

Mid-week E-News June 24, 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](#)



*Though little children welcome strangers to their circles,
Teenagers treat the homeless to meals,
Parents work two jobs to give medicine to loved ones,
Seniors spend 'golden years' in disaster relief,
Still we ask, 'where can we see hope grace joy kindness?'*

*Grace will walk us home...By Thom M Shuman
John 12:37*

Presbytery of Scioto Valley Prays for our Congregations...

During the summer you are encouraged to especially hold all of our congregations in prayer as we carefully begin to return to in-person worship and gatherings.

Summer Gatherings for PSV Pastors...

Outdoor Gathering on Thursday, July 1, 3-5 PM

How about kicking off the second half of 2021 with *in-person* fellowship and refreshments? Current and retired pastors are invited to gather for a relaxing time on the afternoon of July 1, 3-5 PM at the West Berlin Presbyterian Church shelter house, 2911 Berlin Station Road, Delaware, OH 43015. Cold drinks and treats will be provided. You will have opportunity to check out the church and its newly opened Woodland Walk for adults and kids. All pastors are invited to this gathering which is graciously being hosted by the West Berlin PC pastor and members.



Summer Fireside Chats at the Rusty Bucket in Clintonville: The Presbytery Commission for Church Professionals is inviting pastors to join in the popular Fireside Chats on the third Thursdays in July and August. These gatherings are scheduled for **July 15, and August 19, 3-5 pm**, and will be held at the Clintonville Rusty Bucket, 4109 N. High Street, in Columbus. The gatherings are designed to offer an opportunity for informal conversation and refreshments with pastoral colleagues in the Presbytery.

Hanging Rock Area Pastors in the Hanging Rock Area: Pastors are invited to Monthly Lunch Gatherings in the Jackson area on the last Wednesdays of the month, June 30 and July 28. June 30 will be at the Jackson Arch and Eddies Restaurant at 11:30 am.

Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) Calendar

JUNE

Tuesday, June 29

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

Wednesday, June 30

11:30 a.m.

Lunch Gathering for Hanging Rock Area Pastors
Arch and Eddies in Jackson

JULY

Thursday, July 1

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Afternoon Tea and Conversation for Pastors
West Berlin Presbyterian Church Picnic Pavilion, 2911 Berlin Station Rd., Delaware

July 5 - Fourth of July

Presbytery Office Closed

Tuesday, July 6

1:00 -2:00 p.m. Transitional Pastors Zoom Meeting

Monday, July 12

1:00 p.m. Commission for Congregational Life Zoom Meeting

Thursday, July 15

3:00-5:00 p.m. Summer Gathering for Pastors, Rusty Bucket, Clintonville

Tuesday, July 20

4:00 p.m. PSV Coordinating Team Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, July 27

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

Wednesday, July 28

Hanging Rock Area Pastors Lunch Gathering

2021 PRESBYTERY STATED MEETING DATES...

September 21, and November 16

Presbytery meetings will be held via Zoom until in-person meetings are deemed safe.

Your Presbytery staff persons, are available. Do not hesitate to email or 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, dagmar@psvonline.org
John Wyckoff, Financial Assistant, accounting@psvonline.org
Presbytery Office: 614-847-0565.



"The Session of Indianola Presbyterian Church invites the Presbytery of Scioto Valley to the Service of Installation for the Reverend Trip Porch at the Church, 1970 Waldeck Ave. on Sunday, July 18, 2021 at 3 pm."

(This will be an in-person service but we will be live-streaming to the PSV Facebook and YouTube.)



The 225th **General Assembly** of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will be held June 17 -July 9, **2022** as a hybrid in-person/virtual meeting based in **Louisville, KY**. Some committees will be in person, in shifts, June 17 - July 2; Plenary will be online only July 5-9. For more information visit: <https://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/ga/>

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#

Update from the Presbytery Commission for Presbytery Operations... by Jeannie Harsh, Executive Presbyter

PSV Commissions and Committees are encouraged to keep their people safe by continuing to meet on Zoom at least through August. The Presbytery Conference Room is still officially closed as the Overbrook Presbyterian Church building continues to be locked. However, persons may connect with the Presbytery Office by calling Dagmar or Jeannie at the Presbytery Office or by email. The Presbytery is usually staffed Monday-Thursday, 9-4. We are using the entrance on the north side of the church and encourage any visitors to come in through this entrance directly into our offices.

Covid-19 Update... From Lisa Allgood, Executive Presbyter, Cincinnati Presbytery

Information/guidance and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.CDC.gov

- Fully vaccinated people (more than 2 weeks since the last dose of vaccine) can stay unmasked for most public gatherings, especially outdoors.
- If a business or church requires masks, that overrides the CDC guidance. Any entity may require masks, even when CDC/state requirements do not.
- Masks must be worn for all people – vaccinated or not – on public transportation and in transportation hubs (train and bus stations, airport concourses). Medical facilities are also continuing to require masks at all times.
- However – fully vaccinated people who are immunocompromised in any way – on cancer or transplant treatment, steroid treatment, have an autoimmune disease or other immunocompromising condition – may be less protected by the vaccine and should still be masked at all times.
- **IMPORTANTLY – the CDC guidelines for unvaccinated people have not changed.** They are still required to wear masks and stay at least six feet away from others in most circumstances, but they can go outside with members of their household or gather with family and friends who are fully vaccinated outdoors without masks. Within the church, unvaccinated people (including unvaccinated children) should still be asked to wear masks while in indoors worship.

Variants:

- The Delta variant is now predominant in every state. This variant is 60% more highly infectious and more highly virulent (causing disease) than any other variant to date. The vaccines are generally effective, but at a lower rate. Importantly, this variant has been shown to cause more significant disease in the young.
- This variant is also showing breakthrough infection for fully vaccinated people at a slightly higher rate, especially for those who have only had one shot.
- COVID rates have doubled in the US over the past two weeks due to the Delta variant (from 9.9% to 20.9%). It was at 2.7% of cases across the US in May. At that rate we will soon (within weeks) become like the UK, which is now reporting 99% of all cases are due to the Delta variant.
- This variant is particularly concerning for young unvaccinated, which causes them to get significantly sicker significantly more quickly as well as making it more likely they will require hospitalization.

Vaccines:

- These vaccines ARE approved by the FDA and ARE safe and effective. They are also our best weapon, both short and long term, against the pandemic.
- According to CDC, at this point, just over 45% of adults in the country are fully vaccinated and 58.7% have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- Full vaccination covers the Delta variant at about 88% of efficacy; that falls to 33% with only one dose.
- Vaccines continue to be in development for younger children (6 months-11 years) but are not yet ready for FDA review. It's possible they could be approved as early as this coming fall.

What does this mean for churches?

- Decisions remain up to Session, but Session remains responsible for enforcing any decision.
- The Head of Staff can put requirements in place for office staff if distancing is difficult and staff are unvaccinated.
- Fellowship can be done safely – but strongly consider limiting it to a brief coffee and cookies, outside if at all possible. (We're done with the cicadas!) One church is doing socially distanced "bring your own" picnics outside – a great

way to fellowship and a great way to show your neighbors the community is gathering!

- Singing for vaccinated people without masks is OK, but unvaccinated people should be masked – and if they are part of a choir, probably the whole choir should stay masked. Choirs are still discouraged if a significant number are unvaccinated and should still be minimal and distanced as much as possible.
- To AC or not to AC? I know it's getting hot. If you can't open windows, do the best you can... if unvaccinated people are masked the entire time, AC should be OK. If you know you have unvaccinated people who aren't wearing masks, you're putting them and others at risk.

PSV's Certified Ruling Elder (CRE) Training Program is Looking for Ministry Candidates...

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley Ruling Elder training program is designed to effectively educate, train and prepare ruling elders to serve as pastors in small membership churches within our Presbytery. If you have interest, or you think someone in your congregation might be interested to serve as a commissioned pastor, please contact Kae Merold, moderator of the Presbytery's Certified Ruling Elder Task Team, pastorkae@rroho.com.

A Memorial Service for the Rev. Dr. Thomas B. Martin will be held on Saturday, July 17, 2:00 P.M., at the Dublin Presbyterian Church, 5775 Dublinshire Dr., Dublin, Ohio. His family invites all to celebrate with them their father's life and witness as pastor, chaplain, neighbor, and friend.

Worthington Presbyterian Church is looking for an **Administrative Assistant** and a **Communications Coordinator** (two separate, part-time positions). Interested persons may view the details of each position, including how to apply and contact information at: <https://www.worthingtonpresbyterian.com/employment>.

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

PSV Commission for Nurture and Outreach News...

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!
- The Rev. Carlton Johnson, Associate Director for Vital Congregations, Vital Congregations program of the PC(USA) can help our congregations come out of COVID with new energy and purpose. The presentation can be viewed on our youtube page - www.youtube.com/sciotovalleypresbytery, under Matthew 25.

Presbyterian Planning Calendars 2021-2022

This 16-month calendar (starting with September 2021, and ending with December 2022) contains many planning aids for pastors and other church leaders. Includes lectionary 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, color foldout synod/presbytery and world maps. The cost is \$10 each. Calendars are expected around mid-August, arrangements for pick up or delivery can be made at that time. To reserve your calendar(s) please contact dagmar@psvonline.org or call 614-847-0565.

Resources are available at the Presbytery Office

The Book of Confessions

The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Part I; Cost \$9

The Book of Order 2019-2021

The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Part II; Cost \$8

Presbytery of Scioto Valley Directory.

Please contact dagmar@psvonline.org or call 614-847-0565.

Are you looking for Pulpit Supply, check out the Pulpit Supply list here:

<https://psvonline.org/presbytery-leadership/church-professionals-commission/documents-resources/pulpit-supply/>

Information on Streaming Music Licensing for Congregations...

The Commission for Congregational Life (CCL) member Rev. Mark Parsons has clarified the issues of legally duplicating or streaming music for recorded services for congregations that

may consider an on-line presence. For most small churches the licensing expense would be about \$150 per year. For more information email Mark: revdrparsons@gmail.com.

Training in Healthy Boundaries for Leaders, Elders and Pastors...

The LeaderWise boundaries trainings focus on strategies to foster mental health, emotional resiliency, and well-being. The Synod of the Covenant is sponsoring Zoom boundaries trainings over the course of 2021. 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. (5 CEUs will be granted upon completion of the program.) There is no cost for this training; participating presbyteries and the Synod are fully providing this experience for you.

August 18 and 19, 2021, 6:00 – 8:30 pm each day.

Registration Deadline 8/5/21. This session is primarily for volunteer church leaders (ruling elders, youth/children ministry volunteers, personnel committee members, deacons, etc.)

November 9 and 10, 2021 10:00 am – 12:30 pm each day

Registration Deadline 10/27/21. This session is primarily for Pastors/Teaching Elders/Commissioned Ruling Elders

Register here: <https://synodofthecovenant.org/leaderwise-registration/>

Every Church Can Have "Mid-week Prayer Meetings" By Phone -- FREE

Thanks to the FREE CONFERENCE CALL.COM: This can be used for ministries for shut-ins, new moms, recovering patients at home or rehab who can now be a part of weekly, or more often interactive prayer and discussion groups in their own church. Here is how it works:

1. At a predesignated time, each participant calls 515-606-5922 and is answered by a voice thanking them for helping people connect free around the world!
2. The caller is advised to enter a six-digit access code number, followed by the #sign.
3. Meetings usually last 15 to 30 minutes and include: breaking news, joys, concerns, and updates of parish news. Meditations of some daily devotional, the Lord's Prayer" in unison, followed by the benediction. This may be the only outside contact the shut-in has, and the pastor makes 15 home contacts in 30 minutes! "*Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations*" with your phone.

Submitted by the Rev. Don Pendell, 92, honorably retired, and still going strong!

Metropolitan Area Church Council (MACC) Update...

by the Reverend Dr. George O. Mehaffey

The Columbus Metropolitan Area Church Council (MACC) met on June 7, with representatives present from the Disciples of Christ, United Church of Christ, and PC(USA).

The discussion focused on issues of Gang Violence, Immigration, Evangelism and Communication. Scioto Valley Metropolitan Area Church Council (MACC) members are the Rev. Ron Botts, the Rev. Larry Miller, Elder Mark Stansbery, and the Rev. Dr. George Mehaffey. The Metropolitan Area Church Council members will meet again

September 13, 2021, at 10:30 a.m., at
Westerwood Retirement Home, 5800 Forest
Hills Boulevard, Columbus, OH 43231
(formerly known as Friendship Village).
Interested persons are welcome to attend!



The conference will begin on Monday, September 13th at 2 PM Eastern and will conclude on Wednesday September 15th at 12:30 PM Eastern. For a detailed look at the schedule, please click [here](#).

Stewardship Kaleidoscope is an annual conference offering excellent plenary speakers, informative workshop leaders, provocative worship experiences, and incredible networking opportunities for all who are passionate about stewardship and generosity.

<https://stewardshipkaleidoscope.org/conference>

Changes are coming to Triennium, a life-changing event for thousands of Presbyterian youth and young adults...*For Information:*

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/changes-are-coming-to-triennium-a-life-changing-event-for-thousands-of-presbyterian-youth-and-young-adults>

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. It also includes model worship services. The 2021 guide is available on the POAMN website and be downloaded at www.poamn.org under the "Resource" tab.

2021 Summer Resource Guide for Older Adult Ministries

The theme of this issue of PNN is What's Done with Love is Well Done. Vaccinations against COVID-19 are making a difference. In many areas of our country, the number of new cases of COVID-19 is rapidly decreasing, and folks are beginning to return to gathering together face-to-face. Four articles in this issue of PNN share insights on What's Done with Love...:

"President's Reflections" by Pat Baker, "MEMO from Membership" by Linda Rauenbuehler

"Little Free Pantry" by Nancy Richter, "What's Done with Love..." by Quentin Holmes

Other articles in this issue include:

"POAMN 2021 National Conference" by Lillian Rhudy & Adrienne Knight

"POAMN Webinar – led by Fern Cloud, "POAMN Webinar – led by Rev. Ida Rosario

"POAMN Webinar – led by Rev. Dr. Jae Hong Kim , "Lara's Grandmother's Cheesy Potatoes" – a recipe, and "A Little Flower" by Sam Cooke.

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) - Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resources
Worship, Pastoral & Governance Resources. Reopening after the pandemic.

Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resource Center

All resources are from PC(USA) agencies unless otherwise noted.

https://www.pcusa.org/covid19/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Daily+News+from+the+Presbyterian+Church+%28U+S+A%29&utm_campaign=Daily+news+-+June+7%2C+2021

PC(USA) Curriculum News...

New FOLLOW ME Curriculum from the PC(USA) - [Follow Me : PC USA Store](#)
Sunday School Curriculum Overview - [Sunday-School-Curriculum-Overview-booklet-revised-April-2021-2.pdf \(prcli.org\)](#)

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



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