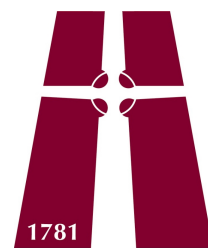


# Presbytery of Redstone eNews

## June 4, 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**

[PCUSA list of resources](#)

### Pine Springs Camp Update

As you know, the Pine Springs Camp Board of Directors made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 summer camp program. This was an incredibly painful decision, but the unknowns were too great to overcome to ensure the safety of our campers, camper families, volunteers and staff. We are deeply saddened by the loss of summer camp for the first time in 73 years.

This decision comes with tremendous financial ramifications. We have lost all of our spring retreat revenue as well as all of our summer camp income. We are uncertain what our fall retreat season will look like. All of these factors have led to a critical shortfall in our operating budget. We are making necessary budget cuts and seeking other revenue streams during this difficult time, but we also need to launch a rigorous fundraising effort to compensate for our loss of income. Pine Springs Camp has launched the "Keep the Fire Burning" campaign to help sustain the camp through the end of the year.

Here are some ways that your congregation can support the ministry:

1. **PSC Week of Giving - June 15-June 19** We are sponsoring the week of giving during what would have been the first week of camp. Please promote this in your bulletins, social media contacts and during your services. Encourage people to visit our social media outlets for ministry highlights, testimonies and updates on the campaign progress. Go to [www.pinesprings.org/donate](http://www.pinesprings.org/donate).
2. Commit to sending the money that was already earmarked for 2020 camper scholarships.
3. Take a special designated offering to support the camp.

Please keep your camp in your prayers. We are brokenhearted to miss out on a season of summer camp. However, we are confident that we will once again see campers flood this place with joy and experience the delight of the Lord through the work of Pine Springs Camp. May God bless you and your church family as you navigate our current situation.

### 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**

<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](#)
- >>[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 the Synod Communications Coordinator, [Mike Givler](#) and he will 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/>

**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 short term grant and loan programs in order to aid congregations without sufficient reserves to make some of these transitions in ministry.

**\*\*We are having trouble with the website right now so please contact the Presbytery office for more information at 724.837.6737.**

**Around Redstone and Beyond**

*>>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!*

>>2020/2021 Presbyterian Planning Calendars – The Presbytery will be doing a bulk order for the 2020/2021 Planning Calendars. Calendars begin in September again this year. Due to a price increase, the bulk order rate per calendar will be \$10.50 this year. If you would like to get in on the bulk rate deal please complete [the form](#) and email it or mail it with your payment to the Presbytery office. The deadline for orders will be August 13, 2020 in order to have them for distribution at the September Presbytery meeting. Thank you!

**>>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**

**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/>

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 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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