The Week of August 2, 2026

THE KISKI WEEKLY

From the Desk of Rev. Erin Kobs, Organizational Presbyter & Stated Clerk

On Saturday, I had the chance to go to Steelers training camp in Latrobe. Of course, I enjoyed watching the players on the field - the drills, scrimmages, & the anticipation of a new season. But as I looked around, I realized that I was just as interested in the people gathered to watch. There were young children wearing jerseys that seemed almost too big for them. Parents & grandparents sharing the experience together. There were longtime fans who had probably been making the trip to training camp for years, as well as people who were experiencing it for the first time, like myself.

The crowd was wonderfully diverse. People came from different communities, different generations, & different walks of life. Some cheered loudly, while others quietly watched. Yet, for a few hours, all those differences seemed less important because everyone was there for a common reason: a love for the Steelers & the hope of a new season.

As I looked around, I found myself thinking about us. We are a wonderfully diverse community, too. Our congregations are different in size, history, setting, & style. We serve communities with different needs & face different opportunities & challenges. We bring different experiences & perspectives to our life together. And yet, we belong to one another.

I have the privilege of seeing the many ways God is at work throughout our presbytery. I see pastors who continue to care deeply for their congregations; ruling elders who offer faithful & steady leadership; churches finding creative ways to serve their neighbors; people continuing to pray, worship, teach, give, & care for one another, even when ministry is difficult or the future is unclear.

We are not simply spectators in this work. Each of us has gifts to offer. Every congregation has a role to play. Every voice matters. Together, we are part of something larger than any one church or individual. The fans at training camp were united by black & gold. We are united by the love of Christ.

I hope we will celebrate the diversity among us & remain curious about one another's stories. May we listen well, encourage one another, & continue to make room for every congregation & every person to share their gifts. What a gift it is to be part of a community where we do not have to be the same to belong & where, together, we can continue to follow where God is leading.

Blessings,

Erin

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Need to access the Directory? **Click here**

The directory is under password. If you need the password, call Cheryl at the office

Looking for past issues of Kiski Weekly?
Click here

Presbytery Upcoming Events

July 31st - August 14th: Angela on vacation
August 15th: 9:00am-2:00pm Intermediate Preaching Class
August 18th: 6:00pm Formation & Organization Commission
August 23rd: Angela at St. Benedict & St. Paul's United
August 30th: Angela at Heilwood & Cherry Tree

Birthdays

Pastors with August birthdays:

- August 4th: Jay Montgomery (retired)
- August 5th: Elizabeth Arter (specialized ministry)
- August 13th: John Manon (United, Blairsville)

Upcoming Events Around Kiski

Fall Classes

This fall, there are several different opportunities for learning.

Evangelism Class: this class will be meeting every Tuesday evening beginning on September 1st from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at Shelocta Church & on Zoom. Signing up for this class requires a commitment to attending classes, as well as completing all readings & homework. **Register here**.

Other Classes: **Register here.**

- September 26th, 9:00am-2:00pm: Introduction to Presbyterian Polity with Rev. Erin Kobs
- October 24th, 9:00am-2:00pm: Introduction to Reformed Theology with Rev. John Hopkins & Rev. Dr. Donald McKim
- November 14th, 9:00am-2:00pm: Introduction to Rural Ministry with Rev. Colleen McFarland & Rev. Dr. Angel De La Cruz

Clerk of Session Corner

Those of you who still need your records reviewed, please contact Erin to set up a time to get this completed prior to the end of August.

As of July 1st, the IRS mileage rate has increased to .76 per mile for pulpit supply & moderators. Please be sure to pass this information along to your treasurers & bookkeepers.

If you have not filed your annual report with the state, you need to file it immediately. Filing by June 30th is free & there is a cost to filing at this point.

Free Puppets

Free puppets in Dubois from the First United Presbyterian Church. People should call Suzanne Kirk at 814-590-6811.

Good News Board

Have some good news to share? Email us at orgpresbyter@kiskipby.org

Bulk Order for

Presbyterian Planning Calendar

Sept. 2026 - Dec. 2027

The 2026-2027 Presbyterian Planning Calendar is your indespensible companion for purposeful planning for September 2026 to December 2027. Designed for clarity & ease, each month is presented on high quality text paper that's perfect for jotting down notes & plans in pencil - erase & update effortlessly.

New Orientation - the calendar grid is now vertical instead of horizontal & will span across two pages for double the writing space for personal dates & notes.

Kiskiminetas Presbytery will be placing a bulk order for the Presbyterian Planning Calendar for churches & individuals at a discounted price of $11.50 - which includes shipping.

If purchased individually without bulk discount, cost is $27.80 (includes shipping)

Please return form to the Presbytery Office. Checks should be made payable to Kiskiminetas Presbytery. You will be contacted when calendars are available to pick up.

Name: _____

Church: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of calendars: _____ @ $11.50

If you have questions, please contact Cheryl Thomas at 724-783-7196 or programmanager@kiskipby.org