

Presbytery of Redstone September 23, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The ecclesiastical and corporate meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone was convened at 10:00 on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at the Pine Springs Camp, and opened with prayer by Rev. Susan Washburn, Moderator. She announced that items of new business must be presented to the clerk before worship this morning.

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.

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>MINISTERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>
	Lori Bass-Riley, MAL	
	Susan Blank, MAL	
	Sylvia Carlson, HR	
	Gary Close, HR	
	Rebecca Maiman, MAL	
	Skip Noftzger, EP	
	John Simpson, HR	
Adah, Palmer Community		
Apollo, Poke Run	Pete Goetschius	Connie Cauvel
Avonmore, First	Larry Armstrong, IP	
Belle Vernon, First		
Belle Vernon, Harmony		
Belle Vernon, Marion		
Belle Vernon, Rehoboth	Alan Olson, IP	
Bolivar, United		
Boswell, Covenant	James Stobaugh, SS	
Brownsville, Calvin	Aleda Menchyk, SS	
Brownsville, Ft. Burd		Lynne Rankin
Brownsville, Hopewell		
Colver		
Cresson		
Dawson, Tyrone		
Delmont		Dave Washburn
Derry		
Dunbar, First		
Dunbar, Laurel Hill		
Ebensburg, First		Judy Carl
Fairchance		
Farmington, Mt. Washington		
Fayette City, First		
Fayette City, L Redstone		
Greensburg, First	Martin Ankrum Nicole Atkinson, AP	
Greensburg, Maplewood		
Greensburg, Westminster	Donna Havrisko	Duffy Greba

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Irwin, First		Ray Edelman, Phyllis Neral, Charlene Lauderbaugh
Irwin, West Hempfield		
Jeannette	Robert Fuehrer	Nancy Peters
Johnstown, Bethany		
Johnstown, First	Alice Tondora	Sheila Farrer
Johnstown, Second		
Johnstown, Westmont	Craig Miller	
Lake Lynn, Springhill		
Latrobe	Clark Kerr	
Latrobe, United		
Leisenring		
Ligonier, Pleasant Grove		
Lower Burrell, Grace	Ken Foust	Glenn Nordmark
Lower Burrell, Puckety	Kirk Orr	Vicki Or
Masontown		
McClellandtown	Lee McDermott	
Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek		
Mt. Pleasant, Reunion	Sue Washburn, SS	
Murrysville, First		Mary Holtz
Murrysville, Newlonsburg	Curtis Paul Marnie Silbert, AP	Barbara Rissler, Susan Keaney
Murrysville, Union	Derek Campbell	
New Alexandria, Community		Joan Evans
New Alexandria, Congruity	Cliff Foster	Sarabeth Stopansky
New Florence, Bethel		
New Florence, Trinity	Carole Isley Corey, IP	Janet Henderson
New Kensington, United		
New Salem	William Wiegand, CRE	Doris Gavala
North Huntingdon, New Hope		Donna Van Allen
Patton		
Revloc		
Scottdale, Calvin	Leonard Morgan, CRE	
Smithfield, Grace Chapel		
Smock, Pleasant View	Laura Blank	Samantha Phillips
Trafford, Level Green	Geoff Rach	
Uniontown, Tent		
Uniontown, Third	Colleen Molinaro, IP	
Uniontown, Trinity		
Vanderbilt, E. Liberty		
Vandergrift		
West Newton, Sewickley		
West Newton, Sewickley U.		
West Newton, United		

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Windber, First	James Farrer, SS	
Notation:	(*) = pastor from another denomination (#) = pastor from another presbytery	(**) = pastor or CRE serving more than one church

By Virtue of Office: Lynn Mance, Presbytery Council; Josh Scully, Vice-Moderator

Visitors: Katie Betz, New Florence, Trinity; Greg Davis, Pine Springs Camp; Gwen Gamble, New Florence, Trinity; Mike Givler, Synod of the Trinity; Karen Goetschius, Apollo, Poke Run; Edward Gray, Kiski Presbytery; Karen Gray; Kiski Presbytery; Michael Hurley, Pine Springs Camp; Achol Majok Kur, SPEC; Bobbie Martin, Presbytery Staff; Heather Piscioti, New Alexandria, Community; Doug Portz, Board of Pensions; Rick Pry, Murrysville, First; Sam Strohm, Huntingdon Presbytery; Irene Williams; Smock, Pleasant View; Susan Wonderland, Synod of the Trinity

Teaching Elders Excused: Brungraber; Cahn; Carnahan; Degitz; Hepler; Hess; Holben; Jalso; Keith; Keys; LaSor; Lighthall; Lloyd; Macaleer; Manon; Maxwell; McCabe; McClure; Morrow; Murray; Roof; Russell; Sharp, J.; Sharp, W.; Simpson; Stevens; Upton; Yuckman, C; Yuckman, M.; VanWyk; Vickery; Wakeman

Teaching Elders Absent: Barnes; Currie; Durika; Eliason; Galley; Gear; Graff; Hickok; Shannon

Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused: Sunseri

Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent: Glisan; Hart; McElroy; O'Hara; Prinkey; Stewart; Toderio; Watson

ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

The Moderator noted one change in the Docket order, moving the report of the Board of Pensions prior to Pine Springs Camp. With that change, the Docket as printed in the Packet was adopted **by consent**.

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS AND INTRODUCTION OF OTHER VISITORS

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster, asked that the Rev. Ed Gray (Kiski Presbytery), the Rev. Doug Portz (Board of Pensions), the Rev. Sue Wonderland (Synod Executive), and the Rev. Sam Strohm (Huntington Presbytery) be seated as Corresponding Members of Redstone Presbytery for this meeting. He also proposed granting Madam Achol Majok Kur Kier and Katie Betz the privilege of the floor for this meeting. Both of these were acknowledged and approved **by consent**.

New business must be presented to the Clerk by the beginning of worship.

The Moderator of Washington Presbytery, Elder Meg Steele, invited those who were attending a presbytery meeting for the first time to stand to be introduced. On behalf of both Presbyteries

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the Moderator welcomed each of the first-time presbyters.

BOARD OF PENSIONS

Rev. Doug Portz, Church Consultant, offered comments and updates on changes in the Board of Pensions programs. He noted the need for churches to be completing the employer contracts and that he would be available for individual questions and consultation. He indicated that the Medical dues going up to 25% for pastors in the plan. The Board of Pensions is reaching out to all members affected by recent hurricanes. Churches must submit an employer agreement by October 13. Open enrollment for other employees will be October through November.

PINE SPRINGS CAMP

Executive Director introduced Katie Betz from the Trinity, New Florence congregation who offered a testimony about her personal experience at Pine Springs Camp this past summer. Greg reviewed the summer camp numbers, as well as promoted the upcoming retreats. Finally, he made the exciting announcement that the Faith for the Future campaign has reached its goal of 1.8 million dollars pledged. They are hopeful and committed to raising an additional \$100,000 for the adaptations that were made in the construction of The Refuge.

WORSHIP

A joint Service of worship with both Redstone and Washington Presbyteries was led by Rev. Sue Washburn, Elder Meg Steele, Rev. Craig Kephart, and Rev. Skip Noftzger. The Word was preached by Synod Executive, Rev. Sue Wonderland. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was included in the service of worship. Music was led by the Praise Team from the Puckety Presbyterian Church.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Skip Noftzger noted the clerk's correspondence log. He noted that there are changes in the Board of Pensions structure for families and church employees. Please check to see that you have properly updated your coverage.

Report of the Stated Clerk:

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. The Review of the Session minutes and Church Registers have been completed. The report is attached (Appendix ??).

The Associate Stated Clerk of the Presbytery for Constitutional and Judicial Matters, Rev. Cliff Foster, notified the presbyters that the investigating committee for the allegation had concluded its work and no charges would be filed.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

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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 May 16, 2017 be approved.

From the Council

1. Council **recommends** that the Financial Reports presented to the Council and the Presbytery be received and filed for audit. (See Appendix ??)
2. Council **recommends** that the Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Mission and Pine Springs Camp reports presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.
3. Council **recommends** the adoption of the proposed 2018 Budget (See Appendix ??) for consideration by the Presbytery for a "first reading." (*This presented for a First Reading. The Presbytery will take action at the November meeting.*)

From the Committee on Ministry

1. Committee on Ministry **recommends** that the Record of the Review of Session Minutes and Church Registers for 2016 be received and filed. (See Appendix ??)

From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

From the Nominating Committee

From the Committee on Representation

From the Discernment Team

1. The Discernment Team **recommends** that the written report (p.26) for the Vandergrift Presbyterian Church discernment process be received and filed.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

Rev. Richard "Skip" Noftzger, Executive Presbyter, provided a written report which was distributed within the packet.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Rev. Pete Goetschius, Chair of Council, presented the Financial Reports for August, 2017 on behalf of the Treasurer, John Dickson. He called special attention to the church contribution shortage so far this year and encouraged congregations to be more diligent in sending in their pledges.

MISSION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

Rev. Sylvia Carlson, Chairperson of the Mission Committee, provided a written report that was included in the packet. During the luncheon, she introduced International Peacemaker, Madam Achol Majok Kur Kier who came to us from our partner church, the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church.

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ACTION AGENDA

Council

Rev. Pete Goetschius, presented the following report and action items of Presbytery Council:

Action Items

- It was MSP that the contract with current Executive Presbyter be renewed for five years at its expiration date (March 31, 2018) with terms of call established annually and subject to provisions in the Presbytery of Redstone Manual. Rev. Sue Wonderland offered a prayer for Skip celebrating the renewal of his contract.

Information

August 22, 2017 Meeting

Stated Clerk

- The Stated Clerk presented the correspondence log since the last Council meeting for review by the Council.
- The Stated Clerk informed the Council that we had received requests to host the Presbytery meeting from the following two sessions on the respective dates.
 - May 15, 2018---6:00 p.m. – Latrobe Presbyterian Church
It was MSP to approve the request with thanksgiving.

Treasurer

- A written Treasurer's report for the first seven months of the fiscal year was included in the packet. The Treasurer reviewed the report and answered questions. There remains a need for both fulfillment of church pledges and greater contributions to the Presbytery.

Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp

- A written report from the Executive Director was received. Additionally, Greg provided updated information on both campaign contributions and summer camp numbers. He also shared a personal note from a camper who was from Mississippi, but who came to camp as a result of her connection with one of our congregations.

Executive Presbyter

- Skip Noftzger, Executive Presbyter offered some reflections on our need to be clear about the values of the gospel in the midst of times when there are those who would seek to denigrate others based upon race. He shared with the Council a copy of the letter that had been signed and distributed by the Stated Clerk, Executive Director of PMA and the two Co-Moderators of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

He also reported on the following matters:

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- The planned meetings in the discernment process with the Vandergrift Presbyterian Church congregation in order to answer questions and discuss issues will be conducted by the team on September 17 and November 5.
- Upcoming IPLF workshops for “Commissioned Pastor” preparation, continuing education as well as any Ruling Elder. He noted the successful receipt of a grant from the Synod of the Trinity for the second phase of IPLF (Redstone, Washington, UOV, and Kiski) focused on retreats and continuing education for pastors to be hosted at Pine Springs Camp. One part of that grant has already been passed on to the camp for winterization of cabins.

SUBCOMMITTEES/NETWORKS/TASK FORCES

Staff Support

- A written report consisting of the minutes of the Staff Support Committee was provided. Two items were the primary focus since the last meeting.
 - The Staff Support Committee recommended to the Finance and Budget committee a 3% increase in salary for both employees. This amount has been calculated and included in the 2018 budget submitted to the Council for recommendation to the Presbytery.
 - The Staff Support Committee recommended to the Council that the current contract with the Executive Presbyter (ends March 31, 2018) be renewed for another five years. It was noted that the Manual provision is that either the Presbytery or the EP could terminate the contract with a minimum six month notice. Rev. Noftzger left the room for the discussion and deliberation by the Council. It was **MSP** (unanimous) to approve the recommendation and to recommend to the Presbytery.

Communications

- Rev. Niki Atkinson provided an oral report of the activities of the Communications task force.
 - The Communications group has responded to a request from Redstone Highlands to exchange the current domain name (redstone.org) for redstonepresbytery.org with the following conditions.
 - Redstone Highlands assumes responsibility for any transition and technical costs associated with the change.
 - The new redstone.org (Redstone Highlands) will continue to have for the first six months an active visible link to redirect users who are trying to find the Presbytery website.
 - Redstone Highlands will offer compensation to the Presbytery of Redstone a one-time payment of \$5000 for the rights to the domain name.

It was **MSP** to approve the recommendation based upon the proposed conditions.

Missions

- A written report was received from Sylvia Carlson, chair of the Mission Committee. The report emphasized the following:

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- Opportunities to host Madam Achol Majok Kur Kier (International Peacemaker from the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church; Redstone Partner) on Saturday evening (9/23) and Monday morning(9/25).
- Continued need for matching funds (Abundance Grant) for emergency relief for South Sudan. Funds are collected in the Presbytery office and are distributed through the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church.

Budget and Finance

- Rev. Skip Noftzger provided a summary report on pledges and giving by churches during the past five years. There remains a need to return to some of the levels of church contributions that were part of their previous commitments.
- Rev. Noftzger noted for the Council that the online giving program through the Presbyterian Foundation is now available through the Presbytery website.
- On behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee, Rev. Noftzger brought the recommendation to propose the 2018 budget as submitted to the Presbytery. It would be presented for a first reading in September and voted upon at the November meeting. It was **MSP** to recommend the 2018 budget to the Presbytery.
- For the First Presbyterian Church, Windber a request for authorization to proceed with listing and possible sale of the current church building. This request had previously been approved by both the session and the congregation. This was **not** a request to dissolve the congregation who will continue to worship and minister from other facilities in the area. It was **MSP** to approve the request.
- For the New Hope Presbyterian Church a request for approval of a lease agreement with the Norwin Community Athletic Association for renovation and use of the facilities as a baseball field. It was **MSP** to approve the request.

Addictions Ministry

- A written report of upcoming events and activities of the Addictions Ministry network had been provided that emphasized the opportunities for education and training that will be possible.

Presbyterian Women

- A written report was submitted by Susan Nesti, current Moderator of the Redstone Presbyterian Women.

May 30, 2017 Meeting

Stated Clerk

- The Stated Clerk presented the correspondence log since the last Council meeting for review by the Council.

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- The Stated Clerk informed the Council that we had received requests to host the Presbytery meeting from the following two sessions on the respective dates.

- January 20, 2018---1:00 p.m. – First, Greensburg
- March 20, 2018---6:00 p.m.---First, Belle Vernon

It was MSP to approve both requests with thanksgiving.

Treasurer

- A written Treasurer's report for the first three months of the fiscal year was included in the packet. The Executive Presbyter reviewed the report and answered questions. There remains a need for both fulfillment of church pledges and greater contributions to the Presbytery.

Executive Presbyter

- Skip Noftzger, Executive Presbyter reported on the following matters:
 - New planned meetings in the discernment process with the Vandergrift Presbyterian Church.
 - Group who met early for prayer for God's leading regarding new church and Christian community opportunities. He shared some background and information on the "Fresh Expressions" movement in the United States.
 - Offered encouragement for our congregations in anticipation of the upcoming celebration of Pentecost. Send anywhere from 5-10 new students into the program.

SUBCOMMITTEES/NETWORKS

Staff Support

- The summary of the annual staff evaluation of the Executive Presbyter was submitted in writing to the Council. Representing the Staff Support Committee, CRE Glenn Hart was present to present the report and answer questions. He noted that Skip Noftzger and the Staff Support Committee Liaison had also conducted the evaluation for the Administrative Assistant.

Communications

- Rev. Niki Atkinson reiterated her oral presentation from the May Presbytery meeting and discussed some of the upcoming plans for the Communications Task Force.

Missions

- Rev. Skip Noftzger spoke of the verbal confirmation of the Abundance grant from the Synod of the Trinity. He reminded Council members that the Mission Committee will be conducting a "matching" fund raising campaign in the near future.

Budget and Finance

- Rev. Skip Noftzger provided the current pledge report from congregations and reminded everyone of the cashflow needs of the Presbytery.

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- On behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee, Rev. Noftzger brought the recommendation to initiate online giving through the Presbytery website using the resources of the Presbyterian Foundation. He distributed a comparison analysis and spoke of the differences. It was **MSP** to authorize the development of this online giving program.
- For the Trinity United Presbyterian Church in Uniontown, a request for authorization to proceed with demolition of the house next to the church building was received. Background information given to the session and congregation prior to them making the request was distributed. It was **MSP** to approve the request.

Addictions Ministry

- Rev. Sue Washburn and Rev. Alice Tondora spoke of their experiences leading the network conversations at the SW and NW regional gatherings of the Synod. Lynn Mance and Alice also reported on the most recent special service hosted at First Presbyterian, Johnstown.

Synod of the Trinity

- Rev. Lori Bass-Riley provided an overview of the Synod gathering at Morgantown of the regional gatherings for conversations.

Committee on Ministry

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

Action Items

- It was **MSP** to approve the required 2018 minimum terms of call for installed pastors as proposed.
- It was **MSP** that the Presbytery recommend to its congregation a 3% raise in the effective salary for their experienced and continuing pastoral leadership.
- It was **MSP** to receive the Rev. Ed Gray into the Presbytery of Redstone and to be called to the First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville based upon the submitted terms of call.

It was **MSP** to give Rich Pry, chair of the First Pres Church of Murrysville's PNC, the privilege of the floor. He spoke of the search for their new pastor. Mary Holtz, the commissioner Elder, reported on the Congregational Meeting held on August 20th 27th and of the vote 66-2 in favor of calling Ed Gray. His installation commission is in the process of being formed.

Moderator Rev. Sue Washburn led the Presbytery in a service of investiture for Rev. Ed Gray and Rev. Geoff Rach. Rev. Martin Ankrum offered a prayer for Rev. Ed Gray as he answers the call of the First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville.

- It was **MSP** to designate the Rev. Kirk Orr as Honorably Retired effective December 31, 2017. (Kirk will not be able to be present at the November Presbytery gathering)

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Various members of the Presbytery spoke in affirmation of Kirk Orr's ministry on the occasion of his retirement, and Vice Moderator Elder Josh Scully led the presbytery in prayer.

Information

September 7, 2017 Meeting

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk gave an update to the committee on the following matters:

- Correspondence log related to COM.
- Minute Review progress: there is still 1 church that needs to be reviewed. **MSP** to report the results of the Minute Review to Presbytery in September

Reports of Sub-Committees

Search and Call

- **MSP** the approval of the dissolution of the Pastoral Relationship between Rev Kirk Orr and Puckety effective December 31, 2017
- **MSP** the approval of the renewal of the Interim Pastor contract between Rev Alan Olson and Rehoboth.
- **MSP** the recommendation for approval of the Pastoral call of First Murrysville and Rev Ed Gray.

Examination

- The following mentors are in place for the next six months:
Cliff Foster – Rev. Ed Gray
Martin Ankrum – Rev. Geoff Rach

Care of Church Professionals

- A Thank you from Donna Havrisko to the BOP for the Sabbatical Leave that she had.
- Mike Shepard offered prayers for Peter Keith, Clark Kerr, Wendy Keys, William King, Richard Klein, Steve LaSor, Kent Lighthall, Carlisle Lloyd, Dennis Macaleer and Chuck MacPherson.

Care of Congregations

- The Committee continues to pray for the following congregations: First Windber, Palmer Adah, Poke Run, First Avonmore, First Belle Vernon, Harmony, Marion, Rehoboth, United Bolivar and Covenant Boswell.
- Jim Farrer presented a list of Renewal Opportunities such as Wee Kirk, Pilgrimages, Workshops, etc.

AP/CRE Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- Fall Workshop – September 9th – Church Leadership & Pastoral Care

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Board of Pension Update

Employer contracts must be completed by October 13th.

Com Chairperson's Report

- Two chairs in the middle of the floor. Why? Lack of curiosity? Inactive? We need to learn to ask questions. Be engaged in the conversation.

Executive Presbyter's Report

Pastor, Counselor, Advisor – as we are hit by Hurricane Harvey and Irma and Jose' we need to become the First Responders to the Presbytery, to congregations and to Pastors. We need to stay grounded in our relationships.

August 3, 2017 Meeting

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk gave an update to the committee on the following matters:

- Correspondence log related to COM.
- Minute Review progress: there are still church that need reviewed. Final report will be given at September Presbytery meeting.

Reports of Sub-Committees

Examination

- MSP to place the candidate for the First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville to be examined at the September 23rd Presbytery meeting if the way be clear.

Care of Church Professionals

- The BOP medical is going up .5% for 2018. The committee will present the minimum terms of call at the next meeting to be voted on at the September Presbytery meeting. While sessions/congregations must exceed the minimum, they are encouraged to consider experience and qualifications in proposing fair and just compensation. Additionally, any recommendations about salary increases are just a guide for which the church should begin their discussions.
- Mike Shepard offered prayers for James Gear, Eric Glisan, Pete Goetschuis, Donald Graff, Glenn Hart, Donna Havrisko, James Hepler, Joey Hickok, Doug Holben and Alex Jalso.

Care of Congregations

- The Committee continues to pray for the following congregations: Pleasant View, Level Green, Tent, Third and Trinity in Uniontown, East Liberty, Vandergrift, Sewickley, and Sewickley United and United in West Newton.
- The Committee asks for prayers for all the small churches that are hard to get in contact with.

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- Wee Kirk conference for small churches in October.

AP/CRE Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- Fall Workshop – September 9th – Church Leadership & Pastoral Care
- Reformed Theology by Rev Martin Ankrum – 19 students

Board of Pension Update

It is time for the Employers contracts to be loaded into the website.

Com Chairperson's Report

The Moderators for the following:

First Murrysville – Rev Martin Ankrum

Ebensburg – Rev Alice Tondora

Colver – Rev Alice Tondora

Executive Presbyter's Report

Vandergrift Discernment Team has 2 meetings set up with the congregation.

June 1, 2017 Meeting

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk gave an update to the committee on the following matters:

- Correspondence log related to COM.
- Minute Review progress: list of churches circulated for members to take and get the books reviewed. All reviews should be done by August meeting.

Reports of Sub-Committees

Search and Call

- **MSP** the recommended approval of Interim contract between West Hempfield and Peggy Shannon for a 6 month extension.
- **MSP** the approval of the MIF for Trinity New Florence.
- **MSP** the approval **for Rehoboth to elect their PNC.**
- The following Churches and their Liaisons:
 - Fayette City – Aleda Menchyk
 - Little Redstone – Laurie Davison
 - Ebensburg & Colver – Cynthia Cadenhead

Examination

- **MSP** requesting a Call of a Special Presbytery Meeting for August 3 at 6:30 pm at Maplewood Presbyterian Church, if the way be clear, for purpose of examining the candidate for Level Green Presbyterian Church.

Care of Church Professionals

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- Received Lisa Dormire's annual report for Validated Ministries.
- Mike Shepard offered prayers for Suzanne Currie, Eugene Degitz, Lisa Dormire, Ron Durika, Grafton Eliason, James Farrer, Cliff Foster, Ken Foust, Bob Fuehrer, Neal Galley. Mike also asked the committee to keep Fort Burd and Katy in their prayers as well as his family.

Care of Congregations

- The Committee continues to pray for the following congregations: Congruity, Bethel New Florence, Trinity New Florence, United New Kensington, New Salem, New Hope, Patton, Revloc, Calvin Scottdale, Grace Chapel Smithfield.
- Committee continues to work on Congregations working together.

AP/CRE Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- Fall Workshop – September 9th – Church Leadership & Pastoral Care.
- Kiski has 5 applicants who will be joining in the fall possibly 2 or 3 more.

Com Chairperson's Report

Asked the committee for Moderators for the following:

First Murrysville
Ebensburg
Colver

Executive Presbyter's Report

Religion is rooted in our identity. Fresh Expressions bring together new & old.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

No oral report was given but the following information items were included in the packet:

Information

- The committee met with Cynthia Bellina of Uniontown, to consider her application to be considered by Presbytery for status as an *Inquirer*. Questions relative to the application were asked by committee members and satisfactory response was made by Ms. Bellina. She, also, outlined some of her goals. The committee elaborated impending covenant relationship, the exploratory nature, and the time frame of *Inquiry Status*. *Inquiry Status* was moved by Rev. Catullo and the motion was seconded by Elder Edelman. Passage was by unanimous vote. Rev. Catullo closed this first section of the meeting with prayer.
- The second section was a meeting with Lay Pastor Rick Watson for discussion on his continuing progress in his *Candidacy Status*. Pastor Watson was accompanied by a session representative from his home church, Calvin, Scottdale. Rev. Bash opened this section with prayer. Pastor Watson proposed a CPE program through the Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute where he would serve within Highlands Hospital in Connellsville. Highlands has indicated a desire to include a 'spiritual' component within their Hospital

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program and he has connected them with the director of PPI program. Pastor Watson sees this as movement toward his goal of growth in care giving. Participation in the classroom discussion and experience will take place through videoconferencing technologies. The proposal also seems to fit well within Dubuque Seminary's SPM requirements.

- Rev. Bash moved and Elder Edelman seconded a motion for approval of Pastor Watson's CPE project and program. Pastor Watson updated for the committee his timetable for the remaining *Candidacy* requirements. Rev. Noftzger suggested a framework completing all *ordination exams* by March of 2019. It was moved and seconded to grant Mr. Watson to begin taking any and all of the ordination exams according to his own schedule.

Nominations Committee

Rev. Curtis Paul presented the following report and action items of the Nominating Committee:

Action Items

- The Nominating Committee places in nomination TE Colleen Molinaro, Third Presbyterian Church to serve as Vice Moderator, 2018. (this office will be elected at the November stated meeting, Manual 2.1201)
- The Nominating Committee nominates the following persons for the Offices/Classes indicated:

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL:

Bobbi Jo Huebner (1); District III, Belle Vernon, First (2020)
Rev. Lee McDermott (2); District III, McClellandtown (2020)
Jack Battenhouse (2); District II, Trafford, Level Green (2020)
Rev. Craig Miller (2); District IV, Johnstown, Westmont (2020)

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:

Rev. Katy Brungraber (1); District III, Brownsville, Ft. Burd (2020)
Rev. David McCabe (2); District IV; Cresson/Patton; (2020)
Janet Henderson (2); District IV; New Florence; Trinity (2020)
Rev. Ron Durika (2); District II; Irwin, First (2020)
William Wiegand (1); District III; New Salem; (2020)

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY:

Rev. Caroline Vickery (2); District I; Delmont (2020)
Pearl Jones (2); District I; Murrysville, Union (2020)

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION:

Rev. Curtis Paul (1) District I, Murrysville, Newlonsburg (2023)
Rev. Clark Kerr (1) District II, Latrobe, Main St. (2023)

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PINE SPRINGS CAMP:

Rev. Ken Foust (1) District I; Lower Burrell, Grace (2020)

Rev. Derek Campbell (2); District II; Murrysville, Union (2020)

- The Nominating Committee presents the following people for election as commissioners, young adult advisory delegate or alternates.

2018 GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS

Rev. Wendy Keys

Rev. Sue Washburn

Rich Smith, Newlonsburg

Janie Short, New Florence, Bethel

Emily Hartz, New Kensington (YAAD)

Rev. Niki Atkinson (alternate)

Gwen Gamble, New Florence, Trinity (alternate)

Rev. Laura Blank (alternate)

NEW BUSINESS

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

MISSION COMMITTEE

During the time for lunch, when both Presbyteries were gathered in the Refuge, Madam Achol Majok Kur Kier spoke of the present situation in South Sudan and the important role that the Presbyterian Church (USA) has played in praying for peace in South Sudan and in providing needed supplies for people in refugee camps, instead of the guns that are supplied by various governments. She spoke of the growing community of South Sudanese women who go into the streets once a month to pray for peace. Please continue to pray for peace in South Sudan. At the close of her presentation, the Moderator, Sue Washburn, invited the presbyters to join hands around the space and sing "Let There Be Peace on Earth." It was a powerful "God moment."

ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster gave the attendance report. He reported that there were 33 clergy and 2 Commissioned Ruling Elders, 21 elders (representing 18 congregations), 0 Christian Educators, 2 by virtue of office, 16 corresponding members and visitors for a total of 74. There also were 32 clergy excused, 9 clergy absent, 1 Commissioned Ruling Elder excused, 8 Commissioned Ruling Elders absent and 52 congregations without elder representation.

AJOURNMENT

It was **MSP to adjourn the meeting at the conclusion of the Tree Dedication and** with prayer at 2:00 p.m.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Skip Noftzger offered the benediction prayer.

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on Saturday, November 18, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Delmont Presbyterian Church.

Presbytery of Redstone
September 23, 2017

Susan Washburn, Moderator

Sylvia Carlson, Recording Clerk