

Presbytery of Redstone eNews

February 29, 2024



Please pray for...

District 1 Churches

- ~~*Congruity Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria, Cliff Foster, Pastor*
- ~~*United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington, Rebecca Siddle, Covenant Pastor*

District 2 Churches

- ~~*Sewickley United Presbyterian Church, West Newton, Glenn Hart, commissioned Pastor*
- ~~*United Presbyterian Church, West Newton, John Manon Pastor*

District 3 Churches

- ~~*Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown, Ed Gray, Moderator*
- ~~*East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Vanderbilt, David McElroy, Commissioned Pastor*

District 4 Churches

- ~~*First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, Hylwot Teshome, Pastor*
- ~~*Second Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, Arthur Moffat, Jr., Temporary Supply*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- [March 22-24, 2024 - Men's Catalyst Backpacking Trip - Pine Springs Camp](#)
- [April 26-28, 2024 - Women's Catalyst Backpacking Trip Pine Springs Camp](#)

- 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



“Super” Stories to Live By—“More Than Us” “As Wide as God’s Reign” “A Worldwide Family”

In a mission course many years ago, we spent time learning about and praying for God’s mission taking place in various countries. The course expectations were that we would not only learn, but spend time praying for each country. While our intercession focused primarily on persecuted Christians or evangelization more than other concerns of God’s reign, nonetheless the secondary impact of those prayers was our orientation in how we see our God and the world. We discovered again that the God we worship is not merely concerned about us. At least for the span of the course, we began to value what God values, to care for those whom God cares. More than just about us (or those we know), we discovered again how wide and how global God’s kingdom is both now and to come.

From its earliest days of the sharing of the good news in Christ, God’s worldwide family has consisted not only those we know and care about. In fact, when our focus becomes limited to those we know personally or are directly linked, we have begun to worship a God who looks a lot more like us than we care to admit. God has promised and is about the work of redeeming the world. The Lord of heaven and earth and the God of people from every tribe and nation calls us together in worship . When we bow down before that God, we find ourselves surrounded in the Spirit by all those God who has called and is calling from near and far distance places around the world.

That course and its focus seems long ago. Much of my living has become preoccupied by the immediate surroundings of people and concerns. I confess that too much of my understanding of those in other places of the world is more informed by news “bites” (limited as they are). And I admit it is tempting to “tune it out.” Yet, the reality of God’s kingdom is so much more, so widespread, so much a story of grace and redemption in the midst of conflict, pain and suffering.

Twenty years ago, the Presbytery of Redstone committed to a partnership with the Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church (and later the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church). It was and is a partnership of siblings in Christ, where we support one another, learn from each other and pray with one another. While the years have been difficult at times in South Sudan and more recently in Sudan, yet we are joined together as a tangible representation of God’s worldwide family. It is in a small way a picture of the mosaic of a community of faith where the differences of language, culture and nationality are celebrated now even as they will be standing before the throne and before the Lamb. That story of twenty years, connected to the larger story of shared ministry and mission with a worldwide family before God. That is our story as a Presbytery. And, it is a story to live by as a “Worldwide family of the Lord God.”

Latrobe Presbyterian Church
is celebrating the 250th anniversary of
Unity Chapel and burial grounds
with a special service on Sunday, March
3rd at 11:00am.



The service will be held at the Latrobe Presbyterian Church 428 Main St. Latrobe, PA 15650.

Dear Friends,

As we enter into this Season of Lent, we are reminded of how much Jesus has done for love of us and how much He asks us to do for love of Him. Indeed, Dr. Asa's presentation on theology of neighbor comes to mind once more, and the words of another wise man who said, "If we do not have a heart for the whole world, we do not have the heart of Jesus."



Please mark your calendars for our next Pittsburgh Prays Gathering which will be held on Tuesday, March 12 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Cardinals' Great Hall in O'Connor Hall at the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh Pastoral Center, 2900 Noblestown Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15205. We are honored to have Linda Kricher who will offer a reflection that eve.

Join us for a time of discussion and prayer as we praise our God, listen for how God has been at work in each of our communities, intercede for Pittsburgh, and ask for wisdom and guidance. *We hope and trust that God will lead us to do something together that will pave the way for the next generation and change our city forever.*

Please feel free to extend a personal invitation to these gatherings to any other leaders that you feel called to invite.

If you are able to attend, please RSVP to Lori Rectenwald at Lrectenwald@diopitt.org by Friday, March 8.

Your brother in Christ,

Bishop David Zubik

ANNOUNCEMENT LOOP FOR PRESBYTERY MEETING

The March meeting of Presbytery will be on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 In Person and via ZOOM videoconferencing and at the New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon, beginning at 6:00 p.m. If you have an announcement that you would like included in the announcement loop that will



be presented that day please submit them directly to redstonestories@gmail.com by Tuesday, March 2. Thank you!

Easter Egg Hunts

**Saturday, March 23 -
Union Presbyterian Church
656 Route 380,
Murrysville, PA 15668
11am - Noon
Children will hear a story
and create a craft item.
Lunch will be provided
for Children & Parents.**



Children, Please bring your own Easter Basket.

**Sunday, March 24 - New Hope Presbyterian Church
12727 Lincoln Way, North Huntingdon, PA 15642
1pm - 3pm - Rain or Shine
Age Brackets: 2-5 years old & 6-12 years old
Includes snacks & crafts
Free! Please sign up in advance**

**Sunday, March 24 - Puckety Presbyterian Church
1009 Puckety Church Road, Lower Burrell, PA 15068
2pm - Rain or Shine
Gather in the Sanctuary at 1:55pm
Free Basket Raffle, Face Painting, & Popcorn
Meet the Easter Bunny and take your pictures!
Pre-Registration is Required (Registration closes 3/17/2024 unless spots
fill up sooner) [Click here for more information.](#)**



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

**Workshops are again being offered for the
Spring of 2024. Workshops include:**

- **March 2, 2024 - Death, Grief, and Pastoral Care ~ Rev. Peggy Shannon and RE Doug Jones, Instructors**
- **April 6, 2024 - Scripture Study with Different Methods ~ Rev. Sharon Stewart, Instructor**
- **May 4, 2024 - Preaching Laboratory ~ Rev. Skip Noftzger and Rev. Craig**

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 Karen Gray 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



**PASTOR GETAWAY RETREAT
APRIL 9th; 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
PINE SPRINGS CAMP**

Let's get away for a day of rest; renewal and fellowship in the beautiful setting of our camp facility. It is a great opportunity for us to be together as pastors and colleagues in this ministry that God has called us in this region of God's Church (Redstone Presbytery). Whether joining

together in fun activities or seeking the solace of a walk in the woods; this is an opportunity for each of us to refocus and relax.

We will be enjoying a picnic lunch together provided by the Camp; so let us know that you are planning on being there and if you have any special dietary needs.

Call (724.837.637) or email secretary@redstonepresbytery.org to let us know you are coming.



Healing From Moral Injury

How Faith Leaders Can Heal and Help

Know a Veteran experiencing shame, anger and changes in beliefs about the goodness of self or others? They might have a moral injury. You can help: take our free training with VA experts to learn how to recognize moral injury in Veterans and others and ways you as a faith leader can provide hope and help.

You will learn:

- To define and recognize moral injury.
- Crisis intervention.
- To recognize signs of suicide.
- How to help Veterans receive proper treatment at VA.

Attend in person or via Microsoft Teams.

Questions?
Call our Chaplain Services Team at 412-360-1832.

www.pittsburgh.va.gov
412-822-2222 | 866-482-7488

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System



April 19
10 a.m. to noon
University Drive
Learning Exchange

Virtual option via Teams at
<https://bit.ly/49gvHwd> or scan QR code



Meeting ID: 249 524 779 78
Passcode: 9m6C73



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

For 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has connected us in God's healing, tending and growing to create a world where all needs are met. Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing are shared with the ministries of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self-Development of People, and Presbyterian

Disaster Assistance. To learn more about how your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference [visit pcusa.org/oghs](http://pcusa.org/oghs)

THE YAV EXPERIENCE

The Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program is an ecumenical, faith-based year of service for young people, ages 19–30, in over 20 sites in the United States and around the world. YAVs



accompany local agencies working to address root causes of poverty and reconciliation while exploring the meaning and motivation of their faith in community with peers and mentors. Benefits throughout the year of service include a regular stipend, housing, transportation and student-loan assistance. [Click here for more information or to apply.](#)

Redstone Mission Team is planning for a spring trip to Charleston, WV the week of April 28-May 4, 2024. Work will include flood relief or general repairs for those in need. Cost is \$300 with the volunteer paying \$150 and the balance coming out of the Mission Team Fund. If interested, e-mail Phyllis Frye at pfrye1234@windstream.net or call 724-468-3740.

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.



Upcoming Events Outside Redstone Presbytery

International Association of Women Ministers, Western PA Chapter Annual Retreat 2024 April 25 - 26, 2024

Invitation To Clergy and Laity (United Methodist Church)

Dismas Appeal



The dates for the 2023 Session Minutes Reviews are:

- o March 19, 2024—New Hope, North Huntingdon; Pre-Presbytery Meeting
 - o April 17, 2024 – Redstone Presbytery Center
 - o May 28, 2024 – Pleasant View, Smock; Pre-Presbytery
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**Redstone Highlands
North Huntingdon
Campus is looking for
10-20 Glory to God Hymnals. If your Church has extra copies
and are willing to donate, please contact Lisa Dormire (724-
832-8401 Ext 3353)**



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*Communicate the
Word...*

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

Presbytery of Redstone
www.redstonepresbytery.org

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