

Presbytery of Redstone September 21, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The ecclesiastical and corporate meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone was held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at Pine Springs Camp and via Zoom. The meeting was convened at 10:19 a.m. and opened with prayer by Elder Belinda Lambie, Moderator of Redstone Presbytery. She announced that items of new business must be presented to the Associate Stated Clerk of Redstone Presbytery by the end of worship either in person or via the chat feature on Zoom.

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>
	Susan Blank, MAL	
	Sylvia Carlson, HR	
	Cliff Buell, HR	
	James Farrer, HR	
	Ken Foust, HR	
	Donna Havrisko, HR	
	Clark Kerr, HR	
	Lynn Mance, CP	
	Chuck MacPherson, HR	
	Aleda Menchyk, HR	
	Norma Murphy, NRHR	
	Skip Noftzger, EP	
	Marnie Silbert, HR	
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	Sally Nicholls
Bolivar, United	James Sunseri, CP	
Brownsville, Calvin		
Brownsville, Ft. Burd		
Brownsville, Hopewell		
Colver	Owar Ojulu	Belinda Lambie
Cresson		
Dawson, Tyrone		
Delmont		
Derry		
Dunbar, First		
Dunbar, Laurel Hill		
Ebensburg, First	Owar Ojulu	Judy Carl
Fairchance		

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Farmington, Mt. Washington		
Fayette City, First		
Fayette City, L Redstone	Joshua Scully, CP	Audrey Cottle
Greensburg, First	Martin Ankrum	Tracy Marschik Judy Breon Erin Hrecko
Greensburg, Maplewood		
Greensburg, Westminster	William Youmans, IP	Mike Travis Duffy Greba
Irwin, First	Ronald Wakeman	Martha Pattullo Ray Edelman
Irwin, West Hempfield	Andrew Wirt	Richard Forsyth
Jeannette	Dawn Sherwood	
Johnstown, Bethany		
Johnstown, First	Alice Tondora	Sheila Farrer
Johnstown, Second		
Johnstown, Westmont	Ben Nti	Deb Lichtenfels Joyce Norris Barb Lauf
Lake Lynn, Springhill		
Latrobe	Ron Durika, IP	
Latrobe, United	John Simpson, IP	Scott Cole
Leisenring		
Ligonier, Pleasant Grove		
Lower Burrell, Grace		Glenn Nordmark
Lower Burrell, Puckety	Brian Kilbert	Debra Artman Matt Wehrle
Masontown		
McClellandtown		
Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek		
Mt. Pleasant, Reunion	Russ Baird, CP	Jeannette Lindsay
Murrysville, First		
Murrysville, Newlonsburg	Curtis Paul Travis Webster, AP	Stephanie Markusey Dennis Shears
Murrysville, Union	Sue Washburn, IP	
New Alexandria, Community		
New Alexandria, Congruity	Cliff Foster	
New Florence, Bethel	James Sunseri, CP	
New Florence, Trinity		Tricia Betz
New Kensington, United		
New Salem		Mark Nagy
North Huntingdon, New Hope	Brenda Barnes	Suzanne Pressler
Patton		
Revloc		
Scottdale, Calvin	Doug Yauger, CP	

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Smithfield, Grace Chapel		
Smock, Pleasant View	Laura Blank	
Trafford, Level Green	Geoff Rach	
Uniontown, Tent		
Uniontown, Third		
Uniontown, Trinity	James Gear	Francis Squires
Vanderbilt, E. Liberty		
West Newton, Sewickley		
West Newton, Sewickley U.	Glenn Hart**	
West Newton, United		
Notation:	(*) = pastor from another denomination (#) = pastor from another presbytery	(**) = pastor or CRE serving more than one church

By Virtue of Office: Belinda Lambie, Moderator; Chuck West, Presbytery Council

Visitors: Susan Buell; Greg Davis, Pine Springs Camp; Barb Foust, Lower Burrell, Grace Community; Doris Gavala, New Salem; Mike Hurley, Pine Springs Camp; Danielle Kendig, Johnstown, Westmont; Mackenzie Kendig, Johnstown, Westmont; Zane Kendig, Johnstown, Westmont; Duffy Greba, Greensburg, Westminster; Jean Livingston, Johnstown, Westmont; Bobbie Martin, Presbytery Staff; Justin Shaffer, Pine Springs Camp; Eva Tomb, Ebensburg; James Vlosich, Uniontown, Trinity United

Teaching Elders Excused: Armstrong; Buell; Cadenhead, B.; Cadenhead, C.; Cahn; Carnahan; Catullo; Chow; Corey; Degitz; Giesey; Graff; Gray; Hall; Hepler; Hess; Holben; Jalso; Keith; Keys; King; Klein; Lewis; Lighthall; Lloyd; Macaleer; Mason; Maxwell; McClure; Morrow; Murray; Orr; Pressler; Sharp; Stevens; Stobaugh; Sweeney; Upton; Van Wyk

Teaching Elders Absent: Bash; Bass Riley; Dormire; LaSor; Maiman; Manon; Russell; Siddle

Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused: Weightman

Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent: Glisan; Kifer; Marciano; McElroy; Morgan; O'Hara; Smith; Todero; Wiegand

ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

The docket as printed in the Packet was adopted *by consent*.

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS AND INTRODUCTION OF OTHER VISITORS

The Associate Stated Clerk, Rev. Cliff Foster, declared that there were no Corresponding

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Members to be seated for this meeting.

First time Elders were introduced to the Presbytery.

Greg Davis, Director of Pine Springs provided the Presbytery with the arrangements to this meeting. Greg read a brief paragraph about the history of Camp Pine Springs from 1930 of the committee set up to develop the camp.

STATED CLERK REPORT

The Stated Clerk, Rev. Skip Noftzger, called attention to the printed report found on pages 4-5 of the packet from the meeting. Skip highlighted 2 items: the minutes review, if minutes have not been reviewed, please be in contact with COM liaison; and the dates of the 2022 Presbytery gatherings are in the packet and looking for invitations for hosting the Presbytery Meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Associate Stated Clerk of Redstone Presbytery, Rev. Cliff Foster, presented the Consent Agenda and the Consent Agenda items were approved *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 May 25, 2021, and July 20, 2021 special Presbytery meetings be approved.

From the Council

1. Council **recommended** that the Financial Reports presented to the Council and the Presbytery be received and filed for audit.
2. Council **recommended** that the Executive Presbyter, Treasurer, Mission, and Pine Springs Camp reports presented to the Presbytery be received and filed.
3. Council **recommended** the adoption of the proposed 2022 Budget for consideration by the Presbytery for a "first reading." (*This presented for a First Reading. The Presbytery will take action at the November meeting.*)

From the Committee on Ministry

1. The Committee on Ministry **recommended** that Rev. Doug Marshall (previously a member of Redstone) be approved and received in the Presbytery. Rev. Marshall will begin serving as Interim Pastor of Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell.

From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

From the Nominating Committee

From the Committee on Representation

From the Covenant Boswell Administrative Commission

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1. The Covenant Boswell Administrative Commission **recommended** that its written reports or minutes submitted in this packet be received and filed.

From the Sewickley Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission

1. The Sewickley Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission **recommended** the reports or minutes of their meetings as submitted in this packet be received and filed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Elder Chuck West provided the Treasurer Report which is on page 10 of the meeting packet. Chuck highlighted a couple of the items in the report. The income is 5.03% below budget expectations and expenses are 3.72% below expectation. The investments and holdings are doing well. Any questions can be referred to John Dickson, Treasurer.

WORSHIP

The Presbytery worshiped under the leadership of Rev. Norma Prina Murphy who provided the music; Elder Bobbie Jo Huebner who led the Call to Worship and Prayer of Invocation; Rev. Martin Ankrum led the Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon, and the Passing of the Peace; Rev. Skip Noftzger read the Scripture readings from Psalm 127 and Matthew 13 and preached the sermon entitled "240 and counting", led a Litany of Praise and the closing prayer; Rev. Owar Ojulu gave a brief report of an Mekane Yesus seminary in Ethiopia which was established in 1960 and many missionaries taught at the seminary, the offering from this worship service will go to the flooding and tragedy in Ethiopia and the Mekane Yesus seminary, and he led in the Prayer of Dedication for this offering; and Rev. Alice Tondora led the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

PINE SPRING CAMP

Greg Davis, Director of Pine Springs Camp, gave a brief overview of the summer with a power point presentation. Some of the highlights of this summer were the following: 688 overnight campers, 40 Mission EX campers, 728 Total Campers. The decision was made to cancel day camp this year and the plan is to resume the day camp in 2022. It was a joy having smiling faces back at camp this summer. Greg expressed thanks to the staff, Board of Directors, and the Safety committee. There were 4 campers who were sent home because of symptoms of COVID; they all tested negative. It was nice to sing around campfires; no singing was done indoors. Greg acknowledged some of the lessons learned in this time of COVID that may be implemented into the continued working of the camp like staggered registration. There were 48 staff members this summer. He thanked the Presbytery for its investment in the ongoing ministry of the camp, along with Washington Presbytery.

Some of the upcoming events are several upcoming one-day retreats instead of a whole weekend retreat. More information can be found on the Camp's website. November 21, 2021, is the Friends Banquet hopefully at the Fred Rogers Center at St. Vincent College. The theme will be celebrating the history of the camp. The most important part of the ministry of Pine Springs is its relational ministry. Greg introduced Danielle Kendig and her son Zane and her daughter Mackenzie. Danielle talked about her family's involvement in the ministry of Pine Springs. She

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is a parent of campers and Pine Springs is a safe environment and she talked about the relationships that exist between camp and churches; Danielle is on the staff of Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown. Zane spoke as a camper about his experience at Pine Springs. He is 10 years old and has been coming to Pine Spring for 3-4 years now. He loves Pine Springs because it teaches kids about God.

MISSION NETWORK

Rev. Sylvia Carlson, Chairperson of the Mission Committee, called attention to the written report in the packet. Sylvia pointed out that today, September 21, is the International Day of Peace established by the United Nations. She shared a statement from the South Sudan on this International Day of Peace. It is also the 10-year anniversary of the South Sudan being a nation. She asked us to remember in our prayers the people of Sudan and the South Sudan.

MISSION FAIR ACTIVITY

Rev. Donna Havrisko described the genesis of the mission fair for this meeting. She invited everyone to look at the mission displays and posters. There are sheets to be used while browsing which have questions to fill out and to be shared with the Presbytery.

The Presbytery broke for lunch. Rev. Jim Farrer, from the Healing and Prayer Network who has been meeting for 10 years, led us in grace for our meal. There was also a time of fellowship.

ACTION AGENDA

Council

Elder Chuck West, called attention to the report of the Council in the meeting packet. He presented the following report and action items of Presbytery Council:

Action Items

- The Council notes the first reading of the 2022 budget (consent) and offers the narrative section for explanation and description. Second reading and consideration of the budget will occur in the November meeting.
- The Council reports on the 2020 Financial Review completed by our external auditor and **recommended** that it be received and filed. **MSP** to approve this recommendation.
- The Council encourages sessions of all Redstone Presbytery congregations to consider increases to their First Fruits pledge for 2022.

Information Items (as published)

August 24, 2021 Meeting

Chuck West, Moderator called the meeting to order by videoconferencing (Zoom). Moderator West called upon Brenda Barnes who led the group in a short devotional and an opening prayer.

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Moderator West requested that the agenda as submitted be considered. That agenda was approved **by consent**.

Moderator West solicited whether there were any additions or revisions to the minutes of the June meeting which had been submitted by email. With a correction on a typo, it was **MSP** to approve the minutes as corrected.

Moderator West introduced our external auditor, Barb Terek, representing Horner, Wible and Terek. She took the Council through the financial review completed on the records of 2020. She highlighted the budget to actual, the available assets, both restricted and unrestricted, and changes from the previous year. Various members of the Council made inquiries on particular sections of the financial review. Having answered all questions, Ms. Terek was excused from the meeting.

Moderator Report

There were no items approved by consent since the last meeting.

Stated Clerk Report

Rev. Noftzger noted that the most recent correspondence log had not been provided and he would make sure it was sent to members of the Council.

Reviewing the upcoming Presbytery schedule and Council schedule, Rev. Noftzger led a discussion on options for the September meeting and appropriate health and safety protocol. After discussion, it was **MSP** to plan on having the September Presbytery gathering at Pine Springs Camp in the Sports Pavilion with The Refuge serving as a backup in case of bad weather.

A list of possible dates for the 2022 Presbytery meetings was presented. It was **MSP** to approve the dates as submitted. Subsequently, Curtis Paul asked that the January date be reconsidered and proposed changing it to January 29, 2022. It was **MSP** to make that change while retaining the other dates approved previously.

2022 Presbytery meeting dates (proposed)

January 29, 2022
March 22, 2022
May 24, 2022
September 27, 2022
November 19, 2022

The 2022 dates for Council meetings were also established with the following days.

January 11
February 22
April 26
June 28
August 23
October 25

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Treasurer Report

Treasurer John Dickson had submitted a written report which was reviewed by the Council. Mr. Dickson offered insight on the levels of giving in May which remain behind our desirable targets for annual cash flow in contributions. He referenced the document on levels of church giving based upon a necessary average of 42.50 per member. Moderator West noted that we would be discussing possible actions later in the meeting.

Pine Springs Camp

Greg Davis provided a summary report of the summer camping season. While there were expected lower participation rates, the season was completed without any known Covid cases. Finances remain strong. He shared the opportunity for upcoming participation in a fund-raising campaign for historic structures at the facility. With the Delta variant and community transmission rates, plans for fall retreats are still being evaluated.

Boswell Administrative Commission

Joshua Scully presented an update on the progress of the Administrative Commission for the Covenant Presbyterian Church of Boswell. Having explored options on the possible use of the property, a title search was conducted. The Administrative Commission discerned a preference to sell the building, rather than rent it and if possible, to sell to a church or at least a non-profit. Having been contacted by a few groups, the Administrative Commission had received an offer from the New Life Full Gospel congregation in Jennerstown. In meeting with their representatives for prayer, discussion and fellowship, the AC shared their prerequisite conditions which included a reversionary clause, selling the property "as is," and retaining a first right of refusal on any existing furnishings. Upon conclusion the congregation reaffirmed its desire to purchase the property with those conditions for \$15000. Meeting together privately subsequent to that meeting, the Administrative Commission agreed to their offer and sell the property to that congregation.

Because the Council also serves as the Trustees of the Presbytery, the Administrative Commission requested the Council also endorse and approve the sale under those conditions and for that price. Within the Council, it was **MSP** to approve the sale. The Administrative Commission was thanked for their diligent work.

Subcommittees/Networks

Communications

Brenda Barnes will be writing the September 1 Enews article on behalf of the Racial Justice and Reconciliation network.

Mission Committee

Donna Havrisko reminded everyone of the Mission Fair which would be conducted in conjunction with the September Presbytery meeting.

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On behalf of the Mission Committee, she proposed that the Council endorse participation in any way possible with the efforts of Afghan refugee resettlement in the Pittsburgh region. It was **MSP** to support any possible efforts as a Presbytery and to promote among our congregations.

She also shared about the flooding and tragedy in Ethiopia and at the Makana Yesu seminary. It was **MSP** to designate the September Presbytery offering to their support.

Budget, Finance and Stewardship

Bobbi Jo Huebner provided the report from the Budget, Finance and Stewardship committee. In response to the earlier presentation on the 2020 financial review, it was **MSP** to receive the review and file in Presbytery records. Next, it was **MSP** to approve Horner, Wible and Terek to serve as auditors for the 2021 financial review.

On behalf of the committee, she presented three budget alternatives and recommended approval of the second option which included the Staff Support recommendations on compensation. It was **MSP** to approve the second version for presentation to the Presbytery in September (first reading) and for approval in November (second reading).

Moderator West led the Council in reviewing the 2020 actual contributions of congregations by levels of First Fruits in comparison to expected amounts. Various members of the Council volunteered to follow up with specific congregations in conjunction with the annual stewardship letter and materials that will be distributed in early September.

Addictions Ministry Network

Lynn Mance reported that there is an anticipated meeting in September.

Racial Justice and Reconciliation Network

Brenda Barnes noted that she is trying to establish a regular monthly meeting time/day with an initial proposal for September. 1.

Healing and Prayer Ministry Network

There was no report.

Presbyterian Women

Susan Nesti noted current PW activity in the Presbytery and the upcoming Synod PW meeting that will take place at Antiochian Village in September.

Executive Presbyter

Rev. Noftzger provided updates on various activities and pastoral searches that are ongoing within Redstone Presbytery. He also noted that Ken Foust has retired (effective August 22) and will be honored at the September gathering. The September meeting will also include a focus on our 240-year history.

He requested approval of study leave dates in the following: 4 days total--afternoons – 10/19, 21,26, 28, 11/2, 4, 9, 11. This is to participate in additional Coaching Training for possible consideration of certification. It was **MSP** to approve this request.

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June 22, 2021 Meeting

Chuck West, Moderator called the meeting to order by videoconferencing (Zoom). Moderator West called upon Bobbi Jo Huebner who led the group in a short devotional, discussion, and an opening prayer.

Moderator requested that the agenda as submitted be considered. That agenda was approved **by consent.**

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

Moderator Report

There were no items approved by consent since the last meeting.

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, Rev. Noftzger acknowledged that while he did not have “official” word, he had received notice that Washington Presbytery would not be joining us for the September Presbytery meeting at Pine Springs Camp.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer John Dickson had submitted a written report which was reviewed by the Council. Mr. Dickson offered insight on the levels of giving in May which remain behind our desirable targets for annual cash flow in contributions. The Payroll Protection loan has been certified as forgiven. He encouraged those who were to be contacting pastors and sessions about their First Fruits giving to continue to do so.

Pine Springs Camp

There was no report from Pine Springs Camp. Summer camping season has begun with a reduced capacity and under health and safety protocols.

Boswell Administrative Commission

Belinda Lambie presented an update on the progress of the Administrative Commission for the Covenant Presbyterian Church of Boswell. She noted that the AC is exploring options regarding the property and have commissioned a title search.

Subcommittees/Networks

Communications

While there was no report, we are looking for new participants in this task force. Meanwhile, Skip Noftzger solicited volunteers for future Enews articles.

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Mission Committee

Rev. Havrisko reported on behalf of the mission subcommittee. Specifically, she requested on behalf the group that the Council approve designating the September meeting to include a mission fair with time on the docket for an accompanying activity. It was **MSP** to approve this request and to reserve time on the agenda for the September Presbytery meeting. Future programming on possible poverty simulations are still being explored.

Budget, Finance and Stewardship

Chuck West provided the report from the Budget, Finance and Stewardship committee. On behalf of the committee, he recommended approval of the request from Westmont Presbyterian Church concerning the capital improvements and renovations of the manse. The request was **MSP** as recommended by the committee.

The committee has reviewed the current lease agreement for the copier and a proposal for renewal with a new copier from the same company. After reviewing the proposal, it was recommended that it be accepted for a five-year lease agreement. Upon receiving the recommendation, it was **MSP** to enter into the agreement. He noted the committee will also be evaluating any needed repairs at the Presbytery Center, including the roof, but will also be considering its future use as a facility.

He encouraged those who were following up on First Fruits pledges to continue to follow up. The committee has received the draft of the 2020 audit conducted by our outside auditor and has reviewed its contents. He noted that a representative of the auditing firm would be invited to the next Council meeting with the final version of the audit and for responding to any inquiries.

Addictions Ministry Network

Lynn Mance reported the latest activity on behalf of the Addictions Ministry Network which has begun to meet again.

Racial Justice and Reconciliation Network

Brenda Barnes has agreed to begin convening the Racial Justice and Reconciliation network but the work on possible activities will not begin until the fall.

Healing and Prayer Ministry Network

There was no report.

Executive Presbyter

Reminding the Council of our commitment to the Matthew 25 initiative, Rev. Noftzger solicited whether others knew of any other sessions considering joining in the PMA program. Various Bible studies and resources are available for use by congregations interested in participating.

The following proposed dates for vacation and study leave were submitted for approval.

- June 27-July 1 (vacation)
- August 30-September 2 (study leave-1 out of 4 (accumulated))

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- October 17-22 (vacation)

Upon request, it was **MSP** as approved by the Council.

Rev. Noftzger provided updates on various activities and pastoral searches that are ongoing within Redstone Presbytery. He also noted some of the possible items anticipated to be included in the September gathering, including a history celebration, PSC emphasis, the mission fair (approved above) and the retirement of Rev. Ken Foust.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Rev. Pete Goetschius presented the report of the Committee on Ministry which is found in the meeting packet. He also presented the following report and action items for the Committee on Ministry:

Action Items

- The Committee on Ministry **recommended** approval of the required 2022 minimum terms of call for installed pastors and certified Christian Educators as proposed (no change from 2021). There is no change in the minimum terms of call for 2022. It was **MSP** to approve this recommendation.
- The Committee on Ministry **recommended** endorsement of a 3.5% raise in effective salary for continuing pastors. It was **MSP** to approve this recommendation.
- The Committee on Ministry wants to introduce Rev. Ben Nti who was examined and approved at the Called meeting in July. The installation service for Rev. Nti will be conducted on September 26 at the Westmont Presbyterian Church. Information about Rev. Ben Nti is found in Appendix "E" of the meeting packet. Ben shared some information about himself with the Presbytery. Ben attended Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and is glad to be in Redstone Presbytery.
- The Committee on Ministry **recommended** the designation of Rev. Ken Foust as an Honorably Retired member of the Presbytery of Redstone. Information about Rev. Ken Foust is found in Appendix "F" of the meeting packet. Rev. Cliff Buell spoke about Rev. Ken Foust and his ministry in Redstone Presbytery. Rev. Ken Foust thanked the presbytery for being there for him over the years and for our being there for one another in ministry. It was **MSP** to approve this recommendation. Moderator Belinda Lambie led the Presbytery in the liturgy designating Rev. Ken Foust as Honorably Retired and presented Ken with a framed certificate.

Information Items (as published)

September 2, 2021 Meeting

Approval of Minutes

It was **MSP** to approve the minutes of August 5, 2021.

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Email Attachment)
- Minutes Review Not Completed List

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- **MSP** to recommend change of status of Rev. Ken Foust from active to Honorably Retired at the September 21, 2021 Presbytery meeting.

Report of the Moderator

- Moderator appointment for First Presbyterian Church of Avonmore - Wendy Keys.
- Updated Information:
 - Moderator appointment for Fort Burd Presbyterian Church - Aleda Menchyk.
 - Moderator appointment for Calvin United Presbyterian of Brownsville - Josh Scully.

REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
 - Rev. Ed Gray is the mentor for Rev. Ben Nti.
 - Examination of Regina Schrecengost to be considered for pulpit supply.
- Action Items
 - **MSP** to approve Regina Schrecengost (seminary student) to be added to the pulpit supply roster.

Search and Call

- Information Items
 - Transition Chart (Email Attachment)
 - Review of the Minimum terms of Call for 2022 for presentation to COM on September 2 and Presbytery on September 21, 2021.
 - Joint PNC from Fort Burd and Calvin Presbyterian are working on study and MIF preparation.
- Action Items
 - **MSP** approval of the MIF for the Fort Burd and Calvin Presbyterian Churches, Brownsville, PA.
 - **MSP** of the recommendation on required 2022 minimum terms of call for installed pastors and Certified Christian Educators to remain at the 2021 minimum terms.
 - **MSP** of the approval of a recommendation for a Presbytery recommendation to congregations on a salary increase of 3.5% for experienced and continuing pastors.
 - **MSP** approval of the installation commission for Rev. Ben Nti as pastor of the Westmont Presbyterian Church tentatively set for September 26, 2021.

AP/CP Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- Intro to Reformed Theology.
- Fall Workshops
 - 9/11---Sermons from the Ground Up— Dan Merry, Interim Pastor, Church of the Covenant (former Pastor of Southminster Presbyterian)

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- 10/9---American “Holy” Days – How to Think Theologically about Secular Culture; James Calvin Davis; Professor Religion and Liberal Arts, Middlebury College; author of American Liturgy: Finding Theological Meaning in the Holy Days of U.S. Culture
- 11/13---Diseases of Despair; Michele Snyder; Crows Feet Consulting
- 12/11---More than a Rule Book; Faith Foundations of Presbyterian Polity; Skip Noftzger, EP and Stated Clerk, Redstone Presbytery
- Board of Pensions
 - Employer Agreements should be completed between now and mid-October.

Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Sewickley Administrative Commission Report
- LIAISON REMINDERS
 - Mission fair – September Presbytery meeting (in person at Pine Spring). Participate by bringing a poster board of your mission programs/ projects.
 - Continuing education for pastors
 - Fall activities
- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:
 - Praises for joint meetings of Elders and Deacons, for Rally Days, Kick off Sunday School Days, and for recognizing volunteers.
 - Prayers for members not returning to return. Prayers for those recovering from surgery; for those with cancer and other health issues; and for those that lost family members.
 - Prayers for search committees for guidance in finding the right person.
 - Praises for Sewickley United Presbyterian church in looking forward to a 250th anniversary in 2022.
 - Prayers for those in Afghanistan, for hurricane Ida victims, and for congregations to remain strong and faithful.
 - Prayers for raising up new volunteers for fall especially for children and youth activities and for parents to recommit.
 - Praises for baptisms and weddings; for developing partnerships; and for new service opportunities.
 - Prayers for PNCs to work through the process without feeling frustrated and overwhelmed and for PNCs progressing with in-person interviews.
 - Prayers for all the goodbyes during a retirement celebration and for all the hellos to new roads ahead.
 - Praises for those who know church is a wonderful place and God loves everyone.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time:

Ed Gray, Molly Hall, Glenn Hart, Donna Havrisko, James Hepler, Doug Holben, Alex Jalso, Peter Keith, Clark Kerr, Wendy Keys.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time:

First Presbyterian Church, Jeannette; Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown; First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown; Second Presbyterian Church, Johnstown; Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown; Springhill Furnace Presbyterian Church, Lake Lynn; Latrobe Presbyterian Church; United Presbyterian Church,

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Latrobe; Leisenring Presbyterian Church; Pleasant Grove Presbyterian Church,
Ligonier.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to bring to this meeting.

- A reminder was provided for mission displays at the September 21st Presbytery Meeting at Pine Springs Camp in the Sports Pavilion.

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August 5, 2021 Meeting

Approval of Minutes

It was MSP to approve the minutes of June 3, 2021, and July 20, 2021.

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Email Attachment)
- Minutes Review Not Completed List
- MSP to approve the dismissal of Rev. Rene Whitaker to Presbytery of Great Rivers.
- MSP to approve the dismissal of Rev. Jane Johnson to Presbytery of Scioto Valley.

Report of the Moderator

- Appointment of Rev. Molly Hall to serve as Moderator of the Third Presbyterian Church.
- Looking for a Moderator for First Presbyterian Church of Avonmore.
- Looking for a Moderator for Fort Burd Presbyterian Church and Calvin United Presbyterian of Brownsville.

REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
 - Mentor for Rev. Ben Nti (who is starting in September).

Search and Call

- Information Items
 - Transition Chart (Email Attachment)
 - Review of the Minimum terms of Call for 2022 for presentation to COM on September 2 and Presbytery on September 21.
 - Joint PNC from Fort Burd and Calvin Presbyterian are working on study and MIF preparation.
- Action Items
 - MSP approval of the Interim Pastor agreement between Rev. Doug Marshall and Grace Community Presbyterian Church, Lower Burrell.

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- MSP approval of the MIF for the Union Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, PA.
- MSP approval of the MIF for the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, PA.
- The approval of a recommendation for a Presbytery recommendation to congregations on salary increases for experienced and continuing pastors has been tabled until September COM meeting to allow time to review the information.

AP/CP Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- Intro to Reformed Theology (first class session – August 21).
- Fall Workshops
 - 8/21---Seasonal Lections from Hebrews – Craig Kephart, EP; Washington Presbytery
 - 9/11---Sermons from the Ground Up – Dan Merry, Interim Pastor, Church of the Covenant (former Pastor of Southminster Presbyterian)
 - 10/9---American “Holy” Days – How to Think Theologically about Secular Culture; James Calvin Davis; Professor Religion and Liberal Arts, Middlebury College; author of American Liturgy: Finding Theological Meaning in the Holy Days of U.S. Culture
 - 11/13---Diseases of Despair; Michele Snyder; Crows Feet Consulting
 - 12/11---More than a Rule Book; Faith Foundations of Presbyterian Polity; Skip Noftzger, EP and Stated Clerk, Redstone Presbytery
- Board of Pensions Update
 - Rev. Doug Portz, Board of Pension Liaison, provided a presentation on the changes and update in the Board of Pension. Rev. Portz stated that it was good for members of the COM to have a fundamental understanding of the benefit plans that are available. Rev. Portz’s presentation discussed the full array of benefits for pastors and lay people employed at churches. The goal of the Board of Pensions is to provide quality benefits while remaining cost effective. For example, the dues for the Pastor Participation comprehensive package has remained at 37% for the fourth year. By holding the line, churches are able to develop their budgets. The new Temporary Disability Plan provides a financial protection benefit to employees equal to 60 percent of effective salary and can be offered by the church to any employee that works 20 hrs or more. Medicare supplement will include vision coverage in 2022.

Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Sewickley Administrative Commission Report
- LIAISON REMINDERS
 - Minutes Review – individual follow up
 - Mission fair – September Presbytery meeting (in person at Pine Spring). Participate by bringing a poster board of your mission programs/projects.
 - Continuing education for pastors
 - Fall activities
- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:

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- Prayers for communication across district, across congregations, and across the presbytery.
- Prayers for the changes that are coming in response to increases in COVID-19 cases. Prayers to being responsive and getting ahead of the curveball and not behind it.
- Praises for technology, practices, and resources already in place.
- Prayers for dialog, consideration, and respect.
- Praises for church opportunities, VBS, bible study, and gatherings.
- Prayers for those individuals needing healing, for relatives, members, friends of congregations, and entire communities that have need of Your touch and healing.
- Prayers for the opportunity for learning and growing through classes offered.
- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time:
 - Ronald Durika, Jim Farrer, Cliff Foster, Ken Foust, James Gear, James Giesey, Donald Glunt, Mary Kay Glunt, Pete Goetschius, Donald Graff.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time:
 - First Presbyterian Church, Ebensburg; First Presbyterian Church, Fairchance; Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church, Farmington; First Presbyterian Church, Fayette City; Little Redstone Presbyterian Church, Fayette City; First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg; Maplewood Presbyterian Church, Greensburg; Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg; First Presbyterian Church, Irwin; West Hempfield Presbyterian Church, Irwin.

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July 20, 2021 Meeting

The Committee on Ministry held a called meeting on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 in person at the First Presbyterian Church of Greensburg and through remote access using Zoom video conferencing. Rev. Pete Goetschius called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer.

Action Item

MSP to approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Ron Johnson and Third Presbyterian, Uniontown.

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June 3, 2021 Meeting

Approval of Minutes

It was **MSP** to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2021.

Report of the Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk updated the committee on the following items:

- Correspondence Log (Email Attachment)
- Minutes Review Not Completed List

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- **MSP** to approve the request for Rev. Karen Webster to engage in validated ministry “Heathy Seminarians, Healthy Churches” within Redstone Presbytery.

Report of the Moderator

- Appointment of Rev. Skip Noftzger to serve as Moderator of the McClellandtown Presbyterian Church.
- Appointment of Rev. Molly Hall to serve as Moderator of the Grace Chapel Presbyterian Church.

REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Examinations and Membership

- Information Items
 - No additional examinations since last meeting.
- Action Items
 - **MSP** to approve the addition of Rev. Karen Webster (Trinity Presbytery) to the pulpit supply roster of Redstone Presbytery.

Search and Call

- Information Items
 - Transition Chart (Email Attachment)
 - McClellandtown session has decided with the transition that they will search for the next pastor separate from the prior shared relationship with Grace Chapel.
 - Reminder of the special Presbytery meeting and possible special COM meeting on July 20, 2021 to examine and approve a candidate. The meeting will be held in person at 6:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church of Greensburg with an option to attend using Zoom.

AP/CP Subcommittee (COM/CPM)

- Recruiting new students for the IPLF program. These are ruling elders who are interested in growing in their faith, considering the possibility of greater service to the church through preaching or other forms of pastoral ministry. The course in the fall will be Intro to Reformed Theology with Rev. Dr. Martin Ankrum. Workshops to be determined.

Care of Congregations and Congregational Leaders

- Prayers were lifted in answer to requests that had been received for:
 - Praises as the spirit continues to work as churches move forward with VBS, welcoming new members on Pentecost, and resuming more normal worship services.
 - Prayers for those dealing health issues and treatments.
 - Prayers for times of transition and with discernment of how God is speaking to us in this new reality.

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Prayers in looking for someone for record keeping and the position of clerk. Prayers for pastors serving more than one church. Praises and gratefulness for the benefit of a regular pastor, continued life for the year, and having hope. Prayers for VBS and potential programs this summer and the pastors, teachers, elders, and volunteers that make these programs happen. Prayers for all wonderful programs and returning to regular service with flexibility. Praises for preaching outside in the parks, new kids, and baptism. Prayers and praises to Laurel Hill for looking forward to commemorating its 250th anniversary in 2022.

- The following Teaching Elders and Commissioned Pastors were prayed for during this time:
Bruce Cadenhead, Cynthia Cadenhead, Robert Cahn, Sylvia Carlson, Terry Carnahan, Anthony Catullo, Carole Isley Corey, Daniel Chow, Gene Degitz, Lisa Dormire.
- The following churches were prayed for during this time:
Calvin Presbyterian Church, Brownsville; Ft. Burd Presbyterian Church, Brownsville; Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Brownsville; Colver Presbyterian Church; Cresson Presbyterian Church; Tyrone Presbyterian Church, Dawson; Delmont Presbyterian Church; Derry Presbyterian Church; First Presbyterian Church, Dunbar; Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, Dunbar.

Report of the Executive Presbyter

As a Committee on Ministry member, we must have diligence to continue to reach out and be a pastor, counselor, and encourager. In light of June 11 Feast Day of St Barnabas, it is from the Book of Acts that identifies Joseph as Barnabas which means son of encouragement. In the same way that Barnabas, a good man full of holy spirit and full of faith, was sent forth, we are sent out to see what God is doing in various places. Barnabas discovers not what is expected or anticipated and finds that God is there at work. It may surprise us that God is still working in ways not under control as we see that the hand of the Lord is within these places.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Rev. Geoff Rach reported that the committee report is found on page 27 of the meeting page. The committee enrolled two inquirers in the spring Zoom meetings and would like to take this opportunity to introduce Danielle Kendig (Westmont) and James Vlosich (Trinity, Uniontown) to the Presbytery. Each of them was given the opportunity to speak to the Presbytery on their sense of call. Danielle Kendig spoke first. She has been on the staff of Westmont Presbyterian Church for the last 10 years. She is married and has three children. She is enrolled at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and is in her second year of seminary. James Vlosich attends and works at Trinity, Uniontown. He is taking classes at Fuller Theological Seminary. He loves Redstone Presbytery and our Executive Skip Noftzger who is always available to answer any questions he may have. He and his wife are enjoying being part of the process in Redstone Presbytery.

Information Items (as published)

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September 7, 2021 Meeting

Opening prayer by Geoff

MSP - Apr. 6 minutes were approved as presented

Meet with Inquirer Danielle Kendig:

- Danielle is currently taking four classes at Pittsburgh Seminary; with start of fall semester, moved from part-time status to full-time
- She continues to serve at Westmont as DCE, as she has for the last ten years; she has feels she has the support of both the pastor and the congregation to she balances family life, work, and education
- She will become a “middler” at the end of Dec. 2021; plans to finish Seminary by Dec. 2023
- Skip explained that Redstone Presbytery requires two field ed. experiences, and that one is typically a unit of CPE
- As of now, Danielle is potentially interested in gaining some chaplaincy experience, in addition to congregational experience
- She is growing in her faith as she finds freedom in “giving up control” and she has noticed she’s more comfortable now preaching on more challenging Scripture passages
- She will be introduced at the Sept. Presbytery meeting

MSP - CPM desires that Danielle proceed with taking the PPI Assessment (or one similar if that one is unavailable)

MSP - Scholarship money in the amount of \$1500 will be given to both Seminary students under care of CPM (Danielle Kendig and James Vlosich)

Overseeing Authorized Preachers and Commissioned Pastors

- The current group of combined CPM and COM members that currently offers oversight may be dissolved; if so, CPM will oversee the training and prep time for those pursuing authorization and/or commissioning
- There currently are 15-16 commissioned pastors serving Redstone Presbytery

Other Business:

- CPM is scheduled to meet with James Vlosich at our Oct. 5 meeting
- Dawn Sherwood has requested to be removed as his liaison due to future commitments; Geoff Rach will be his new liaison
- Candidate Cynthia Bellina will not be returning to Seminary until Jan. semester

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Aleda Menchyk presented the following report which is found on pages 28-29 of the meeting packet and action items of the Nominating Committee:

Action Items

Presbytery of Redstone September 21, 2021

- **The Nominating Committee nominates Rev. Dawn Sherwood to serve as Vice Moderator, 2022 for the Presbytery of Redstone.** There were no other nominations from the floor. It was **MSP** that the nominations be closed.
(any other nominations from the floor should be made at this meeting (September). This office will be elected at the November stated meeting, Manual 2.1201).
- **The Nominating Committee nominates the following persons to serve as commissioners from the Presbytery of Redstone to the 2022 General Assembly.**
---Rev. Brenda Barnes; Teaching Elder Commissioner, New Hope
---Rev. Dawn Sherwood; Teaching Elder Commissioner, Jeannette
---Audrey Cottle; Ruling Elder Commissioner, Little Redstone
---Judy Carl; Ruling Elder Commissioner, Ebensburg

There were no other nominations from the floor. It was **MSP** to elect the General Assembly commissioners.

- **The Nominating Committee nominates the following persons for the Offices/Classes indicated:**

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL:

- Belinda Lambie; Colver; Chair (2022)
- Tim D'Aurora; Congruity; (2024)
- Rev. Cliff Foster; Congruity; (2024)
- Jim Stenge; First, Murrysville (2024)
- Pam Walter; Latrobe; (2024)
- Rev. Laura Blank; Pleasant View (2024)

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:

- Helen Toms; West Hempfield (2024)
- Jill Gaetano; First, Greensburg (2024)
- Rev. Donna Havrisko, HR (2024)
- Bill Weightman; Belle Vernon (2024)
- Martha Patullo; First, Irwin (2024)
- Jeff Smith; Rehoboth (2024)
- Charnet Koch; First, Johnstown (2024)

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY:

- Jim Sunseri, Patton (2024)
- Rev. John Manon, West Newton (2024)
- Jackie Eckenrode, Westminster (2024)

PINE SPRINGS CAMP:

- Rev. Ron Durika; Latrobe (2024)

COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION

- Rev. Wendy Keys, New Kensington (2024)

Presbytery of Redstone

September 21, 2021

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION

- Leonard Morgan; Delmont; (2027)
- Rev. Jay Lewis, HR (2027)

There were no other nominations from the floor. It was **MSP** to approve this slate of nominations. The vote was unanimous.

ANNOUNCEMENT LOOP

The Presbytery watched the Announcement Loop that had been prepared highlighting several upcoming events taking place.

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 33 clergy and 5 Commissioned Pastors, 26 elders (representing 19 congregations), 0 Christian Educators, 2 by virtue of office, 0 corresponding members and 11 visitors for a total of 77. There also were 48 congregations without elder representation.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Elder Josh Scully provided the Resolution of Thanks for this Presbytery Meeting. Josh led the Presbytery in a prayer of thanks for this day as the Presbytery has done its work. He gave thanks for the 240 years of ministry and mission of Redstone Presbytery and for the opportunity to enjoy a lovely day at Pine Springs Camp; for the work of the Mission Network as seen in the Mission Fair of all the things that are being done in our church, for the Presbytery committees and Council and all the work; for meeting Rev. Ben Nti and for the years of service of Rev. Ken Foust and for the calls to Inquirers Danielle Kendig and James Vlosich; and for those who were elected to serve in the various committees of the Presbytery and for our newly elected commissioners to General Assembly

SOLI DEO GLORIA

Rev. Skip Noftzger led the Presbytery in the Soli Deo Gloria.

AJOURNMENT

It was **MSP** to adjourn the meeting at 1:59 p.m.

BENEDICTION

Moderator Belinda Lambie closed the meeting with a benediction prayer.

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on Saturday, November 20, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Colver Presbyterian Church, Colver.

Presbytery of Redstone
September 21, 2021

Belinda Lambie, Moderator

Cliff Foster, Recording Clerk