

## TRANSITIONS & CONCERNS

### ➤ Please remember in your prayers:

- **Elder Lois Boyd** (wife of **CLP Jim Boyd**, pastor at San Pablo), upon the death of her brother, **Hardric Taylor**, on January 30.
- Those who have health concerns:
  - **CLP Sally Foulks** (member, First Presbyterian Church, Pueblo), undergoing surgery on March 7
  - **Elders Margaret and George Abbott**, parents of **Elder Janet Thurston** (member, Westminster and Presbytery Office Administrator)
  - **The Rev. Cliff Anderson**, for his ongoing cancer treatment

### ➤ Welcome:

- **The Rev. Sara Singleton**, newly ordained and installed as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Colorado Springs on February 18.

- Remember to use the Presbytery's Weekly Prayer Calendar in your prayers. Requests for March, 2007 through May, 2007 are:
- March 4 – The Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll, missionary and teacher in Guatemala
  - March 11 – First Presbyterian Church in Monte Vista
  - March 18 – Colorado Council of Churches
  - March 25 – Presbyterian Women
  - April 1 – Alamosa Presbyterian Church
  - April 8 – Cooperative Care Center in Colorado Springs
  - April 15 – United Church of La Jara
  - April 22 – Presbytery's Permanent Judicial Commission
  - April 29 – Bristol Presbyterian Church
  - May 6 – First Presbyterian Church in Salida
  - May 13 – Mountain States Wee Kirk
  - May 20 – United Presbyterian Church in Canon City
  - May 27 – Covenant Presbyterian Church in Colorado Springs

(The Prayer Calendar can also be accessed online at our website at <http://www.pueblpresbytery.org/prayercalendar.htm>)

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# Presbyterian Connections

A Newsletter of the Presbytery of Pueblo

Synod of the Rocky Mountains \* Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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First Quarter, 2007



The Presbytery of Pueblo believes we are called  
as the body of Christ to...  
Learn to live together,  
Live to love each other,  
Love to serve God and neighbors.



## WEAVINGS

At the February Presbytery meeting, the four area church clusters met in separate rooms to begin the process of working together in a covenantal community of pastors and elders. Each cluster determined a date for the official first organizational meeting of the cluster with me invited to resource the process. Our new Mission Design for the Presbytery provides two purposes for these cluster gatherings: 1) to determine the mission needs of the church cluster area for which they would seek Presbytery grants; and 2) to determine mission and ministry projects that two or more churches would want to work on together with presbytery assistance.

I am excited about this experiment in actually living out the meaning of being a "connectional church." We are connected by so much more than our polity (the *BOOK OF ORDER*). We are connected by our reformed faith, by our allegiance to Jesus Christ as Head of the Church, and by our commitment to mission in the world. Jesus commanded this form of covenantal community when he said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them (Mt. 18:20)." Can this not apply to churches as well? Whenever two or more churches come together for mission projects or a common ministry is not Christ with us in a special way? As Jesus formed his church, he sent his disciples out "two by two ahead of him to every town (Lk. 10:1)" to proclaim his gospel of life and love. As I have met periodically with the pastors in each of the four clusters, I try to remind them they are not alone in their ministry. Christ does not send out "Lone Rangers" to be his ministers. Rather we are all on the same "multiple church staff" and accountable to each other for support and encouragement.

This new design broadens the conversation to include the ministry of elders and sessions. We are asking each church to bring up to three elders from the session along with the pastor or pastors to

this first organizational meeting. We hope to form a covenantal community that prays together, studies God's Word together, shares their faith together, and develops their ministry and mission together within their communities. I believe a presbytery at its best is a "Covenantal Community of Congregations" who pool their gifts together to make the biggest impact in the world. A pastor can do many things for Christ's ministry, but so much more when others share in that ministry. A church can do many things for Christ, but so much more when other churches share in that ministry.

May 2007 be the year we discover how we can be the "connectional church" at the grass roots, in our various communities, working together to fulfill Christ's calling!

Peace & Joy,  
Gary Weaver,  
Executive Presbyter

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### Presbytery Meeting Highlights

The Presbytery of Pueblo met for a Stated Meeting on February 7, 2007 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Pueblo. After refreshments and fellowship, the meeting was called to order by Moderator Rev. Gary Gardner (Trinidad). A service of worship was held, led by Rev. Gardner, Elder Melinda Orendorff and Elder Sue Hodges (both members at Westminster). An offering was taken for the Ministers Assistance Fund.

Following the worship service, the business portion of the meeting took place, including:

- Examination of seminary student Ann Reed (First, Colo. Springs) to move from Inquirer to Candidacy status;
- Ordination examination of Sara Singleton (First, Colo. Springs);
- Election of Elder Janet Thurston (Westminster) as the Presbytery's Treasurer and Elder Michele Richardson (Monument) as Christian Education Moderator;
- Executive Presbyter Rev. Gary Weaver's "State of the Presbytery" report;
- Introduction of proposed Bylaws to align with the new Presbytery structure (these are downloadable at the Presbytery's website);
- Discussion of First Presbyterian Church of Colorado Springs' proposed resolutions (regarding ordination standards and General Assembly per capita) was tabled to allow all the churches' sessions opportunity to read and discuss them.

Following lunch, the four geographical clusters met separately to discuss the future of working together in a covenantal community of pastors and elders.

### Presbytery Calendar

(subject to changes/additions)

#### March:

- 4 – Taizé worship service, 7 pm, First Presbyterian/Pueblo
- 6 – Committee on Ministry, 11:30 am, Presbytery office
- 7 – Mission & Interpretation, 11 am, Westminster
- 7 – Christian Education, 3 pm, Monument
- 8 – Pueblo Covenantal Cluster, 6 pm, Westminster
- 10 – San Luis Valley Covenantal Cluster, 10 am, Monte Vista
- 15 – Personnel Committee, 10 am, Presbytery office
- 21 – Congregational Services, 11 am, La Renaissance/Pueblo
- 24 – CLP Training Event, First/Pueblo
- 28 – Worship planning, 9:30 am, Presbytery office

#### April:

- 1 – Taizé worship service, 7 pm, Ascension Episcopal/Pueblo
- 6 – Good Friday: Presbytery office closed
- 8 – Easter Sunday
- 11 – Spirituality Group, TBD
- 12 – Budget & Finance, 9 am, Presbytery office
- 14 – CLP Leadership Workshop, 9 am, First/Pueblo
- 20 – Preparation for Ministry, 10 am, First/Pueblo
- 21 – Presbytery meeting, First/Pueblo

#### May:

- 2 – Colo. Springs Covenantal Cluster, 11:30 am, Covenant
- 3 – CLP Coordinating Committee, 10 am., First/Pueblo
- 6 – Taizé worship service, 7 pm, Center for Inner Peace/Pueblo
- 8-10 – Mountain States Wee Kirk, Aurora, Colo.
- 10-11 – Synod meeting, Denver
- 16 – Budget & Finance, 9 am, Presbytery office
- 23 – Mission & Interpretation, 11 am, Westminster (tentative)
- 27 – Pentecost Sunday
- 28 – Memorial Day, Presbytery office closed

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### If you're in the market for...

...a steam table, Mountain View Presbyterian Church has one for you. Make an offer: call the church at (719)632-9664 or Sue Williams at (719) 392-3948.

...the group study book, "Missional Church" by Darrell L. Guder, the Presbytery office has 5 copies available at \$16.00 each. Call (719) 542-1013 or (800) 662-1013, or email Janet at [pueblpby@qwest.net](mailto:pueblpby@qwest.net).

...Equal Exchange coffee, tea and cocoa, contact the Presbytery office.

...2007-2008 Presbyterian Planning Calendars, the Presbytery office will be placing a bulk order on May 5. Excellent resources for the church office, session members, or home use, the calendars cost only \$6.60 each (prepaid, please). Send a check for the appropriate number ordered, with "Planning Calendars" on the memo line and payable to Pueblo Presbytery, at 803 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Ste. H, Pueblo, CO 81003.