

Presbytery of Redstone eNews

February 9, 2023



Please pray for...

District 1 Churches

~~United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington, Gary Lyon, Bridge Pastor

~~Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo, Pete Goetschius, Pastor

District 2 Churches

~~Level Green Presbyterian Church, Trafford, Geoff Rach, Pastor

~~Sewickley Presbyterian Church, West Newton, Karen Kifer, Commissioned Pastor

District 3 Churches

~~Ft. Burd Presbyterian Church, Brownsville, Kristen Emrick, Covenant Pastor

~~Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Brownsville, Louise Corbett, Moderator

District 4 Churches

~~Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, Ben Nti, Pastor

~~Pleasant Grove Presbyterian Church, Ligonier, Steve Hospodar, Temporary Supply

REDSTONE CHURCHES UPCOMING EVENTS

- Third Tuesday each month - [Food and Fellowship](#) - First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon
- Tuesday, Every Other Month - [Blood Drives](#) - Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown
- Wednesdays - [AA Meetings](#) - Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville
- Second Wednesday each month - October through May - [Soup for the Soul](#) - Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo
- First and Third Tuesday each month - [BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS](#) - North Huntingdon, New Hope - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Biweekly Tuesdays - [Masontown Community Kitchen](#) - 4 to 5:30 p.m.



Click on each link listed above for more information on these events



“Just Keeping Up”

There is not much doubt that in the world in which we live we can find ourselves constantly trying to “keep up.” Whether it is the endless text and email messages appearing on our phones to the series of ongoing responsibilities of work, home and community. The pace of living in this way can threaten to undermine our ability to focus upon what is and will remain significant. It is not merely that we can “balance” it with times of respite (although that may be important), but it is in the discernment of genuine calling both in purpose and in tasks.

Of course, these types of patterns are not merely the temptations of individuals, but are present in our groups, structures and even congregations. In the multi-volume set by Andrew Root, he raises the questions of Charles Taylor and offers his own theological responses and construction given the impact of the secular age. Particularly, in *The Congregation in a Secular Age*, he follows the work of other scholars in noting that the continuing and constant acceleration of our lives has the effect of “stripping the sacred out of time.” For him, the impact of attempting to “speed up” to meet the pace of change leads to depression within the congregation.

When the sacred is replaced by accelerated change for its own sake, then a commitment or drive for vitality takes on its own life as master rather than serving ongoing faithfulness of God-given opportunities. Failure to “keep up” becomes a heavy burden resulting in tiredness and despair.

While in many congregations, comfortability of past patterns and resistance to “change” appears to be more the norm. I wonder, if even in those settings, it has become merely a comforter in the midst of change all around them, yet the reality of such constancy provides no lasting assurance as the world swirls around them.

As people and congregations, our God has called us to be a community that is neither static nor striving to “keep up” with the speed of change. Rather, guided by our God who has begun and is redeeming a new creation, we are called to not merely change with the times, but to be transformed by that sacred reality in our midst. By God’s grace, such participation takes place in real time and space in this world where who we are, what we do and how we do it is defined not just by “keeping up,” but “called forward” as salt and light in this God-created, God-redeeming and anticipated God-restored world. May we seek to hear God’s call anew as we explore “what time we are in.” Amen.

Rev. Skip Noftzger
Executive Presbyterian/Stated Clerk

The 2022 Session Minutes and Register Review Dates have been set for:

- **Saturday, February 11, 2023 - 10:15 a.m. - Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown (preceding Enrichment Day Event)**
- **Tuesday, March 28, 2023 - 5:00 p.m. - West Hempfield Presbyterian Church, Irwin (preceding Presbytery meeting)**



- Tuesday, April 18, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. - Redstone Presbytery Center
- Tuesday, May 9, 2023 - 6:00 p.m. - Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown
- Tuesday, May 23, 2023 - 5:00 p.m. - Ebensburg Presbyterian Church (preceding Presbytery meeting)



On February 11, 2023, the Presbytery Enrichment Day program will be held at Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown.

Clerk of Session Review of 2022 and Session minutes will precede the workshops. This will begin at 10:15 a.m.

Below are the workshop topics:

1. Jim Farrer and Friends - Picture Tour of the Holy Land
2. Skip Nofztger Jr. - Training for Elders and Deacons
3. Carole Corey - Dealing with Conflicts Creatively and Biblically
4. Hyiwot Teshome - Introduction and Life Story
5. Owar Ojulu - Discipleship

Click [here](#) for more information.

Redstone Presbytery Mission Committee is requesting a list of local, national, and international missions that Redstone churches are currently engaged in. They are working on opportunities to connect churches that may possibly be engaged in some of the same mission(s). Please send your information to the Presbytery office at secretary@redstonepresbytery.org. Thank you!



The PC(USA) statistical site is now open for you to post your 2022 church stats. This process must be completed online only. You will use your same login and password from last year. If you need to obtain this information, please contact the presbytery office. Reporting will remain open until February 14, 2023, but we encourage you to complete this process as soon as possible. You can [access the log-in page](#)

[here](#).

PC(USA) also provides a very [helpful FAQ](#) for the reporting process.

In the month of February and early March, the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Redstone will be offering an introductory training for emergency preparedness and safety measures in houses of worship. Using the ALICE (Alert, Inform, Lockdown, Counter, Evacuate) model.



This program has been the leading resource for schools and houses of worship, Rev. Ed Gray will be facilitating this workshop. Rev. Gray (First Presbyterian Murrysville) has experience both in the ministry and law enforcement and is certified to offer the ALICE training within our presbytery. Both thinking through the responsibilities of preparing for safety and engaging in table-top exercises will be part of the training for a team (3-4) from your congregational leadership.

The workshop will be available in various locations around the Presbytery on the following dates/times. Members of your team might include someone responsible for the worship service, ministry programming, buildings and grounds communications and the pastor. You may choose from any one of these locations with their respective dates, but please RSVP to the Presbytery office.

February 18; 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon—Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Latrobe

February 25; 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon—Pleasant View Presbyterian Church, Smock

March 4; 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon—Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown

Please let us know who from your team will be participating and in which location.



Pastor and Elder Training Workshops
Presented by Inter-Presbytery Leadership
Formation (IPLF)

Workshops are again being offered for the
Spring of 2023. Workshops include:

- Listening: Key to Healthy Church Leadership - March 11, 2023 - Rev. Dr. Susan Vande Kappelle, Instructor
- Disability, Healing, and the Scriptures - April 15, 2023 - Dr. Daniel Frayer-Griggs, Instructor
- After the Commission: Reflections on IPLF and Pastoral Service - May 13, 2023 - Panel of Former IPLF Students and CP's, Instructors

All workshops are from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; are FREE; and will be offered in person at the Redstone Presbytery office along with an online option via ZOOM. To register for any of these workshops, please contact Bobbie Shaffor at Redstone Presbytery at 724.837.6737 or secretary@redstonepresbytery.org.

PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OFFERS
LECTURE/CONFERENCE

KELSO LECTURE AND COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON RACE
AND FAITH - MARCH 17-18, 2023

Friday, March 17, 2023, Kelso Lecture - 7:00 p.m. ET
The Rev. Dr. Starsky Wilson, President and CEO, Children's
Defense Fund and CDF Action Council
In-person and Online
Free

Saturday, March 18, 2023, Metro-Urban Institute Conference and Closing Service
8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. ET
In-person \$25

Join us for two days exploring how churches and communities can work together to facilitate anti-racism in their neighborhoods. Our conversation kicks off Friday with the Kelso Lecture, delivered by the Rev. Dr. Starsky Wilson. Metro-Urban Institute's conference filled with workshops, a panel discussion, worship, a community lunch, and resource fair follows on Saturday. All are welcome! This event is co-sponsored by the Seminary's Office of Continuing Education and Metro-Urban Institute.

Register for the lecture, conference, or both [by clicking here](#).





Assistant Treasurer, Part-Time @ 8 to 10 Hours per Week.

Accounting Experience/Education Required. Maintain Financial Records; AP; Deposit and Post Monies; Do PR, PR Taxes, Bookkeeping, and Record Keeping.

Send Resumes to The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington, 601 Fifth Avenue, New Kensington, PA 15068-6508 Attn: Personnel Committee

The Community United Presbyterian Church, located at 1640 Keystone Park Rd, New Alexandria, PA 15670, is seeking applicants for a part-time Church Secretary position.

Duties include (but not limited to) creating the weekly bulletin, creating the monthly newsletter, checking email, answering the phone, and taking messages from the answering machine. This job requires knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, listening skills, ability to maintain confidentiality and enjoys interacting with people. Hours are flexible but should be consistent. Pay is competitive.

If you are interested in being a part of a positive, family-oriented work environment, please submit a cover letter and resume to Pastor Len Morgan via email at Elbie3@aol.com or send it to Community United Presbyterian Church, PO Box 361, New Alexandria, PA 15670.

Church Website:
<https://www.thecommunitypresbyterianchurch.yolasite.com>
Church Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/CommunityUnitedPresbyterianChurch>

Employment Opportunities Outside of Redstone Presbytery



Redstone Presbyterian SeniorCare in Westmoreland County is seeking a fulltime hospice chaplain to serve our Redstone@Home Hospice clients across our three campuses and in the external community. <https://redstone.recruitpro.com/jobs/244865.html>

Christian Associates of Southwest PA Seeking Interfaith Research Associate - The ideal candidate for this position would be an underemployed clergy person: a bright, self-motivated, personable individual interested in spending 10-20 hours/week for the next six months or so conducting some interviews and helping analyze the results. [Click here](#) for more information.

SEEKING PART-TIME MUSICIANS - First Presbyterian Church 1793 of Washington, PA is seeking a part-time musician or musicians to lead worship and music. Our talented, fun group of musicians who read well are looking for an applicant or applicants to fulfill part-time openings for these duties: Organist, Chancel Choir Director, Youth Choir Director, and Bell Choir Director. Inquiries may be made through fpcwash@comcast.net. Cover letter, resume, and references are requested. Employment could begin as early as January 2023."

Redstone Presbytery Mission News



- Planning a work trip to ROOT International to do some needed ceiling repairs.
- Planning a Mission trip to Webster, WV from April 16-22. Planning for a Pancake Dinner fundraiser for February 21, 2023 for this trip.
- Planning a Mission trip to Kentucky/coordinated with PDS to Madisonville, KY on June 10-15. Up to 38 people can attend.

If interested in any of these opportunities, contact the Presbytery office for more information.

Springhill Furnace Presbyterian Church is looking for a sign (similar to one pictured) with movable letters that they can place outside the church to announce upcoming events.

If you or your church has something you may want to pass on, please contact Pastor Molly Hall, 262-902-4500.



Presbytery Staff

[Richard "Skip" Noftzger](#)

Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk

[blog address](#)

[twitter address](#)

[Bobbie Shaffor](#)

Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

Presbytery of Redstone
www.redstonepresbytery.org

Presbytery of Redstone | 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road, Greensburg, PA 15601

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