

JUNE 16–23, ST. LOUIS, MO
223rd General Assembly of the PC(USA)



Commissioners and advisory delegates from all 170 PC(USA) presbyteries, and other delegates and observers from around the world, will converge on the America's Convention Center in downtown St. Louis, June 16-23, for celebrations, deliberations, and inspirations in support of the denomination's biennial gathering.

The Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy will serve as host to the 223rd General Assembly (2018), united under the theme "Renewing the Vision: Kingdom Building for the 21st Century," from Matthew 6:25-33, and will include rich worship services, the election of the Moderator and Vice Moderator or Co-Moderators, action on a number of overtures, and much more. General proceedings and worship during assembly will be live-streamed.

► Learn more about GA 223 at <https://ga-pcusa.org>

Register now for Summer Camp at Kirkmont Center



Registration is now open for 2018 Summer Camp at Kirkmont Center, Zanesfield.

Camps for all ages are available from June 9 through August 5 and include:

You and Me Camp, Quilting Camps, Beginners Camp, PYC Junior Camp, PYC Camp, Camp Rejoice, Camp Paz y Alabanza, Kids Camp, Adventure/Sports/Discovery Camps, and Family Camping Weekend.

► Camp schedule & registration at <http://kirkmontcenter.com>



Quick Response

Scan this image using your mobile phone's Quick Response (QR) reader to be directed to the PMV website to access the links in this newsletter.



News & Information

Spring 2018

CATCH THE BUILDING SPIRIT NETWORK Presbyterian/Catholic Habitat Build begins May 26



Catch the Building Spirit, the Presbyterian/Catholic Habitat for Humanity partnership, now in its 26th year, will begin construction on this year's house on Shull Road, Huber Heights. Blitz Week (when the main structure of the house is built: framing, siding, roofing, etc.) will begin Memorial Day weekend, May 26, and will run through June 1. Construction will continue throughout the summer to complete all the rest of the house.

If your church is interested in participating with labor, hospitality, or financing, please email **Hank Baust**, Presbyterian Coordinator for Catch the Building Spirit, at bausthd@gmail.com or call 937-429-0360.



The 2018 Habitat House Family

Habitat Houses through Catch the Building Spirit is a designated network of Presbytery of the Miami Valley.

► Learn more at www.catchthebuildingspirit.org

COLOMBIA PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

Miami Valley Presbyterian partners visit Colombia



Members of the **Colombia Partnership Network** of Presbytery of the Miami Valley visited our partner Presbytery of the North Coast (PNC) in Barranquilla, Colombia in February. The trip included representatives of three of the Sister Church relationships within our Network: **College Hill Community Presbyterian Church**, **Covenant Presbyterian Church of Springboro**, and **Westminster Presbyterian Church of Dayton**, as well as a representative of **Kirkmont Center**, which is also active in the partnership. The Network renewed our partnership agreement during this trip and explored new avenues of shared ministry.

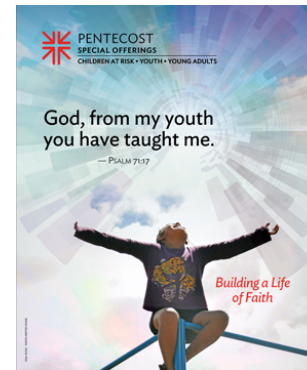
This partnership has spanned 23 years and includes annual visits by Colombian young adults who participate in our Sister Churches' summer ministries at Kirkmont Center; shared worship, spiritual, and musical events; northbound and southbound delegation trips between Sister Church congregations; and mutual support of each presbytery's pastoral and social justice ministries.

Sister Church Opportunities in Colombia

The Network currently has five Sister Church relationships between congregations of the PMV and congregations of the PNC. There are seven additional congregations in the Presbytery of the North Coast seeking sister churches in Presbytery of the Miami Valley.

► Please email Colombia Partnership Network Moderator **Jennifer Vicarel** at d2jvicarel@earthlink.net with any questions, comments, or requests for additional information.

Pentecost Offering helps young people



The Pentecost Offering is traditionally received on the day of Pentecost, this year on May 20. It provides a direct way to meet the needs of children at risk, youth, and young adults. Congregations are encouraged to **keep 40% of the offering** to support ministries benefiting these age groups in their communities.

The General Assembly's portion (60%) provides leadership development opportunities for Presbyterian youth and young adults and supports children-at-risk programs at the national level.

Since 1998, Presbyterians of all ages have raised more than \$14 million for these ministries that benefit younger members of God's family.

► Learn more at <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/pentecost.html>

New children's books from Presbyterian Publishing



Presbyterian Publishing Corporation (PPC) recently announced the launch of Flyaway Books, a new children's book imprint dedicated to creating titles to inspire the next generation to fly. The new imprint will offer books that carry themes of diversity, inclusion, self-esteem, kindness, compassion and care for our world. Many of the

books will help children understand today's most pressing social issues and the titles will be intentionally multicultural in their artwork and characters.

The first two books to carry the new Flyaway Books logo will be released May 2018. They will be *Simon and the Big, Bad, Angry Beasts* by Ian De Haes and *The Marvelous Mustard Seed* by Amy-Jill Levine and Sandy Eisenberg Sasso. Several children's books recently released under PPC's acclaimed Westminster John Knox Press imprint will join the program.

Future authors for Flyaway Books include Katherine Paterson, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, Kathy Bostrom, Barbara Brown Taylor, Amy-Jill Levine, Michael Waters, and Katie Yamasaki.

► Explore Flyaway Books at <https://www.flyawaybooks.com>