

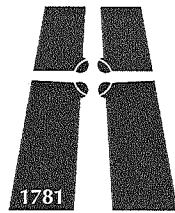


Stated Meeting

of the

Presbytery of Redstone  
Presbyterian Church (USA)

November 21, 2020



Puckety Presbyterian Church  
Lower Burrell, PA

OR

ONLINE (ZOOM)

CONTACT PRESBYTERY OFFICE  
FOR MEETING ID# AND PASSWORD

*Communicate the Word...Carry on the Work...Change the World  
Together*

Directions to Puckety Presbyterian Church  
Lower Burrell, PA 15068  
724-339-1323

**From Pittsburgh:**

Take Rt. 28 North to Exit 14 – Tarentum. Follow Rt. 366 signs to New Kensington. You will cross the Tarentum Bridge. Continue straight on Rt. 366 until after the third light. (Maneuver into the passing lane, as the lanes combine after the light.) The road will split. Take the road to Rt. 56 East/Leechburg, which bears off to the left and will go over an overpass and loop down to the Bypass/Rt. 56 E. Follow Rt. 56 E. until you reach Puckety Church Road (stop light at the Midas Shop). Turn right. Puckety Church is on the left at the top of the hill.

**From Greensburg:**

Take N. Main Street/Old Rt. 66 until old Rt. 66 joins with the new four-lane Rt. 66 in Delmont. (After the stop light, about 20 yards, take the next left.) Follow Rt. 66 until you come to Rt. 366 at the flash yellow light. Turn left onto Rt. 366 West. Follow Rt. 366 through Parnassus/New Kensington. You will pass Valley High School on the left. Do not bear off to the right (Rt. 366), continue to go straight along the Rt. 56 Bypass. Follow Rt. 56 E. until you reach Puckety Church Road (stop light at the Midas Shop). Turn right. Puckety Church is on the left at the top of the hill.

**From Turnpike/Springdale:**

Exit the turnpike at exit 47 and go south/west on Freeport Road. Do not cross over the highway, merge directly onto the highway. Follow Freeport Road to Rt. 910/yellow belt. Take Rt. 910 (right turn) about 1/10 mile until Rt. 28 north. Then follow directions from Pittsburgh (listed above).

**From Kittanning:**

From Rt. 422 merge onto Rt. 28 south. Follow Rt. 28 S until Exit 14 - Tarentum. Turn left off exit ramp onto Bull Creek Road and merge with Rt. 366. Follow Rt. 366 signs to New Kensington. You will cross the Tarentum Bridge. Continue straight on Rt. 366 until after the third light. (Maneuver into the passing lane, as the lanes combine after the light.) The road will split. Take the road to Rt. 56 East/Leechburg, which bears off to the left and will go over an overpass and loop down to the Bypass/Rt. 56 E. Follow Rt. 56 E. until you reach Puckety Church Road (stop light at the Midas Shop). Turn right. Puckety Church is on the left at the top of the hill across from Huston Middle School.

## Notes for the November 21, 2020 Presbytery Meeting!

- Requests for any new business should be submitted to the Associate Clerk in writing (use the Chat feature in Zoom) by the close of worship.
- Communion will be part of the Presbytery worship experience. Please prepare ahead of time by having the elements (bread and juice/wine) available at your location where you are participating through Zoom.
- Presbyters are reminded to get “Prayer Requests” to the Clerk through the Chat feature as soon as possible as they will be lifted up during the prayers in the Worship Service.
- The Offering received during worship at this meeting will go to South Sudan Emergency Relief.

Presbytery of Redstone Gathering  
Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell, PA; November 21, 2020

8:00 a.m.	<p><b>Registration and fellowship</b> (new business should be submitted in writing (chat feature) to Associate Clerk by the close of worship)</p>	
9:00 a.m.	<p><b>Formation of the Roll</b>  <b>Seating of Corresponding Members</b>  <b>Introduction of Elders</b>  <b>Clerk(s) Reports</b>  <b>Stated Clerk for Administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correspondence log (p. 5)</li> <li>• 2019 Minutes review (Appendix A)</li> <li>• Annual Reports (Appendix B)</li> </ul> <p><b>Associate Stated Clerk for Constitutional/Judicial matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consent Agenda (p. 6)</li> </ul> <p><b>Treasurer's Report</b> (p. 7)  <b>Executive Presbyter's Report</b> (p. 8-9)</p>	<p>Rev. Cliff Foster Rev. Cliff Foster</p> <p>Rev. Skip Noftzger</p> <p>Rev. Cliff Foster</p> <p>John Dickson Rev. Skip Noftzger</p>
	<p><b>Worship</b></p>	<p>Rev. Brian Kilbert Rev. Laura Blank</p>
	<p><b>Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pine Springs Camp (p. 10-12)</li> <li>• Mission network (p. 13)</li> <li>• Synod of the Trinity</li> </ul>	<p>Greg Davis Rev. Sylvia Carlson Bernice Adams Cliff Foster</p>
	<p><b>Action Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council - (p. 14-16) --2021 Budget --Matthew 25 initiative--breakout rooms</li> <li>• Committee on Ministry (p. 17-20) --Examination of candidate/Approval of call – Travis Webster ---Designation of "Honorably Retired"-Rev. Dave McCabe ---Dissolution of Boswell congregation and appointment of Administrative Commission</li> <li>• Nominating Committee - (p. 22)</li> <li>• New Business</li> </ul>	<p>Rev. Laura Blank</p> <p>Rev. Pete Goetschius</p> <p>Aleda Menchyk</p>
	<p><b>Benediction</b> <b>Adjournment</b></p>	

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, PA.

**STATED CLERK'S REPORT:**

1. During the period since the last regularly stated Presbytery meeting, all correspondence that was received was responded to and/or appropriately routed for review and response to the appropriate entity of Presbytery.

**CORRESPONDENCE LOG**

Date Received	Received From	Content	Action
November 12, 2020 - mail	Bethel United Presbyterian Church, New Florence	2021 Terms of Call for CP James Sunseri	To COM and FILE
November 9, 2020 - mail	Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, East Liberty	2021 Terms of Call for CP David McElroy	To COM and FILE
November 5, 2020 - mail	Congruity Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria	List of Session Members	To FILE
November 2, 2020 - mail	Revloc Presbyterian Church	2021 Contract with CP David O'Hara	To COM and FILE
November 2, 2020 - mail	Rev. Laura Blank	3 <sup>rd</sup> of 3 Mandatory Clearance Updates	To FILE
October 26, 2020 - mail	Marion Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	2021 Terms of Call for CP Robert Prinkey	To COM and FILE
October 22, 2020 - email	Rev. Laura Blank	2 of 3 Mandatory Clearance Updates	To FILE
October 21, 2020 - email	Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo	Manse Inspection Report	To FILE
October 15, 2020 - mail	Bolivar United Presbyterian Church	2021 Terms of Call for CP James Sunseri	To COM and FILE
October 14, 2020 - email	Rev. Molly Hall	1 of 3 Mandatory Clearance Updates	To FILE
October 13, 2020 - mail	William Weightman	Mandatory Clearance Updates	To FILE
October 12, 2020 - email	Rev. Jane Johnson	3 <sup>rd</sup> of 3 Mandatory Clearance Updates	To FILE
October 6, 2020 - email	Cresson Presbyterian Church	Minutes of Congregational Meeting to vote on and accept resignation of Rev. David McCabe	To COM and FILE
September 29, 2020 - email	Patton Presbyterian Church	Minutes of Congregational Meeting to vote on and accept resignation of Rev. David McCabe	To COM and FILE
September 23, 2020 - email	Washington Presbytery	Mandatory Clearance Updates for Rev. Dawn Sherwood	To FILE
September 23, 2020 - email	John Rodgers, Stated Clerk, Washington Presbytery	eMinister filing for receiving of Dawn Sherwood	To FILE

2. The Stated Clerk presents the 2021 Presbytery gathering dates and locations as approved by Council.
  - a. January 23, 2021; 1:00 p.m.; Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg;  
March 23, 2021; 6:00 p.m.; Location to be determined
  - b. May 25, 2020; 6:00 p.m.; Location to be determined
  - c. September 28, 2020; 6:00 p.m.; Location to be determined
  - d. November 20, 2021; 9:00 a.m.; Colver Presbyterian Church
  
3. Review of the 2019 Session minutes and Church Registers has been completed and submitted to the COM (Appendix A). The minutes and the church registers of the following congregations were not reviewed: Brownsville, Hopewell; Dunbar, First; Fayette City, Little Redstone; Murrysville, Union; and Scottdale, Calvin.
  
4. Annual statistical reporting is now open and available for Clerks of Session. Packets are available at the Presbytery website and a handout on the online reporting is in the packet (Appendix B).

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Associate Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, Rev. Cliff Foster, presents the following Consent Agenda.

**From Executive Committee**

1. Following the review of the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Stated Clerk and Associate Stated Clerk, it is **recommended** that the minutes of the Presbytery meeting of the September 22, 2020 be approved.

**From the Council**

1. Council **recommends** that the Financial Reports presented to the Council be received and filed for audit. (See Appendix C)
  
2. Council **recommends** the approval of the 2021 Terms of Call (see below) for the Executive Presbyter.
  - Salary—55,390; Housing—15,000; Deferred Compensation (403B) ---8,712
  - Pensions (medical, retirement, death/ disability) ---18,491; Vacation—5 weeks
  - Study Leave—2 weeks/1,500 (2020-two weeks carryover); Professional expenses- 1,825;
  - Travel-4,750 (all included in the 2021 budget)
  
3. Council **recommends** that the Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Mission, Pine Springs Camp and Synod commissioner reports presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.
  
4. Council **recommends** the receipt and filing of the financial review presented by Horner, Wible and Terek, PC.

**From the Committee on Ministry**

1. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** that Presbytery grant the request of the United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington for Ruling Elder Julia Yockey (2023) and Deacon Karen Grillo (2023); for the Trinity Presbyterian Church of New Florence for Ruling Elder John Jones (2023); and for the First Presbyterian Church, Fayette City for Ruling Elder Robert Kubina (2023).

## Treasurer's Report

### INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

This report represents an unaudited overview of the finances of the Redstone Presbytery for the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) month, of the budgeted operating year ending October 31, 2020.

#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW / INCOME

Church Commitments receipted for October totaled \$28,406, which represents 96% of the monthly income goal of \$29,583. YTD, Church Commitments total \$261,782 or 74% of goal, versus a ten-month (10) benchmark of 83%. Presently, YTD Income for the Presbytery is -\$34,041 behind its desirable level to address mission and operational matters.

#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW / EXPENSES

Expenses for the month are below budget at about 4% or \$1,129 and YTD below budget at 6.6% or \$29,974. It is noted several expense categories are above the 83% budgeted threshold for the year, however such expenses are related to timing or seasonal matters.

#### EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENSES

Income for the month is positive totaling \$3,051 and YTD totaling \$94,836 (*As noted since the August Treasurers Report, the large positive YTD income amount is a result to action of Council reassigning special restricted accounts to unrestricted. The transfer amount totaled \$49,444. Also, for the YTD total, funds from the Inter Presbytery Leadership Formation [I.P.L.F.] which were in the 03-account code category have been transferred into the 01 account. The I.B.L.F. dollars total \$39,605.*)

#### INVESTMENTS & HOLDINGS

The Ameriprise account ending October 31, 2020 reflects a negative change in value totaling -\$9,222 for the month and YTD -\$4,435. The statement for this period reports \$961 in dividend earnings and YTD \$9,143. The ending value of the account totals \$554,112.

Other holdings and investments consisting of PILP, First Commonwealth, New Covenant and Pine Springs (September 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter ending report) total \$436,369

Total Investments & Holdings = \$990,481

Respectfully Submitted,

John Dickson IV

**MINISTRY AND MISSION REPORTS**

**Executive Presbyter**

**Rev. Richard "Skip" Noftzger  
Executive Presbyter Report**

*Communicate the Word, Carry on the Work, Change the World.....Together!*

<p><b>VISION</b></p>	<p>9/23/2020-11/21/2020</p>
<p><b>Congregation-centered (ENGAGE)</b></p>	<p><b>Visible presence within the Presbytery engaging with congregations---</b> <b>Church Visits---</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visited fifteen congregations in worship or special services since the last presbytery meeting. Preached at seven worship services. Attended or moderated five session or session committee meetings, including those have begun a pastoral transition. Moderated one congregational meeting.</li> <li>• Continue to work with three different sessions who are considering non-traditional pastoral options, as they negotiate their way through various pastoral transitions.</li> <li>• Maintained support for all of the PNC committees both those who are transitioning into installed pastoral leadership and those who continue in the search process. Actively engaged both in referring candidates and recruiting new options for the pool. Assist in conducting reference checks, arranging examinations and set up neutral pulpits. Face to Face orientation/training and consultation with two of them.</li> <li>• Initiated, completed and received grants from the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance on behalf of congregations within the Presbytery.</li> <li>• Through written communications in Enews articles and Pastoral letters, provide regular guidance and thoughtful reflection for pastors and presbyters about important issues within the Church at this time.</li> <li>• Provided guidance, direction and support for two installation services as well as coordination with another presbytery for an ordination service.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Leadership developed (EQUIP)</b></p>	<p><b>Developing and equipping leadership within the Presbytery---</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Met individually and consulted with pastors in four in-person conferences, as well as numerous phone calls in order to review pastoral concerns, offer advice and counsel on future ministry plans and issues.</li> <li>• Facilitated weekly pastor check-in opportunities for networking, support and prayer through Zoom videoconferencing.</li> <li>• Scheduled and recruited workshop leaders and course faculty for the Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation program. Consult with current faculty/facilitators on educational and technical issues. Assigned supervisors for practicum experiences among Redstone students.</li> <li>• Initiated contact with all inquirers and candidates under the "care" of the</li> </ul>

	<p>Presbytery. Also, initiated contact to explore possibilities with other students who might discerning their call to pastoral ministry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Served as a resource both by phone and in person for several candidates outside and within our Presbytery who are interested in being considered for open pastoral positions.</li> <li>• Assisted the Nominating Committee by soliciting possible ruling elders and teaching elders from our congregations in order to identify leadership for possible Presbytery service in the remaining 2021 slots.</li> </ul>			
<p>Collaboration-Districts/Network (ENABLE)</p>	<p>Joined and initiated contact both within and outside Redstone---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided leadership, instruction and coordination of the Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation program both for the cohort and continuing education workshops for those currently serving.</li> <li>• Participated in the Assembly of the Synod of the Trinity and in the series on the "Beloved Community." Active engagement with other presbytery leaders within the Synod.</li> <li>• Continue to serve on the Executive Committee of Christian Associates and as an active member of the Board of Judicatory Executives. Participated in the Jubilee celebration and sponsorship.</li> </ul>			
<p>Partnership in Mission promoted (EMPOWER)</p>	<p>Promoted and provided leadership in our partnerships in mission---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively involved in the Sudan and South Sudan Partnership Network meetings. Volunteered to assist in the coordination of the annual gathering.</li> <li>• Participated in the board of Redstone Senior Care through regular meetings and with particular engagement within the Strategy committee.</li> <li>• Engagement and communication with our ongoing South Sudanese partnership (SSPEC). Reviewed current financial resources and initiated transmission of funds for support of our sister church.</li> <li>• Continue to work with the finance committee within the board of Pine Springs Camp. Active engagement in assisting the camp in adapting to the financial realities of year without summer camp.</li> </ul>			
<p>Operational Support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued communication and contact with Treasurers and Session concerning the financial needs and support of the ministry of the Presbytery.</li> <li>• Monitored the performance of resources invested by the Presbytery in two primary sources of financial management.</li> <li>• Consulted with auditors on completion of financial review and reorganization of designated accounts.</li> </ul>			
<p>VALUES</p>	<p>Servant Leadership</p>	<p>Flourishing Community</p>	<p>Witness to the World</p>	<p>Generous and effective Stewardship</p>
<p><i>Soli Deo Gloria</i></p>				

## Pine Springs Camp

### UPDATE

As we head into another season in which COVID has caused tremendous disruption for us all, please be assured that we are continuing to plan for ministry opportunities for the winter, spring and summer! Please notice the information below as it outlines our attempts to continue to program to enrich the life of your church, our campers and the body of Christ.

As we plan each program, we do so with the capacity to either alter or change the program if needed. However, the Board of Directors has discussed and approved a Summer Camp Schedule that we feel will offer a meaningful and safe camp experience for all campers and staff.

### TENTATIVE DATES FOR WINTER AND SPRING RETREATS

Again, please note that these are tentative, yet we will prayerfully consider how we can operate our retreats safely which may mean changing to one day events, postponing or cancelling if needed. **BUT MARK YOUR CALENDARS EITHER WAY!**

- Family Camp(ground) Weekend – Winter Edition – January 22-24
- PSC Winter Remix – Middle and High School Retreat – February 12-14
- Family Camp(ground) Weekend – Spring Edition – March 19-21
- Women in the Woods – April 9-11
- Spring Fusion Grades 4-6 – April 15-16
- Redd Up Camp Workday – May 15

### SUMMER CAMP 2021

We are making plans to have summer camp in 2021! The schedule may look different and the program may be tweaked but our passion and desire that **EVERY CAMPER HAS A VITAL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS CHRIST WILL REMAIN THE SAME!** Please be looking for the schedule to be announced before the end of the year and the brochure will be out by the first week of January 2021!

### PINE SPRINGS CAMP ON-LINE AUCTION – NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 6/END OF THE YEAR FUNDRAISING NEEDS

Since we are not having our end of the year Friends Dinner, we have decided to have an on-line auction! Please see the attached letter which give details of this new and great way to help the minister at a needed time.

Your prayerful consideration of supporting Pine Springs Camp through the On-line Auction or making an end of the year gift is appreciated.

Please contact Greg Davis – [greg@pinesprings.org](mailto:greg@pinesprings.org) or call 814.629.9834.

Sample End of the Year Letter Church will receive shortly

November 2, 2020

Dear Friends:

I would like to start with expressing our heartfelt gratitude for your prayers and concern for Pine Springs Camp in the midst of the coronavirus crisis. So many individuals and churches have given generously to keep the ministry afloat at a time when we have lost so many revenue streams. Your partnership with us has enabled us to have hope and “breathing room” to begin planning for the future.

The good news is that we have been able to continue our ministry by providing a place for vital encounters with Christ for families through the summer and fall. We also have remained connected to campers and staff virtually as well as to some of our churches through outdoor events. Best of all, because of the tremendous generosity of our donors, we are able to look ahead and begin planning for summer camp! Please be looking for some information and our summer camp brochure soon!

The hard news is that the months ahead are filled with uncertainty. We may not have any retreat revenue for many months. Our expenses remain the same, which makes the year-end fundraising appeal especially critical this year.

Would your congregation prayerfully consider supporting Pine Springs Camp in one or both of the following ways:

End of the Year Gift – Make a generous end of the year donation. We hope to raise \$40,000 by the end of December, which will keep the camp running as we plan for Summer Camp 2021.

Support the first even Pine Springs Camp Online Auction Event – Yet another casualty of 2020 is our annual Friends Dinner, which usually contributes over \$20,000 to our general operating budget. While we will not be able to host the dinner this year, we are excited about hosting the first Pine Springs Camp Online Auction Event. This unique event will begin on Sunday, November 29 and to through Sunday, December 6, 2020. The Auction will be run very similarly to an in person Silent Auction but can only be accessed vis computer or smart phone. While it may seem dauntingly “high tech” for some, it actually is a very user-friendly format. Another advantage of the online event is that you can invite your entire congregation to join the fun! I have enclosed a separate sheet with specific ways that your church can support the Auction, as well as a bulletin insert to help with promotion.

Thank you for your thoughtful and prayerful consideration of this request. Thank you for being a part of God’s provision for Pine Springs Camp.

Sincerely,

Greg Davis, Executive Director

**Sunday, November 29-Sunday, December 6, 2020**  
**Coming to a computer or smartphone near you!**

**What is it?**

It's a great way to support the ministry of Pine Springs Camp at a time when we are unable to host groups at camp or hold large gatherings of any kind. The Online Auction is a user-friendly platform to bid on a variety of awesome items that will benefit Pine Springs. Participation is open to anyone which will result in more bidding, more revenue and lots of fun!

**What can your church do?**

1. **Publicize the Online Auction to your congregation.** I have enclosed a bulletin insert that explains the process.
2. **Become a Primary Auction Sponsor** - You can show your church's support for camp by donating \$250 to become a Primary Auction Sponsor. Your support would be advertised prominently on the auction site.
3. **Donate Items for the Auction** - We are always looking for a variety of quality items for our Silent Auction and Raffle. Shipping is an issue this year, so we are looking for gift certificates for outdoor activities, vacation rentals, family overnights, sport memorabilia, DIY gift cards and restaurant certificates. We also hope to secure some one of a kind handmade items that are unique and meaningful. These items generate a lot of interest and lively bidding! You just need to let us know what you want to donate, and we will make sure it gets on the Auction site and is delivered to the winning bidder!
4. **Donate Directly from an Online Store** - One way to make the delivery of an item easier is to have it shipped directly from Amazon or an online store to the winning bidder. This would be as easy as having us post a picture of an item that you are willing to donate and letting you know the information of the winner so that it can be shipped directly to them.
5. **Contact Ellie Davis** @ [ellie@pinesprings.org](mailto:ellie@pinesprings.org) to let us know what you can contribute. We will be happy to walk you through the process of posting your item and having it delivered to the lucky winner.
6. **JOIN the Bidding!** - Spread the word and get others to join the bidding once the Auction goes live! Anyone can join and it is a lot of fun to track your bid as you receive alerts on your cell phone. The website will also feature some important information about Pine Springs that will get the word out about our ministry.

**Some Auction Items that will be available for bidding:**

- **One-week vacation at Oceanside condo in Myrtle Beach**
- **One-week vacation at Oceanside beach house in the Outer Banks**
- **Autographed and framed prints of Sports icons Arnold Palmer and Bill Mazeroski**
- **A foursome of golf at Latrobe Country Club**
- **A custom handmade fly-fishing Rod and Reel**
- **Handmade genuine Swarovski Jewelry Sets**

## Mission Committee

The mission committee has been meeting the third Thursday of the month via Zoom. This makes it possible for people to participate without driving long distances. If you have a heart for mission, please consider joining us.

There have been a number of retirements of PC(USA) mission co-workers and national staff. The Rev. Debbie Braaksma has retired as Africa Mission Coordinator, and Lynn Kandel has retired from his position as regional liaison to the Horn of Africa. Sharon Kandel will assume his duties and will mostly work remotely from here in the US and travel frequently to Africa.

Nancy and Shelvis Smith-Mather have announced the birth of their daughter, Alice Austin Smith-Mather. "We give God thanks for her precious life! She is named after Shelvis' Grandma Alice and Nancy's sister Austin. Jordan, Addie and Nicole love holding their baby sister, singing her songs and reading her books. From our last newsletter, some may be aware that Alice has a minor heart defect. We hope to gain a better understanding of her health situation in the upcoming weeks. It is humbling to know that she is already being prayed for by friends near and far who care about her. Thank you for your prayers!" They are presently living in Virginia.

A number of our congregations have engaged in outreach to the wider community during this time of Covid19 in the form of providing food for school age students, through the Food2Go4Kids weekend food distribution program. First Presbyterian Church in Greensburg continues its Second Sunday Supper as a pick-up or delivery only program. In November more than 240 meals were provided.

Please let us know the ways in which your congregation is reaching out during this time of sheltering in place and social distancing.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sylvia Carlson, Chair

## ACTION AGENDA

### Presbytery Council

[Links to complete copies of the Minutes of Council can be found online at [www.redstone.org](http://www.redstone.org) under the "Presbytery Council Meeting Dates" tab.]

#### Action Items

- The Council **recommends** the approval of the proposed 2021 Budget for the Presbytery of Redstone. (Appendix D) *(This budget was submitted for a first reading in September with a second reading and vote in this November meeting.)*
- The Council presents the Matthew 25 program for further consideration by congregations within the presbytery. (See Appendix E for Frequently Asked Questions)

#### Information Items

#### October 27, 2020 Meeting

Rev. Laura Blank called the meeting to order by videoconferencing (Zoom) and opened in prayer. The agenda for the meeting had been distributed by email prior to the meeting. Without any proposed revision, it was approved **by consent**.

Rev. Laura Blank led the Council in a devotional by playing a video on "being the salt of the earth and the light of the world."

Rev. Noftzger introduced Ms. Barb Terek from the firm of Horner, Wible and Terek to present the 2019 Financial Review as conducted by this outside firm. Ms. Terek "walked" the Council through each component of the review and offered explanation about their meaning and significance. Rev. Noftzger noted for her benefit that, subsequent to this review, the Council had acted in August to "un-designate" those "designated or special" accounts still being tracked separately in the 2019 review. Ms. Terek opened the floor for any questions from the Council before leaving the meeting.

Rev. Noftzger facilitated the ongoing discussion on the book, Seven Levers: Missional Strategies for Leading Conferences. While focusing on Lever 3 and Lever 4, the Council discussed the "life cycles" of congregations and what might be the role of the presbytery in engaging, encouraging and facilitating renewal. Focus was also given both to Clergy peer groups as well as cultivating excellence in pastoral leadership - on Lever 1 (Starting New Churches) and Lever 2 (Clergy Peer Learning Groups). Discussion also occurred around the ways theological understandings of the Church should shape our approaches in understanding and evaluating these strategies. Rev. Noftzger suggested that at the November Council meeting we devote a significant amount of time to reviewing the book as a whole along with our own strategic thinking/planning documents for consideration in strategies going forward.

Since the last Council meeting, there were no consent items approved and needing to be ratified.

The minutes of the August 25, 2020 Council meeting were reviewed. It was **MSP** to approve the minutes of that meeting as distributed.

#### Reports

The Chairperson initiated reports from officers and staff.

#### Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk reviewed the correspondence log and the upcoming schedule of Presbytery and Council

meetings for the remainder of 2020 and for 2021. It was MSP to conduct the November 2020 meeting in the same way as the previous meeting with most participants primarily through Zoom and the option for any platform participants or those without internet access to be "in-person" at Puckety Presbyterian Church. He noted that we still needed to address the request from Washington Presbytery concerning a joint meeting in September 2021. Belinda Lambie noted that she was in discussion with the Colver session about hosting the November 2021 Presbytery meeting.

The Stated Clerk reviewed the number of church sessions whose minutes and register had not been reviewed. Even during this pandemic, he and the COM are working to minimize the number who might not be reviewed.

### Executive Presbyter

Rev. Noftzger reminded everyone about our previous discussions and the approval of the Matthew 25 initiative at the September Presbytery meeting. The Council discussed ways that the Matthew 25 initiative could be promoted among our congregations. Rev. Noftzger indicated that he would be writing an Enews article and making available a bulletin insert for churches. Other means of networking and promotion were discussed, including making personal story/testimony part of the November Presbytery meeting, along with "breakout rooms." Rev. Noftzger also reminded the Council that as part of affirming the "For Such a Time as This" declaration, the Council will initiate an "Anti-Racism" training session in 2021.

### Treasurer

A written treasurer's report from John Dickson based upon the September financial report (nine months) had been distributed. He commended the presbytery for significant increases in June and July in church contributions but reminded everyone that we remain behind on YTD income compared to what was planned and budgeted. Meanwhile, he also noted the careful monitoring of expenditures. Of note, was the "artificial" income transferred into the General Fund as the result of the "un-designating" accounts action taken at the last Council meeting.

### Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp

No report.

### November Presbytery Gathering

The proposed agenda for the September Presbytery gathering was presented and reviewed. After identifying various agenda items, including Matthew 25, Newlonsburg Associate Pastor candidate, retirement of Rev. Dave McCabe and the request for dissolution from the Boswell congregation, it was MSP to approve the agenda as presented.

It was MSP to receive the reports of the officers and staff members.

### SUB COMMITTEES/NETWORKS AGENDA ITEMS

- Staff Support Sub Committee  
Rev. Noftzger stated the only current activity is planning for a Christmas celebration for staff.
- Communications Task Force  
Rev. Noftzger remarked that we will need to regroup and recruit new members to rejuvenate the activities of the Communications Task Force.
- Missions Network  
Rev. Donna Havrisko reported for the Mission Network and announced that the Sudan/South Sudan Mission Network Partnership will be planning its annual meeting for October 2021 in Pittsburgh (hopefully in-person).

- **Budget and Stewardship**

Having reviewed the Financial Review with Barb Terek, Bobbi Jo Huebner moved the receipt and approval of the 2019 Financial Review. The motion was **MSP**.

- **Addictions Ministry**

Lynn Mance reported that the Rev. McDermott has distributed DVD copies of the first four lessons of the video curriculum. She also announced the network would be meeting soon to plan for the subsequent lessons.

- **Healing and Prayer Ministry**

No report.

- **Presbyterian Women**

Synod Presbyterian Women gathering will take place “virtually” in November.

It was **MSP** to receive the reports of the subcommittee, task forces and networks.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was **MSP** to adjourn the meeting with prayer.

**PRAYERS FOR EACH OTHER AND OUR COMMUNITIES**

Rev. Laura Blank solicited prayer requests that members lifted up with the refrain, “hear our prayers.”  
The Council concluded with praying the Lord’s Prayer together on Zoom in “holy cacophony.”

## Committee on Ministry

### Action Items

- The Committee on Ministry recommends the examination of the Rev. Travis Webster and the approval of the call of Associate Pastor of the Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville. (See Appendix F for a short BIO, Appendix G for his Statement of Faith, and Appendix H for the Terms of Call.)
- The Committee on Ministry recommends to the Presbytery that Rev. McCabe be designated “Honorably Retired” status effective December 1. (See Appendix I for a short BIO.)
- The Committee on Ministry recommends approval per the request of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Boswell to be dissolved and to recommend to the Presbytery that an Administrative Commission, appointed by the moderator, be authorized to consider, decide, and conclude all matters related to the dissolution of the Covenant Presbyterian congregation.

### Information Items

#### November 5, 2020 Meeting

#### Approval of Minutes

It was MSP to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2020.

#### Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Email Attachment)
- Minutes reviews
  - Final Status
- MSP to approve the ordination commission for ordination of Rick Watson on behalf of the Missouri Union Presbytery at their request.
  - Rev. Ron Johnson, Third
  - Rev. Jane Johnson, Fort Burd, Calvin
  - Robin O'Dell, Leisenring
  - Chuck West, Moderator
  - Kathee Ramsey, Scottdale
  - Rev. Steve LaSor, Maplewood
  - Rev. John Morrow, HR
  - Andi Goodwin, Third

Rick will be installed at First Presbyterian Church, Vandalia, Missouri. Service to be held on November 8 at Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown.

- MSP to approve the recommendation of Waiver of Rotation requests:
  - The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington for Ruling Elder Julia Yockey (2023) and Deacon Karen Grillo (2023).
  - The Trinity Presbyterian Church of New Florence for Ruling Elder John Jones (2023).
  - First Presbyterian Church, Fayette City for Ruling Elder Robert Kubina (2023).

#### Report of the Moderator

- Moderator Appointments
  - Cresson
  - Patton
  - Leisenring

## REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

### Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
  - Orientation of Rev. Brian Kilbert, Puckety Presbyterian Church (Installation service scheduled for November 22, 2020).
  - Orientation for Rev. Dawn Sherwood, First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette.

### Search and Call

- Action Items
  - **MSP** of the approval of Interim Pastor agreement between Rev. Tony Catullo and the Delmont Presbyterian Church.
  - **MSP** of the approval of the Ministry Information Form submitted by the Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Latrobe, PA for posting on the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) website.
- Information Items
  - Transition Chart (Email Attachment)
  - Masontown is in conversation with Eric Glisan about possible service as a Commissioned Pastor.

### AP/CP Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation program
  - New Testament class is underway.
  - November 14; "Boundaries and Ethics" Michelle Snyder, Crows Feet Consulting.

### Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:
  - Prayers for churches and congregations in their various states as they continue to move forward with new endeavors. Prayers for their leadership, direction, and new ministries.
  - Praise for those who are becoming a part of the community of faith. Praise for young adult classes, delivering meals, and mission projects.
  - Prayers for those struggling with cancer diagnoses and health concerns, prayers for healing and comfort.
  - Prayers for those in rehabilitation to bring back to full recovery. Prayers for those adjusting and adapting; making new and alternate plans; and taking steps to stay safe.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time:
  - Tony Marciano, Gail Mason, Bruce Maxwell, Dave McCabe, John McClure, Lee McDermott, David McElroy, Aleda Menchyk, John Michael, Art Moffat.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time:
  - Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg; First Presbyterian Church, Irwin; West Hempfield Presbyterian Church, Irwin; First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette; Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown; First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown; Second Presbyterian Church, Johnstown; Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown; Springhill Furnace Presbyterian Church, Lake Lynn; Latrobe Presbyterian Church.

### Unfinished Business

- Emergency Grant and Loan program (ongoing offer continue food insecurity or other program that is in jeopardy)
  - Ongoing Mission Support with Vulnerable Populations – \$1000
  - Opportunity Ministry Support/new ministry initiatives – \$1000
  - Emergency Cash Flow Loan (no interest/2021) – \$3000

## New Business

There was no new business to bring to this meeting.

## Adjournment

It was MSP to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. with prayer offered by Rev. Skip Noftzger.

\*\*\*\*\*

## October 1, 2020 Meeting

### Approval of Minutes

It was MSP to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2020.

### Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Email Attachment)
- Minutes reviews
  - Current Status
  - COM Liaison follow up – individual.
  - Presbytery drop off – call for appointment time; pick up within one week.
- MSP to approve ordination and transfer per request from the Missouri Union Presbytery to ordain Rick Watson on their behalf, “if the way be clear,” upon examination by their presbytery and in preparation for his call at the First Presbyterian Church, Vandalia, MO.

### Report of the Moderator

- Moderator Appointments - none

## REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

### Examinations and Membership

- Action Items
  - MSP to recommend the examination of the candidate for Newlonsburg by the Presbytery “if the way be clear” via Zoom at the November Meeting.
- Information Items
  - Orientation of Rev. Brian Kilbert, Puckety Presbyterian Church
  - Orientation for Rev. Dawn Sherwood, First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette.

### Search and Call

- Action Items
  - MSP of the approval of the installation commission of Rev. Dawn Sherwood, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette for a service on October 18.
  - MSP of the approval of the call of the Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville to Rev. Travis Webster “if the way be clear” (congregational meeting – November 15) and upon examination by the Presbytery.
  - MSP of the approval of the dissolution of the pastoral relationship of Rev. David McCabe with the Cresson and Patton Presbyterian Churches.
  - MSP of the recommendation to the Presbytery that Rev. McCabe be designated “Honorably Retired” status.
- Information Items
  - Transition Chart (Email Attachment)
  - Masontown is in conversation with Eric Glisan about possible service as a Commissioned Pastor.

## AP/CP Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation program
  - New Testament class is underway.
  - October 10; “Transforming Congregational Mission” Hunter Farrell, PTS World Mission Initiative.

## Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:  
Churches in transition as they progress on their journey. For members who have drifted away and are not attending any church that they come back to church. For new ways for fellowship and for implementing new mission programs such as ROOT International and Narcotics Anonymous. For churches returning to in-person worship and offering communion for the first time since March. For churches embracing a new sense of mission brought on by their experiences with the pandemic and for avenues opening up that were not anticipated. For Pastors experiencing health issues and those facing surgery.
- **MSP** to recommend to the Presbytery approval per the request of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Boswell to be dissolved and to recommend to the Presbytery that an Administrative Commission, appointed by the moderator, be authorized to consider, decide, and conclude all matters related to the dissolution of the Covenant Presbyterian congregation.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time:  
Bill King, Dick Klein, Steve LaSor, Jay Lewis, Kent Lighthall, Carlisle Lloyd, Dennis Macaleer, Chuck MacPherson, Becky Maiman, John Manon.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time:  
Derry Presbyterian Church; First Presbyterian Church, Dunbar; Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, Dunbar; First Presbyterian Church, Ebensburg; First Presbyterian Church, Fairchance; Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church, Farmington; First Presbyterian Church, Fayette City; Little Redstone Presbyterian Church, Fayette City; First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg; Maplewood Presbyterian Church, Greensburg.

## Unfinished Business

- Emergency Grant and Loan program (ongoing offer continue food insecurity or other program that is in jeopardy)
  - Ongoing Mission Support with Vulnerable Populations – \$1000
  - Opportunity Ministry Support/new ministry initiatives – \$1000
  - Emergency Cash Flow Loan (no interest/2021) – \$3000

## New Business

There was no new business to bring to this meeting.

## Adjournment

It was **MSP** to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. with prayer offered by Rev. Pete Goetschius.

**Action Items**

- **No action items for this meeting.**

**Information Items**

- Current status of Inquirers and Candidates:

**Cynthia Bellina---**

- Currently "stopping out" from enrollment at Dubuque Theological Seminary
- Registered to take the Bible Content Examination in January 2021
- Will be considering field education options in upcoming semesters

**Richard Watson---**

- Was certified ready to receive a call
- Candidated and received a call from First Presbyterian Church, Vandalia, Missouri
- Examined and call approved by Missouri Union Presbytery
- Missouri Union Presbytery requested that Redstone Presbytery ordain and dismiss
- With COM approval, ordination for Rev. Richard Watson took place under the authority of a Redstone Presbytery Ordination Commission on November 8, 2020 at Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown, PA
- In contact with two other potential inquirers. One from Westmont and one from Trinity, Uniontown.

Congregations with members who might be called to the ministry are encouraged to have them contact the Committee on Preparation for Ministry as early as possible in their consideration.

**Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation Redstone Enrollees**

- Joshua Scully---completed and commissioned at Little Redstone
- Brian Umbel---completed and serving at a non-denominational church
- Richard Zoltak---completed courses/workshop and preaches occasionally
- William Weightman-- completed and commissioned at Laurel Hill
- Karen Kifer-- completing practicums and offering pulpit supply at Sewickley
- Doug Yauger---completing practicums and offering pulpit supply at a couple churches
- Seth Myers---completed course/workshops; on pulpit supply roster
- Tammy Noss-- enrolled in courses/workshops
- Karen Gray---enrolled in courses/workshops
- Gary Shupe---enrolled in courses/workshops

## Nominating Committee

### Action Items

- The Nominating Committee nominates Elder Belinda Lambie (Colver) to be the Moderator of the Presbytery of Redstone in 2021.
- The Nominating Committee nominates Rev. Curtis Paul (Newlonsburg) to be the Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of Redstone in 2021.
- The Nominating Committee nominates the following persons for the Offices/Classes indicated:

#### SYNOD OF TRINITY COMMISSIONER

- Susan Nesti, Marion Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon (2023)

#### COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

- Rev. Dawn Sherwood, First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette (2023)
- Rev. Richard Sweeney, HR (2023)

### Information Items

- The Nominating Committee is requesting suggestions and recommendations for possible positions both on standing committees and subcommittees of the Presbytery. If you or others (ruling elders) you know desire to participate in some form of Presbytery leadership, please offer your name or others as suggestions for consideration by the Nominating Committee.