



Beaver-Butler Presbytery

Serving God...Serving You

Weekly Update for November 7, 2023

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*...and so we will be with the Lord forever.
Therefore encourage one another with theses words.*

1 Thessalonians 4:17-18

GATHERING OF THE CHURCHES

Hybrid Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, 6 p.m.

New Salem Presbyterian Church
348 Salem Church Road,
Midland, PA 15059

5:30 p.m.—Registration

Please connect by Zoom between 5:30 and 5:45 p.m.

Registration for the meeting is required for In-Person and Zoom. Please contact the office by email (office@beaverbutler.org) or telephone (724-452-7515) indicating the name of your church, if you will attend in-person or by Zoom, whether you are a visitor, teaching elder or elder commissioner.



All new business and requests for items to be removed from the Consent Agenda, must be to the Stated Clerk's Desk 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

[Access packet with Zoom codes...](#)

JOSH HEIKKILA TO BE OUR GUEST

What are the least developed countries in the world? According to the United Nations Development Program, they are located in Africa. The U.N. developed an index that considers health, education, income, and living conditions to rank countries from the most developed to the least developed. The three that rank at the bottom of this index are Niger at 189, Chad at 190 and South Sudan at 191. Ghana is ranked 133rd.



The Rev. Joshua Heikkila, Presbyterian Church (USA) Regional Liaison for West Africa, will be attending our November presbytery meeting. Josh has a wide variety of overseas experience. He served as a Young Adult Volunteer for the PC(USA) in a one-year term (2002-2003) in Ghana, where he learned the Ewe language. He has been a mission coworker in West Africa, based in Ghana, since 2009.

[Continue reading...](#)

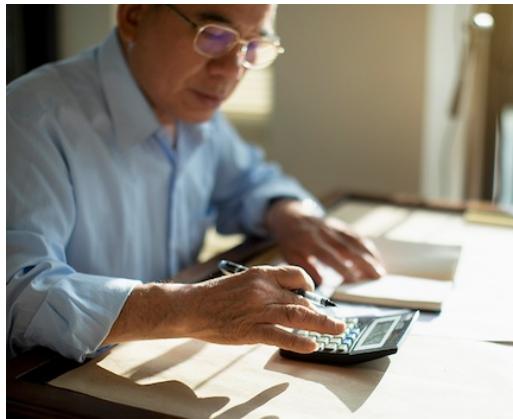
ANNUAL ENROLLMENT FOR 2024 BOP BENEFITS

The Board of Pensions (BOP) Annual Enrollment provides an opportunity to review and make changes to your benefits for 2024. Pastors and other employees should log on to Benefits Connect to elect benefits or make changes to their coverage that will go into effect on January 1, 2024.

After Annual Enrollment ends, you won't have another chance to elect benefits or make changes for 2024 unless you have a qualifying life event.

[*Learn more...*](#)

[*Log into Benefits Connect...*](#)



SAVE 25 PERCENT ON DEDUCTIBLES

Call to Health of the Board of Pensions encourages healthy habits in four areas of wholeness: spiritual, health, financial, and vocational. By answering the call, pastors benefit by participating in activities that help them work toward becoming their best self. And, they can earn points and reach certain levels to qualify for gift cards and reduced medical deductibles for the next plan year.



To keep enjoying reduced deductibles, pastors must act by November 11.

[*Learn more and act...*](#)

LPLF WORKSHOP

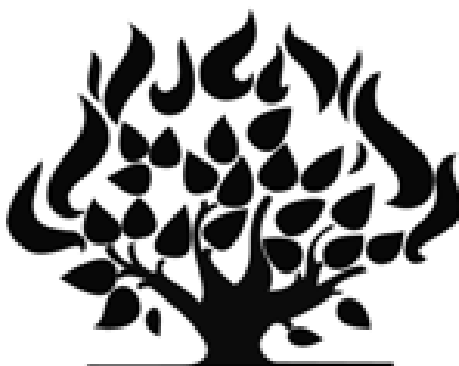
Boundaries and Ethics in Church Leadership

Saturday, November 11
12:30-3:30 p.m.

By Zoom or at Redstone Presbytery
Center—1004 Mt. Pleasant Road
Greensburg, PA 15601

Instructor: Michelle Snyder

Whether pastor or elder, leadership



within the church requires clear understanding of both personal and professional ethics. Establishing and clearly communicating boundaries helps us serve effectively and faithfully.

The Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation (IPLF) Elective Workshops are open and free to Pastors and Ruling Elders who are not enrolled in the IPLF program.

To register contact Bobbie Shaffor at Redstone Presbytery at 724-837-6737 or secretary@redstonepresbytery.org.

[*Learn more about IPLF...*](#)

STAND IN SOLIDARITY

Our hearts are tuned to the Ukrainian people as they suffer under Russian invasion. We know families are torn from each other by death or forced migration as neighboring countries provide food, shelter, and safety. We feel a heaviness for the Russian people, many of whom oppose the war.

With the resource, *A Sowing of Peace in Ukraine*, Presbyterian Peacemaking Program invites congregations, presbyteries, and synods to join in a concerted effort for education, worship, and actions until the war is ended.

In this set of resources you will find prayers, litanies and music. You will be invited to choose actions of advocacy and expressions of solidarity. You will learn through film, art, music, and food, as well as traditional methods.

[*Learn more and access resource packets...*](#)



Resources for Worship, Education & Action

THE PRESBYTERIAN PROMISE

An \$80,000 Scholarship Over Four Years

The Presbyterian Promise Scholarship is a commitment by Presbyterian College

(PC) to recognize students for their merit and affiliation with the Presbyterian Church. PC seeks to develop students academically and spiritually in this signature scholarship. Students who are members of Presbyterian churches will receive a scholarship for a minimum of \$20,000 per year for up to four years—that's an \$80,000 commitment to you.



[Learn more and apply...](#)

[Download and post flyer...](#)

RULING ELDERS WEBINAR

Thursday, November 16
7-8:30 p.m.

Leading by Listening: Ruling Elders and Presbyterian Polity will be presented by former Stated Clerk Gradye Parsons as part of the Leader Formation series. More information and a detailed description is available on the Leader Formation website.

The registration deadline is
Wednesday, November 8.

[Learn more and register...](#)



OBSERVING ADVENT

We encourage congregations and individuals to find an Advent study or devotional to observe a sacred time of waiting for Christ's arrival. The following are a few sources.

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS)

Written by PTS faculty, staff, and Board members, this daily devotional can be accessed in multiple ways including online, daily emails, or a downloadable booklet to print. An Advent Resource Kit, offering worship service planning tools, hymns, kids' activities, is also available.



[Learn more...](#)

Presbyterian Outlook

Daily reflections by Outlook Editor Teri McDowell Ott help readers wrestle with Christ's promises in a broken world with *Apocalyptic Advent: Embracing Hope in the Second Coming of Christ*.

Churches email, printed as a complete booklet or added to the Sunday bulletin the devotions.

[Learn more and purchase...](#)

PC(USA) Store

View the 2023 Advent Resource Guide on your computer or other device for . Click on any title or cover to be taken to the product page. Also, click on the dark blue blocks to download resource samples.

[Go to guide...](#)

Presbytery Resource Center

Advent Studies and Devotions for adults and families can also be borrowed from the Resource Center. Stop in during office hours or make an appointment with ChrisAnn Goossen (chrisanngoossen@beaverbutler.org) to see what is available.

OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

The Presbytery Office will be closed on Thursday, November 9. Veterans' Day is a holiday for office staff.



PRESBYTERY NEWS

Click for news you may have missed...

SYNOD OF THE TRINITY EVENTS

Click for Information...

PRESBYTERY EVENTS

Click for Additional Information...

IPLF WORKSHOPS FOR PASTORS AND RULING ELDERS

Fall 2023 Workshops—Saturdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Online and in-person at Redstone Presbytery Center

- Boundaries and Ethics in Church Leadership—November 11
- Learning to “Exegete” the Community—December 9

CHURCH EVENTS

**Support and promote worship, fellowship and fundraising events
hosted by congregations in our presbytery.**

MOMMY & ME CLASSES

Wednesdays, September 6–November 8, 10-11 a.m.

Valencia Church Fellowship Hall—80 Sterrett Street, Valencia

Learn more and register...

FUNDRAISER SPAGHETTI DINNER

Friday, November 10, 5:30-7 p.m.

Covenant Church, Butler—107 Staley Avenue

Download and post flyer...

PLAINS CHURCH CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, November 11, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall—326 Plains Church Road, Cranberry Twp.

For more information contact: (724)-538-8785 or www.plainschurch.com.

Download and post crafters and vendors flyer...

Download and post fair flyer...

SECOND SATURDAY CONCERTS

Friendship Church is hosting second Saturday concerts at 6:30 p.m. each month until November. Concerts are held at the Community Center located at 886 New Castle Road, Slippery Rock.

Send event information to chrisanngoossen@beaverbutler.org.

Attach flyers and brochures as PDF documents
and slides as PowerPoint documents.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Click for position descriptions and contact information.

Openings at the National Level

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Pianist and/or Organist

Concord, West Sunbury and North Washington, North Washington

THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE

Regular Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
or by appointment.

2023 Presbytery Meetings

Saturday, January 28, 10 a.m.

2023 Holiday Schedule

New Year's Day...January 2
Martin Luther King Day...January 16
President's Day...February 20
Memorial Day...May 29
Juneteenth...June 19
Independence Day...July 4
Labor Day...September 4
Veterans' Day...November 9
Thanksgiving Day...November 23
Christmas Eve...December 21
Christmas Day...December 25
Christmas Week...December 26-29

Lunch
Concord, Baden

Tuesday, March 28, 6 p.m.
Park, Beaver

Tuesday, May 23, 6 p.m.
First, Beaver Falls

Tuesday, July 25, 6 p.m.
Hill, Butler

Tuesday, September 26, 4 p.m.
Dinner
Hosted by Trinity, Butler
Mission Exploratory Team
providing meal

Tuesday, November 14, 6 p.m.
New Salem, Midland

[Click for Presbytery Calendar](#)

Beaver-Butler Presbytery Center

(P.O. Box 279)

134-B South Main Street

Zelienople, PA 16063

724-452-7515

office@beaverbutler.org

www.beaverbutler.org

Beaver-Butler Presbytery



Beaver-Butler Presbytery Youth



Presbytery Weekly Update

To share announcements and news or to add names to the mailing list, contact ChrisAnn at chrisanngoossen@beaverbutler.org. To access back issues, go to <https://beaverbutler.org/weekly-update-e-newsletter/>.

Beaver-Butler Presbytery | 134-B South Main Street, Zelienople, PA 16063

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Sent by chrisanngoossen@beaverbutler.org powered by



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