

Happening Around the Presbytery

May 1, 2019

Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery

907 National Road

Wheeling, WV 26003

304-232-3490

Visit us at www.uovpresby.org

Office Hours: Mon–Thurs, 9:00 am–5:00 pm.

In an emergency after office hours, call 740-381-3074.

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Mike Lenno	Karen Edwards	Frank Lewis	Homer Harden
Gene Toot	Ann Varner	Matt Camlin	Don Thompson
Alice Lucarelli	Susan Lehosky	R. H. "Mac" McCuen	David Brocklehurst
Roger Conroy	Cristy Zimmerman	Sharon Willits	Debbie Hale
Ruth Ellen Bates	Ronn Moccasin	Simon Looking Elk	Dakota Partnership
Lorraine Dill	David Roberts	Jonathan Gracey	Gracey Family
David Stammerjohn	Domasi Partnership	All service men & women	

Pray for our presbyters, family members, and friends hospitalized or in nursing homes.

Pray for peace and an end to violence and hatred.

Pray for our brothers and sisters in Poway, CA.

Pray for those impacted by Cyclone Idai.

Please keep us informed of any prayer concerns you may have.

PRAYER FOR UOVP PASTORS. Select one of these pastors and remember him/her in your prayers this week: Laurie Armstrong, Ruth Ellen Bates, Tim Bauler, Tyler Bayless, Mike Bongart.

PASTORS AND CLERKS OF SESSION: It is now time for sessions to nominate persons to be our presbytery's commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) to the meeting of the **224th General Assembly (2020)** in Baltimore, MD. The General Assembly meeting will take place from June 20 to June 27, 2020. At the June 25, 2019, presbytery meeting, we need to elect one minister commissioner, one ruling elder commissioner, and alternates, and a Young Adult Advisory Delegate. **E-mail your nominations for minister, ruling elder commissioner, and YAAD to the Presbytery Office by May 28 2019.** Applications and info including eligibility have been sent out by e-mail. Apps can be found on our website under Items of Interest. Or, if you need a hard copy, please contact the Presbytery Office.

PRESBYTERIAN OLDER ADULT MINISTRIES Network Newsletter Spring, 2019, "Older Adult Ministry in a Changing Era," [Click here](#) to download and read.

PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY Newsletter April, 2019, control+click here: [Presbyterian Historical Society Newsletter: April 2019](#). A link can also be found on our website under Spotlight.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: Information and an application for the **Russell Scholarship** can be found on our website www.uovpresby.org. Deadline for applications is **MAY 28, 2019**. If you have questions concerning the application, please call Cindy Foster 740-359-2750. Online applications will not be considered.

MONTREAT Conference Center. See our events schedule [here](#).

FRIENDS OF MONTREAT, As April 30th marked the closing of our fiscal year, I'm writing to say **thank you** to the entire community for your generosity. To our many loyal supporters who gave to the Montreat Fund, the rebuilding of Robert Lake Park, the endowment and other funds, as well as those who give so generously of their time - our deepest gratitude. The Montreat experience is not possible without each of you. Every day, new Montreat memories are made. Thank you for making them possible. In gratitude, Seth Hagler, Vice President for Development, seth@montreat.org, 828.419.9803.

PCUSA STORE. New Books for Presbyterians Engaging Cultural Concerns: "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." *Matt 25:35-37* As Presbyterians, we recognize that our faith exists beyond our individual selves. We are a part of communities and a part of a larger culture, and engaging with

those is powerful, but can often seem daunting. To help you take action in the world we've added three new books to our [growing list of resources](#). The first of these is *Neighborhood Church*, which is also the Co-Moderators selection for church-wide book study. This book provides practical and essential tools to inspire churches to become a vibrant and engaging community partner with the families and neighborhoods living around them. You can find an excerpt, a group study guide, and Spanish-language chapter summaries [here](#). Additionally, *Common Ground* provides a calm and compassionate voice to the complex questions surrounding gun violence and includes a guide for individuals and groups to engage this topic. [Read an excerpt](#). And *The Possibility of America* is a theological, cultural, and political analysis of white supremacy, evangelical surrender, and other problems of the Trump era. [Read an excerpt](#). [Browse All Religion and Culture Books](#). Taking Action: This brings us back to the goal set out in the Scripture at the beginning of this letter. How can we help "the least of these"? Earlier this month the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) invited congregations to join the [Matthew 25 Initiative](#). The goal is simple. When a church [signs up and accepts the challenge](#), they engage the world through one or more of three main focuses: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, or eradicating systemic poverty. As a congregation, you set your own plan to engage your chosen focus, and then you [share your story along the way](#). PC(USA) Store has gathered a list of resources to help you with your goals. [Check them out](#). It is truly profound work you and your congregation can set out to do. We can't wait to see your stories!

FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY Pastors' Gathering and Theology Conference: Our strength as a community comes as we gather together for conversations, encouragement, and share questions. The Fellowship Community's mission and core values speak to the importance of building relationships and exploring theological questions related to our Essential Tenets and their impact on our contextual callings. Join us for our two Fall Gatherings. **Pastor's Gathering, Monday, Oct. 14 – Wednesday, Oct. 16**, Cost: \$100. **Theology Conference, Wednesday, Oct. 16 – Friday, Oct. 18**, Cost: \$100. Both conferences at [First Presbyterian Church, San Diego](#). [Register Here](#)

PRESBYTERIAN OLDER ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK 2019 Regional Conference deadline approaching. The Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network (POAMN) 2019 Regional Conference "*Engaging Aging in Today's World*" will be held at St. Leo Abbey, 33601 State Road 52, St Leo, FL, on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. **Registration deadline for this ecumenical conference is May 7, 2019.** Cost \$35.00 per person, housing is available at the **Abbey** in single or double rooms (\$75 single room or \$95 per couple). Details are available on the web at [www.poamn.org](#) in the 2019 Registration brochure. Keynote Speaker, Reverend Ray Jones, Worship Leader, Reverend Jan Banker, and music by George Algozzina, Director of Music, and Project Manager for Adult Lutherans Organized for Action (ALOA). [Download Registration](#)

PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY. A Day with Daniel Hill, Author of *White Awake*. Pittsburgh Seminary will offer two events **May 6** with Daniel Hill, senior pastor of River City Community Church and author of *White Awake*. 1:00-5:00 p.m. Workshop for ministry leaders, "**White Awake: Developing a Discipleship Framework for Awakening to and Confronting the System of Race.**" When it comes to the biblical call for reconciliation, white Christians in particular often feel confused. And when it comes to leading communities of faith, it often feels unclear as to what it means to build disciples that can understand and respond to the impact of race in society as well as within their own sense of cultural identity development. 5:15-6:45 p.m. Dinner, reservations and payment required. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Public presentation, "**Racism and the Church: A Conversation with Daniel Hill and Todd Allen.**" The evening presentation will be a discussion between Daniel Hill and Todd Allen, special assistant to the president and provost for diversity affairs and professor of communication at Messiah College, about racism and the church. All who attend are welcome to join us for a reception after the evening's program to continue conversations with fellow attendees. [Learn more online.](#)

Archaeology Lecture Explores the Jewish Diaspora in Persian Egypt. Our next archaeology lecture will be held May 9 at 7:30 p.m. Professor Karel van der Toorn of the University of Amsterdam will present "**The Jewish Diaspora in Persian Egypt.**" A small Jewish diaspora community lived in the deep south of Egypt in the fifth century BCE. These Jews lived on Elephantine Island and served as soldiers in the army of the Persians—the rulers of Egypt at that time. Until recently, the origin of the Jewish colony on the island was obscure. But a recently translated papyrus from the fourth century BCE has proven to represent a variety of religious and historical texts that allow us to trace the history of the Jews of Elephantine. A true brain-twister, the papyrus is written in Egyptian signs (Demotic), but the words are Aramaic—a Semitic language akin to Hebrew. Due to this most unusual combination of Demotic script and Aramaic language, it took more than a century to solve the riddle of the papyrus. Its newly revealed secrets shine unexpected light on the Elephantine Jews and their Aramean neighbors across the river. The Kelso Museum of Near Eastern Archaeology will be open from 6:30-7:15 p.m. and after the lecture. The lecture and reception to follow are free and open to the public. [Learn more online.](#)

Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor: Why an Israeli Writer Reached Out to Palestinians and What He Heard in Response. Join us **May 13** at 7:00 p.m. for an evening with Yossi Klein Halevi, an American-born Israeli and senior fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Together with Imam Abdullah Antepli of Duke University, he co-directs the Institute's Muslim Leadership Initiative, which teaches emerging young Muslim American leaders about Judaism, Jewish identity, and Israel. Halevi's 2013 book, *Like Dreamers*, won the Jewish Book Council's Everett Book of the Year Award. His latest book, *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor*, is a *New York Times* bestseller. He writes for leading op-ed pages in the U.S., including the *Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*, and he is a former contributing editor to *The New Republic*. This event is co-sponsored with Temple Sinai in Pittsburgh. [Learn more online.](#)

Seminary Celebrates 223rd Commencement. Pittsburgh Seminary will celebrate its 223rd commencement **May 31** at 7:00 p.m. at East Liberty Presbyterian Church. Dr. Molly T. Marshall, president and professor of theology and spiritual formation at Central Baptist Theological Seminary, will present the commencement address. Additionally, the community will observe the Service of Thanksgiving **May 7** at 5:15 p.m. at Eastminster Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Dr. Mark Jefferson will preach. Can't make it to commencement? Join us for the live broadcast. [Learn more online.](#)

Henderson Summer Leadership Conference Addresses "Between the Altar and the World: Interpreting Life Liturgically." From **June 2-5**, the Seminary will present the annual Henderson Summer Leadership Conference. During this year's conference, based on the theme "Between the Altar and the World: Interpreting Life Liturgically," participants will discover how liturgy comes to life beyond the altar; gather for worship, plenary sessions, and lectures; and meet in workshops to investigate the variety of ways liturgy can be offered and embraced by diverse groups. Workshop topics include the church and the neighborhood; cross-cultural ministry and liturgy; disability and liturgy; worship and ministry in small and rural churches; preaching that matters; worship and creation; and youth, children, and worship. In addition to the full conference, on **June 3** at 7:00 p.m., keynoter Cláudio Carvalhaes will present the free, public Henderson Lecture. Carvalhaes is a native Brazilian, theologian, liturgist, and artist who also serves as associate professor of worship at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He has published several books, the most recent of which is titled *What Has Worship Got To Do With It? Interpreting Life, Church and the World Liturgically* (Cascade Books, 2018). [Learn more online.](#)

UNION PRESBYTERIAN SEMINARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE. Is your church creating a better neighborhood? **Created Summit & Workshop Wednesday, May 29, 7 - 9 p.m. & Thursday, May 30, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.** Early Center, Lake Chapel, Richmond Campus. Discover surprising ways you can be a creative force through building businesses and community organizations with your people and spaces. [Click Here for Full Event Details.](#)

[Church Business Administration Seminars](#) **July 23 - August 1, 2019.** Eight core curriculum seminars offered over two weeks at our Richmond campus. These seminars fulfill requirements for those pursuing Certification as a Church Administrator through The Church Network (TCN). However, you do not have to be seeking certification to participate. Online registration is open, whether registering for one or multiple seminars. For more details, [follow this link.](#)

SAVE THE DATE -- SEMINARY FOR A DAY EVENT Saturday, September 28, 2019. Seminary for a Day consists of a full day of keynote addresses and workshops, connections with old friends and new, and a taste of what seminary education is like. The day features presentations from the faculty of Union Presbyterian Seminary at our Richmond campus, with workshop choices in both the morning and afternoon sessions. [Online registration for Seminary for a Day will open June 2019.](#)

Pathways to learning and leadership: Pathways Online Course schedule for 2019-2020 to be released May 2019. These courses are designed to enhance the knowledge and discipleship of church and community members and help with the education of those desiring to become Commissioned Ruling Elders in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

The Leadership Institute is committed to equipping and inspiring church and ministry leaders. Our desire is to foster the continuing, ongoing process of leadership development for pastors, educators, and lay leaders alike. We invite you to explore how we may partner together to strengthen our witness and service to the church in the world. For more information about these and other programs of the Leadership Institute, please visit our [website.](#)
