

# The Homesteader

A Publication of Homestead Presbytery



December 10, 2013 Issue

Dear Kris

## [Homesteader Print Version](#)

Please share this with other members of your congregation - You are welcome to use it as a Sunday bulletin insert, forward as an email, print copies OR include all or part of it in your own church newsletter.

## PRIME TIME HIGHLIGHTS - November 21, 2013



It was an exciting Thursday in Fremont! The people of the Presbyterian Church of Fremont were a warm welcome on a chilly day. Approximately 75 of us from across eastern Nebraska gathered for fellowship and networking before Moderator Elder Robin Hadfield called us to order for her term's final assembly.

The Presbytery was challenged to expand its vision. First, in her sermon during the opening worship, Moderator Hadfield challenged us all to a new vision of how we can do presbytery better. Our Executive Presbytery challenged us to see new things when he shared the "invisible dancing bear". [Video](#)

The **television ad** which began running in mid-November and continues through mid-December was played. [Video](#)

Our **Director of Camp Calvin Crest**, Craig Huffman, shared the great news that the loan from the pool fund has now been completely repaid.

## Advent Devotional

The Homestead Presbytery Advent Devotional is now available to [download](#).

## All Youth Invited to Summer Missions

**Camp** four work days (5-6 hours ea) and a Sabbath/Free Day at the end of the week. Work sites/projects are lined up with help from the Y's Volunteer Coordinator.

**Where:** Estes Park, CO.  
YMCA Camp of The Rockies

**When:** June 2-8, 2014

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**Related Links**

Many thanks to Craig for his dedicated leadership in this important ministry.

We were blessed to have Elder Diana Barber from the **Synod staff** to lead us in a workshop on boundary issues and problems that ministers and sessions have to confront. She helped us better understand the importance of understanding boundary difficulties and how to address them. We all have a role in developing healthy boundaries in behavior and church politics.

The commissioners supported Presbyterian mission during two offering opportunities. During worship, \$270.71 was donated for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. During lunch the table offering for the for hunger relief was \$23.22 which will be used by the Fremont Presbyterian Church for its food relief program.

**General Assembly commissioners** were elected: Ruling Elders Cheryl Rennick (Westminster) and Pam Carrier (Lincoln First); Teaching Elders Jen Strickland and Greg Bolt. The new classes for each of our committees were also elected. Thank you to everyone who agreed to serve.

Connie Stone is Homestead's representative on the **Interchurch Ministries Board of Directors** and provided an excellent summary of the important ministry this ecumenical witness provides.

Council presented the **Outstanding Homesteader Award to Elder Cheryl Rennick**, presbytery's volunteer Treasurer who has worked tirelessly to improve the presbytery's bookkeeping and financial practices, moderates our Program and Grants Committee, volunteered to serve as bookkeeper for Lincoln Eastridge during their staffing transitions, meets with our Business and Finance Committee, all while serving full-time as the Business Manager for Lincoln Westminster. Thank you and congratulations to Cheryl.

The Rev. Gary Fugman and Sharon Fugman participated in a **mission trip to Cuba**, for which Homestead was able to help fund. They gave a wonderful report about what they learned and shared pictures of people and places.

[Mission Yearbook of Prayer](#)  
[View daily online for free](#)

[FriendlyPresbyterianChurches.org](#)

[Presbyterian Church \(USA\)](#)

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Our **new Moderator, the Rev. James McNeal**, who serves the Liberty Parish, was installed.

### **SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED.**

The 2014 Budget was approved. The restated Manual of Operations was finalized. Overtures to General Assembly were approved or endorsed which would support the role of presbyteries to determine the organization of their synods; to enable retired pastors to become associate members of congregations; to require teaching elders working 20 hours or more to participate in the Board of Pensions benefits programs.

## **Grants are Available from the Congregational & Leadership Development Task Group**

Presbytery's C&LD Task Group is wanting our churches to think "out of the box" in terms of mission, ministry and equipment that will help our churches.

We welcome you to brainstorm new ideas. Here are a few to get you started:

### **1. Congregational Development (\$3,500 - limit \$500 per church)**

Looking for financing to help to:

- Finance training for a "Stephen's Ministry"
- Gain Bible literacy like funding a "Walk Through the Bible

Seminar"

- Fund ads in your newspaper for "You've Got a Friend Sunday"
- Sponsor a mission such as a community "Thanksgiving Dinner

for the

needy"

- Start of youth and/or adult mission trip for your church and/or churches in our presbytery, local mission, Montreat, NC

and beyond

- Purchase an electronic digital sign for your church's front lawn
- Get a power point system for worship in your church's building
- Sponsor a Covenant Player's drama/music workshop
- Learn new music for worship
- ???

## 2. Leadership Development (\$1,500 - limit \$250 per grant) for Teaching and Ruling Elders.

Looking for financial help to :

- Attend Interim Pastor training,
- Go to Synod School, Montreat, Ghost Ranch or Stony Point Conferences
- Get training to start a Logos Ministry ,
- Take an on-line course in Certified Lay Pastor (CLP) training from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary.
- Study for CLP training at Cotner College
- ???

Members of the C&LD are: Avis Andrews, Ken Hipple, Maggie Horak, Leanne Masters, Duncan Nichol, chair, Karen Roubal, Cheryl Scott and Doc Wyatt, staff.

Tell us what's going on in the life of your congregation or ministry -  
Church news, event promotion, mission articles and photos are all welcome!  
Please submit articles to Jessica at [hpooffice@homesteadpres.org](mailto:hpooffice@homesteadpres.org)  
or mail to 8300 East Pointe Rd. Lincoln, NE 68506

### Contact Information

Congregational Resource Coordinator, Kris Peterson  
Homestead Presbytery office, Jessica Kottmeyer

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