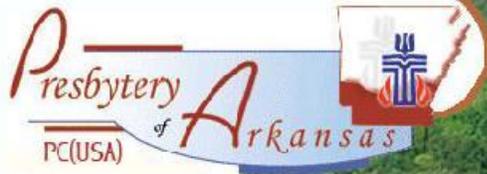


October 2012

# The Banner

Newsletter of the Presbytery of Arkansas



## Central Presbyterian, Pine Bluff Hosts 121st Stated Meeting of Presbytery

By NiAnn Thompson, Assistant Stated Clerk

The Presbytery of Arkansas began its meeting Friday evening, October 12, 2012 with an Agape' Meal at Central Presbyterian, Pine Bluff after three pre-presbytery workshops and orientation for new church professionals. Moderator Teaching Elder David Dyer called the meeting to order for the opening session of business at 6:30 p.m. after which plenary speaker J. Clif Christopher presented a two-hour stewardship lecture. The church hosted a reception to end the evening.



Orientation of New Church Professionals (from left to right: Susan Carter Wiggins, Liz Lindsey, Tasha Blackburn, Marie Mainard O'Connell, Kade Curry, Lindy Vogado, Hartley Jones. Not pictured: Carolyn Beane)

The meeting resumed Saturday morning with a brief worship service led by candidate

for ministry Susan Carter Wiggins and more business. At 10:00 a.m. the communion worship service began with leaders from Cluster V, Laura Festa, NiAnn Thompson, CRE Harlis Wright, Revs. Dari Rowen and Jeff Cranton officiating at the table, candidate Marie Mainard O'Connell preaching and joint choirs from First and Central providing music led by Marty Shell. Rev. Jeff Price explained the offering for the Stewpot feeding ministry of First, Little Rock which totaled \$1,415.95. A total of 154 people registered, of whom 123 were voting commissioners. CASA, a shelter in Pine Bluff for people affected by domestic abuse, received the Ingathering donations.

The presbytery voted to:

- approve session records review for 2011
- change status of one honorably retired minister
- dissolve the Administrative Commissions for First, Des Arc (church closed) and those who installed Revs. Leslie Roper and Phillip and Tasha Blackburn
- approve minutes of 120th presbytery meeting
- approve communion dates for 2013 for Youth A Team and AR Presbyterian Pilgrimage events
- change terms of call of General Presbyter Bill Galbraith for 2013 to reflect 3% increase
- reduce interest rate on Holiday Island Church loan
- grant permission to sell right-of-way on unused presbytery-owned property on Highway 265 in Fayetteville and to allocate proceeds for leadership development and the general budget
- grant an exemption for limitation of terms of service for elders at Memorial, Atkins
- endorse ministry of AR Rice Depot during its 30th anniversary year
- elect people to terms on committees, boards and on groups including Ruling Elder Sheree Niece as 2013 moderator and Rev. Clare Kelley as vice moderator
- renew the covenant contract between the presbytery and Laurence Schmidt Counseling Center to cover active church professionals
- confirm General Committee's election of persons to fill unexpired terms on committees
- adopt a schedule of voting on 18 amendments to the Book of Order in Feb. and an amendment (new translation of Heidelberg Catechism) to the Book of Confessions in June
- approve clergy terms of call for 2012
- approve terms of call for Rev. Lindy Vogado as interim pastor of Grace, Little Rock and enroll her as a presbytery member



New member Teaching Elder Lindy Vogado (Grace, Little Rock--Interim)

- extend interim covenant between Rev. Debra Freeman and First, Jacksonville
- approve Rev. Kris Crawford as interim at First, Bentonville
- dissolve calls of Revs. Andy King and Melissa McNair-King and Rev. Randi Henderson and dismiss Henderson to Presbytery of East Iowa
- approve Rev. Maetta Snyder for honorable retirement



Teaching Elder Maetta Snyder (left) and Teaching Elder Robert Lowry (at the pulpit) with Teaching Elder Frank LeBlanc (background, right)  
--approve Rev. Kade Curry as pastor of First, Searcy, his terms of call, and enroll him as a member of presbytery and approve the Administrative Commission to install Curry on Oct. 28



New member Teaching Elder Kade Curry (First, Searcy)

- approve Rev. David Dyer, HR as part-time stated supply at Westminster, Little Rock
- ordain Marie Mainard O'Connell as pastor of First, Little Rock, approve her terms of call, enroll her as a member of presbytery, approve the Administrative Commission to ordain and install her on Oct. 21
- ordain Susan Carter Wiggins for a validated ministry as a chaplain at Baptist Health Medical Center, Little Rock and approve the Administrative Commission to ordain her on Dec. 9



Marie Mainard O'Connell (left) and Susan Carter Wiggins (right) will be ordained this fall.  
--add Rev. Leslie Belden to the West Fork Administrative Commission and extend commission for one year  
--expand scope of the Administrative Commissions of West Fork Church and First, Ozark to elect a new moderator after their work has begun.

The presbytery heard reports that:

- presbytery insurance had been reviewed and found sufficient
- the 2013 presbytery budget will be presented for vote at the Feb. meeting
- annual financial review by auditors had been done
- Britton Varn was introduced as youth ministry coordinator
- Stated Clerk announced that at the time Art Fogartie renounced jurisdiction of the presbytery, an Investigating Committee had filed charges which had been forwarded to the Permanent Judicial Commission and these charges are available through the Stated Clerk
- Mission Committee's work to alleviate hunger and Second Presbytery's work as a PCUSA "Earth Care Congregation" from Ann Owens
- commissioners to last summer's General Assembly meeting had felt blessed, challenged and encouraged by their attendance and service



Commissioners to 2012 General Assembly (left to right): Dick Freer, Claire Rhodes, Jesse Gonzalez; absent: Breck Castleman

- Ferncliff had received a \$1 million matching grant from the Walton Family Foundation toward Ferncliff's \$3.5 million capital campaign
- changes to the Standing Rules to conform to current Book of Order should be studied and voted on in Feb.
- 23 ministers and one commissioned ruling elder were recognized and given gifts on their 5-year incremental anniversary of ordination or commissioning
- Congregational Care and Development's grants available to assist churches with ministry and the upcoming March retreat they sponsor for congregations

The presbytery read reports of:

- final report of First, Des Arc Administrative Commission
- brochure of hunger grants from Mission Committee
- formation of Administrative Commission for First, Ozark
- approval of right-of-way easement for First, Conway and sale of real property by First, Newport
- waivers for Cluster 2 and 3 elections
- General Assembly commissioners to serve as the polity committee on proposed constitutional amendments
- a CRE oversight subcommittee established and CRE manual approved
- election of a new pastor nominating committee at Vaughn, Bentonville
- Van Alma Parish allowed to search for a designated pastor

- approval of validated ministries of candidate Susan Carter Wiggins and Rev. Patty Schaller
- additions to the pulpit supply list
- update on receipt of acknowledgements of sexual misconduct policies and release forms
- extension of covenants with CREs Kenneth and Claire Rhodes at West End, Arkadelphia
- necrology of Revs. John Shell and William McWeeny, both honorably retired
- annual report of Presbyterian Women of AR Presbytery
- financial reports dated August 31
- special events around the presbytery

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## **Longtime Conway Pastor Dies**

**Rev. Dr. John Robert Shell of Conway**, 87, an honorably retired member of the Presbytery of Arkansas, died September 13, 2012 in Conway.

A Pine Bluff native, Shell was a deacon at Central Presbyterian, Pine Bluff; graduated from Maryville College, TN; and earned Master of Divinity, Master of Theology and Doctorate of Ministry degrees from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

He was ordained in 1954 to pastor Presbyterian churches at Dermott and Tillar, AR. For over 30 years until he retired in 1989, he was pastor of First Presbyterian, Conway and since late 1989 was their pastor emeritus. After retirement he and wife Gwen served as Volunteers in Ministry at Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly, Hunt, TX, and he served as interim pastor at Presbyterian churches in Dermott (Pines Presbytery), Walnut Ridge, Benton, Stuttgart, Clarksville, Mountainburg, Beebe, Mena, and at Belair, Pine Bluff.

In the presbytery he served on Committees on Budget and Finance, Ministry, Nominations; Coordinating Council; Ferncliff Board; and as commissioner to synod and General Assembly.

In addition to his wife of 64 years, Gwen, he is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth Jane Shell Hanschu and husband Dan of MO; sons: Martin William Shell and wife Lee Ann of CA, Paul Calvin Shell of North Little Rock, AR, and Philip Andrew Shell and wife Leah of Little Rock; ten grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services were held on September 16, 2012, at First, Conway with Rev. Drew G. Travis officiating. Interment was at Shell Cemetery in Grant County. Memorials were designated to First, Conway or one's favorite charity.

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## **Retired Little Rock Minister Dies**

**Rev. Dr. William Andrew (Bill) McWeeny**, 74, of Little Rock died on October 10, 2012. He was an honorably retired minister member of the Presbytery of Arkansas.

A native of Memphis, Bill graduated from Southwestern at Memphis (now Rhodes College) and Arkansas College at Batesville (now Lyon College) and earned a B.D. and D. Min degree from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He was ordained in 1965 in MO, served churches there and in TN, was pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Dardanelle, Arkansas and after retirement in 2003 was interim pastor in three churches in North Alabama Presbytery. He was received back in the Presbytery of Arkansas in 2007; became active at Westover Hills Presbyterian, Little Rock; attended the lectionary study group on Tuesdays and completed a term on the presbytery's Committee on Care and Nurture of Church Professionals. McWeeny is survived by his wife of 53 years Dorothy Helen (Dot) and daughters Beth and Shannon, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. His memorial service was held on Tuesday, October 16, at Westover Hills Presbyterian, Little Rock. Memorials are designated to the church or a charity of one's choice.

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### **Church Employment Opportunity in our Presbytery**

**Choir Director** -- First Presbyterian Church, Harrison, Arkansas, seeks a choir director for Wednesdays and Sundays. A job description and an application form are available by contacting the church at 870-741-2464 or [jane@fpcharrison.org](mailto:jane@fpcharrison.org).

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**Leslie Roper Installed at First Presbyterian, Batesville**



An Administrative Commission of the Presbytery of Arkansas installed Leslie Bethell Roper on Sunday, September 9th. She will serve as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Batesville, AR.

Front row (left to right): Elder Sue Johnston, Rev. Roper, Rev. Ben Acton

Middle row (left to right): Whitney Bordelon, Elder Suzanne Bethell, Rev. Chris Jones

Back row (left to right): Revs. Debbie Freeman, Bill Galbraith and David Dyer, Elder David Cook

## **FROM YOUR MISSION COMMITTEE: Cents-Ability Offering for 2012**

Your Mission Committee encourages your support for the annual special offerings of our Presbyterian Church (USA) that benefit mission-related causes!

One we think of at this time of year is the Cents-Ability program.

**Cents-Ability** (formerly 2 Cents A Meal) offerings combat hunger through international, national, and local -- Presbytery of Arkansas - projects. For some, that means literally putting 2 cents per meal in a Cents-Ability container, a wonderful teaching opportunity for all and especially for those with children. Others write one check for the equivalent, \$21.90, or more, and make that their contribution.

The causes to which our Cents-Ability offerings are designated for 2012 are:

**International** - The Cameroon Food Sovereignty Program (H000128) -. This program helps villages build and operate village-run grain banks which allow villagers to sell their grain to a community silo and then buy their grain at a reasonable cost throughout the year. If villagers don't have money, they can buy the grain on credit and pay back that grain at harvest. The villagers make the decisions, are responsible for the banks, and are the beneficiaries. The grain banks have been incredibly successful and mean children in the Sahel who were eating maybe once a day during lean months are able to eat twice a day.

**National** - Our national portion will go to the general Cents-Ability fund (H000107) from which at the end of the year the Cents-Ability Advisory Committee selects and awards grants to hunger-related projects across the United States.

**Presbytery of Arkansas** - Our local portion of the 2012 Cents-Ability offerings will go to help support the hunger Ministries of the Graham Memorial Presbyterian Church in Forrest City, Arkansas. That congregation now serves their community through a soup kitchen held each week that serves approximately 400 individuals. In addition, during the school year they procure and pack backpacks of easily-opened and served food for Forrest City school children from at-risk families.

Receipts for the Cents-Ability Offering should be sent through our Presbytery of Arkansas' office.

## Phillip & Tasha Blackburn Installed at First Presbyterian, Fort Smith



An Administrative Commission of the Presbytery installed Revs. Phillip and Tasha Blackburn on Sunday, October 16th. They will serve as co-pastors for First Presbyterian Church in Fort Smith, AR.

Members of the commission are listed below:

Front row: Rev. Cathy Ulrich, Elder Logan Woodruff, Rev. Tasha Blackburn, Elder Pat Marts, Rev. Stewart Smith  
Back row: Elder Mike McClure, Rev. David Dyer, Rev. Phillip Blackburn, elder Ken Pevehouse, Rev. Andrew Odom



## PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is a mission program of PC(USA)

**Q: Do you know -- what are your church's top two priorities in terms of protection from disasters?**

**A: One is a "what" and one is a "who." The "what" you must protect is your property.** Think about this: If a fire burned your church building tomorrow, what could you lose? What do you need to do to lessen your loss?

**The "who" is your people.** Think about this: If a tornado struck your church building during Sunday morning worship, where would you have people evacuate? **By thinking these things through now, you may be able to keep an emergency from becoming a disaster.**

--This message is brought to you by the Presbytery of Arkansas Disaster Preparedness and Response Committee. Additional information is available at

<http://www.presbyteryofarkansas.org/frmDisasterResponse.aspx>

### People and Church News

#### News of Our People

--Congratulations to **Rev. and Mrs. Steve Hancock** on the birth of their first grandchild, Hallie Bennett Hancock, on Sept. 5. Parents are Matt and Emily Hancock of Florence, AL. Steve is head of staff at Second Presbyterian, Little Rock and a member of presbytery's General Committee.

--**Rev. and Mrs. Jim Chaffin** have moved from Hot Springs to San Antonio, TX. He is honorably retired.

--**Rev. and Mrs. Emmett Powers** have moved from Pocahontas to Austin, AR. He is a member of presbytery's Committee on Mission.

--Christian sympathy goes to **Rev. and Mrs. Stewart Smith** on the death Oct. 7 of her father Rev. David Duncan in Austin, TX. David served as interim pastor at Holiday Island and First, Eureka Springs. Stewart is pastor of First, Springdale and a member of presbytery's Committee on Ministry.

--**Linda Castleman**, from First Presbyterian Church, Clarksville, **Nancy Coleman** and **Pam Luther** from Second Presbyterian Church, Little Rock, attended the National Conference of the Administrative Personnel Association (APA) of the PCUSA in San Antonio, September 13-16. Following three days of classes in subjects ranging from Polity to Social Media to Biblical Interpretation to Problem Solving, Spiritual Growth and Personal Safety, the meeting concluded with a banquet where Nancy was recognized for completing 40 hours of study to attain her Level I Certification and Pam was installed as president-elect of the Southwest Region of APA. Linda is just a few hours from completing her Level III Certification. These three and others are active in the Arkansas Chapter of APA, which has been supported by the Presbytery of Arkansas since its inception as a local chapter in 1982. The

Arkansas Chapter will host the Southwest Region APA Conference in October, 2013, in Little Rock.



(From left to right: Pam Luther, Nancy Coleman, Linda Castleman)

### **News of Our Congregations**

- Good Shepherd Presbyterian, Greenwood** held an Agape' meal potluck.
- First, Yellville** conducted a worship banner workshop.
- First, Conway** children's fall carnival and "trunk or treat" is set for Oct. 28.
- First, Morrilton** has men's breakfast on Thursdays and "temple toning" exercise at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Second Presbyterian, Little Rock** sponsored on Sept. 27, Oct. 11 and 25, Nov. 8 and 15 evening meetings of Widowed Wisdom for widowed women and plans a Retreat for Young Families Nov. 9-11 at Ferncliff Camp.
- First, Hot Springs** is rehearsing a children's musical about giving, "The Christmas Carol" now until Dec. 8.
- Central Presbyterian, Pine Bluff** plans a tour on Oct. 24 of Vera Lloyd Presbyterian Children's Home in Monticello with lunch and shopping in Star City.
- Trinity Presbyterian, Little Rock** will celebrate their 25th anniversary on Nov. 4 with special worship, bagpipes, a video history, golf tournament.
- First, Jonesboro** will offer the Alternative Christmas Market of crafts from global artisans Nov. 24-25 and Dec. 1-2.
- Kirk of the Hills, Fairfield Bay** is mid-way through a six-week Thursday evening supper and study of the special edition of Presbyterians Today magazine: "What Presbyterians Believe 2."
- First, North Little Rock** hosted "Setting the Table: An evening of stories and songs about faith" on Oct. 15.
- A ribbon-cutting and rededication of the new Edwards Commons at **Lyon College, Batesville** is set for Friday, Oct. 19, immediately following Founders' Day Convocation at 11 a.m. in Brown Chapel. Less than two years after the original building was destroyed by fire, this new 44,000-square-foot building will house the

dining hall, kitchen, The Scot Shop, a bistro, game room, and student life offices.

--**Harmony Presbyterian Church, Clarksville** has repaired all of the tornado damage to their church building. The church was built from stones quarried on a member's property and was built by members of the church. The women of the church picked and sold cotton to furnish the building. The congregation will have a service on October 28th at 4pm to rededicate the building in thanksgiving for the saints who built it and sustain it.

--Meals on Wheels of Benton County, Inc. received checks from Rogers Presbyterian Foundation and the Deacons of **First Presbyterian Church, Rogers** totaling \$1,500. A 501c3 non-profit, Meals on Wheels was previously located at the former Lakeside Restaurant in Rogers and is currently operating out of a local church kitchen while it retrofits a house to be used as a commercial kitchen and office, according to Jim Mangold, Board Chairman, Meals on Wheels.



(From left to right: Brenda Cate, Fundraising Committee Co-Chair, Meals On Wheels; Jim Mangold, Board Chair, Meals On Wheels; Phyllis Laughlin, Deacon at First Presbyterian Church; Dick Smith, Chair, Rogers Presbyterian Foundation)

### **News of Our Clusters**

--**Cluster I** (northwest AR) has elected Rev. Stewart Smith as their representative to the Committee on Clusters. Cluster III (northeast AR) has elected Ruling Elder George Jackson of Faith Presbyterian, Horseshoe Bend as their representative to the Committee on Clusters. Both men will serve from 2013 through 2015.

--**Cluster I** (northwest AR) will have their annual gathering for elder training at First, Rogers on Thursday evening, Nov. 8. This meeting will include conversations about what churches have been doing to address changes in the Book of Order,

responsibilities of session, theology and how councils in churches differ from other boards, spirituality and mission.

--**Committee on Clusters** re-elected **Ruling Elder Al Glover**, Central, Pine Bluff as committee moderator for 2013.

--**Cluster III** (northeast AR) has chosen **Ruling Elder Patty Minga** as their representative on General Committee, 2013-2015.

### Meet the Youth Advisory Team Leadership!



The Youth Advisory Team, formerly known as Youth Council, a sub-committee of the presbytery's Committee on Christian Education and Nurture, is responsible for planning and implementing presbytery-sponsored youth events. Events include YouthQuakes, Youth @ Presbytery, and Summer Trips.

We are pleased to introduce leadership for 2012-2013 Youth Advisory Team.

Mary Shaw, Moderator (at right in photo), is the DCE at First Presbyterian Church in Springdale. She has served on the Youth Advisory Team for over seven years.

Ashley Clark, Co-Moderator (left), is a first-grade teacher at Pea Ridge Primary School in Pea Ridge. Ashley attends First Presbyterian Church in Bentonville and has served on the Youth Advisory Team for over 15 years.

Steven McConkie, Youth Co-Moderator (center), is a senior at Conway High School and a member of First Presbyterian Church in Conway. Steven has served on the Youth Advisory Team for four years.

## Upcoming Youth Events!

February 15 & 16, 2013:

Youth @ Presbytery

*"Listen for the Voice"*

1 Samuel 3: 10-11

April 5-7, 2013: Sr. High YouthQuake

*"Faith Like a Child"*

Matthew 18: 2-5

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### **Presbyterian Village Presents**

**Cookout in the Courtyard**

**Food -- Fun -- Fellowship**

Thursday, October 18, 2012

5:00 PM until 8:00 PM

Presbyterian Village

510 N. Brookside Dr.

Little Rock, AR

**Tickets: Adults--\$20, Children (12 and under)--\$10**

Proceeds to Benefit Presbyterian Village Resident Programs

For information and reservations contact David King

501-225-1615 or [davidking@presbyvillage.com](mailto:davidking@presbyvillage.com)

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**Prayer List for Congregations -- 2012** can be found [here](#).

**Prayer List for Congregations -- 2013** 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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[Click here for the latest PW newsletter](#)

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### **Resource Center News**

by [NiAnn Thompson](#), Resourcing Director

Phone 501.663.2424, ext. 104

Tuesday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Proposed Amendments to the PC(USA) Constitution, Parts 1 and 2, have been posted to the internet. Eighteen amendments to the Book of Order will be sent to the presbyteries for vote, along with one amendment to the Book of Confessions. Links to both parts can be found at

<http://oga.pcusa.org/section/departments/communication-development-and-technology/constitution/#amend>.

**RAVE REVIEW**



Rev. Ruskin Falls, Pulaski Heights Presbyterian, Little Rock writes of Philip Gulley's book, ***If the Church Were Christian -- Rediscovering the Values of Jesus***. "This book drew our adult Sunday School Class into eye-opening discussion and invigorating debate regarding the nature and calling of the church, the meaning of 'enlightenment' and of 'spiritual but not religious,' and the distinction made by Gulley between 'healthy' and 'unhealthy' religion. Whether in agreement or in disagreement with Gulley's views, class members enjoyed and appreciated the conversation this book opened up." (This book is available for loan from YOUR Resource Center.)

### **SPOTLIGHT ON CHILDREN'S RESOURCES**

BOOKS for imaginative young minds:

**"Praying in Color Kids' Edition"** (Acc. #BK9660) by Sybil MacBeth teaches children to use one minute a day anytime of the day to draw with markers or crayons and carry the visual memories throughout the day.

**"The Brick Bible: A New Spin on the Old Testament"** (Acc. #BK9654) is an unlikely but memorable work, illustrating stories from the Old Testament with Lego bricks.

**"Five Practices for Children"** (Acc. #BK9643) offers young disciples engagement in workshop for leaders, reproducible lesson plans for preschoolers through tweens, suggestions for families and stories about children who practice hospitality, worship, faith development, mission and service, and generosity.

**"Questions from Little Hearts"** (Acc. #BK9630) is an illustrated book for preschoolers of questions and answers through scripture in rhyme.

**"God Listens to Your Cares: Prayers for all the animals of the world"** (Acc. #BK9620) contains 31 prayers of love and care that naturally exist between children and animals.

DVDS from the popular Veggie Tales series tell these new adventures:

**"The Penniless Princess: God's Little Girl"** (A Lesson in True Worth) (Acc. #DVD9685)

**"Robin Good and His Not-So-Merry Men"** (A Lesson in Handling Hurt) (Acc. #DVD9684)

### **YOUTH CURRICULUM HITS**

Check out the **"Faith Questions"** series for older youth, each of which contains four to six sessions, on topics such as: Sacraments, Reformed Theology, Gospels, Old Testament, New Testament, Politics, Church, Prayer, Deep and Wide (evangelism) and other topics.

### **MONEY-SAVING OFFERS**

Two front and back covers for official church registers are available (first come, first served) from the Resource Center. Between the Resource Center and the church I serve (First, Malvern), we can loan multiple copies of the following for small group studies: **Interpretation Bible Studies of Exodus, Mark, John, or Hebrews, Christmas from the Back Side, The First Christmas, Three Months with Matthew, Thirteen Apostles, Troublesome Bible Passages and Favorite Bible Passages.**

### **TIMELY STUDIES**

**"Understanding Your Mormon Neighbor: A Quick Christian Guide for Relating to Latter-Day Saints"**

**"A Long Wait for a Messiah for Tweens and five other dramas for Advent and Christmas"** (Acc. #BK9600)

**"Advent of the Savior"** 6 studies for individual adults or groups

**"Christmas Therapy"** offers insightful guidelines and colorful illustrations for adults who feel pressured, empty or inadequate during the Christmas season.

A well-received all-church study for Advent:

**"The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem"** by Adam Hamilton (Acc. #DVD9582 or #9617) is a 5-session DVD-based study which includes a 64-page leader guide, the book for adults, youth edition, 4-week devotional booklet, children's edition and children's storybook and "explores the story of the birth of Jesus with fresh eyes and ears."

**REMEMBER OUR ONLINE CATALOG!** Just go to the [www.presbyteryofarkansas.org](http://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 and Nurture.)*

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## [Presbytery Calendar](#)

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### PRESBYTERY STAFF:

General Presbyter [BILL GALBRAITH](#)

Stated Clerk [CATHY ULRICH](#)

Resourcing Director & Assistant Stated Clerk [NIANN THOMPSON](#)

Director of Mission Support [KENNETH RICH](#)

Presbytery Evangelist [JESSE GONZALEZ](#)

Staff Resource for Youth [BRITTON VARN](#)

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

Treasurer [WES SHAVER](#)

Moderator of Presbytery [DAVID DYER](#)

Vice Moderator of Presbytery [SHEREE NIECE](#)

Moderator of the General Committee [SAM HIGHSMITH](#)



The Presbytery of Arkansas is a governing body 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, two new church developments and two fellowships located in various towns and cities in the northern two-thirds of the State of Arkansas.