

# The Presbytery OF SCIOTO VALLEY

Visit our website



## Presbytery Calendar

### AUGUST

#### Monday

August 31  
12:30 pm

PSV Commission for  
Church Professionals  
(CCP) Zoom Meeting

3 pm

PSV Commission for  
Congregational Life  
(CCL) Zoom Meeting

### SEPTEMBER

#### Tuesday,

September 1  
3 pm

PSV Commission for  
Presbytery Operations  
(CPO) Zoom Meeting

#### Sunday,

September 6  
Season of Peace  
Begins

Visit [pcusa.org](https://www.pcusa.org) to  
learn about resources.

#### Monday,

September 7  
Labor Day

#### Sunday,

September 13  
Christian Education  
Week Begins

#### Tuesday,

September 15  
3:30 pm  
PSV Presbytery

## PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY (PSV) CONGREGATIONS ARE BECOMING MATTHEW 25 CHURCHES



Congratulations to the growing number of congregations of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley who have applied for and have been designated as Matthew 25 churches within the PC (USA). These congregations have answered the call to accept the Matthew 25 invitation. Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. By accepting the Matthew 25 invitation, you can help your church and our denomination become a more relevant presence in the world. We recognize Christ's urgent call to be a church of action, where God's love, justice and mercy shine forth and are contagious. This call commits congregations and the presbytery to work towards Building Congregational Vitality, Identifying and Dismantling Structural Racism, and Eradicating Systemic Poverty.

Go to <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/matthew-25-sign-up-my-congregation> and complete an application to sign up your church. Join others in our presbytery and across the denomination in a common purpose to bring alive the commitment to "serve the least of these" in our communities and around the world.

## Guidance to Congregations Considering Re-Opening Elder James A. Wilson, PSV Temporary Stated Clerk

As congregations consider returning to in-person worship or re-opening their buildings, Sessions must be mindful of both their legal and fiduciary duty to take reasonable steps to minimize the risk of spreading Covid-19 infections by worship or other church activities and their ordination vows to "watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service" (W-4.0404b) and "give[s] full expression to the rich diversity of the church's membership" (G-3.0103). This includes assessing whether a plan promotes expanding those who can worship or has the effect of excluding individuals whose risk factors prevent participation in in-person worship. In carrying out these obligations, we strongly urge Sessions to consider the following guidance for

Meeting on Zoom

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### **Presbyterian Planning Calendars have arrived!**

The calendar starts with September 2020 and ends with December 2021. It contains many planning aids for pastors and other church leaders. This popular calendar includes lectionary information for Sundays and special days, liturgical days, liturgical colors, resource information for PC(USA) programmatic emphases, updated synod, presbytery and Presbyterian Mission Agency staff directories, a color fold-out synod/presbytery and world maps. The cost is \$10 each.

Please contact:

[dagmar@psvonline.org](mailto:dagmar@psvonline.org)

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Plain City Presbyterian Church is seeking an organist/pianist for their worship services.

If you are interested, please contact Rita McCray, Search Committee Chair at [teawithrita@yahoo.com](mailto:teawithrita@yahoo.com)

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Changes are coming, to the PSV Mid-week E-News.

Please note that Constant Contact upgraded, therefore we are working on a new design.

[dagmar@psvonline.org](mailto:dagmar@psvonline.org)

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Prayer from the  
August 18, 2020,  
Presbytery Meeting  
Rev. Mark Gauen  
Presbytery Moderator

Almighty God, we  
gather this day as your  
holy people,

congregational safety:

<https://psvonline.org/publication/guidance-to-congregations-considering-reopening-james-a-wilson/>

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### **Off Line Ministry Ideas for Christian Education**

Hi educators! I hope that you have been able to enjoy some of this refreshing weather lately. I just attended a webinar on "Off Line Ministry Ideas" from Lifelong Learning at the Virginia Theological Seminary and thought that I would share some of the ideas:

- Themed car parades (back to school, meeting new staff, pet blessing)
- Mailing/Delivering to homes packets to set up worship space at home, or craft materials, or activity boxes, or a booklet of spiritual practices
- Having people write prayers on ribbons and tie them to the church handrails/fences/pillars (materials put in a real estate flier box outside church)
  - Connect through handwritten notes - for little ones include stickers; have youth write to children, or youth write to older adults, or older adults write to children; engage volunteers; do chain mails
- Have children draw pictures of something during worship and post them on FB
- Virtual Talent Show and/or Art Show
- Collaborative art project - families come to church at scheduled time OR send supplies home and put together
- Halloween ideas - CARnival where kids can drive up and play a game from their car; drive through trunk or treat with candy at the end; Trek or Treat -

[https://www.tumbuh.org/trek-or-treat-digital-planning-packet/?](https://www.tumbuh.org/trek-or-treat-digital-planning-packet/?fbclid=IwAR1fEObBstJbPLEvAHFRjmKy7ox6ohvp0GpHjw21hKhgDaNha6Y6wESE-7U)

[fbclid=IwAR1fEObBstJbPLEvAHFRjmKy7ox6ohvp0GpHjw21hKhgDaNha6Y6wESE-7U](https://www.tumbuh.org/trek-or-treat-digital-planning-packet/?fbclid=IwAR1fEObBstJbPLEvAHFRjmKy7ox6ohvp0GpHjw21hKhgDaNha6Y6wESE-7U)

Lifelong Learning has more events coming up, including schools and churches working together and Advent/Christmas ideas. [https://www.eventbrite.com/o/virginia-](https://www.eventbrite.com/o/virginia-theological-seminary-16854271784)

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### **How can the presbytery support you in your ministry???**

Please let us know! Please share ideas that YOU have with Kathi Bubb at [kathibubb@gmail.com](mailto:kathibubb@gmail.com).

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### **Who among you are lonely?**

**Getting better at checking in.** The Rev. Thom Shuman is the transitional pastor at **Galloway Presbyterian Church** in Columbus, Ohio. He is also the father of an adult son, Teddy, who lives in a facility for people with mental and developmental disabilities. Shuman's adopted son, who had fetal alcohol syndrome as a child, has lived the past 25 of his 34 years in and out of different psychiatric placements that provide the safety, security and structure that are essential for him. He has also depended on regular visits. Read ...

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pt-0920-lonely/>

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representing the Church of our Lord, Jesus Christ as members of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley.

We gather this day to do the business of your church, to elect people to positions of service so that our Presbytery can properly do its business.

We gather this day through the miracle of modern electronics, sitting in our homes and offices connected by wires and waves.

In this time of turmoil, we gather as ambassadors of the living Lord, proclaiming hope to a hope-drained world. In this time of uncertainty and fear, we gather as witnesses of the power of love to overcome all the sin and evil that we may encounter.

In this time of separation, we gather as the community of your faithful servants, knowing that we are connected by more than wires and waves, but by the power of your Holy Spirit.

In expectation and hope, we ask that you bless our meeting today; guide our work so that what we say and what we do may be pleasing in your sight. Amen.

### **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) News...**

The hosting and mission volunteer ministry of PDA which provides volunteer host sites has decided it must suspend all PDA Volunteer Hosting Operations through 12/31/20. When the time is safe, PDA will be ready for thousands of volunteers to stay at dozens of host sites and donate million of dollars and hours of volunteer labor. Homes will be rebuilt and families will be made whole.

More information about PDA's COVID-19 response is available at: <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/covid-19/>

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### **PCUSA SPECIAL OFFERING NEWS...**

#### **Peace and Global Witness Offering in September**

The Special Offerings of the PC(USA) are celebrations of specific ways God has been made known to us. Each is connected to a season of the church year and mandated by the General Assembly to help the whole Church join together in response to God's grace. They represent the largest, collective way Presbyterians come together to work for a better world. The Offerings actively engage congregations in ministries of compassion, justice, Christian formation, education, peacemaking, and global witness. The Peace and Global Witness Offering is promoted during A Season of Peace (September) and received on World Communion Sunday (the first Sunday in October).

In God's house, there are people of every background. In God's house, there are people of every race, age and gender. In God's house, people who are different from each other in almost every way live together and seek ways to bring about Christ's peace in every part of our lives. We speak out and claim the truth in Second Thessalonians, "May the God of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways." *Extend your peace to us, O Christ, that we might build places of kindness and generosity, reconciliation and compassion. May our gifts join our voices in blessing all of creation with your justice and peace, at all times, in all ways. Amen*

Explore Special Offerings:

<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/>

Consider highlighting products or services, sales or promotions, personal bios, and more. Use images that complement your message, and link your images to supporting resources.

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### **Scholarship and Grants Updates from the Synod of the Covenant**

It's time to apply for the Synod's grants and higher education scholarships! We want to support the ministries of your churches and the academic work undertaken by your students.

The programs (and the dates when application reviews will begin) include:

1. Higher Education Scholarships, available to individual Presbyterians within the Synod who are attending college, university, trade school, or seminary/divinity school. Up to

- \$1500; 8/31/20.
2. COVID Emergency Need Grants for Higher Education Students. Up to \$500; 12/4/20.
  3. New Covenant Grants, available to congregations, institutions, and organizations within the Synod for (a) congregational development and transformation, (b) multicultural and justice ministries, or (c) ministries in higher education. Up to \$5000; 10/1/20.
  4. Racial Ethnic Program Grants, available to congregations primarily composed of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) planning new mission initiatives or outreach to the neighborhoods surrounding their church. Up to \$5000; 10/1/20.

**To apply and learn more, visit [synodofthecovenant.org/synod-ministries/grants-and-scholarships](https://synodofthecovenant.org/synod-ministries/grants-and-scholarships) or contact [grants@synodofthecovenant.org](mailto:grants@synodofthecovenant.org).**

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### **TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY TRAINING AVAILABLE FOR PASTORS, OCTOBER 12-16 Transitional Pastors are Especially Needed at this Time!!!**

Transitional Leaders are a very important part of every congregation's journey through change. The change may be from one pastor to another, or even a time of critical questions about the future mission and ministry of the congregation. Transitional ministry is much more than just being a placeholder. It is in that journey of change that pastors trained in the art of transitional ministry are especially important and able to help a congregation see a positive and exciting future in the midst of changes.

Our presbytery, like many others, currently has many churches that are, or will soon be, between pastoral leadership. If you are interested in learning more about training as a Transitional Minister, please go to this link: <https://www.transitionalministryeducation.net/>

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies is offering a Week 1 training in October. You can find information about this transitional ministry training and register at the following link: <https://synod-of-lakes-and-prairies.events.idloom.com/the-art-of-transitional-leadership2020>

Insider highlighting products or services, sales or promotions, personal bios, and more. Use images that complement your message, and link your images to supporting resources.

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**THE BOARD OF PENSIONS**  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

Each year the BOP sets a time for selecting benefits for the coming year. The Employer Agreements are now available on Benefits Connect at [pensions.org/2021benefits](https://pensions.org/2021benefits).

The Board of Pensions has designed the Benefits Plan of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) so employers have the flexibility to choose from a variety of benefits options that best meet the needs of the organization and the employees. Once your church has signed their Employer Agreements, Open enrollment for benefits will run from October 26 to November 13. There are changes and new benefits that make it possible for churches to enroll their pastors who are not installed. The new *Minister's Choice* package, available in 2021, offers savings for non-installed ministers working at least 20 hours per week. Minister's Choice is a new benefits package that provides important financial protection for ministers. Coverage under the Minister's Choice Plan includes the Defined Benefit Pension Plan, Death and Disability Plan, Temporary Disability Plan, and Employee Assistance Plan. Minister's Choice also expands access to assistance and education programs now available only through Pastor's Participation. Employer cost for Minister's is 10 percent of effective salary. For more information, visit the Board of Pensions website. <http://www.pensions.org/>

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## **PASTORS OF PSV WEEKLY CHAT MEETING ON ZOOM**

Join our online chats on Thursdays to give and receive encouragement and practical advice during this unusual and changing time of ministry.

To join this gathering of our pastors at 1 pm each Thursday.

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

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

### **2020 Stated Meetings of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley(PSV)**

**September 15, 2020, 3:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m., Zoom Meeting  
November 17, 2020, 3:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.**

[Visit our website](#)