

This week's Redstone happening
August 14, 2025



This week we are praying for the following congregations:

District 1 Churches

*Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, Owar Ojulu,
Pastor*

Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, Brian Kilbert, Pastor

District 2 Churches

*Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant, Sue Washburn, Covenant
Pastor*

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

District 3 Churches

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Uniontown, John Simpson, Interim Pastor

*East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Vanderbilt, David McElroy,
Commissioned Pastor*

District 4 Churches

First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, Doug Stevens, Moderator

Second Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, Art Moffat, Temporary Supply

~From Interim Executive Presbyter~

“Seeking the Believable”

Regrettably, there is much in the world that shakes and undermines our pursuit of truth. My father’s work – an engineer who focused on quality control (later, quality assurance) – was one that he pursued with tenacity. He knew that trust could easily be broken if you told a customer that you built a product according to their specifications when you failed to do so.



As our president meets the leader of Russia – ostensibly to end Russia’s war waged on Ukraine – I’m suspicious of two people whose central concern is power and a Russian leader whose war has led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Russian and Ukrainian people. Power-seeking and murderous war-making tend to weaken your trust in their motives.

Throughout my ministry, God’s good creation has been a part of my life and message: the basis of the thoughts I shared in last week’s E-Message. Part of that has been an obsessive commitment to the mantra, “reduce, reuse, recycle.” I’ve done so in defiance of periodic reminders that there has been a history of deception when it comes to the true

treatment of our trash and waste. An expert interviewed last week reminded me of this, indicating that only 10% of the plastics we think we are recycling – again, only 10% – is actually being recycled: truth shattered again.

The well-known declaration of Jesus in the 8th chapter of John’s Gospel – “the truth shall set you free” (8:32) – points to our imprisonment by sin, even worse, our deception that we are less sinful than others. The great preacher, Fred Craddock, put it well in a prayer when he said, “God, when we compare ourselves to others, we think we measure up pretty well; then, we remember that you don’t grade on a curve!”

Life is an arena of ambiguity: a mixture of good and evil. With honest, self-knowledge –reflecting on the teachings of Jesus in his time and attentive to the counsel of the Holy Spirit in our time – we have the privilege to lean into the good and the choice to reject the path of the evil. Believe it!

Peace in Christ,
Lon Weaver

~Presbytery News~

Wee Kirk

small numbers. big faith.
huge impact.

60 DAYS TO GO UNIL WEE KIRK 2025!!
October 13-15 - Laurelville Retreat Center

Our purpose is to inspire, equip, motivate and encourage small churches of any denomination and to provide rest and refreshment for the clergy and lay leaders like YOU!

Please join us and become part of this Incredible Opportunity!

[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.



GROW YOUR FAITH THROUGH INTER-PRESBYTERY LEADERSHIP FORMATION (IPLF)

Are you interested in deepening your spiritual journey and biblical knowledge? The Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation (IPLF) program offers excellent opportunities for both personal growth and leadership development. While IPLF

helps prepare Ruling Elders who feel called to become Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs), the program welcomes all who want to grow in their faith and biblical understanding. The program features:

- Monthly Saturday workshops and courses
- In-depth Bible study
- Leadership skill development
- Specialized topics like Stewardship
- Flexible learning options

[If you would like to learn more about joining IPLF](#), Please Contact Karen Gray at the Presbytery Office 724-837-6737 or secretary@redstonepresbytery.org

IPLF is part of Redstone Presbytery's commitment to "Growing Leaders" - helping equip both current and future church leaders while supporting individual spiritual growth. Join us in this enriching educational opportunity

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, September 13, 2025 - Polity - "More than A Rule Book" - Faithful Ordering
Meeting Location: Laboratory Presbyterian Church - 23 Manse Street, Washington, PA
Instructor: Rev. Skip Noftzger

[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



Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, congregations are encouraged and equipped to find and address the

anxiety and discord that is prevalent throughout this broken and sinful world. [Click here for more information on this Special Offering.](#)

~Events at our Churches~


The Summer Chamber Music Series

at historic
Unity Chapel
114 Chapel Lane, Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650

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
latrobepe.org

Underwritten by the Charles F. and Mary Esther Sawyer Music Fund
of the
The Latrobe Presbyterian Church

 **WESTMORELAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

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

The Masontown community kitchen will be open Tuesday, August 19, 2025 from 4 to 5:30 PM. The menu will be a spaghetti dinner with 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 Kathy 724- 317-8623 or Frank 724 366-4721

Masontown Brethren Church
 Invites You to a
 Community Concert Featuring
The Gibson Girls



Friday, August 22nd
6:30 p.m.
Masontown Brethren Church Lawn
110 W. Church Avenue
 Masontown, PA 15461

Bring your lawn chair and join us for an evening of Music,
 Fellowship and Ice Cream!

For more information on the Gibson Girls visit
<https://thegibsongirlsmusic.com/home>




**Leisenring Presbyterian Church
Bazaar**

August 16, 9am-2pm

**Huge Flea Market-Food-Music-
Kids Craft & Face Painting &
Chinese Auction**

**1004 Church St, Leisenring, PA
15455**



**Leisenring Presbyterian Church
Cabbage Roll Dinner & Bake Sale**

September 6, 10am-3pm

**\$12.00 includes Cabbage Roll,
Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll,
Dessert & Drink Eat-In or Take-Out**

**1004 Church St, Leisenring, PA
15455**

~From Outside Redstone Presbytery~



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.



Fishing Differently: Ministry Formation in the Marketplace

Sept. 17, 2025

In Person, Harrisburg, Pa.

Sidney S. Williams Jr. will present on the F.I.S.H. model (Financial, Intellectual, Social, and Human Capital) and the principles of Fishing Differently® to empower leaders, pastors, and congregations to strengthen their stewardship ministries. This engaging session will address the unique challenges congregations face while uncovering untapped opportunities to reimagine their assets and align mission with resources for greater community impact. Free book included with registration. Co-sponsored by The United Methodist Foundation of Pennsylvania and The Journey Church, Harrisburg, Pa. [Learn more.](#)



Faithful and Flexible Empowering Church Leaders for Emerging Possibilities

Sept. 19-20, 2025

In Person and Online

Join us in person or online for a two-day conference designed to equip church leaders for faithful and adaptive leadership in today's rapidly changing ministry contexts. The Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger, senior congregational strategist and affiliate professor of leadership formation at Fuller Seminary and an influential voice on adaptive leadership in the church, will deliver this year's Henderson Lecture.

Saturday will be "Worship and Workshops" day: bring a team of people from your church to learn practical skills for leading adaptive ministry! [Registration is open now!](#) We hope you will join us!

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.](#)

THE 2050 CHURCH

▶▶ CULTURE, TECHNOLOGY, AND ◀◀
THE CALL TO LEAD

DR. WILLIAM CURTIS
Presenting

DR. EDWIN VAN DRIEL
Preaching

Oct. 9, 2025

9:30 a.m.-3:00 pm.

Register:
www.pts.edu/Pastor25

PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Pastor Appreciation Luncheon



W. DON McCLURE LECTURE IN WORLD MISSION AND EVANGELISM - Oct. 21st at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Soon after Kenneth E. Bailey passed away in 2016 at the age of 85, the title of his obituary in Christianity Today captured the significance of his life in a few words: “The Scholar Who Made Jesus

Middle Eastern Again.” In the McClure Lecture this year, historian Michael Parker will discuss Bailey’s life as a Presbyterian missionary in the Middle East and the key ideas that marked his scholarly contribution. Learn more and register



CIRCLE OF TRUST RETREAT: LAURELVILLE - Oct. 19-22 at Laurelville Retreat Center. In this Circle of Trust retreat, you’ll be invited to listen deeply to your own inner teacher within a trustworthy space. Inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright’s architecture and its integration of inner and outer worlds, we’ll explore

our own inner and outer landscapes and open pathways for greater congruence, authenticity, and flow in our lives. The retreat includes trips to Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob. There are a limited number of spots available, so [register soon](#)

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Communicate the Word...
Carry on the Work...

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*Change the World...
Together*

Presbytery of Redstone
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