Welcome to the bi-weekly edition of the E-News – news for the Presbytery of Prospect Hill and North Central Iowa Presbytery!

We are always looking for things to include in the E-News. If you or your church has anything to be included, please submit it to Jeannie in the Presbytery Office by emailing it to northiowapresby@gmail.com.

If you know of someone who would enjoy receiving this communication, please email Jeannie or call her at 319-233-1747.

Please consider making copies of this E-News for your Session and also running several copies to make available to your congregation on your information table.

March 20 is the first day of Spring!
Prospect Hill Session Records Review

Prospect Hill’s final Session Records Review will be held on Saturday, March 25, from 10:00 to noon at Lakeshore Center at Okoboji.

Prospect Hill Stated Presbytery Meeting

April 1, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
Sac City, Iowa

More information available on the website:
www.prospecthillpresby.org

All-Iowa Presbyterian Gathering

June 2 – 3, 2017
Collegiate Presbyterian Church
Ames, Iowa

You won’t want to miss this event! See additional information in this issue of E-News, at www.presbynciowa.org or at www.prospecthillpresby.org
Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Dr. Michael Jinkins, the President of Louisville Theological Seminary, gave permission to reproduce his blog for my column this week. Civility and more – GRACE are two words which need to be heralded in this time. Listen for a word from Galatians 5.

With love in Christ,
David Feltman

March 7, 2017
Grace is Not PC (Part One)

My wife, Debbie, was standing in line at a Fed Ex store recently having some photocopies made. The woman in front of her was dissatisfied with the service. Instead of simply complaining, however, she began ranting at the employees in the most vile, disrespectful and demeaning manner. The employees stood shocked and silent. At the end of her harangue, the woman said, "We don't have to be politically correct anymore. And you can't make me.”

Debbie leaned forward and whispered to the woman, "What you said didn't have anything to do with political correctness, just a lack of manners."

Debbie's grandmother, Ruby, would have been proud of her, and not just because Debbie knows the difference between non-PC language and rudeness. She also knows that Grace is not just PC.

We have been watching for years the gradual erosion on civility in our country and the triumph of vulgarity. It was in 2004 that one of my favorite journals, The Hedgehog Review: Critical Reflections on Contemporary Culture, dedicated its fall issue to the topic of "Discourse and Democracy" in which David Brooks wrote an essay titled "A Polarized America," and James Davison Hunter wrote another on "The Discourse of Negation and the Ironies of Common Culture."

The failure we are facing, as these and other analysts of the culture and politics will tell us, goes much deeper than merely keeping a "civil tongue." The problem goes much deeper than mere partisanship and identity politics too. For some of us, at least, it goes straight to the heart of what it means to be Christian.

Today's blog, therefore, isn't really about popular culture or social norms, though it touches on both. My concern today is with us as Christians, because, sadly, so many Christians are actively engaged in graceless behavior. In other words, I'm preaching today to the choir. And I'm doing so because the choir is in conflict.

This struggle over discourse and behavior affects persons on the political left and the right, those who see themselves as conservative and liberal and progressive, Democrats and Republicans, Independents and Libertarians. Maybe the Federalists and the Whigs are dealing with it too. At some time or the other, I would guess that most of us have engaged in some level of discourse or behavior of which we are less than proud, whether we have done so publicly in a Fed Ex store or in a Sunday school class, or with a few like-minded friends.
There are abundant opportunities for us to behave otherwise. And there are opportunities enough to shape our behavior, however we may see ourselves politically. As far as I can tell there’s no partisan restrictions on St. Paul’s lists of actions violating the Spirit of Christ. There are also no partisan limitations as to who can exhibit the fruit of God’s Spirit.

Hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy - all of which St. Paul lists among the "acts of the sinful nature" alongside debauchery and idolatry - can afflict anyone whatever their partisan or social or cultural affiliations. Equally so, the fruit of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control - can appear among us all, if, that is, we are willing daily to crucify the "sinful nature" and to "live by the Spirit." Those who keep step with the Spirit in their daily walk, St. Paul says, refuse to become arrogant and conceited, and do not provoke or envy one another. (See Galatians 5:16-26.)

What surprises most of us reading these two lists of sins of the flesh and fruit of the Spirit - and what must really irritate some preachers who would prefer not to have some favorite behaviors listed right alongside of some acts of gross immorality - is that these lists are meant to turn upside down the conventional moral code that would privatize sin and virtue. According to St. Paul, what makes some of these things sins is the damage these things do to community; and what makes others virtues is how they build up community.

Gordon Lindsey communicates Paul's message particularly well in his new study of Galatians, Charter of Christian Freedom (Wipf & Stock, 2017). He explains that, "when Paul uses the term 'flesh,' he is thinking of the human being as a creature of nature. As a creature of nature, we are governed by the drive for self-survival, even when that means taking the life of other living beings to sustain our own." But this "me-first" mentality which elevates my security and survival above every other consideration, however common for beasts of the field, is not Christian. Paul tells us that "self-vindication" should be listed right alongside the other vices, because they all represent "a violation of the command to love our neighbor as ourselves." (Lindsey, Charter, 129-130.)

Lindsey continues: "If we read carefully, we note that the fruit of the Spirit is not miracles or mighty acts of ethical behavior, but rather deep-seated traits of personal character. ... What the Spirit does is nurture within us those traits of character that will express themselves naturally in the way we choose to behave." (Lindsey, Charter, 131.)

Paul reminds us that the symbol of the Christian faith is not a castle but a cross. He reminds us that we do not live for ourselves, but are called "to be to others what Christ has become for us," as George MacLeod once wrote. And when we find ourselves in Christ being "transformed by the renewing of our minds" (Romans 12:2), we will find every aspect of ourselves being changed, including the way we behave, speak and listen to one another.

Next week, I would like to follow St. Paul's development of these ideas one step further, into territory that moves from compassion to active kindness.

Visit Michael's blog, Thinking Out Loud.

Dr. Michael Jinkins March 7, 2017
Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During this season of Lent we are encouraged to spend time in reflection and introspection as a means to recognize attitudes and practices which separate us from our Lord. During Lent we seek to give up what prevents us from having a closer, more vital relationship with God and replace those things with new attitudes and practices which take us closer to the cross.

The same is true for our churches and the various components of the Presbyterian Church. Members of the Moderator’s Team and other Presbytery leaders have been engaging in such reflection. These conversations resulted in the agreement that one of the issues facing us in Prospect Hill is open communication between Presbytery and local congregations. This lack of communication has resulted in ill feelings between these components of the church. What better time than Lent to take active steps toward reconciliation and healing.

Section G-11.0103 of the Book of Order (part of the constitution of the Presbyterian Church, USA) lists among the responsibilities of the Presbytery “to coordinate the work of its member churches, guiding them and mobilizing their strength for the most effective witness to the broader community for which it has responsibility” and “to provide encouragement, guidance and resources to its member churches in the areas of leadership development, church officer training, worship, nurture, witness, service, stewardship” and “to provide pastoral care for the churches and members of the presbytery.” Of the 22 responsibilities listed, 14 deal directly with supporting/caring for congregations, pastors and students and missions. Only 8 are administrative responsibilities. In the past, it appears the emphasis was placed on the administrative responsibilities. Times change, people change and hopefully we learn from misplaced priorities and create positive relationships in which God’s work is furthered in our churches and radiates into our communities.

Presbytery leaders are elected and decisions are made by the clergy and lay commissioners representing each congregation at Presbytery meetings. This system insures equal representation of clergy and lay people and each member congregation regardless of size. You truly are the presbytery. But if you decline the opportunity to participate in the process as a commissioner, you, in fact, choose to forfeit your voice in how the presbytery functions. Sadly, looking at the registration sheets of past meetings, many churches choose to forfeit this voice or minimize their voice by not sending two representatives.

As a means of facilitating a new line of open communication and positive relationships, you are urged to participate in the breakout session devoted to learning and rebuilding at the April 1 Presbytery meeting in Sac City. The Presbytery is needing your input to get a clear picture of the issues standing in the way of moving forward and how those issues can be resolved in partnership with God’s work. In other words, come to the meeting, use the voice you have to bring the problems to light and share possible solutions. If you can’t come in person, your voice can still be heard by sharing your concerns, insights, solutions and ideas with your elected commissioners and pastors. Be part of the change to strengthen our local and larger church.

Blessings,
Lue Baker, Moderator, Presbytery of Prospect Hill
**Prayers of the Presbytery of North Central Iowa**

Week of March 12 United Presbyterian Church, Traer – Rev. Brice Hoyt
Week of March 19 First Presbyterian Church, Conrad – Rev. Kerry Carson
Week of March 26 First Presbyterian Church, Jesup – Rev. John Molacek
Week of April 2 United Presbyterian Church, Clarion – Rev. Bill Kem
Week of April 9 First Presbyterian Church, Marshalltown – Rev. Dr. Rich King

**Prayers of the Presbytery of Prospect Hill**

Week of March 12 First Presbyterian Church, Glidden – Rev. Brian Camara
Week of March 19 First Presbyterian Church, Alta – Duane Queen, Moderator
Week of March 26 Elliot Creek Presbyterian Church, Bronson – Rev. Cyndy Ripperger
Week of April 2 Alton Presbyterian Church, Alton – Harold DeJong, Stated Supply
Week of April 9 United Presbyterian Church, Auburn – Rev. Rikki Sorensen, Moderator

**Additional Prayer Concerns**

*Please continue to pray for Reverend Glenn and Diane Wilson as they continue to deal with significant smoke damage to their home after a fire. They will be displaced from their home longer than anticipated.*

*Kathy Orcutt, a member of Central Presbyterian in Nevada, continues with physical therapy and recovery from injuries sustained in an automobile-train collision. Prayers for Kathy will be greatly appreciated.*

*Please pray for Margo Nicholas who has entered Hospice under the care of Cedar Valley Hospice. Margo's husband, Lee Nicholas, is the Treasurer of North Central Iowa Presbytery.*
Calendar Dates

North Central Iowa events are shown in blue
Prospect Hill events are shown in red
Combined events are shown in green

March 16  SE Pastor Cluster, Bethany Presbyterian Church, Grundy Center; 11:30-1:00 (NCI)
March 20  Macedonian Ministry Cohort West; 10:00-2:00 (NCI)
March 20  First Day of Spring
March 23  Macedonian Ministry Cohort East; 10:00-2:00 (NCI)
March 25  “Being Proactive Rather than Reactive” – Options for Churches for the Future,
          First Presbyterian Church, State Center; 10:00-1:00 (lunch provided) (NCI)
          Please make a reservation through the Presbytery Office
          (northiowapresby@gmail.com / 319-233-1747)
March 25  Session Records Review (rescheduled from 2/25/17), Lakeshore Center at Okoboji;
          10:00 – noon (PPH)
April 1   Stated Presbytery Meeting, First Presbyterian Church, Sac City; 9:00-3:00 (PPH)
April 1   Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering, First Presbyterian Church, Grundy Center;
          8:30 – noon
April 7   Lakeshore Center Board meeting, Lakeshore Center; 11:00 – 3:00 (NCI & PPH)
April 9   Palm Sunday and Holy Week Begins
April 10  COM, First Presbyterian Church, Ackley; 5:00 – 8:00 (NCI)
April 11  COM, Hawarden Associated Church, Hawarden; 10:00 – 12:00 (PPH)
April 13  Maundy Thursday
April 14  Good Friday
April 16  Easter
April 20  Mission & Ministry visits in Fort Dodge; 11:00 – 2:00; meet at Cana at 10:30 (NCI)
April 24  Macedonian Ministry Cohort East; 10:00 – 2:00 (NCI)
April 26  Macedonian Ministry Cohort West; 10:00 – 2:00 (NCI)
April 29  Ruling Elder Cohort; 9:30 – 2:00 (NCI)
April 29  Spring Work Day at Lakeshore Center at Okoboji 9:00 – 4:00 (see additional details
          in this issue of E-News)
Presbyterian Women
North Central Iowa Presbytery

Spring Gathering
April 1, 2017
First Presbyterian Church
801 8th St.
Grundy Center, IA

The Power of One
Micah 6:1-8

Come join us for a morning featuring
Sue Medsker-Nedderman, our synod’s participant
on the 2016 USAME trip to San Francisco.

Also:
2017-2018 Horizons Bible Study – Cloud of Witnesses:
The Community of Christ in Hebrews
Business Meeting, Officer Installation
Offering to support Lakeshore Center at Okoboji and
Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking

8:30 Registration/Fellowship
9:00 Program
Enjoy a free luncheon afterwards at the church.

Lunch reservations due Mar 26, contact:
Melissa Muzzy, Presbytery PW Moderator
(319) 231-5767 or mkm.muzzy@gmail.com
SPRING
WORK DAY
April 29th, 2017
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

What to expect:
• Cleaning & preparing cabins
• Chopping wood
• Removing fallen trees and branches
• Stocking cabins and facilities with supplies
• Raking and cleaning the beach area
• Cleaning light fixtures
• Hanging curtains
• Putting in air conditioners
• Clearing the Labyrinth area
• Clearing the outdoor worship area
• A day filled with fun fellowship
• And more!

Who can attend?
Anyone & everyone. All of God's children—young & old! Bring a youth group! Bring an adult group and treat it like a mission trip!

What to bring:
• Personal items. If staying over night. Work gloves, hammers, chain saws, rakes

Lodging & Accommodations:
Lodge rooms & cabins available. Please call 712-337-3313 to reserve your room. Cost of a room is 6 hours of work. A breakfast & lunch will be served on Saturday.

It's like a local mission trip!

Please call us so we know how many people to expect.
712.337.3313

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<td>Art Camp</td>
<td>June 28-July 1</td>
<td>Mon-Thur 9-2</td>
<td>High School</td>
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<td>Discovery Camp</td>
<td>June 28-July 1</td>
<td>Mon-Thur 9-2</td>
<td>Elementary School</td>
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<td>June 28-July 1</td>
<td>Mon-Thur 9-2</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>2-Week Camp</td>
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<td>Mon-Thur 9-2</td>
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**2017 Summer Camps**
To: All Churches with an Average Attendance Under 50

The Committee on Ministry is offering a special event for all churches averaging less than 50 in worship, entitled:

“Being Proactive Rather than Reactive: Planning for the Future”

It will be a day to consider a variety of possibilities for future ministry, including:

- Ministry in a greater parish [3 or more churches working together]
- Yoking or sharing pastoral leadership, including ecumenical partnerships
- Merging or blending churches
- Closing well: How do we do it?
- Securing the future – Healthy small churches

All church members are welcome, but please be intentional in bringing the key leadership of your small member church.

Where: First Presbyterian Church, State Center
When: Saturday, March 25, 2017
10:00 am – 1:00 p.m. (lunch will be provided at no cost)
How: Email Jeannie Stolee at northiowapresby@gmail.com by Monday, March 20, indicating the number attending from your church
Westminster Presbyterian Church
1301 Kimball Ave – Waterloo
319-234-5501
www.wpcw.org

Invites you to attend our Lenten Recitals and Lunches!

Please join us each Wednesday during Lent for inspiring music, food and fellowship with our Lenten Recitals and Lunch Series. Recitals will begin at 12:10 pm in the Sanctuary followed by a soup lunch in the Social Hall at 12:30 pm. A free will donation for lunch is welcomed.

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>Dr. Marko Merita - Organ</td>
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<td>March 15</td>
<td>Aaron Hansen - Handbells</td>
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<td>March 22</td>
<td>Dr. Randall Harlow - Organ</td>
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<td>March 29</td>
<td>Cara Lockard – Violin</td>
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<td>April 5</td>
<td>Melissa Oleson – Vocal</td>
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<td>April 12</td>
<td>Neal Petersen - Vocal</td>
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Palm Sunday, April 9
9:00 am Traditional – Chancel Choir, Messengers, Church Mice
11:15 am Contemporary – Messengers, Church Mice

Maundy Thursday, April 13
6:00 pm Seder Meal – Social Hall (tickets required)

Good Friday, April 14
7:00 pm in the Sanctuary – Chancel Choir

Easter Sunday, April 16
6:30 am Sunrise Service in the Chapel
9:00 am Traditional Worship – Chancel Choir
11:15 am Contemporary Worship – Worship Team
EnJOYing God’s Presence  
Women’s conference in Marshalltown April 1

In the midst of job-related commitments, busy schedules, and family responsibilities, God calls us to “be still,” to delight in Him, to draw near to Him, and to listen to His voice.

On April 1, at the First Presbyterian Church of Marshalltown, Becky Linn of Follow Hard Ministries will lead a conference that offers opportunities for women to pause and retreat from their daily pressures and to rekindle the very heart of their spiritual lives—their love relationship with Jesus Christ.

Equipping and encouraging people to embrace Christ and follow hard after Him is the goal of the teaching and music of Follow Hard Ministries. Becky seeks to bring others to a closer relationship with Christ. “Our deep desire is to provide an atmosphere where Christ can be worshipped with sincerity—where all can sense God’s presence, experience His love, and respond to His direction in their lives.”

Becky Linn strives to complement and strengthen the ministry already taking place in churches, camps and conferences. She tailors each concert or retreat to each specific audience through her teaching and blend of contemporary music, familiar favorites and original selections.

Becky’s gift of encouragement and sensitivity to God’s leading gives her a unique quality as a positive role model for today’s Christians. She shared these gifts with others through music and teaching to Christians across the United States and around the world.

The retreat will be held Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Registration is $25 and includes lunch on Saturday. Child care is available. To register contact Valerie King at 641-753-4723 or vking@adiis.net.

PLEASE SEE THE FLYER ON THE NEXT PAGE!

Women’s Conference
WOMEN'S RETREAT
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
101 S. Center St. Marshalltown, IA
APRIL 1
SATURDAY 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM 2017

HOW SWEET IT IS

In God's presence is fullness of JOY!
—Psalm 16:11

TO REGISTER CONTACT:
Valerie at 641-753-4723 or
vkling@adiis.net

COST $25 (includes meal)

Childcare provided for freewill offering

FOLLOW HARD MINISTRIES

SPEAKER/MUSICIAN
BECKY LINN
March 6, 2017

Prospect Hill Presbytery,

I am writing to let you know of a new service I am able and willing to provide to your Presbytery. I am a minister member of Homestead Presbytery and I am in training as a Clergy Coach through Auburn Seminary’s Pastoral Coach Training program. My International Coaching Federation accreditation will take the rest of 2017 to complete. However, I am ready to begin taking on clients.

Coaching helps people identify personal or professional goals and work through the process of achieving them and living into their true potential more fully. It is a professional relationship designed around the goals and objectives of the client.

Coaching is not therapy or mentoring and the goals of the relationship are set by the client. That being said, coaching can be very effective for pastors and church leaders navigating their call to ministry. As a presbytery leader, I would like to invite you to refer my services to anyone you feel could benefit from them. You can even ask for a report in return. This report would be prepared by me in concert with the client for confidentiality purposes.

A typical coaching relationship would consist of 8 coaching sessions conducted by telephone. Each session is 50 minutes in length. My standard fee is $100 per session although I am offering a clergy rate of $75 per session. Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation is in the process of establishing a coaching network including support funding for pastors and CRE’s in their service area.

I am very excited to be able to offer this service to pastors and church leaders in our church today. Ministry has become such a complicated field in our post-modern, digital society. Coaching has the potential to help our pastoral leaders to truly reach their God-given potentials and become truly innovative and vital pastors. I appreciate any opportunities you may send my way. I am also more than willing to provide education regarding the importance of coaching in any way you see fit.

Please contact me for more information I can provide. Thank you.

In God’s Service,

Charity Potter
We’ve Got an App for That!!

The Presbytery of North Central Iowa now has an app that you can download for your iPhone or Android smartphone. Just search “presbytery of north central iowa” in the app store. You can log in as a guest to have access to some of the information. To access all of the information on the app, you need a username and password. If you would like one, please e-mail Rev. Sara Hill at sarah@firstpresfd.org with your desired username and password and she will create it for you. She promises to immediately forget your password once she creates your account.

Thanks, and we hope you enjoy using our app and find it useful. If anything is incorrect or you would like to see something on the app that isn’t there, please email Sara.

There's Still Time to Make a Lunch Reservation for the “Being Proactive Rather than Reactive” event that will be held in State Center on March 25! The deadline for lunch reservations has been extended to noon on Monday, March 20. Please contact Jeannie in the Presbytery Office with your reservation by calling 319-233-1747 or emailing northiowapresby@gmail.com.
REGISTRATION & FEES
All participants must register by Wednesday, May 10, 2017. Fees for the event are $35/person for the entire event. For those who cannot attend both days, the cost is $20/person for either Friday or Saturday. Registration forms are available through your presbytery office.

CHILDREN & YOUTH
Childcare will be provided for children through age five. Actvities will be offered for children ages 6 and up. Reduced registration fees apply for children and youth.

ACCOMMODATIONS
Two hotels have rooms available for the event. Use the registration code: three Presbyteries.

AMES INN & SUITES
2601 E 13th Street, 515-223-9240

QUALITY INN & SUITES
2601 E 13th Street, 515-223-9240

QUESTIONS?
Contact your presbytery office:
North Central Iowa Presbytery, 319-233-1747
New Markets Presbytery, 319-265-4577
Linn-Mar Hill Valley Presbytery, 319-233-1747
Monticello Presbytery, 319-265-4577
John Knox Presbytery, 319-233-1747

GATHERING SCHEDULE
FRIDAY NIGHT, JUNE 2
5:00-6:30 pm Dinner
6:00-7:30 pm Choir rehearsal led by the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson
7:30-8:30 pm Discussion, fellowship, and Mission Fair
8:00-9:00 pm Commissioning and Send-off

SATURDAY, JUNE 3
8:30-9:15 am Continental breakfast
9:30-10:00 am Prayer, Session, and Mission Fair led by the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson
10:30-11:00 am Commissioning and Send-off
12:00-1:00 pm Lunch
1:00 pm Presbytery Meetings
ALL-IOWA PRESBYTERIANS GATHERING
JUNE 2-3, 2017 • COLLEGIATE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • AMES, IA

You are invited to come together with Presbyterians from all across Iowa to celebrate our common faith and mission, and explore exciting possibilities for our future! Join us for this special gathering at Collegiate Presbyterian Church in Ames, Iowa, and be inspired by our denomination's new Stated Clerk, the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, as he shares his hopes and dreams for all Presbyterians.

FRIDAY NIGHT, JUNE 2
DINNER, CHOIR & WORSHIP
The Gathering begins Friday evening with a buffet dinner, followed by inspiring worship led by Dr. Nelson. All singers are encouraged to join the All-Iowa Presbyteries Choir to provide music for the Friday evening service. A brief rehearsal will be held just prior to the service. The evening will conclude with discussion and fellowship after worship.

CONTINUOUS MISSION FAIR
Enjoy the continuous Mission Fair throughout the event. Come learn about the many Presbyterian mission projects and activities taking place across our state.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3
PRAYER TIME & BREAKFAST
Beginning at 7:30 a.m. the Prayer Center will open in the Chapel and remain open for the day. A continental breakfast will be served, and the Mission Fair will continue throughout the morning.

PLENARY SESSION & WORSHIP
At 9:30 a.m. Dr. Nelson will share his experiences as Stated Clerk and his vision for our future together as Presbyterians. The Plenary Session will conclude with worship and communion.

LUNCH & PRESBYTERY MEETINGS
Immediately following the communion worship service, a boxed lunch will be served. After lunch, several of the presbyteries will hold their individual presbytery meetings.

Guest speaker
PC(USA) STATED CLERK
J. HERBERT NELSON

In an historic vote at the 2016 General Assembly, J. Herbert Nelson was elected Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), becoming the first African American to hold this top ecclesial office.

Rev. Dr. Nelson is a third-generation Presbyterian pastor and a prophetic voice for justice. He has served churches in Greensboro, North Carolina, and Memphis, Tennessee. He also held the position of associate director of the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change at the University of Memphis.

Dr. Nelson earned a doctor of ministry degree from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary; a master of divinity degree from Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, and a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Johnson C. Smith University.

He has led the PC(USA)’s Office of Public Witness in Washington, D.C., since 2010. Dr. Nelson is married to Gail Porter Nelson and they have one adult daughter.
**Adults** — Couples & families please register together.

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<td>VEGETARIAN ☐ VEGAN ☐ GLUTEN-FREE ☐</td>
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<th>HOME ADDRESS</th>
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<tr>
<td>NAME OF HOME CHURCH</td>
<td>NAME OF PRESBYTERY</td>
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**Children & Youth** — Infants through age 5, childcare will be provided. Children & Youth age 6 & up: age-appropriate activities will be offered.

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<th>AGE AS OF 6/27</th>
<th>GRADE IN SCHOOL (2016-17 YEAR)</th>
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**Registration Fees** — Friday dinner. Saturday continental breakfast & lunch included.

- Number of adults attending **BOTH DAYS** x $35 = $__________
- Number of adults attending **ONE DAY ONLY** x $20 = $__________
- Number of children age 6 and up* attending **BOTH DAYS** x $15 = $__________
- Number of children age 6 and up* attending **ONE DAY ONLY** x $10 = $__________

*No charge for children age 5 and younger

TOTAL DUE $__________

Fees are to be included with your registration form.

Make checks payable to your presbytery (see below) and mail this form to your presbytery office:

- Des Moines Presbytery
- Eastside Presbytery
- Faith Carroll Presbytery
- First Presbyterian
- Indianola Presbytery
- Lakeview City Presbytery
- Maryville Presbytery
- Ottumwa Presbytery

**Registration Deadline is Wednesday, May 10, 2017**
This is the tentative schedule for the June 2 and 3 Multi Presbytery Meeting

Dinner (5-6)
Evening worship at Collegiate Church
  Worshipt with Stated Clerk Preaching and joint choir (6:30 – 8:00)
  Small Groups / Mission event (8:00 – 9:00)
Morning worship at Collegiate Church
  Morning Prayer (7:30, optional)
  Continental Breakfast, perhaps with mission fair (8:30)
  Plenary Session (9:30 – 11:00)
  Sharing the joys of the Presbyteries (10 Minutes each)
  Mission Project or Presentation?
  Worship and Communion (11:00)

Break for lunch (12:00)

Afternoon Presbytery Meetings at both churches (Collegiate and Northminster)

Things to work on:
  Marketing
  Programming (Speakers, choir, mission focus)
  Childcare (from camps)
  Lodging (Chamber of Commerce)
  Food (Collegiate)
  Other thoughts

Celebration of Presbyterianism in Iowa
  Presbyterian Mission? Connection? Does Collegiate or Northminster have local mission projects?
  Big Tent is a model at national level
  Fun Presbyterian Facts

Oldest and Newest Worshiping Communities
  Different music styles

*******************************************************************************************

SYNOD SCHOOL
July 23-28, 2017
“Let Justice Flow”
Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, IA
For additional info contact:
Deb DeMeester (ddemeester@lakesandprairies.org)
www.lakesandprairies.org
FB Group: “Synod School: is this heaven? No, it’s Iowa”
The Academy

Deepening faith and encountering Christ in a new way

July 2017 – August 2019

An Invitation

Would you like to

• grow in your faith and knowledge?
• grow as a leader?
• have more opportunities to serve God as needed in your area?

We invite you to consider joining The Academy, a unique, cohort based learning community.

What is The Academy?

Simply put, it is a series of 11 courses designed to develop well equipped, thoughtful people to better serve councils in a variety of capacities. For some this may lead to becoming commissioned ruling elders (CREs) while others delight in learning and growing as a leader. We are lining up some of the finest instructors we can find!

ALTHOUGH

THE

STARS

DO NOT

SPEAK

EVEN IN BEING

SILENT

THEY

CRY OUT

John Calvin
Are you looking for a way to serve God?

Do you have a mission project in mind?

Do you need start-up funds to launch a new project or program?

Then, the Ministry & Mission Committee, North Central Iowa Presbytery, has news for YOU.

APPLY FOR A MISSION PARTNERSHIP GRANT!

An application form will be sent out to all churches this summer!
This Thank-You note was received from the family of James Sanders. Jim was formerly Executive Presbyter for Prospect Hill.

Thank You

Thank you so much for the lovely plant you gave in memory of Jim.

We miss Jim so much, but can find comfort in knowing he is with our Heavenly Father.

Love, Jo Ann & Family
UPCOMING EVENTS TO ATTEND WITHIN THE PCUSA

BIG TENT July 6-8, 2017
Be inspired - Become equipped - Get connected
St Louis, MO, Washington University
presbyterianmission.org/big tent

The Presbytery Office will be closed July 24 – 28 so that Jeannie can attend Synod School. Voice mails and e-mails will be checked in the evenings, but no assistance will be available during the day.