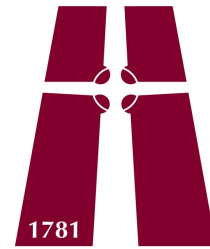


Presbytery of Redstone

eNews



June 12, 2019

Let's Pray For:

>First Presbyterian Church, Avonmore, Larry Armstrong, Covenant Pastor
District 1

>Delmont Presbyterian Church, Caroline Vickery, Pastor
District 1

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

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

>Ft. Burd Presbyterian Church, Brownsville, Jane Johnson, Covenant Pastor
District 3

>Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Brownsville, Louise Corbett, Moderator
District 3

>Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence, Anthony Catullo, Temporary Supply
District 4

>Patton Presbyterian Church, David McCabe, Pastor
District 4

Upcoming Events...

June 13, 2019 - [Chamber Music Concert - Latrobe \(Unity Chapel\)](#)
June 22, 2019 - [Yard Sale - New Alexandria, Community](#)
July 25, 2019 - [Chamber Music Concert - Latrobe \(Unity Chapel\)](#)
August 22, 2019 - [Chamber Music Concert - Latrobe \(Unity Chapel\)](#)
August 24, 2019 - [Peach Fest - New Salem](#)
October 7-9, 2019 - [Wee Kirk - Laurelville Mennonite Church Center](#)

Click on the links above for more information
on any of the upcoming events

Reflections from Sue Washburn, Covenant Pastor, Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant



Sharing Our Offerings - Working Together on Worship

Each week when I receive the offering plates into my hands during worship, I see a bunch of white envelopes piled together. I have no idea what is inside them. The offerings are hidden except for some stray cash and an occasional note.

So, often being a church leader is like being an offering hidden in an envelope. Our gifts may be known to our congregations, but they are often hidden from the larger church at the presbytery or synod level. As a group of leaders, we are like envelopes stacked together without any real knowledge of what is inside the others. However, when we get involved in the committees or groups of the larger church, we can share our offerings with other leaders. Some groups are formal, like the presbytery council and other gatherings of people with similar passions, whether it be prayer, mission, communication, or even study.

One group that has been meaningful to me is the informal sermon study group that meets each Monday at the Barnes and Noble. We bring our shared wisdom and creativity to make God's Word come alive in our congregations. Usually we discuss the lectionary texts for the week. However, now we are currently are working together on a summer sermon series for July and August. Preparing a sermon series together is a way of putting our offerings on the table for anyone to see and for all of us to share.

Contact Us**Rev. Skip Noftzger**

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

Bobbie Martin

Office Administrator/
 Bookkeeper

Working together on a series, we can accomplish more than any of us could individually as solo pastors. In a way, we serve as one another's "staff" as we bounce ideas off of one another for Scripture passages and ideas for the framework of the series. Because we don't follow the lectionary, there oftentimes aren't as many accessible resources at our disposal. So, we work together to create what we need.

One of us offers hymns, another generates social media posts and bulletin covers, another writes and gathers liturgy, while another creates ideas for children's sermons. We study scripture together and put all of our ideas on the table, but in the end, each leader creates a unique worship experience that is right for the congregation that she or he serves. This connectional experience benefits us all.

So often, when we talk about connectionalism in the PC(USA), it's usually focused on mission and polity. Creating a sermon series together is a creative, faithful, and sometimes challenging way to connect around worship.

Because it is worship centered, we share our closely held beliefs and ideas about God and the role of the church in the world. Sometimes we agree and sometimes we don't. Sometimes we love the idea for a children's moment and other times we decide to go a different direction. Regardless, it's wonderful to see the offerings that get brought to the table; offerings that inspire us to glorify God in ways that we may not have come up with on our own.

As we enter summer, it may be a good time to discern if there are new ways we each might connect in ministry. Are there committees or groups that might offer us a new perspective or benefit from our offerings? Are there ways that we might connect with the South Sudan Mission Network, Pine Springs, or the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, or a prayer or study group to create dynamic ministry? Are there needs in the community that might benefit from what our churches can offer together?

There are lots of ways to connect in Redstone Presbytery. [Click here](#) to see the informal interest groups around the presbytery, [here](#) to see the various teams or [here](#) to see the committees of the presbytery. You can also to redstonepresbytery.org and click on the shared ministry and shared mission tabs for information.

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

2019 Presbytery Meeting Dates

**Tuesday, September 24,
 2019**

**Pine Springs Camp
 (joint meeting with
 Washington Presbytery)
 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, November 23,
 2019**

**Pleasant View
 Presbyterian Church,
 Smock**

Presbytery Council Meeting Dates**Around Redstone**

>>The Sudan/ South Sudan visitors will be here in Redstone Presbytery from July 16-18. Here from Nile Theological College in Khartoum, Sudan will be Dr. Aida Weran Nasser, Professor and Rev. Musa Kodi, Academic Dean; and from Nile Theological College in Juba, South Sudan will be Rev. Santino Odong Othol, Principal.

So far, there is an opening for one of them to preach at a church in Redstone on Sunday, July 14 (that invitation would include providing transportation to and from their host family in Pittsburgh Presbytery)

- Tuesday July 16 is open for your congregation to host an event in the afternoon or evening
- Wednesday, July 17 is a lunch with Redstone pastors at Maplewood and the evening is still open

June 25
August 27
October 22
November 22

**Council meetings begin
at 6:30 p.m. at the
Presbytery Center**

- **Thursday, July 18 they will meet with Presbyterian Women at noon at a location to be announced, and**
- **Thursday evening they will be at Third Presbyterian Church in Uniontown at 6 for dinner.**

Please contact Sylvia Carlson via email at sylviac65@comcast.net or by phone at 724.454.5088.

>>While Skip is on sabbatical (June 10 - August 2) please contact Bobbie at the Presbytery office if you are in need of any assistance. She will be able to refer you to the appropriate person for your issue or concern.



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