



PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS



office@peakspresbytery.org

Welcome To
PEAKS POSTINGS

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS BELOW

Date:	Time:	Event:
1-10-24	12:00 p.m.	Church Partnership Commission (Zoom)
1-11-24	9:30 a.m.	Commission on Ministry (Quaker Memorial PC)

 **OFFICE HOURS**

MONDAY - THURSDAY

8:30AM - 4:30PM

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CLERK OF SESSION

TRAINING

JANUARY 20, 2024 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Register [here](#)

Attention Treasurers!

The IRS has issued the 2024 business mileage rate. The new rate is 67 cents per mile, up 1.5 cents from 2023. This rate is the reimbursable amount used for minister mileage beginning January 1, 2024.

Contact Robin Padgett at the Presbytery office (888-557-3257) if there are any questions regarding the new mileage rate.

A Note from the Stated Clerk:

Due to the premature arrival of my son, I will be stepping back from my duties for several weeks to focus on my recovery and supporting his growth and development while he is in the hospital.

Please direct urgent questions to the presbytery office (office@peaks-presbytery.org) or to our General Presbyter, Rev. Carl Utley (c.utley@peaks-presbytery.org).

In Christ, *Rev. Betsy Soto*



Ezra Schuyler Soto

December 24, 2023, 7:57pm ★ **1 pound 15 ounces**

*Please keep Ezra, Betsy, Ed, Teddy and Eli
in your prayers--Carl*

Tech Watch 2024



News you Can Use from *The Outlook*

Looking to update your technology resources this year? Check out the article *five resources every church should know about* in the current issue.

The presbytery uses several of the items mentioned. This graphic was created using Canva. Contact [donna@peaks-presbytery](mailto:donna@peaks-presbytery.org) if you need more information.

*Also, Jonathan Moelker, Campbell Memorial, makes an appearance in the issue.

[Go to The Outlook](#)

An invitation to grow your capacity for adaptive leadership with your peers throughout the Presbytery

Who: POP Pastors & Church Staff

Where: Online

When: Once a month for 1.5 hours

What: Each session includes facilitated learning of an adaptive leadership concept and time in small groups to workshop the adaptive challenge(s) you and your congregation face.

Dates and themes for winter and spring are below.

Except for the first meeting, we will meet on the second Thursday of the month from 2-3:30 pm (Our first meeting will take place on the third Thursday of January).

Saying yes to cohort participation does not mean you must attend 100% of the offerings, but it does mean you will prioritize attendance to the best of your ability.

Register [here](#)

Questions? Contact jen@peaksresbytery.org



POP Adaptive Pastor Cohort 2024

- 1/18/24 Life in the Gap; Distinguish Between Technical & Adaptive Challenge & Approach
- 2/8/24 DX the Situation; Making Multiple Interpretations
- 3/14/24 Manage Self; Managing Vulnerabilities and Triggers
- 4/11/24 Manage Self; Expand Beyond Your Comfort Zone
- 5/9/24 Energize Others; Work Across Factions
- 6/13/24 Intervene Skillfully; Raise Heat & Act Experimentally

Online from 2-3:30 pm

Contact jen@peaksresbytery.org for more info or to join

February Grant Deadlines



Grant	Commission/ Group	Deadline
Church Redevelopment	Church Partnership	February 1 April 1 June 1
Shared Ministry	Church Partnership	August 1 October 1
Pastoral Leadership	Commission on Ministry	
Black Caucus	Black Caucus	Feb 28 May 31 Aug 31 Oct 31
Community Block	Justice & Mercy	February 1
Hunger Action	Synod of the Mid- Atlantic	February 1 August 1
Jubilee		
Small Church		

[Click here for more information and applications](#)

or look on the website under Resources>Grants



First Pres
PRESENTS
Fine Art Series

Baroque & Organ Spectacular

JANUARY 27 - 4PM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1215 VES ROAD
SANCTUARY

** TICKETED EVENT **

\$30

To purchase call 845-6604.



LYNCHBURG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Let the timeless sounds of Bach and Handel uplift your spirit and take you on a musical journey as the Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra performs at First Presbyterian Church in this collaborative concert. In this First Pres Presents Fine Arts Series 2024 kick off concert, this local orchestra will be accompanied by First Presbyterian's organist, Cory Whittier, playing the church's newly renovated 3,400 pipe organ and baritone vocalist Randall Scarlata. Tickets for this event are \$30. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra Office at (434) 845-6604 or at the door the afternoon of the concert.

BIBLE STUDY *Facing Racism*

February 2024

MONDAY the 12th

MONDAY the 19th

MONDAY the 26th

***...Join in a Bible Study series using
scripture and shared conversation
to engage the topic of racism and
division...***

Two Opportunities Each Day

**12 pm -
1:15pm**

OR

**6pm -
7:15pm**

ZOOM ID: 844 2443 7027 Passcode: 489354

Justice & Mercy Ministry
Forming Faith Bible Study



MINI-GRANT HELPS RESTORE A PART OF GOD'S CREATION

Colonial Presbyterian Church received an Earth Care Mini-Grant in December 2022 for the purpose of planting trees in a large field on the church's property. We now have five young oak trees growing in our field, as well as other donated plants, including native viburnums and two pawpaw trees. In addition to planting trees, we are working to landscape the field to create a walking path, as well as a wildflower area for pollinators. Another component of the plan is partnering with a community organization that will create a Giving Garden on the property. The initial project will be growing blueberries, which will be distributed to people who cannot afford fresh produce.



Instead of contributing to the destruction of the environment by maintaining a large barren lawn, we are now helping to produce oxygen and remove carbon dioxide, provide habitat for wildlife, mitigate storm water, slow erosion, reduce air temperature, and create a place of beauty that can nourish the spirits of an entire community.



Submitted by Sarah Martin, Earth Care Subcommittee.

For information about Peaks Earth Care, go to

<https://www.peakspresbytery.org/earth-care-congregations/>



**TELL US...
WHAT'S
HAPPENING
AROUND THE
PEAKS?**

Upcoming Emphasis Days:

Human Trafficking Awareness Day

Racial Justice Sunday

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

In the spirit of learning from each other and sparking ideas, we'll be asking you to share what your congregations are doing for some special emphasis Sundays in 2024.

Send information, photos, flyers and videos under two minutes to:

communications@peakspresbytery.org

Justice & Mercy Commission
CEDEPCA Subcommittee

EXPLORE *Guatemala* ...AND BE TRANSFORMED!

Who...?

The **Presbytery of the Peaks** is inviting its members to travel with members from the **James** to the Central American nation of Guatemala to be amazed by the natural beauty of the country and its people, and with the work of the **Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America (CEDEPCA)** and its agencies.

When...?

The trip is scheduled for
April 15-22, 2024

How...?

Estimated cost for the educational trip is 2000.00** with a 100.00 deposit due by Thursday, **February 22, 2024**

First time Peaks travelers to CEDEPCA are eligible to apply for a stipend to help defray some of the cost.

**Depending on airfare costs



for further information:

Vernie Bolden
vernies@peaks-presbytery.org

Teresa Auldridge
tauldridge@gmail.com

Photographs by travelers from the April 2023 trip

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 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](#)