



*November 18, 2021*

## Presbytery News

### Special Presbytery Notices

#### 2021 Remittances are due January 4th!



January 4, 2022 is the last day that we will receive/deposit remittances for 2021. Any 2021 remittances received after Jan 4 will be recorded as 2022 remittances.

#### November 11th Stated Meeting Offering



CHRISTMAS JOY  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

The Offering from last week's Presbytery meeting was \$167.86 for PC(USA)'s Christmas Joy Offering.

# HOMESTEAD IS SEEKING A STATED CLERK



Homestead Presbytery is currently seeking a Stated Clerk. Because Homestead Presbytery is going through a period of transition and the Strategy Team is determining a permanent staffing plan, the term of service for the Stated Clerk will be for one year, January 1 – December 31, 2022. The salary for 2022 is \$19,000 plus \$2000 for continuing education. The current Stated Clerk job description is attached.

To apply for the position of Stated Clerk for Homestead Presbytery, please submit your resume detailing your experience related to the position of Stated Clerk. We also want to hear why you are interested in this position and what you bring to the position. [Candidates for the position of Stated Clerk must be either a Ruling Elder or a Teaching Elder in the PC(USA).

**Resumes will be accepted through December 10, 2021.**

Email resumes to John Nellessen, [jnellessen1@windstream.net](mailto:jnellessen1@windstream.net), or mail (to arrive by December 10) to John at: 3800 W Burgess LN, Lincoln, NE 68523.

STATED CLERK JOB  
DESCRIPTION

## Happenings in Homestead Presbytery



Installation of Rev. Owen Derrick at First Presbyterian Church in Tekamah Nebraska on Sunday, November 14th.





Bibles were presented by Charity Potter to the youth at Wakefield Presbyterian Church.



Diane Morgan, Disciples of Christ Pastor, was Installed at Pawnee City United Presbyterian Church.



Mark your calendars for a day of celebration and generosity!



Join us on #GivingTuesday when the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has planned an eight-hour live stream, spanning from Eastern to Western timezones, designed to entertain, inform and encourage greater giving on Tuesday, November 30. The virtual event will include worship and reflection, ministry area highlights, visits from familiar faces, and in-depth conversations around the work of Matthew 25. Mark your calendars for what is sure to be a memorable event celebrating generosity!

[Learn More and Give Here!](#)



## On Purpose

by Cindy Halvorson

The other day I walked into the kitchen and paused. I slowly turned a full circle looking at the counters, the cabinets, the stove, the refrigerator, the pantry door, the peninsula, the dishwasher, the sink, the kitchen window. Why had I stepped into the kitchen? What had I intended to do in that space? I refilled my coffee cup and walked out of the kitchen not sure why I had ever walked into the kitchen. If it was important, I hoped I would remember my purpose for arriving in that place.



Most of us encounter this situation at some point in our lives; for some of us, it is a daily occurrence. We walk into the kitchen and can't remember why we are there. What did we intend to do?

While we all have likely experienced this why-did-I-come-in-here type of forgetfulness, I wonder if this also happens to us concerning our life's mission. I know it has happened to me. Being people of vocational ministry, we seldom discuss the questioning within us when we ponder why we ever stepped into vocational ministry. We shy away from the nagging realization that we can no



longer remember what it was we had intended to do. It is likely that, at some point, we find ourselves slowly turning in a full circle, taking inventory of our lives, trying to remember our purpose.

This wondering and questioning is normal, especially in times of upheaval, conflict, and/or stress. Our current society is experiencing all of these struggles. As anxiety has increased within our culture, so has conflict and divisiveness. And as one of my colleagues stated, “Clergy are easy targets” for those who are anxious, fearful, and angry. When ministry colleagues gather, the conversation regularly turns to speculation concerning the future for our churches; sometimes, the focus is broader and the discussion poses the question: Will Christianity, and religion in general, survive? It is only natural that many who are serving within the religious and spiritual arenas of our society are wondering why-did-I-come-in-here.

The uncertainty and questioning that comes with any seismic shift in our culture provides an opportunity for each of us to go deep and examine our core, our center, our purpose. Intentionally taking time to evaluate and consider our past and where we’ve been can remind us of our deepest sense of mission. Do you remember when you first sensed that the Divine had a “call” for your life, that your reason for living was bigger than you, that you were being invited to partner with this Ever-loving Presence? What did your heart feel drawn towards? What caused you to feel fully alive? What were the values to which you longed to give your life?

Getting back to our deep sense of purpose can guide us when we are in uncharted territory. As we grapple with our purpose and passion, I wonder – will we discover renewed energy for our calling? I wonder – will we have creative thinking for ways to live out our mission in a society that is experiencing such a seismic shift? I wonder – will the clarity of our purpose encourage freedom to embrace new ways of living out our vision? I wonder – will the clarity of our purpose give us permission to release the former practices that are no longer helpful? Knowing our core, our center, our purpose might breathe fresh air into our souls.

If you would like help in re-discovering your purpose, we are here for you. Spiritual direction, clergy coaching, or the 2-day Developmental Assessment program can aid you in discerning your mission. I know that sounds like a commercial ... because it is ... but it’s also OUR purpose. We, at LeaderWise, do what we do because this is our core, our center, our purpose – to foster healthy and spirit-filled lives of service.

May all our wonderings and wanderings lead us home.



## Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation

### **WHAT HAS GOD CALLED YOU TO DO?**

Does your congregation want to increase their impact in your community but lack the funds to get your big idea started? Do you have a project already in the works but could use additional funding to take it to the next

level? Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation could be the answer to help you fund your project or program. We are offering annual grants to PCUSA churches and related organizations in Nebraska for new or ongoing outreach activities which enhance or expand some aspect of your ministry and mission. The online application process begins in December and grants will be awarded in April. To learn more about our grant process, you can visit our website at [www.nebpresby.org](http://www.nebpresby.org) or contact Audrey Richert at [arichert@nebpresby.org](mailto:arichert@nebpresby.org) or 402-420-9877.

## **KESSLER EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUNDS AVAILABLE**

The Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation offers financial assistance for PCUSA pastors who are experiencing an urgent financial crisis. Applicants must be an active or retired installed or commissioned pastor who has, or is currently serving, a Nebraska congregation and currently residing in Nebraska. For more information on the Kessler Fund, please visit our website at [www.nebpresby.org](http://www.nebpresby.org) or contact Audrey Richert at [arichert@nebpresby.org](mailto:arichert@nebpresby.org) or 402-420-9877.

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# **Bending the Moral Arc: Webinar to learn about a small group model for anti-racism**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2021 AT 6 PM – 7:30 PM CST**

Two congregations came together in partnership around the invitation of Matthew 25 to have courageous conversations and to take steps towards dismantling structural racism. They were transformed!

We will hear from these churches, one predominately white and one historically black, that developed a small group model for conversation and action, all during the pandemic and on zoom! Leaders from Nassau Presbyterian Church and Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church in Princeton, New Jersey will be present to share their story and best practices as you learn to translate this model to your own context.

A template for this small group ministry partnership has been created and will be available as a FREE download during this webinar. Background, tips for creating your own ministry and sample lessons and resources will be included. There will be break-out groups and a Q and A.

All church leaders are welcome to attend.

No registration necessary. Join us on zoom using this link: <https://zoom.us/j/94405040254>

This webinar is hosted by Theology, Formation and Evangelism in the Presbyterian Mission Agency and is part of our Scattered Church ministries.



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

**402-413-2143**

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



***Weekly Prayer Requests***

***Lincoln Fourth***

Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Lincoln Fourth 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



[Visit our website](#)