

# TRANSITIONS & CONCERNS

## ▪ *Please remember in your prayers:*

- The family of the Rev. Dale Ammon, who passed away February 27;
- Laura Munroe (wife of Rev. Brad Munroe, First, Pueblo) and family on the loss of her mother;
- CLP Terry Buckman (Moderator of Presbytery) and family on the loss of his father;
- The Rev. John Goodale (First, Colo. Springs) and family on the loss of his father;
- Those recovering from or under treatment for health concerns: The Rev. Eric Griffis; the Rev. Fred Walz; Elder Duane Gould; Susan Parsons (wife of the Rev. Paul Parsons, First, Colo. Springs); the father of the Rev. Cathy Eskew (Covenant, Colo. Springs); and the brother of CLP Jim Boyd (San Pablo).

## ▪ *Welcome:*

- **The Rev. Dr. Medardo Teddy Chuquimia**, his wife, **Azucena**, and their two children. Teddy began serving as Organizing Pastor of the Pueblo Hispanic New Church Development in March.
  - **The Rev. Sylvia Edwards** (HR), former member, who transferred back from Plains & Peaks Presbytery.
- Remember to use the Presbytery's Weekly Prayer Calendar in your prayers. Requests for May - July, 2010 are:
- May 2 – First Presbyterian Church, Salida
  - May 9 – Mountain States Wee Kirk Conference
  - May 16 – United Presbyterian Church, Canon City
  - May 23 – Covenant Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs
  - May 30 – CEPAD, our mission partner in Nicaragua
  - June 6 – Northern Churches Care, Colorado Springs
  - June 13 – La Puente Home, Alamosa
  - June 20 – Presbytery's Budget & Finance Committee
  - June 27 – General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
  - July 4 – United Presbyterian Church, Trinidad
  - July 11 – First Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs
  - July 18 – Presbytery's Committee on Ministry
  - July 25 – First Presbyterian Church, Lamar

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

***Don't forget...*** Place your Cokesbury orders through the Presbytery's website! Our Virtual Bookstore offers everything Cokesbury sells, and when you buy your books and supplies through our site (at no additional cost to you), *the Presbytery benefits!*

Simply go to [www.pueblpresbytery.org](http://www.pueblpresbytery.org) and click on the Virtual Bookstore link on the right side of the page, then purchase your items as you normally would, using your regular account number. Try it out!

# Presbyterian Connections

A Newsletter of the Presbytery of Pueblo

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Second Quarter, 2010



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.



## Growing Healthy Churches and Pastors

We're off to a great start this year with our "Growing Healthy Pastors" groups in each of the four church cluster areas. There are a total of 24 pastors involved in this new initiative of Growing Healthy Churches. These ecumenical pastor groups meet monthly for study, prayer, case study presentations, and strategic planning. We are looking forward to hearing from Dr. Diana Butler Bass, author of the best selling *Christianity for the Rest of Us*, this coming Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. We are pleased to see that 8 of our 26 churches increased in average worship attendance in 2009 compared to 2008, ranging from 2% growth at Covenant Presbyterian to 50% growth at San Pablo! In this first quarter of 2010, 4 of our original 8 Growing Healthy Churches are maintaining or showing increases over 2009 worship averages: 10%-32%. We ask for your continued prayers for the churches without permanent pastoral services: Alamosa; Antonito; Del Norte; La Jara; Monument; and Trinidad. We have been invited to present our GHC Project to Wyoming Presbytery at their meeting May 7-8. Thank you, bold presbyters, for your faithful prayers and financial support of our presbytery's primary mission!

Peace & Joy,  
Gary Weaver

## News from the Stated Clerk Elder Pricilla Hill

GREAT JOB to all our **Clerks of Session** for completing the General Assembly Annual Statistical Report. ALL 26 of our churches responded. Current membership of our churches is 7,485.

Just a reminder to clerks of session: Please send a copy of your church by-laws and proof of insurance to me. I would like to have current information for church files in the presbytery office.

Sexual Misconduct training materials: Please be sure to sign the **Acknowledgement Form** and return to me. Well Done to Rocky Ford and Monte Vista – their sessions watched the entire DVD! I sincerely encourage pastors to share this DVD with staff and session. Tracks 1, 2, 3 and 7 will be especially helpful to your session. We have plenty of extra packets of the Trainee Workbooks and Volunteer Screening Forms. Don't forget to share the DVD with your CLP's, as they are required to view as well. Vacation Bible School is coming up, so incorporate this training with preparing your volunteers to teach.

Our next presbytery meeting will be on Wednesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at Mountain View. Ministers, thank you for notifying us if you will be absent.

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### Presbytery Meeting Highlights

Here are some highlights from the Stated Meeting of February 10, 2010 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Pueblo:

- Rev. JoAnn Brechbill was elected as Moderator-Elect for 2010;
- Rick Young reported on changes at the Board of Pensions and was available to answer members' questions;
- Ministry Candidate Kenny Shaw was examined and approved for ordination by the Presbytery;
- The Administrative Commission to dissolve the Ivywild congregation reported on the upcoming sale of the property and the arrangements for the Korean United congregation to remain in the building;
- The remaining Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegate for General Assembly (Minneapolis, July 3-10) were elected;
- The Honorable Retirements of the Rev. Dr. Humberto Castro and the Rev. William Clarke were celebrated with a service of worship.

## Camps & Retreats

**Summer Camp is filling up!** Registration is expected to close no later than the end of April, so get your campers (completed 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades) signed up right away. Your church should have all the necessary forms, or they can be downloaded at <http://pueblopresbytery.org/camps.htm>.

The **High School Retreat** will be November 12-14, 2010 at Horn Creek Ranch. The cost will be \$65/person, and registration forms will be sent to churches the first week of August.

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### Presbytery Calendar

(subject to changes/additions)

#### **April, 2010:**

- 16 – Retired Pastors, Spouses & Survivors (“Rocks of Age”) luncheon, noon, Faith Presbyterian Church, Colo. Springs
- 17 – Growing Healthy Churches Leadership Event: Dr. Diana Butler Bass, “Transforming Congregations for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” 9 a.m. First Presbyterian Church, Colo. Springs
- 21 – First Budget Consultation, 9 a.m., Presbytery office
- 24 – Commissioned Lay Pastor training, 9 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Pueblo
- 28-30 – Presbytery office closed

#### **May, 2010:**

- 6 – Growing Healthy Pastors, Pueblo Cluster, Presbytery office, 9 a.m.
- 11-13 – Mountain States Wee Kirk Conference, Glorieta, NM
- 26 – Committee on Ministry, First/Pueblo, 11 a.m.
- 27 – 2nd Budget Consultation, Presbytery office, 9 a.m.
- 31 – Memorial Day: Presbytery office closed

#### **June, 2010:**

- 12 - Commissioned Lay Pastor Training, First/Pueblo, 9 a.m.
- 14-19 - **Summer Camp, Westcliffe, Colo.**
- 16 - Coordinating Council, First/Pueblo, 11 a.m.
- 24 - Growing Healthy Pastors, Pueblo Cluster, Presbytery office, 9 a.m.

#### **July, 2010:**

- 3-10 – General Assembly, Minneapolis, MN
- 13 – Committee on Preparation for Ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Pueblo
- 14 – Presbytery meeting, Mountain View Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs