

TRANSITIONS & CONCERNS

▪ *Please remember in your prayers:*

- The Rev. Cathy Eskew (Assoc. pastor, Covenant) and her family, upon the death of her father on April 12;
- The Rev. Sara Singleton (Assoc. pastor, First, Colo. Springs) and her family upon the death of her father on April 28;
- Former minister member Pat Pabst and her family upon the death of her husband, Bill. Memorial services were held in Del Norte and Texas on May 10;
- Mrs. Ardis Lockyer, upon the death of her husband, the Rev. Herbert Lockyer (H.R.) on June 7;
- Mrs. Phyllis Gould and her family upon the death of her husband, E Duane Gould on June 16. His memorial service was held at First, Pueblo on June 21;
- Mrs. Anne Walz upon the death of her husband, the Rev. Fred Walz (H.R.). His memorial service was held July 24 at Rye United Methodist Church.

▪ **Transitions:**

- Randy Wilcher (Presbytery Treasurer) accepted a call as an Organizing Pastor, and transferred his membership to Mid-Kentucky Presbytery.
- Remember to use the Presbytery's Weekly Prayer Calendar in your prayers. Requests for August - October, 2010 are:
 - Aug. 1 – Sangre de Cristo Hospice, Arkansas Valley
 - Aug. 8 – Gateway Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs
 - Aug. 15 – Westside Cares, Colorado Springs
 - Aug. 22 – Church in Society Task Force
 - Aug. 29 – Pioneer United Church, Del Norte
 - Sept. 5 – First Presbyterian Church, Pueblo
 - Sept. 12 – Presbytery's Coordinating Council
 - Sept. 19 – Korean United Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs
 - Sept. 26 – Presbytery's Nominating Committee
 - Oct. 3 – Synod of the Rocky Mountains
 - Oct. 10 – Grace Community Church, Falcon
 - Oct. 17 – Presbytery's Committee on Representation
 - Oct. 24 – Mountain View Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs
 - Oct. 31 – Westminster Presbyterian Church, Pueblo

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

MISSION STATEMENT



**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.



Presbyterian Connections

A Newsletter of the Presbytery of Pueblo

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What's the Future for the Presbytery of Pueblo?

This is the question on the mind of many presbyters throughout the country as church memberships have declined and mission support has shrunk. The 219th General Assembly (G.A.) took action to provide a means by which presbyteries and synods could restructure, merge or dissolve in-between this year's General Assembly and the next one two years down the road. This Assembly created a "Middle Governing Body Commission" with the power to act as the General Assembly, upon request of presbyteries and synods, to "organize new synods and to divide, unite, or otherwise combine synods or portions of synods...and to approve the organization, division, uniting or combining of presbyteries or portions of presbyteries by synods."

Our current presbytery mission budget is funded in part (8%) by a Mission Partnership Grant from G.A. and the Synod of the Rocky Mountains which this year is \$40,000. But the source of this grant will terminate at the end of 2013. Preparing for this reality, our presbytery is planning to decrease our grant expectation by \$10,000 the next three years and learn to live on monies we generate from our own 26 churches in our presbytery. We realize we will also need to make significant cuts in our total budget so we need to look at staffing, program, ministry and mission costs as we seek to discern God's calling for the next 5-10 years. Toward that end, the Presbytery of Pueblo established a "Future Presbytery Task Force" to consider various models of a faithful and sustainable future for the presbytery. Members of this task force who were commissioned at the July 14th presbytery meeting are:

C.L.P. Ron Anderson, Pueblo First
C.L.P. Terry Buckman, Gateway
Elder Jean Ferrin, Mountain View
Rev. JoAnn Brechbill, Honorably Retired & Moderator-elect
Rev. Gwen Brown, Penrose
Rev. Henry Hanna, Del Norte
Rev. Dr. M. J. Romano, La Junta
Rev. Dr. Jim Singleton, First, Colorado Springs

They will be inviting your comments, ideas, vision, and perspectives on our future together and be making a report and recommendations next year. Please hold them in your prayers during this important time of self-assessment for the presbytery.

Peace & Joy,
Gary Weaver
Executive Presbyter

News from the Stated Clerk Elder Pricilla Hill

Update regarding our Annual Fall Presbytery Meeting:

Our Presbytery meeting will be **Friday, October 1 and Saturday, October 2**, but the location has changed. **We will be meeting at Pueblo West Ecumenical Church** instead of Mt. St. Francis Retreat Center. Friday dinner will be catered and a continental breakfast will be served Saturday morning. During the first week of September, watch for your dinner registration form and a list of available hotels near the church with room rates. The only cost to commissioners will be for dinner and hotel, if necessary.

Thank you to all the clerks of session who sent me a copy of their church by-laws and insurance policy.

Help Wanted: Position available for someone who enjoys reading, likes organizing and keeping records. (Occasionally dusting shelves would be great too). Janet and I would really appreciate help in keeping up with the *Presbytery Resource Center*. We have a great collection of materials and get new books regularly. We could use help about 3-4 times a year to come in and put away returned items, catalogue and shelve the new materials and just keep everything straightened up. Please contact either one of us to let us know when you can come. We promise the pay will be delicious!

Here are a few of the newest additions to the resource center:

- Shaped By God's Heart: The Passions and Practices of Missional Churches, by Milfred Minatrea
- Fasting – Spiritual Freedom Beyond our Appetites, by Lynne M. Baab
- Preaching the Atonement, by Peter K. Stevenson and Stephen I. Wright
- Introducing Christianity – Exploring the Bible, Faith and Life, by James C. Howell
- 50 Ways to Help Save the Earth, by Rebecca Barnes-Davies

Presbytery Calendar

(subject to changes/additions)

August, 2010:

6 – **Growing Healthy Pastors**, Pueblo Cluster, Presbytery office, 9 a.m.

September, 2010:

1 – **Coordinating Council**, First/Pueblo, 11 a.m.

6 – Labor Day: Presbytery office closed

8 – **Nominating Committee**, Presbytery office, 10 a.m.

14 – **Mission Event with Hunter Farrell**: 4 different sessions; your church office/mission contact person will have information on this event.

18 – **CLP Training Event**, First/Pueblo, 9 a.m.

22 – **Committee on Ministry**, First/Pueblo, 11 a.m.

23 – **Growing Healthy Pastors**, Pueblo Cluster, Presbytery office, 9 a.m.

October, 2010:

1 – **Preparation for Ministry**, Pueblo West Ecumenical Church, 9:30 a.m.

1-2 – **Presbytery meeting**, Pueblo West Ecumenical Church

6-8 – **Western National Leadership Training**, Jackson, WY.

Scholarships are still available! Contact Janet at the presbytery.

Summer Camp 2010

The Pueblo Presbytery held its 27th Annual Youth Summer Camp the week of June 14-19, 2010 at Horn Creek Ranch in Westcliffe, Colorado. The theme for the week was “Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly” and there were 150 campers and staff in attendance. We had fun studying Micah 6:8 and pretending to be superheroes!

A big, big thank you to all of the adult volunteers and high school interns who make the camp program run so smoothly and who pour their love of God into the campers! The camp could not succeed without your willingness to share your gifts and your love for kids.

Already looking forward to next summer? Summer Camp 2011 will be held at Horn Creek Ranch in Westcliffe, Colorado the week of June 13-18, 2011. Camp registration will open March 1, 2011.

HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT

HORN CREEK LODGE

WESTCLIFFE, CO

NOVEMBER 12-14, 2010

Cost: \$65 per person

Registration Deadline: October 29

Registration fee is fully refundable until this date

Retreat begins at 7:30pm Friday & ends at 1:00pm Sunday

Registration forms are available from your church, the presbytery office, or online at www.pueblopresbytery.org/camps.htm

Presbytery Meeting Highlights

Here are some highlights from the Stated Meeting of July 14, 2010 at Mountain View Presbyterian Church in Colorado Springs:

- Presbytery approved establishing the “**Duane Gould Memorial Fund**” in memory of our Stated Clerk for over 19 years. Contributions can be sent to the presbytery office, payable to “Pueblo Presbytery,” with “Duane Gould Memorial” on the memo line.
- Eight churches were celebrated for **increased worship attendance** during 2009: **Covenant; Gateway; Grace Community; First, Las Animas; First, Pueblo; Del Norte; Salida; San Pablo.**
- Seminary students **Collin Downing** (First, Colo. Springs) and **Andrew Turner** (Covenant) were **moved** from Inquirer status **to Candidacy.**
- The 2011 Mission **Budget** of \$470,226 was **approved.**
- Elder Nancy Maffett was commissioned to First Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs as a Commissioned Lay Pastor, and Elder Melinda Orendorff was commissioned to Kirkwood Memorial Presbyterian Church, Penrose as a Commissioned Lay Pastor.