

This week's Redstone happening
August 28, 2025



This week we are praying for the following congregations:

District 1 Churches

*Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, Bob Ruefle, Pastor
Community United Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria, Len Morgan,
Commissioned Pastor*

District 2 Churches

*Sewickley United Presbyterian Church, West Newton Glenn Hart,
Commissioned Pastor
United Presbyterian Church, West Newton, Chuck MacPherson,
Moderator*

District 3 Churches

*Harmony Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, Glenn Hart, Commissioned
Pastor
Marion Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, Robert Prinkey,
Commissioned Pastor*

District 4 Churches

*Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence, James Sunseri, Commissioned
Pastor
Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence, Alice Tondura, Moderator*

~From Interim Executive Presbyter~

“Peace and Heart”

Violence is one of the great plagues of our species: we defiantly kill one another and the species around us. The reality that should attract our attention with special force is the murder of children, by individuals and by nations.



Yesterday, a young adult entered a Roman Catholic school in Minneapolis. At the time, the students, teachers, and the rest of the school community had gathered to celebrate the beginning of the academic year in joyful worship. Contrary to that spirit, the young adult began shooting at those at worship, killing two children and wounding seventeen other people in the process. The event became the 229th school shooting in the United States since 2018.

Overnight, Russian forces launched missiles and drones, killing at least 15 people, four of them children. It was nothing new for that war. In March 2024, the United Nations “verified 669 child deaths and 1,833 injuries in Ukraine between February 2022 and December 2024.”

In the war in Gaza, Israel continues to wage war instead of pursuing other, serious alternatives to neutralize the impact of Hamas on a place that has become a wasteland of rubble. Again, the children have paid a sinfully high price. The United Nations estimates that at least 17,000 children have been killed since the October 7, 2023 attack by Hamas and that “41,000 children are at heightened risk of death from malnutrition between now and June 2026.”

In John’s gospel, Jesus declared, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid (14:27).” From Minneapolis to Kyiv to Gaza, we see the outcome of actions built on troubled and fearful hearts. Every one of us has periods of inner turmoil and fear. However, a when we open ourselves to the Spirit of Christ, we’re able to receive another attitude, another state of mind and heart. Impulsive action that wounds the other in mere seconds can become a deeply reflective heart that takes time to consider the healing option that impulse cannot offer. Let’s make that our testimony this day and each day: “Let not our hearts be troubled.” Embrace healing heart-time in place of the danger of impulsions.

Peace in Christ,
Lon Weaver

~Presbytery News~



ANNOUNCEMENT LOOP FOR PRESBYTERY MEETING

The September meeting of Presbytery will be on Tuesday, September 23 2025 In Person and via ZOOM videoconferencing at the West Hempfield Presbyterian Church, Irwin beginning at 6:00 p.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 by Tuesday, September 16, 2025. **Thank you!**

Planning Calendars 2025-2026

are available if you placed an order. They can be picked up at the Presbytery Office if you would like



your copy before the Presbytery Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 23, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m. at West Hempfield Presbyterian Church, Irwin

Office Hours are Monday - Thursday 9am - 2pm.
email: secretary@redstonepresbytery.org

Wee Kirk

small numbers. big faith.
huge impact.

IT IS STILL NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR 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.

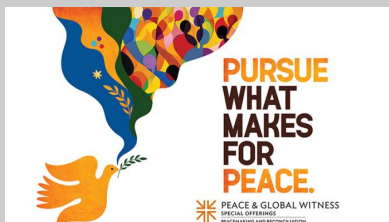
Saturday, September 13, 2025 - Polity - "More than A Rule Book" - Faithful Ordering
Meeting Location: Laboratory Presbyterian Church - 23 Manse Street, Washington, PA
Instructor: Rev. Skip Noftzger

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

The zoom login information is:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7248330340?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7248330340?pwd=gpnK4liH8GsZGOXApZLISyM18vgsVV.1)
[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
September 7-October 5, 2025

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.](#)



Celebrate Theological Education Sunday

is officially set for September 21, 2025, but can be celebrated any Sunday in September. The Theological Education Fund is the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s best hope of ensuring the church of Christ is prepared to serve long into the future. The fund is housed at the Presbyterian Foundation and is the sole source of denomination-wide funding for seminaries from the

PC(USA)

[Resources for Celebration](#)

You can support the Theological Education Fund [easily online here](#)

~Employment Opportunity~



WE ARE HIRING!

First Presbyterian Church of Jeannette and Maplewood Presbyterian are searching for a part-time Administrative Assistant

Responsibilities :

- In office four days/week (16h/week)
- Answer phone calls
- Bulletin creation
- Bookkeeping

Qualifications:

- Knowledge of Microsoft products
- Minor bookkeeping
- Office management

CONTACT US :

fpcjeannette314@gmail.com or
maplewoodpc@comcast.net
(724) 523-5427 or (724) 834-4960



~Events at our Churches~

The Masontown community kitchen will be open Tuesday, September 2, 2025 from 4 to 5:30 PM. The menu will be cabbage and noodles, green beans, applesauce 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



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

*Join us for an afternoon of jazz with
Bill Carter and the Presbybop Quartet*



Sunday, November 9, 2025 at 4:30 pm
First Presbyterian, 300 S. Main St., Greensburg, PA
Tickets are \$15. Available at the church.
The Quartet will also assist in the 10:00 am worship service.

~Pine Springs Camp~

Kelly Miskis

SPEAKER - WORSHIP DIRECTOR - WELLNESS PRACTITIONER
Matthew 11:28

Mind

Solascriptura means that Scripture alone is authoritative for the faith and practice of the Christian. The Bible is complete, authoritative, and true. "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16).



Body

Experiencing the Peace of Christ within our being is something we can all learn how to do. The work of the Holy Spirit dwells within us and Jesus reminds us in John 14:27 that His peace is for us. That He gives it to us. Kelly will help you learn how to navigate back to this Peace in all seasons.



Heart

"Tune my heart to sing your praise." Worship lays the foundation of letting Christ rule in our hearts. Because our hearts are so prone to wander, we must keep the first things first. As we open our hearts, we allow His love to fill the empty spaces, bringing healing and hope.



WOMEN IN THE WOODS-October 3rd-4th, 2025

Women in the Woods is a retreat designed to be physically and spiritually refreshing for women of all ages. The teaching will be incredible, and the retreat will be packed with great singing, fun, laughter and fellowship. The retreat will run from Friday to Saturday evening, culminating with a special dinner celebration. Consider a Women in the Wood retreat for you, your church, or just bring a friend and join us!

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION:
<https://www.pinesprings.org/women-in-the-woods>

**OUR ANNUAL SPORTING CLAY FUNDRAISING
EVENT IS TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 7 AT THE HIGHLANDS AT 7-
SPRINGS**

**This is a great opportunity for those "Sporting
Clay Sportsmen" to help support Pine Springs**



Camp. All funds help support the general operating budget of camp. It has turned into a great day of fun and great food for many and has been a great blessing to our ministry.

For more information about registration or sponsorship opportunities go to:

<https://www.pinesprings.org/sportingclays> or email greg@pinesprings.org



SAVE THE DATE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 4:30-7:30 PM FOR THE ANNUAL FRIENDS DINNER CORE EVENT ENTER, IRWIN, PA

More information is forthcoming but mark your calendars for this evening of celebrating the Pine Springs Camp Ministry. Please consider having your church be a Table Sponsor and/or providing a basket or item for our Silent Auction.

Please contact Greg for general information at greg@pinesprings.org.

If you have questions about the Silent Auction contact Ellie @ ellie@pinesprings.org

~From Outside Redstone Presbytery~



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...

Change the World...

Together

Presbytery of Redstone
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