

# Lehigh Presbytery News

710 N. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA 18104

610-391-9020 \* office@lehighpresbytery.org \* <http://lehighpresbytery.org>



June 3, 2016

## Call for the June Stated Meeting of Lehigh Presbytery



The June Stated Meeting of the Lehigh Presbytery is called for **Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.** at the **Pennside Presbyterian Church, 253 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Reading, PA.**

All teaching and ruling elder commissioners are asked to **register through the Presbytery office by Tuesday, June 21, 2016.** Please let us know whether you will be staying for dinner. The dinner cost is \$8.00 per person.

Our featured speaker at this meeting is **Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley**, Ministry Relations Office of the Presbyterian Foundation **will provide tips and techniques for Stewardship Education.**

The commissioners can find the documents for the meeting on-line at <http://lehighpresbytery.org/news-events/meetings-minutes/stated-meeting-documents/>



## Transformation of Congregational Stewardship

In today's environment, the need to look at stewardship differently is not only important – it's necessary.

The Lehigh Presbytery is sponsoring an opportunity for our church leadership to learn how to transform your stewardship program to become a vital part of the life of your church, resulting in a unique and surprising gift.

This workshop will focus on the foundational issues of spirituality and leadership, providing immediately do-able steps for growing generosity and transforming congregations. This workshop will equip leaders to shift their congregants' hearts as well as their wallets.

So join us at the Presbytery meeting on June 28, 2016 where the Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley from the Presbyterian Foundation will share this information and be able to answer your questions.

### New Live Simply Resources are Available Now

Live Simply, based on Philippians 4:11, is the theme for resources published by the Ecumenical Stewardship Center. Use [Giving magazine volume 18](#), Live Simply [theme materials](#), and the digital [Companion Resource](#) to create your congregational stewardship emphasis. **More**

<https://stewardshipresources.org/resources>



## Summer Camp – Registration is underway

We offer week-long overnight and day-camps designed to nurture Christ-centered community based on trust, love, and a challenge to personal growth. Campers will meet new friends, play crazy games, and have an unforgettable week.



Open to rising grades 1-12. Visit our website at <http://www.kirkwoodcamp.org/camp.html> to learn about the different camps offered and to register. You can register on-line or by requesting a registration form from the camp.

For parents handbook and forms visit: <http://www.kirkwoodcamp.org/camperpayment.html>

***Don't delay.....sign up today!***

**Kirkwood Camp, 127 Kirkwood Road, Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
Phone: 570-421-8625 - Email: [Kirkwood@kirkwoodcamp.org](mailto:Kirkwood@kirkwoodcamp.org)**

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## ***“A Moment With Nelle Harper Lee”***

If you've ever wanted to meet renowned author Harper Lee, then here's your chance....or at least about as close as you're likely to get.



Join us on **Saturday, June 11, at 2 p.m.** at the **First Presbyterian Church, 579 Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA**, when Elizabeth McDonald will perform her original one-woman show, ***“A Moment With Nelle Harper Lee,”*** directed by George B. Miller of Selkie Theatre.

In this theatrical conversation, we meet an older Harper Lee, wickedly smart and cantankerous, as she shares reflections of her hometown Monroeville, Alabama; her lawyer father; the journey of writing “To Kill A Mockingbird,” her life in New York City, and how the fame that came with her first novel changed her life.

There are colorful stories of her lifelong friendship with Truman Capote, of life on the Hollywood set of the award-winning “Mockingbird” film, and a glimpse into her newly re-discovered and critically reviewed novel, “Go Set A Watchman”, published on July 14, 2015.

Before she goes, Harper Lee opens the conversation up to the audience, taking questions - and asking a few herself! The chat is excitingly improvisational and free-flowing, changing with every performance.

***“A Moment With Nelle Harper Lee”*** encourages exploration of the themes of social justice, racism, memory, family, and the role of the artist in public and private life. It is a fascinating, tour-de-force performance that earned Elizabeth the 2015 ABE Best Professional Actress award from the Lehigh Valley Press newspaper group.

***“A Moment With Nelle Harper Lee”*** is being presented as a fundraiser for the Building and Organ Renovation Fund, and includes a post-show dessert reception.

**Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by contacting the church office at 570-421-7751 or emailing at [stbgpres@ptd.net](mailto:stbgpres@ptd.net).**

## “SIMPLE GIFTS”



The First Presbyterian Church of Hokendauqua will be hosting the folk music duo **SIMPLE GIFTS** at their worship service on **Sunday, June 5, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.** Their choir will be joining this group for their anthem “O Mary Don’t You Weep” that morning. Simple Gifts is a nationally acclaimed group and you can read more about them on their website [www.simplegiftsmusic.com](http://www.simplegiftsmusic.com).

*All are invited to attend.*

First Presbyterian Church of Hokendauqua, 3005 S. Front Street, Whitehall, PA 18052

610-264-9693 email: [hokeypres@gmail.com](mailto:hokeypres@gmail.com)

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**Saturday June 4, 2016**  
**7 AM to 3 PM**  
**Specials at Noon & 2 PM**

*Come and browse the tables and pick up some much needed items or treasures.*

All proceeds from the yard sale will be divided between equally between [Westminster Village](#) (for Elder Care) and Faith Church’s partners in [Riamukurwe Parish of the Nyeri, Kenya](#) (in support of the Orphanage & School).

Faith Presbyterian Church  
3002 N. Second Street, Emmaus, PA 18049  
610-966-5600 - [office@faithchurchemmaus.org](mailto:office@faithchurchemmaus.org)

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## YARD SALE



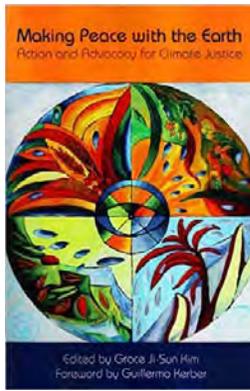
The Zion United Presbyterian Church  
will be holding a yard sale

**July 8 & 9, 2016.**

Come browse the tables  
and pick up some wonderful treasures.

Zion Presbyterian Church  
Water Street, Wind Gap, PA 18091

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## Making Peace with the Earth

The greatest untapped natural resource for addressing the world's most pressing problems comes from the energy of religiously committed people. This book gathers the expertise of activists, theologians, and faith-based organizations to inspire and encourage churches everywhere in grassroots work and advocacy for climate justice. No issue so violates the core of Christian convictions as the jeopardizing of human life and creation through climate change. The book points out that making peace with the earth will not be easy, but now is the time for religious leaders, church people, and organizations to make the climate their priority.

[http://www.amazon.com/Making-Peace-Earth-Advocacy-Climate/dp/2825416681/ref=asap\\_bc?ie=UTF8](http://www.amazon.com/Making-Peace-Earth-Advocacy-Climate/dp/2825416681/ref=asap_bc?ie=UTF8)

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/publications/making-peace-with-the-earth-action-advocacy-for-climate-justice>

Rev. Grace Ji-Sun Kim is associate professor of theology at Earlham School of Religion, a member of Lehigh Presbytery, and a regular blogger on "The Huffington Post." Her other books include "The Grace of Sophia: A Korean North American Women's Christology" and "The Holy Spirit, Chi, and the Other: A Model of Global and Intercultural Pneumatology."

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**JUNE 2016**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LEHIGHTON, PA**

*For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst. – Matthew 18:20*

### Bible Fellowship



Laughter and animated conversation pour from the tables that are pushed together on Tuesday mornings at The Beacon Diner. Another breakfast eating patron looks at the group and asks the waitress what is going on? "Oh," she replies, "That is the Presbyterian Bible Study group." He answered, "I never knew Bible Study could be so much fun."

Weekly, a group of between six and twelve people, invade the diner for food, fellowship, and Bible Study. The group started about six years ago for a group of people from the Leighton church who said Bible Study was intimidating and they didn't know enough. Moving into the diner on Tuesdays to eat and talk, opened the door for discussions in a comfortable setting that didn't seem like "church". People who had felt Bible illiterate found that they did have

something to say and the Bible could and does speak to them.

The three "f's": food, fellowship, and fun serve as a witness and minister to participants as well as to the diner community. Several weeks ago, a waitress came over to our table and requested prayer for her uncle who had become very ill and needed to be transported. The group quickly honored the request for prayer for her and her family. Taking the "church" out of the building and into the community is one way our congregation is learning to minister to those beyond our walls.

#### *Join us in prayer for:*

- *the group as they meet and study God's word.*
  - *the people with whom they come in contact as they seek to be good witnesses.*
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## Boundary Training



This training is sponsored by Lehigh Presbytery and will be led by Stephen R. Treat, DMin, LMFT. He is an in demand speaker and have been featured on numerous media programs. He has co-authored two books.

The **cost** for the training is **\$20.00** and includes lunch. Choose one of the following:

**Monday, June 13, 2016** – 9 a.m.- 3p.m. at the Presbyterian Church of East Stroudsburg, 55 Smith Street, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 (**Registration Deadline June 7, 2016**)

**Monday, October 10, 2016** – 9a.m.–3p.m. at the Pennside Presbyterian Church, 253 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Reading, PA 19606 (**Registration Deadline October 3, 2016**)

Please register through Lehigh Presbytery (610-391-9020, [office@lehighpresbytery.org](mailto:office@lehighpresbytery.org)).

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## Important Federal Court Ruling on Failure to Report Child Abuse

Published in *Church Law & Tax Report, January/February 2016, pg. 12, Senior Editor Richard R. Hammar, Christianity Today, publisher.*

A federal court in Pennsylvania ruled that a local church and denominational agency could be sued on the basis of the legal principle of *negligence per se* by a victim of child abuse as a result of their failure to report. .... This means that a mandatory child abuse reporter's failure to comply with a state child abuse reporting law's requirement to report a known or reasonably suspected incident of child abuse would render that person automatically liable for monetary damages without a need for the victim to prove actual negligence. [*Doe v. Liberatore, 478 F.Supp.2d 742 (M.D. pa 2007)*]

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## PC(USA) survey report

In the fall of 2015, the Office of the General Assembly conducted a survey to gather opinions about the PC(USA). A record number of Presbyterians responded - 3,427 to be exact. Our reporter, Leslie Scanlon, summarizes the results here: [Shared identity: New report highlights themes and priorities identified in denominational listening effort.](http://pres-outlook.org/2016/05/shared-identity-new-report-highlights-themes-priorities-identified-denominational-listening-effort/)

<http://pres-outlook.org/2016/05/shared-identity-new-report-highlights-themes-priorities-identified-denominational-listening-effort/>

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## 2016 Presbyterian Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study

The 120 year old *Presbyterian Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study* has transformed to a new digital-only resource. By offering this as a free resource through our website, we are able to broaden its reach, share inspiring content in a timelier manner, and demonstrate better stewardship.

Click the link to read the daily Mission Yearbook article.



## Technology expands the congregation for opening worship of GA222

### *The church, world are invited to stream in*

Eva Stimson, Correspondent, Office of the General Assembly

Several thousand people are expected to gather in Portland, Oregon, on Saturday, June 18, for the opening worship service of the 222nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) is encouraging congregations and mid councils to gather groups in their locations to [worship with the assembly via live stream](#).

The goal is to help more Presbyterians “feel a part of the assembly, rather than feeling like the assembly is apart from them,” says Tom Hay, director for assembly operations in the Office of the General Assembly.

The assembly’s opening worship service begins at 11 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time and is scheduled to last about ninety minutes. It will include communion, the commissioning of assembly commissioners and advisory delegates, a sermon by outgoing Moderator Heath Rada, and music by a mass choir, a bell choir, and a contemporary band.

The liturgy for the service—including the words and music of hymns—is [available online for download](#) by groups planning to worship in other locations. Congregations joining the service by live stream may want to plan how to participate in the Lord’s Supper as well.

“We always try to root the work of the assembly in worship and prayer,” Hay says. Enabling more Presbyterians to participate in opening worship “will help the rest of the church to root their experience of the assembly in worship as well.”

“Over and over I am hearing our members say they are tired of disagreeing, they are ready to become the Body of Christ in ways that are harmonious, and to be unified through Christ,” says Heath Rada, Moderator of the 221st General Assembly (2014). “The opening worship service provides the opportunity for us to witness to others that in spite of our differences, we do not disagree when it comes to gathering around the communion table and worshipping our God.”

(To read the whole article on-line visit: <http://www.pcusa.org/news/2016/5/24/technology-expands-congregation-opening-worship-ga/> )



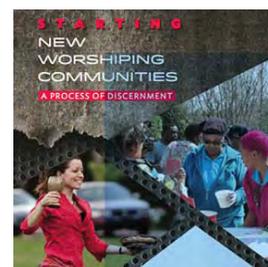
Despite all the Facebook photos of May snowfalls in the Rockies and freezing nights in the Adirondacks, SUMMER IS COMING! It happens every year just when we think we can’t possibly shovel another inch of snow.

Did you know that summer is a great time for new worshipping communities?

People who have been hibernating all winter venture out onto their porches and patios. They head to the city parks and ball fields. Neighbors gather for back yard barbecues. People flock to basketball courts and food trucks. It is a great time to reconnect with neighbors.

**Perhaps your congregation would like to plan a fun fellowship event where you get to know your own community better. Pages 25-29 of *Starting New Worshipping Communities* will show you how.**

The resource is also available in [Spanish](#) and [Korean](#).





**THEOLOGICAL  
EDUCATION FUND**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Presbyterian seminaries through the Theological Education Fund.

Effective January 1, 2015, the TEF offices were transferred (per action of the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly: <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/search/4725>) to the Presbyterian Foundation. For those of you who have already updated your records to include our new mailing address and giving information, we are so thankful for your efforts.

For those who have yet to update their records, please note the following way to give to the TEF (which should **replace** any previous information or account numbers):

**Ways to Give \*NEW INFORMATION\* for churches:**

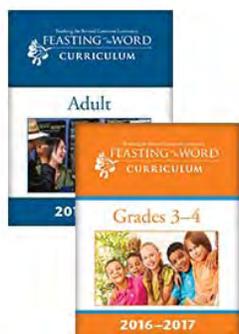
Please send your contribution with checks and paperwork clearly marked:

**Theological Education Fund (#1020203030)**

through the regular channel used by your church (typically your presbytery or synod office) when sending funds for General Assembly causes.

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## 2016-2017 Curriculum Now Available.



Available in downloadable and printed formats, each **curriculum pack** includes leader guides, accessible biblical background for teachers, reproducible resource sheets, and media connections that tie the week's Scripture passage with a film, video, or Web site.

### Highlights for 2016-2017

- **Small Church Plan** now available for churches with 50 or fewer in worship
- NEW printed format leader guide includes all the materials for each week in one handy book
- Expanded *Joining the Feast* resource for pastors and worship leaders with children's worship bulletins and children's sermon stories
- Seasonal pricing for ordering age levels by season—a great way to try Feasting on the Word Curriculum! View Fall 2016 [here](#).

ORDER ONLINE TODAY!

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## New Companion for the PC(USA) Hymnal Available from PC(USA) Store!

**Glory to God: A Companion** Carl P. Daw Jr.

Cost: \$75.00



Written by one of today's leading hymn scholars, the Companion explains when and why each hymn was written. Inside, readers will find several indexes as well as a CD-ROM that provides extensive biographical information on the text and tune authors. This valuable reference tool is perfect for pastors, worship planners, scholars, students, and hymn lovers. [Click here to order.](#)

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## Davidson Clergy Center – 2016 Clergy Programs

The Davidson Centre for the Professions and Davidson Clergy Center is **now taking reservations for ministers and church professionals for the upcoming 2016 Clergy Programs**, held in their new office space in Davidson, NC, conveniently located off I-77 in North Carolina on Lake Davidson. The Program is a five-day intensive session, focusing on resilience and self-care, and serving clergy and church professionals in times of transition, sabbatical, personal stress, and for ongoing career wellness. Please see our website for more information, [www.davcp.com](http://www.davcp.com).

The Board of Pensions has graciously assisted ministers with partial tuition through their Assistance Program, and PDA has also sponsored ministers who have experienced trauma through natural or man-made disasters. We have served many ministers in the past ten years. Program dates: **July 18-22; August 1-5; August 22-26; September 12-16**

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### **The Second English Presbyterian Church of Amwell (39 Mount Airy Village Road, Lambertville, New Jersey 08530), founded in 1754, seeks a P/T Stated Supply Pastor**

#### **POSITION DESCRIPTION - PART-TIME STATED SUPPLY PASTOR**

I. Position Title

The position title is that of a Part-Time Stated Supply Pastor, hereafter referred to as "pastor."

II. Length of Service

The length of service shall be based on a part-time weekly schedule for a period of 1 year commencing on July 1, 2016, or earlier, with an option to renew on an annual basis.

[Click here](#) to read the full position description and Mt. Airy's MIF.

<http://presnb.com/2016/second-english-presbyterian-church-of-amwell-mt-airy-seeks-pt-stated-supply-pastor/>

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### **Colloquy for Mid-Career Clergy 2016-17 Accepting Applications up to June 15, 2016**

**Aug 15-17, 2016 and January 23-25, 2017 are the dates for the second Colloquy for Mid-Career Clergy**, part of the Pastoral Excellence Program of the Center for Lifelong Learning.

The Colloquy designed for mid-career clergy (ten to twenty years into full time ministry) who are seeking to participate in a professional formative conversation or to reflect on their vocational experience, and assess their ability to meet the leadership demands/needs of their organization. This event is by application only. For additional information, including the link to the application, visit <http://www.ctsnet.edu/colloquy-for-mid-career-clergy>.

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Red Roots is a band composed of identical triplets (Nicole, Natalie, and Nika) who would like to be considered to minister at your Church or Outreach Event([CURRENT SCHEDULE HERE](#)). Red Roots is available for stand-alone or pass through dates.

The band appeals to all ages with high energy and a strong message. Check out their 150,000+ viewed music video "[Christian Country Girl](#)." Also, watch their NEWEST video "[Great Big Yes](#)" by [CLICKING HERE](#). Red

Roots' album *Triplicity* has been nominated for a **Dove Award** for "Country Album of the Year." Red Roots has shared the stage with artists such as: Jamie Grace, Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, Josh Turner, & etc...The girls were also contestants and performed on the TV show hosted by Jeff Foxworthy & Kirk Franklin, *The American Bible Challenge*. If you would like to book Red Roots for a stand-alone or pass through date, contact Mark Taylor by email [redroots3@gmail.com](mailto:redroots3@gmail.com).

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## Upcoming Speakers at the 2016 Meetings at Lehigh Presbytery

As Lehigh Presbytery looks at creating an atmosphere for cultivating leadership skills among Pastors, Elders, and Congregational Leaders we are pleased to present these educational opportunities. Plan now to join us. (All are welcome to attend.)

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|-----------------------------|--|
| June 28, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.  | <b>Stated Meeting</b> of Lehigh Presbytery at the Pennside Presbyterian Church, 253 N. 25 <sup>th</sup> Street, Reading, PA.<br><b>Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley</b> , Ministry Relations Office of the Presbyterian Foundation <i>will provide tips and techniques for Stewardship Education.</i>   |
| Sept. 27, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. | <b>Stated Meeting</b> of Lehigh Presbytery at the College Hill Presbyterian Church, 501 Brodhead Street, Easton, PA.<br><b>Rev. Ruth Faith Santana-Grace</b> , Executive Presbyter of Philadelphia Presbytery will speak on <i>"Engaging in the Wilderness of Mid-Council Wanderings –the challenges, temptations, and opportunities of the journey and a new land."</i> |
| Nov. 15, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.  | <b>Stated Meeting</b> of Lehigh Presbytery at the Community Presbyterian Church, 1755 S. Delaware Drive, Mt. Bethel, PA.<br><b>Worship Celebration and Speaker for Princeton Theological Seminary.</b>   |
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### PLEASE NOTE:

The phones at the Presbytery office will be answered on the following days and hours:

- Mondays – 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Tuesdays – 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesdays – 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Thursdays – 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Fridays – 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

If you call during the hours the phones are not being answered, please leave a message and someone will call you back as soon as possible. Thank you.

The **Presbytery office will be closed the week of July 3-9, 2016** for file cleaning and reorganization. The phones will not be manned during that week, but please leave a message and someone will return your call as soon as possible. Thank you.