



PRESBYTERY OF WABASH VALLEY

GOD CALLS

September 30, 2009

CREATES, CONNECTS AND
NURTURES CONGREGATIONS TO
FULFILL CHRIST'S MISSION

Links to Special points of interest:

Exploring Our Future
Interim General Presbyter
Sept 19, 2009
[Assembly Report](#)

[2010 Annual APCE Event](#)
Nashville, TN
Jan. 27 - 30, 2010

Save the Date!
March 15-17, 2010
**Stewardship Kaleido-
scope will be held in
Indianapolis**

The **Presbyterian Youth
Triennium**, a nation-wide
gathering of 5,000 Presbyte-
rian youth, is held every 3
years at Purdue. The next
Triennium is July 20-24,
2010. Watch for more details
to come or go now to:
www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

- Tues, October 13

ASSEMBLY

- Tuesday, Nov 17 Pea-
body Retirement
Community



Prayers of the Presbytery

Lord Jesus we have all the confidence in you that you will lead us in this Transformation showing us the way. We call upon your grace to mend our hearts and the hearts of those we have hurt. We call upon that grace to help us let go of sorrows and regrets, to illuminate our path with truth and guidance, and to bless those we have known and will meet in our journey.

We hold close **Carrie Munson**, Deer Creek Presbyterian Church and Council member as she goes through and recovers from jaw surgery. We also ask your healing for Madonna Larrick as she recovers from hip surgery.

O' God we thank you for the work of **Granger Presbyterian Church & First Presbyterian Church, Hammond** we pray for their continued ministry.

It is with humble gratitude we say thank you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

COUNCIL AND PRESBYTERY VOTE TO TAKE NEXT STEPS...

by Carol McDonald – Moderator Presbytery of Wabash Valley

We are a presbytery in transition. Our General Presbyter retired at the end of 2006. Our Interim General Presbyter, Ray Fancher, began his ministry with us in February of 2007. Under Ray's guidance and leadership, we have worked to contemplate our history, to ponder our identity, to strengthen our leadership, and to create new connections both with our congregations and with the larger church. It is time now to consider moving towards our new future and our new leadership for which we have prepared during this interim

At Presbytery on September 19, we voted enthusiastically to enter into a 3-year relationship with the Center for Parish Development in Chicago – in order to encourage transformation within the congregations of the Presbytery of Wabash Valley. Such congregational transformation cannot help but build transformation into the future of the presbytery itself – what promise the new future holds for us as God's people in this place.

At its called meeting of September 9, Council voted to establish a "Next Steps Team" to do the following:

1. To review the current Presbytery Priorities and to propose revisions, if necessary, to the Council for presentation to Presbytery
2. To review the current job descriptions for the Interim General Presbyter, Stated Clerk and Treasurer; and to propose to Council for presentation to Presbytery, a staffing plan for the future – including job descriptions for all three positions
3. To consult with the Interim General Presbyter and make recommendations to the Council, and to any other appropriate entity, regarding a timeline for contract extension and conclusion
4. To consult, as needed, with any appropriate Committees and Ministry Teams of Presbytery during the course of its assignment – especially the Administrative Ministry Team – regarding current Personnel policies and prac-

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ORDINATION RECOGNITION

Best wishes are extended to the following on their ordination anniversary:

- **Rev. DuWayne Hintz;** Honorably Retired, October 17, 1976
- **Rev. Diane Karay Tripp;** Member at Large, October 5, 1980

Please accept my sincere apology if you have not been acknowledged. Please forward your updated information to [Vicki Dreibelbis](#) or call 574-223-5678.



Your service is appreciated!

Four Congregations will Join Together On World Communion Sunday for Worship and Fellowship

By Reverend William "Bill" McLean, Pastor First Presbyterian Church Delphi

The community is invited to join with churches from throughout Carroll County to celebrate World Communion Sunday on Sunday, October 4 at 10:00am in the Auditorium at Carroll Consolidated High School. Everyone in the community is invited to join Cutler Presbyterian Church, Deer Creek Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church of Delphi, and Flora

Presbyterian Church as we break bread together not as individual congregations but united as sisters and brothers in Christ. The churches will gather in the auditorium to worship God in a joint worship service including communion as we join with Christians throughout the world to celebrate God's love and grace.

In addition to jointly cele-

brating communion, the service will include a community choir with members from each of the churches. The choir will meet at 9:00am to rehearse before the service and is open to anyone who would like to lend their voice as we lift a joyful noise to the Lord. We hope that you will join us for a carry-in lunch in the school's cafeteria following the worship service.

35 Presbytery of Wabash Valley Congregations represented and hard at work during the last of four Record Review training sessions.



Prairie Wind Guild

Tellers of Sacred Stories

Rev. Beth Galbreath, coordinator

“The Coming: Telling the Lectionary for Advent and Christmas,” an epic telling of these scriptures with a workshop on Biblical Storytelling, will be presented by Prairie Wind Guild: Tellers of Sacred Stories. The event will be Saturday, Oct. 17, 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Wheaton Christian Reformed Church, 711 East Harrison, Wheaton Illinois.

Spirited Biblical storytellers from the Chicago area and northern Illinois will perform

the stories of the Advent and Christmas lectionary. Attendees will be invited to explore the art of Biblical Storytelling through lively discussion and easily reproduced techniques.

Members of Prairie Wind Guild include clergy, educators and performers whose goals are training Biblical storytellers, helping churches start “Scripture By Heart” teams, and providing tellers for events.

Prairie Wind Guild is affiliated with the Network of Biblical Storytellers International (www.nbsint.org), an ecumenical organization which advocates bringing Scripture to life by learning and telling Biblical stories by heart.

For more information, go to www.prairiewindguild.org, or contact Dan LeMonnier @ wpcy-outh@aol.com or by phone at 1-219-838-3131.

LARRI (Lakeshore Area Regional Recovery of Indiana) helps fill that void

The need for flood relief volunteers continues to grow, as Lakeshore Area Regional Recovery of Indiana works to contact the thousands of homeowners who registered with FEMA after the September 2008 floods in Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties. “Many of those homeowners are our most vulnerable citizens; the elderly, the disabled and single parents,” said LARRI director Jane Delligatti. Hundreds have already waited almost a year to find the help needed to restore their homes. New cases are brought to LARRI almost every day adding to those already approved and ready for volunteer construction crews. How-

ever, the supply of volunteers dwindles as vacation season comes to a close and school begins.

“We are grateful for groups like The Brethren Disaster Ministries that have made a long-term commitment to the recovery efforts in our area,” said volunteer coordinator Rhonda Carlson, “but we still need more volunteers.”

LARRI, a term-term recovery committee formed to assist survivors of the September 2008 floods, depends almost entirely on volunteer labor. Carlson said there is a great need for handyman level construction volunteers as well as teams to tackle the ‘muck and gut’ needs that continue to surface.

For more information or to vol-



unteer with Lakeshore Area Regional Recovery of Indiana, contact volunteer coordinator Rhonda Carlson at (219) 836-1325 x102 or email at rcarlson@larri.info. Check out our web site at www.LARRI.info

The Alban Weekly

PLANNING AND THE BUDGET

by Dan Hotchkiss

Congregations often plan and budget as though planning were one thing and budgeting another. Bringing the two together calls for a comprehensive calendar for goal-setting and evaluation.

A key event in the sequence is the annual planning retreat. Typically, this event includes the board and senior members of the staff, including lay staff as appropriate. Ideally, the group spends at least a day and a half off-site with a strict no-cell-phone rule. The agenda varies from year to year; the focus is always on discernment and strategy, the two zones of responsibility shared by board

and staff. Some special attention to the mission is appropriate every year--but it is rarely a good use of time to tweak the wording of the mission statement that often. Once every five years is more than enough, unless something is terribly wrong with the existing statement.

A more necessary work product from the retreat and related activities is the annual vision of ministry, an answer to the question, "In what new and different ways will we transform lives in the next one to three years?" To put it differently, the vision of ministry is the board's

short list of priorities. Why a short list? Because when a list of priorities is long, they're not priorities! The vision of ministry is a short list of things the board means to accomplish, no matter what. The fact that something does not make the list does not mean that it won't happen. While creating the vision, the board will bank a number of ideas for the future: pieces of a long-term vision to which the board is not prepared to make an ironclad commitment now. There is no way to do this without sometimes saying no.

Continue Reading ["Planning and the Budget"](#)

NEXT STEPS...

(Continued from page 1)

tices, the Interim Ministry Team – regarding the dynamics of the interim time, the Committee on Ministry – regarding future leadership needed for continued implementation of the new model for doing the work of COM, and the Nominating Committee – regarding the pool of persons who have indicated a willingness to serve the presbytery

5. To suggest to Council – for presentation to Presbytery – a slate of nominees for a General Presbyter Nominating Committee – to be elected by

Presbytery at the Stated Meeting of November 17, 2009.

On September 19, Presbytery Assembly added its agreement and the following persons were named to the "Next Steps Team;"

- The Rev. John Ritchie – Vice Moderator of Presbytery and Moderator of the Team, Pastor, First Huntington
- Elder Pam Camren – Vice Moderator-elect of Presbytery, First Mishawaka
- The Rev. Roger McDaniel, Pastor, Trinity West Lebanon
- The Rev. Jamie Miller, Pastor, Sunnyside South Bend
- The Rev. Anna Parkinson, Associate Pastor, First Goshen

At least one additional elder will

be named to the team. The Rev. David Crittenden, Co-Executive of the Synod of Lincoln Trails will provide staff support to this team as it implements its assignments.

As we move into the final quarter of 2009, I am grateful beyond words for the leadership Ray Fancher has offered, and continues to offer, us in this time of transition. Since February, 2007, we have journeyed terrain previously traversed by few presbyteries in our denomination. And we are a stronger community because of our shared journey. I am eager to hear from the Next Steps Team – thanks be to God for forward movement!



PWV STAFF/OFFICERS

- [Raymond Fancher](#)
Interim General Presbyter
- [Linda L. Long](#)
Stated Clerk
- [Eric Herzog](#)
Financial Consultant
- [Doug Capper](#)
Bookkeeper
- [Gladys Sargent](#)
Office Manager
- [Vicki Dreibelbis](#)
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CREATING, CONNECTING, NURTURING

Where is your Interim General Presbyter fulfilling our mission? Rev. Fancher's congregational schedule: (Eastern Time Zone unless otherwise noted*)

October 11	10:00 a.m.*	Immanuel Presbyterian Church Schererville
October 15	7:00 p.m.*	Hobart Presbyterian Church Consecration Orientation
October 18	10:30 a.m.*	First Presbyterian Church Highland
November 1	12:00 noon*	Hobart Presbyterian Church Consecration Leadership Meal
November 15	11:00 a.m.*	Hobart Presbyterian Church Consecration Sunday

*Central Time Zone

PWV Meetings & Events

Thursday, October 1

- 10 am - Committee on Ministry

Wednesday, October 7

- 10 am - Nominating Committee

Thursday, October 8

- 10 am - Administrative Ministry Team

Tuesday, October 13

- 10 am - Council

Wednesday, October 14

- Noon (CT)- Northwest Quadrant Church Professionals Lunch [Hobart Presbyterian Church](#)

Thursday, October 15

- 10 am - Committee on Ministry Executive Committee

Saturday, October 17

- 10 am - Geneva Center MT

Tuesday, October 20

- 10 am Standing Rules Task Force, [Pam Camren's House](#)

Thursday, October 22

- 10 am - Church Development MT

Saturday, October 24

- Leadership Development

Monday, October 26

- 6:30 - 8:45 pm (CT) - Come and See [First PC. Valparaiso](#)

Tuesday, October 27

- 10 am - 2 pm - Committee on Preparation for Ministry

For more scheduling & calendar information go to <http://www.ourpresbytery.org>

All meetings are held at PWV Office, times are Eastern Time (ET) unless noted otherwise.