



**Big Tent is a first-of-its-kind event  
scheduled for June 11-13, 2009,  
in Atlanta under the theme,  
“ ... and the word became flesh.”**

There will be some common meals and worship services, a shared exhibit hall, some common workshop sessions and a Saturday evening celebration event.

Ten Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) ministries and groups will hold their conferences in conjunction with the Big Tent event: the Healthy Ministry Conference, the Presbyterian Communicators' Network Conference, the National Multicultural Church Conference, the Stewardship and Investment Conference, the Evangelism and Church Growth Conference, the National Elders Conference, the Peacemaking Conference, the PHEWA Social Justice Biennial Conference, the Racial Ethnic Convocation and the New Immigrants Ministries Convocation.

### **What is the Big Tent?**

The Big Tent has been called “a denominational happening” and “a big Presbyterian family reunion.” Big Tent will inspire you and make you proud to be Presbyterian. The event will be celebratory, diverse, participatory and intergenerational. There will be common worship services and shared meals, an exhibit hall and several workshop sessions open to all. A Saturday evening celebration is being planned in Atlanta's Centennial Park. Youth programs are being organized and provisions are being made for child care. A number of groups that typically hold annual or biennial conferences will instead join in the Big Tent event.

The Big Tent schedule and partner conference schedules are still being finalized. However, some groups will have pre-conference activities starting as early as 9 a.m. on June 10. Big Tent common activities start with the opening of the exhibit hall at noon on June 11, followed by a Big Tent dinner at 6 p.m. and shared worship at 7:30 p.m. Other Big Tent activities will include a 9 a.m. worship to start the day on June 12, common workshops from 10:30 to noon, followed by a common lunch. The Big Tent activities conclude the next day, June 13, with a shared worship at 5 p.m. and an outdoor celebration from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Throughout the three days, partner conferences will schedule plenary sessions, workshops and meals around the Big Tent activities. Please watch this Web site for further information.

## How to register

*Please complete your registration by March 9 to be eligible for the discounted early bird registration fees. The registration deadline is April 30.*

### **Register online:**

(<http://65.173.210.100/MRCJAVA/BIGTENT05/M00130GS.mrc?K001=@LNK001&@SMLNK=A>), **download a registration form** (<http://www.pcusa.org/bigtent/big-tent-reg-form.pdf>) that you may complete by mail or fax or contact the G.A. Meeting Service at (888) 728-7228, x2417 or by email to request a registration form. If paying by check, please download the printed registration form and return by mail. **Download a schedule** (<http://www.pcusa.org/bigtent/big-tent-schedule.pdf>) and **a general information brochure**. (<http://www.pcusa.org/bigtent/big-tent-general-info.pdf>)

The adult registration fee for the full conference is \$285 **if paid by March 9** and **increases to \$335 after March 9**. This includes Thursday dinner, Friday lunch and breaks on Friday and Saturday. It does not include lodging or any transportation. Daily rates for those who can attend only one or two days are \$85 for Thursday (includes Thursday dinner), \$100 for Friday (includes Friday lunch), and \$100 for Saturday.

The schedule for the Big Tent and the 10 partner conferences is complex. There are multiple options during most sessions, including plenary sessions, multiple workshops and even meals. Please review this entire schedule before you begin to register. Some participants will spend most of their time with the track of one of the ten conferences, but the Big Tent is designed so that you may experience aspects of several programs over the three days.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE PCUSA WEBSITE:**  
**<http://www.pcusa.org/bigtent/index.htm>**