

What We Miss

May 9, 2018

She sees the things most of us miss. This past winter, she shared a story of seeing the tracks of her disabled neighbor in the snow and the difficulty he must have had to get to the bus stop. That day, as others tramped mindlessly along sidewalks that hadn't been shoveled, she saw what they missed. She put herself into her neighbor's situation to gain a deeper appreciation for the challenges wrought by snowfall. I will miss her gift of a fresh perspective.

At its meeting last night, the Presbytery Council accepted the resignation of Donna Holmes, our Communications Associate. Donna has been on staff at the Presbytery since 2015, and many of you have come to know her through her thoughtful articles in Fresh Impressions, her gracious presence in work group meetings, or her photography of the life of our Presbytery during our Gatherings. In each of these platforms, Donna captured what we might have otherwise missed.

Donna shares these words as she goes, "I will be leaving my position as Communications Associate, effective May 14. I have enjoyed my time at the Presbytery and thank all of you who have touched my life during the past three years. Thank you for the opportunity to serve God with this ministry. Blessing to all of you."

Sara Miles offers her reflection on Donna's departure: "Very soon after Donna arrived, she and I had lunch together so that she could learn about my involvement with the Presbyterian Association on Science, Technology, and the Christian Faith (PASTCF). I was impressed with the way she asked questions—not as a journalist who needed to write an article but as someone who was interested in what PASTCF is and why I was involved with it. We had a great conversation—one that wandered around but always centered on our Christian faith and my interest in bridging science and faith. Since then I have seen how she has shown those same God-given skills as she wrote up ministries of other members of the presbytery. She has helped me know and understand my colleagues in the presbytery and the ways they are proclaiming the Gospel in their varieties of ministries. I will miss her and wish her God's blessings in her next way of serving God."

As Donna leaves, we are confident that God will use her gifts for the building of the Kingdom – a Kingdom that includes the beauty, richness, people, and things we might have otherwise missed. In turn, we will miss her dearly.