



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.

September 3, 2018

Let Us Pray



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

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Mark Your Calendar



Rock Island - Gloria Dei Presbyterian Church

4200 12th St, Rock Island, IL 61201

Rev. Drew Nagle

Debbie Hays, Clerk of Session

Patricia Ferris, Treasurer

[Gloria Dei Facebook Page](#)

[Gloria Dei Website](#)



Rock Island - Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

2312 18th Ave, Rock Island, IL 61201

Rev. James Benson

Cathleen Schrupp, Administrative Assistant

Kathy Davis, Clerk of Session

Stewart Adams, Treasurer

[Good Shepherd Facebook Page](#)

[Good Shepherd Website](#)

SEPTEMBER

Office Closed

Monday, September 3

Labor Day

Interfaith Group

Wednesday, September 12

11 am - 1 pm

Presbytery office

Ordination & Installation

Sunday, September 16 @ 4 PM

CPM Candidate Paul Stroup

Clinton-Clinton Presbyterian

Church

Assembly Meeting

Saturday, September 22

10 am - 3 pm

Blackburn College, Carlinville, IL

COM Meeting

Tuesday, September 25

10 am - 3 pm

Peoria-First Federated LTC

CPM Meeting

Thursday, September 27

10 am

Presbytery Office

Office Closed

September 14 & 28

[Click here for the PGR Calendar](#)

Presbytery Assembly Meeting

Presbytery Assembly Meeting

Blackburn College, Carlinville, IL

September 22, 2018

10 am - 3:30 pm

Registration starts at 9:00 am

9:30 am optional fellowship time

10:00 am official meeting start

Highlights:

- Visiting Blackburn College, one of three Presbyterian colleges in Great Rivers Presbytery
- Keynote Speaker: Bryce Wiebe, Director of Special Offerings for the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA)
- 2019 Budget Approval
- Mission Celebration and Grant Recipient Presentations
- Presentation of "Hands and Feet" Presbytery Mission Trip
- Report from 223rd General Assembly commissioners and delegates
- Presentation of Kemmerer Village

We are experimenting with virtual meeting technology to provide additional accessibility options for this assembly meeting. If you know for sure you are unable to join us, but would be able to attend virtually through smartphone or computer, please contact the office by September 6 so we can work out logistics. Please note that we still need a physical quorum of attendance in order to implement this experiment



2018 Clerk of Session Training

This year's Clerk of Session Training will be held on a Saturday from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

The dates and locations of the 2018 Clerk of Session Training events are:

SEPT 15

First Presbyterian Church
400 E Carroll St
Macomb, IL 61455-2354
309-833-3333

OCT 13

Third Presbyterian Church
1030 N 7th St
Springfield, IL 62702-3907
217-528-0457

SEPT 29

First Presbyterian Church
2000 E College Ave
Normal, IL 61761-2294
309-452-4459

OCT 20

United Church of Woodhull
150 West Third Avenue
Woodhull, IL 61490
309-334-2533

RSVP (No later than 1 week prior to training)
to Patti at pparrish@greatriverspby.org or call 309-683-6980

Important: If you are bringing records to be reviewed from the previous year, you must notify Patti or Rev. Elissa in advance! You will need to bring your minutes books from the last time they were reviewed to your most current minutes. Thanks, Pastor Elissa.



The Inclusion Committee of the
First Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville
presents:

Parents And Relatives Accessing Solutions for extra Ordinary lives

A one day special needs conference and vendor fair
Saturday, September 8, 2018, 8:30-4:00
at First Presbyterian Church- Jacksonville, IL

Topics Include:

- History of disability in America
- Community living for adults with DD
- Accessing community supports
- IEPs and advocacy
- "Creating a Therapeutic Life, Not a Life Full of Therapies"

A round table/panel discussion with parents and professionals. Bring your problems here, and let's put our hive mind to work!

Presenters

Taylor Sweeting
Keynote- Autism Self-Advocate
Sandy Valentine
Equip for Equality
Levi Graham of DD Homes
Michele and Aubrie Westmaas
Expect ExtraOrdinary

TO REGISTER, [CLICK HERE!](#) To view the flyer [CLICK HERE!](#)

Cost is \$5. Pay at the door or drop off at the church.

SPOTLIGHT ON TEAMWORK

The Committee on Ministry is part of the backbone of the life of the presbytery. Our largest standing committee, they are responsible for enhancing and strengthening pastor/congregation relations. They care for such things as ensuring that ministry transitions are conducted as smoothly as possible, and that churches and pastors are receiving the support they need to provide their ministry. Each one of our 90+ churches are assigned a designated ministry partner, so we can better foster familiar relationships with every church in our presbytery, and to more expediently respond to each others' needs. In order to make our work more efficient, the Committee on Ministry has recently created four specific subcommittees: Ministry Transitions (supporting churches undoing changes in leadership), Ministry Services (supporting churches not in transition), Training and Resources (providing skills and tools for greater effectiveness), and a Coordinating Group (committed to ensuring seamless collaboration). Each group brings their focused efforts back to the larger group for further discernment. This is just one of the ways we are trying to function better as a presbytery.

Have you met your church's ministry partner? May God bless the bridges we build together!





Your Per Capita/Shared Mission Dollars at Work

One of the policies of Great Rivers Presbytery is to require every new pastor coming into our presbytery to submit to a background check. Before a candidate is even permitted to set foot into a physical meeting with a Pastor Nominating Committee, their background check must be processed satisfactorily. The background check, which takes 24-48

hours to process, includes a nation-wide criminal super search, a cross-reference through the nation-wide sex offender registry, and a trace to confirm that they are not using a false social security number. Part of your per capita pays to ensure that we are not negligently allowing dangerous people into contact with our churches (we have had people refuse to submit to a criminal background check!). In light of the recent devastating news coming out of the Roman Catholic Church, and our own sins of past negligence, we want to have the fullest assurance that every preacher, pastor, and employee is a healthy and safe fit for our community of churches!



PGR MISSION FAIR **AT SEPTEMBER 22 ASSEMBLY**

The Visioning Team is coordinating a Mission Fair for the September 22 PGR Assembly Meeting at Blackburn College in Carlinville, IL. Show us how you used your MIFA, Bucks for Blessing, Worship Initiative and Talent Grants! We'll have a special room and table set up so we can let each other know about the great mission and ministry happening through our churches. Displays do not have to be elaborate - a display board with photos and brief description will do. If you bring it on a laptop, please bring your own power strip and extension cord. The meeting starts at 10 AM, so come early to get set up! If you have questions, contact Joe Eby at 217-528-0457 or drjheby@sbcglobal.net.

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