



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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Editor: **Rev. Jody L. Filipi**

Send articles to: pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com

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News from our E.P., Kevin Keaton

The August Stated Meeting

Faith Education and Leadership Development, along with Spirituality, Theology and Worship, have been working diligently to prepare a meaningful experience for the August 27-28 Stated Meeting at Camp Calvin Crest.

Some also have indicated other plans have been made although the date for the Stated Meeting was decided and announced months ago. Others are of the opinion the trip to Calvin Crest is "too far" although most would drive farther to watch a football game.

Presbytery's leadership has been going to great lengths to create "value added" Stated Meetings. The intent is to provide an opportunity for commissioners to do more than merely attend a meeting so there is some "take home" that may assist their works as elders and support the life of the congregation.

Attending this meeting is well worth the effort as the focus is upon worship. On Friday and Saturday there will be multiple occasions to participate in the workshops, to share in significant conversations with others, to be enriched by the worship and Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and to enjoy the spiritual fellowship of sisters and brothers in faith. If there was any way I could attend, I would be present! The surgeon, however, has different ideas about my travel for the time being.

The keynote, Rev. Tom Long consistently is rated as one of the finest homileticians in the denomination. The first sermon I heard Tom deliver was in 1985. That occasion, and numerous ones after, all have been powerful. If you have not had the privilege of hearing Tom, you especially want to attend.

With abundant prayers for an enjoyable and significant experience at Calvin Crest,



Kevin

PS – If all goes as planned, the surgeon will release me for travel after Labor Day so that I may return to the office on September 9.

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

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

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONFERENCE

When: SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 2, 2010

Sponsor: University of Nebraska Lincoln

(Global knowledge: What we know and what we need to do).

The keynote speaker (E. Benjamin Skinner, author of recent *A Crime so Monstrous: Face-to-Face with Modern-Day Slavery*) will give a lecture on Thursday night, September 30, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln.

Reserve your free tickets to this lecture via the <http://enthompson.unl.edu/> or by contacting the Lied Center box office at 402-472-4747. See <http://humantrafficking.unl.edu> for information, cost and to register for the entire conference.

The deadline is approaching. There will be presentations from experts around the world.



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

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

ALERT: The OWLS committee is ready for company.

All plans are on GO.



If You haven't sent in your reservations yet, please do so. We may be OWLS, but we want a pillow to rest our heads on. The only cost to you for meals, snacks and that pillow, so send in your reservations (Calvin Crest Camp 2870 County Road 13, Fremont, Nebr.) or call Camp Calvin Crest (402 628-6455) right away. Let them know if you will be bringing a hobby to show.

Come and enjoy 2 days (or 1, if that is all you can spare) but let us know soon.

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

CB Cluster Potluck Picnic and Fellowship

Come celebrate our
Presbyterian Connectiveness!!
It will be fun!!

- ☺ **Guest Speaker:** Kevin Keaton, Executive Presbyter
- ☺ **What:** Potluck Picnic and Fellowship Time
- ☺ **Place:** Shelter #6 ~~Lake Manawa State Park
- ☺ **Date:** September 12, 2010
- ☺ **Time:** 5:00 p.m.

What to Bring:

- ☺ A covered dish to share
- ☺ table service
- ☺ drink
- ☺ lawn chair

Westminster Fellowship-Dream Team is hosting this exciting event

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

HELP Adult Services is accepting volunteers who would like to participate in the annual Christmas Stocking project.

This is an opportunity for either an individual or groups to assist in sewing handmade Christmas stockings.

It does "take a village" to produce 3,000 stockings, so your work will definitely be appreciated.

If you are a first-time stocking stitcher, give us a call at 341-6559 x100 and we will provide the stocking pattern and instructions.

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.

Attention Church Leaders, Christian Educators, Parents & Pastors

Do you have any young people from your church who are attending Iowa State University this fall? If so, we'd love to contact them and invite them to participate in Collegiate Presbyterian Church's university ministry programming. Hopefully, together, we can continue to nourish these young adults as they continue on their faith journeys.

Collegiate Presbyterian Church is a loving and active congregation that was established 100 years ago with the mission of ministering to Iowa State University students. We are located just on the western border of campus at 159 N. Sheldon Ave. in Ames, Iowa. Throughout each week, there are several ways to get involved, including:

- Traditional worship: 9am, Sundays
- Contemporary worship: 11:15am, Sundays, followed by a free, home-cooked lunch.
- Sunday evening programs – a free, home-cooked dinner followed by fellowship, outings, games, discussions, etc.
- Monday evening Bible studies
- Tuesday lunches in Campus-town
- Wednesday evening volunteer opportunities with our afterschool program, "Club CPC."

We also offer an overnight retreat each semester, local mission projects, an "adopt-a-student" program with church families, holiday parties with international students, movie nights, and a spring break mission trip.

You can learn more about our programs and our church at www.cpcames.org. We are also on Facebook. You can find us by searching for "Collegiate Presbyterian Church (CPC) University Ministry."

If you have names to share, please email these names and their contact information to jesse.larson@cpcames.org. Or you can mail this information to: Collegiate Presbyterian Church, 159 N. Sheldon Ave., Ames, IA 50014

Please note that we will keep the information you share secure and only for the purpose of inviting students to participate in our programs. If you have any questions or would like more information, do not hesitate to contact our campus minister, Rev. Jesse Larson at jesse.larson@cpcames.org or 515-203-1994.

News from our Congregations

Westminster Presbyterian, Council Bluffs Homemade Brat Or Grilled Hamburger Supper

When: Saturday, September 25, 2010, 5:00 p.m.

Where: Westminster Church Fellowship Hall

Meal includes homemade brat or grilled hamburger, French fries, coleslaw, beverages and dessert.

Tickets must be purchased no later than Sunday, September 17th from members of the Dream Team.

Cost: \$5.00 (PREPAID)

John & Mary Adkins (322-2382); Don & Joan Hoden (325-1113);

Arny & Fran Rathke (322-1487); Royce Tornblom (328-0518)

Any questions, contact us! Need a ride, let us know that, too!

Invite your friends! Bring your family!

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. Please encourage the moms of your congregation to join 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

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

HELP Adult Services has two Free Learning Opportunities Available

Home Safety Tips for Homebound Adults

When: Thursday, August 26th 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Where: HELP Adult Services 8447 Lake St Ste 101

Speaker: Amanda Wise, Director of Rehabilitation, ProCare3

Caring for Older Adults –

The Importance of Emotional and Physical Stimulation

When: Thursday, September 30th 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Where: HELP Adult Services 8447 Lake St Ste 101

Speaker: Dr. Priscilla Quinn PhD, Coordinator and Professor, Dept of Gerontology UNO

For more information on upcoming Learning Opportunities, visit our website at www.helpadultservices.org/training.

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>

**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

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

Who Should Attend

This conference is designed for 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, Beverly.Miller@alegent.org or phone, 402/572-2164

Go to obtain the event brochure and registration forms

<http://www.alegent.com/body.cfm?id=4803> and click the **Community Events** link or Register now by sending a check to: by sending a check to: Pastoral Services Office Attn: Beverly 6901 N. 72nd St. Omaha 68122-1709

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.crisiscarerresponders.com> (You may register on-line)

“The Shame Factor-How Shame Shapes Society”, A National Conference



WHEN: October 24-26, 2010

WHERE: St. Mark’s United Methodist Church
8550 Pioneers Blvd., Lincoln, Nebraska 68520

CONTACT: Brad Penner, St. Mark’s UMC, bpenner@stmarks.org, 402.489.8885 x153

We’ve all felt shame. Sometimes it’s about something we’ve done. Sometimes it’s about something done to us. Something we couldn’t control, but still feel responsible for in some way. Shame sometimes seems less common in an era where popular culture pushes far beyond the boundaries of good taste. But shame is there, just below the surface; a feeling that somehow you’re not good enough. A feeling that affects the way individuals behave, but has it affected the course of history? “The Shame Factor” examines the role of shame in our society during a 3-day conference at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. The conference will explore what the Bible has to say about shame, and how shame prevents individuals and groups from reaching their God-given potential.

Author of “The Shack”, William Paul Young will speak about the role of shame in his life, and how it led him to write his bestselling novel. Young will deliver the keynote address of the conference on Sunday, October 24, at 7:00 pm. Individual tickets for Young’s appearance are available. Preferred seating is \$30, general admission \$25.

The conference continues October 25-26 with presentations by noted biblical scholars from around the nation. “The Shame Factor” will challenge and enlighten mental health professionals, clergy, educators, psychologists, and human resources professionals.

More information, including a list of conference participants, is available at:

<http://www.shameconference.com/shameconference.com/>.

"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." 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

Event Calendar (Calendar begins on Monday)

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------------|--------|----|--|--|----|
| 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 |
| Aug | 30 | 31 | SEPT 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Prayer Calendar (Calendar begins on Monday)

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| Aug | 23 Keep this congregation in your prayers throughout the coming week: Plattsmouth  Rev. Ronald Van Heukelom is pastor of this congregation.  | 24 Pray for Rev. David Paul. David serves as associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Omaha.  Pray for Rev. Sally Carlson, chair of COM | 25 Pray for Rev. Gale Prentice. Gale is retired and lives in Omaha.  Pray for Rev. Dr. Gary Eller, chair for of CPM | 26 Pray for Rev. Nancy Profit. Nancy is serving as Moderator of the Sidney IA Presbyterian Church.  Pray for Lay Pastor, David Krueger, chair of Evangelism and Discipleship | 27 Pray for Rev. Carl Ratliff. Carl is serving as pastor of United Faith Valley NE. . Also celebrate his call, Carl was ordained in 1987.  Celebrate the call of Rev. Howard Svoboda, ordained in 1954.  Pray for the work, education and fellowship happening at our Presbytery Stated Meeting | 28 Pray for Rev. Gregory Reid. Gregory is retired and lives in Omaha NE.  Pray for Dr. Tom Long, keynote speaker at Presbytery this weekend. Pray for the work, education and fellowship happening at our Presbytery Stated Meeting | 29 Celebrate the call of Rev. Matt Nieman, ordained in 1999.  Please continue to pray for Antonio, 4 months old, who was hospitalized for a month for a traumatic brain injury and is now at Madonna Rehabilitation in Lincoln. |
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