

# Presbytery of the



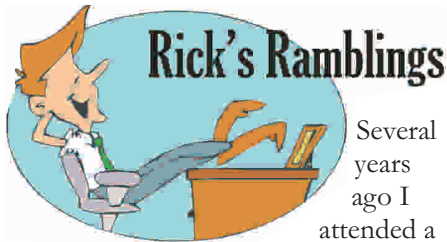
# Inland Northwest

www.presbyinw.org

e-mail: pin@presbyinw.org

Volume 33, Issue 2

April 2009



## Rick's Ramblings

Several years ago I attended a

Board of

Pensions Retirement Seminar. Carol was unable to attend and upon returning home I told her I had discovered two things. First, I was not ready to retire and second, when I retired I wouldn't be looking for a second childhood- all play with bigger toys. The time has come and now I am ready to retire. There was a mix of emotions as Carol and I made the decision, but since the news of my retirement has become public and official, I have to admit that my excitement about the next chapter in my life is growing. These past ten years have been wonderful years. The work has been meaningful and the friendships have been a blessing. I am grateful for the opportunity to have lived, loved and served with and among you. Thank you.

I'll continue to serve as the Stated Clerk of the Synod and hope to have more time for my work with the Presbyterians for Restoring Creation, for winter visits to our children who live in warmer climates and for getting reacquainted with the wood working tools in our garage. I'd also like to explore getting involved with the Synod of Living Waters' Living Waters for the World program <http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org/index.php>.

One of the tasks before me will be sorting through the papers and materials in my office. If you've been in my office

you know I have some of my favorite quotes taped to the walls and window frames. For a while I thought that I would have an entire column devoted just to those quotes. I may do that next time but for this time I'll end with a stanza from "The Servant Song" that has been taped above my desk:

We are pilgrims on a journey,  
Fellow travelers on a road,  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load.

*Blessings,  
Rick*

## Latah Valley New Church Development

Latah Valley will be hosting an Easter Sunrise Celebration of Worship on Sunday April 12 at 6:30 a.m. at the Latah Valley site – 202 E Meadow Lane Rd. Please plan to join them! For more information, go to their website – [www.latahvalley.org](http://www.latahvalley.org).



## Job Opening

Northwood Presbyterian Church has an opening for church secretary, 20 hours per week, salary depends on experience.

If you are interested please send your resume to Northwood Presbyterian Church, 6721 N Monroe, Spokane WA 99208, attention: Administration and Personnel Committee, by April 15. For questions, call (509) 328-2012.

## Comings and Goings

Revs Skip and Betsy Baker-Smith are transferring to Lehigh Valley Presbytery. Rev Paul Seebeck has accepted a position as Associate for Mission Communications in the Communications and Funds Development Ministry Area at General Assembly. Rev Andrea Saccoccio has transferred to National Capital Presbytery.



## Dates for the Calendar

April 14	Committee on Ministry at Millwood Church
April 16	Personnel Committee at Presbytery Office
April 21	Church Support Staff Luncheon at Knox Church
April 28	Meeting Committee at Presbytery Office
May 4	Personnel Committee at Presbytery Office
May 5	Council meets at Presbytery Office
May 12	Committee on Ministry at Millwood Church
May 20	PIN Newsletter deadline
May 25	Memorial Day – Presbytery Office closed
May 28	Presbytery meeting in Clarkston



## Applications Sought for Young Adult Eco-Stewards

Applications are being sought for the Eco-Stewards program of the Presbyterian

Conservation Corps (PCC), a Christian community responding to God's call through applied eco-stewardship. The PCC is looking for Eco-Steward applicants from ages 18-24 years old who demonstrate interest in church, camp, and environmental concerns.

Participants will not only experience the Eco-Stewards Program but will help further implement the unfolding vision of the Presbyterian Conservation Corps. Participants will be responsible for fundraising/covering their own travel expenses to training site and some portion of program costs. Accepted applicants will be given direction with fundraising as needed. The application deadline is May 1, 2009. To download the application, go to <http://www.presbyterianconservationcorps.org/2009.html>.

Each program will comprise of two components at different sites: 1. Eco-Stewards Training (3-4 days) and 2. Eco-Stewards Hand-On Program (3-4 days). The two programs are as follows: **West:** July 5-12 at Highlands Camp in Allenspark, Colo., and Greenwood Farm in Hardin, Mont., and **Midwest:** August 9-16 at Stronghold Retreat Center in Oregon, Ill. and Chicago, Ill. PCC will transport participants between each site, but participants are responsible for travel to the training and from the program component.

The Eco-Stewards program seeks to train and inspire young adults in the ways of eco-stewardship within the wider context of our Christian faith. In response to Jesus' call to love our neighbors we are committed to the following principles:

1. Eco-consciousness.
2. Being in solidarity with the poor.
3. Living as ecological and socially responsible consumers.
4. Personal spiritual journeys that are nurtured and supported by the Way of Community.

5. Having roots in Presbyterian Reformed tradition.
6. Providing education and training that compels action.

The Presbyterian Conservation Corps (PCC) is a collaboration between the Presbyterian Camp and Conference Association (PCCCA) and the Presbyterians for Restoring Creation (PRC) inspired by former Presbyterian Church, USA moderator Rick Ufford-Chase. The overarching goal of this new initiative is to help inspire Presbyterian Church, USA churches and their members to become better caretakers of planet earth, our God given island home.

## Together, We can change the world...



One Great Hour of Sharing marks its 60th anniversary. There are very few things individuals can do in a week that will impact lasting change around the world. However, the actions of one person can change the world – for example, the important ministry carried out because of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

Moderator Bruce Reyes-Chow has put a challenge before our churches to double their offering this year in light of the 60th anniversary of the One Great Hour of Sharing. Now, more than ever, those who are most vulnerable in our communities and around the world are counting on us to help them make a difference in their lives. Most congregations receive the One Great Hour of Sharing on Palm Sunday or Easter and use the season of Lent to promote the offering. So, please take a moment now to help ensure a successful offering this year.

Visit the One Great Hour of Sharing Web site [www.pcusa.org/oghs](http://www.pcusa.org/oghs).

## New in the Resource Center

### DVDs

#### The Jesus Creed.

Scot McKnight presents a seven-week study for high school or adult spiritual formation.



#### Confronting Death: a Christian

Approach to the End of Life, with Walter Wangerin Jr., as he draws from his own experience with cancer.

Gifts of an Uncommon Life: The Practice of Contemplative Activism by Howard E. Friend, Jr. Shows us the ways and means to change our lifestyles so that we can become agents of God to change the world into what God wants it to be.

Trusted Voices: Spiritual Wisdom from Lost Generations of Women, by Diana Karay Tripp.

Living the Good Life on God's Good Earth, David S. Koetje, editor. Invites living out our calling as caretaker of God's good earth.

### BOOKS

#### Jesus, The Final Days:

What Really Happened. The

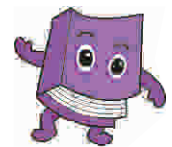
authors, Craig A.

Evans and N. T. Wright, examine from an historical perspective, events in Jesus' life to surmise what really occurred during Jesus' final days on earth. Includes an index of ancient sources.

#### The Jesus Creed: Loving God, Loving

Others, by Scot McKnight. Explores how spiritual formation is about our loving relationship with God and others.

40 Days Living the Jesus Creed, by Scot McKnight. Learn how to put into practice what it means to love God and others.



### NEWSLETTER

Published Bi-monthly

Presbytery of the Inland Northwest

8910 East Dalton Avenue, Spokane, WA 99212-3401

*Purpose: to encourage, support and inform the churches of our Presbytery*

April 2009

Vol. 33, Issue 2

Cindy Enos, Editor



# The Weyerhaeuser Center for Christian Faith and Learning

The Weyerhaeuser Center provides resources, training, and encouragement for clergy and laity. In addition to sponsoring the annual Whitworth Institute of Ministry, the Weyerhaeuser Center provides lectures, workshops, short courses, reading groups, certificates, and other programs designed to renew clergy and lay leaders and equip them to serve Christ in the church and the world.

## Pastors' Reading Group

The purpose of the pastors' reading group is to help pastors and interested laypersons explore the themes of vocation and ministry through the reading and discussing of books related to these topics. This reading group is designed to provide intellectual stimulation and personal enrichment by engaging in significant conversation regarding the nature and purpose of the church as it moves into the 21st Century. The reading group meets the first Tuesday of the month from 7:00 – 8:30 a.m. A book and light breakfast is provided to each participant at minimal cost. All pastors and interested laypersons are invited to join at any time. In April and May, we will be reading and discussing the book *Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy* by D. Kraybill, S. Nolt, and D. Weaver-Zercher.

## Diploma in Lay Pastoral Ministry

Churches and religious organizations are increasingly looking for qualified men and women to serve in non-ordained positions of pastoral leadership in the church. Unfortunately, many otherwise qualified people are reluctant to pursue these positions because they do not feel adequately prepared biblically and theologically, or they find themselves lacking in the practical skills they need to be successful in ministry. Others are already involved in ministry positions but feel limited by their lack of training and ongoing opportunities for development and support.

The Diploma in Lay Pastoral Ministry is designed to help train, equip, and support lay men and women to serve more effectively as commissioned lay pastors, lay ministers, or in other lay pastoral positions in the church or other religious organizations.

## Program Schedule

Morning courses meet 9 a.m. –noon, and afternoon courses meet 2–5 p.m. Tuition for each course is \$275. Any interested layperson is invited to take one or more courses.

### June 1 - 5

- 9 a.m. – noon  
Survey of the Old Testament  
Christian Theology
- 2 – 5 p.m.  
Polity and Church Leadership  
Pastoral Care and Counseling

### June 8 – 12

- 9 a.m. – noon  
Survey of the New Testament  
Preaching: Principles and Practice
- 2 – 5 p.m.  
Church History  
Worship and the Sacraments

## Master of Arts in Theology

Developing deeply committed, spiritually disciplined, visionary leaders for the church.

- Convenient: A schedule that allows students to enroll in the program without leaving their jobs or having to be residents of Spokane. All courses are offered during Friday/Saturday sessions or week-long summer or January intensives.
- Self-paced: Designed so that students can finish in two years, or take courses at their own pace taking longer for completion.
- Flexible: Students take core courses covering theology, church history, and biblical studies and additional electives in areas of interest (12 courses total).

Whitworth's M.A. in Theology program is designed around:

Classical Theology – rooted in the disciplines of Biblical studies, theology and history.

Practical Ministry – focused on addressing contemporary ministry challenges.

Spiritual Formation – learn together as a praying, worshipping community.

Next cohort begins in May, 2009. For additional information about these programs, call Michelle Pace at (509) 777-3275 or [mseefried@whitworth.edu](mailto:mseefried@whitworth.edu), or Dr. Tim Dolan at (509) 777-4676 [tdolan@whitworth.edu](mailto:tdolan@whitworth.edu).

## “PCUSA Worldwide” e-newsletter



PCUSA WORLDWIDE is a monthly e-mail newsletter about the international mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Please visit <http://www.pcusa.org/worldwide/newsletter> to view the current issue and to enter a subscription.

### In the current issue:

- **Cambodian Doctor Tends Mountain Villagers** —Paul Friesen tells Dr. Thong's story
- **Four Partner Churches meet in Brazil** —"We learned a lot from each other and saw many similarities . . ."
- **Presbyterians Support Mission Personnel** —2008 outreach to individuals raises \$835,000
- **PC(USA) Mission Worker Assists Sister Mission** —Sam Topple gives two weeks volunteer service in eastern Congo
- **Something New in Hungary:** Volunteers—"A new generation and new perspectives"
- **And Briefly...**Mission openings around the world, World Water Day, NetWorkers Mother's Day project, Ethiopian jubilee, Indonesian bus riders pray for peace in Palestine.

## Presbytery Church Support Staff Appreciation Luncheon

The 11th annual Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Tuesday April 21 at Knox Presbyterian Church in Spokane. This is for church support staff



(secretarial, bookkeepers and others) from all our churches to show appreciation of their work. Please encourage your staff to attend. For more information or to make a reservation, please contact Joyce at the Presbytery office (509) 924-4148.



## A Dozen New PC(USA) Mission Workers Begin Service

Twelve new Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) international mission personnel attended orientation in Louisville last month and have started or will soon start their international assignments in Peru, Guatemala, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Sudan, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, and along the U.S/Mexican border.

New mission personnel include: The Rev. Sara Armstrong, Rusty Edmondson, Alexandra Buck, Amanda Craft, the Rev. David Diercksen, Dr. John and Gwenda Fletcher, the Rev. Brenda Harcourt, Jed Koball, Nancy McGaughey, the Rev. Stacey Steck, and Nathaniel Veltman.

For more information on the new mission workers, see the article by Presbyterian News Service at [www.pcusa.org/pcnews](http://www.pcusa.org/pcnews). To learn about other PC(USA) mission workers and read their letters visit [www.pcusa.org/missionconnections](http://www.pcusa.org/missionconnections).

## Joan Hust Plans Next Mission Trip

Joan will be making a mission trip to Togo, West Africa, for five weeks in July. She is asking for donations of items she can distribute and use as she ministers to the children and adults in the villages. Some of the suggested items are listed on the suitcase graphic and can be dropped off at the Presbytery Office at 8910 E. Dalton Avenue. Please pray for Joan as she prepares for her trip that the Lord would speak through her to draw the lost to Himself, and for her health and safety while she is away.



## Update on Northfork Presbyterian Church



The Northfork Church burned in a fire in December. The new foundation will be in place the middle of March along with restrooms and getting hooked up to a sewer line. They are looking for people or groups that may want to help purchase materials or help with the finishing touches. They are paying as they go for the materials. The Presbytery Office is receiving monies for Northfork and will be the contact for setting up groups that would like to help. If you would like to send money or help with the work, please contact Joyce or Rick at the Presbytery Office – (509) 924-4148, 8910 E Dalton Ave, Spokane, Wa. 99212.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Just days ago I returned from my most recent trip to Russia. Throughout my travels I was sustained by the power of your prayers and those of countless others across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) My sincere thanks!

It was a rewarding time in Krasnoyarsk (Siberia), Moscow, and St. Petersburg. In a frigid and snowbound city in south central Siberia, I was part of a Presbyterian team visiting Christians who've dedicated their lives to spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ to native peoples who still practice shamanism. We met with leaders of Gospel Recordings to discern ways the PCUSA might come alongside this important frontier mission. Igor, Rustam, Tim, Iris and others have produced 7 CD sets in different native languages as a powerful evangelism tool to share the gospel message. Hearing the stories of the challenges to native ministry in Siberia was both dramatic and enlightening. In June, I'll visit Siberia again as we take our next steps in supporting this vital outreach.

As one of many stops in Moscow and St. Petersburg, I spent time with Bob and Stacy Bronkema, PCUSA pastors who serve the unique Moscow Protestant Chaplaincy. For 47 years, our denomination has been a key supporter of this English language congregation in the heart of Russia. Today, more that 60% of the congregation are people from Africa. And, in Moscow, they are the object of intense racial harassment and discrimination. Today the Bronkemas are deeply involved in Sunday worship, the Parish Center where refugee paperwork can be completed, soup kitchens, a medical clinic, and a task force documenting racist attacks.

These are but two highlights of many aspects of my ministry supported by the Presbytery of the Inland Northwest. If I many share more of this mission story with you or members in your congregation, please ask.

Yours in Christ,  
Gary gdpayton@aol.com

*Gary Payton is a PCUSA mission coworker and lives in Sandpoint, Idaho. Read his newsletters at [www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/payton.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/payton.htm)*

# GUATEMALA

*A missionary is one whom God sends through the support of the Church to the unreached. All Christians are called to be missionaries of the Gospel. The Lord works through them to rescue the lost. What greater call can one answer?*

*John Piper*

The K'ekchi is the third largest of 21 indigenous language groups descended from the ancient Maya civilization. They are the poorest and most discriminated against among the peoples of Guatemala. Their lands were taken, villages destroyed, and many were killed (or "disappeared") during the 36 years of civil war that ended with the Peace Accords of 1996. During this tragic period, the Presbyterian Church of Guatemala began a mission to the K'ekchi. Many heard of God's love for them and accepted Christ as Savior. New K'ekchi churches were planted and the first small presbytery began in 1975. By 1998, the explosion in evangelism resulted in five presbyteries among the scattered groups of K'ekchi.

The five K'ekchi Presbyteries, the association of Presbyteries Maya K'ekchi (APMK), and the Presbytery of the Inland Northwest (PIN) began negotiations to become "partners" through our national churches. Our presbytery and the APMK drew up the partnership covenant during our first delegation to Guatemala in June 1999. PIN approved it and it was signed and approved by the APMK during our second delegation in January 2000. The partnership covenant includes mutual support, prayer, sharing and visiting. The partnership is implemented for the PIN through the Guatemala Task Force, which meets each month in Spokane. This Task Force, in consultation with the Church in Guatemala, arranges dates for delegations and maintains contact with the K'ekchi. It seeks out, funds, and monitors specific mission commitments. The Task Force also selects, trains and leads delegations to Guatemala.

There is still time for you to sign up for

the June delegation. Contact Joyce Bippes at [joyce@presbyinw.org](mailto:joyce@presbyinw.org), or call at 509-924-4148, and she will send you an application. Even though you do not speak K'ekchi or Spanish and most of the K'ekchi do not speak English there is a oneness in Jesus as you worship God together. The K'ekchi will inspire you by their spiritual growth in the midst of poverty. They will challenge you by their zealous evangelism. You will encourage them by your visit. You can share more fully by participating in a delegation to the K'ekchi and joining the Guatemala Task Force in June. Pray about it.

#### Interesting Facts:

- Radio K'ekchi station in Guatemala is on 4845.
- Protestant radio station is in a town named after a Catholic missionary.
- Broadcasts are in K'ekchi and Spanish.
- The apostrophe in K'ekchi represents a glottal consonant not found in English or Spanish.
- Guatemala is the world's largest exporter of the spice, cardamom
- Over 200,000 Guatemalans make a living off cardamom.
- Dominican friars translated Bible verses into the K'ekchi language.
- The Bible verses were set to music and taught to the traders and they taught the K'ekchi new songs.
- The K'ekchi live in rural villages.
- K'ekchi women all wear huipiles, a loose fitting pull-over cotton blouse finely embroidered with floral patterns



around the neckline, and skirts made by wrapping several yards of colorful hand-loomed fabric around their waists.

- Ninety percent of the K'ekchi do not speak Spanish.
- Q'eqchi' or K'ekchi may refer to: Q'eqchi' language, a Mayan language spoken in Guatemala and Belize, and/or Q'eqchi' people, an indigenous Maya people.
- Weaving a guipil is part of K'ekchi indigenous dress.
- You can purchase the Kekchi New Testament (Q'eqchi' New Testament) on audio cassette.
- The "JESUS" Film, based on the Gospel of Luke, has been translated into K'ekchi.
- Kekchi Bible in print is available at the Bible Society in Guatemala.
- Chisec is a remote region in the district of Alta Verapaz, Guatemala.
- The Chisec area is predominately comprised of K'ekchi Indians.
- The Chisec region was the latest massacre site in Guatemala's 36 year civil war.
- 75 % of the K'ekchi in Chisec are illiterate, and extremely poor.
- A small restaurant is called a comedor
- Ellen Dozier states in one of her letters that life in Guatemala happens in "slow motion" compared to life in other places.
- K'ekchi' leader Mateo Pop Coc lives in a remote mountain region. He and his family could not read. They noticed him reading his Bible one day and asked him who taught him to read. Coc pointed to a tall hill and said, "Every morning I take my Bible and go up on that hill. I pray and ask God to help me to read His Word. Then I open my Bible to a couple verses I've marked and memorized. I say the verses while looking at them in the Bible. And the Lord is teaching me to read!"
- Mateo Pop Coc is known as the "father of the faith."

*Joan S. Hust*

*Matthew 28:19-20*



Presbytery of the Inland Northwest  
8910 E. Dalton Ave.  
Spokane, WA 99212-3401

Dear Friends,

In 2008 we first committed ourselves to a big Presbyterian family reunion combining ten partner conferences, worship and celebrations under one Big Tent.

We knew then it was a good idea, but we could not foresee how prescient it would be. The June 11-13 Big Tent Conference in Atlanta was always about the excitement and faithfulness of being together but the recent turn in the economy has highlighted the Big Tent as good stewardship for the church and for the participants.

The news we are all hearing from the financial marketplace makes the Big Tent an even bigger bargain than before. Instead of ten separate conferences, participants can register for one conference (or no conference at all) but still move between events in other conferences, sharing the excitement. With just one trip we can be fed by the vari-



ety of ministries of the church while engaging in our own particular passions and calls.

Think of it as an all you can eat buffet. A full listing of workshops and conference activities can be found at [www.pcusa.org/bigtent](http://www.pcusa.org/bigtent).

In Service to Jesus Christ,  
*Linda Valentine, Executive Director,  
General Assembly Council*

*Gradye Parsons, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly*

## Books for the Taking



Rev Bill Lutz, a retired pastor in our Presbytery, has a set of Interpreters Bibles with a published date of 1956. He has 11 out of the 12 in the set. If you are interested, please contact him at (509) 467-0853.

## Presbyterian Christian Education Committee

Did you know that we have a resource on the Presbytery of the Inland Northwest Christian Education Committee web page that lists Vacation Bible School programs in the Presbytery, the contact person and available resources that folks are willing to loan out to other congregations? Just click on: <http://www.presbyinw.org/Committees/ChristianEducation/tabid/1030/Default.aspx>, then scroll down the page to resources click on VBS 2009. If you would like to participate in this listing of VBS programs please email your contact information (church info, phone number, contact person with email), VBS program theme and resources you would be willing to share to [joe@hamblenpres.org](mailto:joe@hamblenpres.org). I will enter that information into the PINW CE VBS page. Thank you.

