

Presbytery of Redstone November 17, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The ecclesiastical and corporate meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone was convened at 9: 05 AM on November 17, 2018, at the Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church in Dunbar, and opened with prayer by Moderator Josh Scully. He announced that items of new business must be presented to the clerk by the end of worship and before the Announcement Loop.

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	
	Katy Brungraber, MAL	
	Bruce Cadenhead, MAL	
	Cynthia Cadenhead, MAL	
	Sylvia Carlson, HR	
	James Farrer, HR	
	Jane Johnson, MAL	
	Jay Lewis, HR	
	Charles MacPherson, HR	
	Skip Noftzger, EP	
	John Pressler, HR	
	Michael Shepard, HR	
Adah, Palmer Community		
Apollo, Poke Run		Linda Chicka
Avonmore, First	Larry Armstrong, Covenant Pastor	
Belle Vernon, First	Suzanne Currie	Bobbi Jo Huebner
Belle Vernon, Harmony	Glenn Hart, CP	Susan Nesti
Belle Vernon, Marion		Terry Diehl
Belle Vernon, Rehoboth	Donald Glunt	Amy Flower
Bolivar, United		
Boswell, Covenant		
Brownsville, Calvin		
Brownsville, Ft. Burd		Kathy Haluska
Brownsville, Hopewell		
Colver		
Cresson		
Dawson, Tyrone		
Delmont	Caroline Vickery	David Holm
Derry		
Dunbar, First		
Dunbar, Laurel Hill		Robert Junk
Ebensburg, First		
Fairchance		
Farmington, Mt. Washington		

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Fayette City, First		
Fayette City, Little Redstone		James Anderson
Greensburg, First	Martin Ankrum	Jill Gaetano
Greensburg, Maplewood		
Greensburg, Westminster	Donna Havrisko	Dennis Yates
Irwin, First	Ronald Wakeman	Martha Pattullo Ray Edelman Les Hale
Irwin, West Hempfield	Andrew Wirt	Dave Collier
Jeannette		
Johnstown, Bethany		
Johnstown, First	Alice Tondora	Sheila Farrer
Johnstown, Second		
Johnstown, Westmont	Rene Whitaker, Interim Pastor	Bernice Adams Deb Lichtenfels
Lake Lynn, Springhill Furn.		
Latrobe		
Latrobe, United		
Leisenring		
Ligonier, Pleasant Grove		
Lower Burrell, Grace		
Lower Burrell, Puckety		Chuck West
Masontown		
McClellandtown	Lee McDermott	
Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek		
Mt. Pleasant, Reunion		
Murrysville, First	Edward Gray	
Murrysville, Newlonsburg	Curtis Paul Marnie Silbert, Associate Pastor	Susan Keany
Murrysville, Union	Derek Campbell	
New Alexandria, Community	Grafton Eliason, Interim Pastor	
New Alexandria, Congruity	Cliff Foster	Sarabeth Stopansky
New Florence, Bethel		Carol Faytol
New Florence, Trinity	Anthony Catullo, Interim Pastor	
New Kensington, United		
New Salem		
N. Huntingdon, New Hope	John Simpson, Bridge Pastor	Suzanne Pressler
Patton		
Revloc		
Scottdale, Calvin		
Smithfield, Grace Chapel		
Smock, Pleasant View	Laura Blank	
Trafford, Level Green	Geoff Rach	Cheryl Rhea
Uniontown, Tent		
Uniontown, Third	Ronald Johnson	Denise Engle

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Uniontown, Trinity	James Gear	
Vanderbilt, E. Liberty		
West Newton, Sewickley	Eric Glisan, CP	
West Newton, Sewickley U.	Glenn Hart, CP	
West Newton, United		
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

Visitors: Carolee Ackinclose, Fayette City, Little Redstone; Michelle Anderson, Fayette City, Little Redstone; Richard Currie, Belle Vernon, First; Cheryl Duncan, Dunbar, Laurel Hill; Margaret Gilchrist, Dunbar, Laurel Hill; Paula Junk, Dunbar, Laurel Hill; Sherry Scully, Dunbar, Laurel Hill; Lelah Sheppard, Fayette City, Little Redstone; Jim Sheppard, Fayette City, Little Redstone; Don Strickler, Fayette City, Little Redstone; Gail Strickler, Fayette City, Little Redstone; Deitra Strong, Fayette City, Little Redstone; Fred Westcoat, Irwin, First; Lois Wahler, Dunbar, Laurel Hill

Teaching Elders Excused: Buell; Cahn; Carnahan; Chow; Conover; Corey; Degitz; Foust; Giese; Hepler; Hess; Hickok; Holben; Jalso; Keith; Keys; Klein; LaSor; Lighthall; Lloyd; Macaleer; Mason; Maxwell; McCabe; McClure; Michael; Morrow; Murray; Orr; Sharp, J.; Sharp, W.; Stevens; Stobaugh; Sweeney; Upton; VanWyk; Washburn; Yuckman, C; Yuckman, M.

Teaching Elders Absent: Atkinson; Bash; Dormire; Durika; Goetschius; Graff; Kerr; King; Maiman; Manon; Marshall; McCabe; Russell; Siddle

Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent: McElroy; Morgan; O'Hara; Prinkey; Sunseri; Toderio; 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, reported that there were no one to be seated as corresponding members, with privilege of the floor.

The 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 Moderator welcomed each of the first-time presbyters.

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ARRANGEMENTS

Rev. Michael Shepard, moderator of the Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church offered some history of the Laurel Hill Church and Cemetery and extended a welcome to the Presbytery to this "home" congregation of Moderator Joshua Scully. Rev. Michael Shepherd also showed a T-shirt quilt of various T-shirts from his years of attending the Triennium Event over the years. The quilt was put together by Rev. Sue Blank.

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 Stated Clerk noted for all sessions the distribution of the packet for the annual end-of-year reports to be completed by each Clerk of Session.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Associate Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, Rev. Cliff Foster, presented 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.
2. 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, Merrittstown, 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.

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From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry and the Committee on Ministry recommends approval of the "Indebtedness Policy and Guidelines."

TREASURER AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Rev. Skip Noftzger presented the written report of the Treasurer John Dickson and provided an opportunity for questions from the Presbytery.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

Rev. Skip Noftzger reported that on the various ways we arrived at the Presbytery meeting this morning. Many of us took many back roads with many twists and turns, much like our calling to be God's disciples in particular places. Skip shared 1 Peter 2 from the Message as part of the report, noting the recent passing of Eugene Peterson and how much of an influence Eugene Peterson had in Skip's life.

Rev. Skip Noftzger shared a poem about the centrality of God in our lives, highlighting the thread of God's call in each of our lives and what that thread means in our lives and how that thread is woven into the life of our Presbytery.

WORSHIP

Worship was led by Rev. Laura Blank, Rev. Aleda Menchyk, with Joshua Scully offering the sermon and Rev. Michael Shepard presiding over the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

ANNOUNCEMENTS LOOP

PINE SPRINGS CAMP REPORT

Executive Director Greg Davis reported that the "Faith for the Future" campaign is completed, and Greg expressed thanks for all those who donated to this fund. A total of \$1,916,500 was raised through 240 individuals, 35 churches, and 2 foundations. This campaign will enable the camp to provide vital encounters with Jesus Christ into the future. Greg showed the thank-you video for the commitment to Pine Springs Camp.

MISSION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

Rev. Sylvia Carlson thanked those who came out to meet with the visitors from the Sudan; the Rev. James Par Tap and Deaconess Nyankuach Ngor Chol, who were with us in October.

SYNOD OF THE TRINITY REPORT

With a written report distributed, Rev. Lori Bass-Riley offered reflections upon the most recent meeting of the Synod of the Trinity Assembly. Lori reported that over the last couple of years the Synod of the Trinity has been revamping its work. Lori reminded Presbytery of the Synod of the Trinity's primary goal and subsequent goals of joint and shared ministries. Lori invited us to think out and to pray for the Synod in its work. Any ideas can be shared with our Synod Commissioners.

ACTION AGENDA

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COUNCIL

On behalf of the Council, the following report was presented by Bobbi Jo Huebner:

Action Items

- The Council **recommends** the approval of the proposed 2019 Budget for the Presbytery of Redstone. *(This budget was submitted for a first reading in September with a second reading and vote in this November meeting.)* **MSP** to approve the 2019 Budget for the Presbytery of Redstone.
- The Council has scheduled and announced the agenda for the proposed constitutional amendments of the Book of Order in 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. Linda Chicka spoke about the Addiction Ministry Network and some of its work and services of healing and hope that have occurred in the past. Linda drew attention to the questionnaire which was included in the Presbytery packet and encouraged all presbyters to participate in this way.

Poke Run Presbyterian Church will be hosting a service on Tuesday, November 27th at 7PM called “Body, Mind, Soul, and Narcan” which will include worship and information being shared. The Presbytery is invited to attend this special service.

Information

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.

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- 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 seat 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.

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- 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

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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

Rev. Chuck MacPherson presented the following report.

Action Items

- *Moderator Josh Scully turned the meeting over to Vice-Moderator Laura Blank and Laura assumed moderating the meeting.*
- The Committee on Ministry **recommends** the commissioning of Joshua Scully to serve as the Commissioned Pastor of the Little Redstone Presbyterian Church. **MSP** to approve the commission of Joshua Scully to serve as the Commissioned Pastor of the Little Redstone Presbyterian Church. Vice Moderator Rev. Blank led the Presbytery in a service of commissioning.
- The Committee on Ministry **recommends** the change to Honorably Retired status of the following presbyters:
 - Rev. Cynthia Cadenhead
 - Rev. Suzanne Currie
 - Rev. Aleda Menchyk
- **MSP** to approve and change the status of all three to Honorably Retired effective January 1, 2019. Vice Moderator Rev. Blank led the Presbytery in a liturgy marking this transition in ministry for the three retiring members of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery heard of the impact those who have been given the status of Honorably Retired. Bernice Adams spoke about the ministry of Cynthia Cadenhead and her involvement in our Presbytery; Glenn Hart spoke about the ministry of Suzanne Currie and her involvement in our Presbytery; and Katy Yates Brungraber spoke of the ministry of Aleda Menchyk and her involvement in our Presbytery.

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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)

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Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders reported by Michael Shepard -

- The following pastors and congregations were lifted up in prayer.
 - 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.
 - 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 Kuhn (health prevented him from attending this past year). In addition, the committee expressed appreciation to Martin Ankrum, completing his two-year term as Moderator.

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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

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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.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

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

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**.

- *Moderator Josh Scully resumed moderating the Presbytery meeting.*

Nominations Committee

Rev. Curtis Paul, presented the following report and action items of the 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. **MSP** to elect Elder Chuck West as Vice Moderator in 2019.

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Moderator Josh Scully offered a prayer for Chuck West on his election as Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery of Redstone for 2019.

- It was **MSP** to approve the following slate of nominees presented by the Nominating Committee for the listed Offices/Classes as 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.

Moderator Josh Scully spoke to the Presbytery about the work of the IPLF that provided for his training so that he could be commissioned to the Little Redstone congregation. Josh also took the opportunity to thank the Laurel Hill congregation for their support through the years and for their work in making hosting this meeting of Redstone Presbytery possible.

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 38 Teaching Elders, 2 Commissioned Ruling Elders, 26 Ruling Elders representing 22 churches, 0 Christian Educators, 1 Ruling Elder by virtue of office, and 13 visitors for a total of 79. There also were 39 clergy excused, 14 clergy absent, 8 Commissioned Ruling Elders absent and 46 congregations without elder representation.

AJOURNMENT

It was **MSP to adjourn** with prayer at 11:40 a.m.

BENEDICTION

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Moderator Josh Scully offered the benediction prayer.

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.

Joshua Scully, Moderator

Cliff Foster, Recording Clerk