



The Grapevine

CONNECTING THE CONGREGATIONS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

April 2009

Mission Program or Missional Life?



by the Rev. Dr. Allen D. Timm, Executive Presbyter

The book *Shaped by God's Heart*, by Milfred Minatrea, asks us the question: Is mission just an add-on to our already busy church life? Or are we sent by God to bear God's image to the world? This challenging book which is a part of the Leadership Network Publications (Jossey-Bass) lifts the reason for Mission – God created us in God's image to bear God's image in the world, so that God's creation will know the love and justice of God (8). And so mission isn't an add on program; it is a way of life.

Don't get me wrong, Minatrea does not argue against sending missionaries, or taking mission trips to build houses for the poor, but Minatrea writes that our purpose for living is to show the world the love of Christ who has redeemed us and sent us to share that same love. We show that love in whatever we do or say. And similarly, when the congregation gathers they demonstrate to the world that the love of God exists within the four walls of the church.

The missional church finds itself shaped by God's heart. This shape has four opposite dimensions, that of loving God and loving God's people; and that of Living God's mission and leading others to follow God (17). With these directions we find ourselves sent in a self-perpetuating cycle of being a mission congregation. These directions create a passion within us for action. In passion action one, we worship God and learn to worship and obey God; in passion action two, we live God's mission and thus serve and share; in passion action three, we love people by inviting them to know

God and embracing them; and finally we lead them to follow God by equipping and empowering the saints. As we follow, we want to worship God, and the cycle begins all over again.

Minatrea outlines nine essential practices if a church is to be missional:

- **Have a high threshold for membership.** Do we invite those into membership who want to follow the Lord Jesus? Do we talk about growing in our faith and serving Christ with all of ourselves including our resources?
- **Be real but not religious.** Do we encourage folks to be honest about their doubts, their struggles, and their hopes? Do we encourage folks to talk about their faith? Do we encourage relationships of sharing and trust?
- **Teach to obey rather than to know.** Do we encourage believers to study God's word and listen for God's call to action? Does our faith lead us to take stands in the world and create change when we see injustice or sin?
- **Live apostolically.** Do we learn the language of our context and speak in worlds that serve and heal? Do we see ourselves as sent to our workplace or neighborhood? Are we prepared to give an account for the hope that is within us (I Peter)?
- **Expect to change the world.** Do we see ourselves as part of God's radical transformation of the world? Do we expect God will use us in a way that will have a large impact?
- **Order actions according to purpose.** Do we set in motion purpose-driven actions that will follow the passion God has placed on our hearts? Do we help our members discover their spiritual gifts and purpose their passion as they serve Christ? Are we willing to let go of that in our lives which does not

follow God's purpose?

- **Measure growth by capacity to release, not retain.** Do we take delight in our number of members who join, or rather by the number of our members who see themselves as serving Christ Monday morning and through out the week in "whatever you do, in word or in deed?"
- **Place kingdom concerns first.** Do we develop citizens of the kingdom who seek to express the kingdom of God in the world, working with other believers in other congregations and denominations to show God's love to the world?

So what would it take for your congregation to see your congregation as part of God's mission into the world? What would make you feel part of God's mission team in your every day world? What openings might you see today for witnessing to God's awesome power and love? Do you know who lives in the neighborhood of your church? Do you know what your community needs? And have you found connections to serve your neighbors in our immediate area and in the world?

I encourage you to read this book, and to use the "missional practice assessment" guide located at the end of each chapter. Each guide helps identify your best missional practices and the practices that might help your congregation bear the image of God into your neighborhood and the world. But remember, it is not a program for Sundays. Being in mission with God and bearing God's image to the world is a way of life!

BECOMING A SENT PEOPLE

By Mary Lloyd, Consultant Hands-On Mission

One may ask the question; why should we bother ourselves with mission. I mean, come on, it's time consuming, it's hard, and it would be easier to sit home with a bucket of Ben and Jerry's catching up on last week's American Idol episodes we have stored on our DVRs. Or, we could do something different. We could spend some time with the Holy Spirit of God and start thinking about mission. Now, I know that what most people think of when they hear the word mission is sending missionaries over to some third world country; you know, something that's nice for the few, who are brave enough to leave home and hearth for the distant shores of mission work. For a good long time "mission" has been something that we have programmed into our church budgets to support an individual or an agency, who is out there fighting the good fight. Many churches have some good programs to go along with this as well. You won't have to look far in our Presbytery to see some wonderful examples. And, of course, this is wonderful and pleasing to our Lord.

Still, do you ever wonder if Jesus had something a little more broad in scope in mind when He said, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20a NIV), or when asked which is the greatest commandment His reply was, "Love the Lord your God

with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:37-39 NIV), and, of course, we can't forget His words we hear in the parable of the sheep and the goats, "The King (God) will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for Me" (Matthew 25:40 NIV). What Jesus is talking about is an all-encompassing love for the Lord, our God, and letting the love of the Holy Spirit allow us to love the least of these and take care of them like God would want us to.

Having good mission programs is a part of being a missional church, but it is only one part. Being a missional church means seeing every day of our lives as being filled with opportunities that God has placed all around us to serve God by serving our neighbor. "For we were created in Christ Jesus to do good works" (Ephesians 2:10). Everything that we do, we do it in the name of Christ, to the glory of God. Given our current economy, it isn't hard to find people in desperate need of help. If there was ever a time to think about being a mission people, sent by God to feed the hungry, lift the veil of ignorance, show compassion and clothe the naked, that time is right now. The need is all around us.

So why support mission through the church? Because, this is a primary

theological tenet of our church that, we work together as a community of believers to the glory of God. Our Book of Order tells us that, "The Church is called to be a sign in and for the world of the new reality which God has made available to people in Jesus Christ" (G-3.0200a). We are further instructed that, "The Church is called to tell the good news of salvation by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ as the only Savior and Lord...." (G-3.0300). We do this by our words and our deeds, what we say about our relationship with our Lord, and showing how we reach out to our neighbors and help them out whenever we can. Being a missional church is like getting on the best ride ever as we discover the joy of finding the places and people in our lives that God put in our lives for us to share God's love. Tickets are available today. Sign up for a mission project and enjoy the ride.

Over the next several issues of the Grapevine, articles will be written to inform you of congregations supporting mission through personal involvements. We will tell you about their initiatives and who to contact. We will share with you their visions, strategies and expectations for being a sent people. It is our hope that you will be able to get a Presbytery perspective on mission, find opportunities to work with other congregations and get involved in Hands-On Mission activities, whether local, regional, national or international.

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THE PARISH PAPER

IDEAS AND INSIGHTS FOR ACTIVE CONGREGATIONS

Coeditors: Herb Miller, Lyle Schaller, Cynthia Woolever - www.TheParishPaper.com

April 2009 - Volume 17, Number 4

Cynthia Woolever

What Do People Want in Their Pastors?

Jed Smith agreed to chair yet another pastoral search committee—for the second time in just five years. Margaret, another active member, buttonholed Jed after church: “I didn’t like the last pastor you helped us hire. I hope you do a better job this time!”

Jed wisely responded, “Well, I didn’t like the pastor before this one that you liked. But we both kept coming to church!”

Margaret and Jed want the same thing—a pastor who is a good match for the congregation. How do they find the right pastor?

After interviewing dozens of church people who chaired or served on pastoral search or staff-parish relations committees, Adair Lummis* concludes that all members want the same qualities in their next pastor—at least they *say* the same things. But what they *don’t* say—what Lummis calls “secondary expectations”—matter most.

Members create a “must have” clergy qualities list just as homebuyers initially give their realtor a “must have” list. However, after seeing several houses, many people realize they were completely wrong about what they *said* they wanted. Thus, the real estate maxim, “Buyers are liars.” Like real estate brokers, the lay leadership must understand what the congregation’s members really want in order to help them get it. While that might sound easy, it is not.

What Qualities Make the Good Pastor List?

“Primary expectations” are the qualities and abilities that all congregants say they value in a pastor:

1. *Good preacher and worship leader.* Unfortunately, these qualities mean different things to different members. The search committee should ask members to define a “good sermon.” Does it make you think, engage your mind, and reflect sound scholarship? Or does a good sermon help you feel God’s presence? Is a good sermon filled with inspirational stories?

2. *Strong spiritual leader.* What qualifies as spiritual strength in one congregation would not make that cut in another. In one congregation, the number of hours per week that the pastor spends in congregational work is seen as directly proportional to his or her spiritual depth. In another

setting, people define the warm and caring pastor with few outside interests as spiritually mature. In still another congregation people relate spiritual strength to personal conduct, exemplary character, and clarity about God’s call to ministry.

3. *Good people skills.* Members want a pastor with keen social skills. They like someone with a sense of humor, who is not too introverted but not too extroverted, either. Members want the pastor to set (and publish) regular office hours so they know when they can talk with him or her.

4. *Experienced.* Many congregations want a young pastor *and* someone with experience. Younger candidates often don’t have much experience, while experienced candidates are typically older.

Another wrinkle in the age-experience dilemma: more seminary graduates are now second-career pastors. They have *life* experience but possess little pastoral experience.



SOME SEARCH COMMITTEES ARE BETTER AT DISGUIISING THEIR UNSPOKEN EXPECTATIONS THAN OTHERS.

5. *Administrative competence.* This skill is hard to pin down because few members interact with or see the pastor outside worship services. Is the candidate competent at organizing people for ministries, remembering administrative details, chairing meetings, and handling conflict?

6. *Religious authenticity.* While their descriptive words differ, most members feel they know an authentic pastor when they see one. But they also rely on denominational gatekeepers—seminary, judicatory, and ordination requirements—to recommend pastors with a clear call to ministry and screen out questionable candidates.

What Qualities Appear on the Invisible List?

“Secondary expectations” can tip the balance toward one candidate over another. Unspoken expectations can prevent potential candidates from ever getting an interview. What are those invisible qualities and attributes that matter to lay people—factors that they don’t say are important, but are?

1. *Recent-past experiences.* Lummis found that church people want to either “clone or demonize” the previous pastor, or even the previous two pastors. The previous pastor’s poor health surfaced in many interviews as a reason the committee was searching for a younger pastor.

If the previous pastor served a long time—fifteen years or more—the committee may simply seek a change. They may expect their next pastor to stay fewer than ten years.

The reverse is also true. A congregation with several short pastorates may search for someone who will put down roots. If the last pastor was a woman, the search committee may want a male pastor. Some committees see this as “taking turns”—“we had a female pastor last time.” Congregations served by a retiring pastor (in his or her last pastorate) may seek a new pastor under age fifty-five.

2. *Age.* While the average pastor is thirty-two years old at ordination, the average age of pastors currently serving congregations is fifty-two. If forced to choose between a younger candidate and one with experience, the majority of congregations choose the younger pastor.

3. *Chaplain for a few.* The search committee may focus on finding a minister for the loyal, long-time church members. Those members may not want to attract new members or start new programs. The church may even have specific members that the committee knows *must* be happy about who they select. The committee’s co-dependency with these members makes the committee unaware that it lives by the saying, “If Mama ain’t happy, ain’t nobody happy.”

4. *Cultural fit.* Some congregations sense that they’re not ready for a female or a racial-ethnic minority pastor. Or they feel that “settling” for female or minority leadership

reflects poorly on their ability to attract the “best” pastors. In denominations that ordain women, about half of the seminary students are now women. While the number of minority seminary students remains small, the percentages continue to increase. Current trends indicate that search committees will wrestle with these choices sooner rather than later.

5. *Marriage and family.* Search committees can confuse the “spiritual ideal of the nuclear family” with real pastoral qualities. Sometimes, parishioners have an unspoken preference for a happily married male with a wife who does not work outside the home. She also volunteers at the church while raising “wholesome and polite children.”

The nuclear family preference discriminates against single pastors (now one-third of seminary students), females (even if they’re married), a male minister whose wife pastors another church, and co-pastors. Search committees sometimes use code language—“we want a biblical preacher”—to convey their unspoken preference for pastors that match the congregation’s theological and religious views.

The Bottom Line

Despite its challenges, calling a new pastor presents an opportunity to change the congregation’s climate and direction. Ask the search committee to discuss the items above and identify which ones matter to members. Evaluate the rationale behind the congregation’s desires. Do those wishes reflect congregational health and a future-focus?

Some of the questions committees often fail to discuss:

1. Can our pastor have a new vision for the congregation, or will some of our people interpret that new vision as an inappropriate agenda?

2. Do we want our pastor to motivate, organize, and equip us for ministries, or do we want a hired hand who does all of the ministries for us?

3. What could our congregation’s ministries be like in five years? What kind of leader could take us there?

4. Given God’s record of calling unlikely candidates to do great ministry, are our hearts open to the person God might call to lead us?

* Adair T. Lummis, “What Do Lay People Want in Pastors? Answers from Lay Search Committee Chairs and Regional Judicatory Leaders,” *Pulpit & Pew Reports*, Spring 2003 (www.pulpitandpew.duke.edu).



POD Web Site

What's NEW on www.PbyDetroit.org

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Director of Family and Child Development Faith Community Presbyterian Church, a 350 member congregation, with a strong emphasis on Hearing, Trusting, Acting, and Sharing God's Word, has a part-time opportunity for a Director of Family and Child Development. We are looking for an energetic Christian with a background in education and family development. BA degree would be a plus but not required (if equivalent experience). The position is responsible for all facets of Christian Education; working with new parents, Sunday school classes and curriculum, working with Youth Groups and their volunteer Leaders, coordinating the Wednesday evening LOGOS program for elementary aged children, Bible study, coordinating Confirmation class and leaders, and bringing new ideas and energy. The position is structured at 15 to 20 hours per week with a time emphasis on Wednesday, when or LOGOS program meets, and of course Sundays.

Fax resume to Faith Community Presbyterian Church at 248-349-5716

Belleville Presbyterian Church  
11900 Belleville Rd.  
Belleville, MI 48111

is looking for a full-time designated pastor. If you are interested in this position please send your PIF to the Rev. Keith Geiselman at [keith@fpcy.org](mailto:keith@fpcy.org). Belleville's CIF is available at CLC.

News from Riverside NCD

Riverside is currently conducting a confirmation class with 9 young adults. After completing the class these 9 young people will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 31 during worship at 12:30 PM. Please come and support Riverside on Sunday's at 12:30 PM and be a part of their moving forward experience. Riverside NCD is currently worshipping at ETS (former Detroit, First church) 2930 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48201

The Presbytery of Detroit Weekly Update

April 24, 2009

Prayer of the Week:

A Prayer from the Desert Lord, Jesus Christ, whose will all things obey: pardon what I have done and grant that I a sinner, may sin no more. Lord, I believe that though I do not deserve it, you can cleanse me from all my sins. Lord, I know that [humans] look upon the face, but you see the heart. Send your Spirit into my inmost being, to take possession of my soul and body.

Without you I cannot be saved; with you to protect me, I long for your salvation. And now I ask you for wisdom, deign of your great goodness to help and defend me. Guide my heart, almighty God, that I may remember your presence day and night. - from "Daily Reflections with the Desert Fathers," available from The Orthodox Bookstore (<http://orthodoxbookstore.ecrater.com/>)

2009 DIRECTORY



The 2009 Directory is now available on line.

There are two versions both are password protected.

[The .zip file contains the directory in editable .doc sections](#)

[The .pdf file is the entire directory in a non-editable format.](#)

The key is 040-172

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OFFER



2010 MISSION YEARBOOK FOR PRAYER & STUDY Adult & Children's

SPECIAL DISCOUNT ORDER FORM

Order now and receive up to a 50% discount! Cost with the discount is \$5.50 per Adult book & \$6.50 per Children's book. ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID & RECEIVED BY 08/14/2009. Make check payable to Presbytery of Detroit.

Please Order: \_\_\_\_\_ Adult copies X \$5.50 each = \_\_\_\_\_ Children's copies X \$6.50 each = \_\_\_\_\_ Total Payment enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this order form WITH payment to: Presbytery of Detroit 17575 Hubbell Detroit, MI 48235

Distribution at the November Presbytery meeting.



PCUSA Web Site

| April 2009 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 25         | <a href="#">Hands on Mission Rebuilding Detroit Together</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 25         | Youth Mission Team at <a href="#">Gleaners Community Food Bank</a> 9:00 am - 11:30 am                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 27-May 1   | <a href="#">Iowa Ill Mission trip to Cedar Rapids, IA</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 28         | Presbytery Meeting at Detroit, Westminster                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 29         | Pittsburgh Theological Seminary invites all PNC's to their campus for a Placement Fair 10:00 am-3:00 pm if interested call 412-441-3304 x2146 for a reservation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| May 2009   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2          | <a href="#">PWPD Annual Women's Retreat</a> with Keynote Joan Gray at Grosse Pointe Memorial PC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 5          | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Dearborn, Littlefield                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 5-19       | <a href="#">Pilgrimage to the Holy Land</a> sponsored by the <a href="#">Middle East Work Group</a> of the Social Justice and Peacemaking Ministry Team click <a href="#">here</a> for an application in word and <a href="#">here</a> for a pdf version                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 6          | Minutes Book reading at Plymouth, First 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 7-9        | The youth drama ministry at Sashabaw Presbyterian in Clarkston called <a href="#">6 Stools &amp; a Folding Chair presents..."Fiddler on the Roof"</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 9          | Minutes Book reading at Detroit, Westminster 9:00 am - 12:00 pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 15         | <a href="#">A Presbyterian Strategy for New Church Development</a> presented by Stan Wood at Livonia, St. Timothy noon to 5:00 pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 16         | <a href="#">Becoming Mission-Shaped Churches that Evangelize Communities</a> presented by Stan Wood at Livonia, St. Timothy 9:00 am - 3:30 pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 16         | At the January 31 Leadership Training Day workshop, teams who attended together from congregations were asked to make a plan and return on May 2 for feedback. The Leadership Training Reflections Day has been moved to May 16 during lunch time, at the Evangelism Workshop. Participants are encouraged to attend the Evangelism workshop with Dr. Stan Wood, and over lunch reflect together about what they learned at the leadership day. The leadership workshop broke new ground in planning, and the leadership workgroup wants your feedback. Participants will pay for their own lunch. Make reservations by calling the Presbytery office 313-345-6550. |
| 16         | Waterford, Community Presbyterian Church Music Series <a href="#">Shoreline Sound</a> 7:00 pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 16         | <a href="#">Hands on Mission Greening Detroit</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 17-18      | Ecumenical Sabbath Retreat - <a href="#">Bringing the Sabbath Home</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 19         | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Bloomfield Hills, Kirk in the Hills                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 21         | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Troy, Northminster                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 23         | Hands on Mission Greening Detroit day 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |



This is an Open Invitation to ALL women in the  
Presbytery of Detroit whether you belong to an  
active Presbyterian Women's group or  
not...Please join us for

The Presbyterian Women  
in the Presbytery of Detroit

## Women's Retreat

Saturday, May 2, 2009

Held at  
Grosse Pointe Memorial Church

"Women Empowered to Serve"



John 7:37-39

"Women Empowered to Serve"

Do you sometimes feel further away  
from the Lord than you would like? Do  
you yearn for a deeper walk with the  
One who gives us abundant life? Do  
you want to know God more deeply  
and be more empowered to make a  
difference in your world? If so, then  
come join others with similar hungers  
and hopes at our Rendezvous With  
God! Through prayer and meditating  
on scripture, small group and alone  
time, we will relax into the depths of  
what God wants to give us. We will  
open ourselves to receive the gifts of  
God's constant presence and to hear  
the still small voice. God is waiting for  
you!



"Out of the heart of the believer shall  
flow rivers of living water."

John 7:37-39

Korean Presbyterian Church of Metro Detroit  
27075 W. Nine Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48034

invites  
the Presbytery of Detroit  
to join them in Worship  
on  
Wednesday, May 13, 2009  
at  
8:00 PM

As they welcome special guest preacher for the  
evening the Rev. Dr. Jong Sam Park, Asian  
Coordinator, World Vision International, and  
former Director, Boys Town, Kwanju, S. Korea.  
There will be special music and dance during  
the service.

Other opportunities to hear Dr. Park are at  
Grosse Pointe Memorial Presbyterian  
Church, 16 Lakeshore Dr., Grosse Pointe  
Farms, MI 48236 his schedule at Memorial is to  
teach on May 10, speak mornings May 11- 15,  
and preach May 17. Dr. Park is the Ecumenical  
Minister in residence for 2009 at Grosse Pointe  
Memorial.

SPECIAL NOTICE to all who attended the  
Leadership Training Day on January 31, 2009,  
at Dearborn, First.

At the January 31 Leadership Training Day  
workshop, teams who attended together from  
congregations were asked to make a plan and  
return on May 2 for feedback. The Leadership  
Training Reflections Day has been **moved to  
May 16** during lunch time, at the Evangelism  
Workshop. Participants are encouraged to  
attend the Evangelism workshop with Dr. Stan  
Wood (see announcement below), and over  
lunch reflect together about what they learned  
at the leadership day. The leadership workshop  
broke new ground in planning, and the  
leadership workgroup wants your feedback.  
Participants will pay for their own lunch. Make  
reservations by calling the Presbytery office  
313-345-6550.

Presbytery of Detroit  
Congregational Life Ministry Team  
An Exciting One-Day Evangelism Seminar  
"Becoming Mission-Shaped Churches  
that  
Evangelize Communities"  
Stan Wood, Ph.D.  
Professor of Evangelism  
San Francisco Theological Seminary

Saturday, May 16, 2009  
9:00 am to 3:30 pm

St. Timothy Presbyterian Church  
Livonia, Michigan

Cost: \$20.00 per person  
Lunch Included

Topics:

Making Disciples for the 21st Century  
Faith Sharing with the Unchurched  
How to Introduce Someone to Christ

For anyone interested in how congregations in  
mainline denominations  
may grow in mission and membership  
RSVP: Presbytery Office – 313.345.6550

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 23                    | Congregational Life Ministry Team hosting a <a href="#">seminar on Christian Worship</a> with keynote speaker the Rev. Dr. Ronald P. Byars at Birmingham, First 9:30 am - 4:00 pm            |
| 25                    | Presbytery Office Closed - Memorial Day                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>June 2009</b>      |                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 2                     | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Dearborn, Littlefield                                                                                                                                       |
| 8                     | Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Foundation 3rd annual <i>It's A Wonderful Life!</i> Golf Outing at Plum Hollow Golf and Country Club in Southfield Call 248.281.2040 for more information! |
| 11-13                 | The <a href="#">Big Tent</a> , an unprecedented gathering of Presbyterians for ten national conferences and convocations under one roof, will take place in Atlanta, Georgia                 |
| 13                    | Clerk's Training at the Presbytery office room 223 from 9:00 am - 11:00 am for review and critique of the minutes reading process, along with any issues anyone might have                   |
| 15-18                 | <a href="#">Hands on Mission Festivals of Health</a>                                                                                                                                         |
| 15                    | Youth Mission Team at Second Mile Center for the <a href="#">Festival of Health</a> 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm                                                                                        |
| 17                    | Youth Mission Team at Detroit, Gratiot Avenue for the <a href="#">Festival of Health</a> 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm                                                                                   |
| 16                    | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Bloomfield Hills, Kirk in the Hills                                                                                                                         |
| 16-20                 | <a href="#">Hands on Mission Blitz Build 2009</a>                                                                                                                                            |
| 18                    | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Troy, Northminster                                                                                                                                          |
| 21-23                 | <a href="#">Synod Retreat with John Bell</a> of the Ionia Community at Columbiere Center, Clarkston, MI                                                                                      |
| 23                    | Presbytery Meeting at Detroit, Jefferson Avenue                                                                                                                                              |
| 28-July 3             | <a href="#">Covenant Gathering</a> at Camp Michindoh, Hillsdale, MI                                                                                                                          |
| <b>July 2009</b>      |                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 3                     | Presbytery Office Closed - Independence Day                                                                                                                                                  |
| 7                     | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Dearborn, Littlefield                                                                                                                                       |
| 12-18                 | Youth Mission Team <a href="#">Hurricane Disaster Relief trip</a> to Houma, LA for 16 yrs+                                                                                                   |
| 16                    | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Troy, Northminster                                                                                                                                          |
| 21                    | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Bloomfield Hills, Kirk in the Hills                                                                                                                         |
| <b>August 2009</b>    |                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 4                     | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Dearborn, Littlefield                                                                                                                                       |
| 8                     | <a href="#">Hands on Mission work day at Barnabas</a>                                                                                                                                        |
| 18                    | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Bloomfield Hills, Kirk in the Hills                                                                                                                         |
| 20                    | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Troy, Northminster                                                                                                                                          |
| 22                    | Youth Mission Team helping with the <a href="#">RESPOND Food program</a> at Detroit, Westminster 10:00 am - 1:30 pm                                                                          |
| 25                    | <b>Presbytery Meeting at Shelby Twp., St. Thomas</b>                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>September 2009</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1                     | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Dearborn, Littlefield                                                                                                                                       |
| 7                     | Presbytery Office Closed - Labor Day                                                                                                                                                         |
| 12                    | Men's Ministry Team is holding a workshop at Farmington, First about Men's Groups. Details to come                                                                                           |
| 13-17                 | <a href="#">Iowa IV Mission Trip to Cedar Rapids, IA</a>                                                                                                                                     |

**The President of Princeton Theological Seminary to speak at Alma College**

Dr. Iain R. Torrance, President and Professor of Patristics, at Princeton Theological Seminary will be at Alma College on Tuesday, May 5 to give a lecture and meet with friends and alumni of the seminary. Dr. Torrance will speak on "Theological Education in the Context of the Changing Church" at 10 am in VanDusen Commons at Alma College. The lecture will be followed by a noon luncheon. Prior registration and payment for the luncheon is required; please register on the seminary website at: [https://our.ptsem.edu/ics/Alumni/alma\\_alumni-ae\\_luncheon.jnz](https://our.ptsem.edu/ics/Alumni/alma_alumni-ae_luncheon.jnz). All are welcome to attend.

Samaritan Counseling Center of SE Michigan is now receiving applications for its one year Pastoral Care Specialist Program, a certificate continuing education program for local church/parish leaders who have been serving for a few years and would like a time for further thought and study about the important work they do. The program is held in Farmington Hills, beginning in September of 2009 and going through June, 2010. Follow this link to a description and application. [http://www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com/index\\_files/Page3880.htm](http://www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com/index_files/Page3880.htm). For further questions please contact me or the Associate Executive Director/Director of Training at SCC, Pat McCluskey.

Questions/More Information: Philip Reed at St. Timothy – 734.464.8844

Presbytery of Detroit  
 Congregational Life Ministry Team  
 A One-Day Worship Event  
**"Gathered And Sent:  
 Worship in the Presbyterian Church"**



Rev. Dr. Ronald P. Byars  
 Professor Emeritus of Preaching and Worship  
 Union Theological Seminary and PSCE,  
 Richmond, VA  
 Saturday, May 23, 2009  
 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
 First Presbyterian Church  
 Birmingham, Michigan  
 Lunch Included  
 For anyone interested in learning more about worship in the Presbyterian Church, its Biblical roots and the future of Reformed worship. We will conclude with worship together led by Rev. Matthew E. Miller, Pastor First Presbyterian Church, Sioux City, Iowa  
 For further information  
 Contact Matthew Morse, Southminster Presbyterian, Taylor  
 313-291-0122 or  
[pastormatt@southminsterpresby.org](mailto:pastormatt@southminsterpresby.org)

|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15                                       | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Bloomfield Hills, Kirk in the Hills                                                                                                       |
| 17                                       | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Troy, Northminster                                                                                                                        |
| 28-29                                    | Pastors in Transition at St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt, MI                                                                                                            |
| <b>October 2009<br/>MONTH OF MISSION</b> |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 6                                        | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Dearborn, Littlefield                                                                                                                     |
| 10                                       | Hunger workshop "Just Eating" at Detroit, Westminster. Details to follow.                                                                                                  |
| 15                                       | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Troy, Northminster                                                                                                                        |
| 20                                       | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Bloomfield Hills, Kirk in the Hills                                                                                                       |
| 27                                       | Presbytery Meeting at Port Huron, First                                                                                                                                    |
| 31                                       | Month of Mission Breakfast                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>November 2009</b>                     |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1                                        | <b>Daylight Savings Time ends</b> - set clocks back one hour                                                                                                               |
| 1-8                                      | <a href="#">Katrina IX Mission Trip to Pearlinton, MS</a>                                                                                                                  |
| 3                                        | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Dearborn, Littlefield                                                                                                                     |
| 6-7                                      | Synod Assembly                                                                                                                                                             |
| 13                                       | Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Foundation 6th Annual <i>It's A Wonderful Life!</i> Gala at the Westin Book Cadillac in Detroit. Call 248.281.2040 for more information! |
| 13-15                                    | Youth Mix                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 17                                       | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Bloomfield Hills, Kirk in the Hills                                                                                                       |
| 19                                       | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Troy, Northminster                                                                                                                        |
| 24                                       | Presbytery Meeting at Waterford, Community                                                                                                                                 |
| 26-27                                    | Presbytery Office Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday                                                                                                                            |
| <b>December 2009</b>                     |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1                                        | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Dearborn, Littlefield                                                                                                                     |
| 4-6                                      | Birmingham, First hosting Dr. Walter Brueggeman, theologian-in-residence                                                                                                   |
| 12                                       | Men's Annual Advent Communion Breakfast                                                                                                                                    |
| 15                                       | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Bloomfield Hills, Kirk in the Hills                                                                                                       |
| 17                                       | <a href="#">Taize Worship</a> at Troy, Northminster                                                                                                                        |
| 24-25                                    | Presbytery Office Closed - Christmas Holiday                                                                                                                               |
| 31                                       | Presbytery Office Closed - New Year's Eve                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>January 2010</b>                      |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1                                        | Presbytery Office Closed - New Year's Day                                                                                                                                  |
| 18                                       | Presbytery Office Closed - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Birthday Observance                                                                                                  |
| 26                                       | <b>Presbytery Meeting at Northville, First - Installation of Moderator &amp; Vice Moderator</b>                                                                            |
| 27-30                                    | <a href="#">APCE Annual Meeting</a> is at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel, Nashville, TN. Keynote Speaker is the Rev. Michael Lindvall.                                    |
| <b>February 2010</b>                     |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 6                                        | SAVE THE DATE for the 2010 Leadership Training Day. Location and topic TBA                                                                                                 |
| 23                                       | <b>Presbytery Meeting</b>                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>March 2010</b>                        |                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 14                                       | <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b> - set clocks ahead one hour                                                                                                            |