** will say goodbye Sept. 1. The congregation is welcoming a new pastor, the **Rev. David Klanderan**. He and his wife **Liz** are from the Reformed Church in America and lived in Tucson, Ariz. Welcome!

In June, **Sara Hopkins, CLP**, parish associate at **First Presbyterian Church in Newton** completed the two-year spiritual renewal and formation training through the PrairieFire Spiritual Formation Program of the Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center, [www.dmpcc.org](http://www.dmpcc.org). The program concluded with 17 graduates and six of those will continue with a third-year practicum program to be trained as spiritual directors and was developed between the Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center and Mt. St. Scholastica Abbey in Ft. Atchison, Kan., [www.mountosb.org](http://www.mountosb.org). Sara will be doing this year's work "on her own time", but will offer the ministry of spiritual direction to those interested in our church and the broader public. She is currently looking for two people who would like to embark on this journey of spiritual direction with her. Sara's colleagues in this program are also looking for directees. There is no cost for this ministry. To learn more, go to [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org) or contact Sara Hopkins, CLP, at: [shopkins1@iowatelecom.net](mailto:shopkins1@iowatelecom.net) or 641 792-2790.

August 24, 2010

[www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org](http://www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org)



#### We are located at:

2400 86<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 20  
Urbandale, IA 50322-4306  
515-276-4991

[officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org](mailto:officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org)

#### Office Hours are:

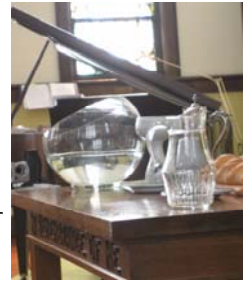
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily

#### Highlights on Next Page: (click bullet to see article)

- Baptism gets 'Rivers of Living Water' from Presbytery's Saturday Worship
- Employment Opportunities
- Apply for 2011 Continuing Education Program Grants by September 1!
- Back-to-Church Sunday is Set for September 12
- Save the Date: Reggie's Sleep Out in Des Moines, October 16
- Pakistan Report: They're seeking dry ground. Let's help them find hope.

## Baptism gets 'Rivers of Living Water' from Presbytery

The **First Presbyterian Church in Leon's** congregation will be celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism for baby **Isabel Perez**, on Sunday, Aug. 29. The **Rev. Jack DePond** will use the water from Saturday's Presbytery meeting (Aug. 21), contributed by various church members across south central Iowa. (He has boiled it and will keep it refrigerated, just to make sure it's sanitary!) It's also special because Isabel's dad is **Frank Perez**, the trombone player who participated in our Presbytery worship on Saturday. He's director of bands at Graceland University in Lamoni.



## Employment Opportunities

**Program Coordinator, Central Presbyterian Church, Des Moines** – Focus on new member involvement, public relations and program publicity, computer and human relations skills. Part-time position. Job description is available at: [www.dmcpc.org](http://www.dmcpc.org). Send inquiries to: Central Presbyterian Church, 3829 Grand Ave. Des Moines 50312, 515/279-3658 ext. 202, or [jwallace@dmcpc.org](mailto:jwallace@dmcpc.org).

**Food Pantry Volunteers, CROSS Ministries, Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church** – Contact Joyce Hoffman at 515-225-9868, [lorhoffmn@aol.com](mailto:lorhoffmn@aol.com). For questions or donations, please contact Dr. Roberta Victor, Executive Director of Cross Ministries, 1050-24th St., Des Moines 50311 or 515 279-8877, [info@crossministriesdm.org](mailto:info@crossministriesdm.org).

**Coffee Coordinator, Don Justo Coffee with Dignity, Des Moines, Ia.** – This person is in charge of ordering from the supplier, distribution to customers, inventory, reconciliation reports, promotion of the Don Justo project, customer service, and reports to the Des Moines Presbytery's Compañeros committee. The commitment is 15 hours weekly. Compensation is based upon sales. For details contact: **Mike Bassett**, 515-321-6433 or [mikebassett111@gmail.com](mailto:mikebassett111@gmail.com).

**Nursery Assistant, Covenant Presbyterian Church, West Des Moines, Ia.** – Adult applicant with minimum age of 18 years old is needed to provide a safe and nurturing nursery environment for children. Experience and competency in working with children of all ages. Part-time position reports to the Session of Covenant Church. Approximately six hours per week during the school year on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. If interested, contact Covenant's Director of Christian Education **Renee Woodworth**, 515-225-2254 or [rwoodworth@wdmcovenant.org](mailto:rwoodworth@wdmcovenant.org).

## Apply for 2011 Continuing Education Program Grants by September 1!

Revised forms and guidelines for the Continuing Education Program through the [Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundations](http://Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundations) are now available in the Presbytery Office for Presbyterian churches and organizations. For questions about these materials, contact: Linda Lavelly, CPS, Administrative Assistant, Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundations, [linda@omaha-sem-found.org](mailto:linda@omaha-sem-found.org) or 402-397-5138. The 2011 grant applications are due on or before Sept. 1, 2010.



## Back-to-Church Sunday is Set for September 12

More than 1,500 churches across the U.S. have committed to inviting people who once attended church – but who don't anymore – to special worship services Sunday, Sept. 12, for national "Back to Church Sunday." Last year, hundreds of churches took part in the first "Back To Church Sunday"; members invited more than 700,000 friends and family. This year, an estimated 1 million "unchurched" and "dechurched" people will be invited. A survey by Outreach, Inc., a California-based church marketing company supporting the initiative, found last year's participating churches increased their weekend attendance by an average of 19%.

## Save the Date: Reggie's Sleep Out in Des Moines, October 16

Register now to sleep under the stars so kids can reach them, go to: [www.reggiessleepout.org](http://www.reggiessleepout.org). This event honors the memory of Reggie Kelsey, a young man who aged out of foster care, experienced homelessness, and whose body was pulled from the Des Moines River three months later. Proceeds benefit DMARC and its partner, Iowa Homeless Centers.

## Pakistan Report: They're seeking dry ground. Let's help them find hope.

The people of Pakistan have suffered numerous natural and human-caused disasters over the past several years. Presbyterians have been in ministry there since before the nation of Pakistan was formed. We stand with them today in their time of need. The recent floods have brought record-breaking destruction to the country, with more than 1,400 people dead and more than 1.5 million displaced. You can make a difference. The PC(USA) is responding through [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](http://Presbyterian Disaster Assistance) (PDA) and working with our ecumenical partners to help meet emergency needs – providing food packages, shelter material, non-food essentials and emergency health services. How can we respond?

**Give** – Support the relief and recovery efforts through PDA. Individuals may give through their local congregation, on the secure [PC\(USA\) Web site](http://PC(USA) Web site) or by sending their check to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Include the giving account #DR000038 - Pakistan. Or make a donation by calling 800-728-7228.

**Act** – [Congregations and individuals can make hygiene kits and baby kits](http://Congregations and individuals can make hygiene kits and baby kits) to be distributed by Church World Service.

**Pray** – Join with others in lifting up the people of Pakistan and those seeking to provide aid in this critical time. As the eyes of the world turn to Pakistan, let us join our hearts in prayer: *God of compassion, please watch over the people of Pakistan, and weave out of these terrible events wonders of goodness and grace. Surround those who have been affected by tragedy with a sense of your present love, and hold them in faith. Though they are lost in grief, may they find you and be comforted; guide us as a church to find ways of providing assistance that heals and gives hope. Help us to remember that when one of your children suffers we all suffer. Through Jesus Christ who was dead, but lives and rules this world with you. Amen.*

To remove your name from our mailing list, e-mail Kim Coulter [pbycommunication@presbyteryofdesmoines.org](mailto:pbycommunication@presbyteryofdesmoines.org). Learn more at: [www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org](http://www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org). Questions? Contact [officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org](mailto:officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org) or 515-276-4991.