



Presbyterian Communicators' Network

a multi-directional exchange of information, ideas and stories

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Dear friends,

What a pleasure it was to see so many of you at General Assembly. It is a blessing for any opportunity to gather together.

We are fortunate to have another opportunity to gather this fall with the Presbyterian Communicators' Network conferences. [The Presbyterian Communicators' Network](#) is offering two Communicators' Conferences this fall, focused on web-based media for churches and middle governing bodies. The theme is "Plugging In Without Shorting Out." Each conference will include a variety of plenary speakers and workshops. Workshops will be interactive on a variety of subjects such as: podcasting, preparing content for the web, church marketing, social networking – using Facebook and Twitter to spread the Word, free and/or affordable web resources, live streaming, church PR on a shoestring budget, etc.

Please spread the word and plan on joining us. The conferences will be held at Crestfield Conference Center, Slippery Rock, Pa., October 18-20, and at Zephyr Point Conference Center, Lake Tahoe, Nev., October 25-27.



One other exciting thing I want to mention is a film about the recovery from the 2004 tsunami. [Kepuliahah: stories from the Tsunami](#) was produced by the PC(USA) and features some of the work done by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in the aftermath of the tsunami. It will be broadcast on local ABC affiliate stations as part of their "Vision and Values" series on November 21, 2010 and will be available for purchase on DVD. Please call your ABC affiliate station to inquire about dates and times and to encourage the station to air this exciting documentary.

Many blessings,
Karen L. Schmidt
Deputy Executive Director
Communications and Funds Development

Get involved in Gulf Coast oil spill relief efforts



In June 2010 [a delegation of General Assembly Mission Council staff leadership visited the Gulf Coast](#) and met with communities affected by both the oil spill and the destruction of coastal wetlands. As

Presbyterians seeking the health and wholeness of human and environmental communities we listened, we talked, we prayed, we learned, broke bread and worshiped together. As a result, we were deeply moved by the destruction of creation and the threat that it brings to whole communities of people. Again and again, the people of the region asked that we urge the whole church to pray for the Gulf Coast. We are also working closely with Presbyterians and ecumenical partners in the Gulf Coast to find ways to address the immediate and long term needs related to both the oil spill and loss of wetlands. Part of [that response](#) will likely include education, training, travel seminars and online webinars as well as seek strategies that address the spiritual, emotional and economic impact on whole communities that have been affected.

The 219th General Assembly took action in support of these efforts, including the establishment of a special appeal in response to the crisis. By mid-August, congregations will receive information on how to contribute to these efforts and ways they can get involved.

Prepare for the 2010 Peacemaking Offering and World Communion Sunday

[The 2010 Peacemaking Offering](#) packet was available in late May and was sent to all PC(USA) churches. If your church has a standing order, your order would have been delivered by now. The Peacemaking Offering was created in 1980 to support the efforts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking as part of our faithfulness to God. It is one of four special offerings designated by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s General Assembly. Most churches receive the Offering on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday in October, which this year is October 3. We encourage churches to use whatever Sunday works best for them. Each congregation is encouraged to retain 25 percent of the Offering it receives to use for local ministries of peacemaking within the church and its community. Twenty-five percent is used by presbyteries and synods, and 50 percent is used by the general Assembly ministries through the [Presbyterian Peacemaking Program](#). In accordance with the action of the 217th General Assembly (2006), we encourage congregations to consider directing a portion or all of their 25 percent of the Peacemaking Offering as a faithful Christian response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. [Now is the time to plan and promote](#) the Offering and your congregation's celebration of World Communion Sunday!

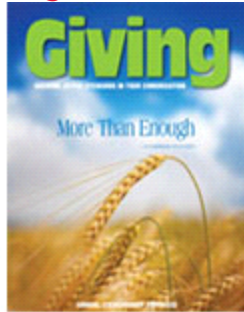


Celebrate Evangelism Sunday September 26, 2010

[Get materials](#) for Evangelism Sunday, September 26, 2010. Follow the timeline for the [Evangelism Sunday campaign](#) “that they may know... Christ and our lives.” Develop prayer and Servant Saturday leadership teams now. Show Skateboarding Evangelism and Shared Christmas Evangelism as examples of how Christ is made known as “churches engage their communities” with God’s love.

[Learn more](#) →

Planning for Stewardship



Order your free copy of the 2010 Giving magazine by calling Presbyterian Distribution Services at (800) 524-2612 [begin_of_the_skype_highlighting](#) (800) 524-2612 [end_of_the_skype_highlighting](#). (Shipping charges apply.) This year’s magazine contains helpful articles by Elaine Barnette, Kevin Park and Rodger Nishioka as well as planning resources for a [2010 Stewardship season](#) focused on the theme: “More Than Enough” (2 Corinthians 9:8). Giving magazine is produced in partnership with the [Ecumenical Stewardship Center](#). Call and order now!

Who is God calling you to be?



Christian Vocation affirms the need for all baptized Christians in general – Presbyterians in particular – to identify and claim our call to discipleship as reflected in each decision and life choice. While occupation may only be a portion of our call as disciples, the programmatic emphasis

for the Sunday before Labor Day – September 5 – is appropriately, Christian Vocation Sunday. Find options for including this programmatic emphasis in the worship and activities of your congregation on the [Christian Vocation website](#). Young people will also have an opportunity to explore who God is calling them to be at three regional [PATHWAYS](#) events this fall. These unique, one-day programs – to be held September 18 in Denver, September 25 in Boston, and October 16 in Cleveland – are designed to provide an opportunity for vocational discernment as well as theological and practical training for volunteer youth leaders, pastors, and youth directors, while offering a parallel track for youth, grades 9-12, who are themselves leaders in their congregations. Visit the [PATHWAYS website](#) to register or learn more →

Is God calling you to international mission service?



The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) continues to seek persons called by God to fulfill the Great Commission, carrying the gospel of Christ to the world. Mission workers reach out by witnessing and evangelizing; by equipping individuals and partners for transforming mission, by engaging in ministries of reconciliation, justice, healing and grace and by living the Good News in community with those who are marginalized. Current opportunities for long-term international service include:

- New Testament Professor – Egypt
- Facilitator for Joining Hands Network – Haiti
- Associate for Planning, Training and Development – Madagascar
- Physician – Malawi
- Coordinator for Christian Volunteers in Thailand Program – Thailand
- Worship Arts Evangelist, Leader and Trainer – Turkey
- In Central Asia:
 - English Teacher for Rural Schools
 - Health Education Specialist
 - Disability Specialist (focus on special needs children)
 - Evangelism and Discipleship Facilitator

[Find out more on the Mission Service Recruitment website](#) →

[Get information about the specific openings](#) →

[Apply for mission service](#) →

Tell us about your ‘unsung servants’



Every church has them – dedicated members or staff who don't seek recognition, but who make vital contributions. There's the faithful church secretary, the custodian, the treasurer, the Sunday school teacher ...

The December issue of [Presbyterians Today](#) will feature "unsung servants." Please send a description of 150 words or less by September 1 [by email](#) or Unsung Servants, Presbyterians Today, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville, KY 40202-1396.

Be sure to include: the full name of your unsung servant and his/her role in the church; the name and address (city and state) of your congregation; your name, telephone number and email address. Send good, high-resolution digital photos (1.0 MB or larger) if possible.

Celebrate Native American Day

Did you know there are 110 Native American congregations and chapels located in eight synods and 22 presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Please join the PC(USA) in the celebration of this special observance during Sunday worship on a Sunday in September or any Sunday during the year. [Use these suggestions](#) to celebrate Native American Day in your congregation. [Learn about the Three Sisters](#) – corn, beans and squash.

Download the [Directory of Native American Congregations](#) →

Mark your calendar for the Presbyterian Multicultural Network's Multicultural Institute

November 9-12, 2010
at Montreat Conference Center
Montreat, N.C.

The Multicultural Institute offers courses to enable and inspire clergy and laity in cultivating God's biblical vision to gather people of diverse identities into inclusive communities of faith.

[Find out more](#) →

'Starting New Initiatives'



[The Office of Church Growth](#) is pleased to announce the arrival of its new, hotly anticipated Congregational Transformation discernment process resource. Like the [Starting New Churches](#) resource for new church development, [Starting New Initiatives](#) is designed not as a "quick fix."

Instead discover a process of prayer, discernment, conversation and reflection to determine how to best minister in a particular context. Register for our national [Congregational Transformation Conference](#) in Dallas October 18-22, where pastors, elders and other church leaders will gather to talk, dream and learn about congregational transformation in the PC(USA).

Work as a communicator for the GAMC

The General Assembly Mission Council is seeking two qualified professionals to serve as marketing communications managers, working with the World Mission and Compassion, Peace and Justice ministry areas. The marketing communications managers will develop and execute integrated marketing plans in order to strengthen church engagement in this important work and raise funds to propel these ministries forward. They have the unique opportunity to directly impact programs that transform the lives of people and communities around the world and close to home. This is an exciting opportunity for an individual with proven marketing and communication experience, strong planning and project management skills, a capacity to work collaboratively in a team with a client-service orientation and who also shares a passion for the ministries of the PC(USA). The right candidate will have five to seven years of marketing and communications experience, ideally with experience in a client service environment. Preference is given to candidates with a Presbyterian background or deep familiarity with the theology of a reformed Protestant church. [Find complete descriptions of this opportunity.](#) Interested candidates should [apply online](#). Questions concerning the position may be submitted by [email only](#). All inquiries will be held in strict confidence.



General Assembly Mission Council

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