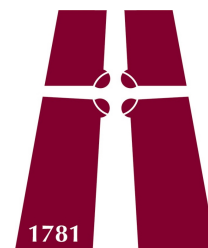


# *Presbytery of Redstone*

## *eNews*

### *May 21, 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***

#### **RESOURCES FOR CONGREGATIONS**

#### **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.

#### **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 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](#)

#### **Around Redstone and Beyond**

**>>THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR FIRST ZOOM PRESBYTERY MEETING.** We had a great turnout and the meeting went

## **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](#)

### **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](#)

well. The recap of the meeting is located on the Presbytery website and can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

>>Sadly, at the May 19, 2020 Presbytery Meeting, Pine Springs Camp Executive Greg Davis announced that the Board of Directors has suspended the summer camp program for 2020. Additional decisions for the fall will be made at a later date. Please keep the camp, their staff, and the Board of Directors in your prayers as they make these difficult decisions.

>>The Presbytery office will be closed on Monday, May 25, 2020 in observance of Memorial Day.

>>The Presbytery office is open during normal business hours - Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We ask that you call ahead (724.837.6737) before stopping by the office to avoid too many people being in the building at one time. Also, please wear a mask if you do need to stop by. Thank you! Take care and stay safe!

>>**PCUSA's General Assembly will be held online.** For the first time in the history of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the denomination's General Assembly will be held online only. The Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) voted unanimously Tuesday to approve a plan for a reduced assembly gathering that will require everyone involved - commissioners, advisory delegates, corresponding members, and staff - to participate in a digital assembly. The assembly will take place over three days: Friday, June 19; and Friday and Saturday, June 26 and 27.

>>Please keep the General Assembly Commissioners from Redstone Presbytery in your prayers as they plan for the upcoming General Assembly meeting. The commissioners from Redstone Presbytery are: Rev. Laura Blank, Rev. Susan Blank, Elder Bobbi Jo Huebner, and Elder Joshua Scully.

>>Is God calling you? If you are a Ruling Elder who God might be calling to preach or become more involved in pastoral service, Redstone Presbytery (along with Washington, Kiski, Pittsburgh, and Upper Ohio Valley) will be continuing our training program for the preparation of possible "Commissioned Ruling Elders" for the future. New students may begin in the fall of 2020. The program is designed to be both classroom and hands-on experiences and you will receive training and mentorship that will help you grow as a leader in Christ's

>>[Six Strategies for Shepherding the Flock While 'Socially Distanced'](#)

If you, or someone you know, would benefit from receiving the Synod of the Trinity's e-newsletter, simply send that person's email address to Synod Communications Coordinator [Mike Givler](#) and he'll get you signed up!

**Thinking about the Future**

**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/>

**Church's response to the Coronavirus (summary of Tony Morgan webinar "Unstuck Group")**

<https://chriseller.net/2020/the-church-after-coronavirus>

**Leading Beyond the Blizzard**

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

**Staying Healthy During Pandemic  
Pastor Fatigue**

**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/>

Church. If interested, please contact Skip Noftzger (Executive Presbyter) at 724.837.6737.

>>Prior to the coronavirus outbreak and government mandated shutdowns, the Synod's Sales Tax Exemption renewal, which includes the churches and presbyteries under its umbrella, was being processed by the Department of Revenue. The Department of Revenue, which is currently closed, said all existing sales tax exemption certificate expiration dates are being extended by six months, meaning they will be valid through Sept. 30.

In the meantime, the state has issued an extension letter that can be used until new certificates are received. [It can be downloaded here.](#)



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