



February 18, 2021

Presbytery News

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

402-413-2143

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



IMPORTANT PRESBYTERY REMINDERS!



Presbytery
ASSEMBLY

- **We have a Stated Presbytery Meeting via Zoom coming up THIS SATURDAY, February 20th.** There is still time to register to attend Saturday's meeting, just click the button below to register. We will be sending out the Zoom information again tomorrow for any late registrants.

**Register for
Presbytery**

Packet

Addendum

Tax Guide for Ministers for 2020 returns available

The Tax Guide for Ministers for 2020 returns, including the [2020 housing allowance letter](#), is now available. [Log on to Benefits Connect](#) and look for Quick Links to access the guide.

This guide will no longer be printed and mailed. If you need assistance finding, downloading, or printing the guide, call the Board of Pensions at 800-773-7752 (800-PRESPLAN).

Join in Eastridge's Inter-Presbytery Virtual Choir!



Image above: A choir of 38 International Peacemakers was gathered by the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program to share a rendition of the hymn "This is My Song." (Screen shot)

Hello fellow Presbyterians!

My name is Brian Lew and I am the Director of Music Ministries at Eastridge Presbyterian Church in Lincoln. I would like to invite you and your choir to join in an inter-Presbytery virtual choir project. We will be coming together to sing a 3-part version (SAB) of the Hallelujah Chorus for Easter worship services. This video will be available to all churches within our Presbytery (regardless of participation) to use as they deem fit for their current mode of worship.

This project comes at zero cost for churches as Homestead Presbytery has generously and graciously funded this project. Sheet music and a recording stand (if needed) will be provided for all participating congregations.

Participants will need access to two (2) types of "screens", headphones, and internet. Screens can be any combination of smartphones, ipad, tablet, or computer. The most common combination is a computer/laptop and smartphone. One of these devices will need to have access to their email. Attached are two separate PDF's. One which contains instructions on how to record and the other explains how to send the video. If your church has a music director, organist, or someone who is willing to be a point person to help your singers it would be most appreciative so that communication is more streamlined.

I hope you will consider joining us in this unique project. If you are interested in participating or have any questions please contact me at blew@eastridge.org at your

earliest convenience. I plan to distribute music ASAP in order to have recordings returned to me by early March.

Brian Lew Eastridge Presbyterian Church
blew@eastridge.org

**Virtual Choir
Instructions**

**Instructions on How to Send
Video**



Spiritual Growth in a Virtual Context

Great Plains Small Church Connections invites you to join us for a Free Webinar. (Panel discussion with breakout session)

We want you to share what you and of the people with whom you minister have been learning during this journey of being faithful virtually
February 22, 2021 Noon - 1:15pm (Central Time)

Panel Discussion with:

Kris Peterson, Coach with Leadership Harbor LLC
Rev. Steve Nofel, Pastor for the Algona and Irvington, Iowa Presbyterian Churches

Breakout sessions led by small membership church pastors and lay leaders

Register for Zoom Link

**Check out what's
happening with
Contemplate Lincoln!**



Noon-hour silent prayer Weekdays 12:15pm-1:00pm:

<https://zoom.us/j/735301950>

A 20-minute silent prayer sit with opening prayer and closing reading. No experience necessary.

Lectio Divina Mondays 9:30am: Register via this link on [zoom](#)
Pray the scriptures. We read a passage 4 times with short silences followed by discussion.

Contemplative Movement Fridays 5:30pm-6:30pm:
<https://zoom.us/j/386874404>
A fun, playful, and contemplative whole body experience.

House Church Sunday's 4pm-5pm: <https://zoom.us/j/993530287>
Worship, conversation, and contemplation. A house church style church service with Eucharist.

Contemplative Conversation Sundays at 2:30 PM (The Work of the People Short Films) Register via this link on [zoom](#)
We watch films with today's influential theologians and contemplatives gaining wisdom and finishing with a time of sharing.

Lenten Contemplative Conversation Groups:
Boundless Compassion

We have a few spots open in our upcoming Lenten study. Join us on Zoom for a 7-week Lenten study with Joyce Rupp's Boundless Compassion: Creating a Way of Life. We will read a chapter a week, discuss, and practice together.

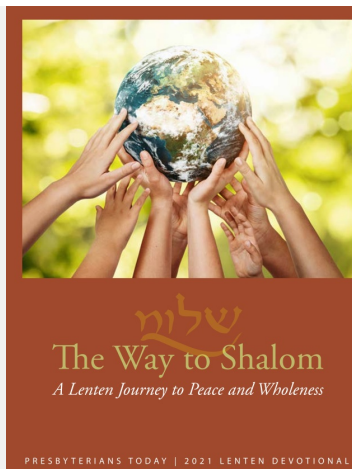
[Express interest in joining a group!](#)



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

Presbyterians Today Lenten Devotional 2021

In Israel, shalom is both a greeting and a farewell. When greeted by “shalom,” it is a form of hopeful blessing that you are filled with God’s perfect peace and well-being. It is a prayer that you will have health, prosperity and peace of mind and spirit. Shalom denotes fullness and perfection, an overflowing joy that moves from your innermost being and is expressed in the way you live your life and engage with others.



[Download the Devotional](#)

What the second round of PPP loans means for churches & how to secure funding:

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2021

What the second round of PPP loans means for churches — and how to secure funding



Joe Park

After much political drama, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (CAA) [https://bit.ly/3NtQqRf] has been approved by Congress and signed by the President.

It includes \$284 billion dollars for a second round of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loans for which churches and nonprofits are eligible to apply through participating banks.

Your banker might be slow to begin taking applications. Here's why.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is charged with developing regulations related to the new application process. This sounds like a simple and straightforward process, but as we learned with the first round of PPP loans, the reality is rather simple and straightforward.

Upon issuance of these regulations, the SBA got flooded with questions from banks, attorneys and accounting firms and with political pressure from Congress and the Administration. They then begin publishing a series of clarifications and new guidance that as the first round resulted in bankers repeatedly going back to their customers with new applications and/or asking for additional documentation. The same is true with the PPP forgiveness applications. Seven months have elapsed since the first PPP loan forgiveness applications were submitted, and the vast majority of these applications have yet to be processed by banks, primarily because

the SBA is still actively sharing new guidance on the first round of loans with banks. In fact, the new Consolidated Appropriations Act significantly changes the loan forgiveness process for the first round of PPP Loans approved in the CARES ACT, which will further



"[T]he devil is in the details — and those details are subject to change."

delay the forgiveness previously approved loans. Thus, I want to caution you that the devil is in the details — and those details are subject to change.

Limited eligibility for qualifying for a new PPP loan
Eligibility is limited to organizations, including churches, that meet the following criteria:

- 1) **Less than 500 employees**
- 2) **Gross receipts were at least 25% less** in one or more quarters of 2020, as compared to the same quarter in 2019. This can get complicated for churches with complex revenues of income. But for purposes of calculating gross receipts, churches are relieved of the reporting of revenues 8005 of the IRS Code of 1986. [www.lawcorrel.com/news/2020/03/20/8005-11-recovered-taking-your-external-accountant-to-calculate-this-for-you.]
- 3) **Business requirement.** All businesses must be able to certify that the "current economic uncertainty makes this loan necessary to support the ongoing operations," as of the date on which the PPP loan application is submitted. This is where it gets tricky for many churches. I believe Congress left that language "current economic is uncertain?" intentionally vague to allow as many organizations as possible to apply. Most churches would agree that "yes" is not synonymous with "should," given the many biblical admonitions to the above the ways of the world to what is honoring and pleasing to God. No churches would wish, whether or not they should apply, I would encourage them to remember that they may return the funds at any point if they determine the loan was not necessary.
- 4) **Other key provisions.** Based on the current common understanding, the following are other key provisions to consider when determining if a new loan is right for your church.
 - Maximum loan amount:** Borrowers have an option to calculate the maximum loan amount by multiplying the borrower's average total monthly payroll to the one-year period prior to the date on which the loan is made, or 10 calendar year 2019, by 2.5. **The maximum loan amount is \$2 million.** Similar to the first round, payroll numbers for seasonal employees are calculated differently.
 - Choose your own covered period:** Borrowers are able to choose the length of their covered period as long as it is at least eight weeks and is not longer than 24 weeks.
 - Use of PPP funds:** Congress expanded the types of expenses — in addition to payroll, rent, covered mortgage interest, and utilities — for which these new PPP loans can be used and included a forgiveness calculation.
 - **Covered operations expenditures:** payments for business software or cloud computing services that facilitate business operations; product or service delivery; the processing, payment, or tracking of payroll expenses; HR and billing functions; or accounting or tracking of supplies, inventory, records, and expenses.
 - **Covered property damage costs:** costs related to property damaged due to public disturbances that occurred during 2020 that were not covered by insurance or other compensation.
 - **Covered supplier costs:** or paid taxes to a supplier of goods that are essential to the operations and the safety of the time at which the expenditure was made and is made pursuant to a contract or order in effect at any time before the covered period, with respect to perishable goods, in effect at any time during the covered period.
 - **Covered worker protection expenditures:** operating, or capital expenditures that allow borrowers to comply with requirements or guidelines issued by the CDC, HHS, USDA, or any state or local

government during the period beginning March 1, 2020 and ending on the date which the national emergency declared by the President expires related to the maintenance of standards for sanitation, social distancing or any other worker or customer safety requirements related to COVID-19. These expenses appear to include PPE, physical barriers that were put in place, expansion of indoor/outdoor space, ventilation or filtration systems, and drive-thru windows.


Forgiveness for loans under \$100,000: Forgiveness application for loans under \$100,000 will be simplified to a one-page certification that includes a description of the number of employees the eligible applicant was able to retain because of the loan, the estimated total amount of the loan spent on payroll costs, the total loan amount, and a certification that the church complied with the PPP loan statute and regulations issued by the SBA. Borrowers should be aware that while the forgiveness application is simplified, all of the rules still apply. All borrowers must retain all employees until such time as the forgiveness application for a period of four years and all other records relating to PPP and the forgiveness application for a period of three years.

PPP loan forgiveness and Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL): The new law repeals the CARES Act provision that required that the amount of the PPP loan forgiveness be reduced by the amount of its EIDL proceeds. This change is set to increase the PPP forgiveness amount for thousands of churches.

This article is for informational purposes only and is not intended to provide legal or accounting advice. You should consult your own legal and accountants before applying for a PPP Loan. For more on the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, I highly recommend you visit the U.S. House of Representatives. Available at: <https://www.congress.gov/bills/116/2013/all-actions/1>. Stay tuned for full details on CARES Act.

Joe Park is CEO at Electronic Shareworks (www.electronicshareworks.net) where he has followed by more than 48,000 church members. He leads a team of 100+ staff members generally pastors and staff who help churches and faith-based nonprofits grow disciples and future leaders. Contact Joe at jpark@electronicshareworks.net

READ ARTICLE HERE



FEBRUARY 2021

WEEKS 3 & 4

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
15	16 Called HP Council Meeting	17 Ash Wednesday	18 HP COM/CPM Training	19	20 10 AM Presbytery Meeting via Zoom	21
22	23	24 Homesteader Deadline	25	26	27	28
NOTES			NOTES			

**Click image to see calendar in separate window

Weekly Prayer Requests

Norfolk

Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Norfolk congregation. May they continue to grow as a caring and nurturing Christian community, as well as individuals, focusing on prayer, Bible study and worship.

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

