



Presbytery of Yukon

January 18, 2024

Message From our Executive Presbyter:

At each Presbytery meeting we are guided by a Scripture and a Theme. The theme of our last meeting in October, which was my first meeting as EP, was "For I'm about to do something new!" The Scripture was from Isaiah 43:18-19 -

"Forget the things that happened in the past. Don't keep on thinking about them. I am about to do something new. It is beginning to happen even now. Don't you see it coming? I am going to make a way for you to go through the desert. I will make streams of water in the dry and empty land." Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)

God is preparing our Presbytery for many new things as we begin a new year and a new chapter.

The theme of the next month's meeting is "Yukon Presbytery Mission Strategy: Working on being the "Body of Christ." The Scripture chosen is from 1 Corinthians 12:12-14

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.

The body of Christ does not consist of one member but of many. The Presbytery does not consist of one church, but of many. How are we strengthening one another? How are we honoring all the members and lifting up those that need care? How is Christ leading us forward? These are just a few of the questions that we will be discussing as part of our next Presbytery meeting and I look forward to working with all attendees as we faithfully listen to where the spirit is leading.



Rev. Elizabeth Schultz
Executive Presbyter

Presbytery Meeting Updates and Information

The next Presbytery Meeting will be held at Trinity Presbyterian Church on the 9th and 10th of February, 2024.

Churches: If you have not already done so, please make sure to elect your elder commissioner for the meeting and submit their information to the presbytery office. Everyone that plans to attend needs to register for the meeting and the registration deadline is **January 26th**. [Register Here Now](#)

Additional details of interest:

Alaska Regional Ministries meeting will take place on Thursday February 8th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is an opportunity for the representatives from our Alaska Native Village Churches to gather together to support one another in their unique ministry contexts.

Guest Presenters:

Jennifer Perri, Assistant Vice President, United Church Insurance Services and our representative from the Insurance Board, will be with us on Saturday to give a brief presentation and to meet with individual churches as needed.

Rev. Josh Park, Manager for Korean-speaking Councils Support at the Office of the General Assembly will be giving a brief presentation on Friday on how to best support our Korean brothers and sisters in Christ. He will also be hosting a Presbyterian Polity training for our Korean Congregations at First Korean Church in Anchorage on Thursday evening beginning at 7 p.m.

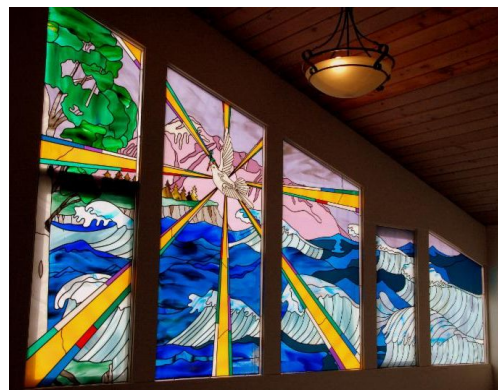
Volunteers Needed:

If you live in Anchorage and have interest in helping to host this gathering, there are a variety of needs and tasks to go around, such as helping with meals at the event, picking up quests from the airport, providing lodging and transportation to the meeting for out-of-town guests and more. Please reach out to ep@yukonpres.org if you are able to assist!

The Presbytery of Yukon Needs Your Help

Come work with us! Financial Secretary Needed!

Our Financial Secretary will be transitioning out of her role over the next few months This is a part-time job, with flexible hours, ranging from 10-20 hours per week to start. Knowledge of QuickBooks is essential. Knowledge of non-profit accounting with many accounts and entities and knowledge of PCUSA is preferred. A CPA license or an accounting degree is not required, but would be helpful.



Please advertise this job opening across your churches. We would love to hire

from our membership, though that is not essential for the job. The sooner we can find a new financial secretary, the better the chances that they will have time to receive training in the job. Resumes and inquiries should be sent to ep@yukonpres.org.

Committee Service:

The Yukon Presbytery is seeking to grow in its ability to serve all our member churches and their communities. One of the ways to improve this ability is to make sure that our current committees have full representation from individuals around the state that have expertise and knowledge in certain areas, a desire to faithfully serve the Presbytery as a whole and the capacity to give of their time for a defined amount of service. We have openings on the following committees:

- Property
- Investment
- Stewardship
- Regional Ministries

Community Relations:

Our current Presbytery office is staffed by a small but mighty group of 4 individuals, all but one serving in a part-time role with many other busy life and job responsibilities. With that reality, there is often a need for volunteer assistance for a variety of needs. At this time, we could really use some volunteers to bolster our outreach efforts in relation to website and newsletter content and social media.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these opportunities or have additional ideas of ways that you could serve the Presbytery, please reach out to Rev. Elizabeth Schultz at ep@yukonpres.org.

Resources Available



Updated Lent Digital Resource Guide - A message from PC(USA) Store

The [Lent 2024 digital resource guide](#) from PC(USA) Store is now available. This guide allows you to compare Lent books and resources for devotion, group study, preaching, and worship. You also have direct access to excerpts and will learn about the newest Lent books for study and devotion: *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms*, by Elizabeth F. Caldwell, and *Hard and Holy Work: A Lenten Journey through the Book of Exodus*, by Tyler D. Mayfield and Mary Alice Birdwhistell. As you'll learn in the guide, both new books include free digital resources to assist with group study, personal devotion, and worship throughout the season.

Available Online - A message from the Office of Christian Formation

Come All Who Are Thirsty: APCE Annual Event Online- Join faith formation leaders **January 24-27** online for plenary, worship, and workshops for the Association of Partners in Christian Education Annual Event. Register [here](#), or for Español [here](#) (which is offered free!).

Camp and Retreat Sunday- Remember to lift up Presbyterian camps and conference sites and ministry Sunday, **February 11th**. Find liturgy resources and creative ideas, including in Spanish, [here](#).

Around the Table Community Circle - Join the Office of Christian Formation on **February 15th** at 1:00 p.m. Eastern on Zoom to learn more about Around the Table, the Lilly Endowment Christian Parenting and Caregiver Initiative through the PC(USA) which will include cohorts with local congregations and new resources for families and leaders. Come learn more about the plans and how you and your congregation can be involved. [Register here](#).

New Retreat Curriculum - Looking for a retreat theme and ready-made plan? The Office of Christian Formation partnered with the Presbyterian Youth Worker's Association, Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network, and Presbyterian Church Camps and Conferences Association to write four new retreat modules available as free downloads. Check out [these and more here](#):

- Youth Retreat: Creation and Creation Care
- Youth Mission Work Camp Retreat: Living our Faith; Caring for God's Many Gifts
- Rest and Renewal: A Youth Retreat on Mental Health and Spiritual Practices
- Grandparent Camp: Making Memories

A Vital Gift from Our Board of Pensions

Last summer, the Board of Pensions of the PC (USA) began the Clergy Wellness Support Program. This initiative provides ministers with grants up to \$5,000 to foster renewal and wholeness. The grants can be taken every six years.

The Clergy Program at the Davidson Centre for the Professions is one of the seven preapproved programs of the Clergy Wellness Program: www.pensions.org/your-path-to-wholeness/assistance-program/receiving-assistance/clergy-wellness-support

Since 2004, more than 1,200 clergy have participated in this on-site intensive wellness program —The Clergy Program. This program in Davidson, North Carolina has strengthened lives and revitalized careers, especially for those in transition and stress. This grant from our Board of Pensions will cover the full cost of this program and all related travel expenses for pastors earning under an \$80,000 salary.

We caregivers tend to give care for everyone, except ourselves. This onsite Clergy Program includes intensive wellness work with certified counselors, spiritual directors, consultants, life coaches, nutritionists, financial counselors, and personal fitness trainers. It is a great week of self-care and a way to obtain tools for personal/professional resilience. General information is found at www.davcp.com. This is an independent, ecumenical, HIPAA compliant service, and a validated ministry of our church.

We are asking you to let members of your Presbytery know about our Clergy Program and the other preapproved programs of our Board of Pensions. Please edit this note as you wish and let your members know of this vital opportunity. You may wish to do so through:

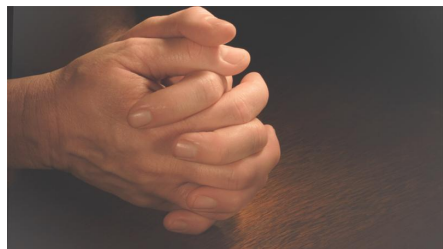
- Personal emails to members of your Presbytery,
- A Newsletter,
- Statement during a Presbytery meeting, and/or
- Any avenue you see best.

You members can register, or ask questions, by contacting our new Director Suzanne Schilling, suzanneschilling@davcp.com.

Thank you and peace!

George Jacobs,
Director Emeritus and member of the Presbytery of Charlotte

Prayer Requests

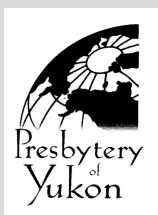


Debbie Melton is recovering from a heart attack and needs prayers for healing and rest.

Pastors, CLPs, Elders and Commissioners traveling to Anchorage for the February Presbytery meeting.

Mark Your Calendars

**February 9-10,
2024**



The Next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery

Hosted by Trinity PC and Jewel Lake Parish at Trinity PC in Anchorage.

Register for the meeting online [HERE](#)

Documents for the meeting will be posted on the meeting website [HERE](#)

Domestic Violence Help

[Click here](#) for contact information on crisis teams across Alaska and to find programs in your area that can help.

Suicide Prevention

If you're having thoughts of suicide, call [the Alaska CARELINE](#) (1-877-266-4357), or reach out to someone you love and trust. You can also text 4HELP to 839863, 3 - 11 pm Tuesday – Saturday.

Careline treats callers with respect and listens without judging. Careline also provides information for those concerned about someone else. Advice is tailored to Alaskans.

Suicide prevention works. People can and do put suicidal thoughts behind them.

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