



The Wider Circle E-News

Mark your calendars this week for:

- **Sept. 4-11** – Westminster Presbyterian Church, Des Moines Delegation will be in Berlin, El Salvador
- **Sept. 12** – Social Ministries Task Force, 9 a.m., Presbytery Office, Urbandale
- **Sept. 12** – Joining Hands Task Force, 10:30 a.m., Presbytery Office
- **Sept. 11** – Personnel Committee, 3 p.m., Presbytery Office
- **Sept. 13** – *24th Sunday in Ordinary Time*; Christian Education Week Begins
- **Sept. 16** – Nominating Committee, 3 p.m., Presbytery Office
- **Sept. 17** – Lunch & Learn Series, *Annual & Statistical Reports*, Noon-1 p.m.

Joys and Concerns

This fall, **the Rev. Bruce and Nora Geise** of the **United Faith Parish (Diagonal United, Platte Center and Tingley United churches)** are welcoming foreign exchange student Lusekelo (Luse') Lwesya from Morogoro, Tanzania, who is 17 and a junior attending the Diagonal High School for 2009-2010 school year. He is here under the Iowa Resources for International Service (IRIS) program and speaks English well, as it is one of two national languages in his country. Luse' is a strong Christian. While he does not have a formal program, he is open to speaking to groups.

The **First Presbyterian churches in Chariton and Lucas Pastor Linda O'Connell's** sister-in-law, Elise Daniel, died Aug. 28 and funeral arrangements will be in Oklahoma City. Elise had COPD and was bed-fast and on oxygen for a year. Prayers go to Revs. Linda and Dale O'Connell during this time of loss.

Three Prayer Concerns from PC(USA)

See the ad at right. It's taken from the PC(USA) Peacemaking Program newsletter, *PeaceNotes*. Read and download this publication online at: pcusa.org/peacemaking/pubs/pubs.htm#1.

2009 Presbytery Summer Camp Video is now on Facebook!

Check it out! Michael Putman shared a link to a video from the Presbytery's 2009 Summer Camp Fun. To view the video you'll need to have a Facebook account and follow this link: www.facebook.com/inbox/readmessage.php?t=1105490365792#/video/video.php?v=1197113732701.

Iowa IPL Announces Ministry Workshop: "Faith in a Changing Climate"

On Tuesday, Sept. 29, Iowa Interfaith Power & Light is hosting a workshop specifically designed to address the questions and needs of ministers. The workshop, entitled "Faith in a Changing Climate," will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Christian Conference Center in Newton, Ia., and is open to ministers of all faiths. This is an opportunity to learn from experts more about climate change and its religious dimensions, as well as the simple ways that your faith community and its members can become part of the solution and save money in the process.

For registration, an agenda, information on speakers, and directions, go to www.iowaip.org/ministry_workshop.html or call Iowa IPL Executive Director Tim Fink at 515-689-1112.

Bread for the World Sunday is Oct. 18

The Des Moines Presbytery's **Hunger Action Enabler Nancy Lister-Settle** is eager to talk with congregations about *Bread for the World*, partners of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and how to be a part of Bread's efforts to end hunger! Now is the time to make plans for taking part in *Bread for the World* Sunday on October 18—or another Sunday in the fall.

September 9, 2009

www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org



We are located at:

2400 86th Street, Suite 20
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515-276-4991

officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org

Office Hours are:

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

Highlights on Next Page:

- Newton Church Continues with Hurricane Rebuilding Mission
- Southwest Regional Partnership Helps with Flood Relief in Cedar Rapids
- Employment and Volunteer Opportunities

THREE PRAYER CONCERNS

- ▶ *Pray for the people of Pakistan as they seek to address violence between Muslims and Christians.*
- ▶ *Pray for the people of Honduras as they work to maintain and strengthen democracy in their country.*
- ▶ *Pray for those who participate in the International Peacemakers program and the Interfaith Listening Team and for the Presbyterians who host them.*



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER

Continued from above...

Newton Church Continues with Hurricane Rebuilding Mission

On July 17-24, 2009, 28 **Newton First Presbyterian Church** members traveled to Dickenson, Texas, for Hurricane Ike relief mission work on Galveston Island, Texas. The mission trip was coordinated through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). This is the 26th year they scheduled a mission work trip in the United States. Other church mission work includes a variety of local missions, monthly flood relief work in Cedar Rapids, and annual mission trips to El Salvador. While in Texas, they also went sightseeing and attended a screening of *Ike: A Documentary – A Story of a Torn City Told by Everyday Heroes*, www.ikedocumentary.com.



First Presbyterian Church member pictured here (L to R) in the front row: **Abby Zieman, Anders Hopkins, Marilyn McCallister, Helyn Wohlwend, Mercedes Wathen**. Second row: **Barb Taylor, Cheyenne Norred, Kathy Peterson, Matt Ventling**. Third row: **Blake Wathen, Andi Hollenbeck, Linda Anderson, Chloe Gearhart, Sara Hopkins, John Taylor, Dick Mielke**. Fourth row: **George Wilkening, Rachel Rickers, Larry Anderson, Kyle Doerring, Dana Hashman, Isaac Mathison-Bowie, Roger Harmelink, Dave Moles**. Fifth row: **Spencer Bebout, Dylan Camp, Alex Bebout, Peder Hopkins, and Josh Zieman**.



Southwest Regional Partnership Helps with Flood Relief in Cedar Rapids

Pictured here are the Partnership's youth that went to Cedar Rapids for a home rebuilding mission trip July 12-16, 2009.

Partners for Just Trade Offer Simple Fundraising Tool!

Started by dedicated members of the Giddings Lovejoy Presbytery, [Partners for Just Trade](http://PartnersforJustTrade.org) offers excellent opportunities to foster economic justice in the world and fundraise for your own cause. How? Through PJT's Partnership Box Program. Choose online what products to sell at your event and receive 25% off which can be put to-

ward your own cause. PJT now provides a good deal of resources about Fair Trade and promotional support to sale coordinators to make your sale even easier! Learn more about hosting a Partnership Sale this fall or holiday season at www.PartnersForJustTrade.org/pb or you can also visit our table at the August stated meeting to learn more and see what great products we offer!

Employment Opportunities

Various Positions, Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Des Moines, Ia. – The Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault is a vibrant organization working to unite people and organizations to promote a society free from sexual violence and to meet the diverse needs of survivors. IowaCASA has a commitment to working with communities of color, immigrant, and other underserved communities to address sexual assault issues. Several new positions open include: IowaCASA Medical Advocacy Coordinator, IowaCASA Information Specialist, IowaCASA Bookkeeping/Administrative Assistant, IowaCASA Rural Technical Assistance Specialist – Demonstration Initiative, and IowaCASA Project Manager – Demonstration Initiative. For more complete details, visit our website at www.iowacasa.org or call 515-244-7424.

Volunteer Opportunities

United Way of Central Iowa and Des Moines Public Schools are partnering to *Reach Out to Dropouts* on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2009. *Reach Out to Dropouts* will enable personal outreach to students who have not returned to school by visiting them at home, identifying why the student is not in school and assisting in their return. The mission goal is to help children and youth achieve their potential by ensuring every student stays in and graduates from high school. Increasing high school graduation rates and sustaining support to students throughout the school experience is a key priority of United Way of Central Iowa to ensure youth's readiness to succeed in adulthood. Volunteers are needed to serve in three positions including **preparation volunteers** (needed the morning of Sept. 26 at an assigned school), **phone bankers** (needed the week of Sept. 21 for 4-hour shifts at the United Way) and **door-to-door walkers** (needed Sept. 26 for 8 a.m.–Noon shifts throughout Des Moines school districts). To register as a volunteer, send an e-mail to: volunteer@unitedwaydm.org. Volunteers signing up as "door-to-door walkers" are required to attend a training offered before Sept. 26. Groups wanting to sign up together cannot be promised they will be on the same team, but can sign up to volunteer at the same high school if open slots permit. All volunteers must sign a liability waiver. The minimum age for a volunteer is 17 and 17-year-olds must have their parent or guardian sign the waiver. Any questions? Contact Julie Kennedy at 515-246-2504.

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.