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*The Racial Ethnic Torch***

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Volume 20 • Issue 3 • Fall 2010

A stylized torch icon with a flame, positioned to the left of the title.

The Racial Ethnic TORCH



**Grow, Transform,
Lead and Develop**



The Racial Ethnic TORCH



A message from the director, Rhashell D. Hunter

A young racial ethnic woman recently attended a leadership development event sponsored by the Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries/Presbyterian Women ministry area. Already a leader in her own right, she is an associate pastor at her church and has served on national committees in the PC(USA). As I observed this gifted young woman actively participating, sharing her wisdom, and asking thoughtful questions, I realized first of all that there are many persons in the PC(USA) that don't know that she exists. Many in our church don't even know that there are exceptionally gifted racial ethnic persons and women who serve the church in remarkable ways.

Second, the leadership development opportunities that we offer today are invaluable for the church of today and tomorrow. As I observed this young racial ethnic woman, I had no doubt that she will be a significant leader in our church in 5 or 10 years. I hope that I am able to see what God has in store for her ministry. Finally, I became aware of how truly blessed, humbled and awed I am by God to be able to provide leadership development opportunities for others.

There is a renewed focus in Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries/Presbyterian Women in the area of leadership development, which is also central in the General Assembly Mission Council as part of our new guiding principles. Engage with us in the ministry of leadership development and consider mentoring young leaders and providing opportunities to share power, so that others may serve God. Envision in your ministry, how you might help to prepare leaders for the 21st and 22nd century church.

In this issue, you will read more about leadership development, particularly a number of exciting opportunities that are planned for next year. In these pages you will also meet emerging racial ethnic leaders who are transforming the church even as they are themselves being transformed. You will learn about significant achievements by racial ethnic congregations and interest groups, exciting new additions to our ministry staff, and upcoming events.

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Save the Date

The Commission on the Status of Women will be held in February and March 2011 at the United Nations in New York. Every year, representatives of member states gather at United Nations headquarters in New York to evaluate progress on gender equality, identify challenges, set global standards and formulate concrete policies to promote the advancement of women worldwide. Contact Ann Ferguson, (800) 728-7228 x5365, ann.ferguson@pcusa.org; or Nancy Young, (800) 728-7228, x5490, nancy.young@pcusa.org for more information.

Presbyterian Women, Inc. will offer a forum during the Commission on the Status of Women on ending inter-ethnic conflict and stopping violence against women as a weapon of war. Contact Ann Ferguson, (800) 728-7228, x5365 or email ann.ferguson@pcusa.org for more information.

The 2012 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be held July 18–22, 2012, at the Gaylord Palms in Orlando, Florida. There will be opportunities for learning, worship and much to experience for the whole family. Contact Ann Ferguson, (800) 728-7228, x5365 or email ann.ferguson@pcusa.org for more information.

Presbyterian Women, Inc. will sponsor a Global Exchange to India in October 2011. Three representatives from Presbyterian Women will travel to India for pre-trip planning, October 30 to November 8, 2010, in preparation for the Global Exchange. Contact Kathy Reeves, (800) 728-7228, x5402 or email katharine.reeves@pcusa.org for more information.

On the cover: Dr. Mikyoung Park, member of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN, and the Rev. Carlos Malave at the Ecumenical Worship at the 219th General Assembly 2010. Photo by Danny Bolin.

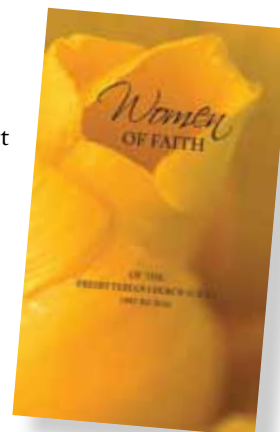
Second volume of the highly anticipated *Women of Faith* book is hot off the press

Unveiled in July at the 219th General Assembly (2010), the newly published volume *Women of Faith of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 1997–2010* is already proving to be a source of inspiration for the whole church.

It was in 1986 that the first Women of Faith recipients were presented with awards for equality, development and peace. The awards have been presented to deserving women in the church ever since. In 1996, the stories of the Women of Faith recipients were collected and published in the first volume, *Women of Faith of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 1986–1996*.

This second volume contains the “stories of women who courageously work and witness in their communities, in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and in the larger ecumenical community” (*Women of Faith of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 1997–2010*, p. 2), and includes the stories of the 2010 recipients, Margaret E. Howland, Elizabeth B. Knott, Elona Street-Stewart and Joyce Uyeda.

The new book is available for \$10 from Presbyterian Distribution Service (www.pcusa.org/store) or (800) 524-2612.)



2011 gathering will benefit women of color and entire PC(USA)

The first Women of Color Consultation (WoCC) was held in 2004 as a result of a call by the Racial Ethnic Women's Dialogue of Presbyterian Women. More than 180 women participated, including African Americans, Asians, Latinas, Middle Easterners, Native Americans and new immigrant women. Recommendations were made to several entities of the church, including General Assembly (GA), General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC), Presbyterian Women, the Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns and the Advocacy Committee for Racial Ethnic Concerns.

The 218th General Assembly (2008) directed that a second Women of Color Consultation be held no later than 2011 and a report and recommendations be submitted to the 220th General Assembly (2012).

The WoCC is scheduled for October 20–23, 2011, in Charlotte, N.C. The purpose of the consultation is for leadership in the church to listen to the voices and concerns of women of color. Middle governing body executives and GA and GAMC staff will be invited to come as consulting partners to listen to and be in conversation with the women who attend the consultation.

The beginning of a new day

Women's Leadership Institute focused on racial ethnic clergywomen launches ambitious new initiative

By Emily Enders Odom

If the mountains deliberately invoke a feminine aspect of the divine, as biblical scholars have posited, it was only fitting that a select group of racial ethnic clergywomen in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)—nominated by their presbytery and synod executives—gathered in Montreat, North Carolina, in the heart of the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains to be inspired, connected, equipped, and encouraged to pursue key leadership positions within the denomination.

Held at Montreat September 19–22, the inaugural Racial Ethnic Clergywomen's Leadership Institute was presented by Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries/Presbyterian Women, PC(USA), in partnership with the Center for Faith and Life at Montreat Conference Center.

Affirming the institute's spiritual dimension and its "serene

setting"—including break times, networking opportunities and wisdom sharing—as equally important as its programmatic content, the Rev. Dr. Rhashell Hunter,

**"Your gift to the church
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who you are and you share
your authentic self."**

—Rhashell Hunter

director of Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries/Presbyterian Women for the General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC), described partnering with

Montreat as "a beautiful thing," essential toward achieving the institute's practical as well as its spiritual objectives.

"As you see, the Christ candle is lit again today," Hunter told the gathering, "reminding us that Christ is here among us, that we are all children of God, and that this is a spiritual time as well as a time of learning."

The institute's leadership team was composed of members of the GAMC staff, the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) staff, executive presbyters, pastors, Montreat Conference Center staff, and others, to help the 13 racial ethnic clergywomen explore leadership styles, strengthen management skills, and receive support in their calls to ministry.

"We felt it was very important for this first institute to address a body of people who have not been attended to in the church," Hunter said, citing her ministry area's comprehensive vision for women's leadership development in the PC(USA), which will eventually include opportunities for elders and other church leaders. "In women's ministries, we have not done anything with clergywomen in a long time, and so we were very intentional and focused for this particular institute, which was designed to strengthen and nurture the gifts of racial ethnic clergywomen and inspire them to greater leadership roles in executive and senior leadership in congregations, middle governing bodies, and in the General Assembly."

Diverse as to age, geography, racial ethnic heritage and ministry background, the participants found that they nevertheless shared common dreams and visions.



Affirming the institute's spiritual dimension and its "serene setting"—including break times, networking opportunities and wisdom sharing—as equally important as its programmatic content.

“From my experience here I already know I have great sisters,” said the Rev. Johanna Lee, a Korean American member of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, on the institute’s first night. “I’m not alone, I have great support, great care, and all of that is from God.”

Of her recent experiences in life and ministry—including having recently taken an extended leave from chaplaincy to care for her infant granddaughter who underwent a heart transplant in January—Lee said, “I learned and I received. Now I’m ready to give.”

Participants, like Lee, who came to the institute open to the leading of the Holy Spirit in pursuing new calls, heard in Hunter’s opening presentation the encouraging presupposition that opportunities exist for racial ethnic women as heads of staff, middle governing body executives, General Assembly staff, and in other leadership roles in the church. Hunter added that because such opportunities require preparation in areas often not addressed by a seminary education, the institute would play a key role in introducing such subjects as managing large staff organizations, understanding multimillion dollar budgets, employment and legal issues, interviewing skills, and human resources policies.

“Some people have done some management and they don’t know that they’ve done it,” Hunter noted. “We had an interview once with a racial ethnic woman for a fairly high position, and we said, ‘You’re going to manage a large staff. Have you managed people before?’ When she said no, I asked further clarifying questions and learned that as pastor of



Racial ethnic clergywomen in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)—nominated by their presbytery and synod executives—gathered in Montreat, North Carolina, in the heart of the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains.

her church, she had a small staff, but she did not recognize her own management experience.”

Hunter said that one of the institute’s objectives was for participants to be equipped to do well in such situations as they become inspired to seek out greater leadership roles in the denomination.

Because there are more clergywomen than ever in the history of the church—27 percent of ordained clergy in the PC(USA) are women—Hunter emphasized the importance that women understand not only the unique leadership styles and gifts they bring to ministry, but also how they will shape the church of the future, especially toward ensuring greater diversity in church leadership.

“There are many leaders, including Linda Valentine, executive director of the General Assembly Mission Council, who are currently asking for diversity, but she needs folks to come forward and she needs folks to submit names and she needs folks to work with her,” Hunter stressed. “She can’t just say, ‘I’ve got to make sure the church is diverse’; it’s all of our jobs to make sure the church is diverse.”

Hunter and Valentine, who was also an institute presenter on the subject of “Governance as Leadership,” both



27 percent of ordained clergy in the PC(USA) are women—the most in the church’s history.



The Rev. Dr. Rhshell Hunter, director of Racial Ethnic & Women’s Ministries/Presbyterian Women

addressed critical issues of how leaders lead, acknowledging that factors and lenses of gender, race, ethnicity, education and others profoundly influence leadership style.

“Women and racial ethnic people operate differently,” Hunter told the gathering. “Your gift to the church may be that at a certain point you figure out authentically who you are and you share your authentic self. My hope for all of you is that you get to a place where it’s your leadership and not the leadership that you think someone else wants from you.”

In addition to Hunter and Valentine, presenters on the institute’s first day included Nancy Young, coordinator for Racial Ethnic & Women’s Leadership Development/Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges in the GAMC; Lucy Mungai, an ordained Presbyterian elder and Kenya native who serves at the Church of All Nations in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Helen Locklear, regional representative of the Board of Pensions for the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic; and Merri Alexander, vice president for the Center for Faith and Life at Montreat Conference Center. An evening “Conversation with Executive Leaders in the PC(USA)” was facilitated by Marissa Galván-Valle, associate for resources

and relationships with the Hispanic/Latino—a constituency of the PC(USA), and featured Linda Valentine; Barbara Campbell Davis, executive presbyter/stated clerk of New Hope Presbytery; and Arlene Gordon, recently retired executive presbyter of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida. Presentations later in the week featured Arlene Gordon; Jewel McRae, associate for Church Leadership Connection Administration and Racial Ethnic Referral in the PC(USA)’s Office of Vocation; Valerie Small, assistant stated clerk, manager for General Assembly Nominations, Office of the General Assembly; and Diane Givens Moffett, pastor at St. James Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, North Carolina.

In her morning devotions based on Psalm 90, the Rev. Betty Gilbert Griffin of Indianapolis, Indiana, perceptively spoke on September 20 to the heart of the institute’s short- and long-term goals. “This is the beginning of a new day,” she said. “We have been given this day to use. We can waste it or use it for good. What we do today is important because we are exchanging a day of our life. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever and in its place will be something that we have left behind. Let it be something good.”



The Rev. Betty Gilbert Griffin left the retreat with the feeling that “this is the beginning of a new day.”

Reflecting on her overall experience of the institute, one of the 13 participants, the Rev. Nancy Benson-Nicol, university chaplain at the University of the Ozarks, Clarksville, Arkansas, said, “Though it might sound melodramatic, there are no words adequate to describe what a tremendous blessing it has been. I have met new sisters with and for whom to pray as they carry out their extraordinary ministries. They give me hope and inspiration for the present and the future of the church. I walk away from the experience feeling affirmed, encouraged, inspired and challenged in unique and wonderful ways. I only wish I had experienced this gathering earlier in my ministry. I can’t wait to continue to build and expand my networks with these ministers and to introduce my flock to their voices and contributions as well.”

At the conclusion of the event, Hunter cited both encouragement and excitement at what the future might hold. “What a joy it has been to gather with such capable racial ethnic clergywomen,” she said. “Each is already a leader in the PC(USA). I can’t wait to see the significant contributions they will make as they move into even greater leadership roles in the future.”



New sisters from across the country will have networks to get encouragement from as they continue their ministry. New hope and inspiration for the present and the future of the church was shared by all.

Korean Church of Boston wins architectural award

As stated by *Architect* magazine—which annually presents the prestigious P/A Awards—“every year for the past 55 years, a jury of architects and architectural experts has accepted the herculean task of reviewing hundreds of submissions of unbuilt building projects to identify a handful that together embody the term ‘progressive architecture.’” In 2008, one of those eight winning projects was the Korean Church of Boston (KCB), Brian Healy Architects.

In the March 2008 issue of *The Connection*, the newsletter of the Presbytery of Boston, Elder Steve Hahn of the KCB wrote movingly of the impending April 2008 groundbreaking ceremony for the church’s new Education and Community Center (ECC), the project that received one of the 55th annual P/A Awards. “This is a joyous occasion for the Korean Church of Boston, PC(USA), as well as for the Presbytery of Boston,” Hahn wrote. “The ECC groundbreaking culminates the last 4½ years of earnest prayers, planning and hard work for a project, not only to commemorate the first Jubilee in 2003 of the KCB, which was founded on Thanksgiving Sunday in 1953, but also to glorify God. . . . It will be the legacy of this generation’s faith in Christ to the future generations of the KCB, especially the children, as the new Children’s Chapel is the jewel of the ECC construction.”

On its website, Brian Healy Architects described the project thusly: “Instead of creating a building distinct from the 1950s-era brick church, Brian Healy Architects decided to weave old and new together, intersecting the long and narrow contemporary structure with the existing church. Juror Thomas Phifer found this strategy compelling: ‘I think the thing that you would think about doing in the beginning [of a project like this] is completely divorcing the addition—a modest addition away from a very traditional church. Here, they weave the buildings together and let the architectures come together.’” As they now do, to the glory of God.



PHOTOS FROM WWW.KANKSUK.COM, KANGSUK CONSTRUCTION, INC.



The Rev. Thysan Sam, who is now a full-time pastor with the PC(USA) after living in a refugee camp on the Cambodia/Thai border

From the killing fields to the mission field

By Toya Richards

The day the Rev. Thysan Sam was baptized, he made a promise to God—and himself—that he would teach and minister the gospel.

He was in the midst of a United Nations-supported refugee camp between the Cambodian and Thai border, where he had been existing in the throes of despair. It was there Sam encountered a Christian pastor who gave him a Bible and other reading material about Christianity and God.

“One day I realized that Jesus Christ is a true God and my savior. . . and then I asked to be baptized,” he said. “That was the first time in my life I felt peace, perfect peace in my life.”

“From that time on I promised God. . . to be a Christian preacher. . . teacher or minister,” Sam said.

That was in 1981. Today he is ordained in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and is a pastor at Eliot Presbyterian Church (www.eliotlowell.org) in Lowell, Massachusetts. Sam is the second Cambodian to be ordained to the ministry in the PC(USA).

Sam knows without a shadow of a doubt it was God’s “mighty hand” that got him where he is today.

His journey has not been easy. Sam is a native of Cambodia, and when civil war broke out in his teen years, he became a Buddhist monk to continue his education and carry on his family’s beliefs.

In 1975, with the country under Communist rule, all monks, among others, were forced into hard labor. “Two million people were killed during that time, from 1975 to 1979,” including Sam’s oldest brother, Sam said.

In 1979 the Communist Party was overthrown by another political party, ushering in another “very sad” time, according to Sam. He escaped and ended up in refugee camps.

After giving his life to Christ as a refugee, Sam helped about

300 people come to know God through his ministry in the camps.

“When I look back to those past experiences, I always see the mighty hand of God holding me, carrying me, protecting me, walking with me before I knew him,” he reflected. “I see God’s protection for my life, sparing my life to be who I am today. My faith and my hope become stronger and stronger, to live for today and tomorrow.”

In 1989 he came to the United States, and six years later he joined the PC(USA). “I thank God to be in this denomination because I have learned a lot,” Sam said. “I learned how to open my mind to see the different things, different people, different denominations” that God is using.

In terms of his work with Eliot Presbyterian Church, where he serves on the pastoral staff, Sam hopes to continue helping the congregation grow. The multicultural church has active Cambodian, African and Brazilian outreach ministries among its overall efforts.

Ultimately, “I wish to be a full-time pastor . . . but my hope is that God will use me for whatever he wants me to do for his name and for my life,” he said.

In addition to his congregational work, Sam is a social worker for the state of Massachusetts. He also is involved with the PC(USA)’s Advisory Committee on Southeast Asian Ministries and is the new moderator of the National Asian Presbyterian Council.

“I cannot predict my life,” Sam said. “But I believe strongly God will lead my way to be . . . where he wants me to go.”

Having survived five years of civil war, four years under Communist rule, and another 10 years in refugee camps, Sam continues to rely upon God. “I have hope that God is still with me.”

2010 Christmas Joy Offering

What Child Is This?

Recent graduate Shirlicia Reynolds realized and began fulfilling her call to playwriting while attending Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)-related Stillman College.

The Atlanta native has written three plays and a movie and has developed her own company, God's Anointed Daughter Productions. Yet if it weren't for Stillman College, which receives support from the denomination's Christmas Joy Offering, her first play may not have been produced. Stillman provided the nurturing and assistance Shirlicia needed to bring her play, *God Give Me the Grace*, to the stage.

Shirlicia is forever grateful for what she received at Stillman. The professors "always have an open door policy," Shirlicia said. "They care about the students—they really do." Even after graduation, "I still can go into my professors' offices, and they welcome me with open arms." That welcoming attitude is not just about academics, but also includes personal life issues. "They listen to my struggles and my hurts and give me advice."

Your gifts make a difference and change lives. The Christmas Joy Offering provides equal support to leadership development among Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges and assistance programs of the Board of Pensions. Please give generously.

www.pcusa.org/cjoffering





Presa is well positioned to pursue what he sees as his calling: 'to work at all levels for the visible unity and full communion of all parts of the body of Christ.'

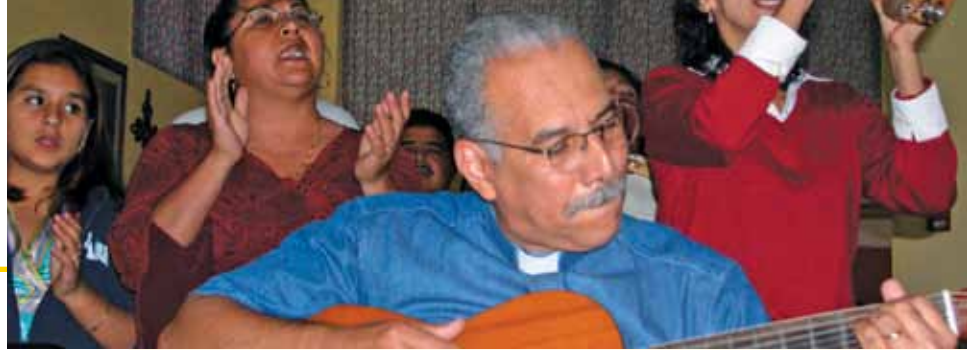
Emerging leaders

The face of church leadership is changing. As our nation and church become more diverse, leaders are arising in unexpected places, bringing gifts from a variety of racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds. *Presbyterians Today* enlisted the help of Bruce Reyes-Chow and Byron Wade, outgoing moderator and vice moderator of the General Assembly, and others with extensive connections around the church in order to find some of the emerging leaders in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Here are 10 we would like you to meet.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF NEAL D. PRESA

Ros offers migrant farmworkers a way to move past life's obstacles.



◀◀ **Neal D. Presa**

At home in the global church

A glance at 33-year-old Neal Presa's résumé could make a person twice his age feel like an underachiever. This young pastor of Middlesex (N.J.) Presbyterian Church holds three master's degrees (two from Presbyterian seminaries) and a Ph.D. in liturgical studies, awarded in May. He has served on an array of church-related boards, committees, commissions and councils.

He's made friends at the Vatican, and has been a delegate to major Reformed church gatherings. What inspires him the most, Presa says, is his involvement in the worldwide church: "I'm really excited about the ecumenical movement." And he's well positioned to pursue what he sees as his calling: "to work at all levels for the visible unity and full communion of all parts of the body of Christ."

Presa already has exercised leadership at the highest levels of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.): as vice chair of the General Assembly Mission Council (2003–04), commissioner to the General Assembly (2006) and chair of a special committee that brought recommendations to this year's Assembly on retranslating the Heidelberg Catechism.

But Presa's life is more than all church, all the time. When he travels he packs running shoes so he can work out on a treadmill between meetings. In addition to preparing sermons and leading new-member classes for his small congregation, he joins his wife, Grace, in chauffeuring their sons Daniel, 7, and Andrew, 5, to Cub Scouts, tennis lessons and other sports activities.

Born to Filipino parents in Guam, Presa was baptized in the Roman Catholic Church and grew up in a United Church of Christ congregation in California, where his family moved when he was 3. He became Presbyterian in the mid-1990s, when his congregation split and one group of members joined the PC(USA). Presa immediately felt at home.

He loved Presbyterian polity and the emphasis on the confessions. "Something clicked," he says. "I was always Presbyterian but I didn't know it."

Now he hopes to help bring greater unity to the church he loves. "We have a compelling story to tell," he insists. By moving beyond arguments and factions, the church can "bear witness to Christ's profound love for the world."—*Eva Stimson*

▶▶ **Ramiro Ros**

Helping people in need

Presbyterian minister Ramiro Ros describes himself as "sort of a religious taxi transport service." For many of the migrant farmworkers of west-central Florida, however, Ros offers much more than just a ride. He provides them with a way to move past life's obstacles.

"We try to help people who are really in need, whatever that need might be," Ros says. "I'm with people at court hearings, I take women to shelters. We make arrangements for burials or to help people send money back home. In general, I'm an advocate for the folks who are in the area."

For nearly two decades Ros has served the migrant community through the Beth-El Mission, a ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Wimauma, Fla., approximately 30 miles south of Tampa. A native of Puerto Rico, Ros graduated from seminary in 1991 and soon afterward joined Beth-El Mission, which was founded in 1976. He says the mission is a perfect fit for him because it allows him to provide both church and social services.

"I'm on the move all the time," Ros says. "I really never know what's going to happen each day. I might get a call to drive a woman to the hospital who is going to have a baby. I've been lucky enough that none of them has had their baby on the way."

In recent years Beth-El Mission has expanded to include more educational opportunities, from English courses and preparation for taking the GED tests for a high-school equivalency diploma to vocational pursuits such as nursing, cosmetology and building maintenance.

"New generations have different needs," Ros says. "We started 30 years ago just helping people with food and clothing and religious services. Through the years we have discovered that there's a need to provide more in terms of education."

Ros is familiar with the controversy these days surrounding undocumented immigrants. But while that issue is being debated, there are people with serious problems, he says—people he is determined to help.

"It's obvious that we need some sort of comprehensive immigration policy from the government," Ros says. "In the meantime, there's a host of folks and families who are in dire need. There are some desperate situations here. We feel that it's our calling as Christians to help those in need."—*Cary Estes*



Vicky Kayaani
Reaching out to children

Teaching children brings joy to 32-year-old Vicky Kayaani, an elder and Christian education director at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Chinle, Ariz. A substitute public-school teacher, working toward accreditation, she spends hours searching online for just the right curriculum to introduce kids in her congregation to the stories of the Bible.

“When they get something, you can see it on their faces,” she says.

Trinity is one of a handful of small Presbyterian congregations in the Navajo Nation, on a sprawling reservation in northeastern Arizona that extends into New Mexico, Colorado and Utah. Sunday worship at Trinity includes prayers in the Navajo language and Navajo hymns, as well as hymns from *The Presbyterian Hymnal*.

The biggest need on the reservation, says Kayaani, “is for a place where kids can go and feel like they’re loved and being taught.”

She is trying to make her church just such a place. There was no Sunday school at Trinity when the church’s current pastor, Constance McIntosh, arrived nearly two years ago. With the new pastor’s encouragement, Kayaani organized a class for a wide range of ages—“from babies to sixth grade,” she says. Average church attendance on Sunday mornings is now about 50 adults and 15–20 children, says McIntosh.

Kayaani is single, with no children of her own, but is “second mom” to numerous nieces, nephews and other children in her close-knit church and community. McIntosh describes her as “one of the people I know I can always count on.”

Kayaani directs the congregation’s annual Christmas play, and has worked as a counselor at a camp of Grand Canyon Presbytery. She also coordinates a summer vacation Bible school program, working with visiting volunteers from mission partner congregations in Florida and several other states. These connections with people from other parts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) energize her and give her new ideas to incorporate in her teaching, she says. She describes the VBS program as “a whole community outreach,” drawing in children who don’t usually attend church school on Sunday morning.

“Even though we live in a small community,” says Kayaani, “there are still a lot of people we can reach and show God’s love.”—*Eva Stimson*

Jerrod Belton Lowry >>

Encourager



As a savvy preacher’s kid—tapped since his teenage years for leadership roles on committees and planning teams at every level of the church—Jerrod

Lowry never imagined that his first call to ministry would be to a small church. He says he entered ministry reluctantly, telling people he was responding to “God’s tugging,” while secretly hoping it would lead him anywhere other than a pulpit.

“If you had asked me five years ago whether I would be willing to serve a rural congregation in North Carolina, I wouldn’t have thought so,” says Lowry, pastor of the 70-member St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Louisburg, N.C. “I thought I would serve a thousand-member church. I would say to seminary students today who are coming up to just be open. You can never know how or where God’s call is going to take you or lead you.”


Lowry is a tentmaker, serving his congregation while also staffing the Presbytery of New Hope part-time as its associate for specialized ministries. In working with the presbytery’s youth committee, black caucus and mission committee, Lowry sees tremendous potential for growth in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), especially among the church’s racial ethnic members.

“Too often we’re focused on a numerical goal as the gauge for success and we say we can’t do anything with our small churches, but they have a lot of resources, not necessarily financial,” he says. “Small churches have a wealth of knowledge, history and care of a community. This is especially true of our black caucus churches, with people who grew up in the church and have a personal connection with the community.”

Currently a member of the PC(USA)’s Committee on the Office of the General Assembly, Lowry sees himself primarily as an encourager in the faith, just as he himself was encouraged. “I stand tall because I stand on great shoulders of faithful saints who nurtured, encouraged and loved me in my spiritual growth and development,” he says.

He is proud of his congregation’s continuing growth in discipleship and servanthood, reflecting the denomination’s commitment to “Grow Christ’s Church Deep and Wide.” A member of his church recently stepped out in faith to start the first soup kitchen in a county where factory jobs are being lost with nothing to replace them.

“To see her in action and to see the church rallying around her was beautiful,” he says. “We all have to use the gifts and the tools that we have not to just exist but to engage the community. Jesus’ Great Commission is to go out and make disciples, not members.”—*Emily Enders Odom*



González Méndez can't decide which is more fun: leading energizers at a Presbyterian youth event or following committee debates at General Assembly.

Omayra González Méndez Energizer

When Omayra González Méndez was 2 years old, her father died. Even though her family was Catholic, “the first person to get to my home was a Presbyterian pastor,” she recalls.

Members of San Sebastian Presbyterian Church in western Puerto Rico brought food and surrounded the grieving family with love. “My mom was a widow with three little kids, and the church welcomed us,” she says.

From that time on, the Presbyterian Church has been an important part of her life — so much so that González Méndez, now 26 and working as a journalist in San Juan, took time out from covering breaking news about a university-students’ strike this spring to be interviewed by *Presbyterians Today*. And she insists she can’t decide which is more fun: leading energizers at a Presbyterian youth event or following committee debates at the denomination’s General Assembly.

Working at Presbyterian Camp Guacio in Puerto Rico as a teenager led to stints on the planning team and as a recreation leader at the popular summer Montreat (N.C.) Youth Conferences. She has served on leadership teams for the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and the Multicultural Youth Conference at Mo-Ranch, a conference center of the Synod of the Sun in Texas. She also has been involved in a national PC(USA)

network called Racial Ethnic Young Women Together. She has attended four General Assemblies, once as a Youth Advisory Delegate.

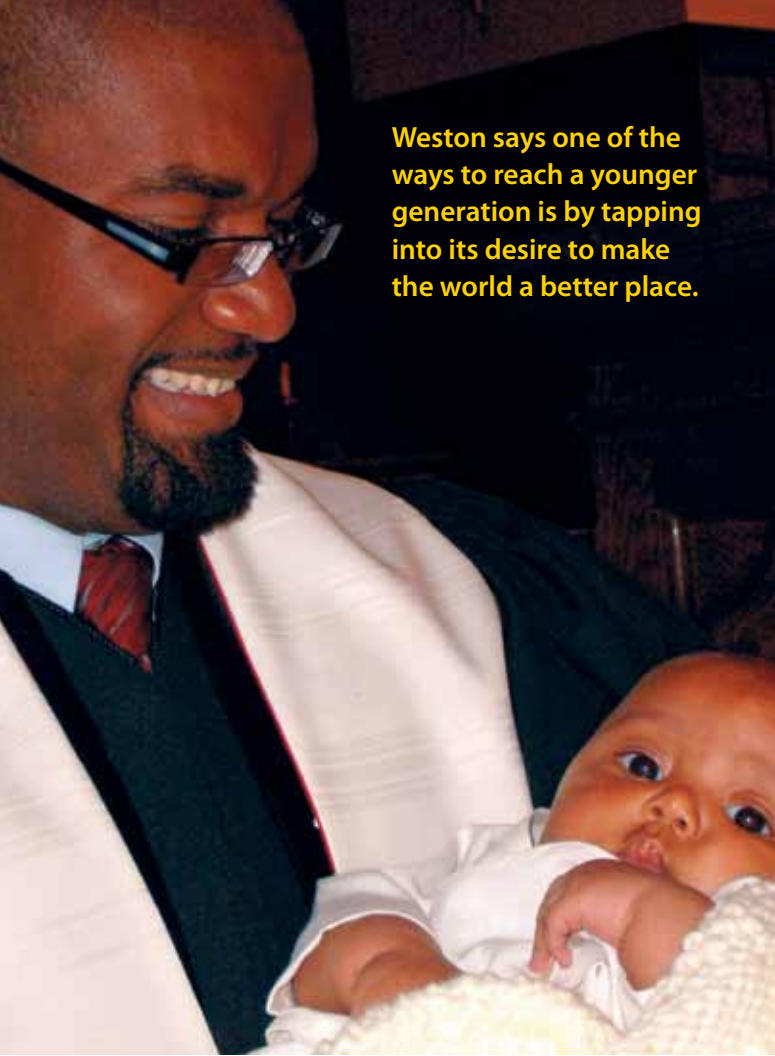
“As a journalist, I love the political arena of the church,” she says. Seeing the church take action on issues such as immigration reform makes her proud to be Presbyterian.

González Méndez’ passion for youth ministry stems from her conviction that “when I’m working with youth, I’m working with people who are going to lead the church in the next 10 to 20 years.”

Playing and having fun with young people is also important, she says. “Sometimes when you’re young you don’t think that the church is fun.” But she says when she’s with a bunch of kids at church camp, doing energizers and laughing and moving, “we are worshiping God with our whole bodies.”

Now a member of Hato Rey Presbyterian Church in San Juan, González Méndez says she hopes her leadership involvement at all levels will help bring new members and greater diversity to the PC(USA).

“I would like to be involved in helping the church grow,” she says. “The face of the church is changing. I want to be part of that.”—*Eva Stimson*



Weston says one of the ways to reach a younger generation is by tapping into its desire to make the world a better place.

« Derrick L. Weston

Faith in action

Derrick L. Weston went into ministry after realizing that his faith wasn't just about his own salvation, but also about serving others. The recently ordained 30-year-old pastor of Oakland Presbyterian Church in Springfield, Ohio, is passionate about reaching out to others and creating a relevant church community.

"I had a few offers when I was looking for a church to serve," he explains. "I chose Oakland because they were very frank about their position. The congregation recognized that they had to do things differently to be relevant. If they didn't change, the church would be dead."

Successful ministry requires a whole new paradigm, Weston says. "Some churches think we can throw more money at old programs and be successful. I don't think that's the case. Bigger buildings or more staff doesn't mean we have better ministry. Kingdom ministry is people outside of buildings, in neighborhoods and in service."

Weston says one of the ways to reach a younger generation is by tapping into its desire to make the world a better place. Tying the younger generation's passion for social justice to the gospel is vital, since many of those in their 20s or 30s are unchurched.

"A generation or two is growing up thinking they can pursue the social witness of the church without the baggage of a church," he says. "We need to emphasize and take advantage of their passion for social justice. We can't let it continue to be separate from the gospel."

Weston has worked for the Pittsburgh Project in Pennsylvania, a community redevelopment organization that operates after-school and summer programs for young people, provides job training and offers free home repairs for elderly homeowners in need. He has also worked with the Presbyterian Urban Network, a collection of small, urban churches in Portland, Ore., that shares services like a parish nurse as well as services for the community. Weston served on a special committee on civil union and Christian marriage that brought a report to this year's General Assembly.—*Sue Washburn*

Creating a relevant church community: Derrick Weston, pastor of a congregation in Springfield, Ohio, baptizing his son, Thomas



Grow Christ's Church

Deep and Wide
In Diversity

Ten years ago the racial ethnic membership of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) was 4.7 percent. Today it is approximately 8.83 percent. Ten years ago there were 972 racial ethnic congregations; today there are 1,380. Thus, of the 10,751 PC(USA) congregations, more than 13 percent are racial ethnic. Helping to facilitate this growth is the General Assembly Mission Council's office of

Cross Cultural Ministries and Congregational Support. It offers congregations ideas for growth, language- and culture-specific resources, leadership development, and other kinds of support.

Go to www.pcusa.org/raciaethnic for links to resources for Asian, African American, Hispanic/Latino-a, Korean, Middle Eastern, multicultural, Native American and new immigrant congregations.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DERRICK L. WESTON

'I'm the first female pastor our youth have met, and the first one who looks like them,' says Pak about her work in a Korean congregation in California.



Meeting people where they are: Irene Pak on a summer mission trip with her church's youth group in Wind River, Wyo.

Irene Pak

Crossing cultures

“I rely on prayer,” Irene Pak says simply. Hearing her speak, one senses immediately that she is both serious about the power of prayer in her life and profoundly aware of the need for prayer for the larger church she serves. Pak serves as associate pastor of Dae Sung Korean Presbyterian Church in Silicon Valley’s Sunnyvale, Calif.

“My father’s entire family emigrated from Korea to Ogden, Utah,” Pak recalls. “My parents still live in the same house I came home to when I was born.”

A gifted musician, Pak played the cello in the closing ceremony of the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. The lifelong Presbyterian attended a Korean congregation until a split when she was 10 led her family to attend a “non-Korean” church. “My experiences there are the key to my being a pastor today,” says Pak.

Following her graduation from seminary, Pak served as an intern with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s office of Racial Ethnic & Women’s Ministries/Presbyterian Women while searching for a call. Of that time, Pak says, “It was great—working for racial justice and advocacy, doing anti-racism training while facing the same issues in the call process. I was in the absolute right place to process all of that.”

Pak did not see herself beginning her ministry in a Korean congregation. “The first time the Dae Sung church contacted me, I said no.” But she says that after a year of searching, “I realized that I wasn’t being open to what God might want me to do.”

Now she works primarily with young people and English-speaking adults, and preaches on a weekly basis. Being a female leader in a church with no women elders, where congregational meetings are conducted in Korean, is difficult at times, she admits.

“I’m the first female pastor our youth have met, and the first one who looks like them. It was a stretch for [the church] to call me. The fact that I’m young and single makes it harder, but I absolutely love what I’m doing, and I know that’s a blessing. I’m just trying to meet people where they are.”

With four previous General Assemblies under her belt, Pak agreed to serve this year as vice moderator of the Assembly’s committee on theological issues and institutions.

Looking to the future, she says, “I keep wondering whether our church can recognize the intersections of faith and justice in the world, whether we can hope for really big things like the end to poverty, whether we can be a church that practices what we preach.”—*Sue Boardman*



'I believe the enthusiasm and the leadership of new immigrant groups will help the whole PC(USA) to grow,' says Zweh, an immigrant from Liberia.

David Zweh
Transformer

When the Carondelet-Markham Memorial Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, Mo., welcomed David Zweh—a Liberian refugee who joined the congregation in 2005 along with 15 other Liberian immigrant families—the church simultaneously welcomed its own transformation.

Having previously served in Liberia as a student pastor in the Lutheran Church, Zweh felt called to a leadership role in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in this growing, multicultural congregation. Zweh, one of 10 graduates of a two-year pilot program designed to provide theological education and training for new immigrant leaders, was commissioned in February by the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy to serve as Carondelet-Markham's part-time lay pastor, assisting pastor Susan Finley.

"Here there are no longer Liberian ways or American ways, but both are transforming the community together," he says. "I believe the enthusiasm and the leadership of new immigrant groups will help the whole PC(USA) to grow, just as we have witnessed here."

Recently elected to the presbytery's nominating committee, Zweh has found service on that committee to be one of his most challenging and important responsibilities. "My vision is to promote Christ's ministry by adopting the new immigrant member experience and worship practices into the American culture," he says. "It is a privilege to contribute my insights to the committee's work. I believe that it is critical to have the new immigrant experience represented at all levels of the church."

Zweh remains in touch with the wider Liberian community through service with the Missouri chapter of the Grand Gedehe Association, which actively promotes the welfare of Liberians both abroad and in the Americas. He also enjoys spending quality time with each church member who seeks out his pastoral care.

"I was praying recently with a woman who was having some trouble with her job, comforting her and helping her to look for and secure a new job," he says. "I like to take individual time with each parishioner and patiently work with both spiritual and practical problems."

In his own spare time he is acquiring new computer skills and learning more about American culture, he says. "I am still working to advance myself if the possibility exists."—*Emily Enders Odom*



Laura Mariko Cheifetz
Cultivating church leaders

As the daughter of a white, Jewish father and a Japanese American mother, Laura Mariko Cheifetz always felt like she "stuck out" growing up in Oregon and Washington.

But her parents took care to create a loving home environment, and profoundly influenced her early years. Because both are Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) ministers, her father having converted in college, Cheifetz says her life "was shaped as much by the liturgical calendar as the school calendar."

'There is excellence in people who are young, don't look the same, or speak a different language,' Cheifetz says. 'These are the leaders with the ability to transform the world.'

TOP: PHOTO BY FRIDAY IKINWII | PHOTO OF LAURA CHEIFETZ BY ALLISON SHIRREFFS



Kleinman wants young people 'to see that church is cool.' She also wants to ensure that the heritage of her ancestors remains relevant in the 21st century.

Krista Kleinman Bridging past and future

Krista Kleinman enjoys working with youth groups because she wants to help shape the future of the Presbyterian Church. And one of her primary goals is making sure that the future does not forget about the past.

The 24-year-old member of the Alabama-Couchata tribe is the youth coordinator at Indian Presbyterian Church in Livingston, Texas, where her mother, Debbie Battiste Kleinman, is the commissioned lay pastor.

Like many youth leaders, Kleinman wants to keep young people focused on a positive path that includes church, school and family. But as a Native American, Kleinman also wants to ensure that the heritage and traditions of her ancestors remain relevant in the 21st century.

"I was raised very traditionally by my mom and my grandmother," Kleinman says. "The culture is one that people tend to forget about because it's so diverse and spread out.

"Whenever I'm doing work for Native American

congregations, it's very enlightening to go to the churches, because there is so much history in each one. I want to make sure that the history isn't lost, and that future generations are able to experience that same heritage and carry on traditions to future generations."

Since 2004 Kleinman has served on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Native American Consulting Committee (NACC), which she says promotes Native American churches to ensure that their mostly small congregations "aren't forgotten." She also has been involved in the American Indian Youth Council, the youth component of the NACC.

"I grew up with a big passion to be involved in church and to bring people into church," Kleinman says. "But my passion was driven more towards youth ministry, to open the eyes of youth to see that church is cool. It keeps them out of trouble and keeps them from getting caught up in gangs and illegal activities. They need to see that they can get out and become visible to many other people, and that they can spread God's word by doing that."

Kleinman hopes that somebody she has counseled eventually will go on to serve as moderator of the PC(USA) General Assembly. "To see them up there conducting business and taking an active role, and knowing that I had a part in it, would be very meaningful to me."—*Cary Estes*

After distancing herself a bit from the church as a teenager, Cheifetz reconnected with the PC(USA) in college, thanks to a mailing from the National Network of Presbyterian College Women. "I found the church again through the national church," she says of being led to the St. James Presbyterian Church in Bellingham, Wash. "Both spaces were good about letting me articulate my faith and become part of the community."

After college Cheifetz accepted an internship with the Presbyterian United Nations Office in New York City, where she at last felt at home in the church and in the world. "In the U.N. community I didn't look so different, and I also got to work with people who cared deeply about justice, some in the church, some not," she says. "To be a tiny part of Presbyterian witness and advocacy shaped me in a lot of important ways."

Now a Presbyterian minister herself, the 32-year-old serves as director of the Leading Generations Initiative of the Fund for Theological Education (FTE) in Atlanta, Ga. She assists in mobilizing the networks of pastors, teachers and other leaders

who have participated in the FTE's programs. Cheifetz also directs grant activities to support Transition into Ministry (TiM), a Lilly Endowment Inc. program that nurtures new pastors and provides leadership development resources. As a partner in the ongoing conversations across the church on developing Presbyterian leaders, she hopes to raise up the types of leaders that will be required by an ever-changing denomination.

"What's scary about diversity is that we have to change how we do things," says Cheifetz, who previously served as director of the Common Ground Project at McCormick Theological Seminary, a program designed to enhance the seminary's ability to serve congregations and pastors of color.

"The challenge for the church," she says, "is how not to be exclusive in who it brings into leadership. Sometimes the best leaders are precisely those whom most wouldn't see as leaders. There is excellence in people who are young, don't look the same, or speak a different language. These are the leaders with the ability to transform the world."—*Emily Enders Odom*

Spotlight on ministry

New Racial Ethnic Leaders in the General Assembly Mission Council



Elder Vince Patton has joined the GAMC as executive administrator effective October 4, 2010.

Elder Vince Patton has joined the GAMC as executive administrator effective October 4, 2010. Vince brings great experience to his new position, having worked in both the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation (PPC) and the General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC) with responsibility for a variety of projects and functions. He is a graduate of Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he received a B.A. in English and an M.B.A. with a concentration in human resources. He is also an ordained elder and deacon in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). In his new role, Vince will have responsibility for helping the General Assembly Mission Council to think more strategically about its human resources function and to help increase the organization's efforts in the areas of diversity and cultural

proficiency. Prior to his ten years with the PPC, where he was most recently executive director of church relations, communications, and staff services, Vince worked for eight years in the General Assembly Mission Council's Office of Mission Interpretation and Promotion as editor and developer of curriculum.

The Rev. Dr. Sterling Morse has joined the staff of the GAMC as the coordinator for Cross-Cultural Ministries and Congregational Support, effective October 1, 2010. Sterling was pastor of Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC, from 1996 to early 2010. He also served on the staff of National Capital Presbytery in Washington, DC, as the associate for mission and was previously pastor of Hope Presbyterian Church in Detroit, Michigan, and pastor of



The Rev. Dr. Sterling Morse has joined the staff of the GAMC as the coordinator for Cross-Cultural Ministries and Congregational Support,

Congruity Presbyterian Church in Sumter, South Carolina. Sterling was formerly moderator of National Capital Presbytery and served as chair of the General Council. He has a B.A. degree in political science from Cheyney University in Cheyney, Pennsylvania, an M.Div. from Johnson C. Smith at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, and a D.Min. from Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit.

The Rev. Dr. Lonnie Oliver has accepted the call to serve in the GAMC as the associate for African American Congregational Support, effective September 27, 2010. Lonnie was organizing pastor of New Life Presbyterian Church in College Park, Georgia, from 1988 to February 2010. He served previously as administrative dean of Johnson C. Smith Seminary in Atlanta and as pastor of Knox Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, Maryland. Lonnie was the chairperson of the General Assembly Council's African American Church Growth Task Force and a member of the General Assembly Council's Task Force on Peace, Unity and Purity. He has also served as moderator of the Presbytery



The Rev. Dr. Jin S. Kim, in addition to serving as pastor of Church of All Nations in Minneapolis, Minnesota, has taken on additional responsibilities by joining the GAMC as field staff for Korean English Ministries.

of Greater Atlanta. Lonnie has a B.A. degree from Johnson C. Smith Seminary in Charlotte, an M.Div. from Johnson C. Smith at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, an M.S.W. degree from the Atlanta University School of Social Work, and a D.Min. from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago.

The Rev. Mei-Hui Chen Lai has accepted the offer to serve as associate for Asian Congregational Support in the GAMC, effective January 2011. Rev. Chen Lai is currently serving in resource development at Yushan Theological

College and Seminary in Taiwan. She has served as the pastor of Seattle First Taiwanese Presbyterian Church and senior pastor of Taiwan Presbyterian Church of Greater Chicago. Under her leadership, the church became a chartered congregation in the Presbytery of Chicago. Rev. Chen Lai also has a background in funds development. She is a minister member of Seattle Presbytery, and she has served in the General Assembly offices of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan. Rev. Chen Lai will complete her work at Yushan Theological College and Seminary when the semester ends and will join the Racial

Ethnic & Women's Ministries/PW ministry area in January. Rev. Shun Chi Wang continues to serve as field specialist in the office until the new associate begins.

The Rev. Dr. Jin S. Kim, in addition to serving as pastor of Church of All Nations in Minneapolis, Minnesota, has taken on additional responsibilities by joining the GAMC as field staff for Korean English Ministries (EM) in the Office of Korean Congregational Support. As field staff for Korean EM, Kim works from his office in Minneapolis, where he is helping to develop vision and strategies to strengthen Korean English Ministries in the PC(USA) and assisting in providing leadership development and networking opportunities for first- and second-generation clergy and leaders, including clergymen and women leaders. Born in Korea, Kim came to the United States in 1975, and earned degrees from Georgia Tech, Princeton Theological Seminary and Columbia Theological Seminary. An adjunct faculty member at Dubuque Theological Seminary, Kim has served since 2004 as founding pastor and head of staff at Church of All Nations. He was a candidate for moderator of the 219th General Assembly (2010) and is currently council chair of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area.



The Rev. Dr. Lonnie Oliver has accepted the call to serve in the GAMC as the associate for African American Congregational Support.



The Rev. Mei-Hui Chen Lai has accepted the offer to serve as associate for Asian Congregational Support in the GAMC, effective January 2011.



Multicultural church leaders gather in prayer at the National Multicultural Church Conference.

Hispanic/Latino-a leaders organize for action

By Hector Rodriguez

The National Hispanic/Latino-a Presbyterian Caucus celebrated its Tri-annual Assembly in San Antonio, Texas, on July 23, 2010, during the National Hispanic/Latino-a Presbyterian Gathering event titled “We Are One Family.” During the Assembly, which began with a sermon by the Rev. Mauricio Chacon, the newly elected Caucus president, Chacon said, “Now is the kairos moment for the Hispanic/Latino Church to have national involvement. This is the time for all of us to raise our prophetic voice against injustice and ask our beloved church and our nation to formulate just laws for immigrants living and working in the United States.”

Representatives from different synods elected their executive committees and councils. Besides Rev. Chacon, who is a member of the Synod of the Sun and the representative of the Hispanic/Latino Presbyterian Men, the Assembly elected the Rev. Jonier Orozco as vice-moderator, the Rev. Rosa Blanca Miranda as secretary, and Elder Cecilia Casal as treasurer.

Among the business conducted, the Assembly approved the following five resolutions:

Fast Facts

Did you know?

Most members (64 percent) and elders (66 percent) are college graduates. All ministers have a master’s degree and more than a quarter have a doctoral degree.

Twenty years ago, there were 20 Korean congregations in the PC(USA). Now there are 403 Korean congregations, new church developments and other communities of faith, and four nongeographic Korean presbyteries: Hamni (So. Calif.), Midwest Hamni, Atlantic Korean American and Eastern Korean.



One in 3 active ministers are women (32 percent), up from 7 percent over the last 25 years. Among elders, 52 percent are women; among members, 64 percent.

1. Financial Strategy of the National Hispanic/Latino-a Presbyterian Caucus (NHPC);
2. Programmatic response of the National Hispanic/Latino-a Presbyterian Caucus concerning the situation of Hispanic/Latino-a immigrants. (This resolution includes working closely with the immigration office of the PC(USA));
3. Response of the National Hispanic/Latino-a Presbyterian Caucus in view of the ecological disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. Members will work in the areas of Christian education, theology, and ecology in Hispanic/Latino-a churches in the United States and Puerto Rico;
4. To work on the diversity and inclusivity of the keynote speakers in the NHPC and affiliated entities; and
5. The study of a new dynamic structure adapted for the present time and needs.

The caucus will continue working with seminaries to promote more inclusiveness in our educational institutions for Hispanic/Latino-a students and professors. Its members will continue working in the areas of violence in Mexico and its border cities and especially violence against women and children.

The caucus is planning to participate in the Big Tent gathering next year, where the first meeting of the Coordinating Council will take place. The Hispanic/Latino-a Caucus is facing a financial crisis that prevents our group from working more effectively on all of these issues, but trusts God will provide the means to continue working for justice among its constituency.

Who We Are

The Ministries of Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries/PW:

Racial Ethnic and Cross Cultural Ministries:

- Asian Congregational Support
- African American Congregational Support
- Cross Cultural Ministries
- Hispanic/Latino-a Congregational Support
- Korean Congregational Support
- Middle Eastern Congregational Support
- Multicultural Congregational Support
- Native American Congregational Support
- New Immigrant Congregational Support

Women's Leadership Development and Justice Ministries:

- Gender and Racial Justice
- National Network of Presbyterian College Women
- Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges
- Racial Ethnic Young Women Together
- Women's Leadership Development
- Young Women's Ministries

Presbyterian Women



The ten largest racial ethnic congregations* are:

1. Korean Community Church of Atlanta, GA (Korean)
2. Pilgrim Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ (Korean)
3. Community Church of Seattle, WA (Korean)
4. Praise Presbyterian Church of Somerset, NJ (Korean)
5. Elmwood United Presbyterian Church of East Orange, NJ (African American)
6. St. James Presbyterian Church of Charleston, SC (African American)
7. Arumdaun Presbyterian Church of Bethpage, NY (Korean)
8. Korean Central Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX (Korean)
9. Binnerri Presbyterian Church of Richardson, TX (Korean)
10. Canaan Presbyterian Church of Glenview, IL (Korean)



Half of PC(USA) congregations have 100 or fewer members, though 13 congregations have 4,000 or more.

Source: Research Services, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) This list is based on church membership as reported by the congregations.

See you at the Big Tent!

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the 2011 Big Tent—a collection of national conferences to be held June 30–July 2, 2011, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Big Tent offers inspiring worship, insightful teaching, and the opportunity to connect with thousands of Presbyterian leaders from different races and cultures. Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries/Presbyterian Women is offering three conferences at the event:

The National Multicultural Church Conference

Co-sponsored by the Multicultural Congregational Support office, the Presbyterian Multicultural Network (PMN), and national and regional multicultural congregations.

The 12th National Multicultural Church Conference provides cutting-edge trainings led by experienced church professionals and practitioners in the field of multicultural church growth, innovative resources in the area of communications and cultural proficiency, and models of vital and growing multicultural congregations. This year's conference follows the Big Tent theme, "Growing Christ's Church Deep and Wide," exposing participants to a holistic approach to church growth that equally addresses spiritual transformation and sweeping social



Multicultural church leaders gather in prayer at the National Multicultural Church Conference.

responsibilities. The Multicultural Church Conferences will include workshops, group discussions and presentations on how to become a multicultural church. Participants will discuss strategies on how the church can spread the gospel to persons of many nations and cultures throughout the world.

For more information, visit www.pcusa.org/multicultural, or contact Raafat Girgis, (800) 728-7228, x5233.

All Women
in the church

www.pcusa.org/allwomen

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Grow Christ's Church Deep and Wide

big tent

June 30 – July 2, 2011 • Indianapolis, IN
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



Dr. Renita Weens preaches at the National Multicultural Church Conference.

The Clergywomen's Leadership Institute

The Clergywomen's Leadership Institute will encourage and equip clergywomen as leaders in the PC(USA) and connect clergywomen in parish ministry to a broader network of leaders and opportunities within the PC(USA). As 27 percent of clergy are women, more than at any other time in the history of the church, this is the time to encourage women to pursue leadership opportunities throughout the church and also to engage young women ages 18–35 who may be considering serving in church leadership. The institute will feature leadership training, peer networking and mentorship.

For more information, visit www.pcusa.org/women, or contact Nancy Young, (800) 728-7228, x5490.

The Racial Ethnic and Immigrants Convocation

“To equip the saints for the work of ministry. . . until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the son of God” (Ephesians 4.1–13). The Racial Ethnic and Immigrants Convocation is an event celebrating the ethnic diversity of the body of Christ, and to equipping the PC(USA) to become, in fact as well as in faith, a church that welcomes and appreciates all ethnic groups and immigrants. The event is open to all, and will provide opportunities to deepen spiritual commitments and training and strategies for ministries with racial ethnic and immigrant groups.

For more information, visit www.pcusa.org/raciaethnic, or contact Sterling Morse, (800) 728-7228, x5114.

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