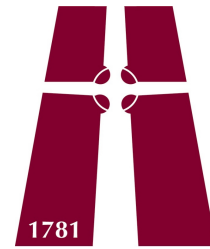


# Presbytery of Redstone

## eNews



February 28, 2019

### In This Issue Around Redstone

#### Let's Pray For:

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

>West Hempfield  
Presbyterian Church,  
Irwin, Andrew Wirt,  
Pastor  
District 2

>Third Presbyterian  
Church, Uniontown,  
Ronald Johnson, Pastor  
District 3

>Colver Presbyterian  
Church, Alice Tondora,  
Moderator  
District 4

#### Contact Us

##### Rev. Skip Noftzger

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

##### Bobbie Martin

Office Administrator/  
Bookkeeper

### Communicate the Word...

### Carry on the Work...

### Upcoming Events...

October 2018 through May 2019 - Community "Soup for the Soul" - Apollo, Poke Run - 2nd Wednesday each month at NOON  
January through March 2019 - Contemporary Christian and Old Time Gospel Open Mic - Delmont - Last Sunday each month - 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

March 5, 2019 - Pancake Dinner, New Alexandria, Congruity

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 Lynn Mance, Presbytery Council

The upcoming liturgical season and events will bring a time of reflection and renewal as the World Day of Prayer, the Transfiguration of the Lord, Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent approach upon us.

Now while being in the last week of February, we may have a feeling of "having enough". We've "had enough" of the cold, snow and indoors. As the clock springs forward, we begin to count the days till spring and welcome this new change in season.

At a council meeting over two years ago, the newly formed Addiction Ministry Network felt a tug on their hearts as they had a feeling of "having enough". We had enough of the addiction headline news and high overdose rates that left families in sorrow and despair. Although we weren't addiction professionals, we were a group of God's people who saw the need for God's intervention. We prayed for direction. We listened to the Holy Spirit as this new path was opened for ministry.

*From Isaiah 43:16-19, "I am the LORD, who opened a way through the waters: making a dry path through the sea. I called forth the mighty army of Egypt with all its chariots and horses. I drew them beneath the waves, and they drowned, their lives snuffed out like a smoldering candlewick. But forget all that - it is nothing compared to what I am going to do, for I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland."*

And so it began with the Lord opening a way through the waters. As we journeyed on the dry path, addiction and recovery specialists, a parish nurse, people in recovery and those who suffered loss walked with us. Along the way, we prayed for the Holy Spirit's guidance through the wilderness. At presbytery meetings, we gathered prayers at the foot of the cross, lit candles and prayed in unity. We spread hope by offering healing services to those broken in the grip of addiction. We spread encouragement and trust in God and developed an addiction based Lent devotional. We reached out by gathering toiletries, blankets and Bibles for those in rehab facilities through "Hope in a Bag". We shined Jesus' light from Redstone by leading conferences

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

### ***Together***

and writing overtures that were passed at General Assembly. We stepped out in faith when God opened a new door and we received a grant. We asked for help as we surveyed the addiction awareness needs of our congregations.

Now in this new season, God is further preparing all of Redstone to be those rivers in the dry wasteland.

#### **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

We are developing faith based addiction curriculum for our congregations. Our curriculum will be applicable for worship, sermon preparation, small group study, learning and discussion or wherever hearts need renewal. We plan to share this new curriculum with a few congregations in a test program before finalizing it. We will be equipping each of our churches with a Life Recovery Bible and workbook at an upcoming presbytery meeting. In May we will be partnering with the Synod of the Trinity via webinars using this new curriculum.

You may ask how did we know how to do all of this? We didn't but the Holy Spirit did. We only follow our hearts and this has happened.

Communicate the Word....Carry on the work....Change the world...Together.

Lynn Mance, Delmont Elder, Presbytery Council Member, Authorized Preacher, Addiction Ministry Network Member

#### **2019 Presbytery Meeting Dates**

Tuesday, March 26, 2019  
First Presbyterian Church, Irwin  
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 21, 2019  
First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville  
6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 24, 2019  
Pine Springs Camp  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 23, 2019  
Pleasant View Presbyterian Church, Smock  
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

#### **Next Presbytery Council Meeting Date**

February 26

Council meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and is held at the Presbytery office.

#### **Around Redstone**

>> BOARD OF PENSIONS TAX TIPS WEBINAR - - Wednesday, March 13, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Join Jacqueline Boersema, Director of Financial Education for the Board of Pensions and a certified financial planner, who will discuss tips common to all taxpayers and highlight clergy-specific tax tips, as appropriate. This annual webinar is for taxpayers who have not yet filed a 2018 tax return. *Tax Reform Changes and 2018 Return Filing* [Click here to register.](#)

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

- > March 2, 2019 - during Polity workshop (Greensburg, Maplewood)
- > March 26, 2019 - prior to Presbytery meeting (Irwin, First)
- > May 21, 2019 - prior to Presbytery meeting (Murrysville, First)

>>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. Deadline for registration is March 7.

>>2019 Pastors Retreat - "What We Need is Here" Practicing the Heart of Christian Spirituality. Dr. L. Roger Owens, Associate Professor of Christian Spirituality will be the leader of this event. April 28-29, 2019 - Sunday evening, Monday morning/afternoon. Registration: \$40/overnight stay; \$25/commuter - Pine Springs Camp, Jennerstown. To register contact the presbytery office at 724.837.6737 or via email at [secretary@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org).

>>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). Contact Rev. Laura Blank for more information at [laurabblank@gmail.com](mailto:laurabblank@gmail.com).



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