



PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS



office@peakspresbytery.org

## Welcome To PEAKS POSTINGS

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS BELOW

### PRESBYTERY CALENDAR

Date	Time	Event
11/30/21	10:00-3:00	Staff Planning Day
12/07/21	10:00 a.m.	Missions Committee



#### OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY

8:30AM - 4:30PM

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www.peakspresbytery.org

Thank You!

Thank you to all who attended the Nov. 18th Presbytery Meeting. A special thank you to the 2021 Moderator, Steve Willis, and Vice-Moderator, Helen Dean.



**The Presbytery of the Peaks office will be closed November 25. We will return to the office on Monday,**



2022 Meeting Dates:

February 17 (snow make-up date: March 3)

May 7

August 20

November 17





# SONGS OF GOOD CHEER

an evening of seasonal music  
featuring John Rutter's *Gloria*

**DECEMBER 4, 2021**  
**4PM**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
**1215 V.E.S. ROAD**  
**LYNCHBURG, VA 24503**  
**[WWW.FPCLY.ORG](http://WWW.FPCLY.ORG)**

REJOICE

AND BE

GLAD

JOIN US FOR A  
CHILDREN'S ADVENT  
WORKSHOP

CRAFTS • STORIES • SONGS

SATURDAY,

DECEMBER 4TH

9:00 - 11:00 AM

ALTAVISTA PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

TODAY IS BORN OUR  
SAVIOR, CHRIST THE LORD.

707 BROAD ST.

## Important Missionary Funding Change for 2022

The Presbyterian Mission Agency is making a significant change to the way Mission Co-Workers are funded in 2022. In the past, every Mission Co-Worker has had a unique fund ID that was used to give to their support. **Beginning in 2022, all Mission Co-Workers will be supported with one fund.**

Congregations may still indicate that the giving is for a particular Mission Co-Worker by indicating the gift is given “in honor of” followed by the Mission Co-Workers name. The Mission Personnel fund that will be used is D500115-Mission Personnel. The mission co-worker honored will be notified of the gift and they will continue to send their newsletters to your church.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency offered the following rationale for this change:

*“As a further, tangible way of expressing that the whole church supports all of our mission co-workers, we are inviting the whole church to use one fund, Mission Personnel D500115, effective January 1, 2022. One of the greatest benefits of having one fund in support of all of the PC (USA)’s mission co-workers is that it will at long last remove the burden of personal fundraising from each mission co-worker. We hope you will join with others to support all of our mission co-workers who are currently serving in 80 countries across the globe.”*

Treasurers may continue to include mission co-worker gifts on the Presbytery Remittance Form.



CEDEPCA in Guatemala has recently published a 2021 Summary of Activities, outlining for 22 colorful and inspiring pages their program and impact during the first 6 months of 2021. They report that 4870 people have been served with both humanitarian aid and participation in courses and classes.

Both the COVID-19 pandemic and multiple environmental disasters, including the 2 major hurricanes which caused flooding and landslides, have wreaked havoc throughout Guatemala. In the report, you can read truly inspiring testimonies, such as this one from Ormelindo Caal from San Cristóbal Alta Verapaz, who benefited from CEDEPCA's Disaster Ministry: "We thank CEDEPCA for the medicines, the doctor appointments and pastoral accompaniment to me and my family during the process of facing and recovering from COVID-19." Water filters and egg laying chickens have been provided to dozens of families. Peaks Presbytery assisted with providing money for the chickens earlier this year.

This Summary of Activities has wonderful photos of the people of Guatemala and CEDEPCA. [Check it out!](#)





**PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENNIUM 2022**  
**July 24-27 • Indianapolis, IN**

**What?** The Presbyterian Youth Triennium is a gathering for High School age youth, youth leaders, and young adults from the Presbyterian Church (USA) and Cumberland Presbyterian Churches in Indianapolis, IN. This year's theme is "When Did We See You?".

**Who?** Participants are to be in grade 9 (Rising) - 12 (Completed). There must be one adult for every seven youth attending.

**When?** July 24 - 27, 2022 (Leaving in the afternoon on July 23 and returning around midnight on July 27)

**Cost?** \$600 (\$400 – conference fee, \$200 – lodging) per person, includes meals from dinner on the 24th through breakfast on the 27th, lodging, two t-shirts and registration. Meals going to Triennium and returning are not included.

**Registration Information is now available on our webpage.**

Click [Here](#).

# Preparing for Winter

The shortening days of autumn foreshadow winter's arrival. Embody God's call to justice by planning ahead and preparing for winter. God's call looks different to different people, so challenge yourself by exploring new lifestyle practices during this preparatory time.

## **Clothing Drive**

Organize a clothing drive at your school or church to provide an opportunity for people to share new and gently used clothes with others. Fall's cooler temperatures increase the need for warm clothing and blankets. As a rule of thumb if you didn't wear it last season, donate it this season.

## **Prevent Heat Loss**

Insulate attics, weatherstrip windows, and cover windows after sundown to minimize heat loss. Preheat ovens no more than ten minutes prior to cooking. Be an energy steward by maximizing energy retention and minimizing energy loss. Maintain a cooler home temperature and commit to wearing sweaters to further prevent heat lost to the environment.

## **Plan a Sustainable Christmas Celebration**

Begin discussions with friends and family about a sustainable Christmas in the fall. Plan out a low-stress Christmas celebration that is Christ-centered rather than consumption-driven. Simplify your holiday season with preemptive planning to prevent holiday tension and return to the true significance of the season. Now is the time to agree to spending limits, create pacts to buy nothing new for Christmas, dedicate greater time for family or friends, and otherwise shape future holiday celebrations. Check out Ideas for Reclaiming Advent and Christmas from Enough for Everyone: [www.pcusa.org/enough/christmas](http://www.pcusa.org/enough/christmas).

Resources for further study:

- Creation Justice Ministries: Providing a wealth of resources for Christians addressing a wide range of topics related to environmental justice. [www.creationjustice.org](http://www.creationjustice.org)
- Earth 911: A great resource for general information about environmental stewardship. Includes a search engine to find local recycling options for any product that may be reused or recycled. [www.earth911.org](http://www.earth911.org)
- Energy Star: A nice home energy guide can be found here as well as a number of energy saving tips. Be sure to check out the interactive guide to energy saving. [www.energystar.gov/](http://www.energystar.gov/)
- Green Guides: National Geographic: <http://www.thegreen.guide.com/>, treehugger: [www.treehugger.com/gogreen.php](http://www.treehugger.com/gogreen.php), and Co-op America: [www.coopamerica.org/pubs/greenpages/](http://www.coopamerica.org/pubs/greenpages/) offer excellent and comprehensive guides to greening your purchases. These guides are searchable and organized by category for convenience.
- Carbon Footprint: Calculate your carbon footprint at [www.nativeenergy.com](http://www.nativeenergy.com).







## An Advent Message from the Racial Equity Workgroup:

Did you ever stop and consider that the Christmas Story is one of great diversity? It is filled with powerful and powerless people. Characters include academic sages and illiterate minimum wage workers. There is a pregnant teen mother and an older troubled baby daddy. Because this story is so often peppermint-coated and trimmed with red bows we fail to see that it could be ripped from the headlines of our newspapers and splashed in vivid detail across social media.

If we approach our beloved story through a wider lens this year, we may find a path through division to wholeness. If we try to grapple with our uncomfortableness to talk of socially unacceptable pregnancies, racial and religious inequities that lead to people crowding into spaces where they are intimidated and coerced, or economic hardships because of racial history and societal privilege, then we may find this ancient story speaking to us in new ways.

As we prepare our hearts and minds for the arrival of Immanuel, may we consider why Jesus came to live and die as one of us – “that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of two, thus making peace” (Eph. 2:15b, NRSV).

(continued on next page....)

In the Racial Equity survey pastors and clerks were asked to share scripture they found to be helpful when discussing issues of race. We offer them below as a potential source for personal and communal reflection.

**Galatians 3:28**

**Luke 10:25-37**

**Matthew 25**

**Leviticus 19:33-34**

**Deuteronomy 10:19**

**Ephesians 2:14-20**

**Romans 12:5**

**1 Peter 2:9**

**Genesis 1: 26-31**

**Mark 12:30-31**

**1 Cor 10:17**

**Most notably the entire book of Exodus -- gives us the liberating image of God who stands on the side of the oppressed and vows that the members of the Covenant never embody the oppression of Egypt and the Pharaoh.**

**Colossians 4:1**

**The Sermon on the Mount**

**Acts 2:17**

**1 Samuel 16:7**

**Romans 10:12**

**Ecclesiastes 3:1,7 -- There is a time for everything .. a time to be silent and a time to speak .**

**Matthew 7-12**

During the weeks of Advent, may we begin to deconstruct our familiar Christmas narrative and see real people behind the sweet smells of the holiday. We may then start a journey toward understanding all the people who live in our world, our community, our church.

***Peaks Postings*** is published each week on Tuesday. Please submit news, events, or prayer requests **by noon on Mondays** to Julie Burnett at [julie@peakspresbytery.org](mailto:julie@peakspresbytery.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](#)**