



"Inspire, Strengthen, And Challenge Congregations For Christ's Mission." February 18, 2020

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley includes 88 churches with a membership of 13,520 (updated March 23, 2021). Surrounding the metropolitan center of Columbus, Ohio, the Presbytery extends northward to Marion, east to Newark, west to London and southward to the Ohio River. The southern portion of the presbytery is distinguished by an Appalachian culture, where there are many small towns and much rugged open country. Scioto Valley Presbytery is represented in 21 Counties: Athens, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Knox, Lawrence, Licking, Madison, Marion, Meigs, Morrow, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Union, and Vinton.

Visit our website

A SCRIPTURE FOR EARTH DAY..."But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; and the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Job 12: 7-8



When we do our part to protect and restore God's creation, then all creation can delight as God intents.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. Isaiah 35:1-2

EARTH CARE CONGREGATIONS..." The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it" Psalm 24:1 Earth Care Congregations is a project of the PC(USA). For information about becoming an Earth Care congregation, visit: **PCUSA.org**. Is your church active in being stewards of God's earth? Four congregations in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley are currently certified as Earth Care Congregations: First Presbyterian Church of Granville, Circleville Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church of Jackson and First Presbyterian Church of Delaware. Circleville Presbyterian Church members are pleased to share their journey in becoming an Earth Care Congregation.

Circleville Presbyterian Church began the pursuit of becoming an Earth Care Congregation in 2019. Jenna Acklin, a church member knowledgeable about green products for the home and a deep interest in ecology, agreed to lead a Green Team to explore Earth Care programs in four categories: Worship, Education, Facilities and Outreach. The Green Team completed a full audit of the church's activities and applied for Earth Care certification in January 2020. A facility audit and an energy plan with guidance from Ohio Interfaith Power and Light led a project to upgrade interior lighting to LED technology. A water softener system was installed to make dishwashing in the commercial kitchen more effective, reducing the disposable products used. A Memorial Garden in front of the Sanctuary is being maintained by church volunteers. Composting was begun. The Green Team, comprised of ten volunteer members, continues to identify ways to include the whole congregation in Earth Care. We are recycling medicine bottles for world mission, bottle caps for our local Head Start program, and have begun an Equal Exchange coffee project. Church recycling has grown, and we are posting daily Earth Care messages and devotions on the church Facebook page. All committees are asked to consider the impact of work they do for worship, education, building and grounds, finance, hospitality, mission, and social justice. We believe the pledge we affirmed, that the earth and all creation are God's, and we are called to be stewards of this earth. With Christ we will celebrate a new creation, reconciled, restored, and renewed. *Story by Donna Solovey*

Celebrate Earth Day Sunday or other Creation Care Worship Services

In the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) hymnals (including the new hymnal **Glory to God**), **Book of Common Worship**, **Directory for Worship**, and other worship planning tools, there are many great resources that name ways that all Creation praises God's name, and how we can give thanks to God for the wonder and beauty of the world around us. Explore these traditional, good tools and find out what rich resources exist already in our church!

Each year, Creation Justice Ministries offers Christian education materials to equip faith communities to protect, restore, and more rightly share God's creation. The 2021 theme is "A New Heaven and a New Earth" comes from 2 Peter 3:12-13, which calls us to "...look forward to the day of God and speed its coming." This day will bring about "...a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells," but it will not come on its own. This resource focuses on health, environmental racism, and eco-justice. Earth Day is April 22, 2021 and you can celebrate Earth Day Sunday with your congregation any time in April. Download the PDF here.

Read more at: https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/

Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) Calendar PSV GLOBAL MISSION NETWORK EVENT.

MISSION ENGAGEMENT ZOOM CLASS Third Saturday: 10:30 - noon; May 15! For more information, or to register, email Les Sauer at **lessauer@hotmail.com**

PRESBYTERY CALENDAR

Thursday, April 22 EARTH DAY

For worship resources and information: pcusa.org/earthday

Saturday, April 24 PSV Presbyterian Women (PW) Spring Zoom Gathering 10 am

Tuesday, April 27 1:00 p.m. Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO) Zoom Meeting

May

MONDAY, May 3 12:30 p.m. PSV Commission for Church Professionals Zoom Meeting 3:00 p.m. PSV Commission for Congregational Life Zoom Meeting

MONDAY, May 10

3:00 p.m. PSV Commission for Presbytery Operations Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, May 11 10:00 a.m. Older Adult Ministry Team Zoom Meeting

Saturday, May 15

10:30 a.m. - noon MISSION ENGAGEMENT CLASS - Session 5 Next steps--where do we go from here?

> **Tuesday, May 18** Presbytery Meeting via Zoom.

Tuesday, May 25 1:00 p.m. Commission for Nurture and Outreach

May 31 - Memorial Day

2021 PRESBYTERY STATED MEETING DATES...

May 18, September 21, and November 16. Presbytery meetings will be held via Zoom until in-person meeting is deemed safe.

Your Presbytery staff persons, are available. Do not hesitate to call. Jeannie Harsh, Executive Presbyter, jeannie@psvonline.org, Cell: 614-562-1775 Bill Gause, Stated Clerk, statedclerk@psvonline.org Bob Patterson, Treasurer, treasurer@psvonline.org Dagmar Romage, Administrative Assistant, Email: dagmar@psvonline.org John Wyckoff, Financial Assistant, Email: accounting@psvonline.org Presbytery Office: 614-847-0565.

Guidance From Your Presbytery Coordinating Team (CT)...

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) CT has not changed the guidance on re-opening congregations. This is still a time for caution. Your presbytery leaders will continue to hold all pastoral leaders and congregations in prayer as together we cautiously move through this pandemic time. <u>https://psvonline.org/presbytery-leadership/coordinating-team/forms-and-resources/</u>

Guidance from our PCUSA Mission Agency...

Even vaccinated people should continue precautions like masks, social distancing and frequent handwashing. For more information, read: <u>https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/a-shot-of-hope</u>



POAMN Webinar! *The Circle of Life...* April 22 @ 7:00 - 8:00 pm EDT You will need to register. Connection information will be sent to you in your registration confirmation email. See more at: <u>www.poamn.org</u>

Presbyterian Older Adult Ministry Network (POAMN)

CELEBRATING LONGEVITY AROUND THE WORLD. AROUND THE WORLD.

Presbyterian Women (PW) Spring Gathering 2021 *Theme* "*Overflowing with Hope"* April 24, 2021 - 10:00 a.m. via ZOOM

Persons wishing to attend the Zoom-based PW Winter Gathering should register by April 22 to Martha Pool via email (preferred) **mjpool53@gmail.com** or by calling and leaving her a voicemail message at 740-407-1708. A Zoom invitation and meeting agenda will be emailed no sooner than 24 hours prior to the gathering. If



more than one person will be sharing your Zoom meeting, you may include their names when you register.

The Zoom meeting can be accessed by video and audio using pc, laptop, iPad, or smartphone and even by the old-fashioned way (audio only), by calling on a phone.

Read the PW Spring Newsletter at: <u>https://psvonline.org/events/pw-spring-gathering-</u> via-zoom-april-24-2021-1000-a-m/



Saturday, May 1, 10:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m. "Understanding How Historic and Structural Racism Have Shaped Central Ohio's Neighborhoods Today"

The PSV Commission on Nurture and Outreach (CNO) is offering an online event Saturday, May 1, 10:00 -11:30 am "Understanding How Historic and Structural Racism Have Shaped Central Ohio's Neighborhoods Today", led by Michael

Wilkos, Sr. Vice President, Community Impact, United Way of Central Ohio.

Columbus and Central Ohio have both experienced considerable growth over the past decades compared to our nearby cities. We are often on lists of up-and-coming regions in the country. However, our progress has not been evenly felt. Central Ohio has some of the highest rates of income and racial segregation in the United States. Housing costs have been soaring all decade while incomes have not kept pace. Some areas of the region are experiencing rapid gentrification while other areas of the region struggle. This presentation uncovers structural and historic racism and how they have contributed to inequity today. Covering far ranging issues from highways, housing programs, busing, and redlining—and how they have contributed to the inequities of today. Register in advance for this meeting: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUudu2ppjMoHdeu54jIk1sFKOkQV5800Hyw

Mission Engagement Opportunities Continue

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: <u>https://psvonline.org/publication/13505</u>

The presbytery's Global Mission Network has been sponsoring zoom-groups on the third Saturday of each month from 10:30 a.m. - noon. The course is 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 features PC(USA) mission co-workers along with a specific missiological theme.

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 <u>www.pcusa.org</u>. 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**

Commission for Nurture and Outreach request: PLEASE subscribe to our

YouTube channel!! Two new videos of workshops in our presbytery have been posted on our YouTube channel - Summer Idea Exchange from April 15 and Global Mission Engagement 101 Session 4 from April 17. These and other videos, including Matthew 25 events, the PW winter gathering, previous Global Mission Engagement 101 sessions, PIE Leadership Training and more, can be accessed at YouTube.com, then search for Presbytery of Scioto Valley. PLEASE subscribe to our YouTube channel!! When we reach 100 people, we will be able to customize.

Commission for Congregational Life Technology Grant money is still available to Presbytery of Scioto Valley Congregations!

Congregations of the presbytery are invited to take advantage of a \$500 grant that has been approved by the Presbytery Commission for Congregation Life. Some congregations took advantage of the \$500 technology grant when it was offered in 2020, but many of our congregations did not. This round, we have also included re-opening expenses in addition to technology expenses as eligible for up to \$500 in reimbursement from Presbytery. The intention of the grant is to help equip our congregations with technology for ministry or with resources for reopening their buildings in the midst of Covid. As many churches are discovering, we will likely be utilizing technology for worship, learning, fellowship, and administration for the indefinite future, and we certainly have much to do to ensure the safety of those who enter our buildings when they reopen.

One way to take advantage of the grant would be to purchase equipment that allows your congregation to stream worship and other activities to social media platforms. Congregations who wish to take advantage of the grant for technology or reopening expenses should make their purchases and submit their receipt(s) to the presbytery for reimbursement no later than September 1, 2021. Please email receipts to **dagmar@psvonline.org** or mail them to the Presbytery of Scioto Valley, 4131 N. High Street, Suite B, Columbus, OH 43214. May you be blessed as you continue in ministry in these challenging times!

Worthington Presbyterian Church is seeking a Preschool Director. The position posting may be reviewed on <u>LinkedIn</u> or <u>Indeed</u>. For questions or additional information, contact Rev. Dr. Tom Rice: <u>trice@worthingtonpresbyterian.com</u>.

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 highlighting our 88 congregations, celebrating their beginnings, histories, stories and ministries. We hope you and your congregation will join in celebrating our congregations and holding them in your prayers.

Dublin Presbyterian Church

The Beginning: In 1998 a small group of residents established a Presbyterian Church (USA) in Dublin. The Scioto Valley Presbytery joined with these residents to search for a minister to organize the new church. The organizing minister, the Reverend Dr. Stanley Hall, conducted services at Scottish Corners Elementary School on Easter Sunday in 1991. On that Sunday, forty-eight adults signed a charter recognizing their commitment to join the Dublin Presbyterian Church. As a sign of commitment and support, The Presbytery of Scioto Valley purchased five acres of land in 1991 for the future church building, which is the location today. The Dublin Presbyterian Church (USA) was officially chartered by the Scioto Valley Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (USA), in April 1992 with eighty-six adult members. As the Church family grew, they needed a permanent home. In January 1996, the ground was broken and on December 8, 1996, the first service at 5775 Dublinshire Drive took place. Today the Dublin Presbyterian Church is faithfully led by the Reverend Jennifer Eastman Hinkle as Pastor and Elder Peggy Holcomb as Commissioned Pastor.

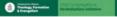
Frankfort Presbyterian Church

Plans to organize a Presbyterian Church in Frankfort got under way in the early 1840's. and was authorized by the Chillicothe Presbytery in 1851. In those years before the Civil War, the intentions of the congregation and the presbytery were made plain in the name of the church: The Free Presbyterian Church. From its origins, the Free Church was closely tied to the antislavery position of the Chillicothe Presbytery and to the other Presbyterian congregations in western Ross County at Concord and Buckskin. Starting from only nine members, the congregation grew over the years instilled with a loyalty to God, Christ and liberty, which inspired the first members. The current Sanctuary was built in 1893 and was one of the very first models of high ceiling coal furnaced sanctuaries built in small towns and cities all over the country and ingrained in the American psyche as the way a church is supposed to look. The Frankfort Church maintains an active mission serving its community with the leadership of Commissioned Pastor Elder Todd Thomas.

Frankfort Concord Presbyterian Church

The Concord Presbyterian Church, established in 1805, is one of the three oldest congregations in Ohio still worshiping at the original site of their sanctuary. The current sanctuary was constructed in 1823. Concord is a beautiful country retreat situated on top of a hill in a grassy field with a wood of high maple and sycamore trees. Although the congregation has never been large the building served as a stop on the Underground Railroad during the years preceding the Civil War.

The congregation at Concord continues to be filled with enthusiasm for Scripture and service which mark all Christian congregations. Concord shares pastoral services with the Frankfort Church. Commissioned Pastor Elder Todd Thomas faithfully serves both congregations. In accord with the merciful acts of those who risked life and freedom to maintain the Underground Railroad, the benevolence activities of Concord Church continue.



The Seven Marks of Vital Congregations...



By the Reverend Katie Kinnison, Commission for Nurture and Outreach As part of our Matthew 25 initiative, the PC(USA) has named seven marks of vital congregations.

The seventh mark of a congregation's vitality is ecclesial health. We often speak of our churches as families - and some family dinners are best avoided. What does it feel like when you walk into your occupied building? Is there a sense of acceptance and welcome? Is your congregation united - not do you all think the same way, but do you

come together with common purpose and commitment? Healthy congregations emanate the fruit of the Spirit. They are complex and far from perfect, and it is evident that they are on the path of Love, working to follow Christ with generosity, love, and kindness. There are many elements under the category of church health: prayerful discernment, stewardship, pastor health, clarity in mission and ministries, and building use. For a brief video on this seventh mark, go to our Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) Facebook page.

For a brief video on the sixth Mark go to our PSV Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/You.R.Presbytery/videos/1243283789420205</u>

For a brief video on the Fourth Mark go to our PSV Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/You.R.Presbytery/videos/175120581102698/

For the Third Mark go to our PSV Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/1439775046247598/videos/1085119735329697

Mark 2's video can be found here: https://www.facebook.com/1439775046247598/videos/760310924620503

And you can read about the Seven Marks here: https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp content/uploads/ToolkitDAVID4.22pm.pdf

Healthy Boundaries Trainings for All PSV Pastors

The Synod of the Covenant in partnership with its Presbyteries, including Scioto Valley, is offering 3 boundaries trainings over the course of this year. Each training will be 5 hours online via zoom, 2.5 hours each day for 2 consecutive days. Sign up for whichever one fits best into your schedule. There is no cost for these trainings, and they are easily accessible on-line. Our presbytery, along with the synod and our partner presbyteries will be providing these workshops for free. Don't miss this opportunity to get updated on your required training in healthy boundaries!

- May 18 and 19, 10:00 am -12:30 pm each day (Registration Deadline 5/5/21)
- August 18 and 19, 6:00 8:30 pm each day (Registration Deadline 8/5/21)
- November 9 and 10, 10:00 am 12:30 pm each day (Registration Deadline 10/27/21)

To register for a workshop, or others offered through LeaderWise in 2021, visit <u>Leaderwise</u> <u>Registration - Synod of the Covenant</u>. You'll receive the zoom information after you register.

Preaching courses are available to people throughout the Synod of the Covenant. Explore these Opportunities to Train and

Strengthen Preachers - Synod of the Covenant

- Maumee Valley Presbytery is offering a two-day workshop by zoom on Saturdays May 8 and 22 for people who might want to preach in their home church/get their feet wet.
- Alma College/Lake Huron Presbytery is offering a four

Higher Education Scholarships for Christian Leaders: Students in undergrad, associates, vocational, or their first theology masters program are encouraged to apply for these scholarships. Applications due 5/31/21. Learn more here: <u>Grants and</u> Scholarships - Synod of the Covenant Leadership Development Workshops: The Synod is offering several workshops through LeaderWise over the course of 2021, around topics such as Racial Justice, Boundaries, Emotional Intelligence, Conflict Management, and Committee on Ministry/Committee on the Preparation for

Thursday evening workshop by zoom beginning on July 8 to help train people to go on a supply preaching list.

 The Synod with the leadership of our Synod Executive Chip Hardwick is offering a series of one-off workshops for frequent preachers, beginning on Wednesday May 5, called "How to Preach on Social Justice without Losing your Convictions or Getting Fired. Ministry. Learn more here: Leaderwise Registration - Synod of the Covenant

Looking for an Opportunity to Work in Disaster Recovery...

The Presbytery of Miami Valley is partnering with Brethren Disaster Ministries to rehabilitate a tornado damaged home in Trotwood.

Want to be a part of creating a home for a first-time homeowner who was impacted by the Memorial Day tornadoes in 2019?

Want to share your DIY skills, or learn new ones and make new friends, working alongside members of Brethren Disaster Ministries - our team leaders?

Can you volunteer for a minimum of three consecutive days in the week beginning on a Monday, with a maximum of five days? (Must be 18 years and up.)

Additional funds for this project are coming from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the PMV Tornado fund, and gifts from individuals and congregations.

Volunteers will sign up with BDM and work under the guidance of trained BDM team leaders, who will be able to provide training as well as any tools or materials needed. The weeks and the number of volunteers needed are outlined below. Consider volunteering as a group/team from your church, or individually.

MAY 9-15: 6 Volunteers, JUNE 27-JULY 3: 12 Volunteers, JULY 11-17: 6 Volunteers AUGUST 15-21: 12 Volunteers, SEPTEMBER 12-18: 6 Volunteers

For more information, please contact **Sally Dyer** at **sbdyer@gmail.com** or the Rev. **Terry Kukuk** at **ep@miamipresbytery.org**.

Kirkmont Center: A PLACE FOR ALL PEOPLE IN ALL

SEASONS. Kirkmont is an independent non-profit organization founded by the Presbyterian Church USA in 1963. Today we are a camp and retreat center serving public and private school groups, non-profit organizations, youth groups, sports teams, music and

art associations, churches and faith-based groups of all denominations, families, businesses, and individuals. Our goal is to provide you with a renewing camp, outdoor education, or retreat experience. Kirkmont – "church on the mountain" – is located in Logan County near Bellefontaine, OH and consists of 278 acres nestled among gently rolling hills and pine groves. The site boasts a natural fen, two ponds (one for nature study and one for canoeing and fishing), cliffs and natural ravines. Kirkmont Center is classified by naturalists as one of

the most unique parcels of land in the State of Ohio, and offers many opportunities for school groups, universities, and adult education. Kirkmont Summer Update: During the summer of 2021 Kirkmont Center will continue to offer a \$50 discount to each weekly camper from PC(USA) churches in the four presbyteries Kirkmont serves. Kirkmont Center has not increased rates for three years and continues to be one of the lowest priced summer camps. Kirkmont also will continue to offer respite to clergy staying in the Habitat House Sunday night through Friday night at \$40 a night. The house is near the labyrinth and hiking trails, air conditioned with a kitchen, living and dining area, bathroom with shower, and two bedrooms. For more information visit: https://www.kirkmontcenter.org/



Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) approves docket for the 225th General Assembly

Members ponder what's in store for future Assembly gatherings Rick Jones | Office of the General Assembly - April 16, 2021

The docket for the 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has been confirmed and conversations continue about what happens for the 226th gathering in 2024. Thursday was a busy final

day for the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly during its virtual three-day spring meeting.

While the logistics and other Assembly planning are still in the works, the hybrid model is set, allowing for in-person committee meetings and online plenaries that will take place between June 18 and July 9, 2022.

Staff from the Office of the General Assembly will be working with mid council leaders in an effort to move the process of electing commissioners along so that training and preparation for the new hybrid model can begin.

Read more: https://www.pcusa.org/news/2021/4/16/coga-approves-docket-225th-general-assembly

Pentecost Offering...

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

Help youth begin life with a solid foundation of faith.

Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's

life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come — children, youth, and young adults.

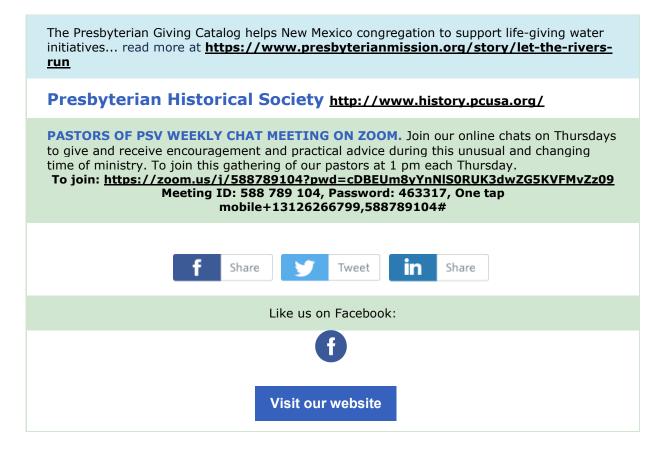


Nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come.

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/pentecost/

Information about the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)... OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE <u>https://pda.pcusa.org/</u>



Presbytery of Scioto Valley | 4131 N. High Street, Suite B, Columbus, OH 43214

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