

# Presbytery of Redstone eNews

## October 26, 2023



Please pray for...

### *District 1 Churches*

~~Delmont Presbyterian Church, Anthony Catullo, Interim Pastor  
~~Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, Doug Marshall, Interim Pastor

### *District 2 Churches*

~~Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant, Russ Baird, Commissioned Pastor  
~~New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon, Brenda Barnes, Pastor

### *District 3 Churches*

~~Tyrone Presbyterian Church, Dawson, Norma Murphy, Moderator  
~~First Presbyterian Church, Dunbar, Norma Murphy, Moderator

### *District 4 Churches*

~~Bolivar United Presbyterian Church, James Sunseri, Commissioned Pastor  
~~Colver Presbyterian Church, Owar Ojulu, Pastor

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## REDSTONE CHURCHES UPCOMING EVENTS

- [Drive Through Dinner](#) - October 26, 2023 - Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville
- [Rummage and Bake Sale](#) - October 28, 2023 - Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell
- [Pie Social](#) - October 31, 2023 - Calvin United Presbyterian Church, Scottdale
- [Craft and Vendor Show](#) - November 4, 2023 - New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon

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- Mondays - Nar-Anon Meetings - First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown - 6:30 p.m.
- 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.
- Tuesday, Every Other Month - [Blood Drives](#) - Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown
- Wednesdays - [AA Meetings](#) - Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville
- Second Wednesday - October through May - ["Soup for the Soul" Luncheon](#) - Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo

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

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### **“All That’s Necessary”**

In anticipation of the coming months of winter around our household, we have been cleaning up around the barn, the garage, and the surrounding trees and landscaping. Whether it is preparing the tractors for winter or cutting up fallen trees or making room in storage areas for equipment, they are all necessary tasks. Yet, in their completion, I have come across countless numbers of same or similar tools. In this discovery or rediscovery, I question my spouse about “how we could have so many chainsaws or drills or even shop vacs.” Because if you know us, you know that she is far more “handy” around the house than I am in the use of many of these tools. And if truth be told, she was the one who believed we “needed” it when we made most every one of those purchases. As you might suspect, the differences in values on what is “needed” is an ongoing conversation in our house.



Sometimes, within the church, whether local or regional, we enter into similar conversations about what is “needed.” Often, grounded in our hopes and dreams or based in visions of “success,” we convince ourselves and others (hopefully), that our church “needs” \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank) to be what it needs to be either in this day and age or in hopes of returning to some former time of glory. Not that we should resist making honest assessments about our identity and the ministry to which God has called us, but the genuine “test” of these questions must always be based in faithful discernment. Is this needed for the ministry and mission to God has called us? Or is it the result of “needing” to keep up the world around us. In many of his books, Andrew Root speaks to this and in "[When Church Stops Working; A Future for your Congregation Beyond More Money, Programs and Innovation](#)", he notes that *“when our crisis is decline—the decline of our churches or falling behind in our life—we feel compelled to do more. This compulsion is real. If we don’t do ore, our church closes or our life has not meaning. As long as the crisis is decline, we always and forever need to go faster, to do more and more.*

It is not that we are called to cease activity or effort, but it is a clear and humble acknowledgement that no amount of management or innovation on our part will be able to guarantee “success” or control the faithful fulfillment of God’s (as opposed to our) mission. Humility and discernment remain at the heart (ours and our churches) of knowing what might be necessary. Acting upon such perspectives is always responsive..... responsive to God’s providential care and formation, responsive to God’s current guidance and leading..... where our action, our leadership, seeks first and foremost to follow. Following Jesus the Christ permits us to have “joyful participation in Christ’s ongoing life and ministry. To do so makes it no longer dependent purely upon our independent strategic analysis or autonomous creativity and imagination or even upon accessing the latest and greatest tool. None of those, in themselves, will guarantee faithfulness.

While we are open to where our God might be leading, we follow. And we do

so, knowing it is not dependent upon us. God can and will provide all that is necessary for God's ministry and mission, whether through, around or in addition to our individual congregations. So, may our prayers and our actions be expressions of faith and discernment of God's leading. And, may we rest in the joyful hope that God has and will provide "all that is necessary."

#### F-1.0202 Christ Calls and Equips the Church

"Christ calls the Church into being, giving it all that is necessary for its mission in the world, for its sanctification, and for its service to God. Christ is present with the Church in Spirit and Word. Christ alone rules, calls, teaches and use the Church as he wills."



This year's Annual Enrollment — the time when employees can make changes or elect new benefits coverage for next year — is Monday, October 23 through Friday, November 10. To help employees understand what they will need to do and how to make the best choices for their needs, the Board of Pensions shares communications leading up to, and during, Annual Enrollment. Go to [pensions.org](https://pensions.org) for more information.

Join us for the Saturday, November 18, 2023 Presbytery meeting that will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette, beginning at 9:00 a.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](mailto:redstonestories@gmail.com) by Thursday, November 9, 2023. Thank you!



**Matthew 25 Summit: An Invitation to Innovation**  
Join us in Atlanta, GA, following Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, January 16–18, 2024, for a first-of-its-kind event!

The Matthew 25 Summit will bring mid-councils, churches, and individuals together to explore this vision. What does it mean to eradicate poverty; how can we begin dismantling systemic racism; how will we know if we are building a vital congregation? We are offering you an invitation to innovation. A chance to dialogue, learn with, and grow with others in exploration. Featuring innovative speakers, thriving ministries, transformative workshops, and space to imagine what's next! The event cost is \$199 and includes two lunches, two dinners and conference materials. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

#### Young Adult Advisory Delegate Nominees

The 226<sup>th</sup> General Assembly will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah for committee meetings and online

plenary sessions June 25 – July 4, 2024. The Session of each church has the opportunity to nominate a young person to attend the General Assembly as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YADD). The person you nominate should be at least 17 years of age, but no older than 23 years of age, on June 20, 2024. The [nomination form and application](#) is attached. Please return your application to the Presbytery office by October 15, 2023. Thank you.



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

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

- **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](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org).

#### Notes from the Redstone Bookkeeper

I will be closing the books for the year 2023 on Thursday, January 11, 2024. Any monies received after that date will be credited to the 2024 financial records.



Also, I have updated the Remittance Form. [Click here](#) for a copy to download and write in your remittance information. If you would like to have a "fillable" form that can be completed and then printed, please email me at the Presbytery office at [redstonepresbyterybookkeeper@gmail.com](mailto:redstonepresbyterybookkeeper@gmail.com) and I will forward one to you. Please use this updated form when sending in your remittances to the Presbytery office. Thank you!

The [2024 First Fruits Pledge Form](#) is now available. Please complete your pledge form and return it to the Presbytery office at your earliest convenience. Thank you!



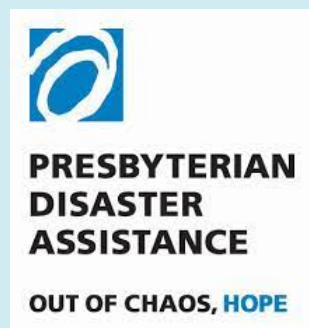
CHURCH FINANCIAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING  
PROGRAM - The Presbyterian  
Foundation's Church Financial Leadership

Coaching Program is a free, 12-month coaching program for church pastors that will assist pastors in leading their congregation down the path of financial

sustainability to fulfill the church's mission. The program connects pastors with individual coaches to help them gain a solid foundation in church financial literacy. [Learn more.](#)

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**AMEN TO ACTION 2023 FOOD PACKING EVENTS** - Join with other people of faith and good will to address food insecurity in Pittsburgh at an Amen to Action 2023 food packing event. These events will take place on various dates throughout October and November in the Greater Pittsburgh Area. Volunteers of all ages are welcome. Last year, 1,000s of volunteers packed more than 1,011,000 meals for families in the area! [Learn more about ways to volunteer and donate!](#)



**PDA RESPONSE TO HAWAI'I WILDFIRES** - In collaboration with the Presbytery of the Pacific and its leadership, PDA has been in communication with pastors in the affected communities and elsewhere in Hawai'i. PDA has already released emergency grants to meet the urgent needs of the communities and to provide immediate care. PDA affirms our commitment to accompany those affected by this disaster. As people of God, once again we are called to stand with our siblings in the "GAP" – [Give, Act and Pray.](#)

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### FREE TO GOOD "HOME" CHURCH

The Presbytery has several items at the Presbytery Center that are being offered to any church/pastor that may need/want them. There are:

- Communion ware sets
- Books - Bible, Theology, Pastoral Ministry
- Projectors (older ones with VGA connections)
- "Into the Light" Curriculum Life Recovery Workbooks and thumb drives. (this was put together by the Redstone Presbytery Addictions Ministry Network)



If you have any questions, or would be interested in any of these items, please contact the Presbytery office at 724.837.6737 or via email at [secretary@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org) to make arrangements to stop in for them.

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**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.

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**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.**

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**The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington, 601 Fifth Avenue, New Kensington, PA 15068, 724.339.6618 - is seeking to fill:**

**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 Resume to The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington, 601 Fifth Avenue, New Kensington, PA 15068-6508 Attn: Personnel Committee Telephone: 724-339-6618**



**Employment Opportunities Outside of Redstone  
Presbytery**

**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](#).**

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**Beulah Presbyterian Church, located in Churchill, PA, is seeking a Financial Manager. The Financial Manager of BPC provides for the overall management and reporting of the finances for the Church and the Preschool. The Financial Manager maintains all financial records, serves as an active member of the Finance Committee, manages the BPC's Information Technology and various Human Resources activities. View the [full job description](#). This is a full-time position with benefits. Interested applicants should email a cover letter and resumè to: [churchoffice@beulahpresby.org](mailto:churchoffice@beulahpresby.org) or by mail to : Beulah Presbyterian Church, 2500 McCrady Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235**

[Richard "Skip" Noftzger](#)  
Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk  
[blog address](#)  
[twitter address](#)

[Bobbie Shaffor](#)  
Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper

*Word...*  
*Carry on the Work...*  
*Change the World...*  
*Together*

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**Presbytery of Redstone**  
**[www.redstonepresbytery.org](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org)**

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