



The Wider Circle E-News

Mark your calendars this week for:

- **May 18** – Presbytery Stated Meeting, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., **Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4114 Allison Ave., Des Moines**
- **May 19** – Blood Drive for The Blood Center of Iowa and fundraiser for CROSS Ministries at **Westminster Presbyterian Church** at the corner of Beaver and Franklin avenues in **Des Moines**, Wednesday from 3:00 to 7:30 p.m. For every donor registered, Westminster gives \$5 to CROSS Ministries. To make an appointment for the 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.
- **May 20** – Lunch & Learn on **Guidelines for Emergency Planning: Everything from snow days to health emergencies, to flooding and tornadoes**, at Noon. Bring your brown bag lunch to the Presbytery of Des Moines Office in Urbandale, on the third Thursday of the month for discussion. If you'd like to participate by Web conference, contact Kim Coulter before Wednesday, May 19, at pbcommunication@presbyteryofdesmoines.org.
- **May 23** – *Pentecost; Pentecost Offering*
- **May 25** – **Special Book Study**, 9-10 a.m., Presbytery Office, Urbandale. *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 Day*
- **May 31** – **Memorial Day Holiday**, Presbytery Office is closed.
- **June 1** – Congregational Care & Development meeting, 2 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, Des Moines
- **June 1** – Compañeros Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, Des Moines
- **June 3** – The New CROSS Ministries' Food Pantry Grand Opening is scheduled for Saturday, June 5. Prior to the actual opening, **the CROSS Committee will also host an Open House on Thursday, June 3, from 5-7 p.m.** We invite everyone to come for refreshments, tour our new facility, and help us celebrate our new outreach program to combat hunger. For donations, presentations, or pulpit supply, contact CROSS Ministries Executive Director **Dr. Roberta Victor**, at 515-279-8877 or info@crossministriesdm.org. To volunteer to work in the food pantry, contact **Joyce Hoffman**, 515-225-9868, hoffmanjah@hotmail.com.

May 18, 2010

www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org



We are located at:

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Office Hours are:

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

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

- Pastoral Counseling Center's 2009 Annual Report is now Available
- Writers, are you looking for a publisher?
- Receive the Pentecost Offering on May 23
- Vocation: Apply for the Student Opportunity Scholarship
- Lord hear our prayer...

Joys and Concerns

Prayers are needed for the family of Older Adult Ministry Task Force Moderator **Darlene Shepherd and her husband Dave** who's son-in-law Brian Hartz, age 48, passed away the first week in May. Funeral and burial were held in Wisconsin, May 15 & 16 respectively. He had a 3-year battle with multiple myeloma. Darlene says that Brian had a positive attitude of his hope in Jesus Christ and often said, "I can't lose either way in this—having a wonderful life now, and what's promised is even better." Condolences can be sent to the Dave & Darlene Shepherd's at: 316 N. Fourth St., Oskaloosa, IA 52577-2239 or dshep@mahaska.org.

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.

Continued from above...

Pastoral Counseling Center's 2009 Annual Report is now Available

The Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center's ANNUAL REPORT for 2009 is included in the March/April 2010 issue of their *Connecting* newsletter. To view go online to: www.dmpcc.org/newsletter/march_april_10.pdf.

In the lead article, **J. Jeffrey Means, M.Div., Ph.D.**, Des Moines Presbytery member at large, discusses philosophical foundations of the history – and the future – of the Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center. Complimenting the article are reflections on the life of the Center in 2009 by Cheryl Rigler, outgoing Board President, and Ellery Duke, Ph.D., Executive Director. Campaign for Hope and Healing Co-Chairs, Richard Lozier and Sally Pederson, report on the progress of the Center's capital campaign to build a new facility and expand services.

Visit the Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center's Web site for further information on counseling services, staff, support/interest groups, special events, and classes, www.dmpcc.org.

Writers, are you looking for a publisher?

Baal Hamon Publishers is an imprint of the Joy and Truth Christian Ministry www.joyandtruth.org and they are extending their search for Christian manuscripts for the publishing schedules for the Fall 2010 season. This is to invite submissions from competent Christian authors who would like their works to be considered for publication. Please review their full submission guidelines on Baal Hamon Publishers' website www.baalhamon.com. Only manuscripts that are fully completed or will be fully completed by the May 21, 2010 will be considered. This is the final call for manuscript submissions for the year. If your Christian manuscript fits into our plans, we will be delighted to publish it. Thank you and God bless you more and more.

– *Temitope O. Oyetomi, Managing and Acquisitions Editor
for Baal Hamon Publishers*



Receive the Pentecost Offering on May 23

Allow the power and excitement of the Holy Spirit to move through your congregation this Pentecost! [The Pentecost Offering](#), often received on the day of Pentecost, is a tangible way to allow the Spirit to touch the lives of children, youth and young adults within and beyond our church. Forty percent of the offering is used for your own congregation's ministry and vision for children and youth at risk. The remaining portion of the offering supports the work of the General Assembly Mission Council in [Child Advocacy](#), [Ministries with Youth](#) as well as the [Young Adult Volunteer](#) program. Learn more about the Spirit's work and how you can conduct a successful Pentecost Offering!

Vocation: Apply for the Student Opportunity Scholarship

Applications for the [Student Opportunity Scholarship](#) are **due by June 1 for the 2010-2011 academic year**.

This scholarship serves PC(USA) college students in select majors — education, health service/science, religious studies, sacred music, social services/sciences — by providing financial aid for the third and fourth years of an undergraduate program. Preference in this program is extended to racial ethnic students in order to promote diversity. Visit the [Financial Aid for Studies website](#) to download an application and/or to learn more about other scholarships, loans and grants. [Read scholarship recipient Tamara Pridgen's inspiring story.](#)

Lord hear our prayer...

From the 218th General Assembly Moderator the Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow Blog: [May 4, 2010 Post](#)

[PNS Update on Nashville Flooding](#). There are just some days where the world's pain and destruction seems overwhelming. We read the papers, watch the news or sit with people to talk about life, we know that there is so much that we simply need to offer to God in prayer and trust that God's reality is unfolding even in the midst of it all.

One of the reasons that I embrace being part of a denomination is that I do not have to personally know every single issue, disaster, etc. that is taking place in the world, but can do my part and trust that someone in our church is doing the same in other areas of the world and life.

A great many things weigh on a great many people's hearts this day so if you would like to leave a prayer here – for healing or of blessings – for others to see and lift up along side of you please do.

Lord here our prayer...

- For all of those in TN that have been impacted by this week's floods, in particular [Harpeth Presbyterian Church](#) (pictured)
- For your creation and the recent Gulf Coast oil spill.
- For churches and pastors in transitions of call.
- For those celebrating new life in relationships, children, employment and faith.
- For all who are suffering in mind and body this day especially a friend of mine who will be having a "radical bilateral mastectomy" this week.
- For folks serving in rural and small churches and the particular gifts and struggles that impact their ministries.
- For...

Please leave any and all prayers here if you feel so called and may the peace of our Lord, Jesus the Christ, be with you.

– Bruce



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.
