

# PEAKS POSTINGS

## June 16, 2020



We at UKirk continue to be grateful for all of the ways in which Presbytery of the Peaks supports our ministry at VT. Truly this mission is making a difference in the lives of our students and helping to shape the future of the church and of

our country. We continue to meet once a week via zoom and to keep in touch with each other. I wanted to share some thoughts from one of our students, Isaac Zheng. Isaac is a rising Junior and he is part of our leadership team. Isaac writes...

*There are many words that I would use to describe the past semester, uneventful was certainly not one of them. I remember how excited I was about the plans we had for UKirk moving forward, the spring retreat, relay for life, the big event, etc. However, as rumors about an emerging disease grew, all of a sudden, we found ourselves in the grim reality of a pandemic. Classes were shifted online and events got canceled one after another. Like others, I felt numerous emotions: disappointment, apprehension, and even fear. Then, there was a ray of hope. We thought, what if we could continue to meet online, and continue to meet together. Just like that, we did the best we could despite all the constraints. It was always great to see the familiar faces aside from all that was going on around us. We shared our experiences and encouraged one another as we continued to gather on screens. That one hour or so of time was one of the things that I looked forward to every week that always gives me a glimpse of hope facing all the uncertainties. I realized that Ukirk is not just a home away from home for me, but also a faith group that I can always turn to through the ups and downs. It has been an incredible community for me, I hope it will remain so for all the other students who are a part of it.*

With thanks,  
Rev. Kathy Carpenter, Campus Minister



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Presbytery Called Meeting through Zoom on Saturday. A very special thank you to Dave Baker and Denny Casey for preparing us for the meeting with videos and practice meetings.

## Recommendations for a Safe Return to Worship (now available on our webpage)

[https://www.peakspresbytery.org/images/  
resources documents/  
Recommendations for a Safe Return To Worship.pdf](https://www.peakspresbytery.org/images/resources/documents/Recommendations%20for%20a%20Safe%20Return%20To%20Worship.pdf)





## 224th General Assembly (2020)

June 19-27, 2020

Online-Livestreamed

### Payroll Protection Loan Program Changes

The Payroll Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 provides two key changes to the loan program:

The first is the extension of the forgiveness period from 8 weeks to 24 weeks or December 31, 2020 whichever comes first.

The second component reduces the payroll cost percentage of the loan from 75% to 60%.

The SBA earlier issued guidance on payroll costs, clarifying that employers could not use costs associated with 1099 vendors. The original interpretation of the PPP loans indicated that 1099 vendors could be used (i.e. musicians, nursery, cleaning services). The change to 24 weeks should assist any churches that originally included these expenses in their payroll cost calculation.

Contact Robin Padgett at the Presbytery office 434-845-1754 or [robin@peakspresbytery.org](mailto:robin@peakspresbytery.org) with any questions.

### New Class Beginning Soon

The Presbytery of the Peaks is happy to offer an online Theology class for pastors interested in reading classical Reformed texts taught by Professor Doug Ottati. The course will be for **six weeks** beginning **June 25th and be hosted on Zoom each Thursday at 1:00 p.m. for 50 minutes**. Doug will teach from historical Reformed theology texts and, in the spirit of Reformed and always Reforming, examine how the tradition may shed light upon our current challenges such as pandemic, racial and economic justice.

Dr. Doug Ottati is the Craig Family Distinguished Professor in Reformed Theology and Justice Ministry at Davidson College. His books include: *Reforming Protestantism: Christian Commitment in Today's World*, and *Hopeful Realism: Recovering the Poetry of Theology*. His latest book, *A Theology for the Twenty-First Century*, is scheduled to be published by Eerdmans this October. Many in Peaks Presbytery will remember Doug from the years that he taught at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond. Doug earned his doctoral degree from the University of Chicago and is a tireless Chicago Cubs fan.



## 7 Simple Tips To Use Virtual Worship For Outreach

During this time of social distancing, many of our churches are using Facebook as a platform for virtual worship. The Church Development Committee has been brainstorming ways to use this platform to reach visitors and encourage their participation. They can be adapted for other online platforms, as well. Here is what we have come up with so far:

1. Use online greeters to welcome visitors through chat.
2. Invite chat during live events. For example, say “Tell us you are here!”
3. Respond to comments in real time.
4. Invite visitors to like your Facebook page.
5. Ask church members to share the video to their own page.
6. Ask church members to invite friends join them on your Facebook Live broadcasts.
7. Use Facebook ads (\$50-\$60 weekly) to develop a list of those who have expressed interest. Send out messages to them inviting them to your Facebook Live broadcast.

**Note:** Pastor Dave Baker, on behalf of the Church Development Committee, is hosting a webinar for local churches interested in learning what’s working or sharing what’s working for them in using Facebook ads to invite people to their online services. Dave has been doing internet marketing for more than 13 years and has been using Facebook to get new guests to Williamson Memorial’s online service each week. **Join the Church Development Committee for this Zoom webinar Wednesday July 8<sup>th</sup> at 10am!**



## Virtual Vacation Bible School @ Covenant - Roanoke



### You're Invited!

All children, PreK - 5<sup>th</sup> graders, are invited to  
**Virtual VBS**

with Covenant Presbyterian Church - Roanoke  
Monday, June 22 - Friday, June 26, 2020!

**Our theme:** *Children of the Bible*

**How will Virtual VBS work?** Each day via email, you will receive a full slate of VBS activities to enjoy with your child(ren). You may play the videos/activities at your convenience on your home computer or Smart TV.

#### **Virtual VBS Activities:**

Welcome and Introduction to the Day

Bible Story

Music

Science

Craft

Games/Activities

Snack Recipe

Table Talk (ideas to discuss at the family dinner table each evening, all based on the featured Bible story of the day)

**Registration:** Register on our website at [covenantroanoke.org](http://covenantroanoke.org) to receive your daily *Virtual VBS* during the week of June 22 - 26!

**Materials and Supplies:** The week before VBS, families will receive a list of materials and supplies that you will need handy for VBS. These are items that you likely have on-hand in your household.

**Questions?** Contact Dr. Jennifer Powell, Director of Faith Formation, Covenant Presbyterian Church at [jpowell@covroanoke.org](mailto:jpowell@covroanoke.org).







"THE REAL VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY CONSISTS  
NOT IN SEEKING NEW LANDSCAPES,  
BUT IN HAVING NEW EYES."  
-MARCEL PROUST

## CALLING ALL TRAVELERS AND LEARNERS:

While all of us wait for travel  
restrictions to be lifted,  
join CEDEPCA on a  
**Virtual Journey  
to Guatemala!**

- Have you traveled to Guatemala and wish you could return sooner than later?
- Have you always wished to participate in a mission or learning trip to Guatemala but have been unable to do so because of family, health, or finances?
- Would you like to be "transported" from your own living room for a morning to hear about what God is doing in another part of the world?



INTERCULTURAL  
ENCOUNTERS

We invite you to join us  
Via ZOOM

Date: Wed. June 24, 2020

From 1:00 - 2:30 (EST)

Suggested donation: USD\$ 10

per person

Participation limited to 30 persons

If you have any questions, contact Kathy Carpenter at [olekack@gmail.com](mailto:olekack@gmail.com).



## PRESBYTERY CALENDAR

Date	Time	Event	Location
6/17/20	9:30 a.m.	Examinations Committee	Zoom
6/17/20	2:00 p.m.	C.P. Workgroup	Zoom
6/19/20		General Assembly Begins	

[On-Line Calendar](#)

**Peaks Postings** is published each week on Tuesday. Please submit news, events, or prayer requests **by noon on Mondays** to Julie Dyke at [julie.dyke@peaks-presbytery.org](mailto:julie.dyke@peaks-presbytery.org) for inclusion in the following issue.

**Guidelines for announcements or news items to be featured in Peaks Postings:**

- Keep the information to one page or less.
- Use links to web sites rather than including lots of details.
- Please obtain permission from the people pictured in your photos before submitting them to *Peaks Postings*.

**Peaks Postings Editors reserve the right to**

- feature or not feature an article. Our first priority is to feature activities within POP churches and the Presbytery.
- edit submitted articles/announcements.
- limit the number of weeks an article/announcement is featured.

**Past issues of Peaks Postings are archived for about six months on our website, [Presbytery of the Peaks](#).**

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“Building partnerships in Christ, to empower communities of faith to be the  
Body of Christ for the world.”