



PRESBYTERY OF WABASH VALLEY

GOD CALLS

September 9, 2009

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

Links to Special points of interest:

[ACSWP releases three
new study resources](#)

Resources designed to
help churches ex-
plore Social Creed,
homelessness, serious
mental illness

[All kinds of carpenters](#)

Project that began at
Presbyterian church
now involves entire
city

Fairview Presbyterian
Church offers wel-
coming place for col-
lege students.

[www.fairviewpresby-
terian.org](http://www.fairviewpresby-
terian.org)

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL

- Tues, October 13

ASSEMBLY

- Friday-Saturday,
September 18-19
Geneva Center
- Tuesday, Novem-
ber 17 Peabody
Retirement Com-
munity



Prayers of the Presbytery

O' Lord, we recognize the complexities of being your church as we try to live up to your will for our lives in the Presbytery of Wabash Valley. We pray for our churches and leadership who seek to hear your call to avenues of service.

Please continue to hold up in prayer the family of **Elder Jodi James**, who passed away September 5 from injuries sustained in an auto accident. Her funeral service will be Thursday, September 10 at 11:00 a.m. (central) at First Presbyterian Church, Michigan City. Friends may call at Carlisle Funeral Home, Michigan City, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. (central) Wednesday September 9, and Thursday at the church from 10:00 a.m. until the service.

We ask Lord for your care and healing of the **Fowler & Indiana communities** as the battle much flu closing down offices, schools and public establishments.

We lift up in prayer **Rev. George Frey** in recognizing his status of honorably retired effective September 1. George served as Samaritan Center Executive Director and senior staff therapist and clinical supervisor.

We are thankful for First **Presbyterian Church, Elkhart & Flora Presbyterian Church** O' God have been with them faithfully as they worship and honor you.

May we always be willing to demonstrate our love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

TRIP OF A LIFE TIME

Vicki Dreibelbis, Church Relations Coordinator

When our small group started to talk about a motorcycle trip to Yellowstone I was a little apprehensive. My husband insisted it would be the trip of a life time, I was skeptical.

As the dinner conversations continued throughout the winter and spring my skepticism waned and the excitement started to build.

The women would fly to Denver...what a great idea. Cut 1500 miles off of the back of the motorcycle for us. We would miss some of the flat lands but living in Indiana we see flat. We were Denver bound, all six of us.

The first of many sights were the Colorado Rockies. Every turn we made,

every mountain we road over we were in awe. After a couple of days of rain, hail and sleet we were still in awe. A little cold and a lot more respect for safety, but we knew who was responsible.



God's presence was obvious throughout our entire trip. With the beauty all around us, and the protection He provided, our thanks and praise is only to our Lord and Savior.

My husband was *right* it was a trip of a life time.

ORDINATION RECOGNITION

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

- **Rev. Gretchen Seidler-Gibbs;** Associate Pastor First PC, Valparaiso, September 13, 1987
- **Rev. Sue Berry;** Honorably Retired, September 15, 1987
- **Rev. David Horner;** Pastor Deer Creek PC, Camden, September 15, 1975
- **Rev. Mark Kilmer;** Pastoral Counselor, September 16, 1979
- **Rev. Ted Lester;** Pastor Memorial PC, South Bend, September 16, 1967



Your service is appreciated!

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

It's Time for Presbytery Assembly

Carol McDonald, Moderator of Presbytery

Presbytery Assembly at Geneva Center
Friday and Saturday, September 18-19

Friday, Sept 18

- 5:30 p.m. Supper with advanced reservations
- 7:00 p.m. - Gathering
- Rev. Gradye Parsons, Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Gradye will paint for us a picture of the state of today's church and where he sees signs of transformation.
- Celebrate the Lord's Supper
- Commission Elder Jim Dougans

Saturday, September 19,

- 9:00 a.m. EDT Convene Assembly
- Gretchen Seidler-Gibbs and members of the Missional Transformation Coordinating Team will lead us in conversation and Bible Study.
- Rev. Diane Karay Tripp will share with us "trusted voices" from her recently published book
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry will move Edwin Brinklow from Inquirer to Candidate

- Committee on Ministry to recognize the honorable retirement of The Rev. Nancy Becker.
- Board of Pensions update from Rev. Douglas Kelly.
- Elect commissioners to the 219th General Assembly (2010)
- Hear a report regarding the Economic Challenge Grant

The Presbytery Council will bring to us many items which affect our common ministry:

- first reading of the 2010 budget
- an update on our finances
- an update on Mission Challenge 2009
- news of potential improvements to the Geneva Center conference center facility
- receive reports from Administrative Commissions
- hear from our Interim General Presbyter, The Rev. Ray Fancher.

Throughout the retreat, we will sing and pray and be in conversation together.

To make reservations for housing and meals, please contact Vicki Dreibelbis at Vicki@ourpresbytery.org

Heritage Microfilming Grant

Offered by The Presbyterian Historical Society

CRITERIA:

A PC(USA) congregation of 250 members or less;
A congregation at least 50 years old;
Interested in the preservation of your history;
Looking for financial assistance to microfilm your records.

FOR APPLICATION PACKET:

Phone us: 215-627-1852
Email us: ntaylor@history.pcusa.org
Write us: Presbyterian Historical Society
425 Lombard St
Philadelphia, PA 19147

APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 31



PEACEMAKING PROGRAM RESOURCES

On October 4, World Communion Sunday, congregations across the denomination will promote and receive the [2009 Peacemaking Offering](#). This offering supports peacemaking ministries across the church and is crucial to the ongoing success of the [Peacemaking Program](#). We encourage you to take time this week to promote the offering with congregations, groups, and individuals in your sphere of influence. Some suggested ways are to:

- share this information with others
- [visit the Peacemaking Offering Web site](#) to find tools that help congregations promote the offering, including the DVD found in this email, clip art for newsletters, minutes for mission [and more](#)
- make sure your congregation has received the Peacemaking Offering materials and plans to promote the offering in the coming weeks. Contact [Nancy Goodhue](#) at (888) 728-7228, x5182 or [Denise Dukes](#) at (888) 728-7228, x5026 if you have questions
- [give generously to the Peacemaking Offering](#)

“God Will Do Wonders Among You”

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Wabash Valley

welcomes you to join them for fellowship, singing, good eats, worshipping and much more at the
“Fall Gatherings”

Presbits 1, 2/3

Saturday, September 19th The PC, LaPorte

Presbits 4, 5, 6 & 7

Thursday, September 24th Calvary PC, Logansport

Presbits 8, 9, 10. & 11

Saturday, September 26th First PC, Lebanon

Women’s Fall Retreat

Friday & Saturday, November 13 & 14 Geneva Center

Healthy Congregations

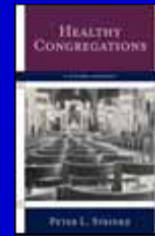
by Peter L. Steinke

"LITERARY LEANS"

Healthy Congregations

New Format! In this sequel to *How Your Church Family Works*, Steinke takes readers into a deeper exploration of the congregation as an emotional system. Learn ten principles of health,

how congregations can adopt new ways of dealing with stress and anxiety, how spiritually and emotionally healthy leaders influence the emotional system, factors that could put your congregation at risk, and more.



Books can serve as excellent tools for congregations seeking to address a variety of challenges. But what should you seek in a book, and how can you and other leaders use a book most effectively? The [Indianapolis Center for Congregations](#) offers sound answers to these questions, as well as some questions for you to consider.

The Alban Weekly

SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND MONEY Mission, Ministries, and Generosity

by John V. Clark and Wayne Whitson Floyd

For many religious people, their faith and their money live in an uneasy truce with each other. Seldom are we encouraged to see our attitudes about--and actions done with--our money as essential aspects of our spiritual formation as believers. Our wallets don't appreciate our faith meddling with their contents, and our faith wants to think of itself as above such gritty worldly issues as money and the way we spend it.

I know there are individuals,

congregations, and organizations that feel and act differently about the relationship between spiritual formation and money, and recently I have gotten to know one such group, a midwestern organization that focuses its work on stewardship and capital campaigns. The James Company describes itself as offering "a wide range of development and fundraising services and materials to help congregations cultivate and gather their resources to accomplish specific goals."

In preparation for an upcoming series of four online webinars that the James Company will be leading for the Alban Institute, a "Year-Round Stewardship Toolkit," I invited their president, John Clark, to reflect on what congregations need to keep in mind about their relationship with their money, particularly in these tough economic times for individuals and the faith communities to which they belong.

Continue Reading ["Spiritual Formation and Money"](#)



PWV STAFF/OFFICERS

- [Raymond Fancher](#)
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- [Linda L. Long](#)
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- [Eric Herzog](#)
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DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Presbyterian Church of LaPorte, IN is seeking a dynamic, self starter to create and provide opportunities for children and youth to encounter God through Jesus Christ and to be nurtured in their faith. This is a salaried, part time (approx 20 hours per week) position. Responsibilities will include working with existing Christian Education and youth programs as well as creating new opportunities for young people. Some college education is preferred. May e-mail the church office for position description.

Mail or email resume outlining experiences and three work related references to: The Personnel Committee

307 Kingsbury Avenue
LaPorte IN 46350
office@laportepresbyterian.org

PWV Meetings & Events

Thursday, September 10

- 10 am - ~~CANCELLED~~ Committee on Representation, First Presbyterian Church Michigan City

Tuesday, September 15

- 10 am (CDT) - Standing Rules Task Force

Wednesday, September 16

- 10 am - Nominating Committee

Thursday, September 17

- 10 am - COM Executive Meeting

Friday, September 18

- 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Record Review
- 7 pm - PWV Assembly Retreat

Saturday, September 19

- 9 am - 2:30 pm - PWV Assembly Retreat

Tuesday, September 22

- 10 am - Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Wednesday, September 23

- 12 - 2 pm - Interim Pastors Gathering
- 2 - 5 pm - Missional Transformation Coordinating Team

Thursday, September 24

- 10 am - Church Development Ministry Team

Tuesday, September 29

- Leadership Development

Wednesday, September 30

- 10 am - 12 pm - Staff

For more scheduling & calendar information go to [http://](http://www.ourpresbytery.org)

www.ourpresbytery.org

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