

WPA E-CONNECT



We exist to equip congregations and leadership to help people find and follow Christ.

August 2021

DON'T MISS THIS SOUL-QUENCHING DAY!

“Virtual Soul Care Retreat”

FREE to you

Thursday, August 26, 2021

10AM – 3PM Eastern

Are you tired? Have you just about done all you know to do? Has the fallout from Covid19 affected your ability to lead at the maximum level? Do you feel burned out or discouraged? Is it hard to discuss this with anyone – even family and friends?



We have all been impacted by the ongoing pandemic. Pastors particularly feel the strain – trying to keep the congregation together in the midst of their disparate ideas right now while trying to personally take care of your own self and family.

Maybe you would just like to spend a day in meditation and reflection. Even if you feel you have weathered this storm relatively well, let me encourage you to tune in for a day of self-care. We can only minister at our best when we are in a healthy place and are taking care of our own soul needs. Let me encourage you to join ministers in four different states to take part in this “SOUL CARE RETREAT”.

You can watch online at your office or at home, or you can **join a Watch Party** at any of three locations; Please contact the state office, wpaministries1@gmail.com, or Rebecca (724-867-9601) to register TODAY. Please also notify the Watch Party Host Churches, as well, of your intention to join them in order for them to know how to prepare for lunch.

This FREE event is presented by Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Western Pennsylvania Church of God Ministries.

WATCH PARTY LOCATIONS:

New Beginnings Church of God – Meadville, Curtis Clark or office

North Apollo Church of God – North Apollo, Bob Shallenberger or office

First Church of God – Punxsutawney, Rob Van Fossen or office



W PA MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH OF GOD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

October 1, 2021

8:30AM – 4:30PM

Pioneer Hall, Whitehall Camp and Conference Center

Guest Speaker, Rev. David Colp, St. Joseph, Mi. First Church of God

\$40 Clergy \$15 Retired, \$10 Spouse

Register Online by credit

card at wpamin.com Calendar – October 1, General Assembly, or download the form and send it with your check to the state office.

TIME TO UPDATE CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

If you have not renewed your Criminal Background Checks or Mandated Reporter Training since 2016, you must update them. Please turn them in to the State office this year. Because this is a state mandate, failure to do so may risk your status as an approved clergy member of WPA Ministries. Questions? Call Jenna at 724-867-9601

PROCEDURES FOR PASTOR CLEARANCES

1. PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE CRIMINAL HISTORY REPORT

- Go to <https://epatch.state.pa.us>
- Part way down click on "Submit a new record check".
- Follow instructions. (*Call the Helpdesk at 1-888-783-7772 if assistance is needed.*)
- \$22 Fee. (*Effective December 1, 2017*)

2. PENNSYLVANIA CHILD ABUSE HISTORY CLEARANCE

- Go to <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>
- This can be completed online.
- Create Individual Account and get a Keystone ID
- Continue to do the clearance. Check "Individual 14 years of age or older who is applying for or holding a paid position as an employee with a program, activity or service, as a person responsible for the child's welfare or having direct contact with children."
- You will need your Social Security number, email address, phone number, current address, all previous addresses since 1975, and names of all household members with whom you've shared a residence since 1975. At least one parent's name is needed, even if they are deceased.
- Pay fee of \$8 on credit or debit card.
- Call the helpline at 1-877-343-0494 if assistance is needed.
- Check that you want a copy mailed to you for a certificate of authenticity.

3. FBI CRIMINAL HISTORY REPORT (Fingerprint-based background check)

- Go to <https://www.identogo.com> This is a new system effective November 30, 2017.
- Click on "Get fingerprinted." Put in your state.
- Click on "Digital Fingerprinting." Enter Service Code: 1KG756: Employee older than 14 with Contact with Children.
- Schedule appointment. This will step you through the process to sign up for an appointment at a center of your choice, in your region.
- Estimated amount due is \$22.60
- Call the Helpdesk at 844-321-2124 if assistance is needed.

4. All three clearances must be obtained EVERY 60 months. Mandated Reporter Training is due to be renewed every two years.

TRANSITIONS:

Lee Ann Current, wife of Rev. Chris Current, went to be with the Lord, Wednesday, July 28. The Memorial Service is Saturday, August 14 at Towne Blvd. Church of God, Middletown, Ohio. Play for Pastor Chris and family.

Rev. Terry McGarrity has been moved to Clarion HealthCare Center, 999 Heidrick St, Clarion, PA 16214

Contact Us:

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**Visit us on the web at
www.wpamin.com**



**CHURCH
OF GOD**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 24	Weekly Clergy Zoom Call Resumes	VIRTUAL
August 26	SOUL CARE RETREAT 10AM-3PM Watch Parties: New Beginnings, Meadville North Apollo Church, North Apollo First Church of God, Punxsutawney	VIRTUAL
October 1	General Assembly 9AM-4:30PM Speaker: Rev. David Colp, First Church of God, St. Joseph, Mi	WHCC
November 6	“360” Leadership Day 9AM – 3PM	Punxsutawney
Nov. 19-21	THIRST State Youth Convention	Erie, Pa