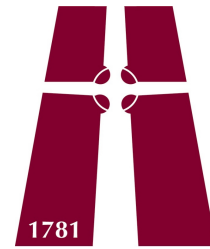


Presbytery of Redstone

eNews



August 29, 2019

Let's Pray For:

>Newlonsburg
Presbyterian Church,
Murrysville, Curtis Paul,
Pastor; Marnie Silbert,
Associate Pastor
District 1

>Union Presbyterian
Church, Murrysville,
Derek Campbell, Pastor
District 1

>First Presbyterian
Church, Greensburg,
Martin Ankrum, Pastor;
Nicole Atkinson,
Associate Pastor
District 2

>Maplewood
Presbyterian Church,
Greensburg, Steve LaSor,
Pastor
District 2

>Grace Chapel
Presbyterian Church,
Smithfield, Lee
McDermott, Pastor
District 3

>Pleasant View
Presbyterian Church,
Smock, Laura Blank,
Pastor
District 3

>Revloc Presbyterian
Church, David O'Hara,
Commissioned Pastor
District 4

>Bolivar United
Presbyterian Church,

Upcoming Events...

October 7-9, 2019 - [Wee Kirk - Laurelville Mennonite Church Center](#)

Click on the links above for more information
on any of the upcoming events

Reflections from the Executive Presbyter, Skip Noftzger

"We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom alone we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust." (The Scots Confession, Chapter 1)

During the past several weeks of "sabbatical," I have found the opportunity for more time for reflection and consideration. Removed from the normal demands of my long task lists, phone calls and email messages (okay, not entirely ♦♦), my focus could often be upon "God alone."

It is those moments that God's presence reminds us of our essential identity in Jesus Christ. No longer connected with the number of things that I accomplish on the Lord's behalf or removed from the measurements of influence, however faithful, it becomes clear that our God has extended love, mercy and grace to us not because of who we are or what we have done/could do, BUT because God is who God is.

During the latter part of my sabbatical, I had the opportunity to travel with the pilgrimage to Scotland led by Rev. Farrer. Beyond the pleasant travel without any real responsibilities, I experienced again a sense of awe in God's providence within our history. Sometimes, it was through our forebearers, sometimes it was in spite of them. I am sure that in retrospect, many of our faithful descendants might say the same.

In anticipation of the trip, I read numerous books about Scottish history and church history, but I also reminded myself of The Scots Confession. "Tucked away" in our Book of Confessions, it may not be the most familiar. Yet, written in a period of having emerged from conflict, there are some striking elements to this doctrinal statement. That opening sentence in its declaration about the triune God brought to culmination my own sabbatical reflections.

As noted in the introduction to it, in our Book of Confessions, "*Cleave, serve, worship, trust*" are key words in this document. As a call to action in a turbulent time, the Scots Confession reflects a spirit of trust and a commitment to the God whose miraculous deliverance the Scots had experienced firsthand."

James Sunseri,
Commissioned Pastor
District 4

Contact Us

Rev. Skip Noftzger
 Executive
 Presbyter/Stated Clerk
[blog address](#)
[twitter address](#)

Bobbie Martin
 Office Administrator/
 Bookkeeper

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

Office Hours

The Presbytery Office Hours are:
 Monday through Thursday
 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 CLOSED on Friday

The Resource Center Hours are:
 Tuesday through Thursday
 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 CLOSED on Monday and Friday

Next 2019 Presbytery Meeting Date

Tuesday, September 24, 2019
Pine Springs Camp
(joint meeting with Washington Presbytery)
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

So, while the turbulence of our own experiences may not be nearly so dramatic, I pray that whether in the routine or in the rest we may confess and acknowledge one God alone. To that God, let us cleave, serve, worship and trust this day and every day, as individuals, as congregations, and as a presbytery.

Around Redstone

>>The Synod of the Trinity presents - **Forgotten Foundations for Church Leadership: Building the Future on Great Ground - Featuring the Rev. Dr. Graham Standish, Executive Director of Samaritan Counseling, Guidance, Consulting, and Director of Caring for Clergy and Congregations Program.** This three-part online webinar will be held Thursdays, September 5, 12, and 19 at 2:00 p.m. via zoom video conference.

~~~~Leading from a Foundation: What are our leadership principles, and how do they help or hinder our authority and authorship?

~~~~Who and Why We are: What is our purpose and call, and how do they lead us as we lead others?

~~~~Writing the next few chapters: How do we build on the church's story to create new chapters for their lives?

If you are interested in these webinars and would like to attend contact Bobbie at the Presbytery office. If enough folks are interested, the Presbytery may be able to host a zoom video conference at the Presbytery office for these three Thursdays.

>>Pine Springs Camp Fall Fusion (Grades 4-6) - September 28 -29, 2019 - Fall Fusion is PSC's fall retreat for campers who are in 4th - 6th grade! The desire is to continue to provide an amazing environment where campers can grow in their faith and have a "vital encounter with Jesus Christ." For more information or to register [CLICK HERE](#).

>>W. Don McClure Lecture, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary - "Lifestyles of the Rich and Faithful: Confronting Classism in Mission" October 1, 2019. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

>>The Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation (IPLF) presents their Fall 2019 Elder Training Workshops. Continuing education and life-long learning are hallmarks of Presbyterian leadership and are expected of our congregations' leaders. Elders who are session members, Pastors, and those Commissioned to leadership are reminded and urged to attend one or more of these Saturday afternoon workshops.

~~~~~Saturday, September 14, 2019 - Ethics and Boundaries - Instructor Rev. Craig Kephart

~~~~~Saturday, October 12, 2019 - Advanced Scripture Study: Isaiah - Instructor Rev. Dr. Jerome Creach

~~~~~Saturday, November 9, 2019 - Nurturing and Forming Elders - Instructor Rev. Jane Johnson

~~~~~Saturday, December 14, 2019 - Preaching Beyond the Lectionary - Instructor Rev. Sue Washburn

Each of these free workshops will be held at the Presbytery office from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. To register or questions contact Bobbie at 724.837.6737 or [secretary@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org).

>>Wee Kirk 2019 Northeast Small Church Conference - October 7-9, 2019, Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, 941 Laurelville Lane, Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666. Workshops include --

~~~~~From Foreigner to Kinfolk - Hunger Farrell, Leader

~~~~~Who Are Those Guys? - Steve Tuell, Leader

**Next Presbytery  
Council Meeting  
Date**

**October 22, 2019**

**Council meetings  
begin at 6:30 p.m. at  
the Presbytery Center**

- ~~~~Church Vitality and Resilience - Ed Thompson, Leader
  - ~~~~Not too big...not too small...Just right, together - Susan Faye  
Wonderland, Leader
  - ~~~~The Strong Small Church: What the Experts and the Practitioners Say -  
Jim Farrer and Barbara Accord, Leaders
  - ~~~~Unglued Church Project - Sarah Robbins and Susan Rothenberg, Leaders
  - ~~~~A Conversation with the Co-Moderator - Wilmarie Cintron-Olivier
- Registration deadline is September 24, 2019. For more information click -  
[Wee Kirk - Laurelville Mennonite Church Center](#)



Presbytery of Redstone | 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road | Greensburg | PA | 15601