



The Presbytery of Carlisle will meet on **Saturday, September 24th**, both in person and on Zoom. We welcome the presbytery to our first-ever hybrid presbytery meeting! We will gather in person at Highland United Presbyterian Church in Newport. The docket and other materials for reference during this meeting are found on the [Presbytery Meetings page](#) of our website. Please use [this link](#) to pre-register, indicating whether you will attend in-person or on Zoom.

The image above evokes one of my favorite summer camp memories. I was directing a camp for Counselors-In-Training. We'd planned a campfire with a group of children when the heavens let loose in a downpour of rain. We scrambled for shelter in a nearby lodge until the storm passed over. When the skies cleared and we went back outside, I was astounded to find one of the counselors had stayed by the fire, feeding sticks into the sputtering flames. When I expressed surprise that the fire had not been extinguished by the rain she said, "As long as there is more fire than rain, you can keep a campfire going, even in a rainstorm."

As followers of Jesus, we are gifted with the flames of Pentecost. God's Holy Spirit is poured out among us, and we get to share our experiences of Jesus, within and beyond our congregations. Our Presbytery meeting will be a time to stoke the flames that fuel this common calling.

We'll celebrate the work of the Spirit....

Calling forth new leaders, as we act on the recommendation of the Search Team for a Presbytery Leader for Governance and Congregational Leadership AND the recommendation of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry regarding an Inquirer moving to Candidate.

Igniting new forms of ministry, as we act on the recommendation to establish a presbytery commission for New Worshiping Communities.

Generating sparks that fuel the many expressions of our congregations created from shared values of creativity, compassion, and courage.

We'll stay by the fire, feeding sticks into the flames...

Through holy conversations grounded in Scripture, as we tend the embers of our souls and look for God's activity in surprising places.

Through the financial giving of our Sessions reflected in the *Narrative Budget* that describes the story of our values-in-action, shaping a life-giving, hopeful future.

As we identify the people of the presbytery and our gifts, activated that we may be renewed in common purpose, joining our lives and ministries to God's healing, saving work in the world.

As we receive an offering to benefit the "Neighbor Helping Neighbor Food Bank" of Perry County. With food costs rising, Neighbor Helping Neighbor exists to provide wholesome and nutritional supplemental food to Perry County families in need and to provide education about foods, food preparation, nutrition, health, wellness, and self-sufficiency in a dignified manner. You may give to this offering through the [Give Now](#) button on our website, through the **Give +Plus** App downloadable to your cell phone or by **mailing a check** payable to the Presbytery of Carlisle.

A few practical details to help you prepare for this meeting:

- Please pre-register your attendance at this meeting, indicating whether you will attend in person or on Zoom.
- Please review these [Guidelines for Attending a Hybrid Presbytery Meeting](#).
- Note: The wearing of masks is optional for this gathering. We ask that anyone with recent exposure to someone with the COVID-19 virus, or with symptoms that could indicate a covid infection, please participate from home via Zoom.
- For instructions on the use of Zoom for presbytery meetings, see our new [Zoom tutorial](#).

Blessings,

Cheryl D. Galan, Interim Executive Presbyter