



Beaver-Butler Presbytery

Serving God...Serving You

Weekly Update for April 16, 2024

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*I am the good shepherd.
I know my own
and my own know me,..."*

Jesus—John 10:14

IN MEMORIAM—JAMES A. GRAY

James A. Gray of Mars, passed away on Wednesday morning, February 7, 2024 in the comfort of his home. Jim was a member and deacon at Old Union Presbyterian Church in Mars. He also served Beaver-Butler Presbytery as treasurer between November of 2007 and October of 2016.

Born in Tarentum, PA on April 9, 1937, Jim was a graduate of Mars High School and he served in the United States Army during peacetime.

Jim was CPA at Gray and Houston Accounting Services. He enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Beaver-Butler Presbytery is thankful for Jim's service to the presbytery and offer our sympathies to his family and friends.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, April 27 at 11 a.m. at Old Union Presbyterian Church, Mars.



[Read obituary...](#)

SPRING RETREAT FOR PASTORS AND CPs

The Power of Story

Tuesday, May 21, 9 a.m.—
Wednesday, May 22, 1 p.m.

Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center
2067 Evergreen Rd, Pulaski, PA 16143

Byron Borger, Keynote Speaker

The Encouraging Churches to Flourish Unit of the Beaver-Butler Presbytery is offering a retreat for pastors and CPs in conjunction with Shenango Presbytery. This beautiful setting will offer time for quiet reflection, meaningful worship, and fellowship with colleagues. Plus, keynote speaker, Byron Borger from *Hearts and Minds Bookstore* will offer insights on the importance of story in our ministries.

Cost of \$55 includes overnight lodging and meals. Commuter cost is \$40.

[Watch a video to learn more...](#)

To register, simply fill out the form and return it with your payment to the Presbytery office—P.O. Box 279,



Zelienople, PA 16063. Registration
deadline is **Friday, May 3**.

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

REGISTER FOR A SESSION RECORDS REVIEW

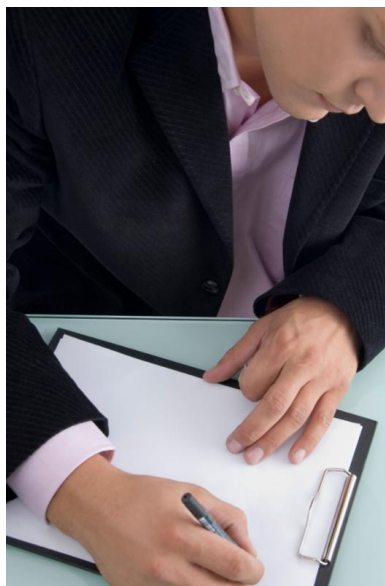
Saturday, April 27, 2:30 p.m.
Presbytery Center

Sunday, April 28, 2:30 p.m.
Presbytery Center

Tuesday, May 7, 7 p.m.
New Bethlehem Church

Thursday, May 9, 7 p.m.
Friendship Church Community Center
(not the church)

Tuesday, May 14, 7 p.m.
Old Union Church



Two representatives need to attend from each church—the Clerk of Session and an Elder or two Elders if the Clerk cannot attend.

Preregistration is required by:

Online
Go to form...

Emailing office@beaverbutler.org
with your name, church, title, and preferred date and location.

Calling (724) 452-7515 and supplying the above information.

[Access letter and documents...](#)

IPLF WORKSHOP *Preaching Laboratory*

Saturday, May 4, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Proclaiming God's word is a serious exercise, worthy of continued work for

growth. Individually and in small groups, students will create, engage and assess their approaches to a variety of texts and different ministry settings, with an eye toward improved preaching skills.

Instructors are Rev. Skip Noftzger and Rev. Craig Kephart.

Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation (IPLF) workshops are presented by Zoom and at Redstone Presbytery Center—1004 Mt. Pleasant Road Greensburg, PA 15601

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

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



LIVING, WORKING, PLAYING, LEARNING—TOGETHER *A Unity Conference for Faith-Based Leaders*

Friday, May 17, 8 a.m.-noon

Community College of Beaver County,
Library Room 9103 (Lower Level)

*Hosted by the Inclusion and Diversity
Awareness Council (IDAC)*

Donald E. Sheffield, Ed. D., presenter

Especially designed for leaders of our various faith based organizations, this presentation will focus on how the faith-based community can play a key role in bringing about unity in America, by understanding the “practices and skills” necessary for all people to live in harmony.

Dr. Sheffield serves as the education consultant and cultural competency trainer for Beaver County Behavioral Health and the System of Care.



[Download flyer for more
information...](#)

PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING

Through Pentecost Sunday, May 19

Christ shared simple but powerful words to assure us that He will always be at our side. Instilling this understanding is a gift we pass to our children. The Pentecost Offering helps our youth begin life with a strong start in the years from childhood through young adulthood that will last a lifetime.



40% STAYS WITH YOUR CONGREGATION to support ministries with children, youth, and young adults.

25% SUPPORTS YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEERS (YAV), serving in communities around the world.

25% SUPPORTS MINISTRIES WITH YOUTH including Triennium.

10% IS DEVOTED TO CHILDREN AT-RISK to improve education and provide safe havens.

Please give generously...for if we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

[*Learn more and access resources...*](#)

Congregations should remit their gifts through the Presbytery.

[*Access remittance form...*](#)

PLANNING A MISSION TRIP?

It is the season when volunteer work trips kick into high gear as groups from churches and other partners of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) show their love and compassion by helping with rebuilding projects in communities affected by disasters.

For groups that have one of these trips in their future, PDA has put together a free, downloadable how-to guide to assist with planning.

The guide can help with site selection, financial planning, and work partnerships. It also has devotional resources and contact information for the PDA Call Center.

[Learn more about PDA...](#)

[Access guide...](#)

Planning a Volunteer Work Trip with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

A HOW TO GUIDE



PRESBYTERY NEWS

[Click for news you may have missed...](#)

SYNOD OF THE TRINITY EVENTS

[Click for Information...](#)

PRESBYTERY EVENTS

[Click for Additional Information...](#)

PASTOR'S RETREAT

Tuesday-Wednesday, May 21-22

Villa Maria Educational and Spirituality Center—Villa Maria, PA

A joint retreat with Shenango Presbytery

MEDIATION SKILLS TRAINING INSTITUTE

Monday-Friday, June 24-28

9 a.m.-5 p.m. (except Friday—9 a.m.-4 p.m.) (Zoom—Central Time Zone)

Cranberry Community United Church—2662 Rochester Road, Cranberry Twp.

Presented by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

Hosted by Cranberry Community United Presbyterian Church

2024 WEE KIRK CONFERENCE

Monday-Wednesday, October 14-16

Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, Mt. Pleasant, PA

Learn more and register...

Access scholarship application...

CHURCH EVENTS

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

SIGHT AND SOUND THEATER AND GETTYSBURG BUS TRIP

Thursday, June 6-Friday, June 7

Hosted by Friendship Church

Download itinerary...

Download tour information...

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.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Several job openings at the national level

Bookkeeper (Part Time)

Plains Church

THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE

Regular Office Hours

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

2024 Holiday Schedule

New Year's Day...January 1
Martin Luther King Day...January 15
President's Day...February 19
Memorial Day...May 27
Juneteenth...June 19
Independence Day...July 4
Labor Day...September 2
Veterans' Day...November 11
Thanksgiving Day...November 28
Christmas Eve...December 24
Christmas Day...December 25
Christmas Week...December 26-29

2024 Presbytery Meetings

Saturday, January 27, 10 a.m.

Lunch
North Sewickley, Ellwood City

Tuesday, March 19, 6 p.m.

Calvin, Zelienople

Tuesday, May 28, 6 p.m.

Concord, Baden

Tuesday, July 30, 6 p.m.

Clinton, Saxonburg

Tuesday, September 24, 4 p.m.

Dinner
Hosted by First, Darlington and
The Galilean, New Galilee
New Galilee Community Center

Tuesday, November 19, 6 p.m.

New Sewickley, Rochester

Click for Presbytery Calendar

Beaver-Butler Presbytery Center

(P.O. Box 279)

134-B South Main Street

Zelienople, PA 16063

724-452-7515

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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