

# Report of the General Presbyter

Dr. Kevin Yoho  
May 26, 2009



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Together Transforming  
Lives, Congregations, Communities, World  
Connected to the Synod of the Northeast and Presbyterian Church (USA)

## GP Proclamation

Orange, NJ: First PC

04/02/09: Session meeting

Bloomfield, NJ: Old First PC

04/13/09: Session meeting

Montclair, NJ: Central PC

04/25/09: Leadership Spring Training

Newark, NJ: Old First PC

04/26/09: Worship and congregational meeting

Newark, NJ: Wolff Memorial PC

04/27/09: Session meeting

Bridgewater, NJ

04/30/09-05/01/09 Retooling Ministry for the  
21st Century pastor training event

West Orange, NJ: St. Cloud PC

05/04/09: WO Stakeholders meeting

Bloomfield, NJ: Bloomfield College

05/05/09: Westminster Foundation board meet-  
ing

New Brunswick, NJ: First PC

05/13/09: NJ Executive Collegium meeting

Jersey City, NJ: Scatuorchio Funeral Home

05/08/09: Viewing for father of BOT president,  
Elder James Hill

## Minister Transitions in the News

The Rev. Tom Patton has relocated to Tennessee and at his request, the Old First Presbyterian Church (Newark) voted to dissolve the pastoral relationship effective April 30, 2009. The need to care for aging parents prompted Tom and his wife Cindy to fast-track their departure plans. We are grateful for Tom's ministry in our presbytery and wish him all God's best in their new home.

The Rev. Karen Hybertsen, PhD, has relocated with her husband Mark to a new home on Long Island, and at her request, the Ridgeview Community Church (West Orange) congregation voted to dissolve the pastoral relationship last month. Her minister colleagues were invited and dropped by the Presbytery Center on May 7th for a time of fellowship, celebration for all that God has done through Karen in our presbytery, and to offer blessings on Karen's move. Happily, Karen intends to remain a Minister Member at Large of Newark Presbytery.

At his request, The Rev. Dr. Curtis Jones' Associate Pastor relationship with the Elmwood United Presbyterian Church (East Orange) was dissolved effective December 31, 2008. He continues to work for the Harambee Community Development Initiative, Inc. in East Orange and intends to remain a Minister Member at Large of Newark Presbytery.

The entire presbytery celebrates the new opportunities each of these friends face, though we are sad when new calls take them outside our bounds. We thank God for them and pray they will experience many blessings in their new setting.

## God's Spirit for All. Open Spigots and Glowing Spirits.

So Moses went out and told the people what GOD had said. He called together seventy of the leaders and had them stand around the Tent. GOD came down in a cloud and spoke to Moses and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy leaders. When the Spirit rested on them they prophesied. But they didn't continue; it was a onetime event. Meanwhile two men, Eldad and Medad, had stayed in the camp. They were listed as leaders but they didn't leave camp to go to the Tent. Still, the Spirit also rested on them and they prophesied in the camp.

A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp!" Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' right-hand man since his youth, said, "Moses, master! Stop them!" But Moses said, "Are you jealous for me? Would that all GOD'S people were prophets. Would that GOD would put his Spirit on all of them." Numbers 11:24-29

Have you ever read a book that once read, keeps reading you? It's message percolates in your mind. You put it down, but it continues to pop back up. Chuck Meyer's **Dying Church Living God: A Call To Begin Again** is one of those books for me. Chuck offers a bold, radical plea for releasing spiritual energy in the Church.

No one has a corner on spirituality, right? Well, Chuck Meyer refers to Numbers 11:24-29 when the Spiritual-Police complained to Moses that non-priests, those OUTSIDE the Tent of Meeting, were prophesying! I love the response Moses gave, "Are you jealous for me? Would that all GOD'S people were prophets. Would that GOD would put his Spirit on all of them." Spiritual energy cannot be containerized. It is not a controlled substance. Jesus said the Living Waters would flow!

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I need to always remember that I am called be an authentic, open channel for God's spiritual energy to flow through me. From time to time, we become self-aware that our board, committee, or church is acting a bit more like a dam than a spigot. Our churches are open spigots of blessing in our communities and around the world as we remain open to what God is doing.

Did you know that early microwave ovens were tested for leakage using a florescent bulb held near the door seams and seals? They proved they were working when the bulb glowed...outside the unit!

Where do you see the glow of God's spiritual energy? I can see "halos" on the heads of fellow disciples as I visit churches; like the flames on top of the gathered at Pentecost.

Do you see anything emanating from the pews during worship, or in the parking lot afterward? Oh, yes! This spiritual energy is released outside the church building, down the street, at work, in school, as we drive, and as we talk to friends, as well as strangers.

With Moses, let's welcome God's Spirit who sends us outside to glow with spiritual energy. Let's pray that God would put the Spirit on everyone.

Many opportunities await us. Thank you for being open spigots and glowing spirits with me as we co-create the future God is bringing to our presbytery and congregations. Thank you for showing Gods love in a million ways every day!

To God be the glory. Let me know how I can help you as open spigots and glowing spirits!

I am grateful to be sent out with you in ministry.

Dr. Kevin Yoho,  
General Presbyter



## Visit and connect to Newark Presbytery Energy Online at [www.newarkpresbytery.org](http://www.newarkpresbytery.org)

The more that 300 unique visitors visited our website more than 800 times since April 14. Most have found news and information they needed. Others' let us know of technical glitches that have been remedied as we add new content and improve our website almost daily. If you haven't requested a free account, click the green login button at the top-right of the site from your Internet Explorer, Safari, or Firefox browser application, then click the link: Request Account. Once you receive an acknowledgement after completing a short form, visit again and enter your email and password to gain access to even more features and items you want to know about! Let Presbytery Center know how we can improve the site. Visit and connect to the presbytery's energy online at <http://www.newarkpresbytery.org>. See you online!

The screenshot shows the Newark Presbytery website. At the top, there is a green header with an email field, a password field, and a 'Login' button. Below the header is the Newark Presbytery logo and the tagline 'Together Transforming Lives, Congregations, Communities, World'. A navigation menu is visible with links for 'WELCOME', 'TOGETHER', 'TRANSFORMING', 'CONNECTING', 'WORLD', 'SEARCH', and 'CONTACT US'. The main content area features a video player with a thumbnail showing a man in a yellow shirt training clerks. To the right of the video is a 'Welcome!' message. Below the video and message are sections for 'RECENT BLOGS' and 'DIRECTORY'.