

Mid-week E-News May 13, 2021

The Presbytery OF SCIOTO VALLEY

"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](#)

258th Stated Presbytery Meeting Tuesday, May 18, 2021, 3:30 p.m.

Watch for Information on Tuesday's Zoom Presbytery Meeting...

Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) Calendar

**Saturday, May 15
10:30 a.m. - noon**

MISSION ENGAGEMENT CLASS - Session 5

Next steps--where do we go from here?

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

**Tuesday, May 18
3:30 p.m.**

Presbytery Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, May 20

10:00 a.m. Certified Ruling Elder Task Team meeting by Zoom

Tuesday, May 25

1:00 p.m. Commission for Nurture and Outreach meeting by Zoom

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.



A Prayer of Dedication for the Pentecost Offering

May our gifts join your dance of healing and hope for those living in despair.

May your voices join the multitude of languages crying out for justice.

May our hearts embrace those you are bringing into our community-

on the great day of Pentecost and in all days to come.

By the Spirit's grace, we pray. Amen.

From: *The soft petals of grace* by the Reverend Thom M Shuman

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.

(Pentecost Sunday is May 23, 2021)

Mission Engagement Opportunity Continues

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>

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.

The Healthy Boundaries Training is free this year 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 [Leaderwise Registration - Synod of the Covenant](#). You'll receive the zoom information after you register.

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

Matthew 25 Zoom Workshop Saturday, June 5th, 10-11:30 a.m. Coming Out of COVID with Vitality

The Rev. Carlton Johnson, Associate Director for Vital Congregations will be the speaker. We will reflect on our call to follow Christ at this moment in time. As our churches go back to in-person worship and we find ourselves doing more than "going back to normal" we face an opportunity to follow God in amazing adventures. Come help us explore the astonishing truth that "*perhaps we were made for a time such as this.*" (Esther 4:14)

To register go to [https://zoom.us/meeting/register](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEkceuhpzgsGdG24jqDdcc_o mNFpx3Ybmg)
tJEkceuhpzgsGdG24jqDdcc_o mNFpx3Ybmg

PCUSA Mission Engagement and Support Resources...

Our PCUSA Mission Engagement Advisor Chris Roseland is offering resources that can be helpful to you, your ministry and your congregation. Here are links for some PCUSA videos:

- Shared Mission, "When did we see you?": <https://vimeo.com/presbyterianmission/sharedmission2020>
- GA Per Capita Giving, "Blessed be the tie that binds": <https://vimeo.com/presbyterianmission/percapita2020>

PSV Commission for Nurture and Outreach...

We did it! We have reached over 100 subscribers to our new PSV YouTube channel - www.youtube.com/sciotovalleypresbytery.

You can watch recorded programs, including:

- "Understanding How Historical and Structural; Racism Have Shaped Central Ohio - Neighborhoods Today" with Michaelo Wilkos from United Way
- Summer Idea Exchange with educators in our presbytery
- Global Mission Engagement 101, session 1-4
- Interview with Sportscaster James Brown on racism
- Presbyterian women Spring Gathering and more!!

Looking for Curriculum and Youth Idea Exchanges?

The Commission on Nurture and Outreach (CNO) is pleased to offer TWO upcoming Idea Exchanges in our presbytery:

Curriculum Idea Exchange: Looking at resources for children, youth and adults...

Thursday, May 20 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?secret=129Y>

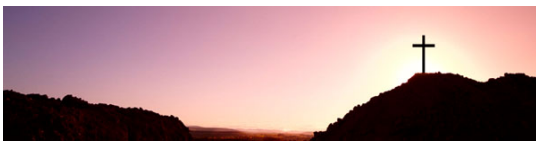
Youth Idea Exchange: Sharing ideas about resources and programming for grades 6 - 12

Thursday, June 17 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?secret=CTCKY>

Questions? Contact Kathi Bubb, chair of CNO at kathibubb@gmail.com



We offer prayers of sympathy for Rev. David Redding, Westerville Central College Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Marion Redding Stenner, honorably retired, in the recent death of their brother.

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.



Grandview Heights Boulevard Presbyterian Church

Boulevard began in a typical formula: a growing community, a desire for a church in its midst, committed individuals and help from the Presbytery and neighboring churches. As a result, the "little white church" was built on the present site and dedicated November 15, 1925. The Rev. I. Marshall Page first served the 138-member church.

As the church grew and mission outreach expanded, a new sanctuary was dedicated in 1951. At one time Boulevard was the largest church in the Presbytery. It's members have contributed significantly to the wider church over the years and continue to serve in key

Granville First Presbyterian Church



The First Presbyterian Church of Granville is one of the oldest churches in the state of Ohio. The settlers who founded the village of Granville organized a church before they left Massachusetts in 1805. One of their first tasks on reaching Granville was building the sanctuary and finding a minister. Inspired by the Second Great Awakening, these settlers saw themselves as part of a missionary movement. This spirit has shaped the history of the church and the village of Granville since the beginning.

The present church was built in 1860-61, and the Christian Education building was dedicated in 1968. In the autumn of 1997, a Capital Campaign was held and raised 1.2 million dollars in pledges to cover the continued building changes needed as the

positions. Many members have followed a call into ministry.

Through efforts by several members of Boulevard, retirement centers were developed, including the establishment of National Church Residences.

Today, Boulevard continues its mission of "Reaching out to make Disciples" as it serves its congregation and the growing surrounding community. The Reverend Charlotte O'Neil is faithfully serving this congregation as the Transitional Pastor.

congregation continues to serve its growing community.

This nearly 500-member active, welcoming and accepting congregation seeks to bring every age into discipleship, nurtures all of God's people, listens for God's call in the midst of all of life, and witnesses to the presence of God's Kingdom in the world. The Reverend Karen Chakoian, pastor, is faithfully serving this vibrant congregation in the midst of the delightful Granville community.

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. 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.

One way to take advantage of the grant would be to purchase equipment that allows your congregation to stream worship and other activities as your congregation re-opens. Persons 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.

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

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) CT has not changed its 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 and begin to reopen our church buildings.

A Short Reflection as we Begin to Re-Enter our Church Buildings...

By the Reverend Ron Botts

As hard as it was to close our buildings in early 2020, reopening them may prove to be equally difficult. We're tempted to think it's just a matter of unlocking the door and picking up from where we left off. Churches who have already reconvened may have found that this isn't really true. We can't live in yesterday.

Perhaps our greatest gain comes from a fresh possibility to look ahead rather than dwelling in the nostalgia of another age. During this time of global disruption God may indeed be bringing us a rare chance to exchange the doldrums of the past for the unlimited possibilities of the future.

The Church's role is not to adjust to the world as we find it, but always to shape it in the image that Christ showed us.

The Marysville, First Presbyterian Church in downtown Marysville is seeking a Bookkeeper and Church Business Administrator. For more information and the job posting, visit: <https://fpcmarysville.com/jobs/>

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: **[Grants and Scholarships - Synod of the Covenant](#)**

Racial Justice Training Available for Scioto Valley...

To Register: <https://synodofthecovenant.org/leadership-development-workshops>

Our Synod, the Synod of the Covenant, in cooperation with its presbyteries, is offering high quality leadership training to members of our presbytery. Racial Justice Training is one of these. In this program, **each participant will take the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI), which is the premier assessment of cross-cultural acumen, have a 1:1 debrief with a LeaderWise psychologist, and then participate in a ½ day workshop for the group led by 2 LeaderWise staff members who are certified to administer and teach the IDI.** During this Zoom workshop, participants will learn more deeply about cross-cultural competence; constructions in in diversity, equity, and inclusion; reflect on their own opportunities for increasing competence; and begin to create their own development plan for increasing their competence.

You can receive a refund grant of \$75 (that is half the \$150 fee for the testing and individual consultation) if you also take part in a follow up meeting to discuss how to share what you learned with our presbytery. Please contact Kathi Bubb for information about this: kathibubb@gmail.com. Time is of the essence - assessments must be completed by May 26th.

Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network (POAMN) News...

The Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network provides many resources including the *POAMN's Tour Guide for Celebrating Longevity*. This publication is filled with a variety of program ideas and articles shared by POAMN members. It also includes model worship services to consider using when planning worship that celebrates older adults. The 2021 guide is now on the POAMN website and be downloaded at www.poamn.org under the "Resource" tab, where you will also find copies from past years.

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#



International Peacemakers to return in 2021

June 1 is the application deadline for becoming a host.

LOUISVILLE — Continuing a nearly 40-year tradition, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is once again hosting individuals from around the globe who will serve as International Peacemakers.

Each year, the **Presbyterian Peacemaking Program** welcomes an international cadre of leaders from partner organizations and denominations. They visit

churches in the United States to provide a global perspective about issues impacting the world. To read the entire article visit: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/international-peacemakers-to-return-in-2021>

News from our PCUSA...Struggling Churches Triumph Together

By Angie Kay Dilmore | Presbyterians Today

Like many churches across America, First Presbyterian Church of Lake Charles, Louisiana, had long been on a downward spiral, struggling with an aging congregation, declining membership and dire financial concerns. Each year, the budget deficit expanded, insurance costs for the large gothic-style church building escalated and pledges plummeted. Cultural and demographic changes had also seeped into the social and spiritual fabric of their neighborhood, instigating a slow decline of the once-vibrant community of faith. Read more <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pt-0521-struggling-churches>

We can do ministry together in ways we cannot do alone...

by Chris Roseland, Lead Mission Engagement Advisor, PC(USA) — Recently, the Office of the General Assembly released the [2020 annual statistics report](#) showing a decline in membership last year at just over 56,000, which is about the same loss rate as has been reported since 2016. For 2020, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) counts a total membership of about 1.24 million members, with the total number of congregations at 8,925. Reflecting on the report, the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), said, “We are in the midst of rethinking what it means to do ministry in a rapidly changing landscape. Some people have been hurt by church, so there is a continuous struggle over what church should be. This is not just a PC(USA) problem. This is a challenge for all Christian denominations.”

As we continue to grapple with the pandemic and how it will forever alter the church landscape, perhaps we should focus on some possible positive outcomes. As unprecedented energy continues to grow across the PC(USA) around the Matthew 25 invitation, I think now is the time for us to reflect on the abundance of God’s grace and the possibilities of doing church in new ways. What better time than now to focus our attention on God’s mission, perhaps even on the very vision given to us by Jesus Christ himself in [Matthew 25](#). One of the best things about Matthew 25 is that we can do ministry together in ways we cannot do alone. The new and digital ways of doing ministry have also redefined for us and for everyone what community means. Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles [took out its pews to feed the hungry](#). That’s community. First Presbyterian Church of Tecumseh, Michigan, dedicated the local share of its 2020 [Pentecost Offering to seed a new ministry](#) in Lenawee County for the advancement of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) youth and young adults. That’s community. Nearly a year ago, I was invited by the Commission for Nurture and Outreach of the [Presbytery of Scioto Valley](#) to do a two-hour workshop on “Becoming a Matthew 25 Church.” Since that time, the hunger has only grown for Matthew 25 resources, programming and best practices that congregations and presbyteries can emulate and follow. Let us together inspire our PC(USA) congregations and mid councils to think about how they can focus their attention on the goals of Matthew 25 so that their energy may flow. And flow abundantly!

Kirkmont Center: A PLACE FOR ALL PEOPLE IN ALL SEASONS.

Kirkmont is a camp and retreat center in central Ohio 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. 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 also continues 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, between June 18-July 9, 2022

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

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

Information about the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)...

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE <https://pda.pcusa.org/>

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

Presbyterian Historical Society <http://www.history.pcusa.org/>



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