

JCP Notices

February 17, 2022

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Westminster Presbyterian Church of Springfield, Missouri, (in their effort to be an anti-racism church), is sponsoring, this showing of "Tower Road Bus, 2021. Free to the public, seating is first come, first served. Masks required. All are welcome, at the Moxie, 305 S. Campbell, Suite 101, Saturday, February 26 at 12pm.

Click here for

details: <http://moxiecinema.com/films/the-tower-road-bus-2021>

Michael Streissguth is an author and filmmaker who lives in Syracuse New York—he will be at the showing along with a couple of Black pastors in the area.



Join us for the 205th Stated Meeting of John Calvin Presbytery by Zoom!

Saturday, February 26, 2022 from 9 a.m. to noon.

**Elder Tim Oster and Bethany Presbyterian Church host
the 205th Meeting of Presbytery!**

Reverend Bill Davis of Wellshire Presbyterian in Denver will preach.

We will honor those elders who died in 2021.

Hear updates from...

the Synod

Board of Pensions

Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program

and more!

[REGISTER HERE FOR THE 205th STATED MEETING](#)

Boundaries Training is required by the Committee on Ministry for all pastors and anyone doing pulpit supply on a regular basis.

We will continue to work with churches to host future trainings in different parts of the presbytery through mid-October. (Please let us know if you would like to serve as host.)

March 29 at Willow Springs Presbyterian Church, noon-2:30

Lunch will be provided.

Please contact Malinda Spencer if your church will be willing to host a boundaries training. m Spencer@jcpresbytery.com // 417-437-6748 (c)

[REGISTER BOUNDARIES WILLOW SPRINGS](#)

The Anti-Racism Committee has decided for February, Black History Month, to feature an

African American in the Presbyterian Church each week in the Notices. Here is the Reverend Mary Newbern-Williams....

Mary Ruth Newbern-Williams is an experienced church executive and pastor with thirty-three years' experience. She was ordained in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) ("PCUSA"). She has served throughout the United States and Abroad as a pastor, chaplain, associate executive presbyter, executive presbyter, and a short-term mission leader for special delegations. Mary is a graduate of Baldwin-Wallace University in Ohio and Princeton Theological Seminary, where she completed the M.A. in Christian Education and the M. Div. in Theology and Pastoral Care. Mary has always been active and deeply involved in community organization and activities wherever she has served. Currently, Mary is Honorably Retired from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and serves as the Covenant Pastor for the First United Presbyterian Church of Richmond, VA.

Mary moved to Springfield, Missouri. to serve as a church executive (executive presbyter in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.). She had served as an associate executive in two other presbyteries and an associate in higher education with the PCUSA national office. After arriving in Springfield, she immediately immersed herself into the Springfield community. Quickly, she became aware of the all too familiar "African American" experiences. Seizing a wonderful opportunity, she willingly shared her knowledge and African American historical research background with her new community. For those who desired it. Dr. Mary quickly became an invaluable support and resource for the entire Springfield community. As an African American female in a community and in an area that had a history like much of the South, she possessed general knowledge. Research, reading history, becoming familiar with groups, organizations, leaders from other denominations, and families provided a most valuable education. Additional reading helped in understanding. Of course, there were the usual experiences that African Americans sometimes have in these situations. There were those who would come to the office and ask to see "Rev. Newbern-Williams." As I greeted them, some gasped and stated, "Oh, they didn't tell me you were Black"! For those times, I was most grateful to my parents for teaching me diplomacy.

Some associates and friends have asked her the question many have been asked: "Knowing what you know now, would you do it again—move to live and work in Springfield?" Her answer without hesitation is, "YES"! The only difference is that I would stay longer and serve more.

This Black History Month we celebrate the Reverend Mary Newbern-Williams for being the first African American Presbyter in our presbytery and the Springfield Missouri area.

VOLUNTEER INTEREST

I have created a volunteer interest form that will allow me to place you on a certain contact list for opportunities that you are most interested in. I have also attached a volunteer opportunities flyer for more information. Please click below to fill out the survey!

Volunteer Interest Form à <https://forms.office.com/r/kj8NV5PbZw>

VOLUNTEER 101

I have posted a Volunteer 101 video on the [IISMO Learning Channel](#). Many of you may recognize it as the video that a former IISMO volunteer, Rebecca, created. It is also posted on the [Facebook](#) page under videos. She did an amazing job, and we will be using it as our V101 until a new video can be recorded. If you or someone you know would like to get involved with creating videos like this for IISMO, please see the volunteer opportunities section below!

Volunteer 101 à <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7QknwBrOIE>

REPORTING

If you volunteer with IISMO, we ask that you take 5-10 minutes each week to record your experience(s) using a form that we have created to track volunteer services.

Weekly Volunteer Form à <https://forms.office.com/r/cU1QP9Lfns>

FEEDBACK

If you would like to share your experience with IISMO, I invite you to fill out the following survey. This is an anonymous review, but you can leave your name in the comments section at the end if you wish to do so!

Volunteer Feedback à <https://forms.office.com/r/XggixP4saB>

Charlotte (Charley) Blair
Community Outreach & Housing Specialist

ZOOM LICENSE RENEWAL

Churches that bought a Zoom license at the beginning of the pandemic will probably have a renewal coming up soon. JCP has arranged for 99 of these available for a 50% discount. Churches can have more than one if they need it.

Churches can use this for a renewal if your current subscription was **obtained through TechSoup**. Please contact Gail Wilson, gwilson@jcpresbytery.com or 417-838-4402 to obtain the renewal discount.

If you have a subscription that is not through TechSoup, please contact Gail Wilson, gwilson@jcpresbytery.com or 417-838-4402 and the presbytery will help you achieve your renewal.

Save the Date: March 20 PC(USA) ministries prepare for 2nd annual celebration of Presbyterian minister and TV icon Mr. Rogers

Vital Congregation Initiative First Quarter Cohort Gathering

I am writing this on a February day that is predicted to hit 60 degrees. I am itching to get outside and clear away the leaves covering my newest garden plot. I want to till it up again so I can smell the rich soil. It will be a Hosta garden adjacent to my new beehive. I can almost see the bees buzzing among the flowers and the honey waiting in the hive.

But it isn't time yet for all of that. If I give into the call of the dirt, I will disturb the pollinators I'm trying to help. If I rush to plant, the next cold snap will destroy my work.

There are seasons around which our lives are ordered. There is a time to reap and a time to sow the preacher tells us in Ecclesiastes. So, I will wait. I will use the time before planting to clear some of the vines that have covered my little patch of land in the time that it was untended. I will go to bee keeping classes and learn the mysteries of the honeybee. I will gaze longingly at the seed catalogues, charting out just what new bed to put in next.

Chris did a great job outlining the coming year for VCI. This first quarter is a time of coming together. It is a time of study. We met for the first quarter cohort zoom meeting a few weeks ago. It was a good time of conversation and orientation. The next item on our calendar is the Seven Marks bible study. I am excited about this.

I have been working with our Mission and Nurture committee to set up a presbytery wide zoom study during Lent. We will begin on March 1st at 7 pm. This time together will be both large group and small group study. It would be ideal for your VCI congregation to join in as a group. The meeting will start with a large group overview. We will then break off into our congregational groups. If you are a lone ranger, don't worry. We will set up a room for those who are joining us on their own to have conversation about these marks.

There will be time for digging into the dirt of our vitality. In the summer, we will begin our assessment phase. This is where we will get to check the health of our soil, see what marks we excel in and which marks we need to nurture. We will harvest in the fall with our time of celebration.

Let us not rush into this work. Let us take the time for the pollinators to go through their transformations as we dive deeply into our study of how these marks of vitality draw us into closer relationship with Jesus and one another. When we find ourselves in one of these beautiful days in the middle of winter, let us rejoice in the warmth of the sun on our faces. The winter will end. The hope of spring is at hand. The hope we have in Christ is that God has destroyed forever the power of sin and death. We are raised to new life in Christ, vital and sweet as honey.

– the Reverend Jennifer Dawson

[View the VCI First Quarter Gathering Video](#)

[Download First Quarter VCI Resources](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS....

Presbytery-Wide Vital Congregations Lenten Study!

Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m., March 1 through April 12

There is no cost to be involved with this study. All are welcome!

More information to follow

Prayers Requested

- The congregations of John Calvin Presbytery...
- All churches seeking a new pastor, to understand God's call moving forward.
First Presbyterian Church, Aurora, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Carthage, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Chanute, Kansas
Crane Presbyterian Church, Crane, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Fort Scott, Kansas
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church @Hideaway, Galena, Missouri
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Kimberling City, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Rolla, Missouri
The Presbyterian Church of Pittsburg - seeking temporary supply
First Presbyterian Church, Sarcoxie, Missouri
First Presbyterian Church, Scammon, Kansas
- JCPDA
- JC Living Waters Mission Team
- All Pastors of John Calvin Presbytery

Prayer submissions will remain on the prayer list for two weeks,
unless an update is received.

Contact Us..... How can we help?

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Mission and Nurture Committee Moderator: Becky Schwandt
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Recording Clerk: Gail Wilson
417-838-4402 / gwilson@jcpresbytery.com

Please mail all remittances
Per Capita, Shared Mission and special offerings to:

John Calvin Presbytery
P. O. Box 1394
Ozark, Missouri 65721-1394
[Download remittances here](#)