

## Support Presbyterian Mission year-round through Special Offerings

**One Great Hour of Sharing** has helped people in need around the world since 1949. The offering supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. Most congregations receive the offering on Easter Sunday, Palm Sunday or both, while many receive it throughout Lent.

**The Pentecost Offering** provides a direct way to meet the needs of children at risk, youth, and young adults since 1998. Congregations are encouraged to retain 40 percent of the offering for local work with children at risk. The remaining 60 percent is shared among ministries with youth and young adults, young adult mission volunteers and child advocacy. Most congregations receive the offering on the Day of Pentecost.

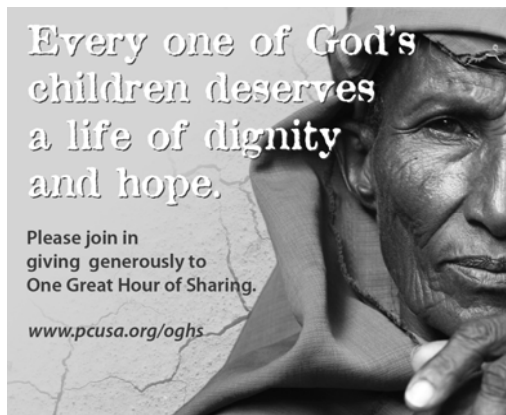
**The Peacemaking Offering** has provided support to peacemaking ministries throughout the church since 1980. Congregations are encouraged to retain 25 percent, presbyteries and synods receive 25 percent and the General Assembly 50 percent for peacemaking efforts. The offering is received on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday in October.

**The Christmas Joy Offering** has been a Presbyterian tradition for more than 70 years. Its proceeds benefit active and retired workers of the church in times of need and also support the work of racial ethnic Presbyterian schools and colleges. Most congregations receive the Christmas Joy Offering the Sunday before Christmas.



*This bulletin is published quarterly for congregational distribution by the Presbytery of Lake Michigan.*

*To contribute content please email [news@lakemichiganpresbytery.org](mailto:news@lakemichiganpresbytery.org).*



**Congregational Connection**  
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First Quarter 2010, Volume 7, Issue 1

# FOCUS on Administration

**Personnel Issues In The Church:** a notebook based on the Presbytery Personnel Workshop, held in October, has been developed. It includes information such as Civil Rights Questions and Answers, Writing Position Descriptions (with samples), and the Care and Feeding of Staff. These and other issues are included in the notebook which is available through the Presbytery Office or at the February Presbytery meeting. Cost is \$10.

**A Clerk's Manual Is On The Way!** Janet Magennis, our stated clerk, is working with the Administration Team to develop a Clerk of Session Manual, answering common questions and giving guidelines for session meeting minutes. The manual should be ready for distribution sometime this spring.

**Would Your Church Like A Stewardship Visitor?** There are a variety of stewardship resources available on the Presbytery web site, [www.lakemichiganpresbytery.org](http://www.lakemichiganpresbytery.org) under the Administration Team button. Included are a list of persons willing to come work with your church on stewardship issues. Check it out!

**Elder Gathering - "A Day of Worship and Renewal"** This fall the Presbytery of Lake Michigan will hold a one day gathering for Elders. Tentative themes for the gathering include "Bridging Generations in Your Church", "Elders as Spiritual Leaders in The Congregation" and "Elders as Communicators". Stay tuned for more information.

## Coming This June...“Building Hope”

**Building Hope** is a stewardship program being developed by our presbytery. But it is far more than a stewardship program. It is a life-changing event that turns pew sitting Christians into agents of God's love.



The program is grounded in the certainty of God's power, love, and grace allowing us to build new lives through our Lord Jesus Christ. Such times as ours call not just for a continuation but an increase of time, talent, and treasure.



These are tough times. Yet we are called upon even now to risk boldly for the gospel. We need to build an altar of hope in our lives and the lives of others through personal encounters in mission and through the mission work we do together through the local church, Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly.



This participatory program will include DVDs of personal stories of change through involvement at all levels of the Church. It will also provide worship resources, including children's sermons; a curriculum; and a ritual of personal commitment to be a builder of hope. We also plan to have an on-line presence using Youtube, Facebook, and blogs.

**Building Hope** will be unveiled at the June Presbytery meeting.

**Tuesday, June 8, 2010, Benton Harbor, Fairplain**

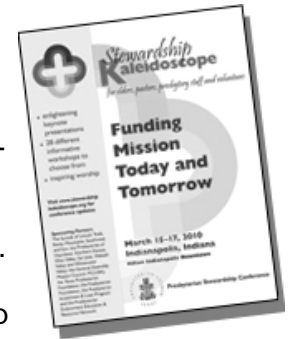
# Stewardship Kaleidoscope

*for elders, pastors, presbytery staff and volunteers*

**National Presbyterian Stewardship Conference**  
**March 15 - 17, 2010, Indianapolis, Indiana**  
**Hilton Indianapolis Downtown**

This conference will be an excellent opportunity for Stewardship Committee Moderators and Committee members, Elders, or anyone interested in this important aspect of our lives together as Presbyterians. Plenary sessions will include presentations by Rev. Brian Blount, Rev. Maggie Lauterer and Katherine W. Miree.

Rev. Blount President of Union Theological Seminary will present "Proclaiming Stewardship: A Matter of Grace". Rev. Lauterer will present "Getting to the Heart of Stewardship". She will share some mission / stewardship ideas that have worked for the growing church she serves, involving everyone from small children to young adults to older adults. Katherine W. Miree will present "The Role of Planned Giving in Strengthening Stewardship and Your Church Mission".



During the two days of the Conference there will be opportunities to attend and participate in four workshop session with topics including "Many Ways to Give - Many Ways to Ask: Are We Making an Effective Case for Support?", "Endowment 101", "Stewardship and Data Management", and "Using Art Forms in Teaching Stewardship".

*Don't forget to pay "your fair share". Per Capita for 2010 is \$23.08 per member. That is less than \$2 a month per member to support our Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly!*

For more information check out [www.stewardshipkaleidoscope.org](http://www.stewardshipkaleidoscope.org)