



MEMORIAL

Latest News

The Urban Mission item of the month for July is Pasta. Please place your donation in the box by the church information table.

Usually we do not have an issue of the Messenger for July but we decided to this year and it may be a little different than usual.

Other News

The Norman Chapter of Parents Helping Parents will meet on Thursday, July 14 at 7:00 PM at the Education Center at Norman Regional Hospital, located at 901 North Porter in Norman.

Lingering stigma stands in the way of families accessing resources when a loved one struggles with a substance use disorder. Guest speaker Lacey Callahan, Director of Marketing at New Hope Recovery Center, will discuss tools and techniques for rising above stigma to find help.

Parents Helping Parents is a network of parents/grandparents/caregivers concerned about substance use

disorders in their children (both adolescents and adults). The group offers hope through shared experience, resources, and education. They promote prevention and intervention, collaborative efforts and increased access to information/services, and provide support.

For more information, call 278-1221 or go to the website: www.ParentsHelpingParents.info.

Please be in prayer for our youth who are going to Dwight Mission in eastern Oklahoma on Sunday, July 10. Ashu Abunaw, Jim Annoh, Kaylee Eyabi, and Lyne Sama will be at Jr. High Camp while Sumi Abunaw, Stephen Eyabi, Abigail Jangha, and Blessing Sama will be attending Elementary Camp. They are all experienced Dwight campers and are looking forward to their week in this place filled with nature, relationships with God, staff and campers, and activities galore!

Please pray for Gysheila Jangha and MarioLise Sama who will be leaving on July 18 for Presbyterian Youth Triennium at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. They will be there with thousands of youth from all over the country and beyond. We look forward to hearing about their experiences of fellowship, activities, worship and fun!

Your gifts to the Camp and Conference Fund, and contributing to the fund-raisers we carry out make this possible. You are welcome to make a donation at any time for this year and for coming years!

The Presbyterian OUTLOOK

GOD IS TURNING THE WORLD:

THE 222ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH (U.S.A.) » Portland, Oregon » June 18-25, 2016

BY LESLIE SCANLON, *Outlook* national reporter

Commissioners to the 2016 General Assembly sang “The Cantic of Turning” more than once while gathered in Portland to elect new leadership and consider business ranging from climate change to church confessions. They sang, “Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.”

After the assembly took several historic actions — choosing female co-moderators; adding the Confession of Belhar from South Africa to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Book of Confessions; and electing the PC(USA)’s first African-American stated clerk — this felt to many like a time of turning for the church.

Themes of reconciliation and justice — particularly racial justice — were woven through the week. Plenary sessions began with personal testimonies — for example, Therese Taylor-Stinson, moderator of National Capital Presbytery, describing her rise in leadership in her church and then hearing someone say: “The little colored girl is in charge today.” Participants recited together almost as a litany sections from the Belhar confession, affirming the biblical mandate of unity won for us in Jesus Christ.

As the country struggled again in the wake of the violent massacre in Orlando, as floods devastated parts of the country, and as the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union, Presbyterians sang, “This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.” Prayerfully, the actions of the 222nd General Assembly are part of that transformation.

Some highlights of the assembly:

BELHAR. It took the PC(USA) two tries and more than six years to adopt Belhar — which was written in the heart of South Africa’s struggle against apartheid. It becomes the first PC(USA) confession from the global south. Godfrey Betha, vice moderator of the Uniting Reformed Church of Southern Africa, told the assembly: “Your decision affirms you say to your children, you say to all, ‘When you come to us looking for a glimmer of racism, don’t come to our church.’”

NEW AND DIVERSE LEADERSHIP. This assembly marked an historic change in leadership. On June 24, the assembly elected J. Herbert Nelson II, a third-generation Presbyterian pastor and the director of the denomination’s Office

of Public Witness, to a four-year term as stated clerk, replacing Gradye Parsons, who is retiring.

Nelson becomes the PC(USA)’s first African-American stated clerk. The assembly also made history in choosing T. Denise Anderson and Jan Edmiston, both teaching elders, as its co-moderators. It’s the first time an assembly has elected co-moderators (rather than a moderator and vice moderator) and the first all-female moderatorial team; Anderson — who is African-American — is, at 37, the youngest moderator ever elected.

2020 VISION TEAM. Responding to an idea from its The Way Forward committee, the assembly voted to create a 15-person “2020 Vision Team” to set a new vision for the denomination by 2020. The vision team will draft a guiding statement to “help us to name and claim our denominational identity as we seek to follow the Spirit into the future.”

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION. Responding in part to concerns raised by review committees for the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Office of the General Assembly, the assembly voted to create a 12-member administrative commission with the power to determine the structure and function of General Assembly agencies.

MIDDLE EAST. The assembly adopted an amended version of a report called “For Human Values in the Absence of a Just Peace” — which addresses Israel’s violations of Palestinians’ human rights. The assembly also reaffirmed the PC(USA)’s long-standing call for a two-state solution in Israel-Palestine.

FOSSIL FUELS. Choosing an approach some described as a “middle way,” the assembly voted 391-161 to pursue a process of trying to influence energy companies through stockholder engagement rather than divesting comprehensively from fossil fuel companies. Some commissioners contended Presbyterians have a moral obligation to act swiftly and boldly to reduce their carbon footprint.

APOLOGY. By a vote of 463-51, the assembly stopped short of issuing an outright apology to people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, queer or questioning — but voiced the church’s deep “regret that, due to human failings, any person might find cause to doubt being loved by God” and the denomination’s “deep sorrow” over members and congregations who have left over disagreements regarding sexual orientation.

HOPE. The new leaders both challenged the PC(USA) to become more diverse and engaged with a hurting world, and sounded a theological vision of hope. Edmiston called on Presbyterians to “look at what breaks God’s heart in your neighborhood,” and then to act.

“We are not dead. We are alive,” Nelson said of the PC(USA). Led by God, “we are transforming the world, one person at a time.” ☉

Visit pres-outlook.org for more.

July Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: Larry Upton

July 3

Ushers: Doris Hinson and Lucy Lanning
Communion Servers: Melissa Gill and Donna Vint
Coffee: Trudy & Ann
Sound Booth: Dave Iske
Acolyte Assistant: Trudy Beard
Nursery Assistant: Susan Beck
Lock-up: Jessica Farris

July 10

Ushers: Paul and Erica Phelps
Coffee: Jim & Lisa
Sound Booth: Will Farris
Acolyte Assistant: Karen Girdner
Nursery Assistant: Trudy Beard/Karen Girdner
Lock-up: Jim Rodriguez

July 17

Ushers: Eileen Burke and Loreen Upton
Coffee: Linda & Donna
Sound Booth: Mike Cole
Acolyte Assistant: Jona Thiessen
Nursery Assistant: Donna Vint
Lock-up: Loreen Upton

July 24

Ushers: Charlotte Lovett and Lucy Lanning
Coffee: Loreen & Doris
Sound Booth: Mike Girdner
Acolyte Assistant: Lisa Upton
Nursery Assistant: Linda Eckel
Lock-up: Trudy Beard

July 31

Ushers: Holly Van Auken and Michael Yeager
Coffee: Joan & Jona
Sound Booth: Tim Thiessen
Acolyte Assistant: Joan Cole
Nursery Assistant: Karen Upton
Lock-up: Mike & Joan Cole

Parable of the Good Samaritan

" 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' " Luke 10:27

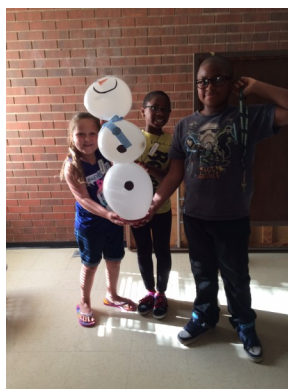
Based on Luke 10:25-37



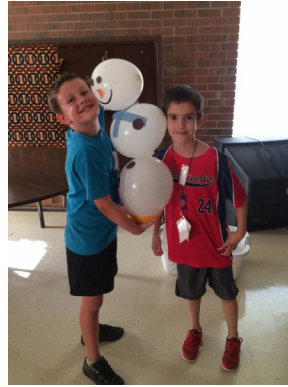
L A W T N I B Y M E R C Y S A
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JESUS	JERUSALEM	PRIEST	BEAT	CLOTHES
EXPERT	STRIPPED	HEART	PITY	ETERNAL
LEVITE	LIFE	ROBBERS	SAMARITAN	TEST
LAW	INHERIT	SOUL	MIND	DEAD
MERCY	JERICO	LOVE	STRENGTH	NEIGHBOR

VBS 2016



VBS 2016



June Fun



Known Joys and Concerns

Those who seek healing

Gene Bergstresser
 Lola Carroll
 Sandy Clarke
 Paula Coffman
 Janice Crump
 Dave Iske
 Jayelle Martin
 Devyn Upton
 Jim & Linda Eckel
 Rhonda Beard (Daughter-in-law of Mike
 & Trudy Beard)

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

Family of Irene Van Easton
 Lucy Lanning's grandmother
 Family of Ruby Marsh

In an effort to stay apprised of our on-going prayer concerns, prayer requests of those outside the MPC family will stay on the concerns list for one month. Please let the office know if there is a need to be listed longer.

To receive prayer requests by email,
 please contact Jona Thiessen at:
jthiessen2@att.net

July Birthdays

- | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|
| 6 | Linda Eckel |
| 7 | James Lovett |
| 9 | Blessing Sama |
| 11 | Michael Yeager
Linda Terrell |
| 12 | Diane Todd (Jayelle's grand-daughter) |
| 15 | Tyler Thrailkill |
| 16 | Andrew Lanning |
| 17 | Laura Eckel |
| 18 | Cornelius Annoh |
| 19 | Billy Jones (Jayelle's grand-son) |
| 20 | Arabella (Bella) Eckel |
| 21 | Ewane Masango |
| 22 | Lisa Upton |
| 24 | Wade Forthman |
| 30 | Ross Robinson |

July Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|------------------------------|
| 3 | Paul & Erica Phelps |
| 9 | Bill & Norma Taylor |
| 13 | Harry Wright & Donna Vint |
| 31 | Linda Terrell & David Wilson |

July 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

4

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

12

6:00 pm Mission
& Evangelism
Committee
7:00 pm
Christian Ed
Meeting

13

14

15

16

17

4:30 P.M. Deacon
Meeting
5:30 P.M.
Stewardship
Meeting

18

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

7:00 P.M. Boy
Scouts

26

27

28

29

30

31