



## Monday Morning in the Presbytery

A weekly news update from the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley in Iowa and Nebraska

Distributed by e-mail only to the churches, Clerks of Session, ministers, Presbytery officers and committee members and others who wish to be on the e-mail list.

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**January 18, 2010**

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### **News from our E.P., Kevin Keaton**

**Congratulations to Joan Royer** – She has a new Grandson, Noah James, who was born Tuesday, January 12 at Bergan Mercy & weighed 6lbs, 12.5 oz.

### ***Blessed are ...***

During my recuperation, I have recalled the poster in my office which reads *Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape*. An accident, natural disaster, or change in health may be a reminder of the unpredictable nature of life as well as the ever-consistent grace of a loving God!

**I am deeply grateful** for the patience of the Presbytery as I rehabilitate from my accident and hip surgery. During this time, through e-mail, telephone, and Skype, I am attempting to maintain as much contact as possible with leadership and committees.

**If you have need to contact me**, please feel free to call our "satellite office in Deep South Omaha" at 402-926-6060 (it's really the cell) or e-mail me at [kevin@pmrv.org](mailto:kevin@pmrv.org). If I am unavailable at the moment, I shall get back to you as soon as it is convenient.

*Grace and peace, Kevin*

## **Fundraising Dinner For Meme Delgado a 5 year-old transplant patient**



**When:** Fri. Jan 29, 5-9 PM  
**Where:** Westminster Presbyterian Church  
3416 Woolworth Ave, Omaha, NE 68015  
**Cost:** \$7 for adults and \$5 for kids.

The Westphal's are a pediatric transplant family that has been here in Omaha for the past nine months. The patient, Meme, is a five-year-old boy from Texas who has undergone two organ transplants at UNMC, due to Chronic Idiopathic Intestinal Pseudo Obstruction, a rare disease that affects the entire intestinal tract. His mom, Tiffany Westphal, has her hands full caring for her sick son, and two elementary school aged daughters.

***Westminster Presbyterian Church in Field Club has adopted the Westphal family to help support them emotionally and spiritually. In addition, their hope and prayer is that our community will come together for this benefit to help the Westphal's financially. Due to the residency criteria in Nebraska, the Westphal's are not eligible for many of the social services that other families are afforded.***

May we start this New Year as a closer and more compassionate community as every parent knows the struggle of caring for a sick child. May Tiffany and her kids feel the presence of a community embracing them with love.

***You are invite to join Westminster, not only at the fundraising dinner, but also by including the attached flyer in your Sunday bulletin or posting on your bulletin board. Your help in this effort is greatly appreciated! See you January 29th!***

***A bulletin flyer and a poster to help promote this event are available at: <http://www.pmr.org/newsletter.htm> and as an attachment to this email***

## **News from Our Congregations**

**Barbara Todd** will be installed as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Missouri Valley on Sunday, January 24 at 4 pm. A light supper will follow installation.



## ***Relief for Haiti***

**The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is responding to the earthquake in Haiti** through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and its partners. **For updates** on the earthquake and the church's response, [please visit PDA](#).

### **What we can do**

**GIVE.** You, too, can be part of God's answer to prayer for those affected by this disaster. Funds from One Great Hour of Sharing are already helping with the initial response. You can give to the ongoing relief through [PDA account number DR000064](#), or by sending a check to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. *Please include the special designated giving account: DR000064 – Haiti.*

**ACT.** Stay informed and share information on the need with others. Sign up to receive [PDA-RIN email notices](#) to alert you of additional needs. [Consider making Gift of the Heart hygiene and baby kits](#). A shipment of hygiene kits is being prepared by Church World Service to send to Haiti. When widespread disasters occur, there is usually a need to replenish the supply to ensure a sufficient quantity for future disaster situations.

**PRAY.** Please continue in prayer for all who have who lost friends and families, those who lost homes, and those seeking a sense of security after being affected by this tragic earthquake. For online daily devotions focused on care, prayer, thinking theologically about and aid for Haiti, [click here](#).

## **29<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Ministry Conference March 7-9, 2010 Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque IA**

Where leaders in rural communities and congregations gather to gain insight and inspiration, to network and neighbor that our ministries might be empowered. This year's theme: **"Nurturing Generosity"** ~ *releasing God's abundance in a time of perceived scarcity*. **For a full brochure and to register, or visit:** [www.ruralministry.com](http://www.ruralministry.com)

## **Presbytery Youth Event Winter Lock-In February 19th/20th Avery Presbyterian Church (1910 Avery Rd East in Bellevue)**

The lock-in begin at 9pm on February 19th and end at 8am on the 20th.  
Cost of this event is only \$25

For more information or to register contact:

Kris Adler at 553-4500 or <mailto:kris@centralpresby.org> by Thursday, February 11th

## Heartland Presbyterian Center - Kansas City, MO Hosting three Board of Pensions educational seminars

All three seminars are open for registration until January 22, 2010.

The seminars for Benefits Plan members are:

- Getting in Shape Fiscally: Financial & Retirement Planning for early to mid-career (Febr. 23)
- Growing into Tomorrow...Today: Financial & Retirement planning for mid to late career (Febr. 24-25)
- Post-Retirement: Financial and Retirement planning for Plan retirees and survivor spouses (Febr. 26)

**Information on the Seminars including links for online registration can be found under news and events on the presbytery web site**

**<http://www.pmr.org/> or by clicking on: <http://www.pmr.org/news.htm>**

### Prayer Calendar

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Jan	<p>18</p> <p>Keep this congregation in your prayers throughout the coming week: Avoca United</p> <p>Their pastor is Rev. Nancy Ross-Hullinger.</p>   <p>Pray for the people of Haiti, the relief workers and ongoing relief efforts.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pray for Rev. Charles Bulger. Charles is retired and living in Omaha.</p>  <p>Pray for Rev. Darin Seaman, member of the Presbytery's Youth Ministry Committee</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>Pray for Rev. Ken Bunnell. Ken is retired and living in Omaha.</p>  <p>Pray for Rev. Sally Carlson, Chair of the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Pray for Rev. Mary Ann Calta. MaryAnn is currently serving as pastor at Benson Presbyterian Church.</p>  <p>Pray for Jerry Hertzler, of the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Pray for Rev. Deena Candler. Deena is associate pastor for Caregiving at West Hills Church.</p>  <p>Pray for Rev. Bob Keefer, of the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Pray for Rev. Greg Carlson. Greg is pastor at Bethany in Council Bluffs.</p>  <p>Pray for Rev. Bill Bowers. Bill is serving as Interim Pastor for the Presbyterian Church of Fremont.</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>Pray for members of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (Rev. Gary Eller, Chair), and for Inquirers: Andrew Klaussen and Richard Morhardt and Candidates: Brad Hertzler, Susan Lockwood Michael Plank and Jennifer Weitzke</p> <p>Pray for Pat Shipley, of the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry</p>

# Event Calendar

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Jan	18 <b>PRESBYTERY OFFICE CLOSED ~ MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY</b>	19 <b>9AM STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES (PRESBYTERY OFFICE)</b>  <b>NOON~ BIRTHDAY LUNCH: JOAN ROYER (PACIFIC SPRINGS)</b>	20	21	22	23	24 <b>4PM BARBARA TODD, INSTALLATION, PASTOR, MISSOURI VALLEY</b>
Jan	25 <b>9:30AM PW COORDINATING TEAM (NEW HORIZON) SNOW DATE: 2/1</b>	26 <b>COM/CPM CONFERENCE BUFFALO MN</b>	27 <b>COM/CPM CONFERENCE BUFFALO MN</b>	28 <b>COM/CPM CONFERENCE BUFFALO MN</b>	29 <b>5-9PM FUNDRAISING DINNER (WESTMINSTER – OMAHA) MEME DELGADO \$7</b>	30	31

- Please send dates, times, locations of events to: [pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com](mailto:pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com). However, to plan and schedule events talk with Joan Royer ([joan@pmrv.org](mailto:joan@pmrv.org) or 402-553-8300 or 800-603-8980).
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