



*April 8, 2021*

## Presbytery News

**Homestead Presbytery has a  
NEW PHONE NUMBER!!**

**402-413-2143**

Make sure to write down the new number for  
Homestead Presbytery!



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## IMPORTANT PRESBYTERY NOTICES



# HOMESTEAD PRESBYTERY SEEKS CANDIDATES FOR ELECTED TREASURER POSITION, VOLUNTEER

We are seeking experienced candidates to serve as the Elected Treasurer of Homestead Presbytery. This will be a volunteer position requiring up to 40 hours per month. Many of the tasks of the former paid position are now being handled by the Synod of Lakes and Prairies.

A new Administration and Finance Committee is being formed to guide and oversee the Presbyter's financial administration in support of the work of the Treasure. Candidates need to be a ruling or teaching elder with experience in financial systems and management. A working draft of the position description is available at [homesteadpres.org](http://homesteadpres.org) as well as linked below. Resumes and/or a statement of interest are **due by Friday, April 23rd**. If you or someone you know in your congregation has the interest and experience please let us know soon!

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APPLICATIONS DUE 4.23.2021 • [HPOFFICE@HOMESTEADPRES.ORG](mailto:hpooffice@homesteadpres.org)  
840 SOUTH 18TH ST., LINCOLN, NE 68508



Applications should be sent to:  
Homestead Presbytery Treasurer Search Committee  
[hpooffice@homesteadpres.org](mailto:hpooffice@homesteadpres.org)  
804 South 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln NE 68508

For more information:  
Stephen Earl, Interim Executive  
[stephene@homesteadpres.org](mailto:stephene@homesteadpres.org)

Pam Carrier, Personnel Committee  
[pamcarrier@gmail.com](mailto:pamcarrier@gmail.com)



## A Note from the Homestead Strategy Team

### **Strategy observation**

How would you answer this question: **What do you feel we are called to do, as Presbyterians, to serve as the body of Christ?**

This question was hard for our congregations to answer.

Does what we do matter if we do it as a Presbyterian?

Aren't we Christians that just happen to be Presbyterian?

So what does God call us to do? Their answers were I'm sure, like most of yours would be. We are called to love God before self, love our neighbors, promote social justice, love kindness, walk humbly with God, address structural poverty and systemic racism.

One thing that came out many times that we as Presbyterians do, is that we are open and inclusive: All are welcome at the table, into this community.

So what we learned is that we are to live our faith and not hide it under a bushel.

We think our church's do a pretty good job with this but we can always do better.



## APA Atlantic Region One-Day Seminar

**Registration is open to all members of APA,  
regionally and nationally**

**Wednesday, April 28, 2021 Via Zoom**

### **Basics of Project Management (2.5 hours)**

Overview – Gain the confidence you need to take a project from conception to completion with efficient skills in scheduling, budgeting, and planning.

Suggested topics may include:

- Defining project management
- Planning and controlling projects
- Meeting project objectives
- Solving project problems
- Managing time and priorities
- Learning from each project
- Coordinating work done by others
- Improving communications skills

### **Webinars/Virtual Meetings (2.5 hours)**

Overview – This course will provide an outline of various internet opportunities available for the purpose of: 1) teaching/discussing/promoting information (webinars); and 2) utilizing software to engage multiple individuals in an online meeting experience (virtual meetings).

Suggested topics may include:

**Webinars:** A virtual lecture or training session live on the Internet. Each session may include a PowerPoint presentation, handouts, video, and interactive questions and answers. After attending an online webinar, participants also have access to the recorded Webinar for further review and

reference.

Virtual Meetings (also referred to as Video Conferencing): A service which allows discussion conducted via Internet broadcast and shared with geographically dispersed locations. The service is made possible by internet technologies and allows real-time communications. Text-based messaging, voice and video chat are shared simultaneously

[Download Event Flyer Here](#)

## FEMA to Help Pay Funeral Costs for COVID-19-Related Deaths



FEMA

WASHINGTON -- In early April, FEMA will begin providing financial assistance for funeral expenses incurred after Jan. 20, 2020 for deaths related to coronavirus (COVID-19) to help ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the pandemic. The policy was finalized today, and FEMA is now moving rapidly to implement this funeral assistance program nationwide.

"At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters," said Acting FEMA Administrator Bob Fenton. "The COVID-19 pandemic has caused immense grief for so many people. Although we cannot change what has happened, we affirm our commitment to help with funeral and burial expenses that many families did not anticipate."

To be eligible for COVID-19 funeral assistance, [the policy states](#):

- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after Jan. 20, 2020 for a death attributed to COVID-19.
- If multiple individuals contributed toward funeral expenses, they should apply under a single application as applicant and co-applicant. FEMA will also consider documentation from other individuals not listed as the applicant and co-applicant who may have incurred funeral expenses as part of the registration for the deceased individual.
- An applicant may apply for multiple deceased individuals.
- The COVID-19-related death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories and the District of Columbia.
- This assistance is limited to a maximum financial amount of \$9,000 per funeral and a maximum of \$35,500 per application.
- Funeral assistance is intended to assist with expenses for funeral services and interment or cremation.

In the coming weeks, a dedicated 800 number will be established to help individuals who apply. In the meantime, potential applicants are encouraged to start gathering the following documentation:

- An official death certificate that attributes the death to COVID-19 and shows that the death occurred in the United States. The death certificate must indicate the death "may have been caused by" or "was likely the result of" COVID-19 or COVID-19-like symptoms. Similar phrases that indicate a high likelihood of COVID-19 are considered sufficient attribution.
- Funeral expense documents (receipts, funeral home contract, etc.) that include the applicant's name, the deceased individual's name, the amount of

- funeral expenses and dates the funeral expenses were incurred.
- Proof of funds received from other sources specifically for use toward funeral costs. Funeral assistance may not duplicate benefits received from burial or funeral insurance, financial assistance received from voluntary agencies, federal/state/local/tribal/territorial government programs or agencies, or other sources.

For more information about this assistance, visit [COVID-19 Funeral Assistance | FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov/covid-19-funeral-assistance).



## Adult Mental Health First Aid Training May 1, 2021

This 8-hour training course is designed to give you key skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or is experiencing a mental health crisis. Just as CPR training helps a layperson without medical training assist an individual following a heart attack, Mental Health First Aid training helps a layperson to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health illnesses and addictions.

The MHFA Blended Course is comprised of two parts:

- MHFA Self-Paced Introduction: The first portion of the course is to be completed through the self-paced online portion (accessible through the MHFA Learning Management System) - 2 hours
- MHFA Skills Application: The second portion of the course will be taught in-person at Eastridge Presbyterian Church by a certified MHFA Instructor and focuses on how to apply the MHFA skills. - 6 hours

You must complete the MHFA Self-Paced Introduction (approximately 2 hours) before you will be able to attend the MHFA Skills Application (approximately 6 hours) portion of the course on May 1, 2021.

Mental Health First Aid is listed in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices. Studies show that individuals trained in the program increase their knowledge of signs, symptoms, and risk factors of mental illnesses and addictions; can identify multiple types of professional and self-help resources for individuals with a mental illness or addition; increase their confidence in and likelihood to help an individual in distress; and show reduced social distance to individuals with mental illnesses.

#### **4 Reasons to become a Mental Health First Aider**

- To be prepared: just as you learn CPR, learn how to help in a mental health crisis.
- Mental illnesses are common: 1 in 5 adults in any given year.
- You care: be there for a friend, family member, or colleague.
- You can help: people with mental illnesses often suffer alone.

#### **Learning Objectives**

##### **Participants will:**

- Recognize the potential risk factors and warning signs for a range of mental health concerns.
- Obtain information on: depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis and psychotic disorders, substance use disorders, and self-injury.
- Use a 5-step action plan to help an individual in crisis connect with appropriate professional help.
- Interpret the prevalence of various mental health disorders in the U.S. and the need for reduced negative attitudes in their communities.
- Apply knowledge of the evidence-based professional, peer, social, and self-

help resources available to help someone with a mental health problem treat and manage the problem and achieve recovery.

**This training is free, but you must register to attend.**

Seating is limited to the first 30 to respond, so please register early.

**COVID PRECAUTIONS**

We expect that many of us will be vaccinated by then. We will limit the number of attendees to 30 in an area that's Covid-Safe for 50. We will also follow Eastridge Presbyterian requirements for safety. These include:

1. Masks that cover the mouth and nose are mandatory and should always be worn.
2. Physical distancing of 6 feet or more should be maintained indoors.
3. No food or beverages are permitted at this time.

**HOW TO REGISTER**

Please register as soon as possible since we have a limited number of spaces for this workshop. You will receive information on how to complete the pre-work requirements at least one week prior to the in-person portion of the training. Your instructor, Teri Effle, will be in contact with you throughout this training process.


[Register Here](#)

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## The Church and COVID-19

*Dr. Lisa Allgood, Executive Presbyter of Cincinnati Presbytery  
and immunocytochemist*



Lisa Allgood, EP of Cincinnati Presbytery speaking to Indian Nations Presbytery about Covid-19. She is a trained expert in diseases and she addresses the current situation of the virus and why we should NOT be singing unmasked during worship, among other important details.

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APRIL 2021

WEEKS 2&3

| MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY               | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|--|---|---|------------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| 5<br><b>Presbytery Office CLOSED for Easter Monday</b> | 6<br>3:30 HP Staff Meeting                                      | 7<br>1pm NOM Meeting<br>1pm Treasurer Search Meeting<br><b>Homesteader Deadline</b> | 8                      | 9      | 10       | 11     |
| MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY               | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
| 12   | 13<br>3:30 pm HP Strategy Team Meeting<br>3:30 HP Staff Meeting | 14<br><b>Homesteader Deadline</b>   | 15<br>11am CPM Meeting | 16     | 17       | 18     |
| NOTES  |   |   | NOTES                  |        |          |        |

\*\*Click image to see calendar in separate window

## Weekly Prayer Requests

### Schuyler

First Presbyterian Church of Schuyler rejoices for being able to gather again for in person worship since January 31st and for helping numerous members heal from having Covid-19. We ask that people pray for the continued physical, mental and spiritual health of our members. We also ask that we all continue to pray that First Presbyterian can continue to be the hands and feet of Christ not only in Schuyler but in our county, state, nation and world; ministering to all we meet, wherever we meet them. We are continually blessed and ask that we may continue being a blessing to others.

#### Homestead Presbytery

840 S. 17th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508  
**Monday-Thursday** 9:00am-4:00pm  
**Friday** 9:00am-12:30pm

Office: 402.413.2143  
 Interim EP: 803.556.3355  
 Stated Clerk: 402.217.3684



