

This week's Redstone happening
November 6, 2025



This week we are praying for the following congregations:

District 1 Churches

United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington, Becca Siddle, Covenant Pastor

Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo, Pete Goetschius, Pastor

District 2 Churches

Sewickley Presbyterian Church, West Newton, Karen Kifer, Commissioned Pastor

Sewickley United Presbyterian Church, West Newton, Glenn Hart, Commissioned Pastor

District 3 Churches

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

New Salem Presbyterian Church, William Wiegand, Commissioned Pastor

District 4 Churches

Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence, Alice Tondura, Moderator

Patton Presbyterian Church, Alice Tondura, Pastor

~From Interim Executive Presbyter~

“Her Piano’s on Its Way”

Pianos are close to my heart. The first one I experienced was my mother’s, given to her when she was a child. Her older sister played the marimba and she the piano, sometimes together. (Recalling that space, it must have provided a loud and tight venue when they collaborated.) Mom’s piano made it through her young years and into our years: all four of us learned to play on that instrument. Even my father could play a tune or two: but he never played



when anyone was within earshot, or so he thought. I remember one occasion when I was coming up from the basement: I gently made my way as I listened to him play a rendition of the Mills Brothers' song, "Paper Doll."

That piano carried us through our time at home: we truly wore it out. It was the treasure chest of countless memories. I would later build more memories on the piano my mother-in-law passed on to us at the end of her life. That one – as well – endured much playing. We savored and nurtured it until our piano tuner was forced to use superglue to keep the pegs in place (a trick he found on YouTube)! As we prepared to move from Minnesota back to Pennsylvania, we

discovered a family with a young child who loved to play: with deep emotion, we let it go, allowing it to have a final chapter played by a young one.

In one of my last conversations with my sister, Lisa – as she was coming to the end of her struggle with ovarian cancer – she asked me to take her piano into our home after she had left us. How could I say "No" to that? She died two years ago.

Playing a piano – especially when I'm playing without any spoken lyrics, only with its sound alone - is a special way to experience the power of the inexpressible depth of the Spirit that gives me connection to the eternal love that nothing else can give. The piano is often my doorway to that depth.

The movers recently loaded up Lisa's piano to begin her trek from Louisville to Greensburg. I almost replaced "her trek" with "its trek," but something of the essence of Lisa comes with her piano. As it was when she was alive, Lisa will continue to inspire me, leading me to the depths...the grace and love in her life... grace and love through music...music at her piano. The piano is to arrive in two weeks.

Peace in Christ,
Lon Weaver

~A Video Message From Tom Bandy~



"Pilgrim Band"

Tom Bandy has put together a video response to the questions we assembled from reading his book "Pilgrim Band"

Tom hopes this video will be helpful to you whether you have read his book or looking for some inspiration.

[Link to Pilgrim Band "Part 2" Video.](#)

The Video is available on YouTube.

Please enjoy!

~Presbytery News~

ANNOUNCEMENT LOOP FOR



PRESBYTERY MEETING

The November meeting of Presbytery will be on Saturday, November 22 2025 In Person and via ZOOM videoconferencing at the Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville beginning at 9:00 a.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, November 17, 2025.

Thank you!

Finance 101: Understanding Budgets and Reporting

November 22nd, 12 Noon
(Following the Presbytery Meeting)

at Dee Jay's Lounge

RSVP to the presbytery office by Nov 20

Lunch graciously
provided by

Presbyterian
FOUNDATION 



Amen to Action Food Packing Event

To fight food insecurity in Westmoreland County. The First Presbyterian Church in Murrysville, in partnership with Murrysville Christian Concern in Export invites you to join us in packing over 60,000 meals that will go directly to families in Westmoreland County. Our local food packing event will be on Saturday, **November 22 at 8:30 a.m.** at the new MC Outreach Center (5778 Kennedy Avenue, Export)

[Register Here to Volunteer](#)

Let's Make a real difference together for our neighbors in need?



After signing a peace agreement with the Vice President in 2018, South Sudan has remained largely peaceful, despite sporadic incidents and flooding across the country. However, since March 2025, militia loyal to Riek Machar marched against a military barrack in Nasir, Upper Nile State. Machar and seven other accused leaders of the SPLA/IO were detained for six months, and a special court was

established, since early September 2025. The court has held 15 sessions so far, during which the government brought charges against the SPLA/IO and its leaders.

The charges stem from the March 2025 assault on an army base in Nasir, where more than 200 government soldiers were killed. Prosecutors allege that the attack was carried out by forces loyal to Machar's SPLA-IO and a local militia known as the White Army.

The conflict has displaced thousands of civilians to the Ethiopian border, where a temporary refugee camp was established to assist the displaced and malnourished children. Early this month, although there has been relative calm since August 2025, a group of young militias emerged from Bor, the home county of the late Dr. Garang de Mabior, claiming dissatisfaction with the government. A military announcement on Monday in responding to the "Red Belt" Youth of Bor, caused renewed fears of another escalation in the country.

The court proceedings are being closely watched, and there is concern that if the outcome is unfavorable, the country could return to ethnic conflict. Amidst this turmoil, churches have been destroyed and members displaced in Nasir and Olang counties of Upper Nile State.

Please continue to pray for South Sudan.

Rev. Dr. Owar O. Ojulu

Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Pastor



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

Is God Possibly Calling you to Preach? 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

The Spring 2026 Semester starts on Saturday, January 10, 2026. The Semester Course is Reformed Worship and Sacraments with Instructor: Rev. Dr. Peter Bowers.

[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 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, November 8, 2025 - "Pastoral Care"

Meeting Location: Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, 480 PA-519, Eighty Four, PA 15330

Conference Room in Washington Presbytery

Instructor: Rev. Sharon Woomer

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

The zoom login information is:

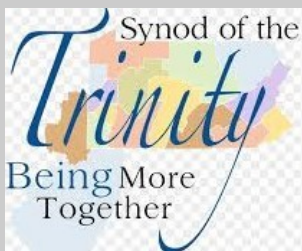
[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7248330340?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7248330340?pwd=gpnK4liH8GsZGOXApZLISyM18vgsVV.1)

[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



SYNOD NEW GRANT STRUCTURE UNVEILED

The Synod's new grant categories are broader and in tune to the current needs our region is facing. Additionally, the new grant categories do not have funding caps! The first step is easy; [click here](#) to answer a few questions about your project or vision.

Synod staff will review your submission and send you the application that best matches your needs. Questions? Do not

hesitate to reach out to [Elizabeth Connelly \(econnelly@syntrintiy.org\)](mailto:econnelly@syntrintiy.org)



PCUSA ADVENT RESOURCES

The 2025 PCUSA Store's Advent Resources are now available. Included are resources for study, devotion, preaching, and more. Many of the selections have downloadable samples available.

[View the resources](#)

~Events at our Churches~

*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.*

**BENEFIT SHOW FOR EXPENSES INCURRED BY
ROSTRAVER KIDNEY TRANSPLANT RECIPIENT
DONALD RECHICHAR**

GOSPEL CONCERT

**Featuring Elvis
Tribute Artist
Eddie Steen**



**SUN NOV 9th | 2:00 pm
HARMONY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
587 HARMONY CHURCH RD,
BELLE VERNON, PA**

**Adults: \$20 - Children 5-12: \$10
Children Under 5 - FREE**

**SEATS ARE LIMITED - ORDER EARLY !
Refreshments served after the concert**

FOR INFO CALL 724-929-6438

**The Masontown community
kitchen will be open Tuesday,**

November 11, 2025 from 4 to 5:30 PM. The menu will be chicken and rice soup, pizza, 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



The Masontown monthly Food bank will be held Wednesday, November 12, 2025 from 1 to 2 PM at the First Presbyterian Church, 102 W. Church Ave., Masontown PA. New Participants may register at the Food bank. This local food mission would not be possible without the help from the many volunteers in the community. For more information or to volunteer, call Frank 724-366-4721



Derry Presbyterian Church

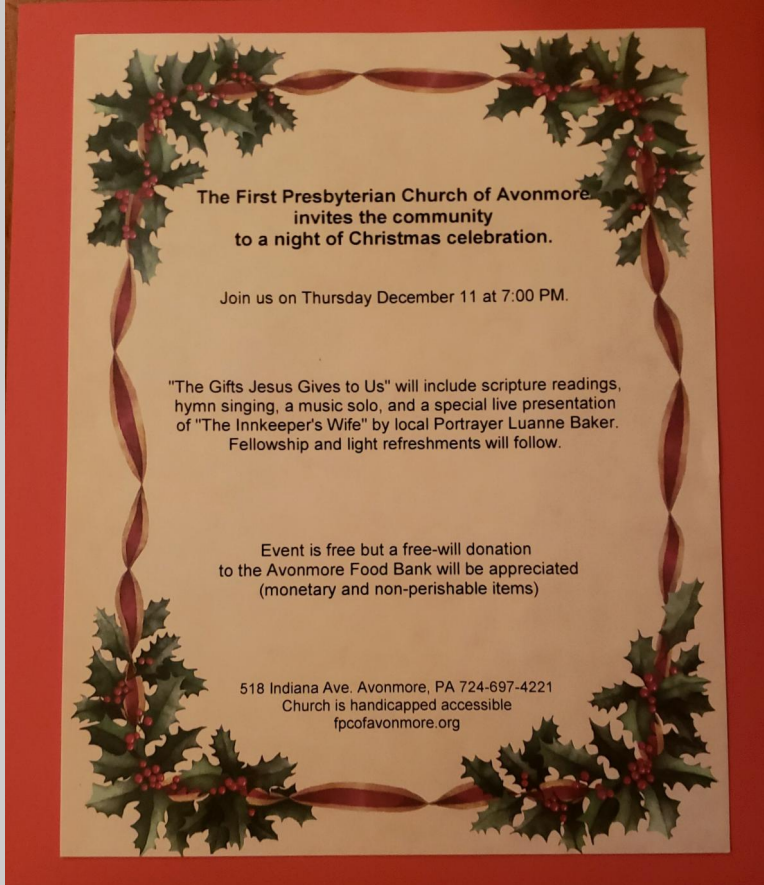
Help Support Our Online Fundraiser!

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

*All Orders must be submitted by Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 11:59 pm EST.

Derry's Group ID # 10-1741

[Click Here](#) for Brochure with more information and how to browse a HUGE variety of holiday favorites.



Please join us for our monthly free

Community "Soup for the Soul" Luncheon

AND BRING A FRIEND!!!!

2nd Wednesday of the Month

October through May

Doors open at 11:30am

Soup's on at NOON!



Poke Run Presbyterian Church
1091 Poke Run Church Rd.
(up from the intersection of Rt. 366 and Rt. 66)
724-327-5563


October 8, 2025
November 12, 2025
December 10, 2025

January 14, 2026
February 11, 2026
March 11, 2026

April 8, 2026
May 13, 2026

~From Outside Redstone Presbytery~

An opportunity for those interested in Christian Education. The PSCE program provides cohorts of about eight people, with a facilitator, for support, education, and spiritual growth. The groups meet once a month for a year, and are offered a small stipend for their participation. Cohorts meet on Zoom and are made up of folks from around the country. [Additional information can be found here.](#) Applications are due by November 30, 2025.



WE BELIEVE
*an ecumenical celebration of the
1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea*


Together with leaders from diverse Christian traditions, join in prayer, song, conversation, and fellowship as we commemorate this historic milestone.

Christian Associates
of Southeast Pennsylvania

Register here,
or visit casp.org/nicaea

Tuesday, November 18
7:00 pm

Cardinals Great Hall, O'Connor Hall
Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh Pastoral Center
2900 Noblestown Road, Pittsburgh 15205



Luminosity Conference 2026 is set for March 9-11 at the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs resort complex in Orlando, FL! This is your opportunity to connect with pastors, church leaders, friends, and topical specialists to ignite your imagination.

Discover practical ideas and hear real-life stories that will advance your leadership and financial literacy for maximum ministry effectiveness. Enjoy time with friends, colleagues and fellow attendees as we explore the impact we can have in our ministries, communities, and the world.

[Early-bird registration is now open, and grants are available for those who qualify.](#)

For more information, check out the website luminosityconference.org

~Employment Opportunity~

Rehoboth Presbyterian Church
Immediate Opening - Church Secretary

Purpose:



To provide administrative support to the Pastor and carry out secretarial functions of the church..

Work Schedule:

Three days a week/four hours per day, covering the advertised “office hours” of the church.
Currently, the church/office is to be open and available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Responsibilities:

- Check and respond to phone messages & emails
- Organize & print weekly church bulletins for Sunday morning service
- Print & insert additional information flyers when necessary
- Keep current social media and church website
- Organize, print and distribute the monthly newsletter by the first of each month
- Coordinate and process “use of building” request forms
- Keep current the church calendar of meetings and events; send reminder emails
- Handle Memorial Fund correspondence
- Update and maintain the bulletin boards with worship schedules and current events
- Keep current and order church office supplies

Interested Applicants please call 724-684-7325 for an appointment

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF JEANNETTE
IS HIRING!**

Part Time Admin Assistant

Responsibilities :

- In office two days/week
- Answer phone calls
- Bulletin creation
- Bookkeeping

Qualifications:

- Knowledge of Microsoft products
- Minor bookkeeping
- Office management

CONTACT US :
fpcjeannette314@gmail.com
(724) 523-5427

Presbytery Staff

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

Rev. Cliff Foster
Interim Stated Clerk

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...

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

Together

Presbytery of Redstone
www.redstonepresbytery.org

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