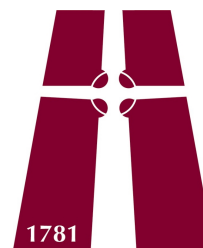


# Presbytery of Redstone

## eNews



July 31, 2019

### Let's Pray For:

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

>Level Green Presbyterian Church, Trafford, Geoff Rach, Pastor  
District 2

>First Presbyterian Church, Masontown, Lee McDermott, Moderator  
District 3

>Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, Rene Whitaker, Interim Pastor  
District 4

### Upcoming Events...

- August 22, 2019 - [Chamber Music Concert - Latrobe \(Unity Chapel\)](#)
- August 24, 2019 - [Peach Fest - New Salem](#)
- August 25, 2019 - [Family Fun and Friendship Cruise - Irwin, West Hempfield](#)
- 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 Rev. Donna Havrisko, Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg



For the past twelve years, fifteen members of the Westminster Presbyterian Church have been meeting from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month. The mission and primary activity of the group is prayer. In starting the group, I noted that in congregations, many functions center *around* a brief opening prayer; but not many church activities are *devoted* to it. The inspiration for the group came from prayer groups led by the Rev. Carole Isley Corey.

The Westminster Prayer Group has a framework that has proved successful: Meetings are 1 hour; from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. This is a firm time, since some folks have worked a long day, and others need to get home to check on family members or walk their dogs. By saying the final "Amen" by 8:00, the group shows respect for each other's time, and for the Lord's gift of that time. In addition, the group takes turns meeting in each other's homes. Everyone has been really gracious about this. It deepens a sense of fellowship and allows folks to share hospitality. When a member doesn't have a home large enough, or other circumstances crop up, we simply go to the church that month and make use of our sanctuary. Lastly, the group makes certain that at least one-third of the hour is spent in PRAYER, rather than in "discussion". Meetings begin with a centering prayer, and then a hand-out sheet is shared by either myself or an elder who leads the group in my absence. The material may be a Bible passage for discussion; photos from a recent hurricane or other natural disaster; a page from the Mission Yearbook; or any number of things. The material is discussed in a very informal way, and used as a "springboard" for the prayers: The group then bows in prayer, each person offering prayer as he or she is moved. Afterwards, folks are invited to linger for refreshments and to plan where the next meeting will be held.

### 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...*

*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 2019 Presbytery Meeting Date**

**Tuesday, September 24,  
2019**

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

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

**August 27**

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

Elder Ann Schuck coordinated the meetings for the group the first years; and deacon Nanette Hauck has assumed the leadership as of last Fall. Our group is open to all who would like to join in prayer.

## **Around Redstone**

>>The Synod of the Trinity presents - Forgotten Foundations for Church Leadership: Building the Future on Great Ground - Featuring the Rev. Dr. Graham Standish, Executive Director of Samaritan Counseling, Guidance, Consulting, and Director of Caring for Clergy and Congregations Program. This three-part online webinar will be held Thursdays, September 5, 12, and 19 at 2:00 p.m. via zoom video conference. Descriptions - Leading from a Foundation: What are our leadership principles, and how do they help or hinder our authority and authorship? - Who and Why We are: What is our purpose and call, and how do they lead us as we lead others? - Writing the next few chapters: How do we build on the church's story to create new chapters for their lives? If you are interested in these webinars and would like to attend contact Bobbie at the Presbytery office. If enough folks are interested, the Presbytery may be able to host a zoom video conference at the Presbytery office for these three Thursdays.

>>The Employer Agreements through the Board of Pensions for 2020 are now available on Benefits Connect today through October 11, 2019. Annually, you have this opportunity to review, select, and change your benefits offerings for the following year. Log on to Benefits Connect during this time period to make your selections and review costs. Anyone participating in the Board of Pensions plan must do this each year.

>>The 224th General Assembly (2020) will meet in Baltimore, Maryland from Saturday to Saturday, June 20-27, 2020. The Session of your church may nominate a young person to attend the General Assembly as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD). Nominations are due September 1! Contact the Presbytery office for more information.

>>MISSION FAIR AT NEXT PRESBYTERY MEETING - At our joint presbytery meeting (Washington/Redstone) on September 24 at Pine Springs Camp, we would like to know more about what your congregation is doing in missions. Consider bringing a small display of information to tell others about a mission project your congregation really loves!



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