

Verdery Announces Retirement Plans. [Read Mark Verdery's Retirement Letter Here.](#)

Presbytery Handbook is Available online today. [Click here to download it.](#)

Minister and Educator Retreat Registration is Online. [Sign up now for the October 22-24 retreat.](#) The Bible is full of embarrassing, offensive, problematic texts that present serious interpretive challenges for contemporary Christian faith and practice. Should they be repudiated? Discarded? Silenced? Or are there perhaps more effective and faithful ways of handling them? This retreat will tackle the importance of engaging difficult texts directly, with the expectation that we may encounter the living God in our conversation with them. It will provide the opportunity to wrestle with such texts, to consider interpretive strategies for engaging them with integrity, and to reflect on the authority of Scripture..

Oakland Avenue Agape Youth Choir to Perform. The Agape Choir Mission and Outreach Tour: 'Grounded in Love, Rooted in Faith. The Agape (6-12 grade) Youth Choir of Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill is presenting a program entitled, 'Grounded in Love, Rooted in Faith', as part of the choirs biennial mission and outreach tour. The program is offered locally on Sunday, June 10, at 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 700 N. Main St. in Lancaster, and for tour 'Homecoming' concert at Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church, 421 Oakland Avenue in Rock Hill at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 16. This is also part of the church's 'Music at Oakland' concert series for this year. In addition to these local performances, the choir will be appearing in churches and institutions in Mobile AL, Dauphin, Island, AL; and Blue Ridge, GA, as well as performing a service project with the L'Arche Community of Mobile, AL. The program, consists of anthems and hand bell music selected and organized by the choir members themselves. The entire community is invited to attend. [Find out more.](#)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY How Decisions Get Made: . Sign up here for daily updates! <https://ga-pcusa.org/> The General Assembly is the best way we have of expressing and living our union as Presbyterians in light of our theology, history and tradition as a church. [Read this Presbyterians Today article to Find out all about how decisions get made at General Assembly.](#)
Pre GA Bulletins are available [here](#).

The Jerry Can curriculum nurtures and encourages our children's natural desire to help people in need. Jerry Can represents the one common denominator in all disasters around the world: the need for clean water to survive. The Jerry Can cartoon was created to be a fun, energetic character for children to connect with as they learn how to respond to disasters with prayer and generosity. This five-lesson resource, separated by grade level, makes an excellent program for a Sunday school series or a week-long Bible School. [Find out more.](#)



Only 1 week until summer fun begins at Bethelwoods! Check out all the special camps we have available this year at www.bethelwoods.org including our new Mission:Campossible! Website has descriptions of all the camps we are offering this summer as well as a link to register. If you have any question's please feel free to give us a call at 803-366-3722. Scholarships are available, just call or send us an email at info@bethelwoods.org to request an application.

NEST Newsletter is available online. Check out the [June NEST Newsletter.](#)

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations are invited to join the spirit of the 223rd General Assembly (2018) (GA223) by singing a hymn commissioned for the assembly during their June 17 worship services. The assembly convenes on June 16 and on the next day assembly-goers will visit churches throughout the St. Louis area for morning worship. The new hymn, "Draw the Welcome Circle Wider," by noted Presbyterian hymn-writer Mary Louise Bringle, was commissioned by the GA223's Committee on Local Arrangements (COLA). Presbyterians are well acquainted with Mel Bringle through her hymns, her teaching at conferences, and her service as chair of the Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song, which produced Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal. [Find out More.](#)

Your Home in the Mountains is Getting Air Conditioning! In response to many requests, the board at its May meeting approved a plan to install a mini-split system air-conditioning / heating unit in each of the Kirk Apartments. This will give the guests the ability to control the temperature in each apartment and will make your time spent with us even more enjoyable. The total cost for all of the apartments is approximately \$25,000. WORK HAS ALREADY BEGUN! Your gifts*, in any amount, will be greatly appreciated. You may provide one unit as a memorial or as an honorarium for a loved one for a gift of \$3,200. An appropriate plaque will be placed in the apartment. Families, groups or churches may join together to provide a unit. Please make your check payable to the SC Inn at Montreat and mark the "for" blank "Kirk Apts. AC." SC Inn at Montreat – Special Gifts PO Box 2653, Rock Hill, SC 29732

Eye Clinic in Honduras offers Opportunity to Celebrate and Impact Lives. When Honduran Eyes are Smilin' --yours will be, too!. Though we have most of the expenses covered, we still need to pay for a generator and for the duties required to get the equipment into the country. Celebrate the blessing of renewed vision with us by donating \$10 for every renewed eye in your family. If you have healthy eyes, would you make a thanksgiving offering as well? A special offering will be taken at the presbytery meeting for the Eye Clinic. Would you also present this celebration opportunity to your church family? [See the attached flyer for more information.](#)

Unity Seeks a Coordinator for Congregational Care, Health, and Worship Ministries. In collaboration with the Deacons for Congregational Care and the Congregational Care Team, the Health Ministries Team, and the Worship & Music Team, the Coordinator for Congregational Care, Health and Worship Ministries will oversee Unity's comprehensive programs for congregational care and health, and those associated with worship. This temporary, part-time (hourly), and non-exempt position is regularly scheduled to work 20 hours per week. This position reports to the Senior Pastor / Head of Staff. To apply for this position, please send a cover letter and resume or PIF to – Search@UnityFortMill.org . For a complete copy of the position description, visit Unity's website – www.UnityFortMill.org .

Director of Christian Education Needed. Grace Presbyterian Church, Fort Mill is looking for a half-time Director of Christian Education. The director will maintain and grow our active Children's Ministry and will support the Adult Education program. Youth Ministry is staffed separately. Please spread the word and, if interested, send resume to office@gracefortmill.org

Order Jewelry from Mario. We will be placing another order for PC(USA) Silver Jewelry with Mario Carbajal in July. Order yours by July 15, 2018 for August 15 delivery. Mario does beautiful work and has been a great friend to our mission teams for years. Questions? Contact Barbara Kurz at 803-328-6269. [Find the order form online.](#)

Date	Event	Time	Location
6/7	Children of Abraham	10:30AM	Presbytery Office
6/7	Bethelwoods Ministry Team Meet the Staff Dinner	6PM	Bethelwoods
6/10	Presbytery Meeting	2:30PM	Bethesda (York)
6/12	Hunger Action Team	6PM	Presbytery Office
6/16-23	223rd General Assembly		St. Louis, MO
6/19	PW Coordinating Team	1PM	
8/12	Called Presbytery Meeting	2:30PM	Bowling Green Presbyterian,

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SAVE THE DATE

9/24-26	Stewardship Kaleidoscope		St. Louis, Missouri
10/16	SC5 Leader of Leaders Event	9:30AM-3:30PM	Forest Lake Presbyterian, Columbia, SC
10/22-24	Minister and Educator Retreat		Montreat

Did you see this month's Board of Pensions Connections Newsletter? [Read it here.](#)

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Gleaning Opportunity on June 19. We have probably our final opportunity to glean strawberries on Tuesday, June 19, at 8:30 a.m. in Gaston County. I need only about ten gleaners for this smaller field. If you're interested, please email gleanclt@endhunger.org by 5 p.m. on Monday, June 18th. I'll send more information to those interested on Monday. No need to reply if you cannot make it. Also, if you haven't completed a 2018 Liability Waiver form yet, please do so here (<http://endhunger.org/register>). You need to fill out a waiver each calendar year:

Do you have an older teen that needs something to help fill their summer? Bethelwoods' CIT (Counselor In Training) program could be the answer for you. Participants will dive into Christian leadership and discipleship training as well as child and youth development. This camp will challenge campers to grow in their faith walk as well as learning to help the younger camper grow in theirs as well. To learn more about this amazing summer camp program please give us a call at 803-366-3722 or head to our website at www.bethelwoods.org..

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223rd General Assembly St. Louis is Happening this week.

GA 223 Access Info and Daily Reports from the denomination online at <https://ga-pcusa.org/>.

Check out the Presbyterian Outlook coverage at <https://pres-outlook.org/>

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Do you live with an experienced Bethelwoods camper? Have they been to one of our Adventure Camps yet? Riverwalkers (July 29- Aug 3), Mission: Campossible (July 8-13) may be just the summer adventure they are looking for! There are still spaces available! Check out the Bethelwoods website for more information at 803-366-3722 www.bethelwoods.org



CEU Opportunity and Lay Leader Training at Pathways to Learning and Leadership program at Union Presbyterian Seminary. Nine courses are available to anyone interested in furthering their theological knowledge. Dates are September, 2018 to May, 2019 and Cost is \$100 per 5-week course. Find out more at www.upsem.edu

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Church Store Offers Downloadable Resources Affordable and Accessible Immediately. The downloadable resources available on PC(USA) Store provide your congregation with everything from printable certificates, catechisms for all age levels, and studies and essays for leaders and study groups. We've made some updates to this section of resources to improve your browsing experience. Check these out below and browse through all downloads to find what your church needs. [Find out more.](#)

SC5 Leader of Leaders event with Kate Ott scheduled for October 16th at Forest Lake Presbyterian Church in Columbia. Registration for the event is online at <https://foothillspresbytery.org/sex-faith-event-registration/>. Foothills will be taking all of the registrations. We have 50 spaces and they will be open on a first come first served basis.

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Part Time Pianist Needed at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte. Check out the job description online at [here.](#)

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223rd General Assembly St. Louis News:

Post GA Bulletin inserts for Purchase and Immediate Download: [What happened at the 223rd General Assembly in St. Louis?](#) Cost based on church size.

Check out the Presbyterian Outlook coverage at <https://pres-outlook.org/>

How does Gratitude Change the Face of Stewardship? Find out at Stewardship Kaleidoscope September 24-26 in St. Louis. In her new book, *Grateful, The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks*, Bass weaves together social science research, spiritual wisdom, and contemporary issues as she calls for a richer understanding and practice of gratitude. She will explore the gap between our desire to be grateful and our ability to behave gratefully, and the implications that gap may have on stewardship. This year's [Stewardship Kaleidoscope conference](#) will help you think about generosity in a whole new way. Register before August 1st for lower registration fee!

Do you have an aspiring chef at home? Bethelwoods has a summer camp program for them! Campers get to participate in regular Bethelwoods camp activities, but with an emphasis on cooking! Our Cooking Adventure camp, July 15-20, is for 4th -8th grade completed and spaces are still available! Find more information and register at www.bethelwoods.org



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Special Pricing for Subscribing to Connections: Lectionary Preaching Resource at Church Store. The first two volumes of Connections: A Lectionary Commentary for Preaching and Worship, release this Fall, with the first volume hitting shelves in September. You can pre order now and save 35%, or Subscribe to the series and receive each volume, when published, at 40% off the retail price. For more information and to subscribe, please call 1.800.523.1631.

Montreat offers Free Arts Programming All Summer. Did you know Montreat offers free, public events every summer through our Arts, Music, and Theology initiative? From May 30 to July 31 they are offering free concerts, art workshops, lectures, and film screenings. The Arts, Music, and Theology initiative is a unique collaboration between artists and theologians in Montreat every summer. All of the events are free and open to the public. [See the schedule online.](#)

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7/2	Transitional Presbyter Search Committee	2PM	Presbytery Office
8/12	Called Presbytery Meeting	2:30PM	Bowling Green Presbyterian,
8/16	Bethelwoods Ministry Team	5:30PM	Bethelwoods
8/30	EEMT	11:30AM	Presbytery Office

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