



The Wider Circle E-News

Mark your calendars this week for:

- **Sept. 16** – Nominating Committee, 3 p.m., Presbytery Office, Urbandale
- **Sept. 17** – Lunch & Learn Series, **NEW TOPIC: Photos use for your Church Ministry**, Noon-1 p.m., Presbytery Office. If interested in joining by Webconference/teleconference, contact Kim Coulter, 515-276-4991, pbcommunication@presbyteryofdesmoines.org.
- **Sept. 20** – *25th Sunday in Ordinary Time*; Theological Education Sunday
- **Sept. 21** – International Day of Peace
- **Sept. 22** – Native American Day
- **Sept. 22** – Transformation Team, 11:30 a.m., AIB, Des Moines
- **Sept. 27** – *26th Sunday in Ordinary Time*; Evangelism Sunday
- **Sept. 27-29** – The Synod of Lakes and Prairies will open its fall meeting Sunday, Sept. 27, at the Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center in Farmington, Minn. The meeting will run through Tuesday, Sept. 29.
- **Sept. 27** – Ordination for Brian Diebold, 4 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Ottumwa, Ia.

Joys and Concerns

Congratulations to **Melinda** and **Aaron Bryan** on the birth of their daughter, **Genevieve Elizabeth**, on Sunday, Aug. 16. Genevieve (aka "Evie") is the granddaughter of the **Rev. Ann Johnson**, pastor at the **Monroe Presbyterian Church**.



The **Rev. Nathan Lamb** (**Hartford Community United Presbyterian Church**) and **Jennifer Miller** were married Saturday, Sept. 5 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Dubuque. Despite both bride and groom suffering from colds, the day went off without a hitch and was a wonderful celebration with friends and family. Nearly 40 people from the Hartford congregation attended the celebration!

Pastor Finishes Service on Hospice Board

At the end of September, the **Rev. Jan Scott** of **Covenant Presbyterian Church in West Des Moines**, will complete six years of serving on the Board of Directors of Hospice of Central Iowa (HCI), finishing two three-year directorships! During this time, HCI funded and built the Bright Kavanagh Home in east Des Moines (and with its campus is the largest hospice home in Iowa), hired its new President and CEO and expanded its service in central Iowa which currently covers 34 counties. While on the board, Jan served on the executive committee, was elected vice-chairperson, served on the nominating committee, moderated the strategic planning committee in its two-year study for HCI and most recently served as Board secretary. "The hospice movement has many attributes similar to church life, where we care for people through the end of life and then celebrate our life together. It was a way in which I could give back to the great community of central Iowa," reflects Jan Scott.

Cottage Grove Avenue Church Thanks Volunteers

Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church staff wish to thank the **Moore family** from **Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines** for sponsoring and funding a trip to the Iowa State Fair for the Cottage Grove Church youth on August 20. This summer, intern **David Moore** worked with CROSS Ministries and the church youth. David's mother, **Elizabeth**, his grandmother, **Vivian Thatcher**, and **Terry and Ann McGowan** transported and supervised 10 children for a full day at the fair. Besides visiting and petting many of the animals and looking at the exhibits, they ate a variety of fair food. **Bob Rees** had given them money to ride the Giant Slide, which the children loved. They also rode the Sky Glider in the rain, but that didn't dampen their spirits. Because some of the children started school on Aug. 20, David and Elizabeth took 9 more Cottage Grove kids to the fair on Saturday, August 22. On both days everyone had a wonderful time, and they are so grateful to the Moore family for their generous donation of time and money!



September 15, 2009

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:

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- Volunteers Join DMARC in *Make a Difference Days*
- Attend a Celebration of Biblical Preaching in Minnesota
- Join in *Cover the Kids Day* 2009 Initiative

Experience Israel & Palestine: A Personal Journey

A public forum and multimedia presentation will be held, 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, at Central Library, corner of 10th St. and Grand Ave. downtown, Des Moines. Speaker **Dr. Lee Tesdell** is a resident of Slater, Ia. and an English professor at Minnesota State University, Mankato. He has visited the Occupied Territories (West Bank), the home of his wife's family, and has learned about life for Palestinians in Arab East Jerusalem. He even spent a sabbatical at Birzeit University, Jerusalem. For more info, go to the American Friends Service Committee Web site at: www.afsc.org/iowa, or contact Kathleen McQuillen, kmcquillen@afsc.org or 515-274-4851, ext: 22.

Volunteers Join DMARC in Make a Difference Days

Make A Difference Day was created by *USA WEEKEND* magazine, as a national annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October. This national day of helping others, is a celebration of everyone helping their neighbors. The Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC) Emergency Food Pantry will be celebrating *Make A Difference Days* on Saturdays, Oct. 3 & 10. The change from the fourth Saturday is to allow more flexibility in scheduling volunteers and avoid conflict with the *Race for the Cure* which also takes place on Oct. 24. Our goal is to have Sack Saturdays taking place in 10 grocery stores in the Des Moines Metro area on each of those Saturdays. To do this we need volunteers to work in the stores. If you can volunteer to help make a difference by participating in a Sack Saturday on either Saturday, contact Coordinator Cindy Morton at cmorton@dmreligious.org or by calling 515-277-6969.

Computers Needed at DMARC – DMARC is privileged to have several AmeriCorps VISTA members working with them next year, and to accommodate, the DMARC office is in need of two fairly new computers (either a laptop or a desktop). If you have a computer you'd be willing to donate, contact DMARC at info@dmreligious.org or 515-277-6969.

Attend a Celebration of Biblical Preaching in Minnesota

On Oct. 5-7, 2009, at Luther Seminary, 2481 Como Avenue, St. Paul, Minn. What is authentic biblical preaching? Join nationally known preachers and teachers as they explore how, in their preaching, they make the move from the world of the Bible to the world of today. This inaugural conference, *Celebration of Biblical Preaching: Bridging the Gap Between the Bible and Our World Today*, will include sermons, keynote addresses and workshops including:

- Anna Carter Florence, associate professor of preaching and worship, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Ga.
- Thomas Long, Bandy Professor of Preaching, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta
- Otis Moss Jr., pastor emeritus, Olivet Institutional Baptist Church, Cleveland
- Haddon W. Robinson, Harold John Ockenga Distinguished Professor of Preaching, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, Mass.

Tuition: \$225. **Schedule:** begins Monday, Oct. 5 with Chapel at 10 a.m. and ends Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 1 p.m.

Join in Cover the Kids Day 2009 Initiative

The month of October is a transitional month for families as they are back in the school-year routine, and flu season is just around the corner. At the same time, rapidly rising costs for necessities like gasoline and food as well as unemployment are causing a serious financial pinch for many families, including families in your congregation. There are as many as 27,000 children in Iowa who will be heading back to school this fall without health insurance coverage. The state of Iowa offers two health care coverage programs to help families maintain coverage for their children – Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (**hawk-i**) and Medicaid. The Department of Human Services (DHS) is designating Sunday, October 18 as the second *Cover the Kids Day in Iowa*. And we're asking for your help to let parents know they can apply for free or low-cost health and dental coverage for their children.

Because of the high level of trust you have earned and your compassion for serving the needs of your congregations, your assistance can make a real difference in helping families assure their kids get the preventive health and dental care they need to lead happy, healthy lives and avoid the catastrophic expenses of illness or injury. The DHS is encouraging you to participate in *Cover the Kids Day*, during the weekend of Oct. 18. Here's how:

1. Inform worshipers from the pulpit, church bulletins or both that Iowa offers two free or low-cost health and dental coverage programs for children.
2. Have several enrollment application packets on hand for members of the congregation to pick up.
3. Encourage parents who might benefit to take home an application form and send it in.

We will provide you with information to make it easy for your church to participate. This will include:

- A suggested announcement and talking points that you can deliver during services.
- A draft article you can insert into your bulletin/newsletters or your Web site.
- A package of application forms that each church can have available at weekend services.

One reason so many children are uninsured is because parents are unaware of these free/low-cost programs. And there are parents who assume that they earn too much to qualify when in fact a family of three earning \$54,000 may be eligible. For complete eligibility requirements, visit www.hawk-i.org or call 800-257-8563.

Your participation in *Cover the Kids Day* can make a significant difference in the lives of many Iowa families. Contact ZLRIGNITION Public Relations Account Manager Amanda Paulsen at 515-244-4456 or apaulsen@zlrignition.com to confirm participation and make arrangements for distribution of materials to your churches.

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.
