

Kristi Miller

From: Blackhawk Presbytery [pat@blackhawkpresbytery.ccsend.com] on behalf of Blackhawk Presbytery [email@blackhawkpresbytery.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2013 3:06 PM
To: Kristi Miller
Subject: Connections from Blackhawk Presbytery 4-23-2013

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Blackhawk Presbytery

Connections

April 23, 2013


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[Stronghold Camp & Retreat Center](#)

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➔ **Attention Blackhawk Presbytery... Golfers Needed!**

The Stronghold Committee is looking for **10 more foursomes** to join us for a wonderful day of golf and raise funds for Stronghold at the same time.

When: June 6, 2013: We start early...5:30 a.m. and go until we play 100 holes (or are too tired to keep moving).
Where: Prairie View Golf Course in Byron, Illinois
Why: Because you love Stronghold and want to play 100 holes of golf while raising money for Stronghold

Afraid of this 100 hole challenge? Don't worry. It's a fun day, golf carts are provided and your commitment will inspire donors when you ask for their \$\$\$upport.

Perks of this great adventure:

1. Free golf balls and tees!
2. Free food all day!
3. Free night(s) at Stronghold in Heritage Lodge (the night before and/or after the Golf outing)!
4. Prizes!!!
5. A great and fun way to connect as a

Presbytery!

For more information, please see [registration materials](#) including a team registration form, pledge form, and general information about the day.

Interested in signing up? Contact Thelma Busker at tkbusker@comcast.net. If you cannot make a foursome we will help pair you up with another team.

Hope to see you on the 6th of June!
Rev. Gavin Finefield

→ Time is Running Out to Register for: TRIENNIUM!! July 16-20 at Purdue

The Blackhawk Registrar, [Anita Stuart-Steva](#) is your contact person. She would love to hear from you regarding your church's plans (whether or not you are ready to commit just yet). Registration closes on May 31. [FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#) and [REGISTRATION FORMS](#) available here and on our [website](#).

→ PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Boston Response

Following the tragedy at the Boston Marathon, members of the PDA National Response Team are deployed to provide consultation and support to leaders of the faith community as they gather and assess their role in response to the violence in their community.

An initial report, prayers and worship resources are [available online](#).

Gifts to support the response may be sent to PDA designated for [DR000015- Boston](#).

West, Texas, Response

The explosion of 25 tons of fertilizer at a plant in West, Texas, has devastated the community.

National Response Team members are being organized to deploy to the area as quickly as possible.

An initial report and request to join us in prayer are [available online](#).

Gifts to support the response may be sent to PDA designated for [DR000015- West, TX](#).

Please Pray

Please keep the families and communities affected by these tragedies in prayer, that the

hope of Christ will be evident, even through the chaos and trauma. Please visit the web reports for prayers to share with your congregation.

→ From the BOARD OF PENSIONS

Consider Your Own Needs, Too, during Times of Trauma

Our prayers are with those directly affected by the Boston Marathon explosions, and our thoughts are with you...

When a traumatic event occurs, whether a bombing or some other unforeseen horrific act, it's important to take good care of yourself. As a church worker for the PC(USA), you may be in a position of needing to help others cope with the trauma before you yourself have had a chance to deal with your own feelings. Cigna, the Board's service provider for the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), has some helpful information about physical, mental, and emotional self-care during such turbulent times.

To learn what you can do for yourself -- so that you can better care for others -- and to get information about how you can better support your own family members, who may be struggling during a time like this, go to www.cignabehavioral.com. No login is required. Under "Members," click on "More (including our Disaster Resource Center)." Then, under "Disaster Resource Center," click on "click here." Scroll down to "Violent Attacks/Traumatic Events" and click on the link. You'll find extensive resources for responding to mass tragedies, including some specific to the Boston Marathon. We highly recommend you spending a few minutes checking out the resources on this site.

And, as always, if you are an active member of the Medical Plan, an EAP counselor is available 24/7, at no cost to you, by calling 866-640-2772.

The Board of Pensions wishes you, other plan members, and all people Christ's message of peace.

→ SYNOD OPPORTUNITIES

Back by Popular Demand -

CRE Continuing Education Opportunities

The "Sacred Seasons" preaching workshops are led by the Rev. Dr. Laura Reason, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Highland, Ind. Dr. Reason is a nine-time teacher of preaching and worship leadership to Synod of Lincoln Trails ruling elders.

The 2013 workshops are:

May 11 - Pentecost I

August 24 - Pentecost II
November 2 - Advent, Christmas and Epiphany

Cost: \$35 per class. Includes lunch and teaching materials.

Classes will be held at Philo Presbyterian Church in Philo, IL from 9:30am - 2:30pm (Central Time). For more information contact [Kristi Miller](#) via email or by calling (800) 566-5996.



New Presbyterian Youth Ministry Blog

Check out a youth ministry blog for Presbyterians written by Kent Smith. He served as a Minister for Christian Education and Youth for 40 years in four different churches. Now retired and moved to Montreat, he serves a small church in Asheville. He has created a blog to pass on the various practices, ideas and issues picked up over 45+ years of working with youth. There will be a new item shared each day. Lesson plans and games are mostly avoided since these are widely available elsewhere. Instead it is focused on practices, attitudes, relational issues, how to keep one's sanity and how to be of value to the youth and their families. The blog's title is "1001 Hints for Youth Ministry"

<http://youthministryhints.blogspot.com>

*Grounded in the biblical image for human community, as disciples of Jesus, following His witness & command
for His church; guided by the principles of trust, open communication, & genuine relationships;
we will challenge and support our congregations to be thriving faith communities by:
providing competent pastoral leadership, resourcing to energize ministry,
& developing networks & partnerships of Presbyterians.*

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