



June 2016

The Banner

Newsletter of the Presbytery of Arkansas

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Presbytery Co-Hosted By Little Rock Congregations

By Rev. Stewart Smith, General Presbyter

Two of our smaller congregations came together and did a fantastic job with hosting the 132nd stated meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas. Moderator Lacy Sellars called the meeting to order at 9:45 am on Saturday, June 4, at Pulaski Heights Presbyterian Church in Little Rock. The teaching elders at Westminster Church in Little Rock (David Dyer) and Pulaski Heights (Ruskin Falls) warmly welcomed

everyone and shared information about the history and ministry of both congregations. 153 people signed in.



Teaching Elder David Dyer



Teaching Elder Ruskin Falls

Rev. Dyer and Rev. Falls led the presbytery in a worship service that included a time for commissioning participants for the presbytery's summer youth trips and a time to commission our delegates to the June 18-25 General Assembly meeting in Portland. Offering to benefit United Campus Ministry, UofA, Fayetteville totaled \$1,375.

Among the highlights from the Stated Clerk's report were: statistical information from recently completed congregational statistical reports; proceeds have been received from the sale of the former Pocahontas church property; and editorial changes to the new structure document for the Presbytery. The Presbytery voted to authorize the sale of vacant property in Fayetteville with an Administrative Commission to enter an agreement with a sales agent; on behalf of the presbytery to accept an offer for sale of the property and then to finalize the sale of the property.

Administration Committee gave financial reports and presented a revised job description for the Stated Clerk with revised compensation, all of which were approved.

Teaching Elder Dari Rowen, on behalf of the Committee on Church's Ministry, introduced and presented honorably retired teaching elder "Bo" Lewis for enrollment in the Presbytery. Bo had served several congregations in Arkansas including an interim position at Pulaski Heights Presbyterian Church. The presbytery voted to receive him and his membership will be transferred from Sierra Blanca Presbytery. Rowen then introduced Teaching Elder Paul Fulks who has been called to serve the First Presbyterian, Heber Springs. Paul had been received into the presbytery in October of 2015 and moves from a chaplaincy position at the Tucker Prison in Arkansas.



TE "Bo" Lewis



TE Paul Fulks

A theological discussion was held on the topic of "What does the Bible mean to you?" Teaching Elder Debbie Freeman, Ruling Elder H.K. Stewart, and Ruling Elder and Certified Christian Educator NiAnn Thompson each presented thoughtful presentations on the topic and then the floor was opened for others to share their responses.



TE Debbie Freeman



RE H. K. Stewart



Youth and Adult Leaders are Commissioned For Summer Trips

The presbytery recessed for lunch, and over 170 people were efficiently served a boxed sandwich lunch in the fellowship hall. There was a warm spirit in the room as commissioners enjoyed conversation around the tables.

The presbytery reconvened to hear reports from two administrative commissions involving churches in discernment desiring to leave the denomination. Teaching Elder Katie Cummings spoke first representing the administrative commission working with First Presbyterian Church in Siloam Springs. She reported an open, transparent and gracious process that existed from the beginning with an initial task

force working with the session and then an Administrative Commission. After much prayer and discussion an agreement was reached to dismiss the Siloam Springs congregation to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church subject to the completion of all documents related to the financial settlement of \$250,000. Moderator prayed for all involved in this departure. A motion on use of the settlement funds was referred to the AC.

Teaching Elder Frank LeBlanc then spoke on behalf of the Administrative Commission working with the Woodlands Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs Village. He reported that the Administrative Commission and the session have not been able to agree upon terms of dismissal and moved that the presbytery decline Woodlands Presbyterian Church's request to be dismissed to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and reject as inadequate the session's final offer. The presbytery voted to concur with the motion. Moderator prayed for all involved.

Three people were elected to fill unexpired terms on committees, and TE Leslie Roper, First, Batesville was elected vice moderator of presbytery, Class of 2017.

Commissioned Ruling Elder Kelly Pearson reported for the Ministry of the Church area. Kelly presented revised covenants for review and approval for Arkansas Presbyterian Pilgrimage, Ferncliff, and the Arkansas Black Presbyterian Caucus, represented by TE Joy Carrington. He invited Rhonda Sanders, CEO of the Arkansas Food Bank, to speak about the recent merger of Arkansas Rice Depot and the Arkansas Food Bank. Rhonda reported on the success of the merger and thanked the presbytery and other faith communities for their help with the mission of feeding Arkansans in need. Kelly welcomed Ruling Elder Emily Laurel who announced plans for the upcoming education event "The PLACE" which will be held at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock on Saturday, August 6. Registration packets were available for each congregation and she encouraged all to participate.



TE Joy Carrington



Rhonda Sanders, CEO of Arkansas Food Bank



RE Emily Laurel

Emily then gave a report as one of our two commissioners to the Synod of the Sun. Emily reported on a video project where the synod is encouraging congregations to submit videos on the theme "If it's worth doing, it's worth sharing" that highlight good things happening at the congregational or presbytery level. She then informed and highlighted the important work of the Synod's grants and scholarships committee and shared grants that were given to organizations within the Presbytery.

Mary Shaw reported from Youth, Campus and Young Adults Ministry Area and presented changes to structure documents related to UKirks. Written reports were also shared from Coordinating Team, Future of the Church, Presbyterian Women and Committee on Representation.

After a few closing announcements, moderator Lacy Sellars gave the closing prayer which mentioned the pastoral concerns that commissioners had shared on a board during the day. Commissioners can anticipate and look forward to a beautiful drive through the Ozarks when the presbytery next meets at the First Presbyterian Church of Harrison on October 21 and 22.

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Church Employment Opportunities in our Presbytery

Pastor -- Huntsville First Presbyterian Church --First Presbyterian Church (Huntsville) seeks a half-time pastor to help lead their congregation. Full details are available through the CLC portal through www.pcusa.org. Inquiries can be directed via email to Jason Holt at jholtmd@gmail.com. The website for the church is: <http://fphar.church>.

Director of Community Engagement (United Campus Ministry--Fayetteville) -- The United Campus Ministry at the University of Arkansas seeks a part-time (15 hours/week) employee to assist with fundraising on a large scale, starting an endowment, grant writing, and education of their board on fundraising activities. For a complete job description, [click here](#).

Director of Youth Ministries -- Trinity Presbyterian Church (Little Rock) -- Trinity Presbyterian Church in Little Rock is seeking an individual with energy and creativity that has a passion for reaching teenagers. This person would have the opportunity to start a youth ministry from the ground up -- an exciting opportunity for someone with vision and dedication. This is a Full Time position; the beginning yearly salary offered starts at \$38,000 based on experience. Health Benefits and Continuing Education opportunities also included.

Visit <http://www.trinitypreslr.com/newsletter/> for the full job description.

Approximate Church Size: 150-200

Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree preferred

Experience: 2 years working with youth preferred

Apply via Email: trinitypreslr@gmail.com

Closing Date for Applicants: 6/15/16

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People and Church News

News of Our Congregations

- First, Bentonville** solicited favorite hymns in May to be sung in the summer months.
- Graham Memorial, Forrest City** is assembling clean-up kits.
- First, Fort Smith** sponsors a T-ball team for 4-year-olds and one for 5-6 year olds and on Pentecost Sunday honored all who had been members for 50 years or more.
- Central, Russellville** recognized six graduating seniors in worship and at a reception on May 8.
- First and Westminster, Hot Springs** will combine for Vacation Bible School for children and adults at Westminster June 20-23.
- Presbyterian Women at **Mountainburg Presbyterian** had a rummage and bake sale on June 4.
- Central, Pine Bluff** put a survey form in their newsletter asking for favorite men's fellowship group time, retreat format and service projects.
- First, Searcy** offers a time for public prayer every Wednesday at noon.
- First, Heber Springs** holds men's prayer breakfast on the first Monday of each month.
- First, Arkadelphia** will have Vacation Bible School waterside at Caddo Valley on Saturday, June 11 and conduct worship there on June 12.
- First, Batesville's** children have opportunity to give an offering at the children's sermon and gave enough this school year to buy three pigs through Heifer International.

News of Our People

- New part-time employees at Second, Little Rock are **Blake Tierney** who works with single and married young adults and **Erin Beard** who does ministry with families with young children.
- Congratulations to **Rev. Bryan and Lisa Bond** who were wed on April 5 in Knoxville, TN. He is pastor at First, Van Buren.
- Best wishes to **Rev. Clare Kelley** who married **Tom Conboy** on May 21 in Eureka Springs. She is pastor of the Northwest AR Larger Parish and a former moderator of the presbytery.
- Rev. Jennifer Lord** was elected vice-president of The North American Academy of Liturgy. A professor of homiletics at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Lord is a minister member of this presbytery.
- Nikki Saltmarsh** has resigned as music director at First, Benton as of June 26.
- Christian sympathy goes to **Sylvia Tate**, elder leader of informal worship at Kirk in the Pines, Hot Springs Village on the recent death of her husband Paul. Tate served as a commissioned ruling elder at First, Pocahontas.
- Darlene Thibodeau** retired as financial manager at First, Bentonville on June 5.
- Rev. Chris Jones** has resigned as pastor of First, Jonesboro to accept the call as pastor in

Cartersville, GA. Jones is a member of Committee on the Church and Its Ministries.

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[Resource Center News](#)

by [NiAnn Thompson](#), Resourcing Director
Phone 501.663.2424, ext. 104
Tuesday-Wednesday, 7:45 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. --It's the time of the year when many churches elect those who will serve in the ordered ministries of deacon or ruling elder. Following that election comes the time of training and preparation when each should receive the new "**Book of Order 2015-2017**" (part II of the PCUSA Constitution) which is available from Presbyterian Distribution Services in regular print, large print or downloadable file.

BEST IDEA FOR THE UPCOMING SUMMER (SO FAR) My friend and sister Certified Christian Educator, who is a member of the Resource Center board and Second Presbyterian, Little Rock, Linda LeBron shared this great idea in May:

To Friends of spiritual formation:

I think this sparks all kinds of inexpensive and interesting possibilities! All fall in line with everything I have been reading about taking the church outside scheduled meetings and events. And it is very attuned to intellectual Presbyterians! (Linda gathered information from various sources on the book basket and how it could be handled. Your experience might be the same or you could adjust it to your setting.)

"The Congregation that Reads Together: A Book Basket Enhances Adult Ed."

1. Offer a place for all the great spiritual books members have read and will probably never read again, especially if we thought someone else could enjoy them.
2. Begin a way for a pastor to spark a conversation about something that has challenged her or him.
3. A way to tempt non-Sunday School goers by discovering they enjoy theological conversations.
4. If a class got excited about a particular book, they could collect their copies and put out a whole set for the congregation to "check out."
5. You could have a Facebook page for sharing insights, asking questions, even suggesting books.
6. This is a way to cover the no Sunday School Sundays of summer.
7. You could tuck an envelope in the back of the book to collect written reflections for the next reader.

It might be wise to put out a disclaimer that books are not provided as sets from Adult Education or pastor. Individual contribution basket would be "read at your own risk." The books were available to anyone, and a small sign was placed next to the basket inviting people to take a book. Another plus was that "it caused people to have conversations with others with whom they had previously not had much interaction." Conversations about the book could take place during the hospitality time, regular

Bible study, after committee meetings, before potluck dinners, over the phone or through emails.

Some possibilities to get the ball rolling: Bishop Michael Curry's "**Crazy Christians**," Nadia Bolz-Weber's "**Accidental Saints**" or "**Grounded**" by Diana Butler Bass. Other avid readers in your church might have ideas. I think it would be wise to offer an informal conversation gathering every other month or so, just for those who would like to discuss. Book Club Unbound! Even just a spiritual book exchange basket would be fun for me.

2016-2017 PRESBYTERIAN PLANNING CALENDARS were offered for sale at the June 4 presbytery meeting. Two are still available at the discounted price of \$14 per copy. Start June with a fresh calendar!

As we have done in the past, YOUR Resource Center will offer the **222nd General Assembly bulletin inserts** after the meeting in Portland adjourns on June 25. I can either email one to you so you can print out your own inserts or I can print them here and mail them to your congregation on Tuesday, June 28. Your church members will hear news of the General Assembly and by using The Presbyterian Outlook post-GA bulletin inserts, that news will be accurate and insightful.

This month 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). Starting August 8th I will be working Monday and Wednesday.

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 new Church and Its Mission Area)

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New Identity

Rev. Michael Vinson, Staff Resource
Congregational Vitality

A couple of months ago, I suggested that all ministry is transitional ministry. I also shared with you some of my assumptions about that and encouraged you to think for yourself about any assumptions you, your congregation and/or your leadership team might have about the fact that all ministry is transitional. The reason for this assumption is that the church as we know it, as probably you and I love it, is in transition.

Last month I shared with you the importance of reflecting on the history of the local congregation in order to get insights into the kinds of things that have worked in the past as well as what things did not work. More importantly it is an opportunity to look at unresolved issues or grief related to the changes a local congregation experiences.

The first step in developing flexibility in ministry is to understand the purpose of the congregation. And by that I simply mean being able to answer the question "why are we here." I've written about that before so I'll not go into that again only to say that there are some assumptions to dig into there as

well.

Once a congregation has some clarity about its purpose then there needs to be some exploration as to what that means in terms of ministry, programs, facility, and staff just to name a few things. And as the congregation begins to ponder these questions they are beginning to take the next step which is to discern who we are in this time and this place based on why we are here.

These are all issues of identity. Who are we? How are we different now than we used to be? Who do we think God is calling us to be in this moment of our lives together? Most congregations are not the same congregation they were 20 years ago. And if you really think about it, most congregations are not the congregation they were even 5 years ago.

Churches who are going through transition often get stymied by trying to be the same as they have always been even though there are not the resources of staff and finances. Church leadership spends a lot of time trying to figure out how to keep the same programs going with fewer resources of people, staff and money. It is a task that leads to burn-out among leadership and continued failure to move forward. Churches in transition must look realistically at who they are and discern what things can no longer be done. This will cause some grief but it will also allow some breathing room to take a realistic look at what can be done to accomplish the purpose.

This is the key to transition and identity...what is our purpose and how do we accomplish it based on who we are and who we want to be. Feel free to let things go that are burdensome. This might mean doing fewer programs, maintaining fewer ministries and even changing staffing patterns. If the after school program depends on volunteers and the volunteers are no longer available, there is not money to hire people and the classrooms need repairs you can't afford, it might be time to let it go. Or it might be something as simple as giving up Sunday bulletins because there is no office staff to produce them.

The key here is to realize that as a congregation, you are no longer the same as you were and that is something Jesus talked a lot about. So, in terms of our identity we can always ask ourselves the question who is God calling us to be now, what things do we let go of and what things do we grow and what new things can we develop?

These questions help us to be flexible to the changing needs not only of our congregations but to the communities and world we are called to serve. So, take some time to ponder with your leadership team, your congregation, and the community in which you minister...who are we and what does God want us to do? No doubt, you will discover something new.

If you would like to know more about discerning you identity feel free to get in touch.

Michael Vinson
Presbytery of Arkansas
mvinson17@gmail.com

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Get Ready for The P.L.A.C.E.!!

The Third Annual "The P.L.A.C.E.", Presbytery Leadership Academy for Congregational Enrichment, is scheduled for Saturday, August 6, 2016 at Second Presbyterian Church in Little

Rock. We are ready to offer a good variety of workshops for church leaders, teachers, officers and pastors, including:

- Navigating Change, Personal and Congregational
- What to do in active shooter situation
- Congregational Disaster Preparedness
- For the Beauty of the Skies: How perception of beauty informs our theology of God
- Zombies and Easter Hats: What the Walking Dead can teach us about resurrection
- Clerk of Session Training for new clerks
- Changes in the Board of Pension Plan
- Equipping congregations to help people age with grace and dignity.
- Questions for the new GP: FAQ for Stewart Smith
- Top 10 Things Not to Say When Visiting
- End of Life: Life's Last Great Challenge
- Belhar Confession
- Spirituality Center: How to create one in your church. Second Presbyterian will have a Spirituality center set up for us to experience that day.
- Creative Worship
- Suicide Prevention

If you have workshop ideas please contact Kristi Button at kbutton@fupcfay.org as soon as you can.

THE P.L.A.C.E. is Saturday, August 6th from 9:30 to 2:45:

We begin the day together at 9:30am with registration, gather for worship at 10:00 am and then offer three workshop sessions, with lunch between the first and second session. We conclude the day at 2:45.

ONLINE REGISTRATION AT THIS LINK: <http://goo.gl/forms/eJjQN72dH6so0n3C2>

It is very important to register on-time. Registration is \$15 and registrations by July 27 will include a lunch. After the 27th, the event cost will increase to \$20 and it will not include a lunch. We will offer a restaurant list for nearby restaurants.

Childcare is available for \$10/ child with a \$25/ family maximum. Children should bring a bag lunch.

Mini-Fernduff camp will be offered for elementary children. Children should bring a bag lunch.

Getting excited about the 2016 event? Let's keep a great thing going!

LEADERS for 2017 P.L.A.C.E. are needed

This event has become an annual opportunity, which people around the Presbytery have come to look forward to and enjoy.

If you have really enjoyed this event and maybe even have thoughts of how you could take it to the next-level, please contact the Church and Its Mission Committee. We are looking for one or two coordinators of the event for early August 2017. The earlier we can locate a leader or co-leaders, the more time you have to observe how the 2016 event comes together.

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Presbytery of Arkansas Youth News

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 new Ministries with Youth, Campus, and Young Adults.)

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Opportunity to Serve in Honduras

Our Presbytery's next work-trip to Honduras is scheduled for Sunday, October 24, through Saturday, October 29. We will be working alongside our Honduran brothers and sisters building homes near Copan. For this trip we will spend one night at the home in Trinidad de Copan where our groups have stayed for most of their visits in the past, and visit with representatives of the Presbyterian Church of Honduras and the Mayor of the region of Trinidad. Then we will travel to Copan for the work part of our trip, staying in a hotel. Our last day will be spent visiting the Mayan ruins and playing the role of tourist. There will be no overnight stay in San Pedro Sula. We will be escorted in a van for all of our travels and will only be staying in safe communities.

We will fly out of Little Rock on Sunday morning at 6:30 am and return to Little Rock on Saturday at 8:32 pm. The cost of the trip is anticipated to be around \$1,500 for those 18 and older and \$1,400 for those under 18. We will need to know how many are going by **July 15, 2016**. Please contact Leslie Belden at 479.466.1061 or lesliebeld@aol.com or Lindy Vogado at 501.227.0000 or lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org if you need more information or are interested. A booklet with more information will be available.

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Join the Crowd and Commit!!!

First Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville, First United Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville, and the Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista have all signed the covenant to commit themselves to our presbytery's ministry in Honduras. Our ministry includes work-trips to provide homes for the most poor in rural Honduras, installing solar panels to provide a sustainable and reliable power-source to communities "off the grid," supporting Presbyterian World Mission's Mission-Coworker (what we used to call "missionaries"), scholarships for students, a women's sewing ministry, and walking alongside our brothers and sisters of the Presbyterian Church of Honduras. Encourage your Session to prayerfully consider your congregation's level of commitment. For more information please contact Rev. Leslie Belden at 479.466.1061 or lesliebeld@aol.com.

Arkansas Presbyterian Honduran Ministry Congregational Covenant

"The mission of God in Christ gives shape and substance to the life and work of the church." (*Book of Order*, F-1.01) "The Church is the body of Christ. Christ gives to the Church all the gifts necessary to be his body. The Church strives to demonstrate these gifts in its life as a community in the world (1 Cor. 12:27-28)." *Book of Order*, F-1.0301)

Being called by God to serve others as Jesus Christ serves us, and as the Body of Christ with unique gifts and talents in each congregation, we commit ourselves to fulfill God's call. We understand that all are God's children, and that our responsibilities to serve lie not only within our own communities but around the world. Therefore, we commit to focus outside of our area of God's kingdom within the Presbytery of Arkansas, by partnering with the Presbyterian Church of Honduras.

To facilitate God's work among us, and the greater world, we agree to engage in, and support mission through our sister congregations in the Presbytery of Arkansas, with Presbyterian World Mission (PCUSA), and the Presbytery of Honduras. Toward this end we covenant to:

- * To hold the ministry and participants in prayer.
- * To provide regular communication about the Arkansas Presbyterian Honduran Ministry to the congregation.
- * To annually budget for the ministry.
- * To welcome representatives of our mutual ministry to speak or present information, and offer hospitality when such representatives are in the area.
- * To participate in mission activities as God leads and we are able.
- * To be facilitators of mission in Honduras and not encourage dependencies on North American resources.
- * To encourage mutual ministry within our congregations with Spanish-language people who live in our own communities.

This commitment has been approved by the Session of (name of church)

_____,
on
(date)_____

_____,
and will remain in effect for four years, renewable by approval of the Session.
Signed (by Clerk of
Session),_____.

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Texas Presbyterian Foundation Invites You to "Good Things" Annual Financial Forum

Texas Presbyterian Foundation will have their annual financial forum "Good Things" from 9:30-4:30 on June 15, 2016 at their Irving, Texas offices. Topics covered will range from law for nonprofit organizations, information technology security, and investments.

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

To register, visit www.tpf.org.

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Hot Springs Village--Kirk in the Pines Invites

Friends to Holy Land Trip--March 2017

Rev. Bill Bailey, pastor of Kirk in the Pines (Hot Springs Village) shares this message with all friends of the Presbytery of Arkansas:

Dear friends,

We are inviting Christian friends to journey with members of Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines to the Holy Land March 20-29, 2017. We hope you will share this invitation with your congregation as there may be members interested in joining us on this wonderful pilgrimage to Israel - the Land of the Bible.

This will be my fifth trip and I would go back every year if I could. March is a wonderful time of the year to travel in Israel. Beautiful wild flowers abound in the fields, and the rainy season is over. We will have professional guides to lead us, and old and new friends to share our reflections. This will be a trip remembered for years to come.

Some of the places we'll visit include Caesarea, Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and out of the way places like Sepphoris, Beth Shean and Herodium. We will walk on some of the same ground Jesus walked and visit places where he taught.

This pilgrimage will bring to life names and events we have heard about all our lives. For those who have never been to the Holy Land, this is will be a truly inspiring and educational journey! And, even if you've visited Israel previously, each trip brings revitalizing discoveries.

We always enjoy making new friends as we travel together. Although seating is limited, some space will be available on a first-come basis. A brochure with the full itinerary and all the details is available [by clicking here](#). Feel free to forward this information to friends and family as they are also welcome.

If you would like printed brochures to share, or have questions, contact us at (501) 922-1333 or email kirktour@gmail.com.

Blessings,

Bill Bailey,
Pastor,
Presbyterian Kirk in the Pines
275 Asturias Drive
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

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Wellspring Renewal Center Sponsors Fall Clergy Support Groups

Wellspring has scheduled its fall Clergy Support Groups. The groups meet monthly on Friday from 2-4 p.m., are confidential, and can be filed on your insurance. You are also welcome to use your free sessions that are provided through the Presbytery for group. Groups are facilitated by Rev. Rebecca Spooner, a teaching elder in this Presbytery and a licensed psychotherapist. This group is a safe place to vent, increase coping and help manage stress.

To sign up, simply call Wellspring Renewal Center at 501-265-0046 or e-mail Rev. Rebecca Spooner.

The tentative group dates for the fall are 8/19, 9/23, 10/21, 11/18 and 12/9. We will formalize the dates for future groups at our first session in August. For more information about Wellspring Renewal Center check out our website: www.WellspringRenewalCenter.com

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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 STAFF:

General Presbyter [STEWART SMITH](#)

Stated Clerk [ROBERT LOWRY](#)

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 [BOB BOEHMLER](#)

Moderator of Presbytery [LACY SELLARS](#)

Moderator of the Coordinating Team [ED WILKINSON](#)

Vice Moderator of Presbytery [RUTH HAMILTON](#)

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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>

Presbytery of Arkansas, 9221 N. Rodney Parham Rd., Little Rock, AR 72227