

Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) Mid-Week E-News May 28, 2020

www.psvonline.org

The Presbytery OF SCIOTO VALLEY

Mission and Vision Statement

***"Inspire, Strengthen, And Challenge Congregations
For Christ's Mission"***

MAY Calendar...

MAY



Thursdays

1 pm Zoom Meeting
Informal Gathering and
Conversation for
PSV Pastors

May 31

Day of Pentecost

Pentecost Offering
(for Ministries with
children, youth
and young adults)

JUNE

Monday, June 1

12:30 pm

PSV CCP
Zoom Meeting
Commission for Church
Professionals

Presbytery-wide MATTHEW 25 ALL-CHURCH EVENT

Zoom Gathering: Saturday, May 30, 10 am-Noon

Everyone is Invited to this Special Event Co-sponsored by
First Presbyterian Church of London and the Presbytery of
Scioto Valley Commission for Nurture and Outreach

Our denomination is encouraging congregations to become Matthew 25 churches. As a Matthew 25 church, we are called to live out true discipleship by acting boldly, compassionately and fearlessly serving people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor. To some degree, many churches are already doing the work of Matthew 25, which includes Eradicating Systemic Poverty, Dismantling Structural Racism and Building Congregational Vitality.



Let's come together to share our stories, be inspired with new ideas, and learn more about this Matthew 25 movement this Saturday, May 30 from 10 am to noon on Zoom. More details about the event can be found on the Presbytery website: www.psvonline.org. For Zoom link, email: LondonFirstPres@gmail.com, or call 760-852-1215.

James Wilson to Serve as Temporary Stated Clerk

Jim Wilson, widely known and highly respected throughout our Presbytery and beyond, has graciously agreed to serve as the Temporary Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Scioto Valley. Jim has faithfully served the church in many ways throughout the PC(USA). In

3 pm
PSV CCL
Zoom Meeting
Commission for
Congregational Life

Monday, June 8

3 pm
PSV CPO
Zoom Meeting
Commission for
Presbytery Operations

Tuesday, June 16

1 pm
PSV Nominating Com.
Zoom Meeting

4 pm
PSV CT
Coordinating Team
Zoom Meeting

**224th General
Assembly of the
PCUSA**

A Virtual Assembly
June 19 and 26-27.
We hold in prayer our
Presbytery's
Commissioners to the
224th General
Assembly:
Mark Gauhen; Kae
Merold; Kathi Bubb;
and Sarah Juist.
Milo Browne, YAAD.

the Presbytery, Jim has served as moderator (1998-99), chair of council (1999-2001), stated clerk (2002-08), and on various committees. He currently serves on the Coordinating Team and as a co-moderator of the 2022 General Assembly Committee on Local Arrangements (COLA). At the General Assembly level, he has served as moderator of the Advisory Committee on the Constitution, as vice-moderator of the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly and the All Agency Review Committee. Jim is a popular teacher for educating clerks in the presbytery and an elder at the Broad Street Presbyterian Church, where he currently serves as the Clerk of Session. We offer our gratitude to Jim for his willingness to serve the presbytery in this important role in the midst of his very busy professional, church and personal life.

Pentecost Special Offering...This Sunday!

The Pentecost Special Offering of the PC(USA) is normally promoted and received on Pentecost Sunday in May. The Offering is divided into the following categories: 40% supports youth in your own church; 25% serves young adult volunteers; 25% supports ministries with youth; 10% provides advocacy that protects and nurtures children and youth. Information and resources are available at presbyterianmission.org/pentecost.

PSV's Ramseyer Church is Looking for a Pulpit...

Ramseyer Presbyterian Church is looking for a preaching pulpit. The congregation is in need of one. The Church will appreciate it if there is one for free to serve the Lord. Please contact the Ramseyer pastor, The Reverend Justice Ofosuhene, at kofifosuhene@yahoo.com.

Free Commentaries on the Books of the Bible...

A Gift from Reverend Rawley Boone...

Commentaries on the books of the Bible are available free for the asking: Genesis - Towner; Isaiah - Westermann and Kaiser; Jeremiah - Bright; John - R.Brown; Acts - Willimon; Romans - Barrett; Philippians - Craddock; Epistles of John - Dodd; Revelation - Caird. For information, contact Rawley Boone at rboone@insdight.rr.com or call 614-418-5031.



**Presbyterian Women
in the Synod of the
Covenant...**

**SUMMER EVENT
CANCELLED!**



The PW Synod Gathering
scheduled for July 17 and
18, 2020 has been
cancelled. The next
Synod Gathering will be in
2022 as next year 2021
Churchwide meets in St.
Louis, Missouri.



Scripture and Prayer

"It is good to give thanks
to the Lord,
to sing praises to your
name, O Most High;"
Psalm 92:1

When it becomes
all too easy to hum
dirges,
write laments, or
compose great cantatas
of contrariness,
open our eyes to those
whose simple gifts of
caring reduce our stress,

You are Invited to...JOIN IN A VIRTUAL CHOIR...

Adam Garner, music director of Condit Presbyterian in Sunbury is looking to reach out to other choir directors for the formation of a **virtual choir**! Performances would be shared with all congregations and directors will meet together (virtually) to pick pieces. All those interested can contact me at garneradamp@gmail.com or 740-739-0002.

Back to Worship Guidelines: Singing in Church: Reverend Neil MacQueen

I recently came across several important articles about the dangers of SINGING when churches get back together. It's something I have not seen in a lot of the "back to worship" guidelines, yet it is being talked about by some in the church and in the choral world.

The [American Choral Director's Association and National Association of Teachers of Singing](#) panel of experts recommend against singing together in public even with masks until a vaccine is distributed. they called singers "Super Spreaders" because of the forceful expiration. Imagine the implications.

[This church music director's article](#) says pretty much the same thing, but with the research included (she's a PHD in vocal/voice science). Her conclusion has some suggestions for churches. You can read my [summary here at rotation.org](#) for our Christian education audience as they contemplate children's ministry and summer VBS programs. It includes links to the articles.

Top Ten Reasons Your Pastor Needs a Break...

(A Message for Clerks of Sessions and Elders)

By Ryan Landino, Executive Presbyter, Great Rivers Presbytery

Clerks and Elders are in a great position to offer pastors the encouragement to take the breaks they very likely need. Landino gives the following list of "Top Ten Reasons Your Pastor Needs a Break" as a way to recognize the pastor's work and help the pastor take a much-needed break.

1. The Emotional Toll of Being a Human Leader in a Crisis.
2. Carrying Everyone Else's Anxiety.
3. Leading Sudden Adaptive Changes With Technical Challenges.
4. Disruption of Spiritual and Self-Care Practices.
5. The Toll of Constant Remote Availability.
6. Cancelled Post-Easter Vacation.

our ears to those
who whisper about how
valued we are,
our hearts to the love
that is given
spontaneously
with no expectation of
return, our souls to the
wonders of creation all
around us and
then help us to remember
those glad songs of praise
buried deep within us

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7. Cancelled Anticipated Continuing Education Events.
8. Lack of Readily Available Support from Co-Laborers.
9. Unavailability of Immediate Feedback.
10. Pastors Have no Training or Experience in This.

RESOURCES for SCIOTO VALLEY CONGREGATIONS

PSV Resource Website...The Presbytery leaders created a website, www.psvresources.org, which contains timely information, creative ideas and resources gathered by your presbytery leaders. You can also reach this website from our Presbytery website. These continually updated materials and resources are designed to provide information and resources for all areas of your church life and ministries, especially during this pandemic time.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RESOURCES AND IDEAS...

As we move into summer, here is a helpful piece on VBS:

<https://hope4ce.net/2020/05/06/i-s-vbs-to-be-part-of-your-re-entry/>

Technology Support Grants for Congregations...The Presbytery Commission for Congregational Life (CCL) has allocated funding for up to \$500 reimbursement grants to any church in the Presbytery for purchased materials that assist pastors and congregations in reaching out to members through technology during the COVID-19 Crisis. Items can be purchased anytime between March 8 and August 31, 2020. You can send receipts to the Presbytery Office or email to dagmar@psvonline.org with a description of why you purchased the items. If you have questions, email Adam Anderson, chair of Congregational Life: pastor@oldstone.org.

Board of Pensions offers dues relief and deferments to churches and employers. The PCUSA Board of Pensions is extending dues relief and other assistance to churches and employers as we move through the COVID-19 crisis. Any church or employer experiencing economic hardship is encouraged to contact the Board. For further information, visit: pensions.org.

RESOURCES FROM PSV COMMISSION CHAIRS AND PRESBYTERY LEADERS

As churches begin to cautiously consider re-opening to in-person worship and church activities, please keep in mind the presbytery's guidance...

- "The Least of These: Guidelines for Churches in a Pandemic" - which can be found here: <https://psvresources.files.wordpress.com/2020/04/least-of-these.pdf>
- Churches would be wise to abide by Ohio's official guidance for Consumer, Retail and Services: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Consumer-Retail-Services.pdf>
- The Presbytery has a COVID-19 Resources website that is updated regularly. Please visit www.psvresources.org for a variety of information related to every aspect of congregational life. Good resources can also be emailed to any of the Commission chairs. Building this site out is a collective, connectional work.
- The PCUSA, similarly, has its own resource page at www.pcusa.org/covid19. Please continue to check it out.
- Finally, stay connected, share resources, and share stories through our Presbytery's Facebook Page. Just search for "Presbytery of Scioto Valley" or go directly to www.facebook.com/You.R.Presbytery. Like and Follow us to stay in the loop!

PASTORS OF PSV WEEKLY CHAT MEETING ON ZOOM

Reverend Ann Melick, Presbytery Commission for Church Professionals

Join our online chats on Thursdays to give and receive encouragement and practical advice during this unusual time of ministry. Beginning on April 16, we will meet at 1 pm each Thursday.

<https://zoom.us/j/588789104?pwd=cDBEUm8yYnNIS0RUK3dwZG5KVFMvZz09>

Meeting ID: 588 789 104, Password: 463317, One tap
mobile+13126266799,,588789104#

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Grants Assistance...

[Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#) (PDA) has recently granted 208 requests for assistance in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic for a total of \$1,119,688 in grants. Read more:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/presbyterian-disaster-assistance-approves-more-than-1-1-million-in-covid-19-grants>

Stated Meetings of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) in 2020

September 15, 2020, 3:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m. - Columbus, Overbrook Presbyterian Church

November 17, 2020, 3:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. - Jackson, First Presbyterian Church

224th General Assembly of the PCUSA On-Line



For the first time in the history of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the 2020 PC(USA) General Assembly will be held online only. The Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) approved a plan for a reduced assembly gathering that will require everyone involved - commissioners, advisory delegates, corresponding members and staff - to participate in a shortened and digital assembly.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is in unprecedented times. Within a few short months, an unknown and unseen virus has ravaged nearly every corner of the planet. Loved ones who were healthy have been struck down. Families have had to grieve without having an opportunity to personally say goodbye.

Our churches are facing difficult times as pastors and staff find new, innovative ways to minister from a distance as the future of their churches remain in question.

For the first time in our denomination's history, we are preparing for a General Assembly that will be totally online. The Committee on the Office of the General Assembly has had to make some difficult decisions as we looked at numerous options ranging from a full assembly agenda to our final decision to shorten the assembly and to focus solely on critical business issues.

In making these decisions we recognize that these unusual times prevent us from living into the fullness of who we are. Part of the grief COVID-19 has invited into our lives is the inability to be fully ourselves within the parameters of what we can do with what we have in a particular time frame. In other words, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is much more than standing rules, budgets, and elections. As our Stated Clerk recently said, "We are not divorcing ourselves from the work of social justice." We are about justice. We are advocacy. We are theological and we are prophetic. But in these times of a pandemic, this is the necessary response in considering the health and well-being of the hosting community, commissioners, advisory delegates, observers, and staff.

We ask the church to join us as we step into these uncertain times with the faith and certainty that God will sustain and embolden us into the future.

Read more...

<https://www.pcusa.org/news/2020/4/21/224th-general-assembly-be-conducted-online-only>

The 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) To be held in Columbus, Ohio, July 2-9, 2022

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley has the honor of hosting the 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), July 2-9, 2022. Watch for more information!!!

For the latest news and information from the Presbytery of Scioto Valley and its churches, visit www.psvonline.org. Telephone: 614-847-0565 or 800-244-7207; Fax: 614-847-4359