

Presbytery of Redstone eNews

May 18, 2023



Please pray for...

District 1 Churches

~~United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington, Rebecca Siddle,
Covenant Pastor

~~Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Pete Goetschius, Pastor

District 2 Churches

~~Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, Jenn Frayer-
Griggs, Pastor

~~First Presbyterian Church, Irwin, Doug Rehberg, Interim Pastor

District 3 Churches

~~Palmer Community Presbyterian Church, Adah, Nicholas Beatty,
Temporary Supply

~~First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, Mary Kay Glunt, Pastort

District 4 Churches

~~Ebensburg Presbyterian Church, Owar Ojulu, Pastor

~~Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, Denise Todero,
Commissioned Pastor

REDSTONE CHURCHES UPCOMING EVENTS

- [PW Synod Spring Gathering](#) - "Do Everything in Love" - July 10-12
- Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, State College -
[Registration Form and Workshop Descriptions](#)
- [Car Cruise](#) - July 29, 2023 - West Hempfield Presbyterian Church,
Irwin



- Third Tuesday each month - [Food and Fellowship](#) - First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon
- Tuesday, Every Other Month - [Blood Drives](#) - Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown
- Mondays - Nar-Anon Meetings - First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown - 6:30 p.m.
- 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.

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



Witness of Power and Presence

Forty days again. Time and again through God's revelation forty becomes that interval of preparation and transition. Whether the rains of judgment or the tending of sheep by Moses or the wandering in the wilderness of the liberated covenant people. Yet, in Jesus the Christ, the preparation for the ministry begins with forty days of temptation. After the victorious triumph even over death, we are told that the resurrected Jesus presented himself alive by appearing to them and speaking about the kingdom of God. So, is it any surprise that on the day of the ascension, they still find themselves asking about restoration of the kingdom to Israel?

The response of the One who was soon to be ascended was not necessarily what they might have expected, but rather a promise to them and about them. The promise of the power of the Holy Spirit and their (our) role as witnesses to the rest of the world are both predicated upon that ascension. Not merely disappearing from their sight, Jesus returns to his own glory to reign once more until the climax of that kingdom with a return.

"The ascension demands that we think differently about how the whole cosmos is, so to speak, put together and that we also think differently about the church and about salvation." N.T. Wright, Surprised by Hope

Because Jesus ascended, however much life and history might look the same, it is not. The kingdom of the Christ the king has come and is coming. On May 18, in some traditions we celebrate this pivotal moment of the ascension. The event is more than a story, more than an important doctrine to affirm. It is the fulcrum that supports this profound new reality that is sometimes unseen and unnoticed. Its significance is borne out in the power and presence of the living and reigning Christ who intercedes for us, who empowers us by the Holy Spirit and who presents us before the throne.

For like those earliest disciples, we may be tempted to look and even long for a kingdom of a different kind than the one Jesus inaugurates. Perhaps, we are looking for a kingdom built upon our past glories or traditions. Yet the kingdom to which Jesus points was neither the past anticipated by those first disciples and may not be our own imagined past of our organizations, but rather to a power of the Holy Spirit in the present continuing to bring forth a witness of God's reign in this world that may not be with powers and strength of this world.

In a world that God has not abandoned, you and I are called to be those witnesses through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. Such a calling demands that we walk by faith and not by sight. Jesus seeks to enter into all the world through our own testimony to a kingdom where life was given in sacrifice and a victory that does and will make the world new. To witness by faith requires steps of faith that is no easier for us than it was for those first disciples. Yet, as those witnesses empowered by God's Spirit, we can and must lean into God's future, move toward the place where God will journey with us as we testify to the One who has ascended and begun to reign.

MAY PRESBYTERY MEETING

Join us for the Tuesday, May 23, 2023, Presbytery meeting that will be held at the Ebensburg Presbyterian Church beginning at 6:00 p.m. This will be an in person meeting and also via zoom. There will also be a Session Minutes and Church Register Review available prior to this meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m.



If you have not already done so, 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!



Upcoming Vacation Bible School

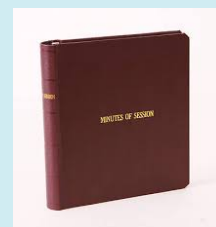
The Vacation Bible School season is just around the corner!

[Click here](#) to view the list of churches in Redstone Presbytery that already have their plans made for this year.

Are you hosting VBS at your church? If so, please send the information to the presbytery office so we can add you to the list with the possibility of sharing resources.

The remaining date for the 2022 Session Minutes and Register Reviews is:

- Tuesday, May 23, 2023 - 5:00 p.m. - Ebensburg Presbyterian Church (preceding Presbytery meeting)



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

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

- Pastoral Care - August 12, 2023 - Rev. Becca Siddle, Instructor
- Spiritual Formation for Church Leaders - September 9, 2023 - Rev. Matt Camlin, Instructor
- Being and Leading Presbyterian Polity - October 14, 2023 - Rev. Randall Clow, Instructor
- Boundaries and Ethics in Church Leadership - November 11, 2023 - Michelle Snyder, Instructor
- Learning to "Exegete" the Community - December 9, 2023 - Rev. Dr. Scott Hagley, Instructor

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.



Are you a Ruling Elder who God might be leading to greater service?

CONSIDER JOINING THE INTER-PRESBYTERY LEADERSHIP FORMATION PROGRAM.

CONTACT REDSTONE PRESBYTERY OFFICE.

724.837.6737
executive@redstonepresbytery.org

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.



On May 21st 2023, Westmont Presbyterian Church will be honored to have the presence of the president of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Dr. Asa Lee preach and lead adult education class on the importance and impact of theological education in the 21st century.

Dr. Lee is known as an innovative thinker when it comes to theological education in the 21st century. He is highly relational both with internal seminary stakeholders and with the broader community. He has a proven track record in advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in a seminary setting. And he values ecumenism while being deeply committed to helping PTS stay true to its Presbyterian identity."

Throughout his career, Dr. Lee has taught courses in religious studies, Christian formation, preaching, and church leadership as well as theology in the African American context.

I am excited about this great opportunity of God's servant bringing his gifts to bless our church. You are invited. Hope you will not miss! God bless you.

Time: Adult Education starts at 9:15am Church service starts at 10:15am

Contact the church at 814.536.0796 for more information.



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.



**CELEBRATING 75 YEARS AND COUNTING
AT PINE SPRINGS CAMP
CALVIN HAYS LOG CHAPEL REDEDICATION AND
PRESBYTERY JOINT WORSHIP AND PICNIC
JULY 16, 2023; 10:00 a.m.**

After some much-needed repairs, we want you and your congregation to join together in a shared worship service and picnic as the Calvin Hays Log Chapel is rededicated.

You and Your Congregation Are Invited

Bring your lawn chairs!

**Come prepared to worship God
and fellowship with one another.**

Let us know how many to expect.

secretary@redstonepresbytery.org

724.837.6737

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.](#)**



**SUDAN/SOUTH SUDAN
MISSION NETWORK
CONFERENCE** 2023

**JULY 19-21
WESTMINSTER COLLEGE
NEW WILMINGTON, PA**

Mission Co-Workers

Sharon Kandel, Bob and Kristi Rice, and Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mathers will share about trauma healing, peacebuilding, gospel and culture issues for church leaders in the South Sudan.

Mission Partner

A participant from the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church (pending visa approval).

Public Witness and Advocacy

Representatives (current and retired) from the Washington Office and US State Department will be joining us remotely.

Connecting to the Diaspora

We anticipate meeting members of the Sudanese community in Pittsburgh.

Worshipping and Praying Together

Housing options are available at Berlin Village Apartments

Registration Deadline for housing is JUNE 1

SIGN UP AT

<https://shenangopresbytery.wufoo.com/forms/ql9bo4ylogo9o1/>



UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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.

SAVE THE DATE: HENDERSON LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - September 24-26. This fall, Will Willimon will look forward at the future of congregations during the Henderson Leadership Conference at PTS. During this event, we’ll ask: What is the future of small congregations (the fastest growing segment of North American Christianity)? Participants will enjoy lectures, workshops, worship, and conversations that will inspire their leadership; and receive practical, usable wisdom for giving their congregation a future. [Click here](#) for more information.

Wee Kirk 23



Save the dates
October 9-11
refresh and renew
with other small
church leaders

get away to
Laurelville
Retreat Center
Western PA

WWW.WEE-KIRK-NE.ORG

Employment Opportunities Within Redstone Presbytery



Latrobe United Presbyterian Church is searching for an organist/pianist starting effective immediately. The applicant must be available for the 11am, Sunday service and the 6pm, Wednesday choir practice (no practice June, July, and August). The pay is \$100 per week. All applicants should call the church office at 724-539-8881 and leave a message with name and phone number stating their interest in this position.

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

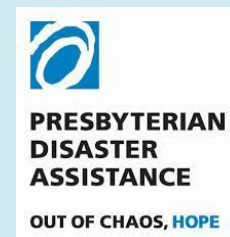
Redstone@Home Hospice clients across our three campuses and in the external community. <https://redstone.recruitpro.com/jobs/244865.html>

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."

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](#).

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.



Presbytery Staff

[Richard "Skip" Noftzger](#)

Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk

[blog address](#)

[twitter address](#)

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

[Bobbie Shaffor](#)
Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper

*Change the World...
Together*

Presbytery of Redstone
www.redstonepresbytery.org

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