



# Presbytery of Ohio Valley

## News and Announcements

Faith, Hope & Love made real in lives and churches

February/March 2009

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### News to Celebrate!



Installation for Rev. Wesley Kendall was held at Greencastle Presbyterian on 2/8/09.

St. John Presbyterian in New Albany installed Rev. Allen Colwell on 3/1/09.

The birth of Zoe Ann, daughter of Elisa Owen (pastor of the Madison church) and her husband Jamie Peterworth. Zoe was born on January 22, 2009 at 9:02 PM. She weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz, was 20.5 in. long, and is just beautiful!

### Changes on the POV website - [www.povpc.org](http://www.povpc.org)

- Google Maps now show the locations of our churches!
- We are updating the site to make information easier to find and access, as well as revamping the general look!
- Links in the newsletter connect to more info on the site!

## Volunteers Needed for Rebuilding Aftermath of the 2008 Flooding

From Jo Lucas, Mission Partnerships

Consider volunteering to help the long-term recovery needs following the June 2008 flooding in the northern part of the presbytery.

Yes, there is still great need for volunteers to help in recovery efforts following the largest disaster in Indiana history. In Bartholomew County alone, 2500 families were affected. Much of the clean-up work has been completed, now there is need for both skilled and unskilled labor, especially in the spring when rebuilds will be happening. You or your group can offer what works for you and the sight you choose to work. Some examples could include; four Saturday's in April, forty hours during March or four hours for fourteen

days. Make up your own commitment and connect with the work site closest to you.

Long-Term Recovery Committees are active in four affected areas: Wabash Valley Long-Term Disaster Recovery Coalition (Terre Haute area), Morgan County Long-Term Recovery Committee (Martinsville area), Bartholomew County Long-Term Recovery Committee (Columbus area) and Rebuild Owen County Committee (Spencer area). Mission & Social Justice member Shane O'Neill confirmed the current springtime needs with these four people. Each of the areas would welcome your call.

To volunteer either as an individual or as a team, or for further information, please contact one of the following:

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Wabash Valley LTDR: Honnalora Hubbard, 812-234-7100.

Morgan County LTRC: Darren Coppock, 317-372-4692 or djcoppock@live.com.

Bartholomew County LTRC: Angie Huebel, 812-314-2344.

Rebuild Owen County Committee: Annie Bright, 812-829-2910 or anniebright@att.net

Financial donations are a continual need. Donations for that purpose, designated "flood relief fund", can be sent to the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, 1319 W. Bloomfield Rd., Bloomington, Indiana, 47403. The presbytery has challenged congregations in the presbytery to contribute \$25 per member. The presbytery, individuals and congregations have given well over \$125,000.00 to flood recovery efforts. This spring, volunteer to assist those whose lives were turned upside down in the flooding of June 2008.

## Olivet Update

February 25, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I would like to update the status of the civil action the Presbytery of Ohio Valley (POV) has undertaken to discern the proper ownership of property held in trust for the PC (USA). As many of you are aware every attempt at mediation with Olivet Presbyterian Church ended with impasse. Thus, the Presbytery appointed task force has asked the court to make a summary judgment based on information provided by both the POV and Olivet to avoid a protracted, public, and potentially divisive trial.

Through our counsel, the POV will be reporting to the court on March 11 regarding the stipulated record. Following this meeting, there will be a briefing schedule which may extend for 60 days or longer. It is our hope that this case will be fully briefed during this timeframe to allow the Judge to hand down a ruling sometime in June and once-and-for-all determine the validity of the Trust clause for the PC(USA) in this Presbytery and in the state of Indiana.

If the court rules in favor of the POV, the task force will sit down with the good people of

Olivet and attempt to mediate a settlement that allows each organization to move forward with their ministries. Any proposed agreement will then be presented at an assembly of the POV for discussion, amendment, and approval. The Task Force continues to solicit your prayers for all the parties in this matter as we seek a way forward to settle the Trust clause issue and concentrate more fully on accomplishing the Great Ends of the Church in our corner of the world.

On behalf of the Olivet Task Force,  
Rev. Dr. Robert M. (Rob) Allen



## 40 Hour Fasts

Last summer the General Assembly invited all Presbyterians to join in the spiritual practice of monthly 40-hour fasts that include discernment and reflection, as a way of responding to the Global Food Crisis. The hope is that the practice will lead to meaningful and coordinated actions to accompany those who are poor and hungry around the world.

Each month the fast centers around a particular country and a specific cause that has contributed to the global food crisis. The fasts typically take place on the first weekend of every month, beginning on Friday evening and ending with Communion or a communal meal on Sunday.

It's a powerful way to be in community and contemplate how your life and the life of your community can respond to this devastating situation. [You can listen to an interview](#) with participant Carol Frame Matthews about the Global Food Crisis, courtesy of WFPL radio, Louisville, Kentucky, sign up to participate, locate the fasting materials and more information on this crisis at [www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis](http://www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis).

## PYOCA goes Toll-Free!

Pyoca has upgraded to phone over internet and now is able to offer toll free incoming phone and faxes. The toll free number for phone is still 866-251-2267. Our new fax phone number is 1-800-391-5750. We can still accept calls on our previous phone number at 812-358-3413.

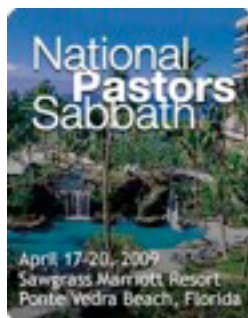
Rich Swartwood  
Executive Director - Pyoca Camp,  
Conference and Retreat Center



Each cluster will be sending 2-3 members to the Presbyterian super-conference "The Big Tent," June 10-13 in Atlanta. Instead of ten separate conferences, the national elders', peacemaking, evangelism, stewardship, and more conferences will take place at one time and place with spectacular worship and other joint events. Participants can register for one conference (or no conference at all) but still move between events in other

conferences, sharing the excitement. With just one trip we can be fed by the variety of ministries of the church while engaging in our own particular passions and calls. Think of it as an all you can eat buffet. A full listing of workshops and conference activities can be found at [www.pcusa.org/bigtent](http://www.pcusa.org/bigtent).

Speak to Scott Hill (812-738-3929) or Liz Owen (812-801-1606) if interested.



For more info about the National Pastors Sabbath and to register: go to [www.pcusa.org/pastorsabbath](http://www.pcusa.org/pastorsabbath).

## Camp PYOCA News

### Calling all volunteers!!!

Pyoca is looking for volunteers to help with finishing the yurt cabin, doing landscaping, and getting the grounds ready for summer camp. We are also accepting volunteers for summer camp -- so if you or someone you know would like to come to Pyoca for a week in the summer please check out our website and fill out a volunteer form. Any help you can give is always appreciated! THANK YOU!

### Summer Camp

We are now taking registrations for summer camp. Certain camps fill up fast so make sure you get your kids registrations in as soon as possible. Also, we gave out all the promotional packets at the December Presbytery meeting. If you did not get yours or if you misplaced it PLEASE let Sean know as soon as you can! Weekly bulletin blurbs begin March 1st -- you can cut and paste

them directly from our CD or you can visit our website to download the document there.

### Scholarships

As always Pyoca does offer scholarships to campers who might need them. This last year has been a hard year for lots of people and our assumption is that more campers will need assistance than ever before. Last year we gave our almost \$5000 in scholarships. Any help that your congregation can give us would be greatly appreciated!

### Retreat opportunities

Are you planning a session retreat, do you have women's retreat, men's retreats, or youth gatherings to plan? Then Pyoca is the place for you! We still have plenty of space this spring and fall for retreats of any size. Call Sean at 866-251-2267 or e-mail him at [sean@pyoca.org](mailto:sean@pyoca.org) to reserve your spot.

See what's going on at Pyoca and how you can be a part of our mission at [www.pyoca.org](http://www.pyoca.org)

## Columbia University Program for Pastors: S3 Project

Decatur, GA— The Lilly Endowment, Inc., has awarded Columbia Theological Seminary a five-year grant of \$648,863 to support continuation of the seminary's S3 Project, "Cultivation of Pastoral Excellence through Sabbath, Study, and Service."

Now in its seventh year, S3 offers small, self-selected groups of pastors the opportunity to design and participate in group learning projects that strengthen their practice of ministry. Groups are selected annually by application and receive some financial support for their projects. Participating groups also attend two retreats on the Columbia campus: one for orientation and a follow-up during which groups report and reflect on individual project outcomes. **S3 applications for new group projects will be available at [www.ctsnet.edu](http://www.ctsnet.edu) in April.**

## Welcome to the Bulletin Board!

Follow the links to sign up for the posted events.

### YAM-JAM: May 27-30th 2009

Would you like to offer an effective young adult ministry? Get Presby YAM-JAM on your calendar. Register now. Get inspired and jam!

Online registration:  
[www.pachem.org](http://www.pachem.org)

### Internet Strategies for Your Congregation

This is a one-day seminar offered by the Center for Congregations that explores the role of internet technology for the local congregation. Thursday, March 19th in Fort Wayne Friday, March 20th in Indianapolis Click [here](#) for registration info.

### Confirmation Retreat: PYOCA March 13-15, 2009

This event is great for any size confirmation group and is designed to be a lead in or a great capstone to your class. Information and registration forms are available on our website. e-mail [program@pyoca.org](mailto:program@pyoca.org) or call us at 866-251-2267

### Interim Pastor Training May 4-8, 2009

#### SCHEDULE

Monday 11 a.m. to Friday 11:30 a.m.

#### REGISTRATION DEADLINES:

Residency Week I - April 17th

Residency Week II - April 3rd

To register and for fee information, go to the [Synod of Lincoln Trails](http://www.SynodofLincolnTrails.org) website.

### Local Church History Seminar

The Presbyterian Historical Society is pleased to announce the dates for the annual Local Church History Seminar. From April 30 through May 3, 2009. For additional information about the seminar, scholarships, housing, and for a seminar registration form, visit the society's website [here](#).

### Concert at Hanover:

#### Aaron Shust

Thursday, March 26 | 7:30 PM  
Parker Auditorium

Presented by Mainsource Bank  
SINGLE TICKETS - [Tickets on Sale Now!](#)

### Unbinding the Gospel

Do you need resources for the Unbinding the Gospel program?

Information, video clips and a free online discussion community are available at [www.GraceNet.info](http://www.GraceNet.info).

### Retreat Opportunities:

Interested in attending a retreat? Take a look at [PYOCA's](#) calendar. Want to travel outside of Indiana? Try looking through the list of upcoming events happening at [Montreat Conference Center](#) in North Carolina, or at [Casa Del Sol](#) in New Mexico.

## Classifieds

*If your church has a need, or has something that is no longer needed, but could still be used elsewhere, let us know!*

### Office Equipment for Free

- ▶ Risograph 5900 color copier, fully functional. Please call the Bloomington United church office at (812) 332-1850.
- ▶ The POV office has a MBM Collator 10 to give away. If interested, please call (812) 334-1152.

### Hymnals Need a Home

The Eastminster church in Evansville, In has about 150 copies of "The Presbyterian Hymnal" (blue cover) that they no longer need. If your church could use any (or all!) of them, please contact them at [epc@epcevv.com](mailto:epc@epcevv.com) or by calling 812-476-3355.

### Blank Bulletins Available

Also from Eastminster (Evansville): Blank Bulletin covers, legal size with no date or church name. Artwork is already on them. There are enough of them that you could print 75-100/wk for a year. If interested, please contact them at [epc@epcevv.com](mailto:epc@epcevv.com) or by calling 812-476-3355.

### Items needed for the God's Grace Store

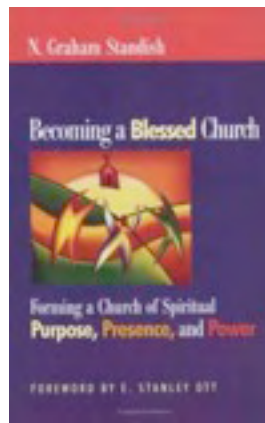
The "free store" begun by the Brown County Presbyterian Fellowship to meet the needs of flood victims and other needy families in the area is always in need of items. Contact Mary Kilgore at [bcpresby@gmail.com](mailto:bcpresby@gmail.com) to arrange donations.

## Spotlight in the Resource Center



Building Your Church on Faith and Knowledge

Fredric M. Roberts



The Resource Center catalogue can be viewed online from the POV website at [www.povpc.org](http://www.povpc.org). If you are interested in borrowing these or other resources, please contact Rhonda Seymour at [secy@povpc.org](mailto:secy@povpc.org). Items are generally loaned out for a period of one month; renewals may be arranged.

In this in-depth study of eight diverse mainline Protestant congregations, anthropologist Fredric Roberts finds that when local congregations are evaluated by spiritual and religious standards instead of corporate- or pop-culture-based values there remains much to celebrate. Roberts recommends that congregations work to discover their own uniqueness and to build upon the strength that already exist among its own members. *Be Not Afraid!* is a guide to help congregations rediscover their true calling to be nurturing faith communities, committed to spreading the good news and making disciples.

Pastor and author N. Graham Standish describes how a church that is open to God's purpose, presence, and power can claim God's blessing. Standish shares the story of Calvin Presbyterian Church in Zelienople, Pennsylvania, and its journey to become a spiritually deep congregation, one that is inwardly and outwardly healthy: spiritually, psychologically, physically, and relationally. *Becoming a Blessed Church* will help you discern God's purpose and the path God is calling your congregation to walk. This book will help you find Christ in your midst and become aware of the many ways the blessings of God's Spirit flow through your congregation.

## Upcoming Dates

*Add these to your calendar!*



### POV Office Hours - March

9:00am-2:00pm M-Th

### 2009 Assembly Dates

**June 20**

Community Presbyterian  
Charlestown, IN

**October 8**

Camp PYOCA  
Brownstown, IN

**December 3**

Electronic Meeting  
(tentative)

### Mission Partnership 2009

10am-12pm at Mitchell

April 14

August 11

October 13

### Clergy Brown-Bag Lunch

March 5, starting at Noon  
St. John, New Albany

April 1, starting at Noon

First Presbyterian, Nabb

## Presbytery Staff

**Rev. Lorna Kuyk** — Executive Presbyter  
**Rev. Lawrence Jackman** — Stated Clerk  
**M. Jean Brown** — Treasurer  
**Rev. Peggy Casteel** — Moderator  
**Karen Goodwell** — Vice-Moderator

**Rhonda Seymour** — AA Office Support  
**Stephanie Worden** — AA IT Support

## Contact Information

Call the presbytery office at 812.334.1152  
or, send mail to:

**Presbytery of Ohio Valley**  
**1319 W. Bloomfield Rd.**  
**Bloomington, IN 47408**

**Fax: 812.334.1630**

**Email: [info@povpc.org](mailto:info@povpc.org)**

**WebSite: <http://www.povpc.org>**

If you have an article, announcement or other news that you would like to submit, please send text and/or pictures to the POV office at [info@povpc.org](mailto:info@povpc.org). All submissions must be received by the 10th of the month in order to be included in the current month's issue of the News.