

## Presbytery of Redstone May 19, 2020

### CALL TO ORDER

The ecclesiastical and corporate meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone was called to order by Chuck West, Moderator, and convened at 6:07 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, 2020, via ZOOM video conferencing. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Associate Stated Clerk, Cliff Foster.

### 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>
	Ross Bash, MAL	
	Lori Bass-Riley, MAL	
	Susan Blank, MAL	
	Sylvia Carlson, HR	
	Lisa Dormire, MAL	
	James Farrer, HR	
	Dennis Macaleer, HR	
	Chuck MacPherson, HR	
	Rebecca Maiman, MAL	
	Aleda Menchyk, HR	
	John Michael, HR	
	Norma Murphy, HR	
	Skip Noftzger, EP	
	Michael Shepard, HR	
	Marnie Silbert, HA	
Adah, Palmer Community		
Apollo, Poke Run	Pete Goetschius	
Avonmore, First		
Belle Vernon, First	Mary Kay Glunt	Bobbi Jo Huebner
Belle Vernon, Harmony	Glenn Hart, CP	
Belle Vernon, Marion		
Belle Vernon, Rehoboth	Donald Glunt	
Bolivar, United		
Boswell, Covenant		
Brownsville, Calvin	Jane Johnson, CovP	Diane Chuboy
Brownsville, Ft. Burd	Jane Johnson, CovP	Kathy Haluska
Brownsville, Hopewell		
Colver	Owar Ojulu	Belinda Lambie
Cresson	David McCabe	
Dawson, Tyrone		
Delmont	Caroline Vickery	Cliff Jobe
Derry		
Dunbar, First		
Dunbar, Laurel Hill		
Ebensburg, First	Owar Ojulu	Laura McGill
Fairchance		

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Farmington, Mt. Washington		
Fayette City, First		
Fayette City, Little Redstone	Joshua Scully, CP	Audrey Cottle
Greensburg, First		
Greensburg, Maplewood	Steve LaSor	Robert Bereit
Greensburg, Westminster	Donna Havrisko	Duffy Greba
Irwin, First	Ronald Wakeman	
Irwin, West Hempfield		
Jeannette		
Johnstown, Bethany		Ray Sheets
Johnstown, First		Sheila Farrer
Johnstown, Second		
Johnstown, Westmont		
Lake Lynn, Springhill	Molly Hall, CovP	
Latrobe		
Latrobe, United		
Leisenring	Rick Watson, CP	
Ligonier, Pleasant Grove		
Lower Burrell, Grace	Ken Foust	Glenn Nordmark
Lower Burrell, Puckety		Debbie Artman Rebecca Fisher
Masontown		
McClellandtown		
Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek		
Mt. Pleasant, Reunion		
Murrysville, First	Edward Gray	Keith Langston
Murrysville, Newlonsburg	Curtis Paul	John Schultz Ann Himelein
Murrysville, Union	Susan Washburn, IP	
New Alexandria, Community		
New Alexandria, Congruity	Cliff Foster	
New Florence, Bethel		Barry Poglein
New Florence, Trinity		
New Kensington, United	Wendy Keys	
New Salem		Dana Velosky
North Huntingdon, New Hope	Brenda Barnes	John Cherepko
Patton	David McCabe	
Revloc		
Scottdale, Calvin	Leonard Morgan, CP	
Smithfield, Grace Chapel		
Smock, Pleasant View	Laura Blank	
Trafford, Level Green	Geoff Rach	Cheryl Rhea Jack Battenhouse
Uniontown, Tent		
Uniontown, Third	Ronald Johnson	

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Uniontown, Trinity		Francis Squires
Vanderbilt, E. Liberty		
West Newton, Sewickley		
West Newton, Sewickley U.	Glenn Hart, CP	
West Newton, United		
Notation:	(*) = pastor other denomination (**) = pastor/CP serving more than one church (#) = pastor another presbytery	AP = Associate Pastor; CovP = Covenant Pastor; CP = Commissioned Pastor; HR = Honorably Retired; IP = Interim Pastor; MAL = Member at Large

**By Virtue of Office:** John Dickson, Treasurer; Lynn Mance, Presbytery Council; Chuck West, Moderator

**Visitors:** Greg Davis, Pine Springs Camp; Brian Kilbert, Washington Presbytery; Bobbie Martin, Presbytery Staff; Doug Portz, Board of Pensions; Wayne Yost, Synod of the Trinity

**Teaching Elders Excused:** Ankrum; Armstrong; Buell; Cahn; Carnahan; Catullo; Degitz; Giesey; Graff; Hepler; Hess; Hickok; Holben; Jalso; Keith; Kerr; King; Klein; Lewis; Lighthall; Lloyd; Mason; Maxwell; McClure; Morrow; Murray; Orr; Pressler; Russell; Sharp, J.; Sharp, W.; Simpson; Stevens; Stobaugh; Sweeney; Upton; VanWyk; Whitaker; Yuckman, C; Yuckman, M.

**Teaching Elders Absent:** Durika; Gear; Manon; McDermott; Siddle; Wirt

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused:** NONE

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent:** Marciano; McElroy; O'Hara; Prinkey; Sunseri; Todero; Tondora; Wiegand

### **ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET**

The Moderator called for the adoption of the Docket which was approved *by consent*.

### **SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS AND INTRODUCTION OF OTHER VISITORS**

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster, reported that the Rev. Doug Portz, Board of Pensions representative from Pittsburgh Presbytery, the Rev. Brian Kilbert a member of Washington Presbytery, and Rev. Dr. Wayne Yost, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Trinity, be seated as Corresponding Members. It was **MSP** to seat these individuals as Corresponding Members.

### **ARRANGEMENTS**

The Rev. Skip Noftzger, Executive Presbyter gave several introductory remarks about the Zoom meeting and provided some instructions on how the meeting would proceed; voting will be done either by a poll that will pop up on each screen or by raising/waving of hands. Any items of new business are to be sent to privately to Cliff Foster, Associate Stated Clerk via the chat option, by the end of the Executive Presbyters report.

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### 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 2019 minutes for Redstone Presbytery were reviewed via email by the Rev. David Byers of Beaver Butler Presbytery and were approved with one exception and no delinquencies.
3. Committee on Representation report:

On behalf of the Committee on Representation, the Stated Clerk noted the report and areas that may still need to be addressed by the Nominating Committee for future years.
4. The Rev. Wayne Yost, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Trinity, brought greetings on behalf of the Synod Staff. Wayne said that it was good to be with us this evening and to see so many "old" friends.

### CONSENT AGENDA

The Associate Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, Rev. Cliff Foster, presented the Consent Agenda, and it was **MSP** to approve the following items ***by consent***:

#### **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 January 26, 2020 and the special called meeting of April 28, 2020 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.
2. Council **recommends** that any reports of the Executive Presbyter, Stated Clerk, Treasurer, Pine Springs Camp, Mission, and Synod Commissioner presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.
3. Council **recommends** that any of the reports of all subcommittees, networks, and task forces of the Council that are presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.

#### **From the Committee on Ministry**

1. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** the approval of the waiver request for limitation of terms for Lawrence Shean (elder), Lisa Souders (elder) and Richard Dyche (deacon) on behalf of the Derry Presbyterian Church in Derry.
2. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** the approval of the waiver request for limitation of terms for Ronald Pahel Jr. (elder) and Scott Reynolds (elder) on behalf of the Calvin Presbyterian Church in Scottsdale.
3. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** the approval of the waiver request for limitation of terms for Marie Clark (elder) on behalf of the Palmer Community Church in Adah.

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4. The Committee on Ministry **recommends** the approval of the waiver request for limitation of terms for Loretta Martin (elders) on behalf of the First Presbyterian Church in Dunbar.

### **From the Committee on Representation**

- I. Committee on Representation **recommends** that the annual report on representation be received, filed, and directed to the Nominating Committee.

### **EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT**

Skip Noftzger called attention to his written report which can be found in the packet for the meeting. In addition, Skip highlighted the Emergency Grant and Loan Program through the Presbytery and the Pandemic Context Planning/Decision Making documents that have been distributed which have implications for all sorts of operations. We are now in the “yellow” phase, to “proceed with caution, be alert, slow down, and yield to things for the good of all”. Asking questions about “Where is God in all of all this?” Skip then shared Psalm 91 and used this Psalm as the basis of a time of devotion for this meeting. We are the dwelling place of God, not our sanctuaries, buildings, traditions, or practices. We can be assured of God’s track record; God’s protective care is made known. We then went into break-out groups for a discussion of where we have seen God at work around us. When we assembled again, Skip talked about “Strategies for Winter: Redemptive Leadership in Survival Times” (Blanchard, Crouch, Hart, Kauffman and Nardella). To be a leader in a crisis: embrace your role, maximize your runway, prototype in sprints, organize for resilience, lead by naming, design for a different future. Skip called attention to the ordination/installation questions for Deacons, Elders, and Ministers, especially to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, and especially in this unprecedented time. The report was concluded with a slide presentation of all the various online worship services and expressing gratitude for all of these “heroes” at work throughout the Presbytery.

### **BOARD OF PENSION REPORT**

Rev. Doug Portz gave a brief report on some of the things that the Board of Pensions is doing during the pandemic. All of the representatives/consultants are working remotely. The Board is providing 100% coverage for Coronavirus testing, offering counseling sessions for members, congregations of fewer than 300 members can apply for a 3-month waiver of Pension dues, and full benefits continue.

Doug also highlighted some of the changes that are coming in the next year. Minister’s Choices of new benefit package for Ministers which is to support ministers. There will be a Temporary Disability (included in Pastor’s Participation and Minister’s Choice Plans) Plan and a Long-Term Disability Plan. More information can be found at pensions.org.

### **TREASURER’S REPORT**

John Dickson, Treasurer, reported that the written report was in the packet for the meeting. John pointed out some of the highlights for the 4<sup>th</sup> month of the year which hopefully reflects 33 % of the budget. We fell a little behind the budget. Expenses are below expectations and that is good news for us. We exceeded revenue by \$3,500. Last year at this time the figure was \$5,400. Total investments and Holdings are \$887,223.

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS LOOP

There was no announcement loop as part of this Zoom meeting.

### ACTION AGENDA

#### I. COUNCIL REPORT

Rev. Laura Blank presented the following report and action items from the Presbytery Council:

#### Action Items

- The Council nominates Glenn Hart to serve on the Nominating Committee (2022) of the Presbytery. It was **MSP** to elect Glenn to the Nominating Committee class of 2022.
- The Council presents the commissioners to the 2020 General Assembly for commissioning by the Presbytery. Moderator Chuck West led the commissioning service for the Rev. Laura Blank, Elder Bobbi Jo Huebner, Rev. Susan Blank, and Elder Josh Scully who were commissioned to the 2020 General Assembly Meeting. The Commissioning service was ended with prayer.
- The Council presents the revisions in the Manual of the Presbytery of Redstone for a first reading. A second reading and vote will take place at the September 2020 meeting. Laura Blank reminded the Presbytery that at the Special Presbytery Meeting held on April 28, 2020 that Sections 1.1001 and 1.1002 of the proposed revision to the Presbytery of Redstone Manual, were approved.

#### Information Items

#### April 28, 2020 Meeting

Rev. Laura Blank, called the meeting to order and opened in prayer.

The reduced agenda for the meeting had been distributed by email and at the outset of the meeting Offering an opportunity for revisions or changes, the agenda as submitted was approved **by consent.**

Two items that had been approved by consent between meetings of the Council were reviewed for ratification.

**MSP** to ratify the consent item authorizing the submission of the SBA Payroll Protection Loan application for payroll expenses and to authorize Richard Noftzger, Executive Presbyter and Secretary of the Corporation, to serve as the signatory.

**MSP** to ratify the consent item initiating the Emergency Loan and Grant program and authorizing the Moderator, Treasurer, Council Chair and the Executive Presbyter to serve as the review committee.

Council members reviewed the March reports that had been emailed from both the bookkeeper and the summary provided by the Treasurer. John Dickson, Treasurer was available to answer any questions. It was **MSP** to receive both reports.

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**MSP** to nominate RE Glenn Hart to the Presbytery at its next meeting to serve a three-year term on the Nominating Committee of the Presbytery.

The Manual Revisions Task Force has completed its work and submitted a comprehensive document revision with both editorial and substantive changes to match current practices and philosophy. **MSP** to recommend the Manual Revisions to the Presbytery for a first reading in the May meeting and the second reading and vote regarding approval in the September meeting.

The proposed schedule for the 2021 gathering of the Presbytery of Redstone had been submitted by email ahead of time to Council members. Similar to previous years, the schedule was reviewed. **MSP** to approve and publish the 2021 meeting dates as submitted.

The agenda for the upcoming Presbytery meeting was reviewed. The Moderator noted that a decision regarding whether the meeting would take place in person, by videoconference or a combination of the two had not been made. Upon examination, the agenda for the May 19 was **MSP** as presented.

**MSP** to adjourn the meeting. The meeting of the Council was closed with prayer.

### **April 1, 2020 Meeting**

Executive Presbyter Skip Noftzger, on behalf of Rev. Laura Blank, Council Chair, distributed to all members through email an item for consideration and approval. Documents distributed included:

- A. Summary of the CARES Act
- B. Payroll Protection Program Borrower Information Fact Sheet
- C. Draft copy of the Application

**MSP** to authorize Richard Noftzger, Executive Presbyter and Secretary of the Corporation, to submit the loan application to First Commonwealth for the SBA Payroll Protection Program as soon as applications are to be received and to authorize Corporation officers, including Rev. Noftzger, to both make the loan request based upon 2.5 months of payroll expenses (31,233.58) and to be the authorized signer.\*

Executive Presbyter Skip Noftzger, on behalf of Rev. Laura Blank, Council Chair, distributed to all members through email a proposal for emergency grants or loans from designated funds for congregations in particular financial distress resulting from the pandemic. Documents distributed include:

- A. Emergency loan and grant information sheet
- B. Loan and grant application

**MSP** to approve for distribution within the congregations of the Presbytery and to authorize the Executive Committee to review, approve, or decline submitted applications.

\*Upon hearing from First Commonwealth the loan application approved by the SBA PPP program was for 16,100.

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### February 25, 2020 Meeting

Rev. Laura Blank called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. The agenda for the meeting had been distributed by email prior to the meeting. Without any proposed revision, it was approved **by consent**.

Rev. Laura Blank led the Council in the “Dwelling in the Word” on Matthew 25:31-46. Council members paired off to share with one another. Upon reconvening, insights were offered to the whole group.

Upon conclusion of the Scripture study, Rev. Noftzger introduced the book, Seven Levers: Missional Strategies for Leading Conferences written by Robert Schnase. Noting the author’s role as a Methodist bishop, he described the book as a means to wrestle with the most effective strategies for the greatest impact with judicatories (mid-level councils). Rev. Noftzger also provided a summary sheet of the book and the “seven levers.” It was agreed that Council members would read the introduction and the chapters on the first two “levers” for discussion at the next meeting.

The minutes of the January 14, 2020 Council meeting were reviewed. It was MSP to approve the minutes of that meeting as distributed.

### Reports

The Chairperson initiated reports from officers and staff.

### Stated Clerk

With no report from the Chairperson, the Stated Clerk reviewed the upcoming Presbytery meeting dates and locations. He also noted the dates for possible minutes reviews for Clerks of Sessions.

At the request of the Stated Clerk, consideration was given to changing the scheduled June Council meeting. After discussion, it was MSP to move the meeting date to June 30, 2020; 6:30 p.m. at the Presbytery Center.

Consideration was given to overtures which have been submitted since the last Council meeting that have yet to receive a concurrence. The Stated Clerk requested that the Council give consideration to the OVT-042; “Regarding Worship Resources for Veterans.” After some discussion of the overture and the rationale, it was MSP to recommend concurrence with this overture to the Presbytery at the March meeting.

### Executive Presbyter

Rev. Noftzger inquired about awareness among the Council about the Matthew 25 initiative of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. A short video available on the PMA website was shown with President Diane Moffett introducing the initiative to congregations and mid councils.

Rev. Noftzger distributed a sheet that he had assembled that identified the values of Matthew 25 in the context of the larger mission and vision of the Church within God’s kingdom. The “how” or the “means” matter as we seek to live out the expression of God’s transformative grace in our world.

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Questions were raised about any congregations were currently discussing “signing on” as Matthew 25 congregations. Participants identified a half-dozen that they were aware. It was decided that the Matthew 25 initiative will be a major component of the next Presbytery gathering and the Presbytery will be asked to declare its engagement in the Matthew 25 initiative after more congregations have begun to become involved.

### Treasurer

A written treasurer’s report based upon the January financial report (one month) had been distributed. Mr. West commented on the “slow” nature of income receipts in the first month. Rev. Noftzger compared both income and expenses relative to the January 2019 report.

### Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp

A written report from Greg Davis, Executive Director had been distributed to the members of the Council. There were no questions about the report.

### SUB COMMITTEES/NETWORKS AGENDA ITEMS

- **Staff Support Sub Committee**

There had not been a meeting since the last Council meeting, but one is scheduled for February 27 to begin the process of annual evaluations.

- **Communications Task Force**

The Announcements Loop continues to be completed by Dennis Yates. The Facebook page is updated and monitored by Nick Cramer. Currently, Rev. Noftzger has been coordinating the Redstone Stories schedule

- **Missions Network**

Announcements were made about the upcoming mission trips to North Carolina and to West Virginia.

Rev. Ron Johnson commented that while there were 26 people representing four churches and two colleges for the North Carolina trip, there were two spots available if anyone knew someone who would like to participate.

Rev. Noftzger commented on the Mission meeting last week. Currently, the committee is reviewing multiple requests from the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church in order to make decisions about appropriate distribution of funds to our partner church.

- **Budget and Stewardship**

The Council had received a chart detailing per capita payments and expectations for 2020. For the past several years, presbyteries have been permitted to use the most recent year statistics to base their per capita payments. This year, the Office of the General Assembly revoked that decision with the exception of those who have lost more than ten percent. The chart compared per capita based upon 2018 numbers, 2018 adjusted numbers, 2019 numbers and as a percentage of budgeted income or projected contributions. After discussion, it was **MSP** to remit per capita payments based upon 2019 statistics through the year with the expectation of using the higher figure of 2018 later in the year if funds are available.

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- **Addictions Ministry**  
Rev. McDermott spoke on the ongoing progress of the development of the video resources to go along with curriculum. Currently, these videos are in the editing stages.
- **Healing and Prayer Ministry**  
Council members were reminded of the event sponsored by the Healing and Prayer Ministry network; “A Retreat Morning on Thomas Merton’s Life and Influence” – May 30; 9:00-12:00
- **Presbyterian Women**  
There was no report provided.

### **PRESBYTERY AGENDA – March 24, 2020**

The proposed draft agenda for the March Presbytery gathering was distributed. Emphasizing the Matthew 25 initiative, it also included recognition of candidate Rick Watson. It was **MSP** to approve the agenda as submitted.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The Manual Revision Task Force has met diligently in a few extended meetings. Draft revisions have been completed and are being reviewed one final time before being submitted to the Council. Most changes are editorial and will be noted as such. A few changes are more substantive regarding responsibilities and nominating processes.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was **MSP** to adjourn the meeting with prayer.

### **PRAYERS FOR EACH OTHER AND OUR COMMUNITIES**

Rev. Laura Blank solicited from Council members prayer requests. Upon sharing those, each was lifted up in prayer as the Council prayed together.

## **II. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT**

Rev. Pete Goetschius presented the following report and action items for the Committee on Ministry:

### **Action Items**

- It was **MSP** to adopt of the Policy on Approval for Non-Presbyterian Moderators found in the packet. The floor was opened for questions. The motion was approved to adopt the Policy.
- It was **MSP** that the Rev. Brian Kilbert be received into Redstone Presbytery and approve the call to serve as pastor of the Puckety Presbyterian Church, effective June 21, 2020. Rebecca Fisher, chair of the Puckety PNC, reported on the process of the committee which led them to the Rev. Kilbert. Debbie Artman, Clerk of Session at Puckety, reported the result of the Congregational meeting that occurred on May 17,

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2020. The vote was 64-3 to call Rev. Kilbert to Puckety Presbyterian Church. Rev. Brian Kilbert was examined by the Presbytery. He shared about himself that lead him to his call to Puckety. Moderator Chuck West called upon Rev. Pete Goetshius to pray for Rev. Brian Kilbert and Puckety Presbyterian Church in their mutual ministry.

## Information Items

### May 7, 2020 Meeting (Zoom)

Approval of Minutes

**MSP** to approve the minutes for the March 5, 2020 meeting as submitted.

### Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log
- Need for individual follow up on Minutes/Register review
- Request for dissolution of a pastoral relationship.

**MSP** to approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Caroline Vickery and the Delmont Presbyterian Church effective June 1, 2020 contingent upon the affirmative vote of the congregation meeting on May 24, 2020.

### Report of the Moderator

- Reunion, Mt. Pleasant – Rev. Chuck MacPherson
- Delmont Presbyterian – will need a moderator beginning in June

### Report of Subcommittees

#### Examinations and Membership

- **Action Items**
- **MSP** to recommend Rev. Brian Kilbert for examination by the Presbytery and approval of the pastoral call with the Puckety Presbyterian Church effective June 21, 2020.
- **MSP** to approve the addition of Russ Baird (Commissioned Pastor, Washington Presbytery) to the Pulpit Supply roster.

#### Search and Call

- **Information Items**
- Transition chart update
- Possibility that Rev. Larry Armstrong will be delaying his retirement from First, Avonmore.
- **Action Items**
- **MSP** approval of the Commissioned Pastor contract between Len Morgan (RE, Delmont) and the Community United Presbyterian Church effective one month after being able to return to in person worship at current position at Calvin, Scottdale.

#### AP/CP Subcommittee

- **Information Items**
- Reformed Worship and Sacraments cohort – completing their coursework (still need practicums) – Bill Weightman (RE, First, BV), Seth Myers (RE, First, Dunbar), Karen

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Kifer (RE, West Hempfield), Doug Yauger (RE, Trinity, Uniontown). Each of them will be eligible for commissioning upon completion of the practicums (some with limitations) and agreement of a session of a congregation.

- **Action items**
- **MSP** approve adding each of these (Weightman, Myers, Kifer, Yauger) to the Pulpit Supply roster of the Presbytery.

### **Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders**

- **Information Items**
- Liaison updates both written and oral were reported

Prayers were offered for the following congregations and congregational leaders.

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; Level Green Presbyterian Church, Trafford; Tent Presbyterian Church, Uniontown; Third Presbyterian Church, Uniontown; Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Uniontown

Sylvia Carlson; Terry Carnahan; Anthony Catullo; Carole Isley Corey; Daniel Chow; Suzanne Currie; Eugene Degitz; Lisa Dormire; Ron Durika; Jim Farrer

### **March 5, 2020 Meeting**

Approval of Minutes

**MSP** to approve the minutes for the February 6, 2020 meeting as submitted.

### **Report of the Stated Clerk**

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log
- Polity Workshop – April 18, 2020; 12:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Redstone Presbytery Center
  - 2019 Minutes/Register can be reviewed while person attends workshop
- Other Minutes Review dates – pre-presbytery
  - March Presbytery meeting – March 24, Third, Uniontown; 5:00 p.m.
  - May Presbytery meeting – May 19, First, Johnstown; 5:00 p.m.
- Waiver of Rotation requests
  - It was **MSP** to approve Adah, Palmer request for waiver of rotation for Marie Clark, Ruling Elder
  - It was **MSP** to approve Dunbar First, request for waiver for Loretta Martin, ruling Elder.

### **Report of the Moderator**

- Moderator Appointments
- For information, Reunion, Mt. Pleasant.

### **REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES**

#### **Examinations and Membership**

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- Action Items
- **MSP** to approve with corrections as noted a recommendation of a policy on requirements for non-Presbyterian ministers serving in temporary pastoral relationships to be considered for service as moderators of sessions and congregations.
- Information Items
- Examination scheduled with a candidate for the Puckety Presbyterian Church for April 2; 5:30 p.m. (preceding full COM meeting).
- Possible examination for a candidate for Westmont still to be scheduled

### Search and Call

- Action Items
- **MSP** to approve the Interim Pastor contract between Rev. Sue Washburn and Union Presbyterian Church effective April 19.
- Information Items
- Transition Chart (handout)
- Executive Presbyter met with the Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church to make sure they were starting out well. They have already begun completing some videoconference interviews.

### Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:
  - Greensburg, Westminster for energy and vitality.
  - Latrobe, United for Donald Graff and his wife and the congregation.
  - Derry for the Pastor's and husband's health and health of the congregation.
  - Jeannette, First for the PNC.
  - Rick Watson for continued progress and for family.
  - Johnstown, Westmont for their candidate and for youth going on a mission trip.
- Cards were signed and will be sent to the following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors that were also prayed for during this time:
  - Larry Armstrong, Brenda Barnes, Ross Bash, Lori Bass-Riley, Laura Blank, Susan Blank, Cliff Buell, Bruce Cadenhead, Cynthia Cadenhead, Robert Cahn
- Cards were signed and will be sent to the following churches that were also prayed for during this time:
  - Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant; First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville; Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville; Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville; Community United Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria; Congruity Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria; Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence; Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence; United Presbyterian Church, New Kensington; New Salem Presbyterian Church

### AP/CP Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- Note the following Workshops---
  - "Pastoral Care with Loved ones of Addicted;" Rev. McDermott, Rev. Hedges; March 14, 2020; 12:30-3:00 p.m.
  - "Polity;" John Rodgers, Stated Clerk; April 18, 2020; 12:30-3:00 p.m.
  - "Proclaiming the Word;" Rev. Ken Foust; May 9, 2020; 12:30-3:00 p.m.

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- Reformed Worship and Sacraments cohort (February 8, March 14, April 18, May 9); 5 – Redstone; 3 – Kiski; 3 – Washington; 3 – Pittsburgh

## Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to bring to this meeting.

## New Business

There was no new business to bring to this meeting.

## Adjournment

It was MSP to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. with prayer offered by Aleda Menchyk.

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## February 6, 2020 Meeting

### Approval of Minutes

MSP to approve the minutes for January 9, 2020 meeting as submitted.

### Stated Clerk's Report

Discussion of the Correspondence Log - Clerks of Sessions have until February 14 to complete the online PC(USA) 2019 Statistical Report.

Polity Workshop – April 18, 2020; 12:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Redstone Presbytery Center

- 2019 Minutes/Register can be reviewed while in attendance at the workshop

Other Minutes Review dates

- Enrichment Day – February 8, Westmont, Johnstown; 11:00 a.m.
- March Presbytery meeting – March 24, Third, Uniontown; 5:00 p.m.
- May Presbytery meeting – May 19, First, Johnstown; 5:00 p.m.

MSP to approve the recommendation of Waiver of Rotation requests.

- Scottdale, Calvin – Elder Ronald Pahel, Jr., and Deacon Scott Reynolds
- Derry – Elders Lawrence Shean and Lisa Souders; Deacon Richard Dyche

### Moderator Report

Moderator appointments:

- First, Jeannette – Rev. Tony Catullo
- Community – Rev. Cliff Foster

## REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

### Examinations and Membership

- Examination scheduled with a candidate for the Puckety Presbyterian Church for April 2; 5:30 p.m. (preceding full COM meeting).
- Orientation meetings to be scheduled with Rev. Ojulu, Rev. Barnes and Rev. Glunt.
- MSP to approve the recommendation of the request of Rev. Wendy Keys and the Session of The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington to use the two weeks of study leave as medical leave (Family and Medical Leave Policy, approved November 2019).

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- **MSP** to approve the annual reports and validated ministries of Rev. Susan Blank (Presbyterian Senior Care, Oakmont) and Rev. Richard Noftzger (Presbytery of Redstone).

### Search and Call

- Transition Chart.
- **MSP** to approve Installation Commission for the Rev. Mary Kay Glunt, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon. Installation service is this Sunday, February 9 @3:00 p.m.
- **MSP** to approve Request from Redstone Highlands (Rev. Lisa Dormire) to add to the commission for Lynn Mance (Presbytery-wide CP) authorization for monthly worship leadership, including the Lord's Supper as a "casual" Chaplain.

### Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Cards signed and to be sent to the following Elders and Commissioned Ruling Elders: Caroline Vickery; Ron Wakeman; Sue Washburn; Rick Watson; Rene Whitaker; Bill Wiegand; Andrew Wirt; Colin Yuckman; Meredith Yuckman; Martin Ankrum.
- Cards signed and to be sent to the following churches: Springhill Furnace Presbyterian Church, Lake Lynn; Latrobe Presbyterian Church; United Presbyterian Church, Latrobe; Leisenring Presbyterian Church; Pleasant Grove Presbyterian Church, Ligonier; Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell; Puckety Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell; First Presbyterian Church, Masontown; McClellandtown Presbyterian Church; Dunlap's Creek Presbyterian Church, Merrittstown.
- Please remember the Elders and Commissioned Ruling Elders and churches listed above in your prayers throughout this month.
- Heartwarming prayers for Larry Armstrong (Avonmore, First) as he prepares for his June 1st retirement.
- Prayers for PNCs that may begin to feel discouraged along the way in finding the pastor that God is calling.
- Prayers for small churches, small sessions, and clerks of sessions.
- Praise for ministerium that provide connections with other churches in the community and provide resources (financial, volunteers) and programs to help those within their community.
- Praise for youth programs that are collaborating with other churches.
- Praise for Lower Burrell completing their narthex.

### Authorized Preachers/Commission Pastors (AP/CP) subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- AP/CP dinner – February 16, 2020.
- Upcoming workshops schedule: "Re-Thinking Atonement"; Dr. Edwin van Driel; February 8; 12:30-3:00 p.m.; "Pastoral Care with Loved ones of Addicted;" Rev. McDermott, Rev. Hedges; March 14, 2020; 12:30-3:00 p.m.; "Polity;" John Rodgers, Stated Clerk; April 18, 2020; 12:30-3:00 p.m.; "Proclaiming the Word;" Rev. Ken Foust; May 9, 2020; 12:30-3:00 p.m.

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- Reformed Worship and Sacraments cohort (February 8, March 14, April 18, May 9); 5 – Redstone; 3 – Kiski; 3 – Washington; 3 – Pittsburgh.

MSP to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. with closing prayer led by Pete Goetschius.

### III. COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY REPORT

Rev. Caroline Vickery report on the following action and information items that were included in the packet:

#### Action Items

- The Committee on Preparation for Ministry has reviewed all criteria and completion of ordination requirements for candidate Rick Watson. The Committee on Preparation for Ministry **recommends** that the Presbytery of Redstone record that Rick Watson has met all ordination requirements and is “certified ready for examination by any presbytery, pending a call.” (G-2.0607)

It was MSP to approve that Rick Watson is “certified ready for examination by any presbytery pending a call. Rick Watson was given the opportunity to address the Presbytery about his journey which has led him to this point in the process. Rev. Caroline Vickery led us in a time of prayer for Rick Watson and his ministry.

#### Information Items

#### March 3, 2020 Meeting

- I. Rev. Vickery opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and Rev. Rach led the group in prayer.
- II. The minutes from the February 4 meeting of the CPM were reviewed. It was MSP to approve them as submitted.
- III. Rev. Caroline Vickery noted for the committee that the annual Synod-sponsored COM/CPM training event will take place on April 23-24. She invited members to consider who might participate.
- IV. The committee was supplied and reviewed the status on each of the candidates that included the following:
  - a. **Cynthia Bellina** – Third, Uniontown
    - i. Currently enrolled in M.Div. program through Dubuque Seminary (originally completed a few courses through Pittsburgh Theological Seminary).
    - ii. Spring Semester enrolled in:
      1. Disciple Formation 2
      2. Reformation/Modern Church History
      3. Hebrew Exegesis

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- 4. Caregiving 1
  - iii. Decided to postpone enrollment in the Supervised Practical Ministry course/experience.
  - iv. Will enroll to sit for the Bible Content exam in September.
- b. **Rick Watson** – Calvin, Scottdale; Commissioned Pastor – Leisenring
  - i. Received a successful evaluation of the Exegesis examination on February 10. This completes all of ordination examinations.
  - ii. Has completed M.Div. from Dubuque Seminary
  - iii. Has passed all ordination examinations.
  - iv. Based upon completion of all ordination requirements (see below), CPM will need to meet with him (this evening) for final assessment and to “certify him as a candidate ready for examination by a presbytery for ordination, pending a call.” (G-2.0607)

The update on both candidates was received by consensus.

- V. Rev. Vickery solicited from the committee recommendations to submit to the Nominating Committee for nomination as Ordination Examination readers. After some discussion, it was MSP to submit the following people.
  - a. Robin Jennings (RE)
  - b. Ray Edelman (RE)
  - c. Rev. Tony Catullo (TE)
  - d. Rev. Becca Siddle (TE)
- VI. The Committee invited candidate Rick Watson into the meeting for his final assessment. After review of all the ordination requirements, discussion about his PIF and possible directions in seeking a call, the committee offered feedback on improving his PIF and suggestions about the best ways of presenting his years in ministry as a Commissioned Pastor. Upon completion, it was MSP to recommend that the Presbytery of Redstone record that Rick Watson has met all ordination requirements and is certified ready for examination by any presbytery, pending a call. (G-2.0607)
- VII. MSP - Meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:20 p.m. by Rev. Vickery.

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**February 4, 2020 Meeting**

- I. The committee welcomed new member Barbara Rissler from Newlonsburg Presby.
- II. Rev. Vickery opened the meeting with a devotion on transition and led group in prayer.
- III. **MSP – Rev. Caroline Vickery will continue as CPM chair at least through May, and beyond if she remains in the Presbytery of Redstone.**
- IV. **MSP – Rev. Becca Siddle will continue as secretary of CPM.**

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- V. **MSP** - Dec. 3, 2019 meeting minutes were received as printed.
- VI. Committee reviewed its responsibilities.
- VII. Update on Candidates:
  - a. Rick Watson
    - 1. Rev. Geoff Rach will be Rick's new liaison.
    - 2. Rev. Rach will invite Rick to the March meeting.
  - b. Cynthia Bellina
    - 1. Regarding her Supervised Practical Ministry, Cynthia made initial contact with Rev. Laura Blank but has not yet followed up.
    - 2. **MSP** - Committee approved she take the Bible Content Exam in Sept.

**MSP** - Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**IV. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Elder Barry Poglein presented the following report of the Nominating Committee found on page 26 of the packet.

**Action Items**

- It was **MSP** to elect the following people to serve as ordination exam readers:
  - Robin Jennings (RE)
  - Rev. Tony Catullo (TE)
  - Rev. Becca Siddle (TE)
  - Ray Edelman (RE)

The motion was approved to elect these persons as ordination exam readers. Barry also asked for any possible candidates for the various committees to contact him or Skip Noftzger.

**Information Items**

- As we prepare for the upcoming season (June-September) of identifying new leadership, the Nominating Committee is in need of your suggestions and recommendations for ruling elder candidates to serve within the various committees and structures of the Presbytery. Please email any nominations to Barry Poglein, Nominating Committee Chair.
- Currently, we have available one opening on the Committee on Ministry. If you or someone you know would be interested in serving in this way, please contact either Rev. Skip Noftzger or Barry Poglein.

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### V. PINE SPRINGS CAMP REPORT

Greg Davis, Executive Director, began with a video. In the video, Greg shared that after much prayer and study, the Pine Springs Camp has reached the sad announcement of the cancellation of the overnight camping season of 2020. More information will be forthcoming about camp refunds. Greg asked for prayers for staff, campers, and families. Greg then gave a report on the process that led the Board to reach this difficult decision of cancelling the 2020 season.

### VI. MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Sylvia Carlson called attention to the Mission Committee Report found in the packet. Sylvia also reported that the Sudan/South Sudan Mission Network meeting will be done virtually due to the cancellation of the New Wilmington Mission Conference. All of the mission workers had to leave Sudan/South Sudan due to the worldwide pandemic. Information will be forthcoming about registration for this meeting. Mission Committee will be meeting virtually on Thursday and will be looking at how congregations are reaching out to others in this time. Any contributions that would have been given during the worship service at the Presbytery meeting be sent to the Presbytery office for Sudan/South Sudan.

### NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

### ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster gave the attendance report. He reported that there were 36 Teaching Elders and 4 Commissioned Pastors, 25 Ruling Elders, 0 Christian Educators, 3 by Virtue of Office, and 4 visitors for a total of 70. There were 22 churches represented and 46 congregations without representation.

### RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Rev. Sue Washburn offered a Resolution of Thanks and a time of prayer for all that has happened during this meeting. Rev. Skip Noftzger led the Presbytery in the Soli Deo Gloria

### ADJOURNMENT

It was MSP to adjourn with prayer at 8:07 p.m.

### BENEDICTION

Moderator Chuck West gave the benediction prayer.

*The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on September 22, 2020 6:00 p.m. at the Redstone Highlands, Greensburg, PA. Minutes reading will be available prior to the meeting (5:00 p.m.)*

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Chuck West, Moderator

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Cliff Foster, Recording Clerk