

Monday Morning in the Presbytery

A weekly news update from the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley in Iowa and Nebraska

Distributed by e-mail only to the churches, Clerks of Session, ministers, Presbytery officers and committee members and others who wish to be on the e-mail list.

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News from our E.P., Kevin Keaton

EFFECTIVE Communication

An older cartoon from *The New Yorker* gets a little close to home for many organizations: "We have lots of information technology. We just don't have any information."

Truth of the matter is, we simply do not adequately utilize the available technology to effectively communicate the information we possess!

The greatest communication challenge for most churches usually stems from the assumption that communication is a "one and done" task! Thus we hear such accusatory statements as ... "Well, it was in the newsletter." ... "Didn't you see it posted on the website?" ... "The pastor announced it week before last, weren't you here?" ... "We sent out an e-mail, so you should have gotten it!"

Several years ago I attended a workshop at which a communications specialist stated, "In order to communicate effectively, an organization must publicize/ convey a message seven separate times AND do so in a variety of media." The speaker went on to say, "Even then, you are going to miss some of your intended audience! Based upon this statement, there may not be such a thing as over-communication!"

How might a congregation share the information they need to put before their constituents? One of the more helpful approaches is to survey/ inquire regarding how the members prefer to receive information! The response should inform and shape but not limit or restrict the methods employed. Also, organizations need to consider utilizing approaches that will reach target audiences!

It is vital to keep in mind that even if most of the current members do not use the internet, a majority of potential visitors definitely will check out the congregation online. One survey revealed that 85+% of visitors surfed through a church website before they ever stepped through its doors for the first time!

While the examples are neither definitive nor exhaustive, the Presbytery share information through e-mail, brochures, mailings, the website, verbal announcements, *Monday Morning*, *The Presbyterian*, phone calls, bulletin inserts, prepared articles for church newsletters/ bulletins, links to relevant websites, bookmarks, and much more. Even then, we are aware that someone or some group may not get the message! So, we keep trying...

Each organization has abundant information! The genuine challenge to share it in an effective manner so that it is received by those who need to know!



Kevin

An Update following surgery:

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we begin to "gear up" for the August Stated Meeting and the many activities scheduled for this fall, I wanted to share with Presbytery leadership that my recuperation from total hip replacement is proceeding nicely.

Please know that I am eager to support the work your committees are doing, so please feel free to call me at 402-926-6060 or to e-mail me using kevin@pmrv.org I would love to hear from you - even if it is simply to "catch up" on what is happening in your lives.

At this point the surgeon has not discussed a timetable for my release to travel back to Omaha. Know that I remain prayerful about the work of our leadership, committees, pastors and congregations. May God's wisdom and grace guide us as we seek to follow the Spirit's promptings! I remain,

Yours in Christ,

Kevin

MRV Presbytery Meeting - August 27-28
Calvin Crest Camp and Conference Center
Education Event

"Something Old, Something New: Worship in a Time of Change"

Keynote address: Rev. Dr. Tom Long

When: Workshops on Friday and Saturday

Where: Calvin Crest

For more information, brochure and registration, click on or paste the following link in your browser:

http://pmrv.org/newsletters/attachments/mm_100802_aug2010_workshop_brochure.pdf

Food and Lodging

Please make your own lodging and food reservations by contacting Calvin Crest at 402-628-6455 or 877-795-7635 or email joy@calvincrest.org by **August 16, 2110**

Meal times and prices:

6 p.m.	Friday Supper	\$8.00 per person
8 a.m.	Saturday Breakfast	\$5.50 per person
12 noon	Saturday Lunch	\$7.00 per person

Lodging options:

Proett Center (motel-type lodging, bedding & towels provided)

\$35 per person in a 3-person room

\$40 per person in a 2-person room

\$55 per person in a 1-person room

Eppley Lodge (motel-type with shared/suite restroom, bedding & towels provided)

\$20 per person in a 3-4 person room

\$25 per person in a 2-person room

\$30 per person in a 1-person room

Cabins (bunk beds in cabin, group restroom, provide your own bedding & towels)

\$15 per person

Or you may find a motel in Fremont (5 miles away)

Great Plains Presbyterian Pilgrimage

When: GPPP #8: October 21-24, 2010

Where: Calvin Crest Camp and Conference Center

Pilgrimage is a three-day renewal . . . that lasts a lifetime

As you travel down life's highway, it is good to stop and rest a while.

You can gather at the river with your fellow travelers, and at that oasis, you can break bread, laugh, sing, worship, listen, and be heard. After lingering at that sanctuary, you and your friends will emerge refreshed, rested, and ready to continue on your way, prepared once more to celebrate the journey of life and praise the Lord.

Hey, weary traveler, Great Plains Presbyterian Pilgrimage is waiting...for you.

For more information, fees including scholarship information, and sregistration form, please click on or paste the following link in your browser: <http://www.gpppilgrimage.org/>

Social Justice Opportunities

Book, Movie & Music Drive for Omaha Digital Bridge Project

First Presbyterian Church, Omaha needs your unwanted or no longer needed Books, Movies and Music.

All proceeds will support FPC Omaha's computer lab's newest mission: Omaha Digital Bridge

The goal: to eliminate unemployment in Omaha and build contributors to our community by: Serving the needs of the un- and under-employed; Equipping them to bridge the digital divide*; and Deploying them with employable skills to serve others and our community.

**Digital Divide: The troubling gap between people who have the ability, access and skills to benefit from computers and the Internet and those who do not.*

Bring your books, movies and music to FPC, Omaha.

Program contact: Rev A David Paul 402-345-5383

adpaul@fpcomaha.org

For more information and a flyer to promote this program, click on or paste the following link in your browser:

http://pmrv.org/newsletters/attachments/mm_100531_book_movie_music_drive.pdf



13th Annual BBQ and Quilt Auction

When: Saturday, August 21 from 10 am to 2pm

Where: Calvin Crest Camp and Conference Center

Come and support Calvin Crest with this annual event by bidding on quilts and craft items of all sizes, colors and patterns.

Schedule of Events:

BBQ Lunch is served from 12-1:30.

Quilt Auction begins at 1:00 pm in the Proett Conference Center.

Silent Auction runs from 10:00-2:00.

All quilts and craft items are donated.

Proceeds benefit Calvin Crest projects and programs.

For more information, please contact Calvin Crest at 402-628-6455. See you on Saturday!

Inaugural Ride of the Calvin Crest Mountain Bike Trails:

Over three years and many volunteer hours have gone into creating almost 4 miles of great Mountain Bike trails at Calvin Crest.

Bring your mountain bike, helmet and water and enjoy the first group ride.

When: Sunday, August 29 beginning at 2:00 PM.

The ride will be followed by a cookout around 5pm.

Cost: a \$3 donation will get you a hotdog, chips, drink and some fruit.

"OWLS" – Older, Wiser, Livelier Saints



What: The OWLS Fall Celebration

When: September 15-16, 2010

Where: Calvin Crest Camp, Conference and Retreat Center, Fremont, NE

To celebrate life, a committee of MRV and Homestead presbyteries (we call ourselves OWLS - older, wiser, livelier saints) have a wonderful 2-day 'fly-in' for all of you. We do give a HOOT about all of you. This Celebration will be September 15-16 at beautiful camp Calvin Crest. There will be 2 fun-filled, enlightening, spiritual days.

Overnight accommodations and great food for the soul. Mark your calendars now!

Call the camp for details (402) 628-6455 **or**

click on or paste the following link in your browser to see the brochure and

registration form: http://pmrv.org/newsletters/attachments/mm_100726_owls_fall_celebration.pdf

Positions Available

Financial Administrator

First Presbyterian Church Omaha is looking for a Financial Administrator.

Applicant must have 3-5 years bookkeeping experience with knowledge of accounting practices preferred. Must be computer literate and familiar with accounting software programs, QuickBooks and Excel. Payroll experience preferred. Network computer administration helpful. Must be bondable. 20-30 hours per week.

Send resume to First Presbyterian Church attn: Jon Sloan, 216 S 34th Street, Omaha, NE, 68131 or call 402-345-5383 for application.

Part-Time Director of Music

First Presbyterian Church Omaha is looking for a Part Time Director of Music.

The Director of Music must have a music degree from an accredited college. This person will direct adult vocal choir and coordinate all music groups and music staff. Previous experience directing the music program of a church is highly desirable. Previous experience with and knowledge of sacred music is preferred.

Send resume to First Presbyterian Church attn: Jon Sloan, 216 S 34th Street, Omaha, NE, 68131 or call 402-345-5383 for application.

Administrative Assistant

Peace Church in Elkhorn is looking to hire an administrative assistant, M-F, 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Administrative work experience preferred. For more information, please call 402-289-1104 or email clkpersonnel@yahoo.com.

Resumes due immediately. Drug testing and background check will be performed.

Temporary Supply Pastor

The First United Presbyterian Church at Atlantic IA is considering persons for a temporary supply pastorate. Atlantic is a 7,000-population county seat about 70 miles west of Des Moines, 50 east of Council Bluffs. The church membership is approximately 200, with about 75 active. The pastorate could be full-time or part-time and commuting to Atlantic is an option.

Expressions of interest or nominations should be sent to Personnel Committee chair Duane Acker, talycoed@comcast.net, 712-243-4757, or 66344 Troublesome Creek Road, Atlantic, IA 50022."

Full Time Youth Director

Dundee Presbyterian Church of Omaha is seeking a Youth Director.

This position is a full time position with benefits. Candidates must have a love for Christ and Bachelors level degree or equivalency in Christian Education experience.

- The Youth Director is not an ordained position.
- This position will report directly to the Senior Pastor of Dundee.

Please send your resume to: David Daisy, Director of Operations, Dundee Presbyterian Church, 5312 Underwood Ave, Omaha, NE. 68132
or by email to: ddaisy@dpcomaha.org

Mission and Ministry Opportunities in the Presbytery

Golf Event for the Benefit of Good New Jail and Prison Ministry

When: Friday, August 20, 2010

Where: Tiburon Golf Club, 10302 South 168 Street, Omaha NE

Cost: \$90 per person

Other Information: 18 holes of golf ~ 11am Registration ~ 11:45am Lunch ~
1pm Shot Gun Start ~ Pin Prizes ~ Free Range Balls

Special Invitation for Pastors: *A Pastor and Guest may play for free ~ 2 person best ball; if the pastor agrees to have the Chaplain present a "Minute for Mission" sometime during the year. Pastor Matt Nieman is playing. His phone number is 402-291-1104. Please call George Thompson, Elder at 1st Presbyterian Church, Bellevue for further information; 402-293-1337 about this special invitation to pastors or about the event.*

To Register for the Event, Contact: Chaplain Morris Jackson, 402-599-2293;

Morris.Jackson@goodnewsjail.org

For a flyer about the event, please click on or paste the following link in your browser:

http://pmrv.org/newsletters/attachments/mm_100719_golf_flyer.pdf

Our Nicaraguan Partnership

MRV Presbytery has been in partnership with a group of evangelical churches in La Concepcion, Nicaragua for over 10 years.



Our partners expressed a dream of building a sewing collective so women could be employed locally, earn a living wage, and avoid the sweatshops so common in Nicaragua. MRV Presbytery provided the minimal amount of funds required to buy land and purchase building materials. Our partners built the building and the women have been running their collective for over a year now. **La Jardin de la Elegancia, or Garden of Elegance, is now a dream that has been realized.**

A group from our Presbytery will travel to Nicaragua October 29-November 5, and will visit the collective and our partners.

Join us!

For more information, contact Joyce Serenil 402-345-6093 or Lyle Franzen 402-210-6845.

News from our Congregations

FREE Spaghetti Dinner

Gethsemane Presbyterian Church is inviting you to a free dinner.

When: Saturday, Aug. 21, 4 to 7 p.m.

Where: Gethsemane Presbyterian Church, 224 Wallace Ave, Council Bluffs, IA

The meal will consist of spaghetti, salad, bread sticks and desserts

Suggested donation; *not required*: bring something for our military people fighting overseas.

Some ideas: toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, Q-tips, wet-wipes, snack food – (jerky, cookies, chips *(please NO CHOCOLATE or anything that will melt)*)
magazines – ideas: a car magazine, Popular Mechanics, Popular Science. *(the magazine cannot have and pictures with skin showing -- some of the countries ban them)*
books -- new or used

Come one, come all and enjoy a good meal and fellowship and help make some military people overseas happy -- if only for a little while!!!

MOPS group (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Presbyterian Church of the Cross

is pleased to announce the formation of a MOPS group (Mothers of Preschoolers).

We are now a chartered organization of the MOPS International, Inc.

MOPS is designed for all moms of young children from birth to age 5 and we invite all women in the presbytery to join us!

When: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month Starting Tuesday, September 28!
6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

Child care will be provided each week.

Where: Presbyterian Church of the Cross

Cost: .There is a **MOPS membership fee** is **\$23.95**, which is paid directly to MOPS International and provides resources, leadership training and scholarships for MOPS members.

There are currently ten churches in the Omaha area with MOPS groups but we are the only Presbyterian Church! Please encourage the moms of your congregation to become members of our MOPS group.

Starting Tuesday, September 28th.

For more information, please contact Sheri Sessions at 333-7466.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Support Group

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Omaha will be hosting a PTSD Support Group

When: Starting in Sep. Every fourth Thursday 7 PM.

Where: Westminster Presbyterian Church
3416 Woolworth Avenue, 68105, Kiewett Parlor Room

Facilitator: Rev. Howard Dotson

Fort Calhoun

A quartet from the Fort Calhoun Presbyterian Church will be singing the National Anthem at the ballgame at Rosenblatt on August 22. The members of the quartet are Cheryl Miller, Fort Calhoun education director and the pastor's wife, Alice Johnson, Fort Calhoun's organist and choir director, Sherry White, Fort Calhoun's 4th-8th grade choir director and Kristie Bolen the 3rd grade and under choir director.

Continuing Education Program Grants

The Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation provides continuing education program grants to planning groups in its 13-state region. Presbyterian clergy, commissioned lay pastors, and church leaders have benefitted from numerous continuing education workshops and events. Since 1972, the Foundation has given nearly two million dollars to support a variety of educational events; retreats, workshops, and/or seminars cover a wide range of topics and serve anywhere from 12 up to more than 200 people which are located in their community, Presbytery or Synod.

If any committee in our Presbytery or planning committee within our presbytery is planning a continuing education program for next year, a grant application for a portion of the cost of presenting an event or workshop to benefit area clergy, CLPs, and/or lay leaders is available. (Application forms and guidelines may be downloaded from the left.)

Applications and estimated expense/income totals for Continuing Education Program Grants are due in the Foundation office by **September 1st** for an event being planned for the following calendar year.

For Grant guidelines, an application and a request for payment form, click or paste the following link in your browser:

http://pmrv.org/newsletters/attachments/mm_100719_opsf_continuing_ed_grant.pdf

or click or paste this link to the OPSF website's continuing education grant page in your browser: http://omaha-sem-found.org/education_continuingeducation.html

Continuing Education Opportunities

Annual Conference of the Association of Presbyterian Tentmakers ~ Emergent Christianity and Tentmaking Ministry

When: Friday, November 12 (Dinner) through Sunday, November 14 (Lunch) , 2010

Where: University of St. Mary's of the Lake Conference Center, Mundelein IL

Principal Presenter: Phyllis Tickle

Cost: see brochure

For more information, brochure and registration form, click on or paste the following link in your browser:

http://www.pmr.org/newsletters/mm_100802_apr_conference_2010.pdf

The NINES
a totally FREE online conference and gathering for church leaders

When: September 9, 2010.

Beginning promptly at 10:30 am Central; The conference will last about 9 hours.



Where: online ~ no travelling, no cost for plane tickets or hotels, etc. All you need is your computer and to free up your schedule on September 9th to attend. *If you can watch videos on YouTube, you should be able to watch the live stream on The NINES. Just be sure that you have the most current version of flash.*

Cost: The conference is free, but there are some other 'paid' options through which you will have access to additional materials and discounts on items in The Nines' "bookstore".

For more information, Click on or paste the following link in your browser:

<http://thenines.leadnet.org/2010/index.html>

Addressing Mental Illness within Congregations

Presented by: Mental Health America of the Heartland and Alegent Health

When: Wednesday, October 27, 2010 ; 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Where: West Hills Presbyterian Church; 3015 S. 82nd Avenue, Omaha NE

Overview This collaborative project is designed to equip participants with education and resources to support people with mental illness and their families. Participants will also engage in discussion with others on how to utilize this information within their congregations.

Who Should Attend

This conference is designed for local and statewide clergy, seminarians, spiritual care providers, pastoral counselors, chaplains and lay leaders of faith-based communities. Persons with mental illness, their families and significant others, as well as healthcare and mental health professionals are also invited to attend.

Registration Fee: \$25.00 per person

For more information contact Beverly Miller by email, BeverlyMiller@alegent.org or phone, 402/572-2164.

Go online after Sept 7th to obtain the event brochure and registration forms

<http://www.alegent.com/body.cfm?id=4803> and click the **Community Events** link

2010 Nebraska Health Ministry Network Conference

When: August 27-28, 2010 (August 27, 4:15- 8:30pm August 28, 7:30am- 4:15pm)

Where: Immaculata Monastery and Spirituality Center, Norfolk NE

Target Audience: Nurses, social workers and others who work in health care and is designed to refresh, inform and support those working in health ministry,

Cost: \$50 for workshop, including continuing education credit (CEU), workshop materials and meals ~ or

\$75 for workshop, CEUs, workshop materials, meals, and lodging in Immaculata Monastery

For additional information or questions, please contact:

Sharon Kalcik at IMN (402) 476-3391 or im50427@windstream.net

Daniel Johnston at NMC (402-354-7080) or Dan.johnston@methodistcollege.edu

For brochure and registration form, click on or paste the following link in your browser:

http://pmrv.org/newsletters/attachments/mm_100705_2010_healthministry_conference.pdf

"How Shall We Sing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land? – Proclaiming the Gospel in a Secular Society"

When: March 23-April 1, 2011.

Where: The Protestant Theological Seminary in Prague, Czech Republic

The seminar will be in English.

Rev. Barbara A. Renton describes this as an "exciting continuing education opportunity" for Presbyterian Church (USA) pastors to "share experience, discovery and reflection with Czech pastors." A former chairperson of the General Assembly Mission Council, Renton urges us "to consider engaging with Czech pastors in what is the oldest Reformation country (100 years before Martin Luther) that today has been called the most secularized country in Europe, to explore the challenges facing Christians today."

Registration is limited to 12

Participants will also encounter local Czech congregations and have an opportunity to explore the city of Prague.

For additional information and the registration form, click on or paste the following link in your browser: <http://czechconnections.org/conferences.html>

Deadline for registration: September 1st

Crisis Care Responder Training Courses

Grief Following Trauma – Get Prepared to Share Another's Burdens

When: September 10 and 11, 2010; 8:30 – 4:30pm

Where: Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 7706 South 96th, LaVista

Cost: \$115 or if CCR member \$100.

Register before September 4th








For more information and / or a registration form, email Marcia Flom: mflom@cfc.org or call her at 402.408.6888 or click on or paste the following link into your browser:

<http://www.crisiscareresponders.com> (You may register on-line)

Event Calendar (Calendar begins on Monday)

Aug	16 9:30AM MRV PW CT MEETING (NEW HORIZON)	17 5PM SOCIAL JUSTICE PEACEMAKING - (WESTMINSTER- OMAHA)	18 9AM STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES (PMRV OFFICES)	19 12:30PM FAITH EDUCATION LEADERSHIP (PMRV OFFICES)	20	21	22 PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY DAY AT ROSENBLATT -1:30
Aug	23 5PM MISSION – (PRESBYTERY CENTER)	24 4:30 PM COM (NEW HORIZON)	25	26	27 STATED MEETING OF PRESBYTERY AND EDUCATION EVENT (CALVIN CREST)	28 STATED MEETING OF PRESBYTERY AND EDUCATION EVENT (CALVIN CREST)	29

Prayer Calendar (Calendar begins on Monday)

Aug	16 Keep this congregation in your prayers throughout the coming week: Peace  Rev. Dwight Williams is pastor of this congregation. 	6 Pray for Rev. Loren Parker. Loren is retired and lives with his wife, Eva in Council Bluffs.  Pray for our Presbytery Vice- Moderator, Rev. Matt Nieman	7 Pray for Rev. Caryn Pedersen. Caryn is pastor of Red Oak Presbyterian Church.  Pray for our Presbytery Stated Clerk, Rev. Steve Plank	8 Pray for Rev. John Pettit. Jack is retired and living with his wife, Doris, in Lake Havasu City, AZ.  Pray for our Presbytery Treasurer; John Morey	9 Pray for Rev. Steve Pike. Steve is a member-at- large and serves on the Committee for Preparation for Ministry.  Pray for our Presbytery Council Chair, Andy Cook	10 Pray for Rev. Steve Plank. Steve is pastor at Central Presbyterian and Stated Clerk of our presbytery.  Pray for the members of our Presbytery Council	22 Pray for the children, youth and teachers who live within the bounds of our presbytery as the new school year begins. Please continue to pray for Antonio, 3 months old, who was hospitalized for a month for a traumatic brain injury and is now at Madonna Rehabilitation in Lincoln. Pray for flood victims in China and Pakistan
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- Please send dates, times, locations of events to: pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com. However, to plan and schedule events talk with Joan Royer (joan@pmrv.org or 402-553-8300 or 800-603-8980).
- Please report email address changes to please send your new address to: pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com.
- To stop receiving Monday Morning drop an e-note to: pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com