



**A Publication of
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Older Adult Ministries**

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Let's Go to Stony Point!

by Greg Cohen

This year's POAMN Conference is shaping up to be one of the best! The conference begins on Wednesday, April 19th and concludes on Saturday, April 22nd. Our keynote speaker this year will be The Reverend Dr. Stephen Sapp, Dean of Religious Studies at the University of Miami, FL. The Reverend Tom Tickner, Minister of Religious Life at Grace Presbyterian Village and his wife Susie, Minister of Music at Oak Cliff Presbyterian Church in Dallas Texas will lead us in our worship. And, what can you say about Stony Point, a beautiful retreat center nestled within the historic Lower Hudson River Valley near West Point and just north of New York City.



Gilmore Sloan House at Stony Point Center

The theme for the conference this year is "*A Passion for People*" and we will be offering fewer seminars more often. Seminar topics include: The Church as a Community Resource, Prayer for Older Adults, Finishing Well (Mission Opportunities for mature adults), Health and Parish Nursing as an Evangelism Tool, Continued page 2

A Message from the Editor

Spirituality takes many forms and has differing seasons. For some older adults, as President Margaret Suttle often points out, older adulthood is a colorful and restful season. Planning ahead financially, when possible, makes for a more comfortable late life; our Associate at the national office Greg Cohen reminds us that the same is true for our organization and even for the future of older adult ministries in our denomination.

Recognition that a healthy spiritual foundation is necessary for our ministries lies behind the first course in the new certification process. Without a spiritual foundation, without a strong connection to God and an on-going commitment to our personal faith journey, we will soon dry up and have nothing to share with our community.

This issue includes a taste of the 2006 annual conference, which has a specific focus on evangelism by, with and for Older Adults. The conference structure has been modified in response to feedback from participants frustrated to not have access to

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Racial/Ethnic Older Adult Ministries and
Introduction to Older Adult Ministries.

New this year will be a grouping of seminars designed for chaplains and church relation officers representing Presbyterian related retirement communities. The Presbyterian Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (PAHSA) is partnering with POAMN in this effort. Seminar topics will include: Worship for People with Dementia, Caring for the Caregiver of the Caregivers (Pastoral Care and Self-Care), and others.

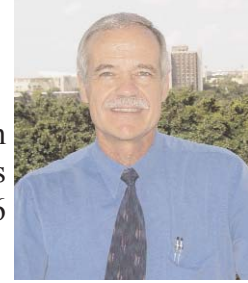
By having our conference at Stony Point, we are able to reduce our fees - Early Registration Fees are \$150 for POAMN Members and \$200 for non-members. Room and board at Stony Point Center is \$75/person/night double occupancy (this includes meals). To register online access: www.pcusa.org/olderadults/poamn. This year everyone attending the conference will receive a copy of *Dimensions in Older Adult Ministry: A Handbook*, featuring Stephen Sapp as one of fifteen authors contributing to the book. Rev. Dr. Sapp will be available to sign books during the conference!

Certification Course One Offered

Just prior to the POAMN Conference, beginning on Tuesday, April 18th and concluding on Wednesday, April 19th, the first course in the certification process entitled *Spirituality and Aging*, will be offered to those who have completed *Introduction to Older Adult Ministry*. (*Introduction to Older Adult Ministry* will be offered as a workshop at the Conference and can be taken simultaneously.) Other courses needed for certification are: Bible Study and Teaching with Older Adults, Reformed Theology and Older Adult Ministry, Practicalities of Older Adult Ministry, one Elective Course and a Final Summary Project. For more information and to register for Course One contact Vickie Kintzel at 970-532-2192 or via email: pastorviciek@yahoo.com

2006 Conference Keynote Speaker:

The Reverend Dr. Stephen Sapp will address attendees twice during the 2006 POAMN Conference.



Stephen Sapp

A Passion For People: Elements of a Model Ministry

As our nation continues to age, Baby Boomers increasingly seek new sources of meaning, often in an amorphous "spirituality" beyond traditional religious traditions, and unprecedented care-giving needs loom ever closer. Every congregation therefore must ask the critical question: "What are the religious institutions of this country going to offer to meet these pressing needs of the 21st century?" The answer to this question requires a revisioning of the way we have been doing things and - even more difficult - even of the way we have been seeing things. This may mean letting go of some cherished practices of older adult ministry if we are to meet the needs of a different era and different group of elders.

A Passion For People: The "Wounded Healer" as a Model for Aging and Ministry
If we are truly to exhibit a "passion for people" we must join them in their suffering, and the late Henri Nouwen's concept of the "wounded healer" provides a good model for what it means to be a minister in contemporary society. A fresh look at the parable of the Good Samaritan challenges not only some assumptions long held by those who see themselves as called to minister to others but also the fundamental values of our society that underlie our devaluation of aging and the elderly. A consideration of the hope that Christians hold offers a way to find meaning amid the wounds and suffering of aging.

Rev. Dr. Stephen Sapp grew up in Asheville, NC, and earned A.B., M.Div., and Ph.D. degrees from Duke University, where he

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CONTINUED: Stephen Sapp

taught from 1971 to 1976. A faculty member at the University of Miami since 1980, he is currently Professor and Chairperson of the Department of Religious Studies. Rev. Dr. Sapp has won several teaching awards. In addition to publishing a number of articles, he is the author of three books - *Sexuality, the Bible, and Science* (Fortress Press, 1977), *Full of Years: Aging and the Elderly in the Bible and Today* (Abingdon Press, 1987), and *Light on a Gray Area: American Public Policy on Aging* (Abingdon Press, 1992) - and a widely distributed booklet, *When Alzheimer's Disease Strikes* (Desert Ministries, rev. ed. 2002). He is a past chair of the Governing Council of the Forum on Religion, Spirituality, and Aging (FoRSA) of the American Society on Aging (ASA) and edited FoRSA's newsletter, *Aging & Spirituality*, from 1993 to 1999. He was the 2002 recipient of the ASA Award, the organization's highest award for contributions to the field of gerontology, and currently is a member of the ASA Board of Directors. He is also a past member of the Delegate Council of the National Interfaith Coalition on Aging of the National Council on the Aging. Founding president of the South Florida Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, he is a member of the Ethics Advisory Panel for the national Alzheimer's Association. Rev. Dr. Sapp chairs the Bioethics Committee and is on the executive committee of the Institutional Review Board of Miami Children's Hospital, where he was Fellow in Clinical Ethics in the Division of Critical Care Medicine in 1996. He is also chair of the University of Miami's Behavioral and Social Sciences Institutional Review Board and First Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate. He lectures nationally and internationally on a variety of aging and bioethical issues.

An ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), he served as Associate Pastor of the Moorings Presbyterian Church in Naples (1976-1981) and of Palmetto Presbyterian Church in Miami (1981-1984), was a Commissioner to the 1979 General

Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (US), and was the last Moderator of Everglades Presbytery (PCUS) before reunion in 1984. In the Presbytery of Tropical Florida, he has served several Committees, and he regularly supplies pulpits throughout south Florida.

Stephen is married to Dr. Mary Sapp, Assistant Vice President of Planning and Institutional Research at the University of Miami. They have two sons, Eric and David. Both sons have been primary caregivers for their cognitively impaired 91-year-old grandmother.

CONTINUED: From the Editor

the multiplicity of workshops; this year most participants will be able to attend most workshops.

Yes, there is a cost connected to such conferences. The POAMN Executive Committee works hard at containing the cost, and encourages you to be creative in seeking funding. For instance, have you asked your Presbytery about leadership development funds that could help pay the costs of such a learning event? Or maybe the local Presbyterian Women would offer some assistance? The POAMN conferences are among the "mountain top" experiences of ministry for many of us, and we would like you to have a similar affirmation and opportunity.

Future plans include issues on topics such as grandparenting, living single (for a lifetime or as a new experience in late life), ways to honor living saints among us, and building partnerships. If you would like to write an article on these (or other older adult-related) topics, please contact me. The newsletter is stronger for having many persons involved. I look forward to hearing from you!

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Don't Underestimate Your Senior Members!

by Kiki Swanson

When you start a senior adult ministry, never underestimate what your members and their friends might do, if invited! Just ask them, but don't treat them like old people who can't expand their horizons. At Valley Presbyterian, our increasing numbers confirm that PRIME TIME ministry enriches our seniors' journey in faith.

Ten years ago, with Session direction, I worked as a volunteer with a Steering Committee representing age groups from sixty to ninety as we began. Results from an interest and abilities questionnaire became our guide to design activities. The Director's part time salary is now in the church budget, with a quarterly report on activities to the Session. Our pastors have led groups and reviewed books; one serves as an advisor on the Cabinet.

"Faithful Growth" became the motto. We saw a way for seniors to continue to deepen their trust and confidence in God's promises. A variety of interest groups began on different weekdays. Programs have included: Christian Church History, Hymnology, Travel Tales, Favorite Books, Genealogy, Play Bridge!, Line Dance, Bible Study and Stretch & Tone, Writers' Workshop, World War II Conversations and 55-Alive. The Benevolent Order of Youthful Seniors for Men and Valley's Golden Girls came under our umbrella. Day-trips and overnight tours focus on art and museum exhibits, and visits to national parks and scientific sites. PRIME TIME keeps the expenses of arrangements and reservations for tours at a modest level, including some cost-free activities. Participants usually pay their own way, but exceptions are made.

An annual brochure, Sunday bulletin, monthly newsletter announcements and a quarterly PRIME TIME newsletter, filled with reviews and previews so everyone knows what we do,

help us get the word out. In September, interest group leaders meet with the Cabinet; in June, the Cabinet evaluates the previous year and sorts through the many activity ideas which are proposed for the next year. Classes and events are cleared on the all-church calendar to avoid conflicts.

Intergenerational programs are wonderful, and our seniors are committed to all-church events and mission work. But they also thoroughly enjoy the relaxed mood of sharing adventures and problems with people their own age. They appreciate times to discuss serious decisions about insurance, housing, cars and health. Bible studies sometimes bring out talk about disappointments and fears, and the Director is always available for listening.

Leadership potential among the seniors is often surprising as we learn about their earlier training and careers. We have learned they like to drive themselves to the church where they feel at home. We work hard to beam everything at people's intelligence, faith and good taste.

God has richly blessed our ministry! As we approach plans for the tenth year of PRIME TIME, we see that the secret to senior adult ministry is to find what arouses their curiosity and energy to learn something new. When we stir that spirit of confidence, that spark of the Divine, we also awaken someone's faith and trust that there is more to aging than a number of years. God still beckons!

The article from which this is adapted was written by POAMN member Kiki Swanson, Director of PRIME TIME for Valley Presbyterian in Scottsdale, AZ, after her return from the 2005 POAMN conference in Austin, Texas.

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POAMN Officer Profiles



Linda Kelly, serves as an at-large member of the Executive Committee. Linda is originally from Pittsburgh, PA, where she grew up in farm country outside the city. She was raised in a loving, Christ-centered family. During

adolescence, she felt God was calling her into ministry. Having never met a female pastor and sure that God's call would take her to some far-off country as a foreign missionary, Linda said no. As she says, "I had never been across the Ohio; surely God wouldn't expect me to go to Africa!"

Instead Linda went to Robert Morris College, found the man of her dreams, and became an executive secretary. She married that sweetheart named Tom Kelly, had three children (Brian now 32, Rodd 30, and Devon 28), and lived the American Dream. During this time, the family moved from Pittsburgh to New Jersey, and Linda completed her Bachelors degree in Business in a weekend program at College of Saint Elizabeth. Still God continued to speak, "Feed my sheep. Tend my lambs."

In 1997, Linda decided that God was not going to give up. But, like Abraham, she bargained, "God, if you want me to go to seminary, I'll go...IF...you provide the funds." As Linda says, she was expecting the Prize Patrol to pull into the driveway or even a check from Readers Digest to appear in the mailbox. Instead, her father passed away and the inheritance she received was dollar for dollar the amount she needed to attend Princeton Seminary - then sixty miles away. Linda graduated in 2000. "Some of the most wonderful years of my life," she admits.

During Seminary, Linda did field education at Fox Chase Memorial Church in Philadelphia. There she experienced an older congregation whose intention it was to be warm and wel-

coming. At the same time she served at Calvary Presbyterian Church in Riverton, New Jersey where she administered a midweek children's program and acted as their interim youth director.

In February 2001, Linda accepted her first call to First Presbyterian Church of LaGrange, a suburb of Chicago. She served as Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries and was ordained on April 29, 2001. Her husband Tom had always told her, "You have followed me all my career. Now, wherever you go, I will go." And Tom left his job in New Jersey to follow her. Unfortunately, the economy nosedived and, even in the third largest city in the U.S., he was unable to find employment. After months searching, he took a job at the Mayo Clinic and commuted the six hour drive from Chicago to Rochester, Minnesota. (The man loves her!)

However, God was again speaking. As Linda explains, "I believed God was calling me to a new ministry. I didn't know coming out of seminary what my gifts would be. I didn't realize I would love older adult ministry and pastoral care. I believed my passion was for education. My first visit to a nursing home was a turning-point. I believe wholeheartedly that our churches are being challenged to do ministry not to the older adult population but with our older adults."

Clearly, God had a purpose and a plan, and a sense of humor. Who would ever have thought ... Las Vegas! Because of another church's interest in Linda, she had gone onto the computer to research PC(USA)'s Opportunity List. On a lark, she tried a match on the two things she loved - older adult ministry and pastoral care. There, clear as could be, was Mountain View Presbyterian Church, a church located in Sun City Las Vegas with a membership of 600 and a median age of 73. Within five weeks to the day, from a simple letter of interest through vote of congregation and Presbytery, Linda was called to be the church's first Associate Pastor and continues today hearing God's voice, "Feed my sheep. Tend my lambs!"

The Geriatric Gap: Getting the Right Information About Aging

By David Solie, MS, PA

A friend of mine got a call late one night that his elderly father has suffered a heart attack and was in the hospital. He caught the next plane and flew to be with his parents. But when he arrived at the hospital, he got more than he bargained for: his sister told him that his mother was suffering from early memory loss, something his parents had carefully kept a secret from the rest of the family. Now the life-long independence his parents treasured so much in their late seventies was turned upside down. It was time for the children to swing into action. It turned out to be a disaster. Instead of things getting better, they got worse. The children wanted their parents to get home health care, change how they managed their money, add new provisions to their will, and consider moving. There was no time to waste. Things were only going to get more complicated. Decisions had to be made. But their parents rejected their suggestions and resented the attempt to take over their lives. "We can take care of ourselves," they told their children. "You've got to be kidding," the children shot back. Communication became strained as both sides became angry, frustrated, and distant. After three tense weeks of fighting, the kids withdrew defeated and exhausted. "Why is this so hard?" they said to each other. Their parents asked themselves the same question.

Welcome to the world of "middle age" baby boomers, a world filled with aging parents and no easy answers. Like my friend, baby boomers are winding up "stuck" with no idea how to make things better. This is because they are caught in what I call the "geriatric gap", an information blind spot about how older adults think and communicate. Working with the wrong information about aging, they set out to do good only to have it backfire on them, sabotaging their efforts from the start. How did this happen?

Baby boomers are the first generation to reach

middle age having grown up in non-communal America. The world of our grandparents, by contrast, was essentially a communal world where young and old lived together in extended families. In that world older adults were part of life and lived with us or close to us. They were elders and they were with us until the end. But America changed after World War II and the communal world was replaced by a "dispersed" society where families were scattered throughout the country and aging parents, more often than not, lived "somewhere else". In the non-communal world older adults lost their elder status, their familiarity, and their connection to us. In turn, we lost an understanding of who they are, what they need, and how to communicate with them. How do we fix this? The first step is to get the right information. Simply learning the real story about aging changes everything for us and for them. Once we hear it, a light goes off and suddenly so many things that didn't make sense to us start to fall into place. Not only are we better prepared to understand who they are and the real meaning of their behavior, but we discover the "right words" that create communication breakthroughs instead of breakdowns. After twenty years of working with older adults, researching aging, and teaching and writing about geriatric communication, here is what I have concluded is the right information that all baby boomers need to know:

1. Older adults have not stopped growing. They did not plateau at sixty-five. They are not in a holding pattern waiting to die. They are still growing. This strikes many baby boomers as odd because they tend to see the elderly as "finished products". Doesn't the mind and body follow parallel paths? No. Modern research has proven just the opposite. Although the body is in decline in old age, the mind is fully armed with a powerful creativity, an intact IQ, exceptional reasoning skills, and sound verbal ability. Aging does slow down processing time of the brain, older adults cannot multitask like they use to, but reflecting

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and wisdom is at an all time high. In life there is important work to be done until the end.

2. It is like nothing they have ever done before. The elderly are in the middle of the last growth phase of their life but it is unlike anything they have faced before. Seventy plus years of “doing” is now replaced with “reviewing” (called life review), an involuntary and pressing need to make sense of the life they have lived. It is a non-stop look backward to find meaning, purpose, and how you want to be remembered. As if sizing up your entire life isn't enough, the elderly are also faced with fighting for control in a world where all control is slipping away. Changes in health, the death of family members and friends, feeling like a burden instead of an elder, not having a productive role, losing the family home, and feeling pressure to turn over the control of finances make it clear why older adults need to fight vehemently to keep what little control they have left. This battle between the need to sort out the meaning of life while defending

their right to make choices is the unappreciated world of aging, the dynamics of elder growth lost on so many baby boomers.

3. Don't try this at home alone. The powerful currents of old age are, as Betty Davis said, “No place for sissies.” It is also no place to be alone. Simply fighting for control can overwhelm even the strongest senior, leaving him or her no time or opportunity to complete life review, to bring the important events of their life into focus, to say and do the things they need to do before they pass on. The most important thing that older adults need from us is our partnership for this phase of the journey, our willingness to help them maintain control so they can gather up and weigh the events of their life.

4. You need to learn the code. The final growth phase of life has its own language, its own communication code. These are words that resonate with the primary tasks of maintaining control and finding a legacy. Learning the right words, how to listen for them, and

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Rethink Your Assumptions

Our assumptions about the communication habits of the elderly are distorted and in many cases simply wrong. Reconsider your assumptions about the following common complaints baby boomers have about older adults.

Why do they take so long to make up their mind? This is because they have moved from the “doing” phase to the “reviewing” phase. It is now time to reflect on what has been done. It is also because from their perspective, life always works out. It is their way of reminding us that we do not control as much as we would like to think we do in our youthful determination to get things done.

Why can't they stick to the topic? Life review requires a different approach. The connection between people and events is the key, not sticking with the topic. Staying on task is not the goal. Discovery is the goal. The conversations that forever change the life of the elderly and those who follow them more often than not occur in the wanderings “off topic”.

Why do they always tell the same story? Life review asks one important question: what has meant the most to you? Repeating stories, the good ones and the bad ones, provides the answers. But it's not just the words alone that are important. It is the values the stories represent - those honored and those betrayed - that give us clues to how they want to be remembered.

Why do they always include so many details? Life review comes at a time when most of the people who mean the most are gone. The recalling of people and events is made possible through attention to detail. In this way we are invited to revisit people and events we never knew and witness their profound influence on our parents and on who we are.

CONTINUED : The Geriatric Gap

how to use them is the key to connecting with the elderly. Words that make it clear that they are in control (This is not a decision you need to make today; let's wait until you are sure how you want to handle this), signaling our desire to partner with their choices (This is your choice. Just tell me how you want me to help with it?), asking key life review questions (Mom, what do you remember about your grandparents?) or helping them tell their stories (So why did the family suddenly pick-up and move to California?) are just some of the ways this unique code changes the quality and depth of communication between generations.

So how might things have gone differently for my friend if he and his sister would have had the right information? First, he and his sister would have recognized that their parents were in the midst of a "control crisis" and their primary goal was to help them regain a sense of control. They could have done this by running interference with the medical community so their parents were not overwhelmed by medical jargon. They could also have reassured their parents they would honor their choices in where they chose to live, how much or how little help they wanted, and how they wanted to handle their finances. Second, he and his sister would have recognized that their mother's early memory loss created a limited but invaluable window of time for life review. They could have made a collective effort of asking her questions that would open up channels to the past, conversations that would unlock stories and events connected to her life story and her legacy. These discoveries could in turn be used with their father in conversations to offer him the occasion to discuss his life. This would not have made things easier, but it would have allowed the family to draw support from each other and offer the children a way to provide reassurance, protection, and comfort to their parents needs at the end of their lives. This is all any of us really want, a chance to get it right at the end.

When I Was Young

When I was young
My slippers were red
And I could kick
Way over my head

When I grew older
My slippers were blue
And I could dance
The whole night through

Now that I'm older
My slippers are black
I walk to the corner
And puff my way back

I realize my youth has been spent
My get up and go has got up and went
But I really don't mind
When I think with a grin
How many places
My get up has been

And now that I'm out of life's competition
Each day is an exact repetition
I get up in the morning
And dust off my wits
Pick up the paper
And read the obits

If my name's missing
I know I'm not dead
So I eat a good breakfast
And go back to bed



Written by Nina Johnson, 101 year old resident of Westminster Woods on Julington Creek Jacksonville, Florida



Book Reviews

by Linda Lynam

And We Fly Away: Living beyond Alzheimer's. Ray Ashford. (2003). Augsburg Books. 80 pages.

And We Fly Away is written in journal format by the spouse of an Alzheimer's patient. It is as if Ashford took excerpts from his journal from the time Phyllis was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease until six months after her death. The excerpts are short, emotion-filled glimpses into what the healthy spouse was feeling as the disease progressed. Ashford is able to paint a word-picture of what Phyllis looked like and acted like throughout the disease and his love, admiration and respect for her is clearly communicated. The last section of the book is a collection of quotations and scriptures to bring hope to those left behind when a loved-one is taken by Alzheimer's; whether the person is still living or has gone on.

This book would be an excellent gift for someone whose spouse, mother, father or sibling has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. The small sized book could easily be tucked into a purse or pocket to read the short entries as time permits. As the disease progresses, the reader could quickly reread an entry that applies to the current situation. The quotations at the end of the book are varied and one of them would likely be just what is needed on a specific day.

Through the Wilderness of Alzheimer's: A Guide in Two Voices. Robert & Anne Simpson. (1999). Augsburg Fortress. 160 pages.

Robert and Anne Simpson have written their journey through Alzheimer's disease for the first years after Bob was diagnosed with the disease. Bob's words are recorded from his writings and conversations. With love, humor, poetry and honesty, Anne describes the cou-

ple's activities, conversations and relationships. Bob relates how he is affected by the disease and gives suggestions on how he wishes people would treat him. Bob's first-person narrative is helpful in understanding the frustration and loss that Alzheimer's patients can feel. Bob explains that as his language ability decreases he is more sensitive to emotions in others and how he becomes easily exhausted and frustrated in situations with multiple conversations. Anne describes how she feels trapped and exhausted at times but also how she feels closer to Bob than ever before.

The honest account of the Alzheimer's journey could help others know what to expect when newly diagnosed. The suggestions on how to talk to an Alzheimer's patient and caregiver make this book ideal for friends and families to read. Particularly helpful are the hints for what to say and what not to say. I enjoyed this book; I enjoyed Bob and Anne's loving relationship, and their honesty and determination to live with dignity, humor and faith as they travel one day at a time through the wilderness that is Alzheimer's disease.

Order Your 2006 Planning Guides for Older Adult Week!

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) designates the first week in May as Older Adult Week. This year Older Adult Week begins with Older Adult Sunday, May 7th and concludes on Saturday, May 13th. The purpose of Older Adult Week is for congregations to set aside a special week in their church calendars to celebrate the contributions older adults have made and are making in the lives of our congregations.

The 2006 Planning Guide suggests program ideas for the work of Older Adult Ministry in small, medium and large congregations, outlines "What Older Adults Say They Want From Their Pastors", provides a Model for Ministry

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for congregations to evaluate their programs and services, includes a overview of the 2006 Older Adult Ministries Task Force Report to this year's General Assembly, encourages all of us involved in older adult ministry to become members of the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network (POAMN) and emphasizes how valuable the POAMN Annual Training Conference and the new Certification Courses are to our vital ministry. Of special interest this year is the United States Agency on Aging listing of local and state agencies and Carol Taylor's book reviews.

The section on Older Adult Sunday includes liturgy and sermon text entitled *Which Voice Shall I Follow?* based on John 10:1-18 by the Reverend F. Morgan Roberts and a page of celebration ideas. Hopefully these will assist you in planning an Older Adult Sunday Worship Service, either this week or another, that truly celebrates the contributions older adults have made and are making in the life of your congregation.

The *2006 Older Adult Ministries Planning Guide* (Item #7020006616, \$2.00) is a cooperative venture between the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s office of Older Adult Ministries and Presbyterian Homes and Services of Kentucky. Take a moment and call the Presbyterian Distribution Center today: 800-524-2612 or order online at: www.pcusa.org/marketplace. The planning guide is also available by downloading the free copy from the Older Adult Ministries website: www.pcusa.org/olderadults

Now Available *Dimensions in Older Adult Ministry: A Handbook*

This much awaited guide to older adult ministry, edited by Dr. Richard L. Morgan, is an ideal study book for congregations and seminaries. This book's fifteen chapters have such timely titles as "Boomers Face Their Aging", "Transitions in the Later Years", "Ministry in the Nursing Home", "Learning in Later Life",

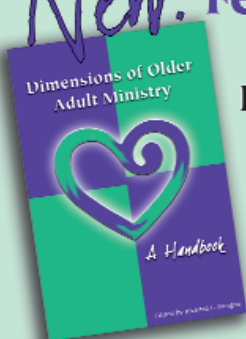
"Life in the Retirement Community", "Ethical Issues of Aging", "Pastoral Care of Older People", and "Coping with Alzheimer's Disease".

Writers include such noted authors and workers in the field of ministry with older persons as Miriam Dunson, Steve Eason, Harry Moody, Richard Morgan, Isabel Rogers, Stephen Sapp, and Henry Simmons. Each chapter has excellent questions for discussion in church school classes, seminary courses, or other groups.

As the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) responds to the growing number of older people in our church and society, this book has significant meaning for pastors, educators, and lay people in the church who seek to be intentional about understanding and ministering to and with God's oldest friends.

Order now: *Dimensions of Older Adult Ministry: A Handbook*, ISBN 1-57153-059-2 \$15.95 each, by calling: 800-524-2612 or at: www.pcusa.org/marketplace

New! Available in February 2006




Dimensions of Older Adult Ministry: A Handbook

This handbook takes up common issues surrounding the aging process, including learning in later life, nursing homes, retirement community living, elder abuse, late-life depression, Alzheimer's disease, and other forms of dementia that plague older adults. There are also chapters on aging from both the Jewish and Islamic perspectives. This resource is a practical guide for caregivers and faith communities seeking help in overcoming barriers to ministering to older adults.

\$15.95
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editor Richard L. Morgan is a contributing writer and noted author of several books on the spirituality of aging and related subjects. Other contributing writers for this book are recognized authorities in the field of older adult ministries, some are authors of other books, and some serve as national leaders of seminars on aging.





Just a Reminder...Dues are Due



Just a Reminder...

Article Three of the POAMN by laws states:

"The membership year is January 1 - December 31."

If you have not paid your dues this year, please fill out the form below. Please PRINT your information so it will be correctly entered into our data base. If you have questions about your dues, please contact Susie Johnson at 214-368-6348 ext. 118 or by email: sjohnson@phpc.org.

POAMN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

E-MAIL (Preferred) _____

Synod _____ Presbytery _____

Church _____

Other (Organization) _____

- Please Find
- \$30 Full Membership
 - \$20 Affiliate Member
 - \$100 Institutional Member (PAHSA, PCUSA colleges, etc.)

Governing Bodies:

- \$50 Small church (under 150)
- \$100 Medium Church (151-499)
- \$200 Large Church (500+)
- \$250 Small Presbytery (under 10,000)
- \$500 Medium Presbytery (10,001-19,999)
- \$1000 Large Presbytery (20,000+)
- \$1000 Synod

- New
- Renewal

Make Checks Payable to:
POAMN
 c/o Susie Johnson, Treasurer
 Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church
 9800 Preston Road
 Dallas, Texas 75230

Register On-line at:
www.pcusa.org/olderadults/poamn.htm



LOOK FOR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORMS COMING TO YOUR MAILBOX SOON!

2006 POAMN Conference

A Passion for People

April 19-22, 2006

Stony Point Center

Schedule at a Glance

(subject to change)

Wednesday, April 19

Registration (1:00-5:00 pm)

Dinner

Opening Get Acquainted (7:00 pm)

Thursday, April 20

Breakfast

Morning Worship: Rev. Tom Tickner

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Sapp

Plenary

Lunch

POAMN Annual Business Meeting

Thursday Continued:

Workshops

Dinner

Entertainment: Calvin's Cafe

Friday, April 21

Breakfast

Morning Worship: Rev. Tom Tickner

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Sapp

SOS (Sharing our Stuff)

Lunch

Workshops

Banquet

Worship and Communion Service

Saturday, April 22

Breakfast

Shuttles begin transporting to airports

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Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
Room 1620A
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville KY 40202-1396

AGenda