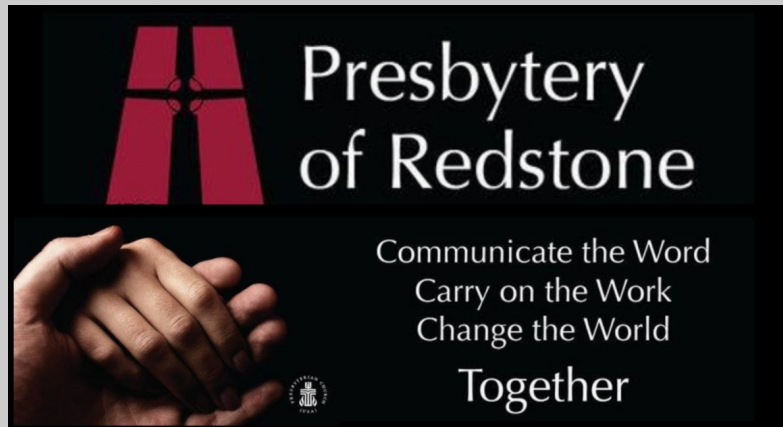


This week's Redstone happening
August 01, 2024



This week we are praying for the following congregations:

District 1 Churches

Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, Curtis Paul, Pastor, Travis Webster, Associate Pastor

Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, Robert Ruefle, Pastor

District 2 Churches

New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon, Brenda Barnes, Pastor

Level Green Presbyterian Church, Trafford, Geoff Rach, Pastor

District 3 Churches

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

First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, Mary Kay Glunt, Pastor

District 4 Churches

Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence, James Sunseri, Commissioned Pastor

Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence, Sara Sadler, Pastor

~GA Commissioner Reflections...~

A Reflection on My Experience at General Assembly in Salt Lake City – Rev. Brian Kilbert

In the time I have, allow me to share something I found surprising. Even though parliamentary procedure had its share of ... “moments” let’s call them ... the thing that



may have impressed me the most as “spiritual” ALSO came in the midst of “Robert’s Rules.” (Try to stick with me through this). Two times a vote/action was reconsidered (both times that required not only a 2/3 majority to revisit but the motion to do so had to come from the prevailing side – in other words, someone from the ‘winners’ had to move it). One of these times, not only was the action reconsidered, but it was *reversed* – which is extremely rare – someone told me it hasn’t happened in this century. But here’s the part that struck me ... The electronic tally polled showed a *sizeable* number willing to reconsider – I was not expecting this because I don’t see this kind of openness in the world usually.

Keep in mind this had already been a LENGTHY process (it had been *past 2 hours*). But in that moment, when a sizeable number of the “winners” were ready to reconsider, I became personally convicted that the Holy Spirit was at work. It wasn’t merely an “openness” to the Spirit. The level of patience, humility, and love (the wonderful sacrificial thing) – it showed forth in and through commissioners who disagreed. This wasn’t just “good argument” – this kind of mutual submission to the leading of the Lord was WAY more than what you find in other spheres (like, say, in Congress). And you might say you’d expect that from the Church. Exactly. My reflection is that I saw it at GA.

Yes, there were overtures & votes that did not go the way I would have wanted. But I was encouraged by the way the Church (who could disagree so strongly) treated each other with respect, dignity, and hope. I’m grateful that God let me see the Church do what the theme of this year’s GA was: “Live into Hope.”

Respectfully,
Teaching Elder Commissioner Brian Kilbert

[With thanks to my fellow commissioners: Jackie Eckenrod, Robin Jennings, and Andrew Wirt – who I observed engaging in every Plenary with seriousness and sincerity.]



Kilbert Twins Relish Time Together at General Assembly

[Click Link](#) to read the Featured News Article on Brian and Chris from the Synod of the Trinity. Their time together was a special family reunion.

~Presbytery News~



TRANSITION UPDATE

Redstone appoints interim search team

The Redstone council voted to hire an interim executive to help the organization determine the best structure for moving forward. Typically an interim presbyter or pastor will help the group evaluate its mission and practices and determine what skills the next leader will need to help the group thrive in new and different times.

The appointed Redstone interim search committee consists of two people from council, a committee on ministry representative, a person from the staff support team and a member-at-large. The group seeks to be diverse in age, role, and gender. Please pray for those who have agreed to serve:

Rev. Norma Murphy, chairperson, member of council

Rev. Dr. Martin Ankrum, secretary, staff support

Scott Cole, member of council, ruling elder

Jackie Eckenrod, member-at-large, ruling elder

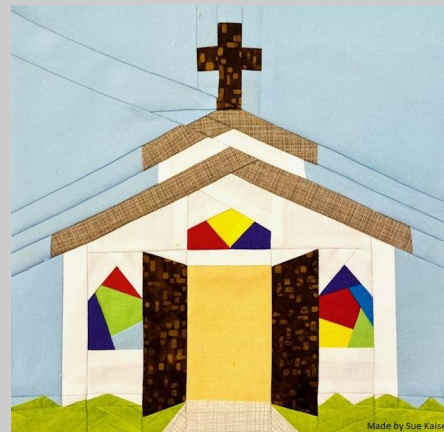
Joshua Scully, committee on ministry, ruling elder and CRE



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

I



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.

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 October 14-16, 2024 Laurelville Retreat Center Mt. Pleasant, PA

Registrations are open! Don't miss this important opportunity for learning, renewal and retreat. For this year's brochure, listing all the seminars/workshops, their leaders, and the schedule. Go to 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



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

and we'll be glad to help.

with their pastor

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](#)

Leisenring Presbyterian Church 1004 Church Street is hosting:

Huge Flea Market on August 17, 2024 from 9am - 3pm

Cabbage Roll Dinner & Bake Sale September 14, 2024 from 11am - 4pm



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

Honoring Our Past, Inspiring Our Future

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

~Upcoming Events Outside of Redstone Presbytery~

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

Richard "Skip" Noftzger

Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk

blog address

twitter address

Karen Gray

Administrative Operations Manager

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Bobbie Shaffor

Bookkeeper

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

Presbytery of Redstone

www.redstonepresbytery.org

Presbytery of Redstone | 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road | Greensburg, PA 15601 US

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