

# MARCH 2010



## Becca Young, PCUSA Mission Co-Worker in Indonesia

To see more of Becca's letters go to  
[www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/youngr.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/youngr.htm)



Two articles have recently featured Becca Young's work at the Seminary in Jakarta and with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance earthquake relief work in Indonesia. She appeared on the front page of the recent Mission Highlights Magazine (Summer/Fall 2009) and in Mission Mosaics (Fall/Winter 2010). If you would like to download the articles go to [www.pcusa.org/worldwide/highlights.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/worldwide/highlights.htm) for the Mission Highlight's article or go to [www.pcusa.org/pda/tools/mosaic-intro.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/pda/tools/mosaic-intro.htm) for the Mission Mosaic's article on her work with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. If you want to order them through Presbyterian Distribution Services call 1-800-524-2612 and ask for PDS #13102-09-004 for the Mission Highlight's article or PDS # 25412-09-003 for the Mission Mosaic's article. Becca will be visiting the Presbytery of Western North Carolina for the October 22 presbytery meeting at Lake Junaluska.

## “Equipping for service”

*An excerpt from “Equipping for Service: Rebecca Young helps future ministers integrate Christian and Indonesian identities” by Pat Cole, in Mission Highlights*

In two years of service, says Joas Adiprasetya, acting seminary dean, [Becca] Young has convinced students and colleagues of her commitment to students and her passion for contextual education. Students “love Becca for her friendly personality, but also for her exceptional ability to present complicated theological issues in understandable and fun ways,” he says. “Becca also delves so deep into theological and cultural struggles that sometimes she looks more Indonesian than most of us. We are very grateful to the PC(USA) for sending Becca to help us here.”



## Where's Barbara Nagy?

Barbara, Melia (not pictured), Anna, and Happiness are back from Malawi and will be living in Morganton, NC for Barbara's "Interpretation year." All Mission Coworkers spend time in the U.S. interpreting their work for PCUSA churches and sharing their stories. Listed below are some of the places Barbara will be visiting this year. If you would like Barbara to speak at your church, please contact Barbara at:

banagy@globemw.net  
Home phone: 828-438-6287  
123 Pearson Drive; Morganton, NC 28655

**Where could she speak?:** Presbyterian Women circles, Men's Bible study, a prayer group, Youth Groups, Wednesday night dinners, Sunday School, meet with your Session, preach in worship, meet with your staff over lunch, spend time with your mission committee, meet with your college students.... There are many ways!  
(Please be prepared to reimburse her mileage.)

March 1 FPC Morganton Youth  
March 3 Grace Episcopal, Morganton  
March 6 Long Creek  
March 7 Cherryville  
March 14 Green's Street  
March 17-18 Missions Conference FPC Erwin,  
TN

March 21 Westminster

April 10 School of the Laity (1 hour)  
April 18 Southminster

April 24 PW gathering at Black Mountain  
Home for Children  
April 25 Shelby  
April 27 Presbytery Meeting (Montreat)

May 2 Sylva  
May 3 Tryon Presbyterian Women luncheon  
May 6 Brevard Davidson River PW gathering  
and Lunch  
May 10 FPC Gastonia PW  
May 15 New Hope Asheville PW  
May 16 Youth Sunday FPC Morganton



## Discerning a call to mission service

As disciples of Jesus Christ, each of us in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is sent into the world to join God's mission. If you are discerning a call to long-term mission service please go to [www.pcusa.org/msr](http://www.pcusa.org/msr) and see the positions currently available through the PCUSA. You will find information on positions and how to apply.

## **Amy Wilson-Stayton**

### **PCUSA Young Adult Volunteer in Northern Ireland**

Amy is the daughter of Rev. Claude Wilson-Stayton (pastor of FPC Lincolnton) and Rev. Dr. Margaret Wilson-Stayton (pastor of Lowell Presbyterian Church). She is serving as a young adult volunteer in Northern Ireland until the summer of 2010. Her blogspot is <http://ballybeen.wordpress.com/>. To learn more about the Young Adult Volunteer program, go to [www.pcusa.org/yav](http://www.pcusa.org/yav).



## **Jessi Stitt, Ebenezer School, Nkhoma Malawi**

Jessi Stitt, from Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, is volunteering as a teacher at the Ebenezer School in Nkhoma, Malawi this year. Her blogspot is [www.travelcontinued.blogspot.com](http://www.travelcontinued.blogspot.com). If you would like to support Jessi, you can send a check to the Presbytery office and designate it for Jessi's support.



## **Dorothy McKenzie, Ebenezer School, Nkhoma Malawi**

Dorothy McKenzie, from First Presbyterian Church in Gastonia, has just arrived in Nkhoma, Malawi and will be volunteering at the Ebenezer School this year. Her blogspot is [www.DotinAfrica.blogspot.com](http://www.DotinAfrica.blogspot.com).



## **Don and Charlene Woods, Gobi Mission**

[www.gobimission.org](http://www.gobimission.org),

[dgwoods\\_cn@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:dgwoods_cn@yahoo.co.uk)

Rev. Dr. Don Woods is a minister member of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, and Don & Charlene are a part of the Montreat Presbyterian Church when they are in North Carolina. The Woods work in China, and coordinate a mission in the Gobi desert of Mongolia. Read below from a recent email from Don and Charlene:

This now will be our 12<sup>th</sup> year serving the Mongolian countryside and assisting in new church development among unreached peoples, helping very poor herding families, providing support for homeless children and seniors, and undertaking projects including basic medical care and emergency relief—as well as children’s education and “self-help” projects. ...

This has been the worst winter in Mongolia in over a decade—with some 7,000,000 sheep, cows, camels and horses perishing within the last month—impoverishing herding families throughout our mission field there. In short, we have even more broken families than before, resulting in homeless, sick and disabled children and seniors especially. We do not know how many lives have been lost yet as communications have been so bad.

We are now preparing a stout Russian truck to “blast through” up to two meters of snow and ice at very cold temperatures to provide food, clothing, shoes, ger stove fuel and emergency supplies for the region. A team from our PMM Gobi Mission NGO will arrive April 1—the earliest date we can reliably reach the countryside—it is comprised so far of some 10 members from six countries—and will assist with lay pastor training, new church development, basic medical care, and help for homeless children and seniors in a number of ways. Plus emergency supplies.

I attach an email from Tumai (Tumendelger), our Mongolian colleague and member of the NGO board of directors. This is the first communications we have received since the beginning of the “dzud” (killing winter).

*“Dear Don and Charlene, This year in Mongolia very hard winter. It is much worse than in 2001-02. In some areas deep of the snow is almost 2 metres and temperature reaches -45C very often. Extremely cold continues many days and everywhere. At present more than 700,000 head of livestock died (note: Due to inconsistencies between Mongolian and Western numbering systems we think she means 7,000,000). Now in Mongolia every person is trying to help somehow to the herdsmen people. Today called to me Tomortogoo, vice governor of Adaatsag, an old man. He told that in Adaatsag situation also is very difficult and livestock still continuing to die. He asked me connect to you and ask some help to Adaatsag. (Note: Adaatsag was our first countryside mission field in Mongolia) with love, Tumai”*



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

**OUT OF CHAOS. HOPE**

## **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance “Family Week 2010”**

Strengthen family bonds and spiritual lives through a family mission experience.

**Who:** Family members 14 years and older

**What:** Help repair and rebuild New Orleans homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina; worship with other family volunteer teams, bonding as a community and reflecting on the faithfulness of Christ in the mission you share; share hope and build relationships with families still recovering.

**When:** June 20-25, 2010

**Where:** Presbyterian Volunteer village –Olive Tree, New Orleans, LA

**Cost:** \$20 per person, per day (includes lodging, food, and work facilitation)

**How:** Register Now – Call 866-732-6121 (toll free) and go to <http://www.pcusa.org/pda/response/usa/gulfcoast/familyweek> for more information.

## **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – Youth Week**

Calling Youth to the Gulf Coast

**Who:** Senior High Youth and Adults (5:1 ratio)

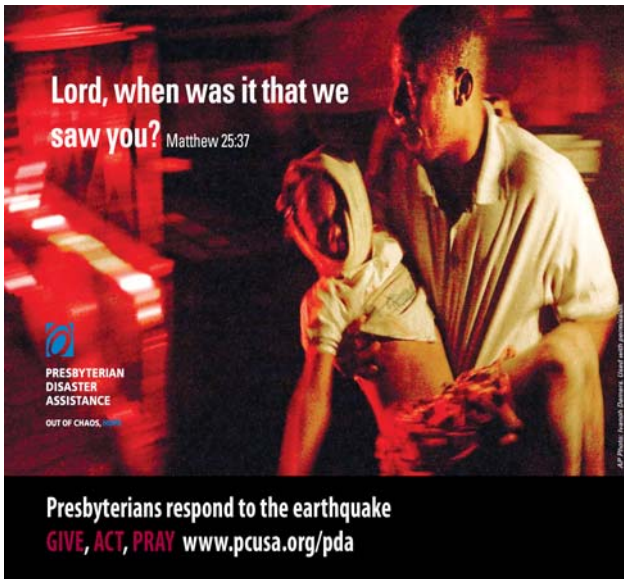
**What:** Hurricane recovery work opportunities

**Where:** Presbyterian Volunteer Village – Houma, LA

**When:** June 27-July 2 and July 4-9, 2010

**Cost:** \$30 per person, per day (includes food, lodging, and group activities such as a swamp tour & Cajun dancing). After May 1 registration increases to \$40.

**How:** Team leaders contact the PDA Call Center at 866-732-6121 (toll free) and go to <http://www.pcusa.org/pda/response/usa/gulfcoast/youthweeks.htm> for more information.



## ***Presbyterian Disaster Assistance continues to respond to the Haiti earthquake***

PDA, working in collaboration with partners, continues to provide basic humanitarian aid for those most impacted by the January earthquake and to assess ongoing recovery needs. More than \$510,000 has been sent to help with relief. For the latest information go to [www.pcusa.org/pda](http://www.pcusa.org/pda).

### **WHAT CAN YOU DO:**

**GIVE.** The generous sharing of your financial blessings through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering and special designated giving provide resources needed to assist with immediate and long-term recovery needs. Church members can send checks to their churches and designate it for Haiti relief. **Churches can send a check made out to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina and designate on the check that it is for “Haiti PDA relief DR000064.”**

**ACT.** Stay informed and share information on the need with others by going to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance website at [www.pcusa.org/pda](http://www.pcusa.org/pda). Consider making Gift of the Heart hygiene kits. A shipment of hygiene kits is being prepared by Church World Service to send to Haiti. When widespread disasters occur, there is usually a need to replenish the supply to ensure a sufficient quantity for future disaster situations. For information on Hygiene kits go to [www.pcusa.org/pda/help/goh.htm#health](http://www.pcusa.org/pda/help/goh.htm#health).

**PRAY.** Please continue in prayer for all who have who lost friends and families, those who lost homes, and those seeking a sense of security after being affected by this tragic earthquake.

## ***Presbyterian Disaster Assistance seeking trauma counselors fluent in French or Creole***


Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and its partners are seeking qualified persons interested in offering emotional care/staff care for Haitian national staff engaged in development and disaster relief activities in Haiti who have been exposed to traumatic stress and an overwhelming emotional environment. We are compiling a database of such qualified parties for possible assignment in Haiti to work with PDA’s local and international partners.

Details of assignments and compensation possibilities will become clearer as assessments in the response continue and as our partners determine their immediate and long term needs for staff care.

Candidates for this work will submit an application to PDA. After submission, we may contact some of the candidates for an interview process, or you may be contacted directly by some of our partners in the ACT Alliance network, with whom we will share your information.

Candidates must be:

- Fluent in speaking French or Creole;
- Familiar with the Haitian culture;
- Available for a minimum of 1-2 months;
- Experienced in mental health trauma care; CISM training is beneficial;
- Licensed and insured within their mental health related discipline;
- Able to work in an exceptionally stressful environment and in hardship/difficult living arrangements.

PDA welcomes interested, qualified individuals to submit an application. The application is available in [word format](#) and in [Adobe Acrobat PDF](#)  format. Completed application and certification paperwork can be emailed to [PDA staff](#). Go to [www.pcusa.org/pda/trauma-counselors](http://www.pcusa.org/pda/trauma-counselors) for forms and information.

## Next Flood Recovery Mission Team March 21, 2010

In November 2009, a group from various churches in the Presbytery headed toward Kopperston, WV to help with Flood Relief efforts. They worked through the West Virginia Advocacy & Workcamps (WVMAW), a program of the Presbytery of West Virginia and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Through funds from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, they were able to purchase a metal trim break for WVMAW to help with the recovery work.

**They will be returning to that region on March 21 for a week of work.** If you are interested in learning more, contact Carol McCroskey at 828-675-4927



### ***Make social and environmental justice part of your congregation's worship***

The great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord — the King of Israel!" (**John 12:12-13**)

### **The Eco-Palm Project**

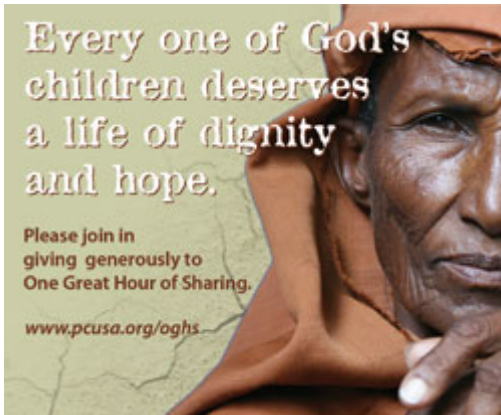


Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, accented by the jubilant waving of palm branches, is re-enacted each Palm Sunday in Presbyterian and other Christian congregations worldwide as Holy Week observances begin. Unfortunately for the communities where these palms are harvested, palm fronds do not always represent the same jubilation they do for us.

**Production of eco-palms begins in forested areas of Mexico and Guatemala where workers, known as *xaterros* (sha-tare-rows), walk miles into the forest to harvest palm branches. Photo courtesy of Lutheran World Relief.**



In 2007 the PC(USA) teamed up with [Lutheran World Relief](#), [Catholic Relief Services](#) and the [University of Minnesota](#) to offer congregations the option of purchasing responsibly harvested Eco-Palm branches for Palm Sunday. The palms come from communities in Mexico and Guatemala where workers are paid fairly and engage in sustainable harvesting in order to protect the local ecosystem. For more information on Eco-palms and how to order them through the PCUSA, go to [www.pcusa.org/palms](http://www.pcusa.org/palms). The 2010 deadline for ordering palms is March 2.



The One Great Hour of Sharing offering supports the work of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self Development of People Program. This offering is normally taken on Easter Sunday (April 4) or on a Sunday near to Easter. To learn more about the offering go to [www.pcusa.org/oghs](http://www.pcusa.org/oghs) or for promotional materials such as bulletin inserts, flyers, or videos go to [www.pcusa.org/oghs/promote.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/oghs/promote.htm).

## Curriculum Resources:

Are you looking for a Sunday School or Wednesday night online curriculum that will address Hunger or Justice issues?

### 1) Food Crisis Hunger fasts [www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis/archive/index.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis/archive/index.htm)


Between October 2008-September 2009, the staff of the Presbyterian Hunger program participated in a monthly fast lasting from Friday evening until Sunday morning. Each month they focused on a different country and shared a wealth of informational resources on that country and the issue of hunger. In November of 2009 they focused on Haiti. If you are looking for a Sunday morning or Wednesday night series, you can go to the archive website listed above, select several countries, and educate your congregation on hunger in that country. If you would like to add a fast component, remember that fasting does not have to be from food. You can fast from Television, or shopping, or speaking, or listening to music, etc. In refraining from that activity, the purpose of a “fast” is that every time you miss that activity, you turn your heart to prayer for the country you are focusing on. The resources in the archives include worship materials, statistics, and stories.





### 2) Globalization We Can Grasp [www.pcusa.org/trade/accra.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/trade/accra.htm)

**The Covenanting for Justice Online Curriculum  
from the Accra Confession**

*Developed by the North American Working Group for Covenanting for Justice of the [World Alliance of Reformed Churches](#) (WARC)*

Covenanting for Justice means working with communities as part of our Christian witness in solidarity with neighbors near and far to bring about a sustainable and just global community. We invite you to join in this transnational movement and to covenant for justice!

Below are five workshop modules that make real the challenges of globalization and the witness of the prophetic church. The modules in the curriculum contain video examples of social and environmental tragedy, and some triumphs of solidarity. You can use these as a five-week curriculum (or six weeks if you add an additional session to read and discuss the [Accra Confession](#) ) , or choose from the five modules according to the interests and time commitment of the group.

- [Download the entire PDF with introduction, facilitator's guide and curriculum](#) 
- [Download the facilitator's guide](#) 
- [Study Pamphlet on the Accra Confession](#) 
- [Confesión de Accra en español](#) 

## The Five Modules:

### 1. Introduction to Globalization and the Churches' Response

Globalization and the Churches' Response provides background and theology about globalization. The relationship between globalization and empire is explored. Through the "Letter from Accra," video and worship, this module explores how we as Christians can respond to aspects of globalization that are unsustainable and unjust.

- [View the video "Coffee, Corn and the Cost of Globalization" Globalization Workshop Module](#) 


### 2. Global Climate Change: Renewing the Sacred Balance

Global Climate Change calls us to act for climate justice. We, individuals and communities, institutions and governments, must dramatically reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. Our faith teaches us to work for equitable, just and sustainable solutions. Changes in regulations and changes in lifestyle are essential to preserve Creation's balance. Here are practical ways we can create greener practices in church and society.

- [View the video "Greening Sacred Spaces" Climate Change Workshop Module](#) 

### 3. Farmworkers, Low-wage Jobs, and Living into a New Economy

Farmworkers, Low-wage Jobs, and Living into a New Economy reveals the working and living conditions endured by farmworkers in Canada and the United States. It tells the story of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, an organization of tomato pickers living in Immokalee, Florida, and the successes they and their allies have achieved in struggles with Taco Bell, McDonalds, and Burger King.

- [View the video "The Battle Fields" \(28 minutes\) Farmworkers Workshop Module](#) 

### 4. Environmental Justice and Human Rights

Environmental Justice and Human Rights are both at grave risk in the Peruvian lead mining town of La Oroya. A privately held U.S. firm continues to profit from operations that have contaminated people and the land. This tragedy demonstrates how the pursuit of profit can lead to ecological degradation/damage. We see how people and organizations can join forces through coalitions to support the struggles of local communities.

- [View the video "La Oroya: Hot Metal Air" Environmental Justice Workshop Module](#) 

### 5. Faithful Purchasing and the Global Sweatshop Economy

Faithful Purchasing and the Global Sweatshop Economy exposes the harsh reality of the global production line. While workers in many countries around the world, including the United States and Canada, work under brutal conditions, consumers and people of faith have joined their struggle to end sweatshops.

- [View the video "Sweatfree Communities: Make Your Community Sweatfree" \(9:45 minutes\) Sweatshop Workshop Module](#) 

The flash videos can be viewed online but may be small for a group to view well. The "Coffee, Corn and the Cost of Globalization" video for module 1 is [available for purchase here on the Mennonite Central Committee site](#). [Contact the Presbyterian Hunger Program](#) to request CDs of the videos for modules 2-5.

Word documents of the curriculum are also available should you wish to modify the curriculum. [Contact PHP to request these](#).

# Upcoming Conferences



**April 15-17, 2010 “Crossing Borders—Encountering God”**

**An experiential conference on border issues confronting the church and the world held in Phoenix, Arizona.**

**Speakers:**

- Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow, Moderator, 218th General Assembly, (PCUSA)
- Rev. Minerva Carcaño, Bishop, Desert Southwest Conference, United

Methodist Church

- Rev. Mark Adams, Mission Co-Worker, Frontera de Cristo
- Ms. Julia Thorne, Attorney and Manager for Immigration Services (PCUSA)
- Dr. Carlos Cardoza-Orlandi, Columbia Theological Seminary
- Rev. Saul Fera, National Presbyterian Church in Mexico (INPM)

Cost: \$275 for Room and Board (plus your own transportation)

\$140 for Commuters

**For registration form and more information,**

see [www.synodsw.org](http://www.synodsw.org)

For a flyer go to [www.synodsw.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/straight-up-border-flier.pdf](http://www.synodsw.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/straight-up-border-flier.pdf).



## **July 1-4, 2010 Collegiate Ministry Summit '10**

**Hosted by PACHEM:** Presbyterian Association for Collegiate and Higher Education Ministries. Go to [www.pachem.org](http://www.pachem.org) for registration information.

**SUMMIT '10** will be held July 1 - July 4, 2010, at Macalester College, St. Paul, MN. The conference will end with the General Assembly Sunday morning Worship Service.

**SUMMIT '10** will

**Gather** those who work with and for collegiate ministries on behalf of the PC(USA),

**Provide** them with an opportunity for nurture, reflection, encouragement and support, and

**Develop** ways to **Think** about the PC(USA)'s strategy and involvement in collegiate ministry.

*All* those engaged in collegiate ministries - whether student leaders, staff, congregation or organization board members - will find resources and shared experiences to invigorate their ministries.

**Speaker:** Dr. Steve Haynor, President of Columbia Theological Seminary will be the Keynote Speaker.

**Costs:** Registration Fee is \$310