

Mid-week E-News January 9, 2025



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.



The Commission on Justice, Outreach and Education (CJOE)

January 11, 2025. Church Officers Training.

Chillicothe event postponed until February 8, 2025.

The Presbytery Church Officer Training will be held this Saturday, January 11, at Mifflin Presbyterian Church in Gahanna. We will have check-in starting at 9:00 a.m., and the event will finish by 11:30 a.m., with classes for elders and deacons.

The training at Chillicothe First Presbyterian Church has been postponed to Saturday, February 8. If you signed up for that event, you are welcome to attend Mifflin this Saturday OR re-register for the February 8 event (a link will be in the next newsletter).

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

Overbrook Presbyterian Church - "A Musical Offering" We would like to invite you to our first event of "A Musical Offering" which will feature live musical concerts for the enjoyment of the Overbrook congregation and the surrounding community. The programs will be designed to provide space for rest and renewal through the power of music. The first program will take place on Sunday, January 12, at 3:00 p.m., in the Great Room, 4131 N. High Street, Columbus. Featured artists will be the Jake Reed Jazz Trio and the Overbrook String Quartet.

focused on the music of George Gershwin. These programs will provide an opportunity to refresh in the presence of great music and all concerts are free and open to the public.



Would you like a preview of the Good Futures Accelerator?

Friday, February 28, 2025, at the Presbytery office, in Overbrook PC Fellowship Hall. The Good Futures Accelerator is a gamified (read FUN), dynamic, and proven course that allows congregations to align money and mission by exploring how to creatively use their buildings and property to further align their mission and build financial resilience. The process aids in

discerning how to steward God's land and properties for community benefit, develop social enterprises as part of your Gospel mission, and diversify economic models for a new era.

Dr. Corey Schlosser-Hall, deputy executive of vision and innovation (PCUSA), will be in town for PIE and has offered to show our churches this new tool. He will offer two presentations on Friday, February 28, in the Fellowship Hall of Overbrook Presbyterian Church. You will be able to see some of the materials and ask questions. Afternoon presentation, Noon to 2 p.m., lunch will be provided. The evening presentation, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., dinner will be provided. You **MUST pre-register** so we order the right quantity of food. The event is at NO CHARGE to you. Please register by emailing dagmar@psvonline.org and let us know which presentation you plan to attend.

February 22, 2025 - Faith and Finance Event

Here's the link to the Presbyterian News Service story, just published:

<https://pcusa.org/news-storytelling/news/regional-educational-forums-tackle-financial-challenges-changing-church>

[Register Here for the Faith and Finance Event](#)

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

"Visions and Dreams" PIE (Partners in Education) Saturday, March 1, 2025, at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Columbus with registration at 9:00 am. The event lasts until 2:30 p.m. 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.

Please put this on your calendar and spread the word!

Register for the PIE event.



Dear Friends,

I saw this recently and it really resonated with me. I wonder how it hits you. Please let me know your thoughts. This was written by Tom Fuerst, a Methodist sibling in Christ.

"I believe it is a fundamental misunderstanding of the pastor's job to assume that s/he is primarily paid by the church to meet the church's endless felt needs in a Capitalist society. We run ourselves ragged fulfilling everyone's desires, playing PR for Jesus, and acting as the CEO of a religious non-profit.

The pastor's singular job is calling the church to be the church - a cruciform, suffering, grieving, hoping, praying, gentle, truth-telling, alternative people. We do this by attentiveness to and participation in the movement of God in people's lives, in our local communities, and our world.

If I am a religious CEO or a PR rep for Jesus, then I am being paid to stay busy. But if my job is attentiveness to the work of God then that requires silence, stillness, slowness, sacred conversation, study, and prayer -- none of which are valued in our hyper-productive, always-working-but-never-arriving, Capitalist society.

But most churches don't want pastors as I'm defining them. And, frankly, most pastors do not want this either. The church would not feel like it is getting its money's worth (of course, "worth" as defined by Capitalism). And pastors would not feel like they are being useful (of course, "useful" as defined by Capitalism). We do the ministry of the church to feel useful, but thereby, we alleviate the conscience of the church for, well, their refusal to actually do the ministry of the church. So we keep plodding away. Proving our "usefulness." Friars of felt needs. Chaplains of Capitalism. Priests of productivity.

But make no mistake. None of that makes us pastors. And THAT is why we are all burned out, depressed, fatigued, and unexcited about Jesus. We are doing work God never called us to do."

In Christ's service,

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

knice@psvonline.org 614-847-0565 (office) or 614-507-2626 (mobile)



Older
Wiser
Lifelong
Scholars

OWLS are known for being wise. I am sure you have heard or used that kind of expression to describe a person. At **Ohio Living Westminster-Thurber** - we embrace lifelong learning. It is at the center of who we are. And learning is a hoot!

The **OWLS school** is offering the **2025 Wisdom Wednesday series**. I want to encourage you to join a class or two. See the attachment below to see the opportunities that are available to you and to register. These classes are done virtually. So invite a friend or two to your home, sit back once a month and discover something new and learn to expand your knowledge.

Owl School - Wisdom Wednesday Series for 2025.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Volunteer Work Trip Planning Team. If you are interested in being part of the planning team for a Presbytery-wide PDA volunteer work trip in 2025, please contact Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, emily@psvonline.org. The Commission for Justice, Outreach, and Education (CJOE) is forming a group within the Presbytery to plan, recruit volunteers, and engage this opportunity in 2025. Watch this space for more information once details are in place and how you can volunteer. Be part of the planning process, contact Emily.

Read the letters from Mark Hare and Jenny Bent, mission co-workers serving in Costa Rica. [Mark Hare and Jenny Bent](#)

Employment Opportunities

Job Posting for Sunday school Church Children's Educator at Highlands Presbyterian Church, Columbus, OH (Northwest Side). The Sunday school Church Children's Educator oversees the Sunday school program for children from preschool through eighth grade. This is an approximate five hours per week commitment which includes planning and Sunday morning in classroom time. \$17.00-\$19.00 an hour.

- Experience as a church Sunday school educator or similar role preferred.
- Must be able to prepare a curriculum with a Christian focused agenda and consult with senior leaders about goals.

- Must be able to work with a wide age range of students as well as varying levels of biblical knowledge.
- Be friendly and encouraging mentor to our children.
- Be able to conduct the class independently.

Send your resume to rcarr@aca.aaa.com

First Presbyterian Church of Gallipolis has an opening for an Administrative Assistant. This is a 20-hour per week position, with the possibility of full-time through position sharing with another organization. Applicant must be highly proficient in Microsoft Office 365, have excellent oral and written communication skills, possess excellent critical thinking skills, and be able to multi-task while completing high value projects on time. Please send your resume with cover letter to First Presbyterian Church, 51 State Street, Gallipolis, OH 45631, 740-446-1030. Email in PDF format to secretary@gfpc.org. The Presbyterian Church (USA) welcomes and affirms all – minorities strongly encouraged to apply.

Commission for Presbytery Operations Update, Jim Hines, Chair.

At the 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.

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 on Ministry

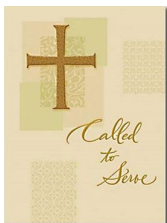
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training, provided by LeaderWise. This is our Boundaries Training offering for 2025 and complies with G-3.0106. **Here is the registration link for you to share with your presbyteries: [Synod of the Covenant – LeaderWise](#).**

The dates are as follows: March 1 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. May 12 & 13 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. May 19 & 20 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. September 17&18 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. October 9&10 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Ordination Celebration Anniversaries in January.

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.

Commissioned Pastor Pam Gillett – 1-1-2023
The Reverend William I. Johnson HR – 1-1-1952
Commissioned Pastor Nancy L. The Revennaugh – 1-1-2023
The Reverend Dr Mary Jane Hitt HR – 1-6-2001
The Reverend Amy House – 1-12-2014
The Reverend Nancy Draves HR – 1-17-1988
Commissioned Pastor Todd Thomas – 1-18-2015
The Reverend Nicole (Nikki) Hogarth – 1-21-2024
The Reverend Jennifer L. Turick – 1-24-1982
The Reverend Elizabeth Maurath – 1-25-2015
The Reverend Deborah Patterson HR – 1-25-2004
The Reverend Jack Lewis Pursell HR – 1-29-1960
The Reverend Emily K. Corzine – 1-31-2010



January 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 South East pastors and congregations.

Amesville-New England Parrish, Worship Leader.

Athens, Alexander Presbyterian Church, Worship Leader.

Athens, First Presbyterian Church, Pastor Robert Martin.

Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church, Pastor Larry Hoffmann.

Gallipolis, First Presbyterian Church, Pastor Ann Moody.

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](#)

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



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

Presbytery of Scioto Valley | 4131 N. High Street, Suite B | Columbus, OH 43214 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!