

Mid-week E-News August 31, 2023



PRESBYTERY *of* SCIOTO VALLEY

SERVING CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN OHIO

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

[Visit our 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)

Dear Friends,

Have you registered yet for the September 26 guest speaker event? (**Preaching to Those Walking Away**) If not, please consider attending if you preach or lead worship. If you had not noticed, our churches are thinning out, and those who consider themselves to have no religion (Nones) or to be done with the church (Dones) are increasing. Those who say they are Spiritual but not Religious are increasing...even among our church members. What can we do about it? [Please register here by September 20](#)



If you are on session, do you know who your church's liaison is with the Commission for Congregational Life? If not, let me know and I will connect you. When was your last session meeting? If it has been more than a few months since the last one, remember that you should be having session meetings at least quarterly. Another item that is missing is the updating of the church registers. When was the last time you looked at the number of active members? Are there names on that roll that you do not know (is that because they haven't been in church for years?)? Active members have responsibilities...are they being accomplished?

Did your church register its commissioner(s) for the next presbytery meeting? One of the General Assembly Co-moderators will be preaching that day. Our

peacemaker will be there to bring a message as well. The Discernment and Design Administrative Commission will be bringing its report. Don't miss this meeting! See you soon!

In Christ's service,
The Rev. Kathy Nice, Transitional General Presbyter
Presbytery of Scioto Valley, 614-847-0565 (office) or 614-507-2626 (mobile)

My position is funded by the generous donations of members and churches who fund our per capita budget. Together we can do more!



Dear Community: The Presbyterian USA Self-Development of People (SDOP) Scioto Valley grant program deadline submittal is October 15, 2023. This unique grant program is designed for participants (called decision makers) of a project to own and control the project. Majority of the decision makers group must reflect a status of low income or unemployment. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at MidOhiosdop@gmail.com. Thank you for your commitment to our communities. Let us all rise together.

Respectfully, Sharon L. Ware, Self-Development of People(SDOP) Scioto Valley

[Go to Forms: SDOP Brochure and Grant Application.](#)

2023 International Peacemaker – September 15-21, 2023.

Once again, Scioto Valley Presbytery is welcoming an International Peacemaker, Amira Barham. You may read about Amira below. [Read all about Amira Barham](#). If your congregation would like to host her for an event, please contact the Rev. Mary Gene Boteler, mgboteler@gmail.com or call/text 740-704-0983. Amira will be engaged with the Israel/Palestine Mission Network on September 18 and will attend the presbytery meeting on September 19, 2023.



[AMIRA's Schedule](#)



**Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll Serving in San Jose,
Costa Rica, Latin American Biblical University
Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission Co-
worker**

Dear companions in mission,

This year is flying by. Here in Costa Rica, we are well into the rainy season, with as yet little effects from the climate changes that are bringing heat waves to many places further north. At the Latin American Biblical University (UBL), we have just finished our second academic term of the year. In addition to the mission class I taught, many administrative tasks are keeping me more than busy as we update our course syllabi and work to expand our outreach. My latest newsletter will be available soon with a taste of what my students and I explored in the course on mission.

This year I will be coming to the United States for the months of November and December. I know these are not the best months for visiting churches, but I am hoping that I will be able to see many folks in person after so many years and share about the work we are doing at the UBL in theological education and climate justice. Please let me know if you would like me to visit. I hope to put my itinerary together soon. Blessings, Karla

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My mailing address is: Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll, Latin America Biblical University,
Apartado 901-1000, San Jose, Costa Rica



Your Discernment & Design team has been meeting throughout the summer and is now finalizing its recommendations regarding the staffing plan, commission structure and budget for the Presbytery of Scioto Valley. We have listened to you in our effort to discern where God is leading, and we look forward to sharing our design recommendations when Presbytery meets on September 19, 2023, at Columbus Covenant Presbyterian Church. We continue to ask your prayers as we do the work you have set before us.



It's a hot August! Time to think about winter coats for kids! Cap City Helping Hands (CCHH) is the Presbytery's grassroots initiative dedicated to improving the lives of children in our central Ohio communities. Open to all individuals and congregations, CCHH relies on the active participation of Presbyterians to achieve our goals. Here is how you can participate:

Again this year, CCHH will offer to all Columbus City School social workers and nurses the opportunity to pick up 10-20 children's winter coats. These "emergency use" coats are for the staff to give to a child when the child comes to school with no coat...which unfortunately happens every day in the school system.

So donate 1, 2 or 10 gently-used or new children's coats to the Presbytery today! We take coats of all sizes, and have a box set up outside the Presbytery office for your donations. Thank you to Liberty P.C., which earlier this summer gave CCHH children's coats from their Father's Day Yard Sale!

Questions? Call or text Connie Jump of Overbrook P.C. at 614-832-4355.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING SOMETHING NEW? "OWLS" ANNOUNCES ITS 2023 SEASON OF COURSES . OWLS (Older, Wiser, Lifelong Scholars)

is accepting enrollment for its 28th season of diverse and unique 2-day and 1-day courses for seniors who want to learn new things and make new friends. Supported by Ohio Living Westminster-Thurber, these 8 courses will take place during the month of October in the new Heritage Pointe building at 655 Neil Ave. Tuition for a 2-Day course is \$30.00 per course, and for a 1-day is \$15.00. Optional lunch (\$16.00) and snacks are also offered.



This year's courses, taught by regional and national experts in their fields, involve sessions on **Artificial Intelligence (AI), Climate Change, Poetry, Appalachian Folk traditions, Cybersecurity, "What Makes a Hero", and Names, Image, and Likeness in Sports**. The season will kick off with a concert on September 27 of Appalachian folk music, by the Paul Brown Appalachian Folk Group.

The courses are engaging and fun, so consider taking one or more courses this October and becoming an OWLS! For more information, on the courses, dates, faculty, and registration forms go to: www.owls.coursestorm.com or call (614) 579-2557.

Presbyterian response to Maui wildfires continues. ‘It can make a very powerful difference to know people have got your back’ by Darla Carter | *Presbyterian News Service*

LOUISVILLE — A community in Upcountry Maui that endured a wildfire at the same time as Lahaina is receiving a helping hand from concerned Presbyterians who are answering the call to **donate** to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA).

Two disaster assistance grants have been approved and the **Presbytery of the Pacific**, which works in conjunction with PDA, is staying in close contact with the Po’okela Church, a United Church of Christ congregation in the north-central portion of the island. The church is led by the Rev. Dr. Kimberly Fong, a Presbyterian pastor who “has really been emerging as an extraordinary leader in this moment,” said the Rev. Heidi Worthen Gamble, the mission catalyst for the Presbytery of the Pacific.

[READ MORE](#)

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 86 churches with a membership of 12,817 (updated March 20, 2023). 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.





Columbus Ramseyer Presbyterian Church celebrated twenty years of faithful ministry on August 23, 2023.

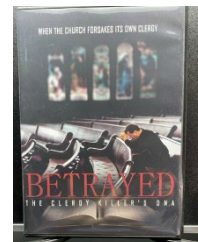
Commission for Church Professionals News, Updates and Upcoming Events. Purpose: To foster the faith and vitality of those who are called to professional ministry pastors, associate pastors, designated pastors, interim pastors, honorably retired teaching elders, stated supply, temporary supply, teaching elders in specialized ministry, inquirers, candidates, commissioned ruling elders, certified Christian educators, and ministers at large.

**Movie Screening and Discussion for Pastors
When the church forsakes its own clergy.
(Zoom registration link)**

September 21, 2:00 PM (bit.ly/PSVSept21)

The anxiety in today's church culture has created an environment which fosters the growth of Clergy Killer dynamics.

Together, let's learn to identify how this happens and then let's support one another as we reduce the anxiety in our setting.



This workshop is for Pastors, CRE's, worship leaders, and those who are responsible for planning or overseeing worship in our churches. September 26, 2023, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Worthington Presbyterian Church in Hazleton Hall, enter double doors on the north side of the building.(lunch included, \$5 per person requested)

Preaching to Those Walking Away. N. Graham Standish will present an in-person workshop for those wrestling with leading churches during this time of Nones and Dones and the Spiritual but Not Religious, Graham will use material from his newest book, "Preaching to Those Walking Away", to guide us to find ways to speak to others in this new era.

[Please register here by September 20](#)

August 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.



Jacob's Porch, Campus Ministry, Pastor Taylor Barner
Columbus, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Pastor Joel Esala
Hilliard, Presbyterian Church, Pastor Katherine Kinnison
Sunbury, Condit Presbyterian Church, Pastor Wayne Morrison
Delaware, First Presbyterian Church, Pastor Emily Corzine
Delaware Liberty Presbyterian Church, Pastor Christopher Atwood



Join our Presbytery-wide Prayer Group

"Do you believe in prayer? Come on down..." Jesus (Matthew 26:40). **We meet by phone each Tuesday at 10:00**

a.m. 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.

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.

Share your story/news? Congregations, Commissions and ministry teams are encouraged to submit items of interest to dagmar@psvonline.org

Mark Your Calendar for Future Events....

[Upcoming Synod Programs and Ministry.](#)

SOC@SynodoftheCovenant.org

Synod
of the
Covenant

With the theme **Walking in New Shoes**, **Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network Conference (POAMN's) 2023** conference hopes to inspire you to serve God, your church, and your community in different ways. Join us September 14 and 15, 2023, at Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church outside of Detroit. Many details about the conference including registration are available now on our **website**. **See the agenda and speaker list!**



Youth Winter Retreat at Camp Akita
Saturday, November 18 @ 9 a.m. through
Sunday, November 19 @ 1 p.m.

Camp Akita 29746 Logan-Hornsmill Rd, Logan, OH.
 Watch for Registration late Summer. For more information please contact the Reverend Steve

Brand - **SBrand@pts.edu**.

Commission and Ministry Team Meetings

[Click here for Website Calendar.](#)

August

- 31, 12noon Hanging Rock Lunch, Chillicothe
- 31, 3-5 p.m. Church Professionals Fireside Chat, Rusty Bucket, Clintonville.

September

- 4, 12:30 p.m. Commission for Church Professionals Zoom Meeting.
- 4, 3:00 p.m. Commission for Congregational Life Zoom Meeting.
- 11, 3:00 p.m. Commission for Presbytery Operations Hybrid Meeting.
- 10, 1:00 p.m. Nominating Committee Zoom Meeting.
- 12, 10:00 a.m. Older Adult Ministry Team Meeting.
- 12, 4:00 p.m. Coordinating Team Zoom Meeting.
- 19, 3:00 p.m. Presbytery Meeting, Columbus, Covenant Presbyterian Church.
- 26, 1:00 p.m. Commission for Nurture and Outreach Zoom Meeting.
- 28, 3:00 p.m. Church Professionals Fireside Chat, Rusty Bucket, Clintonville.

2023 Presbytery of Scioto Valley Meeting Dates

- September 19, 2023, Columbus, Covenant Presbyterian Church.
- November 28, 2023, Washington Court House, First Presbyterian Church.

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

[Click here to contact your Presbytery Staff and Officers.](#)

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.

[Special Offerings Season in 2023.](#)

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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