



The Wider Circle E-News

Mark your calendars this week for:

- **Jan. 26-28** – The Synod of Lakes and Prairies' COM/CPM Leadership Conference, Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, Minn.
- **Jan. 27** – Iowa Religious Media Services Annual meeting, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. 3116 104th St., Urbandale, IA 50322-3818. Lunch included.
- **Jan. 30** – South Central Regional Partnership elder training **Leon Presbyterian Church**, 9:30-11:30 a.m., RSVP to Mary Ellen Stanley, 641-446-8387

Joys and Concerns

Prayers are needed for the family of the honorably retired **Rev. Hume Ward** who passed away, Saturday, Jan. 16. Rev. Ward served at the **Windsor Presbyterian Church in Windsor Heights** for 30 years and was pastor emeritus for the congregation. His obituary is online at *The Des Moines Register*:

www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/classifieds?Category=Obituaries.

Condolences can be sent to **Mrs. Alice Ward** and the family at: 1205 64th St., Des Moines, IA 50311.

Hunger Action Enabler Nancy Lister-Settle was in Cairo, Egypt last week (January 18-24) along with Victor Makari (Middle East Area Office) and Lionel Derenoncourt (International Hunger Concerns & Joining Hands) for meetings with our *Joining Hands* partner network. They discussed the future of the partnership in light of the current shortage of mission personnel in Egypt, and hope to make adjustments in order to ease security concerns. Nancy welcomes prayers for productive talks and a more promising future.

Clerks, Don't Forget to Turn in Yearly Forms

The 2010 Church Loan Update form, 2010 Report of Changes in Ministerial Calls and 2010 Presbytery Church Directory Information form were either mailed to the attention of the Clerk of Session or given to the commissioner attending the January Presbytery meeting. Each document has a deadline for filing and will need the attention of the appropriate church staff for completion, input and/or return to the Presbytery by February 15, 2010. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact **Office Manager Betty Dyer**, 515-276-4991, pbydesmoines@presbyteryofdesmoines.org.

Summary of the January 16 Presbytery Meeting

The **First Presbyterian Church in Atlantic** had a reason to celebrate on Saturday at the 479th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery with the retirement of their pastor, **Rev. Don Seeger**. Both Don and his wife Emily were on hand for remarks by well wishers. At the meeting in May, Don will be presented with his plaque.

The *Just Neighbors* banner was awarded this quarter to the **Sharpsburg and Lenox United Presbyterian churches** for their work with children and youth in our communities. The example given by the Social Ministries Task Force was of the ministry of **Kiley Sherwood**, who has taken her mission experiences in her child and teenage years at the Sharpsburg church and made them a personal ministry in her adult life. **See picture: (left to right) Trinity Larger Parish pastor Rev. Tim Maxa (Sharpsburg/Lenox United); SMTF committee member Ted Coppock (Des Moines, Westminster); SMTF moderator Nancy Lister-Settle (Dallas Center, First); and elder commissioner David Walter (Lenox, United).**

Two overtures were reviewed and approved after being presented by the Bills and Overtures Committee of Presbytery. (For overture descriptions, see *The Meeting Call* online the Presbytery's Web site.) The overture votes were as follows:

- The marriage overture was approved 51 Yes, 27 No.
- The "b" new language overture was approved 41 Yes, 37 No, 1 abstention.

They will next be sent to the 219th General Assembly in Minneapolis, Minn., July 2-9. The overtures were originally prepared by **Elder Ted Coppock and Rev. Stu Ritter** (interim Sr. Pastor) both of **Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines**, and were endorsed by Westminster's session and their Gay Lesbian Straight Affirmation Small Group. Presbytery of Des Moines' Commissioners to GA are: **Elder Becky Diebold (Ottumwa, First); Elder Maurice Dyer (Indianola, Trinity United); Rev. Tiare Mathison (Newton, First); Rev. Dennis Morey (Oskaloosa, First)** and the Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) is **Naomi Maxa (Lenox, United)**. Advocates for the overtures will be **Ted Coppock and Rev. Stu Ritter**.

January 26, 2010

www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org



We are located at:

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Urbandale, IA 50322-4306
515-276-4991

officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org

Office Hours are:

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

Highlights on Next Page:

- Two Rivers Regional Partnership Takes Youth Skating
- Employment Opportunities
- Have you thought about Volunteering or Attending PYT?
- Lent Book Study Available: *Knowing God's Triune Story*



Two Rivers Partnership Takes Youth Skating for Epiphany



The Youth Task force of the Two Rivers Regional Partnership held an Epiphany Skate and 12 Days of Christmas Party Sunday, December 27. They went to Skate South and then to **Park Avenue Presbyterian Church** for pizza and pop. We learned the meaning of the twelve days of Christmas and sang the song. Thirty-four youth and family members from the following Des Moines area churches attended the event: Cottage Grove Ave., Park Ave., and Union Park. Below are pictures of the Sudanese children



and one of **Two Rivers Partnership Facilitator Sarah Mapes** and her daughter, Shaye helping with pizza at the church. Skating worked up quite an appetite!

Employment Opportunities

Temporary Supply Pastor/Head of Staff, Ankeny Presbyterian Church – The full-time position is for a minimum of one (1) year and may be extended annually following approval of the Presbytery of Des Moines. The pastor is to provide pastoral leadership by: developing and implementing the congregational mission and vision, involving paid staff, lay leadership, volunteers and members of the church. Also, she/he will provide meaningful worship both traditional and contemporary style, spiritual guidance and mentoring to the ministry teams, as well as provide pastoral care of members, moderate the Session and be available as a resource to committees of Session. The Pastor will represent the church throughout the community, be involved in the connectional system of the PC(USA) and be a responsible ambassador for the church in the community through his/her creativity and vision. Copies of the position description are available electronically and may be requested from Ankeny Church contact **Betty Duffy** or through the Presbytery office. Full benefits package is included. To apply, contact the church session Search Task Force co-moderators **Sandy Wagener**, swagener@dwx.com or **Bonnie McCaughey**, bjm42552@aol.com. Or send to Congregational Care & Development liaison **Rev. Jan Scott**, janscott@wdmcovenant.org. If mailing hard copies, label "Temporary Supply Pastor Search—Personal" and send to **Ankeny Presbyterian Church**, 317 S.E. Trilein Dr., Ankeny, IA 50021-3232 or to **Rev. Jan Scott, Covenant Presbyterian Church**, 1025 28th St., West Des Moines, IA 50266. In order to expedite the process, it is recommend to mail directly to either the Search Task Force or to the church.



Have you thought about Volunteering or Attending PYT?

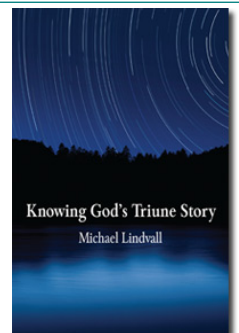
Here is what our **Presbytery's POINT person Sara Lamb**, Youth Leader at **Winterset's First Presbyterian Church** has to say about her Presbyterian Youth Triennium experience:

"Triennium is hands down one of the best things that the PC(USA) does for youth. The worship, activities and fellowship is creative and relevant to teenagers and adults. I know I'm not alone in worrying about whether or not these youth will stick with the church in college and beyond. Triennium is one more chance to instill a loyalty to our denomination, but more importantly it creates an ideal space and opportunity for youth to encounter God in a memorable way. Through crafts, energizers, small groups, activities and mingling with Presbyterians from around the country and world, Triennium does things the local church and most Presbyteries simply can't do on their own. I don't mean to imply that this one event is going to miraculously revive a generation. Instead I will say that Triennium is the sort of week that ripples out over a lifetime. Exposing your church's youth to the quality and coolness of a national youth gathering is potentially life changing. Please make sure the youth in your congregation are aware of this awesome opportunity and do encourage them to go."

To learn more about PYT, contact **Registrar Sara Lamb** at yndsara@q.com or 515-418-6122. To sign up as a volunteer or youth participant, download applications at: www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org/mission.htm, complete and send to the Presbytery of Des Moines, 2400 86th St., Ste. 20, Urbandale, IA 50322.

Lent Book Study Available: Knowing God's Triune Story

Congregational Ministries Publishing of the PC(USA) is proud to share with you this resource during the season of Lent, *Knowing God's Triune Story*. Imagine the transformation of God's church called into a common learning. Join the many Presbyterian churches across the country participating in the Moderator's 2010 Lenten Study, *Knowing God's Triune Story*, by Michael Lindvall. This 40-day study tells the story of our Maker. It examines why the Trinity consists of three persons, and reflects on how true knowledge of the Trinity affects our relationship with God. Cost is \$12.95 each, 10 or more is \$9.95 each – for quantity discount call 800-524-2612, PDS# 978-1571531490



General Assembly Moderator Bruce Reyes-Chow has endorsed the book and had this to say, "What a wonderful read from Michael Lindvall this Lenten season! *Knowing God's Triune Story* unlocks the Trinity from the church's abstractions by interpreting it as a short-hand symbol for the long narrative of God. Lindvall examines how the three persons of the Trinity form the unity of God's embrace of humanity. This Lenten devotional builds a strong foundation in knowing the story of God and I would recommend it be part of your congregation's spiritual discipline in preparation for Resurrection Day."

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.