



# THE HEARTLAND CONNECTION

December 2, 2013

*A communication of Heartland Presbytery made possible by our Mission Dollars.*

Previous editions of this newsletter may be viewed at [www.heartlandpby.org](http://www.heartlandpby.org) under the *Heartland Connections* tab. Click on the edition you want to view.

The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. *Psalm 145:13b*

## PARTNERSHIP OF PRAYER

December 8, 2013

*First Presbyterian Church, Blairstown, MO*

Ms. Monica Arevalo, Clerk of Session

*First Presbyterian Church, Fairfax, MO*

Teaching Elder Elaine Loggi, Pastor  
Ms. Kay Smith, Clerk of Session, Communicator

*First Presbyterian Church, Gardner, KS*

Teaching Elder Keith Koch, Pastor  
Mr. Ron Crabbs, Clerk of Session

### *Special Prayer Requests*

- Beverly Barr and Family
- Renee Meyer
- Jill Linn
- Tom Carlisle
- Pastors and Congregations in Transition
- All Looking for Employment
- Those Touched by Violence here and in the world



## HEARTLAND HAPPENINGS

(IN DATE ORDER ~ BE SURE TO CHECK REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR EVENTS YOU ARE INTERESTED IN. NEW ITEMS HAVE A ★ BULLET.)

## IN HEARTLAND PRESBYTERY

- ★ At the installation for Chad Herring at John Knox Kirk on Sunday, November 24, someone went home with the wrong coat. There is a men's heavy winter coat left at the Kirk and a guest at the service is missing their coat. Please check your closet and contact the Kirk at 816-942-3637 or [office@johnknoxkirk.org](mailto:office@johnknoxkirk.org) if we need to do a coat exchange. (Submitted by Cathy Broockerd)

- ★ **Change of date for the December PLACE meeting:** Christmas lunch will be Tuesday ,December 10 from 11:30 am-1:30 pm, at John Knox Kirk, 11430 Wornall, Kansas City, MO 64114. Cost is \$8 per person, Anyone who would enjoy conversation about Christian education is welcome. RSVP by Monday, December 9, to Malinda Spencer, [education@heartlandpby.org](mailto:education@heartlandpby.org) or 816-923-5486.
- ★ **Embracing Hope** will feature keynote speaker Deborah Rundlett who will invite and guide us in delighting ourselves in the wonder and joy of life in Christ. Deborah's passion is working with pastor-church leader teams as they seek to equip disciples for mission and ministry. Check out the workshops offered at the annual leadership training event held on **Saturday, January 25, 2014 at Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church**, 7600 NW Barry Rd., Kansas City, MO 64153. View the **brochure** or register online <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=7stinjdab&oeidk=a07e8h5b82j3ca233eb>.  
 Child care will be provided but must be registering through:  
<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=7stinjdab&oeidk=a07e8ibz96jfcfd75>
- Playing for God, the 2014 Youth Winter Rally, will be a special time of fun, fellowship, worship and games that day. Check out the **flyer** for details and register online at <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=7stinjdab&oeidk=a07e8kmswoi065c2821>
- Scholarships are available! The Congregational Ministries Division is offering scholarship money in exchange for the use of chairs for the event on **Saturday, January 25, 2014 at Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church**, 7600 NW Barry Road, Kansas City, MO 64153. (Note: You would be responsible for delivery of the chairs before the event and pick up afterwards.) Contact Malinda Spencer, [education@heartlandpby.org](mailto:education@heartlandpby.org), for the full details.
- ★ **Prepare now for the Annual General Assembly Statistical Report** which is due at the end of each year. Follow this **link** to the workbook that you can use to start putting together the necessary information. The site for official submission to the PC(USA) will open on Friday, December 6. The additional documents needed by Heartland Presbytery are available under the Announcements tab at [www.heartlandpby.org](http://www.heartlandpby.org) and have been mailed out to all Clerks of Session.
- ★ **John Knox Kirk has blue hymnals to give away to other congregations.** Contact Cathy Broockerd at [cathy@johnknoxkirk.org](mailto:cathy@johnknoxkirk.org) for details. (Submitted by Cathy Broockerd)  
 NOTE: Additional congregations who have the blue hymnals to donate to others may also be listed by contacting [communication@heartlandpby.org](mailto:communication@heartlandpby.org).

Highlights of the November 12, 2013 Stated Meeting are now available. Click on this **link** or visit the *Meetings* tab at [www.heartlandpby.org](http://www.heartlandpby.org). Please share the information with your session and congregation.

## IN OUR MEMBER CONGREGATIONS

- ★ **Christmas at Lenny's**, an original dinner-theater production of Grandview Park Presbyterian Church, 1613 Wilson Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66102, will be presented at 6:30 pm on Friday, December 6 and Saturday, December 14. Tickets which include dinner are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children. For more information or to order your tickets online go to [www.grandviewpark.net](http://www.grandviewpark.net) (Submitted by Rick Behrens)
- Southminster Presbyterian Church, 6306 Roe Avenue, Prairie Village, KS 66208, presents their Christmas tradition of *Journey to Bethlehem: A walk within the Nativity* on Friday, December 6 from 6-9 pm and Saturday, December 7 from 5-8 pm. This is a free family event. For more information visit <http://www.southminsterpres.com> or see the flyer **Southminster Journey to Bethlehem 2013**.

Second Presbyterian Church, 318 E. 55<sup>th</sup> St. Kansas City, MO 64113, invites all to experience *Journey to Bethlehem*, a Kansas City holiday tradition. This annual walk-through nativity will take place on December 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and December 7, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Please visit [secondpres.org](http://secondpres.org) for more information. (Submitted by Alex Treaster.) Also, you may obtain your own copy of *Legacy Christmas – treasured carols of the Kirk* at this event. The \$15 donation supports Living Waters for the World, a ministry of the Synod of Living Waters, PC (USA) and the Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering. For more information on how to get this CD of Celtic-inspired Christmas carols view [Legacy Christmas CD](#). (Submitted by Gail Cunningham)

Annual Holiday Treasures Bazaar on Saturday, December 7 from 7am to 4pm at New Horizon Presbyterian Church, 4266 Highway 131, Odessa, MO 64076. This will be our biggest event yet! We are expected to have 55 vendors this year so don't forget to mark your calendars and stop by and do some Christmas Shopping. Pancake Breakfast will run from 7am-10am and the Café will open at 10:30 with hot dogs, chili, nachos, and chili dogs! We will also have the Cookies and Candy by the pound and FREE make and take crafts for the kiddos! Hope to see you all there!! (Submitted by Paula Isgrig)

- ★ Maxwell Heights Presbyterian Church, 4501 Maxwell Rd., St. Joseph, MO 64505, is proud to present its sixth-annual presentation of Trans-Siberian Orchestra's "Christmas Eve and Other Stories" on Saturdays, December 7 and 14 at 7:00 p.m. and a special showing on Christmas Eve at 6:00 p.m. Come see our historic sanctuary stuffed to the brim with laser lights, fog, snow, an electric violin, other good music, and a dynamic story. The show is free, but donations will be collected for the Ruth Taylor Memorial Education Fund. (Submitted by Steven Andrews)

All are invited to the Community Concert series at First Presbyterian Church, 407 Walnut St. Leavenworth, KS on Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 p.m. when our Chancel Choir will perform Mark Hayes' new cantata "What Sweeter Music". We will be joined by the flute choir in Leavenworth as they share some of their holiday selections with us. All concerts at First Presbyterian are free to all. Donations are gratefully appreciated to help us continue this series that all may enjoy! (Submitted by Karen Engebretson)

Can your church do a Blanket Drive for Cherith Brook? Homeless women and men who come to Cherith Brook are beginning to stock up blankets for the winter. Workers are told by those who sleep in abandoned houses, in tents or even outside that they need layers of 10-15 blankets to make it through the winter months. Please search your homes for unused blankets or sleeping bags. If you are purchasing items, we need blankets, as fleece throws do NOT cover a body. If questions call (816) 241-8047 or email at [cherithbrookkcmo@gmail.com](mailto:cherithbrookkcmo@gmail.com). (Submitted by Eric Garbison)

Southridge Presbyterian Church, 5015 Buena Vista, Roeland Park, KS 66205, is looking for a secretary/administrative assistant for the office, 15-20 hours per week. Experience with office procedures and good computer skills needed. Familiarity with Quicken/QuickBooks helpful. Prospective applicants please call the church office 913-722-3131 or e-mail resume to [southridgepc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:southridgepc@sbcglobal.net). (Submitted by Donna Chavez)

## IN THE LARGER CHURCH

- ★ Congregational Ministries Publishing (CMP) has developed an interactive, online Advent calendar for children. Beginning with December 1, days feature an exciting tidbit, Scripture reading, hands on activity and more. For more information go to <http://www.pcusa.org/news/2013/11/26/interactive-online-advent-calendar/> or access the Advent calendar by clicking [here](#).

- ★ Church Women United of Johnson County will hold their annual meeting and Celebration of Human Rights on Friday, Dec. 6, in the First Baptist Church of Overland Park, 8200 West 96th Street, Overland Park, KS. Registration and refreshments are at 9:30 am with election and program at 10:00. All women are invited and reservations aren't necessary. (Submitted by Mary E. Johnson)

The 26th Annual St. Joseph Church World Service CROP Walk was held on Sunday October 6 with local Presbyterians well represented. When the results were tabulated we learned that there were 88 walkers who raised \$6, 908. Trinity Presbyterian had 9 walkers and raised the highest amount of dollars of all participating churches. First and Maxwell Heights each had 13 walkers. All 3 churches took a leadership role in planning and working for the success of this year's CROP Walk. The St Joe churches once again said to the rest of the community "There Is Enough For All". (Submitted by David Berger.)

The Association of Retired Ministers, Their Spouses or Survivors (ARMSS) has recently published their quarterly newsletter. Click on this [link](#) to see highlights from their recent meeting and more. (Submitted by Ginny Nyhuis.)

The Winter Pastor's School at Hastings, Nebraska will be February 3 – 6, 2014. Guest speaker Jill M. Hudson, M.Div., from Louisville will be speaking on “*The Practice of Adaptive Leadership: The Pastor as an Agent of Change.*” Early registrations are encouraged. The Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation underwrites the speaker for the School. For more information or to register go to: <http://www.omahapresbyterianseminaryfoundation.org/Winter-Pastors'-School.html>. ( Submitted by office staff.)

The [Presbyterian Writers Guild](#) (PWG) is accepting nominations for its [2014 David Steele Distinguished Writer Award](#). The award is given biennially in even-numbered years to recognize the cumulative work and influence—regardless of genre or subject matter—of a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) writer. Nominations for the award should include the writer's PC(USA) affiliation, list of published work, and a 100-word essay describing why the nominee is deserving of the award. Contact information for both the nominator and the nominee should be included. Send nominations to Emily Enders Odom by [email](#); by fax to (336) 299-5304 or by mail to 308 N. Chapman St., Greensboro, NC 27403. Deadline for nominations is Jan. 15, 2014.

## REMINDERS



- Send event announcements and joys and concerns for the Heartland Connection to [communication@heartlandpby.org](mailto:communication@heartlandpby.org) by Wednesday each week for publication in the next week's edition.
- When purchasing Presbyterian resources, the Church Resource Center would appreciate your use of the [Church Resource Center web portal](#). The Church Resource Center receives denominational resources as a result of orders through this portal. Thank you for your support.

The offices of Heartland Presbytery are located on the second floor of  
The Harold Thomas Center for Reconciliation  
3210 Michigan Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64109  
816.924.1730 800.332.4849 Fax 816.861.2923  
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Office Hours: Monday through Friday  
8:00am to 5:00pm (Calls accepted 9am to 4pm)