

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Holy God,
as we enter this new year,
we thank you for your presence with us
in all the years of our lives.
We have known joy, and also sorrow,
success and failure,
and through it all,
you have been with us –
the companion of all our journeys.
Much of life is fleeting
and so we thank you for things that endure:
the love of faithful friends,
wisdom gained from experience,
the reliability of nature,
and your steadfast love.
We thank you for this new year which awaits us.
Take us by the hand,
and lead us on.
Amen.

(Author Unknown)

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Resource Guide for Older Adult Ministries

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Older Adult
Ministries



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INTRODUCTORY ISSUE

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Dear Readers,

Welcome to this introductory issue of the *POAMN Network News*. It's often called *PNN*. This new publication replaces POAMN's past newsletter *AGenda*.

Not too long ago, the Board appointed me as the editor of this newsletter. I am humbled and excited to serve the membership through this post.

Let me introduce myself. I am the Rev. Michael "Mike" Fonfara, D.Min. I enjoy being a young (60 years old) and actively retired (no oxymoron intended) member of Lake Michigan Presbytery. My interests lie in professional writing, serving a small "senior citizens" congregation, everyday cooking (as well as the subsequent eating), providing spiritual direction for growing Presbyterians, offering workshops on a variety of Christian spiritual formation subjects, and being an all-around happy guy! :) Perhaps you have seen me running around recent annual gatherings with my camera in hand and a smile on my face.

Many thanks to past *AGenda* editor, Rev. Vickie Kintzle, for the great job she did for POAMN. She set a high standard for the newsletter. It is my privilege to follow her direction and continue the tradition of excellence.

In this introductory issue, information about the newsletter's publication and the annual convention in St. Louis stand out as highlights. Read on for the network news you need to know.

Again, thank you for the privilege of serving POAMN through this valuable communications tool. The Board put a lot of trust in me through my appointment. I offer my best efforts to make **our** newsletter informational, useful, and fun to read. Let's work together in the months ahead to raise the standards of this publication even higher!

May God bless each and every one of you during this holiday season!

Your *PNN* editor,

Mike Fonfara

MAKE PNN YOUR NEWSLETTER

As with most organizational newsletters, content quality relies upon your contributions. Please submit materials to make your newsletter helpful and interesting to the POAMN membership. I will be contacting individuals to write columns about specific topics and issues. IN short, let's work together!

The following list is just a few column ideas that you may want to keep in mind for publication.

- Book reviews: Consider topics related to aging, senior programming in the church, or anything that you believe would enhance the memberships' service to the church or senior citizens.
- Membership news: Send us printable news about what's going on in your life, educational achievements, program successes, new grandchildren, etc.
- Worthy websites: If you find some helpful and wholesome websites or blogs, then submit the information for publication so that other reader can enjoy the Internet wealth.
- Photographs: Let us have your best photos of POAMN events or material you thing the general membership will appreciate.
- Opinion pieces: If you have an opinion about something close to POAMN or related to serving senior citizens, then let us have it. (Please give your name. No opinions will be printed without a name.)
- Poetry, illustrations, jokes, and other literary potpourri: PNN always needs filler copy.
- Presbytery News: Let the membership know what your Presbytery is doing to encourage older adult ministries.
- Ideas: If you have other ideas for columns or features, please let the editor know.

Publication months for PNN are February, May, August, and November Please have your materials for publication to the editor by **January 15th, April 15th, July 15th, and October 15th.**

Send or e-mail your columns, space fillers, ideas, and other things on your mind to:

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PLEASE NOTE

The deadline for submitting material for the February PNN issue is January 15, 2008. Thank you for your cooperation.

WORTHY WEBSITES

Here are some websites worth visiting. Please note that no endorsement by POAMN or the PC(USA) is implied for the following websites.

www.caring.com - This site helps you care for your parents and/or other loved ones. Recommended by Vickie Kintzel.

www.letssaythanks.com - This website makes it easy for readers so send postcards to deployed U.S. troops. There is no political agenda or ulterior motives involved except to be friendly to service men and women. There is no cost to the senders or troops. It is sponsored by Xerox.

www.poamn.org - This is the official site of our organization.

SAVE THESE 2008 DATES!

**TUESDAY, APRIL 22ND
THROUGH FRIDAY APRIL 25TH**

The POAMN crowd gathers in St. Louis, MO to celebrate "Leaving a Living Legacy," three Ls that can enhance life among your family, church, community, and even the whole world.

Special enticements include the keynote speaker, Rev. Richard L. Morgan, worship led by Rev. Linda Kelly, presentation of the 2008 Legacy Awards, and the wonderful fellowship that occurs every time POAMN people get together.

Be sure to attend your choices of seminars from among a menu that includes such winners as Personal Mission Statements (What does your "Dash" say?), Legacy Leaving: Spiritually, Financially, and Ecologically, Special Track for Chaplains in Retirement Communities, Hospice, and Hospital Settings, Developing Legacy Opportunities for People with Dementia, and Older Adult Ministry 101.

You may want to join fun-loving POAMN folks for an optional side trip after the Conference to Branson.

Of course, a certification course will follow the Conference.

Cindy Wright promises more information soon. Look for it to come next month.

Contact Cindy Wright at 858-509-2580 (x1400) or wright@solanapres.org for answers to your specific questions. Latest postings will appear on www.poamn.org.

**DISCOVER WAYS OF LEAVING A
LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS!**

SEE YOU IN ST. LOUIS!

Please remember with the new year POAMN membership fees are due. Complete the following application and return with your membership fees.

POAMN Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Synod: _____

Presbytery: _____

Church: _____

Other (Organization): _____

Membership Type:

- \$30 Full
- \$20 Affiliate
- \$100 Institutional (PAHSA, PCUSA schools, 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

**Make checks payable to:
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c/o Linda Kelly, Treasurer
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