



The Wider Circle E-News

Mark your calendars this week for:

- **May 11** – Lectionary Study, 10 a.m.-Noon, Presbytery Office, Urbandale
- **May 13** – *Ascension of the Lord*
- **May 16** – *Multicultural Church/Immigration Day*
- **May 18** – Presbytery Stated Meeting, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., **Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4114 Allison Ave., Des Moines**
- **May 20** – Lunch & Learn on *Guidelines for Emergency Planning: Everything from snow days to health emergencies*, at Noon. Bring your brown bag lunch to the Presbytery of Des Moines Office on the third Thursday of the month for discussion. If you'd like to participate by Web conference, contact Kim Coulter, pbycommunication@presbyteryofdesmoines.org before Wednesday, May 19.
- **May 23** – *Pentecost; Pentecost Offering*
- **May 25** – Book Study, 9-10 a.m., Presbytery Office. *Honest to God* by J.A.T. Robinson, (40th Anniversary Edition) with essays by Douglas John Hall "Honest to God in North America" and the Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, "Honest to God in Great Britain". All pastors, commissioned lay pastors and lay leaders are invited to attend this and the normal Tuesday lectionary study.
- **May 25** – Lectionary Study, 10 a.m.-Noon, Presbytery Office
- **May 25** – Presbytery Staff Meeting, 1 p.m., Presbytery Office
- **May 30** – *Trinity Sunday/Presbyterian Heritage*
- **May 31** – **Memorial Day Holiday**, Presbytery Office is closed.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers go out to the family of **Honorably Retired Rev. Glen Dilley**, 88, who passed away Wednesday, May 5. A celebration of life was held May 7, at **Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines**. Glen was born May 26, 1921 in Garrison, N.D. His boy-hood home was Lakewood, Wis. He married Doris Greenlee (deceased 5/5/69) on Dec. 13, 1942. He received his Master of Divinity in 1949 at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He then served churches in Iowa, Nebraska, and Missouri for more than 20 years. Glen married Virginia Stuart in 1979 (deceased 1999) and they resided in Altoona. Among Glen's accomplishments were: Eagle Scout, WWII Army Staff Sergeant, Kiwanis Lt. Gov., and ordained minister for 50+ years. He also became an audiologist and spent many years running his own hearing aid businesses. Glen is survived by daughter Cea Hearth and son James Dilley, both of San Francisco, Calif., daughter Donna (Brian) Janes of Crystal Lake, Ill., two step daughters, Victoria Larson of S.D. and Marilyn Hartmann of Texas, and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by both wives, his oldest daughter, Mary Sue Dilley (2000) and his stepdaughter, Lynette Stuart (1994). Memorials can be sent to **Calvin Community**, 4210 Hickman Rd., Des Moines, IA 50310, or **Westminster Presbyterian Church**, 4114 Allison Ave., Des Moines, IA, 50310.

Apply for Scholarships to Attend the PW Synod Gathering in June

The annual PW Synod Gathering will be held June 16-19, at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Ia. The Des Moines Presbytery of Presbyterian Women (PPW) is offering the following three types of scholarships:

2 – \$150 for clergy women

2 – \$200 for Sudanese women

7 – \$100 for any woman

Please apply by contacting the Rev. Linda O'Connell (Lucas & Chariton, First) revlinda@iowatelecom.com or 641-203-3660. Scholarships will be given on first come first served basis. You can get more information about PW Synod Gathering on the Synod of Lakes and Prairies Web site at www.lakesandprairies.org/PDFFiles/Sower310.pdf.

Attend the Presbytery Meeting May 18 and Shop Fair Trade

The World of Hope, Fair Trade gift shop in the basement of **Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines**, will be open Tuesday, May 18, during the Presbytery's lunch hour from 12:15-1:15 p.m. Located in the library, on the lower level, the gift shop offers beautiful handcrafts from around the world. Shoppers enjoy an array of fair trade certified gift items; jewelry, textiles, cook books, toys, coffees, teas, food items, chocolate, and more, with new items arriving regularly. Proceeds directly support the artisans and producers in developing nations around the world.

Presbytery Office Visitors, Please Take Note of Construction

The Hickman Road northbound exit ramp and on ramp and the northbound on ramp at University Avenue are closed during the month of May. If you need to get off Interstate 35/80 to visit our Urbandale office at 2400 86th St., Ste. 20, it has been suggested to use either the University Avenue, Douglas Avenue or 86th Street ramps.

May 11, 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

Highlights on Next Page: (click bullet to see article)

- Decommissioning Service Set for Knox United in Des Moines, June 27
- Westminster Hosts Blood Drive & CROSS Ministries Fundraiser
- Take Advantage of Offer to Share Zimbabwe Info with Congregations
- Presbyterians Issue Statement on Arizona Immigration Law

Decommissioning Service Set for Knox United in Des Moines, June 27

The **Knox United Presbyterian Church of Des Moines** is inviting everyone in the Presbytery to attend the celebration of the life and history of this 63-year-old church organized March 30, 1947 with 66 members. Membership eventually swelled to 400 members! The church has remained active in mission through its history. Their most recent mission was



made possible with the sale of the church property going towards the purchase of the boiler for the **Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church**. Continuing their ministry in the nation and world are three members who were ordained as ministers at Knox during the 1990s. The two Synod School scholarship funds that now match local church support were established as memorials to one-time Knox members, Mike Carruthers and Salee Stanfield.

The de-commissioning service is scheduled for Sunday, June 27, at 3:00 p.m., **at Knox United Presbyterian Church, 2315 59th St., Des Moines.**

Westminster Hosts Blood Drive & CROSS Ministries Fundraiser

Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines will host a Blood Drive for The Blood Center of Iowa on Wednesday, May 19, from 3 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The Blood Drive will also be a fundraiser for CROSS Ministries, a social outreach program of the Presbytery of Des Moines and Cottage Grove Presbyterian Church. For every donor registered, Westminster will give \$5 to CROSS Ministries. CROSS serves low- and no-income families in the Des Moines area.

To make an appointment for the Westminster Blood Drive, contact **Sue Freeman**, 515-473-4699, or contact **Joan** in the church office, 515-274-1534 or jmahaffey@westpres.org. Walk-ins are welcome. Eligible donors must be at least 16 years of age, in general good health, and must weigh at least 120 pounds. For more information about donating blood, visit www.bloodcenterofiowa.org. Westminster Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Beaver and Franklin avenues in Des Moines.

Take Advantage of Offer to Share Zimbabwe Info with Congregations

By Honorably Retired Rev. John Beran

In early 2009, I was able to make a trip (6 weeks) to Zimbabwe in the southern part of Africa, and again early this year (8 weeks). Each time, I stayed at a compound of "The Evangelical Alliance Mission" (TEAM) in the rural NE part of the country, where TEAM has a 130-bed mission hospital and nurses training school. Last year, I also visited two orphanages/street programs in the capital city of Harare supported by the Outreach Foundation of the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), and this year shared with the Outreach Foundation in starting an income-earning project designed to provide some of the support needed for the street programs.

Most news we receive about Zimbabwe centers on the country's deep economic and political problems. While these are very present in the country, I quickly found Zimbabwe to be a beautiful country with friendly people, a fascinating culture, lively churches and exotic wild animals. It was inspiring to see the many ways the Church is reaching out in Christ's love to people in their daily lives. I must say that I have been "captivated" by what I found and experienced and look forward to a return trip again in 2011.

I am eager to share about Zimbabwe and the mission work being carried on there, particularly by TEAM and the Outreach Foundation of our Church. I would be happy to share with any church or church-group about my experiences in Zimbabwe from my two trips. I have my own laptop and projector and would try to arrange to come either on a weekday or a Sunday. I can be reached at 641-333-4578, jcberan@lenoxia.com or 800 E. Ohio St., Lenox, IA 50851-0056.

Presbyterians Issue Statement on Arizona Immigration Law

Posted on General Assembly Moderator Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow's Blog, April 29, 2010

As many of you know, there has been a great deal of conversations about immigration and immigration reform within our church communities as well as at the national level. Understanding that there is a great deal of passion and conviction about many aspects of our current immigration system and how best to engage in comprehensive immigration reform, the church must at times take a stand in the midst of the political discourse. With the recent passage of immigration laws in Arizona, many Presbyterians have been seeking a response from your leadership. Over the past weeks we have been discerning how best to respond in a way that holds to the mandates of General Assembly policy.

In a joint statement from myself; General Assembly Stated Clerk, Gradye Parsons and General Assembly Mission Council Executive Director, Linda Valentine. Again, we understand that our approach to immigration must be multi-faceted and deliberate, but we wanted to respond with this first statement on behalf of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

On a personal note, I do know that many folks will disagree with our statement, but I believe this is consistent with our historic policies as set by General Assembly. I also choose to be part of such engagement understanding that passionate people will disagree passionately, but also do so convicted by Christ that this is where we are called to stand at this time in the unfolding of God's reality.

To read the joint statement from the PC(USA) leaders, visit online: www.pcusa.org/pcnews/2010/10377.htm. For information on PC(USA) Immigration Work, visit www.pcusa.org/immigration.

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.
