

The International Partnership Ministry Team of Pittsburgh Presbytery invites you to a time of growth and reflection!



What would it be like if you could get away for a day? Not a “day off” really, but a time when you could stop doing what you normally do and spend time with other people who share your desire to grow in faith, mission, and partnership? What would happen in your life if you took 24 hours and decided to invest it in growing as a Christian? In learning what it means to offer yourself to God and others? In laughing, playing, praying, singing, eating, and celebrating?

If any of this sounds appealing to you, then come to Antiochian Village on October 19-20 and join friends from Pittsburgh Presbytery, The Synod of Blantyre, and the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church for a time away, a time of retreat. There will be plenty of good food, time for games and relaxation, and opportunities for worship and study.

Will you be a part of this retreat? We will be talking about “personal spiritual practices that lead to congregational revitalization.” Under the leadership of Dr. L. Roger Owens of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (<https://www.pts.edu/owensl>), we will consider notions and practices concerning the nature of spiritual growth, the gift of scripture, and our relationship with the poor.

The retreat will take place at the Antiochian Village Center near Ligonier, PA (about 60 miles east of The Point in Pittsburgh). This experience will bring up to 100 adult representatives from congregations in Pittsburgh Presbytery to interact with approximately 25 African missionaries. Our deep hope is that this will be a time for relationship building, missional imagination, and congregational vitality.

Because of the layout of the conference center, participants will be housed in a triple-occupancy room for the night. Registrants can request roommates, or we will be happy to assign them. While we realize that for many people this is not the ideal situation, this configuration will allow the greatest number of participants for the experience.

WHEN: Participants may arrive any time after 3:00 PM for fellowship at Antiochian Village on Friday, October 19. Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM and the retreat will last until after dinner on Saturday, October 20

WHERE: Antiochian Village (<https://www.antiochianvillage.org>)

COST: We are asking each participant to contribute \$120 to cover 4 meals and lodging. Use the link below to register and pay with a credit card or PayPal.

REGISTRATION: https://form.jotform.com/pghpresby/international_partnership_retreat

There are a limited number of “commuter” slots available for those who are unable to attend on Friday evening but free to come for the day on Saturday (\$45 cost for 3 meals), or for those who want to attend all the sessions but live close enough to commute (\$60 cost for 4 meals). Use the link above to register.

The International Partnership Ministry Team of Pittsburgh Presbytery exists in order to help strengthen and encourage the church for faithful and fruitful discipleship in Pittsburgh Presbytery, the Synod of Blantyre, the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church and beyond. Specifically, this ministry team is charged with coordinating the relationship between the ecclesial bodies known as Pittsburgh Presbytery (Presbyterian Church USA), the Synod of Blantyre (Church of Central Africa: Presbyterian), and the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church as well as individual congregations within those expressions of the church. See <http://pghpip.org/>.