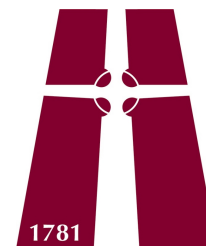


# Presbytery of Redstone

## eNews



March 1, 2018

### In This Issue Around Redstone

#### Let's Pray For:

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

>Reunion Presbyterian  
Church, Mt. Pleasant,  
Sue Washburn, Stated  
Supply  
District 2

>Mt. Washington  
Presbyterian Church,  
Farmington, James Gear,  
Moderator  
District 3

>First Presbyterian  
Church, Cresson, David  
McCabe, Pastor  
District 4

#### Contact Us

Rev. Skip Noftzger  
Executive  
Presbyter/Stated

### Upcoming Events...

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

March 3, 2018 - IPLF Workshops - Maplewood

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

May 5, 2018 - Raise the Roof Spaghetti Dinner - Johnstown, Bethany

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](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org) and click on the  
"events" tab for more information on any of the upcoming events.

### Reflections from...Josh Scully, Moderator

My father is the greatest chess player I've ever known. He's spectacular. I wouldn't hesitate to call him the "Bobby Fischer" of Fayette County. Within my family, I learned to play chess at a very young age. I suffered many defeats to older relatives as a kid. On late weekday nights, while he was ironing his clothes for work, I would stay up late to play my father at the kitchen table. I never came close to beating him.

I did get better. As a teenager, I started to defeat many of my childhood tormentors. The impossible happened when I was nineteen: I put my father in checkmate. I'm sure he'd lost his fair share of games at some point in his youth, but to that very day I'd never known him to lose a game. His two-decade dominance had ended.

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

**2018 Presbytery  
 Meeting Dates**

**Tuesday, March 20th  
 Belle Vernon, First**

Surprised and perhaps curious, my father wanted to know if lightning could strike twice. Immediately, he challenged me to a rematch. Frantically attempting to secure a decisive victory, he overplayed. I won again. The changing of the guard was complete, I was sure of that.

My father and I didn't play again for two years. When we finally did, I started the game with a brash confidence. My father didn't have a chance. He was predictable. He was deliberate. He was hopeless. But, just over two hours later, he had beaten me. I was dumbfounded. How had this happened? I was older now. I was better now. I was confused and very disappointed in myself.

There was, of course, a powerful lesson in that experience. One can never be too sure, too comfortable, or too confident. A little vigilance goes a long way. Our world is a changing and unpredictable place. We can never stop learning. We can never stop growing. We can never reach the top - only because we simply must never stop searching for the next peak. That's our charge as stewards.

No matter how far we may come as individuals, as congregations or as a Presbytery, we must remember that unexpected challenges and setbacks await. We may become shocked or troubled. We may become angry or anxious. But our frustration and dismay cannot define us. During those times of doubt and turmoil, we must be mindful of our blessings, resolute in our faith, devoted in our prayers, and committed to our oneness as the people of God.

Our Heavenly Father has equipped each of us with all the gifts necessary to fulfill the work of the Church in the face of adversity. We just need to be aware of the tools we possess to achieve our goals. As "content" as we may become, we can't risk the accumulation of any rust through disuse, because we can never know when we may be called upon for a new service.

**Around Redstone**

>>Congregation (Antioch) Celebrations - In the upcoming March gathering, we want to hear from you and see some of the ways God's grace is at work in our congregations. Please plan on sharing a brief example of God's grace in your midst as a congregation. Also, send the Presbytery office any digital pictures showing God's grace at work in your congregation.

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

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**

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

March 20 - 5:00 p.m.; First, Belle Vernon, preceding Presbytery

May 15 - 5:00 p.m.; Latrobe Main Street, preceding Presbyter

>>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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 if you plan to participate in this retreat, with a firm RSVP (with number of attendees) no later than April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. If you need more information please call me at 724-837-6737 or email Skip at [executive@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:executive@redstonepresbytery.org).

>>PTS Continuing Education events:

"Discipleship: A New Testament Examination of the Inner and Outer Life of Faith"; Tucker Ferda; March 11-14

"What Putin and Trump Want: The Religious Dimension of US/Russia Relations"; John Burgess and Michael Gleason; March 15

"Missional Engagement"; Douglas Powe; April 12

"Albright-Deering Lecture Re-Examining the Important of Wesleyan Anthropology for Racial Conversations"; Douglas Powe; April 12

"A Day with Brian McLaren"; April 25

Contact the Continuing Education Office @ PTS



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