

## Presbytery of Redstone January 26, 2021

### CALL TO ORDER

The ecclesiastical and corporate meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone was convened at 6: 00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, via Zoom videoconferencing and in person at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, PA. The meeting was opened with prayer by Chuck West, Moderator. He announced that items of new business must be presented to the clerk before 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.

CHURCH	<u>MINISTERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>
	Rosh Bash, MAL	
	Susan Blank, MAL	
	Sylvia Carlson, HR	
	James Farrer, HR	
	Chuck MacPherson, HR	
	Lynn Mance, CP	
	Aleda Menchyk, HR	
	Skip Noftzger, EP	
	Marnie Silbert, HR	
	Norma Murphy, HR	
Adah, Palmer Community		
Apollo, Poke Run	Pete Goetschius	Valerie Hansen
Avonmore, First	Caroline Vickery, CovP	
Belle Vernon, First	Mary Kay Glunt	Bobbi Jo Huebner
Belle Vernon, Harmony		Susan Nesti
Belle Vernon, Marion		Debbie Matthias
Belle Vernon, Rehoboth	Donald Glunt	Bill Nicholls
Bolivar, United		
Boswell, Covenant		
Brownsville, Calvin		
Brownsville, Ft. Burd		Kathy Haluska
Brownsville, Hopewell		
Colver		
Cresson		Barb Peters
Dawson, Tyrone		
Delmont		Jill Ledger
Derry		
Dunbar, First		
Dunbar, Laurel Hill		
Ebensburg, First		Judy Carl
Fairchance		
Farmington, Mt. Washington		
Fayette City, First		
Fayette City, L Redstone		Audrey Cottle

**Presbytery of Redstone**  
**January 26, 2021**

Greensburg, First		Janet McNerny
Greensburg, Maplewood		
Greensburg, Westminster	Donna Havrisko	Duffy Greba
Irwin, First	Ronald Wakeman	Ray Edelman
Irwin, West Hempfield		
Jeannette	Dawn Sherwood	Mark Mennano
Johnstown, Bethany		
Johnstown, First	Alice Tondora	Charnet Koch
Johnstown, Second		
Johnstown, Westmont		Bernice Adams
Lake Lynn, Springhill	Molly Hall, CovP	
Latrobe		Susannah Calvo
Latrobe, United		
Leisenring		
Ligonier, Pleasant Grove		
Lower Burrell, Grace	Ken Foust	Cathy Vitari Glenn Nordmark
Lower Burrell, Puckety	Brian Kilbert	Debbie Artman
Masontown		
McClellandtown	Lee McDermott	
Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek		
Mt. Pleasant, Reunion		Jeannette Lindsay
Murrysville, First	Edward Gray	Keith Langston
Murrysville, Newlonsburg	Curtis Paul	Amanda Neeley Joyce Weber
Murrysville, Union	Sue Washburn, IP	Donna Doyle
New Alexandria, Community		
New Alexandria, Congruity	Cliff Foster	Sarabeth Stopansky
New Florence, Bethel		Barry Poglein
New Florence, Trinity		
New Kensington, United	Wendy Keys	David Keys
New Salem	William Wiegand, CP	Heath Glumac
North Huntingdon, New Hope	Brenda Barnes	
Patton		
Revloc		
Scottdale, Calvin		
Smithfield, Grace Chapel	Lee McDermott	Donald Keener
Smock, Pleasant View	Laura Blank	
Trafford, Level Green	Geoff Rach	Cheryl Rhea David Hykes
Uniontown, Tent	Jeff Smith, CP	
Uniontown, Third		
Uniontown, Trinity	James Gear	Mark Fike
Vanderbilt, E. Liberty		
West Newton, Sewickley		

**Presbytery of Redstone**  
**January 26, 2021**

West Newton, Sewickley U.		
West Newton, United		
<b>Notation:</b>	(*) = 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; Belinda Lambie, Moderator; Chuck West, Presbytery Council

**Corresponding Members:** Elizabeth Connelly, Synod of the Trinity

**Visitors:** Russ Baird, Belle Vernon, Rehoboth; Greg Davis, Pine Springs Camp; Tom Degentesh, Greensburg, Westminster; Jackie Eckenrod, Greensburg, Westminster; Bobbie Martin, Presbytery Staff; Darcy Sabol, Greensburg, Westminster; Kay Stewart, Murrysville, Union; Kevin Truscott, Greensburg, Westminster; Doug Yauger, Uniontown, Trinity United; Patty Yauger, Uniontown, Trinity United; Bill Youmans, Pittsburgh Presbytery

**Teaching Elders Excused:** Ankrum; Armstrong; Buell; Cadenhead, B., Cadenhead, C.; Cahn; Carnahan; Chow; Currie; Degitz; Giesey; Hepler; Hess; Hickok; Holben; Jalso; Keith; Klein; LaSor; Lighthall; Lloyd; Macaleer; Mason; Maxwell; McCabe; McClure; Michael; Morrow; Murray; Orr; Pressler; Sharp, W.; Shepard; Stevens; Stobaugh; Sweeney; Upton; VanWyk; Wirt; Yuckman, C; Yuckman, M.

**Teaching Elders Absent:** Bass-Riley; Dormire; Durika; Johnson, J.; Johnson, R.; Maiman; Manon; Ojulu; Russell; Siddle; Whitaker

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused:** NONE

**Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent:** Hart; Marciano; McElroy; Morgan; O'Hara; Prinkey; Scully; Sunseri; Todero

**ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET**

The Moderator, Chuck West called for the adoption of the Docket as printed in the Packet **by consent**. It was **MSP** to adopt the Docket.

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

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster, moved that Rev. Bill Youmans, Pittsburgh Presbytery and Elizabeth Connelly, Connections Coordinator of the Synod of the Trinity be seated as Corresponding Members, with voice. It was **MSP** to approve this motion. Elizabeth Connelly then greeted the Presbytery on behalf of the Synod of the Trinity.

**INSTALLATION OF MODERATOR/ VICE MODERATOR**

Elder Chuck West invited newly elected Moderator Belinda Lambie and Vice-Moderator Rev. Curtis Paul forward and led the Presbytery in a service of installation as Moderator and Vice Moderator for 2021. The installation service was closed with prayer.

Rev. Skip Noftzger, Executive Presbyter presented Chuck West with a gift thanking him for his service to

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

the Presbytery of the Moderator in 2020.

### STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Rev. Skip Noftzger, Stated Clerk presented the following 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.

##### 1. The task forces, networks, and ad hoc committees in existence as of December 31, 2020 were as follows:

###### a. Committees of Council

1. Budget, Finance and Stewardship
2. Communications
3. Mission
4. Staff Support

###### b. Committees of the Committee on Ministry

1. AP/CP Committee
2. Examinations and Membership
3. Search and Call
4. Congregations and Leadership--Northwest – Districts I/II
5. Congregations and Leadership-- East – District IV
6. Congregations and Leadership-- South – District III

###### c. Networks

1. Healing Prayer Ministry Network
2. Voices for Justice
3. Geographic Districts – I; II; III; IV
4. Women Clergy
5. PEPSI
6. Presbyterian Women
7. Addictions Ministry Network

##### 2. Pursuant to Book of Order D-5.0206b, the Stated Clerk shall report annually the roster of those members of the Permanent Judicial Commission whose terms have expired within the past six years. They are as follows:

###### Permanent Judicial Commission Roster (Current)

- 2025 - Elsie Deem, Patti Baird, Linda Dickson  
2023 - Rev. Clark Kerr, Rev. Marnie Russell, Rev. Curtis Paul  
2021 - Glenn Hart, Rev. John Manon, Rev. Caroline Vickery

###### Permanent Judicial Commission (Terms expired within the last 6 years)

- 2019 - Jennifer Rega, Nancy Vernon  
2017 - Rev. Marnie Silbert, Rev. Aleda Menchyk, Elder Leonard Morgan

## **Presbytery of Redstone** **January 26, 2021**

2015 – Elder Vince Appleman, Elder Richard Currie, Rev. Douglas Stevens  
2013 – Rev. Sylvia Carlson, Elder Robert Lightcap, Rev. John Sharp

3. Based upon the provisions of the Manual, the Stated Clerk **moved** that the following Presbytery Officers be recognized as members of the Presbytery, with voice and vote, for their term of service:
- Ruling Elder Belinda Lambie – Moderator
  - Ruling Elder Chuck West – Chair, Presbytery Council
  - Ruling Elder Leonard Morgan – Presbytery Council
  - Ruling Elder Tim D’Aurora – Presbytery Council
  - Ruling Elder Lynn Mance – Presbytery Council
  - Ruling Elder Bobbi Jo Huebner – Presbytery Council
  - Ruling Elder Nancy Peters – Presbytery Council
  - Ruling Elder Audrey Cottle- Presbytery Council

This motion was approved by consent.

4. Based upon the provisions of the Manual, the Stated Clerk **moved** that the following Commissioned Pastors (Ruling Elders Commissioned to Particular Pastoral Service) and any others commissioned during a Presbytery meeting in 2021, be recognized as members with voice and vote as long as they are serving in that capacity:
- Ruling Elder Glenn Hart, Belle Vernon, Harmony; West Newton, Sewickley United
  - Ruling Elder David McElroy, Vanderbilt, East Liberty
  - Ruling Elder Len Morgan, New Alexandria, Community United
  - Ruling Elder David O’Hara, Revloc
  - Ruling Elder Anthony Marciano, Dawson, Tyrone
  - Ruling Elder Lynn Mance, Presbytery-wide
  - Ruling Elder Robert Prinkey, Belle Vernon, Marion
  - Ruling Elder James Sunseri, New Florence, Bethel; Bolivar, United
  - Ruling Elder Joshua Scully, Fayette City, Little Redstone
  - Ruling Elder Jeff Smith, Uniontown, Tent
  - Ruling Elder Denise Todero, Johnstown, Bethany
  - Ruling Elder William Weightman, Dunbar, Laurel Hill
  - Ruling Elder William Wiegand, New Salem

This motion was approved by consent. Rev. Skip Noftzger informed the Presbytery that the name of Ruling Elder Lynn Mance was left off the list of “Temporary Pastors” under Commissioned Pastors found in the meeting packet and should be added.

5. Based upon the provisions of the Manual, the Stated Clerk **moved** that the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and a representative from Pine Springs Camp, Presbyterian Women, and Redstone Highlands be given the privilege of the floor and recognized with voice only as long as they are serving in that capacity.

This motion was approved by consent.

6. The stated meetings for 2021 have been scheduled as follows:

**Tuesday, January 26, 2021 – Zoom/Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg**

**Tuesday, March 23, 2021 – Zoom/ First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg**

**Tuesday, May 25, 2021 – Zoom/First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg**

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

Tuesday, September 21, 2021 - Pine Springs Camp

Saturday, November 20, 2021 - Colver Presbyterian Church

7. The Stated Clerk provided the 2020 Necrology Report of Ruling and Teaching Elders.

8. Equalization

On December 31, 2019, 87 ministers of Word and Sacrament were on the rolls of the Presbytery, 18 of whom were living outside the bounds of the Presbytery. There were 68 churches entitled to be represented by 81 ruling elder commissioners. There are also 11 ruling elders commissioned to particular service and 7 ruling elder presbyters by virtue of office. On December 31, 2020, 89 ministers of Word and Sacrament were on the rolls of the Presbytery, 16 of whom were living outside the bounds of the Presbytery. There were 67 churches entitled to be represented by 80 ruling elder commissioners. There are also 12 ruling elders commissioned to particular service and 6 ruling elder presbyters by virtue of office.

Based upon the "goal of numerical parity of teaching elders and ruling elders," the "principles of participation" and the need to communicate the plan for the determining commissioners, the Presbytery has adopted a plan [Book of Order; G-3.0301; Manual; 1.1003] designating the number of commissioners based upon church membership (table below) and designating other ruling elders by virtue of office to be given the privilege of voice and vote at all Presbytery meetings [Manual; 1.1009]. Although with this plan, there is an imbalance regarding the number of eligible ruling elder commissioners (actually more than ministers), the actual participation patterns still reflect a greater number of ministers participating. In 2020, although there were some possible changes as the result of moving to Zoom meetings, nonetheless our patterns remained consistent. The number of ministers of Word and Sacraments members and ruling elder members in attendance were very comparable with slightly with an average difference of less than one over the course of all four meetings. Of course, in any given meeting, the balance may have sided with one group or the other. Consequently, in order to continue to aspire to the goal of balance, the current number of possible ruling elder commissioners based upon the existing plan should be retained until actual participation rates change. Therefore, I do not recommend any equalization adjustment at this time.

### Equalization Plan for 2021 - Church List/# of commissioners

Adah, Palmer Community - 1	Greensburg, First - 3	Murrysville, Union - 1
Apollo, Poke Run - 1	Greensburg, Maplewood - 1	New Alexandria, Community - 1
Avonmore, First - 1	Greensburg, Westminster - 1	New Alexandria, Congruity - 1
Belle Vernon, First - 1	Irwin, First - 4	New Florence, Bethel - 1
Belle Vernon, Harmony - 1	Irwin, West Hempfield - 1	New Florence, Trinity - 1
Belle Vernon, Marion - 1	Jeannette, First - 1	New Kensington, United - 1
Belle Vernon, Rehoboth - 1	Johnstown, Bethany - 1	New Salem - 1
Bolivar, United - 1	Johnstown, First - 1	North Huntingdon, New Hope - 1
Brownsville, Calvin - 1	Johnstown, Second - 1	Patton - 1
Brownsville, Ft. Burd - 1	Johnstown, Westmont - 3	Revloc - 1
Brownsville, Hopewell - 1	Lake Lynn, Springhill Furnace - 1	Scottdale, Calvin - 1

## Presbytery of Redstone January 26, 2021

Colver - 1	Latrobe - 2	Smithfield, Grace Chapel - 1
Cresson - 1	Latrobe, United - 1	Smock, Pleasant View - 1
Dawson, Tyrone - 1	Leisenring - 1	Trafford, Level Green - 2
Delmont - 1	Ligonier, Pleasant Grove - 1	Uniontown, Tent - 1
Derry - 1	Lower Burrell, Grace Community - 2	Uniontown, Third - 2
Dunbar, First - 1	Lower Burrell, Puckety - 2	Uniontown, Trinity United - 1
Dunbar, Laurel Hill - 1	Masontown, First - 1	Vanderbilt, East Liberty - 1
Ebensburg - 1	McClellandtown - 1	West Newton, Sewickley - 1
Fairchance - 1	Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek - 1	West Newton, Sewickley United - 1
Farmington, Mt. Washington - 1	Mt. Pleasant, Reunion - 1	West Newton, United - 1
Fayette City, First - 1	Murrysville, First - 1	
Fayette City, Little Redstone - 1	Murrysville, Newlonsburg - 2	

9. The Stated Clerk provided the current Rolls of the Presbytery and Continuing Members.

10. The dates for the 2020 Session Minutes Reviews are:

- o March 30, 2021 - Uniontown (TBD)
- o April 13, 2021 - Johnstown (TBD)
- o May 11, 2021 - Presbytery Center
- o May 25, 2021 - Pre-Presbytery

The Stated Clerk for Constitutional and Judicial Matters of the Presbytery, Rev. Cliff Foster, 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 November 21, 2020 be approved.

### From the Council

1. Council **recommended** that the Financial and Treasurer's Reports presented to the Council and the Presbytery be received and filed for audit. (Appendix B).
2. Council **recommended** that the Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Mission, Pine Springs Camp reports presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.
3. Council **recommended** approval and authorization of the continuation of all subcommittees, networks and task forces functioning at the end of 2020 year as noted in the Stated Clerk's report.

### From the Committee on Ministry

1. The Committee on Ministry **recommended** that Presbytery grant the request from the Tent Presbyterian Church to waive the rotation of service for David Tantlinger, Ruling Elder.

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

2. The Committee on Ministry **recommended** that Presbytery grant the request from the Calvin United Presbyterian Church (Scottsdale) to waive the rotation of service requirement for Barbara Watson, Ruling Elder, Nancy Wood, Ruling Elder, Kathee Ramsey, Ruling Elder, Jane Reynolds, Deacon, Susan Shannon, Deacon.
3. The Committee on Ministry **recommended** that Presbytery grant the request from the First Presbyterian Church, Avonmore to waive the rotation of service requirement for Bill Truckner, Ruling Elder, Kathy Jamison, Ruling Elder, and Lisa Slicker, Ruling Elder.
4. The Committee on Ministry **recommended** that Presbytery grant the request from Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church to waive the rotation of service requirement for Margaret Gilchrist, Ruling Elder.

### From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

### From the Nominating Committee

### From the Committee on Representation

### From the Covenant, Boswell Administrative Commission

- The Covenant Administrative Commission **recommended** that the Presbytery receive their January report and record the minutes.

It was **MSP** approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Ruling Elder John A. Dickson, IV, Treasurer, presented the Financial Reports calling attention to the written report found in the packet for the meeting. The report is for the end of the year 2020. We experienced a deficient at the end of the year equal to 2 month's shortfall of the budget. Even though we were able to balance the budget with additional resources, this may not be the case in other years.

### EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT

Rev. Skip Noftzger present the Annual Executive Report that is found in the packet and it was **MSP** to receive the report.

### ACTION ITEMS

Chuck West on behalf of the Council **recommended** interruption of the meeting for the purpose of convening the meeting of the corporation of the Presbytery of Redstone. The meeting of the Presbytery was interrupted for the meeting of the Corporation. It was **MSP** to interrupt the meeting for the Corporation meeting.

Rev. Laura Blank, President of the Corporation, called the Meeting of the Corporation to order and opened the meeting with prayer. She presented the followed slate of persons:

(Corporation Meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone, January 26, 2021)

Based upon the provisions of the Manual, the following slate of persons were nominated to serve as the Officers of the Corporation for 2021:

President - Mr. Chuck West  
Secretary - Rev. Skip Noftzger  
Treasurer - Mr. John R. Dickson, IV

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

Assistant Treasurer – Mr. Gerald Cumer

It was **MSP** to approve the slate of Officers of the Corporation for 2021.

Rev. Laura Blank made the following motion: In addition to the officers of the corporation, it is moved that the following person be added to those authorized to sign checks for the Corporation.

Bookkeeper – Ms. Bobbie Martin

It was **MSP** to approve this motion of adding Bobbie Martin, Bookkeeper to sign checks for the Corporation.

It was **MSP** to close the Meeting of the Corporation. Rev. Laura Blank closed the Meeting of the Corporation with prayer.

The Meeting of the Presbytery resumed with worship.

### **WORSHIP**

The Presbytery joined in worship under the leadership of Moderator Elder Belinda Lambie, Vice Moderator Rev. Curtis Paul, Rev. Cliff Foster, and Rev. Donna Havrisko. Valerie Stipcak provided the music for the worship service that was recorded. Worship included the celebration of the Lord's Supper with Rev. Donna Havrisko presiding. The reading and honoring those Elders who have joined the Church Triumphant from the Necrology report was led by Moderator Belinda Lambie and Vice-Moderator Rev. Curtis Paul read the names of those included in the Necrology report (a list can be found in Appendix C of the meeting packet). Vice-Moderator Rev. Curtis Paul ended this time of remembrance with a prayer. This time was concluded with the hymn "For All the Saints".

**PRESBYTERY MEETING** resumed:

### **COUNCIL REPORT**

Chuck West presented the following report and action items from the Council:

**BREAKOUT ROOMS...** The Presbytery broke into various Breakout Rooms for a time of discussion on Peacemaking, Congregational Vitality, tackling issues of Racism and Poverty.

**ADDICTIONS MINISTRY VIDEO.** The Presbytery then viewed a video from the Addictions Network. More information about the video "Into the Light" curriculum can be found in Appendix D of the meeting packet.

### **Information Items (as published)**

#### **January 12, 2021 Meeting**

Chuck West, Moderator called the meeting to order by videoconferencing (Zoom). Moderator West opened with a short devotional using an introduction to the book of Hebrews offered in The Message, followed by a reading from the text and an opening prayer.

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

Moderator West solicited whether there were any additions or revisions to the minutes of the November 24 meeting which had been submitted by email. Hearing none, it was MSP to approve the minutes as submitted.

### Stated Clerk Report

Rev. Noftzger noted that the most recent correspondence log provided was up to the present and inquired whether there were any questions.

Reviewing the upcoming Presbytery schedule, he reiterated that the next meeting has been moved to January 26 based upon the Council action in November. It will be conducted by Zoom with platform participants invited to be present at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Additionally, the September meeting to be held jointly with Washington Presbytery was moved to September 21 and will be hosted by Pine Springs Camp. At this point, the plan is for the March and May meetings to be conducted through Zoom with platform participants invited to First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg.

For everyone's calendar, Rev. Noftzger reviewed the scheduled 2021 Council meeting dates which include the following:

- January 12
- February 23
- April 27
- June 22
- August 24
- October 26
- December 7

### Treasurer Report

Treasurer John Dickson reviewed the written report that he had provided based upon unofficial end of year income and expense statements. In that report, he noted that church contributions, while higher for December, still fell far short of budgeted projections by approximately 40,000. Although the actual budget year finished in the "black" by a few thousand, this was made possible by increased revenue in other categories along with fiscal management controlling expenditures significantly below budget projections. The additional revenue resulted primarily from miscellaneous and preaching/consulting and part-time pastoral roles taken on by the Executive Presbyter. A discussion ensued among the Council about ways to take greater ownership of communicating the message and "ask" with sessions in the Presbytery concerning their First Fruits pledge. It was agreed that Budget and Finance would take up the issue and propose a plan to move forward.

### Pine Springs Camp

Executive Director Greg Davis reviewed orally the status of the camping ministry by giving thanks for the generosity of many in their end of the year campaign. Contributions in that effort reached the 90,000 threshold, exceeding previous years. Consequently, the camping ministry was able to finish the fiscal year with a surplus. Mr. Davis reviewed the plans for winter and spring. They included a "fun day" on February 27 as well as revising the youth and "Women in the Woods" to single day events.

He announced that all plans were to go forward with the summer camping season in 2021, but with all safety precautions observed based upon guidelines of the ACA and CCCA. Among other items, this will include reducing the number of campers in cabins which will result in a capacity of 700 for the summer

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

season. This compares to the normal 1,000 of the past few years. Plans have been made to budget accordingly and will be reviewed by the Pine Springs Board at its meeting next week.

### January Presbytery Gathering

Rev. Noftzger reviewed the proposed agenda for the upcoming Presbytery gathering by Zoom. The agenda includes the retirement of Rev. Havrisko, commissioning of a couple ruling elders to pastoral service and receiving a new interim pastor for the Westminster Presbyterian Church. As a result of discussion, it was agreed to move the installation of the new moderator and vice moderator to the early part of the meeting. With that revision, it was MSP to approve the Presbytery agenda as submitted.

### Subcommittees/Networks

#### **Staff Support**

A written report was received from the Staff Support subcommittee noting the celebration of a Christmas event with the staff and the approval of the 2021 holiday schedule.

#### **Communications**

While there was no written report from Communications, a 2021 Enews calendar was distributed for members of Council to sign up for authoring the Enews article on a particular week.

#### **Budget and Finance**

An end of the year report on the financial investments and holdings was distributed to Council members. With a strong market for investments and tight controls on expenditures permitting the investments to grow for the long term, the balance sheet ended 2020 with a net increase of 103,787. This effort to restore financial stability has reached a level comparable to the financial position that was held by the presbytery in 2009.

#### **Addictions Ministry Network**

Lynn Mance reported on the recent meeting of the Addictions Ministry network. The video curriculum is completed and will be available for distribution either by DVD, jump drive, or on the Presbytery YouTube channel. A promotional video for the curriculum will be viewed at the January Presbytery Gathering. A short clip showing "snippets" of some of the sessions was viewed by the Council along with receiving the draft instructional guide for leaders.

#### **Executive Presbyter**

Reminding the Council of our commitment to the Matthew 25 initiative, he asked for assistance in continuing to promote the designation among our congregations. In addition to the Presbytery, the churches that have signed on so far include: Fort Burd, Colver, Pleasant View, and Newlonsburg. There are other sessions considering currently with hopefully, others to join also.

As a follow up to the Presbytery statement, "For Such a Time as This," and as part of our Matthew 25 commitment, Rev. Noftzger noted the commitment to move forward with some type of training regarding anti-racism. As a result, he solicited volunteers among the Council to participate in planning and hosting any events related to this initiative. Volunteers included: Martin Ankrum, Brenda Barnes, Lori Bass Riley, Donna Havrisko, and Belinda Lambie.

As an ongoing commitment to prayer and reflection by the Council, Rev. Noftzger reminded members of the summary provided of past readings as well as accomplishments in 2020. He challenged the members

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

to consider our Presbytery priorities of Engaging Congregations, Equipping Leadership, Enabling Ministry Networks and Empowering Mission Partnerships. While some of those priorities are also addressed by other groups such as COM, CPM, Nominating, etc. the particular shared ministries and mission that transcend individual congregations comes under the leadership of this group. Consequently, the Council was encouraged to continue to wrestle with strategic thinking and questions for the future, near and far.

### IDENTITY/CALLING

- WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BE (TOGETHER)? WHO ARE WE WHEN WE ARE FAITHFUL TO GOD AS A PRESBYTERY? WHAT IS/SHOULD BE OUR IDENTITY AND HOW IS IT/SHOULD BE LIVED OUT?

### PRIORITIES

- WHAT IS GOD CALLING REDSTONE PRESBYTERY PARTICULARLY TO DO AND TO BE IN THIS TIME AND SPACE (2021)? WHERE IS GOD LEADING US IN THIS SHARED MINISTRY AND MISSION (PRESBYTERY) DURING THE NEXT YEAR? ARE THERE NEW OR RENEWED AREAS WE SHOULD EMPHASIZE?

### STRATEGIES/STRUCTURES

- HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO GET THERE, TO CARRY IT OUT? WILL OUR STRUCTURES/PATTERNS BE EFFECTIVE IN SUPPORTING AND ADDRESSING THESE PRIORITIES? ARE THERE "STEPS" REQUIRED TO MOVE IN THAT WAY?

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### November 24, 2020 Meeting

Chuck West, Moderator and Chair Pro Tem called the meeting to order by videoconferencing (Zoom). Rev. Skip Noftzger opened with a short devotional from the book Open and Unafraid and a reading from Psalm 1. Leading the Council in a prayer from John Calvin that was part of a lecture on Malachi 1, the meeting was opened.

Moderator West solicited whether there were any additions or revisions to the minutes of the October 27 meeting which had been submitted by email. Hearing none, it was **MSP** to approve the minutes as submitted.

### Stated Clerk Report

Rev. Noftzger noted that the most recent correspondence log and financial reports were components of the recent Presbytery packet and meeting.

Following up on the November Presbytery meeting, he inquired of the Council whether there was wisdom in moving the January meeting if it is to be conducted by Zoom. He noted that the primary reason for the November and January meetings held on Saturdays was to accommodate travel in bad weather months. He reviewed that our attendance had been down slightly at the most recent meeting. After some reflection, it was **MSP** to move the meeting (if by Zoom, which is the assumption at this point) to Tuesday, January 26 @ 6:00 p.m. It was noted that if Belinda is to be in person, she will not arrive until 6:15-6:30, so the installation will need to be after that arrival time.

## Presbytery of Redstone January 26, 2021

Additionally, Rev. Noftzger noted that the Council had received in the past a request from Washington Presbytery for a joint gathering in September 2021. He confirmed that he had checked with them in comparing meeting dates. Currently, Redstone is scheduled for September 28 and Washington for September 14. In a spirit of cooperation and compromise, it was MSP to propose that we have a joint gathering on September 21 in the daytime at Pine Springs Camp (assuming that we are gathering in person). If we are not able to gather in person, each presbytery will retain their current schedule.

### Executive Presbyter

Noting that we are concluding this unusual year of 2020, Rev. Noftzger offered that this was a good opportunity for “making room” for reflection, for conversation, for listening to each other and the Spirit, and for prayer. Leading with any Christian group, we must not separate, polarize, or delegate organization and contemplation. As the Council responsible for the shared ministry and shared mission (even beyond just supporting/challenging the ministries of congregations) of the Presbytery), we need to engage in reflection, discernment, planning, and action that integrates both contemplation and organization.

Rev. Noftzger reviewed the “signposts” of God’s work in, through and among us as a Presbytery during 2020 (even during a pandemic) that was reflected in the document that had been emailed. Inviting others to offer reflections as well on where they had “seen” God’s grace among us, several Council members spoke of the adaptation and unwavering commitment of pastoral leadership, the networking and support together in ways that has not always happened before and the collective engagement sometimes tangibly expressed through financial support. At the conclusion of those contemplations, the Council joined together in a time of prayer of thanksgiving for God’s many blessings and sufficient grace in the Presbytery during 2020.

Looking forward to 2021, Rev. Noftzger proposed that the Council begin now and would spend time in January considering, contemplating, talking and prioritizing our focus for shared ministries and shared mission. He suggested the following questions as a springboard for this exercise of contemplation and organization.

### IDENTITY/CALLING

- WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BE (TOGETHER)? WHO ARE WE WHEN WE ARE FAITHFUL TO GOD AS A PRESBYTERY? WHAT IS/SHOULD BE OUR IDENTITY AND HOW IS IT/SHOULD BE LIVED OUT?

### PRIORITIES

- WHAT IS GOD CALLING REDSTONE PRESBYTERY PARTICULARLY TO DO AND TO BE IN THIS TIME AND SPACE (2021)? WHERE IS GOD LEADING US IN THIS SHARED MINISTRY AND MISSION (PRESBYTERY) DURING THE NEXT YEAR? ARE THERE NEW OR RENEWED AREAS WE SHOULD EMPHASIZE?

### STRATEGIES/STRUCTURES

- HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO GET THERE, TO CARRY IT OUT? WILL OUR STRUCTURES/PATTERNS BE EFFECTIVE IN SUPPORTING AND ADDRESSING THESE

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

PRIORITIES? ARE THERE "STEPS" REQUIRED TO MOVE IN THAT WAY?

**These questions for contemplation will serve as the foundation for our conversations, listening and planning during the upcoming January meeting.**

### **PINE SPRINGS REPORT**

Greg Davis presented the Pine Springs Camp report which is found on pages 21- 23 of the meeting packet. The printed report from Pine Springs Camp is found in the packet for this meeting. Greg shared a Power Point presentation with the Presbytery. Greg expressed his thanks to individuals, churches and to the Presbytery for their support during 2020. Excited about flying into 2021 and plans are being made to have summer camp in 2021. Greg expressed thanks for the success of the on-line auction which raised \$90,000. The Camp will be offering Winter and Spring events to ease into the summer camping season. There will be a Winterfest event on February 27<sup>th</sup>. There will also be several one-day events in April and May. Camp brochures have already gone out in the mail, so be watching for them because space will be limited this year at camp.

### **MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Rev. Sylvia Carlson, Chairperson of the Mission Committee, reported to the Presbytery. Sylvia referred to various ministries for food insecurity, highlighting several of our congregations engaged in various mission projects. Sylvia reported that our sister and brothers in the South Sudan have been praying for us. The offering from our Presbytery meeting is going to go to our Sudan and Sylvia ended the report with prayer.

### **DISCERNMENT TEAM/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION REPORT**

The report for the Covenant Presbyterian Church (Boswell) Administrative Commission is found in the meeting packet on page 24.

### **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 move Rev. Donna Havrisko be moved to "Honorably Retired" status. Rev. Sue Washburn gave some of the highlights of the essence of Donna's ministry. Some information on Rev Donna Havrisko can be found in Appendix E of the meeting packet. Sue highlighted Donna's love of Jesus, her commitment to prayer and for her relational connection in ministry. Rev. Donna Havrisko was called forward and Moderator Belinda Lambie led the Presbytery in the liturgy recognizing her as being Honorably Retired. This service ended with prayer by Moderator Belinda Lambie.
- Celebration of 5-year ordination anniversaries. A list of those celebrating 5-year ordination anniversaries can be found in Appendix "F" of this meeting packet.
- The Committee on Ministry presented Russ Baird (Reunion Presbyterian) and Doug Yauger (Calvin Presbyterian, Scottdale) for commissioning. *(Both of these temporary pastoral relationships were approved by the Committee on Ministry (Presbytery Manual)).* The Moderator Belinda Lambie led

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

the Presbytery in the Commissioning service for Russ Baird and Doug Yauger.

- It was **MSP** to approve the examination of Rev. Bill Youmans to be received into Redstone Presbytery and approval of the call to serve as Interim Pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church. (*The temporary pastoral relationship and Interim Pastor agreement with Rev. Youmans and Westminster Presbyterian Church was approved by the Committee on Ministry (Presbytery Manual).*)

The Presbytery examined Rev. Bill Youmans and he responded to several questions asked of his Statement of Faith. Bill expressed his thanks to being received into Redstone Presbytery and ministry with the Greensburg, Westminster congregation. It was **MSP** to arrest the examination. It was **MSP** to receive Rev. Bill Youmans into membership of Redstone Presbytery. Rev. Pete Goetschius offered a prayer for Rev. Bill Youmans which ended the report of the Committee of Ministry.

### Information Items (as published)

#### January 7, 2021 Meeting

##### Election of Chairperson and Secretary

**MSP** to elect Pete Goetschius as moderator and Helen Toms as secretary.

##### Approval of Minutes

It was **MSP** to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2020.

##### Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Email Attachment)
- Annual Reports Due
  - Statistics
  - Waiver of Rotation forms
  - Terms of Call forms
  - Pastor agreement forms
  - Necrology
  - Session members
  - Manse inspection
- Minutes Review Dates
  - March 30, 2021---Uniontown (TBD)
  - April 13, 2021---Johnstown (TBD)
  - May 11, 2021---Presbytery Center
  - May 25, 2021---Pre-Presbytery
- **MSP** to approve the recommendation of Waiver of Rotation requests:
  - Request from the Tent Presbyterian Church to waive the rotation of service for David Tantlinger, Ruling Elder.
  - Request from the New Salem Presbyterian Church to waive the rotation of service for Roxanne Gmutza, Ruling Elder.

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

- Request from the Calvin United Presbyterian Church (Scottdale) to waive the rotation of service requirement for Barbara Watson, Ruling Elder, Nancy Wood, Ruling Elder, Kathee Ramsey, Ruling Elder, Jane Reynolds, Deacon, Susan Shannon, Deacon.
- Request from the First Presbyterian Church, Avonmore to waive the rotation of service requirement for Bill Truckner, Ruling Elder, Kathy Jamison, Ruling Elder, and Lisa Slicker, Ruling Elder.
- Request from Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church to waive the rotation of service requirement for Margaret Gilchrist, Ruling Elder.
- **MSP** to approve all current covenant pastors, Interim Pastors, Commissioned pastors, and temporary pastors for pastors serving in “temporary pastoral relationships” pending submission of agreement and adequate compensation (minimum terms of call prorated) (handout).
- **MSP** of the approval of the dissolution of the pastoral relationship of Rev. Donna Havrisko and Greensburg, Westminster Presbyterian Church and the recommendation to the Presbytery that Rev. Havrisko be moved to “Honorably Retired” status.

### Report of the Moderator

- Sign-up sheet for the opportunity to lead the opening devotion was made available.
- **MSP** to approve Moderator Appointments
  - Cresson and Patton Presbyterian Churches – Alice Tondora
  - Leisenring Presbyterian Church – Aleda Menchyk

### REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

#### Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
  - Examinations completed with candidates for both Transitional Pastor positions and Commissioned Pastors.
- Action Items
  - **MSP** of recommendation for examination and receiving of Rev. Bill Youmans into the Presbytery of Redstone.
  - **MSP** of recommendation of eligibility and possible commissioning of Doug Yauger (RE, Trinity United, Uniontown).

#### Search and Call

- Information Items
  - Transition Chart (Email Attachment)
- Action Items
  - **MSP** of the approval of the Transitional Pastor agreement between the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg and Rev. Bill Youmans.
  - **MSP** of the approval of the Commissioned Pastor agreement between the Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant and Russ Baird (RE, Rehoboth).
  - **MSP** of the approval of the Commissioned Pastor agreement between the Calvin Presbyterian Church, Scottdale and Doug Yauger (RE, Trinity United).
  - **MSP** of the approval of the Covenant Pastor agreement between the Trinity Presbyterian Church, New Florence and Rev. Richard Sweeney.

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

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

- Upcoming workshops
  - January 9 - "Pastor as Theologian"; Rev. Sheldon Sorge
  - February 20 - "Stewardship Year-Round"; Rev. Daniel Hans
  - March 20 - "Vitality in the Small Church"; Rev. Lee McDermott
  - April 17 - "Sacraments; Creativity and Consistency"; Rev. Laura Blank
  - May 15 - "Shared Leadership-TE/RE"; Rev. Jason Hefner/RE Meg Steele.
- Old Testament cohort (begins January 9)

### Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:
  - Prayers for pastors and congregations as they are feeling the profound loss of faithful members. Prayers for family members, friends, and colleagues who are suffering with COVID. Prayers of strength, comfort, and peace for all those who are fighting cancer. Prayers for those requiring rehabilitation and recovery from stroke. Prayers for our nation during this transitional time.
  - Praises for those that think outside of the box exploring new avenues and demonstrating their creativity by adapting their ministries to the changing environment.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time: Leonard Morgan, John Morrow, Norma Murphy, Rodney Murray, Skip Noftzger, David O'Hara, Owar Ojulu, Kirk Orr, Curtis Paul, John Pressler.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time: 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; Reunion Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant; First Presbyterian Church, Murrysville.

### Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to bring to this meeting.

Expressions of thanks were given to Rev. Skip Noftzger for his inspirational letter in response to the chaotic scenes playing out on television and in social media and for his supportive letters throughout the challenging times of COVID.

### New Business

There was no new business to bring to this meeting.

### COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION REPORT

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

#### Information Items (as published)

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry continues to encourage congregations and members to consider God's calling to pastoral ministry. With the ordination and transfer of Rev. Rick Watson, we have one candidate under care and have initiated conversations with a couple other possible inquirers who are considering seminary education. Cynthia Bellina, a student of Dubuque Seminary will begin participation in field education experiences and start the cycle of ordination examinations.

# Presbytery of Redstone

## January 26, 2021

In recent years, three students have completed the entire Inter-Presbytery Leadership Formation training, including practicums, and have been commissioned within our presbytery. One student has chosen to begin pastoring a non-denominational congregation. Another student is in the process of completing the practicums, while two others are choosing to do pulpit supply only. Currently, there are an additional three students enrolled in courses and workshops.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

There were no Action Items to be brought before Presbytery at this meeting, but the following information items were included in the packet:

#### Information Items

- There remain a couple openings for positions on standing committees. These include:
  - 1 Female Ruling Elder-Council
  - 1 Male Ruling Elder-Committee on Ministry

Please submit names of possible Ruling Elders for consideration to the Nominating Committee through either Aleda Menchyk, or Skip Noftzger.

Additionally, there are always opportunities on various subcommittees, task forces and networks.

### NEW BUSINESS

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

The Presbytery watched the Announcement Loop.

### ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster gave the attendance report. He reported that there were 31 clergy and 2 Commissioned Pastors, 33 Elders (representing 30 congregations), 0 Christian Educators, 3 by virtue of office, and 15 visitors for a total of 84. There were 37 congregations without elder representation.

### RESOLUTION OF THANKS

A resolution of thanks was presented by Rev. Molly Hall.

### ADJOURNMENT

It was MSP to adjourn with prayer at 8: 14pm.

### BENEDICTION

Rev. Donna Havrisko offered the benediction prayer. The meeting closed with a song.

*The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 6 p.m. via Zoom video conferencing and the First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg.*

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Belinda Lambie, Moderator

**Presbytery of Redstone**  
**January 26, 2021**

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Rev. Cliff Foster, Recording Clerk