

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
PConnect Email Newsletter
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This newsletter is sent to all congregational contact persons and others interested in the latest church news and information. This newsletter may be printed, photocopied and distributed.

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JUSTICE MINISTRIES

HEALING AND RECONCILIATION SEED FUNDING APPLICATION DEADLINE JANUARY 31 & APRIL 30, 2009

Seed funding is available to help church groups (youth groups; WMS groups; mission committees, presbyteries and many others) wishing to build relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. The next deadline for seed funding application submissions is January 31, 2009. The spring deadline is April 30, 2009. Application forms and project criteria can be found

on the Healing and Reconciliation website at <http://www.presbyterian.ca/ministry/justice/healing>. The Healing and Reconciliation Program Animator, Lori Ransom, welcomes opportunities to discuss your project ideas. She can be reached at 1-800-619-7301 ext 283 or by email at lransom@presbyterian.ca.

TRAINING FOR HEALING AND RECONCILIATION VOLUNTEERS

Are you interested in learning how to make connections with First Nation communities or First Nation, Inuit and Metis peoples living in urban centres? Justice Ministries is looking for individuals with a passion to contribute to healing and reconciliation in Canada. We will offer a training session on February 24 and 25, 2009 to support those who wish to volunteer to lead work locally. Assistance is provided to cover travel and accommodation expenses to attend the training. Other training opportunities will be available for those who express an interest but cannot make the February dates. Contact The Healing and Reconciliation Program Animator, Lori Ransom for more information.

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR YEAR 2 OF THE PEACE AND HUMAN SECURITY INTERNSHIP WITH PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES

The Presbyterian Church in Canada and Project Ploughshares invite applications for the second year of the Peace and Human Security Internship with Project Ploughshares in Waterloo, Ontario. The second year of the internship will run from September 2009 to April 2010. A stipend will be provided to the intern. Applicants must be members or adherents of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, and have completed a post-secondary degree in political science, international studies or a related discipline. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2009. Internship qualifications and procedures are outlined on the application form. This program is made possible through undesignated bequest gifts to The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Contact Program Coordinator, Katharine Masterton at kmasterton@presbyterian.ca for more information or view the internship announcement online at http://www.presbyterian.ca/webfm_send/2484

BECOMING A MORE INCLUSIVE CHURCH: *LEADERSHIP IN A DIVERSE AND CHANGING WORLD* WORKSHOP WITH ERIC LAW

Knox College's Centre for Asian-Canadian Theology & Ministry, Continuing Education and Justice Ministries is pleased to announce the *Leadership in a Diverse and Changing World* workshop with Eric Law. Eric Law is an ordained Episcopalian priest who works with churches in Canada and the U.S. striving to become more inclusive communities. Law has published a number of books including: 1) Sacred Acts, Holy Change: Faithful Diversity & Practical Transformation; 2) The Bush Was Blazing But Not Consumed; 3) The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb: A Spirituality for Leadership in a Multicultural Community. This two day workshop will be held at Knox College in Toronto, Ontario on May 25-26, 2009. Participants from all racial, ethnic and linguistic backgrounds are welcome. The workshop will be conducted in English. Registration is limited. Overnight accommodation for out of town guests will be available through Knox College. For more information contact Justice Ministries.

RE-ENERGIZE YOUR CONGREGATION AND COMMUNITY DURING EARTH HOUR (MARCH 28, 2009)

Climate change is one expression of how our dependence on oil and gas harms people and the environment. There are more just and sustainable energy practices. There are practical steps we can take in our homes and in our churches to reduce our ecological footprints. Earth Hour is a global initiative and an opportunity to focus on responsible stewardship of God's creation. Worship and educational resources are available from Program Coordinator, Katharine Masterton.

IN OUR SMALL CORNER NEWSLETTER WINTER 2008-2009 AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Winter 2008-2009 edition of the Justice Ministries newsletter In Our Small Corner is now available online at www.presbyterian.ca/webfm_send/2447

PRESBYTERIAN WORLD SERVICE AND DEVELOPMENT

PWS&D SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 1, 2009

PWS&D Sunday is coming soon! This is a Sunday to share about the work of our church's development agency and how Canadian Presbyterians are making a difference in the world. Now is the time to order free resources, including bulletin inserts, worship resources, Annual Reports, or request a PWS&D speaker to come to your church! Call our office at 1-800-619-7301 x293 for more information.

THE NEW "PWS&D SPOTLIGHT" E-NEWSLETTER

Now you can stay informed of all the latest developments at PWS&D. From current resources, to program updates and other news, don't miss out on our monthly updates. Sign up at <http://www.presbyterian.ca/pwsd>

URGENT APPEAL FOR AID IN CONGO

Violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) continues, causing thousands to flee. Many armed groups forcibly recruit children and youth, impose arbitrary taxes on people, and block supply roads that prevent people from harvesting their food. Since January, food prices have risen over 140%. PWS&D is responding to this emergency through the Action by Churches Together (ACT) International network, helping 55,000 people with essential supplies. Your help is needed to assist war-affected people in the Congo. Learn more at <http://www.presbyterian.ca/community/newsandevents/3824>

RESPONDING TO HUNGER IN ZIMBABWE

In the grips of a devastating food crisis, over 5 million people in Zimbabwe will require emergency food aid in the next five months. PWS&D is supporting an ecumenical effort through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank to bring food to the hungry and your help is desperately needed. Find more information at <http://www.presbyterian.ca/community/newsandevents/3881>

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES INTERNSHIPS

Are you an international development studies student at a college or university in Canada who needs to complete an overseas placement to graduate? If so, PWS&D is excited to offer an internship posting of between six and twelve months with one of our partner organizations overseas. Send us a letter of interest and your CV by February 1, 2009. Find out more information at <http://www.presbyterian.ca/pwsd/opportunities>

THE VINE HELPLINE

NEW ON-LINE RESOURCE: SO YOU'RE A YAR . . .

If you know someone who will be a Young Adult Representative at General Assembly, download for him/her a copy of this new resource, *So You're a YAR...*(Type *So You're a YAR...* in the search box on the home page of www.presbyterian.ca.)

MINISTRY AND CHURCH VOCATIONS

THE CONTINUING EDUCATION FUND FOR PROFESSIONAL CHURCH WORKERS

For professional church workers to help them increase their effectiveness for ministerial service.

When a professional church worker has used up their continuing education allowance from the congregation this fund can help. Often used to help off-set the cost of continuing education events, conferences and D.Min. programs. Applications can be found online:

<http://www.presbyterian.ca/resources/online> by searching 'continuing education.' Further inquires about this or other opportunities for continuing education can be directed to Program Manager, Jeffrey Crawford, jcrawford@presbyterian.ca

INCENTIVE GRANTS FOR NEW COLLEAGUE COVENANT GROUPS

Helping ministers, diaconal ministers and lay ministers create supportive, prayerful networks of peers for themselves. See brochures in November 2008 PCPak for details. Grant application forms are posted on-line at <http://www.presbyterian.ca/resources/online/203>

INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

MISSIONARY APPOINTMENT TO GRENADA

The Rev. Jim and Mrs. Ann Young have been appointed as missionaries of The Presbyterian Church in Canada to serve with The Presbyterian Church in Grenada for a three year term that will begin January 1, 2009 and conclude on December 31, 2011. Grenada is a small island state in the Caribbean located north of Trinidad which was severely affected by Hurricane Ivan in 2005 when more than 90% of the homes and buildings on the island were damaged or destroyed including the churches, manses and schools of The Presbyterian Church of Grenada. Much of this damage has since been repaired, but much still remains to be done. In Grenada, Rev. Young will serve as the minister of a rural church, the Belair congregation and as the Chaplain of McDonald College, a 600 student high school operated by The Presbyterian Church of Grenada. Mrs. Young will serve at McDonald College as a volunteer teacher of remedial English and mathematics. A very well attended Service of Commissioning for Missionary Service was conducted for Rev. and Mrs. Young at St. Andrew's, Sutton West by the Presbytery of Oak Ridges on Sunday, November 9, 2008.