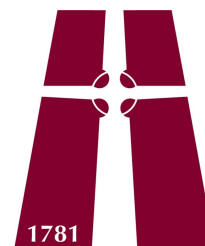


Presbytery of Redstone eNews April 15, 2020



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 all that have to work with the public such as Police, Fire Fighters, EMS workers, Postal workers, delivery drivers, grocery store staff, Pharmacy employees, and all other companies that have to keep their doors open and for their staff that is exposed to the public everyday.

--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

Reflections from the Executive Presbyter

THINKING BOTH WAYS--For the Season, For Today

For all of us, in these days that seem to blur together, I have been trying to begin conversations about thinking both about the long-term picture in the "new normal" (even on the other side of the immediate need to flatten the curve) AND reflecting on the short-term on how I can get control of some of the many things that have dramatically altered the work/life flow. So, on both of these LT organizational needs and Immediate personal needs, I have included some links below that I have found helpful and you might find helpful as well.

Blessings,
Skip

Leading Beyond the Blizzard

<https://journal.praxislabs.org/leading-beyond-the-blizzard-why-every-organization-is-now-a-startup-b7f32fb278ff>

10 Ways the Church will Changed by Covid-19

<https://convergenceus.org/2020/04/02/ten-ways-the-church-will-be-changed-by-covid-19/>

OVERCOMING VIRTUAL MEETING FATIGUE

<https://factsandtrends.net/2020/04/15/6-tips-for-overcoming-virtual-meeting-fatigue/?ecid=PDM210048&bid=845578753>

Steps to include in your Routine

<https://factsandtrends.net/2020/04/15/4-steps-to-include-in-your-quarantine-routine/>

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). These are updated often when we receive new ones. Click [this link](#) to see all of the Live Streams, Recorded and Posted services, and others.

News from the Pine Springs Camp Executive Director, Greg Davis

During this season of the Covid-19 pandemic, please be assured the Pine Springs, Inc. staff and Board of Directors are diligently making plans for all types of alternative scenarios which include possible alterations of schedule of the summer camp. Considerations which will take into account the primary concern of the health and well being of possible campers and staff

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.

RESOURCES FOR CONGREGATIONS

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 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](#).

Redstone Pastor Information

[Weekly Zoom Pastor Check-In](#)
Wednesdays at NOON - virtual food and fellowship

[Redstone Pastors Facebook Group](#)

based upon guidance of the state health agencies. New protocols to address these concerns are already being developed. Meanwhile, the Board will be making decisions in the upcoming weeks about any alterations in the 2020 summer camping season.

Around Redstone and Beyond

>>The Polity Workshop originally scheduled for Saturday, April 18, 2020 has been postponed. When the new date has been determined we will let you know. This was also one of the dates for review of 2019 Session Minutes and Registers. All Session Minute review dates have also been postponed. Dates will be rescheduled and will keep you posted on those as well.

>>UPMC POLICY, PASTORAL CARE - The authorities of UPMC Healthcare have advised us that they consider ongoing access to spiritual and pastoral care as an essential part of patients' care. UPMC-employed chaplains continue to provide care on-site as usual, following standard precautions. Local church clergy and lay pastors are permitted on site to visit individuals from their churches. You are encouraged to exercise discretion on a case-by-case basis. All employees and visitors who enter UPMC facilities will be screened upon entry. If screening temporarily restricts you from entry, you are encouraged to identify an alternate person who may provide the needed pastoral visitation.

>>PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK is creating a weekly video devotion, worship liturgies that you and your church are welcome to use and share no matter what your worship looks like these weeks, *and* lessons and guides for child-friendly family worship and education. Presbyterian Outlook invites us to use their weekly lectionary reflections, [Looking Into The Lectionary](#) for weekly worship, Bible study or devotions. AND they will be posting information and resources frequently for as long as we are homebound. Please check [their website](#) for the most up-to-date materials.

Redstone Emergency Grants and Loans

IS YOUR CHURCH SUPPORTING A MINISTRY TO VULNERABLE PEOPLE THAT IS JEOPARDY OF NOT BEING SUSTAINED DURING THIS SEASON?

IS YOUR CHURCH DEVELOPING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY (BEYOND JUST MOVING YOUR NORMAL MINISTRIES ONLINE) THAT YOU COULD USE SEED MONEY FOR ASSISTANCE?

IS YOUR CHURCH STRUGGLING WITH CASH FLOW DIRECTLY RESULTING FROM ABSTAINING FROM IN-PERSON WORSHIP?

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

COVID-19 RESOURCES AND HELPFUL LINKS

- >>[PCUSA Resources](#) for churches and individuals
- >>From our Synod of the Trinity a variety of [helpful resources](#)
- >>Helpful links & resources from the [PCUSA Church Store](#)
- >>From the [Board of Pensions](#)
- >>COVID-19: [100 Ideas for Ministers and Ministries Leaders](#)
- >>[Six Strategies for Shepherding the Flock While 'Socially Distanced'](#)

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.

Click these links for more information or to apply.

[Information Page - Downloadable Criteria/Hard Copy Application Online Application](#)



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