

Presbytery of Redstone eNews

March 1, 2023



Please pray for...

District 1 Churches

- ~~Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, Doug Marshall, Interim Pastor
- ~~Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, Brian Kilbert, Pastor

District 2 Churches

- ~~Derry Presbyterian Church, Larry Armstrong, Moderator
- ~~First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, Martin Ankrum, Pastor

District 3 Churches

- ~~Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, Bill Weightman, Commissioned Pastor
- ~~First Presbyterian Church, Fairchance, Lee McDermott, Moderator

District 4 Churches

- ~~Patton Presbyterian Church, Alice Tondora, Pastor
- ~~Revloc Presbyterian Church, David O'Hara, Commissioned Pastor

REDSTONE CHURCHES UPCOMING EVENTS

- [Annual Rummage Sale](#) - March 24-25, 2023 - Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville
- [Easter Egg Hunt](#) - April 1, 2023 - Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville



- 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



Lenten Journey 2023

In my travels throughout southwestern Pennsylvania I have traveled almost every road at one time or another. Whether I was on my way to the next church or just decided to take a different route from one place to another; each trip becomes its own experience. Often; the gps is my trusted guide. Yet despite our dependence upon this modern convenience; sometimes I turn it off just so I can observe and respond in the journey. Sometimes; the route is familiar. Sometimes it is a new adventure. Either way; it makes me more attentive to all of the “markers” along the way.

On Ash Wednesday we begin an annual journey. It is one with which we are familiar. We have traveled this route before. It begins with the penitence of ashes reminding ourselves of not only our mortality but the power of sin and our need for forgiveness. It winds its way toward Jerusalem walking; following; remembering; and anticipating this path of faithful obedience and suffering of Jesus; the One who *“did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited but emptied himself taking the form of a slave being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.”*

Eventually, we will reach the place where the journey reaches its apparent destination the hill of Golgotha. A place of suffering and incredible cruelty resulting in death but the pivotal place and time where the journey takes a different turn; one in which the world is changed forever both now and yet to come.

Yet in order for the journey to be worthwhile; in order for it be lived again; we must enter into not merely with the compliance of ritual; nor with the commitment to somehow prove ourselves before God. No it is our familiar journey again as we live and relive this trip invited by grace in which we can see ourselves once more for who we are and have our eyes opened again to what has become familiar; but yet is the most significant sacrificial act of history.

So we are challenged during this season to once more ask ourselves; “where are we going?” Are we on a path that we know too well and has become too familiar? Or are we on a journey that in the experience of preparation; remembrance and anticipation our hearts and lives will be changed?

It is my hope and desire that all of us enter into this season; setting aside all distractions in order that we might recognize the real reality of the journey that Jesus walked for us. May we walk that road observing the markers anew; knowing the power of God’s willing sacrifice and what it means for us to be ourselves by God’s grace.

Rev. Skip Noftzger
Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk

March Presbytery Meeting

Join us for the Tuesday, March 28, 2023
Presbytery meeting, being held at the West
Hempfield Presbyterian Church in Irwin. The

meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. There will be a Session Minutes Review offered at 5:00 p.m.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO LET THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE KNOW WHO FROM YOUR CHURCH WILL BE ATTENDING THIS MEETING AND IF THEY PLAN TO ATTEND IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM. (secretary@redstonepresbytery.org - 724.837.6737). Thank you!



Redstone Lenten Study

Space, race, and moments of grace - Thursdays 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. through March 23, 2023 at the Redstone Presbytery office.

You are invited to watch and discuss the movie *Hidden Figures*, as a way of exploring a faithful response to issues of race as a Matthew 25 Presbytery.

To register contact the Presbytery office at 724.837.6737 or via email at secretary@redstonepresbytery.org.

Sponsored by the Redstone Racial Reconciliation Task Force and hosted by Rev. Sue Washburn

Redstone Presbytery Healing Prayer Network

Attached is a short, *informative flyer* (click on the underlined words 'informative flyer' to open link for flyer) about the renewal of the Healing Prayer Network! We are a group of both ordained and laity alike, all who are interested in learning more about and practicing the spiritual discipline of Healing Prayer.



Donna MacArt Havrisko (dmh.1minister@gmail.com),
Jim Farrer (revup1@yahoo.com),
and I, Norma Prina Murphy (prnorma93@gmail.com)

are original members of the network, and hope to see it re-birthed for a new season of spiritual growth and practice.

Please contact us by email (above) or phone (in flyer) with any questions!

Grace and Peace,
Donna, Norma, and Jim

Celebrate the Special Offerings

The Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) offer the whole Church a way to embody Matthew 25 through the Spirit-inspired stories and gifts which place us in partnership with those who have least. By



receiving all four of the Special Offerings – One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace & Global Witness, and Christmas Joy – Four for Four congregations declare their connection with the ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and join in the efforts of Presbyterians around the corner and around the world to share God's grace and endless love.

One way to get started on becoming a Four for Four congregation is to explore our Action Kit. This resource includes lots of information about the mission and purpose of Special Offerings, as well as inspiring ideas from congregations around the country. [Click here](#) for more information.

Tell Us About God's Mission in Your Congregation - The Mission Network of Redstone Presbytery is gathering information on the local; regional and international mission projects of our congregations. Knowing and sharing this information will provide opportunities to connect together for collaboration and greater impact. Go to <https://forms.gle/AEdEwn8eeGVqvm9w5> and tell us about where you are following God into mission.



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 last scheduled session of this workshop will be available this Saturday. 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.

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.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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.

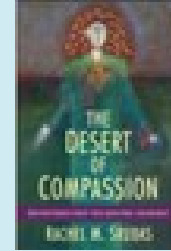
Register for the lecture, conference, or both by [clicking here](#).

HYBRID DEGREE PROGRAMS

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary LAUNCHES HYBRID DEGREE PROGRAMS - Beginning in fall 2023, Pittsburgh Seminary will offer all its masters and certificate programs in a hybrid format—allowing PTS to be your neighborhood seminary regardless of your neighborhood location. The Seminary's hybrid model allows students living on campus and students living at a distance to be part of one community of learning and formation. [Click here](#) to learn more about these programs.

PC(USA) LENT RESOURCE GUIDE - The 2023 Lent Resource Guide is now available at the PC(USA) store. They have book study guides, devotionals, preaching aids, and more to assist in planning for the upcoming Lenten season. Several of the books

highlighted have downloadable resource samples. [Click here for more information.](#)



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

- 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)

Employment Opportunities Within Redstone Presbytery



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>



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."

PRESBYTERY OF LAKE ERIE is seeking a Stated Clerk. The successful candidate must be an ordained Ruling Elder or Teaching Elder, will perform various administrative tasks, and be responsible for ensuring the records, roles, reports, and correspondence of the Presbytery are maintained. View the [full job description](#).

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 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.



Presbyterian Historical Society offers NEW BLOG SERIES: AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERS - Each month of 2023, the Presbyterian Historical Society is bearing witness to the lives of African American leaders throughout the history of the PC(USA). They are kicking off this new series with a biography of William Lloyd Imes, pastor of St. James Presbyterian Church in Harlem, New York. [Click here to read more.](#)

PINE SPRINGS CAMP SPRING FUSION RETREAT APRIL 21-23 - Spring Fusion is Pine Springs Camp's retreat for campers who are in 4th - 6th grade. Campers will be learning about God,

playing crazy games, singing camp songs, doing adventure activities and hanging out with new and old friends! Spaces are limited to 40 campers. [Click here](#) to sign up soon!! "Our desire is to continue to provide an amazing environment where campers can grow in their faith and have a "vital encounter with Jesus Christ."



PSC GOLF OUTING MAY 22 - Come and play at the historic Latrobe Country Club to benefit Pine Springs Camp! Continental breakfast, lunch, banquet dinner, and silent auction. Your support provides hundreds of families with financial assistance to send kids to camp. [Visit the PSC website](#) for more details.



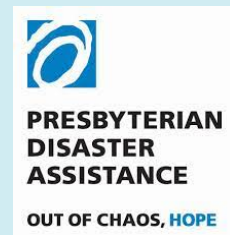
PC(USA) 2023-2024 SCHOLARSHIP APP NOW OPEN - Applications for the 2023-24 scholarships through the Presbyterian Mission Agency are now open. The scholarships are for full-time undergraduate and seminary students belonging to Presbyterian churches. The final deadline for the need-based aid scholarship program is May 15, 2023. [Click here to read more.](#)

PMA OFFERS FREE 'TREAD LIGHTLY' LENTEN CALENDAR
- The Presbyterian Hunger Program is offering Tread Lightly for Lent, a Lenten calendar with practical ideas for reducing our impact on the earth and stemming the tide of rising sea levels and severe storms. The calendar includes Scripture readings, prayers, activities, and more. [Click here to download your free copy.](#)



EAPCE ANNUAL EVENT APRIL 24-26 - The East Region of the Association of Partners in Christian Education (EAPCE) will host their Annual Spring Event featuring Rev. Dr. Rebecca L. Davis: "Creativity, Innovation, and Risk in Faith Formation" at Rhodes Grove Conference Center, Chambersburg, PA. [Check out the event flyer](#) for more information and [register today!](#)

DEATH AND DEVASTATION IN TURKEY & SYRIA - By now you are aware of the terrible losses suffered from earthquake damage in Turkey and Syria. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance provides an avenue for you and your congregation to contribute to Christian relief efforts over there. [Click here](#) for more information on ways you can pray, take action, and give.



[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
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