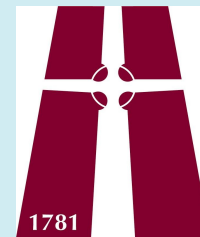


# Presbytery of Redstone eNews

## April 14, 2022



Please pray for...

### *District 1 Churches*

~~First Presbyterian Church, Avonmore, Wendy Keys, Moderator  
~~Delmont Presbyterian Church, Anthony Catullo, Interim Pastor

### *District 2 Churches*

~~First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette, Dawn Sherwood, Pastor  
~~Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Ron Durika, Interim Pastor

### *District 3 Churches*

~~Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown, James Gear, Pastor  
~~East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Vanderbilt, David McElroy, Commissioned Pastor

### *District 4 Churches*

~~Pleasant Grove Presbyterian Church, Ligonier  
~~Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence, James Sunseri, Commissioned Pastor



#### WITH A PURPOSE

In the life of the church, we often find ourselves “torn” in our own sense of identity. Are we a movement or are we an institution?

Those who are drawn to the language of the collective call of being a movement know and value the ways that God can and may be acting in new ways. Inviting us into joining the good works that God has already begun and prepares beforehand for us. Yet, sometimes in our desire to “move,” we create and re-create without being able to build the infrastructure by which this ministry of God might be sustained for a long time. Movements sometimes rise and before you know it dissipate away as we go on to the next movement.

On the other hand, institutions may offer stability, structure and organization so that the mission may be implemented. Such calling as institutions not only permit, but support replication and constancy in fulfillment of the mission. Yet, as we all know institutions can become much more focused on their own practices and preservation of their own existence where the goal becomes survival.

Tempting as it is to juxtapose these two modes of collective identity, by God’s grace we have been called to the ministry of reconciliation in Jesus Christ for the world where God’s

kingdom can and will break forth on earth as it is in heaven. Such a mission captures the motivated energy of a movement and the sustainability of an institution in loving and serving the living Christ where we are. Both are compelled by what some have called an “outward incarnational focus.”

“Outward incarnational focus means we daily take up our cross and follow to the marginalized of society among us, the suffering and the sick, the stranger and the enemy, the down-trodden and the “least of these.” Such language reminds us that we are the gathered people of God in our place in order that we might be God’s witness through deed and word, love and action in that place.

The hard question for each congregational expression of the Church of Jesus Christ that tests not merely whether we are merely a movement or an institution, but rather would the place we inhabit in God’s providence be impacted or even notice even we were not there? Does God’s kingdom mission occur through us? For that to be the case, it will need to be about more than the building, more than programs for ourselves, or more than isolated acts of charity. We will need to be both movement and institution animated by the Spirit to bear God’s transforming grace for all in our communities. Ironically, it also in that mission, where the living Christ will be at work revitalizing us together in his service.

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### Matthew 25 Bible Study: The Gospel & Inclusivity

Join Pastor Curtis (Rev. Curtis Paul, Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville) to study the letter to the Galatians.

Wednesdays 4/20, 4/27, 5/4 & 5/11 from 7-8PM.  
Via zoom Meeting ID: 678 936 2797 Passcode: 316317

Anyone is welcome. Pastor Curtis is hosting this for Redstone Presbytery.

For a glance at the study [https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/M25\\_Bible-Study-FINAL-8.31.20.pdf](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/M25_Bible-Study-FINAL-8.31.20.pdf)



Purpose of this Study: The *Matthew 25 Vision* calls the Presbyterian Church (USA) to engage our world, so our faith comes alive and we are awakened to new possibilities. The 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and confront systems and principalities that oppress and prey on the vulnerable: the hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

We live into the Matthew 25 vision by engaging together in the three works of vitalizing our congregations, dismantling structural racism and eradicating poverty. These three works, of course, are inseparable. This study focuses on the fundamental connection between the vitality of our congregations and the work of dismantling racism.

A congregation cannot be vital without confronting racism; for what is at stake —when racism directs our congregational and community life — is our faithfulness to the gospel. I (Samuel Son) start this study by sharing my journey of this discovery — that the gospel is about how we do church life that is inclusive. Then I will invite you to study some of the scriptures that made the scales of discrimination begin to fall off my eyes.



### PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

The 2021 Session Minutes and Church Register review dates have been set.

- Wednesday, April 20, 2022 - 5:00 p.m. - Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown
- Wednesday, May 11, 2022 - 5:00 p.m. - Redstone Presbytery Center, 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road, Greensburg

- Tuesday, May 24, 2022 - 5:00 p.m. - First Presbyterian Church, Belle
- Vernon - This will be prior to the Presbytery meeting being held that evening beginning at 6:00 p.m.

I am attaching the checklists for you to prepare for this review.

Session Minutes Checklist

Church Register Checklist

## PASTOR GETAWAY DAY

Join colleagues on April 25 for a “getaway” day at Pine Springs Camp. Leave behind the Zoom meetings and cell phone calls for some time outdoors, campfires, and relaxation.



Arrive around 9:30 a.m. and stay as long as you want. Lunch will be provided. See the attached flyer for more information. Please contact Bobbie at the Presbytery office to let us know you are coming so we can have numbers for lunch preparation.



Redstone Presbyterian SeniorCare is hosting a group trip to see the new show at Sight and Sound Theater: David.

The day trip will take place on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Here are the details: We will depart via deluxe motorcoach from Redstone North Huntingdon Clubhouse located at 12921 Redstone Drive, Irwin, PA at 7 am. Our first stop will be Kitchen Kettle Village. There we will have a couple of hours for shopping and lunch on your own. Then it is on to Sight and Sound for the 3 pm performance. We have floor seats in the very front of the theater this time! After the show, we will enjoy the Smorgasbord at Redstone’s favorite Yoder’s Family Restaurant, and then will depart for Redstone. We anticipate arriving back home around 11 pm. Cost for all described is \$210 per person. To make a reservation, please call 724-832-8401 X 3370.

Latrobe Presbyterian Church will be hosting the Wartburg College Touring Choir on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome to the concert. There are no tickets for this concert but a Free-will offering will be accepted. See attached for more information.



**NEW! A CONFIRMATION CURRICULUM** for the Matthew 25 Church - How do we stem the tide of young people leaving the church, not for the sake of improved numbers and full worship services but for the sake of the world that God loves?

Commissioned to Change the World: Confirmation for the Matthew 25 Congregation, written by Mark D. Hinds, marries adolescent confirmation with the theological focus of “serving the least of these.” The curriculum affirms teenagers as God’s beloved children, anointed for ministry in the context of a covenant community of mutual

encouragement and accountability.

Free Workshop Presented by the IPLF Program

- Ethics and Boundaries - May 7, 2022 - Michelle Snyder, Crows Feet Consulting, Instructor



Defining and practicing healthy boundaries in interpersonal relationships for the sake of both pastor and congregants will be explored. Professional ethics as applied to the pastoral

relationships will be applied for various situations, both in person and online. Awareness of legal and ecclesiastical expectations for professional conduct will be covered.

This workshop will 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.



First Presbyterian Church Belle Vernon is holding a Spring Tea, Saturday, May 7, 2022, 4 p.m., at Rostraver Ice Garden, 511 Gallitin Avenue, Rostraver Township! Featuring "Shepherd's Voice" Trio. Bring your mother, your daughter, or your best friends as we celebrate spring and Mother's Day, enjoy finger sandwiches, salads, and cookies, as well as live entertainment and door prizes. Dress is casual to elegant; you may want to wear a fancy hat! Shop at our ticket/basket auction. Tickets are \$10 per person, and can be purchased at the church office, 511 Fayette Street, Rostraver Township, or by calling the office at 724-929-7616. All funds raised support ministries and outreach of First Presbyterian.

#### RELIGIOUS DIMENSIONS TO CRISIS IN UKRAINE -

Every other week, Lee Hinson-Hasty hosts a new episode of the series Leading Theologically via Facebook Live where he has a conversation with a different leader in ministry across the PC(USA). [Watch the video](#) conversation with Lee and Rev. Dr. John Burgess about Ukraine. You can also see what our Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is doing in Ukraine [here](#).



Pine Springs Camp will be hosting the 22nd annual Pine Springs Camp Scholarship Golf Outing on Monday, May 23, 2022. Once again we will enjoy the historic course and hospitality of Arnold Palmer's Latrobe Country Club.

The golf outing is another way to connect folks with the camp and help sustain the ministry. Here are three ways that your church can show your support at the outing:

- "Amen Corner" Church Sponsor
- Donate to the Silent Auction
- Bring a Foursome

[Click here](#) for more information on this event. Email Greg Davis or call the office if you would be interested in supporting this event. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Pine Springs.

DEPLOYMENT BAGS - On behalf of Washington Presbytery's Mission and Outreach Committee has adopted the 171<sup>st</sup> Force Support Squadron's Airman & Family Readiness Program as our Spring Mission Partner. We are encouraging congregations/individuals to participate in the creation of "Deployment Bags". During their travels to deployed locations, airmen do not have access to their personal items. These "Deployment bags" provide them with needed items during their travel/layover period. It is a nice way to let them know we appreciate and support their service. [Read more...](#)



After 3 postponements IT IS HAPPENING!

The pilgrimage to the Holy Land is a 'go' for October 15-28 (note it is now 14 days!); seats are reserved on particular flights, hotels are being reserved, and we are excited!



We also have some seats to spare if anyone is interested in joining Jim Farrer (814-629-5211) and Norma Prina Murphy (412-427-7456) in this opportunity to study scripture where it happened and to walk where Jesus walked. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to this faith and life changing experience! Click here for more [information](#) and [itinerary](#).

(Pastors: Grant money may be available to you to help subsidize the cost of this from the Board of Pensions by taking it as half of a 4-week Sabbath-Sabbatical).

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## Presbytery Staff

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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)