

Come, be refreshed at the

OASIS

2010 Mid-Central Region APCE Event

October 24-26

The Elms Resort and Spa
and
Barbee Memorial Presbyterian Church
Excelsior Springs, MO

You are invited to soak in the *Oasis*...an opportunity to refresh your mind, body, and spirit as you join with others for worship, study, conversation, and fellowship. This is the second annual *Oasis* conference sponsored by the Mid-Central Region of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators (APCE) held at the Elms Hotel in Excelsior's, Springs MO. The Mid-Central region is comprised of the presbyteries of Northern Kansas, Southern Kansas, Heartland, Missouri Union, John Calvin, and Giddings-Lovejoy.

Last year's event was a welcome retreat as educators (staff and volunteers), elders, deacons, and pastors gathered in the peaceful surroundings of the Elms Hotel to rejuvenate their commitment to sharing their faith. From my personal experience at the event and my involvement on the planning team, I know this will be an event you do not want to miss. The worship services, keynote speaker and the workshops provide a bounty of new ideas, new programs, new, contacts, new friendships, a new way of thinking and doing and maybe, most important, a chance to fill your reservoir and become, once again, an oasis for others and for your faith.

Mark your calendar; make your reservations at the Elms Hotel, and register to attend. Encourage a friend to travel with you or meet you at the *Oasis*.

I look forward to meeting you at the *Oasis*...see you in October.

In Christ,
Cathy Broockerd
Moderator, Mid-Central APCE Region

OASIS

"Come on in, the water's fine!"

Conference Schedule

Sunday, October 24

Hotel Check-in Begins	4:00 p.m.
Registration begins	5:00 p.m.
Tapas (appetizers)	6:30 p.m.
Worship/Reflection	7:30 p.m.
Dessert and coffee	9:00 p.m.

Monday, October 25

Breakfast on your own	
Morning Prayer	8:00 a.m.
Workshop 1	9:00-10:15 a.m.
Workshop 2	10:30-11:45 a.m.
Lunch on your own	
*See page 5 for <i>Interest Lunch</i> topics	
Workshop 3	1:30-2:45 p.m.
Workshop 4	3:00-4:15 p.m.
<i>At Barbee Memorial Presbyterian Church:</i>	
Dinner	5:30 p.m.
Worship/Reflection/Communion	6:30 p.m.
Dessert fellowship	8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 26

Morning Prayer	8:00 a.m.
Breakfast	8:30 a.m.
Mid-Central APCE meeting	
Workshop 5	9:30-10:45 a.m.
Worship/Reflection	11:00 a.m.
Lunch on your own	

The leadership of the *Oasis* event reminds us that a part of the experience is to refresh your spirit. You may want to design your own oasis during a break or even a workshop block. Take a walk to look at the fall colors, go to the giant outdoor hot tub, read a book, reconnect with an old friend, get acquainted with a new friend, make an appointment in the spa, read a book, take a nap, have a cup of coffee. In other words, leave your busy life just for a bit.

Conference Leadership

Jeff Peterson-Davis serves as Co-Pastor of Pioneer Memorial Presbyterian Church in Solon, Ohio. He is a graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary, and has previously served congregations in Atlanta, Georgia and his native Southern California.

While Jeff has been keynote speaker and worship leader for conferences across our denomination, he is excited about our *Oasis* event in that it puts into practice things that matter to him a great deal: caring for and inspiring leaders of our church. In addition to being our worship/reflection leader, Jeff will lead two workshops as part of our *Oasis* event.

In addition to a reputation as a gifted speaker to youth, Jeff has been keynote speaker and leader of many “adult” conferences across our denomination including the recent Big Tent Event, Presbyterian Peacemaking conferences, the 7% Event, and many presbytery leadership events.

Jeff is married to Kerri, who also serves as Co-Pastor of Pioneer Church. They have a ten year old daughter, Katie, and a goofy black lab named Molly.

Bill Buchanan is currently serving as one of the directors of Asheville Youth Mission, a non-profit that hosts youth groups doing mission trips in Asheville, NC. He is a pastor, loves youth ministry, and is a lifetime member of the Presbyterian Youth Workers Association. Bill loves singing, playing guitar, drums, bass, and most any other instrument he can get his hands on. He has led music at various events including Montreat Youth Conference, Massanetta Middle School Conference, and the Annual Recreation Workshop. He is husband to Aimee, father to Elli and Taylor, and enjoys being an old school rap artist in his spare time.

Planning Team Members:

Ann Bouchard
Missouri Union Presbytery
First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, MO

Cathy Broockerd
Heartland Presbytery
John Knox Presbyterian Kirk, Kansas City, MO

Mary Buchele
Presbytery of Southern Kansas
The Presbyterian Church of Garden City, Kansas

Karen Van Galder
Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery
Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO

Leigh B. Gillis
Associate Executive Presbyter
Heartland Presbytery

Paula Isgrig
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Second Presbyterian Church, Kansas City, MO

Karen Meenen
Presbytery of Northern Kansas
Trinity Presbyterian Church, Topeka, Kansas

Pat Roller
Missouri Union Presbytery
Presbyterian Churches of Longwood, Otterville, and Range Line

Deb Shetlar
Presbytery of Northern Kansas
First Presbyterian Church of Salina, KS

Malinda Spencer
Resource director for Christian education
Heartland Presbytery

Nancy Toland
John Calvin Presbytery
First Presbyterian Church of Iola, KS

Glenda Watts
Heartland Presbytery

Workshops 1	Monday 9:00-10:15
1A	New Twists on Old Favorites Come and get resources on how to take old programs and revive them. All of us have plenty of programs in our pockets. Bring your ideas and learn how to transform them into fresh and fun ideas. Consider prayer through colors, celebrating special events, and teaching with food! It's really about resourcing and sharing ideas in different ways! <i>Laura Stover is a Christian Educator at the First Presbyterian Church, Fort Dodge, IA.</i>
1B	Extended workshop: also register for 2B Soul Tending It is a profound privilege to serve in ministry. At the same time, that very serving can wear at our souls, our energy, our passion, our health, and our sense of call. From being tired and stressed to overworked and burned out, damage to our souls is an all-too-often result of our ministry. Take heart! In this extended workshop we will practice tending our souls and learn ways to keep our spiritual batteries charged in the midst of life and ministry. Soul tending involves more than just self-care – it stretches us to seek what matters most and to practice life-giving ministry. In learning soul tending, we will also find ways to care for the souls of those with whom we minister. <i>Jeff Peterson-Davis is the keynote speaker for this year's Oasis.</i>
1C	Extended workshop: also register for 2C Managing the Challenge: Making the Dream of an Every Member Bible Study a Reality So you've got this big idea... so big it's a little scary. Who do you need to get on board? What do you need to do to plan for success? How do you make this a worshipping and learning experience for everyone from the pulpit, to the pew, to the pre-school? This is a hands-on workshop: you will leave with a dream... and a plan. <i>Trish Heidebrecht is a Christian Educator in the Presbyterian Church in Canada with experience in designing creative Bible studies for adults, youth and children. Since 2004, she has been Executive Director of The Kerygma Program.</i>
1D	Building a Welcoming and Cohesive Youth Group Learn ice-breaking games and group building activities that require little to no preparation. Through hands-on participation, workshop participants will learn the principles behind positive game playing and group building. Participants will leave with the practical tools needed to create the safe and welcoming environment necessary for a powerful youth ministry. <i>Workshop leaders Christelle Porter and Michael Megraw are on staff at Heartland Presbyterian Center.</i>
1E	<i>This imaginative Mid-Central APCE Oasis workshop is sponsored by the Synod of Mid-America in the spirit of love God has for the whole world.</i> God's Amazing Spectrum From a Biblical and honoring perspective, gain a quick understanding of a variety of disability areas one may encounter in a fellow church member. <i>Barbara Newman is a church and school consultant for CLC Network. She is a frequent national speaker and published author on inclusion of persons with special needs.</i>
Workshops 2	Monday 10:30-11:45
2A	Welcome, again, to <i>We Believe</i> Our Presbyterian denominational curriculum has been around since 2003 but has undergone updates and changes over the years due to user feedback. Come see what the reshaped, revitalized, and reformed <i>We Believe</i> has to offer for young children, elementary children, youth, and adults, as well as summer curriculum for children. <i>Meg Rift has been involved with our denominational curriculum as the director of the POINT program and in curriculum development as both a writer and an editor.</i>

2B	Soul Tending —also choose workshop 1B
2C	Managing the Challenge —also choose workshop 1C
2D	Risk Management The workshop will provide valuable information and practices to help protect churches' liability in regards to the safety of our buildings and our congregations. Topics discussed will include facilities, inside and outside, church sponsored activities, on and off site including youth events, staffing, sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse, how to avoid allegations of sexual misconduct and how to avoid situations that may lead to the possibility of sexual misconduct occurring. <i>Bruce West is Division Manager for the Heartland division of Church Mutual Insurance Co.</i>
2E	<i>This imaginative Mid-Central APCE Oasis workshop is sponsored by the Synod of Mid-America in the spirit of love God has for the whole world.</i> Autism and Your Church Explore God's pattern for "knitting in" those with Autism Spectrum Disorders and learn practical ideas for church inclusion. <i>Barbara Newman is a church and school consultant for CLC Network. She is a frequent national speaker and published author on inclusion of persons with special needs.</i>
Lunch	Interest Lunches: Join one or start your own. So far, we have youth ministry, <i>The Shack</i> (bring your book), curriculum, creative worship; more to come. Purchase your lunch and participate in an Interest Lunch. Look for more information at the registration table.
Workshops 3	Monday 1:30-2:45
3A	Extended workshop: also choose workshop 4A Sprinters and Marathoners: Same Race to Learn, Different Runners Our goal as Christian Educators is to get people to read the Bible so that The Story can become their story. Easier said than done! We need to move the church from old expectations and approaches to Bible study into new possibilities. If we begin with the assumption that almost every Christian, whether over 50 or under 30, not only believes they <i>should</i> know more about the Bible but have a <i>deep yearning for learning...</i> we are already in a different spot. <i>Trish Heidebrecht is a Christian Educator in the Presbyterian Church in Canada with experience in designing creative Bible studies for adults, youth and children. Since 2004, she has been Executive Director of The Kerygma Program.</i>
3B	Forgiveness Café What are we given when we are forgiven? What do we give when we forgive? Come to the Forgiveness Café for thought-provoking conversation and a cup of coffee with Doug Hundley. Doug will set the table with readings from the Scripture, from writers ancient and modern, and in conversation with each other. <i>Doug Hundley, an elder at Second Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, MO, has been leading conversations about forgiveness since 2006 and recently has written about Christian parenting in a session entitled "What I've Learned from my Children, So Far." He has a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Kansas.</i>
3C	Tech Ministry: Don't Get Deleted! In this workshop we will look at how technology can be a great asset to your ministry with all ages but especially youth. We will look at what you can use and how you can use it; while also looking at some of the draw backs and pitfalls that can come as a result of using technology in your ministry. <i>Brian Kuhn is a 10 year veteran in youth ministry and is the Director of Education: Children, Youth, and Young Adults at Webster Groves Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, MO. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Missouri, specializing in adolescents and their families.</i>

3D	<p>Advent Spirituality Space for Children Using a variety of materials we will create an Advent spirituality space designed especially for children. Such a space will offer children a place where they can learn about the season of Advent through a variety of hands-on experiences while also learning about different ways to pray. Suggestions will also be available for spirituality spaces for children and youth for other liturgical seasons and themes such as stewardship, creation, the Lord's Prayer and books of the Bible. <i>Kris Bair is a former English teacher called to be a commissioned lay pastor to Presbyterians and Methodists in Wilson, KS. Carol Rahn has been the director of a homeless ministry for families, a pastoral counselor and interim pastor in Atlanta, GA. She is now pastor of the First Presbyterian Churches in Colby and Hoxie, KS.</i></p>
3E	<p><i>This imaginative Mid-Central APCE Oasis workshop is sponsored by the Synod of Mid-America in the spirit of love God has for the whole world.</i></p> <p>Respite Care Learn from the stories and techniques of trained and experienced respite caregivers how your church can enter into this important aspect of ministry. <i>Barbara Newman is a church and school consultant for CLC Network. She is a frequent national speaker and published author on inclusion of persons with special needs.</i></p>
Workshops 4	Monday 3:00-4:15
4A	<p>Extended workshop: also choose workshop 4A</p> <p>Sprinters and Marathoners: Same Race to Learn, Different Runners</p>
4B	<p>Zumba is a style of exercising that fuses Latin rhythms and easy to follow moves, producing a workout that is healthy, rewarding, and beneficial. Come experience this class, and ponder if your church has space to offer this opportunity. It could be a great outreach! Scheduled so you have time to be "presentable" again for dinner.</p>
4C	<p>Church Staff: Colleagues? Ministry Team? Dysfunctional Family? It's not easy being part of a church staff. It's particularly not easy being an Educator, Youth Minister, or Associate Pastor. Some of us have it really good – we work with people who really "get it." Others of us, well... we've all got stories we could tell! How can we best function in our roles as part of a church staff? How can we get the support we need? What do we do when things are bad? What do we do when things are really good? This workshop will explore the world of working as part of a church staff and provide some perspective and strategies for working together. Come with your stories, your joys, your concerns, and your experiences of what works and what doesn't work when working with a church staff. <i>Jeff Peterson-Davis is the keynote speaker for this year's Oasis.</i></p>
4D	<p>What Is A Young Adult and What Do You Do With Them? In this workshop we will examine who young adults are and what they are looking for in today's church. We will talk about how we can reach them, minister to them, and walk with them on their unique faith journey. <i>Brian Kuhn is a 10 year veteran in youth ministry and is the Director of Education: Children, Youth, and Young Adults at Webster Groves Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, MO. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Missouri, specializing in adolescents and their families.</i></p>

4E	<p><i>This imaginative Mid-Central APCE Oasis workshop is sponsored by the Synod of Mid-America in the spirit of love God has for the whole world.</i></p> <p>The Behavior Management Playing Field Is the behavior of the one jeopardizing the learning of the whole group? Spend some time learning many strategies to try with behavior management issues in children's church settings. Your idea tool box will be filled to over-flowing. <i>Barbara Newman is a church and school consultant for CLC Network. She is a frequent national speaker and published author on inclusion of persons with special needs.</i></p>
Workshops 5	Tuesday 9:30-10:45
5A	<p>DVD-based, Small-Group Resource Previews This workshop features 4- to 5-minute previews of new and recently released DVD-based, ecumenical resources for small groups. The resources are for various ages (children, youth and adults) and can be used in various settings such as Sunday school classes, evening programs, retreats, and so forth. There will be time for discussion and door prizes. <i>Cindy Solomon is the EcuFilm Business Development Manager for United Methodist Communications in Nashville, Tennessee (www.ecufilm.org).</i></p>
5B	<p>Loving the Way I Learn: Incorporating Gardiner's Multiple Intelligences into Your Lesson Plan Varied and creative approaches to learning Bible stories is well accepted in classes for children. But when we get to be adults, we do <i>serious</i> Bible study, and it's all <i>read, sit and talk</i>. Surprisingly, that is not the most natural, or effective, learning style for many people. If our objective as educators is to attain the greatest number of "aha!" moments, we may need to rethink how we teach ...and start to think outside of the pen, paper and parlor scenario. Come discover your own learning preference and design a lesson plan to enhance it! Practical insights for teachers of all age groups. <i>Trish Heidebrecht is a Christian Educator in the Presbyterian Church in Canada with experience in designing creative Bible studies for adults, youth and children. Since 2004, she has been Executive Director of The Kerygma Program.</i></p>
5C	<p>Faith-filled Hospitality This workshop will share ideas and practices to help congregations become empowered and comfortable with articulating their faith through words and actions, while providing nurturing and welcoming hospitality in the church and during their daily lives. <i>Kris Peterson is the Communications & Resource Coordinator for Homestead Presbytery in Eastern Nebraska. Homestead is a virtual presbytery. The staff was able to decentralize from a traditional office structure, allowing them to be "field-based," providing coaching and resources to empower congregations to revitalize and/or grow their ministries.</i></p>
5D	<p>The Lord's Prayer With Beads Meditate. Create. Communicate. Using a relaxed rhythm of commentary, guided meditation, music, imagery, and conversation participants will be led in creating an individualized bracelet or prayer cord reflecting the Lord's Prayer. They will work with semi-precious stones, glass, and natural beads. <i>Meg Rift is a Presbyterian minister of Word and Sacrament and lives in Chicago, Illinois, with her husband, Dan, also a Presbyterian minister, and their youngest daughter Jessica. Her twin daughters are sophomores at the University of Missouri in Columbia.</i> There is a \$15 supply fee payable at the time of the workshop.</p>
5E	<p>Good Self Care—Today and Tomorrow The Board of Pensions cares about the wellness, medical health, self care and retirement of our educators. We will explore health care changes for 2010, self help programs, stress management tools and educational resources. <i>The Rev. Dr. Douglas Kelly is the Regional Representative for the Board of Pensions in the Synods of Lakes and Prairies, Mid-America and Lincoln Trails.</i></p>

Registration information and fees

Registration covers **three** group meals and conference participation. See lodging information below.

- Early bird registration deadline, August 29 (**\$159**)
- Registration, August 30-September 30 (**\$179**)
- Late registration after September 30, (**\$199**)

To register, go to www.churchresourcecenter.org. Payment can be made via PayPal, or mail your check plus \$5 handling fee to Heartland Presbytery/Oasis, 3210 Michigan Ave, KCMO 64109

Scholarships may be available through your presbytery.

REFUND POLICY

Requests for cancellation received on or before September 30 will receive a full refund. Requests received October 1-10 will be charged \$50. Requests received October 11-19 will be charged \$100. We regret due to hotel guarantees we are unable to provide refunds after October 19.

Mid-Central APCE is offering a \$15 rebate to APCE members attending Oasis. Applications for the rebate will be available at the *Oasis registration table*. For APCE membership: <http://apcenet.org/membership/join/htm>

For help with registration or other questions, contact Malinda Spencer, 816-923-5486 or education@heartlandpby.org

Hotel information

The Elms Resort and Spa
401 Regent Street
Excelsior Springs, MO 64024

The Elms Resort & Spa is a beautiful, historic hotel. The building dates from 1912 and combines historic charm with modern conveniences. See the Elms website for details.



<http://www.elmsresort.com/>

Extend your stay: Conference rate applies for weeknights; \$10 more for weekend nights. 10% discount on spa services.

Directions to the hotel from Kansas City

Take I-35 North to Exit 20 (Excelsior Springs/Lawson exit) via 69 Highway. Follow 69 Hwy 10 miles to Route 10. Go East on Route 10 to Kansas City Ave. Go right onto Kansas City Ave and the hotel is on the left.

If you need other travel assistance, please let us know. We want to see you at the Elms!

- ✓ Call 1-800-THE ELMS or
- ✓ Reserve online, entering the **group code Oasis**
- ✓ Ask for the Oasis **discounted room rate of \$89** plus tax, single/double/triple/quad
- ✓ Hotel reservations made after October 10, 2010 will be subject to availability and at the prevailing rate.


