

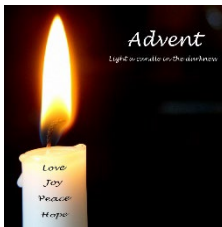
Mid-week E-News December 5, 2024



PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY PURPOSE STATEMENT

As a body of Christ, the Presbytery of Scioto Valley is a trusted and responsive spiritual community building connection and creating vitality across all and within

each of our diverse congregations.



I have heard many people say that Jesus must be about to return because the world is a mess! Let me reassure you that I do not know the day or the time that Jesus will return (nor does Jesus, honestly, - see Acts 1:6-7).

However, the prophets also knew the world to be a mess. If you read any of the prophetic books in the Old Testament, you will find chapter after chapter of God's people being called back into obedience. Things tend to go awry when we

forget to focus on God's will instead of our own. This is especially difficult in this build-up to Christmas. I led a Bible study on the minor prophets and kept hearing, "Wow! This is just like today!" It was both ironic and sad.

We have all kinds of activities that call to us – children's chorus and band concerts, tree lighting, special church services to plan for and attend, shopping, wrapping, baking, cleaning, decorating, (are you tired yet?) ... so many that we often forget the call of our Creator in the turbulence of the day. We can block out the mess of the world in our desire to have a picture-perfect Christmas season. However, Jesus was not born in a picture-perfect situation. The political situation was nasty, the people were being taken advantage of by tax collectors and the government, the church (temple) was not listening well to God either.

So, what shall we do? Let's slow down, recall our focus on God, and recognize that no matter what condition the world is in, what is profoundly important is the condition of our hearts. Prepare the way of the Lord, friends; prepare the way of the Lord in your hearts! There you shall find peace.

In Christ's service,

The Rev. Kathy Nice, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Scioto Valley

Presbytery Makes An Impact with CWS Clean Up Buckets.

A huge thank you to all who provided 141 clean up buckets Church World Service. Congregations and individuals also contributed \$2,295 for this project through Church World Service. Thank you!!! The buckets were successfully picked up the Friday after the Presbytery meeting and transported to their destination. Thank you to Covenant Presbyterian church for housing them through the week. We know many of you also have contributed to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and for that we are grateful for your generosity!

Rev. Emily Krause Corzine (she/her) Presbyter for Congregational Life and Transitions Presbytery.
614-847-0565 (office) or 380-206-4822 (cell)



Per Capita Update from Elder Bob Patterson, Presbytery Treasurer.

The Presbytery approved an increase in Per Capita for 2025 to \$44.00 per member. The Per Capita is made up of: Presbytery of Scioto Valley \$29.76, Synod of the Covenant \$3.40, and General Assembly \$10.84. Each church's total Per Capita is calculated on the number of members on the church roll as of December 31, 2023, as reported through the annual Statistical Report. More information will be coming soon.

Commission for Presbytery Operations Update, Jim Hines, Chair.

At last week's Presbytery meeting, I mentioned that the Commission for Presbytery Operations was working to see if we could put together an "insurance pool" for the churches in our Presbytery. We are aware that several churches have learned that their insurance is being cancelled for no apparent reason or that their premiums are going up significantly. To date, we have been addressing these issues on a "one-off" basis – working with individual churches to help with their insurance. To put together an "insurance pool" to benefit all the PSV churches, we need to collect information on each church (age, type of roof, boilers, etc.). We also need to know if you have written policies for "Sexual Harassment" and for "Child and Youth Protection" since one of our primary insurance carriers requires this a condition of providing insurance coverage.

IF YOU INTERESTED in joining an "insurance pool," would you please complete and return the attached survey form. Please send it either to Dagmar in the PSV offices or directly to me at jhines1116@gmail.com. If you have any questions regarding this program or your insurance needs in general, please contact me at jhines1116@gmail.com or at 614-620-4975.

CAP City Helping Hands Update, Patti Nussle

West High Holiday Store. Your Cap City Helping Hands ministry has been gathering gifts to stock the West High Holiday Store on December 9-13. You can help by donating gifts for the kids to purchase with the "Bucks" they have earned for good behavior. This year, we need sporting balls (soccer, football, basketball), ear buds, and Bath & Body Works lotions. You can drop your items at the Presbytery office or call Jim Benney of Westminster P.C. at 614-886-4568.

After the November Coat Drive – A Visit to One School. Yesterday, after being buzzed into the visitor's door, I plopped down two contractor-size bags of coats and a bag of knitted headgear and said, "Hi, I am here from the Presbyterian church with coats for you. Your social worker called and asked for more." It was 26 degrees outside. At noon.

I wish I could adequately convey to you the grateful, excited, eager responses from the school secretary, the security officer, the social worker, and her students who came to help carry the bags, the parents in the waiting room with me, and everyone else within earshot. The principal was not in the building, otherwise the staff would have had me wait to accept their thanks. "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"

It is a joy and an honor to represent all of you when we deliver coats on behalf of the Presbytery to schools in the Columbus City School system.

HELP! Westerville First Presbyterian church **needs candelabras for the Christmas Eve Service.** We do not use handheld candles (fire department rule years ago) and so we put six candelabras around the sanctuary to be lit when the lights go down. If you have are not using yours, we would like to arrange to use them for Christmas Eve. Contact the Rev. Nancy Dumford nancy.dumford@gmail.com or call (614) 425-2552.

Free Christmas Harp Concert. December 10, 2024, at 7 p.m. Presented by Westminster Presbyterian Church. 222 Schoolhouse Lane, Columbus, Ohio 43228. Abigail Bachelor began her studies in music on piano at age 3, followed by harp at age 7. Throughout the years she has competed

in numerous competitions, nationally and internationally, as well as performing with numerous orchestras, ensembles, and harp duos. Abigail received her bachelor's degree in Harp Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada. Most recently she received her master's degree in Classical Harp Performance from the Manhattan School of Music in New York.

December 11, 2024, 5:30 p.m. EST

Migration Accompaniment Ministries, Office of Public Witness invites you **NOW WHAT?** A PCUSA Town Hall on protecting Immigrant and Refugee rights near and far.

What should I do to prepare? What resources are there? What is the future of sanctuary?

Registration:

<https://bit.ly/PCUSATownHall>



Friends,

Someone using email address pstofficeonline00@gmail.com is pretending to be me. Be assured that this is not me! I am not seeking favors from you discreetly. Please be aware of email scams especially at this time of year. Grace and Peace, Rev. Kathy Nice, mobile 614-507-2626

2025 - Coming Events - Mark your calendar now!

January 11, 2025. Church Officers Training.

Registration is now open for the Presbytery Church Officer Training on Saturday, January 11, 2025. We will have check-in starting at 9:00 a.m., and the event will finish by 11:30 a.m. Classes for elders and deacons will be held at two locations - Gahanna Mifflin Presbyterian Church and Chillicothe First Presbyterian Church. Please share this flyer [Church Officer Training](#) Sign up now.!

[Church Officers Training - Sign Up Here.](#)

March 1, 2025 - PIE (Partners in Education) Event.

"Visions and Dreams" PIE (Partners in Education) will be Saturday, March 1, 2025, at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Columbus with registration at 9:00 am. The event lasts until 2:30 pm and the \$20 cost includes lunch from Freedom a la Carte. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Corey Schlosser-Hall, Presbyterian Mission Agency's Deputy Executive Director of Vision, Innovation and Rebuilding. Eight exciting workshops will be offered, four in the morning and four in the afternoon, including Matthew 25 issues, children and youth ministry, a youth adult panel, making your church more visible, chair yoga, Lenten prayer practices and more. Registration will open on January 6. Please share the flyer **PIE 2025**

Please put this on your calendar and spread the word!

February 22, 2025, Faith and Finance, February 22, 2025

[Learn more about the Faith and Finance Event.](#)

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley includes 83 churches with a membership of 12,175 (updated March 6, 2024). 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.



The Presbytery staff is working in the office and we are available by email or phone at 614-847-0565. Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

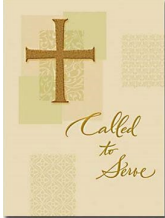
www.psvonline.org

[Click here for the Meeting/Event Calendar.](#)

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

[Click here to view the Presbytery Structure](#)

[Read about the Core Values](#)



December Prayer List for Scioto Valley Presbytery 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.

Metro East pastors and congregations.

Columbus, Christ Presbyterian church, Pastor Pam Patterson

Columbus, Korean Presbyterian church, Pastor Joon Won Lee

Columbus, Ramseyer Presbyterian church, Pastor Justice Ofosuhene

Gahanna, Mifflin Presbyterian church, Pastor Lisa Eye

Lithopolis, Bloom Presbyterian church, Worship Leader

Pickerington, Prince of Peace Presbyterian church, Worship Leader

Reynoldsburg, Unity Presbyterian church, Pastor Andrew Smith

Westerville, First Presbyterian church, Pastor Nancy Dumford

Westerville, Central College Presbyterian church,

Pastors Malcolm Davis and David Redding

Ordination Celebration Anniversaries in

December. One of the ministries of the Presbytery Commission on Ministry (COM) is to support the minister members in our Presbytery by celebrating

their ordination anniversaries. This month we recognize and lift in prayer the following ministers who are

celebrating the anniversaries of their ordinations to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

The Reverend Keith Jones – 12-1-2007

The Reverend Amy Miracle – 12-1-1991

The Reverend Dr. Edward K Lewis Sr. – 12-5-2021

The Reverend Philip L. Bougher HR – 12-8-1974

The Reverend Dallas M. Dryburgh HR – 12-8-1991

The Reverend Mathias Akih – 12-3-2006

The Reverend Laurence E. Miller Jr. HR – 12-17-1967

The Reverend Jane Johnson – 12-19-1999

The Reverend Larry L. Wickliff HR – 12-28-1969

The Reverend Mrs. Carol R. Weiss HR – 12-29-1967



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

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, Matthew25 programs, and more from our presbytery.

[Click here for Presbytery Calendar.](#)



The Synod of the Covenant
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Be sure read the latest news..

SOC@SynodoftheCovenant.org

[Visit General Assembly Website.](#)



[Presbyterian Disaster Relief Information](#)



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