

Presbytery of Redstone eNews

August 31, 2022



Please pray for...

District 1 Churches

~~Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo, Pete Goetschius, Pastor
~~First Presbyterian Church, Avonmore, Wendy Keys, Moderator

District 2 Churches

~~United Presbyterian Church, Latrobe, John Simpson, Interim Pastor
~~Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant, Russ Baird, Commissioned Pastor

District 3 Churches

~~Harmony Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, Glenn Hart, Commissioned Pastor
~~Marion Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, Robert Prinkey, Commissioned Pastor

District 4 Churches

~~Colver Presbyterian Church, Owar Ojulu, Pastor
~~Cresson Presbyterian Church, Alice Tondora, Pastor

My reflections on GA 2022

Audrey Hawker Cottle, Ruling Elder Commissioner

I really did not know what to think or expect when I was asked to serve as a commissioner to GA 2022. After some thought, questions for Skip and prayer, I agreed to go. I came to understand that GA 2022 was unlike most other General Assemblies as the pandemic in 2020 left so much work undone and “tabled” for 2022.

I recall someone saying to me that serving as a commissioner was a “once in a lifetime experience.” That brief conversation came to mind at various times afterward, e.g., when I spent time being trained or oriented to use the software and reading documents to familiarize myself with my committee work. During one exercise to practice using the software, a question asked how many times commissioners had served in General Assembly. The multiple choice answers included “This is my first time” “2-5 times” up to double-digit figures.

I will admit that when I learned of my assignment to the Immigration committee, I was not excited. It was not a committee I would have chosen. As I learned about the work before the committee (and thankfully it was only 4 items of business), I quickly saw that there was important work to be done. At the same time, I pondered how there could be question or debate on this topic. The Bible I read clearly teaches that we are to welcome the stranger. See Romans 12:13. Yet I also see how so many, even some from my own beloved

congregation, would debate this topic. I heard in committee how some commissioners clearly voiced opposition, saying their congregants would not agree with certain items.

As I reflect on GA, I am curious to see how things play out as presbyteries like ours make decisions based on the work of GA 2022. I also keep coming back to the idea that perhaps more of us need to serve as commissioners, and perhaps more than once.



REDSTONE CHURCHES UPCOMING EVENTS

- [Third Tuesday each month - Food and Fellowship](#) - First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon
- [Wednesdays - AA Meetings](#) - Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville
- [Blood Drives](#) - Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown

- [9/9-10/2022 - Fall Rummage Sale](#) - Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville

[Click on each link listed above for more information on these events](#)

SEPTEMBER PRESBYTERY GATHERING

Join us for the Tuesday, September 27, 2022 Presbytery meeting that will be held at the Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, beginning at 6:00 p.m. This will be an in person meeting and also via zoom.



If you have an announcement for the announcements loop for this meeting please send that information directly to redstonestories@gmail.com by Thursday, September 15, 2022. Thank you!



Interested in connecting with Addictions Ministry, Racial Justice and Reconciliation, Missions? We have a network for you. Contact the Presbytery office if you would like more information on becoming a part of any of our networks.

Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell is looking for a Music Ministry Specialist to provide organ and/or piano and/or keyboard music for weekly & occasional services.

Time & Compensation: \$23/hr. Average of 7 hours/wk. Paid bi-weekly (*see below*)

Responsibilities:

- The Music Ministry Specialist (after MMS) is responsible for providing the music at the worship services held on Sunday mornings, and some other additional services (please inquire in full position description)
- The MMS should be prepared to play music that is a blend of various types (traditional, modern, contemporary).
- The MMS shall be available for midweek Choir rehearsals (typically Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:45 pm from early Sept. to mid-May) to help with vocal parts and accompany choir for worship services.



Compensation: Starting salary of \$8,200/yr. (*average* of 7 hrs./week - includes personal practice

time at whatever location the candidate prefers):
For "Sunday only" weeks (no choir) - \$150/week
For "Choir rehearsal + Sunday" weeks - \$185/week
Paid bi-weekly through Direct Deposit
Submit inquiries and resumes to: kelly@pucketychurch.org
Call 724-339-1323 for more information.



Why We Need A New Kind of (Rural) Church Webinar

Small towns were once at the heart of North American life, and churches were at the heart of small towns. However, massive cultural shifts are changing rural life. This webinar will help you understand how small towns have changed and introduce you to a

new approach for rural congregations. This webinar is free and perfect for church leaders longing to reach new people. You can participate live, call in or watch on-demand.

Meet your guides.

- Michael Beck is Director of Re-Missioning for Fresh Expressions US. He co-pastors a rural church in Florida and serves in a number of denominational roles for the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. He is the author of multiple books including *Deep Roots*, *Wild Branches* and *Contextual Intelligence*.
- Tyler Kleeberger is an appointed clergy for The Farmhouse in rural Metamora, OH of the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Farmhouse, as a new church start, comes out of this vision to reimagine the church in the hopes of reimagining its rural community

September 6, 2022 01:00 PM - [Click here to register.](#)

Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation (IPLF) Workshops

The IPLF workshops have begun for the Fall of 2022.

Workshops that will be offered are:



- Preaching the Psalms - Rev. Dr. Jerome Creach, Instructor, Saturday, September 10, 2022
- Preaching Lab - Rev. Dr. Doug Rehberg, Instructor, Saturday, October 8, 2022
- Creative Celebrations of the Sacraments - Rev. Laura Blank, Instructor, Saturday, November 12, 2022
- Leading as a Small Church Moderator - Rev. Dr. Brenda Barnes, Instructor, Saturday, December 10, 2022

All workshops ([click here for full descriptions of workshops](#)) are FREE and will be hybrid offerings by ZOOM and in person from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Redstone Presbytery Center, 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road, Greensburg, PA 15601. To register contact Bobbie Shaffor at Redstone Presbytery, 724.837.6737, secretary@redstonepresbytery.org.



Mark your calendars: Sunday, Sept. 18, is Synod Sunday!

On Sept. 18, we invite the congregations and presbyteries in the Synod of the Trinity region to celebrate the gifts and blessings that take place in our bounds throughout the year.

The Synod works hand-in-hand with the ministry and mission of our presbyteries as they seek to support the witness of congregations, to the end that the church throughout its region becomes a community of faith, hope, love and witness.

Please use these BULLETIN INSERTS to help tell our story and celebrate the good news that is occurring in our region! [COLOR INSERT](#) - [B&W INSERT](#)

PneuMatrix' webinar, "Part Time is Plenty," which actually addresses more than just part-time pastoring. It will explore many different creative options for small, struggling congregations.



This webinar is scheduled for Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

Here is the link, both for details and registration.

<https://chchurches.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/PART-TIME-IS-PLENTY-registration-flyer.pdf>



Join the Presbytery and the Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church for the installation service for the Rev. Travis Webster, Associate Pastor, on Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 3:00

p.m.

Ellie Davis from Pine Springs Camp is inviting women in Redstone Presbytery to attend the Women in the Woods Retreat from Sept.30-Oct. 1.



Attached are the [brochure](#), [bulletin insert](#), and [poster](#) to inform the women in your congregation of this event.



World Communion Sunday Bulletin Insert Being Offered

We have had a partnership with the South Sudan Evangelical Presbyterian Church since 2004. In anticipation of World Communion Sunday on October 2, 2022, and in connection with our brothers and

sisters in the Sudan, we will be making available a bulletin insert sometime mid to late September, for your use in your worship service. When the insert has been completed we will be sure to get it out to everyone so you can plan to include this insert in your bulletins on that day.

World Mission Initiative of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary is dedicated to developing mission vision, nurturing missionary vocations, and cultivating missional congregations by equipping mission leaders to engage faithfully and effectively in God's intercultural mission. WMI offers opportunities and resources to serve congregations and students. This year's World Mission Initiative Conference - Missional Leadership in a Time of Disruption - will be held October 7-8, 2022. [Click here for more information.](#)



WEE KIRK IS COMING! October 10-12, 2022

The Northeast Pennsylvania region covers the lower Northeast states including Pennsylvania, Upstate New York, West Virginia, and Maryland. Established in 1991, the Northeast Pennsylvania Conference meets

over three days in October. Community and radical hospitality are hallmarks of this conference, as well as an outstanding bookstore.

We partner with Hearts and Minds Bookstore to provide access to the writings of many of our speakers. Unfortunately, they will not have a full bookstore presence at our conference this year, but

Byron will be available for Zoom conversations on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

To learn more or to register, [click here](#).

Redstone Mission Team has scheduled a trip to Hampdon, WV (southwestern WV, near the Kentucky border) the week of October 23-29, 2022. Cost per volunteer is \$150. If interested, contact Phyllis Frye at pfrye1234@windstream.net



Amen TO ACTION

Amen to Action – Since 2017, “Amen to Action” has been packing meals for the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. In

2021, the event was moved to ten different churches in the Pittsburgh region. Amen to Action will take place again this November (2022). To volunteer and participate, got to AmentoAction.org

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Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

Presbytery of Redstone
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