



## PRESBYTERY MEETING SUMMARY

May 11, 2011

[Whitewater Valley Presbytery](#)

19,497 Presbyterians!

1100 W. 42<sup>nd</sup> St., Indianapolis IN 46208

317.923.3681 800.566. 5996

63 congregations and Nueva Creación, a new church development



Thank you for your faithful generosity. \$750 was collected for the [Pentecost Offering](#).

### RICH HOSPITALITY

[First Presbyterian Church, Anderson](#), and its members, were gracious hosts to Whitewater Valley Presbytery and its commissioners for the May 11 Presbytery meeting. Host pastor, Rev. Ryan Rasmussen, welcomed us to First Presbyterian Church and presided as the Communion celebrant in the afternoon. Commissioned Lay Pastor, Elder Donna Madewell, attended to every pre-planning detail for the meeting, assuring the day moved smoothly. Thank you First Presbyterian Church for your wonderful hospitality!



#### YOU ARE A CHILD OF GOD

Rev. Maggie Lauterer, a member of Western North Carolina Presbytery, was the keynote speaker at the Presbytery meeting. Her message, "True Colors," reminded everyone that they are a child of God. Rev. Lauterer had everyone place a royal gemstone on their forehead as a visual reminder of her message. She also introduced us to the ministry and journey of First

Presbyterian Church, Burnsville, where she recently served. First Presbyterian Church was very small yet their bold faith led them to call a pastor. The congregation thrived and continues a vital ministry and mission in the Burnsville community and beyond. Rev. Lauterer's message encouraged commissioners to constantly extend hospitality and welcome in their congregations on a very personal level, following the example and ministry of Jesus.

### A MOBILE FOR OUR CHURCHES – BRANCHING OUT IN MISSION

Rev. Ray Marquette, Associate Executive Emeritus, designed a mobile that expressed Whitewater Valley's ministry and mission. The mobile was assembled during Rev. Lauterer's presentation and templates were distributed to each congregation. Congregations are encouraged to assemble and prominently display the mobile in their church to celebrate our mission and stewardship. The mobile would be an excellent Sunday School class project. Displayed in homes, it would provide a visual reminder of the connected community and mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) locally, nationally and globally. Our particular thanks to Rev. Marquette for his faithful dedication to this project and his ongoing presence in the ministry of the Presbytery. The mobile will also be displayed in the Presbytery's welcome booth at the Big Tent event. And about the Big Tent event...

### A DENOMINATION INVITING THE FUTURE [Big Tent](#)

Elder Jen Knebel, Zionsville Presbyterian Church, highlighted the PC(U.S.A.)'s Big Tent event that will be hosted by Whitewater Valley Presbytery June 30-July 2. Commissioners were encouraged to volunteer and to publicize this event with their congregations. 2,500 Presbyterians from across the denomination will gather to worship and celebrate our mission and heritage. Nine national conferences are scheduled. [REGISTER NOW AS A VOLUNTEER and for CONFERENCES!](#) As a volunteer, receive a **FREE t-shirt** and **four hours of FREE participation at a conference** the day you volunteer.

This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our mission and heritage as members of the PC(U.S.A.) and a way to show others how we extend hospitality with Midwest style!



### GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

A joyful and important responsibility of the Presbytery is to examine candidates for their call as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. The Presbytery sustained the examination of Mr. Brian Shivers, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and Young Adult Ministries, Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis. Elder Jim Hill was examined and approved for service as a Commissioned Lay Pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis. Continuing their journey toward ordination, the Presbytery approved two inquirers to move forward as candidates in the ordination process: Mr. Tyler Gibson, First Presbyterian Church, Bluffton and Mr. Beau Brown, Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis. As we celebrate newly ordained ministers we also celebrate long term ministries. Commissioners participated in a liturgy of retirement for Rev. Theodore Dorman, Rev. Wallace Wilson and Rev. Gary Ziegler.

### SYNERGOS!

Rev. Mark Morningstar promoted the Synergos! *Lead Like Jesus Workshop* on May 21, a follow up to the Acts 16:5 Initiative.

### THE CALMING WATERS OF EVERYDAY WORK

Rev. Alan Thames, Executive Presbyter:

- reviewed his pastoral letter responding to [the passage of Amendment 10-A](#) and how we live into the future with a model of love that faithfully honors one another;
- acknowledged our response to [PCUSA Disaster Assistance Program](#); farewell to Rev. Betty Griffin, New York bound;
- introduced Indianapolis new church development discernment;
- celebrated baptisms and the ministry of elders called to the resurrection.

Other business included a review of the 2012 first read budget and the receipt of reported actions from the Coordinating Council and Committee on Ministry. The next Presbytery meeting is August 13, John Knox Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis.