



# Presbytery of New Harmony

Nurturing Churches and People



## THIS WEEK IN NEW HARMONY

April 23, 2008

(If a headline is a link, please click it for more information)

### Ed Koster to stand for General Assembly Stated Clerk

The Rev. Edward H. Koster, stated clerk of Detroit Presbytery, has announced that he will stand for election as General Assembly stated clerk of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Koster is the first announced challenger to the nominee of the Assembly's State Clerk Nomination Committee, the Rev. Gradye Parsons, current associate stated clerk and director of operations for the Office of the General Assembly.

[read the [complete article](#) by Jerry L. Van Marter, PNS]

### Moderator Joan Gray asks for prayers for General Assembly

"The 218th General Assembly (June 21-28, 2009) is just weeks away. **If you haven't already, start praying now!** I would encourage every pastor or session to organize a prayer group or galvanize the groups you already have in your church to pray for our denomination. Sadly I have found that it is far, far more common for people to complain about what they don't like in the PC(USA) than to pray for it. This should not be so.

"I plead with you to organize the people in your congregation who care about the larger church to begin now to bathe the 2008 General Assembly in prayer. Here are a few suggestions to get you started:

- pray for all the commissioners and for the youth and other advisory delegates who are being elected in presbyteries all over the country now. Pray for wisdom and good judgment in the selection process for these important people.
- pray for wisdom and good judgment as presbyteries consider and vote on overtures to the Assembly.
- pray for the Committee on Local Arrangement in San Jose, California as they prepare to receive and offer hospitality to thousands of people.
- pray for those persons who are considering standing as candidates for Moderator of the 2008 General Assembly; also for those considering standing as candidates for Stated Clerk of the General Assembly and for the search committee which will present a nominee to the Assembly (Steve Grace is chair of that committee).

"Please begin now to rattle the gates of heaven with our desire for God's perfect will to be done at the 218th Assembly and throughout this little Presbyterian piece of the worldwide body of Christ where God has placed us."

Visit [218th General Assembly](#) for more information.

**Calendar**  
**April 23, 2008**

April

23, Local area Min./Ed. lunch, Red Bone Alley, 12 pm.

29, Education & Nurture Division, Presbytery office, 4:30 pm.

May

1, Pastor to Pastor, Taki's Restaurant, Darlington, 11:30 am.

5-7, Association of Smaller Congregations, Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island, GA.

6, Mission Division, Presbytery office, 4:30 pm.

8, Grand Strand Min./Ed. lunch, Cedar Hill Landing, 12 pm.

8, Camping Division, Presbytery office, 4:30 pm.

12, Sumter area Min./Ed. lunch, Foo Garden Buffet, Sumter, 12 pm.

13, Stated Spring Presbytery Meeting, Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, Kingstree.

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**Prayer Concerns**  
**(as requested)**

Family, friends, community leaders, and others dealing with the recent school bomb plot in Chesterfield.

If you have a prayer request, please email it to [netanvia@newharmoniypres.org](mailto:netanvia@newharmoniypres.org).

### **Columbia Seminary to offer courses in Atlanta and Montreat**

Requires introductory seminars for Columbia Seminary's Church and Ministry Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) program will be offered in Atlanta, GA and Montreat, NC. These courses begin in the fall of 2008.

Degree candidates can take the introductory seminar and three elective courses, at each location, toward the completion of their D.Min. in Church and Ministry.

The D.Min. program is open to experienced pastors of all denominations and backgrounds. The program gives pastors the opportunity to reshape their ministry for more effective leadership for God's people.

For more information and application materials visit [Columbia Seminary D. Min.](#)

### **Presbyterian Publishing news update**

Presbyterian Publishing Perspectives shares news about its publishing programs and how it continues to serve the denomination. New resources can be found at [Presbyterian Publishing](#) along with links to articles of interest.

You may also visit their website at [www.ppcbooks.com](http://www.ppcbooks.com).

### **New World Mission web page**

A new web page related to Presbyterian World Mission: [www.pcusa.org/worldmission](http://www.pcusa.org/worldmission) has been launched. The page includes a message from World Mission director Hunter Farrell (which will be regularly updated), a video on the work of mission worker Dusty Ellington in Egypt, and mission news. It also links to the programs related to the World Mission ministry area sorted by the three primary emphases of World Mission: sending mission personnel, equipping the PC(USA) for mission, and empowering the global church.

### **Presbyterian Communities 50th anniversary celebration continues**

The Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina remind you that their 50th Anniversary Celebration continues. An anniversary wish list has been compiled. You are invited to contribute. Contact Penny Arnold at [parnold@PresHomeSC.org](mailto:parnold@PresHomeSC.org) or (888)842-4855, for details.

### **Lay School of Theology Dates Announced**

The next three dates for the Lay School of Theology have been announced. They are:

**Fall, 2008 - November 7-9**

**Spring, 2009 - March 20-22**

**Fall, 2009 - November 13-15**

The Lay School of Theology, sponsored by the five PC (USA) presbyteries in South Carolina, provides in depth training for lay persons in areas such as stewardship, worship, Christian education, church history, and theology. These events are held twice each year at the White Oak Conference Center, near Winnsboro, South Carolina.

### **New Harmony Churches** (praying for two each week)

The Presbyterian Church at Manning

Marion Presbyterian Church

### **Mission Yearbook**

(next six days of prayer from the Mission Yearbook)

+ The Presbytery of Blackhawk

+ The Presbytery of Chicago

+ The Presbytery of Great Rivers

+ Midwest Hanmi Presbytery

+ Rural Life

+The Presbytery of Ohio Valley

+ The Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois

### **View Past Issues**

[04/16/08](#)

[04/09/08](#)

[04/02/08](#)

[03/26/08](#)

### **Events of Interest & Employment Opportunities**

Click on [Presbytery](#) and [Church/Synod/GA](#) to find events of interest.

Click on [Employment Opportunities](#) to find educator, musician, and other employment opportunities. Educator Position at Johns Island is a new listing.

**Adobe Version of "This Week"** available at [adobe version](#). Need adobe reader. Visit [adobe](#).

### **Information Needed**

If you have had an event at your church you would like to report or have an upcoming event to publicize in the Presbytery of New Harmony, send the information to [avery@newharmoniypres.org](mailto:avery@newharmoniypres.org). Publicity of an upcoming event should be sent two weeks prior to the event.

### **Presbytery of New Harmony**

Contact us at [office@newharmoniypres.org](mailto:office@newharmoniypres.org) or (877) 662-8411.

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.-6p.m., Monday-Thursday; 8:30-12:30, Friday.

(Executives are in the office Mondays-

Thursdays.) Contact the [Presbytery Staff](#).