



WyoConnect

April 1 , 2017

Connecting

'Facing Racism' Resources

by Gregg Brekke | Presbyterian News Service



LOUISVILLE – Acting on the directive of the 222nd General Assembly (2016) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the communication agencies of the denomination's six agencies have today launched the joint program, "Facing Racism," to produce and promote antiracism resources for the church.

The FacingRacism.org website will serve as a starting point for the dissemination of resources and offers a link to subscribe to receive regular updates on newly available materials and calls to action.



Upcoming Events

April 12 - WyoConnect deadline

Apr 18

CRE Gathering

Gillette

Apr 20

CRE Gathering

Cheyenne

Apr 20-22

Wyoming Presbyterian Women's

Spring Gathering

share antiracism resources, and create an electronic campaign to send information on antiracism resources and trainings to mid councils, congregations, and Presbyterian-affiliated institutions.”

“Because of our biblical understanding of who God is and what God intends for humanity, the PC(USA) must stand against, speak against, and work against racism. Antiracist effort is not optional for Christians. It is an essential aspect of Christian discipleship, without which we fail to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.” (p. 2, Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community, Churchwide Antiracism Policy).

Resources will be published frequently between today and the 223rd General Assembly meeting in June 2018. A bimonthly email will highlight various antiracism resources available for use in congregations and presbyteries and will include a call to action and a schedule of upcoming events.

The first set of resources for Presbyterians comes from the antiracism policy Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community. The document contains background information, including historical references and theological frameworks.

This month, the six study guides that accompany this policy paper are highlighted as a series of hourlong conversations adults and youth can use to explore the Bible and racism, study racial reconciliation and learn to respond to racism as a community of faith.

The call action for this study series asks Presbyterians to “consider planning, publicizing and holding study sessions on racism using these study guides at meetings or retreats. Having a facilitated conversation about race and racism will help your congregation become familiar with the issues and provide tools for talking about racism in the U.S.”

The Next Presbytery Meeting

May 5-6

Cody, Wyoming

[info](#)

April 26 - WyoConnect deadline

May 5-6

Presbytery Meeting

Cody

May 16

CRE Gathering

Thayne

May 23

CRE Gathering

Thermopolis

Jun 4-7

Summer Pastor's School

Hastings, NE

Jun 4-7

2017 Pastors Retreat

St Thomas the Apostle, Cody

[info](#)

Jun 19-23

Remote VBS (tentative)

(remote)

Jun 22 6pm - Jun 24 noon

Sabbath Center

The Table, Casper

Jul 6-8

Presbyterian Mission Agency: Big

Tent

St Louis, MO

[info](#)

Jul 11-14

Remote VBS (tentative)

(remote)

Jul 17-21

Remote VBS (tentative)

(remote)

Aug 1-4

Remote VBS (tentative)

(remote)

Aug 21-23

Well Being Retreat 2017



Friday's Highlights

Rev. Dr. Karl Travis, Pastor of Presbyterian Church, Ft. Worth, Texas will be our presenter!

He will be focused on *Why Give? When Generosity Transcends Stewardship*

The Church is aflush in helpful advice on raising money, on encouraging giving. There are many time-tested techniques for doing so. Many disciples are now asking prior questions; why we should be generous in the first place? What is the connection between growing generosity and deepening discipleship?

Reframing the Biblical story as a narrative of expansive generosity, Rev. Travis will outline a way for pastors and stewardship committees to raise more than money, but to raise consciousness. He will also explore the generational distinctions among people in our pews and how, appreciating each generation's formative experiences of money, every congregation can speak of generosity in a way authentic to people of all ages.

Karl Travis is Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth, Texas. He is a frequent conference speaker, preacher, and

[info](#)**Aug 25-27****Camp Story Centennial**

Camp Story

[info](#)

As always, stay in touch through our Facebook page and website.

WyoConnect is published every other Saturday by the Presbytery of Wyoming. Submissions of general interest to the Presbytery are welcome by midnight the Wednesday prior to publication. To ensure consideration in the next newsletter, please email articles to wyo.pby@gmail.com by Wednesday prior to publication. Let us know how you and your congregation are living to make Christ known in your corner of Wyoming!

Blessings,

Richard Turner
Editor

on the Board of Fort Worth's Presbyterian Night Shelter which provides emergency accommodation to 600 persons every night. Also, he serves on the boards of the James L. West Alzheimer's Center, and Trinity Terrace Retirement Community. Active across the Presbyterian Church (USA), he has served at the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly levels.

Previously Rev. Travis served congregations in Scotland, New Mexico, and Detroit. Travis is a magna cum laude graduate of Trinity University and the University of Edinburgh. He received a Doctorate of Humane Letters from Austin College. Travis is also a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International.

Together with Jaci, he parents five children: one in graduate school, three in college, and one in high school. He adores them, most of the time.

Invite the Stewardship Committee of your church to this outstanding presentation and interaction!

Karl will also be preaching for worship on Friday evening!

Also on Friday afternoon, Rev. Rob Hagen from the Presbyterian Foundation will be giving a presentation on "How and Why to Set Up On Line Giving in Your Church?"

Sabbath Center

June 22nd - June 24th, 2017

Location: The Table | 201 E. 2nd Street | Casper, WY

Beginning with dinner at 6pm on Thursday, concluding with lunch at Noon on Saturday

Presenter: Rev. Dr. George Goodrich, certified Spiritual Director

Co-Executive Presbyter, Yellowstone Presbytery

Cost: \$75* including meals Thursday dinner-Saturday lunch, excluding breakfast

Accommodations will be arranged by the Registrar | *Scholarships available upon request

To Register: Contact Rev. Steve Shive at the Presbytery of Wyoming

Clergy/CRE Gatherings in April

Southeast Group, Thursday, April 20th at FPC, Cheyenne

North East/Central Group, Tuesday, April 25th at FPC, Gillette

Wyoming Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering

First Presbyterian Church
220 West 22nd St., Cheyenne.
Cheyenne, WY

Thursday, April 20th – Saturday, April 22nd

Theme: Wyoming PW Connected to the World

The PWP Coordinating Team will meet on Thursday, April 20, 2017 at the church at 7:00 pm.

The Gathering is for all women and everyone is encouraged to bring a friend. You will hear inspiring mission travelers share their stories, learn about the 2017-2018 Horizons Bible Study, get involved in a local mission project, participate in worship, fellowship and meals together with old and new friends. The Spring Gathering is always an inspiring event that invigorates your spirit and recharges your faith.

A block of rooms is being held at Microtel Inn and Suites, 1400 W. Lincolnway, Cheyenne, WY 82001. Please call the hotel directly at 307-634-3200 for reservations by April 17. The rate is \$75.99 for 2 queen beds, \$80.99 for a single queen bed suite. Mention "Presbyterian Women" when you call. The rate includes breakfast.

Registration cost is \$50, and includes 3 meals. Registration forms are available on the Presbytery of Wyoming website at www.pbwy.org or from local PW moderators. Registration forms must be sent to Mable Frederick at PO Box 57, Guernsey, WY 82214 by April 12, 2017. Please call Margie George at 307-638-8577 for more information.

Technology Grants

Does your church have the need for technology improvements? New computers, projection and screen equipment? Streaming technology? Video or audio recording and posting of sermons or worship on your web-site? Etc.? If so, then the Presbytery of Wyoming is offering

submit receipts and make a verbal report at Presbytery regarding how the funds have been invested and what impact the new technology is having on the church's ministry! You may submit requests to Jason Harshberger at jasonupc@gmail.com.

Necrology Report

Clerks of Session and Pastors are encouraged to submit to Stated Clerk, Mark Owens a list of all Ruling Elders who died in 2016. This will be part of one of the worship services at the May Presbytery Meeting, May 5-6 in Cody. You may send them to rmo.presbywy@gmail.com.

2017 PASTOR'S RETREAT

"MOVING OUR CHURCHES OUTSIDE OUR WALLS"

- When: Sunday, June 4th-Wednesday morning, June 7th, 2017
- Where: Thomas the Apostle Retreat Center, Cody
34 Thomas the Apostle Rd, Cody, Wy 82414
- Cost: \$230.00/person for meals and lodging in double rooms with a shared bathroom
- Scholarships: \$100.00 for the first then registrants
(REGISTRATION FORMS COMING SOON)
- Speaker: Rev. Karlin Bilcher

The Reverend Karlin Bilcher hails from Northern New Jersey and is a graduate of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. As an undergraduate at Messiah College, Karlin sorted out the major questions of the Christian faith while dividing his time between the golf course and the trout streams of central Pennsylvania. Karlin has served churches in Morgantown West Virginia, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, Red Bank New Jersey and Anchorage Alaska. A background in campus ministry, youth ministry and cross-cultural urban ministry, combine to form the foundation of his call to ordained ministry. Karlin is currently serving as the planting pastor of a Church in the Tetons, a new church development in Driggs Idaho.

Emily eventually agreed to a date, he took her fly-fishing and they were married ten months later. Karlin and Emily have two children Finley age 9 and Zion age 5. Emily, Finley, Zion, God's Holy Word and serving others in Christ's name are the source of Karlin's joy and strength.

"Saints cannot exist without a community, as they require, like all of us, nurturance by a people who, while often unfaithful, preserve the habits necessary to learn the story of God."

- Stanley Hauerwas

Challenging

Creating Space Where People May Experience the Life-Changing Presence of Christ!

- At what age does your church start teaching the importance of personal spiritual practices?
- When was the last time you did a sermon on spiritual practices?
- How could you prioritize spiritual practices with everything else you do?
- Are spiritual disciplines a priority in your life?

Caring

"Memento Domine"

- The **Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering**, April 20th-22nd in Cheyenne!
- The **Southeast and North Central/East Clergy/CRE Gatherings** meeting in the month of April
- The **Presbytery Council's Personnel Subcommittee** as they interview potential candidates for the positions of Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper!
- Congratulations to **Libby Tedder-Hugus**, Pastor/Leader at The

announce that that they will be having a baby girl in late June!

- The **United Presbyterian Church, Riverton** as they seek to move beyond survival to a sustained vitality!
- The **First Presbyterian Church in Sheridan** is transitioning! Rev. Doug Melius has been the Pastor there for eighteen and one-half years and he will be retiring on Easter Sunday, April 16th. He and his wife, Robin, are moving the week of March 12th to their new home, near grandchildren, in Livingston, MT. A retirement party is being planned for Sunday, April 2nd. From mid-March thru mid-April they will be living in an apartment in Sheridan with their son, Jesse. Rev. Paul Hayden, former Pastor at the Presbyterian Church in Jackson Hole will begin as the Interim Pastor on Sunday, April 26th.
- The **United Presbyterian Church of Guernsey** as they transition! Their pastor, Rev. Ann Miner, has resigned. Pray for them as an appropriate Interim Pastor is sought!
- The **Administrative Commission** working with the Guernsey and Ft. Laramie churches seeks your prayers as they listen, discern and pray for and with these churches!
- The **Community Presbyterian Church of Ft. Laramie** as they discern God's way forward for them!
- The Partnership between the **Tyre, Lebanon and Aleppo, Syria** churches and the Presbytery of Wyoming!
- **Rev. Thea McKee** as she continues to struggle with health concerns!
- The **Administrative Commission** working with the Session of the France Memorial Presbyterian Church in Rawlins as they merge with the United Methodist church to officially become the Rawlins Cooperative Parish!
- **Libby Tedder-Hugus** and **Shayla Graham** as they lead pioneering work in the New Worshipping Communities in Casper and Pine Haven!
- **Pastors and leaders** as they guide Christ-followers during the Lenten and Easter seasons!

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