



2024 Stated Meeting

of the

Presbytery of Redstone
Presbyterian Church (USA)

January 27, 2024
1:00 p.m.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
JOHNSTOWN, 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
First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown
309 Lincoln Street, Johnstown, 15901
814.536.8141**

From the West:

Route 30 - Travel East to Ligonier. When you reach Ligonier, go into town, and then head East on Route 271 to go over the mountain. Follow 271 all the way over the mountain, through Westmont, and down Menoher (still 271) into Johnstown itself. When you get to the bottom of that hill near downtown, turn right on Somerset Avenue and then a quick left onto Napolean Street. The War Memorial should soon be on your left. Follow that to Route 56 (next light) At 56, take a hard right onto Walnut Street. Follow Walnut Street about two blocks, and watch for our guides in the left hand parking lot. They will give you directions to nearest available parking.

Route 22 - Travel East to the first Johnstown exit which is Route 56. Follow that all the way through the West End of town and just past the Incline Plane. The next exit on your left will be Walnut Street. Follow Walnut Street about two blocks, and watch for our guides in the left hand parking lot. They will give you directions to nearest available parking.

From the Southwest:

Route 381: Take 381 North until you reach Route 30. Turn West on Route 30 until you reach Ligonier. When you reach Ligonier, go into town, and then head East on Route 271 to go over the mountain. Follow 271 all the way over the mountain, through Westmont, and down Menoher (still 271) into Johnstown itself. When you get to the bottom of that hill near downtown, turn right on Somerset Ave. and then a quick left onto Napolean Street. The War Memorial should soon be on your left. Follow that to Route 56 (next light) At 56, take a hard right onto Walnut Street. Follow Walnut Street about two blocks, and watch for our guides in the left hand parking lot. They will give you directions to nearest available parking.

From the East South, or North:

Route 219: Follow Route 219 until you get to the exit for 56 West down into Johnstown. Follow Route 56 to the Second Exit, which will be Walnut Street. Turn right onto Walnut Street. Follow Walnut Street about two blocks, and watch for our guides in the left hand parking lot. They will give you directions to nearest available parking.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MEETING

- The offering for this meeting will go to the Sudan and S. Sudan Mission Partnership. We are celebrating our 20th anniversary of this partnership.

To make your Offering through online contributions go to 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.

RESBYTERY OF REDSTONE
ANNUAL MEETING

January 27, 2024
 First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown
 or
 Zoom meeting

	<i>Registration, fellowship and food.</i>	<i>In Person or Breakout rooms</i>
	<u>WORSHIP AND WORK OF REDSTONE PRESBYTERY</u>	
	<u>CELEBRATING GOD’S GRACE IN COMMUNITY GATHERING IN WORSHIP AND WORK</u>	
1:00	<p><u>Presbytery Gathering Convenes</u> <u>Introduction</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathering Song • Call to Order/Opening Prayer • Formation of the Roll (any new business should be submitted to the Associate Clerk in writing before the end of worship) • Seating of Corresponding Members • Installation of Moderator/Vice-Moderator • “On the Road with Redstone” <p><u>Operations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporation meeting <p><u>Reports</u> <u>Stated Clerk(s)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence Log (page 6-8) • Equalization report (page 10-11) • Minister Rolls (Appendix A) • Seating of ruling elder members of Council and commissioned ruling elders for term of service. • Consent Agenda (page 11-12) <p><u>Treasurer</u> – (page 13) (Appendix B)</p>	<p>Rev. Dawn Sherwood</p> <p>Rev. Cliff Foster</p> <p>Rev. Dawn Sherwood Len Morgan Susan Keaney</p> <p>Rev. Don Glunt</p> <p>Rev. Curtis Paul</p> <p>Rev. Skip Noftzger</p> <p>Rev. Cliff Foster</p> <p>John Dickson</p>
	<u>CELEBRATING GOD’S GRACE IN WORSHIP – page 18</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Worship • Opening Hymn – “God is Here!” • Prayer of Confession/ Assurance of Pardon • Passing of the Peace 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hymn – "Glory to God" • Scripture Readings • Proclamation – Rev. Skip Noftzger • Anthem-« Jesu, Jesu » First, Johnstown Choir <p>Equipping Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning of Ruling Elders to Particular Pastoral Service • Ordination Anniversaries (Appendix D) <p>Engaging Congregations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorial Moment/Necrology (Appendix E) Hymn – "For All the Saints" • Pastoral Call – Grace Community Presbyterian Church (Appendix F) • Sewickley Presbyterian Church testimony <p>Lord's Supper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation • Words of Institution • Communion – "I'm Gonna Eat At the Welcome Table" • Prayer after Communion <p>Empowering Mission Partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes for Mission-congregations • Presbytery Offering – Sudan/South Sudan Partnership-20 years • Doxology • Pine Springs Camp Ministry • Hymn-- "O Christ, The Great Foundation" <p>New Business</p> <p>Resolution of Thanks</p> <p>"Soli Deo Gloria"</p> <p>Adjournment Benediction</p>	<p>Susan Keaney Rev. Skip Noftzger</p> <p>Len Morgan Susan Keaney</p> <p>Rev. Donna Havrisko Rev. Ed Gray</p> <p>Rev. Owar Ojulu</p> <p>Mike Hurley</p>
<p><u>The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on March 19, 2024 6:00 p.m. at New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon (dinner – 5:00 p.m. – RSVP) or via ZOOM A Minutes review session will be available at 4:00 p.m. at the same location.</u></p>		

*By God's grace,
Communicate the Word,
Carry on the Work,
Change the World!*

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
January 17, 2024 - email	Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 16, 2024 - mail	Calvin United Presbyterian Church, Scottdale	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 16, 2024 - hand delivered	Congruity Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria	2024 Terms of Call for Rev. Cliff Foster, 2023 Necrology Report, and List of Session Members	To COM and FILE
January 15, 2024 - email	Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell	2023 Active Membership Report, Manse Inspection Report, and List of Session Members	To FILE
January 15, 2024 - mail	First Presbyterian Church, Avonmore	Manse Inspection Report and List of Session Members	To FILE
January 15, 2024 - mail	McClellandtown Presbyterian Church	2023 Necrology Report and Manse Inspection Report	To FILE
January 15, 2024 - mail	Colver Presbyterian Church	2023 Necrology Report and Manse Inspection Report	To FILE
January 15, 2024 - mail	Patton Presbyterian Church	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 15, 2024 - email	Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville	2023 Necrology Report and Manse Inspection Report	To FILE
January 15, 2024 - email	United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 15, 2024 - email	First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 10, 2024 - email	Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 10, 2024 - email	Level Green Presbyterian Church, Trafford	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 9, 2024 - hand delivered	Maplewood Presbyterian Church, Greensburg	2023 Necrology Report, List of Session Members, and 2024 Terms of Call for Rev. Steve LaSor	To COM and FILE
January 9, 2024 - email	Community United Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 8, 2024 - mail	First Presbyterian Church, Masontown	2024 Terms of Call for CP Eric Glisan	To COM and FILE
January 8, 2024 - mail	New Hope Presbyterian Church	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 8, 2024 - mail	Delmont Presbyterian Church	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 8, 2024 - email	Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 8, 2024 - mail	Marion Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	2023 Necrology Report, Manse Inspection Report, and List of Session Members	To FILE
January 8, 2024 - mail	Calvin United Presbyterian	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE

	Church, Brownsville		
January 8, 2024 – mail	First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 8, 2024 – mail	New Salem Presbyterian Church	2023 Necrology Report and Manse Inspection Report	To FILE
January 8, 2024 – mail	First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville	2023 Necrology Report, Manse Inspection Report, and List of Session Members	To FILE
January 8, 2024 – mail	James Sunseri	2023 Commissioned Pastor Annual Report Form	To COM and FILE
January 8, 2024 – mail	Linda Gossar-Loesch	2023 Authorized Preacher Annual Report Form	To COM and FILE
January 8, 2024 – mail	First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	2024 Terms of Call for Rev. Mary Kay Glunt	To COM and FILE
January 8, 2024 – email	Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 8, 2024 – hand delivered	First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette	2024 Terms of Call for Rev. Dawn Sherwood	To COM and FILE
January 8, 2024 – email	New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon	2023 Active Membership Report, and List of Session Members	To FILE
January 8, 2024 – email	Bethel United Presbyterian Church, New Florence	List of Session Members and 2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 8, 2024 – email	Rehoboth Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	List of Session Members	To FILE
January 8, 2024 – email	Sewickley Presbyterian Church, West Newton	2023 Necrology Report and 2023 Statistical Report	To FILE
January 8, 2024 – email	Sewickley Presbyterian Church, West Newton	2024 Terms of Call and 1 year contract for CP Karen Kifer	To COM and FILE
January 4, 2024 – email	Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell	2024 Terms of Call for Rev. Brian Kilbert and 2023 Necrology Report	To COM and FILE
January 2, 2024 – email	Office of the General Assembly	Notification of 2024 Per Capita for Redstone	To BOOKKEEPER and FILE
January 2, 2024 – mail	Bolivar Presbyterian Church	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 2, 2024 – email	West Hempfield Presbyterian Church, Irwin	2023 Necrology Report and Manse Inspection Report	To FILE
January 2, 2024 – mail	Rehoboth Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	2024 Terms of Call for Rev. Donald Glunt	To COM and FILE
January 2, 2024 – email	Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence	2024 Terms of Call for CP James Sunseri	To COM and FILE
January 2, 2024 – email	Rehoboth Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 2, 2024 – mail	Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 2, 2024 – mail	Dunbar Presbyterian Church	2023 Necrology Report and Manse Inspection Report	To FILE
January 2, 2024 – mail	Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell	2023 Necrology Report	To FILE
January 2, 2024 – mail	Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Apollo	2024 Terms of Call for Rev. Pete Goetschius	To COM and FILE
December 5, 2023 – email	Office of the General Assembly	Confirmation of Receipt of Rev. James Gear to Beaver Butler	To COM and FILE

		Presbytery	
November 27, 2023 - mail	New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon	Request for Waiver of Rotation for Elder Helen Connors	To COM and FILE
November 27, 2023 - mail	Bolivar United Presbyterian Church	Request for Waiver of Rotation for Elders Andrew Bimeal, Karen Garland, and Pat Betts	To COM and FILE
November 21, 2023 - mail	Revloc Presbyterian Church	2024 Terms of Call for CP David O'Hara	To COM and FILE
November 20, 2023 - email	United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington	Manse Inspection Report	To FILE
November 15, 2023 - mail	Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown	2024 Terms of Call for CP Denise Todero	To COM and FILE
November 14, 2023 - hand delivered	First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown	2024 Terms of Call for Rev. Hyiwot Teshome	To COM and FILE

2. The task forces, networks, and ad hoc committees in existence as of December 31, 2023, were as follows:

a. Committees of Council

1. Budget, Finance and Stewardship
2. Communications
3. Mission
4. Staff Support

b. Committees of the Committee on Ministry

1. Examinations and Membership
2. Search and Call
3. Congregations and Leadership--Northwest – Districts I/II
4. Congregations and Leadership-- East – District IV
5. Congregations and Leadership-- South – District III

c. Networks

1. Healing Prayer Ministry Network
2. Racial Justice and Reconciliation
3. Addictions Ministry Network
4. Matthew 25 Network
5. Geographic Districts – I; II; III; IV
6. IPLF Steering Network
7. Lectionary reading group
8. Women Clergy
9. Presbyterian Women

3. Pursuant to Book of Order D-5.0206b, the Stated Clerk shall report annually the roster of those members of the Permanent Judicial Commission whose terms have expired within the past six years. They are as follows:

Permanent Judicial Commission Roster (Current)

- 2029 – Rev. Lisa Dormire, Rev. Gary Filson, Rev. Pete Goetschius
2027 – Rev. Susan Blank, Rev. Jay Lewis, Len Morgan

Permanent Judicial Commission (Terms expired within the last 6 years)

2023 – Rev. Clark Kerr, Rev. Marnie Russell, Rev. Curtis Paul

2021 – Glenn Hart, Rev. John Manon, Rev. Caroline Vickery

2019 – Jennifer Rega, Nancy Vernon

2017 – Rev. Marnie Silbert, Rev. Aleda Menchyk, Elder Leonard Morgan

4. Based upon the provisions of the Manual, the Stated Clerk **moves** that the following Presbytery Officers be recognized as members of the Presbytery, with voice and vote, for their term of service:

Ruling Elder Jack Battenhouse- Presbytery Council

Ruling Elder Jill Cavalet- Presbytery Council

Ruling Elder Scott Cole – Presbytery Council

Ruling Elder Audrey Cottle- Presbytery Council

Ruling Elder Tim D’Aurora – Presbytery Council

Ruling Elder Susan Keaney - Presbytery Council

Ruling Elder Leonard Morgan – Presbytery Council

Ruling Elder Janie Short – Presbytery Council

5. Based upon the provisions of the Manual, the Stated Clerk **moves** that the following Commissioned Pastors (Ruling Elders Commissioned to Particular Pastoral Service) and any others commissioned during a Presbytery meeting in 2023, be recognized as members with voice and vote as long as they are serving in that capacity:

Ruling Elder Russ Baird, Mt. Pleasant, Reunion

Ruling Elder Eric Glisan, Masontown, First

Ruling Elder Glenn Hart, Belle Vernon, Harmony; West Newton, Sewickley United

Ruling Elder Karen Kifer, West Newton, Sewickley

Ruling Elder Lynn Mance, First, Avonmore

Ruling Elder David McElroy, Vanderbilt, East Liberty

Ruling Elder Len Morgan, New Alexandria, Community United

Ruling Elder David O’Hara, Revloc

Ruling Elder Robert Prinkey, Belle Vernon, Marion

Ruling Elder Joshua Scully, Fayette City, Little Redstone

Ruling Elder Robert Sheehan, District IV

Ruling Elder Jeff Smith, Uniontown, Tent

Ruling Elder James Sunseri, New Florence, Bethel; Bolivar, United

Ruling Elder Denise Todero, Johnstown, Bethany

Ruling Elder William Weightman, Dunbar, Laurel Hill

Ruling Elder William Wiegand, New Salem

Ruling Elder Doug Yauger, Scottdale, Calvin

6. Based upon the provisions of the Manual, the Stated Clerk **moves** that the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and a representative from Pine Springs Camp, Presbyterian Women, and Redstone

Highlands be given the privilege of the floor and recognized with voice only as long as they are serving in that capacity.

7. The stated meetings for 2024 have been scheduled as follows:

Saturday, January 27, 2024 – First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown
Tuesday, March 19, 2024 –New Hope Presbyterian Church
Tuesday, May 28, 2024- Pleasant View Presbyterian Church
Tuesday, September 24, 2024 – Pine Springs Camp
Saturday, November 23, 2024 – Community United Presbyterian Church

8. The Stated Clerk provided the 2023 Necrology Report of Ruling and Teaching Elders.
(Appendix E)

9. Equalization

On December 31, 2022, 81 ministers of Word and Sacrament were on the rolls of the Presbytery, 16 of whom were living outside the bounds of the Presbytery. There were 67 churches entitled to be represented by 80 ruling elder commissioners. There are also 17 ruling elders commissioned to particular service and 6 ruling elder presbyters by virtue of office. On December 31, 2023, 81 ministers of Word and Sacrament were on the rolls of the Presbytery, 14 of whom were living outside the bounds of the Presbytery. There were 67 churches entitled to be represented by 80 ruling elder commissioners. There are also 17 ruling elders commissioned to particular service and 7 ruling elder presbyters by virtue of office.

Based upon the “goal of numerical parity of teaching elders and ruling elders,” the “principles of participation” and the need to communicate the plan for the determining commissioners, the Presbytery has adopted a plan [Book of Order; G-3.0301; Manual; 1.1003] designating the number of commissioners based upon church membership (table below) and designating other ruling elders by virtue of office to be given the privilege of voice and vote at all Presbytery meetings [Manual; 1.1009]. Although with this plan, there is an imbalance regarding the number of eligible ruling elder commissioners (actually more than ministers), the actual participation patterns still reflect a nearly equal number of ministers and ruling elders participating. Since 2021, with the complete migration to Zoom and Hybrid meetings, the patterns have remained fairly consistent. The number of ministers of Word and Sacraments members and ruling elder members in attendance were very comparable with slightly with an average difference of less than one over the course of all four meetings. Of course, in any given meeting, the balance may have sided with one group or the other. Consequently, in order to continue to maintain the goal of balance, the current number of possible ruling elder commissioners based upon the existing plan does not need to be altered. Therefore, I do not recommend any equalization adjustment at this time.

Equalization Plan for 2024 - Church List/# of commissioners

Adah, Palmer Community - 1	Greensburg, First - 3	Murrysville, Union - 1
Apollo, Poke Run - 1	Greensburg, Maplewood - 1	New Alexandria, Community - 1
Avonmore, First - 1	Greensburg, Westminster - 1	New Alexandria, Congruity - 1
Belle Vernon, First - 1	Irwin, First - 4	New Florence, Bethel - 1
Belle Vernon, Harmony - 1	Irwin, West Hempfield - 1	New Florence, Trinity - 1
Belle Vernon, Marion - 1	Jeannette, First - 1	New Kensington, United - 1
Belle Vernon, Rehoboth - 1	Johnstown, Bethany - 1	New Salem - 1
Bolivar, United - 1	Johnstown, First - 1	North Huntingdon, New Hope - 1
Brownsville, Calvin - 1	Johnstown, Second - 1	Patton - 1
Brownsville, Ft. Burd - 1	Johnstown, Westmont - 3	Revloc - 1
Brownsville, Hopewell - 1	Lake Lynn, Springhill Furnace - 1	Scottdale, Calvin - 1
Colver - 1	Latrobe - 2	Smithfield, Grace Chapel - 1
Cresson - 1	Latrobe, United - 1	Smock, Pleasant View - 1
Dawson, Tyrone - 1	Leisenring - 1	Trafford, Level Green - 2
Delmont - 1	Ligonier, Pleasant Grove - 1	Uniontown, Tent - 1
Derry - 1	Lower Burrell, Grace Community - 2	Uniontown, Third - 2
Dunbar, First - 1	Lower Burrell, Puckety - 2	Uniontown, Trinity United - 1
Dunbar, Laurel Hill - 1	Masontown, First - 1	Vanderbilt, East Liberty - 1
Ebensburg - 1	McClellandtown - 1	West Newton, Sewickley - 1
Fairchance - 1	Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek - 1	West Newton, Sewickley United - 1
Farmington, Mt. Washington - 1	Mt. Pleasant, Reunion - 1	West Newton, United - 1
Fayette City, First - 1	Murrysville, First - 1	
Fayette City, Little Redstone - 1	Murrysville, Newlonsburg - 2	

8. The Stated Clerk provided the current Rolls of the Presbytery and Continuing Members. (Appendix A).

9. The dates for the 2023 Session Minutes Reviews are:

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Stated Clerk for Constitutional and Judicial Matters 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 November 18, 2023, be approved.

From the Council

1. Council **recommends** that the Financial and Treasurer's Reports presented to the Council and the Presbytery be received and filed for audit. (Appendix B).
2. Council **recommends** that the Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Mission, Pine Springs Camp reports presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.

3. Council **recommends** approval and authorization of the continuation of all subcommittees, networks and task forces functioning at the end of 2023 year as noted in the Stated Clerk's report.
4. Council **recommends** approval of the Harassment policy and procedures (Appendix C).

From the Committee on Ministry

1. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** that Presbytery grant the request from the Bolivar United Presbyterian Church for Waiver of Rotation for Elders Andrew Bimeal, Pat Betts, and Karen Garland.
2. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** that Presbytery grant the request from the New Hope Presbyterian Church for Waiver of Rotation for Elder Helen Connors.
3. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** that Presbytery grant the request from the Ebensburg Presbyterian Church for Waiver of Rotation for Elder James Stratton.

From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

From the Nominating Committee

From the Committee on Representation

Treasurer's Report

INCOME & EXPENSE REPORT OVERVIEW

This report provides an unaudited overview of the Redstone Presbytery finances, for the end of December 2023. This report also represents the end of the fiscal operating year for the Presbytery.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW / INCOME

For the month ending December, Church Commitment contributions exceeded budgeted monthly expectations (\$31,518 received – budgeted \$27,083). YTD, funds recognized total \$305,664, which is 94.05% of budget. Therefore, contributions fell short of the budgeted goal of \$325,000 totaling \$19,336.

Total Income recorded for the month was \$36,071, which just fell short of the budgeted goal of \$36,500. YTD, the budgeted percentage amount was 84.25% of goal or \$369,009 recorded, which resulted in a shortfall of \$68,991 below budget.

FINACIAL OVERVIEW/EXPENSES

Expenses for the month were below budget at \$34,313, versus a budget target of \$36,503. YTD at fiscal year- end, expenses were 106% of budget, or \$26,213 greater than anticipated. In review of the financial report by individual line item for any great expense significance, all line-item overages are very minor dollar values.

EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENSES

For the current month, income exceeded expenses at \$5,338. YTD, Expenses exceeded income at - \$104,921. Last year at this time, income exceeded expenses totaling \$18,248.

INVESTMENTS & HOLDINGS

Ameriprise investments for the end of December had a positive change in value totaling \$11,892. At year-end, the change in value also remained positive, totaling \$66,711. The ending value for this account is \$681,505.

Other Investments & Holdings at year end, (First Commonwealth \$59,125 - PILP \$10,000 – New Covenant \$335,064 – Petty Cash \$100.00) total \$404,289.

Total Investments & Holdings = \$1,085,794.00

Respectfully submitted,

John Dickson

MINISTRY AND MISSION REPORTS

Executive Presbyter

Rev. Richard "Skip" Noftzger
Executive Presbyter Report

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

VISION	2023 Annual Report	
Congregation-centered (ENGAGE)	<p>Visible presence within the Presbytery engaging with congregations--- Church Visits---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this past year, I visited fifty-four different worship or special services of twenty-two congregations within Redstone Presbytery. Additionally, I was afforded the opportunity to preach or bring a charge on forty-two occasions in those services. • Worked, consulted with COM teams and moderated sessions and congregations through nine separate shared gatherings (in person or Zoom) as well as individual conversations. These engagements range from providing first-hand resourcing during emergency pastoral leadership transitions, mediating conflict, stewardship interpretation and strategizing on ministry. • Participated in special services and events honoring teaching elders both who are retiring and those being installed as ministers of Word and Sacrament serving congregations. • Provided leadership for part of the year at McClellandtown Church and in Grace Community in the time of transitions between pastors. The church provides additional funding to the Presbytery to offset my commitment. • Through regular Enews articles, written communications and brokering articles for use by COM liaisons, congregations receive ongoing reflections for devotion, leadership reflections and ministry strategy. • Continued resourcing of churches currently using pulpit supply about possible pulpit supply, pastoral and moderator options. Arranged for the COM moderator appointments of moderators for all congregations in need of longer-term service. 	
Leadership developed (EQUIP)	<p>Developing and equipping leadership within the Presbytery---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with sessions in finding and contracting with pastors for "temporary" pastoral positions. Facilitated the identification and 	

contracting with several interim pastor candidates and those serving temporal different pastoral positions. Recruited, connected and consulted in the hiring and approval of another regional commissioned pastor relationship.

- Conducted orientation and coordinated with different Pastoral Nominating Committees in adapting to the new CLC system and conducting appropriate pastoral searches. Participated through active consultation as they walked through the filtering and selection as part of the discernment process. Conducted EP reference checks prior to in-person interviews, arranged neutral pulpit opportunities and assisted the committees in seeking consensus on evaluating candidates. Consulted on negotiating and final elements of extending calls. Four different PNC's were able to complete their call in bringing a new pastor to their congregations.
- Maintained regular contact with our students under care of the Presbytery as inquirers and candidates. Coordinated the CPM preparation process and communicated expectations to each inquirer and candidate. Initiated and developed a field education opportunity for a candidate.
- Documented and submitted the report on the Small Church Leadership grant from the Synod of the Trinity.
- Offered consistent support for those serving both as Authorized Preachers, Student Pastor and Commissioned Pastors for a number of congregations within the Presbytery.
- Planned and supervised new workshops both for ruling elders and teaching elders within the Presbytery and nearby presbyteries. During 2023, there were ten workshops with participants from all of the surrounding presbyteries.
- Individual consultations with numerous pastors throughout the year concerning ministry strategy, mission development, leadership practices, personnel and organizational issues. With newer pastors, assist in orientation and in serving as resource person to process their experiences in ministry so far.
- Actively provided possible candidates to the Nominating Committee for consideration for leadership within the Presbytery.
- Recruit and assist ruling elder in discernment and consideration

	of enrollment in the IPLF program.	
Collaboration-Districts/Network (ENABLE)	<p>Joined and initiated contact both within and outside Redstone---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively participated in Christian Associates of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Provided leadership through the Council in ecumenical events throughout southwestern Pennsylvania. • Provide administrative assistance and resourcing for all of the various networks, task forces and committees of the Presbytery in their work and implementation. • Served as the Director of the Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation program with participants from Redstone, Washington, Beaver-Butler, Pittsburgh, Upper Ohio Valley and Shenango. Consulted with other Presbyteries throughout the Synod of the Trinity on developing education and training for possible Commissioned Pastors. • Consulted with denominational agencies including the Board of Pensions, Presbyterian Foundation, PILP, Presbyterian Mission Agency, and the office of General Assembly on behalf of the Presbytery and our congregations. • Active participation in the annual Enrichment Day and offering a workshop on ruling elder and deacon training. • Engagement with commissioners and participation in General Assembly, Synod of the Trinity, as well as special events and trainings. Ongoing and active engagement for sharing resources and wisdom with colleagues through Executive Presbyter forums. • Served as the convener of the steering committee and coordinator of the annual Wee Kirk conference. 	
Partnership in Mission promoted (EMPOWER)	<p>Promoted and provided leadership in our partnerships in mission –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the annual meeting of the Sudan/South Sudan presentation and partnership. Along with Sylvia Carlson, we will be functioning as co-coordinators of the network steering committee in 2024. • Assisted the Mission Committee in identifying, providing and implementing financial support for the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church in response to particular needs. • Served as ex-officio board member for Pine Springs Camp 	

	<p>including participating in training and worship for summer staff. Extensive work with the Pine Springs Board of Directors, the Finance Committee and the Executive Director.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported the promotion of Redstone mission trips. Continue to support individual congregational activities in support of mission and mission trips. • Participated regularly in both the Board as an ex officio member and within the Strategy committee of Redstone Highlands. 	
<p>Operational Support</p>	<p>Initiated practices and policies for both greater efficiency and effectiveness---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated the planning and implementation of Presbytery gatherings to hybrid formats including meeting with host pastor and av team in each congregation. • Supervised the close financial management of the budget of the Presbytery. Managed the effective cash flow of operations (no premature withdrawals from investments) and limited expenditures in order to minimize the use of reserves and investment assets as a means of propping up the annual budget. Consequently, investments and holdings grew by over one hundred thousand despite a shortfall in revenues for the annual budget. • Provided comprehensive and historical analysis of financial revenue contributions, expenditure allocations, investment performance for greater shared ownership by the Finance and Budget committee. Developed multiple 2024 budget scenarios for their consideration and recommendation. • Correspond with sessions with gift letters offering gratitude for First Fruits contributions. • Consulted with auditors on completion of financial review and clarification of real property assets. • Developed and produced stewardship materials for the presbytery. Contacted all congregations with materials for the purpose of requesting 2024 First Fruits pledges. • Coordinated any property maintenance and repairs of the Presbytery center. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported all standing committees (Council, COM, CPM), subcommittees, networks and task forces within the Presbytery through administrative support, education, policy development and leadership formation. • Coordinated the final publication of presbytery minutes in preparation for their review within the Synod. Provided oversight and coordinated session minutes reviews within the presbytery. • Maintained accurate records and administrative oversight for minister rolls within our presbytery and in communication with other presbyteries (dismissing/receiving) and with the Office of the General Assembly. Completed all end of the year reports for the Office of the General Assembly. • Researched, purchased and implemented new relational database software designed for presbyteries. • Ensuring updating of congregational statistics and updating our numbers for purposes of per capita assessment with both Synod and General Assembly. • Ongoing resource and consultation with pastors, treasurers, and sessions concerning employment contracts, annual enrollment and retirement decisions within the medical plan of the Board of Pensions. 				
VALUES	Servant Leadership	Flourishing Community	Witness to the World	Generous and effective Stewardship	
	<i>Soli Deo Gloria</i>				

Presbytery Worship

The Great Ends of the Church: Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind Call to Worship

The Church is the body of Christ.

Book of Order, *F-1.03*

Christ gives to the Church
all the gifts necessary to be his body.

**The Church strives to demonstrate these gifts
in its life as a community in the world.**

The Church is to be a community of faith,
**entrusting itself to God alone,
even at the risk of losing its life.**

The Church is to be a community of hope,
**rejoicing in the sure and certain knowledge that,
in Christ, God is making a new creation.**

The Church is to be a community of love,
**where sin is forgiven, reconciliation is accomplished,
and the dividing walls of hostility are torn down.**

The Church is to be a community of witness,
**pointing beyond itself through word and work
to the good news of God's transforming grace
in Christ Jesus its Lord.**

With all Christians of the Church catholic,
**we affirm that the Church is
"one, holy, catholic, and apostolic."**

Where Christ is, there is the true Church.
**We affirm that, in the power of the Spirit,
the Church is faithful to the mission of Christ
as it proclaims and hears the Word of God,
administers and receives the Sacraments,
and nurtures a covenant community of disciples of Christ.**

*Opening 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!

*Prayer of Confession/Assurance of Pardon

The grace of God overflows for us
through Christ Jesus
who came into the world to save sinners.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

1 Tim. 1:14–15

**Mighty God, we give you thanks
that by your power you created us,
and by your goodness you call us to be your people.**

**We confess that we have lived for ourselves
and apart from you.**

**We have turned from our neighbors,
and refused to bear the burdens of others.**

**We have ignored the pain of the world,
and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.**

**In your great mercy, forgive our sins
and free us from selfishness,
that we may choose your will
and obey your commandments;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

The mercy of the Lord
is from everlasting to everlasting.

Friends, hear and believe the Good News, in the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven. **Amen.**

As God's own people,
be merciful in action,
kind in heart, humble in mind.

Col. 3:12–14

Be always ready to forgive
as freely as God has forgiven you.

And, above everything else, be loving,
and never forget to be thankful

for what Christ has done for you. **Thanks be to God.**

*Passing the Peace

*Hymn #583 "Glory to God"

Glory to God

583

Gloria, gloria

Capo 3: (Bm)

(Em) (A)

(D)

Dm

Gm

C

F

(chords continue)



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Scripture Readings: I Peter 2:1-12

Sermon: "A Community of Grace" Rev. Skip Noftzger

Anthem: "Jesu, Jesu" First Johnstown Choir

Equipping Leadership

- Commissioning of Ruling Elders to Particular Pastoral Service
- Ordination Anniversaries

Engaging Congregations

- Necrology (Appendix)

*Hymn #326 "For All the Saints"

326

For All the Saints



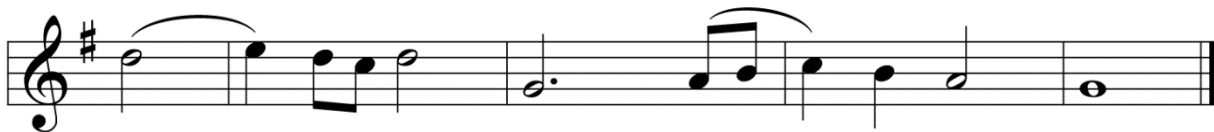
1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might;
 3 O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long,
 5 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
 thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight;
 We fee - bly strug - gle; they in glo - ry shine; yet
 steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, and
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 all are one in thee, for all are thine.
 hearts are brave a - gain, and arms are strong.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,



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

Engaging Congregations

- Pastoral Call—Grace Community Presbyterian Church
- Sewickley Presbyterian Church testimony

Lord's Supper—Rev. Hyiwot Teshome

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: The blood of Christ shed for you and me.

All: Amen.

Gluten free communion is available, identified with a blue label on the cup

*Hymn during communion #770 "I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table"

770 I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

1 I'm gon-na eat at the wel - come ta - ble;
 2 I'm gon-na eat and drink with my Je - sus;
 3 I'm gon-na join with sis - ters, broth - ers;
 4 Here all the world will find a wel - come;
 5 We're gon-na feast on milk and hon - ey;

I'm gon-na eat at the wel - come ta - ble, Al - le - lu - ia.
 I'm gon-na eat and drink with my Je - sus, Al - le - lu - ia.
 I'm gon-na join with sis - ters, broth - ers, Al - le - lu - ia.
 here all the world will find a wel - come, Al - le - lu - ia.
 we're gon-na feast on milk and hon - ey, Al - le - lu - ia.

I'm gon-na eat at the wel - come ta - ble; I'm gon - na
 I'm gon-na eat and drink with my Je - sus; I'm gon - na
 I'm gon-na join with sis - ters, broth - ers; I'm gon - na
 Here all the world will find a wel - come; here all the
 We're gon-na feast on milk and hon - ey; we're gon - na

eat at the wel - come ta - ble, Al - le - lu - ia.
 eat and drink with my Je - sus, Al - le - lu - ia.
 join with sis - ters, broth - ers, Al - le - lu - ia.
 world will find a wel - come, Al - le - lu - ia.
 feast on milk and hon - ey, Al - le - lu - ia.

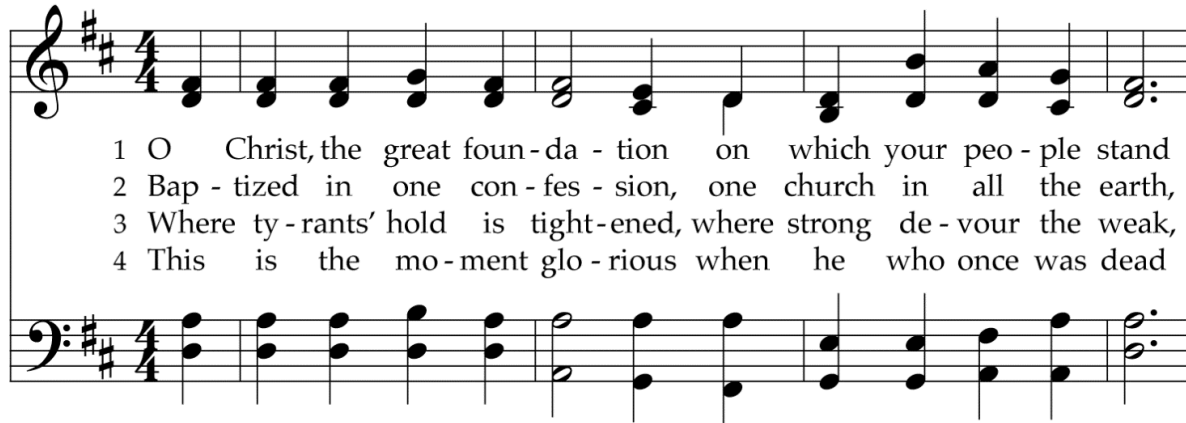
Prayer after Communion

Mission Partnerships

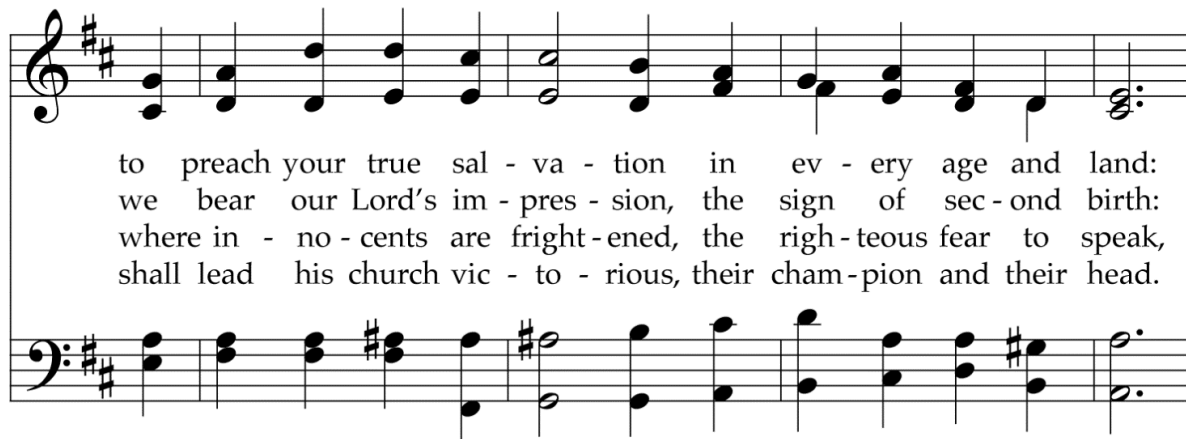
- Minutes for Mission-Congregations
- Sudan/South Sudan Partnership-20 years
- Offering
- Doxology
- Pine Springs Camp Ministry

*Hymn #361 “O Christ, the Great Foundation”

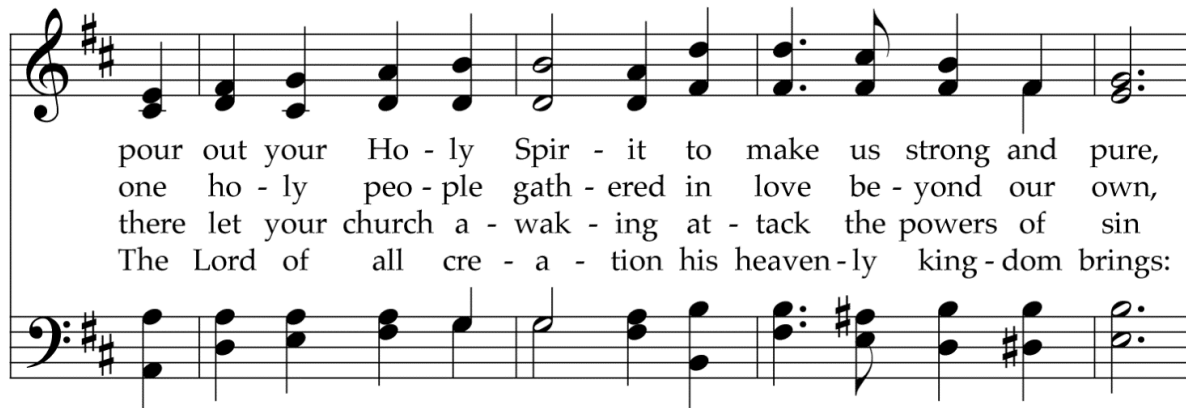
O Christ, the Great Foundation 361



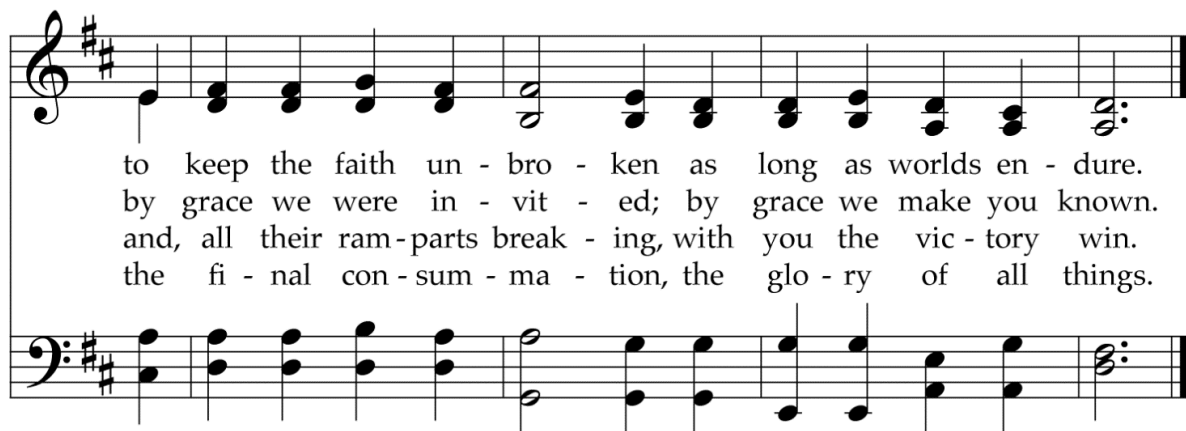
1 O Christ, the great foun - da - tion on which your peo - ple stand
2 Bap - tized in one con - fes - sion, one church in all the earth,
3 Where ty - rants' hold is tight - ened, where strong de - vour the weak,
4 This is the mo - ment glo - rious when he who once was dead



to preach your true sal - va - tion in ev - ery age and land:
we bear our Lord's im - pres - sion, the sign of sec - ond birth:
where in - no - cents are fright - ened, the righ - teous fear to speak,
shall lead his church vic - to - rious, their cham - pion and their head.



pour out your Ho - ly Spir - it to make us strong and pure,
one ho - ly peo - ple gath - ered in love be - yond our own,
there let your church a - wak - ing at - tack the powers of sin
The Lord of all cre - a - tion his heaven - ly king - dom brings:



to keep the faith un - bro - ken as long as worlds en - dure.
by grace we were in - vit - ed; by grace we make you known.
and, all their ram - parts break - ing, with you the vic - tory win.
the fi - nal con - sum - ma - tion, the glo - ry of all things.

Resolution of Thanks

Soli Deo Gloria

At the close of the meeting: Benediction: Rev. Hyiwot Teshome

SOME END OF YEAR INFORMATION:

- **SUMMER CAMP NUMBERS AS OF 1/9/24- 175 TOTAL CAMPERS COMPARED TO 114 THIS DATE IN 2023**
- **LONG WEEK HAS 28 CAMPERS SIGNED UP**
- **GRANDMAS MOM'S AND TOTS WEEK 7- HAS 54 (30% OF TOTAL)**
- **332 INDIVIDUALS GAVE DURING THE YEAR-DONATIONS RANGED FROM \$10-30,000**
- **39 CHURCH ENTITIES GAVE DURING 2023**
- **END OF THE YEAR CAMPAIGN \$105,000! (10% OF TOTAL INCOME-PRAISE GOD-BUT....)**
- **STAFF RECRUITING 8 FEMALE COUNSELORS THAT WE FEEL GOOD ABOUT OFFERING CONTRACTS-4 MALE COUNSELORS-LEADERSHIP STAFF NOT MUCH MOVEMENT YET**
- **REMIX-MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT FEBRUARY 9-11**
- **WOMEN IN THE WOODS-APRIL 5-6**
- **MEN'S CATALYST BACKPACKING WEEKEND-MARCH 22-24**
- **NEW WOMEN'S CATALYST BACKPACKING WEEKEND-APRIL 26-27**

Mission Network

January 11, 2024, Meeting

Present: Skip Noftzger, Debby Koenig, Donna Havrisko

The following items were discussed:

Items discussed include:

Campaign to bring awareness of desperate issues in Sudan / South Sudan-

History of the relationship with the Sudanese began in 2004.

- January, 2004 – 3 individuals were commissioned to visit Sudan
- March, 2004 – visit completed and report made to Presbytery
- September, 2004 – 2 additional groups joined the Presbytery to support Sudan.
- November, 2004 – Presbytery voted in favor of supporting a Partnership with Sudan (SPEC).

This partnership is celebrating 20 years in 2024 and the Mission Committee is eager to spread the news of the work that has been ongoing by the Presbyterian churches in Sudan and South Sudan. At the January Presbytery meeting we will announce the celebration of the anniversary, and explain the upcoming campaign to update the churches regarding accomplishments and needs going forward.

Mission Fair in September possibly at Pine Springs Camp, TBD

Presbytery Meeting Minutes for Mission:

Donna Havrisko will contact Denise Todero at Bethany Pres. in Johnstown and Hyiwot Teshome at First Pres. Johnstown to ask for a representative to highlight a Mission activity supported by their church.

Offering Collection

Skip will ask the host church in Johnstown how to collect the offering. Do they have plates in the back, or do they pass the plates? The collection will be conducted in accordance with the church's policy. If plates may be passed, someone on the Committee will ask for ushers to collect the funds, which will be used to support the Sudan Hunger Relief effort.

Mission Database

The database was briefly discussed. Debby chose 4 categories to sort churches' participation; sewing, Children, Pine Springs Camp, and National / Int'l missions. A list of participants will be given to Skip.

Next Meeting – February 8, 2024.

December 14, 2023, Meeting

Present: Owar Ojulu, Debby Koenig, Donna Havrisko

The following items were discussed:

Donna recommended passing the offering plates at the next Presbytery meeting. The offering will be given to the South Sudan Hunger Relief organization.

Items to be discussed at the January meeting include:

1. Campaign to bring awareness of desperate issues in Sudan / South Sudan;
2. Mission Fair in September possibly at Pine Springs Camp;
3. Plans for mission trip to St. Albans, WV in March or April?;
4. Discuss status of visit to the Blessings Board Warehouse in Shaler, PA.

ACTION AGENDA

Presbytery Council

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

Presentation and Action Items

- Installation of Elder Leonard Morgan, Moderator; and Elder Susan Keaney, Vice-Moderator
- The Council recommends interruption of the meeting for the purpose of convening the meeting of the corporation of the Presbytery of Redstone.

(Corporation Meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone, January 27, 2024)

Based upon the provisions of the Manual, the following slate of persons are nominated to serve as the Officers of the Corporation for 2024:

President – Rev. Dawn Sherwood

Secretary - Rev. Skip Noftzger

Treasurer - Mr. John R. Dickson, IV

Assistant Treasurer – Mr. Gerald Cumer

In addition to the officers of the corporation, it is moved that the following person be added to those authorized to sign checks for the Corporation.

Bookkeeper – Roberta Shaffor

- Reading and honoring those Elders who have joined the Church Triumphant from the Necrology report during worship service. (Appendix E)
- Racial Justice and Reconciliation presentation
- Mission network report
- Pine Springs Camp report

Information Items

January 16, 2024, Meeting

Rev. Dawn Sherwood called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. for the retreat meeting and a quorum of members was established.

Rev. Laura Blank initiated a series of ice breakers where each member of Council was given the opportunity to introduce themselves in the context of reflecting upon a baptism that was meaningful to them as well as their own ordination as a ruling or teaching elder.

Rev. Sherwood offered a devotional reading, a song and a prayer to open the gathering.

Rev. Noftzger introduced Council members to the nature of understanding the role of serving in leadership within the Presbytery as a member of Council. Emphasizing the need to assume the "hat" of presbyter, he

reminded members of the mission and priorities (Engaging Congregations; Equipping Leadership; Enabling Ministry Networks; Empowering Mission Partnerships) of Redstone Presbytery. Noting the differentiation of primary responsibility in each of those priorities, members were led through a series of exercises for group participation and consideration of possible strategies for pursuit in 2024.

These exercises included; understanding and articulating the purpose of the Presbytery and the role of the Council; recounting stories of faithfulness within our connectional ministry; and “watchwords” that characterize the ministry of Redstone at its “best.” Additionally, members discussed prompts that afforded them the opportunity to identify “elephants in the room,” “sacred cows,” “dinosaurs that should be extinct,” “peacock proud ministries,” and “nest eggs that may be desirable to hatch.” From there, member groups focused on the primary priorities of “Enabling Ministry Networks,” “Empowering Mission Partnerships,” and operations of the Presbytery in brainstorming particular ideas for the upcoming year.

Upon conclusion, Rev. Sherwood resumed moderation of the gathering in order to consider business items of the agenda.

- The minutes of the November 28, 2023, meeting were approved by **MSP**.

Stated Clerk Report

- The Correspondence Log will be provided by email.
- Rev. Noftzger reviewed the current list of subcommittees, task forces and networks that include:
 - Mission
 - Staff support
 - Finance and Property
 - Communications
 - Presbytery worship and planning
 - Addictions Ministry
 - Healing and Prayer Ministry
 - Racial Justice and Reconciliation
 - IPLF Steering

It was **MSP** to approve the authorization and ministry of these groups for the 2024 year.

Treasurer Report

John Dickson distributed a written report to the members of Council. The report focused on the month of December and the 2023 fiscal year. Overall, church contributions did not achieve what was anticipated. With a number of one-time major expenditures, release of some restricted funds, transfer of funds to investments and not transferring funds from reserves resulted in a deficit annual budget. Yet, the balance sheet shows an increase in value of total assets in 2023 compared to 2022.

Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp

No Report. It was noted that Executive Director is on Sabbatical, but has requested time on the January Presbytery agenda for Camp Director Mike Hurley.

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

SubCommittees/Networks/Task Forces

Staff Support

- The subcommittee recommended the hiring of Karen Gray to the position of Administrative Operations Manager effective February at a rate of 20/hr. with an average of 20 hrs/wk. It was also noted that it is anticipated that the person in this position would be nominated to also serve as the Recording Clerk for the next term. Rev. Gray was excused from the room for the discussion.

It was **MSP** with one abstention to approve the recommendation and hire Ms. Gray for the position.

Mission

- With Rev. Ojulu excused because of his trip to Ethiopia, Rev. Noftzger mentioned the written reports in the meeting folder.
 - Rev. Noftzger noted the conclusion of the mission project data collected from congregations and the summary of that data by participation with mission categories. This could be fertile ground for mission partnerships.
 - There will be minutes for mission from the Johnstown area for the upcoming Presbytery gathering.
 - It was noted that 2024 signifies the 20th anniversary of the partnership with the Sudan and South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church. Throughout the years, stories of this partnership will be lifted up and celebrated.

Finance and Property

- No report. There was no meeting since the November Council meeting.

Racial Justice and Reconciliation

- Participants in the “confronting whiteness” have completed and will be training to be facilitators.
- Request for another “moment for justice” and distribution of a handout at the January Presbytery gathering.

Communications

- Rev. Washburn has agreed to coordinate the reorganization of this group.

- Participants with a variety of skills and gifts in communications are solicited from members of the congregations.
- Council members were invited to participate through a contribution of article(s) in the regular Enews distributed by the Presbytery.

IPLF

- Spring 2024 courses and workshops were reviewed as well as current Redstone Presbytery students in the program.

Worship

- Rev. Laura Blank reviewed the current plans for worship at the 2024 Presbytery gathering.
 - 2024 Plan for Worship at Presbytery Gatherings
 - January 27 – "Celebration of Community" (installation of Moderator/Vice Moderator; Commissioning of Pastors) – Rev. Skip Noftzger-Executive Presbyter
 - March 19---"Community of Faith" – Rev. Liddy Barlow; Christian Associates
 - May 28---"Community of Hope" ---Rev. Forrest Claassen, Synod of the Trinity
 - September 24 – "Community of Witness"
 - November 23 – "Community of Love" – Len Morgan, Presbytery Moderator

Addictions Ministry Network

- No report.

January 2024 Presbytery Agenda

The proposed agenda for the January 27 Presbytery gathering was presented. After review and discussion, it was **MSP** to approve as presented.

Intercession

Prayer concerns were shared by members of the Council. A period of intercession was entered with various members leading in prayers for those requested needs.

Adjournment

Having lifted up in prayer particular shared needs and the work throughout the meeting, it was **MSP** to adjourn the retreat meeting at 2:40 p.m.

November 28, 2023, Meeting

Rev. Curtis Paul called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. A quorum of members was established by those in

person and participation by Zoom videoconferencing. Visitors included those who would be joining the Council in 2024. Each member of the current Council introduced themselves.

Rev. Paul noted that members had received the agenda for the meeting and inquired whether there were any additions or revisions. Hearing none, the agenda was approved by consent.

Curtis presented the devotions focused on both hope and joy. Prayer requests were solicited from members present. He opened the meeting with prayer, including those intercessions on behalf of those mentioned.

- The minutes of the October 24, 2023, meeting were approved by **MSP**.

Moderator Report

In the absence of Rev. Sherwood, there was no Moderator report.

Executive Presbyter Report

Rev. Noftzger reminded the current and upcoming Council members that the January gathering would be an extended one with opportunity for annual planning. Scheduled for 9:00-3:00 on January 16th, the Council will gather in the Maplewood fellowship hall with a catered lunch during the day. Bigger questions about who we are called to be as a presbytery, along with planning for 2024 will be upon the agenda.

Rev. Noftzger provided updates on various pastors and congregations around the presbytery, including those who would be moving on as well as those whose search for pastoral leadership is close to completion. He also noted congregations either in conflict or those struggling with identity in the denomination. In all cases, Council members were requested to uphold them in prayer.

Rev. Noftzger submitted a request for a number of vacation days during the middle to the end of December. It was **MSP** to approve both the vacation days request and authorization to carry over the remaining unused vacation days (6) into 2024 for possible use.

Stated Clerk Report

- The Correspondence Log for was reviewed as submitted.
- Rev. Noftzger confirmed the dates for all 2024 Presbytery gatherings and locations.
 - January 27, 2024 – First Presbyterian, Johnstown
 - March 19, 2024---New Hope Presbyterian, North Huntingdon
 - May 28, 2024 – PleasantView Presbyterian, Smock
 - September 24, 2024---Pine Springs Camp (daytime)
 - November 23, 2024---Community United Presbyterian, New Alexandria
- The subcommittee developing a Harassment policy and procedures for the Presbytery presented the document for review and approval. After correcting one typo, it was **MSP** to approve the policy and recommend to the Presbytery.

Treasurer Report

John Dickson had submitted a written report based upon the end of October. Church contributions remain behind. Rev. Noftzger pointed out that because of Bobbie's anticipated time away, the November Income and Expense statement had been generated and was included in the meeting documents.

Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp

No Report.

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

SubCommittees/Networks/Task Forces

Staff Support

- The upcoming meeting for December 7th for ongoing discussion about staff configurations was noted.
- It was reported that we have begun receiving applications for the Administrative Operations Manager position.
- The approved 2024 Holiday schedule that parallels this year was provided.
- Rev. Noftzger thanked the subcommittee for the Christmas luncheon which had taken place that same day.

Worship

- Rev. Laura Blank reviewed the current plans for worship at the 2024 Presbytery gathering.
 - 2024 Plan for Worship at Presbytery Gatherings
 - January 27 – "Celebration of Community" (installation of Moderator/Vice Moderator; Commissioning of Pastors)
 - March 19---"Community of Faith"
 - May 28---"Community of Hope"
 - September 24 – "Community of Witness"
 - November 23 – "Community of Love"
 - In addition to the Executive Presbyter and the Moderator, she proposed the following people be asked to preach at a presbytery gathering in 2024.
 - Rev. Liddy Barlow – Christian Associates Executive Minister
 - Rev. Ayana Teter – PTS Staff
 - Rev. Forrest Claassen – Synod Executive

It was **MSP** to approve extending an invitation to each of those guest preachers.

Addictions Ministry Network

- The new resource publication for "Into the Light" was highlighted and is available for download on either the Redstone Presbytery website or the Synod of the Trinity website.

Mission

- Rev. Ojulu discussed some of the upcoming plans for the Mission network that include:
 - Further exploration about the ministry of the Blessing Board and presentation about this ministry at a Presbytery meeting in 2024.
 - The plans for a fund raising campaign in 2024 for the Nile Theological College which serves primary seminary of our partnership (Sudan/South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church). Further plans will be promoted at upcoming meetings of Council and the Presbytery.

Budget, Finance and Stewardship

- Len Morgan reported on the meeting of the committee and their extensive review of the completed 2023 Financial review conducted by the firm, Horner, Wible and Terek. Upon highlighting some of the findings and changes, it was **MSP** to receive the financial review and to file.
- On behalf of the committee, Mr. Morgan also recommended that the same firm be retained for either a financial review or an audit of the 2023 financial records. This recommendation was **MSP** by the Council.

Racial Justice and Reconciliation

- Rev. Brenda Barnes updated the Council on the anticipation of several members of the network to be trained and certified to conduct the same workshop. Authorization of endorsing within the presbytery those who complete the training was approved in October. Cost of the coverage was discussed and it was MSP to authorize covering the cost of these Redstone participants in the additional training. Funds are to be utilized from the Peacemaking funds account.

Presbyterian Women

- No report was included.

Communications

- No report. Reorganization will be taking place in 2024.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

There was no new business

CLOSING PRAYERS/ADJOURNMENT

It was **MSP** to adjourn with prayer at 7:41 p.m. Rev. Laura Blank led the Council in prayer concerning the actions that had been taken and the anticipated Advent season.

Committee on Ministry

Presentation and Action Items

- **Commissioning of Ruling Elders called to particular pastoral service.**
- **Celebration of 5-year ordination anniversaries. (Appendix D)**
- **Recommendation of the approval of the pastoral call between Grace Community Presbyterian Church and Rev. Owar Ojulu. (Appendix F)**
- **Celebration of the Sewickley Presbyterian Church reconstituting the session.**

Information Items

January 4, 2024, Meeting

Election of Chairperson and Secretary

MSP to elect Rev. Donna Havrisko as moderator and Helen Toms as secretary.

Review of COM Purpose and Responsibilities

Rev. Skip Noftzger reviewed the responsibilities and duties of the Committee on Ministry that were provided electronically to the committee members. The role of a liaison is to serve as pastor, counselor, and advisor and a witness to the grace of God happening at churches within the Redstone Presbytery. The liaison interfaces with their respective churches and relates to the Presbytery what their churches are excited about or their needs and concerns so that the Presbytery can offer support and resources as needed. Available tools for COM members include Zoom links for attending meetings; Google Docs for sharing happenings of their churches, and Dropbox containing relevant information and resources.

Approval of Minutes

MSP approval of the minutes of November 2, 2023.

Consent Items

- MSP to approve Consent items authorized and approved between meetings
 - Request for Waiver of Rotation for Elders Andrew Bimeal, Pat Betts, and Karen Garland from the Bolivar United Presbyterian Church.
 - Request for Waiver of Rotation for Elder Helen Connors from the New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon.
 - Dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. James Gear and the Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown.
 - The transfer of Rev. Gear to the Beaver-Butler Presbytery, if the way be clear.

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Meeting Documents).
- Annual Reports Due
 - Statistics
 - Waiver of Rotation forms
 - Terms of Call forms

- Pastor agreement forms
- Necrology
- Session members
- Manse inspection
- Minutes Review Dates
 - January 27; 12:00 noon; First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown
 - March 19; 4:00 p.m.; New Hope Presbyterian Church
 - April 17; 6:00 p.m.; Presbytery Center
 - May 28; 5:00 p.m.; Pleasant View Presbyterian Church
- **MSP** to approve the recommendation to the Presbytery the request from Ebensburg Presbyterian Church for a waiver of rotation for Jim Stratton, Ruling Elder.
- **MSP** to approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Colver Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Owar Ojulu.
- **MSP** to approve the renewal of all current covenant pastors, Interim Pastors, Commissioned pastors, and temporary pastors for pastors serving in “temporary pastoral relationships” pending submission of agreement and adequate compensation (minimum terms of call prorated). (handout).
- **MSP** to approve Rev. Sue Washburn to “labor outside the bounds” in service to Crossroads Presbyterian Church (Kiski) and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (Pittsburgh).
- **MSP** to approve of the dismissal and transfer of Rev. Doug Marshall to Pittsburgh Presbytery “if the way be clear.”

Report of the Moderator

- Devotions – Sign-up
- Moderator appointments
 - Fairchance – Rev. Molly Hall
- Update from the Westmont team of COM members. The committee met with a variety of people, pastor and session over a period of time. The Session communicated a joint resolution with congregation of engaging Pastor Graham Standish of Samaritan Counseling, a consultant in leadership development, with Session and staff. First in person meeting is planned for January 27th with all parties involved. Different phase meetings are planned throughout 2024.

REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
 - Examinations completed with candidate for Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville.
- Action Items
 - None

Search and Call

- Information Items
 - Transition Chart (handout)
- Action Items

- **MP** to recommend approval of the pastoral call and its terms “if the way be clear” (congregation meeting on 1/7/24) between the Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell and Rev. Owar Ojulu.
- **MP** to approve part-time Interim Pastor agreement between John Simpson and Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown, PA.
- **MP** to approve Rev. Sue Washburn for Validated Ministry as Interim Director of Field Education, PTS and permission to “labor outside the bounds.”

COM Liaison Responsibilities and Suggested Timeline

- Organization – Chair/Convener/Reporter
- Re-assign church liaisons
- IPLF Upcoming workshops:
 - Reformed Worship and Sacraments (begins January 6)
 - Redstone Presbytery – 4; Washington Presbytery – Beaver Butler Presbytery – ; Pittsburgh Presbytery – 1; Upper Ohio Valley – ; Shenango – 1

Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for: Praises for soup dinners, Christmas Child distributions; and larger gatherings at services. Praises for those calling a new pastor; more men in attendance; and for young people coming back to church. Praises for monthly lunch outs with 25 people sharing food and fellowship; for movie night; and good attendance last couple Sundays in December. Praises for the progress made on the new building and the pledges received to pay for the building. Prayers for those grieving the loss of loved ones; prayers for those caring for a son going through health issues; for those battling cancer; for those dealing with pneumonia and surgeries. Prayers for those attending Blue Christmas service. Prayers for those that are deployed and for their families back home. Prayers for those that have graduated from the Police Academy. Prayers for upcoming annual meetings; for finding a new organist; and for PNCs working to find a candidate. Prayers for safety for all.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time: Clark Kerr, Karen Kifer, Brian Kilbert, Steve LaSor, Jay Lewis, Dennis Macaleer, Chuck MacPherson, Becky Maiman, Lynn Mance, John Manon.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time: 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; Patton Presbyterian Church; Revloc Presbyterian Church; Calvin United Presbyterian Church, Scottdale.

New Business

- Pastor one-day retreat – Pine Springs – task force. Usually occurs after Easter which falls on March 31st this year. Volunteers to coordinate the pastor retreat include: Mary Kay Glunt; Molly Hall; Glenn Hart.

Adjournment

It was **MSP** to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. with prayers offered by Rev. Bob Sheehan.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Action Items

- **No action items.**

January 2, 2024, Meeting

1. Organizational concerns

- a. Election of chair - It was **MSP** to elect Robin Jennings to serve as the chair.
- b. Election off Secretary - It was **MSP** to elect Tammy Noss to serve as secretary.

1. Updates on Candidates/IPLF participants:

Update on Danielle Kendig - Danielle is taking classes right now, with hopes to graduate in the Spring. Robin Jennings is working with Danielle as her mentor. We will meet with Danielle 1st Tuesday in February.

Update on James Vlosich - He has taken his assessment classes, Leaderwise and BCE-S. He will do his field assessment Jan.- May 2024. The committee with meet with James in the first Tuesday of March. Hyiwot agreed to serve as the CPM liaison for James.

Jeffrey Martini (West Newton) and Dave McCleary (Latrobe United) will be starting the IPLF program January, 2024. The committee will meet with them in person at the February meeting.

2. Skjp went over Responsibilities and differences between CPM and COM

3. The Liaisons for the current IPLF Candidates:

- a. Jeffrey Martini, Bill Poninsky: Liaison John Manon
- b. Dave McCreary, Karen Gray: Liaison Tammy Noss
- c. Anthony Marciano: Liaison Larry Armstrong
- d. Tammy Noss: Liaison James Sunseri
- e. Jackie Eckenrod: Liaison Robin Jennings
- f. Linda Gossar Loesch Liaison Kristen Emrick

4. Next meeting February 6th @ 6pm

5. Adjournment. Prayer offered by Rev. Larry Armstrong

Nominating Committee

Actions Items

- **No action items**

Information Items

- There remain a couple openings for positions on standing committees.

Please submit names of possible Ruling Elders for consideration to the Nominating Committee through Glenn Hart or Skip Noftzger.

Additionally, there are always opportunities on various subcommittees, task forces and networks. See the list in the Stated Clerk's report. Express any interest to the Presbytery office and we will get you connected.