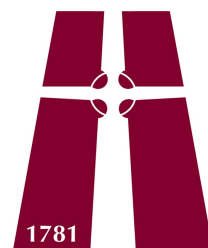


Presbytery of Redstone eNews April 2, 2020



Let's Pray For

----Pray for people infected (or possibly infected, but undetected) by Covid-19 and are facing hospitalization or quarantine.

--Pray for people at higher risk of developing the disease.

--Pray for health care workers (doctors, nurses, technicians) and care givers in nursing homes.

--Pray for researchers responsible for fighting the disease, whether it is in the diagnosis, treatment or development of vaccines.

--Pray for civic leaders at all levels who are responsible for making decisions for the common good regarding our response to the coronavirus.

Contact Us

Rev. Skip Noftzger

Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk

[blog address](#)

[twitter address](#)

Bobbie Martin

Administrative Assistant/
Bookkeeper

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

Redstone Presbytery Hours During Coronavirus Social Distancing

As of right now, the Presbytery staff will be available for phone calls (724.837.6737) and emails ([Bobbie/Skip](#)). Skip can also be reached on his cell phone (724.833.0340) until further notice.

News from the Synod of the Trinity

United in Worship

Physical Distance, But United in Worship (if your congregation does not have an online worship experience, why not join some of your fellow Presbyterians in Redstone, this list is not exhaustive)

LIVE STREAMS

~~[First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg](#) - 10:00 a.m.

~~[Pleasant View Presbyterian Church](#) - 11:00 a.m.

~~[Latrobe Presbyterian Church](#) - 11:00 a.m.

~~[Delmont Presbyterian Church](#) - 9:30 a.m.

~~[Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown](#) - 11:00 a.m.

~~[Puckety Presbyterian Church](#) - 10:00 a.m.; [interactive live @ Zoom](#)

~~[Westminster Presbyterian Church](#) - 10:45 a.m.

~~[First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette](#) - 10:00 a.m.

~~[New Hope Presbyterian Church](#) - 10:30 a.m.

~~[Third Presbyterian Church](#) - 8:45 a.m.

~~[Rehoboth Presbyterian Church](#) - 11:00 a.m.

~~[Ebensburg Presbyterian Church](#) - 10:45 a.m.; [interactive live @ Zoom](#) (joint service with Colver Presbyterian Church)

~~[Colver Presbyterian Church](#) - 10:45 a.m.; [interactive live @ Zoom](#) (joint service with Ebensburg Presbyterian Church)

RECORDED/POSTED

~~[Reunion Presbyterian Church](#)

~~[Poke Run Presbyterian Church](#) - Daily devotional (Psalms)

~~[Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church](#)

~~[Westmont Presbyterian Church](#)

~~[Congruity Presbyterian Church](#) - Devotional

~~[Level Green Presbyterian Church](#)

~~[Tyrone Presbyterian Church](#)

~~[McClellandtown Presbyterian Church](#)

~~[First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville](#)

~~[Fort Burd United Presbyterian Church](#) (daily devotional)

~~[Bethel United Presbyterian Church](#) (written devotional)

~~[Bolivar Presbyterian Church](#) (written devotional)

~~[Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, Dunbar](#)

~~[Revloc Presbyterian Church](#)

~~[Puckety Presbyterian Church](#)

OTHER WORSHIP SERVICES OPPORTUNITIES

~~Latrobe Presbyterian Church - 11:00 a.m. Radio - WCNS AM 1480 and 97.3 LITE FM

~~Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown - 11:00 a.m. Radio - WMBS AM 590 and 101.1 FM

~~Pleasant View Presbyterian Church, Smock - 11:00 a.m. Drive-in Parking lot

With the changing nature of the coronavirus situation, I have reconfigured how the Synod website is sharing information. The landing page for everything that we have has been changed to:

<http://www.syntrinity.org/2020coronavirus/>

RESOURCES FOR CONGREGATIONS

REDSTONE EMERGENCY GRANTS AND LOANS

As we continue this need to adapt to doing ministry and mission during this season of change, many congregations may be wrestling with not only rapid changes in worship services and ministry programs, but also in the mission initiatives of the congregation. In this Covid-19 pandemic, we are required **AND** have the opportunity to serve God in faithfulness in new ways. As a Presbytery, we recognize that some of these transitions to different ways of doing ministry are not without costs during this period of virtual worship and potential drop offs in regular support. Consequently, the Presbytery of Redstone will offer the following short term grant and loan programs in order to aid congregations without sufficient reserves to make some of these transitions in ministry.

[Information Page-downloadable criteria/hard copy application](#)
[Application--online](#)

CARES Act 2020 "Payroll Protection" SBA LOAN PROGRAM

(with possible loan forgiveness)

[Redstone Presbytery information page on SBA Loan program](#)

As part of the stimulus bill, non-profits were included as eligible under the Small Business Administration Disaster (Payroll Protection) program. You will need to contact your bank or one that is a SBA-approved lender for details about both eligibility and the program. Additional information from some of the resources listed below.

RESOURCES

[PCUSA list of resources](#)

<https://www.sba.gov>

<https://covid19.arcchurches.com/>

<https://www.vanderbloemen.com/blog/details-of-care-act>

<http://www.capincrouse.com>

BOARD OF PENSIONS

For congregations struggling to meet their Board of Pensions dues obligations, please contact the BOP directly concerning possible options in fulfilling the responsibilities. For emergency assistance proposals for pastors, please contact the

~~First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette - 12:30 p.m. (previous Sunday sermon)
 - Radio - WKFB AM 770 AM and 97.5 FM

Support During the Pandemic - by Rev. Jim Farrer, Honorably Retired member of Redstone Presbytery

Biblical Resources during the Pandemic and Beyond

In the midst of the 2020 coronavirus pandemic "nonessential" groups have ceased from gathering. Most Christians have heeded the good advice from medical experts to "shelter" away from others. Yet, it is also the case that Christians can and still have "tasted once for all the mighty spiritual resources of God's new created order" (Hebrews 6:5).

Prayers

Our first prayer might be "Come, Lord Jesus!" Professor Oscar Cullmann (*Early Christian Worship*) stresses that the Aramaic language expression *maranatha* is the oldest liturgical prayer of the Christian community (1 Cor. 16:22, Rev. 22:20). "Deliver us" (from evil) in the Lord's Prayer mean "a strong tearing free or wrenching away," according to Raymond E. Brown (*New Testament Essays*). The commands of James 5 to pray are clear. The passage concludes with the assurance that the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

Healing services

Found among many denominational resources are Services for Healing and Wholeness for a congregation or an individual.

Holy Communion

While some Christians receive the bread and the cup only irregularly, partaking of the elements of the Lord's Supper deepens our relationship with the ascended Lord Jesus. Presbyterian pioneer John Calvin called Holy Communion "medicine for the sick" (*Institutes* 4.17.42).

Silence

In Psalm 46:6 while the nations are in an uproar and the kingdoms totter, the LORD of the armies of heaven is with us/in our midst. In verse 8 we must come and behold or grasp the meaning of the works of the LORD. Verse 10 is the familiar: "Be still (be a receiver) and know (learn in depth) that I am God."

A lift for the blues

Years ago an OSU professor discovered that depression could be diminished temporarily by lifting one's arms/hands overhead for a short time. This posture was also used in early Christian prayer as a reminder of the believer's new standing connected to Christ. Prayers might also incorporate the ancient Hebrew festal shout found in Psalm 89:15. They may have shouted "The LORD is king," (Ps.93:1).

These and other Christian resources do not result in automatic "success," but undergirding us are God's everlasting arms (Deut. 33:27). While everyone searches for help in times of crises, Alexander Schmemmann (*For the Life of the World*) reminds us: "For Christianity, help is not the criterion. Truth is the criterion."

Jim Farrer, Moderator of Presbytery of Redstone Healing Prayer Ministry Network, March 26, 2020 (full article-biblicaleadership.com)

Around Redstone and Beyond

presbytery. For those enrolled in the plans co-pays and deductibles related to testing of Coronavirus are waived (see BOP website for more information).

PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION--ONLINE GIVING

Handouts are available through the Presbytery [website pages](#). To enroll or find out additional information, please refer to the [Presbyterian Foundation website](#).

>>**The Synod has received documentation from the Department of Revenue that is extending the Synod's Sales Tax Exemption Certificate which includes presbyteries and churches under its umbrella. They have been extended until September 30th, 2020. A copy of the extension letter can be downloaded by [clicking here](#). You can use this until we receive the new certificates which will be emailed to the presbyteries once the Synod receives them.**



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