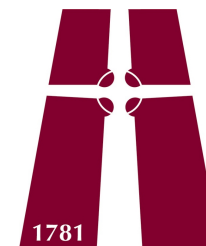


Presbytery of Redstone

eNews

September 2, 2020



Let's Pray For

>> **Congruity Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria, Cliff Foster, Pastor
District 1**

>> **United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington, Wendy Keys, Pastor
District 1**

>> **Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, Donna Havrisko, Pastor
District 2**

>> **First Presbyterian Church, Irwin, Ronald Wakeman, Pastor
District 2**

>> **First Presbyterian Church, Fayette City, Aleda Menchyk, Moderator
District 3**

>> **Little Redstone Presbyterian Church, Fayette City, Joshua Scully, Commissioned Pastor
District 3**

>> **First Presbyterian Church, Cresson, David McCabe, Pastor
District 4**

>> **First Presbyterian Church, Ebensburg, Owar Ojulu, Pastor
District 4**

Reflections from the Executive Presbyter



"A Different Type of Rally"

In many congregations, there is annual "kick off" of the fall programs and particularly, Christian education. Often, it may be called "rally day," signifying the reunited gathering after a summer of less regular programming. Such events can be celebratory and a signal to all those coming from vacations and other summer plans that we are not

only back to school, but back to "Sunday school."

Just as local school districts are navigating the best ways to return that may not be universal across our region, I suspect that our Redstone congregations are needing to find ways that fit their context. Regardless of what may be needed in individual situations, what remains constant is the need for ongoing and sustained Christian education and formation (and not just for little kids either).

Even before the pandemic, you might have experienced the need to have such efforts take different "forms" than the traditional Sunday school before or after the corporate worship service. Perhaps, you were already experimenting not merely with the time or location, but with the structure, format, intergenerational offerings or other choices. NOW, in this season of heightened concern over health and safety, it may take on even substantially different forms even for those who were slow to try other options.

There may not be an easy answer or a quick alternative. In fact, there may need to be multiple attempts tried and learned from along the

Contact Us**Rev. Skip Noftzger**

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Administrative Assistant/

Bookkeeper

Communicate the Word...***Carry on the Work...******Change the World...******Together*****RESOURCES FOR CONGREGATIONS**[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>**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 Emergency Grants and Loans

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

way. Yet, what is true then and is true now, is the need for all of us to continue growing in our faith. Of course, it is more than learning for its own sake, but becoming evermore formed into God's restored image. And, to do so requires the "discipline" of disciples who seek to follow Jesus in the ways that God might instruct, challenge, reprove, and correct us. For each of us, while we are responsible for personal engagement, yet such development does not happen alone. We are on this journey of fellowship, following, and formation in Jesus Christ together.

So, this September, whether it is a kickoff to an alternative form of Sunday School or something else, nevertheless, let us "rally" together in pursuit of loving, serving, and keeping an eye on and an ear open to Jesus even into this unknown season.

September 22 Presbytery Meeting

The September 22, 2020 Presbytery Meeting again will be conducted through the platform of Zoom videoconferencing beginning at 6:00 p.m. Please plan on electing a commissioner knowing that is the case and let us know the name and email address of that person as soon as you know it. We will reach out to the commissioner with instructions about using the platform. Meanwhile, information on the Meeting ID and Password will be distributed on the date of the packet being posted.

**IPLF Fall Workshops**

The Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation, a joint ministry of Redstone, Washington, Upper Ohio Valley, Kiskiminetas, and Pittsburgh Presbyteries, will be offering the following workshops this fall:

Polity - John Rodgers, Stated Clerk, Washington Presbytery, Instructor - September 12, 2020

Transforming Congregational Mission - Rev. Dr. Hunter Farrell, PTS World Mission Initiative, Instructor - October 10, 2020

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. [Click here](#) for more information.

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](#)

Ethics and Boundaries - Michelle Snyder, Crow's Feet Consulting, Instructor - November 14, 2020

Pastoral Care - Rev. Marnie Silbert, HR Redstone Presbytery, Instructor - December 12, 2020

All workshops are FREE and will be offered from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Redstone Presbytery office, 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road, Greensburg, PA 15601, and/or via Zoom videoconferencing. Please RSVP to [Bobbie](#) at Redstone Presbytery and let her know the workshop(s) you are interested in attending.

Pine Springs Camp Annual Golf Outing

Pine Springs Camp is pleased to announce that they have rescheduled their 20th annual Pine Springs Camp Golf Outing for Monday, September 14, 2020. Once again, the outing will be held at the historic Arnold Palmer's Latrobe Country Club. Golf is one of the few activities that can be done safely and responsibly in the midst of the current situation.

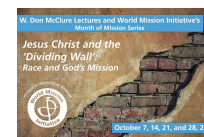


Attached you will find [information](#) and [brochure](#) for this year's golf outing. I hope you will be able to participate in or sponsor this great event to help sustain the camp at this difficult time.

PTS World Mission Initiative Conference

DISCUSSION AMONG FRIENDS: RACE & RACISM - Start now, planning your 'watch parties' so that your group can log in to "Jesus Christ and the Dividing Wall: Race and God's Mission." This online conference will be four

Wednesday evenings in October and will offer rich resources and 'jumping off' points for Christian discussions of racial prejudices and privileges. <https://www.pts.edu/wmi-conference>



The Harvest is Sure - Collected Sermons by Rev. Daniel T. W. Chow

Rev. Daniel T. W. Chow, a non-resident honorably retired

>>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'

Anti-Racism Resources

The PCUSA Store is offering a useful list of Anti-Racism Resources for our congregations. Please find them by [clicking here](#).

Matthew 25 Initiative



NEARLY 500 PC(USA) CONGREGATIONS have accepted the exciting and bold invitation to become "a Matthew 25 church." Look for ideas and opportunities that your church too can join our Matthew 25 Initiative. See the worship and ministry resources by [clicking here](#).

Church Cemetery

Does your church have a cemetery? If so, are you part of a cemetery association or is your session/board of trustees responsible for maintaining that cemetery? Please let me know the answer to these two questions by [clicking here](#) so I can update my records. Thank you!!



member of Redstone Presbytery has published a book of collected sermons, *The Harvest is Sure*. These sermons were collected from the period of time that Rev. Chow served in the Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence, and the Bolivar United Presbyterian Church (both congregations in Redstone Presbytery) from 1969-1976. There is a copy of Rev. Chow's book available at the Presbytery office for anyone who would like to read it.

2019 Minutes and Register Reviews



With the Pandemic situation and the inability to schedule in person meetings for the 2019 minutes reviews, Clerks of Session can do one of two things to have the 2019 Minutes and Register reviewed for the church. You can either drop off your session minutes book and register at the

Presbytery office and Skip will review them; or you can get in touch with your COM liaison to have them meet with you personally to do them for you. If you drop them off at the office it will take longer to have them reviewed and returned. If you need to know who your liaison is, please call the Presbytery office at 724.837.6737.

Stewardship Kaleidoscope 2020

Currents of Faith - The Stewardship of change in community, technology, and across generations. The 2020 conference will be virtual with three (3) Tuesday sessions beginning September 22. Hear from leading thinkers exploring the opportunities for growth in stewardship even in the midst of profound social change - registration is now open. For further information and to register [click here](#).

