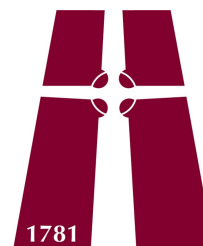


Presbytery of Redstone

eNews



April 4, 2019

In This Issue Around Redstone

Let's Pray For:

- >First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, Edward Gray, Pastor District 1
- >Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, Curtis Paul, Pastor, Marnie Silbert, Associate Pastor District 1
- >Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Clark Kerr, Pastor District 2
- >United Presbyterian Church, Latrobe, Donald Graff, Pastor District 2
- >East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Vanderbilt, David McElroy, Commissioned Pastor District 3
- >Palmer Community Presbyterian Church, Adah, Laura Blank, Moderator District 3
- >First Presbyterian Church, Ebensburg, Alice Tondora, Moderator District 4
- >Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown,

Upcoming Events...

October 2018 through May 2019 - Community "Soup for the Soul" - Apollo, Poke Run - 2nd Wednesday each month at NOON
 April 19, 2019 - TGIF Kid's Event - Apollo, Poke Run
 April 27, 2019 - Raise the Roof Spaghetti Dinner - Johnstown, Bethany
 April 28-29, 2019 - Pastor's Retreat
 May 4, 2019 - Spring Craft and Vendor Show - New Salem

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

Standing in Need of Prayer

"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up." (James 5:13-15)

In my many years of serving Jesus Christ through the ministry of God's Church, I have preached, practiced, and promoted this passage from James. It speaks not only of the power and grace of God to heal, but our responsibility to one another and our connection within the church. The burdens of health should be shared and borne by others through the anointing and prayers of the people represented by the elders.

Yet, I must confess that throughout those many years, by God's grace, I have rarely realized the need to be on the receiving "end" of that support and those healing prayers. Blessed with good health for myself and my family and probably exacerbated by some level of prideful self-sufficiency, my own participation as the beneficiary of such healing prayers has been rare. Yet, that has been my loss.

Throughout the past couple weeks, I have been reminded of the tangible love and grace of Jesus Christ to us which is often lived out through the prayers and support of our fellow church members and colleagues. With the suddenness of my wife's illness (during a COM meeting), followed by a few weeks of the unknown, I experienced a vulnerability often unknown to my own "take the bull by the horns" personality. And, in those moments, I knew the support of the body of Christ and the power of prayer not merely in theological categories, (not that there is anything wrong with those) but in lived personal terms.

Whether it was the countless cards, phone calls, or ongoing prayers, I knew that while much was beyond my control, it was not only in the hands of our God, but the caring entreaties of God's people. From members and ministers alike within Redstone, clearly, I knew that we were being supported in prayer. Additionally, people within the body of Christ from many different churches and locations that either Martha or I had been connected in the past offered their care and petitions. While we believe her health concern has been

Denise Todero,
Commissioned Pastor
District 4

Contact Us

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Executive
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Bobbie Martin

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 Bookkeeper

addressed, what has been most significant to me has been this recognition of who we are together in Christ.

Not only for your care, but for this reminder that we all should be bold to ask and receive prayers on behalf of one another, I thank you and our God. For sooner or later for each of us, we find both that the body of Christ is essential and that those words of the spiritual ring true in our lives

*"It's me, it's me, o Lord,
 Standin' in the need of prayer;"*

Around Redstone

>>BOARD OF PENSIONS is offering A BENEFITS CONNECTIONS event to help churches align benefits and values to the needs of their pastors and other staff.

Where and When?

The 2019 Benefits Connections will be held in Pittsburgh, Thursday, May 2, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, 616 Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA in the Knox Room.

What: Come and be part of the conversation with representatives from the Board of Pensions. Those who attend will:

- Learn about the latest changes to the Benefits Plan (e.g. medical, pension, insurance, Retirement Savings Plan updates, dental, vision, etc.)
- Learn about the theology that shapes the Benefits Plan of the PCUSA
- Gain a better understanding of how the Benefits Plan can be used and accessed by your church and staff, regardless of congregational size
- Hear about the latest programs and initiatives that support Clergy Health and Wholeness
- Have an opportunity to ask questions and share information about how the Board of Pensions can best serve church workers and church employers
- Be able to network with colleagues from other area churches.

Who Should Attend? Pastors, Personnel Committee Chairs, Church Business Administrators, Clerks of Session, and Mid Council Leaders - and anyone who decides, manages, or supports benefits for PCUSA ministers or employees is welcome.

To register go to www.pensions.org/benefitsconnections or call 215.587.7588.

>>The Union Presbyterian Church in Murrysville will be having an active shooter training course on Monday, May 6, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The training will be conducted by the local police force. There is no cost for attendance, but the police did ask to have the church provide them with a headcount. If anyone is interested in attending, please let Rev. Derek Campbell know by Monday, April 29 by calling the church at 724.337.3042 so he has enough time to notify the police department of the number attending.

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

- > April 30, 2019 - Presbytery Office, Greensburg 6:00 p.m.
- > May 21, 2019 - prior to Presbytery meeting (Murrysville, First)
- > May 28, 2019 - Trinity Presbyterian Church, Uniontown 6:00 p.m.

>>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

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

Next Presbytery Meeting Date

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

Presbytery Council Meeting Dates

April 23, 2019
June 25

August 27
October 22
November 26

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

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.

>>2019 Youth Triennium - July 16 - 20, 2019; Purdue University. More information is located on the homepage of the Presbytery website at www.redstonepresbytery.org. Contact Rev. Laura Blank for more information at laurabblank@gmail.com.



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