



## The Wider Circle E-News

### Mark your calendars this week for:

- **Sept. 22** – Native American Day
- **Sept. 22** – Transformation Team, 11:30 a.m., AIB, Des Moines
- **Sept. 24** – Staff Meeting, 10:30 a.m., Presbytery Office, Urbandale
- **Sept. 26 & 27** – The public has been invited to attend the **Fifth Annual Scholar in Residence** event, at First Presbyterian Church, Mount Pleasant, Ia. The scholar in residence will be the **PC(USA)'s Moderator of the 218<sup>th</sup> General Assembly the Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow**. The Presbytery of East Iowa is partially funding the event through their Vision and Renewal Unit. Go online for registration and a brochure.
- **Sept. 27** – *26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*; Evangelism Sunday
- **Sept. 27** – **Covenant Presbyterian Church in West Des Moines** celebrates rededication of its partnership with Drake University's Head Start and Early Head Start program during morning worship, 10:30 a.m.
- **Sept. 27** – Ordination for **Brian Diebold**, 4 p.m., **First Presbyterian Church, Ottumwa, Ia.**
- **Sept. 27-29** – The Synod of Lakes and Prairies fall meeting is at the Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center in Farmington, Minn.

### Joys and Concerns

The **Rev. Marcy Campbell** will end her contract Oct. 4 as Temporary Supply Pastor at the **Union Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines**. We wish Marcy well in her new call of service to the Lord.

**Donna Vaughan**, commissioned lay pastor at **Pitzer United Presbyterian Church**, has resigned. We wish her well in her new endeavors. **Robert Waldron**, commissioned lay pastor for **First Presbyterian Church in Earlham** and **Calvin Community Chaplain**, is now moderator and CLP for the Pitzer Church.

### Mark your Calendars for 2010 Synod School!

Another successful [Synod School 2009](#) for the 584 participants. There were 141 faculty that helped make this year possible – thank you. 168 children were present and can you believe there were 141 first timers! Our Des Moines Presbytery final count was over 90 members attending this year. Good proof that you should consider attending next year. (*Excerpt taken from July 31 blog, <http://presbyteryofdesmoines.blogspot.com/>.)*

Speaking of 2010, plans are already taking shape for July 25-30, 2010 Synod School, when we will have Convocation Speaker [Dr. Rodger Nishioka](#), Benton Family Associate Professor of Christian Education [Columbia Theological Seminary](#) in Decatur, Ga. Another exciting development, the evening Worship Leaders will be our own Revs. Mark Davis and Barbara Nish of [Heartland Presbyterian Church in Clive](#).

September 22, 2009

[www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org](http://www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org)



#### We are located at:

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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:

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- Rural Partnership Offering Reminder
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### Mission Challenge 2009 Host Indonesia Missionary

During **October 2-9, 2009**, our presbytery will host Prof. Bernard Adeney-Risakotta director, ICRS-Yogya (Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies) Graduate School, Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta, Indonesia. You can read more about him in the *2009 Mission Yearbook*, pages 113-115. There are still open dates/times for a visit with your church members. To schedule, contact the **Rev. Nathan Lamb** of **Community United Presbyterian Church in Hartford** at 515-989-3426 or [nlamb731@yahoo.com](mailto:nlamb731@yahoo.com). Bernard's schedule so far:

- **Sunday, Oct. 4** – 9 & 11 a.m., Worship services at **Ankeny Presbyterian Church**  
5 p.m. World Communion service by the South Central Regional Partnership hosted at the **Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Indianola**. A potluck dinner will follow. The Des Moines Presbytery churches are invited to attend.
- **Monday, Oct. 5** – 3 p.m., Des Moines Area Religious Council is inviting members of the Christian, Muslim, and Jewish communities to meet with Bernie for discussion. (DMARC Office, 3816 36th St., Ste. 202, Des Moines, IA 50310.)
- **Tuesday, Oct. 6** – 10 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Lectionary Study Group, at **Presbytery Office, Urbandale**.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 7** – 2-7 p.m., discussion/worship, at **Community United Presbyterian Church, Hartford**.
- **Thursday, Oct. 8** – Men's morning Bible Study, at **United Presbyterian Church, Allerton**.
- **Friday, Oct. 9** – Travel to Iowa City to begin next Mission Challenge visit with East Iowa Presbytery, Oct. 9-16.

Continued from above...

## Presbytery in midst of 2010 Budget Planning

As many of you now know, our Presbytery is beginning to recover from a recent financial deficit of \$57,000. Thanks to 34 churches and 20 individuals, pledges and contributions are over \$40,000. We can confidently face the 2010 budget with most of our 2009 shortfall behind us. You can still invest in our 2009 mission by giving through your congregation or directly to the Presbytery Office. Questions? contact **Phil Barrett, General Presbyter and Stated Clerk** at 515-276-4991 or [pby1@presbyteryofdesmoines.org](mailto:pby1@presbyteryofdesmoines.org). In October, our presbytery leaders will be working on the 2010 budget plan for future mission work by our Presbytery. Committee, team and task force budget proposals for the 2010 program year are due in the Presbytery Office by Sept. 28.

## CROSS Ministries Back-to-School Giveaway Serves 1,200 Children!

**Thank you** to the many churches and the individuals throughout the Presbytery of Des Moines who donated school supplies and money and to the 120 volunteers who helped make this the largest and most successful CROSS Ministries Back-to-School Giveaway ever! We were able to serve **1,200 children** from low or no-income families with a new

backpack, hygiene items, and the grade appropriate school supplies!

The line stretched from the main entrance in the parking lot, around the sides of the building, beyond the corner of 24<sup>th</sup> Street and down Cottage Grove Avenue. No photo can capture the magnitude of people waiting in such need on behalf of their children.



## Rural Partnership Offering Reminder

**Materials are available** to download for the 2009 Rural Partnership Offering at [www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org/mission.htm](http://www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org/mission.htm). (Hard copies can be mailed if necessary, contact the Presbytery Office.) Envelopes should be requested from the Presbytery Office as needed. This special offering of our Presbytery provides grants to rural projects here in Iowa and supports our international partnerships with Casa Pastoral Comunitaria/Our Sister Parish in El Salvador and with Together for Family Development in Egypt.

## Presbytery PW Fall Gatherings set for October 16 & 17

The Friday, Oct. 16 Gathering will be held at **First Presbyterian Church in Audubon** and the Saturday, Oct. 17 Gathering will be held at **Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Des Moines**. Beginning at 9 a.m. each day with fellowship and the program *Wonder of God's Word* with the **Rev. Linda O'Connell** and the *2009-2010 HORIZONS Bible Study – Joshua: A Journey of Faith*, starting at 9:30—2:30 p.m. Afternoon workshops include: *Wonder of Mission – Columbia* Accompaniment with **Paul Walther** at the Audubon church. Or *Wonder of Mission – El Salvador* with **Betty Dyer**, at Highland Park Church. Other workshops offered at both locations are: *Wonder of Discipleship* with Moderator **Linda O'Connell**, Historian **Pat Summers**, and Treasurer **Angie Williams** or *Wonder of Presbyterian Women – A Report on the Churchwide Gathering* by PW Correspondent **Emily Seeger**.

The worship offering will go towards CROSS Ministries and a local mission at each location. Local mission shower gift needs include: Audubon – the Women's Crisis Center (personal hygiene items) and Highland Park – the Heart and Hand Mission (items for infants and medical supplies). Lunch at both locations is \$5 and reservations are due October 12. If going to the Audubon First Presbyterian Church, contact **Angie Williams** at 712-563-2213. Or Highland Park Presbyterian Church, contact the church office at 515-288-5703.

## Register for Church Leadership Workshops October 18 & 19

Church leaders, personnel committee members and pastors are invited to attend the Healthy Congregation workshops at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines. sponsored by Des Moines Presbytery's **Professional Care and Development Committee** and the **Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center**. For brochure and registration form, contact the Presbytery Office at 515-276-4991 or go online to [www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org](http://www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org).

- **Sunday, Oct. 18, Healthy Congregations**, 2–6 p.m., for congregation leaders and pastors. **Cost:** \$20 individuals, \$35 church group.
- **Monday, Oct. 19, Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times**, 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., for pastors only. **Cost:** \$50 (includes lunch).



Presentation speaker is **the Rev. Dr. Peter Steinke**, a Lutheran pastor from Austin, Texas. He has served as a parish pastor for 15 years; a therapist for clergy for 14 years; and as an internationally known church consultant for 10 years. He is the author of the best selling books: *How Your Church Family Works*, *Healthy Congregations*, *Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times: Being Calm and Courageous No Matter What*. Viewing churches as living, breathing, organisms, Dr. Steinke evaluates the health of a congregation using the family systems theory.

To remove your name from our mailing list, e-mail Kim Coulter [pbycommunication@presbyteryofdesmoines.org](mailto:pbycommunication@presbyteryofdesmoines.org). Learn more at: [www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org](http://www.presbyteryofdesmoines.org). Questions? Contact [officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org](mailto:officeinfo@presbyteryofdesmoines.org) or 515-276-4991.