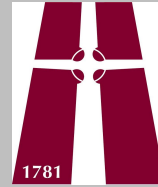


Presbytery of Redstone eNews

November 11, 2020



Please pray for...

District 1 Churches

>>Grace Community Presbyterian Church,
Lower Burrell, Ken Foust, Pastor

>>Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower
Burrell, Brian Kilbert, Pastor

District 2 Churches

>>Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Greensburg, Donna Havrisko, Pastor

>>First Presbyterian Church, Irwin, Ron
Wakeman, Pastor

District 3 Churches

>>First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon,
Mary Kay Glunt, Pastor

>>Harmony Presbyterian Church, Belle
Vernon, Glenn Hart, Commissioned Pastor

District 4 Churches

>>Bethany Presbyterian Church,
Johnstown, Denise Todero, Commissioned
Pastor

>>First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown,
Alice Tondora, Pastor

Reflections from ... Chuck West, Moderator

As we once again approach the observance of Thanksgiving Day, we find ourselves immersed in many overriding troubling circumstances. Election day has come and gone yet the outcome remains somewhat unsettled. Even though Joe Biden has achieved the majority of state's electoral votes and is the apparent "president-elect", a degree of uncertainty will probably persist until the votes are officially "certified" in early December. On a very different subject, daily infection data show that we are facing yet another record level of positive COVID-19 cases across the United States. Although the eventual outcome of the presidential election may or may not be satisfying to me personally, I find myself much more "vulnerable" to the reality of how the coronavirus might impact ME or my loved ones. Our tradition is to host the family Thanksgiving dinner in our home. But, with family members who work in medical care or are public school teachers, is it prudent to come together at this time? With these realities as a backdrop, how am I to bring life's pressures to a manageable level and find comfort and peace in daily life?

Let me reflect on a few positive events of 2020. By Thanksgiving Day, I will have moderated the installation of four pastors and the ordination of another within the churches of Redstone Presbytery; communicating the Word....carrying on the work....changing the world....together. I believe that the passage of time will calm the emotions surrounding the recent presidential election and that we will enter 2021 with new opportunities for pressing on with perfecting the Democracy, which has been our national work-in-progress for 250 years. On a personal note, my family (and I pray yours also) has been spared the damaging impact of coronavirus. Also, The Body of Christ at Puckety Church where Judy and I worship has found new God-honoring ways

to worship and minister, as I'm sure many of your churches have as well.

So...., where to find Peace and Joy this Thanksgiving? Consider Paul's letter to the Romans. Rm. 5: 1-5 "Therefore since we have been justified through faith, we have *peace* with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into the grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the *hope* of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us."

Blessings,
Moderator, Chuck West



November 21, 2020 Presbytery Meeting

Presbytery Council voted to conduct the November 21, 2020 Presbytery meeting in the same way as the previous meeting with most participants primarily through Zoom and the option for any platform participants or those without internet access to be "in-person" at the Puckety Presbyterian Church in Lower Burrell. The Presbytery will need to know who the designated voting elder(s) will be for each church. Also, if visitors are planning to attend, please let the Presbytery office know those as well. Information for logging in to the meeting via Zoom will be sent to everyone as the meeting date gets closer.

The November meeting of Presbytery will be on Saturday, November 21, 2020 via ZOOM videoconferencing beginning at 9:00 a.m. If you have an announcement that you would like included in the announcement loop that will be presented that day please submit them directly to redstonestories@gmail.com by Tuesday, November 17. Thank you!

Announcements



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

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.

Redstone Pastor Information

Weekly Zoom Pastor Check-In

Wednesdays at NOON - virtual food and fellowship

Redstone Pastors Facebook Group

Service of Installation

The Rev. Brian Kilbert will be installed as the Pastor of the Puckety Presbyterian Church in Lower Burrell on Sunday, November 22, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served afterward. Please RSVP to Charlene McKay at

724.335.9645 by November 15th if you plan to attend to comply with social distancing guidelines. They are limited to a total of 50 people.

2020 Financial Records

The Bookkeeper will be closing the books for 2020 on Thursday, January 7, 2021. All contributions will need to be received in the Presbytery office prior to that date to be included in the 2020 records. Any monies received after that date will be credited toward the 2021 financial records. If you have any questions you can contact Bobbie at the Presbytery office at 724.837.6737



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 you church too can join our Matthew 25 Initiative. See the worship and ministry resources by [clicking here](#).

Anti-Racism Resources

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



LEADERFEST – will move online for two Saturday mornings, February 6 (*Racism and the Church* keynote presentation and discussions) and February 13 (Basic Elder training and Basic Deacon training, plus Advanced electives). *Leaderfest* is an annual leadership enrichment event, jointly sponsored by Washington Presbytery and Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery and open to participation by Redstone Presbytery church leaders. Watch for details!

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 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.

Presbytery Staff

[Richard "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

Presbytery of Redstone

www.redstonepresbytery.org