

This week's Redstone happening
July 7, 2025



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, Bob Ruefle, Pastor

District 2 Churches

First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, Martin Ankrum, Pastor

Maplewood Presbyterian Church, Steve LaSor, Pastor

District 3 Churches

McClellandtown Presbyterian Church, Becka Abbott, Pastor

Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian Church, Merrittstown, Lee McDermott, Moderator

District 4 Churches

Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence, Alice Tondura, Moderator

Patton Presbyterian Church, Alice Tondura, Pastor

~From Interim Executive Presbyter~



“A Summer Approach”

Summer offers us a refreshing mixture: the renewal from the pace of September through May; the energy regained through the power of the Spirit at Pentecost; and the intermittent glimpses of the possibilities in the fall to come.

One of our centering experiences this summer is our “read” of Thomas Bandy’s *Pilgrim Band: Our Shared Quest for Meaning and Purpose*. Our discussion with Bandy on June 18th (which is available in video form) gave us a sense of his

way of describing the Body of Christ in our time. As he wrote in the first part of *Pilgrim Band*, Bandy declared:

“There are practical and personal considerations, but when spiritual travelers consider the company they might keep, they should consider three things. (1) With whom can I celebrate life? The *pilgrim band* is a joy to be with...the deeper ‘joy’ in relationships that goes beyond likes and dislikes, friends and strangers, happiness and sorrow.... (2) With who, can I be completely honest? The *pilgrim band* is an experience in vulnerability...Crazy ideas and raw emotions can be critiqued but never judged. Imaginations can run wild yet be objectively evaluated. (3) With whom can I travel safely? The *pilgrim band* protects one another. They help each other resist manipulation, endure abuse, survive conflicts, and overcome obstacles. They carry each other burdens and heal each other’s wounds (pp. 40-41).”

This way of thinking sets the basis for completing the second part of his book. Recently, Bandy suggested the following approach apt for summer: (a) folks read the next second section [pp. 47-103], (b) folks submit questions that arise out of that section, and finally [c] Bandy responds with a video recording that provides his answers that folks can read at their leisure.

Christ gave a powerful prayer for his followers prior to his crucifixion: "I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one (John 17: 20-21a)." In a time of profound division, oneness is a great challenge. Bandy gives us a particular way toward oneness.

Peace in Christ,
Lon Weaver

~Presbytery News~



"Pilgrim Band" Tom Bandy

The quest for hope is the driving force of religion today. The Christian movement is entering a new era of smaller companionships, mutual mentoring, and social service. The Pilgrim Band emerging around the world is a fluid, flexible, mobile, highly committed, and mutually accountable group of *spiritual travelers* earnestly seeking the immanence of God.

If you were unable to attend the 1st Zoom Session on June 18, 2025 a email link will be sent out next week so that you can catch up and view the video.

Directions will also be included for the second part of the book.

[Click Here](#) to view Notes on Intro & the First Three Sections.



IPLF PROGRAM

Wanting to learn, grow in faith, and serve the Lord in Ministry?
Wondering whether God might be calling you to preach or to another way of serving the church?

Classes start on August 9, 2025 with Introduction to Reformed Theology with Instructor: Rev. Dr. Martin Ankrum

The Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation (IPLF) is a collaborative program among presbyteries to train, educate, and prepare those called to serve as Ruling Elders in particular pastoral service.

[For more Information about the program and Enrollment, Please Contact Karen](#)



IPLF Fall Workshops

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, August 9, 2025 - Boundaries and Ethics in Church Leadership
Meeting Location: Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, 480 PA-519, Eighty Four, PA 15330, Conference Room in Washington Presbytery
Instructor: Michelle Snyder

[Click Here to view the Full Schedule](#)

The zoom login information is:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7248330340?
pwd=gpnK4liH8GsZGOXApZLISyM18vgsVV.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7248330340?pwd=gpnK4liH8GsZGOXApZLISyM18vgsVV.1)
Meeting ID; 7248330340
Password: IPLF

Please contact the Presbytery office if you plan on attending in person or by Zoom 724-837-6737, secretary@redstonepresbytery.org

Wee Kirk
small numbers. big faith.
huge impact.

**Early Bird Registration is Currently Open!
Secure your Spot Today before you miss it.**

Wee Kirk 2025
October 13-15 - Laurelville Retreat Center

Our purpose is to inspire, equip, motivate, and encourage small Churches and to provide rest and refreshment for the Clergy and Lay Leaders of those Churches.

The Wee Kirk Conference will be here soon!
Register online today to receive the discount.

[Click Here](https://wee-irk-ne.org) to go to the website (<https://wee-irk-ne.org>) and view the speakers and topics and to Register.

[Click Here for the Brochure](#) that lists all the seminars/workshops, their leaders, the schedule and Registration.

PRE-KIRK

Rev. Jim Farrer invites members of Redstone Presbytery to Laurelville Retreat Center on Monday, October 13, 2025 from 1-4pm. Jim will address a variety of topics like Jesus' model for reaching younger generations and bringing about change and resurrection.

There is not cost for this Workshop. Please either call (724-837-6767) or email the Presbytery Office (secretary@redstonepresbytery.org) if interested in attending Pre-Kirk.



Planning Calendars 2025-2026

The Presbytery will be doing a bulk order for the 2025/2026 Planning Calendars. Calendars begin in September again this year. The bulk order rate per calendar will be \$11.25 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 4, 2025** in order to have them for distribution at the September meeting. Thank you!



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is summer fun focused on learning the bible and building relationships!

[Click Here](#) to view the list of churches in Redstone Presbytery that have plans for July and August.

~Events at our Churches~

The Masontown community kitchen will be open Tuesday, July 8, 2025 from 4 to 5:30 PM. The meal is choice of chicken or meatloaf, mashed potatoes, mac & cheese, vegetable, homemade desserts, and Panera breads. The Kitchen is open every other Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church, 102 W. Church Ave., Masontown PA. The dinners are provided without charge; Donations are gladly accepted and provide for future meals. This local mission would not be possible without the help of the many volunteers from the area's local churches and the community. For questions or to volunteer your help, please call Judy at 724-943-3013 or Frank 724 366-4721

The Summer Chamber Music Series

at historic

Unity Chapel

114 Chapel Lane, Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650

Trio Granato

Thursday, July 17 – 7:30 pm

Trio: Flute - Harp - Cello

Keys of Brass

Thursday, August 14 – 7:30 pm

Quintet: Trumpet – Trumpet – Horn – Trombone - Tuba

General admission - \$15. All donations benefit the Westmoreland Youth Symphony Orchestra Program. For more information please call 724-537-3631 x15 or 724-837-1850.

unitycemeterychapel.org

latrobepc.org

Underwritten by the Charles F. and Mary Esther Sawyer Music Fund
of the

The Latrobe Presbyterian Church



Unity Chapel is handicap accessible: parking, entrance and restroom.
The chapel is air-conditioned.

PLAN TO ATTEND the Encore Performance!

Unity Cemetery & Chapel Historical Program



With the goal of sharing 250 years of Unity Cemetery and Unity Chapel's history – a history that reflects the story of our nation – the program's creator and four actors will present an encore performance on Saturday, August 2, at 4 p.m. in Unity Chapel at 130 Chapel Lane, Latrobe. Admission is free and the program is appropriate for all ages. The public is invited.

Mary Lou Townsend, Latrobe Area Historical Society President, tapped her vast knowledge of local history to create the slide program that spans 1774 to the present. Mary Lou will periodically pause her narration so the audience can 'meet' several people who played a key part in local history and who are buried in Unity Cemetery.

- Sarah Taylor, who died in 1786 and whose headstone is the oldest in Unity Cemetery, will talk about the challenges her family faced in order to make a new life in the Land of Opportunity.
- Rev. Noah Hallock Gillette served Unity Church for nineteen years and then, because America's population was increasing and people were moving into towns, established the mission church on Main Street in Latrobe that became Latrobe Presbyterian Church.
- Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Leasure Beatty, born in 1859 and the great granddaughter of Benjamin Beatty on whose family's land the present Unity Chapel was built, will tell of 19th century lifestyles and pastimes.
- Eli Chambers represents young Americans who served in the Civil War because Americans' opinions differed enough to battle one another.

Mark your calendars now for this encore performance! Enjoy the hour-long program and then have dinner at a nearby restaurant!

Call Latrobe Presbyterian Church (724.537.3631) with questions.

~From Outside Redstone Presbytery~

A vertical poster for the Presbyterian Earth Care Young Adult Environmental Justice Advocacy Network. The background is light green with stylized trees and clouds. At the top, a dark green banner contains the text 'Presbyterian Earth Care'. Below it, the title 'Young Adult Environmental Justice Advocacy Network' is written in large, bold, dark green letters. Underneath the title, a subtitle reads 'A faith-based network for Presbyterians and their friends, ages 18-35, advocating for creation and climate justice'. A white button with a dark green border says 'Join us!'. Below that, a dark green banner contains the URL 'bit.ly/PECYANetwork'. At the bottom, an illustration shows five diverse people of various ages and ethnicities working together to care for the Earth. One person is watering a plant, another is climbing a ladder to reach a high branch, and others are holding plants or tools. The Earth is depicted as a globe with green continents.



**NEW WILMINGTON
MISSION CONFERENCE**

Thanksgiving for PCUSA Mission Co-Workers

In recognition of the call, commitment, service, and sacrifice of the PCUSA mission co-workers whose positions have been ended, the New Wilmington Mission Conference (NWMC) together with conveners of some Presbyterian Mission Networks invite you to attend a service of thanksgiving at NWMC Monday, July 21st at 7 pm,

The decision of PCUSA leadership to stop global mission sending brought mission co-workers service to an abrupt end. This evening meeting at NWMC is dedicated to expressing appreciation to them and praise to God for their faithfulness. All mission co-workers and their immediate families have been invited to attend the Conference free of charge.

Although the PCUSA has ended mission sending, God is not done calling and sending individuals throughout the world. On Monday and Tuesday (July 21st 22nd) from 1:00-4:30 pm there will be sessions dedicated to participating in God's global mission. Time will be devoted to listening to mission co-workers; sharing feelings and perspectives; and offering ideas and strategies. These discussions are intended to envision what next steps God may want us to take.

Representatives of mission networks, presbyteries and synods, congregations, and all who are committed to the mission of God are urged to attend. <https://www.nwmcmission.org/>



WOMEN OF CHAPLAINCY AND PASTORAL CARE

CONFERENCE - September 13th from 8:30AM-4:30 PM, Geneva College. If you are a woman in Chaplaincy, Pastoral Care, or serving in a similar capacity, then you're invited to join us at the 3rd Annual Women of Chaplaincy and

Pastoral Care Conference! Learn more about the event and featured speakers at www.pawomenchaplains.net/news.

Stewardship Kaleidoscope - Real Tools for Real Ministry

September 22-24, 2025 in New Orleans, Louisiana

With an online virtual registration option. In-person attendees will be able to choose from dozens of workshops in addition to attending diverse plenary sessions and worship experiences.

For information on available grants through the Presbyterian Foundation to assist pastors and New Worshiping Community leaders to attend the conference, please visit <https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/resources/church-financial-literacy-and-leadership-program/grant/>.

For more information visit stewardshipkaleidoscope.org

**Concerned about
Gun Violence?**

Learn Faith-Based Skills for

**Gun Violence Prevention at the
Atwood Institute for Congregational Courage Harrisonburg, VA
Sept. 24-27, 2025**

The Presbyterian Peace Fellowship invites you to the **Atwood Institute for Congregational Courage** at Massanetta Springs Conference Center, Harrisonburg, VA Sept. 24-27. The Institute offers continuing education for clergy and lay leaders on educational, pastoral and action steps for gun violence prevention mission with the local church.

Who should come? Lay leaders and teams, parents and grandparents, gun violence survivors, suicide prevention groups, gun owners, safety advocates, veterans, pastors, youth leaders--- people of faith who are committed to saving lives.

All denominations are welcome.

Questions? Contact gvp@presbypeacefellowship.org

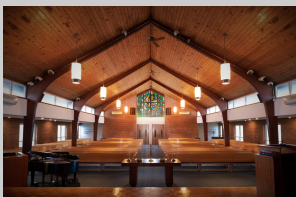


SAVE THE DATE: MESSY CHURCH SEMINAR -

Sept. 26, 9:30AM-3:30PM at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Messy Church started in England 20 years ago as a fresh way of being church. For the past two decades, Messy Church has grown around the world

(and across the U.S.). PTS will host this in-person program to provide an intergenerational model (liturgy) that is easily adapted to a variety of contexts from small church to large, urban to suburban to rural and beyond. [Read More.](#)

~Employment Opportunities~



Maplewood Presbyterian Church

is searching for a Part-Time Office Secretary. This will be for approximately 6 hours per week, Mondays and Fridays from 9am to noon. Additional projects may require additional hours on Mondays and/or Fridays. Hourly rate is \$16.65. Duties include: Preparing weekly bulletins, printing

monthly newsletters, answering the telephone, ordering flowers and maintaining the church calendar, and maintaining the church directory. Basic computer skills are necessary. Familiarity with PowerChurch and Word are desired.

Interested parties should contact the church office at 724-834-4960.



The First Presbyterian Church of Jeannette

is searching for a Part-Time Admin assistant. This will be for approximately 8-10 hours per week. Including the following duties:

- Preparation of the Weekly Bulletin
- Running Payroll and Accounts Payable checks
- Familiarity with PowerChurch or other Church membership/accounting system is a plus

Interested parties should contact the church office at 724-523-5427

Presbytery Staff

Rev. Dr. Lon Weaver
Interim Executive Presbyter
executive@redstonepresbytery.org

Rev. Cliff Foster
Interim Stated Clerk
hcfoster5@comcast.net

Karen Gray
Administrative Operations Manager
secretary@redstonepresbytery.org
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Bobbie Shaffor
Bookkeeper
redstonepresbyterybookkeeper@gmail.com

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

Together

Presbytery of Redstone
www.redstonepresbytery.org

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