

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?



Linda Valentine



Carol Adcock

GAMC approves plan and budget for 2011-2012 - On Friday, May 14, the [General Assembly Mission Council](#) (GAMC) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) approved budgets of \$82,097,234 for 2011 and \$80,550,613 for 2012. These are in contrast to a 2010 budget of about \$93.8 million. The role of the mission agency is changing from doing mission on the church's behalf to inspiring, equipping and connecting the church for mission and ministry. At the same time, God is calling us to look at our resources honestly, calling us to live within our means to sustain ministry into the future. Budget reductions and staffing changes being made are a combination of strategic changes and cost reductions. Please join us in prayer for those employees whose positions were eliminated and in thanking them for their faithful service to the church.

[Read the full story](#) →



The Christian Arabic Church, Richmond, Va., one of four 2010 Walton Award winners

[Four Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\) new church developments](#) have been named winners of the **2010 Sam and Helen R. Walton Awards**.

Each recipient church ministry will receive \$50,000 to further their diverse work in creatively “Growing Christ’s Church Deep and Wide.” In addition, [five new church developments](#) will receive \$25,000 each in mission program grants. Read more about these [church ministries](#) and find out [how you can apply](#) for these grants which are based on [Starting New Churches: A Process of Discernment \(Version 2.0\)](#), developed by the office of [Church Growth Ministries](#) of the General Assembly Mission Council.

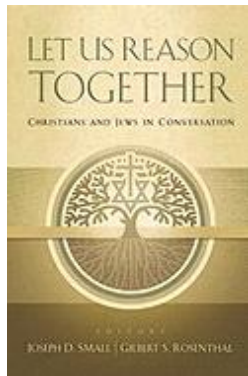


Go deeper into mission with monthly Webinars from [Presbyterian World Mission!](#) June’s Webinar is “Ask and tell! Building mutual accountability into your partnership.” How do we build accountability into our mission relationships, and what does it mean to be mutually accountable? How does culture shape the meaning of mutuality and accountability? This Ask and tell! Webinar will explore the nuances of creating and sustaining mission partnerships with shared responsibilities for communications and projects. The webinars are live conversations with missionaries, church partners and mission initiators. You can participate from your home, office, neighborhood Starbucks or wherever you like to access the Internet. Recordings of past webinars and additional information are also [available online](#). A monthly [podcast](#) provides background stories on the same topic.

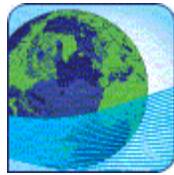


Tamara Pridgen

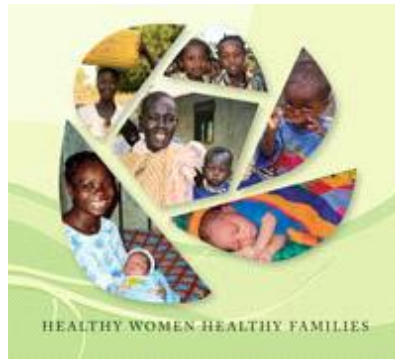
Applications for the [Student Opportunity Scholarship](#) are due by June 1 for the 2010-2011 academic year. The Student Opportunity Scholarship serves PC(USA) college students in select majors – education, health service/science, religious studies, sacred music, social services/sciences – by providing financial aid for the third and fourth years of an undergraduate program. Preference in this program is extended to racial ethnic students in order to promote diversity. Visit the [Financial Aid for Studies Web site](#) to download an application and/or to learn more about other scholarship, loan and grant programs. [Read scholarship recipient Tamara Pridgen’s inspiring story](#) →



Let Us Reason Together: Christians and Jews in Conversation is now available from [Congregational Ministries Publishing](#). Edited by [Joseph D. Small](#) and Gilbert S. Rosenthal, this book contains remarkable dialogue from a series of consultations between representatives of the [Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](#) and the National Council of Synagogues. In 2005, 25 invited rabbis, Presbyterian ministers and theologians began a series of conversations designed to increase mutual understanding of matters that unite Christians and Jews and those that cause tension. [Order Let Us Reason Together](#) to widen the circle of conversation and understand between Jews and Presbyterians and other Christians as well.



Communicating with congregation members is no longer limited to a Sunday bulletin or monthly newsletter. Digital technology is rapidly changing the way we communicate – with our family, neighbors, co-workers and even congregation members. Does it all seem overwhelming? [The Presbyterian Communicators Network](#) is offering two regional conferences to help you learn how to effectively use the latest technology to communicate with your congregation, church neighbors and your community Oct. 18-20 at Crestfield Conference Center in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, and Oct. 25-27 at Zephyr Point Conference Center near Lake Tahoe, Nevada. To learn more about the conferences and to be notified when registration opens, [please sign up to receive the PCN e-newsletter](#).



[Healthy Women Healthy Families](#) is a program highlighted every May across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The effort helps church partners provide health education, preventive health services and medical care to women and children at mission hospitals and community health programs in Africa. Projects supported include prenatal care, fistula surgery, cervical cancer screening, health education for women, nutritional rehabilitation, immunizations, health screening and primary care for children. The Church Wide Coordinating Team of [Presbyterian Women](#) enthusiastically endorses the program, which is facilitated primarily by congregations' PW groups. Gail Bingham, associate for constituency relations with PC(USA) International Health & Development acknowledges, "the continued success of the project is demonstrated by its impact on a range of health programs for women and children." To learn more about becoming directly involved and [supporting](#) Healthy Women Healthy Families, contact Gail at (800) 728-7228, x5573.

Lives Transformed

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

Sophie Corporan - Stewardship as a year-round movement

Paramus, NJ (May 20, 2010) - When Sophie Corporan completed her early registration for the [2010 Stewardship Kaleidoscope Conference](#), she had no idea what life had in store for her.



On February 24, less than a month before the conference was to convene in Indianapolis, Corporan's husband, Marcelino, died of complications from an aortic aneurysm. His sudden, unexpected death at the age of 59 found Corporan and her family not only in deep grief, but also making arrangements for Marcelino's burial in his native Dominican Republic.

Upon returning to New Jersey just one short week before the conference's March 15 opening session, Corporan prayerfully decided to follow through with her original commitment, traveling to Indiana the very next Sunday.

[Continue reading](#) →



General Assembly Mission Council

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