

One in the Spirit

A monthly email from Linda Valentine strengthening community between the General Assembly Mission Council and Middle Governing Bodies

What's coming up?



J. Herbert Nelson named Director of Public Witness, Presbyterian Washington Office - We are excited to announce that the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, a third-generation Presbyterian pastor, has been named the new director of public witness for the [Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\) Washington Office](#). Nelson, who has 25 years of experience in congregational ministry, will begin his new ministry in early May. The Presbyterian Washington Office is the public policy information and advocacy office of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The office advocates and helps the church at large to live out the social witness perspectives and policies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).



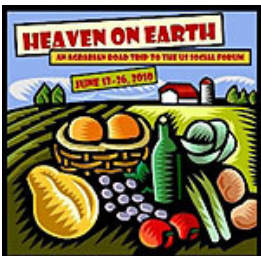
[Theology, Worship and Education](#) has announced a newly revitalized [We Believe: God's Word for God's People curriculum](#), which was successfully launched and resulted in a 15 percent increase in sales in 2009 from the previous year. *We Believe* currently includes resources for Presbyterians from [early childhood](#) to [young adult](#). Congregational Ministries Publishing (CMP) will add multi-age, [summer](#) and [adult](#) components by fall of 2010. Download sample sessions of adult titles being offered this fall at [Being Reformed: Faith Seeking Understanding](#). Themes include worship as evangelism, discipleship, John Calvin, theology and more.



[Evangelism and Church Growth](#) sponsored a [recent gathering with pastors of larger churches](#). During conversations with [new church development coaches](#), Pete James, pastor of [Vienna Presbyterian Church](#), called for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to come together around one primary mission – planting new churches – saying, “It is the best evangelistic strategy for the 21st century. [James](#) and Vienna, along with the [General Assembly Mission Council](#), has helped plant three new congregations in Northern Virginia – [Centreville](#), [Riverside and Nueva Rivera](#), and [Brambleton](#). More than 1,200 people worship in these churches. Pastors of larger churches will have another opportunity for conversation with new church development coaches at the [National New Church Development Conference](#) August 9-13 in St. Petersburg, Fla., at the [Don Cesar Beach Resort](#).

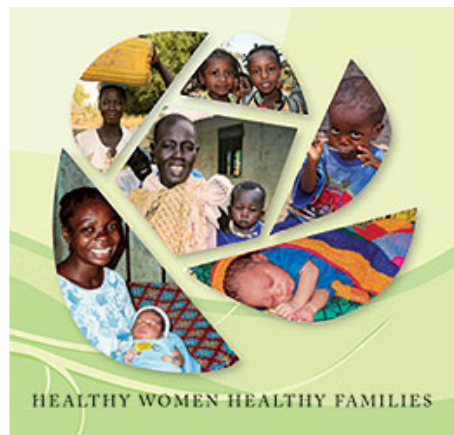


[For Such a Time as This](#), an innovative new pastoral residency program under the oversight of the [Office of Vocation](#), seeks to pair small, underserved congregations with first-call pastors for a two-year residency. Each participating presbytery will have three to four pastoral residents, who will be ordained to the church as designated pastors. All positions are full time, and will be compensated at presbytery minimum salaries. Pastoral residents will be enrolled in the PC(USA) [Board of Pensions](#) plan and may qualify for seminary debt reduction. Participating presbyteries will provide support from carefully chosen pastor/mentors and cluster meetings through the two-year process. In addition, there will be three national gatherings in Louisville. Applications and further information for pastoral resident candidates are available by [e-mailing Marilyn Johns](#), project coordinator.



[Heaven on Earth](#), June 13-26, 2010, is a road trip to the U.S. Social Forum organized by the [Presbyterian Hunger Program](#) (PHP). The PHP invites interested congregations, individuals and groups to experience food justice by visiting church and community initiatives in Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio and

Michigan on the way to Detroit for the 2010 U.S. Social Forum. Celebrate the grassroots sustainable food and agricultural revolution by joining with college students, farmers, musicians, bloggers and others for a firsthand encounter with the agrarian heart of the Bible, with theological conversations facilitated by [Dr. Ellen Davis](#) of [Duke Divinity School](#) and the Rev. Jud Hendrix of the PC(USA)s [Covenant Community Church](#) in Louisville, Ky. Visit the [Web site](#) for details and/or call (502) 569-5388 to sign up.



Mothers Day Project expanded - The annual NetWorkers Mother's Day Project has been expanded to support a variety of health projects in Africa in addition to malaria prevention. Now called Healthy Women Healthy Families, the new Mother's Day Project will help PC(USA) church partners in various health-related programs for women and children. The NetWorkers Malaria Prevention Program continues to help partners provide mosquito nets and malaria prevention education as part of the new initiative. As it has since 2001, the Mother's Day Project makes unique Mother's Day cards available in exchange for donations. [Read more](#)



The **11th National Multicultural Church Conference**, May 26-30 in Chicago, will explore growing Christ's church deep and wide in an increasingly diverse world. Through the workshops, multicultural worship services and fellowship opportunities, you can learn to be part of leading and building a multicultural church community. Come and wade in the H₂O and be nourished, sustained and reborn. [Register now](#)

Lives Transformed

Stories of how an individual's life has been impacted by the programs, initiatives and activities of the General Assembly Mission Council

The Rev. Jeremy Wilhelmi

For the Rev. Jeremy Wilhelmi, the timing could not have been better.



Last spring – just as the associate pastor for Youth and Family Ministry at the 1,100-member [Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church](#) in Richardson, Texas, was leading his youth committee in a study of a book by the Rev. Mark DeVries - Wilhelmi learned that DeVries was scheduled to speak in nearby Austin as part of the [Pathways Youth Ministry Leader Seminars](#).

Pathways – a collaborative effort between the General Assembly Mission Council [Office of Ministries with Youth](#), the PC(USA) [Office of Christian Vocation](#) and the [Princeton Theological Seminary Institute for Youth Ministry](#) – is designed to provide theological and practical training for volunteer youth leaders, pastors and youth directors while offering a parallel track for youth, grades 9-12, who have the potential to be or who already are leaders in their congregations. Each unique, one-day training opportunity includes a specific component on vocation, in which young people are challenged to explore who God is calling them to be.

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Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) | 100 Witherspoon Street | Louisville, Kentucky | 40202-1396
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