

Weekly Update for June 24, 2025

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*If we live by the Spirit,
let us also be guided by the Spirit.*

Galatians 5:25 (NRSVue)

Mars Church Hosts Concert



The Borough of Mars thanks Pastor Brian Hauser and Mars Presbyterian Church for use of their church for part of their Mars New Year Festival. The Martian Melodies Concert was held in their sanctuary on Saturday, June 7 at 6 p.m.

Forty musicians from high school, college, Butler and Pittsburgh Symphonies, and several musicians who work for NASA, made up the combined orchestra. World known composer John Kennedy, who wrote a new piece for the event, was the conductor.

Over 350 attendees filled the sanctuary to enjoy the special musical experience.



First Church, Monaca Celebrates 140 Years

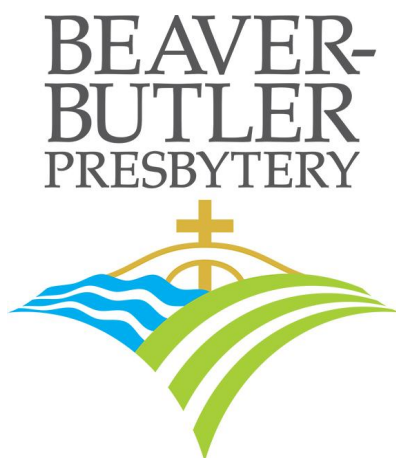
**Worship followed by Picnic and Activities
Sunday, July 20, 11 a.m.**

**Homecoming Worship and Reception
Sunday, September 21, 11 a.m.**

First Presbyterian Church
1301 Indiana Avenue, Monaca

First Church invites you to join them for a celebration of their 140th Anniversary. Save the dates and share the invitation.

[*Download and post invitation...*](#)



Ordination Service of Kerry Dowdy

Sunday, July 6, 3 p.m.

Friendship Church
877 Franklin Road
Slippery Rock, PA

You are invited to attend the ordination service for Kerry Michelle Dowdy as she begins her service as Minister of Word and Sacrament. A reception will follow the service.

[*Download and post invitation...*](#)

Serving at General Assembly

Tuesday, June 22–Friday, July 2, 2026

Baird Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Advisory Delegate Kemp Clow and Commissioners Elder Kerry Dowdy and Rev. David Paul represented Beaver-Butler Presbytery at the 226th GA.

Serving as a Commissioner or Advisory Delegate to General Assembly (GA) is a fantastic way to gain perspective on what God is doing beyond the bounds of our local churches and Presbytery. It is inspiring to be a part of the church's historic decisions and feel the Spirit moving.

You are encouraged to consider serving as a Teaching or Ruling Elder Commissioner or Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) for the 227th General Assembly of the PC(USA).

The GA meets online and in person. Committees will work virtually from Tuesday-Friday, June 22-26 and travel to meet in person from Sunday-Thursday, June 28-July 2.

Deadline for submitting applications is **Tuesday, September 30.**

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



Fall Session of IPLF

The Presbyteries of Redstone, Pittsburgh, Upper Ohio Valley, Washington, Beaver-Butler, and Shenango collaborate to facilitate a training program called Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation (IPLF). IPLF is designed to prepare ruling elders for possible positions as Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs) or Commissioned Pastors (CPs) to serve churches. IPLF also trains leaders for preaching, leading worship and various ministries, such as visitation.

Opportunities for new IPLF enrollments are available every January and August.

Classes for the Fall Term of 2025 are Saturdays, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 8, December 13.

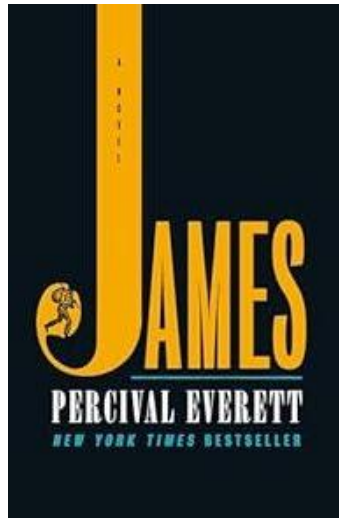
The morning class will be an introduction to the classic doctrines of reformed theology through primary and secondary readings and an exploration of the Book of Confessions of the PC (USA). Elective Workshops are held in the afternoon.

If interested in becoming a Commissioned Pastor, please contact the Beaver-Butler Presbytery Office.

The IPLF Elective Workshops are also open and free to Pastors and Ruling Elders who are not enrolled in the IPLF program. They are available in-person at Redstone Presbytery Center or online.

Did you know?

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) focuses on the long term recovery of disaster impacted communities.



Racial Reconciliation Awareness Book Club

Summer Reading 2025

James: A Novel by Percival Everett, a brilliant, action-packed reimagining of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, both harrowing and darkly humorous, told from the enslaved Jim's point of view will be read and discussed.

Book Club Discussion of James

7 p.m. on Zoom

Option 1—

Wednesdays, June 25, July 30, August 27

Option 2—

Thursdays, June 26, July 31, August 28

Reading Schedule

June Part 1—pages 9-185

July Part 2—pages 189-247

August Part 3—pages 251-303

To register for one of the discussion groups, contact C.F. Hoffman at cfhoffman@windstream.net or 724-417-9626 (cell) or 724-336-4103 (home).

[Download flyer...](#)



Young Adult Environmental Justice Advocacy Network

Calling all young adults (18-35) who are passionate about climate justice and creation care! Is that you? Or does it describe someone you know?

Presbyterians for Earth Care is building a faith-based network of young people who are leading the way in environmental advocacy—from local congregations to the PC(USA) to the national stage.

Let them know by completing an interest form. Then, tag a friend who's ready to take action and share this with your community.

[Go to the form...](#)

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



APCE Annual Event in Pittsburgh

Wednesday-Saturday, January 21-24, 2026

Wyndam Grand Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh, PA

The APCE (Association of Partners in Christian Education) Annual Event will be held in Pittsburgh next year! This will make it easier to attend in person though via Annual Event Online is also an option.

With the theme, *Bridging the Gap*, each day of the conference we will address a different topic of love—how to love God, how to love self, and how to love neighbor.

Beaver-Butler Presbytery is a sponsor for the event.

Mark your calendars and watch for more information.

[Learn more...](#)



Vacation Bible Schools in Full Swing

Churches in our presbytery are working hard to hold Vacation Bible Schools throughout the summer. The Presbytery has compiled a VBS list especially for churches who are not holding their own.

Please download, post and share the final updated list so that families in your church and community will know about these wonderful opportunities.

[Download list...](#)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

Please download and post flyer. Final revised flyer is dated **June 10**.

[Click here to download...](#)

Road Trip

Ohio United Church, Aliquippa

Monday-Friday, June 9-13, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Our Faith is Over the Top!

Old Union Church, Mars

Monday-Thursday, June 9-12, 6-8 p.m.

SCUBA

Saxonburg Memorial Church Saxonburg, Saxonburg

Monday-Friday, June 9-13, 6-8:30 p.m.

Road Trip

Cranberry Community United Church, Cranberry Township

Monday-Friday, June 16-20, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. OR 5:45-8:15 p.m.

Journey with Jesus

At Park Church, Beaver with Vanport Church, Vanport

Monday-Wednesday, June 16-18, 9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

WildLIVE!

Westminster Church, Sarver

Monday-Friday, June 16-20, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Rocky Railway

The Galilean Church with and at New Galilee Church of the Nazarene, New Galilee

Monday-Friday, June 23-27, 6-8:30 p.m.

Magnified

Glade Run Church, Valencia

Monday-Friday, June 23-27, 9-11:30 a.m.

Summer in the Psalms—Adult VBS

Covenant Church, Butler Township

Tuesday-Wednesday, July 8, 9, 10, 2-4 p.m.

True North

Westminster United Church, Evans City

Monday-Friday, June 23-27, 9-11:30 a.m.

True North

At Mars United with Valencia and St. John Lutheran Churches, Mars

Sunday-Thursday, July 13-17, 6-8:20 p.m.

True North

Plains Presbyterian Church, Cranberry Township

Monday-Friday, July 14-18, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Camp Firelight

Calvin Presbyterian Church, Zelienople

Monday-Thursday, July 28-31, 6-8 p.m.

CHURCH EVENTS

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

WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL CONCERT

Friday, July 4, 2 p.m.

Mt. Chestnut Church—719 W. Old Route 422, Butler

Download and post flyer...

FIRST CHURCH, MONACA 140TH ANNIVERSARY WORSHIP, PICNIC AND ACTIVITIES

Sunday, July 20, 11 a.m.

1301 Indiana Avenue, Monaca

Download and post invitation...

FIRST CHURCH, MONACA 140TH ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING WORSHIP AND RECEPTION

Sunday, September 21, 11 a.m.

1301 Indiana Avenue, Monaca

Download and post invitation...

Send event information to chrisanngoossen@beaverbutler.org. Attach flyers and brochures as PDF documents and slides as PowerPoint documents.

PRESBYTERY EVENTS

Click here for additional information...

RACIAL RECONCILIATION AWARENESS BOOK CLUB

Summer Reading 2025

7 p.m. on Zoom

Option 1—Wednesdays, June 25, July 30, August 27

Option 2 Thursdays, June 26, July 31, August 28

ORDINATION SERVICE OF KERRY DOWDY

Sunday, July 6, 3 p.m.

Friendship Church—877 Franklin Road, Slippery Rock, PA

NEW WILMINGTON MISSION CONFERENCE

Friday, July 18-Wednesday July 23

Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA

Youth Scholarships are available.

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENNIUM

Monday-Thursday, July 28-31, 2025

Louisville, Kentucky

Our Beaver-Butler Presbytery Youth Coordinator will register youth for the conference.

MISSION TRIP WITH OLD UNION CHURCH

Sunday, August 10-Saturday, August 16

NORTHEAST WEE KIRK CONFERENCE

Monday-Wednesday, October 13-15

Laurelville Retreat Center, Mt. Pleasant, PA

APCE ANNUAL EVENT

Wednesday-Saturday, January 21-24, 2026

Wyndam Grand Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh, PA

SYNOD OF THE TRINITY EVENTS

[Click here for information...](#)

PRESBYTERY NEWS

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

[Click here for position descriptions and contact information...](#)

Church Musician and Choir Director

New Bethlehem Church, Aliquippa

Worship Accompanist

Ohio United Church, Aliquippa

Church Administrative Coordinator

Vanport Church, Vanport

Administrative Assistant

Jefferson Center Church, Saxonburg

THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE

Regular Office Hours

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

2025 Holiday Schedule

New Year's Day...January 1
Martin Luther King Day...January 20
President's Day...February 17
Memorial Day...May 26
Juneteenth...June 19
Independence Day...July 3
Labor Day...September 1
Veterans' Day...November 11
Thanksgiving Day...November 27
Christmas Eve...December 24
Christmas Day...December 25
Christmas Week...December 26-29

2025 Presbytery Meetings

Saturday, January 25, 10 a.m.

Lunch
Old Union, Mars

Tuesday, March 25, 6 p.m.

Glade Run, Valencia

Tuesday, May 27, 6 p.m.

Crestview Community, Callery

Tuesday, July 29, 6 p.m.

Vanport at Vanport with Park, Beaver

Tuesday, September 23, 4 p.m.

Dinner
New Bethlehem, Aliquippa

Tuesday, November 18, 6 p.m.

Ohio United, Aliquippa

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



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 beaverbutler.org/weekly-update-e-newsletter/.

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

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