



2023 Stated Meeting

of the

Presbytery of Redstone
Presbyterian Church (USA)

November 18, 2023



First Presbyterian
Church, Jeannette
and

ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING
MEETING

*Communicate the Word...Carry on the Work...Change the World
Together*

**Directions to
First Presbyterian Church
314 Bullitt Avenue, Jeannette, PA 15644
724.523.5427**

From Route 22 (East and West):

1. Route 22 to Route 66 South (turnpike with tolls).
2. Take exit 6 to Route 30.
3. Turn right onto Route 30 West.
4. After 1.3 miles turn right onto Lowry Avenue.
5. After approximately .5 miles, slight left turn onto Division Street, then turn right onto South 4th Street.
6. Church is at the corner of 4th Street and Bullitt Avenue.

From Route 30 (East and West):

Route 30 to Lowry Avenue in Jeannette.

Follow from #4 above.

**Parking is available in a lot off of Bullitt Avenue and along the streets of 4th Street and Bullitt Avenue.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MEETING

- **The offering for this meeting will go to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.**

To make your Offering through online contributions go to www.redstonepresbytery.org and click on the green "GIVE NOW" link on the left of the page.

You will need to login - or create a profile if you don't already have one - and then designate your offering in the space(s) provided. You may also mail your Offering to the Presbytery office at 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road, Greensburg, PA 15601. Please designate "Presbytery Offering" on the memo line.

- **Presbyters are reminded to get "Prayer Requests" to the Clerk as soon as possible as they will be lifted up during the prayers in the Worship Service.**
- **New Business must be submitted to the Associate Stated Clerk in writing before the end of worship.**

First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette
Zoom meeting
November 18, 2023

8:30- 9:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Registration and fellowship</i> 	<i>In Person/Online</i>
<i>GATHERING</i>		
9:00 a.m.	<u>Presbytery Gathering Convenes</u> GATHERING SONG OPENING PRAYER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of the Roll • Seating of Corresponding Members 	<i>Sanctuary/Zoom</i> Rev. Dawn Sherwood Rev. Cliff Foster
	<u>Reports</u> <u>Stated Clerk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent Agenda (page 6) <u>Treasurer (page 8)</u> <u>Synod Commissioners</u> <u>Executive Presbyter (page9)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soli Deo Gloria 	Rev. Cliff Foster John Dickson Bernice Adams Rev. Cliff Foster Rev. Skip Noftzger
<u>SHARING IN WORSHIP – page 12</u>		
	<u>Gathering</u> -Prelude -Opening Litany -Hymn – “Crown Him with Many Crowns” -Prayer of Confession/Pardon -Hymn – “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”	
	<u>Ministry of the Word</u> -Scripture reading—Ezekiel 34:11-16; Matthew 25:31-46 -Sermon	
	<u>Response</u> -Hymn – “I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord” -Affirmation of Faith -Offering - Doxology - “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”	
	<u>Sacrament - Lord’s Supper</u> -Hymn – “Feed Us, Lord”	
	<u>Sending</u> -Hymn – “Seek Ye First”	
<u>SHARING IN MINISTRY AND MISSION</u>		
	- <u><i>Equipping Leadership</i></u> <u>Nominating Committee (page 26)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice Moderator nomination • Standing Committees <u>Committee on Preparation for Ministry (page 27)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPLF program 	Glenn Hart Rev. Geoff Rach

	<p><u>Enabling Ministry Networks Council</u>—page 28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 Budget (second reading) • Addictions Ministry Network • Racial Justice and Reconciliation • “On the Road with Redstone” <p><u>Empowering Mission Partnerships</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pine Springs Camp – page 30 • Mission Subcommittee – page 38 ----Congregation mission <p><u>Engaging Congregations Committee on Ministry</u>— page 33</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics policy revision (to include boundaries training) • Sewickley Administrative Commission-request for dissolution 	<p>Rev. Curtis Paul Rev. Lee McDermott Rev. Brenda Barnes</p> <p>Greg Davis Rev. Owar Ojulu</p>
<u>Announcements Loop</u>		
	<p><u>Resolution of Thanks</u> <u>Benediction</u></p> <p><u>Adjournment</u></p> <p><u>The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on January 27, 2024, 1:00 p.m. by Zoom or at the First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA.</u></p>	<p>Rev. Dawn Sherwood</p>

By God's grace,
Communicate the Word,
Carry on the Work,
Change the World!

STATED CLERK'S REPORT:

1. During the period since the last regularly stated Presbytery meeting, all correspondence that was received was responded to and/or appropriately routed for review and response to the appropriate entity of Presbytery.

CORRESPONDENCE LOG

Date Received	Received From	Content	Action
November 9, 2023 - email	James Vlosich	Proposed Apprenticeship Agreement	To CPM and FILE
November 6, 2023 - mail	Marion Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	2024 Terms of Call for CP Robert Prinkey	To COM and FILE
November 1, 2023 - mail	Delmont Presbyterian Church	One-year renewal contract with Anthony Catullo	To COM and FILE
October 30, 2023 - email	Christian Associates of SW PA	Note about war in Israel and Gasa	To COUNCIL and FILE
October 30, 2023 - email	Presbytery of Genesee Valley	Regarding overture to amend D-7.0501 regarding minors and vulnerable adults	To COUNCIL and FILE
October 30, 2023 - email	CLC Staff	CLC updates	To COM and FILE
October 27, 2023 - email	Presbyterian Foundation	Regarding online giving page	To COUNCIL and FILE
October 27, 2023 - email	Presbyterian Foundation	Information about webinar encouraging year end online giving	To COM and FILE
October 25, 2023 - email	Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell	One-year contract extension for Rev. Doug Marshall	To COM and FILE
October 15, 2023 - mail	Revloc Presbyterian Church	Invitation for 100 years celebration	To FILE
September 27, 2023 - email	Synod Stated Clerk	Church Discipline Training Information	To ASSOCIATE CLERK/PJC and FILE
September 25, 2023 - mail	Colver Presbyterian Church	Letter advising of desire to dissolve relationship with the Ebensburg Presbyterian Church	To COM and FILE

2. The list of proposed presbytery meeting dates for the 2024 calendar year approved by the Council are presented below. We welcome invitations to serve as meeting host for any of these meetings.
 - o January 27 – Johnstown, First (Hybrid-In person/Zoom)
 - o March 19 – North Huntingdon, New Hope (Hybrid-In person/Zoom)
 - o May 28 – Smock, Pleasant View (Hybrid-In person/Zoom)
 - o September 24 – Pine Springs Camp (Hybrid-In person/Zoom)
 - o November 18 – New Alexandria, Community United (Hybrid-In person/Zoom)
3. Review of the 2022 Session minutes and Church Registers has been completed and submitted to the COM (Appendix A). The minutes and the church registers of the following congregations were not reviewed: Bolivar, Brownsville, Calvin; Brownsville, Hopewell; Delmont; Dunbar, First; Fairchance; Leisenring; Ligonier, Pleasant Grove; Masontown, First; Merrittstown, Dunlap’s Creek; and West Newton, Sewickley United.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Associate Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, Rev. Cliff Foster, presents the following Consent Agenda:

From Executive Committee

1. Following the review of the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Stated Clerk and Associate Stated Clerk, it is **recommended** that the minutes of the Presbytery meeting of the September 26, 2023, be approved.

From the Council

1. Council **recommends** that the Financial Reports presented to the Council and the Presbytery be received and filed for audit. (Appendix ‘B’)
2. Council **recommends** that the Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Mission, and Pine Springs Camp reports presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.
3. Council **recommends** that the written reports of all committees, networks and task forces be received and filed.
4. Council **recommends** the 2024 terms of call for the Executive Presbyter to include:
 - i. Effective Salary-89,835.48 (73,835.48-salary,16,000- housing allowance)
 - ii. Board of Pensions – Pastor Participation plan (39%)
 - iii. Study leave – 1,500 (able to be carried over if unused)
 - iv. Professional services – 1,500
 - v. Professional travel – 4,750

From the Committee on Ministry

From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

From the Nominating Committee

From the Committee on Representation

From the Sewickley Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission

1. The Sewickley Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission **recommends** the report of their meeting as submitted in this packet be received and filed.

Treasurer's Report

INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

This report provides an unaudited overview of the Redstone Presbytery finances for the month ending October 2023.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW / INCOME

For the month of October, funds receipted under the Church Commitment category totaled \$32,728. This amount exceeds the monthly benchmark of \$27,083. YTD receipted total \$251,390. The desired dollar receipted benchmark for this period is \$270,830 or 83% of budget. Presently we are at 77% of budget, a difference of \$19,440.

Total Income recorded for the period is \$37,124, which is above the benchmark of \$36,500. YTD \$306,146 has been recognized, which falls well below a desired benchmark of \$365,000 for the period, a difference of \$58,853 or 11% below budget.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW / EXPENSES

For the current monthly period, expenses just peaked above the desired benchmark of \$36,503 by \$553.00. YTD, expenses exceed budget totaling \$21,769. The central expense culprits building expenses, property insurance, utilities (gas-electric-water) which are timing matters, uncontrollable, or needs that are unavoidable.

EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENSES

For the current period Income (\$1,226) exceeds expenses, and YTD Expenses are greater than Income (-\$93,882). Last year at this time, YTD Income was greater than Expenses (\$3,953).

INVESTMENTS & HOLDINGS

Ameriprise investments for the end of October 2023 had a beginning value of \$621,763. Ending Value for the month totals \$609,666, or an adjusted negative change in value of -\$13,333. YTD, the change in value is positive at \$8,983. Dividends for the year is \$11,490. Withdrawals for the year total \$17,330.

Other Investments & Holdings, end of 3rd quarter (First Commonwealth, PILP, New Covenant, and Petty Cash) total \$393,008.

Total Investments & Holdings = \$1,014,771 (Change in value from September report - \$12,638).

Respectfully Submitted,

John Dickson

MINISTRY AND MISSION REPORTS

Executive Presbyter

Rev. Richard "Skip" Noftzger Executive Presbyter Report	
<i>Communicate the Word, Carry on the Work, Change the World... Together!</i>	
VISION	9/26/2023-11/18/23
Congregation-centered (ENGAGE)	Visible presence within the Presbytery engaging with congregations Church Visits - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visited churches in person for worship services or special events eight times in various congregations. Preached in person and/or online three times in service of congregations. • Moderated, resourced and consulted with two different sessions. Advised other church sessions on concerns related to finances, pastoral needs, and future ministry options. • Consulted and coached the active PNC's (2) in the process of developing the ministry information, discerning, and making call decisions. At least weekly, scanning CLC and making additional referrals. Checking in regularly with them on progress. Working through details of external marketing, search filtering, interviewing and neutral pulpits. • Served as resource person to Committee on Ministry teams engaged with various congregations. • Identified possible options for preaching and other pastoral concerns for congregations without continuing pastoral leadership.
Leadership developed (EQUIP)	Developing and equipping leadership within the Presbytery - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulted and coached on an individual level at least five pastors and future pastors within the presbytery regarding educational needs, personal development, as well as concerns of conflict mediation, pastoral care, and executive leadership. • Worked alongside and resourced various subcommittees of the Presbytery, including staff support anticipating transitions, finance and property on budgeting and necessary building maintenance, nominating on completing recruitment and missions in ongoing support. • Directed, initiated, scheduled, and promoted Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation courses and workshops available to and participated in by six presbyteries of southwestern PA and panhandle of West Virginia. • Coordinated the administration and implementation of the Wee Kirk conference for this year with nineteen participants from our Presbytery receiving personal and professional

	<p>development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in regional pastor gatherings for fellowship and support. • Provided pastoral care for pastors encountering personal and family difficulties and uncertainties in vocation. 	
<p>Collaboration-Districts/Network (ENABLE)</p>	<p>Joined and initiated contact both within and outside Redstone-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active participant in the planning committee for the World Mission Initiative conference being planned for 2024. • Coordinated the work with the steering committee of Wee Kirk in order to begin planning and marketing of the conference and retreat in 2024. • Ongoing engagement with the other presbytery executives in sharing resources, perspectives, and availability of church leadership. • Proactively consulting with the Board of Pensions representatives concerning possible changes in the medical insurance offerings and implications for 2024 and 2025. 	
<p>Partnership in Mission Promoted (EMPOWER)</p>	<p>Promoted and provided leadership in our partnerships in mission -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported our Sudan/S. Sudan Partnership Network through participation, communication, and administrative leadership. Participated in the meetings of the steering committee of the network. Agreed to serve with Sylvia Carlson as the co-coordinator for the next two years. • Assisted the Mission Committee in identifying, supporting and resourcing consideration of additional short term mission trip experiences. • Consulted with the Pine Springs Camp ministry on particular issues of concern going forward. Participated in the PSC annual "Friends" dinner by making the "ask" for support. • Continued service and participation as an ex-officio member of the board of Redstone Highlands. 	
<p>Operational Support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight of the minutes and registration book reviews. Personally reviewed a number of records. Following up with others who have assumed individual responsibility. • Directed necessary maintenance and repairs within the Presbytery center facility. Anticipated reallocation of space 	

	<p>and information technology needs with remote bookkeeping operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with task forces on the development or revision of existing policies in the areas of boundaries training, harassment, family leave and anti-racism. 				
VALUES	Servant Leadership	Flourishing Community	Witness to the World	Generous and effective Stewardship	
	Soli Deo Gloria				

The Great Ends of the Church:
#5 The Promotion of Social Righteousness and
#6 The Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World

GATHERING

God sends the Church to work for justice in the world: exercising its power for the common good; dealing honestly in personal and public spheres; seeking dignity and freedom for all people; welcoming strangers in the land; promoting justice and fairness in the law; overcoming disparities between rich and poor; bearing witness against systems of violence and oppression; and redressing wrongs against individuals, groups, and peoples.

God also sends the Church to seek peace: in the Church universal, within denominations, and at the congregational level; in the world, where nations and religious or ethnic groups make war against one another; and in local communities, schools, workplaces, neighborhoods, and homes. These acts of peacemaking and justice are established upon God's gracious act of reconciliation with us in Jesus Christ, and are a way of participating in Christ's priestly intercession or advocacy for the world.

In the Service for the Lord's Day we proclaim, receive, and enact reconciliation with God in Christ. Through the proclamation of the Word we are given the assurance of freedom and peace in Christ and are inspired to share these gifts with others. Through Baptism and the Lord's Supper we are united with Christ, made one in the Spirit, and empowered to break down the dividing walls of hostility that still separate us from one another. We confess our participation in unjust systems, pray for an end to violence and injustice, offer our gifts to support Christ's liberating work, and commit ourselves to pursue peace and justice in Jesus' name.

(Directory for Worship, W-5.0304)

Prelude

Tony Greendonner

Opening Litany

Let the heavens be glad
and let the earth rejoice!

Christ will reign forever and ever.

The Lord is robed in majesty
and girded in strength.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

God has established the world,
and God's realm will never be shaken.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

God will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

The kingdom of this world
has become the kingdom of our Lord.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Savior,
you pour out your power for the powerless
and your salvation for the lost.

Remember us in your new creation,
so that we may live in peace with you
in the presence of the Holy One,
to whom be all honor and glory,
through you, in the Holy Spirit,
now and forever. **Amen.**

***Hymn: #268 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"**

Crown Him with Many Crowns 268

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;

hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Confession and Pardon

In Christ, God came to reconcile all things, *Col. 1:20*
making peace through the blood of the cross.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Righteous God,
you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all.
We confess that we have not bowed before him,
and are slow to acknowledge his rule.
We give allegiance to the powers of this world,
and fail to be governed by justice and love.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all,
that we may be loyal ambassadors,
obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God has rescued us from the power of evil *Col. 1:13–14*
and claimed us for the realm of Jesus Christ,
in whom we have redemption.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

And may the peace of God be with you all.
And also with you.


Please share signs of peace with one another. You may come forward and touch the waters of baptism to remember the gift of God's grace in your life.

***Gloria Patri: #582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"**

582


Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
 B \flat F B \flat F B \flat F Gm F




1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
 2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
 F B \flat E \flat B \flat Gm7 C7




and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
 C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

THE WORD

Scripture Readings:

Ezekiel 34:11-16 and Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon

Rev. Dawn Sherwood

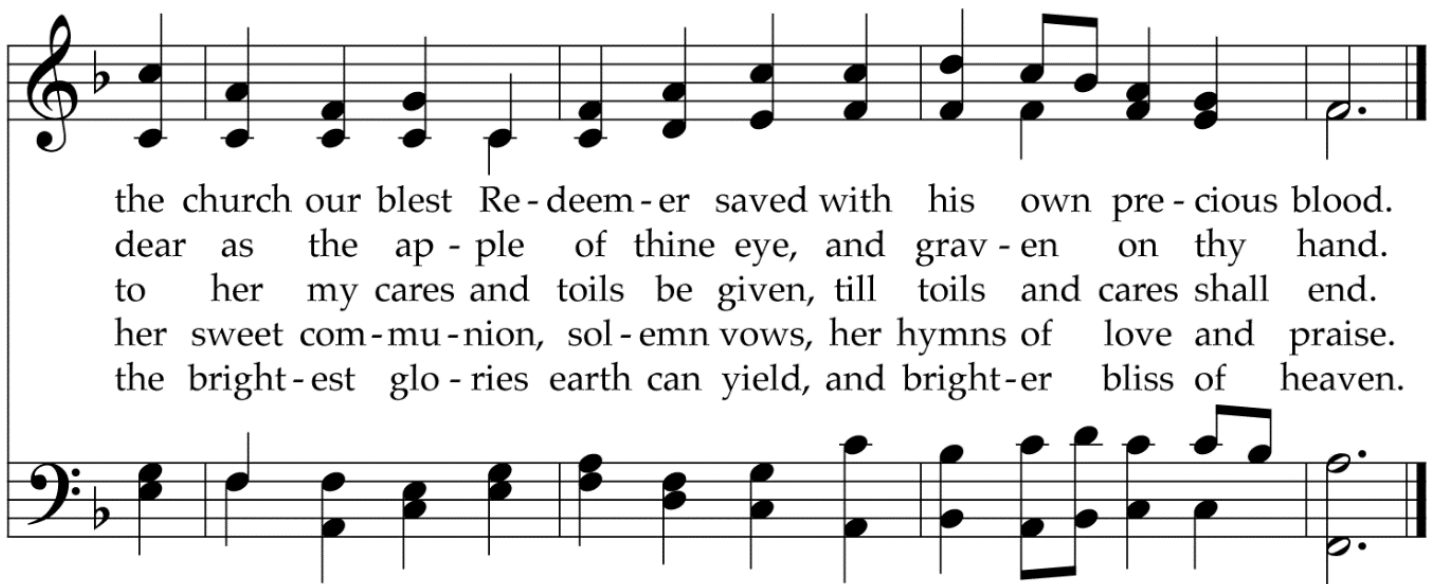
RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn: 310 "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord 310



1 I love thy king - dom, Lord, the house of thine a - bode,
2 I love thy church, O God. Her walls be - fore thee stand,
3 For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers as - cend;
4 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her heaven - ly ways:
5 Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be given



the church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
dear as the ap - ple of thine eye, and grav - en on thy hand.
to her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.
her sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, her hymns of love and praise.
the bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright - er bliss of heaven.

Affirmation of Faith

Elder Glenn Hart, CP

Come, Holy Spirit, and dwell in us.

I believe in Almighty God,

who guided the people in exile

**and in exodus, the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,
the God of foreigners and immigrants.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean,

who was born away from his people and his home,

**who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger,
and returning to his own country**

**suffered the oppression of the tyrant Pontius Pilate,
the servant of a foreign power.**

**Jesus was persecuted, beaten, and finally tortured,
accused and condemned to death unjustly.**

**But on the third day, this scorned Jesus rose from the dead,
not as a foreigner but to offer us citizenship in heaven.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,

**who speaks all languages, lives in all countries,
and reunites all races.**

I believe that the church is the secure home

for the foreigner and for all believers who constitute it,

who speak the same language and have the same purpose.

I believe that the communion of the saints begins

when we accept the diversity of the saints.

I believe in the forgiveness of sin, which makes us all equal,

and in reconciliation, which identifies us more

than does race, language, or nationality.

I believe that in the resurrection

God will unite us as one people

in which all are distinct

and all are alike at the same time.

Beyond this world, I believe in life eternal

in which no one will be an immigrant

but all will be citizens of God's kingdom,

which will never end. Amen.

—”The Immigrant’s Creed,” José Luis Casal

Offering Our Gifts & Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Doxology: #609 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

SERVICE MUSIC

609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

D A D

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

Bm A D G D Bm E A D

high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

D

God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

G A D Em A Bm

one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

Em D G A Em G A D

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

THE TABLE

Lord's Supper

Rev. Susan Blank

Invitation to the Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pray...

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord

God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest.

...great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lords Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come.

**Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,**

for ever and ever.

Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Please come forward to receive the communion elements, return to your pew, and we will partake as one, once all have been served. If you wish to remain seated, a server will bring communion to you in your pew. Gluten free communion is specially marked.

*Hymn during Communion: 501 “Feed Us, Lord”

Feed Us, Lord

501

Musical notation for the first line of the hymn. The key signature is two sharps (D major), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: D, G/B, Asus, A, D, G/B, Asus, A, G, D/F#.

1 Feed us, Lord. Feed us, Lord. In the bro - ken bread,
2 Quench us, Lord. Quench us, Lord. On this thirst - y ground,
3 Fill us, Lord. Fill us, Lord, with the bread and wine
4 Lead us, Lord. Lead us, Lord, nour-ished here by Christ,

Musical notation for the second line of the hymn. The key signature is two sharps (D major), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: G, A, B, Em, D/F#, G, D.

be re - vealed a - gain. Come and feed our hearts, O Lord.
may your love flow down. Come and quench our hearts, O Lord.
of the ris - en Christ. Come and fill our hearts, O Lord.
giv - en strength for life. Come and lead our hearts, O Lord.

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

*Hymn: 175 "Seek Ye First"

175

Seek Ye First

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia,

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;
3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

al - le - lu - ia,

and its righ - teous - ness,
seek, and you shall find;
but by ev - ery word

al - le - lu - ia,

and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you.
 knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you.
 that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.

al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

The business portion of the meeting resumes.

Rev. Dawn Sherwood will offer the benediction at the close of the meeting.

Notes and copyright information for hymns:

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN

Crown Him with Many Crowns 268

This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

TEXT: Matthew Bridges, 1851
MUSIC: George Job Elvey, 1868

DIADEMATA
SMD

SERVICE MUSIC

582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008
MUSIC: Paul M. Vasile, 2008
Text Adapt. and Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile

GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord 310

One of the oldest American hymn texts in continuous use, this paraphrase of Psalm 137 was created by a president of Yale University while compiling a popular revision of Watts's *Psalms of David*. The arranger of the tune was the clerk of a Presbyterian church in London.

TEXT: Timothy Dwight, 1800
MUSIC: *The Universal Psalmist*, 1763; adapt. Aaron Williams, 1770

ST. THOMAS
SM

SERVICE MUSIC

609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1989
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623; harm. Hal H. Hopson, 1998
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company
Music Harm. © 1998 Hope Publishing Company

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
LM with alleluias
(alternate harmonization, 10)

Feed Us, Lord

501

Not many Lord's Supper hymns call attention to the post-Resurrection meals Christ shared with his disciples, but the first stanza here alludes to the meal at Emmaus, when he was made known in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:13–35), and stanza three refers to “the risen Christ.”

TEXT and MUSIC: Greg Scheer, 2007
Text and Music © 2007 Greg Scheer

FEED US
3.3.5.5.7

JESUS CHRIST: LIFE

175

Seek Ye First

The author and composer wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The later stanzas, based respectively on Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4 emerged anonymously. Such meditative singing of scripture is an important form of sung prayer.

TEXT: Stanza 1, Karen Lafferty, 1971, alt.; stanzas 2–3, anon.; Spanish trans. anon.;
Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee
MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1971
Text and Music © 1972 Universal Music – Brentwood Publishing/Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa dba CCCM Music
(admin. Universal Music – Brentwood Benson Publishing)

LAFFERTY
Irregular

ACTION AGENDA
Nominating Committee

Actions Items

- **The Nominating Committee recommends nomination of Ruling Elder Susan Keaney (Newlonsburg) to serve as Vice-Moderator for 2024.**
- **The Nominating Committee recommends Ruling Elder Bobbi Jo Huebner (Belle Vernon, First) to the Committee on Ministry, Class of 2025**

Information Items

- There remain a couple openings for positions on standing committees. These include:
 - 1 Male Ruling Elder - Council
 - 1 Male Ruling Elder - Committee on Ministry

Please submit names of possible Ruling Elders for consideration to the Nominating Committee through either Glenn Hart, or Skip Noftzger.

Additionally, there are always opportunities on various subcommittees, task forces and networks.

Action Items

- **Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation Program Report.**

Information Items

November 7, 2023, Meeting

1. Approval of minutes of Oct. 3, 2023, with correction that Kristen Emrick was excused; **MSP as amended.**

2. **Updates on Candidates/IPLF participants:**

Update on Danielle Kendig – Geoff and Robin will meet with Danielle Nov. 30 to review status/remaining criteria. Danielle preaching at Johnstown First in coming weeks.

Update on Bill Poninsky from John Manon – Progress stalled as Bill has been devoting more time to caring for his ailing mother.

Geoff hoping to promote the IPLF program at November Presbytery.

3. Consultation with candidate **James Vlosich**, his second visit with CPM in 2023.

Regarding field education – James has submitted his packet to Fuller and is waiting for Fuller to approve the specifics of his outline. Apprenticeship will begin Jan. 10 as a 10-week winter quarter assignment along with other seminary classes yet to be selected. James has met with Molly Hall as supervising pastor to complete Fuller documentation, and with Fairchance and Trinity regarding his roles. Fairchance is looking for older adult outreach as focus, which will supplement his youth staff assignments at Trinity. Given that apprenticeship is 10 hours per week, James will remain employed at Trinity, but may step away on Sundays as needed to fulfill apprenticeship. There is a possibility that James can continue with Fairchance for a second 10 weeks in the spring quarter.

Regarding class selections – With projected graduation in Spring 2025, James will continue to take classes during apprenticeship. Will review with Fuller academic advisor Nov. 27 what is available in the winter/spring quarters to keep pace. When he is choosing classes, James said he is looking for counseling classes because he believes he will need those in his pastorate, and he enjoys them. CPM advised that generally ongoing counseling in the church setting should be referred to professionals and would not be his responsibility, nor his area of expertise. It appears James is selecting classes out of interest, not necessarily for their relevance to ministry.

Regarding opportunities to preach and provide pastoral care, James shared experiences of officiating at a funeral, filling the pulpit, and other assignments. The committee advised that James needs to deepen pastoral care experiences. James shared that he is conducting a Bible study with SeniorLife and sees this as a springboard. A Fuller course on Fundamentals of Chaplaincy was suggested by CPM as something he should register for.

Regarding self-care, James is positive about his employment, the upcoming apprenticeship, and his solid relationship with his spouse. To manage stress, James lifts weights, exercises, and plays guitar. James equated self-care with his ability to care for others.

Regarding sense of call – James describes college and career adult ministry/small groups as his passion. As he has progressed through seminary, he stated he is looking and listening more in his worklife at Trinity and trying to encourage others to take leadership roles, rather than just assume the roles. He would like experience with Baptisms.

Regarding ordination exams – James has passed Bible Content exam. Worship and Sacrament might be a good next step given his current experience.

The committee prayed for James.

A lengthy discussion ensued after James left the meeting regarding the committee’s concerns regarding mentorship for James and opportunities for him to shadow/partner other pastors to allow him to deepen his understanding of the pastor’s role in real-life situations. Some reservations were expressed regarding his “rose-colored” glasses approach to the “tasks” he is performing. Perhaps the second field education experience can be more focused on “in the moment” pastoral care. Desire to review his Fuller outline and progress early in the apprenticeship was noted to evaluate how the experience is meeting desired goals. All agreed that more diverse experiences and time will be beneficial as James grows into his call.

4. Adjournment/Prayer by Geoff
5. Future meeting schedule/consultations
 - a. December 6---no meeting – Geoff is concluding his term on CPM.

October 3, 2023, Meeting

6. Approval of minutes of Sept. 5, 2023, as written; **MSP**.
7. As part of a review of Master Chart – Roster, Liaisons and Checklist, discussion ensued with **Jackie Eckenrod** regarding practicums and supervision. She is preaching in a regular rotation at Dunlap’s Creek, and in her home congregation at Westminster when her pastor, Rev. Jennifer Frayer-Griggs, is away. Skip asked Jackie to pursue with Jen if she is agreeable to supervising the pastoral care and sacraments practicums. Church leadership would be better pursued away from her home church. John Manon offered to assist Jackie through the West Newton congregation.

Regarding **Tammy Noss**, she will meet with Skip regarding future opportunities to preach either in Redstone or Kiski presbyteries given that she lives in Blairsville and in light of the call of Lynn Mance to serve Avonmore where Tammy had preached.

Regarding **James Vlosich**, his proposal packet is due to Fuller Seminary by October 21 to set parameters for experience at Fairchance for January 2024 start. Committee will meet with James Nov. 7.

8. Geoff provided an agenda note that Boundaries and Ethics Training is needed every 3 years and applicable to Inquirers, Candidates, IPFL students, Commissioned Pastors, Teaching Elders. There was no discussion.
9. Consultation with **Danielle Kendig** via phone included a review of her coursework, exam status, and field education. This is the second time she met with CPM in 2023. She reported feeling recovered from

recent surgery and good about family life.

Regarding classes, she is enrolled in two courses - Theology II (in person at the seminary) and Paul and His Context (online). She is on track to finish courses in Spring 2024. She dropped an elective course this term and will pick up an elective in her final semester.

Regarding exams, she just completed the Theology exam and is awaiting word on the status. Given that she is just now taking the second Theology course, she may not pass this time, but she wanted the experience. She will retake the Bible Content exam in winter of 2024 when next offered, and she is actively preparing for the exam through the use of a binder of sample questions passed among seminary students, and more intentional scripture reading, particularly of the Old Testament prophets with whom she is less familiar. The committee suggested several resources for her consideration.

Regarding field ed experience, Danielle has yet to secure a second placement although various ideas were suggested to her previously. She successfully completed the first field ed at Johnstown Second with Art Moffat. She feels confident in church leadership and inner workings given her longtime employment at Westmont. She is eager for more autonomy to celebrate Sacraments and has been compiling a resource folder of ideas from other places where she has preached or attended. Preaching opportunities have included Somerset UCC, Trinity Presbyterian in New Florence, Pine Springs, and upcoming at Johnstown First.

To accelerate securing a second field ed placement, Robin offered to compile a list of locations and contacts based on ideas from the committee and request that she report back to the committee in November regarding the status. The ideas were based on proximity to her home as well as opportunities to enlarge her comfort zone. The committee is hoping all of her requirements can be met in close proximity to the conclusion of her courses. *(The list was emailed Wednesday, Oct. 4 and copied to Geoff and Skip, and Danielle acknowledged receipt.)*

The committee prayed for Danielle.

10. Adjournment/Prayer by Jackie

11. Future meeting schedule/consultations

- a. November 7--- Meet with James
- b. December 6---no meeting

Presbytery Council

[Links to complete copies of the Minutes of Council can be found online at www.redstone.org under the "Presbytery Council Meeting Dates" tab.]

Presentation and Action Items

- **The Council recommends the approval of the 2024 budget presented both in the September and November meetings. (See Appendix "C")**
- **Addiction Ministry Network presentation**
- **Racial Justice and Reconciliation presentation**
- **Pine Springs Camp report**
- **Mission network report – congregational missions**

Information Items

October 24, 2023, Meeting

Rev. Curtis Paul called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. A quorum of members was established by those in person and participation by Zoom videoconferencing.

Rev. Paul noted that members had received the agenda for the meeting and inquired whether there were any additions or revisions. Hearing none, the agenda was approved by consent.

Bobbi Jo Huebner presented the devotions and opened the meeting with prayer.

- The minutes of the September 5, 2023, meeting were corrected on attendance and the revised version was approved by **MSP**.

Moderator Report

Rev. Sherwood shared with the Council the two ordination or installation services in September. Rev. Sara Sadler was ordained and installed at Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence. Rev. Becka Abbott was installed at McClellandtown Presbyterian Church.

Executive Presbyter Report

Rev. Noftzger discussed some of the needs for new policies resulting from the Book of Order amendments within the last year. He noted the need for an "anti-racism" policy by reminding the Council of previous statements on issues of racism. With the need to present a "policy" for the Presbytery as well as providing a possible template for the councils (sessions) of our congregations, he solicited volunteers to serve on a task force to develop both. Rev. Laura Blank, Rev. Dawn Sherwood, Rev. Cliff Foster and Rev. Curtis Paul volunteered to serve.

Rev. Noftzger inquired of the Council whether there would be interest in having a one-day planning retreat for the Council in 2024. Noting that the Council serves as the leadership on behalf of the Presbytery for shared ministry and mission, the retreat would focus on high-level planning for the next couple years.

By **consent**, the Council agreed to hold a one-day retreat (9:30-3:00) on the day of the scheduled meeting in January (January 16, 2024).

Stated Clerk Report

- The Correspondence Log for was reviewed as submitted.
- Rev. Noftzger confirmed the dates for all Council meetings in 2023. They are the following:
 - **November 28**
- The scheduled 2024 Presbytery gatherings were confirmed with the following hosts.
 - January 27, 2024 – First Presbyterian, Johnstown
 - March 19, 2024---New Hope Presbyterian, North Huntingdon
 - May 28, 2024 – Pleasant View Presbyterian, Smock
 - September 24, 2024---Pine Springs Camp (daytime)
 - November 23, 2024---Community United Presbyterian, New Alexandria

Treasurer Report

John Dickson had submitted a written report based upon the end of September. He recognized the significant ways that income from church contributions has fallen behind. Several questions were raised and answered concerning various individual parts of the report.

Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp

A written report from the Executive Director was provided. Greg reported on the successful fall retreats with one of them consisting entirely of summer campers returning for the retreat.

Chuck West, President of the Pine Springs Camp, Inc. board was introduced. Mr. West rehearsed the relationship between the Presbytery and Pine Springs Camp, Inc. regarding the use of property and approvals for improvements and changes. For exclusive use of the property, the ministry is responsible for maintenance, insurance and taxes. With that background, he reviewed a motion from the Pine Springs Camp Board regarding authorizing the sale of timber on the remote part of the property for forest maintenance. The motion also designated the use of any funds for the timber sale to be used in maintenance for the A Frame and the covered bridge. Upon conclusion of the report, it was **MSP** to concur with the PSC Board motion and to authorize the sale of the timber with the designated use of funds for repairs and maintenance on the A Frame and covered bridge.

It was agreed to receive the reports **by consent** of the Moderator, Executive Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Treasurer, and Executive Director of PSC.

Sub Committees/Networks/Task Forces

Staff Support

- A written report was provided based upon the last meeting.
- Bobbi Jo Huebner reviewed the proposed job description and timetable for the position of Administrative Operations Manager position (replacement of retiring Administrative Assistant). She noted the search and hiring committee will consist of the EP, herself, and Jack Battenhouse.
- It was **MSP** to approve the position description and timetable for hiring the candidate.

Worship

- Rev. Laura Blank reviewed the suggestions about a possible overarching theme(s) for the worship experiences at Presbytery gatherings. She shared that the focus would be on the “calling of the church.” January would serve as the celebration of our calling while the other four meetings would focus on the

calling as a community of faith, hope, love and witness, respectively.

Addictions Ministry Network

- A written report was provided.
- The new publication of “Into the Light” has been completed and will be made available.
- The network requested 5 minutes on the September Presbytery agenda. It was **MSP** to grant that request and include on the agenda.

Mission

- There was no report after the October meeting had been cancelled.

Budget, Finance and Stewardship

- No written report.
- Council was reminded that the 2024 budget would be presented at the upcoming Presbytery meeting for a second reading, deliberation, and approval.

Racial Justice and Reconciliation

- Rev. Sue Washburn and Rev. Curtis Paul reported on their participation and completion of the workshop offered by Rev. Jeff Eddings from Pittsburgh. Described as personally challenging, they informed the Council that a few of them are intending to be trained as certified facilitators for the workshop going forward. Upon certification, trained facilitators will be presented to the Council for authorization as approved facilitators available for workshops in the Presbytery.
- The network requested time on the November Presbytery agenda for their regular “Moment for Justice.”.

Presbyterian Women

- No report was included.

Communications

- No report.

September Presbytery Agenda

- With the inclusion of the added requests during this Council meeting, the agenda for the November Presbytery meeting was presented. It was **MSP** to approve the agenda as submitted.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

CLOSING PRAYERS/ADJOURNMENT

It was **MSP** to adjourn with prayer at 7:46 p.m. Len Morgan led the Council in prayers of thanksgiving and providential care.

Committee on Ministry

Presentation and Action Items

- **The Committee on Ministry recommends approval of the revisions in the Ethics Policy to include Boundaries and Ethics Training (see Appendix “D”)**
- **The Committee on Ministry recommends the dissolution of the Sewickley Administrative Commission.**

Information Items

November 2, 2023, Meeting

Approval of Minutes

MSP approval of the minutes of October 5, 2023.

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Meeting Documents).
- **MSP** to approve the interim pastor contract starting October 1, 2023 between Grace Community Presbyterian Church and Rev. Dr. Doug Marshal.
- **MSP** to approve the interim pastor contact starting November 1, 2023 between Delmont Presbyterian Church and Rev. Anthony Catullo.
- Minutes Review
- Ethics and Boundaries task force
 - Ethics and Boundaries task force presented the revised policy to the COM.
 - **MSP** to recommend to the Presbytery the revised Presbytery of Redstone Policy for Ethical Conduct and Boundaries by Persons in Positions of Religious Leadership incorporating the respective Book of Amendments 2022 requirements.
- Sewickley Presbyterian Administrative Commission
 - **MSP** to recommend to the Presbytery, if the way be clear, to dissolve the Administrative Commission working with Sewickley Presbyterian Church, West Newton, as their work is complete.

Report of the Moderator

- Moderator appointments - None
- Update from the Westmont team of COM members on an upcoming planned meeting with Westmont Session as part of the process to assist in resolution/mediation at Westmont. The reconciliation team has been speaking with members, the Session, and pastor. Additional meetings and interviews are scheduled.

REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
 - No examinations scheduled.
 - Boundaries training will be taking place on November 11 in person at Maplewood Presbyterian Church or by Zoom.
- Action Items
 - None

Search and Call

- Information Items
 - Transition Chart (handout)
 - First Presbyterian Church, Irwin PNC has begun to receive both computer referrals and self-referrals.
 - Grace Presbyterian Church has had an in-person interview with a candidate and a “neutral” pulpit is being arranged.
 - Ebensburg and Colver agreement for shared pastoral services will be ending on December 31, 2023. EP met with Ebensburg session to talk about short term options with Rev. Ojulu and long-term pastoral options.
- Action Items
 - None.

COM Liaison Responsibilities and Resources

- Action items follow up
 - Identity who is the principal contact name/email for Mission within the congregation...What are their current mission projects---local, regional/national, international? Any short-term mission trips/partnerships?
 - Boundaries and Ethics workshop required
- Ministry reflections for conversations
 - Possible Questions for Pastor
 - Do you have a group of other pastors that you get together with regularly for personal and professional support and accountability?
 - Tell me about when you were called to pastoral ministry. How has your understanding of that calling and its practices changed over the years?
 - What are the ways that we might be praying for you, your family, the ministry?
 - Possible Questions for Clerks
 - Do you have/need a copy of the Clerk’s handbook (Redstone Presbytery)?
 - Are you aware of the more recent BOO amendments which expect all councils (including sessions) to have particular policies?
 - Possible Questions for PNC Chairs
 - Where are you in the process?
 - Are you using social media (Facebook, Linked In, etc.) in the promotion of your opportunity?
 - How might we be helpful to you in this search and discernment process?
 - Possible Questions for Others
 - Where are you seeing God at work in your congregation?
 - Are there areas of ministry that you would benefit from collaboration with other congregations?
 - What plans are being made for the Advent season in your congregation? How might Advent and Christmas also serve as an outreach opportunity in your community?
- Resources within Presbytery
 - Articles and Resources
 - Education and Nurture
 - Workshops for the fall include:
 - 11/11 – Boundaries and Ethics in Church Leadership – Michelle Snyder, Holy Cow
 - 12/9 – Learning to “Exegete” the Community – Scott Hagley, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
 - Ministry strategy consultation – Skip Noftzger

Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:
Prayers for guidance from the Holy Spirit with working to overcome issues with church building. Prayers for strength in managing churches finances and the impact on pastors and congregations. Prayers for new people drawn into membership and for younger people to become more active. Prayers for stewardship campaign and for people to find their spiritual home.
Prayers for peace between nations at war. Prayers for safe travel. Prayers for young people on college campuses. Prayers for health, for recovery from surgery, and for those dealing with cancer. Prayers for those in the hospital with little ones at home.
Praises for anniversary celebrations from 60th, 100th, and 250th. Praises for dinners, successful fund raisers, and starting men's breakfast. Praises for concerts, indoor carol sing, and the 40th Annual Festival of the Nativity at First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown. Praises for successful return from mission trip in West Virginia.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time:
Ed Gray, Molly Hall, Glenn Hart, Donna Havrisko, Jim Hepler, Donna Hess, Joey Hickok, Doug Holben, Steve Hospodar.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time:
Pleasant Grove Presbyterian Church, Ligonier; Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell; Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell; First Presbyterian Church, Masontown; McClellandtown Presbyterian Church; Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian Church, Merrittstown; Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant; First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville; Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville.

Adjournment

It was MSP to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. with prayers offered by Rev. Derek Campbell.

October 5, 2023, Meeting

Approval of Minutes

MSP approval of the minutes of September 7, 2023.

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Meeting Documents).
- Minutes Review

Report of the Moderator

- Moderator appointments - None
- Update from the Westmont team of COM members on an upcoming planned meeting with Westmont Session as part of the process to assist in resolution/mediation at Westmont.
- Update on discussions of the potential separation of the shared pastor between Calvert and Ebensburg as budgets become a challenge.

REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
 - No examinations scheduled.

- Will initiate orientation meeting with the two new pastors.
- Action Items
 - None

Search and Call

- Information Items
 - Transition Chart (handout)
 - Have received First Presbyterian Church, Irwin MDP, the Search and Call subcommittee reviewed their submission.
- Action Items
 - **MP** of the approval of the MDP of the First Presbyterian Church, Irwin.

COM Liaison Responsibilities and Resources

- Action items follow up
 - Identity who is the principal contact name/email for Mission within the congregation...What are their current mission projects---local, regional/national, international? Any short-term mission trips/partnerships?
 - Boundaries and Ethics workshop required
- Ministry reflections for conversations
 - Possible Questions for Pastor
 - Do you have a group of other pastors that you get together with regularly for personal and professional support and accountability?
 - Tell me about when you were called to pastoral ministry. How has your understanding of that calling and its practices changed over the years?
 - What are the ways that we might be praying for you, your family, the ministry?
 - Possible Questions for Clerks
 - Completion of the 2022 minutes review
 - Polity workshop on 10/14
 - New Book of Order bulk order/new revisions
 - Do you have/need a copy of the Clerk's handbook (Redstone Presbytery)?
 - Possible Questions for PNC Chairs
 - Where are you in the process?
 - Are you using social media (Facebook, Linked In, etc.) in the promotion of your opportunity?
 - How might we be helpful to you in this search and discernment process?
 - Possible Questions for Others
 - Where are you seeing God at work in your congregation?
 - Are there areas of ministry that you would benefit from collaboration with other congregations?
 - Do you have a chairperson for mission in your church? Do you have contact information for that person in order that we might begin sharing mission projects?
- Resources within Presbytery
 - Articles and Resources
 - Education and Nurture
 - Workshops for the fall include:
 - 10/14 – Being and Leading Presbyterian (Polity) – Randall Clow, Stated Clerk, Beaver-Butler
 - 11/11 – Boundaries and Ethics in Church Leadership – Michelle Snyder, Holy Cow

- 12/9 – Learning to “Exegete” the Community – Scott Hagley, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
- Ministry strategy consultation – Skip Noftzger

Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:
 - Prayers for building progress, for continued growth in attendance, and for new pastors getting acclimated. Praises and blessings of pastoral relationships that are a good fit.
 - Praises for new ministries in adult education; vision planning; and music ministries with rotation of musicians providing different styles.
 - Prayers for PNC when the progress is slow and limited candidates accepting interview invitations. Prayers for churches with small member sessions as they look for solutions to ensure they are progressing the work of the church even when members cannot meet due to health issues. Prayers for the Wee Kirk Conference: for those attending and those presenting. Prayers for the difficult decisions of cutting salaries to meet budget.
 - Praises for kids choir growing; for youth groups meeting and young adults being represented. Praises for fall rummage sale, apple pie sales, for volunteers making pumpkin rolls, and for craft fairs.
 - Prayers for those with health challenges, for those going through cancer, and for those undergoing surgery. Prayers for those who grieve.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time: Terry Carnahan, Anthony Catullo, Carole Isley Corey, Gene Degitz, Lisa Dormire, Ron Durika, Kristen Emrick, Patrick Ewing, Jim Farrer, Gary Filson, Terry Carnahan.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time: Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, Dunbar; Ebensburg Presbyterian Church; First Presbyterian Church, Fairchance; Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church, Farmington; First Presbyterian Church, Fayette City; Little Redstone Presbyterian Church, Fayette City; First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg; Maplewood Presbyterian Church; Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg; First Presbyterian Church, Irwin.

Adjournment

It was **MSP** to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. with prayers offered by Rev Jim Farrer.

Mission Network

November 9, 2023, Meeting

Prayer Requests:

Owar thanked everyone for our prayers.

Debby Koenig thanked everyone for their prayers for surgery.

The meeting was opened in prayer by Sylvia Carlson.

Business:

1. November Presbytery meeting offering will be designated to PDA for Israel and Palestine relief.
2. Rev. Doug Rehberg, Interim Pastor at Irwin Pres, presented the “Blessings Board” ministry that started during his work at a church in the Pittsburgh Presbytery. He gave a history of how the ministry started, the engagement of the First Presbyterian, Irwin congregation and how it continues serving the western PA communities today.

There are opportunities for volunteers to assist those in need with furniture and small appliances, as well as opportunities for those in need to choose needed furnishings. Now at Irwin, the donation pick-up program has expanded to the local area and has been very well received. Doug offered to provide a tour of the Shaler warehouse facility at any time. The warehouses (2) are open 3 days a week and 1 evening a week, for a “Day of Blessing”. He brought brochures about the ministry and they are available at the Presbytery office.

3. Mission database update: Data for 45 churches has been entered and spreadsheet created. Of the non-responders, most have a membership of less than 50. Skip and Debby will work to prepare a summary of common missions supported by the churches for distribution and facilitating cooperation among congregational mission committees.
4. Mission Trip to St. Albans, West Virginia October 22-27/23 report: 5 volunteers participated. Work was accomplished at the Hezekiah House and another location. The next trip will be in the Spring, avoiding the Easter holidays.
5. Another Mission Fair was discussed to be held during September, 2024 Presbytery meeting being hosted at Pine Springs.
6. NTC (Juba) campaign: discussion ensued regarding the best mechanisms to spread the need to the Presbytery churches beginning in 2024. Stories and videos were discussed. Need folks to prepare the videos for viewing.
7. Next Meeting December 14, 2023 at 11am.

Respectfully submitted,
Debby Koenig

Presbyterian Women Report - No Written Report

Pine Springs Camp Report



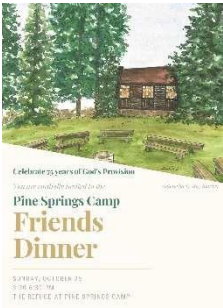
CELEBRATING OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

As we come to the end of our 75th year of offering Christian Camping opportunities we are grateful for all the ways we were reminded of not only the rich history of Pine Springs Camp but more importantly the transformational ministry that has occurred at this “thin place”

where thousands have been drawn into a closer relationship with God.

The 75th Anniversary Celebration in June, the Redstone Presbytery Worship service in July and the upcoming Friends Dinner which will be held at camp are reminders that there are many partners in our ministry, from the humble beginnings when the camp was built to the current multitude of individuals and churches who support our ministry so that campers may encounter Jesus Christ in vital way. The camp is grateful to those that have gone before and those that are currently praying, supporting, and encouraging the ministry of Pine Springs Camp.

FRIENDS DINNER IS AT CAPACITY



We are delighted that we were overflowing with those that love the ministry at our Friends Dinner on Sunday, October 29. Over 240 people were at our end of the year event which is the major fundraiser for our general operating budget.

The PSC Friends Dinner Committee, consisting of people with amazing talents and heart for Pine Springs, has been a blessing for many years. They have planned a fun, more casual event with a camp Bar-B-Que, Silent Auction and a creative program that will highlight how God has used Pine Springs Camp throughout our history!

GRATEFUL FOR OUR FALL RETREATS/DATES FOR OUR WINTER AND SPRING RETREATS

One of the aspects that may be overlooked are the retreats that we run from September-May. This fall our retreats were heavily attended. The retreats are an important way that we continue to invest in our campers and offer opportunities for campers to grow in their faith.

FALL FUSION- In September we had close to 40 campers attend our two day and one night retreat for 4th, 5th and 6th graders. The speaker was Rachel Sanders, a past summer staff who challenged the campers to continue to follow Jesus the Good Shepherd as they learned this summer through our study of Psalm 23.

WOMEN IN THE WOODS- 60 women converged onto camp in October and as always, had a wonderful time of fellowship, being outdoors, doing fall crafts and learning God’s word! The speaker for the weekend was Kendra Pope, who spoke on releasing your fears to the Lord. It is always great to see so many women enjoy the fellowship and the beauty of Pine Springs Camp.

THE BIG 1- 80 middle and high school campers attended this retreat. In previous years we had a mixture of summer campers and youth groups; this year all 80 retreaters were past campers. Josh Sumpter, Chaplain at Waynesburg University, encouraged campers to listen to God’s voice in the midst of other voices that vie for our attention in our high tech, social media saturated culture. It is refreshing and a blessing to know that our middle school and high school campers just want to come back to camp for a weekend.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE UPCOMING RETREATS

REMIX-MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL WINTER RETREAT- February 9-11

WOMEN IN THE WOODS-March 15-16

CATALYST MEN'S BACKBACKING TRIP-March 22-24Pine Springs Camp Report

END OF YEAR ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

To meet the goals of our general operating budget, our End of the Year Drive is just around the corner. There will be several ways churches and individuals can participate in this program. Be looking for more information within the next few weeks!

THE RECRUITING SEASON BEGINS

We are beginning to recruit campers and summer staff. Please let us know if you would like one of our staff to visit your church and talk to youth and families about our summer camping opportunities.



The 2023 Winning Team from
Jenners Rod and Gun Club

4TH ANNUAL SPORTING CLAY EVENT RE-CAP

Our Sporting Clay Fundraising Event was another success. This year 55 men and women participated, the most ever! It was a beautiful day on the Highlands course at 7-Springs. In addition to the participants, we had a multitude of sponsors who gave to help raise close to \$8000 for the camp.

We are grateful for each participant and sponsor. A special thank you is extended to Ryan Hauser and Rolling Rock Equipment who helped organize our day and was a Major Sponsor.

**YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR THE MINISTRY OF PINE SPRINGS CAMP
ARE APPRECIATED.**

Discernment Team/Administrative Commission Reports

Sewickley Presbyterian Administrative Commission

Meeting Minutes for November 6, 2023

- Approve the Administrative Commission meeting minutes from April 18, 2023
- **MOTION** to approve the Administrative Commission meeting minutes from April 18, 2022, as written; **MSP**.

Review of the Agenda of the meeting

- Welcome to our guests – Twana Maturkanic and Sharon Williams
- **MOTION** to give voice to Twana Maturkanic and Sharon Williams in the meeting; **MSP**.

Reports:

Report of the Chair – Rev. Ed Gray

- The Administrative Commission expresses its gratitude to Amanda Albright for her years of service as the treasurer.
- **MOTION** to elect Sharon Williams as treasurer for 2024; **MSP**.
- Report of the Treasurer - Amanda Albright
- **MOTION** to receive the April through October Treasurer's reports; **MSP**.

2024 Communion Schedule

- **MOTION** to approve the 2024 Communion Schedule; **MSP**.

2024 Terms of Call

- The COM has raised the 2024 minimum terms of call by 2% of the effective salary.
- The COM has recommended an increase of 3% of the effective salary over 2023 for all continuing pastors.
- **MOTION** to approve a 3% increase in effective salary for Pastor Karen Kifer; **MSP**.

2024 Budget Discussion

- Review of the 2024 Budget
- Expected income is based on manse rental plus the actual income from 2023 prorated to 12 months.
- Expenses are based on the actual expenses from 2023 prorated to 12 months.
- Pastor's salary increase complies with the COM's recommended increase for pastors in continuing service.
- The First Fruits Pledge for 2024 was increased based on the Executive Presbyter's letter explaining the need for increased donations to support Redstone's ongoing missions and outreach projects.
- **MOTION** to approve the 2024 Budget as amended; **MSP**.

Redstone First Fruit Commitment

- The commission agreed to an extra donation of \$100 to Redstone Presbytery in response to Executive Presbyter's letter explaining the need for increased donations.
- **MOTION** to donate \$100 to Redstone Presbytery, designated for the IPLF Program to train new lay pastors; **MSP**.

Report of the Pastor – Karen Kifer

- The Children's Bible Study has resumed – Thursdays at 5 p.m.
- The Adult Bible Study continues - Wednesdays at 3 p.m.
- Movie Matinee - meets once a month. On October 27, 2023, we went to Greensburg Theater to see Life After Death.
- The church's website is complete and went live on August 2, 2023. The address is

www.sewickleypresbyterianchurch.com

- Karen Kifer attended a Small Church Workshop on October 21, 2023, at First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, PA. There was no cost for this workshop. Rev. Jim Farrer of Vital Church shared that we are often misled by the mega-churches we see on TV and social media. Most “normal” churches have an average attendance of 18-40 people. He reminded us that Jesus started with 12 disciples and a Jewish synagogue is a legal entity with 10 members. Small, even micro churches can play a vital role in the body of Christ. They worship God, disciple believers, provide fellowship, and support local communities.

Administrative Report – Karen Kifer

- Call Congregational Meeting for November 12, 2023, after 9:30 a.m. service for the purpose of:
- Elect Elders for the Class of 2026 (Connie Keefer, Twana Maturkanic, Sharon Williams)
- Present the 2023 Annual Report, including the 2024 Budget
- Based on preliminary discussion and agreement by the Commission members, the Congregation meeting has been announced and printed in the bulletin a minimum of two times.
- **MOTION** to call a congregational meeting on November 12, 2023 after the 9:30 a.m. service; **MSP**.
- **MOTION** to designate Karen Kifer as the moderator representing the Administrative Commission to the congregational meeting on November 12, 2023; **MSP**.
- The 2023 Annual Report draft was reviewed and amended.
- Request dissolution of Administrative Commission at the November 18, 2023, Redstone Presbytery meeting
- **MOTION** to request the dissolution of the Administrative Commission at the November 18, 2023, Redstone Presbytery meeting; **MSP**.

Building Report – Karen Kifer

- The church’s lawn tractor needed repairs and general maintenance due to its numerous years of service.
- New decorations have been added for the Fall, and we will enjoy updated Christmas decorations, as well.
- We have replaced light bulbs and completed general maintenance of the building.
- Thank you to everyone who helped clean, maintain, and decorate our church.

Mission – Karen Kifer

- The church collection for Mendon Elementary School's winter boot project will conclude next Sunday. So far, we have over \$600. The school guidance counselor and nurse select the children most in need of warm winter boots. The principal and school secretary select a few different styles of appropriate boots. Each selected child is called to the office to pick out their favorite style. Our church purchases an Amazon gift card that the school uses to pay for the children’s boots. When the boots arrive, the school sends us a picture of the boots.
- We will have approximately \$200 left in our Mission Budget for 2023 after the Mendon boot project and the extra donation to Redstone Presbytery – discussion of the best use for these funds.
- **MOTION** to donate \$100 to assist victims of the fires in Hawaii and \$100 to assist victims of Hamas’ attack on Israel. Donations will be through Samaritan’s purse and designated for Hawaii and Israel; **MSP**.
- Worship – Karen Kifer
- Communion was served on August 27, 2023, and World Communion Sunday, October 1, 2023,

to 13 people.

- Discuss having a light luncheon for the congregation to celebrate having a Session back. Will set a date early next year.
- Christmas Eve Services, December 24, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. will be the last Sunday in Advent service, while the 4:00 p.m. will be the Candlelight service. Invitations are made for the 4:00 p.m. service.

Old Business:

New Business:

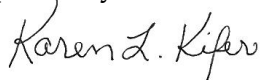
Upcoming Events:

- November 12, 2023 - Congregational Meeting following the 9:30 a.m. service
- November 18, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. - Redstone Presbytery Meeting at the First Presbyterian Church, 314 Bullitt Ave, Jeannette, PA
- November 19, 2023 - Installation/ordination of newly elected elders at 9:30 a.m. service
- December 24, 2023, at 4:00 pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Meeting adjourned with prayer by Dr. Pry

The next Session Meeting is TBD.

Respectfully submitted,



Sewickley Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission, recording secretary