

# Stories of Redstone

*Christ at work in our midst*

National  
*Recovery Month*  
Prevention Works - Treatment is Effective - People Recover

For 20+ years, I worked as an addictions counselor and did weekly pulpit supply. I would introduce myself and what I did full-time. Following worship, many people would approach me to share a story or seek advice about a family member or friend with a Substance Use Disorder. Often, people would tell me that they had been in recovery for many years. When I would ask if people in their church knew their story, often the answer was no. They were often unsure as to if it was a safe place to share their recovery story, because the church never talked about it. Does your congregation talk about the problems with alcohol and other drugs? Are there wonderful stories of hope and grace hiding in the shadows?

**September is National Recovery Month** — an annual recognition of the fact that millions of Americans suffer from addiction and other mental disorders, which can be successfully treated, allowing people to live healthy, rewarding lives. These individuals have stories of hope and grace to share with us.

To read these stories shared by recovering individuals, visit the web site [recoverymonth.gov/personal-stories/read](http://recoverymonth.gov/personal-stories/read)

For additional links to other available resources,  
[www.mcclellandtownpresbyterian.org/recovery](http://www.mcclellandtownpresbyterian.org/recovery)

Rev. F. Lee McDermott, pastor at McClellandtown and Grace Chapel Presbyterian Churches in Fayette County, PA

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

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