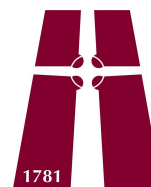


Presbytery of Redstone eNews

July 21, 2021



Please pray for...

District 1 Churches

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

>>First Presbyterian Church,
Murrysville, Ed Gray, Pastor

District 2 Churches

>>United Presbyterian Church, West
Newton, John Manon, Pastor

>>Derry Presbyterian Church, Marnie
Russell, Covenant Pastor

District 3 Churches

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

>>Marion Presbyterian Church, Belle
Vernon, Bob Prinkey, Commissioned
Pastor

District 4 Churches

>>Pleasant Grove Presbyterian
Church, Ligonier, John McClure,
Moderator

>>Bethel Presbyterian Church, New
Florence, Jim Sunseri, Commissioned
Pastor



A "Joy and Privilege"

Woody Allen famously remarked; "I would never join a club that would allow a person like me to become a member." Beyond his attempt at humor and self-deprecation, there is an honesty in acknowledging both our claims of status in "membership" in many organizations and our own self-awareness of our unworthiness. Yet, in Jesus Christ, and in his Church that tension is resolved. For here, we are all unworthy. Here there is no status, but rather servanthood.

Sometimes, we can make the church feel like any other organization. Yet, it is all the more important that we understand that being a "member" of the Church of Jesus Christ through a local congregation is unlike any other. Although the local congregation bears some similarities in organizational structure and practices to other groups, nonetheless the only criterion for membership is trust in God's grace in Jesus Christ and a willing desire to be part of the fellowship and ministry of His Church. In fact, all persons who God has claimed in grace are to be welcomed regardless of any other similarities or differences.

In the Church, there is a "joy and privilege" not because of status or connections or personal benefits. We are called together to be who we are meant to be in love and service to our Creator and Redeemer. With that grace-initiated joy and privilege comes commitment and involvement. This "sanctified" involvement may or may not be expressed only in our particular programs or activities or even another committee (however valuable they might be). Our joy and privilege embody a collective witness to God's love and grace alongside others. Though we see through a glass darkly and with differences, we must not have robbed us of this blessing.

More than a certificate we have received, or more than our name listed in a church register symbolizing redemption, the grace of Jesus Christ has renewed us for a purpose.... For the privilege of participating in Christ's mission. In the words of the apostle in that universal epistle,

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life."

In the older versions of the Book of Order, we had a category labeled "inactive" member. While some still desire to use the category, I find it an oxymoron. It may be that some may have moved, others are going through dark spaces or even others who sought to claim what was not evident in heart and life, therefore the "inactive" signifies their level of participation with others. Yet, the call of Jesus to take up one's cross and follow still rings forth. Within the Church of Jesus Christ, there are only active disciples whose lives have been re-created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. Indeed, loving and serving our Savior and Lord is and will be our joy and privilege.

The 225th General Assembly will be a hybrid event held in person in Louisville, KY for committee meetings and online plenary sessions in June and July of 2022. The Session of each church has the opportunity to nominate a young person to attend the General Assembly as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YADD). The person you nominate should be at least 17 years of age, but no older than 23 years of age, on June 20, 2022. Please return the [attached nomination form/application](#) to the Presbytery office by August 15, 2021. Thank you.

Nominations



Pastor and Elder Training Workshops Fall 2021 - Presented by IPLF have been set. Workshops include:

- Seasonal Lections from Hebrews - August 21, 2021
- Sermons From the Ground Up - September 11, 2021
- American Holy Days: How to Think Theologically About Secular Culture - October 9, 2021
- Diseases of Despair - November 13, 2021
- Faith Foundations Beneath our Presbyterian Polity - December 11, 2021

All workshops will be hybrid offerings by ZOOM and at the Redstone Presbytery Center. [Click here](#) for a more detailed description of each workshop. To register, contact Bobbie at Redstone Presbytery at 724.837.6737 or secretary@redstonepresbytery.org.

The Presbytery will be doing a bulk order for the 2021/2022 Planning Calendars. Calendars begin in September again this year. 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 order form](#) and email it or mail it with your payment to the Presbytery office. The deadline for orders will be August 2, 2021 in order to have them for distribution at the September meeting. Thank you!



Join Our Team

Position Opening: First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg PA - Youth Director – Part Time (approximately 12 hrs. per week)

The qualified candidate for this position will demonstrate a strong personal faith, substantial relational skills, organizational ability and maturity. We expect our Part-Time Youth Director to create, develop, coordinate, and administer all Youth Ministry activities for a unified Middle & High School group which meets on a weekly basis. The Youth Director will be under the general supervision of the Pastor and Christian Education Committee. All State and Federal clearances are required. Salary is approximately \$18,000. Please apply by sending a resume to First Presbyterian Church, PO Box #1038, Greensburg, PA 15601 or by emailing it to revankrum@hotmail.com.

Peach Festival

Delmont Presbyterian Church, 101 Church Street,
Delmont - August 21, 2021 - 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Menu: ham barbecue or hot dog, potato salad, baked beans, macaroni and cheese for the kids, shortbread with peaches and ice cream, hot and cold beverages. See the [attached flyer](#) for more information.



CALLING ALL CHURCHES! The Mission Network of Redstone Presbytery is sponsoring a Mission Fair at the September 21, 2021 Presbytery meeting being held at Pine Springs Camp. Bring a poster board of your church's mission projects and activities to share with the Presbytery. See the [attached flyer](#) for more information.

September Presbytery Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of Redstone Presbytery will be on Tuesday, September 21, 2021. This meeting is being held in person at Pine Springs Camp from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with all current CDC guidelines in place. We are still determining if it will also be available by ZOOM. More information will be forwarded as it becomes available.



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*Communicate the
Word...
Carry on the Work...
Change the World...
Together*

Presbytery of Redstone
www.redstonepresbytery.org

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