

Presbytery of Redstone eNews

June 15, 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

~~Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Derek Campbell, Pastor

~~United Presbyterian Church, Latrobe, Ron Durika, Pastor

District 3 Churches

~~Rehoboth Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, Donald Glunt, Pastor

~~Calvin Presbyterian Church, Brownsville, Kristen Emrick, Pastor

District 4 Churches

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

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



IS IT REALLY GOOD?

Sometimes, in the midst of our activities and commitments that accompany the life of the people of God in a local community (congregation), we lose “track” of the “why” we are here. What has drawn us together by God’s grace is not the desire to have an organization of friends with similar interests or values nor is it the commitment to a sustainable legacy of doing worthwhile service with and for others in need. Both may be resulting expressions of what has brought us together. By God’s grace, we have been the recipients of the gospel which has called and claimed us in Christ. We have received and are now living the good news of Jesus the Christ.

But are we? Is the good news still “good?” Has it lost some of the power and presence of God in the midst of filling our lives with the well-intended faithful responses to it? In the words of that vision with the correction to the Ephesians, are we “enduring and bearing up” but “have abandoned the love” we had at first.

There is no false dichotomy between God’s love and justice, our faith and its fruit, God’s mission for us of evangelism and social righteousness. No, when the good news is still “good” in our lives, we know, anticipate and expect it can and will be “good news” for our friends and neighbors, for those far away (by geography or perspective) and for this fallen world in all its complexities, structures, and systems that God still loves.

A few years back, I read and cited a book by Michael Gorman entitled, *Becoming the Gospel*. More recently, I was pleased to see its reference in the preamble by Ray Jones in the "Eight Habits of Evangelism" published by the Office of Theology, Formation, and Evangelism.

"Ultimately, the integrity and the impact of all Christian witness depends on the integration of message and mission. When the church, or an individual Christian, preaches the gospel but does not live the gospel, or deliberately lives only a slice of it, perhaps even publicly criticizing those who focus on other slices, the witness is likely to have no effect—or the wrong kind of effect. However, as the church, by the power of the Holy Spirit, becomes the gospel in its fullest by participating fully in the life of God manifested in Christ, the church offers an appropriate and credible witness to the gospel. This does not in any way guarantee 'success,' at least as success is typically measured by humans, but it does increase the likelihood that those who both hear and see this embodiment of the gospel will have had an encounter with the living God."

Perhaps, it is a matter of integrity of our witness and our work, but more importantly are we living the gospel in word and deed? In our everyday practices, in our conversations, in our public efforts, is the gospel embodied? Is the good news in Jesus Christ expressed both in the "what"(ends) and the "how"(means)? Inevitably, these reflective questions keep us both honest and "on track" in faithfulness, but at the heart of each and every inquiry is the central inquiry that binds them together in our lives. "Is the good news still "good?" For us? For those around us? For the world? If so, it changes everything.

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
- Christmas in July Craft/Vendor Show - July 29, 2023 - 9:30 to 2:00 - First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon - Outside booths available at \$25.00/each



- 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
- 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



This is an invitation for your congregation to join together in a shared worship service and picnic beginning at 10:00 a.m. on July 16, 2023 as the Calvin Hays Log Chapel at Pine Springs Camp is rededicated (SEE FLYER BELOW).

Come prepared to worship God and fellowship with one another. Also, please bring your own lawn chair!

Please be sure to let us know how many to expect by emailing or calling the Presbytery office - secretary@redstonepresbytery.org - 724.837.6737.



**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

Rev. Owar Ojulu will be coordinating a vision trip to Gambella, Ethiopia August 1-10, 2023. If you or someone from your church is interested in participating, please reach out to him for details - ojh3o@yahoo.com or (507) 304-5958



**The Nominating Committee
of Redstone Presbytery is**

GET INVOLVED!



looking to fill some vacancies among various committees. If you are a Ruling Elder interested in serving with the Presbytery, or if you have

questions about serving, please contact Skip Noftzger, Executive Presbyter at 724.837.6767 or executive@redstonepresbytery.org.

PSC DINNER SPONSORS NEEDED - Each Sunday, the PSC staff comes together for a time of fellowship, food, and encouragement as they gear up to welcome another group of enthusiastic campers for the week. Churches and individuals have graciously donated funds to provide this meal, or volunteered to make and deliver the Sunday meals. If you or your congregation is willing to sponsor a meal in July for approximately 60 people, please contact the camp office at 814-629-9834.



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



Upcoming Vacation Bible School

The Vacation Bible School season has begun!

[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.

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.



Presbyterian Planning Calendars

We will be doing a bulk order for the 2023/2024 Presbyterian Planning Calendars again this year. The cost per calendar will be \$10.50 at the bulk rate. Since the calendars begin on September 1, 2023, the deadline for ordering will be August 4, 2023 in order for them to be distributed by that date. [Click here](#) for the order form.



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/ql9bo4y1ogo9o1/>

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



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.

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.



2022 Session Minutes and Church Register Reviews.

If you were unable to have your session minutes and church registers reviewed at one of the scheduled meetings, please contact your COM Liaison to make arrangements with them to have them reviewed individually. You may also drop your books off at the Presbytery office to have them reviewed that way, if that is easier for you. If you are not sure who your COM liaison is, please contact the Presbytery office. Thank you!

Wee Kirk 2023

Save the dates
- October 9
through 11,
2023.

Registration is
now open
online. [Click
here to
register.](#)



The graphic features a large orange background with the text 'Wee Kirk 23' in a bold, dark brown font. To the right is a photograph of five people (three men and two women) standing outdoors in a wooded area, engaged in conversation. Below the main text, there is a dark brown box with white text: 'Save the dates October 9-11 refresh and renew with other small church leaders'. To the right of this box is a white box with the text 'get away to Laurelville Retreat Center Western PA' in a mix of cursive and sans-serif fonts. At the bottom right, the website 'WWW.WEE-KIRK-NE.ORG' is listed.



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

**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](#).

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 | 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road, Greensburg, PA 15601

[Unsubscribe secretary@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by secretary@redstonepresbytery.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!