

Monday Minders – Week of August 22, 2016
First Presbyterian of Hector & Lodi Presbyterian Church

Dear members and friends,

For the last two weeks I have been enjoying watching the Summer Olympics in Rio. As the old ABC Wide World of Sports announcer used to say, I saw the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. But while our attention was focused on those amazing athletes, our neighbors in Louisiana were struggling just to survive terrible flooding.

As I saw the scenes of families returning to homes ruined by flood waters, I was reminded of our youth mission trip in 2011 to New Orleans helping rebuild homes destroyed by hurricane Katrina. We heard the same kinds of stories – how flood waters caused similar destruction to people’s homes and lives. And we witnessed the resilience of people rebuilding.

Whenever and wherever there are disasters, Presbyterians have always responded. Even now, the donations we collected on Easter (One Great Hour of Sharing) are at work bringing relief. The Presbyterian Church (USA) has dispatched its National Response Team. Much more will follow in the weeks and month to come. And we will be there long after the spotlight shifts to the next major tragedy.

Here is a link to the latest report: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/presbyterian-disaster-assistance-deploys-national-response-team-wake-gulf-flooding/>. If you would like to help, there is a link on that page to make a financial gift.

And the need isn’t just in Louisiana. In June, West Virginia suffered catastrophic flooding as well. For the last several years, our presbytery has had a special relationship with the presbytery of West Virginia. Twice a year, we send teams for a week-long mission trip to help rebuild homes. The next trip is scheduled for this September 18 – 24. The deadline to respond is August 31.

I would encourage you to consider going. As our youth have found, these trips will reward you with a powerful experience and an opportunity to make a difference. Details are below.

Grace & peace,
Pastor Jim

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This week (Aug 22 – 28):

- Mon: Euchre @ 6:45 pm (Hector)
- Tue: Bone Builders @ 8:30 am (Hector)
- Wed: Men’s breakfast & discussion @ 8 am (Toni’s Diner)
Bone Builders @ 10:30 am (Hector)

Thu: Choir rehearsal @ 9 am (Hector)
Office for Aging luncheon @ 12 pm (Hector)
Earth Care Congregation meeting @ 7 pm (Hector)

Sat: Lodi free lunch @ 11:30 am (Lodi)
Food Pantry @ 3pm (Lodi)

Sun: Worship
@ 9:30 am (Hector)
@ 11:15 am (Lodi)
Sunday school @ 10 am (Lodi)

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Hector worship leaders for August:
Ushers: John Flowers & Paul Leahy

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Earth Care Congregation meeting
Thursday, August 25 @ 7 pm at Hector Presbyterian Church

In June & July, we discussed global warming and its impact on God's creation.
Now let's figure out how together we can play a part in caring for creation.
We will meet to look in detail at the process for becoming an Earth-Care
Congregation. And we'll take the first steps.

Refreshments will be provided.

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You are invited to
JOIN the

*Working
to Share
God's Love*

Presbytery of Geneva's
West Virginia Mission Work Team

"Hands-on Ministry" for People-in-Need

When: September 18-24, 2016

Contact Paul Salisbury, trip coordinator: (315) 331-0442, or e-mail: psalis14513@gmail.com by August 31st if you wish to participate.

Participants usually car pool and share travel costs. Meals will be provided courtesy of the Presbytery of Geneva. Accommodations are in a parsonage – a four-bedroom house located in Webster Springs, WV.

A fee of \$250 is due from each participant
(payable to the Presbytery of Geneva) by the August 31st sign-up deadline.

(This fee is used by WV Ministry of Advocacy and Workcamps, Inc., partner of the Presbytery of WV to purchase materials.)

Note: Scholarships (\$\$\$) are available.

Participants must complete and sign a Liability and Assessment of Skills form
(Contact Paul for form).