

Presbytery of Redstone
March 21, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The ecclesiastical and corporate meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone was convened at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 21, 2015, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and opened with prayer.

FORMATION OF THE ROLL

The Stated Clerk, Rev. Gary Close, 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>
	Sylvia Carlson	
	Gary Close	
	Carole Isley Corey	
	Jim Farrer	
	Skip Noftzger	
Adah, Palmer Community		
Apollo, Pine Run	Lanny Mellinger	
Apollo, Poke Run	Peter Goetschius	Connie Cauvel
Avonmore, First	Larry Armstrong, SS	
Belle Vernon, First	Suzanne Currie	Bobbi Jo Huebner
Belle Vernon, Harmony	Glenn Hart, CRE	Henry Kopczak
Belle Vernon, Marion		
Belle Vernon, Rehoboth	Dick Klein	Paul Stratton
Bolivar, United		
Boswell, Covenant		Jan DeVries
Brownsville, Calvin	Aleda Menchyk, SS	
Brownsville, Ft. Burd	Colleen Molinaro, IP	
Brownsville, Hopewell		
Colver	Laura Blank, SS (**)	
Connellsville	Suzanne Zampella	
Cresson	David McCabe (**)	
Dawson, Tyrone		
Delmont		Lynn Mance
Derry	Marnie Abraham Russell, SS	
Dunbar, First		
Dunbar, Laurel Hill	Jeff Smith, CRE	Josh Scully
Ebensburg, First	Laura Blank, SS (**)	Judy Carl
Fairchance		
Farmington, Mt. Washington		
Fayette City, First	Mike Shepard, SS (**)	Robert Kubina
Fayette City, L Redstone	Mike Shepard, SS (**)	James S. Anderson
Greensburg, First	Martin Ankrum Nicole Brodeur	
Greensburg, Maplewood	Steve LaSor	
Greensburg, Westminster	Donna Havrisko	Lois Kemp
Irwin, First	Ronald Wakeman Ron Durika	Les Hale Mark Claycomb
Irwin, West Hempfield	Peggy Shannon, IP	Helen Toms

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Jeannette	Robert Fuehrer	David Lint
Johnstown, Bethany	Denise Todero, CRE	Linda Onidge
Johnstown, First	Alice Tondora	Sheila Farrer
Johnstown, Second		
Johnstown, Westmont	Craig A. Miller	Brian Misner Bernice Adams John Norris
Lake Lynn, Springhill		
Latrobe		Susannah Calvo
Latrobe, United		
Leisenring		
Ligonier, Pleasant Grove		
Lower Burrell, Grace		
Lower Burrell, Puckety	Kirk Orr	Sophia Earhart Ellen Fisher
Manor	Tom Holmes, CRE (**)	
Masontown		
McClellandtown		
Merrittstown, Dunlap's Creek		
Mt. Pleasant, Middle		
Mt. Pleasant, Reunion		
Murrysville, First		
Murrysville, Newlonsburg	Curtis Paul Marnie Silbert	Michelle McAllister Mindy Markovich
Murrysville, Union		
New Alexandria, Community		Judy Koontz
New Alexandria, Congruity	Cliff Foster	David W. Foresman
New Florence, Bethel		
New Florence, Trinity	Barry Young	Janet Henderson
New Kensington, United		Julia Yockey
New Salem	Ross Bash, IP	
North Huntingdon, New Hope	Janet Reid	Eleanor St. Clair
Patton	David McCabe (**)	
Revloc		
Scottdale, Calvin	Len Morgan, CRE	
Seward, Armagh-Seward		
Slickville	Thomas Holmes, CRE (**)	Debi Gross
Smithfield, Grace Chapel		
Smock, Pleasant View	Keith Conover	Carole Rittenhouse
Trafford, Level Green		Jack Battenhouse
Uniontown, Tent		
Uniontown, Third		
Uniontown, Trinity	Tom Holslag, IP	
Vanderbilt, E. Liberty		
Vandergrift		
West Newton, Sewickley		
West Newton, Sewickley U.		
West Newton, United		

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Windber, First		
Notation:	(*) = pastor from another denomination (#) = pastor from another presbytery	(**) = pastor or CRE serving more than one church

Christian Educators Present: Cheryl Rhea (Trafford, Level Green)

By Virtue of Office: *None*

Visitors: Lee Ann Conover (Smock, Pleasant View), Greg Davis (Pine Springs Camp); Laretta Eisler (Delmont), Mollie Gounder (Jeannette, First), Patty Herring (Smock, Pleasant View), Madison Lint (Jeannette, First), Michelle Lint (Jeannette, First), Bobbie Martin (Presbytery Staff), Susan Nesti (Fayette City, Little Redstone), Mackenzie Rigney (Jeannette, First),

Teaching Elders Excused: Cadenhead, C.; Cahn; Carnahan; Catterall; Degitz; Enoch; Hepler; Hess; Holben; Jalso; Lighthall; Lloyd; Macaleer; Maxwell; McClure; Menchyk; Morrow; Murray; Roof; Sharp, J.; Sharp, W.; Sherrill; Snyder; Stevens; Upton; VanWyk;

Teaching Elders Absent: Bass-Riley; Buell; Cadenhead, B.; Campbell; Dericks; Dormire; Foust; Graff; Hickok; Keith; Kerr; MacPherson; Maiman; Manon; Mason; McDermott; Shirey; Siddle; Simpson; Washburn; Yuckman, C.; Yuckman, M.

Commissioned Ruling Elders Excused: *None*

Commissioned Ruling Elders Absent: Glisan; McElroy; O’Hara; Prinkey; Stewart; Sunseri; Watson

ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

Elder Cheryl Rhea presented the docket. It was **MSP** to adopt the Docket as presented.

SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS AND INTRODUCTION OF OTHER VISITORS

The Moderator, Elder Glenn Hart, invited those who were attending a presbytery meeting for the first time to stand to be introduced. On behalf of the Presbytery the Moderator welcomed each of the first time presbyters.

ARRANGEMENTS

The Reverend Donna Havrisko, Pastor of the host congregation, welcomed the presbyters and visitors to Westminster Presbyterian Church. She told us that Westminster Church was founded in 1891, and this building was built and dedicated in 1995. She invited attendees to visit their prayer labyrinth. She also told us that Westminster is a mission minded congregation.

STATED CLERK’S REPORT

Report of the Stated Clerk:

1. Correspondence Log:
 - a. During the period since the last regularly stated Presbytery meeting, all correspondence that was received was responded to and/or appropriately routed for review and response to the appropriate entity of Presbytery.
2. Invitations are now being received for the 2016 meetings of Presbytery. Dates will be announced as soon as they are set.
3. 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:

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Permanent Judicial Commission Roster (Terms expired within the last six years)

2013 – Rev. Sylvia Carlson, Ruling Elder Robert Lightcap, Rev. John Sharp

2011 – Rev. Marnie Abraham Russell, Rev. Clark Kerr, Ruling Elder Marge Montanari

2009 – Ruling Elder Dorothy Boring, Rev. H. Clifton Foster, Ruling Elder Todd Turin

4. It is **recommended** that the following Presbytery Officers be recognized as members of the Presbytery, with voice and vote, for their term of service:
Ruling Elder Don Gobbel – Presbytery Council
Ruling Elder Belinda Lambie – Presbytery Council
Ruling Elder Glenn Hart – Presbytery Council [Moderator]
Ruling Elder Sarabeth Stopansky – Presbytery Council

5. It is **recommended** that the following Commissioned Ruling Elders be recognized as members of the Presbytery as long as they are serving in that capacity:
Ruling Elder Eric Glisan
Ruling Elder Glenn Hart
Ruling Elder Thomas Holmes
Ruling Elder David McElroy
Ruling Elder Len Morgan
Ruling Elder David O’Hara
Ruling Elder Robert Prinkey
Ruling Elder Jeff Smith
Ruling Elder David Stewart
Ruling Elder Jim Sunseri
Ruling Elder Denise Todero
Ruling Elder Richard Watson

6. The Clerk reminded the presbyters of the upcoming Review of Session Records (Session Minutes and Church Registers). The dates and locations will be the same as the Redstone Community Events in Districts 1, 2, and 3 as follows):
 - i. Monday, April 13, 2014 @6:00 p.m. – Apollo, Poke Run
 - ii. Tuesday, April 29, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m. – Mt. Pleasant, Reunion
 - iii. Tuesday, April 14, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m. – Uniontown, Trinity

7. **Equalization:**

Based on membership size as of December 31, 2012, according to the Book of Order [G-3.0301] and the Presbytery Manual [1.1003] the following churches are authorized to send two ruling elder delegates to each meeting of the Presbytery: Greensburg, First; Johnstown, Westmont; Latrobe, Main St.; Lower Burrell, Grace Community; and Murrysville, Newlonsburg; and the following church is authorized to send three ruling elder delegates to each meeting of the Presbytery: Irwin, First.

As of December 31, 2014, 87 Teaching Elders were on the rolls of the Presbytery of whom 58 were in attendance at least once in 2014. As of December 31, 2014, there were 76 churches on the rolls of the Presbytery entitled to be represented by 83 Ruling Elders of which 49 Churches were represented by Ruling Elders at least once in 2013. In addition there were 11 elders serving as Commissioned Ruling Elders and 6 ruling elders eligible to attend meetings of Presbytery as voting delegates by virtue of office who were in attendance at least once in 2014. Average Teaching Elder attendance in 2014 was 38, and

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average Ruling Elder attendance in 2014 was 40. The Ruling Elders outnumbered the Teaching Elders at three stated meeting of the Presbytery in 2014 and there were equal numbers twice.

Since the average attendance of Ruling Elders exceeded the average attendance of Teaching Elders and the Ruling Elders equaled or outnumbered the Teaching Elders at every stated meeting, there is no imbalance and equalization is not needed.

8. Summary of 2014 Comparative Statistical Summary for the Presbytery

<u>Membership Statistics</u>	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Active members	14971	14,799	14,329	13,961	13,679	12,543
Gains by Profession of Faith - 17 under	136	105	82	102	105	101
Gains by Profession of Faith - 18 over	220	169	178	146	154	155
Gains by Certificate	126	65	85	79	95	61
Gains by Other	59	38	67	52	37	99
Losses by Certificate	81	57	95	78	243	519
Losses by Death	289	281	274	252	248	252
Losses by Other	477	211	511	417	182	781
Infant Baptisms	212	140	163	122	158	128
Adult Baptisms	29	26	25	22	35	17
2013 Membership Distribution	25 & under	26-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65	
	1307	2362	1730	2152	2910	

As of the 2015 deadline for statistical reporting to the General Assembly, 75 churches have filed at least portions of their annual statistical reports for 2014. The following churches failed to submit their Annual Statistical Report in a timely fashion: Boswell, Covenant; and Seward, Armagh-Seward.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, Rev. Gary Close, presented the Consent Agenda. The following items were approved by consent:

From Executive Committee

1. Following review by the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Assistant Clerk, Permanent Clerk, and the Chair of Council it is **recommended** that the minutes of the Presbytery meeting of January 20, 2015 be approved.

From Presbytery Council

1. Council **recommends** that the Financial Reports presented to the Council be received and filed for audit.

From Presbytery Committee on Ministry

1. It was **MSP to recommend** that a waiver of rotation be granted to the Adah, Palmer Community Church for Ronald Clark to serve as an elder in the Class of 2017 even though he has already served 6 consecutive years.

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2. It was **MSP** to recommend that the request of the Middle Presbyterian Church for Relief of Conscience from the Board of Pensions with regard to the policy of the Board to pay for abortion services be referred to Presbytery for affirmative action.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

In the absence of Ruling Elder John A. Dickson, IV, Treasurer, our Executive Presbyter, Richard "Skip" Noftzger presented the Financial Reports calling attention to the reports for January and February 2015 which are printed in the Packet and available on the Registration table [Attachment A] for review. He provided the following observations and comments: we continue to solicit your support for the presbytery. He reminded the presbyters that the Presbytery has monthly expenses just like the local congregation, so he encouraged congregations to send their pledges in over the year.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER

Rev. Richard "Skip" Noftzger, Executive Presbyter, presented his report as follows: There is a letter from him regarding the passing of Amendment 14-F on Tuesday, March 17. Yesterday was the first day of spring, which makes us think of the dilemma each of us has each spring – spring cleaning. Each one of us needs to make decisions about what stays and what goes. We experience this in the church – what is old that needs to be retained, and what needs to be retired. Some believe that everything must change. How do we understand our own traditions as we envision what is our mission and what is God calling us to do? We have to deal with the tension between old and new. This impacts the presbytery – our structures, our practices, and who we are together. He encouraged us to be open to God's leading. The Spirit is not done with us yet. He highlighted our 4 priorities: Engaging Congregations; Equipping Leadership; Enabling Ministry Networks; and Empowering Mission. He is not sure that God calls us to be comfortable. He recognized ordination anniversaries: Laura Blank and Nicole Brodeur – 1 year; Suzanne Currie and Alice Tondora – 9 years; Colleen Molinaro – 10 years; Robert Fuehrer – 30 years; John Manon – 31 years; and Richard Klein – 34 years. Skip spoke about the writing of Parker Palmer who describes the tragic gap: between the reality of what surrounds us – the larger culture – and that kingdom among us – which we have experienced. We are called to live in the gap and in the space. Skip concluded his report by leading the presbyters through the "Soli Deo Gloria" litany.

PINE SPRINGS CAMP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Greg Davis, the Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp, reported the following: This is his 9th summer as Executive Director at Pine Springs. They are beginning to make use of social media. They were accredited by the American Camping Association. He is thankful for the assistance of Ross Bash in the process. Visit their website for the materials that are available for use by congregations. He lifted up the following dates: April 18 will be the Father and Son event with a speaker from the Pittsburgh Steelers; Saturday, May 9 is Redd Up day; the Golf outing is Monday, May 18. The pavilion should be built by the summer. Night out camping for high-schoolers will feature late night events and sleeping in until 11. Please pray for Pine Springs. They need male counselors. Thank you for your partnership.

MISSION COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

Rev. Sylvia Carlson, Chairperson of the Mission Committee, reported that her printed report appears on Page 10 of the packet. She invited questions from the assembled persons. She underscored the Pine Springs Mission Cabin that will focus on PDA, and requested photos to be used in conjunction with that. She also invited people to become a part of the mission committee that ordinarily meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 at the Presbytery office.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS LOOP

Featured were Pine Springs Camp photos; Redstone events; the PW Spring Gathering at Pleasant View, April 11; the Confirmation Retreat at Pine Springs April 10-11; the peach fest at New Salem in August; the New Kensington Presbyterian Church Friendship Dinner; the Soup for the Soul luncheons at Poke Run; the West Hempfield spaghetti dinner March 28; the Congruity Rummage Sale on March 28; the Women in the Woods event at Pine Springs April 10-12; the Congruity spaghetti dinner April 25; the PW Spring Retreat at Pine Springs May 26; the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women in Minneapolis, MN June 18-21; the Redstone PW Mission Tea July 18 at Congruity Presbyterian Church; the PW Mission Trip to New Windsor, MD October 4-6; the Big Tent gathering July 30-August 1; the Miller Summer Youth Institute at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in July; send your stories to redstonestories@gmail.com; the next Presbytery meeting will be held May 19 at the West Newton Presbyterian church from 6-9 p.m.; and the invite someone to church video.

ACTION AGENDA

Council

Elder Cheryl Rhea presented the following report for the Council:

The Council Retreat and Meeting previously scheduled for February 21, 2015 was cancelled due to inclement weather. It has been rescheduled for March 24, 2015.

Action Items

The Council presented the Proposed Amendments to Constitution – Form of Government with the following votes:

1. After an opportunity was given for discussion of the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution 14-A - *Renunciation of Jurisdiction* (G-2.0509) the Presbytery voted "No" by a standing vote of 9 "Yes" and 52 "No."
2. After an opportunity was given for discussion of the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution 14-B.1 – *Final Assessment* (G-2.0607) the Presbytery voted "Yes" by a voice vote.
3. After an opportunity was given for discussion of the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution 14-B.2 – *Accommodations* (G-2.0610) the Presbytery voted "Yes" by a voice vote.
4. After an opportunity was given for discussion of the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution 14-C – *Child Protection Policy* (G-3.0106) the Presbytery voted "Yes" by a voice vote.
5. After an opportunity was given for discussion of the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution 14-D – *Minimum Composition of Presbytery* (G-3.0301) the Presbytery voted "Yes" by a voice vote.
6. After an opportunity was given for discussion of the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution 14-E – *Interreligious Stance* (G-5.0102) the Presbytery voted "No" by a voice vote.

Committee on Ministry

Rev. Martin Ankrum presented the following report for the Committee:

Information

1. February 2015
 - a. Eleven churches presented their records for review at the District 4 Enrichment Day.
 - b. It was **MSP** to add the following persons to Preaching List – Page Lee Davis Creach and Robin Lofstetter.
 - c. It was announced that Ross Bash continues to serve in a part-time interim capacity at New Salem Presbyterian Church.

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- d. It was announced that Background Checks need to be completed and we were reminded that everyone needs to get new Clearances if they haven't been granted within the past three years. The Committee was reminded that the "Presidium" clearances no longer fulfill a church's responsibility
 - e. The Terms of Call for 2015 need to be completed and submitted to the Committee on Ministry.
2. March 2015
- a. A letter was received from the Middle Presbyterian Church in Mt. Pleasant requesting participation in the Relief of Conscience plan of the Board of Pensions. The Committee recommends that the request be approved and placed on the Consent Agenda of the upcoming meeting of Presbytery.
 - b. It was **reported that** only 5 churches have requested to participate in the Synod Grant program to assist churches that are providing the additional 1.5 % of Medical Premium dues to provide their pastors and families with medical coverage through the Board of Pensions Plan.
 - c. The upcoming Redstone Community Events were announced as follows:
 - i. District 1 – Monday, April 13, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Poke Run Presbyterian Church
 - ii. District 2 – Monday, April 27, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at a location to be determined.
 - iii. District 3 – Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Uniontown, Trinity Presbyterian Church
 - d. It was also announced that there will be a Review of Session Records immediately preceding each of these events beginning at 6:00 p.m.
 - e. It was **MSP** to approve the transfer of Rev. Art Seaman to the Presbytery of Kiskiminetas.
 - f. It was **MSP** to recommend to the Presbyter the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the New Florence, Trinity Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Barry Young, pending the congregational vote on March 22, 2015.
 - g. The Committee members were reminded that Terms of Call and Contracts for 2015 need to be completed and submitted to the Committee on Ministry. As of this meeting 26 are still outstanding.

Action Items

- 1. It was **MSP** to adopt the Sexual Misconduct Policy for Redstone Presbytery [Attachment C].
- 2. It was **MSP** approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the New Florence, Trinity Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Barry Young, pending the congregational vote on March 22, 2015.

Nominations Committee

Rev. Paul presented the following nominations, which nominations were properly seconded:

Council - Class of 2015

Elder Phyllis Neral

District 2

Irwin, First

Council - Class of 2017

Elder Susan Nesti

District 3

Fayette City, Little Redstone

There being no further nominations from the floor the above nominees **were elected** to serve in the capacities to which nominated.

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REPORTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEE OF DISCERNMENT

The following written reports were made available at the Registration Table:

Slickville Presbyterian Church – This Listening Team was formed in response to the letter received from their Clerk of Session dated August 4, 2014. The following persons were appointed to serve on the Listening Team: Elder Marie Davis (The United Presbyterian Church of New Kensington / appointed by the Chairperson of COM), Rev. Gary Close (Stated Clerk / appointed by policy), Rev. Cliff Foster (Pastor – New Alexandria, Congruity Presbyterian Church / appointed by Moderator of Presbytery), Rev. Richard “Skip” Noftzger (Executive Presbyter / appointed by policy), and Elder Cheryl Rhea (Trafford, Level Green Presbyterian Church / appointed by Moderator of Presbytery).

The Listening Team met with the Session on Sunday evening, September 7, 2014 to hear their reasons for requesting this meeting. Following that meeting the Session voted to pursue the Process of requesting that Presbytery grant them dismissal to another “reformed body.”

On Sunday, January 11, 2015 – following morning worship – the Congregational Forum was held to hear from the members of the congregation and to begin addressing the issues raised by the Session in the previous meeting explaining the Presbytery and PC(USA) position to help the members of the congregation understand the issues more clearly. In the conversation which took place that day the Team endeavored to advocate for the PC(USA) and to explain the process.

On February 15, 2015 the Listening Team met with the Session to discuss issues related to possible dismissal.

On Sunday, March 8, 2015 – immediately following morning worship – the Congregation voted to request dismissal by the Presbytery to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

A meeting is to be set in the very near future to work out the details of the request that will be presented to the Presbytery at the May 19, 2015 meeting of the Presbytery.

Connellsville Presbyterian Church – This Listening Team was formed in response to the letter received from their Clerk of Session dated September 3, 2014. The following persons were appointed to serve on the Listening Team: Rev. Richard “Skip” Noftzger (Executive Presbyter / appointed by policy), Rev. Martin Ankrum (Pastor - Greensburg, First Presbyterian Church / appointed by the Chairperson of COM), Rev. Gary Close (Stated Clerk / appointed by policy), Rev. Sue Currie (Pastor – Belle Vernon, First Presbyterian Church / appointed by Moderator of Presbytery), and Elder Susan Nesti (Fayette City, Little Redstone Presbyterian Church / appointed by Moderator of Presbytery).

The Listening Team met with the Session on October 13, 2014 to hear their reasons for requesting this meeting. Following that meeting the Session voted to pursue the Process of requesting that Presbytery grant them dismissal to another “reformed body.”

On Sunday, January 18, 2015 – following morning worship – the Congregational Forum was held to hear from the members of the congregation and to begin addressing the issues raised by the Session in the prior meeting, explaining the Presbytery and PC(USA) position to help the members of the congregation understand the issues more clearly, to advocate for the PC(USA), and to explain the process.

On Saturday, March 7, 2015 the Listening Team met with the Session to begin addressing the matters that need to be resolved prior to dismissal to another reformed body which matters were substantially addressed.

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It is the desire of the Session to schedule the Congregational vote for April 19, 2015. Shortly thereafter, assuming an affirmative vote requesting dismissal by the Presbytery, another meeting will be set for the Listening Team and the Session to work out the details of the request that will be presented to the Presbytery at the May 19, 2015 meeting of the Presbytery.

Middle Presbyterian Church – This listening team was formed in response to the letter received from their Clerk of Session dated October 6, 2014. The following persons were appointed to serve on the Listening Team: Rev. Richard “Skip” Noftzger (Executive Presbyter / appointed by policy), Rev. Gary Close (Stated Clerk / appointed by policy), Rev. Nicole Brodeur (Associate Pastor – Greensburg, First Presbyterian Church / appointed by Moderator of Presbytery), Elder Mike Dorich (Trafford, Level Green Presbyterian Church / appointed by Moderator of Presbytery), and Elder Bobbi Jo Huebner (Belle Vernon, First Presbyterian Church / appointed by the Chairperson of COM).

The Listening Team met with the Session on November 10, 2014 to hear their reasons for requesting this meeting. Following that meeting the Session voted to pursue the Process of requesting that Presbytery grant them dismissal to another “reformed body.”

On Sunday, March 15, 2015 – following morning worship – [a previously scheduled date having been cancelled due to bad weather] the Congregational Forum was held to hear from the members of the congregation and to begin addressing the issues raised by the Session in the earlier meeting explaining the Presbytery and PC(USA) position to help the members of the congregation understand the issues more clearly. In the conversation which took place that day the Team endeavored to advocate for the PC(USA) and to explain the process. At that meeting, June 7, 2015 was set as the date for a Congregational vote.

The Listening Team will meet again with the Session on May 11, 2015 to begin addressing the matters that need to be resolved prior to a dismissal to another reformed body, should the congregation vote in the affirmative on June 7, 2015.

Manor Presbyterian Church – This listening team was formed in response to the letter received from their Clerk of Session dated December 17, 2014. The following persons were appointed to serve on the Listening Team: Rev. Richard “Skip” Noftzger (Executive Presbyter / appointed by policy), Rev. Gary Close (Stated Clerk / appointed by policy), Rev. Janet Reid (Pastor – North Huntingdon, New Hope Presbyterian Church / appointed by Moderator of Presbytery), Elder Anthony Marciano (Trafford, Level Green Presbyterian Church / appointed by Moderator of Presbytery), and Rev. Ron Durika (Associate Pastor -Irwin, First Presbyterian Church / appointed by the Chairperson of COM).

The Listening Team met with the Session on January 26, 2015 to hear their reasons for requesting this meeting. Following that meeting the Session voted to pursue the Process of requesting that Presbytery grant them dismissal to another “reformed body.”

The Listening Team has been working with the Session and their pastor to schedule a Congregational Forum. July 26th has been proposed for the Congregational Forum, immediately following worship.

Seward, Armagh-Seward – Administrative Commission

Elder Tim D’Aurora presented a written report as follows:

The Armagh-Seward Church is continuing to explore the fit of the EPC. They are having an informal vote of their congregation to see if this is the direction they wish to go.

The Commission will be meeting to review the financial information provided by the Armagh-Seward Church. We will then schedule another meeting with the Session of the Armagh-Seward Church.

Submitted by Tim D’Aurora

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NEW BUSINESS

None.

WORSHIP

The Presbytery moved to worship led by Reverends Donna Havrisko, Peggy Shannon, Larry Armstrong, Robert Fuehrer, and Steve LaSor; Commissioned Ruling Elder Glenn Hart; Ruling Elder Lois Kemp; with the assistance of Brandon Rhody, Organist and Laurie Racculia, Soloist. Worship included the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Assistant Clerk, the Reverend Marnie Abraham Russell, reported that there were 37 clergy and 5 Commissioned Ruling Elders, 33 elders (representing 28 congregations), 1 Christian Educator, 0 by virtue of office, and 10 visitors for a total of 86. There also were 26 clergy excused, 23 clergy absent, 7 Commissioned Ruling Elders absent and 48 congregations without elder representation.

AJOURNMENT

1. It was **MSP to adjourn** at 11:45 a.m.

BENEDICTION

The benediction of the worship service also served as the benediction of the meeting..

The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Redstone will take place on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the United Presbyterian Church, West Newton, PA.

Glenn Hart, Moderator

Gary Close, Stated Clerk