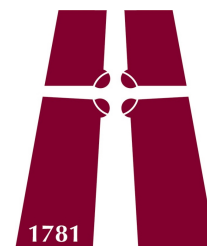


Presbytery of Redstone

eNews



February 20, 2020

Let's Pray For:

>Poke Run Presbyterian Church,
Apollo, Pete Goetschius, Pastor
District 1

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

>Sewickley United Presbyterian
Church, West Newton, Glenn Hart,
Commissioned Pastor
District 2

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

>Calvin United Presbyterian Church,
Scottdale, Leonard Morgan,
Commissioned Pastor
District 3

>Grace Chapel Presbyterian Church,
Smithfield, Lee McDermott, Pastor
District 3

>Trinity Presbyterian Church, New
Florence, Carole Isley Corey,
Moderator
District 4

>Patton Presbyterian Church, David
McCabe, Pastor
District 4

Contact Us

Rev. Skip Noftzger

Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk

[blog address](#)

[twitter address](#)

Bobbie Martin

Upcoming Events...

October 2019 through May 2020 - [Soup for the Soul Community Luncheon](#) -
Apollo, Poke Run

February 23, 2020 - [Spaghetti Dinner - New Alexandria, Community](#)

February 16 through March 29 - [Seven-Week Study on Christian Responses to
Addiction - Delmont](#)

July 9-11, 2020 - [PW Summer Synod Gathering](#)

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

Reflections from Rev. Marnie Silbert, Honorably Retired member of Redstone Presbytery

In 1983, I had my introduction to Pine Springs Camp as I became a new pastor with a call in Redstone Presbytery. The curriculum for the summer had the theme "Sow the Seeds; Trust the Promise." Rev CJ Haury from Washington Presbytery and I were the Volunteer Weekly directors for a junior camp of older elementary students. We had a great week. And I had a great one liner about ministry. "Sow the Seeds; Trust the Promise."

As Punxsutawney Phil's early spring looks as though it could happen (alas March could still change that), and the smell of the earth touches the air, some of you are probably starting seeds to be set out for the growing season. What a great time to remember some of the seeds of faith you and your congregation have sown over the years and to remember and celebrate some of the occasional fruit that has become evident. God uses us if we are willing to sow seeds of faith through our worship, through our teaching, through our speaking, and through our living. And God adds God's power, grace, love, and mercy...the promise piece. The fruit is not all up to us, thank God! And maybe, by the way, you are the fruit of someone's sowing or a congregation's sowing.

In addition to remembering, just as it is the season to sow tomato and lettuce seeds, it is always the season including right now, to be intentional about sowing seeds of faith. Are you as part of being Christ's faithful disciple sowing seeds? Intentionally? With prayerful guidance? How is your congregation about sowing seeds of faith, giving God something to work with? Are some seeds right in your community of faith? Are some seeds right in your community? Are some seeds in the city (Jeremiah 29:7 "seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile and pray to the Lord on its behalf for in its welfare you will find your welfare.")? Are some far flung out in the world? "Sow the seeds; trust the promise!"

Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania (www.casp.org) whom we support through our First Fruits giving in a small way, is hosting a workshop about Bread for the World at Pittsburgh Seminary in April 19th. It is a faith organization that seeks to sow seeds to help hungry people through letter writing to our Representatives and Senators. Lobbying is not my first gift, but

Administrative Assistant/
Bookkeeper

**Communicate the
Word...**

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

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

Some Scholarship Information

>>Thanks to a generous grant from the Central Mission Endowment Fund of St. Philip Presbyterian Church in Houston, PAM is delighted to offer more scholarships for our 2020 Worship and Music Conferences at Montreat. These St. Philip/CMEF Scholarships are available to large groups, small groups, and individuals too! In addition to the conference registration fee, these scholarships can cover lodging, meals, and - for large groups - even travel costs! If you would like more information or would like to apply, please visit www.presbysmusic.org/montreat-registration and click on Scholarships.

>>The Presbyterian Scholarship Fund offers financial assistance to students from PCUSA congregations attending Davis and Elkins College, Grove City College, Muskingum University, Washington & Jefferson, Waynesburg

I am thankful it is the gift of some Christians and Presbyterians. Rev. Jack Haberer wrote a book called *Godviews*. In it he describes 5 kinds of Christians. He is Presbyterian so it is from the perspective of our tradition. He describes the characteristics of each faith expression; the Confessionalist, the Altruist, the Ecclesiast, the Activist, and the Devotionalist including the gifts they bring the church....in this context how they are sowing seeds. He also speaks to each expressions deficits and liabilities and makes the case that a congregation (and a denomination) needs all of them. (This would of course echo Paul in Corinthians speaking about the parts of the body).

As we enter the sowing season and Lent, refresh your sowing the seed intentions and then trust God and the promises we have in Jesus Christ to continue to do amazing things. "Sow the seeds; trust the promise."

Around Redstone (and beyond)

>>First Presbyterian Church, 300 S. Main Street, Greensburg, will reprise its Faith and Arts series during Lent, with free 30-minute recitals and an art display at noon Fridays, beginning February 28 through April 3 in the church sanctuary, and mid-week 30 minute chapel service at 7:00 p.m., Wednesdays beginning March 4 through April 1. The Friday programs follow the hymn text of "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" and feature the artistry of Chris Visgitis of Wexford. His display will feature 4x4 feet oil pastel paintings drawn from a series of pieces he called "Grit and Beauty" that capture a glimpse into the everyday life of his family living in the West End of Pittsburgh during the mid-1940's including World War II. All artwork is for sale, with 10% of the proceeds going to the Autism Society of America, Westmoreland County Chapter. Visgitis plans to be present for the recitals on March 20 and April 3. Recitalists include: 2/28 - Ryan Lynch, student of Dr. John Salveson, Organ; 3/6 - Evan Bellas, Director of Music, Holy Family Church, Latrobe, Organ; 3/13 - Emily Busche and Bridget Deveney, Seton Hill University students, Organ; 3/20 - Dr. Maureen Miller, Seton Hill University voice faculty member, Voice; 3/27 - Jacob Gruss, Greensburg Salem High School junior and music director at Otterbein United Methodist Church, Greensburg, Organ; 4/3 - Dr. John Salveson, Minister of Music and Organist at First Presbyterian Church in Greensburg. The Wednesday mid-week chapel services are based on the Beautitudes and will be a blend of Scripture readings provided by the Rev. Martin Ankrum, pastor/head of staff at First Presbyterian, and musical interpretations under the direction of Salveson. For more information contact the church at 724.832.0150.

Continuing Education Events at PTS

[Preaching a Relevant Word to a Restless People \(2/27/2020\)](#)

Donna Giver-Johnston

February 27, March 26, and April 23, 2020

Preachers may be reluctant to mention current events from the pulpit. But not speaking to the concerns people bring with them into church implicitly communications that the church - and worse, God - doesn't care. Together, we will discuss both our resistance and our sacred calling and learn ways to preach sermons that are paastorally sensitive, prophetically challenging, and particularly relevant in our world today.

[People Before Issues: Pastoral Engagement with LGBTQ Members of Your Community \(3/5/2020:3/6/2020\)](#)

Justin Lee and Ray Low

March 5, 2020, 7:00 p.m. - 9 :00 p.m. - March 6, 2020, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

In today's world, every church must deal with questions about sexuality and gender identity. But at the end of the day, these are people, not merely

University, Westminster College, or The College of Wooster. Each year one new student at each school is eligible for a \$1,200 renewable scholarship. The fund, formerly known as the Colportage scholarship, supports up to twenty-eight students each year. Students must be a member of a Presbyterian congregation in one of the following Presbyteries: Beaver-Butler, Kiskiminetas, Lake Erie, Pittsburgh, Redstone, Shenango, Upper Ohio Valley, or Washington. Applicants should seek information from their respective school's financial aid office.

issues. With practical tips and real-world examples, we will discuss what you need to know to fully care for people in your community who are LGBTQ or love someone who is. Co-sponsored with the Seminary's Church Planting Initiative.

[Collective Decision Making: Beyond Robert's Rules: Online Class \(3/9/2020\)](#)

Barbara Blodget

March 9 - April 3, 2020

Do you tire of church meetings where decision making is tedious or contentious? Are your processes indistinguishable from standard parliamentary procedures used everywhere else? Have you ever wished to try a different way? In this course you will learn decision methods that are at the same time slower and wiser, respectful and goal-oriented. You will get to experiment with consensus processes, prayerful processes, and more. The class will be self-paced and available for participants to engage with the instruction at their own convenience.



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