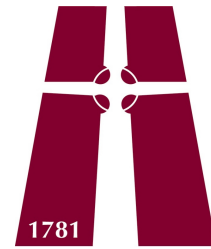


# Presbytery of Redstone

## eNews



January 24, 2019

### 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

>United Presbyterian  
Church, West Newton,  
John Manon, Pastor  
District 2

>Derry Presbyterian  
Church, Marnie Russell,  
Covenant Pastor  
District 2

>Dunlap's Creek  
Presbyterian Church,  
Merrittstown, Aleda  
Menchyk, Moderator  
District 3

>New Salem  
Presbyterian Church, Bill  
Wiegand, Commissioned  
Pastor  
District 3

>Bethel Presbyterian  
Church, New Florence,  
James Sunseri,  
Commissioned Pastor  
District 4

>Trinity Presbyterian  
Church, New Florence,

### Upcoming Events...

October 2018 through May 2019 - Community "Soup for the Soul" - Apollo, Poke Run

January through March 2019 - Contemporary Christian and Old Time Gospel Open Mic - Delmont

February 9, 2019 - Enrichment Day - Johnstown, Westmont

April 28-29, 2019 - Pastor's Retreat

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 Skip Noftzger, Executive Presbyter

#### "Extreme" Leadership

For many years, I taught undergraduates not only within Biblical and ministry studies, but in special leadership development courses. Challenging undergraduates to consider leadership for themselves and their future, I organized such reflections based upon either leading from within the mainstream or leading outside of it. One approach leads through participatory reform while the other offers alternative challenge through resistance. Of course, the former assumes some form of status and authority that is to be used wisely, while the latter understand that transformation requires alternative engagement and methods for change. Of course, each is subject to rationalization and distortion in their own way.

This week we celebrated and remembered M.L. King Jr. day in the midst of an environment where we continue to experience polarization and division based upon not only political tactics or policies, but shadowed by race and ethnicity. Into this time, we need to hear not merely the soaring ideals of "I have a dream," but the reasoned argument for "extremism" of the "Letter from a Birmingham Jail."

Responding to a precipitating letter signed by Christian clergy who opposed the non-violent protests in Birmingham in that particular context as "unwise and untimely." With great care, Dr. King outlines the four steps of a non-violent campaign and the decision making that sought to avoid purely political partisanship but would not let the response to injustices to be quelled by admonitions to "wait" or to be diverted by disingenuous promises in negotiation. So, they engaged in non-violent protests believing and hoping that others would see the justice of their cause and would ally themselves with their grievances even within the mainstream structures of power. Between those who would merely accept the status quo and those who in their bitterness would justify even violence, nonetheless, they were labeled "extreme" within even the Christian community. Ultimately, Dr. King took satisfaction in such a label.

**Anthony Catullo,  
Temporary Supply  
District 4**

### Contact Us

#### Rev. Skip Noftzger

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

#### Bobbie Martin

Office Administrator/  
Bookkeeper

"Rather, I have tried to say that this normal and healthy discontent channeled into the creative outlet of nonviolent direct action. And now this approach is being termed extremist. But though I was initially disappointed as being categorized as an extremist, as I continued to think about the matter I gradually gained a measure of satisfaction from the label. Was not Jesus an extremist for love: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you."...So the question is not whether we will be extremists, but what kind of extremists we will be. Will we be extremists for hate or for love? Will we be extremists for the preservation of injustice or the extension of justice?"

So, not just on King day or this week, may we be those whose leadership is "extreme" for love and justice. May it be so in tangible details of our relationships with our neighbors who live next door and, in the policies, and practices that impact our neighbors who live both across this country and around the world. Why? Because to take up our cross daily will mean not just taking up some cause, but in self-sacrifice offering ourselves in service of a humble king whose kingdom that is just, loving, and peaceable.

### *Communicate the Word...*

#### *Carry on the Work...*

#### *Change the World...*

#### *Together*

### Around Redstone

>>2018 Statistical Report - REMINDER!! The deadline for filing the online 2018 Statistical Report is February 14, 2019. The link to file your statistics is: If you have any trouble with your report or if you need any help in any way please contact the Presbytery office. <http://oga.pcusa.org/stats>.

>>2018 Minutes Reviews will be conducted on the following dates:

- >February 9, 2019 - prior to Enrichment Day event (Johnstown, Westmont)
- > March 2, 2019 - prior to Polity workshop (Greensburg, Maplewood)
- >March 26, 2019 - prior to Presbytery meeting (Irwin, First)
- > May 21, 2019 - prior to Presbytery meeting (Murrysville, First)

>>Redstone Presbytery Enrichment Day - February 9, 2019. For more information go to the Presbytery website at [www.redstonepresbytery.org](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org) and click on Upcoming Events.

>>On March 2nd, Redstone Presbytery will be conducting a Presbyterian Polity workshop. If you have ever wanted to understand better how and why we do things the way we do, along with interpreting the Book of Order, this is your opportunity. On that date at 9:00 a.m. (until noon), Rev. Cliff Foster, Associate Stated Clerk, will be leading this workshop available to clerks, pastors and others. *If you bring your 2018 Session minutes and Church Register, the review will be completed while you are in the workshop.*

>>2019 Confirmation Retreat - Friday, April 12 through Saturday, April 13, 2019 at Pine Springs Camp. Contact the Presbytery office if you have students that would like to participate.

>>2019 Youth Triennium - July 16 - 20, 2019; Purdue University. More information is located on the homepage of the Presbytery website at [www.redstonepresbytery.org](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org).

>>2019 Mission Trips being planned:

- Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown and Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence and students from Penn State, Clarion and Robert Morris will be serving on a mission trip to South Carolina

### Office Hours

#### **The Presbytery Office Hours are:**

Monday through  
Thursday  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
CLOSED on Friday

#### **The Resource Center Hours are:**

Tuesday through  
Thursday  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
CLOSED on Monday and  
Friday

### Next Presbytery Meeting Date

Saturday, January 26, 2019  
New Hope Presbyterian  
Church, North Huntingdon  
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### 2019 Presbytery Council Meeting Dates

January 8  
February 26  
April 23

June 25  
August 27  
October 22  
November 26

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

**March 3-16. If anyone is interested in participating in this trip please contact Marilyn Fitzsimmons at 724.366.4068.**

- **Trip to the First Presbyterian Church at Ronceverte, WV for the week of March 24-30. There is room for 30 volunteers. \$100.00 each of the \$250.00 registration fee will be paid by each participant while the other \$150.00 will be paid for by the Mission Team. To volunteer or if you need more information contact Phyllis Frye at 724.468.3740 or pfrye1234@windstream.net.**



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