

Presbytery of Redstone November 18, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The ecclesiastical and corporate meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone was convened on November 18, 2017, at the Delmont Presbyterian Church, and opened with prayer by Vice Moderator Josh Scully. He announced that items of new business must be presented to the clerk by the end of worship.

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	
	Charles MacPherson, HR	
	Skip Noftzger, EP	
	Michael Shepard, HR	
	John Simpson, HR	
	William King, MAL	
Adah, Palmer Community		
Apollo, Poke Run	Pete Goetschius	
Avonmore, First	Larry Armstrong, IP	
Belle Vernon, First	Suzanne Currie	Bobbi Jo Huebner
Belle Vernon, Harmony		Susan Nesti
Belle Vernon, Marion		
Belle Vernon, Rehoboth	Alan Olson, IP	Sally Nicholls
Bolivar, United	James Sunseri, CRE **	
Boswell, Covenant		
Brownsville, Calvin	Aleda Menchyk, SS	
Brownsville, Ft. Burd		
Brownsville, Hopewell		
Colver		
Cresson		
Dawson, Tyrone		
Delmont	Caroline Vickery	Lauretta Eisler
Derry	Marnie Abraham Russell, SS	
Dunbar, First		
Dunbar, Laurel Hill		
Ebensburg, First		Judy Carl
Fairchance		
Farmington, Mt. Washington		
Fayette City, First		
Fayette City, L Redstone		James Anderson
Greensburg, First	Nicole Atkinson, AP	Sue Trafford
Greensburg, Maplewood		

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Greensburg, Westminster	Donna Havrisko	Duffy Greba
Irwin, First	Ronald Wakeman	Martha Pattullo Mark Claycomb Les Hale Raymond Edelman
Irwin, West Hempfield		
Jeannette		Nancy Peters
Johnstown, Bethany		
Johnstown, First	Alice Tondora	Sheila Farrer
Johnstown, Second		
Johnstown, Westmont		
Lake Lynn, Springhill		
Latrobe	Clark Kerr	
Latrobe, United		
Leisenring		
Ligonier, Pleasant Grove		
Lower Burrell, Grace		
Lower Burrell, Puckety		Chuck West Debra Artman
Masontown		
McClellandtown	Lee McDermott **	
Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek		
Mt. Pleasant, Reunion	Sue Washburn, SS	
Murrysville, First	Edward Gray	
Murrysville, Newlonsburg	Marnie Silbert, AP	Lauren Babich
Murrysville, Union	Derek Campbell	
New Alexandria, Community	Grafton Eliason, IP	
New Alexandria, Congruity	Cliff Foster	Carol Miller
New Florence, Bethel	James Sunseri, CRE **	Janie Short
New Florence, Trinity	Anthony Catullo, SS	Janet Henderson
New Kensington, United	Wendy Keys	Donna McLaughlin
New Salem		
North Huntingdon, New Hope		John Cherepko
Patton		
Revloc		
Scottdale, Calvin	Leonard Morgan, CRE	
Smithfield, Grace Chapel	Lee McDermott **	
Smock, Pleasant View		
Trafford, Level Green	Geoff Rach	
Uniontown, Tent		
Uniontown, Third	Colleen Molinaro, IP	
Uniontown, Trinity	James Gear	Bill Long
Vanderbilt, E. Liberty		
Vandergrift	Neal Galley	
West Newton, Sewickley		

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West Newton, Sewickley U.		
West Newton, United		
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: Jack Battenhouse, Presbytery Council; John Dickson, Treasurer; Lynn Mance, Presbytery Council; Josh Scully, Vice-Moderator

Visitors: Ronald Campbell, Jeannette, First; Greg Davis, Pine Springs Camp; Hunter Farrell, Pittsburgh Presbytery; Janis Gamble, Mt. Pleasant, Reunion; Monty Gamble, Mt. Pleasant, Reunion; Karen Goetschius, Apollo, Poke Run; Sharon Hawkins, Delmont; John Jones, New Florence, Trinity; Jeannette Lindsay, Mt. Pleasant, Reunion; Bobbie Martin, Presbytery Staff; Doug Marshall, Lower Burrell, Puckety; Peg Milliron, Mt. Pleasant, Reunion; Bill Nicholls, Belle Vernon, Rehoboth; Florence Shearer, New Florence, Bethel; Rick Sweeney, Prudy Sweeney

Teaching Elders Excused: Ankrum; Blank, L.; Brungraber; Buell; Cadenhead, B.; Cadenhead, C.; Cahn; Carnahan; Corey; Degitz; Foust; Hepler; Hess; Holben; Jalso; Klein; Lighthall; Lloyd; Macaleer; Mason; Maxwell; McClure; Michael; Miller; Morrow; Murray; Orr; Pressler; Sharp; Speakman; Stevens

Teaching Elders Absent: Bash; Dormire; Durika; Graff; Hickok; LaSor; Maiman; Manon; McCabe; Paul; Shannon; Siddle; Stobaugh

Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused: NONE

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

ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

The Moderator called for the adoption of the Docket as printed in the Packet. The docket was approved by **consent**.

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS AND INTRODUCTION OF OTHER VISITORS

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster, asked that the following be seated as corresponding members, with privilege of the floor: Rev. Hunter Farrell, Pittsburgh Presbytery, Rev. Richard Sweeney, Carlisle Presbytery and Rev. Doug Marshall, Pittsburgh Presbytery. He also asked that Dorine Kozemchak, of Hope in a Bag, be given the privilege of the floor. These were passed.

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The Vice Moderator, Josh Scully, invited those who were attending a presbytery meeting as an elder commissioner for the first time to stand to be introduced. On behalf of the Presbytery, the Vice Moderator welcomed each of the first time presbyters.

ARRANGEMENTS

Rev. Caroline Vickery welcomed the presbyters and noted that Reunion Presbyterian Church was co-hosting with them. The food, which has been provided by both congregations can be taken into the sanctuary. She noted that there is a lift and a chair lift for assistance with stairs.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

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 Vandergrift Presbyterian church will be holding ????

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 23, 2017 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. Council **recommends** the approval of the 2018 Terms of Call (see below) for the Executive Presbyter.
Salary – 55,390; Housing---15,000; Deferred Compensation (403B) ---4,172;
Pensions (medical, retirement, death/disability) ---17,758; 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

From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

From the Nominating Committee

From the Discernment Teams

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1. The Team **recommends** the report of the Vandergrift Discernment Team that is presented to the Presbytery and included in the packet be received and filed.

From the Committee on Ministry

From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry - No Report

From the Nominating Committee - No Report

From the Committee on Representation - No Report

From the Discernment Teams

2. The Team **recommends** the report of the Vandergrift discernment as presented to the Presbytery and included in the packet be received and filed.

WORSHIP

Worship was led by Revs. Sue Washburn, Caroline Vickery, and ruling elders Lynn Mance and Monty Gamble and included the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Elder John Dickson reported that we are still a little thin regarding the needs of the Presbytery; we still need the pledge commitments to come in. He directed Presbyters to the printed material in the packet.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PINE SPRINGS CAMP

Greg Davis reported that the camp wants to offer the camp for retreats - with the winterization of the cabins and the brand new Refuge available to various organizations. Please pray for the ministry of Pine Springs Camp. The Pine Springs video was shared.

SYNOD OF THE TRINITY REPORT

Lori Bass-Riley reported that the Synod celebrated its 300th anniversary as a Synod - complete with a bagpiper - and surrounded with the banners of the confessions. Synod is rethinking how they do ministry - following the cloud. The focus of Synod is to try to resource Presbyteries and Churches. They spent time talking about the work of the presbyteries and the congregations. How can the Synod best communicate with presbyteries and congregations. One thing was addressed re race and privilege. We can address other issues facing our society.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

Rev. Skip Noftzger reported that we sent \$6,000 to South Sudan in the spring, and so far with the Synod matching grants -- \$13,579 in additional monies has been received. He invited the representatives of the congregations that have contributed towards this matching grant to stand - and then invited the rest in attendance to stand.

He spoke of endings and beginnings - it is God who called us and we are his. He spoke of times that he preached with his young children along. His children were challenged to identify three words that they hoped would be included in his sermon.

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He invited the presbyters to pause in remembrance of Rev. Bob Fuehrer. Rev. Donna Havrisko spoke of the relationship between the Westminster and Jeannette Presbyterian Churches. Bob sat with the women's lectionary group at Barnes and Noble for several months. Bob was able to assist her with a member of her congregation with PTSD in asking for another member to offer prayer – what she really needed was a friend. A member of the Jeannette church, Nancy Peters, spoke of her friendship with Bob – and his telling her that he had a lot of questions for God when he died.

Skip spoke of how Bob always spoke of how he was “blessed” when asked how he was. He served as a Navy chaplain for 14 years. He offered prayer for the family of Bob Fuehrer and his congregation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS LOOP

MISSION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

Rev. Sylvia Carlson introduced Rev. Hunter Farrell, Director of the World Mission Initiative at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and member of the faculty to address the presbyters.

He worked for 15 years in the mission field. He spoke of “overdriving our headlights in the fog” as not an issue for most of our congregations. We celebrate 180 years of mission in the PCUSA – PW had been pushing that for 7 years. As we consider the legacy of mission – can we use that as a rear view mirror approach or as a compass driving us forward. Perhaps we can use the learnings of the past to shape our outreach for communities near and far. 1955 the women's Thank Offering was dedicated to a Japanese Christian hospital in Osaka, and is now the second largest hospital in Japan. Every room has a view of the atrium – where worship takes place twice a day. Technology enables patients to make their window opaque.

Hospital churches are growing in Japan – it is the atrium where all are welcome and none are obliged to attend. The evangelical seminary in Cairo has currently 327 students. The Evangelical church in Egypt is the largest church in the middle east. South Sudan partnerships – Leisa Wagstaff has trained teachers – to teach under a tree – teachers who are trained are able to travel with the students. He invited people to think of an image of an encounter you have had with the mission of the PCUSA.

He learned to speak Chaluba – because the people expected that he would be able to speak their language. God cares enough to speak their language. Concern for local culture – Korea has been the subject of many invasions – and has never invaded another country. Adaptability – to move with the times. His encounter with new worshiping communities – who think they have “learned” things that our missionaries learned 150 years ago. If we could open up our hearts and minds to the lessons that Presbyterian missionaries have taught us. The Nevius principle – the “three self” movement: self governing – self supporting –and self-? to turn over control of local churches to Korean Christians. The churches in China and Korea had been turned over to the local leadership. The Hispanic population in this country is the fastest growing and the least theologically trained.

Missed opportunities – as a caution – westward expansion of the US – we are aware of how govt control grew across the country. The Baptists and the Methodists adapted to a system of lay congregational leadership – we chose not to do that – upholding our standards of pastoral education. Therefore we have less congregations west of the Mississippi. There are Presbyterians coming from all over the world, speaking different languages.

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Flight to suburbs changed the settlement patterns – from cities to suburbs. Church closings – we have failed to struggle with the issues of race. We need to deal with difference. We are being called to be a multi-cultural church. and see the church with new eyes. Britannica vs. Wikipedia – and multi-purpose editing. He came here on WAZE. Uber vs. Yellow Cab. We are in a crisis re mission in our country. We are moving from institutionalized global mission – to where every Presbyterian can be a mission worker. From selfie-mission that feeds our own needs – to a church that gathers together and sees itself as part of what God is doing. Congregational clusters – are engaging in mission.

ACTION AGENDA

COUNCIL

The Rev. Pete Goetschius, Chair of Council, presented the following report.

Action Items

- The Council **recommends** the approval of the proposed 2018 Budget for the Presbytery of Redstone. (See Appendix C) *(This budget was submitted for a first reading in September with a second reading and vote in this November meeting.)*
- The Council presented an oral report from the Addictions Ministry network. They held Narcan training recently at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Lee and Sue held a training for pastors in Pittsburgh Presbytery at PTS. So far their ministry has been a lot of pastoral care. They were looking at some way for people to do something. Sue requested privilege of the floor for Michaela Musgrove. **MSP.** Dorine Kozemchak spoke of her interaction with family members who were living with addictions. They reached out to a nearby home for recovering people. They began to ask people for supplies for persons in recovery. This outreach became titled Hope in a Bag. Michaela, a senior at Yough H.S., spoke of the death of a family member who was addicted. They collect personal hygiene items and other things to give to persons with addictions. A kid in her school OD'd last year. Sue Washburn said that in your packet is an insert requesting the sorts of items that can be purchased to be brought to the March meeting of Presbytery.
- The Council presented an oral report from the Presbytery of Redstone Presbyterian Women. Susan Nesti said that PW would be happy to supply a directory to any church that wants one. She invited presbyters to gather used shoes for Rise against Hunger. \$6,000 needs to be raised.

Information

October 24, 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 noted the dates for the remaining 2017 meetings of the Council and asked members to record in their calendars.
 - November 28, 2017All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Presbytery Center.

Treasurer

- A written Treasurer's report for the first nine 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. He expressed thanksgiving for the opportunity to host the joint presbyteries meeting in September. He noted both the summer camp numbers, as well as meeting the Faith for the Future campaign goal of 1.8 million dollars. There remains a need to raise an additional 150,000.

Executive Presbyter

- Skip Noftzger, Executive Presbyter offered some reflections on the discernment process underway with the Vandergrift Presbyterian Church. He also shared with the Council two articles for their edification.... "Meet those who Love Jesus, but not the Church" and "Boring Fixes." He also identified a book written by a Methodist bishop entitled, Seven Levers: Missional Strategies for Conferences.
- He also reported on the ongoing progress for the IPLF course on Reformed Theology (Rev. Martin Ankrum) and anticipated workshops for the spring for both "Commissioned Pastor" preparation and continuing education.
- We will be working with a task force to identify and sponsor some pastor and special interest leadership retreats at Pine Springs Camp as another part of InterPresbytery Leadership Formation.

Synod of the Trinity

- Rev. Lori Bass-Riley (Synod commissioner) provided an overview on the recent Synod Assembly, including the discussions on various issues as a representation of presbyteries as well as regional (synod-wide) concerns.

Reports from the Stated Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Director, Synod Commissioner and Executive Presbyter were received and to be filed by consent.

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 Council revisions in the current Personnel Policies and presented them at this meeting for a "first

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reading.”

Communications

- Rev. Niki Atkinson provided an oral report of the activities of the Communications task force.

Missions

- A written report was received from Sylvia Carlson, chair of the Mission Committee. The report emphasized the following:
 - The successful visit of Achol Major Sur (International Peacemaker from the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church; Redstone Partner) on Saturday for the Presbytery meeting, as well as that evening (9/23), Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Monday morning(9/25).
 - An update was provided on the amount of matching funds to the Abundance Grant) for emergency relief for South Sudan.

Budget and Finance

- Rev. Skip Noftzger reminded the Council of the recommended 2018 proposed budget and the upcoming deliberation and decision at the November Presbytery meeting.
- He also provided a summary report on pledges and giving by churches during the current year. As noted in the Treasurer’s report, it is imperative both that pledges be fulfilled as well considered for increases going forward. He inquired about responses to the stewardship materials and asked for input about any other measures that might be taken to increase church contributions.

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. These included a Healing service at Delmont on November 5, Narcan training seminars on November 8 in Johnstown (First) and November 9 in Greensburg (Westminster).
- The Addictions ministry network asked for time to have a person speak at the November presbytery meeting and sought approval for participation and solicitation at the November presbytery meeting and future meetings for the “Hope in a Bag” program. It was MSP to approve this request.

Presbyterian Women

- A written report was submitted by Susan Nesti, current Moderator of the Redstone Presbyterian Women. She spoke of the recent PW retreat as well as emphasizing the upcoming Thank Offering.
- It was MSP to receive the reports of the subcommittees and networks and file them.

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Committee on Ministry

Rev. Chuck MacPherson presented the following report.

Action Items

- The Committee on Ministry presents Rev. Doug Marshall (Pittsburgh) for examination to be received into the Presbytery of Redstone. Rev. Marshall was received into membership in Redstone Presbytery and to serve as Interim Pastor of the Puckety Presbyterian Church.
- The Committee on Ministry presents Rev. Doug Marshall and Rev. Rick Sweeney for investiture. Skip Noftzger presented each with a Redstone Presbytery stole.
- October 25, 1992 was the date when Skip Noftzger was ordained into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Chuck MacPherson led the presbyters in prayer for Skip.

Information Items

November 2, 2017 Meeting

Report of the Stated Clerk

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

- a. Correspondence log related to COM.
- b. Clerk's Annual Report will be sent out to in early November including a revised Clerk's Handbook.

Reports of Sub-Committees

Search and Call

MSP the approval of the MIF submitted by the Rehoboth Presbyterian Church PNC for installed pastor with the changes and clarification requested. Liaison will go over the items with PNC chairperson.

Examination - FYI

- a. Orientation for Rev. Rach and Rev. Gray
- b. Arranging for Examination preview for Rev. Doug Marshall, Rev. Rick Sweeney and a candidate for WHPC coming in from a distance on November 4th.

Care of Church Professionals

Mike Shepard offered prayers for the following: Colleen Molinaro, Art Moffat, Leonard Morgan, John Morrow, Rodney Murray, Skip Noftzger, David O'Hara, Alan Olson, Kirk Orr, Curtis Paul, Glenn Hart and Dave McCabe.

Care of Congregations

- a. The Committee continues to pray for the following congregations: Ebensburg, Fairchance, Mt Washington (Farmington), Fayette City, Little Redstone, First Greensburg, Maplewood, Westminster, Irwin, West Hempfield.

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- b. **MSP** to approve Rev. Doug Marshall to moderate the session meeting of the Puckety Presbyterian Church on November 9, 2017 (His contract does not begin until the next week)

AP/CRE Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

Spring Workshops begin on March 10, 2018

Board of Pension Update

Open Enrollment and Call to Health – Make sure you are covered.

Com Chairperson's Report

MSP the 2018 Proposed Structure for the COM. It will create greater communication between the COM and congregations by districts. Thanks were given to the members leaving the committee: Cynthia Cadenhead, Tim D'Aurora, Marie Davis, Bobbi Jo Huebner, and Colleen Molinaro.

Executive Presbyter's Report

Vandergrift will have its second forum on November 5th.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

- a. **MSP** to empower the Search and Call Sub Committee to approve the New Hope MIF if sent before January.
- b. Elected Martin Ankrum as Moderator for 2018 and Connie Cauvel as Secretary.

October 5, 2017 Meeting

Report of the Stated Clerk

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

- c. Correspondence log related to COM.
- d. Vandergrift Discernment team met with Congregation on 9/17/17 – approximately 85.
- e. All churches should have Sexual Misconduct and Child Protection policies recorded in minutes as approved by Session.
- f. Clerk's Annual Report will be sent out to in early November including a revised Clerk's Handbook.

Reports of Sub-Committees

Search and Call

MSP the approval of the Stated Supply relationship between Trinity, New Florence and Rev. Tony Catullo (2/3 time)

MSP the approval of the Interim Pastor contract between Rev Douglas Marshall and the Puckety Presbyterian Church

MSP the approval of the installation Commission for Rev Ed Gary at First Murrysville

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on October 22 at 6:00 pm

Examination - FYI

- c. Orientation for Rev. Rach and Rev. Gray.
- d. Arranging for Examination preview for Rev. Marshall in anticipation of November Presbytery meeting.
- e. Arranging for Examination preview of any West Hempfield candidates coming in from a distance for a neutral pulpit.

Care of Church Professionals

- a. MSP the termination of the Stated Supply agreement between Rev. James Stobaugh and the Covenant, Boswell session effective December 31, 2017.
- b. Mike Shepard offered prayers for Becky Maiman, John Manon, Gail Mason, Bruce Maxwell, Dave McCabe, John McClure, Lee McDermott, David McElroy, Aleda Menchyk and Craig Miller.
Mike reported that both Steve LaSor and Craig Miller have suffered losses in recent months.

Care of Congregations

- c. The Committee continues to pray for the following congregations: Calvin, Ft Burd, Hopewell, Brownsville; Colver; Cresson; Tyrone; Delmont; Derry; First and Laurel Hill, Dunbar.
- d. Invitation to Rev. Ron Durika and Rev. Noftzger from Delmont Presbyterian session for follow up meeting.

AP/CRE Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

IPLF current enrollees: Josh Scully (term 3); Seth Myers (term 3); Rich Zoltak (term 3); Brian Umbel (term 2); Brian Misner (term 1)

Board of Pension Update

Employers contracts must be completed by October 13th.

Com Chairperson's Report

Thanks to the Chairpersons for their work in preparing the 2018 proposal for the COM

Executive Presbyter's Report

Everything is going well. Transition apparitions.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

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

Information Items

October 3, 2017 Meeting

- The agenda for the meeting focused on an update and interview with Richard Watson, a candidate (May 2016) under the care of Redstone Presbytery.

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- Rick was asked about his mother's health and the related matter of completion of incomplete courses from the summer. He has completed all three courses (Polity; Care Giving; Gospel in Context), but had not received all of the grades yet.
- Rick thanked the committee for the scholarship monies which he received. He noted that he would be applying the funds toward the cost of the CPE program in which he was participating. So far, he had begun the classwork portion of the CPE program offered through Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute. Rick will be working in the context of the Highlands Hospital where training objectives for their newly-initiated program are being developed.
- During the current term, Rick is enrolled in the following classes:
 - Leadership and Context
 - Worship and Music
 - Greek Exegesis---Galatians/Luke
- For future SPM experiences, the committee discussed with him both timetables (summer/fall, 2018) and possible types of experiences (bigger church).
- Rick plans to begin taking the ordination exams by starting with the Polity examination in January, 2018.
- The committee discussed with Rick his sense of call for after completing seminary and his openness to various options as well as the practical concerns related to any of those.

Nominations Committee

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

Action Items

- The Nominating Committee places in nomination for Vice Moderator, 2018 the following person:

Rev. Colleen Molinaro; Uniontown, Third
- The Nominating Committee nominates the following persons for the Offices/Classes indicated:

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL:

Nancy Peters (1); District II, Jeannette, First (2020)

Rev. Marnie Silbert (1); District I, Murrysville, Newlonsburg (2019)

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:

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Rev. Ed Gray (1); District I, Murrysville, First (2020)

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY:

Robyn Jennings (1); District II, Greensburg, First (2019)

Rev. Geoff Rach (1); District II, Trafford, Level Green (2020)

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION:

Rev. Marnie Abraham Russell

GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONER RULING ELDER ALTERNATE

Marie Davis; New Kensington, The United Presbyterian

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.

Discernment Team Reports

- The discernment team for the Vandergrift Presbyterian Church met with the congregation in an open forum on November 5, 2017 in order to answer questions and concerns about denomination positions. Further explanation was provided concerning the discernment process and procedures regarding any possible vote to request dismissal to another Reformed denomination. Next steps will be meetings with the session of the church to discuss possible resolution of conditions that might accompany that request in order that both the congregation and presbytery would be voting upon a request with known and agreed upon conditions of that request.

NEW BUSINESS

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

ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster gave the attendance report. He reported that there were 35 Teaching Elders, 2 Commissioned Ruling Elders, 23 Ruling Elders, 0 Christian Educators, 3 Ruling Elder by virtue of office, and 17 visitors for a total of 80. There also were 30 clergy excused, 12 clergy absent, 9 Commissioned Ruling Elders absent and 51 congregations without elder representation.

AJOURNMENT

It was MSP to adjourn with prayer at 12:32 p.m.

BENEDICTION

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Rev. Caroline Vickery offered the benediction prayer.

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on Saturday, January 20, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg.

Sue Washburn, Moderator

Sylvia Carlson, Recording Clerk