

# 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. Published by the Presbytery, the offices of which are at 302 S 74<sup>th</sup> St., Omaha, NE 68114-4617. Rev. Dr. J. Keith Cook is the editor/writer/distributor. Send news items to Rev Jodi Filipi at [pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com](mailto:pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com).

December 28, 2009



## Rev Kevin Keaton, our Presbytery Executive, had a bicycle

**accident** just before Christmas. His upper femur was broken. It happened in Sugar Land, Texas where he was spending some Christmas time with family. We've not been able to contact him for progress reports. But cards and notes can be sent to him c/o 1518 Nails Creek Dr, Sugar Land, TX 77478-5325.

**Everyone, clergy and lay, are invited** to a birthday lunch in honor of Joan Royer, the always-gracious administrative assistant in our Presbytery Office in Omaha. It will be on Tuesday, January 19 (her 55<sup>th</sup> birthday) at 12:00 noon in the Community Room at Pacific Springs Retirement Village. It is at 805 South 173<sup>rd</sup> Ct., Omaha. It is very important to let J. Keith Cook know if you are attending so he can let the chef know how many to prepare for! Phone 402-571-1988 or e-mail [jkeithcook@cox.net](mailto:jkeithcook@cox.net). Directions: Get to 168<sup>th</sup> & Pacific Sts; go west ½ mile to 174<sup>th</sup> St. Turn north; go 1/3 block, then turn right, going through the gates. Then head north toward the 3-story apartment building. Enter that building in the main doors, at the center of the building. Once inside aim north all the way down the hall to the circular stairs. Go down those stairs (or take the elevator that comes just before you get to the stairs).



**Dr Howard Dooley (age 93) and his wife Mary** have moved to assisted living near a daughter in central Nebraska. Both are in declining health. Howard is the longest-tenured member of our Presbytery. He was one of the last graduates of the now-long-gone Omaha Presbyterian Theological Seminary. The Dooleys are at Hamilton Manor, 1515 North 5<sup>th</sup> St, Aurora, NE 68818.

**A Reminder - Rev Jodi Filipi** takes over the editorial responsibilities for this periodical, *Monday Morning in the Presbytery* beginning with the next issue. It is time to begin sending Jodi those items you want included in January 2010 *MMPs*. But please note that Jodi has particular e-addresses for particular facets of her life. They are:

- Use [pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com](mailto:pmrv.mondaymorning@gmail.com) for anything for or related to this periodical.
- Use [jody@czechconnections.org](mailto:jody@czechconnections.org) for mission committee work and for anything related to the presbytery other than for *Monday Morning in the Presbytery*. Use the first e-address for *MMP* related missives.
- Use [jfilipi@cox.net](mailto:jfilipi@cox.net) for home/personal e-mails to Jody.

**A Reminder - The Sr. High Winter Lock-out/Lock-in** will be January 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 PM to 8:00 AM. Those in 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades may join us for an evening of games, worship, pizza, arcade games, bowling, sleep, movies, sleep, hanging out and SLEEP. The cost of the event is \$25 per person, which covers all activities, food, and transportation. Each group attending must provide adult leadership for their group. Reservations for the event are due to Kris Adler at 402-553-4500 or

[kris@centralpresby.org](mailto:kris@centralpresby.org) by Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. Flyers have been sent to each church. If additional flyers are needed, please contact Kris at the e-mail address above.

**Three years ago Vonice Darling was** filling in, temporarily, as our Presbytery Executive, after the departure of Bart Brenner and prior to the arrival of Chaz Ruark. During that brief interim Vonice asked me to take on the job of writing and producing newsletters for our Presbytery. I agreed. So exactly three years ago I started *Monday Morning in the Presbytery*, as well as *The Presbyterian*. (The latter is a full-color 8-page hard copy item that is distributed five times a year (4 times in 2010) in Sunday worship bulletins. *Monday Morning* is, as you know, an e-mailed item sent out each Monday Morning.

I have loved the job. But I found that I had given away too much of my retirement! I write and produce four newsletters, all as a volunteer. I'm dropping this one because it is the one with the most deadlines. It takes far more time than one might imagine. I will keep *The Presbyterian* going.

I encourage your support of our new editor/writer/producer/distributor, Rev Jodi Filipi. Here some specific ways of encouraging her and supporting her.





- Let her know when you change your e-address! Don't make her chase you down to get it, when your MMPs begin to bounce back. That gets old quickly.
- Send her items for the MMP.
- Trust her judgment about the use of what you send her. She, like any good editor, will have policies and practices that she will need to observe. Some things just aren't right for the MMP. Some things you send are too long, or need help with syntax and/or grammar, or with clarity. They may need serious editing.
- Don't complain. Things *will* happen. Be patient. Complaints are hard on people.
- Compliment her whenever possible. (By the way, I got lots of compliments for MMP.







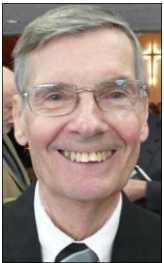








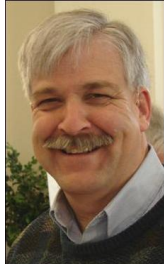

Interestingly, I received the most positive comments on two things: the prayer calendar and the fun video links I sometimes included – but lots of thanks for the very piece itself.)

Before I sign off I want to thank my wife Ruth. Every Sunday afternoon or evening she read a hard copy of the MMP to find my errors in spelling, grammar, syntax, etc. She was a big behind-the-scenes help. Here it is, 11:00 PM Sunday, December 27, 2009, and she has yet to copyedit this particular MMP!

Thanks everyone.

## Keeping Calendar

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec	27 – Pray for the mission & ministry of First Presbyterian Church in Omaha. Jon Sloan and David Paul are the pastors. 	28 - Presbytery Office closed 4:00 PM Special Mtg of the Presbytery at Central Presbyterian Church in Omaha. – Pray for Rev Gregg Miller, pastor of our Presbyterian congregation in Fort Calhoun, Nebraska.	29 - Presbytery Office closed – Pray for Rev Mark Miller, pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church in LaVista, Nebraska. 	30 - Presbytery Office closed - Pray for Rev George Moore, pastor of West Hills Church in Omaha. 	31 – Presbytery Office closed - Pray for all those women and men who misunderstand the nature of celebration, will imbibe too much tonight, and thereby jeopardize their lives, their relationships and the lives of others.	January 1, 2010 - Presbytery Office closed - Pray for Rev Jodi Filipi as she takes the helm of this periodical, that she might feel supported in this ministry that is meaningful to many.	2 – Pray for Rev Nadia Mullin, the new associate pastor at Presbyterian Church of the Cross in Omaha. 

							
Jan	<p>3 – Pray for the mission &amp; ministry of Florence Presbyterian Church in Omaha. Al Zimmerman is the certified lay pastor.</p>  	<p>4 – Pray for Rev Matt Nieman, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Bellevue, Nebraska.</p> 	<p>5 – 6:00 PM Hispanic/Latino Work Group meets at Castelar. – Council Bluffs area clergy lunch, 11:30 AM at Golden Corral – Committee for Congregations mtg, 4:00 PM at Presby Ch of the Cross, Omaha</p>	<p>6 – Pray for Rev Bill Osick. He is retired and living in Omaha.</p> 	<p>7 – Pray for Rev Russell Palmer, retired and living in Omaha.</p> 	<p>8 - Kid's Night, 6:30-8:00 at Castelar Presbyterian Church - Pray for Rev Loren E. Parker. He is retired and living in Omaha.</p> 	<p>9 – 10:00 AM Calvin Crest Board meets at Calvin Crest. - Pray for Rev David Paul, associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Omaha.</p> 
Jan	<p>10 – Pray for the mission &amp; ministry of our Presbyterian church in Fort Calhoun, NE. Rev Gregg Miller is the pastor.</p>  	<p>11 – Pray for Rev Caryn Pedersen, pastor of our Presbyterian Church in Red Oak, IA.</p> 	<p>12 – Give prayerful thanks for Rev Ed Fish. Today is his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.</p> 	<p>13 – Pray for Rev Jack Pettit. Jack lives in retirement in Lake Havasu City, Arizona.</p> 	<p>14 – Committee on Preparation for Ministry, 1:00 PM at Central Pres Church, Omaha – Council Orientation at Central Presbyterian Church in Omaha. - Pray for congregations as they have their annual meetings about now...that they may go well, and be full of wisdom and kindness.</p>	<p>15 – Pray for Rev Steve Pike. Steve is a minister-at-large member of the presbytery; and lives in Papillion, NE.</p> 	<p>16 – Pray for Rev Steve Plank, pastor of Central Presbyterian Church in Omaha. He is also Stated Clerk of our presbytery.</p> 

**Always read the fine print!** Please get other dates, times, locations of events to [jkeithcook@cox.net](mailto:jkeithcook@cox.net). But to plan and schedule events be sure to talk with Joan Royer in the Presbytery Office; she manages the Presbytery calendar; we only report it. If you'd rather not receive these e-mailings drop an e-note to [jkeithcook@cox.net](mailto:jkeithcook@cox.net) saying so.

As stated in the first issue of this periodical in January 2007, anyone may submit an editorial, under certain conditions: must be relatively brief, must be signed, must not even seem to attack any individual or group, must not become a campaign (meaning that the writer must not beat the drum on the subject over and over again in subsequent issues), and must not endorse or support particular political candidates or non-church or non-faith issues. The editor has final determination regarding propriety.