

## News of the NETWORKS

Fourteen Networks have now officially been designated by the Presbytery of the Miami Valley. The latest addition is:

**The Stewardship Resource Network**, a team of pastors and church members equipped to assist congregations to develop sound stewardship practice, with theological and biblical grounding, as part of a call to discipleship rather than merely fundraising.

It is the goal of the Stewardship Resource Network to become a resource for all congregations in the presbytery for the coming year by attending the National PC(USA) Stewardship Conference in March and subsequently designing ways to assist churches to develop better stewardship.

For questions, more information, to make a request for designation, or to seek financial aid for a Network, contact Buzz Reed, Networks Support Chair at

[networks@miamipresbytery.org](mailto:networks@miamipresbytery.org)

### What are Presbytery Networks?

One new component of the design for Presbytery of the Miami Valley is the emergence of networks as the missional arms and legs of the presbytery.

Presbytery networks are groups of people sharing a common purpose, interest, mission, or passion. Two or more individuals from two or more congregations can become a network.

Networks are formed based upon the passions of those participating in them and in concert with the presbytery's goals for ministry and mission. Networks are not filled by nominees from presbytery, but voluntarily by persons presenting themselves to serve.

Networks help us to empower emerging ministries, allow us to become a more passion-driven, presbyter-led presbytery, and provide us with new opportunities to serve Christ together.

Learn more at [www.miamipresbytery.org](http://www.miamipresbytery.org)

Presbytery of the Miami Valley... We are 14,000 Presbyterians in 64 congregations.

March 27-29

### Spring Youth Retreat

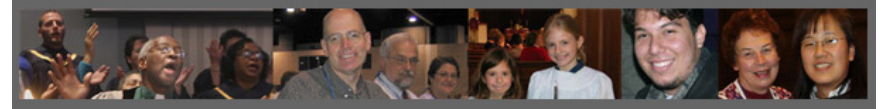


Scott Neely

The Annual Spring Youth Retreat will be held March 27-29 at Kirkmont Center. This event is open to all youth (in grades 7-12) and their adult advisors from the Miami Valley, Maumee Valley, Scioto Valley and Cincinnati presbyteries. The event is sponsored by the Presbytery Youth Connection Network of PMV.

This year's theme is "The Space Between Us: Trust Steadily, Hope Unswervingly, Love Extravagantly". The keynote speaker is Scott Neely, who grew up in the Presbytery of the Miami Valley and now serves as the Director of Youth and Recreation at Alamance Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, NC.

For more information and to register, visit [www.miamipresbytery.org](http://www.miamipresbytery.org).



News & Information

Winter 2009

### The Rev. Dr. James I. Davis 1921-2008



Rev. Dr. James I. Davis

The Rev. Dr. James I. Davis, organizing pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Dayton, passed away on December 29, 2008. Dr. Davis served as Trinity's pastor from 1948 until his retirement in 1993.

Dr. Davis also served as Moderator of Presbytery of the Miami Valley (formerly Miami Presbytery), Member of Cabinet of Ethnic Affairs, Trustee of the Synod of the Covenant, Member of the Mission Council of the Miami Presbytery and the Synod where he served as Treasurer, Member of the Staff Service Division of the Synod, Local, State, Regional and Member of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus.

A memorial service was held January 3 at Trinity, with The Rev. Lutrelle Rainey officiating. Memorial donations may be made to the Scholarship Educational Fund of Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3211 Lakeview Ave. (James I. Davis Way), Dayton, OH 45408.

### Presbytery of the Miami Valley

1541 S. Smithville Rd.  
Dayton, OH 45410  
937-258-8118

[www.miamipresbytery.org](http://www.miamipresbytery.org)

### The State of the Presbytery

Dennis H. Piermont, Executive Presbyter, reflects on 2008 in the Presbytery of the Miami Valley with "Living Into the New Design."



Dennis Piermont

Here's an excerpt: "... we have not only shifted into the new design, but in many ways we are living in it quite comfortably..."

"Any success that we may enjoy by our transformation to a presbyter led presbytery must be shared together - we have been patient with each other; we have allowed ourselves to make mistakes; we have allowed for new voices to sing forth; and most importantly we have kept ourselves accountable to our faith by allowing for new things to unfold in God's manner and time."

To download the full report, visit [www.miamipresbytery.org](http://www.miamipresbytery.org).

### In this issue...

- The Rev. Dr. James I. Davis
- The State of the Presbytery
- Spring Youth Retreat
- News of the Networks
- What is a Network?
- Presbytery Neighborhoods
- News from our local churches

# Around Presbytery of the Miami Valley

News from our local churches

## NORTH EAST NEIGHBORHOOD



**First Presbyterian Church, Urbana** (Pastor Kevin Horri-gan) The church is holding a Pie Auction to support its Kirk-mont Camp Scholarship Fund. Members bake and donate pies to help the church's young people attend the camp.

**Westminster Presbyterian Church, Xenia** (Pastor Brian Maguire) and **Memorial United Presbyterian Church, Xenia** (Interim Pastor Wayne McLaughlin) are members of the Interfaith Hospital-ity Network. The churches work together to periodically use their facilities and member volunteers to provide temporary housing and meals to the homeless.

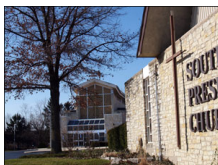
## NORTH WEST NEIGHBORHOOD

**Faith Presbyterian Church, Huber Heights** (Pastor Norm Godfrey) The church will celebrate its 50th Anni-versary this year. As part of its Jubilee, members are being asked to submit recipes for a church cookbook and their memories of Faith Presbyterian through the years, which will later be displayed during the celebra-tion.



**First Presbyterian Church, Sidney** (Pastor Joe Hinds) Rev. Hinds writes a ministry blog called "Faith and Life from the Heartland" at <http://joemhinds3.wordpress.com/>.

## SOUTH EAST NEIGHBORHOOD



**Southminster Presbyterian Church, Centerville** (Pastor Eric Pasanchin) The church recently installed The Rev. Megan Collins as Associate Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries. Rev. Collins previously served as co-pastor with her husband, David, at Corinth Presbyterian Church, Day-ton.

**Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church, Kettering** (Pastor Julia Wharff) The church has a partnership with John F. Kennedy Elementary School, Kettering. Volunteers work weekly with students to help them improve their reading skills.

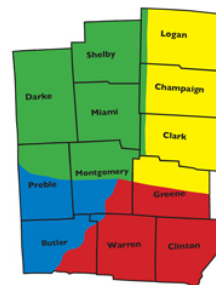
## SOUTH WEST NEIGHBORHOOD

**The Presbyterian Church, Hamilton** (Pastor John Lewis) Associate Pastor Dan Carter and a church member are traveling to Mexico in February to their sister church in Playa del Carmen as part of a construction team.



**New Jersey Presbyterian Church, Carlisle** (Pastor Jeff Foster) The church recently launched a new web site at [www.newjerseypres.org](http://www.newjerseypres.org). In addition to basic church information, the web site includes links to sermons, birthdays, joys and concerns, church events, and more.

## What is a Presbytery Neighborhood?



Presbytery of Miami Valley is organized into four geo-graphic regions called Neighborhoods. Just as various neighborhoods are present within a single community; our neighborhoods comprise the community of our pres-bytery. The boundaries of the Neighborhoods were drawn with consideration of transportation links and the population distribution of our members. Each Neighbor-hood gathers together urban, suburban and rural con-gregations, both large and small including a variety of theological perspectives.

An essential purpose of Neighborhoods is to provide opportunities for individu-als and local congregations to receive the services of presbytery and to interact on a more intimate level. The mission of Presbytery of the Miami Valley is: "to be a practicing presbytery, discipling church leaders to live out Christ's mission for today."

Neighborhoods can provide greater opportunities for presbyters and congrega-tions "to disciple and equip Church leaders; helping them to deepen their rela-tionship with Jesus Christ, reliance upon the Holy Spirit, knowledge of the Scrip-tures and Confessions, and to continue their training in ministry."

## Join Our E-mail List

Get news from Presbytery of the Miami Valley

You can keep informed about ministries, missions, and events in Presbytery of the Miami Valley when you sign up to receive our e-mail updates. Visit [www.miamipresbytery.org](http://www.miamipresbytery.org) to subscribe.