

GOOD NEWS FROM GREAT RIVERS

October 5, 2009



[PRESBYTERY OF GREAT RIVERS](#)

1230 W Candletree Dr, Suite D, Peoria, IL 61614

800-537-8592 / Peoria 309-683-6980 / Fax: 309-683-6983

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

A heartfelt thank you to ALL of our pastors for ALL you do!

Mark Your Calendar

Session Record Review

Saturday, October 10
9:30 - Noon
First, Galesburg

175 Year Anniversary

Westminster Pres. Church
Springfield
Sunday, October 11
4:00

Nominating Committee

Tuesday, October 13
10:00 - 2:00
PGR

APA Day

Tuesday, October 13
9:00 - 3:00
United, Peoria

Visioning Council

Wednesday, October 14
9:30 - 2:30
PGR

COM Training

Saturday, October 17
8:30 - 2:30
First, Canton

Administration Council

Tuesday, October 20
9:30 - 2:30
PGR

Clergy Group

Thursday, October 22
10:00 - 11:30

Self Development of People by Mike Orr

I will be wrapping up my term as a member of the Self Development of People (SDOP) Committee in 2010. Self Development of People is one of the three PC (USA) programs funded by One Great Hour of Sharing. Right now our Midwest Task Force is in the enviable but unfortunate position of having funds available that are going unused. Our objective is to establish partnerships with groups in the United States who:

- are oppressed by poverty or social systems,
- want to take charge of their lives,
- have organized or are organizing to do something about their conditions,
- have decided that what they are going to do will produce long term changes for their lives or communities,
- will control the programs they own and will benefit from them directly.

These partnerships are initiated by applications to the Self-Development of People Committee. [Applications](#) are accepted at any time and are evaluated against the funding criteria shown later in this message.

You can be part of this important work by identifying potential applicants for these grants. We welcome any help you can provide in sharing information about the SDOP Program. We will conduct community workshops in your area and/or to present the SDOP Program to you assemblies and congregations. If you can help in any of these or other ways, please contact me or the SDOP Office in Louisville. Contact information is available at the [PC\(USA\) website](#).

Session Record Review - MAKE UP DATE

There is one more Session Record Review available. The review will be **Saturday, October 10 at First in Galesburg**. This review will be 9:30 to noon. **Please RSVP by Monday, October 5th to Julie**. Be sure to bring your worksheet and fill it out prior to the meeting. [Session Record Review](#)

Administering the Sacraments and Moderating a Session (One Day Class)

PGR

Investments/Endowments

Workshop

Sunday, October 25

2:00 - 6:00

South Park, Rock Island

Investments/Endowments

Workshop

Monday, October 26

4:00 - 8:00

First, Normal

Investments/Endowments

Workshop

Tuesday, October 27

10:00 - 2:00

Westminster, Springfield

COM Meeting

Tuesday, October 27

10:00 - 3:00

Northminster, Peoria

Assembly Papers DUE

to [Patti](#)

Wednesday, October 28

Assembly Papers

on Website

Friday, October 30

after 3:00

If you are a CLP in Great Rivers and have not taken Rev. Dick Johnson's one day class on Administering the Sacraments and Moderating a Session, the next event is coming up **October 17th, at Canton-First from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** The same is true for Ministers of Word and Sacrament of denominations other than ours. The Committee on Ministry requires this class before granting permission for you to moderate the session or administer Holy Communion or to Baptize anyone in the church to which you are commissioned. Call 800-537-8592 or e-mail [Julie Bainbridge](#) at the presbytery office to **make your reservation for this class by Monday, Oct. 12th.** There is no cost to you except your time and travel to Canton.

Investments & Endowments Workshop

The deadline for registering for the workshops on investments for churches has been extended because of the wonderful response. Here are the details.

Sunday, October 25, 2:00pm - 6:00pm, South Park Pres., Rock Island

Monday, October 26, 4:00pm - 8:00pm, First Pres., Normal

Tuesday, October 27, 10:00am - 2:00pm, Westminster Pres., Springfield

You may register for the workshops until Thursday, October 22 by e-mailing [Julie Bainbridge](#) or call her at the presbytery office at 800-537-8592.

Elder Training

Each training event will be held on a Saturday from 8:30am - 3:00pm with lunch served at noon. Registration is required for the purpose of preparing the meal and providing training manuals. Registration is accomplished by contacting [Julie](#) at the presbytery office. Let Julie know how many will be attending and which event they prefer. If there are not at least ten registrations per event, cancellation is possible. We want to be good stewards of time and resources.

Please RSVP by the dates listed below.

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| November 7 | RSVP before October 29 | @ Third Pres., Springfield |
| November 14 | RSVP before November 5 | @ First Pres., Elmwood |
| November 21 | RSVP before November 12 | @ St. Luke Union, Bloomington |
| January 9 | RSVP before January 4 | @ First Pres., Lewistown |
| January 16 | RSVP before January 7 | @ United, Woodhull |
| January 23 | RSVP before January 14 | @ United Pres., Peoria |

Presbytery Night at the Ballpark

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Friday, June 11, 2010

If your choir would like to sing the National Anthem before the game, please contact [Julie](#).

Presbytery Confirmation Retreat

United Presbyterian is hosting a confirmation retreat for all the confirmation classes in the Presbytery on March 5-6, 2010. It will be an overnight lock-in style retreat with worship, games, small groups, food, and a lot of fun. If you are interested in having your church's confirmation class participate or you would like to help plan the event please contact [Rev. Stephen McKinney-Whitaker](#). We hope this can be a fun and educational event where youth get to meet other youth from around the area going through confirmation. We need your help in planning the event though, to know what you would like the retreat to focus on, should we bring in guest speakers, etc.? We

also need to know how many churches plan to participate so we can figure out costs, etc. Thanks and we hope all the churches with confirmation classes will participate in this fun weekend event.

Celebrating 175 Years of Ministry

Westminster Presbyterian Church of Springfield will be celebrating 175 years of Ministry with the service dedicating the sign commemorating the original site of Second Presbyterian Church (now Westminster) on Sunday, October 11 at 4:00pm (rain date: October 18.) NW Corner of 4th and Monroe Streets. There will be an Ice Cream Social to follow.

[Westminster Presbyterian Church, Springfield](#)

Seats Are Still Available for the St. Louis Bus Trip

On **Friday, November 20**, Peoria United Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a dream day trip to St. Louis via Peoria Charter Coach. We will be leaving from our church parking lot at 7:30 am. The 55 people aboard will head straight to the St. Louis Galleria for lunch on their own and a little shopping.

At around 3:45pm we will board our bus and drive to the awesome [Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis](#). It is 83,000 square feet of Mosaic art created with over 41,500,000 pieces of Tessera in more than 8,000 shades of color. The artistry provides a visual lesson in faith, history, art and architecture. We will be treated to a guided tour of this amazing building.

At 5:30pm we will again board our coach and drive a few short blocks where we will dine at Duff's Restaurant. The chef at Duff's will put together a special menu of 4 or 5 seasonal entrees for you to choose from. All menu items are made from scratch in small quantities using the freshest and least processed produce and ingredients available from local farmers and purveyors. Duff's owners, Karen Duffy and Tim Kirby, recently received the Restaurateur of the Year Award from the Missouri Restaurant Association.

Following our sumptuous meal, we will head back to the Cathedral Basilica for the 8:00pm concert of the [Vienna Boys Choir](#). Our seats are in Section II off the center aisle and under the Grand Dome. The music should be spectacular and will last approximately 2 hours.

Then, filled with the sites and sounds of a fabulous day, we will head home with the knowledge that we can sit back, relax and let the Peoria Charter Coach professional driver take care of us all the way home.

Tickets for this wonderful day will be \$90.00 each and include the bus trip, dinner at Duff's, Basilica tour, concert tickets and the driver's tip. Your reservations are made with your check made payable to United Presbyterian Church 2400 W. Northmoor Rd., Peoria, IL 61614. Once all seats are filled, we will take names for a back up list. We will not be able to refund money to anyone for any reason. We will, however, share the names that are on the back up list. If you have any questions, please call Linda Kelley at 309-694-4968.

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