

## Mid-week E-News November 16, 2023



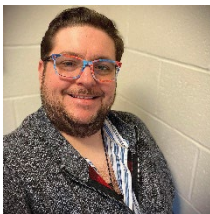
PRESBYTERY *of*  
SCIOTO VALLEY

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)



### **Pastors Installation Service. Save the date!**

The Installation Service for the Reverend Samuel Monte is scheduled for Sunday, November 19, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., as pastor at Condit Presbyterian Church, located at 15102 Hartford Road, Sunbury, OH 43074. There will be a reception to following the service. The Installation worship service are services of the Presbytery, so the more members we have in attendance, the more it feels like we mean to be welcoming to our colleague. Celebrate, come, and attend. I hope to see you there!

Dear Friends,  
God is so good...and the Holy Spirit works in amazing ways. A good many of the pastoral leaders and I just returned Tuesday from the professionals' retreat where we learned how to lead and preach in situations of trauma.

As we were preparing to leave Hocking Hills, we learned of the tragic accident along I-70 which took the lives of three students, two chaperones, and a teacher on their way to perform at the Ohio School Board Association meeting.

While the families immediately impacted were from out of our area, we all were touched by the horror. Seeing burned out wrecked vehicles, hearing from



Kathy Nice

children who were on the bus, and dealing with miles of traffic backups, we all were pulled into the feelings of the situation.

Everyone deals with trauma in different ways, but the one thing we all need to do is to keep our focus on God in the midst of difficulties. If we keep our hearts open, we can talk to others for support, and we can recognize that many of the stories in the Bible show us that in bad situations, God is still present.

We have all been through a big pandemic. We are all different than we were before March 2020. Our churches are all different also. That means that we all have some adjusting to do. We cannot force our churches to "go back to normal," because that normal no longer exists. We are all a part of that change.

I hope that you will recognize the changes, even mourn the loss of what was, but give yourself permission to accept what now is. We are all in this together...and so is God. Let's offer grace to our pastors, to those who are still in mourning, and then continue to welcome the new things that God is doing in our midst.

I will see you in First Presbyterian Church of Washington Court House on Sunday morning, then at Condit Presbyterian Church in Sunbury where we will install new pastor, Rev. Samuel Monte, at 3 p.m. Next week, I will be on vacation, but will be back for the presbytery meeting the following Tuesday.

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!*

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**November 28, 2023**  
**Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) Stated Meeting,**  
**First Presbyterian Church, Washington Court House, Ohio.**  
**Pre-Presbytery session on Earth Care.**

**Come, Celebrate, and be Inspired!**

The Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO) will be hosting a pre-presbytery session on November 28th focusing on Earth Care. It is easy to be overwhelmed by a subject so intractable but, nevertheless, so important as climate change; however, we have found that some PSV churches are taking significant action in response to the challenge. Come, celebrate, and learn about the initiatives our PSV churches are undertaking. From pollinator gardens to tree planting and energy audits to solar power, the testimonies of various church representatives might inspire you to envision the ways your church can become an Earth Care congregation. **The 90-minute session will**

**begin promptly at 1:45 and finish by 3:15** allowing commissioners time to be seated prior to the start of the presbytery meeting.

The session will also be available virtually via Zoom. Register in advance for this meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?secret=ihqzsoGdMjSx02iethPg0IOITGnDzo>

## **Celebrating PSV Congregations work at the November 28 at the Presbytery meeting!**



The presbytery's Matthew 25 work group is gathering stories of how PSV congregations are practicing earth care and environmental sustainability. Does your church have a pollinator garden, recycling program, alternative energy system, environmental education program, etc.? If so, we want to hear from you so we can celebrate your work at the November presbytery meeting. Email your information to CNO Chair Stephen Hills at [stephen.m.hills@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.m.hills@gmail.com) or Tina Johnson at [tinarjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:tinarjohnson@gmail.com)

Woven Together in Christ's Service



### **Read the Discernment & Design report!**

[www.psvonline.org/presbytery-meetings-resources/](http://www.psvonline.org/presbytery-meetings-resources/)

Your Discernment & Design Administrative Commission thanks you for the many questions and comments we have received since we presented our report at the September Presbytery meeting. Your input throughout this process has provided the basis for the work we have

done. We are looking forward to the November 28 meeting when Presbytery will vote on the proposed Structural Design for Mission and Ministry. At that time, our work as a Commission will end, but our commitment to the future of our Presbytery will continue as, with you, we seek to be faithful to where God is leading.

***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.

**Note from CCL Chair Yvonne Gustafson:** I'd like to introduce you to Practical Church Resources <https://www.prcli.org/>. They offer a variety of webinars for church leaders and laity. Here are a couple of them that you may find of interest.

### **Mission Possible for the Small Church: Simplifying Leadership & Structure**

Date & Time Nov 9, 2023 02:00 PM in Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Description: Leader - Kay Kotan Small churches also have what we refer to as a superpower that large churches can't touch: the ability to be highly relational from the get-go. Too often, small churches concentrate on what they can't do. We offer this resource to lift up what small churches can do! For example, smaller churches have greater percentages of participation, giving, and engaged members than larger churches, according to the 2020 FACT study. Unfortunately, many resources for churches and church leaders are created for larger churches. This resource has been created specifically for the small church to learn how to leverage their superpowers and live into their callings as vital, healthy churches having God-sized impact in their communities. Kay Kotan is the founder of You Unlimited (coaching, consulting and training company) and Impressions Unlimited (mystery worshiper company). She is also the creator of The Greatest Expedition – a collaboration of more than twenty thought leaders providing resources and insights for a congregational journey to develop new MAPS (ministry action plans) to reach new people in your community. Kay has also launched Multipliers' Movement – a gathering of kingdom multipliers for sharing, equipping, and encouraging. She is a CoachU and Advanced CoachU Graduate, an accredited coach (PCC: Professional Certified Coach) with the ICF, International Coaching Federation, a Certified Path 1 Coach, and once served on the faculty at Coaching4Clergy. As a passionate lay person, she has a banking background and has been a business owner for more than 25 years. Kotan has served as a church developer for conferences and worked with churches, pastors, conferences, and judicatory leaders across the country for more than a decade.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Px8orKDas6u8tdHIJRE01Q#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Px8orKDas6u8tdHIJRE01Q#/registration)

**Share your story/news?** Congregations, Commissions and ministry teams are encouraged to submit items of interest to [dagmar@psvonline.org](mailto:dagmar@psvonline.org)



**Available to you.** 120 *Hymns of Faith* hymnals are available from First Presbyterian Church Pataskala. Hymnals can be picked up at the church Wednesday or Thursday, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Please call the church office at 740-927-4796 to arrange the pick up time.

***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.



**HELP WANTED!**

Please join us in prayer and publicity about two positions for which the Synod of the Covenant is seeking amazing candidates.

**1/ Director, Cultivating the Gift of Preaching**

**Initiative**

This position will oversee the ministry to identify, train, and support 140 new preachers throughout the Synod from 2024-2028, as a result of our new Lilly Grant. It is half-time and includes full board of pensions benefits. Interested parties should contact [chip@synodofthecovenant.org](mailto:chip@synodofthecovenant.org) or 309-530-4578. Candidates will be considered beginning 12/1/23, with a projected start date of early 2024. For more information, please visit [Equipping Preachers | Synod Of The Covenant \(synodofthecovenant.org\)](https://www.synodofthecovenant.org/EquippingPreachers).

**2/ Commissioned Ruling Elder/Commissioned Pastor**

**Coordinator.** The purpose of the CRE Coordinator is to work with and among the Synod's presbyteries to identify (encourage ruling elders into this expanded ministry), train (build skills), and support (spiritually nurture) CREs to live out their call to serve churches. It is ten hours/week. Interested parties should contact [chip@synodofthecovenant.org](mailto:chip@synodofthecovenant.org) or 309-530-4578. Candidates will be considered beginning 12/1/23, with a projected start date of early 2024. Contact Chip Hardwick at 248-729-2415 (main), 309-530-4578 (cell) [chip@synodofthecovenant.org](mailto:chip@synodofthecovenant.org)

[CRE Coordinator Job Description.](#)

[Director Job Description.](#)



### **"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 the Reverend Don Pendell.

### **November 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.

Oak Hill Presbyterian, Horeb and Bethel Presbyterian, Pastor Linda Plummer  
Oak Moriah and Sardis Presbyterian, Pastor John Birkner  
Portsmouth First Presbyterian Church, Pastor Ron Johnson  
Portsmouth Second Presbyterian Church, Pastor Allision Bauer

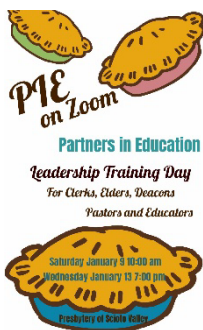


***Commission for Nurture and Outreach (CNO) News, Updates and Upcoming Events. Purpose:*** To provide and nurture educational, connectional, and outreach opportunities, which promote growth in discipleship, encourage congregational mission partnerships, and support special areas of ministry, such as peacemaking, youth and campus ministry.

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

**Calling all college students!** Have you heard about Montreat College Conference? Every year college students from across the nation gathering the mountains of Western North Carolina for four days of worship, fellowship, and sabbath. We invite you to join Rev. Taylor Barner and Jacob's Porch at the Ohio State University for this incredible conference taking place January 2-5, 2024. **Register today by contacting Taylor directly via email/phone before November 25th.** We look forward to meeting you! Taylor Barner, Campus Minister, Jacob's Porch - 45 E 13th Ave., Columbus, OH 43201. Cell: 412-613-0835. [www.jacobsporch.com](http://www.jacobsporch.com).





**Save the Date for Partners in Education (PIE)**  
**Saturday, January 20, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
**2070 Ridgecliff Road, Columbus, OH 43221**  
**Leadership Training for:**  
**Clerks, Elders, Deacons, Educators and more!!**

[Register Here.](#)



[SOC@SynodoftheCovenant.org](mailto:SOC@SynodoftheCovenant.org)

## Commission and Ministry Team Meetings

[Click here for Website Calendar.](#)

### November Meetings

18-19 Presbytery-wide Youth Winter Retreat.

21, 1:00 p.m. Commission for Nurture and Outreach Zoom Meeting.

23, **Give Thanks** - Presbytery office closed for Thanksgiving Day.

### **November 28, 2023 Presbytery Stated Meeting, First Presbyterian Church, Washington Court House, Ohio.**

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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.

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

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

**Special Offerings Season in 2023.**



**GIVING  
TUESDAY**

Save the Date  
November 28, 2023

**Giving Tuesday**, which is being observed today in more than 150 countries, exists for one purpose: to celebrate and encourage giving.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

**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/>

**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

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



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