



2018 Stated Meeting

of the

Presbytery of Redstone
Presbyterian Church (USA)

November 17, 2018



Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church
Dunbar, PA

*Communicate the Word... Carry on the Work... Change the World
Together*

Directions to Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church
327 Laurel Hill Road
Dunbar, PA 15431
724.439.6212

From I-70

Take Route 51 South, travel 14.8 miles Turn left at the traffic light onto Laurel Hill Road by the Kawasaki dealership. Travel 2.9 miles. Church is on the left.

From Uniontown PA

Follow Route 51 North from Route 119. Travel 3.7 miles. Turn right onto Laurel Hill Road by the Kawasaki dealership. Travel 2.9 miles. Church is on the left.

From Connellsville PA

Get onto West Crawford Avenue. Access West Crawford Avenue from Route 119 by turning right by the Sheetz in Connellsville. Don't take the sharp right. From Route 711, go straight at the light onto West Crawford Avenue. Once on West Crawford Avenue, drive 5.2 miles, the road then becomes Laurel Hill Road. Travel 1.2 miles. Church is on the right.

Notes for the November 2018 Presbytery Meeting!

- Presbyters are reminded to get “Prayer Requests” to the Clerk as soon as possible as they will be lifted up during the prayers in the Worship Service.
- The Offering received during worship at this meeting will go to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Presbytery of Redstone Gathering
 Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, Dunbar, PA; November 17, 2018
 "Empowering Mission Partnerships"

8:00 a.m.	<u>Registration and fellowship</u>	Parlor
9:00 a.m.	<u>Formation of the Roll</u> <u>Seating of Corresponding Members</u> <u>Introduction of Elders</u> <u>Arrangements</u> <u>Clerk(s) Reports</u> <u>Stated Clerk for Administration</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence log (p. 4) • Annual Reports (Appendix A) <u>Stated Clerk for Constitutional/Judicial matters</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent Agenda (p. 5) <i>(new business should be submitted in writing to Associate Clerk by the Announcements Loop)</i> <u>Treasurer's Report</u> (p. 6) <u>Executive Presbyter's Report</u> (p. 7)	Rev. Cliff Foster Rev. Cliff Foster Joshua Scully Rev. Mike Shepard Rev. Skip Noftzger Rev. Cliff Foster John Dickson Rev. Skip Noftzger
	<u>Worship</u>	Josh Scully
	Announcements "Loop"	Rev. Niki Atkinson
	<u>Reports</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pine Springs Camp (p. 9) • Mission network (p. 10) • Synod of the Trinity 	Greg Davis Rev. Sylvia Carlson Rev. Lori Bass-Riley
	<u>Action Agenda</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council - (p. 12) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2018 Budget 2. Addictions ministry network questionnaire • Committee on Ministry (p. 15) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commissioning of Josh Scully to serve the Little Redstone congregation 2. Honorable Retirements— Rev. Cynthia Cadenhead Rev. Suzanne Currie Rev. Aleda Menchyk • Nominating Committee - (p. 19) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vice Moderator 2. Committee nominations • New Business 	Bobbi Jo Huebner Rev. Martin Ankrum Rev. Curtis Paul
	<u>Benediction</u> <u>Adjournment</u>	

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on Saturday, January 26, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon, PA.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT:

1. During the period since the last regularly stated Presbytery meeting, all correspondence that was received was responded to and/or appropriately routed for review and response to the appropriate entity of Presbytery.

CORRESPONDENCE LOG

Date Received	Received From	Content	Action
October 29, 2018 - email	Member Services of the Board of Pensions	Notification of the death of the Rev. Gary Close	To FILE
October 29, 2018 - email	Kristi Rice/Rev. James Par Tap	Thanks for support during his recent visit	To MISSION and FILE
October 26, 2018 - email	Ben Chapley, Howard Hanna Realty	Offer and Sales Agreement on West Leisenring Church property	To COUNCIL and FILE
October 25, 2018 - mail	Harmony Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	2019 Terms of Call for CP Glenn Hart along with a new 3-year contract	To COM and FILE
October 23, 2018 - hand delivered	Westmoreland County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc.	Grant approval needing signatures	To COUNCIL, SIGNED and RETURNED
October 23, 2018 - hand delivered	Sewickley United Presbyterian Church, West Newton	New 3-year contract between the church and CP Glenn Hart and Session's Evaluation of CP Form	To COM and FILE
October 22, 2019 - email	Kris Valerius, Assistant Stated Clerk, PCUSA	List of Redstone Pastors needing more information	COMPLETED and RETURNED
October 11, 2018 - mail	West Hempfield Presbyterian Church, Irwin	2019 Terms of Call for the Rev. Andrew Wirt along with his pastoral call form	To COM and FILE
September 29, 2018 - email	Perry Chang, Research Associate - Presbyterian Mission Agency	2018 Clerk's Annual Questionnaire	To CLERKS and FILE
September 24, 2018 - mail	Rev. Suzanne Currie	Letter requesting to be granted Honorably Retired status effective 1/1/2019	To COM and FILE
September 17, 2018 - email	Harmony Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	Gas Lease	To FILE
September 17, 2018 - email	Rehoboth Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon	Child Protection Policy	To FILE
September 17, 2018 - mail	Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian Church, Merrittstown	Waiver of Rotation for terms of service for Session member	To COM and FILE

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, Rev. Skip Noftzger, presents the following Consent Agenda.

From Executive Committee

1. Following the review of the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Stated Clerk and Associate Stated Clerk, it is **recommended** that the minutes of the Presbytery meeting of the September 18, 2018 be approved.

From the Council

1. Council **recommends** that the Financial Reports presented to the Council be received and filed for audit. (See Appendix B)
2. As part of the 2019 annual budget, the Council **recommends** the approval of the 2019 Terms of Call (see below) for the Executive Presbyter.
Salary —55,390; Housing---15,000; Deferred Compensation (403B) ---6,409
Pensions (medical, retirement, death/ disability) ---18,113; Vacation---5 weeks
Study Leave---2 weeks/1,500; Professional Expenses---1,825; Travel---4,750
3. Council **recommends** that the Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Mission, Pine Springs Camp and Synod commissioner reports presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.

From the Committee on Ministry

1. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** that Presbytery grant the request of the Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian Church, Merritstown for a waiver of rotation for Ruling Elder Darlene Troisi.
2. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** the abolition of the position of installed pastor of the Springhill Furnace Presbyterian Church, Lake Lynn.

From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

1. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry and the Committee on Ministry **recommends** approval of the "Indebtedness Policy and Guidelines." (Appendix C)

Treasurer's Report

INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT REPORT

This report represents an unaudited overview of the Redstone Presbytery finances for the tenth (10th) operating month of the budgeted calendar year ending October 31, 2018.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW / INCOME

Church Commitments recorded for the month totaled \$30,706. The amount received aligns with monthly budgeted needs to meet expenses. YTD Church Commitments are about 4% behind budget or \$12,016.

Total Income for the month of \$34,873 aligns with monthly budgeted expectations. YTD Total Income is well above budgeted expectations of the year at \$484,270 versus an expectation of \$345,000. The positive result is due to the sale proceeds from the Windber Church.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW / EXPENSES

In review of the expenses for the Presbytery, it is hopeful that operational costs are trending no higher than 83% at the end of October. There are a few cost categories exceeding 83%, this is a result for the most part timing matters.

There are no concerns to report in regard to expenses.

EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENSES

For the current period / month, expenses exceed income by \$507.00 and YTD income is positive by \$60,030.

INVESTMENTS & ASSETS

The Ameriprise Investments for the period ending October 31, 2018 reflects a negative change in value for the month at -\$26,897.83 and YTD at this time is also negative at -\$8,339.07. Total ending value is \$416,631.83.

The Presbyteries other investment holdings from First Commonwealth, PILP, New Covenant and Pine Springs totals \$449,710 (Note: Account totals are carried over from Septembers Treasurers Report. Information from these accounts is provided on a quarterly basis).

Total Investments & Holdings = \$866,606.

Respectfully Submitted,

John R. Dickson IV
Treasurer

MINISTRY AND MISSION REPORTS

Executive Presbyter

**Rev. Richard "Skip" Noftzger
Executive Presbyter Report**

Communicate the Word, Carry on the Work, Change the World.....Together!

VISION	9/18/2018-11/17/2018	
<p>Congregation-centered (ENGAGE)</p>	<p>Visible presence within the Presbytery engaging with congregations--- Church Visits---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visited nine congregations in worship or special services since the last presbytery meeting. Preached at six worship services. Attended or moderated four session meetings, including those have begun a pastoral transition. Moderated two congregational meetings. • Worked with three different Pastor Nominating Committees in the completion and posting of their ministry information form. Have initiated referrals in order that they might begin their search process. • Continue to work with three different sessions who are considering non-traditional pastoral options, as they negotiate their way through various pastoral transitions. • Initiated support for all of the PNC committees (6) in their ongoing efforts in the search process, including continuing to actively refer candidates, conduct reference checks, arrange examinations and set up neutral pulpits. • Writing and posting devotions, articles, and referrals for consultation through email, eNews, Facebook page and web pages. 	
<p>Leadership developed (EQUIP)</p>	<p>Developing and equipping leadership within the Presbytery---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met individually with many pastors in nineteen in-person consultations to review pastoral concerns and offering advice and counsel on future ministry plans and issues. • Introduced the formation of policy and guidelines on indebtedness for both candidates and incoming pastors. Presented, reviewed and approved by both the Committee on Preparation for Ministry and the Committee on Ministry. • Initiated contact with all inquirers and candidates under the "care" of the Presbytery. Also, initiated contact to explore possibilities with other students who might discerning their call to pastoral ministry. • Served as a resource both by phone and in person for several candidates outside and within our Presbytery who are interested in being considered for open pastoral positions. • Assisted the Nominating Committee in identifying leadership and contacting them for positions of leadership within the Presbytery. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing leadership in the instruction (New Testament course), mentoring (Church Leadership practicum) and follow up with those participating in the shared InterPresbytery Leadership formation program (training for ruling elders to be commissioned). 					
Collaboration- Districts/Network (ENABLE)	<p>Joined and initiated contact both within and outside Redstone---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided leadership and participation in the COM and CMP gathering and training event sponsored by the Synod of the Trinity. • Continue to participate and support affinity, networking and pastor groups within our presbytery as they continue to meet. . • Continue to serve on the Executive Committee of Christian Associates and as an active member of the Board of Judicatory Executives. Will be participating in the development of plans for 50th year celebration. • Instigated the possible joint gathering of both Redstone and Washington presbyteries in 2019. Invited one of the co-moderators to be present and to preach at that meeting. Ongoing communication with her about possible other events during her visit as well. • Worked with Addictions Ministry network on the administrative and fiduciary responsibilities related to a grant from the Westmoreland Drug and Alcohol Commission. 					
Partnership in Mission promoted (EMPOWER)	<p>Promoted and provided leadership in our partnerships in mission---</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active engagement with our visitors from our South Sudanese partnership (SSPEC). Initiated and hosted a pastor's luncheon as well as participating in other events in congregations around the presbytery. • Continue to work with the finance committee as well as participate in the board of Pine Springs Camp. Ongoing consultation with the Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp in initiating a new strategic plan for the camp. Preparing and will be participating in the annual "Friends" dinner. 					
Operational Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with the Finance and Budget subcommittee in the preparation of the proposed 2019 budget as well as review of the Presbytery investment portfolio. Reviewed and recommended any property/finance requests. • Developed and produced stewardship materials for the presbytery. Contacted all congregations with materials for the purpose of requesting 2019 First Fruits pledges. • Served as primary administrative person in consultation with the realtor, attorneys and potential buyers for the West Leisenring property. • Ongoing resource and consultation with pastors, treasurers and sessions concerning employment contracts and annual enrollment within the medical plan of the Board of Pensions. 					
VALUES	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Servant Leadership</td> <td>Flourishing Community</td> <td>Witness to the World</td> <td>Generous and effective Stewardship</td> </tr> </table>	Servant Leadership	Flourishing Community	Witness to the World	Generous and effective Stewardship	
Servant Leadership	Flourishing Community	Witness to the World	Generous and effective Stewardship			
<i>Soli Deo Gloria</i>						

Pine Springs Camp

The Faith for the Future Campaign is now Completed-An Incredible Blessing from God

In approximately two and a half years, through the generosity of over 240 individuals, 35 churches and two foundations we were able to raise...

\$1,916,500!

We are so grateful for God's rich and abundant blessing and we are excited that the fruit of the Campaign will continue for the next couple of years. We are committed to use the remaining funds for more improvements to our facilities and adding more programmatic things that campers will get to enjoy.

Mark Your Calendars for these Spring Events

February 15-17-Remix our Middle and High School Remix Winter Retreat-Space is limited-Register Early

April 5-7- Women in The Woods-Great Fellowship, Great Food, Great Teaching-

April 12-13- Redstone Confirmation Retreat

April 26-28- Catalyst-Men's Backpacking Experience

Summer Camp-2019

Fee and Camp Schedule has been approved and brochures will be out in early to mid-December. We will be passing our church packets at the next Presbytery Meeting.

It is not too early for churches to start talking ways to get youth to come to camp. Please contact the camp and we will help. If you would like for us to come to your church or community, please call Mike Hurley our Summer Camp Director.

Be looking for our annual Recruiting and encouragement events like PSC Skates, PSC Jumps and Five Guys at Four Guys Fundraising Event.

Rooted in Joy-Friends Dinner Sunday, November 18, 2019

A great way to help Pine Springs Camp is to support the Friends Dinner and specifically our Silent Auction. By donating a theme basket or an item such as sporting, or event tickets is a great way to help us reach our fundraising goals. All proceeds go to the Annual fund of Pine Springs Camp.

Please contact the camp office if interested in either attending the dinner or giving an item.

Your Prayers for the Ministry are appreciated!

Mission Committee

In October we were privileged to have here in Redstone with us the Rev. James Par Tap and Deaconess Nyankuach Ngor Chol from the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church (SSPEC.) They spoke at the Community United Presbyterian Church in New Alexandria and had lunch at the home of the Eliason family; had an opportunity to do some shopping for souvenirs Sunday afternoon; dined with Rev. Donna Havrisko and Sylvia Carlson at Hoss's in Greensburg; they spoke at the Pleasant View Presbyterian Church in Smock; they met with the Monday Morning Sewing Circle at First Presbyterian Church in Greensburg and had lunch at the Lamplighter in Delmont; visited the Westmoreland County Food Bank and learned about hungry people in Westmoreland County; had dinner and spoke at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Greensburg; and had lunch with Redstone clergy at the Maplewood Presbyterian Church and told their stories.

We learned that many South Sudanese continue to be displaced within and outside the borders of South Sudan. Pastor James told us that pastors are reaching out to all of the displaced persons, even as they, too, are struggling to provide for their families. His own family is separated due to the ongoing civil war. He seeks our prayers that the peace initiative that was signed in July in Juba (and celebrated October 31 in Juba with leaders of other African nations) will lead to peace in South Sudan. He asks for our continued prayers for the churches and all of the people of South Sudan.

Madam Chol is involved politically in the process to resolve the issues related to Abyei, the contested area in South Sudan, which just happens to hold all of the oil reserves. The oil pipeline runs through Sudan to Port Sudan. She represents the government of South Sudan in the talks with the Khartoum government. Before the split into two countries, she was the youngest member of Parliament in Khartoum. She is a graduate of the theological seminary in Cairo, Egypt, and before the separation taught at Gerief Bible School. She also taught Christian Education in the Khartoum government schools until they insisted that she teach on Sunday, which she was not willing to do. She sees her mission as working with Muslims, as well as working with women and providing workshops for trauma healing.

Presbyterian Women

Redstone PW held its fall gathering at First Presbyterian Church in Irwin. We were warmly received by the women (and men) of the church. The men were the chefs who prepared the tasty lunch. Pastors Ron Wakeman and Ron Durika greeted us and spoke of the history and mission of the church. Opening worship included highlights from the 2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women which was held in Louisville, KY at the Galt House Hotel and conference center.

Rev. Donna Havrisko presented an overview of the 2018-2019 Horizons Bible Study, "God's Promise: I Am with You" by Amy Poling Sutherland. The women who attend the gathering always are pleased to hear her.

We weren't sure whether Madam Nguankuac Ngor Chol would be able to obtain a visa to come to the US, due to issues regarding the end date on her passport. We also knew that during the time of our gathering she would be hosted by Pittsburgh Presbytery, and so we were very grateful to Presbyterian Women in Pittsburgh who brought Chol to Irwin for the day. Madam Chol was the first SSPEC woman to earn a degree in theological education from the theological seminary in Cairo, Egypt. Before the separation into two countries, she taught Christian Education in the Khartoum public schools and later taught at Gereif Bible School in Khartoum. She was also the youngest Member of Parliament in Khartoum. Now a deaconess in the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church, Chol spoke about her life in South Sudan and her work in Christian Education and in the political arena. She presently is the chair of the South Sudan Commission to resolve the issues with the government of Sudan pertaining to the ownership of the oil that is pumped from the contested area of Abyei, her native home in South Sudan, and transported via pipeline through Sudan to Port Sudan.

The women from Pittsburgh also brought with them a woman from Malawi whose name is Emily Chamangwana. Pittsburgh has a tripartite partnership with the Blantyre Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Malawi and also with SSPEC. Emily told her story of having been raped. We were told later that she had never ever before spoken up in a group. We gathered around Emily and Chol and prayed for them and laid hands on them. It was a powerful ending for the day.

In other news, Judy Koontz, Mission Coordinator for Redstone Presbyterian Women, held a food packaging event for Rise Against Hunger at the Community United Presbyterian Church in New Alexandria on Saturday, October 20. 90 volunteers of all ages packaged 25,000 meals in one morning. Yes, that's 25,000 meals. The money to conduct this event was raised by collecting wearable shoes, and from rummage and yard sales and through contributions from many people. Rise Against Hunger was founded in 1998 by a Methodist minister, Ray Buchanan. Rise Against Hunger's approach to ending hunger centers on mobilizing a global network of hunger champions. Volunteers produce millions of nutritious meals annually that are then distributed to partners in countries around the world. Those partners are best able to address the causes and effects of hunger based on their local presence and expertise. Through a thorough monitoring and evaluation process, they ensure the meals distributed by those partners are used as a tool to change lives by promoting education, improving students' health and nutrition, addressing gender inequalities, stimulating economic growth, and fighting child labor.

Respectfully Submitted, Rev. Sylvia Carlson, Moderator

ACTION AGENDA

Presbytery Council

[Links to complete copies of the Minutes of Council can be found online at www.redstone.org under the "Presbytery Council Meeting Dates" tab.]

Action Items

- The Council recommends the approval of the proposed 2019 Budget for the Presbytery of Redstone. (See Appendix D) *(This budget was submitted for a first reading in September with a second reading and vote in this November meeting.)*
- The Council has scheduled the proposed constitutional amendments of the Book of Order for the March and May meetings in 2019.
 March—18-A—18-D
 May—18-E—18-H.2
 Please read and prepare for those deliberations (<http://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/ga223-proposed-amendments-book-order/>).
- The Addictions ministry network has received a grant from the Westmoreland County Alcohol and Drug Commission and has received permission from Council for distribution of a related questionnaire. (See Appendix E)

Information Items

October 23, 2018 meeting

Moderator

The Agenda, as submitted, was approved by unanimous consent.

Approval of the Minutes

It was MSP to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2018 meeting of Council.

REPORTS

Moderator

- There were no consent items approved since the last meeting.

Stated Clerk

- The Stated Clerk presented the correspondence log since the last Council meeting for review by the Council.
- The Stated Clerk reviewed the upcoming Council meeting dates.
 November 27, 2018.
- The Stated Clerk distributed the following 2019 Council and Presbytery dates:
 - 1/8/2019---Council
 - 1/26/2019---Presbytery (1:00 p.m.; New Hope Presbyterian, North Huntingdon)
 - 2/26/2019---Council
 - 3/26/2019---Presbytery (6:00 p.m.; First, Irwin)
 - 4/23/2019---Council
 - 5/21/2019---Presbytery (6:00 p.m.; First, Murrysville)
 - 6/25/2019---Council
 - 8/27/2019---Council
 - 9/24/2019---Presbytery (10:00 a.m.; Pine Springs Camp)

- 10/22/2019--Council
 - 11/23/2019--Presbytery (9:00 a.m.; Pleasant View)
 - 11/27/2019 – Council
- The Stated Clerk reported the following outstanding concerns.
 - The buyer for the West Leisenring property has withdrawn the offer as the result of not being able to resolve the reversionary clause language in the deed. Consequently, it remains for sale and can probably only be sold to a congregation. There is interest by one congregation, but not at the current price. Previously, Council authorized accepting any offers of 35000 and above. Reconsideration should be given to lowering that figure. **MSP** to authorize and sell the property to a congregation with an offer of 25000 or higher.
 - The Stated Clerk noted for the Council that Washington Presbytery has accepted our offer to have joint presbytery meeting on September 24, 2019.

Executive Presbyter

- Skip Noftzger, Executive Presbyter, requested approval of vacation days for November 19-21; December 10-12, 16-20 and January 2-3. **MSP** to approve this request.
- The Executive Presbyter noted that letters and material had been sent to each of the sessions and pastors concerning First Fruits pledges. Also, included was the giving history for the past seven years. It is critical that we return to prior giving levels or there will need to be either further structural changes or greater reliance upon investment assets.
- Skip Noftzger reported on his contact with Rev. Cindy Kohlman, Co-Moderator of the PCUSA General Assembly and her availability for the September 2019 joint presbyteries meeting. **MSP** to invite Rev. Kohlman to serve as the preacher for that joint meeting and to sear her as a corresponding member.
- A copy of a list of General Assembly (2018) actions that are proposed amendments to the Book of Order were distributed. Consideration was given to which upcoming meetings where these amendments would be placed on the agenda. **MSP** to consider the first five (18-A; 18-B.1; 18-B.2; 18-C and 18-D) at the March 2019 meeting and the latter five (18-E; 18-F; 18-G; 18-H.1; and 18-H.2) at the May meeting.
- Upcoming events for youth are in the process of being promoted. These include the Annual Confirmation Retreat (Pine Springs, April 12-13, 2019) and Youth Triennium (, 2019). Council members are encouraged to promote these opportunities for youth.

Treasurer

- A written Treasurer's report for the first nine months of the new fiscal year. Contributions fell significantly behind in the month of September. Consequently, while monthly expenses continue to be monitored and controlled, there is a great need for improved giving and support.

Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp

- The Executive Director, Greg Davis noted the upcoming November 18 "Friends Dinner" (Sunset Room, Elizabeth, PA). He showed a special video that has been prepared with the successful conclusion of the capital campaign.

MSP to receive and file the reports from the Stated Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Director, and Executive Presbyter.

SUBCOMMITTEES/NETWORKS/TASK FORCES

Staff Support

- No report.

Communications

- A written report with information about upcoming Redstone Stories, transition in the Announcement Loop administration and preparation of an Advent Devotional was received.

Missions

- An oral report detailing the visit of Rev. James Par Tap and Deaconess Chol was received. Events were held at Community United Presbyterian Church, Pleasant View Presbyterian Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg and a special Pastors luncheon. Additionally, our partners also toured the Westmoreland County Food Bank. A short video available on the blog of our mission co-workers in South Sudan was shown.

Budget and Finance

- The recommended budget for 2019 will be received, deliberated and voted upon at the November Presbytery meeting.
- It is imperative that we receive First Fruits pledges and that we are able to project whether we will be able to meet the 2019 revenue goals.

Addictions Ministry

- Through the Presbytery, the Addictions Ministry Network has written and received a Thomas Nega Drug-Free Lifestyle Grant (\$1,215) from the Westmoreland Drug and Alcohol Commission. The purpose of the grant is to purchase Life Recovery Bibles and to develop a "Theology and Addiction" Small Group Prevention Curriculum. The Network requests permission to distribute a survey (November meeting and afterward) to determine needs assessment among church leaders within the Presbytery. **MSP** to grant permission for the use and distribution of the survey.

Presbyterian Women

- No report was received.

Reports of the various subcommittees, networks and task forces were received by **consent**.

NOVEMBER PRESBYTERY AGENDA

- The proposed agenda for the November 2018 Presbytery of Redstone gathering was submitted. After consideration, **MSP** to approve the agenda as proposed.

Committee on Ministry

Action Items

- The Committee on Ministry **recommends** the commissioning of Joshua Scully to serve as the Commissioned Pastor of the Little Redstone Presbyterian Church.
- The Committee on Ministry **recommends** the change to Honorably Retired status of the following presbyters:
 - Rev. Cynthia Cadenhead
 - Rev. Suzanne Currie
 - Rev. Aleda Menchyk

Information Items

November 1, 2018 meeting

MSP to approve the minutes for the October 4, 2018 meeting as submitted.

Stated Clerk Report

- Discussion of the Correspondence Log related to COM (handout).
- Following discussion, with the understanding that it will go in the manual with presbytery resources, **MSP** to approve the *Policy on Student / Clergy Indebtedness and Debt Relief Assistance* for both inquirers and candidates (CPM) and incoming ministers (COM). (emailed in advance of the meeting)

Moderator Report

- The following moderator appointments have been made:

o First Presbyterian Church, Masontown	Rev. Lee McDermott
o First Presbyterian Church, Dunbar	Rev. Aleda Menchyk
o First Presbyterian Church, Fayette City	Rev. Aleda Menchyk
o Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, Dunbar	Rev. Katy Yates Brungraber
o Palmer Community Presbyterian Church, Adah	Rev. Laura Blank

Examinations Subcommittee

- The committee completed the examination of Joshua Scully as candidate for commissions.
MSP to approve Joshua Scully as eligible to be commissioned at the November 17 meeting of presbytery.

Search and Call Subcommittee

- Discussion of the Transition Chart that was handed out in folders for the meeting.
- **MSP** to approve request to renew the Interim Pastor contract between First PC, Jeannette and Rev. William King.
- **MSP** to approve the Ministry Information Form for Community UPC, New Alexandria for half-time pastor.
- **MSP** to approve the Commissioned Pastor contract (¼ time) between Little Redstone PC and RE Joshua Scully, effective Nov. 19, 2018.

Authorized Preacher/Commissioned RE Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

The second face-to-face for the New Testament course was held on October 13 and is on track.

- Current Redstone cohort participants include
 - o William Weightman, First, Belle Vernon
 - o Brian Umbel, Springhill Furnace, Lake Lynn
 - o Karen Kifer, West Hempfield, Irwin

o Doug Yauger, Trinity, Uniontown

Save the date: AP/CRE fellowship dinner (2019.1.20); workshops - Polity /Spiritual Formation (2019.3.3)

Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders reported by Michael Shepard -

- The following pastors and congregations were lifted up in prayer.
 - o Cards were signed and sent to the following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Ruling Elders: Curtis Paul, John Pressler, Robert Prinkey, Marnie Russell, John Sharp, Michael Shepard, Becca Siddle, Marnie Silbert, John Simpson, and Doug Stevens.
 - o Cards were signed and sent for the following Churches: Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence; Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence; United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington; New Salem Presbyterian Church; New Hope Presbyterian Church, North Huntingdon; Patton Presbyterian Church; Revloc Presbyterian Church; Calvin United Presbyterian Church, Scottdale; Grace Chapel Presbyterian Church, Smithfield; Pleasant View Presbyterian Church, Smock.
- These lists are also used to remember pastors, CREs, and congregations in prayer throughout the month.
- Districts met to discuss joys and concerns in particular congregations. Prayer requests brought forward included building use, Reformation Sunday, travel mercies (group in Holy Lands), staffing needs, mission efforts, Advent and Christmas musicals, safety issues on Halloween, district gatherings bringing together colleagues, movement on interviews in churches in transition, nominating committees seeking new officers, tithing, All Saints, and remembering those murdered at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Executive Presbyter's Report given by Skip Noftzger -

- Rev. Noftzger talked about the events of the past week at Tree of Life Synagogue and some of the responses. He shared with everyone his Enews article (Let the Tears Flow) which called for action, but also self-examination for the ways we contribute to an environment of anger and intolerance. He also updated members on the social media video controversy concerning a pastor in Pittsburgh Presbytery and provided the written response by his colleague, Rev. Sheldon Sorge.
- **MSP** to approve a request from Springhill Furnace PC to abolish the position of installed pastor. While the Board of Pensions has established a policy that they will no longer be collecting vacancy dues (2019), nonetheless, they have been billed for vacancy dues after the retirement of Rev. Hickok. Because they do not anticipate calling another installed pastor, the session of Springhill Furnace requested the abolition of the position.

Unfinished Business - None.

New Business - Martin Ankrum acknowledged with thanks those who are completing three-year terms on COM: Bernice Adams (Westmont PC), Aleda Menchyk (Calvin PC, Brownsville), and Mike Shepard (retired); also George Cooney (health prevented him from attending this past year). In addition, the committee expressed appreciation to Martin Ankrum, completing his two-year term as Moderator.

MSP to adjourn with prayer for congregations, Teaching Elders, and CRE's listed above at 7:45 PM.

October 4, 2018 Meeting

Report of the Stated Clerk

Rev. Skip Noftzger gave an update to the committee on the following matters:

- Correspondence Log related to COM - this was a handout.
- Request for designation of Honorably Retired status for Rev. Suzanne Currie, effective December 31, 2018.
- Request for dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Katy Yates Brungraber and the Ft. Burd Presbyterian Church (congregational meeting; 9/30/18) effective October 31, 2018.

Moderator Report

- Moderator appointments
Ft. Burd---Rev. Skip Noftzger

Reports of Sub-Committees

Search and Call - Chuck MacPherson gave the following updates:

Transition Chart included in packet was discussed.

- Approve the Ministry Information Form for Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell.
- Approve the Ministry Information Form for First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon.

Examinations - reported by Cliff Foster

- Orientation with Rev. Wirt, Rev. Glunt, Rev. Whitaker, and Rev. Johnson
- Schedule examination of Josh Scully as candidate for commissioning to the Little Redstone Presbyterian Church.

AP/CRE subcommittee (COM/CPM)

New Testament course has begun (second face-face on October 13)

Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders - Michael Shepard Chair requested:

1. Cards to be signed and sent to the following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Ruling Elders: John McClure, Lee McDermott, David McElroy, Aleda Menchyk, Leonard Morgan, John Morrow, Rodney Murray, Skip Noftzger, David O'Hara, Kirk Orr

Please use this list to remember them in your prayers throughout this month

2. Cards signed and sent for the following Churches:

Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell; First Presbyterian Church, Masontown;
McClellandtown Presbyterian Church; Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian Church, Merrittstown;
Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant; First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville;
Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville; Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville;
Community United Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria;
Congruity Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria

Please use this list to remember the Churches above in prayer throughout the month.

Executive Presbyter's Report

Synod COM/CPM Fall Gathering will be November 8-9 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center. Registration deadline is Wednesday October 10.

Action Items

- **No action items for this meeting.**

Information Items

October 2, 2018 Meeting

Current Inquirer(s)

- **Cynthia Bellina, Third Presbyterian, Uniontown**
Student, Dubuque Theological Seminary

Current Candidate(s)

- **Rick Watson, Calvin, Scottdale**
Student, Dubuque Theological Seminary
- The Committee met with candidate Rick Watson to monitor his progress both academically in enrolled classes and his fieldwork as part of Supervised Practical Ministry.

Permission was given to Rick Watson to register and complete the remaining ordination examinations (Theology, Worship/Sacraments and Exegesis)

Discussion with Rick took place concerning placement for his last Supervised Practical Ministry course (Spring, 2019) and possible plans upon graduation (May 2019).

- The Committee was presented with policy and guidelines for working with candidates concerning indebtedness. The policy and guidelines were approved by **consent**.

Nominating Committee

Action Items

- The Nominating Committee nominates Elder Chuck West (Puckety, Lower Burrell) to be the Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of Redstone in 2019.
- The Nominating Committee nominates the following persons for the Offices/Classes indicated:

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL:

Tim D'Aurora (1); District I, New Alexandria, Congruity (2021)

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:

Helen Toms (1); District II, Irwin, West Hempfield (2021)

Jeff Smith (1); District III, Belle Vernon, Rehoboth (2021)

Rev. Jane Johnson (1); District III, Member-at-Large (2021)

Charnet Koch (1) District IV, First, Johnstown (2021)

SYNOD OF THE TRINITY COMMISSIONER:

Bernice Adams; District IV, Westmont, Johnstown (2021)

Information Items

- The Nominating Committee is requesting suggestions and recommendations for possible positions both on standing committees and subcommittees of the Presbytery. If you or others (ruling elders) you know desire to participate in some form of Presbytery leadership, please offer your name or others as suggestions for consideration by the Nominating Committee.