

Upcoming Deadlines for *On the Wind*

We want your stories, updates, and pictures for our monthly publication *On the Wind*. Make note of these deadline dates for upcoming issues:

<u><i>On the Wind</i> newsletter</u>	<u>Deadline for submissions</u>
February Issue	January 20
March Issue	February 20
April Issue	March 20
May Issue	April 20
June/July Issue	May 22
August/September Issue	July 20
October Issue	September 20
November Issue	October 23
December/January Issue	November 20

Assembling Refugee Welcome Kits

By Dick Wieland



Many of us have accepted the call by the PC(USA) to be a Matthew 25 Church. This a great opportunity for the Presbyterian churches in the Wichita area to show the love of Christ by helping the International Rescue Committee (IRC) as refugees are making Wichita their home. The IRC has requested us to focus on two kits; the Bathroom Items and Cleaning Supplies. Your congregation can decide if you want to focus on one kit or both. We have extended this drive through March. As well, monetary donation to the IRC-Wichita would be very much appreciated.

Visit the IRC website for additional information and other volunteer opportunities your congregation may want to explore. www.rescue.org/united-states/wichita-ks or Wichita, KS | The IRC (rescue.org).

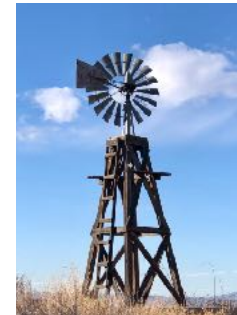
Thank you for your consideration of this opportunity and please do not hesitate to contact Patrice Cummings (316-841-6553) or Dick Wieland, 316-833-6832 if you have any questions.

Bathroom Items - <https://bit.ly/3kKyrxM>
Cleaning Supplies - <https://bit.ly/3wAjZuR>

On the Wind

A publication of the
Presbytery of Southern Kansas
February 2023

www.pbysk.org



Notes from the Transitional Executive Leader

Dear all,

I know many of you are preparing, reading or waiting to read Annual Reports of your churches this month and next. I've heard several pastors comment about January being its own kind of busy ... while November and December usher in Advent and Christmas seasons, January can seem like a month of business, reports, budgets and more.



I'm in a similar place with preparing for our next Presbytery meeting, annual statistics for the denomination, setting goals for the year, budgets and answering all the inquiring minds questions about mileage reimbursement rates, Board of Pension dues and many other details of the daily life of being a Presbytery and a Presbyterian Church.

As I approach nearly three years in what may be and seem like the longest transition ever, I am taking some stock of my own ministry but also looking forward and back as to what we/you have done and accomplished as a Presbytery, as well as what is left to be done in this time of transition, and what is God requiring of us. I will not begin to account for all that has been done, but here are a few examples. Feel free to add to the list with your own articles and reports.

1. We sent three capable and willing leaders/participants to General Assembly in 2022. Two of them served as committee leadership. Thank you to Doris, Khyah and Patrice!
2. Khyah Van Es and Emma Johnston embarked on life changing and transformative work as Young Adult Volunteers for the PCUSA
3. The Trustees provided a number of scholarships to our YAVs and also Westminster Woods Campers
4. Several of our churches celebrated milestone birthdays

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5. We honored the retirement of John Wilson, Independence
6. We mourned and celebrated the lives of significant teaching and ruler elder leaders from this Presbytery
7. We received new pastors at several of our churches (Pratt, Trinity-Wichita, First-Wichita-interim, McPherson, and in late 2021 Hutchinson First)
8. The Trustees and the AC and I worked with Holcomb to make the difficult decision to close the church and sell their building. This was done with grace and efficiency
9. We said goodbye to New Covenant, Hutchinson and released them to EPC
10. The Presbytery office building was sold and our staff moved to remote working at home.

When I consider where I started, which was right at the beginning of the Covid pandemic, I'm astonished that we could do what we have been able to do. These items are not an exhaustive list, but an exhausting one! The accomplishments also are not the whole picture. There is much for which we need to pray and many areas of gaps in leadership and possibly an exhaustion and weariness from all that has been endured over these three years.

So where do we go? What do we do? Why do we exist as a unit, a body, a Presbytery, a community of faith, a gathering of disciples? I do not have the answer but I believe collectively, WE have the answer. At our February meeting, I want to be able to share with you some resources we DO have. I do not want to depress myself or your with all the areas of deficit, but I hope that I can energize us and remind us of what is available so that we might look at 2023 as a year to dream, to envision, to follow God's call to "Do Justice, Love Kindness and Walk Humbly With God." Then, at our next meeting, with the blessing of PCT and some added help and resources, we can meet together and form interest groups to begin to put together ideas and plans that put meat and flesh on the dry bones.

As the prophet asked, Will these bones live?

In faith,
Gail Doering
Transitional Executive Leader

Presbytery of Northern Kansas

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OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday
9:00am - 1:00pm

PNK Seeks Mission and Ministry Connector

The search committee for our new Mission and Ministry Connector has completed the job description for this position. We are currently seeking qualified candidates.

You can find this job description from a link on the front page of our website (pbysk.org). You can also use the PC(USA) Church Leadership Connection (CLC) website and search for PSK positions (<https://bit.ly/3Y4C53M>).

If you are interested in this position or know someone who might be, please follow the link and learn more about this opportunity.

The search committee is made up of Kathleen Luke, Scott Randle, Lara McGregor, Becky Gillette, and Martin Neff, with Transitional Executive Presbyter Gail Doering serving as staff liaison.



New Multiage Curriculum Units

If you need resources for children, wish to start an after school children's program in your community or other outreach ideas, make contact with Presbytery thru a PCT member (Joe Wiseman, Kathie Luke, Melissa Krabbe, Jeremiah Lange, Scott Randle, Laura Frazey or Sue Nispel—

soon Mary Buchele) or TEL Gail Doering. Funding might be available as well as support and mentoring and networking to move forward with God's call. More information HERE: <https://bit.ly/3wNxo33>



Centering Prayer in Our Lives

This six week, video/discussion series from Sacred Calls looks at the most practical ways we can center prayer in our lives. From sleeping to maintaining boundaries, we'll talk about how these things are both pleasing to God and necessary for doing God's work in this world. Included with the series will be the video files, leader guide, and participant sheets. See this curriculum and more via the Sacred Call website.
<https://bit.ly/404fq9G>

