

Presbytery of Redstone
March 15, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The ecclesiastical and corporate meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone was convened at 1:03 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, 2016, at the Westmont Presbyterian Church in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, by the Moderator, Teaching Elder Pete Goetschius and opened with prayer.

FORMATION OF THE ROLL

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster, attested to the fact that a quorum was present in order to conduct the business of the meeting.

CHURCH	<u>MINISTERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>
	Bruce Cadenhead	
	Sylvia Carlson, HR	
	Jim Farrer, HR	
	Charles MacPherson, HR	
	Skip Noftzger	
Adah, Palmer Community		
Apollo, Pine Run		
Apollo, Poke Run	Peter Goetschius	Linda Chicka
Avonmore, First	Larry Armstrong, SS	
Belle Vernon, First	Suzanne Currie	Bobbi Jo Huebner
Belle Vernon, Harmony	Glenn Hart, CRE	
Belle Vernon, Marion		
Belle Vernon, Rehoboth	Dick Klein	
Bolivar, United	James Sunseri, CRE (**)	
Boswell, Covenant		
Brownsville, Calvin	Aleda Menchyk, SS	
Brownsville, Ft. Burd	Katy Yates Brungraber	Lynne Rankin
Brownsville, Hopewell		
Colver	Laura Blank, SS (**)	
Cresson	Dave McCabe	Jill Cavalet
Dawson, Tyrone		
Delmont	Caroline Vickery	David Washburn
Derry		
Dunbar, First		
Dunbar, Laurel Hill		
Ebensburg, First	Laura Blank, SS (**)	Jim Stratton
Fairchance		
Farmington, Mt. Washington		
Fayette City, First	Mike Shepard, SS (**)	Robert Kubina
Fayette City, L Redstone	Mike Shepard, SS (**)	James Anderson
Greensburg, First	Martin Ankrum Nicole Brodeur	
Greensburg, Maplewood	Steve LaSor	

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Greensburg, Westminster	Donna Havrisko	William Chishko
Irwin, First	Ronald Wakeman Ron Durika	Tom Shipley, Charlene Lauderbaugh, Ray Edelman, Lillian Beeson
Irwin, West Hempfield	Peggy Shannon	
Jeannette	Robert Fuehrer	Nancy Peters
Johnstown, Bethany		
Johnstown, First	Alice Tondora	Sheila Farrer
Johnstown, Second		Joe Carney
Johnstown, Westmont	Craig Miller	Bernice Adams, Brian Misner, Linda Thomson
Lake Lynn, Springhill		
Latrobe		
Latrobe, United		
Leisenring		
Ligonier, Pleasant Grove		
Lower Burrell, Grace	Ken Foust	
Lower Burrell, Puckety		
Masontown		
McClellandtown		
Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek		
Mt. Pleasant, Reunion	Sue Washburn, SS	
Murrysville, First		
Murrysville, Newlonsburg	Curtis Paul Marnie Silbert	Lynn Comstock, Joseph Grajewski
Murrysville, Union	Derek Campbell	
New Alexandria, Community		Elinor McGoldrick
New Alexandria, Congruity	Cliff Foster	Carol Hohman
New Florence, Bethel	James Sunseri, CRE (**)	Cheryl Wieromiej
New Florence, Trinity	Carole Isley Corey, IP	Gwen Gamble
New Kensington, United	Wendy Keys	
New Salem		
North Huntingdon, New Hope		Eleanor St. Clair
Patton		
Revloc		
Scottdale, Calvin		
Smithfield, Grace Chapel		
Smock, Pleasant View		
Trafford, Level Green		
Uniontown, Tent		

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Uniontown, Third	Colleen Molinaro, IP	
Uniontown, Trinity	Tom Holslag, IP	
Vanderbilt, E. Liberty		
Vandergrift	Neal Galley	
West Newton, Sewickley		
West Newton, Sewickley U.	Glenn Hart, CRE (**)	
West Newton, United		
Windber, First	Cynthia Cadenhead	Barbara Locke
Notation:	(*) = pastor from another denomination (#) = pastor from another presbytery	(**) = pastor or CRE serving more than one church

By Virtue of Office: Don Gobel, Presbytery Council; Lynn Mance, Presbytery Council

Corresponding Members: Art Moffat, Johnstown, Second

Christian Educators: Cheryl Rhea, Trafford, Level Green

Visitors: Brenda Barnes, Pittsburgh Presbytery; Joan Evans, New Alexandria, Community; Karen Goetschius, Apollo, Poke Run; Janet Henderson, New Florence, Trinity; Jerry Hudson, Johnstown, Westmont; Michael Hurley, Pine Springs Camp; Bill Krupa, Johnstown, Westmont; Barb Lauf, Johnstown, Westmont; Deb Lichtenfels, Johnstown, Westmont; Dave Livingston, Johnstown, Westmont; Jean Livingston, Johnstown, Westmont; Elizabeth Mayer, Johnstown, Westmont; Sue Minchau, Johnstown, Westmont; Michelle Misner, Johnstown, Westmont; Joyce Norris, Johnstown, Westmont; Donna Prothero, Johnstown, Westmont; Joan Rush, Johnstown, Westmont; Patty Summerville, Mission Advocate

Teaching Elders Excused: Buell; Cahn; Carnahan; Close; Degitz; Hepler; Hess; Holben; Jalso; Keith; King; Lighthall; Macaleer; Mason; Maxwell; McClure; Mellinger; Morrow; Murray; Roof; Sharp, J.; Sharp, W.; Sherrill; Simpson; Stevens; Upton; Yuckman, C; Yuckman, M.; VanWyk

Teaching Elders Absent: Bass-Riley; Catullo; Dormire; Eliason; Graff; Hickok; Kerr; Maiman; Manon; McDermott; Orr; Russell; Siddle; Stobaugh;

Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused: NONE

Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent: Glisan; O'Hara; McElroy; Morgan; Prinkey; Smith; Todero; Watson; Wiegand

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ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

The docket as presented by Moderator Pete Goetschius was adopted **by consent**.

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS AND INTRODUCTION OF OTHER VISITORS

The Moderator requested, from the Associate Stated Clerk, the list of any corresponding members in attendance. It was **MSP** to seat as a corresponding member for this meeting, the Rev. Brenda Barnes, a member of Pittsburgh Presbytery. This was accomplished by **consent**.

The Moderator, Teaching Elder Pete Goetschius, invited those who were attending a presbytery meeting for the first time to stand to be introduced. On behalf of the Presbytery, the Moderator welcomed each of the first time presbyters.

ARRANGEMENTS

The Rev. Craig Miller, pastor of the Westmont Presbyterian Church, welcomed the commissioners and mentioned that a lot of people from the church were there to welcome the presbyters. Westmont has been very welcoming to Craig Miller who had been there 2 years. One of the ministries of the church is the quilt ministry called “prayers and squares.” He invited presbyters to tie some knots in the prayer square if they were so inclined. These squares are given to people so that they know that they are being prayed for. The group also makes larger quilts that are distributed in a variety of ways to people who will be able to use them.

STATED CLERK’S REPORT

The Stated Clerk called attention to the following report.

1. Correspondence Log:
 - a. 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.
2. As of the 2016 deadline for statistical reporting to the General Assembly, 71 churches have filed at least portions of their annual statistical reports for 2015. The following churches failed to submit their Annual Statistical Report in a timely fashion: Sewickley, West Newton. For a summary membership report, see Appendix A.
3. The list of proposed presbytery meeting dates for the 2017 calendar year were presented and approved by the Council.
 - January 21, 2017 (Saturday) – Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg
 - March 21, 2017 (Tuesday)
 - May 16, 2017 (Tuesday)
 - September 19, 2017 (Tuesday)
 - November 18, 2017 (Saturday)

Requests to serve as the host of any of these gatherings may be submitted to the Council through the Stated Clerk.

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CONSENT AGENDA

The Associate Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, Rev. Cliff Foster, presented the Consent Agenda. The following items were approved by consent:

From Executive Committee

1. Following review by the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Assistant Clerk, Permanent Clerk, and the Chair of Council it is **recommended** that the minutes of the Presbytery meeting of January 16, 2016 be approved.

From Presbytery Council

1. Council **recommends** that the Financial Report presented to the Council be received and filed for audit.

From the Committee on Ministry

1. The Committee **recommends** that Presbytery grant the requests for a Waiver of Rotation of Term of Office for the Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian Church (1 Elder – Darlene Troisi); the Hopewell Presbyterian Church (1 Elder – Francis Shaw); and for the Ft. Burd Presbyterian Church (1 Elder – Darrell Smith).
2. The Committee **recommends** that the Presbytery receive Rev. James Giesey (Honorably Retired) from the Washington Presbytery.

From the Discernment Teams

1. It is **recommended** that the written report of the Discernment Team for the Pine Run Presbyterian Church discernment process be received and filed.

WORSHIP

The Presbytery moved to worship led by Teaching Elders Craig Miller, Ron Wakeman, and Sue Washburn; Ruling Elders Bernice Adams and Lynn Mance; and with the support of Mr. Jim Hutchinson, Minister of Music, Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown and the choir. Worship included celebration of the Lord's Supper and opportunities to witness to God's grace in our midst.

REPORTS

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

Rev. Skip Noftzger referred to his report and spoke of his visits to 10 congregations and his work with congregations seeking interim pastors and those who are moving into the search process. Will we be those who seek to hear and follow Jesus in whatever new thing into which he is leading us? He referred to the book "Canoeing the Mountains" that he has asked members of Presbytery Council to explore with him. He spoke of the changes from our beginnings in 1787 as a Presbytery "over the mountains" and our present existence as a

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network of congregations, seeking to bear witness to the sovereign activity of God in this world. As we move into a future that is unknown, we seek God's imagination and grace. Soli Deo Gloria.

TREASURER

Ruling Elder Don Gobel presented the treasurer's report and noted so far the first two months show us to be \$11,000 ahead of where we were a year ago. Our investments are being monitored in a market that has been down.

PINE SPRINGS CAMP

Summer Camp Director Mike Hurley provided a status update on Pine Springs Camp. Greg Davis had surgery on his hip on Monday. Pinespringscampaign.org is the new website for the capital campaign. They've raised 1.3 million of the 1.8 million goal. The public phase is now beginning. The main expense will be the construction of a new dining hall that will seat 250 people. Some of the money will go for cabin and Elijah House upkeep. More program elements will be added, and some more improvements in the area of the pool. They also want to winterize the cabins.

MISSION COMMITTEE

Rev. Sylvia Carlson called attention to the written report and invited Ruling Elder Bill Chishko, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, to speak about the Union Mission in Latrobe. He spoke of Westminster's beginnings 125 years ago as a mission church. He told the commissioners that the Union Mission of Latrobe offers homeless men a place to live for up to 90 days, and provides various kinds of supports for them as they seek to rebuild their lives. He told us that a number of Redstone congregations actively support this mission. He encouraged other congregations to become involved.

SYNOD COMMISSIONER

Neal Galley spoke about the transition in the work of the Synod of the Trinity re: the middle governing body commission of General Assembly. The Synod is moving toward "policy governance." The board would establish ends and set boundaries on the means to provide the ministry of the Synod. They are doing visioning and discerning vision which leads to a governing commission. Skip is an advisory member to the discerning team.

ANNOUNCEMENTS LOOP

Rev. Laura Blank presented the Announcements Loop lifting up:

- EASTER EGG HUNT, March 20th, 2-4 PM, Level Green (412-372-5370);
- WOMEN IN THE WOODS RETREAT, April 8-10, Pine Springs Camp, Go to www.pinesprings.org for more information and registration;
- CONFIRMATION RETREAT, April 8-9, Pine Springs Camp, Register through the presbytery office
- FRIENDSHIP DINNER, 2nd Wednesday of Every Month, 5-6 PM at New Kensington, United (724-339-6618 tupcnk.org)

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- SOUP FOR THE SOUL LUNCHEON, 2nd Wednesday of Every Month, doors open at 11:30, Soup's on at noon, Apollo, Poke Run (724-327-5536, pokerunchurch.com)
- PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SPRING GATHERING, April 16, 9 AM-2:30 PM
Delmont Presbyterian Church, Registration Deadline April 9, Go to redstone.org for more information
- PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SPRING RETREAT, May 24, 9 AM-2:30 PM, Pine Springs Camp, Registration Deadline May 14, Go to redstone.org for more information
- COMMON GROUND NATURE CAMP, July 11-15, 9-Noon, Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, For rising 2-4th graders, \$25, Go to www.newlonsburgchurch.org for more information
- HAVE U HERD? VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, July 25-29th, 9-Noon
Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Go to www.newlonsburgchurch.org for more information
- FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT:
redstone.org
pcusa.org/news
facebook.com, search "Presbytery of Redstone"
- NEXT PRESBYTERY MEETING
May 17th, 6-9 PM at Jeannette Presbyterian Church
- Brought to you by the Communications Committee.
Have a story to tell? Picture to share? Event to announce?
Send it to redstonestories@gmail.com

ACTION AGENDA

Council

Glenn Hart, Chair of Council presented the following report from the Council:

Information Items

Pine Run has sent two letters to Presbytery Council. The listening team went to Pine Run and attended a congregational meeting following a Sunday worship service. The listening team received a letter itemizing what Pine Run is willing to do as they plan to leave the denomination. There will be a congregational meeting on April 17 to vote on whether to request dismissal to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Council is reading a book, "Canoeing the Mountains." A few people have been asked to share their stories, and then the presbyters will be asked to share stories. Alice Tondora shared a story from First Presbyterian Church of Johnstown, of a young man who began to attend the church and sing in the choir. The congregation learned that he had been arrested for robbery and they have continued to reach out to him during his incarceration and as his trial is anticipated in May.

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Pete Goetschius spoke of his experience in conversation with a Vietnam War veteran who was the only one of his PT boat who came back. He is in conversation with people about how to reach out to other more recent veterans.

Carolyn Vickery has been invited to re-imagine herself as a pastor to the whole community in Delmont, and has decided to reach out to the community which she understands to include shopping locally. She spoke of an interaction with a clerk in a convenience store who had just experienced the loss of a child who had committed suicide. She introduced herself as a pastor and offered the woman a grief devotional. She also spoke of an interaction at McDonald's with a man who was a retired truck driver who had not known of the existence of the Delmont Presbyterian Church just 2 blocks from his home.

Committee on Ministry

Rev. Martin Ankrum presented the following report and action items for the Committee on Ministry:

Information

Ron Durika, chair of the Care of Congregations Committee of the Committee on Ministry, said that your neighbors include your neighboring Presbyterian Churches. They are asking people to attend a neighboring Presbyterian Church and get to know people. They are calling this a Presbytery ambassador program. You can call Ron at the First Presbyterian Church of Irwin, PA. for more information or to volunteer to be an ambassador.

Action Items

1. Rev. Martin Ankrum presented the Rev. Brenda Barnes for review of her statement of faith and for examination by the members of the Presbytery. It was **MSP** to sustain the examination and to receive Rev. Brenda Barnes. Rev. Pete Goetschius and Rev. Skip Noftzger led the Presbytery in the investiture of the Redstone Presbytery stole for Rev. Brenda Barnes.

Nominating Committee

Rev. Curtis Paul, presented the following report of the Nominating Committee:

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, the following names are placed before you for election to positions in their respective categories.

1. Presbytery Council class of 2016 Chuck West, Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell.
2. Committee on Ministry class of 2017 Janet Henderson, Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence.

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There being no further nominations from the floor the above nominees, **it was MSP** that the slate of nominees be elected to serve in the capacities to which they were nominated.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for the Presbytery at this time.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

In attendance were 37 clergy, 3 Commissioned Ruling Elders, 27 Ruling Elders, 2 by Virtue of Office, and 19 Visitors for a total of 84 in attendance. 43 churches were represented.

The Presbytery was adjourned at 4 p.m. with the benediction prayer pronounced by Rev. Craig Miller.

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on May 17, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette, PA.

Pete Goetschius, Moderator

Sylvia Carlson, Recording Clerk