



## The Wider Circle E-News

### Mark your calendars this week for:

- **June 14-21** – St. Boniface, Waukee Delegation to El Salvador
- **June 15** – Book Study, *Honest to God*, 9-10 a.m., Presbytery Office
- **June 15** – Lectionary Study, 10 a.m.-Noon, Presbytery Office
- **June 16-19** – Synod of Lakes and Prairies Presbyterian Women's summer gathering theme is "The Wonders of God's Promises" at Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Ia. Marjorie Thomson will be the spiritual leader for the gathering. Louise Lawson Johnson is Bible study leader and Caroline Vickery will lead worship. Kristi Holler, a singer, songwriter and pianist, will lead music. Additional details are available at [Presbyterian Women Gathering](#).
- **June 17** – Visioning Team meeting, 10 a.m. Noon
- **June 17** – **Des Moines Presbytery's** Lunch & Learn series continues. Topic is: *Language Art Skills: Writing and composition of the important day-to-day messages at church and in the community*. Monthly brown bag sessions are held on the third Thursday of the month at Noon. Hour long class/discussion is held at the Presbytery office, 2400 86th St., Ste. #20, Urbandale, Ia.
- **June 19** – Joining Hands meeting, 10 a.m.-Noon, Presbytery Office
- **June 20** – *Men of the Church/Father's Day/Rev. Russ Tomlinson Day*
- **June 22** – Book Study, *Honest to God*, 9-10 a.m., Presbytery Office
- **June 22** – Lectionary Study, 10 am – noon, Presbytery Office
- **June 24** – Nominating Committee meeting, Noon, Presbytery Office
- **June 25** – Presbytery Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m., Presbytery Office
- **June 26** – Social Ministries Task Force meeting, 10 a.m.-Noon, Presbytery Office
- **June 27** – *Disability Inclusion Sunday*
- **June 27** – The De-commissioning of **Knox United Presbyterian Church, 2315 59th St., Des Moines**. The Presbytery is invited to attend the celebration of the life and history of this 63-year-old church organized March 30, 1947. The service is scheduled for Sunday at 3 p.m.
- **June 29** – Lectionary Study, 10 a.m.-Noon, Presbytery Office
- **June 29** – Khadamat Sudaniya meeting, 4-5:30 p.m., Cottage Grove Ave. Presbyterian Church, Des Moines

### Joys and Concerns

Prayers are need for the **Cottage Grove Ave. Presbyterian Church** which had a fire early Saturday, morning, June 12th. The **Rev. Dr. David Madsen** reports it started when water from all the rain seeped through an exterior wall and got into an electrical box causing it to arc. The church was sponsoring a kids lock in Friday night and leaders were able to report the fire immediately for quick response by the fire department.

### Presbytery Happenings

**Committee Moderators and Facilitators note:** Deadline for committee, task force and group reports for the August 21 Presbytery meeting is Fri., July 30!

**First Presbyterian Church, 3100 Easton Blvd., Des Moines**, is invited everyone in the Presbytery to join them for their annual Ice Cream Social, June 20, from 2:30-4 p.m. Bring your dad for Father's Day dessert or bring the kids—there'll be plenty for everyone!

**Humeston/LeRoy United Trinity Parish** is making plans for members to attend the I-Cubs game in Des Moines, July 11<sup>th</sup>, start time is 1:05 p.m. Last year they had a crowd of nearly 60 members and friends. Come at Noon and enjoy brats at the tailgate party in the stadium parking lot. Surprise gifts for everyone. Bring your friends to church and the game. Wear you game clothes to church. It will be an early out Sunday. Call the church office to sign up before June 20, 641-877-4641. Tickets cost \$6; make checks out to United Trinity Parish.

June 15, 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)

- Employment Opportunities
- East Iowa Presbytery Invitation to Learning Opportunities
- General Assembly Attracts other Presbytery members
- Flood Seminars Examine 2008 Floods and How Iowans can Prepare
- World Communion of Reformed Churches 25th General Council is June 18-27
- Attend PC(USA) Malawi Mission Network Conference
- Get Ready for Evangelism Sunday, September 26

#### Presbytery Staff to take Furlough Hours

In June, **General Presbyter Phil Barrett** will take Mondays off, **Office Manager Betty Dyer** will take Fridays off and **Director of Communications Kim Coulter** will work shorter days during the week. This means that staff will not be accessible as usual please call first before coming to the office.

Furlough days in July will be different due to staff working at the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Minneapolis, Presbyterian Youth Triennium and Synod School at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake.

We appreciate your understanding and support during this time.

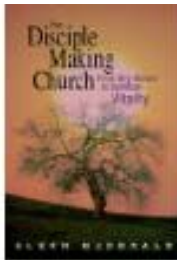
## Employment Opportunities

**Mission Coordinator Position, Presbytery of Prospect Hill, Storm Lake, Ia.** – The Presbytery of Prospect Hill is looking for a third-time Mission Coordinator to continue to lead the presbytery in our mission model direction. The Mission Coordinator shall be a mission resource for the Presbytery, clusters, committees and working groups. This is not an executive position. This position is open to clergy, elders, lay persons, or anyone called to the mission of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill. A full job description and application, together with the Presbytery's mission structure is available at [www.prospecthillpresby.org/mission.html](http://www.prospecthillpresby.org/mission.html). Please direct PIFs and/or Resumes, together with a completed application to Diana Barber, Synod of Lakes and Prairies, via email(subject line: MC search) [dbarber@lakesandprairies.org](mailto:dbarber@lakesandprairies.org) or via mail to: Diana Barber, Assoc. Synod Executive for Leadership, Synod of Lakes and Prairies 2115 Cliff Drive Eagan, MN 55122-3327. DEADLINE for applications is July 6, 2010. For questions about the application process, contact Nancy Janssen, PPH Personnel Moderator, 712-830-8610, [njanssen@hotmail.com](mailto:njanssen@hotmail.com).

**Female Camp Counselor, The Christian Conference Center, Newton, Ia.** – The Center is in need of a female camp counselor for the week of June 21-26. This person must be out of high school at least one year. Anyone interested, please e-mail Bert Burns at [bb@uppermidwestcc.org](mailto:bb@uppermidwestcc.org). For details about the camp, go to: <http://christianconferencecenter.net/> or call 641-792-1266.

## East Iowa Presbytery Invitation to Learning Opportunities

**Scholar in Residence Weekend** at First Presbyterian Church in Mt. Pleasant, will be held August 14-15, [Dr. Walter Brueggemann](#), respected Biblical scholar and popular author, will be the featured lecturer on Saturday and the worship leader on Sunday. Topics being considered are Sinai: The Inescapability of Interpretation, Living in Empire: The Challenge of Accommodation and Resistance and Prayer as Practiced in the Bible. Everyone is welcome to attend.



**Leadership Summit at Echo Hill in Cedar Rapids**, will be held November 6. All church leaders are invited to attend. Speaker will be Glenn McDonald, author of [The Disciplemaking Church: From Dry Bones to Spiritual Vitality](#). Read the book and you will be first in line to register. Here is an excerpt: Early in the life of our congregation at the close of one of our monthly board meetings, I posed my standard pre-adjourning question: 'Are there any other concerns or new items of business that need to come before us?' I yawned and glanced at my watch. It was nearly 11 p.m. I was confident that everyone intuitively grasped the right answer to that question: 'No, absolutely not.' One of our board members, however, had already raised her hand. 'I'd like to know something,' she said. 'How long do you think it would take someone visiting our church to hear about their need for Jesus Christ and then know how to act upon it?' Silence filled the room.

## General Assembly Attracts other Presbytery Members

Other Des Moines Presbytery members who are going to participate and volunteer include:

**The honorably retired Reverend Elizabeth Knott** who is being honored with the **2010 Women of Faith Award** by the General Assembly Mission Council of the PC(USA) will receive her award at the Women of Faith breakfast, July 4, during the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Minneapolis, Minn. Three other recipients who were also named for the award are: the Reverend Margaret E. Howland, Ms. Elona Street-Stewart and Ms. Joyce Uyeda. The theme for this year's awards is "Women with a Peaceful Heart: Guiding Paths of Peace" and therefore honors women who have helped the church grow in its witness and commitment to peacemaking. [Read more about these women.](#)



**Cindy Lou Ray** e-mailed us and indicated that she'll be attending the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (GA). She had this to say, "I have never been to General Assembly before, but this summer I will experience GA for the first time. This past weekend, as vice-moderator and corresponding member for the General Assembly Committee on Representation (GACOR), I had the opportunity to visit the leadership meeting for GA. It was fascinating for me to see the leadership activity as the moderators and vice-moderators of the committees and their assistants got together to form a leadership team and set their agendas. And the resource people were there to flag their various comments. I have a wonderful mentor at the GA who is our interim manager, and I look forward to the opportunity to participate in the process and to learn more firsthand of the governance of the PC(USA) Last week's meeting began with a variety of presentations, folks were taught some about the way the business is conducted at GA and were taught the use of the web site they use. Then on Friday the day was spent in the setting up of committee work. As resource folks we went around explaining to the various committees who would be reviewing our comments what those comments are and whether or not we expected time to speak, but assuring them there would be someone in the room who would be prepared to answer any questions. I am truly excited and a little awestruck by the opportunity that is about to happen for me."

**The honorably retired Rev. Bob and Jeanne Burnett** will be volunteering on July 3 & 4 at the General Assembly. They are helping coordinate other volunteers and will be participating in training in the upcoming week.

**Candidate Patti Spencer Burdette (DM, Fort Des Moines)** will be auditing the Presbyterianism: Principals and Practice program through the San Francisco Theological Seminary to learn about being a Presbyterian and observe the committee process and the happenings at General Assembly. She'll be participating July 2-10.

**The Rev. Ross Blount (Allerton, United)** will be representing the Tentmakers Association as part of the Face to Face event hosted by the PC(USA) Office of Vocation for those interested in exploring different ways to serve the church of Jesus Christ within PC(USA). He will be in room 102 D of the Minneapolis Convention Center on Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m., to talk with any interested folks about Tentmaking.

**The Rev. Goanar Chol** will be attending as part of the multicultural Church program.

## Flood Seminars Examine 2008 Floods and How Iowans can Prepare

**(Des Moines)** — Community seminars to help people better understand the 2008 Iowa floods and how Iowans can better plan and prepare for future flooding will take place in five communities beginning June 16 and ending July 19. The events, which are free to the public, are titled “Anatomy of Iowa Floods: Preparing for the Future,” and will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. in Burlington, Cedar Rapids, Waverly, Mason City and Ames. Topics to be covered include trends in Iowa precipitation; trends in water run-off; work of the Iowa Flood Center; floodplain management strategies; water quality; the Cedar Falls Floodplain Initiative; rural-urban watershed coalition building; and a review of state public policy issues. The presentations will be followed by a question and answer session.

“We are excited to be a part of this effort to educate Iowans about what communities can do to reduce future flood damage,” said Rebuild Iowa Office Executive Director Lt. General Ron Dardis. “Nearly 700 Iowa communities were impacted by the 2008 disasters. Events like this help ensure Iowans are better prepared for future disasters and are knowledgeable about what possible flood protection measures are available for their communities.”

Following each forum, refreshments will be served and a limited number of free copies of the book, “A Watershed Year: Anatomy of the Iowa Floods of 2008,” will be available to attendees. The seminars are being hosted by the University of Iowa’s Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research, Rebuild Iowa Office, UNI Center for Energy and Environmental Education, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa State University Extension, Iowa League of Cities and the Iowa State Association of Counties. Flood Seminar schedule is from 4 to 6 p.m. and includes the following dates and locations:

- June 16 – Burlington City Council Chambers in Burlington
- June 21 – Kirkwood Community College Training & Outreach Services Bldg. in Cedar Rapids
- June 30 – Waverly-Shell Rock High School Auditorium in Waverly
- July 14 – North Iowa Community College Muse Norris Center in Mason City
- July 19 – Ames City Council Chambers in Ames



World  
Communion  
of Reformed  
Churches

## World Communion of Reformed Churches 25th General Council is June 18-27 in Grand Rapids, Michigan

A celebration to mark the merging of the [World Alliance of Reformed Churches \(WARC\)](http://www.warc.org/) and the Reformed Ecumenical Council (REC) as the World Communion of Reformed Churches

(WCRC) will be held at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan on June 18-28, 2010. More than a thousand people will gather for this event which takes as its theme, “Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace” (Ephesians 4). For details and registration, go to: <http://reformedchurches.org/>

Rev. Barbara Price-Martin, parish associate at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, Delaware and her sister Linda (Price) Draper, of Boothbay Harbor, Maine, composed the theme song for the global gathering. “Bonds of Peace” which will be sung in churches across the world on June 20, 2010. They will travel to the meeting to sing it with the participants. We hope you will consider using the song in your worship in the coming weeks and beyond. It has relevance for our on-going search for unity in the body of Christ. The song is posted on [Trinity Presbyterian Church](http://www.trinitypresb.org/) home page.

- [Sheet Music with accompaniment and flute line.](#)
- [The mp3 recording.](#)
- [Lead sheet that you can use in Sunday worship as an overhead or duplicated in your bulletin.](#)

## Attend PC(USA) Malawi Mission Network Conference in August

Doug Kee of First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, Mich., is a member of the organizing committee of the PC(USA) Mission Network working in Malawi. We recently received information regarding this year’s mission network annual conference that will be held August 12-15, in South Bend, Ind. This conference is valuable and informative for any individuals or congregations interested in mission in Malawi. There are many outstanding speakers and organizations represented including Hunter Farrell, head of World Missions for our denomination and the ambassador of Malawi. If interested, you can learn more about the conference including registration and cost information at [www.malawinetwork.org](http://www.malawinetwork.org). The flier seen here, is available online at: [www.malawinetwork.org/2010flyer.pdf](http://www.malawinetwork.org/2010flyer.pdf).



## Get Ready for Evangelism Sunday, September 26

Evangelism Sunday, September 26 of this year, has the theme, “That They May Know...” The key Bible passages are John 17:3-4 and 1 Thessalonians 2:8. These passages speak about two very important aspects of evangelism — establishing an intimate relation with God and engaging other people in the community with good news.

[Explore the Evangelism Sunday materials](#) to learn more and prepare for this special emphasis. Get a timeline to begin planning your congregation’s Evangelism Sunday campaign now. Download a worship packet with scripture readings, a sermon, hymns and prayers. Find ideas for Servant Saturday. Use these resources in a traditional service in sanctuary or outside in the community