

Mid-week E-News December 17, 2020

The Presbytery OF SCIOTO VALLEY

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

February 18, 2020

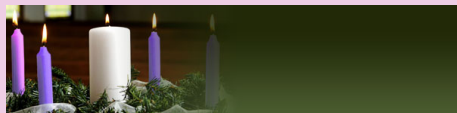
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For E-News comments, questions or additions, email: dagmar@psvonline.org

A Prayer for the Third Week of Advent...

By Christine Burns, Commissioned Pastor

O God of Hope and Anticipation, we wait. In this time, when our waiting seems so deep and far and distanced from one another for safety, we know that we must draw closer to you. The Joy is in filling our anxious solitude with your peace, to heal our sense of detachment and reconnect through you with our brothers and sisters in new and wondrous ways. Your Love is here and lives in the places that we live. Even as we wait, let us practice active waiting with great expectation and adoration. Amen.



ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES FROM THE PRESBYTERIES OF THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT

The Presbyteries of the Synod of the Covenant are offering you an Advent gift: Full pre-recorded worship services for each of the Sundays of Advent, Christmas Eve and the Sunday after Christmas. Links are available on the Synod of the Covenant website: www.synodofthecovenant.org.

December 20 – Cal Bremer and Fran Lane-Lawrence (Presbytery of Lake Michigan) Christmas Eve – Matt Skolnik (Presbytery of Muskingum)
December 27 – Dan Saperstein (Presbytery of Lake Huron)



Office of the General Assembly Stated Clerk urges churches to stay the course on virtual worship.

The Reverend Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, says now is not the time to return to in-person gatherings. Read his message.

https://www.pcusa.org/news/2020/12/1/stated-clerk-urges-churches-stay-course-virtual-wo/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Presbyterian+Church+USA+Weekly+News&utm_campaign=Weekly+News+-+Nov-Dec+25-01%2C+2020

[stay-course-virtual-wo/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Presbyterian+Church+USA+Weekly+News&utm_campaign=Weekly+News+-+Nov-Dec+25-01%2C+2020](https://www.pcusa.org/news/2020/12/1/stated-clerk-urges-churches-stay-course-virtual-wo/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Presbyterian+Church+USA+Weekly+News&utm_campaign=Weekly+News+-+Nov-Dec+25-01%2C+2020)

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Continuing Guidance for Congregations Regarding COVID-19

The State of Ohio continues to experience a marked spike in COVID-19 infections, resulting in hospitalizations and deaths at their highest rate since late May. The coronavirus is spreading at critical levels in every county of our Presbytery. Because of this recent spike some public schools have suspended in-person learning. We encourage our churches to do so as well. If we do not act to contain this spike through vigilant and sustained efforts that include masking, social distancing, disinfection, and restricting unnecessary meetings and travel, hospitals may become overloaded and thousands may die.

To read the entire document please visit:

<https://psvonline.org/publication/continuing-guidance-for-congregations-in-the-pandemic-urgent-advice-regarding-covid-19-precautions>

Presbytery of Scioto Valley Partners in Education (PIE)



PIE on ZOOM. Partners In Education Leadership Training Days, with workshops on elder training, deacon training, clerk training, faith practice toolkit and self-care for clergy. The same workshops will be offered both days.

The event is FREE, but please register:

Saturday, January 9 from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlqdeurpz8iEtWYIFTxvEXELixhcvEBLZCE>

Wednesday, January 13 from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtcOqupzgtG9XSoKq9wD5CdTWTtC49QGzm>



Scioto Valley Presbytery is a Matthew 25 Presbytery!

Matthew 25 is a PC(USA) initiative that has three focuses -

Building Congregational Vitality, Dismantling Structural Racism and Eradicating Systemic Poverty. We are beginning this work...For more information, go to the PC(USA) website www.pcusa.org and read about this initiative.

By becoming a Matthew 25 mid-council and partnering with congregations, we can together multiply and intensify our loving commitment to radical and fearless discipleship. CNO has appointed Matthew 25 Ambassadors who can speak to your Mission/Outreach/Service Committees and/or sessions to explain more about Matthew 25. Contact Jeannie Harsh for more information or check out pcusa.org/matthew25

PCUSA Mission Agency News... Diane Moffett, J. Herbert Nelson, and the leadership of the Mission Agency have prepared a recorded **worship service based on the Matthew 25 Vision** for congregations to use however and whenever they like. Here's the link: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/matthew25-worship/>.

The **Presbyterian's Today Advent Devotionals** are free and on-line this year. <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/presbyterians-todays-advent-devotional-extended-through-christmastide/>, and here's the direct link to the Devotionals homepage: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/today/advent2020/>.

Matthew 25 News...From the Reverend Diane Moffet..

I am excited to share with you that yet another member of your presbytery, Unity Presbyterian Church, Reynoldsburg in Ohio, just signed on to become a [Matthew 25 church](#). I appreciate your continued support.

The COVID-19 pandemic has redefined what community means and I offer my gratitude for churches and mid councils who, during these unprecedented challenges, are keeping their focus on serving others. Given the current unrest and protest in our nation, the call to be a Matthew 25 church is even more compelling.

Jesus calls us to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned and poor. By joining us on this journey, we are uniting in common mission to become a more relevant presence in the world.

If you have any questions about the Matthew 25 invitation, please contact me at 502-569-5040 or by [email](#). When we practice justice, love and kindness, we are a living translation of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your support.

The Rev. Dr. Diane Moffet, President & Executive Director
Presbyterian Mission Agency, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)

Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) Updates, and more.....

Per Capita Relief Policy, Submitted by Jim Hines, Commission for Presbytery Operations
The Commission for Presbytery Operations presented a **per capita relief proposal** at the February 2020 Presbytery meeting that was approved at the May 2020 Presbytery meeting. The intent of this policy is to grant relief to congregations that have experienced a 10% or more loss of membership from last year.

HOW THE POLICY WORKS – Historically, a congregation's per capita for the coming year is based on their membership at the end of the previous year. For example, a church's per capita for **2021** would normally be based on their membership at the end of **2019** – NOT their membership at the end of 2020. Under this "relief policy", the Presbytery will grant immediate relief to any congregation who has experienced a 10% or more loss of membership during 2020 and will base 2021's per capita on your year 2020 membership. If you have had a significant loss of membership in 2020, you can apply for relief under this policy and your 2021 per capita will be based on your year-end membership as of 2020 – not 2019 as under the current policy.

If you want to request relief under this new policy, please email either Bob Gustafson, Interim Treasurer; John Wyckoff, Financial Assistant; or Dagmar Romage, Administrative Assistant in the Presbytery offices.

- Robert Gustafson - gustafson15@gmail.com
- John Wyckoff - accounting@psvonline.org
- Dagmar Romage - dagmar@psvonline.org

If you want relief under this new policy, you must request it – it is not automatic.

End Date for Submission of 2020 Per Capita and Mission

Robert Gustafson, Temporary Treasurer

Even in this challenging year, or perhaps even more so in this challenging year, your contributions to Per Capita and mission, are expressions God's provision and grace. As you know Per Capita provides the means to strengthen the connections of our work and build lasting relationships to help all Presbyterians share God's love through mission and ministry. Presbyterians do mission in partnership. We understand "mission" to be God's work for the sake of the world God loves. Your financial support makes a difference. We are grateful!

As the end of 2020 approaches, I want to pass on the following information to you: **2020 remittances must be received by Monday, January 11, 2021**, you will find the remittance form and the Contribution Summary as of November 30, 2020 attached to this email.

Payments received after that date must be credited to the new financial year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

John Wyckoff, Financial Assistant, accounting@psvonline.org or
Dagmar Romage, Administrative Assistant, dagmar@psvonline.org.

Mission Engagement Opportunity

A five-session course on Global Mission engagement to launch in January. Become a WORLD MISSION TRAVELER! Your passport is free! The presbytery's Global Mission Network will be sponsoring five zoom-groups on the third Saturday of each month from 10:30 a.m. - noon, beginning on January 23, 2021.

The course will be led by the Rev. Dr. Cynthia Holder-Rich, a teaching elder from our presbytery currently serving as a PC(USA) mission co-worker in Tanzania, and formerly pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Findlay. Each monthly class will feature PC(USA) mission co-workers for half an hour (from Niger, Costa Rica, Peru, Palestine, and other countries), along

PSV Congregations...

Rev. Lee Platt, Chair of PSV Commission for Congregational Life

A number of churches have asked about holding annual congregational meetings. Some are doing their meetings via Zoom which is acceptable. However, if your bylaws require a person-to-person meeting, hold the Zoom meeting and later, when in-person meetings become safely possible, announce a Congregational meeting to change the bylaws to reflect that meetings may be held either in-person or virtually.

Some PSV churches are struggling with how to do virtual/online worship during these times of distance worship. We are asking churches that are doing successful virtual worship to please let Presbytery know what you are doing. Please let us know if you have

with a specific missiological theme for each session.

Plan now to join this exciting way to engage your members and leaders in Global Mission next year. We are asking for commitments from pastors/moderator and mission leadership to take part together in what we're calling "Mission Engagement 101." Join us and travel the world safely! 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. For information, or to register, email Les Sauer at _lessauer@hotmail.com

someone in these struggling congregations can contact and provide guidance on how to proceed. Some of the technical issues seem intimidating, but need not be as difficult as they appear.

Contact Lee with your ideas and questions: lelandw@msn.com.

PSV Older Adult Ministry Committee Newsletter

To Anyone over 50 and those who minister to those over 50:

Greetings from the Older Adult Ministry Committee of Scioto Valley Presbytery

We are sending this via email, but you will find it as well on the Presbytery website under Nurture and Outreach Commission, Older Adult Ministry. To read the Older Adult Ministry

Newsletter visit: <https://psvonline.org/publication/the-presbytery-of-scioto-valley-older-adult-ministry-committee-newsletter-december-2020/>

PSV Westside Urban Ministry (WUM) NEWS...



The pictured are some WUM members resting after assembling 280 gift bags: Tori Amicon from West High, Susan Imel from Covenant, Jim Benney from Westminster, and Connie Jump from Overbrook. Today, December 16, 2020, each student who is doing their online learning at West High School in Columbus is receiving a home visit from the West High staff. The purpose is to engage, encourage and reward the students for staying in school during this year's very difficult time of online-only learning. The student's "reward" is a gift bag from WUM, lovingly assembled by representatives of Covenant, Westminster, Overbrook, Hoge, Concord Fellowship, Central College, and Broad Street Presbyterian churches. In the gift bag are: ear buds, a Bath & Body works lotion, chap stick, 2 candy canes, a hand-knitted hat or scarf from a Presbyterian knitter, and this message:

Dear West High student -

Not everything is cancelled. Sun is not cancelled. Spring is not cancelled.

Relationships are not cancelled. Love is not cancelled. Reading is not cancelled.

Devotion is not cancelled. Music is not cancelled. Imagination is not cancelled.

Kindness is not cancelled. Conversations are not cancelled. Hope is not cancelled

And God's love for HIS people is never cancelled.

Please know that we send you these gifts, along with our love and prayers, to encourage you to stay in school!

From the Westside Urban Ministry, a ministry of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley

Keyboard Free to any Church or church organist for in home practice if you pick it up! Wurlitzer, 2 rank keyboard, 13 foot pedals with 30 stops plus 3 coupler, 2 sustain & master volume tabs, also tabs for reverb, vibrato & Spectra Tone Chorus. Size: 46 " wide, 24" deep, 36" high. Nice wood finish with matching original bench all in excellent condition, older model. Call Pastor Art or Gail Reed between 10 AM & 10 PM @ 740-965-5102.



Saying Good-bye - Barb Young

Well, I am saying good-bye as the secretary of Utica Presbyterian Church. I am retiring at the end of this year. I have really enjoyed my time as secretary for almost 36 years. I have enjoyed the time I have spent in the office, serving four pastors (Robert Forman (1983-1990), Don Pendell (1990-1991), Dallas Dryburgh (1991-2005) and our present pastor, Terry Holobaugh (2006-now). I also enjoyed working with the members of our church to get news out to everyone and also getting communications from the community to everyone. I thank everyone for the help they have given me over the years. When I first came in to be secretary, the office had a list of 38 inactive people and I decided to try to locate them. It was a challenge and out of the 38, I succeeded in finding 35 of them. It was fun to do as I got to hear stories of when they attended our church and why they left, some even lived out of state. So, I know I will miss being in the office for a while, but I just feel it's time for me to step down. I'll still see everyone in church and Presbyterian Women's events when this pandemic is over. I thank Denise Hatch for stepping in to be our new secretary.

The Art of Transitional Ministry Leadership Training February 8-12, 2021

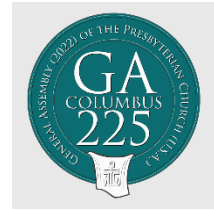
The Synod of Lakes and Prairies will offer *The Art of Transitional Leadership* Online. This training is for individuals who are considering ministry in temporary settings (as an interim, transitional or designated pastor) or are experiencing ministry in these transitional times. Materials presented will include the basics of transitional ministry and will be of value to all congregational pastors regardless of their ministry setting. Best practices in transitional ministry include ways to enter the congregation and community, how to analyze a congregation's strength and growing edges, and how to assist a congregation in moving toward a vibrant future. This training will delve into navigating change, the pastor as a spiritual interpreter of transition, family systems, mission focus ministry, conflict mediation, and building resiliency. Participants completing the full 30 hours of training will meet the requirements for Week I Transitional Ministry Education. The classes will meet Monday-Thursday from 9:00-11:30, 1:30-4:30 and Friday from 9:00-noon. Tuition and fees cover the tuition as well as the costs of taking the Thomas Kilman Inventory and the Intercultural Development Inventory. To see the flyer: <https://psvonline.org/publication/the-art-of-transitional-leadership-learning-ministry-skills-for-todays-and-tomorrows-church/> Registration is now open: <https://synod-of-lakes-and-prairies.events.idloom.com/the-art-of-transitional-leadership2021>

The 225th General Assembly of the PCUSA Will be Held in Louisville, KY in 2022...

The Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) has approved moving the 2022 General Assembly from Columbus, Ohio to Louisville, Kentucky. This new plan for the 225th GA will feature a hybrid assembly that will include both in-person and online meetings.

The in-person portion of the assembly will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, the site of the PC(USA) national offices. The assembly's 13 committees would hold in-person meetings over a two-week period, with all plenaries being held online with the exception of an initial quorum gathering. To read the entire report

visit: <https://www.pcusa.org/news/2020/12/4/225th-general-assembly-move-louisville-2022/>



Healthy Boundaries Training for Pastors-Mark your calendars!

For all pastors serving churches or in validated ministries; CREs; and certified Christian Educators: Healthy Boundaries 101 and 201 on Zoom will be offered early in 2021.

2-hour sessions each day, All three Sessions must be attended:

Healthy Boundaries 101: Tuesdays, 9-11 am, January 19, 26 and February 2

Healthy Boundaries 201: Thursdays, 6-8 pm, January 21, 28 and February 4

Sign up now: email: dagmar@psvonline.org

PRESBYTERY of Scioto Valley (PSV) Meeting Calendar

Mark your calendars for 2021...

Partners in Education (PIE) (Two Opportunities)

Saturday, January 9 from 10:00 a.m.- 11:30 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZiQdeurpz8iEtWYIFTxvEXELixhcyEBLZCE>

Wednesday, January 13 from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZEtcOqupzqtG9XSoKq9wD5CdTWTrc49QGzm>

HEALTHY BOUNDARIES TRAINING AND UPDATING FOR PASTORS...

Zoom Healthy Boundaries 101: Tuesdays, 9-11 am, **January 19, 26 and February 2**

Zoom Healthy Boundaries 201: Thursdays, 6-8 pm, **January 21, 28 and February 4**

PSV GLOBAL MISSION NETWORK...

Global Mission Network will be sponsoring five zoom-groups on the **third Saturday of each month** from 10:30 a.m. - noon, beginning on January 23, 2021. For more information, or to register, email Les Sauer at lessauer@hotmail.com

ANNUAL RETREAT FOR PASTORS...

November 7-9, 2021

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley Annual Church Professionals Fall Retreat
Deer Creek Resort, Mount Sterling, Ohio

2021 Presbytery Meeting Dates

Dates tentatively scheduled are: February 16, May 18, September 21, and November 16.

Most likely to be held via Zoom, until meeting in person is deemed safe and appropriate.

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>

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