

This week's Redstone happening  
**November 21, 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*

*Derry Presbyterian Church, Larry Armstrong, Covenant Pastor  
First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, Martin Ankrum, Pastor*

*District 3 Churches*

*Grace Chapel Presbyterian Church, Smithfield, Regina Sturiale, Pastor  
Pleasant View Presbyterian Church, Smock, Laura Blank, Pastor*

*District 4 Churches*

*Ebensburg Presbyterian Church, Danielle Kendig, Covenant Pastor  
Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, Denise Todero, Commissioned  
Pastor*

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~From Skip~

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**COMING BY GRACE, FOLLOWING IN  
FAITH, SERVING WITH LOVE**

It is often noted (usually after the fact) that “good things come in threes.” So, whether it is dimensions or primary colors or parts of an atom, we observe the symmetry and connection of the three. In the Scriptures, we remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, or Peter, James and John, but most of all, we have received the revelation of the Trinity, our God in three persons.

Other times, we might think in threes regarding



time as in the past, present, and future. Yet, such distinctions are blurred in our own experiences. In the living out of our story shaped by our Lord within God's grander narrative for this world, our relationship with God and others is an interweaving of grace and faith and service. In each God's initiative is present and our responsibility is acknowledged.

To offer ourselves as living sacrifices to bring God glory, yet we recognize that it is not some appeasement of the Creator/Redeemer by our own efforts or commitment. Rather, we are drawn and invited into the Lord's presence and promise by One who has sought us out. We proclaim even as have been gathered with our differences, but oneness in Christ, we are "coming by grace." For there is no other way that we individually or together would turn to our God.

In knowing that grace, not merely as a starting point but sustaining our lives of dependent faith. "Following in faith," in contrast to "sight" expresses our trust in all things to our gracious God who does not merely charge us with a "cause," but accompanies and empowers us each step of the way whether in times of adversity or ease. For in desiring and living by faith, we testify in word and deed that God's grace is evident in a world where it would appear the story of God's good news is veiled.

Yet, our lives together are not a witness merely by theological affirmations nor by pious expressions, but they are embodied in serving as have exemplified in whose name we are known. Though we make no claim to messianic roles or responsibilities, the pattern of "serving with love" characterizes all those whose lives have been transformed by a God who first loved. Serving with love takes on and acts on the hard questions of loving without enabling or serving in ways that enable dignity. Sometimes it may be difficult to discern how to serve with love, but to in Christ, it is never rationalized away beneath of a cloak of self-interest. Because God has loved us, we are called to love in the same way beyond self-selected interests or boundaries.

It is my hope and prayer, that we are reminded of not only who we are before God, but how we are to live with God and for God as we are "coming by grace, following in faith, serving with love."

**Soli Deo Gloria**  
God's story shaping ours.  
In Christ, one and many;  
coming by grace,  
following in faith,  
serving with love.

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~Presbytery News~

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#### **PRESBYTERY MEETING REMINDER**

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.

The packet and the appendices are available by clicking the link for each

document.

## Packet

### Appendices A-D

The zoom login information is:

[https://zoom.us/j/7248376737?  
pwd=dIA4MnYreUxqYlFIRk41YkNpZUJCQT09](https://zoom.us/j/7248376737?pwd=dIA4MnYreUxqYlFIRk41YkNpZUJCQT09)

Meeting ID - 724 837 6737

Password - Redstone

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*May every day be filled with God's uncountable Blessings, memorable moments and Happiness.*

*Wishing you a Blessed Thanksgiving!*

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**The Interim Executive Presbyter Search Committee of Redstone Presbytery has been working diligently since the last meeting of the presbytery. We would describe our work as being accomplished without 'undue haste or undue delay.'**

**Since September 24th we have met as a committee 6 times, often with our Synod Executive, Forrest Claassen. conducted individual Zoom interviews with 7 candidates. That phase is now complete.**

**We are now in the process of discussing the candidates and discerning who we will move forward with to the next step of in-person interview(s).**

**We continue to ask for your prayers as we work to discern God's will for our presbytery's future!**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Norma Prina Murphy,  
Chair, IEP Search Committee**

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Thank you for celebrating with us the Retirement of Skip Noftger.

It was a wonderful night of food, fun, fellowship and Laughs.

We are forever blessed for the journey Skip has lead in Redstone Presbytery. May

God Bless you as you move into this next exciting stage of your adventure.

**Congratulations on your Retirement!**

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Healing Prayer Network

Seven Points Jesus Might make Concerning the American Election

By Jim Farrer

[Click here](#) to read article

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**2024 Annual Session Statistical Report to General Assembly**

Electronic reporting to General Assembly can be submitted from December 16, 2024 to February 13, 2024.

If you have any questions about filing this report, Please contact the Presbytery Office.

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**ADVENT RESOURCES FROM PRESBYTERIAN MISSION - PC(USA)**

Presbyterian Mission has put together a helpful list of Advent Resources. Included are Candle Lighting readings, Advent prayers, musical setting for the Lord's Supper, and more. There is



also a complete service of Lessons and Carols available to download. [View all resources here.](#)

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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 journey toward recovery.

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



## 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)

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## IPLF FALL WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE

Fall Pastor and Elder Training Workshops presented by the Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation. All workshops will be hybrid offerings by Zoom and in-person from 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 13, 2024 - More than a Rule Book - Faithful ordering  
Laboratory Presbyterian Church, Washington  
Instructor: Rev. Skip Noftzger,

## Spring 2025 IPLF Workshop Schedule

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### ~Events at our Churches~

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The Beesontown Singers and  
Trinity United Presbyterian Church  
present


# A Yuletide Madrigal Feaste

His Royal Highness and Queen Wife beckon thee  
to attend a Royal Dinner with Delightful Entertainment

Trinity United Presbyterian Church  
79 West Fayette Street Uniontown, Pennsylvania

Friday, 6 December 2024 at 5:45 p.m.  
Saturday, 7 December 2024 at 5:45 p.m.

\$37.50 per Guest

 Tickets: [beesontownsingers.ludus.com](https://beesontownsingers.ludus.com)  
or scan the QR code  
Questions: [beesontown@gmail.com](mailto:beesontown@gmail.com)  
or text to 724-322-2728

William Dreucci, Director and Producer    Barb Slavin, Production Manager  
Brett Vanderlaan and Helen Krichbaum, Royal Musicians    Royal Cast, Choir and Musicians



### Christmas Bake & Soup Sale

Saturday, December 7, 2024 - 9 am. - 1 pm

Leisenring Presbyterian Church  
1004 Church Street  
Leisenring, PA 15455



## Derry Presbyterian Church

**Help Support Our Online Fundraiser!**

We are fundraising with **Sarris Candies** to raise money for our organization! if you would like to help support our sale, you can go online to [SarrisCandiesFundraing.com](https://SarrisCandiesFundraing.com)

**\*All Orders must be placed by 11:59 pm EST on December 15th.**

Derry's Group ID # 10-1741

**Click Here** for Brochure with more information and how to browse a HUGE variety of holiday favorites.



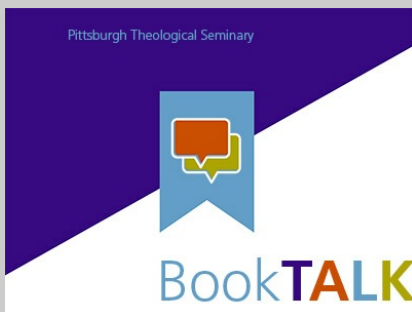
## Unity Cemetery & Chapel 250th Anniversary Celebration

**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](https://unitycemeterychapel.org)

## ~Upcoming Events Outside of Redstone Presbytery~



## Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Hosts Book Talk

**Upcoming Event:**

**Season's Greetings: Christmas Letters from  
Those Who Were here  
with Ruth L. Boling '24**

Thurs., Dec. 5, 2024, 5:00-6:00 p.m. ET  
In-Person at Barbour Library and Webinar via Zoom

For more information **Click Here**

## 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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