



The Wider Circle E-News

Mark your calendars this week for:

- **July 26-31** – Synod School, Buena Vista College, Storm Lake, Ia. *Building a Culture of Peace* is the theme.
- **Aug. 1** – Social Ministries Task Force, 10 a.m., Presbytery Office, Urbandale
- **Aug. 4** – Congregational Care and Development Committee meeting, 2 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, Des Moines
- **Aug. 4** – Committee on Preparation of Ministry Special Committee on Alternative Exams, 4:30 p.m., Presbytery Office
- **Aug. 4** – Compañeros Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for safety are needed for two **Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church** members who are working as translators in Iraq: **Jerry Farajella** and **Muhqtar Muhqtar**.



Margaret Welsh, Heartland Presbyterian Church in Clive, is active in the national Presbyterian Women's group and will have a meditation printed in the July/August/September issue of *These Days*. This is a quarterly publication printed for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Copies are available to be picked up at **Westminster and Central Presbyterian Churches in Des Moines**. If you like to subscribe, go online to: www.ppcbooks.com/ppcbooks/thesedays.asp.

Park Avenue Invites all to Salad Luncheon

On Wednesday, August 5, 2009, the **Park Avenue Presbyterian Church**, 3120 S.W. 9th St., Des Moines, invited the Presbytery and guests to attend their Annual Summer Salad Luncheon. The menu features a hot chicken salad and a variety of 30 other delicious salads to choose from. Price is \$7 and includes your drink. Reservations can be made by contacting the church office at 515-282-8309 or papresbyterian@msn.com.

Calvin Community Hosts Health Aging & Alzheimer's Event on July 29

As President and C.E.O. of Calvin Community, I would like to invite you to a special event to introduce our new Memory Care Unit. We are honored to host two distinguished speakers who will present a program on Healthy Aging and Alzheimer's Education. Johnny Orr, Retired ISU Basketball Coach and Alzheimer's Awareness Advocate, and Dr. Bob Bender, Director of the Johnny Orr Memory Center and Healthy Aging Institute. On Wednesday, July 29, 2009, 7 p.m. at **Calvin Community**, 4210 Hickman Road, Des Moines, Iowa 50310. For more information, contact Ann Scallon, 515-633-2512. We hope you will join us. – *Sincerely, Eldred E. Kingery, President and C.E.O. Calvin Community*

Our Presbytery's Deficit Update

Support for our deficit continues to come in. So far, 31 congregations and 9 individuals have either contributed or pledged \$32,710. This means that half of our 62 congregations have pledge or contributed over half of what we need. We are grateful for this support. We encourage those of you who have not yet responded to join us in this important effort. God's blessings to you all. – *General Presbyter and Stated Clerk Rev. Phil Barrett*

Cottage Grove African Children's Choir Video is Online

Church member **Ann McGowan** utilized the curriculum "Living B.I.G." (Believing in God) for Vacation Bible School at **Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church in Des Moines** this year. At the end of the week, the children presented what they had learned at the English worship service. The enclosed picture shows the children with Ann and with **David Moore**, a SUMMIT intern from **Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines**. To see a video of the choir, go to: <http://gallery.me.com/dbmadsen#100073>



July 28, 2009

www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org



We are located at:

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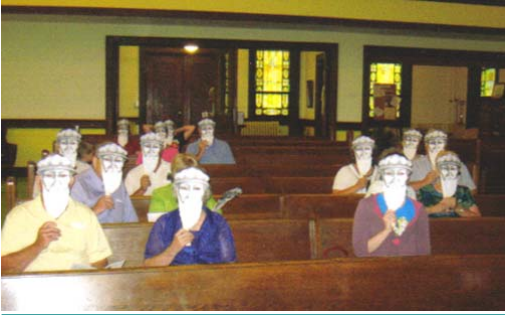
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily

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- PPC Launches New Online Resource for the PC(USA)

Where in the world is Calvin? John Calvins—Uncovered!

The **First Presbyterian Church in Leon** held a special 1542 AD worship service on July 12 in honor of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Jean Cauvin (1509–1564), the father of the Reformed tradition, the theological tradition that gave birth to Presbyterianism. As you can see by the photos, many tried to impersonate the famous man in celebration



of the PC(USA)'s Calvin Jubilee. For masks, bulletins, hymns and other resources, see the Office of Theology Worship and Education Web site at www.pcusa.org/calvinjubilee/index.htm.



Pastoral Care Specialist Program Available this Fall

The **Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center** is offering again the *Pastoral Care Specialist Program*, a competency-enhancing two-year program designed for the professional development and renewal of pastors, chaplains, and other persons involved in ministries of pastoral care. The program provides an enriching blend of psychology and theology, as well as theory and practice, while encouraging the sharing of learned lessons. Participants meet once each month to learn about areas critical to effective pastoral care, and to receive support, encouragement, and consultation on their work. Participants can solidify what they already do well and integrate new knowledge and skills into their ministries. This year's program begins the second Tuesday of September (Sept. 8, 2009) and runs through the second Tuesday of June (June 8, 2010). Participants meet from 8:45 a.m. to noon. Tuition is \$500 for each of the two years. Registration is limited. The deadline for registrations is Sept. 3, 2009. For more information, contact **Peter Brantner, M.Div., M.S.**, at 515-274-4006 or pbrantner@dmpcc.org.

Employment Opportunities

Student Jobs, First Presbyterian Church, Cedar Falls, Ia. – First Presbyterian Church in Cedar Falls has part-time staff openings for up to four students attending University of Northern Iowa in the fall. If you know of anyone interested in being Director of Children's Choirs, Youth Fellowship Leader or one of two College Peer Ministers, please have them contact Director of Child, Youth & Young Adult Ministries Heather Libich at heather@libich.com or 319-277-3930 for detailed job descriptions and an application. These positions require between 4-6 hours per week and pay \$450-\$900/semester each. Internship credits may be available and the right person could fill more than one position.

One Year Later, Disaster Still Takes Toll in Iowa

A new website is available to help stress-suffering Iowans find information about getting help in the wake of last year's natural disasters. The site, www.projectrecoveryiowa.org, features information about Project Recovery Iowa's services that include free confidential crisis counseling. According to the site, the anniversary of a disaster can reawaken a wide range of feelings and reactions among survivors.



218th GA's Civil Union, Christian Marriage Committee Seeks Feedback

What is the place of covenanted same-gender partnerships in the Christian community? It is a question the General Assembly Special Committee to Study Issues of Civil Union and Christian Marriage is posing to the church for input. It is also one piece of the mandate the 218th General Assembly of the PC(USA) gave the committee when the assembly called on its moderator to appoint the group. "We not only covet the prayers of folks across the church as we do our work," said the Rev. Jim Szeyller of Charlotte Presbytery, "but we also want as much input as possible." Guidelines for input to the special committee include a maximum of 1000 words and a deadline of August 16, 2009. Responses can be sent [electronically](#) or mailed to: Civil Union and Christian Marriage Committee, OGA, Room 4621, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville, KY 40202-1396. The complete story can be found at www.pcusa.org/pcnews/2009/09557.htm.

PPC Launches New Online Resource for the PC(USA)

June 1, 2009, marks the launch of a brand new online resource center from the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation (PPC). The new Web site, *The Presbyterian Leader* (www.thepresbyterianleader.com), will serve as an important tool for pastors, elders, deacons, educators, worship leaders, musicians, and other PC(USA) leaders who face the often daunting challenge of communicating, sharing, and teaching their faith. Marc Lewis, president and publisher of PPC says, "We are excited to provide this resource for leaders in the Presbyterian Church. We are committed to helping Presbyterian congregations in their ministries, and we feel confident *The Presbyterian Leader* will prove to be an invaluable tool." As part of PPC's continuing efforts to provide relevant and affordable tools to the Church, the popular *Presbyterian Worship Planner*, upgraded to version 3.0, is now available exclusively online through *The Presbyterian Leader*.

The *Presbyterian Worship Planner* is a comprehensive resource that enables preachers, liturgists, musicians and worship leaders to select and customize a weekly order of worship that can be inserted into a worship bulletin. This new online format will enable ongoing updates to resources while allowing users to download information and products immediately and affordably. You can read the complete article at: www.pcusa.org/pcnews/pressreleases/ppc09003.htm