

**Mid-week E-News September 16, 2021**

# *The Presbytery* **OF SCIOTO VALLEY**

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

*February 18, 2020*

[Visit our website](#)

## **The Presbytery of Scioto Valley 259th Stated Meeting September 21, 2021, 3:30 p.m. via Zoom**

Please note that the meeting will open at 3:00 p.m. to allow commissioners to be checked-in in an orderly fashion. The chat window will be allowed for all participants, both for general conversation and person-to-person communication, until 3:55 pm for the purposes of greeting one another and informal conversation.

## **Matthew 25 Event: The Death Penalty- September 18, 2021**

Plan now to gather for another Matthew 25 Zoom Event, Saturday, September 18th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. We will discuss The Death Penalty, race, poverty, and pending legislation in Ohio. Elder Glen Schmidt, community organizer Nate Brown, and Rev. Dr. Jack Sullivan, Executive Director of the Ohio Council of Churches, will help us understand the history of capital punishment in this country, learn what is happening right now in our Ohio legislature, and explore what it means to act with justice. To

register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMlcuChrDouGdY-69kHGCGGX4W3RqRnUvK>

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## 2021 Gathering of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Covenant

September 18, 2021, 9:30-11:30 am, via Zoom (seats limited!)

*Theme: What My Grandmothers Taught Me*



**Bible Study** overview by Rev. Cheri Harper, PW staff (Mission Associate)

**Keynote** by Rev. Kathy Reeves, Moderator-elect for Churchwide PW 2021-2024

**Overview of two Thank Offering grant recipients:**

Koinonia Project in Belize (building a daycare center and Sunday school)

The Castle in Centerville, OH (Mental Health drop-in center)

**Business Meeting** will include Financial Report, Election of Leaders &

News from the Synod of the Covenant (by Rev. Dr. Chip Hardwick, Interim Synod Executive)

**How to Register:** Email the following information to Susan Ochs, [s2123@aol.com](mailto:s2123@aol.com), by September 13, 2021:

Your Name, Phone Number, Email address & Your Presbytery's Name. You will receive a registration confirmation.

Then on September 16, you will receive a zoom invitation giving you the link and login information needed for Zoom and gathering documents including agenda for the gathering.

Cost to attend: \$0. A suggested offering will be received that will be split among the two Thank Offering Grant recipients that you will hear about during the gathering. More info will be sent with Zoom invitation. In the meanwhile, find a picture of your grandmother (or a woman of faith standing in for your grandmother) or a candle to light to have with you at the gathering.

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Who is this Presbyterian?...**Happy 101st Birthday!** One of our favorite Presbyterians will be driving her Lexus to church on her 101st birthday, October 3, 2021. She is probably the oldest, active Presbyterian elder in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley...Birthday cards can be sent to the McArthur Presbyterian Church, 202 W. High Street, McArthur, OH 45651. For more information, email: [Jeannie@psvonline.org](mailto:Jeannie@psvonline.org)

### PSV's Continued Guidance for Covid-19/Delta Variant....

Many of our areas have returned to the highest level red in the CDC's data tracker for high levels of community transmission of COVID-19. Therefore, it is important to get vaccinated to prevent serious illness and hospitalization. It is also very strongly advised by our Presbytery Coordinating Team that masks be worn indoors regardless of vaccination status. See the CDC map here: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>

### Help is needed for Afghanistan...

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley (**PSV**) **Global Mission Network** wants congregations to have the following information about how to assist Afghan refugees, and to feel free to contact Rev. Les Sauer (HR), CNO liaison to the Global Mission Network for additional local information if needed:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/pda-blog/2021/08/18/afghanistan-evacuations-and-refugees/>

### Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

God is our refuge and strength *therefore, we will not fear,*

***though the waters roar and foam.***— Psalm 46

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is mobilized and already delivering immediate aid to those impacted by Hurricane Ida. The initial assessment of the damage is staggering. The needs of those impacted is changing daily because of lack of access to power, refrigeration, water and housing. This will be a long-term commitment to the people impacted by this catastrophic destruction.

**ACT:**

- Share our Mobile Cause campaign link ([bit.ly/PDAIda](https://bit.ly/PDAIda))
- Learn how you and your congregation can help families affected by Ida. Stay informed and like us on Facebook ([facebook.com/pdacares](https://facebook.com/pdacares)), download resources at [pda.pcusa.org/pda/resources](https://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resources), and share updates with your congregation.
- **Download the bulletin insert** to share in your congregation.

**PRAY:** God of Compassion,

With sighs too deep for human words, we come to you again in prayer, lifting up the sorrow, the trouble and the weariness of so many of your peoples. For those whose homes and communities are torn and flooded by the winds of Hurricane Ida, for those who abide in darkness and in oppressive heat, trying to begin the work of rebuilding, especially for those whose resources and access to help are tenuous, hear our prayer.

Oh, God of all things: There is so much. May your Spirit expand our vision, sustain our attention, and deepen our compassion and commitment: For neighbors in Haiti, grieving loss, working to mend bodies and lives, moving rubble, hoping for help, weary and weighed down. For neighbors fleeing fire in western states, violence and fear in Afghanistan, for people everywhere who suffer loss of home, community, livelihood, hope. Help us to be part of your healing, your Wholeness, your hope. In the name of the Christ our justice and our life. Amen.

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September 5 - October 3, 2021 ***Peace & Global Witness***

The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world.

Hurricanes. Earthquakes. Wildfires. Refugees. A resurgent pandemic. Political upheaval. The end of the Summer of 2021 has dealt the world a plethora of challenges, and as God's hands and feet in this world, we are called to respond. This week's Justice & Peace Monthly comes at the end of the Second Annual Presbyterian Week of Action and the beginning of A Season of Peace, a time to deepen our pursuit of peace, culminating in receiving the Peace & Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, Oct. 3. Read on to see the many ways Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries are working for peace and healing in our world and how you can help. **[Learn more about Peace & Global Witness →](#)**

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**Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) Calendar**

[Visit our website to view the calendar.](#)

**Thursday, September 16**, 10 a.m., Certified Ruling Elder Task Team Zoom Meeting.

**Thursday, September 16**, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., Fireside Chat, Rusty Bucket, Clintonville.

**Tuesday, September 21**, 3:30 p.m., Presbytery Meeting.  
Presbytery meetings will be held via Zoom until in-person meetings are deemed safe.

**Sunday, September 26, 2-4 p.m.** Review of 2020 Congregational Session Records  
Bremen Bethel Presbyterian Church, 142 Purvis Avenue, Bremen, OH 43107

**Tuesday, September 28**, 1 p.m. Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO).

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### **Review of 2020 Congregational Session Records Dates...**

**The PSV Commission for Congregational Life has set three opportunities to do the Session records reviews. These are:**

**Sunday, September 26, 2-4 PM**  
Bremen Bethel Presbyterian Church, 142 Purvis Avenue, Bremen, OH 43107

**Sunday, October 10, 2-4 PM**  
First Presbyterian Church, 210 W 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Marysville, OH 43040

**Saturday, October 30, 10 AM-12 PM**  
Mifflin Presbyterian Church, 123 Granville Street, Gahanna, OH 43230

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### **2021 PRESBYTERY STATED MEETING DATES...**

**September 21 and November 16**

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

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**Your Presbytery staff persons are at work, in the office and remotely.  
Do not hesitate to email or call.**

Jeannie Harsh, Executive Presbyter, [jeannie@psvonline.org](mailto:jeannie@psvonline.org), Cell: 614-562-1775.

Bill Gause, Stated Clerk, [statedclerk@psvonline.org](mailto:statedclerk@psvonline.org)

Bob Patterson, Treasurer, [treasurer@psvonline.org](mailto:treasurer@psvonline.org)

Dagmar Romage, Administrative Assistant, [dagmar@psvonline.org](mailto:dagmar@psvonline.org)

John Wyckoff, Financial Assistant, [accounting@psvonline.org](mailto:accounting@psvonline.org)

Presbytery Office: 614-847-0565.

**From the Presbyterian Mission Agency.**

**[Coronavirus/COVID-19](#)** — Latest church resources for congregations and members.

### ***Commission for Church Professionals (CCP) Events.***

CCP works to foster the faith and vitality of those who are called to professional ministry—pastors, associate pastors, designated pastors, interim pastors, honorably retired teaching elders, stated supply, temporary supply, teaching elders in specialized ministry, inquirers, candidates, commissioned ruling elders, certified Christian educators, and ministers at-large.

## 2021 Fall Church Professionals Retreat at Deer Creek State Park

### PASTORS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS....

**November 7-9, 2021, with Retreat Leader: David LaMotte**

**Theme: *Worldchanging 101: Moving Beyond Hero Stories***

**PASTORS OF PSV WEEKLY CHAT MEETING ON ZOOM.** This informal gathering of PSV pastors is held on each Thursday at 1 pm.

To  
join: <https://zoom.us/j/588789104?pwd=cDBEUm8yYnNIS0RUK3dwZG5KVFMvZz09>  
Meeting ID: 588 789 104, Password: 463317, One tap  
mobile+13126266799,588789104#

### ***Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO) News, Updates and Upcoming Events.***

To provide and nurture educational, connectional, and outreach opportunities, which promote growth in discipleship, encourage congregational mission partnerships, and support special areas of ministry, such as peacemaking, youth and campus ministry.



### **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](http://www.pcusa.org).

PSV Commission for Nurture and Outreach(CNO) 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](http://pcusa.org/matthew25)

### **PSV Mission Work Trip the Week of October 17-23, 2021**

Scioto Valley adults, age 18 and over, are invited to join the Presbytery's 2021 Mission Work team in West Virginia. This will be a small team of 12-13 workers in Colcord, West Virginia. The team will be serving with the West Virginia Mission Advocacy & Workcamps (WVMAW) in the work of poverty relief with the people in the Colcord area in West Virginia. The cost per person will be \$400 to cover lodging, food, travel and work supplies. Some scholarship assistance may be available. For more information, or to obtain an application to participate in the work trip, email: [jeannie@psvonline.org](mailto:jeannie@psvonline.org)

[Visit our website](#)

### **Upcoming Youth Ministries Events in 2022**

**Presbytery of Scioto Valley YOUTH RETREAT 2022**

**Camp Akita for grades 6 - 12, Theme: "Attitude of Gratitude"**  
**Saturday, January 29, 10:30 am - Sunday, January 30, noon.**  
(There will not be a confirmation track at the Retreat.)  
Cost \$80 by January 6, 2022. \$100 after that through January 23  
We will observe COVID protocols.

**2022 PC(USA) Presbyterian Youth Triennium, July 24 - 27, 2022 in Indianapolis.**  
Triennium is the PC(USA) national youth conference for those entering 9th grade through graduating seniors (and chaperones!) The cost is \$515 for registration PLUS around \$150 per person for lodging. The Presbytery Commission on Nurture and Outreach will cover the cost of a bus, and plans to set aside \$10,000 in scholarships. Watch for more information from co-registrars Martha Pool and Jenni Whitford.  
Check out the flyer and find the applications:  
<https://psvonline.org/events/triennium-at-indiana-convention-center-july-24-27-2022/>

**PSV YouTube channel - [www.youtube.com/sciotovalleypresbytery](http://www.youtube.com/sciotovalleypresbytery).**



**2021 NATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**October 26-28, 2021**

**VIBRANT AND FAITHFUL AGING: LEGACIES ACROSS GENERATIONS**

*"Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He,  
I am He who will sustain you" (Isaiah 46:4a)*

Our National POAMN conference is featuring our longtime friends Donna and Dennis Haines from Missouri, leading our music and worship. We will observe communion during Thursday's worship, please come prepared with your own elements. Our Keynote is internationally-recognized author and speaker Missy Buchanan, from Texas. She along with our workshop leaders bring a wealth of knowledge, wisdom, and experience in addressing the many aspects associated with aging.

We are working with technology partner GNTV Media Ministry to bring you a quality and informative virtual experience. The total cost for three days is only \$75, and if your time is limited you will be able to use the pass code issued only to paid registrants to watch at your leisure after the conclusion of the conference.

**LEARN MORE October 2021, 26-28**

Sign up today! **REGISTER**

This conference is offered in partnership with the Office of Christian Formation of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, PCUSA.

**On the Road to G.A.**

As the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) approaches another historic General Assembly next year, church leaders are making sure that all voices are heard across the denomination. In its recent monthly meeting, the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly received updates on the planning as well as efforts to make this a more inclusive gathering.

**Peacemaking and Global Witness  
Special Offering...**

**Equipping Peacemakers in Congregations  
and Around the World.**

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and



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reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

For more information, visit [pcusa.org/peace-global/resources](https://pcusa.org/peace-global/resources)

**The Synod of the Covenant is offering.....**

1. The Synod grant application for the **Matthew 25 Grants** is available at <https://synodofthecovenant.org/synod-ministries/grants-and-scholarships/>. These grants are up to \$5,000 for PCUSA churches and ministries and are due on 9/30/21. Special attention will be given to applications from communities of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (These grants replace the prior New Covenant and Racial Ethnic Grants.)

2. Synod Executive Chip Hardwick will be leading the **monthly preaching workshop** that is the **first Wednesday of every month from 10:00 to 11:30 by zoom**. It's called "Opening Your Listeners to New Perspectives." Interested parties can learn more/register at <https://synodofthecovenant.org/2021/05/28/opening-your-listeners-to-new-perspectives/>.

3. **Boundaries Training** through LeaderWise has one remaining session on **November 9-10**, for pastoral leaders. Learn more/register at <https://synodofthecovenant.org/2021/04/08/boundaries-training-what-would-you-do/>

**Presbytery of Scioto Valley Prays for Congregations and Pastors...**

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

**Commission for Presbytery Operations (CPO)**

Purpose: To provide organizational support to the daily operation of the Presbytery, to hold the Presbytery accountable to its members, and to comply with all state-mandated not-for-profit organizational requirements.



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.

**Resources Available at the Presbytery Office...**

The Presbyterian Planning Calendars 2021-2022 are here! Arrangements for pick up or delivery can be made now. Contact: [dagmar@psvonline.org](mailto:dagmar@psvonline.org) or call Dagmar at 614-847-0565. Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- ***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.**

(Contact: [dagmar@psvonline.org](mailto:dagmar@psvonline.org) or call 614-847-0565)



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