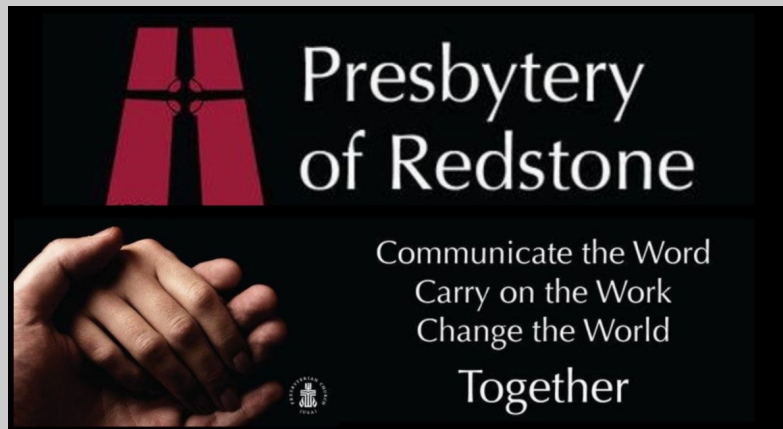


This week's Redstone happening  
**October 31, 2024**



**This week we are praying for the following congregations:**

*District 1 Churches*

*Congruity Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria, Cliff Foster, Pastor  
United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington, Becca Siddle, Covenant  
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*

*Leisenring Presbyterian Church  
First Presbyterian Church, Masontown, Eric Glisan, Commissioned Pastor*

*District 4 Churches*

*Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence, Sara Sadler, Pastor  
Patton Presbyterian Church, Alice Tondora, Pastor*

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~From Skip~

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**GOD'S STORY SHAPING OURS**

Often, when watching a movie or reading a book of fiction, I find myself being “caught up” in the story. Resulting from these “stories,” our imaginations inserts us into the very adventures lived out before us in words or images. *(Unfortunately, my wife usually has to endure my reliving some of the scenes with me playing some role within the narrative)*

Yet, too often, my “story” seems altogether



commonplace. Throughout its many details of both ordinary days and defining moments, my story has its moments of exhilarating excitement and occasions of overwhelming difficulties. Yet, between those extremes, life goes on in a rather everyday manner.

While I would like my “story” to be filled with adventure and intrigue, most of the time it remains the daily experience of living before our God. In that grace-filled story, I know that *I am neither the person I was nor am I the person that God wants me to be or the person that I will be in the end in the presence of God*, author of our story of faith. Meanwhile, I am discovering again and again not only where my identity in that story of grace, but I am being shaped by it in the power of the Word and the Spirit. In the Scriptures, God reveals the Word to us and for us with a promise of the final chapter. Yet, before it is enacted, the story of God’s grace carries on in, upon and through us as

it is being written by the Spirit of God.

Not only true for us individually, God’s redeeming story is lived out in who the Lord has called us to be together. While the story is filled with both sin and grace, the signs of God’s kingdom become the thread running through the history of God’s agency through the Presbytery of Redstone and its congregations. From the frontier of 1781 to today and on into our future, God’s story moves forward. Sometimes, it may not be linear or even noticeable. At times, it may be ever so slowly while at other times, it may be an exhilarating pace. Yet, as a people of God in this place with this calling together, we see ourselves being shaped by this “grand story” of a relentless and redeeming love by the covenantal Lord for God’s people and God’s world.

Going forward, it remains my hope and prayer that God’s grace might be made known in our calling together as congregations and as a presbytery. For the Lord continues to embrace us, guide us, change us for God’s glory here and now. May we know, see and experience this reality that it is indeed God’s story shaping ours.

**SOLI DEO GLORIA!  
GOD’S STORY SHAPING OURS**

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~Presbytery News~

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### **ANNOUNCEMENT LOOP FOR PRESBYTERY MEETING**

The November meeting of Presbytery will be on, Saturday, November 23, 2024 In Person and via ZOOM videoconferencing at the Community United Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria, beginning at 9:00 a.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](mailto:redstonestories@gmail.com) by Monday, November 18, 2024

Thank you!

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## Have you enrolled in benefits for 2025?

**Annual Enrollment** is open through Friday, Nov. 8. If you haven't already, [log in to Benefits Connect](#) and click Modify to:

- review the benefits available to you, including any new benefits your employer may offer for 2025, costs, and any cost-sharing with your employer
- add eligible family members or remove them from coverage
- enroll for benefits and/or make changes to your current coverage
- review and update your beneficiaries
- 

After the Annual Enrollment period ends, you won't have another chance to enroll in benefits or make changes for 2025 unless you have a qualifying life event.

If you need assistance registering for Benefits Connect or completing your Annual Enrollment, call the Board at **800-PRESPLAN (800-773-7752)** (TTY: 711), Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. ET. We are here to serve you



Please Join us to honor Rev. Skip Noftzger as we celebrate his remarkable journey and retirement after 11 years of dedicated service to Redstone Presbytery. Help us to send Skip off in style on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at Stratigos Banquet Centre, located at 131 Colonial Manor Rd, North Huntingdon, PA 15642. The *Celebration* begins at 5:00 p.m. with Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact:

Dawn Sherwood - 412-378-2309  
drs92066@gmail.com

Or

Karen Gray - 239-293-8121 or 724-837-6737  
kgray345@gmail.com  
secretary@redstonepresbytery.org

Please continue Prayers for everyone who is affected by Hurricanes Milton and Helene.

To support the Response of PDA, Designate Gifts to **DR000169**

In these difficult times, we are called to respond through generosity, action and prayer - continually standing in the "GAP" to uplift our neighbors and offer hope in their



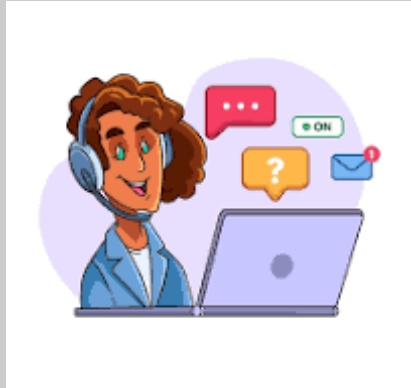
**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER  
ASSISTANCE**

**OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE**

journey toward recovery.

Please send your gifts to the Presbytery Office or to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance directly.

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The Presbytery is seeking to identify a “Tech Coordinator” for the 5 annual “hybrid” Presbytery meetings beginning in 2025. The person must have knowledge of audio-visual equipment and be familiar with hosting and features within the Zoom workspace. The Tech Coordinator will prepare for and coordinate the Zoom and av equipment for meetings held in a variety of churches within the Presbytery. This position will be supported with a stipend for each of the meetings. Any candidates or referral of possible people with these skills should

reach out to the Staff Support committee through contacting the Executive Presbyter or Presbytery office.

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## 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.

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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](mailto:executive@redstonepresbytery.org)**

## IPLF FALL WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE

**View the full schedule** of fall Pastor and Elder Training Workshops presented by the Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation. All workshops will be hybrid offerings by Zoom and in-person at Laboratory Presbyterian Church in Washington from 12:30-3:30 p.m.

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## Boundaries and Ethics in Church Leadership

Saturday, November 9, 2024; 12:30 - 3:30pm  
Maplewood Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall

If it has been more than three years since your last participation in training on Boundaries and Ethics issues, It is important for all of us to continue to be engaged in these areas. Please save the date on your calendars to attend this workshop.

Please RSVP to [secretary@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org) or call the Presbytery Office (724-837-6737) if plan on attending in person or on zoom.

## For Such a Time as This – Group Spiritual Direction

You are invited to join Jenn in a time of contemplative reflection, support and encouragement for all pastors and church leaders as we navigate this stressful political season. Bring your lunch and your open heart as we seek healing for ourselves and for our divided nation.

Thursdays, September 26 - November 7  
12-1 pm.  
Zoom.  
Meeting ID: 820 3291 0696  
Passcode: hope  
Email Jenn at [pastorjenn@wpcgreensburg.org](mailto:pastorjenn@wpcgreensburg.org) for more information



The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82032910696?pwd=o7gaatnz6SSIKs8PO9t4OhhH4MEJWU.1>



## Healing & Prayer Network

Please join this ministry @ 4:30p.m. at the Presbytery Office.

Thursday, October 31, 2024  
Thursday, November 7, 2024

Due to the workshop on Saturday, November 9, 2024, "Praying Jesus' Way" the network will not meet on Thursday, November 14, 2024

# Praying Jesus' Way

Saturday, November 9, 2024

9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Redstone Presbytery Office

1004 Mount Pleasant Road

Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601

Free RSVP 724 837-6737

**A succinct exploration of Jesus' surprising practices and teachings**

- ◆ How Moses, Jacob, and Elijah influenced Jesus
  - ◆ The importance of "AMEN"
  - ◆ What Jesus might think about "Mindfulness"
  - ◆ Jesus' methods of "action spirituality"
  - ◆ What you don't know about the Lord's Prayer
  - ◆ What you might add to enhance your prayer life
- Take home packet included --

The Rev. Jim Farrer is an internationally recognized consultant in church growth and vitality. He taught worship and prayer at the Synod of the Trinity School of Religion for 2 seasons held at Wilson and Gettysburg Colleges. He has been blessed to study Biblical spirituality in Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain and with Eugene Peterson in New Mexico. Farrer oversaw the distribution of Holy Communion at the 1985 Congress on Renewal in Dallas, Texas, the "largest Presbyterian gathering ever held in America." His articles can be found at [biblicalleadership.com](http://biblicalleadership.com).

The Rev. Norma Prina Murphy holds a BS in Music Education from IUP and an MDiv from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Norma has led choirs and served interims and installed positions. She was trained for and served on a professional and prayerful conflict management team. Norma has been a leader on spiritual pilgrimages to Scotland and Israel. She is chairperson of the Healing Prayer Ministry Network of Redstone Presbytery. She will share insights from a Jerusalem Seminary course "Early Christian Worship, Music and Prayer in Its Jewish Context."

Event sponsored by the Healing Prayer Ministry Network of Redstone Presbytery.

Please RSVP: [secretary@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org) or call the Presbytery Office (724-837-6737)

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~Events at our Churches~

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

**Honoring Our Past, Inspiring Our Future**



. Lessons & Carols with Time Period Music  
December 22nd, 2024 from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00  
p.m.

For more information on the upcoming events: visit  
[unitycemeterychapel.org](http://unitycemeterychapel.org)



**Puckety Church**  
1009 Puckety Church Road, Lower Burrell

November 2, Noon to 7pm  
Faith Hall

Meal includes:

Spaghetti  
Salad  
Bread & Butter  
Dessert  
Drink

Cost:

Eat-in Ticket = \$10  
Take-out Ticket = \$11

Raffle Baskets:

Win one or more of the  
unique themed baskets  
Tickets  
5 for \$5 OR 15 for \$10

Special Quilt Raffle:

Handmade Quilt  
Size (68" x 86")  
Tickets \$20 each

Pre Order Tickets by contacting Debbie Artman from Puckety  
Church @ 724-339-1323

The Masontown community kitchen will be open Tuesday, November 5, 2024 from 4 to 5:30. The menu will be chili and corn bread, fruit, homemade desserts, and Panera bread. The kitchen is open every other Tuesday providing home cooked dinners. 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 cooking, serving or cleaning afterwards please call Judy at 724-943-3013 or Frank 724 366-4721

~Upcoming Events Outside of Redstone Presbytery~

# LOVE ANYWAY *feast*

**Uniting Our Community,  
One Feast at a Time:**  
Building Bridges,  
Breaking Barriers

*In the days following the election, let's  
come to the same table. At a time when  
the world needs it most, the Love Anyway  
Feast encourages us to love beyond  
boundaries, differences, and  
disagreements—proving that despite it all,  
we can choose to love anyway.*

**Friday, November 8  
6:30-8:30 pm**

Kadel Dining Room, McNaugher Hall  
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary  
616 N. Highland Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15206

**Free and open to everyone!  
RSVP HERE:**



# RECKONING WITH ANTISEMITISM: LISTENING TO JEWISH VOICES



Alan Iszauk



Eric Lidji



Sara Stock Mayo

*For Christians, reckoning with antisemitism is the journey of seeing, confronting, and disrupting the ways our tradition has caused harm to our Jewish neighbors. This November, we invite Christians to learn from Jewish leaders who will share how antisemitism has affected their lives and community and what they hope their Christian neighbors will come to understand about the Jewish experience.*

**Wednesday, November 20, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Pittsburgh Theological Seminary**

**HOLOCAUST  
CENTER OF  
PITTSBURGH**



**learn more and register: [casp.org/reckoning](https://casp.org/reckoning)**

## 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](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org)**

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

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