

Mid-week E-News March 23, 2023

# The Presbytery OF SCIOTO VALLEY

"Inspire, Strengthen, And Challenge Congregations For Christ's Mission." 2-18, 2020

[Click here to visit our new website.](#)

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever.- Psalm 146:5-6 (NRSV)

[Special Offerings - Offering Season in 2023.](#)

**Come Walk the Labyrinth!** The Presbytery's labyrinth is set up in the chapel at Overbrook Presbyterian Church during Lent. Stop by anytime during office hours, Monday through Friday 9-4 and spend some time in quiet reflection or stop by before or after your Presbytery business. Mary Gause, Associate Pastor



*Your Discernment & Design team is preparing to meet again for a one day retreat on March 25.*

*As we anticipate this important day, we ask folks throughout the Presbytery to be in prayer for our work.*

*In particular, we would appreciate being included on your church prayer lists, so that folks who may not read this E-News are reminded of our work and engaged in seeking God's plan for the future of this Presbytery. Thanks for your support.*

## **Discernment and Design Administrative Commission Update**

**We want to hear from you and your church.** Share a quick story with us (max 2-3 sentences!) of a time your church has exemplified one of these core values of our Presbytery.

**Email your story** to [discernment@psvonline.org](mailto:discernment@psvonline.org)

Thanks for your support, and, as always, please keep us in your prayers.

At the February 21, 2023, Presbytery meeting, the Rev. Steve Brand reported on behalf of your Discernment & Design Administrative Commission. He presented core values that this team has developed as a result of all we have learned since you commissioned us to this work.

- **Nurturing Spiritual Community** – We ground our work in the Spirit of God and nurture the faith and lives of those we serve.
- **Connection:** Focusing on what connects us creates community and deepens our relationship with God.
- **Unity in Diversity:** The diverse experiences and gifts of our people and communities strengthen us.
- **Spirit-led Adaptability:** We are open and responsive to the Spirit at work in our changing world.
- **Outreach:** We walk with others in partnership and compassion to improve the human condition.



**LOVE  
IS LOVE!**

Find an affirming  
Presbyterian Church  
in your neighborhood



A group of LGBTQ+ affirming churches from our Presbytery are planning to march together for Columbus's pride parade and we would love for other affirming churches to join us! The pride march takes place on the morning of June 17, in the short north area of Columbus. Our plan is to march alongside one another behind one banner, and have each church march together in smaller sub groups behind a banner with their own churches name and neighborhood/town. If your church is affirming and a group from your church (no matter the size) would like to join please email Trip Porch at [trip@indianolapres.org](mailto:trip@indianolapres.org)



Dear Friends,

Some of you have heard my firefighting stories...stories of trainings, wildfires, and scenes of accidents. If you haven't, be careful if you ask...I can bend your ear! For those who didn't know, I trained to be a volunteer firefighter during my first call of ministry. That's where I met my husband, who was my mentor in the company. He knows I can throw a ladder up to a second story window without blinking...and can use a broom and shovel to get debris off a roadway after an accident. My experiences don't mirror his, because he has a lot more experience in volunteering than I did. His experience helped me to learn about some of the things I might face. And being ready, having developed muscle memory to go into action quickly, is why we trained over and over.

My experiences are different than yours. Yours are different than mine. Together we know a lot more because we can share what we've learned. **Unity in diversity** is another core value that the Discernment and Design Administrative Commission has presented. Because we have experienced life in our own ways, we have a diversity of experiences. I know what it was like to grow up as a low-income kid in a rural community, where both of my parents worked to keep a roof over our heads (a 10x50 roof, but a roof nonetheless). I don't know your experience, but I can benefit from what you share.

[Read More](#)

### **Fireside chat for Scioto Valley Presbytery (PSV)**

**Pastors** Thursday, March 23, 4-6 p.m. PSV Church Professionals are invited to come and join in conversation, fellowship, and complimentary appetizers with colleagues at the Rusty Bucket, 4109 N. High Street, Clintonville location.



### **Commission for Church Professionals News, Updates and Upcoming**

**Events. Purpose:** 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.



## Transitional Ministry

We really need those trained in Transitional Ministry in this presbytery. We have many churches in transition now, and others coming up. Transitional Ministry is not just what you do when you retire from the pastorate. Transitional Ministry is walking with churches through good times, sad times, changing times, and times of planning. Transitional Ministry is helping to resolve issues, clearing out cobwebs, thinking creatively. If you think Transitional Ministry (formerly known as Interim Ministry) is a possible calling for you, please see this advertisement for classes.

### **Register now for *The Art of Transitional Ministry* Training, Week I & II. May 22-26, 2023 at the beautiful Mercy Center, St. Louis, MO**

We live in a crazy time of transition in our churches and culture. Transitional Ministry Education is not limited to those presently engaged in or inquiring about transitional ministry. Anyone interested in learning how to walk through change alongside your church is invited to join in. *PLUS, we have expanded to include a more diverse faculty and re-worked curriculum for this spring.*

[READ MORE AND REGISTER](#)

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## Coordinating Team

Purpose: To organize the life of the Presbytery, and to hold the Presbytery accountable to its mission and vision by coordinating all presbytery strategic and long-range planning activities, presbytery meeting agendas, staffing, and budget creation.

Membership: Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk, chairs of the four Commissions, four at-large members, one of whom shall be from among one of PC(USA)'s recognized racial ethnic constituency groups, and a convener.

### **2023 Presbytery of Scioto Valley Meeting Dates**

Tuesday, May 16, Circleville Presbyterian Church, 3:00 p.m.  
September 19 and November 14 (TBA)

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## Update from Bill Gause, Presbytery Stated Clerk.

These amendments have been sent to the Presbyteries for ratification.



The 225<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2022) approved and recommended to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes proposed changes in the language of the Book of Order that, if approved, will amend the Constitution. Please review: The OGA page which contains the link to the booklet: <https://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/proposed-amendments-constitution/>

**Commission for Congregational Life (CCL). Purpose:** To promote and nurture healthy, faith-filled relationships within and among congregations and the presbytery through facilitation, communication, and coordination.

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley includes 87 churches with a membership of 12,996 (updated March 9, 2022). 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.



**March Prayer List for Scioto Valley Congregations and Pastors**

*Throughout each month we lift up in prayer some of our congregations and their pastors. During the year we hope to pray for every one of our congregations and their pastoral leaders.*  
 Grandview Heights, Boulevard Presbyterian Church, Pastor Charlotte O'Neil.  
 Columbus, Broad Street Presbyterian Church,  
 Pastors Amy Miracle and Ann Palmerton.  
 Columbus, Crestview Presbyterian Church, Worship Leader Carol Bogaards.  
 Columbus, Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church, Pastor Tom Billman.

**Commission and Ministry Team Meetings**  
[www.psvonline.org](http://www.psvonline.org)

**March**

- 23, 2 a.m. Commissioned Ruling Elder Ministry Team Zoom Meeting.
- 23, 4-6 p.m. Fireside Chat for PSV Pastors, Rusty Bucket, Clintonville.
- 25, 9-4: p.m. Discernment and Design Administrative Commission Retreat.
- 28, 1 p.m. Commission for Nurture and Outreach Zoom Meeting.

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**2023 Presbytery of Scioto Valley Meeting Dates**

Tuesday, May 16, Circleville Presbyterian Church, 3:00 p.m.  
 September 19 and November 14 (TBA)

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Scioto Valley Presbytery staff is working in the office, and available by email or phone. The Presbytery Office Hours, Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Kathleen (Kathy) Nice, Transitional General

Presbyter, [generalpresbyter@psvonline.org](mailto:generalpresbyter@psvonline.org)

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)

Website: [www.psvonline.org](http://www.psvonline.org) - Presbytery Office: 614-847-0565.

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## Mark Your Calendar, Future Events....

### *Synod of the Covenant Healthy Boundaries Trainings in 2023*

Introduction to Boundaries Training. Three identical classes, each five hours split over two days, will be offered this year. The dates and times are:

**April 25-26, 1:00 to 3:30**  
**October 2-3, 6:00 to 8:30,**  
**and November 7-8, 1:00 to 3:30.**

It's already possible to register for these. Head to [Leadership Development Workshops - Synod of the Covenant](#) and you'll find the zoom links there for registration.

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Presbyterian Women (PW) in the Synod of the Covenant Gathering, August 4-5, 2023, First Presbyterian Church Findlay, Ohio.

Key Note Speaker

Cheri Harper – PW Mission Associate

Sacred Encounters 2023 – 2024 Bible Study

### *"Come and See! Go and Tell! Pilgrimage to Israel/Palestine.*

***New date: November 30-December 12, 2023.***

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley and the Presbytery of Miami Valley are co-sponsoring a study pilgrimage to Israel/Palestine with an optional extension to Jordan in November 2023. The trip, which will be led by the Rev. Mary Gene Boteler and Dr. Rick Nutt, will involve traveling to sacred sights and engaging with church and community leaders. Participants should expect to engage in a series of study sessions in preparation for the trip. Registration will be limited to 20. See the brochure and registration form. Here is the

link: <https://psvonline.org/events/come-and-see-go-and-tell-november-5-17-2023/>

For additional information, contact Rev. Boteler at [mgboteler@gmail.com](mailto:mgboteler@gmail.com).

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

**Educator Gathering** . If you missed the Educators Gathering with information on Opening Doors to Discipleship, you can check out the video here:

**[2023 - Educator Conversation - Opening Doors to Discipleship - YouTube](#)**

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### **Mission Exchange Program in Berlin**

A volunteer program in Berlin, hosted by the Berliner Missionswerk, will fund two participants starting in September for a 10 month program. Volunteers will be involved in different projects through two parish communities in and around Berlin. Berliner Missionswerk will incorporate the volunteers into their seminar program to introduce them to German culture, history, and language. This also allows the U.S. participants to get to know other volunteers, who come from other countries and backgrounds. If you wish to apply, please send your application by April 1 to Alethia White at [alethia.white@pcusa.org](mailto:alethia.white@pcusa.org). There will be some assistance with expenses and in general it should be quite a low-cost program for the participants. Here is the information: **[Berlin Flyer](#)** and **[Berlin Application](#)**.

### **International Mission Conference**

In July the Czech Brethren Church along with the Czech Partnership Network (a committee of both Czech and American churches) will be hosting a conference in Olomouc, Czech Republic that is open to youth, adults, and any churches who may be especially interested in joining this partnership in the future. Alethia White is a PCUSA representative for this network and will be attending the conference. If you want more information, contact Alethia at: **Ryan & Alethia White** <[alethia.ryan@gmail.com](mailto:alethia.ryan@gmail.com)>

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### **Partners in Education (PIE) resources are available.**

2023 Resources: <https://psvonline.org/clerks-resources/minutes-archives/change-address-forms/>

#### **Links to watch trainings:**

2021: <https://youtu.be/4COFd8BmPEQ>

2022 Elder: <https://youtu.be/ld62okcBsII>

2022 Deacon Panel: <https://youtu.be/pDqHCkVFTzw>

**YouTube Channel.** A reminder that our presbytery has a YouTube channel. (<https://www.youtube.com/c/SciotoValleyPresbytery>) with videos on officer training, global mission, curriculum selection, Presbyterian Women gatherings, Matthew 25 programs, and more from our presbytery.

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### **Neighborhood Mission Grant**

Perhaps **YOUR** congregation has a project that involves members of the congregation in "hands-on" ministry that builds a relationship between the congregation and the community. Grants up to \$2,000 are available starting in 2023. More information here: [Neighborhood Mission Grant | Presbytery of Scioto Valley \(psvonline.org\)](https://psvonline.org)

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**Join our Presbytery-wide Prayer Group** that meets by phone each Tuesday at 10:00 AM. The group prays for our Presbytery, its churches, and other concerns raised by the group. Simply call 240-591-0333 and when prompted enter code 783190#. The group is led by Rev. Don Pendell.

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### **IF YOU HAVE A CAUSE THAT'S CLOSE TO YOUR HEART YOU CAN FIND A WAY**

If it matters to you, it matters for others.  
If it matters for others, it matters to God.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/>



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