

# NEW HORIZONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## February Newsletter



New Horizons PCUSA  
9424 Everman Ave.  
Overland, MO 63114

### Important Dates for February & Upcoming NHPC Events

---

Valentine's Day  
Presidents' Day  
Ash Wednesday Service

February 14  
February 20  
March 1

**Church Office Hours:**  
**Tu, Th, F: 8:30am—2:00pm**

**Phone:** (314) 427-0841

**Fax:** (314) 427-0568

**Email:** [newhorizonspcusa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:newhorizonspcusa@sbcglobal.net)

**Website:** [www.newhorizons-pcusa.org](http://www.newhorizons-pcusa.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/NewHorizonsPCUSA](http://www.facebook.com/NewHorizonsPCUSA)



# NEW HORIZONS PC(USA)

## News 'n Views

*Seek ye the Lord, with heart, mind, and soul*

### Words from Rev. Mark

Dear friends:

As many of you may know, I have been having heart trouble. Not the emotional kind! The physical kind! Since I have been with you, my heart has twice been out of rhythm and then shocked back. It sounds drastic, but it has become a routine procedure. The first time was the first week of December and I was an out-patient at the Mercy Heart Hospital. The second time was last week when I was an in-patient in the hospital. They sent me home on Friday and told me to rest. By Monday, I was still having trouble, so I went to the emergency room for more tests and examinations. This time they said that my heart was in rhythm, but beating too slowly! With a change in medication, they sent me home and said I should be feeling better. I have been improving. Keep your fingers crossed!

I have learned some important lessons out of this experience. They said that my heart was strong and healthy, but out of rhythm. How does that happen? My electrolytes were out of whack. What are electrolytes? They are like chemical electricity. One nurse had a real good explanation. The heart is like an engine that pumps blood through the body, but needs electricity to run. There is something about my electricity that can cause the heart to flutter out of rhythm. It can be controlled with medicines, but the wrong combination can cause other problems. Needless to say, the right diet, exercise, and weight loss can also help. My first take home lesson is to be more serious about lifestyle changes. I want to keep my rhythm for the dance of life!

My second lesson is that you can have a strong heart, but still have heart trouble. Or, better yet to say, you can have an electrolyte/electricity problem, not a heart problem. I have been playing around with this metaphor for several days. Can this also apply to the church, or even the nation? Sometimes churches have a strong heart, but are running low on energy. There is a solid core, but not enough oomph! The temptation is to flood the system with new programs, new techniques, new energy! This



Lee Crisler  
Faith Gillespie  
Elaine & Tom Shanahan  
Jeff Johnson  
Frazier Family  
Debbie Frazier  
Jim Cochran  
Lucille Yamnitz  
Evelyn Reed  
Doris Cochran  
Kathryn Byrd  
Edie Roberts  
Marion Brewer  
Lore Bailey  
Laura Ringling  
Nancy Yamnitz  
Candy Parson  
Rhonda McClain-Wright  
Betty Wetzel  
Tom Highfill

**\*\*The Prayer List is located in the Narthex.  
Please write in prayer requests throughout the  
month, and they will be added promptly.**

#### **Office Hours:**

Tues, Thurs, Fri 8:30am—2pm

#### **Pastor's Hours:**

Tues & Thurs 11:00am—1pm

**Office phone:** (314) 427-0841  
**Pastor's home phone:** (314) 395-8242  
**Pastor's cell phone:** (314) 779-6940  
**Pastor's email:** [mark.strothmann@att.net](mailto:mark.strothmann@att.net)

doesn't always work. The system can break down under the stress. Better yet to take measured steps to energize the old heart. This can work, but it takes patience and some dedication. Your core is strong. In the next few months, as your Interim Pastor, I will be helping you find ways to make your heart beat strong for the future.

Right now our nation is in the midst of social and political turmoil. I would like to believe that our country has a strong heart, both in the sense of being open and compassionate to other people and nations, and being strong in our convictions about basic human dignity, human rights, and the rule of law. I believe our country is now facing a test. Can our heart be strong enough to overcome the negative actions and attitudes which are disrupting our national life? I think our heart can be strong, even good, with God's help.

May peace be with us all,  
Pastor Mark Strothmann

P.S. Don't forget that Ash Wednesday is **March 1st**. We will have a service in our church at **7 pm**. And, the Ritenour Ministerial Association is planning a series of Lenten Lunches and Discussions at **11:30 am** on Thursdays, beginning **March 2nd**. Pending Session approval, these lunches will be held at our church. Watch this space for more details.

---

## Overland Business Showcase

**Thursday, March 16, 2017**  
**4:00—7:00pm**

Meet local businesses and leaders at the 7th Annual Overland Business Showcase! This event, open to the public, will feature food trucks, a kids' fun area, raffles and prizes for attendees! The Showcase will be held at the Overland Community Center, located at: 9225 Lackland Rd.  
For more information, contact Alan Glen at: (314) 540-8598

## Newsletter Deadline

Newsletter articles for the March Issue should be submitted to **the office** by February 25, 2015.

## Mound Ridge Fundraiser

**Saturday, April 1, 2017**

Mark your calendars! It's never too early to plan for another fun time at the Annual Mound Ridge Spring Auction Fundraising Event. All are invited! The fundraiser will be held a bit earlier this year, on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at Andre's Banquet Center on Telegraph Road.

Tickets are available for \$65/person or \$500 for a table of eight. Mound Ridge Fundraising Team's goal is to sell 150 tickets.

(More tickets would be great too!!)

Call Christy at (573)-265-3098 for more information.

## Let Us Pray

You call us to follow you,  
but we want to be the center of attention.  
You call us to leave the boat,  
but we prefer the familiarity of our location.  
You call us to approach strangers,  
but we opt for communities of segregation.  
You call us to leave our nets,  
but we cling to any profitable connection.

God of justice and mercy,  
loosen the entanglements of our lives  
and teach us to be a people  
of freedom and reconciliation.

Amen.

*Magdalena I. García is a PC(USA) Minister of Word and Sacrament and a hospice chaplain for Vitas Healthcare in Chicago.*

## Overland Craft & Vendor Fair

**Saturday, March 18th**  
**9am—3pm**

Do you need a special gift for someone for the holidays? The City of Overland will be hosting their Annual Spring Craft & Vendor Fair on March 18, 2017 at the Overland Community Center from 9am-3pm.

This spring craft fair will feature hand-made items or items of a craft nature. A wide variety of wonderful hand crafted and specialty novelty items will be available along with delicious baked goods! A food concession will be available to customers and all vendors between the hours of 11:30am and 2pm.

## “Faithfully Moving Forward”

It's not enough to say what's true.

Every night before our 11 month old goes to bed, my husband and I tell him what's true. We list like a litany all the people and categories of folks who love him and pray for him. He was born two months premature and so we began this habit when he was in the neo-natal intensive care unit. It brought us comfort in the midst of the chaos and the fear. It felt important to us to tell him all those who were surrounding him, to say out loud what was real.

As new parents who love our baby dearly, we want to make sure that he grows up knowing that he isn't alone, that his life from the very beginning is showered with affection and people who are ready to accompany him on his adventures. Yet, we have been reflecting on the fact that telling him each night what is true and how deeply he is loved is not nearly enough. We have to show him and demonstrate these truths each day—otherwise they will remain things that we say but have no real meaning behind them.

The same is true for the church today and each time we gather at the session/council table to pray, discuss, plan and lead. It simply isn't enough to be able to say out loud to one another that we know what we “should” be doing with our time and our resources as a community of faith.

We cannot continue to repeat and include in our committee reports what is needed and what our responsibilities are currently. We have to take the next step, we have to be faithfully moving forward towards actions that reflect what we know to be true.

Now, please don't misunderstand me. It can be difficult enough to be part of the mainline church today and engage in conversations where the hard truth must be said. Many congregations are grappling with realities of dramatically declining budgets, a world that doesn't automatically show up for worship and a leadership that can be inwardly focused. If that's how you feel about the congregation you're part of, stating that truth is never easy or fun.

But we are called to something more. It's not enough to say what's true — we need to pursue it, together. It's not enough to read the statistics, the reports and the trends. Our responsibility is to act on and live out what is true. We won't always get it right or make as much progress at each meeting or perfectly serve and love others. But we can keep striving and resist the stagnation of doing what we've always done and complaining about the same things that need to change.

I am often in a room full of pastors and elders who are willing to address what they know to be true, that something about their congregational life and the way decisions are made isn't working. But thankfully they aren't willing to stop there. They are seeking out resources and folks who will accompany them on the journey towards health and vitality. They have reached a point where they know that going it alone won't yield the results they are hoping for in the future.

They wholeheartedly believe that Christ has gone before them and has sent them the gift of the Holy Spirit to inspire and guide them. They deeply desire change in order that what they say is true each Sunday— that God loves everyone and calls them to do the same is made manifest. Saying this truth in prayers and litanies isn't enough. Clothing, feeding and worshipping with those right outside our meeting room doors must be done, too.

Enveloping our infant in truth-full words and prayers is just part of what we are called to do as a parents. He will also need to see in our actions, in our relationships with others and in how we spend our time that he is loved in order to know the truth. We need to regularly encourage him, hold, laugh and feed him— to show that he is in fact treasured and loved.

The world is crying out for communities of faith to move from stating what's true (and often what's wrong) to action, from idleness to pursuit of service in the name of Christ. We say the truth in A Brief Statement of Faith that, “Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the

children, healing the sick and binding up the broken-hearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners and calling all to repent and believe the gospel."

It's not enough to just say these truths in worship or in devotions at a meeting. We must go and do likewise. In so doing we show our love for Christ and our love for others. Thanks be to God that we never do this alone.

*Rev. Sarah Robbins is an at-large teaching elder in Pittsburgh Presbytery. She has served as pastor to two churches and currently serves on the Presbytery's COM as well as in leadership of the Unglued Church Project.*

## Let Us Pray

Loving God, we absorb your goodness in the food we eat, in the beauty our eyes receive, in the fellowship of family and community, and in the unconditional love you shower upon us. May we take these gifts and become mirrors of such fullness through words of praise and, as you've instructed, by loving our neighbors and working for justice in the land. Amen.

## Opportunities in PC(USA)

**Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery** (St. Louis, MO) is looking for an Office Manager full time, non-exempt position, for an indefinite term with an annual review conducted by the Presbytery Leader in consultation with the Personnel Work Group. If interested, please contact Personnel Convener, Rev. Dr. David Holyan, [personnel@glpby.org](mailto:personnel@glpby.org)

## February Birthdays

Andrew Lohnes	02/02
Betty Richter	02/02
Kathryn Byrd	02/04
Mariah Byrd	02/04
Jean Winterowd	02/04
Karen Lohnes	02/05
Dustin Shrum	02/15
Loretta Smith	02/19
Lexi Lohnes	02/24
Kaylee Lohnes	02/25
Edward Albin	02/28

## 2017 Budget NHPC

NEW HORIZONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	2017 BUDGET
<b>SALARIES/PERSONNEL</b>	
PASTORS SALARY	\$15,500
HOUSING	\$12,000
ANNUITY AND HEALTH	\$14,080
CAR ALLOWANCE	\$1,000
CONTINUING	
EDUCATION/PROF EXPENSES	\$1,000
SECRETARY	\$12,667
CHOIR DIRECTOR	\$14,928
CUSTODIAN	\$11,960
CHILD CARE ATTENDANT	\$1,294
PROFESSIONAL	
DEVELOPMENT	\$500
F.I.C.A.	\$3,200
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	<u>\$100</u>
TOTAL	\$88,229
<b>PROPERTY</b>	
IMPROVEMENT/MAINTENANCE	\$14,000
ORGAN/PIANO MAINTENANCE	\$600
UTILITIES	\$26,000
PROPERTY/CASUALTY	
INSURANCE	\$13,600
OFFICE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$57,200
<b>WORSHIP/NURTURE</b>	
VOCAL MUSIC SUPPLIES	\$750
WORSHIP	
SUPPLIES/DECORATION	\$650
SANCTUARY FLOWERS	\$125
PULPIT SUPPLY	\$780
MUSICIAN SUPPLY	\$750
CURRICULUM AND	
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$750
LEADERSHIP/COMMUNICANTS	<u>\$100</u>
TOTAL	\$3,905
<b>STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE</b>	
OFFERING ENVELOPES	\$150
SUPPLIES/MATERIALS	\$250
TOTAL	\$400
<b>MISSION</b>	
DESIGNATED BENEVOLENCES	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$2,000
<b>BENEVOLENCES</b>	
PRESBYTERIAN	
APPORTIONMENT	\$2,868
REGULAR BENEVOLENCES	<u>\$8,000</u>
TOTAL	\$10,868
<b>MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES</b>	
PASTORS DISCRETIONARY	
FUND	\$500
COMMUNICATIONS	\$400
MISCELLANEOUS	<u>\$500</u>
TOTAL	\$1,400
<b>DIACONATE</b>	
SUPPLIES	\$250
TOTAL	\$250
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$164,252</b>



## “God Says GO!”

A few years ago I was getting ready to preach a real, live sermon. I was about halfway through my seminary internship at a church and the pastor told me I'd be preaching the Sunday after Christmas. Me! Preaching! I started researching right away. It was early November and the momentous event was just around the corner. I had to get started.

By the beginning of December I had enough research for a 40-page dissertation. I talked to everyone I could about what I might say. I suspect most people didn't want to hear my latest round of ideas since they kept changing. As the preaching time drew near, I realized at some point I'd just have to go and do it. I'd have to step into the pulpit, ready or not. I had to trust that God had my back. Even if I got something wrong the Holy Spirit would still be at work. So I did it. I preached my first sermon titled, God says GO!

God's people are always on the go. Abraham left his country, his home and his family to go where God called him. Jesus walked around the countryside with his disciples and after Pentecost the Apostles dispersed to share the Gospel. Even in disobedience God's people are on the move. Adam and Eve were put in and then forced out of Eden. The Israelites who wanted to stay safely and confidently gathered at the tower of Babel were dispersed. Moses and the Israelites who refused to enter the land that God had given them had to wander the desert for forty years.

Jesus himself is a big fan of the word, Go.  
He says:

**GO**

sin no more  
be reconciled  
make disciples of all nations  
tell the people what the Lord has done for you  
into your room and pray in secret  
sell your possessions  
the second mile  
show mercy

Today, I can sense God's providence (or humor?) as GO! seems to be the theme of my call to ministry. I am part of what many call the “gig” economy. As a part-time pastor and part-time writer and editor, I go wherever the work takes me. Or put another way, wherever God seems to be calling me. Sometimes I'm surprised at where I end up. Sometimes I'm as nervous as

I was as a first-time preacher. I wonder, Me? Really? Are you sure?

And God says, Go.  
I'm comforted by the fact that wherever I go, God is already there preparing the way and calling me forward into a new and different future. I trust that even though I don't always feel qualified, God will find a way to use my gifts. I pray for direction and correction along the way.

As we train and equip new leaders in our churches, I hope that we can reflect on the ways that God calls us to go. In small churches like the one I serve we often worry that we are not big enough or rich enough to be part of God's change in the world.

Going with God's plan requires huge amounts of faith. It requires us to know the stories of how God called the small and unqualified people in the Bible. It means trusting in God's creativity and abundance rather than our own. Fundamentally, it means believing that we are not going it alone.

As you begin a new year where is God calling you to go as a church?

*Sue Washburn is bi-vocational, working as the interim editor of Presbyterians Today and pastor of Reunion Presbyterian Church in Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania.*

## Words to Live By

“When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and I could say, I used everything you gave me.”

-ERMA BOMBECK

## New Horizons Newsletter

Don't forget that you are welcome and invited to submit items for the Monthly Newsletter here at New Horizons! Simply leave a submission on the office desk, in the After Hours Office Mailbox, or in the “Newsletter” box in the office mailroom!



# PERU



## The Cost of Gold

### Faith Seeking Understanding in a Climate of Conflict

The early part of this century has seen unprecedented economic growth in Peru due to increased foreign investment in the extractive industry, yet in 2016 more than 200 social conflicts have been reported of which more than half are directly tied to environmental crises created by the mining industry. Many of these conflicts, like the mining activity itself, occur in the most impoverished regions of the country, further impacting the health and livelihoods of the people. Fear and intimidation at the local level, weakened environmental regulations at the national level, and international trade policy that protects profits over people all play a role in the systemic oppression of peoples throughout the Andes. In this context, we discern God's call to action, together with our global partners Red Uniendo Manos Peru, Joining Hands Peru.

**Purpose:** On this eight-day Reflection and Action trip, participants will learn about the systemic root causes of environmental health crises that plague the Peruvian countryside. They will visit communities impacted by the extractive industry; converse with leaders and experts on mining and the environment; examine relevant health, environmental, economic and trade policy; reflect on ethical and Biblical imperatives and implications to care for God's Creation. At the end of the trip, participants will partake in a one-day advocacy workshop to identify strategies and further equip themselves to take action upon returning to the U.S.

**Dates:** May 27 to June 3, 2017

**Deadline:** February 28, 2017

**Scholarship Deadline:** December 31, 2016

**Cost:** \$750 plus airfare to/from Lima

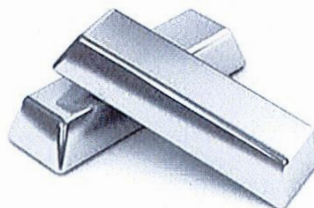
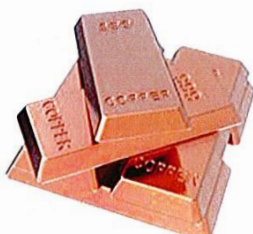
Includes: food, lodging and transportation in country

**Organizers:** Red Uniendo Manos Peru, Mission Co-worker Jed Koball, and Giddings Lovejoy Presbytery

**Contact:** Mark Strothmann, [mark.strothmann@att.net](mailto:mark.strothmann@att.net)

#### Sites to be Visited Outside of Lima

- **La Oroya** – one of the ten most contaminated cities in the world due to emissions from metals smelter
- **Chaquicocha** - farmers and herders practicing organic methods and using renewable energies
- **Huancayo** – regional capital and center of environmental health initiatives related to mining





# February 2017 - New Horizons' Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 10:30am Worship 12:30pm Pendo Comm.	<b>30</b> 10:00am Free to be Me Al-Anon (JH)	<b>31</b> 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (JH)	<b>1</b> 8:30am Mission Sewing	<b>2</b> 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00pm Choir	<b>3</b> 10:00am Freedom Al-Anon (JH)	<b>4</b> 10:00am Pendo Prayers in Sanct.
<b>5</b> 10:30am Worship & Communion 12:30pm Pendo Comm.	<b>6</b> 10:00am Free to be Me Al-Anon (JH)	<b>7</b> 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (JH)	<b>8</b> 8:30am Mission Sewing 6:30pm Session Mtg	<b>9</b> 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00pm Choir	<b>10</b> 10:00am Freedom Al-Anon (JH)	<b>11</b> 10:00am Pendo Prayers in Sanct. 10:00am Presbytery Meeting @ First Presbyterian Kirkwood
<b>12</b> 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Mission Mtg 12:30pm Pendo Comm.	<b>13</b> 10:00am Free to be Me Al-Anon (JH)	<b>14</b> 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (JH)	<b>15</b> 8:30am Mission Sewing	<b>16</b> 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00pm Choir	<b>17</b> 10:00am Freedom Al-Anon (JH)	<b>18</b> 10:00am Pendo Prayers in Sanct.
<b>19</b> 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Deacon Mtg 12:30pm Pendo Comm.	<b>20</b> 10:00am Free to be Me Al-Anon (JH)	<b>21</b> 10:00am Presby. Women Mtg (JH) 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (JH)	<b>22</b> 8:30am Mission Sewing	<b>23</b> 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00pm Choir	<b>24</b> 10:00am Freedom Al-Anon (JH)	<b>25</b> 10:00am Pendo Prayers in Sanct.
<b>26</b> 10:30am Worship 12:30pm Pendo Comm.	<b>27</b> 10:00am Free to be Me Al-Anon (JH)	<b>28</b> 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (JH)	<b>1</b> 8:30am Mission Sewing 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	<b>2</b> 7:00pm Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00pm Choir	<b>3</b> 10:00am Freedom Al-Anon (JH)	<b>4</b> 10:00am Pendo Prayers in Sanct.