

Mid-week E-News April 6, 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.](#)



**"O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!"** (Psalm 118:1). Jesus Christ is risen. And in Christ, we too shall rise. God's steadfast love endures forever!

Dear Friends,

This stands as your reminder: **YOU are the presbytery.** The presbytery has few employees. The rest of the worker-bees of the presbytery are volunteers, who serve churches in many ways – some as pastors and others as clerks of session, ruling elders, deacons, Christian educators. Maybe that is why we are confusing. It's hard to understand so many moving hearts that are working together to achieve more.



The final core value that the Discernment and Design Administrative Commission has presented is **Outreach.** Many of your churches probably have a team that focuses on Outreach. We all try to live into our call to serve God's kingdom through reaching out into the community to serve those who need our help.

- Sometimes that help is very tangible: food, clothing, money.
- Sometimes that help is intangible: prayers, presence at vigils or demonstrations.
- Sometimes that help is made with a larger focus: letter writing or serving on city council, policy-making or policy-commenting, getting systems changed.
- Sometimes that help is a simple focus: talking about why we go to church, smiling at strangers, inviting someone to join you at your lunch table.

[Read more from Kathy.](#)

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](mailto: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.



**NEW WEBINAR!** Urgent climate action can secure a livable future for all —  
The latest report from the IPCC

Webinar Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023  
Time: 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm EDT (6:30

CDT, 5:30 MDT, 4:30 PDT)  
Presenter: Dr. C. Mark Eakin

In March, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released the first parts of the Synthesis Report covering the 6th Assessment Report. The IPCC has now spoken even more clearly that we must act urgently to address the climate crisis to stabilize the climate we leave our children. Despite such urgent pleas, most governments continue to move slowly.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



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](mailto: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](mailto: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

**Lets go on a FIELD TRIP! Faith Formation, Christian Educators, Youth Leaders, and Volunteer and Staff People.**

Do you wonder how other churches organize their resources, costumes, classrooms, resource closets and/or want to see a "Prayer Ground" space? My guess, you are not alone...let's go on a **FIELD TRIP!**

Brittany Porch, Director of Education and Mission at Broad Street Presbyterian Church will walk us through her church spaces, rooms, nook and crannies. Broad Street Presbyterian Church has a "Prayer Ground" where children worship in the Sanctuary – we will be able to see how it is set up and what type of hand-on things are available for children.

**Date: Thursday, April 27 at 10 a.m.**, stay for box lunch (\$15) and network with others in our Presbytery.

**Location:** Broad Street Presbyterian Church, 760 E Broad Street, Columbus

**RSVP** to: [BPorch@BSPC.org](mailto:BPorch@BSPC.org)

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**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](#)

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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](mailto:trip@indianolapres.org)

***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.

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
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Dear Retired Minister Members,  
I am seeking those who have a love of mentoring and the 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](mailto:generalpresbyter@psvonline.org) or call the presbytery office at 614-847-0565.



## Mark Your Calendar for Future Events....



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

**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.](#)

***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](http://www.psvonline.org)

**April**

- 10, 3:00 p.m. Commission for Presbytery Operations Hybrid Meeting.
- 11, 10:00 a.m. Older Adult Ministry Team Zoom Meeting.
- 11, 1:00 p.m. Nominating Committee Zoom Meeting.
- 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.

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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.

**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.

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




**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.

**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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