

Presbyterian World

News about the PC(USA)'s international mission

You're invited to Presbyterian World Mission events at
General Assembly



The 2010 General Assembly, meeting at the Minneapolis Convention Center July 3-10 under the theme "Rivers of Living Water" (John 7:38), will include four events sponsored by Presbyterian World Mission:

- **July 4** (Sunday) 12–2 p.m., Presbyterian World Mission Luncheon; ticket price \$43
- **July 6** (Tuesday) 7–8:15 a.m., International Health Ministries/Medical Benevolence Foundation Breakfast; ticket price \$35
- **July 7** (Wednesday) 5:30–7 p.m., Mission Personnel Reception; ticket price \$35
- **July 8** (Thursday) 8:30–9:30 a.m., Worship Service, including commissioning of mission personnel and recognition of retiring mission personnel

For the luncheon and/or the reception, you can [register or purchase tickets online](#). Choose "Order tickets only" to order online, or download the registration/ticket order form to order by mail.

15 new mission co-workers to be commissioned



Mission co-workers and Young Adult Volunteers were commissioned July 13, 2009, at the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women. Photo by Danny Bolin

These new international workers, who will be commissioned on July 8 at General Assembly, will be spanning the globe in their assignments, from Europe to Asia, the

Middle East and Latin America:

1. The Rev. Philip and Bacilia Beisswenger, to serve as facilitators for mission delegations and partnerships in Guatemala
 2. Charlotte Blackburn, to serve as English teacher and teacher trainer at Duta Wacana Christian University, Indonesia
 3. The Rev. Robert (“Bob”) and Keiko Butterfield, Bob to serve as evangelist and community organizer in Portugal with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Portugal
 4. The Rev. Jacob and Aliamma George, Jacob to serve as theological educator at Giffen Bible School in Malakal, Sudan
 5. The Rev. Richard and Marilyn Hansen, Richard to serve as systematic theology professor at the Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology in Addis Ababa
 6. Sarah Henken, to serve as regional liaison for the Andean Region in South America
 7. The Rev. Jo Ella Holman, to serve as regional liaison for the Caribbean.
 8. The Rev. Karen Moritz, to serve as ecumenical relations facilitator in the Czech Republic, working with the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren
 9. Wesley and Rita Tillett, to serve as English and christian education teachers in Zahle, Lebanon, working with the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon
 10. Kristin Van Nostran, to serve in El Salvador as companionship facilitator with the Joining Hands Against Hunger Program
- And these workers have new assignments or are reappointed:
1. Nadia Ayoub, reassigned to serve as early childhood education trainer in the Ukraine
 2. The Rev. Dustin and Sherri Ellington, to serve in Zambia at Justo Mwale Theological University College in Lusaka, where Dustin will be a professor of New Testament.
 3. Andres and Gloria Salazar Garcia, reassigned as Puentes de Cristo U.S. coordinator/partnership facilitators (U.S.-Mexico Border Ministry)
 4. Christopher McReynolds, reappointed as Proyecto Amistad U.S. coordinator and partnership facilitator (U.S.-Mexico Border Ministry)
- Also participating in this summer's orientation preparatory for service:
1. The Rev. Ryan and Molly Dowell Baum, global ministry fellows of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City — to serve for 12 months in Kitwe, Zambia, with Theological Education by Extension Zambia (TEEZ), followed by three months of travel to Christian communities in the Global South.

Presbyterian World Mission begins new strategic direction

The staff and partners of Presbyterian World Mission have spent over nine months discerning a new strategic focus toward involvement in international mission. Its goal statement is: "Presbyterian World Mission, in collaboration with U.S. Presbyterians and global partners, will inspire, equip and accompany each other in communities of mission practice

to engage in God's mission.

During the planning process three critical global issues have emerged:
to

- proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ
- help the most vulnerable — women and children
- promote reconciliation within cultures of violence

The offices of World Mission have been realigned into two work areas: Mission Partners and Programs, and Global Discipleship. Included in the first are four area coordinating offices (Africa; Asia; the Middle East, Central Asia and Europe; and Latin America and the Caribbean) and three program offices (International Evangelism; International Health & Development; and the Jinishian Memorial Program; the Interfaith Relations office is moving to the Theology Worship and Education ministry

area).

Global Discipleship encompasses mission service recruitment, mission personnel services, Mission Connections, Young Adult Volunteers and equipping the church for mission involvement (Mission Crossroads on the Web, print and Web resources).

Highlights is now Mission Crossroads



The first issue of World Mission's renamed magazine, *Mission Crossroads*, will arrive soon in the mail. Within the cover story, "Better Together," Hunter Farrell, World Mission director, emphasizes that each member of the body of Christ has a vital role in God's mission to the world and that collaboration is key in addressing critical mission issues today. The Summer 2010 issue of *Mission Crossroads* also introduces the new Africa coordinator, the Rev. Debbie Braaksma; features retired mission workers Sam and Eileen Moffett, who still encourage prayer and financial support of overseas workers; gives an overview of two decades of Presbyterian mission; lifts up the mission workers commissioned for international service in 2009 and 2010; and explains a new group subscription plan [Subscribe online](#) or email [Anne Blair](#).

Haitian hospital recovery under way



Holy Cross Hospital in Leogane before the earthquake struck Haiti. Photo by Bob Ellis

A collaborative response has been initiated in the wake of Haiti's tragic earthquake to rebuild Holy Cross Hospital in Leogane. The restoration of essential electrical service, water supply and repair of the collapsed security wall was funded by a grant of \$200,000 from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. "We are beginning a long-term effort, working with PC(USA)'s partner, the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti, to rebuild Holy Cross Hospital as a center of quality health care for Leogane," says Bob Ellis, PC(USA)'s International Health & Development coordinator.

Repairs to a wing of the hospital that is still useable and construction of new facilities are being coordinated by architect Jimmy Hite, a member of the hospital board of directors, who designed the buildings at the nearby nursing school. Jimmy is a past president of the Medical Benevolence Foundation, which was instrumental in the development of the nursing school. Preliminary plans envision using the existing three-story hospital wing as housing for staff and guests and building a new 50-bed hospital on the Holy Cross compound. To read more [download the Spring 2010 issue](#)

Community Health Evangelism training in Kenya



The Rev. Debbie Braaksma in an interactive Community Health Evangelism (CHE) workshop.

Eleven Africa-based mission personnel joined new World Mission Africa coordinator the Rev. Debbie Braaksma in an interactive Community Health Evangelism workshop in Kenya earlier this year that may be a model for future engagement with church partners in health and development projects. Community Health Evangelism is a ministry that seeks to transform lives through a blend of evangelism, discipleship and community-based development.

“This is a holistic approach to community development that takes people from where they are and builds their capacity to identify local issues, mobilize resources and bring about sustainable, positive changes,” explains Bob Ellis, International Health and Development coordinator. The five-day workshop focused on Community Health Evangelism’s core values, including integration of physical and spiritual ministries, community ownership, and emphasis on preventive health activities. Read more in the [Spring 2010 issue of Health & Development News.](#)

From mission-receiving to mission-sending in Thailand



Fujii family by the Chaopraya River, Bangkok. Left to right: Leith, Joy, Karin, Mark, Lani, Carol.

Carol and Leith Fujii had long been praying for the Thai church to move from being primarily "missions receiving" to being "missions sending." Now, they report, this is happening. In 2009 the Bangkok Institute of Theology (BIT) community took up the challenge of raising the support to send a student intern to study for the summer in a restrictive-access country and develop relationships among a very large unreached people group. The project had seemed impossible because of the budget needed and the income level of the BIT community. But: this year the BIT missions team determined to trust God to build on last year’s foundation by increasing the scope of ministry and training opportunity by adding another student — at twice the budget. A local congregation has taken on the responsibility for the project and invited other congregations to participate. Not only two students, but three other Thai co-laborers as

well are now there in country, developing relationships among individuals of that unreached people group.

[Read more](#) →

"Iraqi Women for Peace" seminar



Near East School of Theology (NEST) continuing education Forum on Calvin

Seeking to build up women's ministry in the Middle East and respond to the need of the Presbyterian church in Iraq, the Near East School of Theology (NEST) hosted its third annual seminar for Iraqi Presbyterian women in April on the NEST campus in Beirut, Lebanon. Ten women from Iraq participated, representing the Presbyterian churches in Basra, Baghdad, Kirkuk and Mosel. NEST President Mary Mikhael said the focus of the seminar, titled "Iraqi Women for Peace," was on "how can women make peace, maintain peace, spread and promote peace through the family, church, and in the whole society." The seminar included lectures on such topics as the significance of prayer in the life of the church, counseling, planning, leadership and ministry development, and especially how to reach out to younger women.

[Read more](#) →

Mission advocates and mission network leaders to hold joint event

This gathering, September 30 – October 2 in Louisville, will be an encounter of mission advocates from middle governing bodies, conveners and other leaders from PC(USA) mission networks, regional liaisons from around the globe, and other World Mission staff. The event will feature theological reflection and expert- and peer-led conversations on "best practices" for mission engagement as well as workshops on topics relevant to the ministry of mission advocates and mission network leaders.

[RSVP online at Mission Crossroads](#) →

Mission Briefs

Havana Presbytery chartered a new church in 2009 and continues to expand its outreach ministries in and around Cuba's capital. The presbytery's churches range from its flagship congregation and the oldest Protestant church in Cuba, First Presbyterian Church in the Old City, to its newest, La Fernanda, a small congregation outside of the city. All are thriving and experiencing significant growth. [Read more](#) →

Upcoming events

Mission network meeting: Peru Mission Network, October 7–9, 2010, Charlotte, N.C.



The **Third Lausanne Congress** will be held in Cape Town, South Africa, October 16–25, 2010. The Congress, to be held in collaboration with the World Evangelical Alliance, will bring together 4,000 leaders from more than 200 countries to confront

the critical issues of our time as they relate to the future of the Church and world evangelization. [Read more](#) →

A mission immersion trip to [Vanuatu](#) is planned for June/July 2011 (exact date to be determined). Deadline for application: November 30, 2010. The trip will focus on Presbyterian-related programs including the village Sunday school, Onesua Presbyterian College and the Sulfa Bay Mission Station on Tanna Island and will include village stays on different islands. Contact: [David Walter](#), regional liaison for the South Pacific.

Personal news

Dr. Sue Makin, recently retired from 15 years of mission service in Malawi and the Congo, has begun a new career, teaching at the college of nursing at Hannam University in Daejeon, South Korea.

In May, Davidson (N.C.) College awarded an honorary doctorate to PC(USA) missionary **Frank Dimmock**, recognizing him for his 25 years of mission service dedicated mainly to Africa's children.

Dr. Archie Fletcher, retired India missionary, who served as medical director of Wanless Hospital, Miraj Medical Center in India, for many years, died in May; his son, John, is a PC(USA) missionary surgeon and teacher at Good Shepherd Hospital in the Congo.

Carol and Leith Fujii's oldest daughter, Joy, is being deployed for one year to Afghanistan with the U.S. Army.

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General Assembly Mission Council

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) | 100 Witherspoon Street | Louisville, Kentucky | 40202-1396
(888) 728-7228 | (502) 569-5000 | [Website](#) | [Email](#)