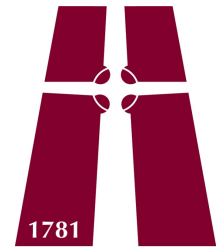


Presbytery of Redstone

eNews



January 30, 2020

Let's Pray For:

- >Union Presbyterian Church,
Murrysville, Pete Goetscius,
Moderator
District 1
- >Community United Presbyterian
Church, New Alexandria, Cliff Foster,
Moderator
District 1
- >Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt.
Pleasant, Sue Washburn, Covenant
Pastor
District 2
- >New Hope Presbyterian Church,
North Huntingdon, Brenda Barnes,
Pastor
District 2
- >First Presbyterian Church,
Mastontown, Lee McDermott,
Moderator
District 3
- >McClellandtown Presbyterian
Church, Lee McDermott, Pastor
District 3
- >Second Presbyterian Church,
Johnstown, Art Moffat, Temporary
Supply, Carole Isley Corey, Moderator
District 4
- >Westmont Presbyterian Church,
Johnstown, Rene' Whitaker, Interim
Pastor
District 4

Contact Us

Rev. Skip Noftzger
Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk

Upcoming Events...

- October 2019 through May 2020 - [Soup for the Soul Community Luncheon](#) -
Apollo, Poke Run
- February 8, 2020 - [District 4 Enrichment Day - Johnstown, Westmont](#)
- February 19 - March 29, 2020 - [Seven-Week Study on Christian Responses to
Addiction - Delmont](#)
- February 23, 2020 - [Spaghetti Dinner - New Alexandria, Community](#)
- July 9-11, 2020 - [PW Summer Synod Gathering](#)

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

Reflections from the Executive Presbyter, Skip Noftzger

"Thinking Retirement?"

Last Saturday at the Presbytery gathering, we honored four individual pastors who were being designated "Honorably Retired." It is in moments like those that we recognize the long and faithful service that goes into serving in the pastoral ministry. No doubt, for each of them, the years of actively fulfilling this calling was not just filled with highlights and successes, but also with experiences of suffering and heartache. For neither in the Church nor in the world are we immune from the effects of our own fallenness as a people and as individuals.

Yet, both in honoring them and in our own reflections about God's calling for ourselves, we recognize that this is all about something bigger. It is not just that they (or we) have labored well in some job for a number of years just to get to some end whereby we won't have to do it any longer. It is not as if we are working in order to "get to the weekend" or to get to the "golden years" as the final goal. Rather, the "work" itself has meaning defined by God's call whether for a short time or for many, many years.

The "office" of pastor (or elder or deacon) is not merely a job (whether paid or volunteer), nor a role or even a profession (though it may bear similarities to both). Answering God's call in this way obligates oneself to the duties and the norms of the larger mission and purpose. In this case, our sense of responsibility is intimately connected and tethered to the fulfillment of God's kin(g)dom. This mission of the Lord Jesus Christ to reconcile all things in heaven and on earth worked out in, through and by the Church (as well as sometimes in spite of).

[blog address](#)
[twitter address](#)

Bobbie Martin

Administrative Assistant/
 Bookkeeper

As I have said on many occasions, there is no "retirement" from the discipleship of following Jesus Christ. Similarly, while there may be changing in seasons and particular callings for all of us at different times, whether we have "dissolved" one pastoral relationship or rotated off the Session, there is no "retirement" for anyone who has been called to the "ordered ministry" of deacon, elder or Minister of the Word and Sacrament. Our ordination vows remain, as we seek to serve the Lord and Christ's Church wherever that may be. May we never "retire" from that calling.

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

Around Redstone (and beyond)

>>The next 2020 IPLF Workshop will be held from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Redstone Presbytery Office on February 8, 2020. "Re-Thinking Atonement" with the Rev. Dr. Edwin Chr. van Driel, PTS instructing, will help us preach and teach afresh the ways the Scriptures speak about the difference that the cross makes. The New Testament draws mainly on two elements of the Old Testament to interpret Jesus' death: the sacrifices of Israel's cult (as described in Leviticus) and the figure of the suffering servant (as described in Isaiah during the time of exile). But how did first century Jews understand the sacrifices and the figure of the suffering servant? And what did they mean when they drew on these to talk about Jesus' death? And what does all of this do to our take on atonement? This workshop will help us think about these questions.

>>District 4 Enrichment Day - Saturday, February 8, 2020 at the Westmont Presbyterian Church in Johnstown. The afternoon begins at 11:15 with the Clerks of Session Review of 2019 Session minutes and registers. The afternoon sessions with your choice of two of the four: Creating Kids' Ministry in the Smaller Church Today (Cheryl Croushore, Leader), Finding Direction in Life via Discernment and Prayer (Carole Isley Corey, Leader), Differences Between the Church in Africa and the USA (Owar Ojulu, Leader), and Surprising, Sacred, Shocking: Biblical Worship and Prayer (Jim Farrer, Leader). There is no cost for the day. To register or for more information please [click here](#).

Next 2020 Presbytery Meeting

Tuesday, March 24, 2020
 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown

Next Presbytery Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

This meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Presbytery office

>>Mary Kay Glunt will be installed as the Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Belle Vernon on February 9, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. All clergy are encouraged to attend to welcome Mary Kay to Redstone!

>>TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY, WEEK 1 - A limited number of seats remain for Week 1 of Transitional Ministry Training this coming March 16-20 at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. This study has been frequently characterized as excellent enrichment for *all* clergy. More information is available from the Seminary's *Office of Continuing Education*, 412.924.1345 or <https://www.pts.edu/TM1-2020>

>>Pastor Jordan Rimmer and Northminster Church in New Castle, PA will host the second annual Future Church Symposium on April 18, 2020. Author and church strategist Reggie McNeal will spend the day talking about where the world is going and how to be a church that is ready for the future. Throughout the day there will also be time for question and answer. The Symposium will be 9am-4pm and is \$35 including lunch. Reggie will also be preaching at Northminster the next day. More information and registration is available www.futurechurchsymposium.com<<http://www.futurechurchsymposium.com>.

Continuing Education Events at PTS

>>>> Excellent preaching help from an excellent instructor and pastor, and they have 5 Zoom online slots for folks who don't want to drive in!

<https://www.pts.edu/preaching-a-relevant-word-1920>

>>>> This free event helps to model good and respectful dialogue concerning sexuality, and the workshop will teach folks how to respond pastorally. They will not get into theology or doctrine - just pastoral care for the child of God in front of us:

<https://www.pts.edu/people-before-issues-1920>

>>>> One of their staff will teach an online class to either individuals or teams of folks from churches on how to improve decision-making processes:

<https://www.pts.edu/decisionmaking-1920>

>>LINKS OF LOVE - (PCUSA) Churches across the nation are joining together a gigantic paper chain. See how your church can get involved, too by [clicking here](#).



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