



CFP E-NEWS

Central Florida Presbytery
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Orlando, FL 32803
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March 1, 2009 Edition

Volume VI: Issue 2

Good News from Paige

Dear Friends,

As I write this we are fast approaching the season of Lent which will last all through March this year. Recently, I was privileged to hear William Willimon, the Methodist Bishop of Alabama, speak to large-church pastors on preaching during Lent. He began by saying that we Presbyterians are smarter than Methodists. Methodists believe in human perfectibility. We Presbyterians know that sin is real, but we also know that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, thanks be to God.

On Feb. 7, I spent the day with more than 100 young people from our churches at the PYC Youth Blowout. Our Presbytery Youth Council does a fine job bringing young people together to grow in faith and celebrate being part of something bigger than their own congregations. At the February Blowout, I got to reflect with the youth in small groups on our relationships with God. Their insights really spoke to me. One girl talking about prayer said that when she prayed for her own selfish wants, she would stop and ask why she even bothered. She knows that God wants her to pray for others and to pray that God will shape her life to serve God's purposes.

This Lenten season I pray for each of us and for our congregations that God will continue to shape us in the community of gracious witness of God's love that God wants us to be. I am grateful in these difficult economic times for the faithfulness of our congregations in reaching out to those in need and in supporting the ministry we share in this presbytery and for each of you and the ministries you carry out every day.

Your sister in Christ, Paige

Clerk's Corner



Just a friendly reminder that all statistical reports are due in the presbytery office by Tuesday, February 24, 2009. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Ruthie Merced in the presbytery office: rmerced@cfpresbytery.org or 407-422-7125 ext. 201

Resource Center E-News

► Discovery Canyon for VBS 2009



Augsburg Fortress Publishers and our Congregational Ministries Publishing have collaborated on an exciting Vacation Bible School experience! You will want to check out www.thevbsplace.org or www.pcusa.org/vbs for more information about the material. You can place your order online or by calling 800-524-2612. It is important to note that we are the only distributor of the PC (USA) version which includes the Director's Guide with CD/Rom and the mission project for this year. You will learn how to incorporate that project, the Menaul School in New Mexico, into your VBS planning.

► Resource Center Top Ten

In case you haven't already figured it out, there are countless good reasons to consult the Resource Center on a regular basis, and HERE ARE YOUR TOP TEN:

10. Connecting people and resources
9. Encouraging creativity
8. Promoting Presbyterian resources
7. Identifying the best information anywhere
6. Consulting help is always available
5. Equipping leaders with tools for ministry
4. Providing curriculum, books, DVDs & videos
3. Online catalog at www.cfpresbytery.org
2. Using the Resource Center is good stewardship
(- AND - TA-DA - DRUMROLL, PLEASE!!)

The **NUMBER ONE** reason to consult the Resource Center is that your Mission Dollars pay for the resources, so there is NO CHARGE!

Give us a call at 407-426-0509 or toll free 1-877-780-CALL or email ssugiuchi@cfpresbytery.org

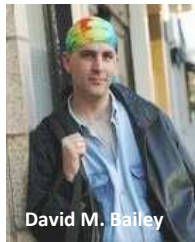
Youth News

▶ DON'T FORGET!



Rodger Nishioka

The March 7 Special Event is almost here, and you will NOT want to miss it - Rodger Nishioka and David M. Bailey - in the



David M. Bailey

same place at the same time - HERE!! Come and experience an evening of dynamic worship and learning at **Park Lake PC, Orlando, from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.** Supper is included, and the cost is only \$5.00. **PLEASE RSVP** by March 2nd, so we can prepare properly! RSVP to Linda in the presbytery office at 407-422-7125 ext. 202 or download the flyer/registration form on the presbytery website: www.cfpresbytery.org

▶ 2009 Schedule

- June 5-7: Ichetucknee Weekend. Details and registration info coming soon!
- Jul 18-25: [New Wilmington Mission Conference](#). For more information contact Ferdi Brits at 407-291-2886 or ferdibritts@yahoo.com
- July 12-18: Montreat 2009, Conference Week Three. Contact Rob White, First, Vero Beach, robwhite@firstpresvero.org
- July 19-25: Montreat 2009, Conference Week Four. Contact Pat Randolph, Good Shepherd, Randolph.patricia@brevardschools.org
Deadline to reserve a spot is February 28.

▶ Gleaning Opportunities

Check the SoSA gleaning calendar online at www.cfpresbytery.org/camps_youth_ministry.htm

Celebration & Concern

Congratulations to:

- **Church of the Good Shepherd**, celebrating their **50th anniversary**
- **First Church, Eustis**, celebrating their **125th anniversary**
- **Jonathas Moreira** (pictured at left, with Case Thorp), who



was recently honored by two CFP congregations for his 50 years of service. On Saturday, Jan. 10, Pastor Wesley Porto and the New Hope congregation opened their doors to the Alliance of Brazilian Pastors of Orlando for a thanksgiving celebration. On Sunday, Jan. 11, the Rev. Dr. David Swanson and the congregation of First Church, Orlando, paid tribute to a life of service to Christ. Jonathas' long-time friend and seminary colleague, Brigadier General, Rev. Dr. Zel Santana gave the closing prayer.

Committee News

▶ Pastoral Care



A reminder from the Pastoral Care Subcommittee that *The Prayer Line* ministry for all pastors and educators is online. Should you feel the need for confidential prayers, you may request them at anytime

through www.cfpresbytery.org/pastoral_care.htm

▶ Mission Development '09 Event Calendar

- Presbyterian World Mission Advocates Gathering May 7-9
- New Wilmington Mission Conference July 18-25
- Mission Challenge 2009 Sept. 22-Oct. 19
- PCUSA Mission Celebration Oct. 21-24

For more information on these events, please contact committee chair, Randy Simpson at (352) 516-4933 or rsimp29740@aol.com

▶ Leadership Development:

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME
EDUCATOR EVENT

Due to the efforts of CFP's Leadership Development Committee and its Chair, Cheryl Carson, we are honored to welcome Rodger Nishioka on March 7th to lead an Educator's Workshop entitled "Teaching for Transformation." (See more about Rodger's day with us in "Coming Events" and "Youth News.") The Educator's Workshop is from 1:00-3:30 p.m. at First, Maitland, and is designed for anyone, volunteer or professional, who is involved in Christian Education in our congregations. Further details and a registration form are available on the presbytery website: www.cfpresbytery.org, or you may contact Linda in the presbytery office to get the info electronically.

▶ Committee Reports Online



Central Florida Presbytery has three Ministry Committees (Church Development, Leadership Development, and Mission Development) that meet quarterly and submit a status report to Council. Once council has reviewed the reports, they become a part of the official packet for each Stated Meeting of Presbytery. The current reports are then posted to the website. The new reports each quarter are available online immediately after the packet is posted (*in this instance, on Friday, Feb. 20*). Go to www.cfpresbytery.org, select & click which committee you want from the navigational buttons at the top of the homepage, and then download the report.

You are reminded also that HAE Cindy Britt and the PATH/2¢ per Meal subgroup publish *PATHways*, a quarterly newsletter, online at www.cfpresbytery.org/pathways.htm

Coming Events

► Inmigración Latina

"Faith and the City" programs at four metro-Atlanta institutions have teamed up to address this hot topic in a workshop at Columbia Theological Seminary on March 21, 2009. *Latino Immigration: Challenges and Opportunities for the Church* is for church leaders, including pastors, lay leaders, seminarians, and other interested community leaders, and is for the purpose of engaging in learning & in dialogue for developing more effective congregational ministries and public advocacy on the issue of Latino Immigration. Learn more at www.ctsnet.edu

► National Pastors Sabbath



Register now for the National Pastors' Sabbath 2009, scheduled for April 17-20 at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort and Spa in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, near Jacksonville: www.pcusa.org/pastorsabbath

► A Big Day – a Very, Very Big Day!!

WHAT DO THESE THINGS HAVE IN COMMON???

SPRING STATED MEETING

RENOWNED KEYNOTER

RODGER NISHIOKA



DAVID M. BAILEY

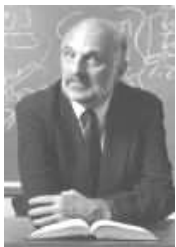
ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME
EDUCATOR EVENT

EXCEPTIONAL EVENING
OF WORSHIP & PRAISE

They're all happening March 7 in Central Florida Presbytery!!

Please see "Committee News" and "Youth News" on page 2 for more on the Big Day, or check it out online: www.cfpresbytery.org

► Walter Brueggemann Coming to Daytona



Dr. Walter Brueggemann will speak to benefit the **Presbyterian Counseling Center** in Daytona Beach on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, from 9:30 – 3:30. His topic is *The Good News of becoming our Best Selves; the Bible and Pastoral Care*. The first hour of the day will

be a presentation by Dr. Brueggemann, followed by a distinguished panel of pastors, theologians, and pastoral counselors responding to his presentation, with time for discussion. Following

lunch, Dr. Brueggemann will present again, and during the concluding hour, he will respond to questions and bring the day's reflections to a close. The tax-deductible contribution for the day, including lunch, is \$60. The event will be held at First Church, Daytona Beach, headquarters of the Presbyterian Counseling Center. A document containing this information and more, including pertinent links, can be downloaded from the [homepage](#) of the presbytery website. Or you can contact the Center at contact@presbyteriancounseling.com; 386-258-1618; www.presbyteriancounseling.com

► Big Tent Event

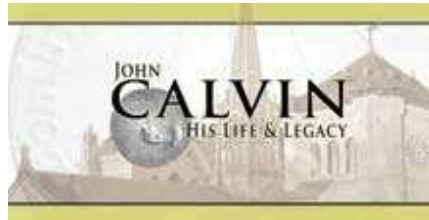


Young adults (ages 18 – 35) are an important voice in the PC(USA). They are ready to serve, have already demonstrated faith in many ways within the denomination, and can't wait for *The Big Tent!* Scheduled for June 11-13, 2009,

in Atlanta, this first-of-a-kind event has been called "a Denominational Happening" and "a Big Presbyterian Family Reunion." It will bring together, at the same time and place, several groups that typically meet on their own. Entire families are invited to come and experience a phenomenal celebration. Special programs have been planned for children (age 6 months – 6th grade) and youth (7th – 12th grades). Read more and check out the video: www.pcusa.org/bigtent.

News Briefs

► Celebrate the John Calvin Jubilee



John Calvin is well known by Presbyterians, but he is not necessarily well understood.

These words from the Theology Worship and Education ministry of PC(USA) introduce the wealth of information and resources compiled online for you to view, hear, read, or download at www.pcusa.org/theologyandworship/calvin.htm

You can even download and make your own Calvin mask, take a photo of you in it, and join in the fun by submitting the photo – you may be featured online!

Presbyterians Today is also offering a year-long series on Calvin. The series began in the Jan-Feb issue with "A Legacy of Education," the first article in a 10-part series marking the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth. To subscribe, go to www.pcusa.org/today

▶ **Montreat to Host History Seminar**



From April 30 through May 3, 2009, the William Black Lodge in Montreat, NC will be home to the Presbyterian Historical Society's annual Local

Church History Seminar. The event, designed for persons interested in the management and preservation of records and in writing congregational history, will feature workshops on Presbyterian history, oral history, researching & writing a church's history, disaster planning, preserving congregational records, etc. A scholarship is being offered to a participant from a small church (less than 250 members) that has been in existence for at least 50 years and has financial need. Call 215-627-1852 or go to: www.history.pcusa.org/cong/lchs/index.html

▶ **S³ Project to Accept Applications in April**

Funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., the Columbia Theological Seminary's S³ Project, *Cultivation of Pastoral Excellence through Sabbath, Study, and Service*, offers small, self-directed groups of pastors the opportunity to design and participate in group learning projects that strengthen their practice of ministry. Groups are selected annually by application and receive some financial support for their projects. Participating groups also attend two retreats on the Columbia campus: one for orientation, and a follow-up during which groups report and reflect on individual project outcomes. The project is in its 7th year, during which time 272 individuals (44 groups) have participated. The project boasts a 99% retention rate, with all 44 groups completing their 2-year project and only 3 individuals dropping out. To learn more, go to www.ctsnet.edu – applications will be accepted beginning in April.

▶ **Ways to Stay Connected**

Thanks to The Presbyterian Communicators' Network (PCN) for the following primer on the "latest & greatest," ways to stay connected. Visit PC(USA)'s communities online by going to www.pcusa.org and clicking on the appropriate logo in the right-hand column of the homepage.

All a-Twitter – How can your congregation stay connected when the church doors are closed: Many church leaders and members are joining online communities that allow families, friends, co-workers – and faith communities – to stay in touch 24/7. Twitterers send status updates in 140 characters or less. Think texting meets blogging. Is your youth pastor headed to the coffee shop and wants to meet some members? Calling them all is so last year. She can tweet her location instead – since Twitter works by text, too, she doesn't even need her laptop. www.twitter.com

Facebook serves as a meeting place for Presbyterians around the world. You can form a group around any topic and share ideas with your friend in the next pew or in the next time zone. www.facebook.com

Ning If you prefer to limit your audience, private networks like **Ning**, [www.ning.com] offer the capabilities of Facebook without the onlookers. Visit the PC(USA) Deep & Wide community on Ning: www.deepandwide.net

Go to any of the sites mentioned here to check out how they work and what's required to get started. Remember to check out the privacy policies before you jump in!

▶ **Ordination & Chartering Anniversaries:**

Minister	Ordination Date
Janie T. Barrows	March 5, 1989
Gary Lester	March 6, 1983
Sandy Hill	March 9, 1997
Carmen Graziano	March 10, 1967
Robert Early	March 12, 1990
David Keazirian	March 13, 1988
John Cole	March 15, 1998
Paul Anderson	March 21, 1999
deborah husband	March 29, 1998
Educator	Certified
Candace VanderWeide	1999
Church	Date Organized
First, Orlando	1876
St. Paul, Ocoee	1955
Port Orange	1983
United, Daytona Beach	2005

▶ **March 2009:** www.cfpresbytery.org/calendar.htm

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Photos from Youth Blowout



▲ A group talks about "Relationships with Friends."



▲ Paige and a group discuss "Relationships with God."



▲ Luis and youth play "Tiger-Human-Trap."



▲ Free at last – to run on the beach!!

(Thanks to Ruthie Merced for the great photos!)