



June 2015

The Banner

Newsletter of the Presbytery of Arkansas

In this issue:

(Click on the link below to jump directly to an article, or scroll/page down to read the entire Banner from beginning to end)

[The Presbytery of Arkansas Meets at First Presbyterian--Benton Church Employment \(and Other\) Opportunities in or near our Presbytery](#)

[News of Our Congregations and Our People](#)

[NiAnn Thompson: Resource Center News](#)

[News for Presbytery Youth](#)

["The P.L.A.C.E." Workshops Return \(August 8th, 2015\)--registration is open now!](#)

[Registration Open for Presbyterian Pilgrimage \(October 15-18\)](#)

[New Region List Available](#)

[Presbytery's Committee on Nominations Welcomes Suggestions](#)

[Presbyterian Prayer List](#)

[Presbytery Calendar](#)

[Staff Contacts](#)

[About the Presbytery of Arkansas](#)

An Historic Presbytery Meeting Full of Joy and Excitement

by David H. Dyer, Acting Stated Clerk

Moderator Ed Wilkinson opened the 129th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas at 9:45 a.m. on Saturday, June 6, 2015 in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, Benton, Arkansas. It would prove to be a meeting exciting, important, and historical.

As part of the report of the Acting Stated Clerk, CRE Claire Rhodes, who is serving on the Search Committee for a new Stated Clerk for the General Assembly of the PC(USA) asked for our prayers during their search and then led the presbytery in prayer.

The excitement came from the Morning Worship and the preaching of Dr. Rodger Nishioka, professor at Columbia Theological Seminary. Preaching from Acts 20:7-12, he challenged the presbytery to move from a focus on church as words to seeing ourselves again as people of action and community. Other participants in the service, which included the Commissioning of Youth to Summer Activities were TE DC Adams, CRE Joan DuBois, CRE Emily Laurel, TE Dari Rowen, Nikki Saltmarsh, and Britton Varn. The offering was dedicated to Journey Into Hope, a

ministry to Haitian refugees in the Dominican Republic and amounted to \$1,575.



Rev. Rodger Nishioka



Youth Summer Trips Participants are Commissioned

Next came the historical. Following the worship, the presbytery moved to consider the first vote on the adoption of a Plan of Restructure for the Presbytery of Arkansas. TE Robert Lowry, Moderator of the Listening/Restructure Task Force, along with other members of the Task Force presented the plan and offered highlights of the restructure itself. Following discussion and debate, the motion to adopt as a whole was PASSED. A second vote, at the October 2015 Stated Meeting, will be required to make the adoption of this plan final.

TE Clare Kelley presented the report of the General Committee. TE Dari Rowen began the report of the Committee on Ministry, presenting TE Ward Rudolph to the presbytery. He is serving as the pastor of the All Souls Interdenominational Church in Scott, AR.



TE Ward Rudolph

TE Carl McCormack presented the report of the Nominations Committee and bid the presbytery farewell as he heads to ministry in Texas. We will look forward to his return to ministry among us when God calls. TE Steve Hancock, Moderator of the Stated Clerk Search Committee, placed the name of TE Robert Lowry into nomination to fill the unexpired term of the Stated Clerk (through 2016) beginning July 1. There were no other nominations and Dr. Lowry was elected.

Lunch was a delicious barbeque and was highlighted by time and speeches celebrating the ministry of General Presbyter Bill Galbraith as he heads toward retirement. With his family joining him, Bill was congratulated and slightly roasted.

The Host Pastor, Dari Rowen and the people of First Presbyterian, Benton, did a wonderful job of making the presbytery welcome and well fed. We thank them deeply.

Following lunch, TE Burle Mattingly spoke about the retirement of TE Rita Wilson and the presbytery wished her well as she moves to that stage of her ministry.



TE Rita Wilson

Dr. Nishioka then made a presentation about the "nones," young people who believe in God, have often been raised in churches, but now, in their twenties and thirties, no longer have any church affiliation. He related this to the history of the Church and offered that we are in an exciting (and fearful, for some) time of change. The Church will, by the grace of God, continue, but it will continue by changing; becoming more imagistic, participatory, active, and communal.

The Committee on Ministry report continued with the following business: dismissed TE Cathy Ulrich to the Presbytery of Denver; enrolled TE Marilyn Rausch, HR as member-at-large, approved the call of TE Bryan Bond as Pastor of First, Van Buren; and created a new Administrative Commission for Hispanic Ministry in Northwest Arkansas. We also noted the passing of ministers Lloyd O. DeLong and Jimmie Thames. TE Bill Seitz was approved as the Transitional Minister for First Presbyterian, Mena and enrolled.



TE Bryan Bond



TE Bill Seitz

Reports from the Committee on Representation, from RE John Alderson, and from the Congregational Care and Development Committee, by RE Leah Shell were received and heard. TE Phil Butin offered prayer to commemorate the completion of the life of the Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church, Farmington.

RE Kim Danehower brought the report of the Mission Committee and a motion to make the Unified Mission Emphasis for the next year as the most vulnerable segments of our population, from children to older adults, was PASSED.

Melissa Jenkins spoke about the life, history, and work of Presbyterian Village in Little Rock.

CCE Linda LeBron presented information about the PLACE event to be held on Saturday, August 8th.

TE Catherine Allsbury reported for the Administration Committee and RE Emily Laurel reported on the Synod of the Sun.

The meeting ended, as the clock passed 3:00 p.m., with prayer by the Vice-moderator Lacy Sellars.

After a long day, with much learned, celebrated, and accomplished, the 163 Commissioners and others who attended went home tired but, we hope and trust, blessed.

[Back to the top of this email](#)

Church Employment Opportunities in or near our Presbytery

Part Time Music Director -- First Presbyterian Church in Harrison, Arkansas seeks a qualified person to direct the chancel choir, hand bell choir, and praise band, with occasional youth/children's choir, meet with the pastor to plan music for worship, and direct all choir practices. Salary, vacation, study leave, and study fund are part of the salary package.

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry -- First United Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville, Arkansas is praying for a proactive leader with a love for youth and young adults and a shepherd's heart, a mature faith consistent with the Reformed Christian tradition, personal integrity, and an enthusiastic sense of humor and fun combined with a passion for teaching and forming youth and young adults to be committed followers of Jesus. Focus is 80% youth ministry and 20% college and young adult ministry. This is a full-time position with a generous continuing education allowance and healthcare. Complete position description and contact information available at <http://www.fupcfay.org/leadership/positions-open.aspx>. The position will begin as soon as possible in 2015.

Little Rock YAV Site Coordinator -- The Little Rock Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) site coordinator implements the YAV program at the Little Rock site and promotes both the Little Rock YAV site and the YAV program as a whole. The Little Rock YAV site will focus on the areas of environmental sustainability and emergency preparedness, and it is a partnership between Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock. The site coordinator is the point person for coordinating the work of the YAVs and the collaboration between local agencies, staff, governing board, and volunteers.

This is a year-round, half-time position (20 hours per week). Compensation will be \$20,000 annually. For full job description, further information or to apply, please contact Jason Woods, Search Committee Chair at jasommwoods@gmail.com or send resume and cover letter to Ferncliff Camp, 1720 Ferncliff Road, Little Rock, AR 72223 (ferncliff@ferncliff.org).

First Presbyterian Church--Bentonville is seeking teachers for their *My Friends & Me* Daycare -- **Full-time Lead Teacher (2-year-olds)** for 2015-2016 school year, and **Nursery Workers** (Sunday mornings and other occasional weekday Bible studies and church events). For more information, contact Mrs. Z Cooper at 479-273-5450 or zkcooper@fpcbentonville.org.

Other Opportunities

Counseling Center Clinical Director (Monticello, AR) -- Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services is seeking a Clinical Director for a new nonprofit counseling center in Monticello, AR, which will serve youth, adults and families. A detailed description of the position is available [here](#). You may send a letter of interest and resume to: Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services, 1501 N. University Ave., Suite 345, Little Rock, AR 72207 or email to donnamahurin@veralloyd.org.

Pastor to Host Trip to Germany & Austria -- Kirk in the Pines pastor, Bill Bailey, will host a 12-day tour to the Best of Germany and Austria, Nov. 2-13. Fellow Presbyterians and their friends are invited to join the group visiting these beautiful countries. Destinations include Berlin, Wittenberg (Luther sites), Leipzig, Marburg, Frankfurt, Rothenburg, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein, Munich and more. Reservations are being accepted on a first received basis. For a brochure with the itinerary and more information, email kirktour@gmail.com.

Short-term ESL Teacher Needed in the Dominican Republic -- A short-term volunteer English as Second Language teacher is needed to work with Haitians in the Dominican Republic. The plan is for an intensive English school, July 22-29, working with Journey Into Hope in Sabaneta, Dominican Republic. Spanish or French would be helpful. For information on the organization, go to: www.JourneyIntoHope.org. Please contact Rev. David Schaller (Faith Presbyterian Church/Horseshoe Bend, AR) 870.750.0028 for more information.

Big Tent 2015 coming soon -- PC(USA)'s Big Tent event will be held July 30-August 1 in Knoxville, TN. There will be events and seminars for every age group. Registration must be received by June 19th. For more information, visit this website: http://www.presbyterianmission.org/site_media/media/uploads/big_tent/pdfs/big-tent-2015-gen-info.pdf

Manager of Administration--Office of the General Assembly -- The Office of the General Assembly in Louisville, KY seeks a Manager of Administration. This position will provide administrative leadership in the areas of human resources, financial management and policy. A detailed description of the position and contact information is available [here](#).

[Back to the top of this email](#)

People and Church News

News of Our People

--Congratulations to **James and Rev. Marie Mainard-O'Connell** on the birth of their third child, Jonathan Gabriel Wallace Mainard-O'Connell on May 25. Marie is pastor of First, Little Rock and a member of presbytery's Committee on Congregational Care and Development.

--**Dr. Hee-Kyung Juhn** has resigned as the director of music at First, Arkadelphia effective May 3.

--Christian sympathy goes to **Rev. and Mrs. Gordon F. Garlington III** on the death of his father Rev. Gordon F. Garlington, Jr., a retired PC(USA) pastor, on May 15. The younger Garlington is pastor of Park Hill Presbyterian, North Little Rock and a member of the presbytery's Christian Education Committee.

--**Rev. Carlos Lopez** of Little Rock is at home following surgery on May 26. He is an honorably retired minister member of the presbytery and the husband of Rev. Sally Johnson, also honorably retired.

--**Rev. Rachel Shepherd** was commissioned as interim associate pastor at Second Presbyterian, Little Rock on May 17.

--**Kelsey Duke** has completed her service as youth director at Central Presbyterian, Russellville.

--**Marty Shepherd** retired from duties in the Dardanelle School System this month. She is a member of presbytery's Committee on Care and Nurture of Church Professionals.

--**David Mills** is the new summer youth intern at First, Bentonville. He comes from United Campus Ministry in Fayetteville, is a member at Second, Little Rock and is a member of presbytery's Committee on Congregational Care and Development.

News of Our Congregations and Ministries

--**Graham Memorial Presbyterian, Forrest City** hosted the Forrest City Area Humane Society dinner and silent auction on May 29 to finance spaying and neutering grants.

--**First, Van Buren** is one of many churches that collected the PC(USA) special offering on Pentecost Sunday, May 24 for young people and at-risk children and is searching for a church secretary to work 16 hours a week.

--**Second Presbyterian, Little Rock** plans a church-wide adult class in June where each pastor shares about a movie that is meaningful to them.

--**Mountainburg Presbyterian** honored members with cake served after worship on Mothers' Day, May 10.

--**First, Malvern** welcomed Sarah Macias on May 31 as guest preacher. She is the 2015 recipient of the Chidester Preaching Award established by the church for an outstanding student at Austin Seminary.

--**First, Bentonville** dedicated new handmade communion ware on June 7 purchased by Presbyterian Women Service Circle.

--**First, Batesville** distributed "Flat Jesus" drawings for members to take with them and photograph on their summer travels while using the prayer on the back about the love of the church family.

--**First, Newport**, like many other churches, recognized, honored and wished a bright future to their high school graduates in worship last month.

--**First, Mountain Home** is celebrating the 20th anniversary of the ordination of their pastor Rev. Nancy Taylor on Aug. 16 with dinner following worship and by raising money to purchase lambs in her honor from Heifer Project.

[Back to the top of this email](#)

Resource Center News

by [NiAnn Thompson](#), Resourcing Director
Phone 501.663.2424, ext. 104
Tuesday-Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.



PRESBYTERY FACEBOOK PAGE

If you have events that you want the people of the Presbytery to know about, post them to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PresbyteryOfArkansas. Rev. Anne Russ at First, North Little Rock (Argenta) at 501.374.7677 or email revruss@gmail.com will be glad to answer your questions.

IDEAS FOR CHILDREN

--For use in worship (or this summer in Vacation Bible School) the Presbyterian Association of Resource Centers group suggest that the doxology ("Praise God from whom all blessings flow") may be sung to the alternate children's tune of "Chim, Chim, Chiree" from the movie "Mary Poppins" or to the theme music from the TV program "Jeopardy." Avery & Marsh tunes in the 1990 blue hymnal may be used for the "Gloria Patri."

--Useful in every church library (and for every church professional) are resources for grieving children "**Tear Soup: A recipe for healing after loss**" DVD (Acc. #DVD9430) and book (Acc. #BK8342), "**Helping Children Cope with the Loss of a Loved One: A Guide for Grownups**" (Acc. #BK6833), "**Josh: Coming to terms with the death of**

a friend" (Acc. #BK9137) illustrated book for children, and "When Your Pet Dies: A Healing Handbook for Kids" (Acc. #BK8308) illustrated book for children.

--DVDs for or about children to check out this summer include: "Stop Bullying!" (Acc. #DVD9781), "Raising Children of Divorce" (Acc. #DVD9782), in the excellent series 'What's in the Bible' Volume 5 "Israel Gets a King" (Acc. #DVD9808), Volume 6 "A Nation Divided" (Acc. #DVD9809), Volume 7 "Exile and Return" (Acc. #DVD9810), Volume 8 "Words to Make Us Wise" (Acc. #DVD9811), Volume 9 "God Speaks!" (Acc. #DVD9812), Volume 10 "Jesus is the Good News" (Acc. #DVD9783), Volume 11 "Spreading the Good News" (Acc. #DVD9784) and "People Who Met Jesus" (Acc. #DVD9799).

--YOUR Resource Center supplies a large box of excellent books to the summer camp counselors at Ferncliff Camp for their use with campers during the two months of camping sessions. Why not ask your child or grandchild about stories they heard at camp!

This year I will be working each Tuesday and Wednesday (7:45-5:15) and can easily be reached other weekdays by email, text or cell phone (501.337.2360).

Self-service hours in the Resource Center are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Thursday and Friday. If these latter days are the best for your visits, I'll gladly gather resources for you to pick up and as usual, I'll mail resources to patrons on the days I'm here.

REMEMBER OUR ONLINE CATALOG! Just go to the www.presbyteryofarkansas.org website, click on "Resources," then on "Resource Center" and "click here to search the catalog" to conduct a simple or advanced search for just the right item.

(The Resource Center receives funding from Presbytery's Committee on Christian Education)

[Back to the top of this email](#)

Presbytery of Arkansas Youth News

Save the Date for Pathways, August 8!
Second Presbyterian, Little Rock. Watch for info!

Youth from all congregations are welcome to attend!

Full information packets and Registration information can be found at
<http://www.presbyteryofarkansas.org/documents/YouthCouncil/Summer%20Trips%202015%20-%20Info%20and%20Registration%20forms.pdf>

Want to stay updated about Youth Ministry happenings in the Presbytery?

"Like" us on Facebook!

Search

PresbyteryofArkansasYouthMinistry

on Facebook,

or go to

www.facebook.com/PresbyteryofArkansasYouthMinistry

This page is for anyone wishing to stay updated about Youth Ministry happenings in the Presbytery -- Youth Workers, parents, youth, Educators, Pastors.

(Presbytery's Youth Ministry receives funding from Presbytery's Committee on Christian Education.)

[Back to the top of this email](#)

The P.L.A.C.E -- August 8th -- registration is open now!

Register now for The P.L.A.C.E.! The Presbytery Leadership Academy for Congregational Enrichment. Saturday, August 8th at 2nd Pres in Little Rock. Not only will you be able to choose 3 workshops from a list of 30, but there is something for every age group in your congregation. Preschool child care, Elementary Mini-Ferncliff in Bible Village rooms, and the national youth leadership training event called PATHWAYS in the youth house. Save the date and plan to bring a van full from your congregation. Registration is now open online. Congregational packets were distributed at the June 6th Presbytery meeting.

For a flyer with more information, [click here](#).

For online information and online registration, [click here](#).

[Back to the top of this email](#)

**Registration is now open for Arkansas Presbyterian Pilgrimage #23--
October 15-18 at Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center**

Are you looking for a boost in your faith journey? Consider attending the Arkansas Presbyterian Pilgrimage to be held at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center from October 15 through 18, 2015. The pilgrimage weekend will begin at 5:30 pm on Thursday, and will end about 5 pm on Sunday. There will

be plenty of worship, prayer, food, study, fellowship, and much more. The cost to attend the weekend is \$200. Scholarships are available if you need financial aid.

Applications are available on the Arkansas Presbyterian Pilgrimage website www.pilgrimage-arkansas.org.

You may also pick up participant applications from the Presbytery Office in Little Rock. If you have any questions, you may contact the Registrar at ARPC.registrar@gmail.com

The deadline for applications is October 5, 2015.

[Back to the top of this email](#)

New Region Map

The Presbytery Restructure Task Force presented a new map of Regions for the Presbytery of Arkansas. This new map was approved by a vote of the presbytery in October 2014. For a list of the churches in each region, [click here](#). For a map with the new regions, [click here](#).

[Back to the top of this email](#)

Presbytery Welcomes Nomination Suggestions

The Committee on Nominations asks for your suggestions for names of people who would be good candidates to serve on presbytery committees. You may submit these names by completing the Nominations Form at the following link: [2015 Nominations Form](#).

[Back to the top of this email](#)

Prayer List for Congregations -- 2015 can be found [here](#).

(Note: some web browsers may require you to press and hold the "Ctrl" key while you click the link to reach the linked website).

[Back to the top of this email](#)

[Presbytery Calendar](#)

PRESBYTERY STAFF:

General Presbyter [BILL GALBRAITH](#)

Acting Stated Clerk [DAVID DYER](#)

Resourcing Director [NIANN THOMPSON](#)

Director of Mission Support [KENNETH RICH](#)

Staff Resource for Youth [BRITTON VARN](#)

Staff Resource for Congregational Care & Development [MICHAEL VINSON](#)

Treasurer ["BUZZ" ROBERTS](#)

Moderator of Presbytery [ED WILKINSON](#)

Moderator of the General Committee [CLARE KELLEY](#)

Vice Moderator of Presbytery [LACY SELLARS](#)

[Back to the top of this email](#)



The Presbytery of Arkansas is a council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which is part of the Reformed family of churches within the universal Church of Jesus Christ. Our vision is ***to make visible the body of Christ*** (Acts II).

We are composed of over 14,000 Presbyterians gathered in 87 active churches, a new church development and one ministry located in various towns and cities in the northern two-thirds of the State of Arkansas.

Phone 501.663.2424 Fax 501.224.2429 <http://www.presbyteryofarkansas.org>