



July 29, 2021

Presbytery News

Special Presbytery Notices

Click to Register for the August 21, 2021 Stated Meeting

Make sure you get registered for the August 21st Presbytery meeting. We will be e-mailing the Zoom link and other necessary information the week of the meeting.

**Wait...did I hear...
FREE WORKSHOP!?**

Keep reading to learn more!



LEADERSHIP

An Introduction to Bridgebuilders

Date

August 25, 2021
1:30pm-4:30pm

Leadership

Deborah Rundlett worked with Peter Steinke in the field and as a facilitator and trainer for over 20 years. She is a former Executive Presbyter, LeaderWise consultant and founder of Poets & Prophets, a spiritual community that supports leaders in the workplace. She was privileged to read the first draft of Leadership in Anxious Times, making suggestions for which Pete acknowledges her in the preface.

Cindy Halvorson, coach, facilitator, consultant, pastor and author, describes herself as #EverythingChurch! She is passionate about the health and well-being of clergy and congregational leadership toward the flourishing of their congregations. She is a gifted preacher and presenter, speaking at conferences and



Photo by Cameron Gibson on Unsplash

Is the Bridgebuilder process right for your congregation?

The Bridgebuilder process is a systems-based approach to help congregations build the future, while living it. The process seeks to empower congregations to create health, growth and healing toward a flourishing future.

Organizations grow under pressure, when a change or a crisis reveals new strength from all quarters.

- Max Dupress

The Bridgebuilder process has helped congregations learn how to better manage anxiety through identifying strengths and resources, thereby creating the foundation for a healthy future. This workshop will introduce participants to the process, engaging them in both theory and practice.

For lives of service!



The Why!

The Bridgebuilder process is a way to help congregations:

1. Move beyond anxiety to clarity;
2. Focus on resources rather than deficits;
3. Create a clear and hope-filled future, rather than remaining mired in conflict.

This process was developed by the Rev. Dr. Peter Steinke and incorporates aspects of his earlier model of preventive care, Healthy Congregations.

Often congregations move through the Bridgebuilder process into Healthy Congregations, a series of workshops designed to promote health and vitality.

The Process

Bridgebuilder is a multistep process that typically takes three to six months. The process involves five key steps:

1. **Entry**, an exploratory meeting in which to determine readiness, clarify expectations, outline the process, assign tasks, and form a covenantal understanding of next steps.
2. **Education**, involving a teaching workshop for the whole congregation, as well as an open forum opportunity for people to ask questions and share concerns, in both written and oral form.
3. **Interviews**, the Bridgebuilder consultants conduct fifteen-minute interviews with ten leaders and ten members, as well as staff, in order to collect data.
4. **Action Report**, presented to the whole congregation, provides a synopsis of the major issues, as well as feedback on the top three to five issues.
5. **Action Planning Process**, involves a team from the congregation and leadership to identify action steps in response to the key issues. This feedback is then shared with the congregation through focus groups. A final action report is then presented to the leadership for implementation.

The Shape of the Workshop

The workshop will engage leaders around:

The Why of Congregational Systems Theory

The Bridgebuilder Process: An Overview of the Process through Three Congregations' Stories

For lives of service!

Homestead Presbytery is offering a half day workshop on the "Bridgebuilder Process" by Zoom on August 25th, 2021. Led by consultants from Leaderwise, the workshop is available to teaching elders, certified pastors, and lay leaders for free.

The Bridgebuilder Workshop is made possible by a grant from the Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation to Homestead Presbytery to promote health and vitality among congregations.

Information about the workshop and registration is listed above or you can download the flyer by clicking the button below.

DOWNLOAD FLYER HERE

Pastor Retreat

Oct 27-28, 2021

Benedictine Retreat Center, Schuyler NE

**SAVE THE
DATE!**



Homestead Presbytery is offering, as a gift to our pastors, a fully funded 2 day spiritual retreat at the Benedictine Retreat Center (Schuyler NE) on **Wed Oct 27 through Thurs Oct 28**. Focus will be on spiritual awareness, self care, and resilience with ample opportunity for personal meditative time. Additional information will be available soon.

You may also contact Jane Holtzclaw at: pastorjane728@gmail.com or the Presbytery office for further information.

Supporting Faith Formation at Home—A message from the Office of Christian Formation

Church leaders, are you looking for a way to support families and households in faith formation at home?

The PMA has an offer of free resources to support at-home faith formation with younger children! We are using an endowment made possible from generous donors to help you receive a few resources through our partner, Presbyterian Publishing Corporation.

These resources are specifically selected to help households with younger children to engage in Scripture and story books that highlight the vision of being a Matthew 25 faith community in the PC(USA). We consider households

to include parents and children, grandparents and children, foster families, and even community outreach households. Think creatively about how you can reach young children and their guardians.

Share these links to the application forms with congregational leaders and encourage them to apply. There are book bundles and google forms in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [Korean](#).

Goin' on a road trip!

The Coordinating Team of Homestead Presbyterian Women were planning to travel to St. Louis the first week in August to the Churchwide Gathering. Due to the pandemic, it was cancelled. Many of us had marked time off and we thought perhaps we should take advantage of this and do a local



road trip to visit our churches instead of them coming to Camp Calvin Crest or Lincoln to attend gatherings. We choose the northeast part of the Presbytery because in 2022 the Synod Gathering will be held in Sioux City and that would be our mid point in this trip. This would also give us the opportunity to see and stay at the Hilton Garden Inn where the Synod Gathering will be held and to get together with the gathering coordinators.

There has been a lot of planning and preparation going into this **“Road Trip”**. It was decided to have a presentation about PW and discussion with the women we get together with. This will include present and future mission activities, actions for Justice and Peace, Horizons and our new bible study “What my Grandmothers Taught Me”, Synod Gathering information as well as discussions on the future of Presbyterian Women.

Our trip begins at the Presbyterian Church in Fremont with dinner at 5:30 PM followed by the presentation. All the churches in that area are invited and of course, all are welcome. After spending the night in Fremont, we will head north the next day.

Taking in some history, we will visit the John G. Neihardt Historical Site which has a Native American presentation. From there we will have lunch and fellowship at the Lyons Presbyterian Church. Then traveling to Walthill, we will visit the hospital started by Susan LaFlesche who became the nation’s first Indigenous doctor.

From there we head to Sioux City, for dinner and fellowship with synod leaders. We will check out the accommodations for the Synod Gathering June 16 to 19, 2022. Mark that date on your calendars. Sunday morning finds us moving on early.

We will be doing a church service at the Presbyterian church in Wayne which begins at 10 AM on Sunday, August 8 and those from near and far are invited. Terri Sherman, Moderator of Homestead Presbyterian Women will be speaking on the Beautitudes and we will have a short presentation of present and future activities of Presbyterian Women.

Lunch finds us in Norfolk at the Presbyterian Church. At each church we visit, we will be giving them a copy of the Horizon's bible study, "What my Grandmothers Taught Me" and a copy of the Horizons magazine. If any church has a woman present who has never attended a PW event, the church will receive a year's subscription of the magazine.

Our Trip is coming to an end with the last stop In Columbus at the Federated Church for tea, cookies and fellowship. We hope to see many of you on this ROAD TRIP. Next year, we plan to visit the southeast portion of our Presbytery. You have not been forgotten!

Contact Joan Berglund at joanberglund@gmail.com from the Homestead Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team for more information.



2021 CONFERENCE CREATION CARE BUFFET: COME TO THE TABLE



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SUNDAYS AUGUST 1, 8 & 15
ZOOM SESSIONS

Session 1: 4:30-6pm EDT;
Dinner Break with special presentations
Session 2: 7-9pm EDT

WORKSHOPS

Worship, Climate Change, Youth, Food Waste, Soil
Sisters, Mining Legacies, Spanish, & MORE

MUSIC

Folk, New Hymns, Jazz and SPECIAL APPEARANCE
DAVID LAMOTTE IN LIVE CONCERT!!

BIBLE STUDY

Drs. Douglas Moo, Wheaton College
Dr. Jonathon Moo, Whitworth University

WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Claudio Carvalhaes
Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson
Rev. Dr. Neddy Astudillo

FOLLOW-ON ACTIVISM

INITIATIVES IN CONGREGATIONS, COMMUNITIES AND
GLOBALLY



PEC2021CONF@GMAIL.COM

Before the record-breaking Heat Waves and supersized fires in Western USA and the massive flooding in Europe, PBS-TV NewsHour had a June 23 report: "A leaked UN report warns 'worst is yet to come' on climate change. Here's how you can help." "Caring for God's Creation" was the addition to our Book of Order's "The Ministry of Members" (G-1.0304) that our Presbyteries overwhelmingly approved from the 222nd General Assembly (2016); now is the time we need to help our

churches and members live it out.

LEARN MORE
HERE

Free Faith Partners Team Training

THINK AND THINK AGAIN - How many people in your congregation are hurt by the alcohol/drug use of someone close to them? 44%?



REGION 5 SYSTEMS
Promoting Comprehensive Partnerships in Behavioral Health

Recent surveys of a dozen congregations found that 44% of the people (N=978) were currently concerned about or hurt by the alcohol/drug use of someone close to them. That's right: 44%.

THINK your congregation is different? **THINK AGAIN**. All 12 are in Nebraska; in small town and city; from 5 denominations.

Alcohol/drug and mental health issues do not respect faith. They are equal opportunity destroyers. They also have a deep spiritual impact on whole families. **THINK** there's nothing your congregation can do?

THINK AGAIN. Congregations have formed trained teams of caring people affiliated with Faith Partners Nebraska, a program of Region 5 Prevention Systems. Faith Partners helps people of all faiths use their own unique resources to tackle these issues.

Like to **THINK** about this some more? You can get the survey from Kleintz@region5systems.net.

A free Faith Partners training event is coming up on August 5 & 7. This training will help you develop a system that builds on your congregation's strengths and theology to tackle the spiritual issues of alcohol/drugs and mental health ministry.

For more info contact: ottoburgess@icloud.com.

REGISTER HERE



Synod of
Lakes & Prairies

RACIAL ETHNIC STUDENT
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

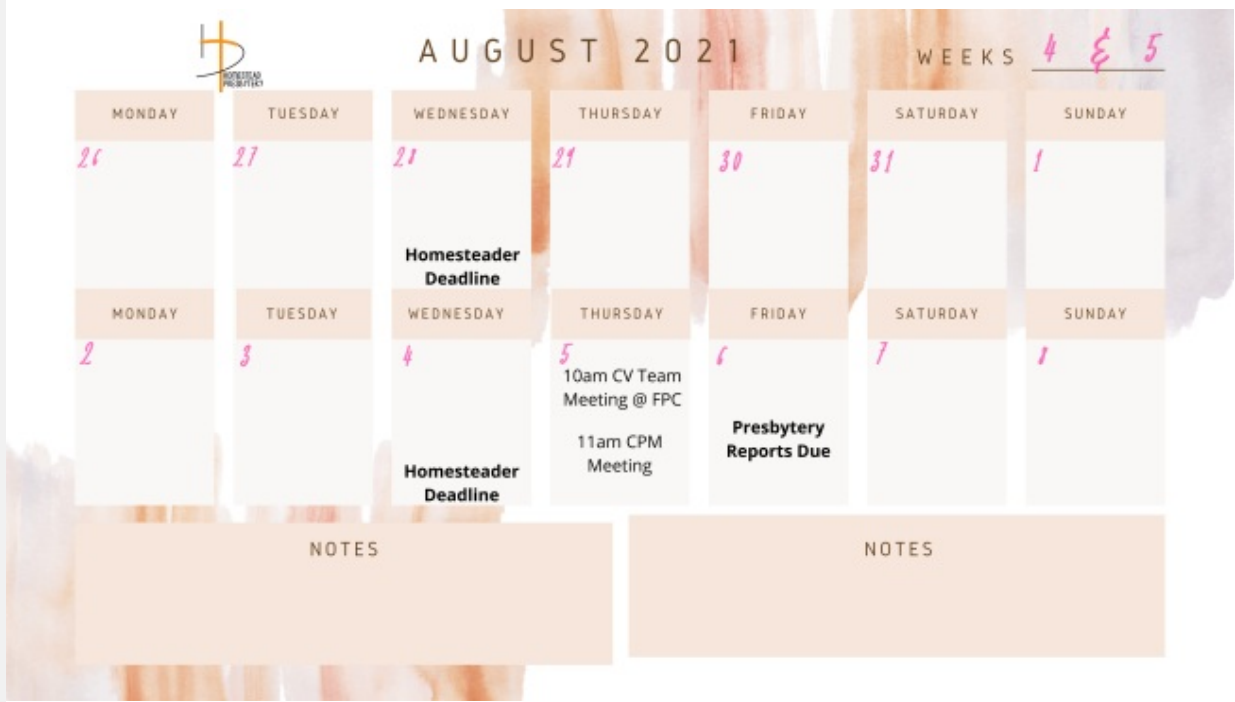
The Racial Ethnic Student Scholarship Fund is an educational assistance program designed to encourage racial ethnic students in their preparation for academic success in higher education. Students must have a permanent residence within the Synod of Lakes and Prairies and be active members in a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregation. The synod is committed to partner

with students and schools for greater access to lifelong leadership skills and affordable education. Application awards are based on personal achievement, financial need and recommendation from a teacher and pastor.

Applications are due on September 30 each year.

Submit completed applications, along with an official transcript and financial aid statement, to gmilloy@lakesandprairies.org or mail to: Committee on Racial Ethnic Ministry Synod of Lakes and Prairies 2115 Cliff Drive, Eagan, MN 55122-3327.

[Download Application Here](#)



**Click image to see calendar in separate window

Homestead Presbytery has a NEW PHONE NUMBER!!

402-413-2143

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



Weekly Prayer Requests

Cedar Bluffs

Members of the First Presbyterian Church of Cedar Bluffs give thanks for the blessing of healthy recovery for those who suffered the effects of Covid. Although some were very sick and required short hospitalization, all have recovered. We are back to normal with in-person services and social fellowship. The prospect of a very good harvest is an added blessing. Prayers for comfort, strength, healing and support are requested for all who are experiencing serious health issues, destructive fires, floods, hurricanes, political unrest and violence. May God bless us and guide us to peace on earth.

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

