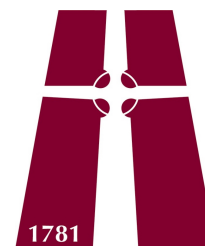


Presbytery of Redstone

eNews



October 17, 2018

In This Issue Around Redstone

Let's Pray For:

>Community

United Presbyterian
Church, New Alexandria,
Grafton Eliason, Interim
Pastor
District 1

>Congruity Presbyterian
Church, New Alexandria,
Cliff Foster, Pastor
District 1

>Westminster
Presbyterian Church,
Greensburg, Donna
Havrisko, Pastor
District 2

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

>Tyrone Presbyterian
Church, Dawson, Chuck
MacPherson, Moderator
District 3

>First Presbyterian
Church, Dunbar, Michael
Shepard, Moderator
District 3

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

>Bolivar United
Presbyterian Church,

Upcoming Events...

October 20, 2018 - PW Rise Against Hunger - New Alexandria, Community

October 26, 2018 - Open Mic Gospel Event - Delmont

October 28, 2018 - Chicken Paprikash Dinner - Brownsville, Calvin 11 - 2

November 3, 2018 - Annual Craft and Vendor Show - New Hope

November 11, 2018 - A Patriotic Thanksgiving - Murrysville, First

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 the Executive Presbyter, Skip Noftzger

"WHAT WILL BE: BEYOND SIGHT"

At times (truthfully, many times), I wonder aloud about life as we know it. Questions of doubt or cynicism roll around in my mind and off my tongueIs this it? Is this all there is? All that will be? Yet, from those honest inquiries (I prefer to think I am in the company of the writers of various complaint Psalms), I hear the prompting of the Spirit and the revelation of God's Word, gently correcting and comforting. I am urged to respond; Thank God, NO!

You and I live in a world in which the signs of God's redeeming grace may sometimes be clear; other times not. Evidenced in our own lives of "first fruits," and detected in those moments of "kingdom" faithfulness in the world around us, we have hope. While we would be naïve and blindly optimistic if we did not recognize that the world (in whole and in its parts) is not as it could be or should be, look to a future. With the eyes of faith, we are able to grab hold of what remains largely unseen, God's continuing grace, both redemptive and common to all.

In our own experience of life as we know it, we do not see already what will be. We are "saved" in and for hope. Not some wishful thinking or unrealistic longing, but a certain hope that puts into perspective whatever the misery or sufferings or injustices of the world as we know it presently. Our hope, grounded in the resurrection life, anticipates a day that has come and is coming. In the words of the apostle, we "groan inwardly," along with the rest of creation, as we await (with patience ♦♦) the glorious freedom from sin and decay of the (re)new creation.

As a community of Jesus Christ, who has conquered even the final enemy in death, our ways of living and "doing Church" must be characterized by this expectation of hope. We must be the demonstrative symbol that "The Church is to be a community of hope, rejoicing in the sure and certain knowledge that, in Christ, God is making a new creation....The Church lives in the present on the strength of that promised new creation." (BOO; F-1.03)

Sometimes, it may seem that the Church is no different than any other group or institution within the world. No doubt, despite God's work in and through us, we have not yet escaped the effects of sin in our living and in our

James Sunseri,
Commissioned Pastor
District 4

Contact Us

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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

Remaining 2018 Presbytery Meeting Dates

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

Remaining 2018 Presbytery Council Meeting Dates

November 27

practices. Yet, if there is one place, one structure, one gathering on earth that can and must be characterized as being people who live in the present, based upon a hope for the future, it can and must be the Church.

Today, tomorrow and the next day, "rejoice in the sure and certain knowledge that, in Christ, God is making a new creation."

Around Redstone

>>We will be hosting visitors from the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church the week of October 21st. We are hoping that a lot of folks will try to get out to one of the following events to meet them while they are here.

- Community Presbyterian Church in New Alexandria Sunday morning October 21 for Sunday School and worship at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome
- *Sunday late afternoon and evening are open still*
- Monday morning October 22 First Presbyterian Church in Greensburg in the Fletcher Room to meet with the Monday Morning sewing group from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome
- Monday afternoon at 1 o'clock Westmoreland County Food Bank in Delmont.
- Monday at 5 in the evening will be a gathering for mission committee folk and any other interested persons at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Greensburg for a labyrinth walk and supper. Everyone is welcome for this - Please RSVP to Westminster Church at 724.837.3540 or Rev. Donna Havrisko at dmh.1minister@gmail.com
- Tuesday noon they will be meeting with ministers at the Presbytery Office for lunch at noon. Pastors wishing to attend should RSVP to the Presbytery office at 724.837.6737 or secretary@redstonepresbytery.org
- They have to travel to the Pittsburgh Presbytery Office Tuesday afternoon.

If you would be interested in hosting our visitors on Sunday afternoon or evening please contact Rev. Sylvia Carlson at 724.755.2288 (home) or 724.454.5088 (mobile).

>>Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is offering immediate aid to the communities impacted by Hurricane Michael. This joins responses already underway for those impacted by Hurricane Florence, Typhoon Mangkhut, and other international disasters that have suffered a lack of media coverage. Hurricane Michael struck the Florida panhandle with devastating winds and storm surge, causing loss of life. The storm then cut a path across the southeast, moving through the same areas impacted by Hurricane Florence just a few weeks ago. [You can download a copy of the bulletin insert by clicking this link.](#)

>>In the process of putting the downstairs back together after flood damage this spring, the session at the Union Presbyterian Church in Murrysville has approved replacing the stove in the kitchen. It is in good shape, but is too large for their current needs. It is a gas, commercial 10 burner range. If anyone in the Presbytery would be interested in this stove, please contact Rev. Derek Campbell at 724.337.3042.

>>After a complete renovation, Barbour Library at Pittsburgh Seminary is now open! You're invited to explore this creative space and be inspired to engage with theological ideas and others in community and collaboration. Join them Fri., Nov. 9, 2018, from 12:00-2:00 p.m. to celebrate the library's reopening!

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

Upcoming Events at PTS

The Art of Transitional Ministry, Week 2: Guiding a Congregation Through Change and Transition - with Paul Rhebergen and Jan Nolting Carter, November 5-9

Allies in Faith: Encouraging Hospitality to Immigrants - with Christian Associates and PTS Faculty and Staff, November 28-29 and March 14

For more information:

www.pts.edu/continuing-education

Enjoy a complimentary lunch, tours of the new space, and info about their resources designed to serve you and your colleagues in your ministry context. Make a day of it by also visiting the Seminary's Kelso Museum of Near Eastern Archaeology while you're in the neighborhood. Library tours highlight the open and closed study carrels, Active Learning Space, Garnet Integrative Learning Space, and Fred Rogers Family Room. Attend this event and receive complimentary borrowing privileges for one year. Let them know you're coming via RSVP by Nov. 2 to Katie Yates (kyates@pts.edu<<mailto:kyates@pts.edu>>; 412-924-1376) and help launch the Clifford E. Barbour Library into the next century!

>>Larry Ott, the representative from the Beaver-Butler Presbytery for the Presbyterian Men's Network has let us know that no one from Redstone Presbytery is a part of this network. The Network meetings are twice a year in Bedford, Pennsylvania. They would really like a member of Redstone to join this group. If you have any questions or would be interested in being a representative from Redstone, please email him at larryott1952@gmail.com or call him at 724/630-5770.



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