

Mid-week E-News April 13, 2023



PRESBYTERY *of* SCIOTO VALLEY

SERVING CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN OHIO

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

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

Dear Friends,
I am SO glad we are "resurrection people"...I would not have wanted to live through the trauma of Good Friday not knowing about Resurrection Sunday! Sometimes that is how our lives feel, isn't it?

We get stuck in the trauma of our hurting and damaged world, where people made in the image of God hurt one another, where crime is a reality, where pollution and waste in one area led to scarcity in others.



Kathy Nice

And yet...we know about Resurrection, right? We know that Jesus has already been here...and is reigning from heaven right now... How are we living into that already, but not yet, life? Are we stuck in Good Friday/Holy Saturday times acting like there isn't a Resurrection Sunday around the corner?

How can we reclaim that feeling, the joy of Easter morning, if we feel stuck in the dark times? First, help others. The disciples gathered mourning but also supporting one another. When we help others, we are blessed, and we often feel that we got more out of the time together than we gave.

Second, focus on your story and how you can explain it. I am certain while they waited, the disciples thought about what they had experienced with Jesus. They reflected on their own story of how Jesus touched their lives. Do you do that? If you don't it makes it much more difficult to share your story with others...and that's part of sharing the good news.

Finally, crawl out from wherever you "hid" during the winter. Hibernation time is ending. Catch some Vitamin D, even as you appropriately use sunscreen for

protection! When I see the sun shining as it does during the spring, I feel so much more alive. Yes, I also get the sniffles from pollen as many of us do...but I would not pass up the sunshine! I believe God has made many of us "solar-powered" - when we feel the warmth of the sun on our face, it is as though we have felt the touch of God.

We are not to live (or grieve) as ones without hope, for we believe that Jesus died and rose again. (Paraphrase of 1 Thess 4:13-14) We are resurrection people, so we should be watching for how Jesus is living in and through us, transforming our world just like spring transforms God's creation around us.

Let us live into that hope!

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Kathy Nice
614-507-2626 (mobile)



Seeking Folks Who Want to Serve

When the General Assembly establishes groups to work on particular projects or topics, the persons serving on these special entities are appointed by the GA Co-Moderators. The process of gathering names of those interested in being appointed is managed by the General Assembly Nominating Committee, which is careful to seek a skilled, committed, diverse

membership.

Whom do you know who might be interested in

- the Task Force to Explore the Theology of Ordination,
- the Special Committee on the PC(USA) and Race, or
- the 2020 Guiding Statement Implementation Team

As **valeri izumi**, who staffs the GANC, writes:

As Presbyterians, we are committed to fully representing and embracing the diversity of God's people in all aspects of our church's governance. We especially encourage individuals under the age of 40, people of color, and those with different gender identities to apply. Your assistance by encouraging others or considering putting your name forward for consideration—so that there is a more diverse and inclusive applicant pool for the Co-Moderators to consider—would be greatly appreciated.

In addition to the groups authorized by the 225th GA (2022), there is a need for applicants for these standing and permanent committees:

- Advocacy Committee for LGBTQIA+ Equity, At-large, Class of 2024 and Class of 2026.
- Racial Equity Advocacy Committee, Class of 2026, At-large, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander; and At-large, Hispanic|Latinx|Latina/o

- Review Committee on the Board of Pensions, At-large, Class of 2024
- Review Committee on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation, At-large, Class of 2024.
- Review Committee on the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program, At-large, Class of 2024.

Please prayerfully consider whether God might be calling you or someone you know, and visit the **GA Nominations Portal** to apply.

In Christ's service,

The Rev. Kathy Nice, Transitional General Presbyter

Presbytery of Scioto Valley

614-847-0565 (o) 614-507-2626 (mobile)



Old First Presbyterian Church, 1101 Bryden Road, Columbus is hosting a **mission-day on April 15**. Anyone who is willing to help move unwanted items out of the kitchen storage and clean out kitchen cupboards is encouraged to come over! Please reach out to Rev. Katie Kinnison, **katierkinnison@gmail.com** to offer your assistance. If April 15 doesn't work for you, please also reach out to Katie for optional help dates.

If your church would like to request assistance for a similar project, please reach out to Rev. Kathy Nice, **generalpresbyter@psvonline.org** with a short explanation of the help you would need and a contact person, and we will try to get a group of helpers together.

Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering
Saturday, April 22, 9:30 a.m. – 3.p.m.
Theme: Pursuing God's Dream... of a Healthy Planet
Where All Life Can Thrive.



First Presbyterian Church, 222 North Broad Street, Lancaster, OH 43130. Registration deadline: April 14. Cost \$15.
 Registrar: Betsy Sebastian at 219-208-5602

The stoles, ceramic cups, bowl and plate are free to anyone who can use them. Call 614-907-0512, Thom Shuman, pastor at Galloway Presbyterian Church to make arrangements for pick up.



Insight to Transitional Ministry experienced by the Rev. Don Pendell, honorably retired pastor in Scioto Valley Presbytery.

I am so grateful to God, that of my 94 years of age on this earth, I was able to spend forty of them in the "Transitional Ministry Cor" as it was known then ("Interim Ministry"). In the thirty churches which I pastored since 1964, without moving from my home in Worthington. I witnessed in each church a growth in membership, Sunday school, choir, Vacation Bible School, and youth groups, as well as an increase in giving before I left them with a new pastor. Whether they were full or part-time, or Sunday only congregations, these were "churches in grief," they had lost their pastor and had to work together to keep things running without slowing down.

I averaged three home calls a day and promised each new member a vote in deciding who the new pastor would be. I soon knew many of the elders and pastors of the Presbytery and had been in their homes. As a trustee of the Presbytery, I had a multi-church interest in its business matters. There is still time to register for the "Art of Transition Ministry" on May 22, 2023, scholarships are available. Please enrich your life and ministry by attending. God bless you!



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.*

Mercy Center is a beautiful convent and retreat center which provides: good food for gathering, lovely grounds for unwinding, a labyrinth for spiritual centering, AND great space for meeting and learning from other motivated pastors, CREs, and all who serve the church on committees .

[Read more and register.](#)

Exhibit Locator: Where will Undesign the Redline be next?

An interactive exhibit that explores the history of structural racism caused by the 1938 redlining maps and how this inequality continues to impact our communities today. The exhibit will be open to the public weekdays from 8:30 AM-5:30 PM, with evenings and weekends by appointment, through May 31. More info about the exhibit is available here: [Columbus, Ohio Undesign the Redline Exhibit - YWCA Columbus](#)



Discernment and Design Administrative Commission

As we continue to do this work, about which we will have more to report at the May meeting of Presbytery, we continue to ask you to share stories from your congregations about ways in which your life together exemplifies the Core Values we have identified. You may email us at discernment@psvonline.org.

Core values that the 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.

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.



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.

Dear Retired Minister Members,
I am seeking those who have a love of mentoring and church. Our Commissioned Ruling Elders (CRE) program could use some mentors who are not as busy serving churches presently. If you are in retirement, but still willing to be a part of training up elders to serve churches, I would like to hear from you! Please email Kathy Nice at generalpresbyter@psvonline.org or call the presbytery office at 614-847-0565 or 614-507-2626 (mobile).



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)



Celebrating Ordination Anniversaries.

One of the ministries of the Presbytery Commission for Church Professionals (CCP) is to support the minister members in our Presbytery by celebrating their ordination anniversaries. This month we recognize and lift up in prayer the following ministers who are celebrating the anniversaries of their ordinations to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the month of April.

The Reverend Mary E. Shields – 4-7-1991
The Reverend John Edward Birkner – 4-9-1989
The Reverend Roger C. Au HR – 4-10-2011
The Reverend Ronald N. Johnson – 4-19-1999
The Reverend Mary Gause – 4-27-2003

Mark Your Calendar for Future Events....

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 subgroups behind a banner with their own churches name and neighborhood/town.



LOVE IS LOVE!

Find an affirming
Presbyterian Church
in your neighborhood



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



**Synod of the Covenant
Leadership Development
Workshops [Click here.](#)**

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. Registration will be limited to 20. See the brochure and registration form. Here is the link:

<https://psvonline.org/event/pilgrimage-to-israel-palestine-come-and-see-go-and-tell>

For additional information, contact Rev. Boteler at mgboteler@gmail.com.

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)



The 225th 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-](https://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/proposed-amendments-constitution/)**

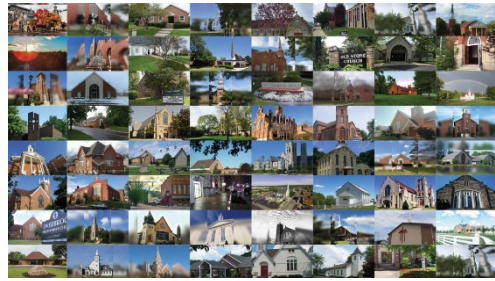
[amendments-constitution/](https://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/proposed-amendments-constitution/)

Here is the updated list of amendments and how they have been voted upon by the other presbyteries.

[Click here for the updated list of amendments\(4-5-2023\).](#)

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.



April 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.

- Columbus, Indianola Presbyterian Church, Pastor Trip Porch
- Columbus, Overbrook Presbyterian Church, Pastors Bill and Mary Gause
- Frankfort Presbyterian Church, Pastor Todd Thomas
- Frankfort Concord Presbyterian Church, Pastor Todd Thomas

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

Commission and Ministry Team Meetings
www.psvonline.org

April

- 17, 7:00 p.m. Discernment and Design Administrative Commission via Zoom.
- 18, 4:00 p.m. Coordinating Team Zoom Meeting.
- 23, 10:00 a.m. Commissioned Ruling Elder Ministry Team Zoom Meeting.
- 25, 1:00 p.m. Commission for Nurture and Outreach Zoom Meeting.
- 27, 10:00 a.m. Commissioned Ruling Elder Ministry Team Zoom Meeting.

2023 Presbytery of Scioto Valley Meeting Dates

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

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

Bill Gause, Stated Clerk, statedclerk@psvonline.org

Bob Patterson, Treasurer, treasurer@psvonline.org

Dagmar Romage, Administrative Assistant, dagmar@psvonline.org

John Wyckoff, Financial Assistant, accounting@psvonline.org

Website: www.psvonline.org - Presbytery Office: 614-847-0565.

Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO) News, Updates and Upcoming Events. Purpose: To provide and nurture educational, connectational, 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.

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.

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: <https://psvonline.org/publication/neighborhood-mission-grant-application/>

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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