



October 22, 2020

Presbytery News

Homestead Presbytery Strategy Team

- Who is Homestead Presbytery?
- What are our goals and mission?
- The Strategy Team is working hard to figure this out.
- But we need your input.
- Coming soon to your congregation.
- A chance to be heard.
- We will be contacting you soon.

Strategy Team Members

- Thomas Dummermuth – Eastridge Lincoln, Clergy
- John McPhail – Columbus Federated, Ruling Elder
- Steve Piper – Palmyra, Clergy
- Terri Sherman – First Lincoln, Ruling Elder
- Wendy Wait – Gresham, Ruling Elder
- Charity Potter – Wakefield & Thurston John Huss, Clergy
- Suzie Harder – Lincoln Southern Heights, Ruling Elder



**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP FOR THIS
ADVENT GIFT FOR HOMESTEAD CONGREGATIONS!**

"Reboot Your Worship"

The Gift of Revitalization: a 6-week interactive online worship learning experience with Dr. Marcia McFee and the Worship Design Studio- **Free to You!**

We care about resourcing the churches in this area, and we are pleased to offer you the chance to participate in Dr. Marcia McFee's "**Reboot Your Worship**" training at no cost to you starting on September 20th, 2020. Our participation gives you access to 6 weeks of downloadable resources (articles and videos) and 6 live webinars (also recorded for your archives) with Dr. McFee, a renowned worship designer, consultant, and educator (<https://www.worshipdesignstudio.com/>). She will be training churches in five basic ways to improve their worship immediately, no matter the size or style of worship and without a big budget or drastic change. Just as we have an occasional need to reboot our computers, "rebooting" your worship is simply a way to look through fresh eyes and get some fresh skills.

This course is also tailored to approach worship practices during the pandemic and will explore the basics of sensory-rich worship design while emphasizing safety protocols and getting creative for online expressions without burning out. AND Dr. McFee will be getting you ready for your best Advent season ever all along the way! All you need to do is register (at no charge) to receive the emails. You can invite unlimited members of your worship team (or potential worship team members) to receive these communications as well. We encourage you to take advantage of this free offer (usually \$99 per church) made possible through our area's registration.

Register ASAP!

(You will get access to all 6 webinar videos.)

<https://ny163.infusionsoft.com/app/form/homestead-presbytery>

Save the Date!!

Service of Installation for Rev.
Christopher (Chris) Peters at Westminster
Presbyterian Church, Lincoln

Sunday, November 1st, 2020
3:00pm

Outside in the Westminster Parking Lot

If COVID restrictions in Lincoln are

tightened to "Red" status, Zoom information will be shared the week of the service.



Spiritual Wellness Journey Workshop



Do you feel like your connection with God is a mile wide and an inch deep? Have you struggled to discover meaningful ways to sustain your spiritual health? In this workshop, participants will gain a better understanding of spiritual wellness. They will assess their own spiritual wellness and identify their God-shaped connection

style. They will also create an action plan to position themselves to develop a closer relationship with God and others. Presented by Rev. Dr. Candace Adams, ACC (revadams@hotmail.com). Click [here](#) to download flyer.

WHEN: Friday, November 20, 2020 @10:00 am-2:30 pm (Central Time, with break for lunch)

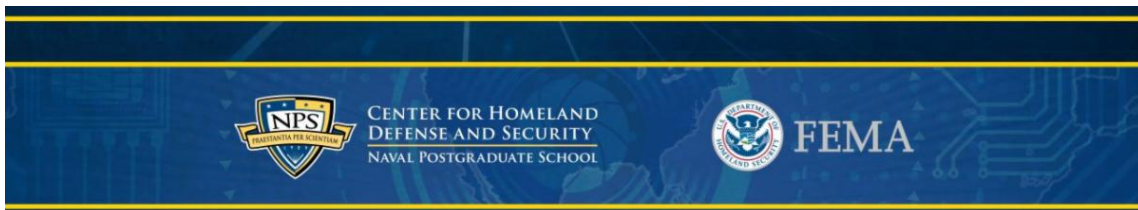
WHERE: Virtual via Zoom (link will be sent in Welcome Email)

COST: \$75.00/participant

OPSF

Will scholarship a maximum of 12 participants for 1/2 of the registration costs (\$37.50). Please register and send your paid registration receipt to Joyce: opsf@opsf-omaha.org

[Register Now](#)



Webinar for Shelters of Last Resort: Examining Systems of Congregate Emergency Shelter for Homeless and Vulnerable Populations During COVID-19

Every day, hundreds of thousands of homeless Americans are crowded into emergency shelters. Many of the homeless have severe and persistent co-occurring behavioral and medical disabilities, including drug and alcohol addictions. Using a public health and safety lens, this webinar will examine the challenges, options, and emerging model practices to address the daunting task of providing shelters and longer-term housing options for vulnerable populations during COVID-19. Promising approaches to reduce the density of homeless emergency shelters will be a key focus of this webinar. Building on earlier discussions in this webinar series, panelists will also look at the frequent requirement to serve vulnerable populations during a disaster, including integration into disaster shelter systems.

Speakers:

Justin Brown, Chief, Office of Emergency Management Washington D.C.
Department of Human Services

Dr. Donell Harvin, Chief, Homeland Security and Intelligence, Washington D.C.
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA)

Register for the
Webinar



We are excited to announce a special event via Zoom with author, pastor, and retreat leader Dr. Peter Traben Haas. This workshop, that will feel like a retreat, explores the dance between contemplation, community, and scripture. Helping communities flourish and helping us discover deeper meaning and integration of scripture. This event is for anyone interested in Christian contemplative prayer, its practice & possibilities in the Church and community, and the formative dance between contemplation & scripture. An excellent opportunity for pastors, lay and group leaders wanting to introduce contemplative prayer within their church, worship, community, or small groups. Event is participatory and will include a Friday Night Eucharist Compline Service and time throughout the event for Q & A.

Special Early Registration Price for Friends of Contemplate Lincoln Until October 23rd: \$49

Open Registration Until November 12th: \$59

REGISTER NOW!!

90-minute Presbyterian Outlook webinar

Thursday, October 29, 2020

2 p.m. ET / 11 a.m. PT

Live webinar with on-demand replay

Presented by Dee Cooper

Are you running on empty or running behind? Are you powering through the pandemic? What will happen when your reserves are gone? Maybe, they already are.

In this webinar, we will explore new and



available alternative fuel sources for you, your ministry, your imagination, your creativity, your well-being and your aliveness. We will cultivate new options that will sustain you in your life and ministry during this time. We will wonder aloud: Can I really play during a pandemic?

Who should attend: Pastors and pastoral leaders

Participants in this webinar will:

- Face the experiences many leaders are having now.
- Explore why “powering through” is not a sustainable option.
- Spark ideas for new ways of generating new fuel for your nervous system.
- Cultivate new possibilities of playful invitations during a pandemic.

Presentation format: The 90-minute webinar will include an hour of presentation followed by 30 minutes of questions and answers. Everyone who registers will receive access to the on-demand replay. On-demand video replay allows you to watch the video recording on the *Outlook’s* website whenever it is convenient for you and as many times as is helpful.

Live webinar with on-demand replay — \$19.95 (per participant)

[Purchase this Webinar](#)

Hopeful Presence in Anxious Times

A retreat to refocus, to get centered and engage in some contemplative spiritual practices before Advent.

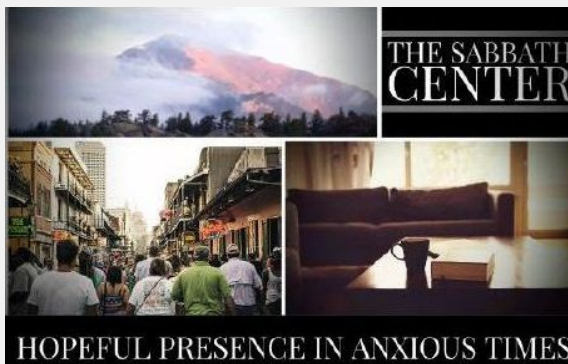
November 9-11

Highlands Presbyterian Camp &
Retreat Center-Allenspark, CO

\$170 (shared room)

\$270 (private room)

Meals Included



As pastors and church leaders, we are often inundated with requests and demands of our local churches let alone the larger cultural realities of leading amidst a pandemic, social, political and racial unrest and a polarizing presidential election. Phew!! Jesus was no stranger to these individual and societal pressures and realities AND in the midst of them dismissed the crowds, withdrew to deserted places and prayed (Matt. 14:22-23). This is our invitation to you. Amidst this pandemic, a week after our presidential election and a few weeks before the season of Advent we invite you to dismiss the crowds, come to the mountains, pray and BE with God (re)connecting with Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love

[REGISTER NOW](#)

GRANTS & EMERGENCY FUNDS FROM NEBRASKA PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION



Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation

SPRING GRANT CYCLE BEGINS IN DECEMBER

Everyone has been forced to be more creative in their ministries since COVID began, so what opportunities has this pandemic created for your congregation? Does your congregation want to increase their impact in your neighborhood or community but lack the funds to get your big idea started? Are you facing challenges with an online presence with your current technology? 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. The online application process begins in December and grants will be awarded in April.

KESSLER EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUNDS AVAILABLE

The Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation offers financial assistance for PCUSA pastors, or a surviving spouse, who is 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 our grants or funds, please visit our website at www.nebpresby.org or contact Audrey Richert at arichert@nebpresby.org, or 402-420-9877.

Opportunities to Be Helped and to Help with Challenges Due to the Pandemic

Opportunity #1 --- Pastor Zac Wolfe of Beatrice First Presbyterian Church has announced that their Session will be donating \$500 for use by churches in Homestead Presbytery that have special ministry needs related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. An application for such funds follows and is due (postmarked or emailed) by October 31, 2020. At Beatrice Session's request, the Homestead Presbytery Disaster Response Team will review applications and make decisions regarding distribution of funds. If interested, please complete the application entitled "Application for Funds to Help Cover Pandemic-Related Ministry Expenses."

Opportunity #2 --- Beatrice First Presbyterian Church Session is also presenting a challenge to other churches and individuals in Homestead Presbytery inviting any that are interested and able to donate funds for the same purpose. They will match dollar for dollar up to another \$1000 to help churches with special ministry needs related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. This opportunity to give and have gifts matched will extend through December 31, 2020 or until the \$1,000 is matched. If interested, please complete the form entitled "Donation of Matching Funds to Cover Pandemic-related Ministry Expenses in Homestead Presbytery."

Per Business and Finance Committee of Homestead Presbytery:

That the Business and Finance Committee endorses the matching gift program sponsored by the Beatrice church for churches facing financial struggles in the time of the pandemic (a \$500 gift

with matching donation from the Beatrice church up to an additional \$1000) and that the assistance fund be managed and dispersed by the Disaster Response Committee in accordance to guidelines and procedures developed by the Disaster Response Committee.

The funds should be sent to the Presbytery for accounting purposes, with immediate notification upon receipt of a donation being sent to the Pastor and Clerk of Session in addition to the chair of the Disaster Response Committee. Should, at the end of the pandemic, there be funds remaining, then the balance shall be designated for use by the Disaster Response Committee to respond to financial needs in the Presbytery due to disaster.

What an incredible blessing this is for both churches with needs and for churches and individuals who can step up to meet those needs. Thank you, Beatrice First Presbyterian Church, for your wonderful spirit of generosity!

[Download Application Here!](#)

Weekly Prayer Requests

Gresham

Greetings from the booming rural hamlet of Gresham! When we look around our world, all we see is division according to identity. Gender, ethnicity, political, mask-wearer (or not), economic, and generational to name just a few. They all have labels. Yet there is only one identity and one label that matters - to us and to God - and that is child of God. Pray for us and with us as we strive to see each individual through their relationship to God and one another. Pray for us and with us as we seek to end divisions and heal wounds so that all children of God would understand their sisters and brothers. Pray for us and with us as we learn to recognize the only identity, the one few are seeing first. We are children of God.

Homestead Presbytery

840 S. 17th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Friday 9:00am-12:30pm

Office: 402.474.0612
Interim EP: 803.556.3355
Stated Clerk: 402.217.3684



