

# Presbytery of Redstone eNews

## February 8, 2024



### Please pray for...

#### *District 1 Churches*

- ~~Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, Skip Noftzger, Interim Pastor*
- ~~Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, Brian Killbert, Pastor*

#### *District 2 Churches*

- ~~Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Derek Campbell, Pastor*
- ~~Latrobe United Presbyterian Church, Ron Durika, Pastor*

#### *District 3 Churches*

- ~~New Salem Presbyterian Church, William Wiegand, Commissioned Pastor*
- ~~Scottdale Presbyterian Church, Doug Yauger, Commissioned Pastor*

#### *District 4 Churches*

- ~~Revloc Presbyterian Church, Sara Doug O'Hara, Commissioned Pastor*
- ~~Bolivar United Presbyterian Church, James Sunseri, Commissioned Pastor*

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### REDSTONE CHURCHES UPCOMING EVENTS

- [February 13, 2024 - Pancake Dinner at Congruity Presbyterian Church - New Alexandria](#)
- [February 15, 2024 - District 3 Pastors Lunch - Bob Evan's Restaurant, Uniontown - NOON](#)

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- [Mondays - Nar-Anon Meetings - First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown - 6:30 p.m.](#)
- [First and Third Tuesday each month - BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS - North Huntingdon, New Hope - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.](#)
- [Biweekly Tuesdays - Masontown Community Kitchen - 4 to 5:30 p.m.](#)
- [Tuesday, Every Other Month - Blood Drives - Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown](#)
- [Wednesdays - AA Meetings - Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville](#)
- [Second Wednesday - October through May - "Soup for the Soul" Luncheon - Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo](#)

Click on each link listed above for more information on these events



### **“Super” Stories to Live By—Called to Flourish**

While some may say that football season ended on a cold day in Buffalo, I have heard that there might be a “big” football game this weekend. Whatever your perspective (is there where I confess that I grew up a Chiefs fan 😊) of the play on the field, we can all agree that there will be expensive and creative commercials designed to “grab” our attention, if not our wallets. Some will be sentimental. Some will be funny. Each will seek to capture our attention and imagination. The most significant ones become memorable for us. Even now, I am sure you can picture the Clydesdales or ask the question, “where’s the beef?”

Stories, even in the form of commercials, with their “taglines” have an impact upon us. For together in our experiences, stories can and do define nature of our identity and lives. These are not only the stories of our own experiences but are layers of God’s grand story for redemption of the world which we participate by grace. Revealed in the Scriptures and experienced through the power of the Spirit, we become “story-dwellers” within this bigger story. As such, our particular stories are woven together by strands that connect us tangibly in this narrative of God’s grace and mercy.

Sometimes, it is helpful to be reminded of these threads that define us through a phrase or saying that captures our identity and imagination in who we are and whose we are. Over the next few articles, I will be sharing some of these central expressions not only in my own life, but ones that I believe should characterize who we are together in the body of Christ and particularly in Redstone Presbytery. As one example, I believe that you, myself and we together have been called by God’s grace. And, that calling is to follow, to serve and to be faithful. Yet, even through those commitments as we are being renewed, that transformation in Christ is a renewal of who we were and are meant to be as the image of God. In that way, the call to discipleship is in fact, a “call to flourish.” For by redeeming grace, our “call to flourish” is not merely about personal satisfaction or meaning (although they may be secondary effects), it is about the “sweet spot” of living by grace into that identity in Christ that has come and is coming through sanctification.

Being called to flourish is not regarded as just (or even primarily) an individual adventure. Rather, together as God’s people and in this place and time as a congregation and as Redstone Presbytery, we are called to flourish. In the living out of our mission, vision and practices, I believe we know when we are hitting in the “sweet spot” of that greater story that the Lord God is enacting. As we continue our journey together, I hope and pray that a “super” stories that might be capture our memories and our imagination and will define our identity and ministry together is that God has indeed “called us to flourish.” May we know it in our relationships. May we know it in our organizational structures. May we know it in our policies and practices. May we seek to live into it for God’s glory. Amen.

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### **New Administrative Operations Coordinator**

Please welcome Karen Gray as our new Administrative Operations Coordinator for Redstone Presbytery. Karen has actively served in a number of administrative roles both within churches/presbyteries and in other secular agencies. She will be assuming the administrative functions without the bookkeeping that Bobbie has ably completed during her twenty-two years (Bobbie will continue on part time in the bookkeeper role). Between now and Bobbie’s retirement on March 31, Karen and

Bobbie are working together to make this transition as smooth as possible for all of our congregations. If you have the opportunity, please call or stop by (Monday-Thursday; 9:00-2:00 p.m.) the Presbytery center to say "hello" and to introduce yourselves.

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**Pastor and Elder Training Workshops  
Presented by Inter-Presbytery Leadership  
Formation (IPLF)**

Workshops are again being offered for the Spring of 2024. Workshops include:

- March 2, 2024 - Death, Grief, and Pastoral Care ~ Rev. Peggy Shannon and RE Doug Jones, Instructors
- April 6, 2024 - Scripture Study with Different Methods ~ Rev. Sharon Stewart, Instructor
- May 4, 2024 - Preaching Laboratory ~ Rev. Skip Noftzger and Rev. Craig Kephart, Instructors

All workshops are from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; are FREE; and will be offered in person at the Redstone Presbytery office along with an online option via ZOOM. To register for any of these workshops, please contact Karen Gray at Redstone Presbytery at 724.837.6737 or [secretary@redstonepresbytery.org](mailto:secretary@redstonepresbytery.org).

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Redstone Mission Team is planning for a spring trip to Charleston, WV the week of April 28-May 4, 2024.

Work will include flood relief or general repairs for those in need. Cost is \$300 with the volunteer paying \$150 and the balance coming out of the Mission Team Fund. If interested, e-mail Phyllis Frye at [pfrye1234@windstream.net](mailto:pfrye1234@windstream.net) or call 724-468-3740.

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**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Tyrone Presbyterian Church is Celebrating  
their 250th Anniversary (1774 - 2024)!**

**Homecoming Celebration Service on September 29th, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at 402 Jimtown Road, Dawson, PA. 15428. They will be celebrating their history and future. Additional information will follow.**

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Tell Us About God's Mission in Your Congregation - The Mission Network of Redstone Presbytery is gathering information on the local; regional and international mission projects of our congregations. Knowing and sharing this information will provide opportunities to connect together for collaboration and greater impact. Go to



<https://forms.gle/AEdEwn8eeGVqvm9w5> and tell us about where you are following God into mission.

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The dates for the 2023 Session Minutes Reviews are:

- o February 10, 2024—Westmont, Johnstown; Pre-Enrichment Day
- o March 19, 2024—New Hope, North Huntingdon; Pre-Presbytery Meeting
- o April 17, 2024 – Redstone Presbytery Center
- o May 28, 2024 – Pleasant View, Smock; Pre-Presbytery

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**Redstone Highlands North Huntingdon Campus is looking for 10-20 Glory to God Hymnals. If your Church has extra copies and are willing to donate, please contact Lisa Dormire (724-832-8401 Ext 3353)**



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### Employment Opportunities Within Redstone Presbytery

Latrobe United Presbyterian Church is searching for an organist/pianist starting effective immediately. The applicant must be available for the 11am, Sunday service and the 6pm, Wednesday choir practice (no practice June, July, and August). The pay is \$100 per week. All applicants should call the church office at 724-539-8881 and leave a message with name and phone number stating their interest in this position.

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The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington, 601 Fifth Avenue, New Kensington, PA 15068, 724.339.6618 - is seeking to fill:

#### Assistant Treasurer Part-Time

8 to 10 hours per week. Accounting Experience/Education Required.

Maintain Financial Records; AP; Deposit and Post Monies; Do PR, PR Taxes, Bookkeeping, and Record Keeping.

Send Resume to The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington, 601 Fifth Avenue, New Kensington, PA 15068-6508 Attn: Personnel Committee  
Telephone: 724-339-6618

## Presbytery Staff

[Richard "Skip" Noftzger](#)

Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk

[blog address](#)

[twitter address](#)

[Karen Gray](#)

Administrative Operations Manager

[Bobbie Shaffor](#)

Bookkeeper

*Communicate the  
Word...*

*Carry on the Work...*

*Change the World...*

*Together*

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**Presbytery of Redstone**  
**[www.redstonepresbytery.org](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org)**

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