

Mid-week E-News January 21, 2021

The Presbytery OF SCIOTO VALLEY

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

February 18, 2020

[Visit our website](#)

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

"The Hill We Climb..."

Closing Words of U.S. Presidential Inaugural Poem delivered by Amanda Gorman, January 20, 2021

*We will rebuild, reconcile and recover
and every known nook of our nation and
every corner called our country,
Our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,
battered and beautiful
When day comes we step out of the shade,
aflake and unafraid
The new dawn blooms as we free it
For there is always light,
If only we're brave enough to see it
If only we're brave enough to be it!*

Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) Meeting Calendar JANUARY

Thursday, January 21

PSV CRE Committee, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, January 26, and February 2

Zoom Healthy Boundaries 101: Tuesdays, 9-11 a.m.

January 21 and 28, and February 4

Zoom Healthy Boundaries 201: Thursdays, 6-8 p.m.

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, **Saturday, January 23**

(Future meetings: February 20, March 20, April 17, and May 15.)

For more information, or to register, email Les Sauer at lessauer@hotmail.com

Tuesday, January 26, 1 p.m.

Zoom meeting - Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO)

Thursday, January 28, p.m.

Zoom Meeting - PSV Nominating Committee

FEBRUARY

Monday, February 1, 12:30 p.m.

Zoom meeting - Commission for Church Professionals (CCP)

Monday, February 1, 3:00 p.m.

Zoom meeting - Commission for Congregational Life (CCL)

Tuesday, February 2, 9-11 a.m.

Zoom Healthy Boundaries 101

Thursday, February 4, 6-8 p.m.

Zoom Healthy Boundaries 201

Monday, February 8, 3 p.m.

Zoom meeting - Commission for Presbytery Operations (CPO)

Tuesday, February 9, 10 a.m.

PSV Older Adult Ministry Team

Saturday, February 13, from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Doing Justice & Loving Kindness: An Intro to Matthew 25

An On-line event to introduce and support the work of the PC(USA) Matthew 25 Initiative

To Register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84461212121?pwd=ZlRlT1d1tCxEEXM>

Tuesday, February 16, 3:00 p.m.

STATED PRESBYTERY MEETING

Presbytery Meetings continue to meet via Zoom, until meeting in person is deemed safe and appropriate.

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For more information, or to register, email Les Sauer at lessauer@hotmail.com

Tuesday, February 23, 1 p.m.

Zoom meeting - Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO)

Future 2021 Presbytery Meeting Dates

May 18, September 21, and November 16.

Held via Zoom until meeting in person is deemed safe and appropriate.

A World of Thanks to our Congregations...

An article by Commissioned Pastor Christine Burns, former member of PSV Operations...

2020 was filled with unprecedented difficulties for congregations everywhere. In the midst of a pandemic, when many of our PC (USA) congregations were unable to worship, or became stretched beyond what they believed they could do, new ways to worship had to be engaged and celebrated.

Amid financial hardships, the faithful members of the worshipping communities of our presbytery rose to extraordinary measures to support the connectional nature of our denomination through the payment of per capita. Many of our churches paid all of their per capita despite the difficulties because it is just that important that we keep our commitment to our sister churches across the denomination. In fact, 61 of our Presbytery of Scioto Valley congregations paid 100%, or more, of their per capita, with many others paying a large portion to support the mission and operations of our denomination and our presbytery. A total of \$406,463.00 was contributed for per capita, with an additional amount of \$158,098.00 in generous funds donated through mission fund commitments. Thank you for your support of the ministry and mission of our presbytery, our synod, and the General Assembly through your dedicated contributions of per capita. In a year that was fraught with potential barriers, we worshiped and worked our mission in new ways to stay always connected, always faithful, and always listening for the reforming work of the Holy Spirit to speak her wisdom. Well done, good and faithful servants!



Mission Engagement Opportunity

Begins this Saturday...

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 mission co-worker in Tanzania. Each monthly class will feature PC(USA) mission co-workers for half an hour (from Niger, Costa Rica, Peru, Palestine, and other countries), along with a specific missiological theme for each session. Plan now to join this exciting way to engage your members and leaders in Global Mission. We are asking for commitments from pastors/moderator and mission leadership to take part together in what we're calling: "**MISSION ENGAGEMENT 101.**"

****Session 1 (January 23)** - "What is mission? What is our mission? Why do we do mission?" Conversation with Michael and Rachel Ludwig, serving in Niger

****Session 2 (February 20)** - "New Testament Models of Mission" Conversation with Mark Hare and Jenny Bent, serving in Costa Rica

****Session 3 (March 20)** - "Power and Money in Mission, historically and today" Conversation with Jed Hawkes Koball and Jenny Valles Koball, serving in Peru

****Session 4 (April 17)** - "What is Presbyterian about doing mission? How do congregations plug in?" Conversation with Victor Makari and Doug Dicks, serving in Israel and Palestine

****Session 5 (May 15)** - "Next steps--where do we go from here? Growing engagement in global mission in your congregation." Conversation with Dan and Elizabeth Turk, serving in Madagascar

For information, or to register, email Les Sauer at lessauer@hotmail.com
To see the event flyer visit: <https://psvonline.org/publication/13505>

Presbytery of Scioto Valley Congregations Lifted Up in Prayer

The Commission for Congregational Life is committed to helping congregations promote and nurture healthy, faith-filled relationships and ministries in their congregations and communities. Our weekly Email news is lifting up our 88 congregations, celebrating their ministries and lifting them up in prayer. We hope you and your congregation will join in celebrating our congregations and holding them in your prayers.



Athens First Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church in Athens, Ohio, was

founded in 1809 by the Reverend Jacob Lindley, first president of Ohio University. The congregation worships in a church building at the original site at a downtown intersection. Thirteen First Church pastors - including William Holmes McGuffey - have been either university presidents or members of the OU faculty. This vibrant open-minded congregation is a diverse and open-hearted community of people, who are united by a curiosity to explore and practice what it means to be Christians today. Along with the The Reverend Robert Martin, pastor, this church family effectively serves the university community, celebrates a strong music program and is a partner in mission with the Amesville Presbyterian Church.



Alexander Presbyterian Church

began in 1832 when a group of Christians gathered on a

large mound near Hebardville and started the first church of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination in the area. The present church was built in 1874. In 1925, part of the present structure known as "Winget Chapel" was moved from Waterloo Township and was added to the north side of the building to accommodate the growth at that time. The first president of Ohio University, The Rev. Jacob Lindley, served as the church's first pastor with six elders and sixth-three members. The present members in this small congregation continually work to reach out to the community and proclaim the Gospel. Reverend Rob Martin, pastor of the Athens First Presbyterian Church, serves as the Moderator of the Alexander Presbyterian Church Session.

PSV Stated Clerk Candidate to be Elected at the February Presbytery Meeting

The Presbytery Nominating Committee is pleased to bring to the February 16th Presbytery Meeting their candidate for election as the Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV). The Committee, along with the Operations Human Resources team, voted unanimously to recommend the Reverend Bill Gause as the PSV Stated Clerk. Reverend Gause serves as the Pastor of the Columbus Overbrook Presbyterian Church.

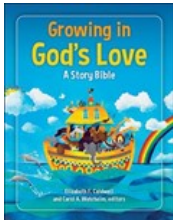


Doing Justice and Loving Kindness: An Intro to Matthew 25" is an on-line event to introduce and support the work of the PC(USA) Matthew 25 Initiative on Saturday February 13th from 10:00 – 11:30 am. After a brief worship and introduction, participants can choose from one of three workshops: Dismantling Structural Racism, featuring CBS sports broadcaster James Brown, Eradicating Systemic Poverty, and Building Church Vitality. This event is FREE and we ask that you

register: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwscOCgrTIuGdGT-zCK_KRBjT1d1tCxEX-M. This event is sponsored by the Presbytery Commission on Nurture and Outreach. See the event flyer at: <https://psvonline.org/publication/doing-justice-loving-kindness-an-intro-to-matthew-25-saturday-february-13th-from-1000-1130-am/>

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. For more information, go to the PC(USA) website www.pcusa.org. CNO (PSV Commission for Nurture and Outreach) has appointed Matthew 25 Ambassadors who can speak to your Mission/Outreach/Service Committees and/or Sessions to explain more about Matthew 25. Check out pcusa.org/matthew25



Virtual "At Home" Sunday School for children (and families) Jenni Whitford, Educator, Worthington Presbyterian Church

Worthington Presbyterian Church (WPC) is been offering TWO "At Home" Sunday School options for K-6th graders. The curriculum is "Growing in God's Love" A Story Bible Curriculum by PCUSA.

<https://www.pcusastore.com/Pages/Item/13638/Story-Bible-Curriculum.aspx>

Each week is a stand-alone lesson. if you have questions, or need more information, please contact Jenni Whitford, Director for Children's Ministry at the Worthington Presbyterian Church, 614-885-5355. We would love to partner or be a resource for you.

The APCE Virtual Event- Anything But Ordinary February 4-5, 2021

APCE is the Association for Presbyterian Church Educators

The Virtual Event offers the best in the way of worship, plenary and workshops each day. Special events that are regularly a part of the Annual Event, like awards presentations, the corporation meeting, regional gatherings, the book store, the Marketplace, and even a spirituality center will all take place. For more details visit...

<https://apcenet.org/2021-annual-event/>

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

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies will offer this training designed for individuals who are considering ministry in temporary settings (as an interim, transitional or designated pastor). Materials presented will include the basics of transitional ministry and will be of value to all congregational pastors regardless of their ministry setting. 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. To see the flyer: <https://psvonline.org/publication/the-art-of-transitional-leadership-learning-ministry-skills-for-todays-and-tomorrows-church/> To Register: <https://synod-of-lakes-and-prairies.events.idloom.com/the-art-of-transitional-leadership2021>

Per Capita Relief Policy...

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, Temporary Treasurer; John Wyckoff, Financial Assistant; or Dagmar Romage, Administrative Assistant. This relief will not be automatic.

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

From Your Presbytery Staff- *Jeannie, Dagmar, John, Jim and Bob* **Our presbytery offices may still be closed, but we're available to serve!**

We, your Presbytery staff persons, continue to work in a hybrid style-from the office and from home. We are all available to assist you, especially in regular office hours, via email, phone, or Zoom conference calls:

Jeannie Harsh, Executive Presbyter, jeannie@psvonline.org, Cell: 614-562-1775

Dagmar Romage, Administrative Assistant, Email: dagmar@psvonline.org

Presbytery Office: 614-847-0565

John Wyckoff, Financial Assistant, Email: accounting@psvonline.org

Jim Wilson, Temporary Stated Clerk, Email: jawilson@vorys.com

Bob Gustafson, Temporary Treasurer, Email: gustafson15@gmail.com



Keep in Prayer

Lois Sensenbrenner, spouse of Rev. Ed Sensenbrenner, honorably retired minister member of Scioto Valley Presbytery. Lois is currently in care of Hospice. Please keep Lois and Ed in prayer.

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#

The 225th General Assembly of the PCUSA to be held in Louisville, KY

The 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 will likely hold in-person meetings over a two-week period, with all plenaries being held online with the exception of an initial quorum gathering. For more

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

Continuing Guidance for our PSV Congregations

From Your Presbytery Coordinating Team (CT)

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley strongly discourages in-person worship, meetings and gatherings during the current phase of the Pandemic. Although the vaccines are coming, the Presbytery will continue to recommend physical distancing and the wearing of masks. The new more transmittable strain reinforces the concerns underlying this strong recommendation.

PSV GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION...

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



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

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

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