



The Wider Circle E-News

Mark your calendars this week for:

- **Jan. 6** – *Epiphany of the Lord*
- **Jan. 8-9** – Winter Youth Retreat for leaders and youth (grades 6-12), join us for fun and tubing at Sleepy Hollow Sports Park, 4051 Dean Ave., Des Moines. Sponsored by the **Camping/Youth Ministries Task Force**. *IgeekGod!* is the theme. Activities begin Friday, 7 p.m. and kids can be picked Saturday, 2 p.m. If you would like to participate, Registration materials are online at www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org/resources.htm. Or contact **Task Force Moderator Dennis Britson** at dnbritson@aol.com or 515-988-1360. The total cost is \$30 and includes meals and snow tubing.
- **Jan. 9** – Social Ministries Task Force, 9 a.m., Presbytery Office
- **Jan. 9** – Joining Hands, 10:30 a.m., Presbytery Office
- **Jan. 10** – *Baptism of the Lord*
- **Jan. 10** – Elder Training event for Southwest Regional Partnership, Sunday from 1:30-4 p.m. with a weather date the next week: Sunday, Jan. 17.
- **Jan. 12** – Lectionary Study, 10 a.m.-Noon, Presbytery Office
- **Jan. 16** – Presbytery Meeting, First United Presbyterian Church, Atlantic, Ia.
- **Jan. 17-19** – The Synod of Lakes and Prairies winter meeting, Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center in Farmington, Minn.

Joys and Concerns

Happy 50th Anniversary to **Don and Carmen Hampton**, members of **Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Indianola**. They celebrated their anniversary this past weekend with a surprise party. Don serves as a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance volunteer for the PC(USA) and our Presbytery.

A member of **Park Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines** **Lisa Whitmarsh Peterson's** mother, **Evelyn Whitmarsh**, died Christmas Eve day at 85 years of age. Evelyn had been under hospice care since June. She leaves her husband Oliver who is doing well in spite for the burden of great sadness he carries at the very real loss of the love of his life, coupled with his present fragile health. He will be 95 years old next month. They had just celebrated 65 years of marriage in October 2009. The memorial service was held at Park Avenue Saturday, Jan. 2, 2010, the **Rev. Don Elly** was Officiant as **Pastor David Stipp-Bethune** was on vacation. Condolences can be sent to Dan & Lisa Whitmarsh Peterson at, 7207 S.W. 16th St., Des Moines, IA 50315-6030 or lefty-lizard@juno.com.

Pastor at **Fort Des Moines Presbyterian Church** the **Rev. Don R. Elly**, who is also serving as palliative care chaplain, at Iowa Health Systems at Iowa Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines, was named to the board of directors for Hospice of Central Iowa. Congratulations!

Women of Faith Conference, March 12-13, 2010

The conference theme is "Over the Top". Speakers and performers are Marilyn Meberg, Patsy Clairmont, Lisa Whelchel, Sandy Patty, Mandisa, Mary Beth and Steven Curtis Chapman and Nicole Johnson. The conference runs from 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and 7-10:30 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday. Group tickets for 1-10 are \$99 or \$89 for over 10 (cost includes box lunch) at Vets Auditorium. Register at www.womenoffaith.com/desmoines.

January 5, 2010

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

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- Chimpanzees & Evolution: A CI-PASTCF Event, January 16
- Moderator's minute for mission: Living Waters for the World

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Introducing the Book of Psalms, Monday, January 18

The Center for Renewal and Grand View University will host a School of Ministry from 7 to 9 p.m. in room 103 of the Rasmussen Center for Community Advancement Professions on the Grand View campus in Des Moines. Dr. Walter (Chip) Bouzard, professor of religion and philosophy at Wartburg College, will explore the types of psalms that appear in the Bible and ways that these psalms might be better employed in Christian worship and discipleship. The cost for the event is \$10. Reserve your seat by emailing jwhite@grandview.edu.

Chimpanzees & Evolution: A CI-PASTCF Event, Saturday, January 16

The Central Iowa Chapter of the Presbyterian Association on Science, Technology and the Christian Faith (CI-PASTCF), will meet on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2010, 2-4 p.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Ames, for a program on "How Chimpanzees Influence Our Understanding of Evolution". Our speaker will be Dr. Jill Pruetz, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Iowa State University. This event is a continuation of the series started in November 2008 on our relationship with animals. This is an open meeting with no fee. Pre-registration is not required. Northminster Presbyterian Church is located on 20th St., just east of Ames High School. Off-street parking is on the east and south sides of the church building. For details contact CI-PASTCF Secretary Wayne C. Dowling, at khenriks@nycap.rr.com.

Moderator's minute for mission: Living Waters for the World

Blog Post: Dec. 22, 2009, by [The Rev. Bruce Reyes Chow, Moderator of the 218th General Assembly](#)

Throughout my travels as I have been attending conferences and visiting ministries, I have invited folks to send me short write-ups on their ministries and, with the understanding that, as I was able, I would post them on this blog. My hope in doing this is by no means to touch upon all ministries with a Presbyterian connection, but only to give glimpses of the breadth and depth in which we engage in ministry around the world.



Here is one received from [Living Waters for the World](#), a group whose mission is to serve as a resource to churches of all denominations, civic organizations and others in mission, enabling them to provide clean water to their partners in need from Janet Tuck, Director of Communications, Synod of Living Waters.

Whenever I travel to large meetings of the Presbyterian Church, I run into Pierce Buford. She was at the General Assembly meeting last summer ('08), at the Big Tent in June of this year ('09) and then at the PW Gathering in Louisville in July ('09). She is always there, thrilled for an opportunity to talk about Living Waters for the World (LWW). Pierce Buford has reason to be excited. The mission project of the Synod of Living Waters, LWW provides training and materials to empower churches and other organizations to bring clean water to people where water supplies are polluted.

But this isn't a "go in and fix it" type of mission. This is mission based in partnership, in relationship. This is what makes LWW so exciting. When a church embarks on a LWW project, they commit to a three-year partnership with an international institution such as a school, clinic, church or seminary. The team travels to the possible installation site to survey it and develop a partnership, then travel to assist as the partners install a clean water system and trains for maintenance and hygiene education. Then they stay in relationship, visiting the site again for follow-up and troubleshooting.

This model of ministry continues to amaze all involved with significant results flowing from the work. LWW now has installations in 312 installations in 23 countries. Those include Mexico, Haiti, Cuba, Ghana, Thailand and Madagascar. This also includes clean water system installations in Appalachia in our own country. This growing ministry is providing clean water where it is needed the most. The world is experiencing a water crisis. 1.2 billion people have no access to clean water. 3 million people die each year of preventable water-related disease, most of them children. Living Waters for the World has developed practical, sustainable solutions to this crisis. And it is exciting because the clean water is flowing. Just ask Pierce. She'll be happy to tell you.

For more information go to www.livingwatersfortheworld.org or follow on twitter: http://twitter.com/LWW_LCWF.

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