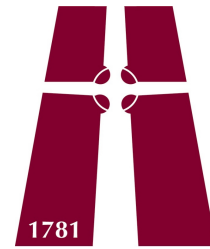


Presbytery of Redstone

eNews



February 8, 2018

In This Issue Around Redstone

Let's Pray For:

>Delmont Presbyterian Church, Caroline Vickery, Pastor
District 1

>Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, Ken Foust, Pastor
District 1

>First Presbyterian Church, Irwin, Ronald Wakeman, Pastor;
Ronald Durika, Associate Pastor
District 2

>West Hempfield Presbyterian Church, Irwin, Peggy Shannon, Interim Pastor
District 2

>Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Brownsville, Louise Corbett, Moderator
District 3

>Tyrone Presbyterian Church, Dawson, Robert Prinkey, Commissioned Ruling Elder
District 3

>Patton Presbyterian Church, David McCabe, Pastor
District 4

Upcoming Events...

October 2017 through May 2018 - Community Soup for the Soul - 2nd Wednesday - Apollo, Poke Run

April 14, 2018 - PW Spring Gathering - Johnstown, First

May 29, 2018 - PW Spring Retreat - Pine Springs Camp

July 21, 2018 - Redstone Mission Tea - New Alexandria, Congruity

August 2-5, 2018 - PW Churchwide Gathering - Louisville, KY

Please go to the website at www.redstonepresbytery.org and click on the "events" tab for more information on any of the upcoming events.

Reflections from...Skip Noftzger, Executive Presbyter

Walk the Walk: With our words and on our knees..

On January 20th at our Presbytery gathering, the Presbytery of Redstone voted to concur with the overture original submitted by Shenango Presbytery (but worked on by members of Redstone as well) concerning the situation in South Sudan. For those who may not know the process, this overture will be presented at the 2018 General Assembly for approval.

In support of a "just and lasting peace" for the people of South Sudan, it serves as a call for our entire church(PCUSA) to act in ways that condemn the violence perpetrated by either side of government or militia. That collective "action" provides for an endorsement and empowers those who might act on our behalf to advocate with our own federal government and the United Nations for policies and practices that might bring pressure to end this conflict and include all parties in a process that might bring peace.

Having expressed our commitment and offered our support at the denominational level, it may be tempting to think "our job is done." After all, who would listen to any of us? I suspect that we tend to minimize the effect that our communication might have upon public officials who in the day to day business may find it easy to forget or set aside the problems of a conflict and violence in a distant place. In fact, such advocacy when aggregated with others keeps the issue(s) ever before those who might make decisions that impact the situation whether in our State department, Congress or the United Nations.

Yet, both in the authorities of this world and beyond, we have access to the One who can and has shaped the hearts of kings like the rivers and is the God whose power and authority is supreme. In our overture, we would do well to heed our own call to:

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

Contact Us

Rev. Skip Noftzger

Executive
Presbyter/Stated
Clerk
[blog address](#)
[twitter address](#)

Bobbie Martin

Office Administrator/
Bookkeeper

- 1) Continue to pray with the churches and people of South Sudan for an end to conflict, safe and effective delivery of humanitarian aid, a government led by servant leaders, forgiveness, reconciliation, accountability, and justice, leading to true peace and fullness of life for God's people;
- 2) Support the ministry and witness of our partners in the South Sudan Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan and the ecumenical bodies in which they participate;
- 3) Learn about the mission work of the PC(USA) in the South Sudan and continue to support our PC(USA) mission co-workers.

So, today, this week, and the weeks to follow, may we all act upon our own overtures. May we walk the walk BOTH with our words and on our knees. For our partners and for God's glory!

Around Redstone

>> Looking for Lenten resources.. check at www.pcusastore.com.

>> Third Presbyterian Church Uniontown is organizing a mission trip to Tarboro, NC. The trip is March 11-17 and is \$50 per person. All skill levels are needed. We will be doing rebuild on homes damaged by Hurricane Matthew in 2016 working with the United Methodist. Please contact Marilyn Fitzsimmons 724-366-4068 for more info.

>>Redstone Addiction Ministry group is sponsoring a Presbytery-wide collection in January and February for "Hope in a Bag". This project started when a 12-year old from Smithton lost her uncle to a drug overdose. She started collecting toiletries and other small items for people who want to go into recovery. Items will be collected at the March presbytery meeting. Items you can donate would be: small bible, pens and pencils, journals, cards, soap/body wash, shampoo/conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, razors, feminine hygiene products, dental floss, nail clippers, q-tips, small blankets, hardtack candies.

>>The 2018 PCUSA Clergy Cards are now at the Presbytery office. If you are in the area please stop by to pick up your card. These cards are for Teaching Elders (ministers of the Word and Sacrament) of Redstone Presbytery.

>> The 2018-19 recruitment season for the [Young Adult Volunteer program](#) is ongoing! Applications can be accessed online at youngadultvolunteers.org/apply. Apply before March 1st for international placement options. National site applications remain open until June 1st. Program benefits include a regular stipend, housing, transportation and [student-loan repayment options](#) throughout the duration of the service year. For more info, visit the FAQ tab at the top of the [YAV homepage](#). Also, following [@yavprogram](#) on social media is a great resource. Help plants seeds of service and spread the word!

>>The review dates for the Session Minutes and Church Registers for 2017 are as follows:

1. February 19 - 6:00 p.m.; Presbytery office
2. March 20 - 5:00 p.m.; First, Belle Vernon, preceding Presbytery
3. May 15 - 5:00 p.m.; Latrobe Main Street, preceding Presbyter

>>The Annual Statistical Report to General Assembly is filed electronically using the following link: <https://oga.pcusa.org/stats>. Please submit your electronic report to General Assembly no later than February 15, 2018. [The

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

2018 Presbytery Meeting Dates

Tuesday, March 20th
Belle Vernon, First
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 15th
Latrobe
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 18th
Redstone Highlands,
Greensburg Campus
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 17th
Dunbar, Laurel Hill
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**2018 Presbytery
Council Meeting
Dates**

February 20
April 24
May 22
June 26
August 28
September 25
October 23
November 27

All Council meetings
begin at 6:30 p.m. and
are held
at the Presbytery
office

system will close at midnight; please don't wait until the last minute or site "traffic" may lock you out.] If you have questions about filing this report, or need assistance completing it, please call either Bobbie or Skip at the Presbytery office at 724.837.6737.

>>Once again, Redstone Presbytery is offering a great opportunity to our confirmation students. This will be the seventh year for the Confirmation Retreat. The Confirmation Retreat will be held on April 13-14, 2018 at Pine Springs Camp. Workshop topics include understanding the Bible, learning about how our church governs & organizes itself (polity), what Presbyterians believe about the Sacraments, and how we respond to the needs of the world around us (stewardship & mission.) We'll also have some great group games, time around the campfire, and worship. The cost for the retreat will be \$45/person in order to cover housing and meal costs. Please let us know by March 1st, 2018 if you plan to participate in this retreat, with a firm RSVP (with number of attendees) no later than April 2nd, 2018. If you need more information please call me at 724-837-6737 or email Skip at executive@redstonepresbytery.org.

>>Some Upcoming Events at Pine Springs Camp:

- }Winter Retreat - February 16-18
- }Grandmas, Moms and Tots - June 10-13; July 22-25; August 5-8
- }Springboard Discovery - June 10-13; July 22-25; August 5-8
- }Exploration 3 Day - June 10-13; August 5-8
- }Adventure Exploration - June 20; July 18; July 25; August 1

Check out the [website](#) for these and other fun things happening at the camp!

>>Click [here](#) to check out some of the upcoming events at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.



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