

# Presbytery of Redstone eNews

## September 15, 2021



### Please pray for...

#### District 1 Churches

~~Union Presbyterian Church,  
Murrysville, Sue Washburn, Interim  
Pastor

~~Community United Presbyterian  
Church, New Alexandria, Leonard  
Morgan, Commissioned Pastor

#### District 3 Churches

~~Leisenring Presbyterian Church,  
Anthony Marciano, Commissioned  
Pastor

~~First Presbyterian Church,  
Masontown, Eric Glisan,  
Commissioned Pastor

#### District 2 Churches

~~Sewickley United Presbyterian  
Church, Glenn Hart, Commissioned  
Pastor

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

#### District 4 Churches

~~Bethel Presbyterian Church, New  
Florence, James Sunseri,  
Commissioned Pastor

~~Trinity Presbyterian Church, New  
Florence, Rick Sweeney, Covenant  
Pastor



#### Since God Chose Us....

Being chosen for something may bring feelings of pride or gratitude or even anxiety. The responsibility for what we may be called may carry with it the full range of emotions and expectations. Yet, knowing that we are in no way worthy, we acknowledge God's sovereign grace in calling us to be restored and renewed as the very image of God in Jesus Christ. Often, I use the words that we have been "called and claimed" in this new covenant in Jesus. Such calling comes only by grace. Being claimed is a blessing beyond all other. Together, there is and will be purpose for our lives both in the call to be "holy and blameless before him in love" and in the particular "stations" in which God directs us to serve and to live out those purposes.

I was reminded of not only that responsibility, but our need to depend upon our God in so doing. That dependence is active through faith and expressed through prayer. Recently, I was reading through again a series of prayers compiled in the book, *A Book of Reformed Prayers*, and came across this offering from a lecture on Malachi 1:9 by John Calvin. I repeat it here that it might both inform and shape our sense of who we are and should be "since God chose us."

*Almighty God, thou hast seen fit to take us to be thy priests, and hast chosen us while we were not only in a lowly condition but even profane and strangers to all holiness, and hast dedicated us to thyself by thy Holy Spirit. Grant now that we may offer ourselves to thee as a holy sacrifice.*

*O let us remember thy charge and call. Let us consecrate ourselves to thy service and so present to thee our effort and our labor. May thy Name really be glorified in us and may our ingrafting into the Body of thine only Son be truly evident. As he is the chief and sole and*

*eternal Priest, grant us to become participants in this priesthood with which thou hast chosen to honor him, so that he may take us as his own associates. Thus may thy Name perpetually be praised by the entire Body as well as by its Head. (A Book of Reformed Prayers, p.19)*

Since God has indeed chosen us for God's glory and service, may we live and pray that prayer.  
Blessings.  
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#### SEPTEMBER PRESBYTERY GATHERING

Join us for the September 21 Presbytery meeting that will be held at Pine Springs Camp (10:00-2:00). We will gather in the Sports Pavilion (if bad weather, then the Refuge). Please park up by the Refuge and if you are able walk down to the pavilion and enjoy the outdoors. There will also be shuttle service from the parking lot down to the Pavilion. Please bring a mask in case we need to convene for any indoor activities. Because lunch will be provided by Pine Springs Camp, we ask that you let us know in the Presbytery Office of your attendance so they may plan properly. Additionally, do not forget that we are wanting you to bring a display of your congregation's engagement in God's mission for the Mission Fair which will be part of the meeting.



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
**Presbyterian Mission**

Contribute to:  
Disaster Relief-US Hurricane  
Response (DR000169)

This designated account supplements the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering to enable a significant, ongoing response to hurricanes that affect the United States. Your faithful giving is deeply appreciated.

To give by phone, call 800-872-3283. To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
P.O. Box 643700  
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

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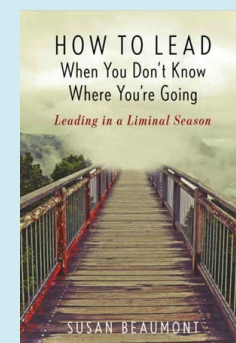
#### Thriving Churches Event

*How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going:  
Leading in a Liminal Time*

Susan Beaumont

Friday, September 24  
9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Registration—8:30 a.m.



Calvin Presbyterian Church  
415 East Grandview Avenue  
Zelienople, PA 16063

How do you lead an organization stuck between an ending and a new beginning—when the old way of doing things no longer works but a way forward is not yet clear? Such in-between times are called liminal seasons—threshold times when the continuity of tradition

disintegrates and uncertainty about the future fuels doubt and chaos. In a liminal season it simply is not helpful to pretend we understand what needs to happen next. But leaders can still lead.

SUSAN BEAUMONT is a consultant, coach, author and spiritual director. She is known for engaging the best of business practice, filtered through the lens of careful theological reflection. She moves easily between discernment and decision making and nurtures the soul of the leader along with the soul of the institution.

\$35.00/person  
Lunch is included.

Registration deadline: Thursday, September 16

Register by mail or online.

Online payment is not currently available.

[Learn more and register](#)



Spaghetti Dinner

New Hope Presbyterian Church in North Huntingdon will be having a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, October 2, 2021 from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. Take out will be available. [Click here for more information.](#)

#### Free Workshops Presented by the IPLF Program

- "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



These workshops begin at 12:30 p.m. and will be a hybrid offering by ZOOM and at the Redstone Presbytery Center. To register, contact Bobbie at Redstone Presbytery at 724.837.6737 or [secretary@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org).



New Hope Presbyterian Church in North Huntingdon will be offering Flu shots for humans and a Blessing of the Pets on Sunday, October 10, 2021 from Noon to 2:00 p.m. Call the church at 724.863.7702 for more information.

The Day of Learning is back on October 12, 2021, for three online workshops focused on church property ...



8:30 PT/11:30 ET Maggie Harmon will present The Value of Vision  
How do you get where you're going if you don't know where it is that you want to go? And how do you make sure you have the resources you need to get there? Making sure you have a clear vision for your congregation provides the

structure you need to assess and align your resources for the most effective ministry.

This workshop will help you define your vision as a core purpose, distinguish that from mission and goals so you can focus your ministry in the areas you are called to serve, and give you tools to take back to your congregation to help in understanding what resources you need to ensure continued viability.

At 11:00 PT/2:00 ET Olanda Carr and Robert Hay will share Options for Repurposing Church Property

In this workshop, we will review various options to consider when repurposing your church property. An overview of church partnerships, rental opportunities to consider, conversion/reinvention, and parcel sales will be provided, with careful attention being placed on the amount of time, energy, and resources required for each. Additional time will be allocated to discernment processes, including beginning steps and resources.

The day will close at 2:30 PT/5:30 ET with Understanding Financial Implications for Property Transition from Paul Grier.

During this presentation, attendees will learn about various types of property-specific information that must be gathered, recommendations for the sequence of work, and how a careful analysis can be undertaken to maximize the financial or missional benefit to the church when considering repurposing options. We will consider the impact of potential changes in property taxation, together with realistic assessments of the marketability of the property and required market exposure time, as well as compliance and impacts from civil and PC(USA) requirements.

**Register Today**



## Get Your Church Ready for Giving Tuesday

Held on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and "Cyber Monday," Giving Tuesday reaffirms the joy of giving during a season of

celebration. This year, Giving Tuesday is set for November 30, 2021.

Some congregations receive extra gifts on Giving Tuesday from members who want to express their appreciation for their church – and yours can be one of those!

Attend the Presbyterian Foundation's Giving Tuesday webinar on Wednesday, September 22, to learn how your church can participate. You'll hear from Rev. Philip Beck, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Tarentum, Pa., who will share how his church has encouraged generosity from its members on Giving Tuesday. First Presbyterian has raised as much as \$15,000 annually from Giving Tuesday.

You can earmark the funds you raise for your own church budget, help fund a special project, contribute to a community cause or collect funds for Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Special Offerings – or all of the above. It is a day that invites extra generosity – in a season in which it is needed.

This FREE webinar is set for 2 p.m. Eastern, 11 a.m. Pacific, on Wednesday, September 22.

We'll keep it short with plenty of time for questions!

If you join us for this webinar, we'll also provide you with a checklist to help you plan and graphics to use for Giving Tuesday in your social media campaign.

**Sign Up Now**

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### Follow Me Curriculum

The Presbytery has ordered small scale packages of the first three of the 36 session of the Follow Me Curriculum. These will be made available through the Resource

Center. Please contact the Presbytery office if you would like to borrow these.



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## 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](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org)