

# POAMN Network News

## Resource Guide for Older Adult Ministries

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Ministries



NETWORK

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Good Morning from Oregon,

*Not Retiring – Rehiring* is the theme of this issue of *PNN*. A paradigm shift is taking place regarding older adults and the role they play in our society. Older adults are a resource that society is only now beginning to value. Retirees are able, and willing, to volunteer more than when they were in the work force – and will do so for causes that they regard as being important.

In this issue of *PNN* you will find several lengthy articles written from different vantage points on working after retirement. These include:

- o POAMN President's Reflection by Michele Hendrix
- o NOT RETIRING – REHIRING by Quentin Holmes
- o Lucy Fern Coffee – Oldest Female Veteran by Michele Hendrix
- o Cascade Presbytery's OAM Retreat by Quentin Holmes

Each of these articles is about people who, though officially retired, continue to give back to society in some small way the skills and knowledge that have been given to them during their working career.

This issue also contains several other articles designed to tease your thoughts:

- o Memo from Membership by Mike Fonfara
- o OAM Certification Class at Columbia Theological Seminary by Jan McGilliard
- o 2015 OAM Planning Guide reviewed by Quentin Holmes
- o BEREAVEMENT – A Contemplative View by Rev. Wesley Lachman

We hope this information inspires you to come, and join in, with all of us at POAMN.

*PNN* is your newsletter. We need you to send us short notes about things you have done, and ideas that your group has found to work. Many older adults are in our Congregations. By the power of God, plus our faithfulness, and our warmth, we can reach out.

Thanks be to God!

Quentin Holmes / Marcola, OR

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*“Old age changes and challenges us,  
but it doesn't have to conquer us.”*

- Milton Crum / Helena, Montana



Michele Hendrix  
POAMN President

## POAMN PRESIDENT'S REFLECTION

The implications of rehiring retirees can be significant. From my perspective it seems retirees who enjoy their jobs are the most likely to return to work. Retirees who return to a career they loved are happy because they don't have to worry about their future. They are highly motivated, and they don't lose sleep over the long-term view. It's more about giving their gifts and talent to an organization than worrying about, 'Is this the right place to spend the next 30 years?'

In recent years, a number of U.S. employers have begun rehiring their retirees to fill scheduling gaps. It's very different if you're retiring and going back to work in a good context. Some retiree's will want to work part time, half days, or perhaps two to three

days a week. Such was the case with my husband, Dale. Dale was a CPA and a Certified Church Business Administrator. When he retired in 2011 we moved to New Braunfels, Texas. That summer he attended the local chapter of the National Association of Church Business Administration in San Antonio. Early in the week following that conference, Dale received a telephone call from First Baptist Church in New Braunfels asking him to come in for an informal conversation.

Because of Dale's passion for his profession, his heart for service, his qualifications, and his location and availability, they offered him a part-time position on staff. I believe this has been a win-win for Dale, First Baptist Church, and also for me. Dale is happy in his position at the church, they feel fortunate to have him on staff, and we both feel loved and cared for by the staff and family of faith at First Baptist Church in New Braunfels. Dale has become involved in the FBC Senior's Choir, which totals about 80 members, and their Men's group. The upside of all of this is that the church is located only a short walk from our home.



Dale & Michele Hendrix  
During Dale's (very brief) Retirement

Recently Dale was asked to consult with the small churches in the Bluebonnet Baptist Association who do not have staff to adequately handle the financial affairs of their church. Dale feels he is using his gifts and talents to give back, serving in a way that is meaningful to him and the church; we have made some lasting friendships, and the small churches in the area feel fortunate to have his counsel, expertise, and guidance. It has been a definite win-win for all of us!

These days, people are living longer, and have more active and healthy lives. And retirees want to see the next generation succeed. I believe that keeping retirees at work keeps them younger longer, and it gives the younger generation something to aspire to. Possibly the largest impact of rehiring retirees will be on the next generation of workers. The practice of rehiring retirees makes me wonder if we are adequately preparing the new generation to take over responsibility. There is a way to keep retirees active in the workforce while training the next generation: mentorships.

I think the workplace will need to continue to develop mentorships. Older workers may not be in charge the same way as they used to be, but they can act as sponsors, promoters or coaches to the people who are now in charge. They can make sure that, at the end of the day, the knowledge transition is accelerated. I know that in the work I am now doing as a Master Trainer for Powerful Tools for Caregivers, I am blessed to be able to use my gifts, skills, and passion to make a difference in the lives of caregivers. I continue to have mentors, such as Helen Morrison, Dr. Miriam Dunson, Rev. Dr. Dave McKechnie, Rev. Dr. Robert Poteet, John and Kathy

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Glover, and many others at Grace Presbyterian Church/Houston along with a team of POAMN individuals that I can bounce ideas off of and from which I receive honest and helpful feedback. They are my safety net and I count on them!

With mentoring in mind, my question to you is “What would our congregations do without our older, mature members?” May 3<sup>rd</sup> begins the PC(USA) designated **Older Adult Week**. Have you made your plans yet to honor and support these valuable members of your congregation? To help you with your planning, check out the *2015 Older Adult Ministries Planning Guide* it is full of information for congregations. It is available online at [www.poamn.org/index.php/2015/02/13/2015-planning-guide/](http://www.poamn.org/index.php/2015/02/13/2015-planning-guide/). Copies are mailed out to all POAMN members and to all presbytery resource centers. If you have not already joined POAMN, we encourage you to do so today! Great things are happening in our churches around the country. We encourage you to send your stories and photos of Older Adult Week and other church events to share in our upcoming issues of the *PNN* Newsletter.

Until next time... Blessings,

*Michele Hendrix*

## OAM CERTIFICATION CLASS AT COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

by Jan McGilliard / OAM Certification Leader

*[Editor's NOTE: Columbia Theological Seminary's Center for Lifelong Learning is now offering a class for Older Adult Ministry Certification. Thank you, Prof. Sarah Flynn Erickson, Jan McGilliard, and Dr. Marvin Simmers!]*

**Older Adult Ministry Certification** is under way this week at the Center for Lifelong Learning at Columbia Theological Seminary! POAMN and the Center have forged a new partnership to bring four certification courses under one roof.

This year, Dr. Mary Ann Johnson is teaching *The Process of Aging and Implications for Ministry*, and Rev. Joyce MacKichan Walker is teaching *Teaching for Transformation*. In



1<sup>st</sup> Class on The Process of Aging and Implications for Ministry

*[Photos from Corie Cox / CTS]*



Dr. Mary Ann Johnson  
Teaching at CTS Center for Lifelong Learning

2016, two more courses will be offered, *Spiritual*

*Formation for Older Adults*, taught by Dr. Henry Simmons, and *Framing Theological Questions with Older Adults*, taught by Rev. Marvin Simmers, EdD. The final requirement for each student in this program is a Capstone Project. To learn more about this program and dates for next year, go to: [www.ctsnet.edu/older-adult-ministry-certificate-program](http://www.ctsnet.edu/older-adult-ministry-certificate-program).

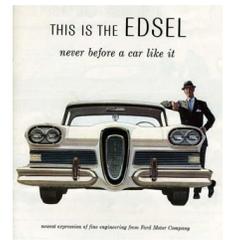
Registration for 2016 will soon open.

## MEMO FROM MEMBERSHIP: “What’s in a Product’s Name?”

POAMN Friends,

What’s in a product’s name? Among many ideas, a name symbolizes reputation, consumer recognition, quality, relationship, and perhaps smiles.

Do you recognize something about these products: Friskies; the Ford Mustang; TV’s Love Boat; TV Character Archie Bunker; and the Ford Edsel?



Most of us will recognize how these products serve us, entertain us, and even permit us to fail once in a while.

The Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network (POAMN) offers several products to Presbyterians concerned with older adulthood in some way. Our name stands for quality service, educational opportunities, friendships, ministry resources, and much more.

Today’s challenge for every POAMN member is to make our organization’s name and product offerings known to Presbyterians. Improving our “consumer recognition” in congregations is very important to our vitality and membership growth.

Please remember that we have the quality programs to warrant denomination-wide recognition. POAMN’s excellent ministries include an outstanding October conference, a superior newsletter five times a year, the *2015 Older Adult Ministries Planning Guide*, the new OAM Certification relationship with Columbia Theological Seminary. Each demonstrates our progressive nature. Friendships made through the organization add a glowing touch to all that we do, and the list goes on, and on. In short, POAMN has the quality goods to claim bragging rights about our contributions to PC (USA)’s wider ministries. Now, we need to increase our name recognition within the denomination!

Will you do your part to make POAMN better known? Start with your own congregation by posting an article in your local newsletter, inviting the pastor and/or staff to attend the POAMN/ARMSS October conference, giving a POAMN “minute for mission” during worship, or simply doing whatever your imagination dictates. If each one of us could recruit just one new member or one new annual conference attendee, it would add more strength to our already progressive POAMN!

Thank you for your commitment and hard work for POAMN’s vitality!

Rev. Mike Fonfara, HR  
Membership Committee Chair



Rev. Mike Fonfara  
Membership Committee Chair

***[NOTE: Rev. Mike Fonfara can be reached at [mikefonfara@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:mikefonfara@tampabay.rr.com)]***

## NOT RETIRING – BUT REHIRING

by Quentin A. Holmes, Editor POAMN Network News

*[NOTE: Jay C. Bloom of Portland, Oregon spoke at the 2015 Cascades Presbytery Leadership Fair. The following article draws upon Jay's presentation because his information was so timely.]*

Retiring is the transition that marks the beginning of what people call later life or the last third of life. It is an active word and denotes a relatively short period in one's life of about a year's duration that has a *before*, a *during*, and an *after*. It is not a small or insignificant transition for it involves life decisions about who I am now that I am no longer defined by my work. Nothing can minimize the psychological adjustment of leaving the world of work for the retired life. Work provides not only a sense of worth and prestige, but valued friendships and opportunities for self-expression. The shock when that is gone cannot be measured. There are deep redefinitions of what I will do that is worthwhile and whom I will do it with. The movement from work to redefinition can be one of life's greatest challenges!

**Opportunities for Spiritual Growth and the Role of the Community of Faith.** In the losses that inevitably accompany retirement, we engage in a struggle to redefine life's agenda. It can be a spiritual event of great magnitude that sets us on a new course toward wholeness of self and relationship with God. But if there is a potential for growth, there is also peril – personal length of days is an absolutely nonrenewable resource, and we do not know our length of days. The Christian should also be faced with the realization that one is dependent on God in ways we have not hitherto experienced. Unfortunately, there is little formal religious education for retiring:

- Retiring needs to be celebrated liturgically;
- Women and men need to support each other in arriving at understandings of retiring that raise up a sense of promise, of vocation, of responsibility, of giftedness.

These are realities far removed from the glossy images of consumption or scarcity that are presented in popular culture. These realities need the leadership of communities of faith to support people to take seriously the possibilities and importance of this doorway into the last third of life.

People who have left the world of paid work, have also left behind the tyranny of the paycheck – they are liberated to learn, to develop, to strengthen relationships and to read. The meaning of this part of your faith journey is not likely to emerge with clarity without conversation among thoughtful, supportive, and highly motivated peers.

Although it often takes the best part of a year, people do get through the transition of retiring. Even then there are few or no clues about one's length of days. There is a common wisdom that one ought not to waste these precious days. "Do whatever you want to do while you can do it! The day will come when you can't travel, or volunteer, or whatever it is that you can now do." "Do it while you can" is sort of a mantra that holds the post-retirement period of life together.

**People are living longer.** According to data compiled by the Social Security Administration – a man retiring at age 65 today can expect to live, on average, until age 84.3 years; a woman retiring at age 65 today can expect to live, on average, until age 86.6 years. However, those are just averages. About one of every 65-year-old today will live past the age of 90, and one out of 10 will live past the age of 95.

The world today is vastly different from the world that existed when our parents retired. Figure A lists some of the things that today's retired person tries to balance (depicted inside the blue square), and the global aging trends which affect your ability to balance them.

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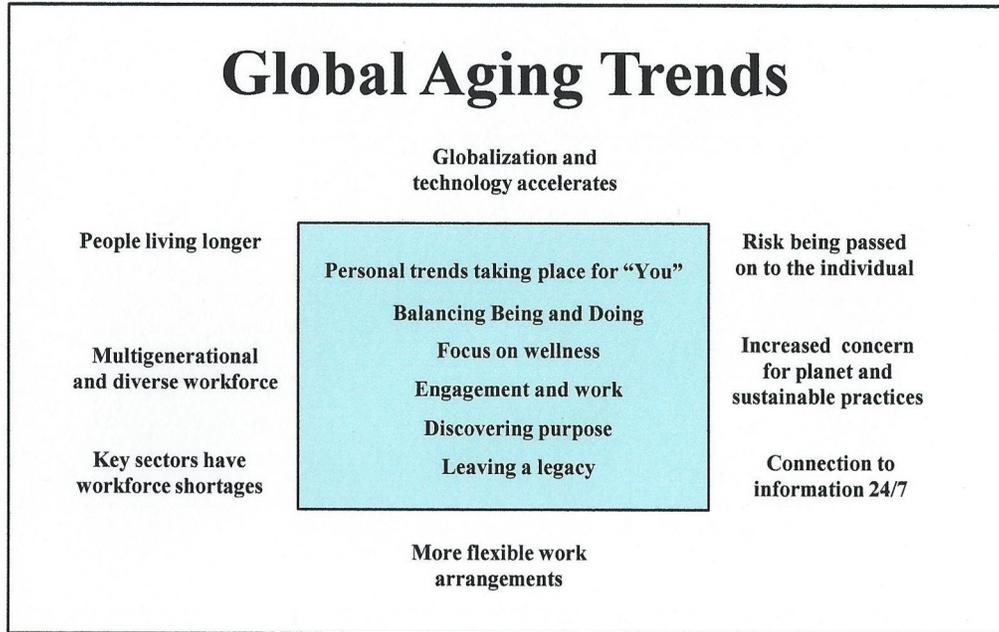


Fig. 1. GLOBAL AGING TRENDS

Just as the baby boomers have reshaped each phase of life they have encountered so far, boomers are also re-defining retirement. Boomers go to great lengths to lead healthy and active lifestyles, and abjure the notion of getting old. Indeed, one often hears them say, "Age 75 today is what age 55 used to be." Figure 2 illustrates the impact this active aging often has on a person's lifestyle.

## Goal for Active Aging:

*Active Life Expectancy to the end of the Natural Life Span*

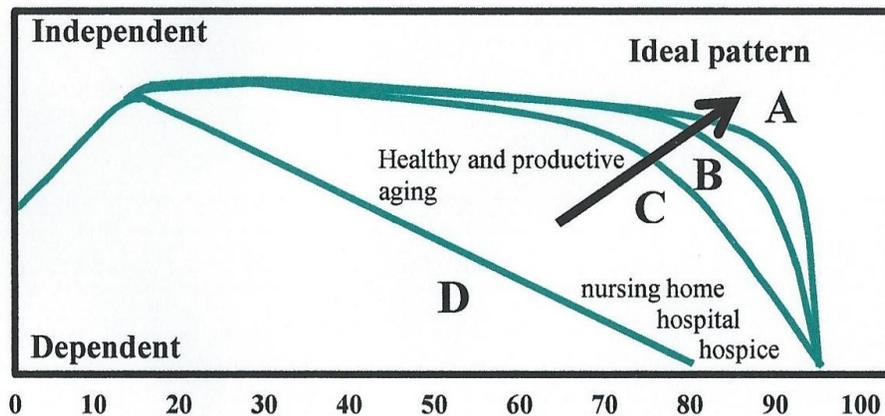


Fig. 2. GOAL FOR ACTIVE AGING

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**Work and Service.** Only after the action stops do many retirees (*older adults*) realize they need to replace the stimulation, the social network, and the psychic rewards that come from work:

- 59 percent see retirement as “a time to be active and involved, to start new activities, and to set new goals.”  
[*New Face of Retirement, Civic Ventures, 2002*]
- 6 in 10 felt “a responsibility that goes beyond our own life and our own family, and we seek meaning by helping other people.” [AARP, 2002]
- Those who plan to work in their retirement cite the desire to stay active and productive, rather than economic necessity, as the reason. [New Face of Retirement, Civic Ventures, 2002]
- The majority of retirees and pre-retirees do not regard retirement as an extended vacation or a time of rest and relaxation. Rather, they see it as a new, active stage of their lives characterized by continued personal growth, personal reinvention, and new beginnings in work and leisure.  
[*Revisoning Retirement, AIG Sun America*]
- “Retirement (*older adulthood*) planning is not just about how much money you need but also about how to fill your time with worthwhile pursuits.” [Business Week 2006 Retirement Issue July 24, 2006, p.56]

It is very hard to say no to work. We may courageously resign, take a sabbatical, or retire to a simpler, more rustic existence, but then we are engaged in inner work, or working on ourselves, or just chopping wood. Work means application, explication, and expectation. There is almost no life human beings can construct for themselves where they are not wrestling with something difficult something that takes a modicum of work. The only possibility seems to be the ability of human beings to choose good work. At its simplest, good work is work that makes sense, and that grants sense and meaning to the one who is doing it and to those affected by it.

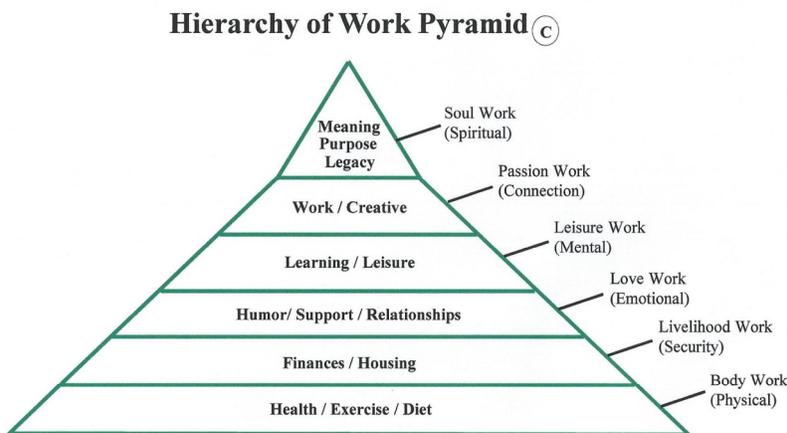


Fig. 3. HIERARCHY OF WORK PYRAMID

Older adults are a resource that our society is only now beginning to value. Retirees are able, and willing, to volunteer more than when they were in the work force – and will do so for causes that they regard as being important. “When people are serving, life is no longer meaningless. The cure for boredom is not diversion, it is to find some work to do, something to care about.” (John Gardner) “Unless you are engaged in your later years, you are just dying longer not living longer.” (Jay C. Bloom)

Jay C. Bloom has coined a word for this “work after work”. He calls it Returnment™

Returnment™

- 1) The act of giving back in some small way what the world has given you;
- 2) An alternative to retirement.

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**New Trends in the Boomers' "Third Age".** Boomers are motivated to use their knowledge, skills, and assets productively. They tend to have better balance between work, learning and leisure. Boomers find meaning and passion give-back (Returnment™).

Today, many Non-Profit Organizations (NPO) are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain adequate levels of staffing.

**Non-Profit Organization (NPO) Workforce Challenges:**

- 18 – 24 year olds shrinking cohort;
- Fewer human services majors;
- Average loan amount of graduates increasing;
- NPO retirees;
- Financial ability of NPO's to pay workers significantly challenged;
- Non-Profit wages last decade haven't kept up with most area's cost of living;
- Rising liability and health insurance costs;
- Governmental and foundation funding declining;
- Competition for philanthropic contributions increasing;
- Infrastructure demand in IT, HR, Finance, Marketing, Outcomes Measurement, etc.

**Human Resource and Organizational Challenges.** The list of challenges stemming from existing business structure and traditional practices include: Job and/or Project Design, Compensation/Benefits/Stipends, Recruitment/Orientation/Support efforts, and Training for "returnees" and Current Managers.

## WORK AFTER WORK CONTINUUM

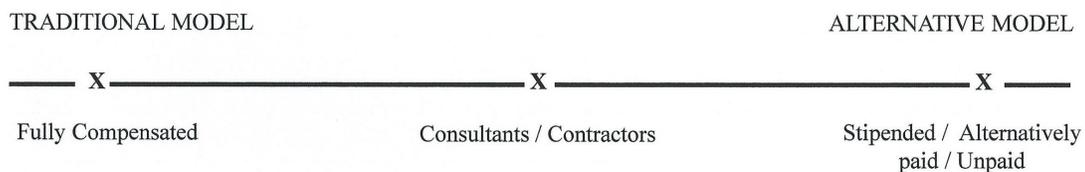


Fig. 4. WORK AFTER WORK CONTINUUM

Where "Work" means activities completed by employees, independent contractors, and stipended or unpaid volunteers.

Non Profit leaders say that successful transitions into their sector from other sectors are facilitated when people are motivated by the mission, feel a part of the team, and understand and accept the inherent trade-offs. It also helps immensely if people understand themselves (needs, values and motivations), and when expectations are clear.

**Recommendations for nonprofit organizations:**

- Change language;
- Pay upfront costs;
- Assign management of unpaid staff to human resources;
- Don't assume money is the number one motivation;
- Organize and sponsor regular nonprofit work fairs;
- Create work and compensation options;
- Create unpaid staff career ladders;
- Develop and promote best practices.

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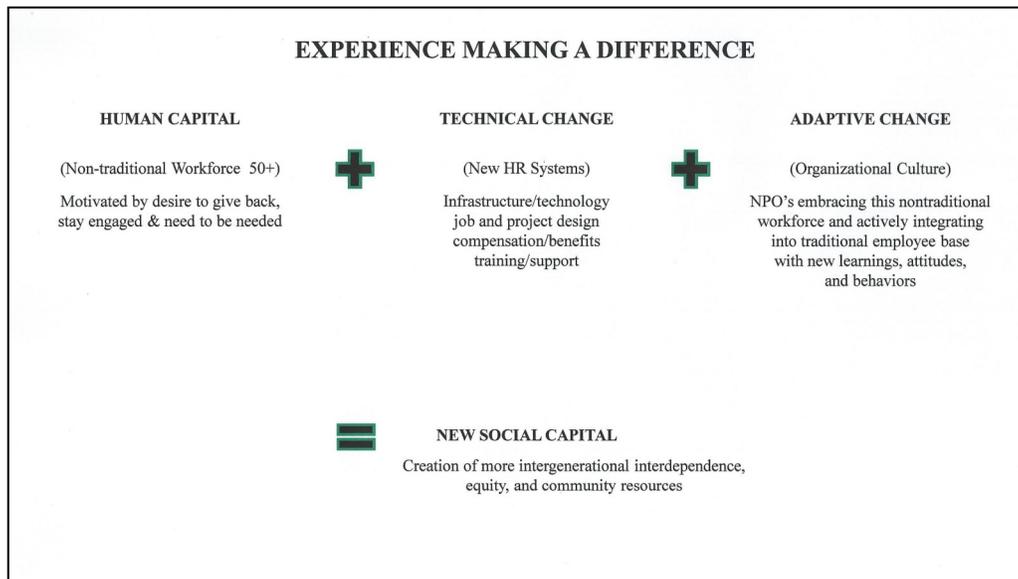


Fig. 5. EXPERIENCE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In America today, a paradigm shift is taking place regarding older adults and the role they play in our society. Thanks in large part to Baby Boomers who are retiring, people no longer picture a retired person as someone sitting in a rocking chair watching the world go by. Rather, folks think of retirees as someone healthy and vital, who is busy pursuing goals that they feel passionate about. In addition, the skills and knowledge that older adults possess by virtue of their long experience are frequently being both valued and put to use.

**PARIDIGM CHANGE REGARDING OLDER ADULTS**

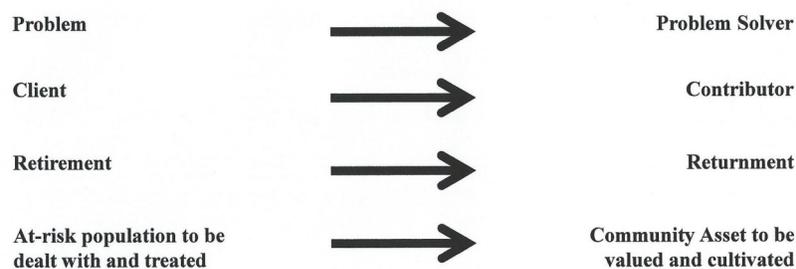


Fig. 6. PARADIGM CHANGE REGARDING OLDER ADULTS

**Summary and Conclusions.** Older adults represent a growing resource. Older adults also represent a significant economic development opportunity. Changes are needed in organization practices and attitudes to allow them to be rehired. One size does not fit all. Best practices for employing and engaging older adults make organizations more attractive to workers of all generations. An age-friendly community for older adults is an age-friendly community for all ages!

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*“Sometimes silence is the best expression of something that can’t be described.”*

- Henry C. Simmons, Ph.d.

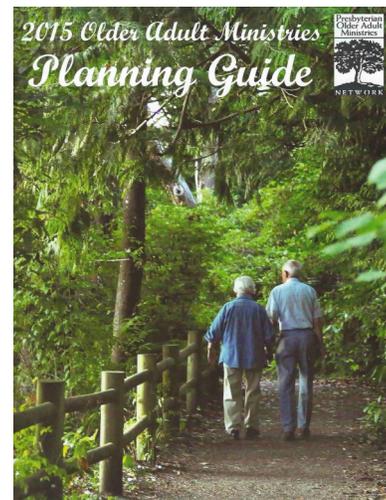
## 2015 PLANNING GUIDE FOR OLDER ADULT SUNDAY/WEEK

Reviewed by Quentin A. Holmes, Central Presbyterian Church / Eugene, Oregon

The PC(USA) church-planning calendar designates the first week in May as Older Adult Week because they are the backbone of our church, our nation, and the world. This year, Older Adult Week begins with Older Adult Sunday on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 and continues through Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Depending on the age of your typical member, your congregation will consider as an “Older Adults” anyone over the age of 75, 70, 65, or perhaps even age 60. Regardless of the actual definition, older adults are a marvelous resource for a congregation. They tend to stay in the same location longer, pray more often, and contribute more financially than young members. Some regard them as living “Saints” – folks who helped build your church building, served as Elders and Deacons, and taught Sunday School during the years when we were young and busy raising our own children.

While there are many, many books available on Older Adult Ministry, in my opinion the 2015 Older Adult Ministries Planning Guide (edited by Ginny Nyhuis/POAMN) is a truly excellent resource. It was written to help you identify a number of practical ways your congregation can address life issues that are important to older adults, utilize their wisdom and talents, and actively involve them in the life of your church. What makes the 2015 Older Adult Ministries Planning Guide so very useful is: it is easy to read, and practical, yet broad and deep enough to be of lasting value for getting started in ministering *with*, *to*, and *for* the older adults in your congregation.



Articles in this year’s Planning Guide include:

- Model Worship Service for Older Adult Sunday  
(by Rev. Mike Fonfara / Beverly Hills, FL)
- Checklist for Welcoming Seniors  
(by Rev. June Begany / Cleveland Heights, OH)
- Caring for Aging Parents from a Distance  
(by Michele Shultz Hendrix / New Braunfels, TX)
- Carlisle Institute for Lifelong Learning  
(by Charles Spears / Carlisle PA)
- Coney Boys: A Unique Ministry for Older Adult Men  
(by Gene Swift / Grosse Isle, MI)
- KEYS Partnership with SAReads  
(by Jane Warren / San Antonio, TX)

The 2015 Older Adult Ministries Planning Guide is available:

- 1) As a free, printable Adobe Acrobat.pdf file. (go online to [www.POAMN.Org](http://www.POAMN.Org) );
- 2) As a hardcopy booklet (price \$2 + S&H) from Presbyterian Distribution Service at: (800) 524-2612 PDS# 23304-15-001; or
- 3) by contacting Ginny Nyhuis via e-mail at [gnyhuis@frontier.com](mailto:gnyhuis@frontier.com)

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Mantra for Older Adults:

*“It’s not what you lose as you grow older,  
It’s what you do with what is left that matters.”*

- Desri Gilmore / Eugene, Oregon

## LUCY FERN COFFEE

### Oldest Female Veteran and Possibly the Oldest Member of PC(USA)

by Michele Shultz Hendrix, New Braunfels, Texas

Recently I received an email regarding a long-time member of PC(USA), Lucy Fern Coffee of San Antonio. It stated that Ann's Place, a private-care home for Veteran's in San Antonio, TX had a resident they believed to be the oldest member of PC(USA), Ms. Lucy Fern Coffee, age 108.

Upon receipt of that e-mail, I contacted Presbyterian Mission Agency who recognized her in a letter for her wise heart, along with her many gifts and accomplishments. The letter from Presbyterian Mission Agency stated "Our hearts will be united in prayer and thanksgiving with all who gather to honor you on this momentous occasion." They recognized Lucy Coffee as one who acted on her dreams and witnessed to God's realm, transforming lives in so many faithful and generous ways, both at Madison Square Presbyterian Church and across PC(USA), and serving her country faithfully as well as the oldest living decorated female veteran.



Ms. Lucy Fern Coffee

Ms. Coffee served with the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps in the Pacific Theater during World War II. The WAAC accepted women aged 21 to 45 to fill military support roles and free up more men for combat. According to the U.S. Army, about 400,000 women served in uniform during World War II. Lucy enlisted as a WAAC at age 37 and retired after nearly three decades of military-related service. She served in Japan, New Guinea and the Philippines, where she was promoted to staff sergeant and received the Philippine Liberation Ribbon for service during the Luzon Campaign. In addition, Lucy was awarded two Bronze Stars, among other awards.

After the war, Lucy Coffee remained in the Pacific region, working as an Army civilian in Japan. In 1958, Lucy transferred to Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio where she worked as an accountant until her retirement in 1971. Shortly after moving to San Antonio, Lucy became a member of Madison Square Presbyterian Church. The church was an important part of her life. Lucy was a long time treasurer of the Presbyterian Women's Organization, active in the Martha Circle, and was elected an elder of her church.

In July 2014 the Veteran's Honor Flight organization made it possible for Lucy to visit Washington, D.C. Lucy was able to visit the Women's Memorial, the World War II Memorial, and the White House. President Obama, who met Lucy Coffey last year at the White House, said, "it was clear that the passage of time never dampened her patriotic love of country or her pioneering spirit." The trip was a tremendously uplifting experience for Lucy.

After a long and inspiring life of 108 years, Lucy Coffee passed away in San Antonio on March 19, 2015. At the time of her passing she was the oldest American female veteran of World War II. As we celebrate her in spirit, we are reminded of these words from Scripture, "*Good friend, don't forget all I've taught you; take to heart my commands. They'll help you live a long, long time, a long life lived full and well.*" (Proverbs 3:1-2, The Message)



PRESIDENT OBAMA with Lucy Fern Coffee

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As we remember Lucy's life and salute her service, our thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and loved ones.

We at POAMN believe there may be many other wonderful stories out there like the one we have shared about the life of Lucy Coffee. If there is a longstanding member of your congregation you would like to recognize, please send your stories in to our *PNN* Newsletter.

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## **BEREAVEMENT Part I - A Contemplative View**

by Rev. Wesley Lachman, Central Presbyterian Church / Eugene, Oregon

*[Editor's NOTE: Rev. Wesley Lachman shares a contemplative view of bereavement – a refreshingly different viewpoint!]*

A friend asked, "What viewpoint can we take when a loved one dies?" I hesitated at first, but with her encouragement I saw that we could consider at least two possible views. So in this issue of *PNN* we will look at loss from the viewpoint of story. In the next issue of *PNN* we will consider bereavement from the point of view of consciousness.



When you look carefully, you can see that everything we say about our world is a little story, a narrative. Of course these stories can never bring us face to face with actuality. They can point toward reality, but cannot be that reality. The death of a loved one creates a gap in your story about you and the world. Your mourning may try to fill that gap. We might say that the Author has written your beloved out of your autobiography. That loved one is not going to appear in any of the coming chapters. It seems that this person is utterly gone, that you will never really have them again.

Whether they are here or gone, we can only relate to our loved one in terms of story. We remember little happenings that we shared: a dinner, a hike, a crisis, a vacation. And when the beloved is gone, we rehearse the same little narratives about them: the time we sat together in that restaurant, the time we had that awkward discussion. Everything about them is a little chapter or footnote in our inner story about them, and we can flip the pages of our memory back and forth.

You have known this special one for years and years. And yet you only had one moment at a time with them. All the other past moments became stories in your memory. No matter what happens in any given moment, it immediately becomes a memory. So from the viewpoint of the living moment you have lost your friend. You will never see them again alive. But from the viewpoint of story, nothing has been lost. You still have the whole story. In fact, perhaps reminiscing with family and friends has made the story even richer than before. Many people do, in fact, maintain an active and healthy relationship with a deceased loved one through story. They visit their friend's grave. They re-read their letters. They look at photographs. They may even tell their beloved their difficulties in a kind of praying, ask for their advice, and sense their response.

So from the viewpoint of the one real moment now, you have lost them. But from the viewpoint of story, you still have all of your beloved except for this one moment. In the next issue of *PNN* we will look at how your beloved is so much more than story, and how we are never separated from them in God.

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2015 JOINT ARMSS/POAMN CONFERENCE

# THE SPIRIT SUSTAINS:

## PURPOSE, CALL, MISSION & MINISTRY

NOW WE HAVE RECEIVED...THE SPIRIT THAT IS FROM GOD, SO THAT WE MAY UNDERSTAND THE GIFTS BESTOWED ON US BY GOD. 1 CORINTHIANS 2:12 (NRSV)

**OCTOBER 13-16, 2015**

**CROWNE PLAZA, 1901 UNIVERSITY BLVD, ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102**



### SCHEDULE - (subject to change)

#### Tuesday, October 13

- 9:00 AM - 2 PM Golf Tournament (optional, extra fee)
- 2:00 - 5:00 PM Registration
- 4:00 - 5:30 PM OAM 101
- 7:00 PM Conference Opening - Dessert Reception / Ice Breakers
- 8:00 PM Opening Worship

#### Wednesday, October 14

- 6:00 AM Water Aerobics
- 7:30 AM ARMSS Presbytery Reps meet
- 8:30 AM Morning Worship
- 9:00 AM Plenary Session
- 10:30 AM Break
- 11:00 AM - noon Q&A Session
- 11:00 AM - 12:30 Workshops
- 12:30 PM Lunch (on your own)
- 2:00 PM Mission Tour & Local Dinner (choose one of three, extra fee)
- 8:00 PM Mission Presentations
- 8:00 PM Sharing Our Stuff

#### Thursday, October 15

- 6:00 AM Water Aerobics
- 7:30 AM ARMSS Presbytery Reps meet
- 8:30 AM Morning Worship
- 9:00 AM Plenary Session
- 10:30 AM Break
- 11:00 AM - noon Q&A Session
- 11:00 AM - 12:30 Workshops
- 12:30 PM Lunch & Business Meetings
- 2:30 PM Workshops
- 3:30 PM Break
- 4:00 PM Workshops
- 6:30 PM Banquet
- Installation of Officers
- Entertainment

#### Friday, October 16

- 9:00 AM Closing Worship & Communion
- 11:00 AM Close of Conference

To receive more conference details and a registration brochure go to <http://www.poamn.org/index.php/association-events/>, or call Ginny at (615) 426-1545.

## MEMBERSHIP FOR 2015

Membership fees for 2015 are now being accepted. Thank you to those that have already joined or renewed their membership for 2015! See page 15 for a membership application.

### Individual Members

Anne Adams Vero Beach, FL	Rita Hooper Fulton, NY	Chris Pomfret Beavercreek, OH	Alan Winkenhofer Elizabethtown, KY
Pat Baker Lilburn, GA	Ronald & Judith Hopkins Richmond, VA	Douglas Potter Albertville, MN	Ruth Woodrow St. Cloud, FL
June Begany Cleveland, OH	Dick & Barbara Huggins Lakeland, FL	Betty Raitt Woodbury, MN	Cindy Wright Solana Beach, CA
Patricia Brook Mansfield, OH	Bill & Joyce Johnson Palm Desert, CA	Linda Rauenbuehler Henderson, NV	Bill Young, Jr. Lower Gwynedd PA
Nancy Clark Nile, MI	MaryAnn Johnson Watkinsville, GA	Montie Redenius Grinnell, IA	Desiree Youngblood Paris, KY
Susan Coard Sebastian, FL	Douglas Kurtz Flushing, NY	Ralph & Lillian Rhudy Richmond, VA	<b>Organizational Members</b>
Glenda Denny Sumter, SC	Anne Lucas Celebration, FL	Hazel Schuller Sanibel, FL	Covenant Presbyterian Church Trenton, NJ
Betty Dixie Huntsville, AL	Gary Maas Morristown, TN	Kitch Shatzer Washington, IA	Flushing House Flushing, NY
David & Marion Drain Lakeland, FL	Beecher Mathes Athens, GA	JoAnn Simmers Avondale Estates, GA	Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church Grosse Ile, MI
Miriam Dunson Commerce, GA	Donna McDaid Milford, NJ	Marvin Simmers Avondale Estates, GA	McLeod Memorial Presbyterian Church Barton, FL
Claire Farnsworth McConnelsville, OH	Jan McGilliard Blacksburg, VA	Jeanne Simpson Stone Mountain, GA	Philadelphia Presbyterian Homes, Inc. Lafayette Hill, PA
Lynn Fonfara Beverly Hills, FL	Connie Miller Portland, OR	Charles Sutton Richmond, VA	St. John's Presbyterian Church Reno, NV
Mike Fonfara Beverly Hills, FL	Helen Morrison Grosse Ile, MI	Greg & Anne Tarbutton Bowling Rock, NC	United Adult Ministry Flushing, NY
Brian & Carolyn Fusion Seattle, WA	Elaine Northcutt Spring Valley, CA	Jennifer Thorstad Cocoa Beach, FL	United Lifeline Flushing, NY
Michele Hendrix New Braunfels, TX	Dick & Sue Neelly Dalton, GA	Richard & Lynne Trout Delanco, NJ	Westminster Communities, Inc. Bradenton, FL
Joyce Hetzler Bay City, MI	Ginny Nyhuis Oostburg, WI	Alvin Turner Norman, OK	
Quentin Holmes Marcola, OR	Ed & Laurie Palmer Riverview, FL	Pam Ward Cincinnati, OH	
	Max & Irene Platt Sun Lakes, AZ	Nancy Williams-Berry Colfax, NC	

### The Voice

A voice is in the wind I do not know;  
A meaning is on the face of the high hills  
Whose utterance I cannot comprehend  
A something is behind them: that is God.

- George MacDonald

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

We are grateful for the extra contributions which we have received in support of POAMN.  
**The following persons contributed in support of POAMN since publishing the last newsletter:**

Elaine Northcutt

Max & Irene Platt - in Memory  
of Bertie Platt

**THANK YOU!**

**NOTE:** If we have failed to recognize you as a contributor for this quarter,  
please contact Ginny Nyhuis at: gnyhuis@frontier.com or: 615-426-1545.

**POAMN 2015 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (please print all information)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Synod: \_\_\_\_\_ Presbytery: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Other (Organization): \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* I would like to receive future *PNN* issues by:  email  hard copy

Membership Type:

- \$50 Individual  \$75 Couple
- \$35 Affiliate (non-voting)  \$125 Institutional, Church & Judicatory Membership

To continue POAMN's ministry to older adults and those engaged in ministries for older adults, additional gifts are welcome including those in honor or memory of someone.

Extra gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to POAMN

Gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed in honor / memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

(include address if you would like family notified of gift): \_\_\_\_\_

Gift to support membership of another person or church: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: POAMN, c/o Cindy Wright  
120 Stevens Avenue, Solana Beach, CA 92075**

**POAMN Network News**  
**P.O. Box 700311**  
**Oostburg, WI 53070**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**ISSUE 36**

**POAMN NETWORK NEWS**

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### **POAMN LEADERSHIP**

Some readers have asked who works so hard to move this dynamic organization forward. Here are the persons serving on the Executive Committee who keep POAMN active and growing.

**President:** Michele Hendrix  
[tmichelehendrix@icloud.com](mailto:tmichelehendrix@icloud.com)

Rev. Mike Fonfara - Membership  
[mikefonfara@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:mikefonfara@tampabay.rr.com)

**Vice-President:** William Young, Jr.  
[bill.young.jr@verizon.net](mailto:bill.young.jr@verizon.net)

Leslie Hanna - Mission in Ministry Grants  
[leslie@pointlomachurch.org](mailto:leslie@pointlomachurch.org)

**Secretary:** Rev. June Begany  
[jwbinfj@aol.com](mailto:jwbinfj@aol.com)

Quentin Holmes – *PNN Network News* Editor  
[holmes3324@msn.com](mailto:holmes3324@msn.com)

**Treasurer:** Cindy Wright  
[cindy@solanapres.org](mailto:cindy@solanapres.org)

Jan McGilliard – Certification Coordinator  
[janmcgilli@gmail.com](mailto:janmcgilli@gmail.com)

#### **Members At Large**

Rev. Marvin Simmers – Conference Chair  
[marvinsimmers@aol.com](mailto:marvinsimmers@aol.com)

Rev. Steve Aschmann - Nominating Committee  
[se43aschmann@nc.rr.com](mailto:se43aschmann@nc.rr.com)

Anne Tarbutton - Conference Chair Elect  
[atarbutton@skybest.com](mailto:atarbutton@skybest.com)