



Weekly Calendar

Date	Time	Event
6-22	4:00pm	COM Small Church Listening Session at FPC Covington

The Spirit is moving.



Keep reading...

So much for the summer doldrums. This is a jam packed edition of Postings, and to see all of it, you may need to click at the end of the email to “view clipped message”. Or simply click below and view it from the website.



The Presbytery office will
be closed on
Thursday, June 19th in
observance of Juneteenth.

CLICK HERE:

For a PDF version of the newsletter that is copy & paste
friendly.

Register
NOW!!!

Note the format change!

As this will be Carl's final
Presbytery meeting as GP,
presbytery voted to meet in-
person rather than via Zoom.

Our Next Presbytery Meeting

Thursday
June 26, 2025

IN-PERSON

Hosted by the Martinsville and Henry County
congregations
at

First Presbyterian Church, Martinsville

Register

Session Records Review

Churches with Names Beginning A-D

Past or current sets of Session Minutes may be submitted for review at any time. Please note that 2024 Session Minutes are due for review during 2025. The Work Group reviews Session Minutes alphabetically by church name. The schedule for the review of 2024 Session Minutes in 2025 is as follows:

February 20 – Churches with names beginning with N-W

June 28 – Churches with names beginning with A-D

October 23 – Churches with names beginning with F-M

When the Presbytery of the Peaks is unable to meet in person, churches are asked to EITHER mail hard copies of the Minutes (no binders, please), along with a completed “Session Records Review Form,” to Shelda Wills, Session Records Work Group Chair, Christiansburg Presbyterian Church, 107 West Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, OR email digital copies of the Minutes, along with the completed “Session Records Review Form,” to swills@usit.net.

Contact Shelda with questions.

Churches should NOT send Minutes to the Presbytery Office!

Briery Presbyterian Celebrates 270 Years

A 270th Anniversary and Homecoming celebration will be held at Briery Presbyterian Church on June 22nd. Worship begins at 11:00am with lunch following.

Hannah Anderson to Preach at Mayberry & Bluemont Churches

Hannah Anderson, author and Bible teacher, will preach at Mayberry and Bluemont Presbyterian Churches on Sunday, June 22, 2025.

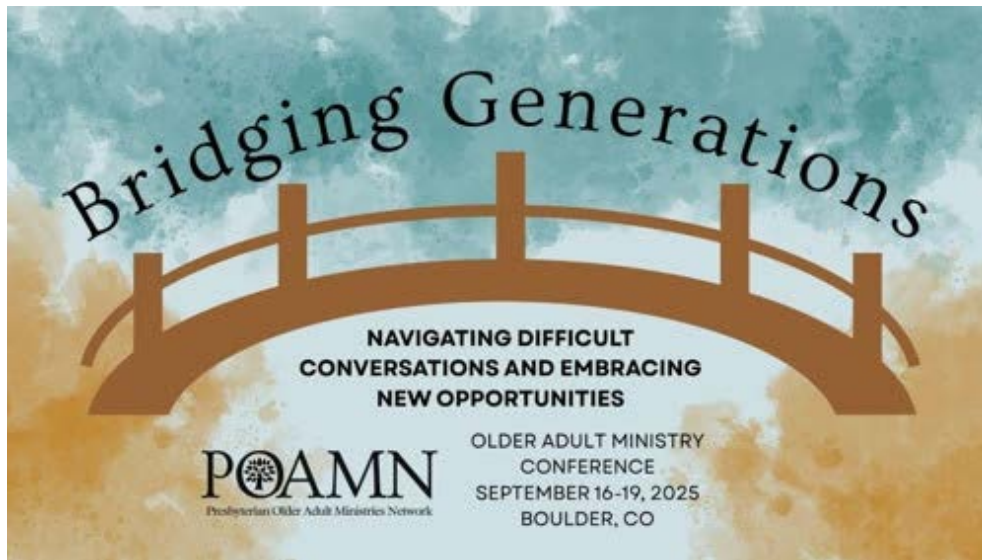
Her books blend her strong personal faith, her knowledge of nature, her love of family, and experiences in life as a homesteader along the Blue Ridge. You can find more of her writing at <https://sometimesalight.com>.



Register for the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network Conference

Bridging Generations: Navigating Difficult Situations and Embracing New Opportunities is the theme for this year's POAMN Conference. This event led by the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network will be held September 16–19, 2025 at the Fraizer Community in Boulder Colorado. Join ministry leaders, chaplains, and lay leaders for fresh perspectives on older adult ministry. Come ready to be inspired with

new ideas to implement. Leave with tools to deepen your spiritual connection to serving older adults in your faith community.



[Learn More and Register Here](#)

Small Church Listening Sessions

Commission on Ministry will host Small Church Listening Sessions around the presbytery this summer.

Listening Sessions scheduled this summer are for our smaller churches to come and share with the COM their highs and lows...what could the presbytery do to support them best in the coming months and years. A survey is being sent out ahead of all of these sessions but sometimes we learn more with face to face gatherings. The hope of the COM is for these listening sessions to help us design a Small Church Summit for this fall to glean new ideas, make connections and feel the full support of the presbytery.

June 22, First PC, Covington, 4-6pm

June 29, Farmville PC, 4-6pm
July 13, Blacksburg PC, 4-6pm

Take the Survey

EarthCare @ Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church

One major focus of our mission group has been recycling. We have been able to partner with two companies since 2024.

Trex has been manufacturing recycled plastic film into building materials for many years. As part of that effort, they have encouraged organizations to help collect those films and soft plastics and drop them off at many different locations (primarily grocery stores). So our recent program to recycle 1000 pounds within a year earned us a Trex bench for our campaign. We are now in our second year of plastic film collecting to earn a bench for The West End Center, a youth development non-profit in Roanoke City. Our recycling effort is definitely ramping up – just this week we submitted more than 100 pounds. That is well above the 30 pounds we



averaged last year.

Star City Compost is our other recycling partner. Star City is based right here in Roanoke. Their technology allows the inclusion of meat and compostable paper products. During a normal school year, we have weekly fellowship and youth dinners which produce food waste that can now be sent to the compost facility. Our food scraps get industrially turned into compost for our gardens! We've also been able to fund two large Star City composting bins for a day shelter that provides meals and assistance for those facing homelessness. We are grateful to be able to partner with the community in our earth care efforts.

At a time of overwhelm and discouragement on the state of Climate Change and caring for our environment, it is empowering and meaningful to send our waste and recycling to local companies that can transform it into something new and beautiful!



'Anxious to Talk About It' Book Study

Join Us!

ANXIOUS TO TALK ABOUT IT

Peaks Reading Together

PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS BOOK STUDY

On the four Thursdays from September 18 - October 9, join with other Peaks Presbytery members to discuss Presbyterian pastor and professor Carolyn Helsel's book, "Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully About Racism" (2nd Edition)

THURS SEPT 18 & 25
OCT 2 & 9
7PM TO 8PM

Helsel draws on her successful experiences with white congregations to offer tools to embrace and explore anxious feelings and more faithfully engage in crucial conversations about race in America.

REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK: [HERE](#)

**RACIAL EQUITY SUBCOMMITTEE
JUSTICE AND MERCY COMMISSION**

PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

There will be a drawing for a copy of the book at the presbytery meeting.

Register

**Commissioned Pastor Course Schedule
for 2025-26 Released**

PATHWAYS 2025-26

8/12-9/16	Polity & Administration
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8/28-10/2	Intro to Pastoral Care
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10/16-11/20	Teaching the Bible
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10/27-12/2	Preaching
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1/6-2/24	Biblical Interpretation
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1/8-2/12	Reformed Theology
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2/19-3/26	Worship & Sacraments
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5/21-6/25	The Christian Life
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SPRING '26 - TBA	Church History Mission & Evangelism
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[Learn More](#)

GENERAL PRESBYTER HONORED

At its Spring Gathering at Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church on April 26, 2025, Presbyterian Women (PW) of the Presbytery of the Peaks honored The Reverend Dr. Carl Utley with an Honorary Life Membership. This honor is bestowed upon a woman or man in special recognition of faithful service to PW and to the church. Recipients of the honor receive a lapel pin and a certificate of the award.

Carl has been an avid supporter of PW, participating in its programs and gatherings and championing its accomplishments. PW could not let his retirement pass without acknowledging his contributions.

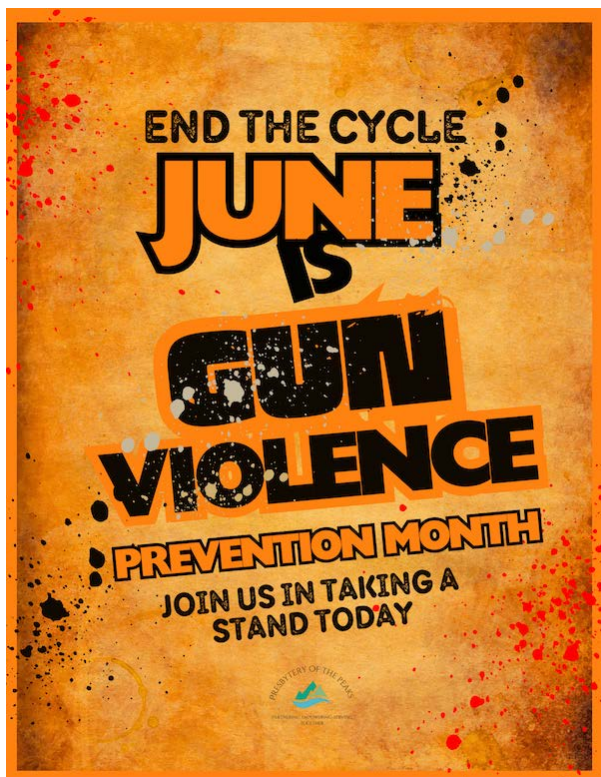
In presenting the award, Shelda Wills, PW Moderator of the Presbytery of the Peaks, stated, "Carl, you have always been so supportive of PW, and we truly appreciate that. Thank you for everything you have done for us. We will miss you more than you will ever know."

PW is thankful for Carl's leadership and wishes him a rich and fulfilled retirement. His presence will definitely be missed at future Spring and Annual Gatherings!



Gun Violence Prevention

June is Gun Violence Prevention Month. It is symbolized by the color



orange. Learn why [HERE](#). Incorporate the color orange into your worship and daily life. Find Worship, education and action resources in the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship's Gun Violence Prevention Congregational Toolkit [HERE](#). Share stories of gun violence survivors. [HERE](#)

Protect Children from Gun Violence by sharing "Gun Safety & Secure Storage" cards. Download a free PDF [HERE](#) or order printed cards [HERE](#).

Contact your Representative in Congress and ask him to oppose HR 38 which would allow concealed carry firearms to be carried in every state without a permit. Find contact information [HERE](#).

Plan now to attend the James Atwood Institute for Congregational Courage conference at Massanetta Springs Conference Center, Harrisonburg, September 24-27, 2025. You will receive faith-based training and continuing education for clergy and lay leaders for practical, pastoral and prophetic ways to engage congregations in an effective ministry of gun violence prevention. Learn more [HERE](#).

A Taste of Afghanistan at Westminster Presbyterian, Lynchburg

Westminster Presbyterian Church (Lynchburg, Va) wants to invite everyone to a special event featuring foods and flavors from Afghanistan. Haven on Garland, a non-profit operated by Westminster's pastor Rev. Shawn Hyska and his wife Sarah Hyska, provides financial and living support for 6 young women from Afghanistan who attend a local university and who live with them in Garland Hill neighborhood in Lynchburg. One of the joys of having these ladies in our lives is them sharing their home and flavors of home, and they want to share these flavors with the larger Lynchburg community.

The Afghan ladies will be preparing some of their favorite and traditional Afghan cuisine and all proceeds will go to support Haven on Garland and the continuing support of them.

Event Name: A Taste of Afghanistan

When: Saturday, June 21, 2025 from 12pm-2pm

Where: Westminster Presbyterian Church.



A Taste of Afghanistan
Kabuli Pulao - Kofta - Feni - Koco
Saturday, June 21, 2025
12pm - 2pm
Westminster Presbyterian Church
1022 Floyd St Lynchburg Va. 24501

All proceeds go to Haven on Garland
www.havenongarland.org

Westminster Presbyterian Church

**Learn More about
Haven on Garland ...**

from the *Outlook*.

Rev. Malave Shares His Experiences and Insights on Immigration & Faith

AMERICA FIRST


"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger, and you invited me in,"
MATTHEW 25:35

IMMIGRATION & FAITH

*Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses
yearning to breathe free...*
EMMA LAZARUS

The Church and It's Faithful Role

WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE 6:30-7:30 PM

 Rev. Carlos L. Malave, pastor of the Appomattox Court House and New Concord Presbyterian churches in Virginia, is the president of the Latino Christian National Network (LCNN) and served nine years as Executive Director of Christian Churches Together in the USA (CCT). Passionate about advocacy, unity, and love, Rev. Malave's work converges at the intersection of immigration, hunger, justice, and faith concerns.

JUSTICE & MERCY COMMISSION

PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS

Join Us on Zoom

Ruling and Teaching Elders: Is God

Calling You to Consider Serving as Stated Clerk?

The search committee for a new Stated Clerk for Presbytery of the Peaks is looking for interested persons to fill this important position. Active PC(USA) pastors or retired pastors, and Ruling Elders are encouraged to consider this part-time position. Solid knowledge of the Book of Order and Presbyterian polity will be important in carrying out the duties, but training is available for those who would like to learn. To request a job description or to express interest in the position, please email Rev. Bob McLavey, the search committee chair, at pastor@pcfloyd.org.

Pastor-Chaplain Position Open at College Presbyterian Church and Hampden-Sydney College

[College Church](#) and [Hampden-Sydney College](#) seek a creative, strategic, and energetic person to fill the blended position of [Pastor-Chaplain](#) to advance the dual mission of serving a congregational flock and a collegiate community. The Church and College share a strong tie of two centuries, with residents devoted to the compelling 250-year-old mission of the College “to form good men and good citizens.”

College Church is in the heart of the Hampden-Sydney campus, which

offers an extensive mission field for the church. With the opportunity to help students determine their religious and spiritual calling, the dual role of Pastor-Chaplain, served by the College Church teaching elder, makes this a truly unique call.

Applications for the position should be submitted through the Church Leadership Connection (CLC), Personal Discernment Form, found at PCUSA.org; or with a resume and cover letter of application to Anita Garland, Chair, Pastor-Chaplain Nominating Committee, agarland@hsc.edu.



Forest Presbyterian to Hold Yard Sale

Forest Presbyterian is holding a yard sale on Saturday June 28 from 7 am to 1:00 pm. There will be a \$5.00 bag sale beginning at 12:30... we provide the bags.

Forest Presbyterian Church: 1226 Two Church Lane. Forest Va 24551.

We are accepting donations (NO clothes or televisions) on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (June 25, 26, 27) from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

For more information contact Lisa Klingenfus: lklingenfu@aol.com.

Earth Care Mini-Grants Due June 30th

The Earth Care Subcommittee of the Justice and Mercy Commission encourages your congregation to apply for an Earth Care Mini-grant.

Just a few ideas you might consider: plant native plants; replace a dying tree with a native tree; purchase supplies for a community garden or for composting; buy recycling trash cans to recycle things in your community that can be recycled; install a bicycle rack; purchase a rain barrel for watering needs; replace incandescent or fluorescent bulbs with LEDs or lights with motion sensors to name a few.

[Click here for more ideas or an application](#)

What Could Your Congregation Do



With an Earth Care Grant?



Peaks Postings is published each week on Tuesday. Please submit news, events, or prayer requests by noon on Mondays to Donna Garrison at communications@peakspresbytery.org for inclusion in the following issue.

Guidelines for 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 and items within and of interest to PoP and PoP churches.
 - Edit submitted articles/announcements.
 - Limit the number of weeks an article/announcement is featured, usually to not more than three weeks.
- If you have specific dates you want an item to run, include them when you submit the item. Limited to three weeks.
- Past issues of Peaks Postings are archived for about six months on our website, peakspresbytery.org.



OFFICE HOURS

**Monday-Thursday
8:30AM-4:30PM**

FAX: 434-845-7829

Mailing Address:

**PO Box 2519
Forest, Va 24551**



OFFICE LOCATION

**1195 Carter's Stable Road
Forest, VA 24551**



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peakspresbytery.org



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