



October 2015

The Banner

Newsletter of the Presbytery of Arkansas

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Rev. Stewart Smith Elected Next General Presbyter

The Presbytery of Arkansas met for the 130th time in a Stated Meeting at Central Presbyterian Church in Russellville on Friday, October 9th and Saturday, October 10th. Over 150 Presbyterian leaders gathered for worship, witness (yes! Witness), and work; as well as for two days of enjoying each other's company. The meeting was hosted by the Russellville congregation, the Dardanelle congregation, and the Atkins congregation.

Teaching Elder Ed Wilkinson, Moderator of Presbytery, opened the meeting and the routine business that begins each meeting was transacted on Friday evening. Of note was the report of the General Committee by Teaching Elder Clare Kelley, moderator of the committee.

There followed a lively worship service with an Advent theme. The preacher was Mrs. Courtney Bacon-Latina, a candidate for ordination. Readers were Mr. Anderson Brock, Miss Isabelle Clements, and Miss Madeline Clements. Teaching Elder Brian Brock and Ruling Elder Sarah Rogers presided at the Lord's Table. Dr. Jon Clements was the music director and Mrs. Vicky Kiehl provided inspiring music on both organ and piano. Following the worship service, the presbytery recessed for the evening.

Saturday morning began with Morning Prayer led by Teaching Elder DC Adams and Krista Denne. Following the worship the presbytery entered into a time of Theological Discussion, introduced by Teaching Elder Ruskin Falls and led by Teaching Elders Karen Akin and Marion Humphrey. The theme "Who Is Jesus?" opened up opportunities for members of the presbytery to share their personal experience of Christ in the world and in their lives. A visual presentation of images of Jesus complimented by great hymns of Christ, with Vicky Kiehl playing the organ, inspired the conversation.

Teaching Elder Frank LeBlanc presented the report and business of the Committee on Ministry. During it Teaching Elder Ray McCalla, Chaplain of Lyon College and Teaching Elder Paul Fulks, Chaplain of the Tucker Intermediate or Moderate Unit of the Arkansas Department of Corrections were enrolled in the presbytery. Teaching Elder Michael Ulasewich was enrolled in the presbytery and the call of First, Conway to him was passed. The call of First, Arkadelphia to Elizabeth Gabbard was approved. Courtney Bacon-Latina was examined for ordination and approved by the presbytery, as was the call to her from First, Malvern. Ruling Elder Rita Manske was approved as the Commissioned Ruling Elder to serve the Cane Hill Presbyterian Church and she was commissioned for one year.



TE Ray McCalla (left), new chaplain at Lyon

College

TE Paul Fulks (right), new chaplain at Tucker Unit



TE Frank LeBlanc (right) presents TE Mike Ulasewich (left) as the new pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Conway, AR

TE Elizabeth Gabbard, new pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Arkadelphia, AR





Courtney Bacon-Latina (center, in black), newly ordained pastor for First Presbyterian Church in Malvern, AR with her husband and members from Malvern--First



Presbytery Moderator Ruling Elder Ed Wilkinson (left) commissions Rita Manske, who will serve as CRE at Cane Hill Presbyterian Church

Vice-Moderator of Presbytery, Lacy Sellars presided over several reports, including the Committee of Nominations by Teaching Elder Elizabeth Gabbard, the Committee on Preparation for Ministry by Commissioned Ruling Elder Claire Rhodes, and a report on the Mercy Community Church, a 1001 New Worshipping Communities partnership, by Teaching Elder Robert Williamson. It was voted that current committee members will continue on those committees through the February 2016 presbytery meeting.



TE Robert Williamson reports on the Mercy Community Church

Moderator Ed Wilkinson returned and the presbytery heard the report of the Committee on Mission, presented by Ruling Elder Kim Danehower. Teaching Elder Leslie Belden brought a motion that the presbytery enter into a covenanting partnership with the Presbyterian Church of Honduras which was approved by the presbytery.



RE Kim Danehower (left) and TE Leslie Belden (right) bring motion to enter into partnership with Presbyterian Church of Honduras

Teaching Elder Jeff Price brought the report of the General Presbyter Search Committee, placing in nomination the name of Teaching Elder Stewart Smith, currently pastor at Springdale, to serve a five year term. With great joy the presbytery voted to elect him to this important office.



TE Jeff Price (at microphone above) and members of the General Presbyter Search Committee nominate TE Stewart Smith as the Presbytery of Arkansas General Presbyter



TE Jeff Price (left) looks on as Stewart Smith (right) accepts his election as new General
Presbyter for the Presbytery of Arkansas. He will begin on Monday, Nov. 23.

The rejoicing was increased as the presbytery recessed for a delicious luncheon in the Fellowship Hall of Central Presbyterian Church. Following the meal, the Moderator called the meeting back into session.

An overture to the 222nd General Assembly of the PC(USA) from the Eureka Springs congregation to instruct the Office of the General Assembly to consider adding the category of "Partners in Ministry" for people active in, but not members of, our congregations passed.

The vote on the second reading of the Restructure Plan was in the affirmative and an implementation task force was elected via the Consent Agenda.

The contract with Wellspring Renewal Center and Rev. Rebecca M. Spooner was approved for one year. Teaching Elder Dan Wooley handed out certificates of recognition of five year milestones in the lives of ministers and other church workers.

Teaching Elder Catherine Allsbury reported for the Committee on Administration.

A Commissioner's Resolution was presented by Teaching Elder Gordon Garlington, instructing the General Committee and future structures to "study, discuss and propose to our presbytery and its congregations actions..." to help with "...a culture increasingly violent...such as the proliferation of firearms, the treatment and care of the mentally ill, ...alienation among younger generations, racism, and poverty..." The motion passed.

This being the business to be conducted, the meeting was closed with a prayer by the Vice-Moderator and the commissioners headed home.

It was a good meeting and we all went out as we had come in, with grace, mercy, peace, and love.

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Church Employment Opportunities in or near our Presbytery

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.

Choirmaster/Organist -- Arkadelphia First Presbyterian Church seeks a Choirmaster/Organist. If interested, please contact Adrienne Queen for more information: adriennecamillequeen@gmail.com or 910-280-8232.

First Presbyterian Church--Bentonville is seeking a **Full-time Teacher's Assistant** for their *My Friends & Me* Daycare for the 2015-2016 school year. For more information, contact Mrs. Z Cooper at 479-273-5450 or zkcooper@fpcbentonville.org.

Westminster Presbyterian Church (Hot Springs, AR) is seeking an Organist/Choir

Director for an established choir. Our organ is a Casavant 39 rank pipe organ. Competitive salary. Applications received by October 26 are assured consideration. Questions to: Tom Spencer, 501-760-3204.

Resume can be mailed to:
3819 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71913

Or email to wpchsar@sbcglobal.net.

Other Opportunities

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](#).

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People and Church News

News of Our People

--Christian sympathy goes to **Theresa and Jim Spragins** and family of Russellville on the death of her father Rev. George William Domerese, Sr. on Sept. 12. Theresa is Director of Christian Education at First, Conway and a member of presbytery's Administration Committee, and Jim is a member of the Ferncliff Board.

--New staff members at Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village are organist **Wes Reed** and secretary **Joyce Leeming**.

--**Jim Keyes** was honored on Sept. 19 for his 80th birthday. He is the commissioned ruling elder at 101 Presbyterian, Gamaliel.

--**Marie Broadway** is the new Administrative Assistant at First, Bentonville

--**Dana Costley**, administrative assistant at Central, Russellville has resigned and moved to Missouri.

--College sophomore **Luis Estrada** is the student intern at First, Prairie Grove, working through United Campus Ministry at UofA, Fayetteville.

--Christian sympathy goes to Rev. and Mrs. **Carl McCormack** on the death Sept. 24 of his brother Don. A minister member of this presbytery, Carl has served churches in Harrison, Malvern and Rogers and is now interim pastor at First, Graham, TX.

--**Bruce Schlegel** retired on Sept. 30 as the commissioned ruling elder at Cane Hill Presbyterian.

--Congratulations to **Rev. Jerry Rice**, honorably retired, and Miriam Bonsor Rowe who were married by Rev. Becky Purcell on Sept. 29 in the chapel of Innisfree Senior Living Community in Rogers. Jerry is pastor emeritus of First, Rogers.

News of Our Congregations

--**First, Mena** has sponsored five counseling programs for "Children in the Shadows" to help parents/guardians prevent emotional scarring of children from divorce and conflict. The last program this year is set for Oct. 24.

--**Spring River Presbyterian, Hardy** had a Hymn Sing and casual dress Sunday with brunch following on Sept. 6.

--**First, North Little Rock** is moving from a backpack food program to a pantry program each Friday from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian 7th Street Ministry.

--**Park Hill Presbyterian, North Little Rock** capital campaign will finance construction of a ramp into the narthex and sanctuary and two larger, handicapped accessible restrooms.

--**First, Yellville** met in their pavilion on Sept. 13 for worship with potluck afterward.

--**Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian, Fairfield Bay** plans a Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 7 selling frozen casseroles, jelly, jam, canned food, mixes for cookies and soup, baked goods, crafts, jewelry and artwork.

--**Central Presbyterian, Pine Bluff** is one of the congregations which collected the Peacemaking and Global Witness offering for the PC(USA) on World Communion Sunday, Oct. 4.

--**Grace Presbyterian, Little Rock** held their annual Blessing of the Animals Service on Sept. 27 which was open to the community.

--**Trinity Presbyterian, Little Rock** celebrates Heritage Sunday with lunch on Nov. 1 when members are asked to bring a dish to share that reflects their family heritage.

--**Central Presbyterian, Russellville** offers Bible study on Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:15 with Koinonia worship following in Fellowship Hall until 7:15.

--**First, Fort Smith** will reprise their popular Vacation Bible School on Friday, Oct. 16 when public schools there are out.

--**Alpine Presbyterian, Amity** is one of the churches that supports Solar Under the Sun.

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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.

THERE'S STILL TIME TO CHOOSE AN ADVENT STUDY FOR YOUR ADULT GROUP

"While We Wait: Living the Questions of Advent" (Acc. #BK8934) is for "people who don't want to gloss over their own questions about the Christmas story."

"Let Us Go Over to Bethlehem: An Advent Study for Adults" by James W. Moore (Acc. #BK7659) provides one lesson for each week of Advent including a key passage of scripture, a brief reflection, study/discussion questions, a brief prayer and a focus for the coming week.

"Rekindling the Hope of the Manger: An Advent Study" by Evan Drake Howard (Acc. #BK5973) is designed for adult group study and personal spiritual growth and contains sermon ideas with prayers for each theme.

SERMON IDEAS FOR THE SEASON

"Something Is About To Happen... : Sermons for Advent & Christmas" by Thomas G. Long (Acc. #BK8260) is a collection of model sermons for Advent/Christmas on topics such as John the Baptist's preaching in the wilderness, the Word made flesh, and a sound and light show on the mountaintop.

"Feasting on the Word: Advent Companion" is a thematic resource for preaching and worship containing ready-to-use liturgies, orders of worship from a gospel and an Old Testament text for each Sunday in Advent plus Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

INSPIRED BY MUSIC

"The Scriptures Sing of Christmas: An Advent Study for Adults" by J. Ellsworth Kalas (Acc. #BK8522) examines songs of praise found in the scriptures of Christmas in Luke and John such as Mary's Song (magnificat), Concert in a Field (shepherds and angels), an Old Man Sings (Simeon), and Song of wondrous mystery ("In the beginning was the Word...").

"The Best Songs Come at Night and Other Christmas Proverbs: An Advent Study for Adults" by Kalas (Acc. #BK9284) points out that great inspirational songs were sometimes written in dire circumstances.

"Carols of Christmas" by Ruth Buenting (Acc. #BK7951) is an adult class Bible study exploring the music, poetry and stories of five well-loved Christmas hymns.

NON-TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

"Mouse Tales, Things Hoped For: Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany" by Ruth L. Boling (Acc. #BK8664) is lovely illustrated children's book of the mouse family who show how to care for one another, welcome outsiders, disagree in love, forgive their friends, and love as Christ loves.

"The Living Nativity: The Story of Saint Francis and the Christmas Manger" (Acc. #7407)

"The Clown of God" an old story told and illustrated by Tomie DePaola (Acc. #BK8719)

"The Give-Away" written and illustrated by Ray Buckley (Acc. #BK7323) explains a widespread practice among Native people.

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)

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Looking to the Future -- Visioning for the Church

*Rev. Michael Vinson, Staff Resource
Congregational Vitality*

For the last two months we have been looking at essential, foundational components that are needed for successful congregations. To jog your memory, the first thing to consider is purpose which is to answer the question: Why are we here? The next foundational component is leadership. In this area we seek to develop leadership that helps accomplish the purpose. We also work to make sure that there is a culture of leadership. When there is a culture of leadership, people within the culture/organization are clear about the purpose and are empowered to follow their call in helping the congregation to accomplish its purpose.

The next essential, foundational component to consider is vision. When casting a vision, it is important to ponder where you see yourself as a church at some point in the near future, perhaps three to five years from the present. This vision of where you might like to be in the future is based on knowing your purpose, why you are here and having leaders who have the skills and desire to help accomplish the purpose and to develop a culture in which people are encouraged to take leadership in accomplishing the purpose. Once you understand your purpose and have the people and culture to support leading your purpose then it is time to ponder what that looks like at some point in the future.

This is a good place to do some out of the box processing. Often when working with congregations on vision I ask them to work in groups to draw a picture of what they believe or want the church to look like in the future. This is a good way to assess how the group is thinking about their church in the future. If they draw pictures of the building that gives you some indication of where you might be headed in the future. Ministry might be focused on the use of the building and/or the maintenance of the building. If they draw pictures of some of the mission or fellowship activities they see happening in the future, that too is some good information about what the future of a particular church might look like. This might suggest that the future of the church does not see a building as central as a place for future ministry. Either way, good information will come from the pictures. And you might see that different groups have really different ideas/pictures about what the church might look like in the future. This is a great opportunity to discuss the pictures of the future and how they relate to the purpose of the church and how the leadership is seeking to lead and develop a culture of leadership.

Visioning work is NOT the time for long range plans. We live in a world that is constantly changing. Current opinion in organizational development is that long range plans are often outdated before they are fully implemented. Successful congregations are flexible in their organization in order to accomplish their purpose. Knowing your purpose; developing leadership and a culture of leadership to accomplish the purpose; and having a clear vision of where you want to be in the future based on the purpose and the leadership, help ensure flexibility in moving into the future. It also helps to navigate chaos and conflict as clear

purpose, leadership and vision provide touch points for guiding the congregation on its faith journey.

If you would like more information about developing a vision for your congregation or developing a congregation that is flexible to meet the challenging needs of ministry in rapidly changing times please feel free to contact me. mvinson17@gmail.com

Editor's note:

Rev. Michael Vinson will be attending the Parliament of World Religions in October. He and Jane Lee Wolfe, Executive Director of Bog Chapel, in Woodstock, Vermont will be presenting a workshop called: Spiritual Tools and How to Use Them. This will be a presentation to people from various faith backgrounds and traditions.

The Parliament of World Religions meets every 3 years and it hasn't met in the US in 20 years. This year, 10,000 people from 80 nations are coming together to discuss such things as the responsibility of the worlds religions to advocate for the environment, women's health issues, peace, justice, middle east issues and much more. Jim Wallis, Jane Goodall and many others from around the world will be addressing the Parliament this year. For more information check out this link:

<http://www.parliamentofreligions.org/>

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Presbytery of Arkansas Youth News

Save These Dates!!!

2016 Presbytery of Arkansas Youth Ministry Events and Trips

Youth Advisory Team Winter Meeting
January 8-9, 2016

Youth at Presbytery (Lyon College)
February 12-13, 2016

Sr. High Youthquake (Ferncliff)
April 1-3, 2016

Jr. High Jubilee (Mo-Ranch)
July 9-14, 2016

Presbyterian Youth Triennium
July 18-23, 2016

Montreat Youth Conference
July 23-30, 2016

Jr. High Youthquake (Ferncliff)
September 23-25, 2016

For a flyer you may print for your use, [click here.](#)

**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.)

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Presbytery of Arkansas College Ministry News

College Spiritual Formation Retreat

A Message from Krista Denne

Presbyterian Campus Ministries at the University of the Ozarks has reached out to partner with Lyon College to have a Spiritual Formation Retreat in February. We wanted to open this event to any college student from the Presbytery of Arkansas who may not be at one of these two institutions. This will be a weekend of fun and spiritual growth for our young adults.

It is our hope that you will help us spread the word about the event and encourage

your students to participate. Please contact me if you have any questions or have a student who would like to register for the event. I know many will have questions about the cost of this retreat. It is my hope we will be able to do this for the cost of getting the students to the retreat at Camp SOTO. I should know by November what the final cost will be per student. At most it will be \$150 per student.

It is my hope that we can fill all available spots and have a wonderful 3 days together learning about various prayer practices, growing in faith, and worshipping together.

For a flyer for this event, [click here](#).

News from UCM--Fayetteville

UCM Receives Grants for Their Leadership Initiative Idea. Details can be found [here](#).

Saturday, November 21st, UCM will host "Game Day Skybox with UCM!" for the Arkansas-Mississippi State game. For more information, [click here](#).

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

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Christian Institute Opens Next Year in Fort Smith

by Teaching Elder Tasha Blackburn

Capstone is a brand new Christian Institute created out of First Presbyterian Church, Fort Smith, to serve the city and entire region. Its aim is to do two things for its participants: build knowledge and heighten faith. It will build knowledge by offering deep and vigorous study of the Bible, Christian theology, worship and the life of faith. These studies will be led by prominent professors, both from around the country and the region. Its goal is also to heighten faith. We are hopeful this ministry will encourage deep fellowship for those who long to know more and that their experience will enable them to take the next step or two in their faith. These courses are for pastors, elders, lay people, CREs, and all those interested in going deeper.

In this, our first year, we offer three opportunities. Each opportunity will include

readings and work outside of the class. Each requires pre-registration and costs \$50.

2016 Capstone Calendar

Dr. Jaime Clark-Soles, Professor of New Testament, Perkins Theological Seminary, Dallas, will be teaching on the Gospel of John
Thursdays, February 4, 11, 18 and 25
From 6-8pm
At FPC, Fort Smith

Dr. Rodger Nishioka, Associate Professor of Christian Education, Columbia Theological Seminary, Atlanta, will be teaching on youth and young adults and the church
Thursday, April 21 from 6-8pm; Friday, April 22 from 4-7pm; Saturday, April 23 from 9am-noon
At FPC, Fort Smith

Dr. Heidi Miller, Professor of Worship, Perkins Theological Seminary, Dallas, will be teaching on embodied worship
Thursdays, September 8, 15, 22 and 29
From 6-8pm
At FPC, Fort Smith

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Train Ushers and Greeters as Your Congregational Emergency Response Team

Q: It occurs to me that ushers and greeters could be our congregation's front line emergency response team. Am I right? If yes, what kind of training do they need?

A: Yes, you are right! You want ushers and greeters to offer hospitality--and to be prepared in case someone gets sick or has an accident during worship, or there is a fire, a storm, or a threatening person that shows up during worship time.

I suggest that you train your group to stay alert to hazards and to know whether and how to evacuate or to shelter in place in case of a threat. If medical personnel worship regularly with you, bring them into the training to help your ushers/greeters and to know their role in case they are needed. If you don't have medical personnel

in your congregation, train your ushers and greeters in basic steps to follow if an emergency presents itself.

By thinking these things through now, you may be able to keep an emergency from becoming a disaster.

From the Department of Homeland Security - a webinar entitled "An Overview of the Guide for Developing High-Quality Emergency Operations Plans for Houses of Worship." (available at <http://rems.ed.gov/OverviewEmergencyOperationsPlans.aspx>)

--This message is brought to you by the Presbytery of Arkansas Disaster Preparation and Response Committee. Additional information is available at <http://www.presbyteryofarkansas.org/frmDisasterResponse.aspx>

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"Last Call" for Presbytery-Wide Mission Trip to Conway, AR

Who: Anyone (age 18 and older) is invited to go on this trip.

When: We will leave after worship on Sunday, Nov. 1 and return Friday, Nov. 6.

What: It is likely that we will again be doing clean-up and light construction assistance work with those affected by the 2014 tornadoes.

Where: We will be working in the area of Conway/Vilonia/Mayflower, AR.

Why: We want to help rebuild and restore hope to the people of the Conway area.

Cost: \$120/week. Workers who can only help a day or two are encouraged and invited (\$20/day). We will be housed at First Presbyterian, Conway.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: Monday, October 19, 2015

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Director of Christian Education Susie Wright at Westminster, Hot Springs (501-525-1367 or 501-262-9417).

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Presbyterian Women News

Cluster IX Presbyterian Women Meet at Westover Hills

Sixty-five Presbyterian Women from Cluster IX attended the recent Fall Gathering, "Come to the Waters," hosted by Westover Hills Presbyterian, Little Rock. The agenda included a welcome by Westover's Rev. Frank LeBlanc, an update on the Minnesota Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women by Betty Jean Moore of Second Presbyterian Little Rock, Mission Minutes focusing on current PW projects: at Park Hill the wonderful Easter baskets for many individuals in their area filled with essentials and goodies to bring smiles; Second Presbyterian's precious pillowcase dresses sent overseas for little girls who may not have any other clothing, plus handmade school totes; and Westover's work with anti-human trafficking agencies and funding supplies, meal tickets, and grants.



Left to right: Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell, Rev. Sally Johnson, Donna Calloway

Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell from Ferncliff presented an inspiring worship service ending with a blessing as a baptismal reminder (going along with the theme, "Come to the Waters"). Following worship, Rev. Sally Johnson of Westover Hills led an interactive lesson on the Fall Horizons Bible study, getting everyone excited about the PW circles based series. Following a delicious lunch the meeting was adjourned by Cluster IX leader, Kaye Lowe of Park Hill.

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Register for Vera Lloyd's Turkey Trot 5K and Help Boys and Girls in Foster Care

Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Family Services invites church members to support the care of boys and girls in foster care by being a runner, walker or virtual participant for the agency's 4th annual Turkey Trot 5K and one mile fun for kids. The event will be held at the Vera Lloyd's children's home campus in Monticello on Saturday, November 21, at 9 a.m.

You can register at VLTurkeyTrot.com. The cost is \$20 per person and includes the event T-shirt. If you do not want to run or walk or travel to Monticello, you can register as a Turkey Trot Virtual Race participant.

People in central Arkansas who register as a runner, walker or virtual participant are invited to a Vera Lloyd Turkey Trot celebration at Westover Hills Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, November 4, at 5:15 p.m. The celebration will include dinner, a short program, a 1/10th of a mile fun run/walk in the church gym and an opportunity to receive your Turkey Trot T-shirt.

Funds raised from the 5K will be invested in providing basic needs for boys and girls at the children's home, including meals, medical care, shoes, clothes, allowances and access to professional tutors to improve academic outcomes. It costs \$143 a day for Vera Lloyd to take care of a boy or girl in need; contracts with the State of Arkansas provides only \$80 a day. Vera Lloyd relies on charitable gifts to change the lives of youth who have been victims of abuse, trauma, neglect and abandonment and meet their physical, spiritual and emotional needs.

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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](#).

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

Prayer List for Congregations -- 2016 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).

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[Presbytery Calendar](#)

PRESBYTERY STAFF:

General Presbyter [BILL GALBRAITH](#)

Stated Clerk [ROBERT LOWRY](#)

Assistant 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](#)

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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>