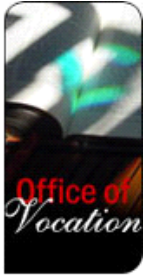


One in the Spirit

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

What's coming up?



[For Such a Time as This](#) is an innovative new pastoral residency program designed to serve underserved congregations and develop missional pastors by pairing small rural or urban congregations with recent seminary graduates in a two-year pastoral residency relationship. The [Office of Vocation](#) is currently receiving inquiries from presbyteries seeking to serve as potential residency site partners. Interested presbyteries with a significant number of “hard to call” churches are encouraged to [read important information](#) online, contact the Office of Vocation by [e-mail](#), or call the Rev. Marcia Clark Myers at (888) 728-7228, x5753.



The [Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association \(PHEWA\)](#) is seeking nominations for five awards recognizing effective justice outreach ministries. Honorees will be celebrated on July 5, 2010, during the 219th General Assembly in Minneapolis, Minn. For information and criteria on the five awards to be presented by PHEWA member networks – for exemplary ministries in the areas of addictions, community transformation, disabilities, serious mental illness and HIV/AIDS – or to learn how to nominate a ministry, congregation or individual for the 2010 awards, visit the [PHEWA Web site](#) or [e-mail Susan Stack](#). Deadline for nominations is February 15, 2010.



The [Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song](#) is looking for congregations with a variety of sizes, locations, constituents and worship styles to serve as test sites for materials being developed. Especially needed are congregations with sizeable racial/ethnic populations as well as congregations that are currently not using the 1990 Presbyterian Hymnal. We welcome, however, any congregation that has an interest in helping the Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song in this way. If interested, please contact David Eicher, hymnal editor, by [e-mail](#) or by telephone at (502) 569-5915.



Congregational Ministries Publishing (CMP) offers Spanish resources for all ages – from preschoolers to adult – designed to nurture and support you and your congregation. [Así Creemos](#) is a quarterly curriculum for children aged 3-5, 6-8 and 7-11 years old. Intended to nurture the development of faith through age-appropriate Bible stories and activities, this resource is written mostly in Spanish, with parts in English and Spanish to support ministry with second and third generation children. [Lecciones Cristianas](#) is a quarterly curriculum for adults designed to help students grow in their understanding of the Bible and its relationship to life. Based on the International Bible Lesson Series, Lecciones Cristianas is written for churches for which Spanish is the main language. CMP is currently working with the [Presbyterian Publishing Corporation](#) (PPC) to create a Spanish version of [The Thoughtful Christian](#). This will include not only translated materials but also original materials provided through a partnership between PPC, CMP and the [Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico](#). There are also two new resources in Spanish, the [Libro de Adoracion](#) – a partnership between PPC, [Theology, Worship and Education](#) (TWE) and CMP – composed of basic models for Reformed Worship, and the [Handbook for Hispanic/Latino New Church Development](#), produced in collaboration with the Office of Hispanic/Latino(a) Congregational Support.



AllWomen in the church, the social media site launched in March 2009, has been honored with a "Landmarks of Excellence Award of Merit" from the Louisville chapters of the International Association of Business Communicators and the Public Relations Society of America. The award went to PC(USA) Web content developer Dana McMahan and Web designer Thommy Browne. Presbyterian News Service recently published a [news item](#) about the award. [AllWomen](#) seeks to reach out to women across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). More than 600 members participate. AllWomen is part of the [Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries/Presbyterian Women](#) ministry area.



Hundreds have already joined Mission Crossroads, a new Web-based wisdom community for Presbyterians passionate about mission. The Web site offers opportunities to share and discover mission stories, discuss best mission practices, find resources that support mission participation and join with others in the journey toward faithful and effective mission involvement.



Download the latest [video stories](#) from the [Evangelism & Church Growth](#) ministry area on congregations growing Christ's Church [Deep and Wide](#). Presbyterian churches are growing in [Evangelism, Discipleship, Servanthood](#) and [Diversity](#) by engaging their communities and world in which they live. An upcoming [evangelism webinar](#) with presenter Gene Wilkes will provide step-by-step methods on how to equip and encourage members of Christ's Church to do this. Save the date Tuesday, January 12, 2010, at 2 p.m. EDT [and register today](#).

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. Andrew Foster Connors



Standing together for decency, justice and life

Baltimore, Md. (November 19, 2009) - When 10 members of his congregation were confronted in El Salvador with the disappearance and subsequent death of a Salvadoran mission colleague, the Rev. Andrew Foster Connors had a new appreciation of what the Church – “with a capital ‘c’” – was all about.

Marcelo Rivera, a Salvadoran community leader and environmental activist, disappeared near his hometown of San Isidro, El Salvador, on June 19, while a visiting delegation including members from the [Brown Memorial Park Avenue Presbyterian Church](#) in Baltimore, Md., was expecting to meet with him. Across the miles that separated them, the delegation sent a fervent plea to their pastor as they sought to cope with the shocking impact and the broader implications of Rivera's disappearance. [[Read more](#)]