



2023 Stated Meeting

of the

Presbytery of Redstone  
Presbyterian Church (USA)

May 23, 2023



ONLINE (ZOOM)

**CONTACT PRESBYTERY OFFICE  
FOR MEETING ID# AND PASSWORD**

OR

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church  
Ebensburg, PA

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

# Directions to Connect to the Presbytery ZOOM Meeting

## USING A COMPUTER WITH A CAMERA, TABLET OR SMARTPHONE

If your computer doesn't have a camera, it will be easier to use dial in by smartphone or landline

<https://zoom.us/j/7248376737>

Meeting ID: 7248376737

## USING A SMARTPHONE TO DO A CONFERENCE CALL (NO VIDEO)

Click one of these and it should log you in:

### Using a landline

Dial 1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Or, click here to find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abZiP0Z9bl>

When prompted enter the Meeting ID: 724 837 6737

## Zoom Meeting Tips – Presbytery Meeting – May 23, 2023 (join-5:45 for 6:00 start)

### VIDEO PARTICIPATION

BEFORE THE MEETING, find the computer, tablet or phone that you will use.

1. [Click here](#). It will automatically encourage you to install Zoom on your device. If it says the website is invalid, it's because you need the Zoom account. OR, you can just download the Zoom link from your app store.
2. If you are on a laptop you can go to Zoom.us and create an account there. Remember your login info!
3. If you are on a phone or tablet install the app. If you click on the blue link on your phone/tablet it should have a banner at the top to take you to the zoom app where you can create an account. App usually remembers the log



in, but you should, too! Here is what the app looks like:

### Day of the meeting:

15 minutes BEFORE the meeting, click on the blue link again and it should take you directly to the meeting on your laptop/phone/tablet. OR, log into Zoom.us and enter the meeting ID yourself.

### To join by phone for audio only all you have to do is dial and then enter the meeting ID

Dial 1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Or, click here to find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/abZiP0Z9bl>

When prompted enter the Meeting ID: 727 837 6737

*NOTE: If you will be using a cell phone---please call us (724.837.6737) ahead of time to let us know your name/church and cell phone # you will be using.*

### **MEETING DAY:**

- Have the Zoom link/information ready and available at least 20-30 minutes before the meeting
- Select a quiet, bright environment with light in front of you. Bright lights or windows behind you or you will be a shadow!
- Select the link/call the number to join the meeting at least fifteen minutes ahead (5:45 p.m.).
- Basic navigation instructions and reminders will be given at that time that include:
  - Renaming yourself/identifying church
  - Muting/unmuting participants
  - Identifying yourself to the moderator for wanting to speak
  - Voting procedures
  - Using the Chat function
  - Responding to "Polls"
  - Using Speaker view and Gallery view

-If you are unable to connect to the meeting and you need assistance, please call Sue Washburn @ 412-760-7469 for tech support.

### **DURING THE MEETING:**

#### **Joining the meeting:**

-Name yourself/congregation either by selecting/changing your "square" (three dots..."rename") or by announcing yourself (if using a phone). From there, once the meeting begins, be muted (eliminates background noise) until your need/want to participate orally (see below) at any point.

#### **If you are presenting:**

-During the meeting, you will need to unmute yourself and speak when called upon by the moderator. If you have "slides" to show as part of your presentation, please send them to the Presbytery office at least the day before the meeting.

#### **If you wish to speak:**

- Signal your desire by using the chat or raise hand function
- The Clerk or Associate Clerk will be monitoring this and will let the Moderator know. When the Moderator recognizes you, then:
  - Remember to unmute
  - Say your name and the congregation/ministry you serve or represent
  - Then share your question, motion, point of order, etc.

#### **Voting:**

-Depending upon the action, the Moderator will initiate either a voice vote of acclamation or use of Polls or Hand raising or some other visual clue. If you have DIALED in you will be given an opportunity for either a voice/text vote.

#### **Breakout Rooms:**

-Parts of the meeting could also take place through segmenting participants into "breakout rooms" for smaller group discussions.

### **Online meeting etiquette:**

A few tips for your own (and everyone else) benefit.

-Even though it's tempting, try not to multitask too much. This might include talking to others in your room, checking the phone, eating meals, etc. AND if you give in to any of those temptations, please make sure that you are muted.

-Remember that everyone else can see you in Gallery view, so there is no hiding in the "back pew" or having unobtrusive side conversations. So just be aware.

### **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MEETING**

- **The offering for this meeting will go to Pine Springs Camp.**

**To make your Offering through online contributions - go to [www.redstonepresbytery.org](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org) and click on the green "GIVE NOW" link on the left of the page.**

**You will need to login - or create a profile if you don't already have one - and then designate your offering in the space(s) provided. You may also mail your Offering to the Presbytery office at 1004 Mt. Pleasant Road, Greensburg, PA 15601. Please designate "Presbytery Offering" on the memo line.**

- **Presbyters are reminded to get "Prayer Requests" to the Clerk as soon as possible as they will be lifted up during the prayers in the Worship Service.**

**Directions to  
Ebensburg Presbyterian Church  
200 North Center Street, Ebensburg, PA 15931  
814.472.6920**

**From the West: Take Route 22 East**

**From the South: Take Route 219 North to Route 22 East**

**From Route 22 East: Take the Ebensburg exit (just past the Walmart/Rite-Aid intersection). Continue on to the second traffic light (about 1.5 miles). Turn left on North Center Street. The church is one block down on the right.**

**For parking: turn right on the street before the church building.**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRESBYTERY MEETING**

**Registration and refreshments will be in the meeting room in the back of the Sanctuary and the meeting will be held in the Sanctuary. There are restrooms on both the main level and the ground level of the church. There is a handicap ramp in the front of the church that will enter into the Sanctuary.**

**Notes for the May 23, 2023 Presbytery Meeting!**

- Presbyters are reminded to get “Prayer Requests” to the Clerk 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 Pine Springs Camp.

**PRESBYTERY OF REDSTONE GATHERING  
IN WORSHIP AND SERVICE  
First Presbyterian Church, Ebensburg, PA  
IN PERSON OR ZOOM MEETING  
May 23, 2023**

5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Minutes review</i></li> </ul>	
5:30-6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Registration and fellowship</i></li> </ul>	<i>In Person/Online</i>
	<b><u>GATHERING</u></b>	
6:00 p.m.	<b><u>Presbytery Gathering Convenes</u></b> <b>GATHERING SONG</b> <b>OPENING PRAYER</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formation of the Roll</li> <li>• Seating of Corresponding Members</li> </ul>	<i>Sanctuary/Zoom</i> <b>Rev. Dawn Sherwood</b>  <b>Rev. Cliff Foster</b>
	<b><u>Reports</u></b> <b><u>Stated Clerk</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representation report – page 23</li> <li>• 2024 Presbytery meetings – page 24</li> <li>• Consent Agenda – page 24</li> </ul> <b><u>Treasurer</u></b> – page 26 <b><u>Executive Presbyter</u></b> – pages 27-28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soli Deo Gloria</li> </ul>	<b>Rev. Skip Noftzger</b>  <b>Rev. Cliff Foster</b> <b>John Dickson</b> <b>Rev. Skip Noftzger</b>
	<b><u>SHARING IN WORSHIP – page 9</u></b>	
	<b><u>Gathering</u></b> -Prelude -Call to Worship -Hymn – “God is Here” -Prayer of Confession -Hymn – “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me” -Assurance of Pardon	
	<b><u>Ministry of the Word</u></b>	<b>Rev. Hyiwot Teshome</b>
	<b><u>Response</u></b> -Hymn – “When in Our Music God is Glorified” -Offering	
	<b><u>Sacrament-Lord’s Supper</u></b> -Hymn – “O Lord My God, How Great Thou Art”	
	<b><u>SHARING IN MINISTRY AND MISSION</u></b>	
	<b>COUNCIL – page 29-31</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amendments – Appendix B            --22-O            --22-U</li> </ul> <b><u>Enabling Ministry Networks</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addictions Ministry network— page 34-35            ---Hope in a Bag</li> </ul>	<b>Rev. Curtis Paul</b>  <b>Rev. Lee McDermott</b>  <b>Rev. Brenda Barnes</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Racial Justice and Reconciliation – page 36</b> ---Moment for Justice</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Empowering Mission Partnerships</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mission Network— page 37</b> --Mission reports (Congregations) --Sudan/South Sudan Mission Partnership Network</li> <li>• <b>Pine Springs Camp— page 38</b> ---July 16 Joint Worship service</li> </ul> <p><b>COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY – page 41-44</b></p> <p><b><u>Engaging Congregations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• —Board of Pensions — Rev. Ross Bash retirement --- Covenant Pastor introductions</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Equipping Leadership</u></b></p> <p><b>COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION ON MINISTRY – page 45</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• James Vlosich—inquirer to candidate status</li> </ul> <p><b>NOMINATING COMMITTEE – page 46</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ordination examination readers</li> <li>• Standing Committees</li> </ul> <p><b><u>New Business</u></b></p>	<p><b>Rev. Owar Ojulu</b></p> <p><b>Greg Davis</b></p> <p><b>Rev. Ed Gray</b></p>    <p><b>Rev. Geoff Rach</b></p>    <p><b>Glenn Hart</b></p>
	<p><b><u>Announcements Loop</u></b></p>	
	<p><b><u>Resolution of Thanks</u></b> <b><u>Benediction</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Adjournment</u></b></p> <p><b><u><i>The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on September 26, 2023, 6:00 p.m. by Zoom or at the Latrobe Presbyterian Church, Latrobe, PA.</i></u></b></p>	<p><b>Rev. Owar Ojulu</b></p>

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# The Great Ends of the Church: The Maintenance of Divine Worship

## GATHERING

### *Directory for Worship W-1.0107: Worship and the Church*

*God's gifts of Word and Sacrament establish and equip the Church as the body of Christ in the world. The mission of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church flows from Baptism, is nourished at Lord's Supper, and serves to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to all. In the same way, the Church's ministry emerges from the font, arises from the table, and takes its shape from the Word of the Lord. Therefore, the worship of the triune God is the center of our common life and our primary way of witness to the faith, hope, and love we have in Jesus Christ.*

*To be a Christian is to worship Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. To be a member of Christ's body, the Church, is to share through Word and Sacrament in the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.*

**Prelude**

**Elder Melissa Douglas**

**Opening Sentences**

**Elder Jim Stratton**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

*Ps. 100:1-4*

**Worship the Lord with gladness.**

**Come into God's presence with singing!**

Know this: The Lord alone is God.

**We belong to the Lord, who made us;**

**we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving;

go into the holy courts with praise.

**Give thanks and call upon the name of the Lord.**

**\*Hymn: #409 God Is Here!**

# 409

# God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to  
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our  
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the  
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an

of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in  
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,  
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and  
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful

full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.  
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.  
 wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.  
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

Here, as in the world a - round us, all our  
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in  
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in  
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we

var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing  
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness  
 wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in  
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not

of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

The Lord says: Come.

Rev. 22:17

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**Almighty God,**

**in raising Jesus from the grave,**

**you shattered the power of sin and death.**

**We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,**

**bound by the ways that lead to death.**

**We overlook the poor and the hungry,**

**and pass by those who mourn;**

**we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed,**

**and indifferent to calls for peace;**

**we despise the weak,**

**and abuse the earth you made.**

**Forgive us, God of mercy.**

**Help us to trust your power**

**to change our lives and make us new,**

**that we may know the joy of life abundant**

**given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.**

Hear the good news of God's promise:

Acts 2:17,21

I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God.**

And may the peace of God be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*Please share signs of peace with one another.*

**\*Gloria Patri: #582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”**

SERVICE MUSIC

# 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)  
 B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
 2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)  
 F B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)  
 C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)  
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

## WORD

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Elder Judy Carl**

**Scripture Readings:**

Psalm 116:12-19

Acts 2:42-47

**Sermon “Tight Connection”**

**Rev. Hyiwot Teshome**

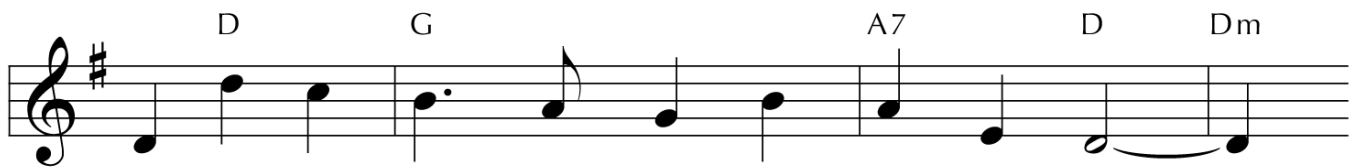
**\*Hymn: “641 “When in Our Music God is Glorified”**

ADORATION

# 641 When in Our Music God Is Glorified



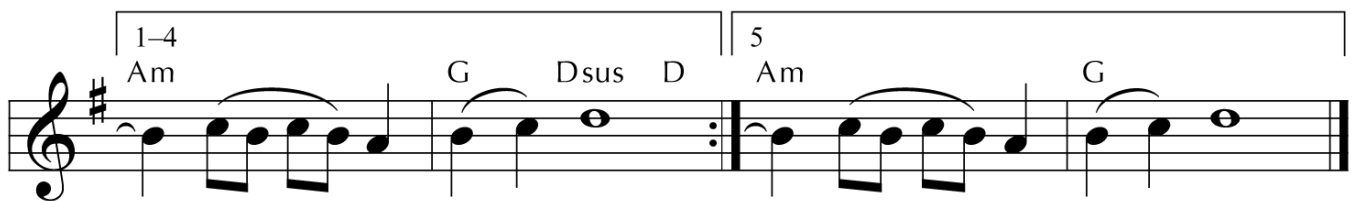
1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied,  
 2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found  
 3 So has the church, in lit - ur - gy and song,  
 4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night  
 5 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise!



and ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride,  
 a new di - men - sion in the world of sound,  
 in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong,  
 when ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the light?  
 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise!



it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried:  
 as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found  
 borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue:  
 Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:  
 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**Offering Our Gifts & Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*Doxology: #609 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

# 609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures  
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise  
God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it  
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Lord's Supper  
Invitation to the Table

Rev. Dawn Sherwood

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Let us pray...

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord**

God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory  
Hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest.  
...great is the mystery of faith:  
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

#### Prayers of the People & Lords Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.

#### Words of Institution Breaking of the Bread

*Please come forward to receive the communion elements, return to your pew, and you may partake as soon as you are seated. If you wish to remain seated, a server will bring communion to you in your pew. Gluten free communion is specially marked.*

\*Hymn during Communion:

# Come to the Table of Grace 507

Capo 3: (D) (A) (Bm) (D7/A) (G)  
 F C Dm F7/C B<sup>b</sup>

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the

(A) (D) (A) (D) (Em)  
 C F C F Gm

ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's

(D/A) (G) (D/A) (A7) (D) (G) (D)  
 F/A B<sup>b</sup> F/C C7 F B<sup>b</sup> F

not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

## Prayer after Communion

\*Hymn: "625 "O Lord My God (How Great Thou Art)"

625

# O Lord My God

## How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er  
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der and hear the  
 3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to  
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion and take me



all the \*worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I  
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees, when I look down from  
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my  
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then \*I shall bow in



hear the \*roll-ing thun-der, thy power through-out the  
 loft-y moun-tain gran-deur and hear the brook and  
 bur-den glad-ly bear-ing, he bled and died to  
 hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion, and there pro-claim, "My



*\*Author's original words are "works," "mighty," and "shall I bow."*

*Refrain*

u - ni - verse dis - played:  
 feel the gen - tle breeze:      Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to  
 take a - way my sin:  
 God, how great thou art!"

thee: How great thou art!    How great thou art!    Then sings my soul, my

Sav - ior God, to thee:    How great thou art!    How great thou art!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first system is labeled 'Refrain'. The lyrics are: 'u - ni - verse dis - played: feel the gen - tle breeze: Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to take a - way my sin: God, how great thou art!'. The second system has lyrics: 'thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my'. The third system has lyrics: 'Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and simple melodic lines.

The business portion of the meeting resumes.

Rev. Owar Ojulu will offer the benediction at the close of the meeting.

Notes and copyright information for hymns:

GATHERING

409

God Is Here!

Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, this text is one of the few to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship. The tune was composed in wartime Britain to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1979, rev. 1988

MUSIC: Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941

Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company

Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

ABBOT'S LEIGH

8.7.8.7.D

SERVICE MUSIC

582

Glory to God,  
Whose Goodness Shines on Me

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008

MUSIC: Paul M. Vasile, 2008

Text Adapt. and Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile

GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

ADORATION

641 When in Our Music God Is Glorified

Written to supply this tune with words suitable for occasions celebrating music, this text explores how human song gives voice to creation, how music can convey new insight, how sung faith has kept the church authentic, how Jesus relied on the psalms, and how sound can be praise.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1972, alt.

MUSIC: Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904, alt.

Text © 1972 Hope Publishing Company

ENGELBERG

10.10.10.4

(this tune in a lower key, 485)

SERVICE MUSIC

609

Praise God, from Whom  
All Blessings Flow

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TEXT: Brian Wren, 1989  
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623; harm. Hal H. Hopson, 1998  
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company  
Music Harm. © 1998 Hope Publishing Company

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
LM with alleluias  
(alternate harmonization, 10)

# Come to the Table of Grace 507

The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.

---

TEXT and MUSIC: Barbara Hamm, 2008  
Text and Music © 2008 Hope Publishing Company

TABLE OF GRACE  
7.7.10.7

ADORATION

## 625

## O Lord My God How Great Thou Art

This tuneful retelling of the salvation story began in Swedish and was translated into German and then into Russian before reaching its English form. Despite such linguistic and musical revisions, it continues to be a meaningful source of comfort to many people.

---

TEXT: Stuart K. Hine, 1953; Spanish trans. Arturo W. Hotton Rives, alt.; Korean trans. anon.  
MUSIC: Swedish folk melody; adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1949  
Text and Music © 1949 and 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust (U.S.A. print rights admin. Hope Publishing Company.  
All other U.S.A. rights admin. EMICMGPublishing.com)

HOW GREAT THOU ART  
11.10.11.10 with refrain

**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
May 8, 2023 - mail	Cresson Presbyterian Church	Updated 2023 Terms of Call for Rev. Alice Tondora	To COM and FILE
May 8, 2023 - hand delivered	Derry Presbyterian Church	Covenant Pastor Agreement with Rev. Larry Armstrong	To COM and FILE
May 4, 2023 - email	Rev. Alice Tondora	Letter of Resignation from Council	To COUNCIL and FILE
May 2, 2023 - email	PCUSA	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Report of Special Offerings	To FILE
May 2, 2023 - mail	Patton Presbyterian Church	Updated 2023 Terms of Call for Rev. Alice Tondora	To COM and FILE
April 18, 2023 - hand delivered	Rev. Patrick Ewing	New Pastor Form, Child Abuse Clearance, PA State Clearance	To FILE
April 18, 2023 - hand delivered	Rev. Patrick Ewing	Annual Report Other Ministers on the Roll of Presbytery	To FILE
April 17, 2023 - mail	Community United Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria	3-year contract extension for CP Leonard Morgan	To COM and FILE
April 3, 2023 - email	United Presbyterian Church, West Newton	2023 Terms of Call for Rev. John Manon	To COM and FILE
April 3, 2023 - email	United Presbyterian Church, West Newton	Manse Inspection Report, List of Session Members	To FILE
March 23, 2023 - email	Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence	List of Session Members	To FILE
March 23, 2023 - mail	Rev. Ross Bash	Request for Retirement Status	To COM and FILE

2. Committee on Representation Annual Report – 12/31/2022

<b>Standing Committees</b>	<b># Members</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>TE/RE</b>	<b>Ethnicity</b>
Council	18	9-M; 9-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 5-(36-50); 7-(51-65); 6-(66+)	9-TE; 9-RE	16-W 1-AA 1-NA
Nominating	3	2-M; 1-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 0-(36-50); 1-(51-65); 2-(66+)	2-TE; 1-RE	3-W
Preparation for Ministry (CPM)	9	4-M; 5-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 4-(36-50); 3-(51-65); 2-(66+)	4-TE; 5-RE	9-W
Committee on Ministry (COM)	22	11-M; 11-F	0-(16-25); 1-(26-35); 3-(36-50); 12-(51-65); 6-(66+)	11-TE; 11-RE	21-W 1-AA
Representation	3	1-M; 2-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 1-(36-50); 1-(51-65); 1-(66+)	2-TE; 1-RE;	3-W
Pine Springs Board	6	3-M; 3-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 2-(36-50); 3-(51-65); 1-(66+)	2-TE; 3-RE; 1-L	5-W
Permanent Judicial Commission	9	4-M; 5-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 1-(36-50); 2-(51-65); 6-(66+)	5-TE; 4-RE	9-W
<b>Committee Summary</b>	70	34-M; 36-F	0-(16-25); 1-(26-35); 16-(36-50); 29-(51-65); 24-(66+)	35-TE; 34-RE; 1-L	66-W 3-AA 1-NA
<b>Council Sub-Committees/Networks</b>					
Budget and Finance	5	4-M; 1-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 0-(36-50); 1-(51-65); 4-(66+)	5-RE;	5-W
Mission	9	5-M; 4-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 1-(36-50); 4-(51-65); 4-(66+)	6-TE; 3-RE	7-W 2-AA
Staff Support	4	3-M; 1-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 0-(36-50); 2-(51-65); 2-(66+)	1-TE; 3-RE	4-W
Racial Justice and Reconciliation	7	3-M; 4-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 2-(36-50); 4-(51-65); 1-(66+)	5-TE; 2-RE	7-W
Addictions Ministry	8	3-M; 5-F	0-(16-25); 0-(26-35); 2-(36-50); 2-(51-65); 04-(66+)	3-TE; 5-RE	8-W
<b>GRAND TOTALS (duplicated)</b>	103	52-M; 51-F	0-(16-25); 1-(26-35); 21-(36-50); 42-(51-65); 39-(66+)	50-TE; 52-RE; 1-L	97-W 5-AA 1-NA

### **Observations and Recommendations:**

- The Racial-Ethnic membership of the churches of the Presbytery equals approximately 1% of the total membership. Among those who are ordained as Ruling Elders, the percentage is even smaller. So, while there is a need for greater diversity in congregational leadership which serves as the “pool” for potential presbytery leadership progress has been made with presbytery committees and structures. Our commitment remains to increase the representation of all members of the body of Christ; but without those steps, options for increasing racial-ethnic participation in Presbytery will remain limited.
  - The Teaching Elder – Ruling Elder ratios are equal within the standing committees of the presbytery where it is required. Some imbalance exists within networks and subcommittees which is largely driven by the engagement in these groups is based upon personal initiative and interest.
  - Gender ratios are balanced among individual committees and only remain slightly unbalanced in the aggregate resulting from the odd number of participants in some of the committees. This addresses and corrects an imbalance that was present in the previous year a result of mid-term resignations.
  - Overall, the report continues to be balanced with progress being made in racial-ethnic, gender and ruling elder status among some of the committees being sustained or improved. There remains a need to attract and nominate ruling and teaching elders in our younger age categories. This information is being related to the Nominating Committee with encouragement for their work and to continue to address any inequities identified within committees wherever possible.
3. Council has approved and is publishing the following meeting dates of the Presbytery of Redstone for 2024.
- January 27, 2024
  - March 19, 2024
  - May 28, 2024
  - September 24, 2024
  - November 23, 2024

If your church is interested in serving as a host for anyone of those meetings, please contact Rev. Skip Noftzger to make the request of the Council.

### **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 March 28, 2023, be approved.

#### **From the Council**

1. Council **recommends** that the Financial Reports presented to the Council and the Presbytery be received and filed for audit. See **Appendix A**.
2. Council **recommends** that the reports of the Stated Clerk and Associate Stated Clerk be received and filed.
3. Council **recommends** that any Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Mission, Pine Springs Camp and Synod commissioner reports presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.
4. Council **recommends** approval of each of the following amendments to the Book of Order approved at the 2022 General Assembly.

*(Annotation and recommendations by standing committees of the Presbytery are included for*

information only. Full text of each amendment as well as background and rationale are provided in Appendix B)

**22-A** (F-1.0302c) THE CATHOLICITY OF THE CHURCH (POL-16 1a)

*Expands inclusive language with reference to gender identity*

**22-B** (F-1.0404) OPENNESS (POL-16 1b)

*Expands inclusive language with reference to gender identity*

**22-P** (G-3.0106) ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION (HSB-05 9)

*Adds language regarding boundary training, including sexual abuse to the requirement for sexual misconduct policies required of councils*

**22-T** (W-3.0205) CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (TWE-05 1)

*Adds administration of the sacrament of Baptism to the list of appropriate actions following the proclamation of forgiveness in a service of worship*

**From the Committee on Representation**

1. Committee on Representation **recommends** that the annual report on representation be received, filed, and directed to the Nominating Committee.

**From the Sewickley Administrative Commission**

1. The Sewickley Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission **recommends** the report of their meeting as submitted in this packet be received and filed.

## Treasurer's Report

### INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT

This report provides an unaudited overview of the Redstone Presbytery finances ending April 30, 2023. The month of April represents the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) operating month of the budget year for the Presbytery. Being such, it is hopeful in order to meet the mission objectives of the Presbytery, revenue receipted is at minimum 33% of the annual pledged Church Commitment amount, and current expenses at best do not exceed 33%.

#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW / INCOME

Church Commitments receipted for the month totaled \$30,258, which exceeds the monthly budget target of \$27,083. Annually, \$103,565 has been recorded, which falls slightly short of the budgeted benchmark of \$108,333 for this time period.

In review of the Church Commitment Report, there are a variety of paid pledge percentages (%), uncommitted pledges, and committed pledges unpaid for the year.

Total Income recorded for the current monthly period totaled \$40,675, which exceeds the budgeted threshold of \$36,500. Contributing funds for the current monthly period include; PILP interest, miscellaneous income, and funds released from restricted accounts. YTD, \$132,948 is recorded for this period, which is short of the desired benchmark of \$146,000 or by - \$13,052.

#### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW / EXPENSES

Total Expenses annually are at 34.18%, which is slightly above the target of 33%. For the current monthly period, expenses exceed the desired benchmark of \$36,503 by \$14,292 or \$50,795 in total. This is a result of the timing of payments and needed maintenance needs of the Presbytery office, along with higher utility cost (gas & water).

#### EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENSES

For the current month and YTD, expenses exceed income.

- April -\$8,343
- YTD - \$16,556

#### INVESTMENTS & HOLDINGS

Ameriprise investments for April had a positive change in value totaling \$2,231 and YTD the investments reflect a positive gain of \$24,690. Ending value \$600,719.

Other investments and holdings consisting of First Commonwealth (checking), PILP, New Covenant, and Petty Cash total \$474,506. Total Investments & Holdings = \$1,075,225

Respectfully Submitted,

John Dickson

**Executive Presbyter Report**

<b>Rev. Richard "Skip" Noftzger Executive Presbyter Report</b>	
<i>Communicate the Word, Carry on the Work, Change the World.....Together!</i>	
VISION	3/28/2022-5/23/2023
<p style="color: purple;">Congregation-centered (ENGAGE)</p>	<p>Visible presence within the Presbytery engaging with congregations-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaged firsthand through in person participation in worship, offering greetings or providing leadership on behalf of the Presbytery on fourteen different occasions in different congregations. In eight of those occasions, I participated through proclamation of the Word, delivery of a charge and worship leadership.</li> <li>• Came alongside to work with three different sessions in order to offer technical and ministry assistance in working through a variety of issues and concerns.</li> <li>• Served as the primary resource person with regular contact and support four Pastor Nominating Committees. Provided initial orientation training and resources as well as guidance through the screening, selection and nominating process.</li> <li>• Provided leadership for congregations that are in transition in identify possible short term or transitional leadership. Worked with sessions in the consideration and calling of "Covenant Pastors."</li> </ul>
<p style="color: purple;">Leadership developed (EQUIP)</p>	<p>Developing and equipping leadership within the Presbytery---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coached and supported through in person and phone contact various pastors in the development of ministry strategy, transitional plans, vocational calling and personal and pastoral concerns.</li> <li>• Facilitated workshops for elder training. Developed materials and case study for ongoing use.</li> <li>• Initiated contacts for possible referrals of new candidates for consideration by some of these open positions. Proactive networking across presbyteries to cultivate possible candidates for open Redstone positions.</li> <li>• Participated in the Pastor Getaway Retreat held at Pine Springs Camp.</li> <li>• Resourced all of the standing committees of the Presbytery along with various subcommittees, networks and task forces.</li> <li>• Coordinated "emergency" (when there has been a cancellation) preaching on a number of occasions among small congregations.</li> </ul>
<p style="color: purple;">Collaboration-Districts/Network (ENABLE)</p>	<p>Creating and supporting collaboration in ministry both within and outside Redstone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated and recruited others for the regional gatherings of the Synod of the Trinity. Actively engaged in networking groups within the Synod for</li> </ul>

	<p>executive presbyters and Synod leaders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing support and work with Christian Associates through consulting with the Executive Minister on the strategic planning process. Participated in the Council of Judicatory Leaders retreat for review and revision of the strategic plan.</li> <li>• Engaged with the Board of Pensions in a “Season of Rebuilding” as they consider possible adaptations for 2025 in the offerings within the pensions program which includes health insurance, death/disability insurance and retirement.</li> <li>• Ongoing service as the administrative coordinator for the Wee Kirk conference to be offered on October 9-11, 2023. Solicited funds through donations and grants for the sponsorship of the upcoming conference.</li> <li>• Coordinated with the presbyteries of Washington, Upper Ohio Valley, Pittsburgh, Beaver-Butler, and Shenango in the administration of the Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation Program. Serve as the director of the program.</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>• Worked with the task force planning a special worship service and picnic at Pine Springs Camp in celebration of 75 years of camping ministry. Ongoing service with the Pine Springs Camp board and consultation with the Chairperson and the Executive Director.</li> <li>• Along with Rev. Sylvia Carlson, served as the Co-Conveners of the partnership network with the Sudan and South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church. This includes representatives from Redstone, Pittsburgh, Shenango, Trinity and Homestead presbyteries.</li> <li>• Ongoing work on updating database of congregational mission projects through the use of Google forms.</li> </ul>				
<p>Operational Support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted ongoing opportunities for annual review of session minutes and church registers.</li> <li>• Monitored financial status through monthly review of income and expenditures. Followed up with sessions where expected First Fruits was falling behind. Wrote monthly gift letters expressing thanksgiving and appreciation for financial support.</li> <li>• Supervised and contracted with vendors for ongoing maintenance issues for the Presbytery center. Continue to upgrade the technological needs.</li> </ul>				
<p><b>VALUES</b></p>	<p><b>Servant Leadership</b></p>	<p><b>Flourishing Community</b></p>	<p><b>Witness to the World</b></p>	<p><b>Generous and effective Stewardship</b></p>	
<p><i>Soli Deo Gloria</i></p>					

## 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.]

#### Council Report Items

- **Book of Order Amendments**  
--22-O (Appendix B)  
*Council recommended not to concur.*  
--22-U  
(Appendix B)  
*Council recommended not to concur.*
- **Addictions Ministry Network**  
--Hope in a Bag
- **Racial Justice and Reconciliation Network**  
--Moment for Justice
- **Mission Network**  
--Congregational mission reports
- **Pine Springs Camp**

#### Information Items

April 25, 2022

#### Moderator Report

#### Executive Presbyter Report

Rev. Noftzger provided updates on various ministry activities around the presbytery including the Pastor Getaway Retreat, status of various churches in transition as well as prayer requests within the presbytery.

#### Stated Clerk Report

- The Correspondence Log for was reviewed as submitted.
- Rev. Noftzger confirmed the dates for all Council meetings in 2023. They are the following:
  - June 27**
  - August 29**
  - October 24**
  - November 28**
- Rev. Noftzger introduced the overtures from the 2022 General Assembly that are to be considered at the May meeting. He also reviewed the current status of all overtures as voted upon to date by the various presbyteries. Upon reviewing the overtures for the upcoming meeting, it was **MSP** to place 22-P and 22-T on the consent agenda, in addition to the 22-A and 22-B. This leaves 22-O and 22-U on the action agenda with both receiving a recommendation by the Council not to concur.
- A list of possible proposed 2024 Gathering Dates for the Presbytery was put before the Council. They included the following:
  - January 27, 2024 (Saturday afternoon)
  - March 19, 2024 (Tuesday evening) (Easter – March 31)

- May 28, 2024 (Tuesday evening)
- September 24, 2024 (Tuesday evening)
- November 23, 2024 (Saturday morning) (Thanksgiving - November 28)

Upon review of the dates, it was **MSP** to approve them as proposed and to publish them for the Presbytery of Redstone.

### **Treasurer Report**

John Dickson reviewed the written report that had been submitted in the packet. Although there has been a good individual month regarding income, there remains a lag behind projected budgeted income. Expenditures are controlled and below budget with some exceptions related to timing in the year.

### **Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp**

Executive Director Greg Davis provided and oral report emphasizing the following:

- Summer camp enrollments
- Scholarship Golf Outing – May 22
- 75 year celebration---June 3
- Annual Friends Dinner---October 29

Rev. Dawn Sherwood reported on the special worship service and picnic planned for churches of Redstone Presbytery on July 16. Information on saving the date will be going out soon.

It was agreed to receive the reports **by consent** of the Executive Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Treasurer and Executive Director of PSC.

### **Committees/Networks**

#### **Staff Support**

A written report was provided based upon the last meeting. Currently, feedback is being solicited for the annual evaluation and feedback for the Executive Presbyter. Reviews for both the Executive Presbyter and the Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper will take place on June 22.

#### **Communications**

No report.

#### **Mission**

Rev. Ojulu spoke of the planning the 2023 PDA mission trip to Kentucky. Under the leadership of Rev. Campbell, the trip is scheduled for June 5-10, 2023.

The Mission network is soliciting from congregations updates on their mission projects (local, domestic and international) in order to compile a database for networking around shared interests. Additionally, two congregations offer a moment for mission at each Presbytery gathering.

The Sudan/South Sudan Mission Partnership Network meeting will take place this summer on July 19-21 in New Wilmington, PA. Skip and Sylvia are the co-conveners. Rev. Noftzger also reported that we had applied along with Pittsburgh and Shenango to host Peter Yien through the International Peacemaker Program (PCUSA).

#### **Addictions Ministry Network**

A written Report was provided from the Addictions Ministry Network. Within the report, the network had made a request to approve the solicitation for the “Hope in a Bag” project. It was **MSP** to approve the request for solicitation within the presbytery and to provide time on the agenda for the May meeting.

### **Worship**

Rev. Laura Blank shared with the Council the preachers for the upcoming 2023 Presbytery Gatherings to include the following people. Each meeting continues to focus on one of the “Great Ends of the Church.”

- May – Hyiwot Teshome
- September – Asa Lee
- November – Dawn Sherwood

### **Budget, Finance and Stewardship**

A written report based upon the prior meeting of the subcommittee was supplied.

Summaries of the investments report were reviewed along with some upcoming maintenance projects for the Presbytery center.

Because of the management of the cash flow operations within the presbytery accounts, Bobbi Jo Huebner reported that the subcommittee was recommending the movement of \$35000 from 1<sup>st</sup> Commonwealth checking account to our Ameriprise investments accounts. It was **MSP** to approve this transfer of funds.

### **Racial Justice and Reconciliation**

Rev. Brenda Barnes reported on their previous work as well as their plans for continuing to elevate concerns of racial justice and reconciliation. On behalf of the network, she made a request of the Council to initiate a “Moment for Justice” at each Presbytery meeting with the first one in May being a “Stand Up to Jewish Hate” using a video and blue squares. It was **MSP** to approve the request for both the May meeting presentation as well as future time in the Presbytery agenda. They also presented a request to include an article in the Presbytery packet. It was **MSP** to approve this request.

### **Presbyterian Women**

A written report was presented in the meeting documents.

### **May Presbytery Agenda**

A proposed Presbytery agenda was submitted. Upon discussion and minor revisions, the agenda for the May meeting was **MSP** and will be published.

### **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

### **New Business**

There was no new business for action.

### **CLOSING PRAYERS/ADJOURNMENT**

It was **MSP** to adjourn and the meeting was closed in prayer at 8:30 p.m.

## Discernment Team/Administrative Commission Reports

Meeting Minutes for April 18, 2023

### **Commission Members:**

*Present:* Amanda Albright, Ed Gray, Connie Keefer, Karen Kifer, and Richard Pry

*Excused:*

*Others Present:* Twana Maturkanic and Sharon Williams

### **Proceedings:**

*Meeting opened with prayer by Karen Kifer*

*Bible Reading: Galatians 6:9-10*

*Approve the Administrative Commission meeting minutes from January 17, 2023*

**MOTION** to approve the Administrative Commission meeting minutes from

January 17, 2022, and the Annual Congregation Meeting Minutes from January 29, 2023; **MSP.**

*Review of the Agenda of the meeting*

*Welcome to our guests – Twana Maturkanic and Sharon Williams*

**MOTION** to give voice to Twana Maturkanic and Sharon Williams in the meeting; **MSP.**

### **Reports:**

*Report of the Chair – Rev. Ed Gray*

*Report of the Treasurer - Amanda Albright*

**MOTION** to receive the January, February, and March Treasurer's reports; **MSP.**

*Report of the Pastor – Karen Kifer*

Ed Gray to complete the CRE Mentor Annual Report for 2022.

The baptism of Charlotte Michelle Gephart, daughter of Chad and Jennifer Gephart (186 Momyer Rd, Smithton, PA 15479) occurred on January 29, 2023 at the regular worship service.

The Children's Bible Study continues on Monday at 5 pm.

The Adult Bible Study continues on Wednesday at 3 pm.

Movie Matinee has resumed after a winter break. We will be watching *God's Not Dead 3: A Light in Darkness*, on April 25, 2023, at 2:00 pm.

The church has obtained a sponsor for the development of a website.

A website functions as the church's digital front door. It allows people searching for a church online to see us.

A website is NOT a big incentive to draw new people; however, NOT having a website is a handicap in attracting visitors.

Reflex Brands, a website designer, can build the church a website similar to Poke Run Presbyterian Church ([www.pokerunchurch.com](http://www.pokerunchurch.com)).

The website would be static except for the calendar page which can be updated by the church, as needed.

Any changes to the website (except the calendar page) after development is complete (including the online testing period) would be billed on a per-hour basis. The current cost is \$175 per hour. An example of a future change would be the addition of an online giving page (the current cost of adding an extra page is \$400)

If the church agrees, the cost to the church will be \$30 per month for the website hosting fee and \$20 per year website domain fee.

The proposed name of the website would be [www.sewickleypresbyterianchurch.com](http://www.sewickleypresbyterianchurch.com) (or .org, if unavailable)

**MOTION** to approve the development of a website for the church; **MSP.**

**MOTION** to approve amending the 2023 budget to include \$400 annually to update the website; **MSP**

*Administrative Report – Karen Kifer*

Mr. Ed Higgins, a neighbor of the church passed away recently.

The required reports were completed for Redstone Presbytery (Necrology Report, Terms of Call Form, Manse Inspection) and the Annual Statistical Report for the General Assembly by their respective due dates.

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on January 29, 2023

Brit Grimes, the tenant in the manse, has moved. We worked with Patty Molnar from Berkshire Hathaway to include addendums to the lease detailing the expectation that the new tenant cut the grass around the church building in return for using the church's lawn tractor and lawn mower to cut the manse property.

RJ Morales, the new tenant as of April 3, 2023, was vetted and selected by Berkshire Hathaway.

County Hauling, 111 Conner Lane, Belle Vernon, PA 15012, 724-929-7694, is the new garbage company for the church (changed a few times in the past 9 months). They permit one bulk item per month to be placed out at the curb the first week of the month.

*Building Report – Karen Kifer*

General cleanup outside was completed before Easter.

The garage has been cleaned.

The previous tenant, Brit Grimes, removed all of his things and left his portion clean.

There were many things left on the far side. It is uncertain where the items came from. Some items, such as wood signs, manger, and shepherd's crooks, were clearly used by the church for sales and events many years ago.

The items have been sorted; junk has been thrown away and the garage swept clean of rodent nests and droppings.

A number of large bulk items will be placed out for the garbage as the collection schedule permits.

The lawn tractor and lawn mower were inspected and found in good working condition.

*Mission – Karen Kifer*

The church collected \$650 for Mendon Elementary School and purchased 13-\$50 Aldi's gift cards. The school principal and guidance counselor selected the families that would benefit the most. The school placed a very kind thank you on its website.

*Upcoming Events:*

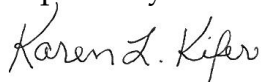
April 25, 2:00 pm – Movie Matinee

May 3, 3:00 pm – Bible Study and Potluck

*Meeting adjourned with prayer by Ed Gray*

*The next Administrative Commission Meeting is August 8, 2023, at 1:00 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,



Sewickley Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission, Recording Secretary

Addiction Ministry Network  
of the Presbytery of Redstone and

# HOPE IN A BAG



**Addiction takes away everything.**



*Hope in a Bag* started when Renah’s Uncle Mike died from a drug overdose. Renah from Smithton at the age of 12 started collecting toiletries and other small items for people who entered addiction treatment. Making the choice to enter treatment for addiction is a big step. Unfortunately, many people try to “get clean” without the simple things like soap, razors, or a toothbrush. The Addiction Ministry Network of Redstone Presbytery is sponsoring a presbytery-wide collection by asking congregations to contribute some or all the items listed below and **bring them to our Presbytery meeting in September 26 in Latrobe.**

## YOU CAN HELP!

Please consider donating the following items for recovery

Small Bible  
Pens and Pencils  
Journals  
Cards  
Soap/Body Wash

Shampoo/Conditioner  
Toothbrushes  
Toothpaste  
Deodorant  
Razors  
Feminine Hygiene Products

Dental Floss  
Nail Clippers  
Q-Tips  
Small Blankets  
Hardtack Candies

# NARCAN training and kits

Naloxone, commonly referred to by its brand name, NARCAN, is a medication that can reverse an overdose that is caused by an opioid drug (i.e. prescription pain medication or heroin).

When administered during an overdose, naloxone blocks the effects of opioids on the brain and restores breathing within two to eight minutes.

Naloxone has been used safely by medical professionals for more than 40 years and has only one function: to reverse the effects of opioids on the brain and respiratory system, in order to prevent death.

You may have seen the news that overdose deaths are at a record high post-COVID. In Westmoreland County the overdose rate among those 65+ is rising faster than other age groups. This is mainly because of accidental overdoses of prescriptions.

***The only thing Narcan enables is breathing***

## NARCAN Training within Presbytery

**If your congregation would like to host a NARCAN training**, there are individuals in presbytery trained to conduct these trainings and you can get more information by sending e-mail to [redstonetogether@gmail.com](mailto:redstonetogether@gmail.com) Churches and pastors should have Narcan available in their first aid kits and offices to insure the ability to respond should an overdose situation occurs.

## Racial Justice and Reconciliation Report

### May 3, 2023, Meeting

Opened with prayer at 4:02pm.

1. Hidden Figures – Brenda relayed how the attempt was difficult at New Hope but ended with success and another movie being planned.
2. Jeff – confronting whiteness – We determined that 5 want to attend. Brenda will talk to Skip about the costs involved (\$150 per person for a total of \$900).
3. Moment for Justice – Brenda will present the first Moment for Justice at the May Presbytery meeting. Skip has the video to play that day. We have the blue squares to give out.
4. Future Moments for Justice – we began to brainstorm more possible moment topics. Will continue this into the future.
5. Recommendations (books/movies)
  - a. Re-recommendation – *This Here Flesh* by Cole Arthur Riley; let's try to read this book!
  - b. Lamar Johnson – Curtis will present this at the next Presbytery meeting; After the meeting, Dennis provided links re: the story and Lamar's release from incarceration (for a crime he did not commit). See below.

[Here is a link](#) to the CBS episode of 48 Hours I mentioned on Wednesday. It gives a thorough account of what happened to Lamar Johnson, and how he was wrongly imprisoned for 28 years because of police and prosecutorial misconduct. He was released in February this year. Obviously, it is much too long to be used directly in a "moment for justice," but if you have the time (40+ minutes), it is very illuminating. If I can find something shorter that can capture some of the details and might lend itself to a brief presentation, I'll follow up with it.

[There is this clip](#), just a few minutes long, that gives a different side of the story. It is about the personal ministry of letter writing to him that a woman maintained for 25 years, because Johnson had reached out to her church that long ago.

6. Old Business – no discussion – just keeping the issues before us
  - a. Valley View church solar panels
  - b. Bus trip – October timeframe
7. New Business

We talked at length about “our system” because at the last Presbytery meeting, we perpetuated two justice issues. Both are related to online participation. We “closed off” the room to online participation as Owar was bypassed when the technology didn't work well. This was an inclusion issue (not assuring people of color were able to participate fully). The second was the online questions for the candidate... we must have a way to provide access to what is happening “in person”. The suggestion was to have the person watching the questions come in have voice to relay those questions in person to ensure that all participation was rendered appropriately. Brenda will bring it to council to discuss.

Closed with prayer at 4:55pm

## Mission Committee Report

### May 11, 2023, Meeting

#### Business:

1. May Presbytery meeting offering will be donated to Pine Springs Camp.
2. Presbytery wide Missions Engagement: Ebensburg will report at the Presbytery meeting.
3. Mission Trips: Sylvia reported the trip to St. Albans, WV went very well. Exterior and Interior work was completed. The facility, named Hezekiah House is intended to house men receiving treatment for alcohol and substance abuse rehab. The building is owned by St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church in St. Albans and Pastor Poke worked with the group making improvements. 10 volunteers worked well together with good group dynamics. Pastor Poke is looking to dedicate the facility in October.
4. Madisonville, KY is cancelled, 13 of the 14 volunteers cancelled within last 10 days. No re-scheduling at this time, all other trips with PDA are filled. Follow-up TBD.
5. From Skip: Mission Network meeting at Westminster College July 19-21, prior to the New Wilmington Mission Conference, Sylvia reported Sudanese speakers have been invited, some are in the US, some may be able to attend remotely to discuss Sudan, South Sudan issues. Owar spoke with Thomas Tut and he will post a message on You Tube. This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the relationship with SPEC and SSPC in Africa. Hyiwot reported there was no meeting with Mark Adams, the co-worker from Mexico who is home.

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### April 13, 2023, Meeting

#### Business:

1. Presbytery Meeting Offering: May Presbytery offering to be donated to Pine Springs Camp. Ebensburg Church remains in Covid mode so plates will be in front of the church to receive offering.
2. Presbytery wide Missions Engagement: Donna stated she will ask Dave O'Hara at Revloc to speak, and Ebensburg will report at the Presbytery meeting.
3. Missions Trips: Sylvia Carlson reported the Webster Springs, West Virginia trip is now going to St. Albans, WV, a suburb of Charleston. Interior work will be conducted in a building to house rehab for drug and alcohol rehab, The building is owned by a Baptist Church in St. Albans.
4. The Madisonville, KY trip coordinated with PDA is scheduled for June 5-10, 2023. Bulletin inserts have been sent to churches and Derek spoke at the Presbytery meeting.
5. Skip and Sylvia: New Coordinator for Africa Mission work, Cheryl Barnes, an educational facilitator for CCAP (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian) will begin her post in June. She is active in fighting poverty through education of children and works to promote education.

## Pine Springs Camp Report

- I. Summer Camp Update
  - a. Numbers-770 Overnight Campers-3/4/23 Compared to end of April 2022-696
  - b. Staff
    - i. We currently are low on staff.
      1. Male Counselors 3 contracted-4 more have been sent contracts (goal of at least 10-12)
      2. Female Counselors-3 contracted 5 more have been sent contracts-(Goal of at 12-14)
      3. We are working on how to manage potentially even our current camper numbers.
      4. We are still trying to recruit! Especially Lifeguards and Counselors
      5. Pray for this need!
  - c. PSC Traveling Day Camps
    - i. Norwin/W.Hempfield-June 19-23 at New Hope Presbyterian Churches (Partner churches are New Hope, Irwin and West Hempfield)
    - ii. Murrysville-July 24-28-Murrysville Presbyterian Church-Partnering Church-Murrysville Presbyterian
    - iii. Brochures were mailed to 140 area camper families.
    - iv. 37 churches were mailed Traveling Day Camp Packets
- II. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
  - a. The June 3<sup>rd</sup> Celebration planning is well underway.
    - i. Registration and Brochure mailed this week.
    - ii. Online registration is live.
    - iii. Possible dedications of Stuart Chapel and A-frame Renovations
    - iv. Registration and More Info at [www.pinesprings.org/75th](http://www.pinesprings.org/75th)
  - b. Presbytery Worship Celebration-Sunday, July 16-Worship followed by Picnic.
- III. Golf Outing
  - a. The date is Monday, May 22-
  - b. Please consider supporting this event by either golfing or becoming a tea or green sponsor or by providing a silent auction item.
  - c. Sponsorships and Foursomes are coming in.
  - d. 11 Amen Corner Church Sponsors
    - i. Irwin, First Greensburg (2), Murrysville, Church of the Covenant, Belle Vernon, McClellandtown, Level Green, Chartiers Hill, Canonsburg
- IV. ACA Accreditation
  - a. Site visit in July.
- V. Historical Building Project Campaign
  - a. The Board approved over a year ago to start raising money for various historical projects. I attached a flyer. I continue to seek funding for all the projects.
  - b. The Aframe Project has been funded currently to \$50,000 with the potential for more. Interior Dining Hall work will start May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - c. Trinity New Florence Mission Team is working on the Log Chapel
  - d. Stonework renovation has begun on Stuart chapel.
- VI. UPCOMING EVENTS
  - a. Annual Workday- Saturday, May 13
  - b. 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Outing- Monday, May 22
- VII. Prayer
  - a. Year-round staff
  - b. Summer staff-that God would draw people to apply and work here this summer.
  - c. All the stuff that is happening, that it would be done well and honoring to the Lord.
  - d. Summer Campers Safety and the 75<sup>th</sup> Celebration

**Pine Springs Camp**  
75TH YEAR  
1948 - 2023  
MEETING ENCOUNTERS WITH CHRIST

*Help us get ready for our 75th Summer of Camping Ministry!*

*Pine Springs Camp  
Work Day 23  
Saturday, May 13*

8:30-Donuts/Coffee and Fellowship  
9:00-1:00-Work  
1:00-1:30-Lunch  
1:30-3:00-Finish Projects

*Let us know you're coming by going to  
www.pinesprings.org/workday  
Call-814-629-9834  
E mail-info@pinesprings.org*

*We provide the main course for lunch, please bring a pot-luck to share (salad, chips dessert)*

*Don't Miss this Celebration!*

# PINE SPRINGS CAMP

*Campers from 1951*

## 75TH ANNIVERSARY

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**SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023**

*For more information including registration go to [www.pinesprings.org/75th](http://www.pinesprings.org/75th)*

## **Presbyterian Women Report**

I want to introduce Patricia Hart, incoming Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Redstone. Pat will be installed at the Spring Retreat on Tuesday, May 9 at Pine Springs Camp. She is really looking forward to leading Redstone PW into our future. She is the organist and director of the bell choir at New Hope Presbyterian Church in North Huntingdon, PA. Her husband is Glenn, who faithfully pastors two small congregations in Redstone Presbytery. She will bring her love of mission, needlework, gardening and other gifts to this new role.

Susan Nesti is concluding her term as Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Trinity. She has “done us proud” with her service to Presbyterian Women in our Synod. Congratulations for a job well done!

Please note that the Synod PW Gathering will be held July 10-12 at the Penn Stater in Penn State, PA. The Fall Gathering of Redstone Presbyterian Women will be held on Saturday, November 4 at Congruity Presbyterian Church. Rev. Donna Havrisko will give an overview of the 2023-2024 Horizons Bible Study. Please watch for the flyer which will be available for the September meeting of Presbytery. I have enjoyed serving PW as Moderator and will return to working with Karol Elmore as we work together on Resources for Study and Action on the Coordinating Team.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sylvia Carlson, Moderator

## Committee on Ministry

### Committee on Ministry Report Items

- Board of Pensions – Church Consultant - Rev. Emily Chudy
- Retirement of Rev. Ross Bash
- Covenant Pastor introductions

#### May 4, 2023, Meeting

##### Approval of Minutes

MSP approval of the minutes of April 13, 2023.

##### Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Meeting Documents).
- Minutes Review Dates
  - May 9; 6:00 p.m.; Trinity United Presbyterian Church
  - May 23; 5:00 p.m.; Ebsburg Presbyterian Church (pre-Presbytery meeting)
  - There are a number of Churches who have not yet completed minutes/register review: list in meeting documents.
- Rev. Skip Noftzger presented information on responsibilities of a Clerk of Session. He offered an annual calendar for their activities to which liaisons should be aware to be helpful.
- MSP to approve the recommendation of the request from Rev. Michael Shepard and the Presbytery of Western Carolina to be dismissed to that presbytery.

##### Report of the Moderator

- Moderator appointments
  - Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown - Rev. Ed Gray

### REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

#### Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
  - Interviewing other non-Presbyterian ministers for possible additions to the pulpit supply roster (preaching only).

#### Search and Call

- Information Items
  - Transition Chart (handout)
  - Rev. Larry Armstrong and the Derry Presbyterian Church have come to an agreement about his possible service as Covenant Pastor.
  - Tyrone Presbyterian Church is open to calling a part-time commissioned pastor. In the process of seeking to identify any possible options.
- Action Items
  - MP to approve the Covenant Pastor agreement between Rev. Becca Siddle and The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington session (agreement in meeting documents).

## **COM Liaison Responsibilities and Resources**

- Action items follow up
  - Follow up Clerks—plan on participating in one of upcoming minutes review.
  - Follow up Pastor/Mission chair---completion of congregation mission projects (<https://forms.gle/p6wxbLcVnMrdFHuT8>)
  - Book of Order Amendments that have passed with potential implications for the work and ministry of the Committee on Ministry with pastors/sessions and congregations.
- Ministry reflections for conversations
- Resources within Presbytery
  - Articles and Resources
  
- Education and Nurture
  - IPLF Upcoming workshops
    - After the Commission; Reflections on IPLF and pastoral service—5/13
  - Ministry strategy consultation—Skip Noftzger

## **Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders**

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:

Praises for communicant classes, great energy, and increase in attendance. Praises for Mother Day special events and planned Memorial Day celebration at church. Praises for anniversary celebrations. Praises for major projects underway and for spring cleanup projects. Praises for successful blood drives, choral concerts, and meals on wheel. Praises for full preschool registrations, VBS plans, active youth group and young adult bible study.

Prayers for PNC as they deal with change and processes. Prayers for church property issues. Prayers for the health and well being of congregants, for peace during transitions to nursing home, and for encouragement during challenges and struggles. Prayers for safe travel and praises for well deserved vacation.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time:

Rebecca Siddle, John Simpson, Jeff Smith, Doug Stevens, James Stobaugh, James Sunseri, Richard Sweeney, Hyiwot Teshome, Denise Toderro, Alice Tondora.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time:

Patton Presbyterian Church; Revloc Presbyterian Church; Calvin United Presbyterian Church, Scottdale; Grace Chapel Presbyterian Church, Smithfield; Pleasant View Presbyterian Church, Smock; Level Green Presbyterian Church, Trafford; Tent Presbyterian Church, Uniontown; Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown; Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown; East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Vanderbilt.

## **Unfinished Business**

- Pastor Retreat – Although chilly on the outside, it was a warm gathering on the inside. The retreat offered a different format with devotions; study on creating a culture of change, and time of fellowship.

## **New Business**

- Northeast Wee Kirk conference registration is now available online. This conference of workshops and seminars will be held October 9th - 11th.

## **Adjournment**

It was **MSP** to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. with prayers offered by Rev. Russ Baird.

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## April 14, 2023, Meeting

### Approval of Minutes

**MSP** approval of the minutes of March 2, 2023.

### Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Meeting Documents).
- Minutes Review Dates
  - April 18; 6:00 p.m.; Presbytery Center
  - May 9; 6:00 p.m.; Trinity United Presbyterian Church
  - May 23; 5:00 p.m.; Ebensburg Presbyterian Church (pre-Presbytery meeting)
- **MSP** to approve the recommendation of the request from Rev. Ross Bash to be moved to Honorably Retired status within the Presbytery of Redstone.
- Responsibilities of the COM were presented by Rev. Skip Noftzger specifically discussing the different types of Pastors (Installed and Temporary) of the Presbytery.

### Report of the Moderator

- Moderator appointments
- Pastor Getaway Day - Post-Easter one-day event at PSC
  - Planning Pastor Getaway Day: Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup> at PSC from 10am – 2pm. The itinerary includes Prayers at 10-10:30; followed by Creating Healthy Culture in Churches then Lunch. Closing will occur after lunch for those who need leave; while others can stay for continued Fellowship.
- Members are needed for Search and Call Committee.

## REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

### Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
  - At the March meeting of the Presbytery, Patrick Ewing was restored to the ministry of Word and Sacrament as a Member at Large of Redstone Presbytery. Because the request was to be a Member at Large and as a result of his service on staff of Third Presbyterian, a covenant was established and agreed to by COM, Patrick and Third Presbyterian session at a meeting on March 23. The covenant is in the meeting documents.

### Search and Call

- Information Items
  - Transition Chart (handout)
  - Candidate for Grace Community Presbyterian; Lower Burrell declined the offer to be nominated. So, the PNC feels like they are “starting over.”
  - Tyrone Presbyterian Church is open to calling a part-time commissioned pastor. In the process of seeking to identify any possible options.
- Action Items
  - **MSP** to approve the Covenant Pastor agreement between Rev. Larry Armstrong and the Derry Presbyterian Church Session (agreement in meeting documents).

## COM Liaison Responsibilities and Resources

- Action items follow up
  - Follow up Clerks – plan on participating in one of upcoming minutes review.
  - Follow up Pastor/Mission chair---completion of congregation mission projects (<https://forms.gle/p6wxbLcVnMrdFFHuT8>)
- Ministry reflections for conversations
- Resources within Presbytery
  - Articles and Resources
- Education and Nurture
  - IPLF Upcoming workshops
    - Disability; Healing and the Scriptures – 4/15
    - After the Commission; Reflections on IPLF and pastoral service – 5/13
  - Ministry strategy consultation – Skip Noftzger

## Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:
  - Praises for Sunrise Easter services, Easter cantata, egg hunts, for special Maundy Thursday services with people coming forward to be anointed, well attended Lenten noon time services with meals, and the hard work of Pastors and worship members making these services special. Praises for successful rummage sales, vendor sales, and spaghetti dinners as these fundraising efforts support various mission projects and church efforts. Praises for planned blood drives, Wilson candy fundraisers, Spring tea, and community choir concert. Praises for Pastors that can find special gifts in members they didn't know they had.
  - Praises for participation in Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, intentional support of Redstone Mission programs, food banks, and Mission trips. Praises for those that hung in there and now have choirs singing; increased attendance, and see life returning.
  - Prayers for VBS plans, communicant classes, Pine Spring Day camp, and all youth programs.
  - Prayers for PNCs when it does not work out as expected and for PNCs to continue to trust the process. Prayers for guidance and support while searching for an organist. Prayers for the hard decisions of members going into assisted living and nursing home placement. Prayers for those struggling with the challenges of life and prayers for healing. Prayers for the Prayer box to receive the prayer requests of those in need of prayers. Prayers and praises for medical professionals that will be providing CPR training.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time:  
John Pressler, Robert Prinkey, Geoff Rach, Doug Rehberg, Marnie Russell, Regina Schrecengost, Josh Scully, William Sharp, Michael Shepard, Dawn Sherwood.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time:  
First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville; Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville; Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville; Community United Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria; Congruity Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria; Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence; Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence; United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington; New Salem Presbyterian Church; New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon.

## Adjournment

It was MSP to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. with prayers offered by Rev. Ed Gray.

Committee on Preparation Report Items

- **Recommendation to move James Vlosich from Inquirer to Candidate status.**

Information Items

May 2, 2023, Meeting

1. Approval of minutes of March 7, 2023, as written; **MSP.**
2. Possible suggestions for the Nominating Committee to serve as Ordination Exam readers.
  - a. Approval to submit Robin Jennings, Karen Kifer (alternate) as Ruling Elders, and Kristen Emrick and Skip Noftzger (alternate) as Teaching Elders to the Nominating Committee to serve as Ordination Exam readers; **MSP.**
3. Master Chart---Roster, Liaisons, and Checklist Review.
  - a. Cynthia Bellina – Geoff Rach attempted to contact her to determine if she will be able to continue with her schooling. The CPM discussed sending a letter to Cynthia Bellina asking her to contact us if she is interested in remaining a Candidate.
    - i. Motion to send a letter to Cynthia Bellina requesting her response by a specific date if she wishes to remain a Candidate under Redstone Presbytery’s care. A copy will be sent to the Third Presbyterian Church of Uniontown; **MSP.**
  - b. Danielle Kendig – became a Candidate in September 2022.
    - i. She is enrolled in Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. On January 26, 2023, Danielle Kendig took the Polity Ordination exam and passed. She took the Exegesis, Theology, and Worship exams in April 2023; the results are unknown at this time.
  - c. Linda Gossar Loesch, and Rich Zoltak will need to meet with the CPM.
  - d. Karen Gray – CPM will meet with her at the end of the summer.
  - e. Jackie Eckenrod is catching up with her class assignments.
    - i. She preached at Westminster Presbyterian and is on the fill-in list for Dunlap’s Creek.
  - f. Bill Poninsky is working with John Manon on his Practicums.
    - i. Bill Poninsky helped with the Maundy Thursday service and helped moderate at West Newton United Presbyterian Church.
  - g. Jeff Keilman
    - i. Skip Noftzger, Jim Sunseri and Geoff Rach will meet with him before the May Presbytery meeting in Ebensburg.
4. Consultations
  - a. James Vlosich – an Inquirer.
    - i. He is enrolled in Fuller Theological Seminary in his second year of studies,
      1. He has completed 56 out of 120 credit hours and is expected to graduate in Spring 2025. Geoff Rach will be meeting with James and his advisor to discuss field education on May 17, 2023.
    - ii. He has passed the Bible Content examination.
    - iii. His candidacy assessment with Leaderwise was performed on February 9, 2023.
    - iv. CPM discussion with James Vlosich about becoming a Candidate.
      1. James Vlosich will be going to the May 23, 2023, Presbytery meeting.
      2. Recommend to Redstone Presbytery that James Vlosich be moved to Candidacy; **MSP.**
    - v. Committee members prayed for James Vlosich

## Nominating Committee

### **Nominating Committee Report Items**

- **The Nominating Committee nominates the following people to serve as ordination examination readers on behalf of the presbytery.**  
**Rev. Kristen Emrick**  
**Robin Jennings**  
**Rev. Skip Noftzger – alternate**  
**Karen Kifer – alternate**
- **The Nominating Committee nominates the following people for the respective standing committees and terms.**

#### Council

**Rev. Sue Washburn**

### **Information Items**

- As we prepare for the upcoming season (June-September) of identifying new leadership, the Nominating Committee is in need of your suggestions and recommendations for ruling elder candidates to serve within the various committees and structures of the Presbytery. Please email any nominations to Glenn Hart, Nominating Committee Chair.
- In the upcoming months, we will be considering candidates to serve as Vice Moderator in 2024. If you desire to nominate someone (including yourself), please contact either Rev. Aleda Menchyk or Rev. Skip Noftzger.