



The Homesteader

A Publication of Homestead Presbytery

April 1, 2014

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.

What is a Per Capita Apportionment?

written by Rev. Duncan Nichol, Tekamah

One may compare the per capita apportionment to an airplane. On this airplane are our mission dollars, who, as passengers, get a free ride to be used anywhere in the world by the Spirit of Jesus, without any administrative charges.

Every church is apportioned a share of the administrative expenses of Homestead Presbytery, the Synod of Lakes & Prairies, and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). This is per capita.

In Homestead Presbytery, per capita pays for the administrative costs of our presbytery meetings, and also enables our committees and task groups that plan and do mission to meet needs. It also provides for resource materials to be purchased and shared with congregations. Training in resource use, church visioning and revitalization is enabled by per capita funds as well. Per capita is used for keeping presbytery records and keeping the phones ringing, as well as sending presbytery folks to visit and resource congregations in need. It also pays the mileage for the Presbytery Executive to make hospital visits to ministers and their families (like Pastor Duncan & Jeannie). It also pays for Kris Peterson, presbytery's Congregational Resources Coordinator, to help guide and work with us in the visioning process for our church. The Synod and the General Assembly also have their administrative costs.

This apportionment is based on the "membership roll" of each church. The amount varies with the needs of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, and is a regular expense payable by this church as approved by the Session. The amount to be paid in 2014 per active member is \$36.00. Of this amount, our Presbytery receives \$23.98, our Synod gets \$5 and our General Assembly receives \$7.02. The presbytery is required to pay these administrative expenses to Synod and General Assembly, even if individual churches do not.

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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[Mission Yearbook of Prayer](#)
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The scoop on Per Capita

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Our per capita keeps the planes flying our mission dollars to transform the world as Jesus has chosen to do. It is our time honored way of dealing with administrative costs. It may be new to some because we're fully explaining this area of our church's life. Your per capita gift to God through your church, above and beyond your usual gift, will help mission dollars receive a free ride.

Project Grow offers practical strategies to grow church



A group of successful church leaders will share a variety of practical strategies to grow a congregation in a two-day summit at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Lincoln, Neb. Sponsored by the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation, the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, and the presbyteries of Central Nebraska, Homestead and Missouri River Valley, the event will run Monday and Tuesday, April 28-29. Featured speakers include Tex Sample, a well-known author and storyteller; Shannon Craigo-Snell, professor of theology at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary; and Charles Arn, a well-known author in the field of church growth. Details can be found at ["Growth Conference."](#)

Oscars' best films from a faith perspective

Editor's Note: The following column appeared before "Oscar Night" Sunday, but it still makes for a good read today. Written by Presbyterian film critic Ed McNulty, it includes his assessment of the nominated films. McNulty writes ...



Virtually all critics who have written about the nine films nominated for the Best Picture Oscar base their opinions on aesthetic considerations (blended with their personal tastes). Aesthetics are important - too many faith-based films fail at this point and thus are not taken seriously - but I want to approach this year's nine nominees mainly from a faith and moral perspective. Even more than with last year's group, several of the films released in 2013 raise moral and theological issues, though sometimes, as in the case of the first three films discussed below, it is in a negative way. The films are arranged according to this writer's opinion from the least deserving to the one that I hope will win. McNulty's column can be found at ["Oscars."](#)

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
or mail to 8300 East Pointe Rd. Lincoln, NE 68506

Contact Information

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