

This week's Redstone happenings

July 25, 2024



This week we are praying for the following congregations:

District 1 Churches

*Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, Brian Kilbert, Pastor
First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, Ed Gray, Pastor*

District 2 Churches

*Latrobe United Presbyterian Church, Ron Durika, Pastor
Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant, Russ Baird, Commissioned
Pastor*

District 3 Churches

*Trinity Presbyterian Church, Uniontown, John Simpson, Interim Pastor
East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Vanderbilt, David McElroy,
Commissioned Pastor*

District 4 Churches

*Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, Ben Nti, Pastor
Pleasant Grove Presbyterian Church, Ligonier, Steve Hospodar,
Temporary Supply*

~GA Commissioner Reflections...~

GA Commissioner Robin Jennings

I am a mixed breed. I attended a nondenominational community church as a child, my father became a Brethren pastor, my late husband was raised Catholic and we were married in the Methodist church. We chose to become Presbyterian as adults 32 years ago, and in the four years prior to my spouse's death, he served Redstone Presbytery as a



Commissioned Lay Pastor, having been trained by the presbytery to live into the call of God on his heart. Many at GA226 were not so different than me, as nearly 30 percent of those gathered shared that they found their community of faith in the PC (USA) as an adult.

That detail came to light in one of several polls taken to test that our technology would be working as intended during plenary sessions. Not surprising, we were a collection of mostly white English speakers, But Spanish, Korean, Tagalog, German and Indigenous languages also were present in our denominational melting pot. I was particularly gratified that church leadership in individual congregations, presbyteries, synods, mid-councils and at the national level is reflective of that growing diversity and inclusivity that we profess. In fact, one of my motivations for volunteering to be a Redstone commissioner was for the opportunity to encounter people who are different from me.

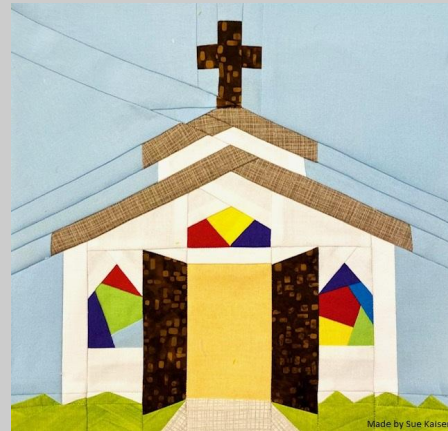
My great-grandmother who was a cradle Presbyterian used to say “in the end we will all be Presbyterian.” I believe she had it just right. We are being reformed everyday at the molecular level, and as sentient beings we bring our different backgrounds, histories and experiences together to be ever reforming as we discern God’s will. May the challenges before us bring change ... reform ... reformation.

~Presbytery News~



The Mission Network of the Presbytery of Redstone

will be sponsoring a “**Mission Fair**” again for our congregations at the September Presbytery Meeting at Pine Springs Camp. We are asking you to prepare to share local, regional, national or international projects in which your church is engaged or supports. You will have the opportunity to display any objects, flyers, information, etc. at a exhibit table before



if you have a “**Quilting group**” in your congregation or just some individuals who engage in quilting, we are looking for churches to bring one or more squares (10.5 x 10.5) that represent any or some of the mission areas of the church. Each square might also have the name off the congregation on it as well. These squares will be combined into a quilt along with other symbols of the Presbytery to form a quilt that will be on display at the Presbytery and particular events.

and during the Presbytery gathering. So, plan now for what you would like to share about where God has led you in mission.

I

Please contact either Debby Koenig - (debkoenig@wpa.net) or Presbytery Office - (secretary@redstonepresbytery.org) if you need any additional information.

Please plan on turning in your finished squares no later than Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at the Presbytery Meeting hosted by Pine Springs Camp.



Summer
READING

You're invited to the racial justice and reconciliation group's Zoom book club

All discussions will take place at 6:30PM

August 8 *Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*
by James McBride

Zoom login:
Meeting #: 7248376737
Password: Redstone

Pray for the Congregation of the Week (Facebook)

Each week a different ministry of one of our congregations is featured on the Presbytery Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PresbyteryofRedstone>) Look for your friends and colleagues in ministry and intercede on their behalf with the Lord for what God has called them to be and do.

WEE KIRK 2024

Last Call for Lower Price!

Wee Kirk early bird registrations (lower price until August 1st) are open. Taking place on October 14-16. Don't miss this important opportunity for learning, renewal and retreat. Sign up now at wee-kirk-ne.org



Are you a Ruling Elder who is interested in Learning and Growing in you Faith even more?

Is God Possibly Calling you to Preach?

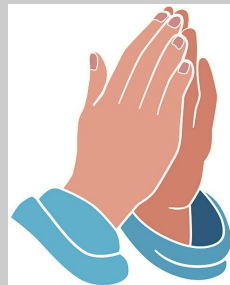
CONSIDER ENROLLING IN THE INTER-PRESBYTERY LEADERSHIP FORMATION PROGRAM.

For more Information about the program and Enrollment, Please Contact Skip Noftzger at the Presbytery Office 724-837-6737 or executive@redstonepresbytery.org



Last Call!

The Presbytery will be doing a bulk order for the 2024/2025 **Planning Calendars**. Calendars begin in September again this year. The bulk order rate per calendar will be \$10.50 this year. If you would like to get in on the bulk rate deal please complete the **order form** and email it or mail it with your payment to the Presbytery office. **The deadline for orders will be August 2, 2024** in order to have them for distribution at the September meeting. Thank you!



HEALING AND PRAYER MINISTRY NETWORK is going on vacation in July! Our next meeting will be Thursday, August 8, 4:30-6:00pm at the Presbytery Center. Praying that all find some time for recreation and refreshment during the coming weeks!

Grace and peace,
Norma



Board of Pensions

Employee Agreements will open in August.

Consultations for navigating the 2025 changes are available.

Please contact Rev. Skip Noftzger - 724-837-6737 Office - 724-833-0340 Cell executive@redstonepresbytery.org

Sudan/South Sudan Mission Partnership Network Gathering---

September 26-28, Antiochian Village---Join this gathering of those interested and engaged in Sudan/South Sudan mission partnership not only in our presbytery, but with others across the country, including visitors from South Sudan and from the Sudanese diaspora in this country. **For more information, please see flyer below or contact the Redstone Presbytery office.**



Sudan/South Sudan Mission Network Conference 2024: Partners in Sharing God's Good News

September 26-28, 2024

Antiochian Village
201 Saint Ignatius Trail,
Bolivar, PA 15923



Information on schedule to follow

Cost

includes room, meals,
and conference fees
beginning with Thursday
dinner through Saturday
breakfast

Single- \$355 per person
Double- \$280 per person
Triple- \$260 per person



Program only rate available upon request

Registration is open!

<https://shenangopresbytery.wufoo.com/forms/sudansouth-sudan-mission-network-r1y8ir1p0mj5sum>

MINISTER ID CARDS from PC(USA) are available at the Presbytery Office. If you have not picked yours up, please contact the office. Office hours are Monday - Thursday 9am - 2pm.

~Grants~

Church Financial Leadership Grants Available Now

If you are a pastor, commissioned ruling elder (CRE), a leader of a 1001 New Worshiping Community or a member of a stewardship team **we have Church Financial Leadership Grants available for you.** The grants will enable you to institute best practices for church financial leadership, introduce you to new models of giving and stewardship, and offer you new ways to talk about money and form generous disciples within your church.

Who can apply?

- PCUSA pastors
- Commissioned Ruling Elders
- 1001 New Worshiping Community leaders
- Church member attending the event

What events can I use the funds for?

- Stewardship Kaleidoscope
- Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising (ECRF) through the Lake Institute
- Other church financial leadership events (subject to approval)

What is the deadline?

For Stewardship Kaleidoscope, we are asking that applications be sent in by Monday, August 12 so that we have time to process the application and send out the funds prior to the start of the event. Applications received after the deadline or for the ECRF program will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Once we receive your application, it may take up to six weeks to process.

APPLY NOW

If you have questions, please email serving@presbyterianfoundation.org

with their pastor

and we'll be glad to help.

What do the funds cover?

The grants are matching funds to help cover half of the cost of:

- Registration fees
- Transportation
- Lodging
- Meals
- Other expenses

The other half of the funds will need to be provided by the church or another source.

~Events at our Churches~

Community Yard Sale - Derry Presbyterian Church is Participating in Derry's Great Garage Sale! Friday and Saturday, August 2nd and 3rd.
For additional information [Click Here](#)

**Unity Cemetery & Chapel
250th Anniversary Celebration**

Honoring Our Past, Inspiring Our Future

For more information [Click Here](#) for upcoming events or visit unitycemeterychapel.org

The Masontown community kitchen will be open **Tuesday, July 30, 2024** from 4 to 5:30. The menu will be salmon patties, macaroni and cheese, homemade desserts, and Panera bread. Everyone is invited to come and share the meal and Christian fellowship that is found in the dining hall of the First Presbyterian Church, 102 W. Church Ave., Masontown, PA For questions or to volunteer your help please call Judy at 724-943-3013 or Frank 724 366-4721

~Upcoming Events Outside of Redstone Presbytery~

Presbyterian Youth and Triennium - July 28-31, 2025 in Louisville, KY at the Kentucky International Convention Center

WOMEN'S CONNECTION 2024 - Aug. 9-11 at Montreat Conference Center, NC. "In the Arms of God," you'll have the chance to retreat from the day to day, take a deep breath of the Spirit, gather in community with other women of faith, and leave with a heart full of hope. Women's Connection 2024 will be a time for women to connect with old and new friends, a time to care for yourself; a time for space and Sabbath. [Learn more](#)

Stewardship Kaleidoscope - Real Tools for Real Ministry
September 23-25, 2024 in Portland OR.
For more information visit stewardshipkaleidoscope.org
PC(USA) Pastors - Learn about the Church Financial Leadership **Grant Program** through the Foundation [here](#)

2024 EVANGELISM CONFERENCE - Oct. 3-5. Registration for the 2024 Evangelism Conference, planned by Theology, Formation & Evangelism, is now open. "A Lifestyle That Exudes Justice" **Evangelism Conference will be held at the Presbyterian Center in Louisville, Kentucky. [Learn more and regist](#)**

Presbytery Staff

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Office Hours:
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Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

Presbytery of Redstone
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