



Presbytery of North Central Iowa

“Serving Jesus Christ by equipping congregations for ministry and mission.”

P. O. Box 186, Waterloo, IA 50704
319-233-1747

September 15, 2016 E-NEWS

Prayers of the Presbytery

Sept. 18	Dows, First – Rev. Shawn Hill
Sept. 25	Grand Junction, First & Paton, First – Tere Erickson, ERE
Oct. 2	Grundy Center, First & Reinbeck First – Revs. Mike & Sheryl Campbell
Oct. 9	Grundy Center, Bethany – Rev. Al Polito
Oct. 16	Jefferson, First – Rev. Gordon Moen
Oct. 23	Waterloo, Barclay – Larry Fuson, CRE
Oct. 30	The Synod of Lakes and Prairies staff

Prayers: - Thelma Hedges, ERE and Chair of Mission and Ministry Board, during her Hospitalization. Notes may be sent to Thelma at: 1836 C Ave., Scranton, IA 51462.

Presbytery Calendar Dates:

Sept. 15	9:00 a.m.	Iowa Presbyter Leadership gathering	Ames, Northminster
	10:00 a.m.	Mission & Ministry	Conference Call
Sept. 18	4:00 p.m.	Macedonia Ministries Holy Land Reunion at Rev. Rich King’s home	
Sept. 19	10:00 a.m.	Macedonian Ministry – East	Waterloo, Unity
	2:15 p.m.	Vital Ministries Initiative	Conference Call
Sept. 22	10:00 a.m.	Macedonian Ministry – West	Fort Dodge, First
Sept. 23		M&M Grant Application Extension deadline	
Sept. 25		150 th Anniversary Celebration	State Center, First
Sept. 27	3:30 p.m.	Stewardship & Finance conference call	
Sept. 28	11:30 a.m.	Retired Pastors & CREs Luncheon	Marshalltown, Pizza Ranch
Sept. 29	5:00 p.m.	Presbytery Council meeting	Ackley, First
Oct. 4-6		Synod Executive gathering	
Oct. 5-6	9a-5p	Twilight of Idols with Dr. Achtemeier	Lakeshore Center
		[See flyer included on page 5]	

Rev. David A. Feltman
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Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Thoughts from David Feltman

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This is a follow up on last week, the pair of articles are to offer encouragement and challenge us in endurance. This is from the book LEADERSHIP ON THE LINE by R. A. Heifetz and Marty Linsky, note – a book on leadership. I think I have offered this before but it is worthy of repetition.

It is the story of a young woman who grew up on an American Indian reservation, where, she reports, everyone over 12 drank alcohol. The young woman eventually became sober and became a leader in working for the health of individuals and her community.

“Twenty years ago I used to baby sit for Lois, who lived in a neighboring band within our tribe. Once a week I’d go the few miles to her community and take care of Lois’ little ones. But after about two months, I started to wonder, ‘What could Lois possibly be doing every Tuesday night? There’s not much to do around here in these villages.’ So one evening after Lois left to go to the meeting lodge, I packed up the children and went over to the lodge to find out what she was doing. We looked through a window into the lodge and saw a big circle of chairs, all neatly in place with Lois sitting in a chair all by herself. The chairs in the circle were empty.

I was really curious, you know, so when Lois came home that evening, I asked her, ‘Lois, what are you doing every Tuesday night?’

And she said, ‘I thought I told you weeks ago, I’ve been holding AA (Alcoholic Anonymous) meetings.’ So I asked her back, ‘What do you mean you’re holding meetings? I went over there tonight with the children and looked through the window. We watched you sitting there in that circle of chairs, all alone.’

Lois got quiet – ‘I wasn’t alone,’ she said. ‘I was there with the spirits and the ancestors, and one day our people will come.’

Lois never gave up. ‘Every week Lois set up those chairs neatly in a circle, and for two hours, she just sat there’, Maggie recalled. No one came to those meetings for a long time, and even after three years, there were only a few people in the room. But ten years later the room was filled with people. The community began turning around. People began ridding themselves of alcohol. I felt so inspired by Lois that I couldn’t sit still watching us poison ourselves (p. 9,10).

I picture Presbyterians gathered in the church building at a set time weekly, with a circle of empty chairs, praying for God’s new thing. The pair of articles are to offer encouragement and challenge us in endurance.

With love in Christ,
David Feltman

Start Planning Now for the Annual Presbytery Mission Trip: Our Date is set for February 4 through Feb. 11.

[We are currently working with the PDA for Baton Rouge, Louisiana.]
Interested? Contact the Presbytery Office at office@presbynciowa.org
Include your name & address, contact phone numbers, email, church.
We will forward registration forms and costs.



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2017 Planning information:

	<u>Per Capita</u>	<u>Mission</u>
Presbytery	\$19.67	71%
Synod	\$ 5.30	4%
General Assembly	\$ 7.50	25%
	<u>\$32.47</u>	<u>100%</u>

\$

EXTENSION: September 23rd is the new deadline for Mission & Ministry grant application forms into the Presbytery office at the Storm Lake address.

If you are still interested in applying for a Presbytery of North Central Iowa Mission & Ministry grant, the completed application forms need to be into the Storm Lake office by Sept. 23rd!. You will not find the current application on our website since the new website is not up at this time and the old one is not being updated. However, all the churches were e-mailed the application in June and again last week with the instructions to forward the email and/or forms to the Clerk of Session and Mission Committee. Please check with your church office staff regarding the 2017 application.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance responds to Louisiana. You can help!!!

Give - send your gifts marked for Louisiana Flooding through your church to the Presbytery office

Act - watch for ways to help through the Presbytery 2017 mission trip. You can also help now by assembling Gift of the Heart cleanup buckets (for instruction go to pda.pcusa.org/page/kits).

Pray - continue to pray for those hurting, healing and helping in the disaster areas.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has already responded by sending needed emergency funds to support communities as they clean up and muck out. In addition, members of the National Response Team have deployed to assess the damage and to begin organizing both immediate and long-term responses. Continue to Give, Act and Pray as the work continues.

All Honorably Retired and Spouses

You are invited to a gathering for

*Honorably Retired Pastors and
Retired Commissioned Ruling Elders,*

Wednesday, September 28 at 11:30 a.m.

*At the Pizza Ranch, 2305 S. Center,
Marshalltown. (Note: NOT in Ackley)*

*We hope you will be able to attend
and connect or reconnect.*

*Blessings,
Dave Feltman*



A RULING ELDER COHORT FOR NORTH CENTRAL IOWA PRESBYTERY

Participation – dream goal, at least one ruling elder from each of our congregations. Participants will sign a covenant promising commitment to the group and placing the dates for the eight sessions on personal calendars.

Cost - \$100 per participant per year.

Dates

Saturdays 9:30AM – 2 PM

October 8, 2016
January 21, 2017
April 29, 2017
July 15, 2017

October 7, 2017
January 20, 2018
April 28, 2018
June 30, 2018

Led by Dr. Joe Small.

Location – TBA,

Session 1: Origins: Calvin's "unified plural ministry" in Geneva

Session 2: The loss of Calvin's vision and its potential recovery

Session 3: Ruling elders as ministers of Word and Sacrament: Baptism

Session 4: Ruling Elders as ministers of Word and Sacrament: Lord's Supper

Session 5: Ruling Elders as ministers of Word and Sacrament: Proclamation

Session 6: Ruling elders as Ministers of Word and Sacrament: Teaching

Session 7: Councils of the church: discernment in session and presbytery

Session 8: Spiritual disciplines for ruling elders and sessions

(brief paragraphs will be added under each)

The goal of the cohort, Ruling Elders who are –

**Scripturally - Broader and Deeper*

**Theologically – Deeper with a basic understanding of the Book of Order, Confessions and Creeds*

**Spiritual Formation - Encouraged and resourced in the spiritual disciplines*

**Leadership - Understanding the role of Ruling Elder, learning how to support pastoral leadership and when to challenge it.*

**Koinonia - Connecting with other Ruling Elders, sharing best practices and supporting each other.*



The instructor – Dr. Joe Small

Dr. Small retired recently from his 22 tenure at the General Assembly Mission Council. Most recently, he served at the Council as Director of Theology, Worship and Education Ministries, where he directed the work of the Office of Theology and Worship, the Office of Theological Education, and Congregational Ministries Publishing. A graduate of Brown University, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Louisville, Theological Seminary. He has served the church in roles ranging from professor to pastor.

Dr. Small is the author of *To Be Reformed: Living the Tradition (2010)*, *Let Us Reason Together: Christians and Jews in Conversation (2010)*, *Proclaiming the Great Ends of the Church (2010)*, *Conversations With the Confessions (2005)*, *Preservation of the Truth (2005)*, *Fire and Wind: The Holy Spirit in the Church Today (2002)*, *Committed Conversation (2000)*, and *God and Ourselves: A Brief Exercise in Reformed Theology (1997)*, and has written numerous journal articles, study series, and theological papers. He is a core member of "Re-Forming Ministry," co-chair of the international Reformed-Pentecostal Dialogue, board member of the Center for Catholic and Evangelical Theology, member of the Faith and Order

Commission of the National Council of Churches, and a frequent participant in international ecumenical consultations sponsored by the World Council of Churches, the World Communion of Reformed Churches and the Centre International Reformé.

Dr. Small will be in Iowa for Oct. 8, 2016, October 7, 2017 and June 30, 2018, and teach with the aid of technology for the other gatherings. Dr. Small lives in Louisville, Kentucky

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Sign me up...
I am committed!

Name:

Address

E Mail address

CELL:

Church:

\$_____ Check enclosed

Make Check payable to: North Central Iowa
PO Box 1405 Storm Lake IA 50588

Return this page along with check payable to:

North Central Iowa Presbytery
PO Box 1405 Storm Lake IA 50588

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Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Twilight of the Idols:

The Shape of Hope in Today's Mainline Churches

October 6th, 2016 9am-5pm
Registration begins at 8:30am



Hosted by:
Lakeshore Center at Okoboji



Dr. Mark Achtemeier

What is really happening in the Presbyterian Church (USA)? In a time when so many congregations find themselves paralyzed by a sense of their church's failure and decline, Dr. Mark Achtemeier offers a God-centered, hopeful and deeply biblical account of the church's present reality that has the capacity re-energize the life and mission of discouraged congregations. Participants will come away with a sharpened ability to recognize the hidden shape of God's working in even the most ordinary congregations, along with practical spiritual disciplines for living into this more hopeful vision of the church.

Achtemeier, who has served the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) since 1984 as a pastor, writer, and theologian, taught theology and ethics for 15 years at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. His message today is applicable to churches of all denominations.



Event Admission: \$25.00—includes registration & noon meal

Mark will be staying Thursday night for discussion & more. If you would like to stay, rooms are available for \$60 per night for either Wednesday or Thursday night. Call to make your reservations.

This event is sponsored by North Central Iowa Presbytery & Prospect Hill Presbytery.

The Twilight of the Idols: The Shape of Hope In Today's Mainline Churches	
October 6th, 2016 at Lakeshore Center at Okoboji - Register by September 22nd	
NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____	
EMAIL: _____	PHONE: _____
DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: _____	
EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____	RELATION: _____
PHONE: _____	
REGISTRATION: \$25	LODGING \$60/NIGHT: _____ WEDNESDAY NIGHT _____ THURSDAY NIGHT
TOTAL MONEY ENCLOSED: _____	MAIL FORMS TO: LAKESHORE CENTER AT OKOBOJI 1864 HWY. 86 MILFORD, IA 51351

1864 Hwy. 86 Milford, IA | 712-337-3313 | www.lakeshorecenteratokoboji.org

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**POAMN, ARMSS co-sponsor
national event in October**

Unified under a theme inspired by John 13:34-35, "Christian Discipleship: People of the Spirit, People of Hope," the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network and the Association of Retired Ministers, their Spouses or Survivors will co-sponsor a national conference for persons engaged in ministry with older adults from **Oct. 11-14 in Richmond, Va.** Conference participants will have a unique opportunity to engage in fellowship, networking, sharing resources, interactive and participatory workshops, creative worship, recreation, mission tours, entertainment, and an inspiring keynote address by the Rev. Dr. John Carroll of Union Presbyterian Seminary of New York City. The complete Presbyterian News Service story is at "[Joint Conference.](#)" Other conference details, including registration information, are at "[Older Adults.](#)"



"It's preaching the art of making a sermon or delivering it? Why, no that is not preaching! Preaching is the art of making a preacher and delivering that! Preaching is the out rush of soul in speech. Therefore, the elemental business in preaching is not with preaching, but with the preacher. It is no trouble to preach, but a vast trouble to construct: a preacher. When then, in the light of this, is the task of a preacher? Mainly this – the amassing of a great soul so that you have something worthwhile to give – the sermon is the preacher up to date." - Bishop Quayle

"When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom, I need to know nothing among you, except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And, I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling."

Apostle Paul,
1 Corinthians 2:1-3

Seminar location:

**Bethany Lutheran Church
2712 Washington
Iowa Falls, IA**

9:30 a.m. Registration

Taking Your Preaching

To the Next Level

On

November 21, 2016

With Rev. Dr. Tom Jewell



**For questions or additional
information, contact:**

**Rev. David Feltman
319-231-3570**

Offered by the
Presbytery of North Central Iowa
Collaborating with
Macedonian Ministries of
the Cousins Foundation

Have you ever asked yourself...

- How can I have enough time to prepare a new sermon every week amid the many responsibilities of running a church?
- How can I improve my delivery and "connect" with the congregation?
- Where can I find fresh, new material?
- How can I get my sermon basically finished by Thursday or Friday, instead of waiting until Saturday night...or early Sunday morning?
- How can preaching become a joy and not a burden?
- How can I plan farther ahead for my sermons and utilize creative sermon titles...so that I can get the congregation excited about my upcoming sermons?

Rev. Dr. Thomas K. Tewell, an ordained Presbyterian Minister, has served congregations in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and New Providence, New Jersey, Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas and Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York City, New York. Each of the congregations Tom has served has experienced significant numerical, spiritual and financial growth and has become deeply involved in ministry to the local community.

Tom has taught seminars on preaching, leadership and stewardship at numerous Theological Seminaries and Divinity Schools including Princeton, Drew, Pittsburgh, Columbia, San Francisco and Fuller. Dr. Tewell has been honored to preach and lead seminars at summer conference centers including Chautauque NY, Morristown and Linville NC, Minnifich TX, Ocean Grove and Ocean City NJ, Lakeside OH and Epworth Heights MI. Tom has served as Trustee of Princeton Theological Seminary for 15 years.

Since 2008, Tom has served as the Executive Director of Faith Based Ministries for the Cousins Foundation in Atlanta, Georgia. One of the programs he leads is the Macedonian Ministries Program, in which a clergy cohort from the same geographical area, comes together to form a learning community and a supportive community with peers in ministry. Tom and his wife Suzanne, a preschool teacher and educator, have been married for 40 years and have two married sons & four grand children.

REGISTRATION

CHURCH _____

NAME _____

E-MAIL _____

PHONE _____

NAME _____

E-MAIL _____

PHONE _____

NAME _____

E-MAIL _____

PHONE _____

COST PER PERSON: \$10.00

Deadline: November 14.

Send registration and payment to:

Kay Lechart
North Central Iowa Presbytery
P O Box 1405
Storm Lake, IA 50588-1405

NOTE: This event is open to all.