



## The Wider Circle E-News

### Mark your calendars this week for:

- **Dec. 8** – PUP Task Force meeting, 3 p.m., Presbytery Office, Urbandale
- **Dec. 10** – Human Rights Day
- **Dec. 14** – Budget & Finance Committee meeting, Noon, Presbytery Office
- **Dec. 17** – Coordinating Council meeting, 4 p.m., Knox United Presbyterian Church, 2315 59<sup>th</sup> St., Des Moines,

### Joys and Concerns

Sympathy is extended to **Clive's Heartland Presbyterian Church** commissioned lay pastor **Martie Larsen**, who's father, Leland Larsen, died Thanksgiving Day, after a long battle with cancer. Funeral services were held on Monday, Nov. 30 at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Marshall, Minn. Leland's obituary is online at: [www.marshallindependent.com/page/content\\_detail/id/513761.html](http://www.marshallindependent.com/page/content_detail/id/513761.html). Condolences can be sent to Martie and her husband **Dave Klinkenborg** and their family at 1414 64th St., Windsor Heights, IA 50324 or [martie@heartlandpresbyterian.org](mailto:martie@heartlandpresbyterian.org).

The **Rev. Denise Group** (member-at-large) is recuperating after having shunt replacement surgery at St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Minn. earlier last week. She'll be home for the next two weeks or so. Well wishers can contact her by e-mail at: [corwithumc@comm1net.net](mailto:corwithumc@comm1net.net).

The honorably retired **Rev. Bob Cook** is now serving as interim pastor at **Union Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines**. Bob has been filling in for pulpit supply and is happy to be helping out Union Park during their transition.

Condolences go out to the **Rev. Bob Cook**, who's nephew, Doug, passed away on Dec. 2. Several years ago, Doug had an unsuccessful kidney transplant. Last week, after a dialysis treatment, he collapsed and was admitted to the hospital and never regained consciousness.

### Special Advent Candle Display at Leon First

The First Presbyterian Church of Leon received a special gift for the Advent season. Elder Phil Metcalf designed a new holder for the Advent candles from the wood of one of the lovely maple trees which had graced the front parking of the church and manse. The trees were eventually pronounced a traffic hazard, blocking visibility at the corner of Q Street and Highway 2, and were removed several years ago.

### The Good News is Spreading about Cottage Grove Avenue

We have good news! We have received some generous commitments recently and it is my hope and expectation that by the middle of December we will have secured the funds needed to replace the boiler! God is good! It is therefore my hope that a new boiler can be in place before we need to worry about freezing water pipes or temporarily moving.

*–Rev. Dave Madsen, Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church*

### Take Opportunity to hear Advent Organ Recitals in downtown Des Moines

Bring your lunch and listen to two Advent Organ Recitals at Noon, Thursdays, Dec. 10 & 17 at the Episcopal Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 815 High St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309. (David Raymond, organist for The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, played the first recital on Dec. 3.) **Mark Koskamp**, organist for **Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Indianola**, will play on Dec. 10. And finally, Sarah Garner, organist for St. John's Lutheran Church, on Dec. 17. For more information, call 515-288-7297.



### Registration is Open for Next Summer's Youth Triennium

Every three years the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America gather thousands of Presbyterian youth and adult youth leaders together for worship, play, music, community building, and Bible study. This is known as the [Presbyterian Youth Triennium](#) (PYT), and next summer it runs July 20-24 at Purdue University in Indiana.

The Triennium is for young people entering or completing high school (approximately ages 14-19 years old by July 20, 2010). Adult advisors must be 21 years of age by this date. A work crew track is available for college-aged young people who would like to apply to attend and volunteer to work behind the scenes. Des Moines Presbytery application forms are now available online at [www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org](http://www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org). Send your completed form and estimated number of participants to our Presbytery of Des Moines' PYT Registrar **Sara Lamb** as soon as possible, at: 210 W. Green St., Winterset, IA 50273-1634, [yndsara@q.com](mailto:yndsara@q.com), 515-462-3261.

December 8, 2009

[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:

- Westminster Offers Rutter's *Gloria*, & Alternative Gift Mart
- IRS Announces 2010 Standard Mileage Rates
- EL Salvador: Response to Hurricane Ida and Emergency Needs

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## Westminster Offers Rutter's *Gloria*, & Alternative Gift Mart, December 13

The Westminster Fine Arts Series will present John Rutter's *Gloria* on Sunday, Dec. 13, during worship at 8:45 and 11 a.m. With its joyful melodies and beautiful harmonies, this magnificent Christmas cantata is one of Rutter's most popular works. *Gloria* will be presented by the Westminster Oratorio Choir and the Westminster Orchestra, both directed by Dr. David Friddle, Westminster's new minister of music and arts.

Between worship services that day, Westminster Church will host an Alternative Gift Mart from 9:45 to 11 a.m. The Gift Mart provides an opportunity to purchase life-giving gifts that benefit and empower individuals and families in need around the world. Also included are gifts through Heifer International, an organization working to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth. At the Gift Mart, shoppers purchase gifts in honor of friends and loved ones who receive greeting cards that explain the alternative gifts. The public is invited to attend. For more information, contact: Jan Davison, Director of Communications, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4114 Allison Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50310, phone: 515-274-1534, e-mail: [jdavison@westpres.org](mailto:jdavison@westpres.org).

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## IRS Announces 2010 Standard Mileage Rates

IR-2009-111, Dec. 3, 2009, WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2010 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes. Beginning on Jan. 1, 2010, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 50 cents per mile for business miles driven
- 16.5 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The new rates for business, medical and moving purposes are slightly lower than last year's. The mileage rates for 2010 reflect generally lower transportation costs compared to a year ago. The standard mileage rate for business is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs as determined by the same study. Independent contractor Runzheimer International conducted the study.

A taxpayer may not use the business standard mileage rate for a vehicle after using any depreciation method under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) or after claiming a Section 179 deduction for that vehicle. In addition, the business standard mileage rate cannot be used for any vehicle used for hire or for more than four vehicles used simultaneously. Taxpayers always have the option of calculating the actual costs of using their vehicle rather than using the standard mileage rates. [Revenue Procedure 2009-54](#) contains additional details regarding the standard mileage rates.

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***Friends,** The message below concerns the recent disaster caused by Hurricane Ida. If you would like to donate globally, you may do so below. If you would like to donate for funds to go directly to the Berlin area, we are accepting donations that will be sent to the Pastoral Team in Berlin. Please note in your check's memo line for "flood relief" and send them to the Des Moines Presbytery office. Mission Co-worker Kathy Mahler has reported that many of the surrounding communities have been affected with regard to their crops – therefore the yield will be much lower and in some cases even half. We would like to be able to provide any financial support possible. With Thanksgiving and Christmas upon us, it is a great time for us to reflect upon all of our blessings and if we find ourselves fortunate enough to share financially, that would be great. Even prayers for those affected are greatly needed. Of course, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. As always, thank you for your continued support. –Joe Pirtle, Compañeros Moderator, 515-250-5857*

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## EL Salvador: Response to Hurricane Ida and Emergency Needs

San Salvador, Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009 (ALC) – Coordination has been established with community organizations, local governments, civil society, churches, and governmental bodies. The ACT El Salvador Forum is composed of ACT members, Christian Aid (CAID), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Presbyterian Disaster Relief (PDA), Salvadoran Lutheran Synod (SLS). Currently, the LWF is chairing the Forum. The Forum mobilized in different affected regions as of Sunday, Nov. 8, providing small contributions of food, clothing, jackets, psychological attention, medicine, and provisional roofing material. Coordination has been established with community organizations, local governments, civil society, churches, and governmental bodies. Surveys have been undertaken in various localities where ACT members are already present. Special efforts are made to strengthen local organization. Main needs identified to date include: temporary housing; equipment and tools for the removal of debris, mud, rocks, trees; construction of latrines; rebuilding of houses. Provision of food is a major priority, but also cooking and kitchen utensils are needed, as most families have lost all or some personal belongings. In addition, personal hygiene supplies are also important. For each priority a response is proposed based on SPHERE principles. ACT Rapid Response Report: Hurricane Ida, El Salvador: File 60-RRF1509.pdf ([www.act-intl.org/media/rdfs/60-RRF1509.pdf](http://www.act-intl.org/media/rdfs/60-RRF1509.pdf)). ACT International: [www.act-intl.org/rdfs.php?uid=60](http://www.act-intl.org/rdfs.php?uid=60).

If you would like to contribute to the fund to help El Salvador, make your check payable to PC(USA) and put in the memo line: DR000140. If you are an individual, mail to: PC(USA), Individual Remittance Processing, PO Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. If you are a church, mail to: PC(USA), Church Remittance Processing, PO Box 643678, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3678

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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.

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