Your Bi-Weekly News & Updates
April 16, 2021

News & Notes is published on the first and third Friday of the month. Keep up-to-date with happenings in the Presbytery and related topics and events around the world.

Visit our Website

Presbytery News

Special Called Meeting Recap
It pleases us to announce the Rev. David Colby will begin his work as Transitional General Presbyter on Monday, April 19!

The Transitional Presbyter Search Committee presented the Terms of Call for the Transitional General Presbyter position and introduced the Rev. David Colby to the presbytery this past Tuesday at the Special Called Meeting.

David Colby comes to Winnebago Presbytery from Central Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, where he served as pastor for 15 years. Rev. Colby has been a leader in mid-council work, including work on committees and organizations on the church at the national level, serving congregations of various sizes and contexts throughout his ministry.

In the next few weeks, members of the Presbytery will have several opportunities to meet with Dave over Zoom. Until then, you can read more about Dave here.

The Winnebago Presbytery Personnel Committee and the Search Committee deserve special recognition for dedicating countless hours to finding the right
Transitional General Presbytery to lead Winnebago Presbytery into its next chapter. Thank you!

May Presbytery Meeting
May 11, at 2 p.m.
Save the date of the Spring Presbytery Meeting! This meeting will be via zoom and the agenda is in process. Look for more details soon!

A Note from COM Coordinator Leslie Gunter
Thank you all for the generous gift of a sabbatical. From the beginning, it was clear to me that this was different from vacation. This was time set apart. Due to COVID, I stayed home, but I think that helped me to settle into a deeply restful time of unplugging, of concentrated reading, writing, resting and praying. This time has had lingering effects and, it makes sense, that that will continue. I am very grateful.

~Leslie

2021 Boundary Training Opportunity
May 19 and 20, Virtual
Every Minister of Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elder commissioned to pastoral service in Winnebago Presbytery needs to attend boundary training every three years. This year, LeaderWise is offering an online version in May! [Click here to register](#) ($75) for the May 19 & 20 Boundaries Training. Please contact [Mary Kay](#) at the LeaderWise office for more information.

Please email [Jill](#) at the Presbytery office if you register for this or any other boundary training.

Employment Opportunity
First Presbyterian Church Winneconne
*Multimedia and Communications Assistant*
This position is responsible for a variety of professional level work in communications and multimedia duties. This position will oversee the online presence of the church and provide general communications for congregation. They will collaborate with pastor and designated volunteers in support of congregational goals. Find more information on their [Facebook Page](#).

From the Synod

**Synod School is Back!**
*July 25 -30, 2021*
Synod school is back and will be held in person this summer, with some events held virtually and/or in a hybrid format. The theme is
Called Out.
Registration for classes began on April 1. Find all the details [here].

Winnebago Presbytery will again provide individual and family scholarships for Synod School. Contact your church office for details.

From PC(USA)

Church Vision and Tentative Plans for GA225 Take Up Agenda for COGA’s Spring Meeting
Rick Jones | Office of the General Assembly - April 14, 2021
LOUISVILLE
The Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) opened its spring meeting on Tuesday diving into the Stated Clerk’s vision for the church in the 21st century. The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II has called on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to “live into the fullness of being the church” by identifying values integral to its identity. That includes making the church “more fully inclusive, flexible and faithful.”
During Tuesday’s meeting, Nelson went into greater detail about the vision that extends not only through future General Assemblies, but the challenges facing all denominations in a post-pandemic world. He told the group that the world has changed, and that the church has not kept up with those changes.
“I heard someone resigned from a committee because they were angry, touting that the church is too liberal. I don’t even know what that means anymore. We are seeing the implosion of our own society behind those types of labels and not seeing people for who they are,” he said. “We’ve struggled with this for 30 years since reunion and much has to do with not really hearing the otherness of the other.” [Full article.]

Events and Resources

Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering
May 1, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., via Zoom
Presbyterian Women of Winnebago Presbytery are invited to attend the PW of the Milwaukee Presbytery for their Spring Gathering (via Zoom) in welcoming Ellen Smith, PC(USA) Mission Co-Worker to Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, and Poland to this year’s virtual PW Spring Gathering, "Being a Hope-Giver."

Ellen will share about her experiences with the 2020 PW Birthday Offering Grant recipient, Preobrazheniye an assisted living facility for special needs individuals in Davydovo, Russia. Read a about Ellen's experience [here] and register for the gathering [here].

New PC(USA) Curriculum Available in July
Introductory Webinar, April 28
Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living features 36 units based on practices Jesus did and taught to his follower; it looks at where these practices are found in Scripture and how they have been used in the Christian faith in the time of Jesus, now, and in between. A curriculum for children, youth, and adults will be available, along with Congregational Guides that include worship links, intergenerational session plans, and more.

Watch an introductory video, and find more information - including a sample session, timing of the different units, and new updates - here. Practical Resources for Churches will host a free, in-depth "Follow Me" webinar at 12 p.m. on April 28; register here.

A Matter of Faith Podcast
Those of you who enjoy podcasts may be interested in the Matter of Faith podcast, which is produced by the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program in collaboration with Unbound hosts Simon Doong and Lee Catoe. Hosts give thoughtful responses to questions submitted by listeners on issues of faith, social justice, and church life. The podcast also highlights relevant policies, resources, and guest hosts from around the PC(USA).

The Presbyterian Mental Health Network (PMHN) invites you to join their new Facebook Group for people interested in mental health ministry.

PMHN is a new churchwide independent grassroots network launched with the support of a mental health ministry grant. Its purpose is to facilitate networking, conversation, and the sharing of stories and models for mental health ministry across the church. The PCUSA Associate for Mental Health Ministry collaborates closely with this developing network. Find more details on this Mental Health Ministry here.

Presbyterian Tech Talk
Join a new Facebook Group for all topics "Tech" in Presbyterian churches From live streaming to Wi-Fi, computer networks to Worship video screens, the group hopes to encourage Presbyterians throughout the denomination to share their best practices, assist each other with tech issues, share media assets, and promote the growth of technology within our churches. To join, search for "Presbyterian Tech Talk" in Facebook or click this link: https://www.facebook.com/groups/presbyteriantechtalk

Summer Camp Registration is Open
The 2021 brochure can be viewed online and registration is open!
Winnebago Presbytery will again provide camp scholarships for any camp session or location. Contact your church office for scholarship information.

**Presbytery Resource Page**
If you haven't had a chance, please look at the resource page on our website. There are information and guidelines on returning to church safely, health information, navigating technology, financial matters, copyright, and more. This is the spot where you will find the most up-to-date information from the Presbytery. Find it on our website homepage under the Resources tab.

**Winnebago Presbytery Virtual Sunday Worship Services**
We have compiled a list and links to the Winnebago Presbytery congregations that have online worship services. Find it here.

Click here for the Presbytery Calendar

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**Links To Our Partners**

To find out more information about our various partnerships at both the national and local levels, click on the links below.

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