



GOOD NEWS

from the

Presbytery of Great Rivers

We are called to share Christ's love by partnering in service,
uniting in worship, and risking in ministry.

January 3, 2013

Let Us Pray

In This Issue

[Let Us Pray](#)
[PCUSA News](#)
[Mark Your Calendar](#)
[A word from your Lead Presbyter](#)
[News from the Treasurer](#)
[Get Connected](#)



Every week for 2019, we will offer up different church names so that we can pray for our entire Presbytery community. You are welcome to follow this calendar as you will! The full list can be found [here](#).

This week, we invite you to pray for . . .



Adair - West Prairie Presbyterian Church

4005 E 2000th St, Adair, IL 61411
 Jeremy Westlake, Lay Pastor
 Lorena Saurbaugh, Clerk of Session
 Jim Trotter, Treasurer
[Facebook Page](#)



Forward to a Friend



(This will send this week's newsletter as an email to a friend!)

For Headline News
 Happening Around
 the PC(USA),
[click here](#)



Mark Your Calendar

JANUARY

INSTALLATION

Installation of
 Rev. Christian Choi
 Springfield-Westminster
 Sunday, January 20 @ 4 pm

COM Meeting

Tuesday, January 22
 10 am - 3 pm
 Peoria-First Federated

Visioning Team Meeting

January 29
 10 am - 2 pm
 Presbytery Office

CPM Meeting

January 31
 10 am - 3 pm
 Presbytery office

[Click here for the PGR Calendar](#)

**Aledo - College Avenue Presbyterian
Church**

501 S College Ave, Aledo, IL 61231
Rev. Ann Elyse Van Winkle
Lorine Etheridge, Admin Assistant
Sharon Chandler, Clerk of Session
Kathy Murdock, Treasurer

[Website](#)
[Facebook Page](#)

A Word From Your Lead Presbyter

We believe in a God of new beginnings.

When we stand frozen with Pharaoh's chariots at our backs, even wondering whether we made the right choice, God says, "*Tell the Israelites to move forward!*" When approached by the most pious, experienced, and learned church-going authority we could only ever dream to be, Jesus tells him, "*No one can [even] see the Kingdom of God without being born again from above!*" Our whole theology is based upon a God who died but was risen--not resuscitated back into what came before, but *resurrected* into something altogether new. That resurrection could not be limited to a one time event but is a resurrection gift for you and me and me and you again.

I've heard it said that God loves us just as we are, and at the same time, loves us enough to know that we cannot remain as we are. There are new opportunities for growth and change and resurrection all around us. They too are the path of faith and the walk of discipleship.

We awaken to the grace of the divine working in our lives--and we are never the same again.

We encounter God in new people, new relationships (even as we experience separation, estrangement, and loss)--and we are never the same again.

We come into wider consciousness of the lived realities of others around us--and we are never the same again.

At the center of all is a God who changes our world by demanding that we drop our nets and follow, not into the familiar, the proven, or the comfortable, but into death, rebirth, new worlds unknown even within the world that was created for us.



God loves you just as you are.

And at the same time, God loves you enough to know you cannot remain as you are.

May we no longer grasp with loss to a changing world but instead cling with hope to an unchanging God--a God who opens us up and turns us inside out so we may become co-creators of beloved community together.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is all around us. New beginnings are all around us.

Another year, another moment, another experience of God-with-us.

May we never be the same again.

Happy New Year!

Rev. Ryan J. Landino
Lead Presbyter for Transformation

News from the Treasurer

The IRS has published its mileage rates for 2019. They are as follows:

Business mileage rate: \$ 0.58 / mile
Medical or Moving rate: \$ 0.20 / mile
Charitable rate: \$.0.14 / mile

If you go to the Presbytery of Great Rivers website and click on the FORMS tab and then open the voucher.pdf, it identifies the information required for reimbursement for charitable mileage (14¢/mi). If you have any questions about which to use, it is best to consult a tax advisor or your local CPA.

For more information, go to the Presbytery of Great Rivers website and click on the Financial tab and then under the IRS Information heading, click on IRS 2019 MILEAGE RATE.

Bill Strawbridge, Treasurer

Get Connected!

Have you liked our "Presbytery of Great Rivers" Facebook page?



Have you signed up for our "Good News from Great Rivers" email newsletter?



Presbytery of Great Rivers, 1230 W Candletree Dr, Suite D, Peoria, IL 61614

[SafeUnsubscribe™ pparrish@greatriverspby.org](mailto:SafeUnsubscribe™_pparrish@greatriverspby.org)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by office@greatriverspby.org in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today