

PRESBYTERY OF WEST VIRGINIA
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
August 20, 2016

The Presbytery of West Virginia met on Saturday, August 20, 2016 at the **First Presbyterian Church, Clarksburg**. Three other congregations **Bridgeport Presbyterian Church, Church of the Covenant, Grafton, and Church of our Savior, Clarksburg** also assisted in hosting the meeting. The following are the highlights of the day.

Introduced Teaching Elder **Christina Tutterow**, Interim Pastor at **Bream Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charleston** as a new member of the Presbytery.

Heard from Ruling Elder **James Rowe, (Old Stone, Lewisburg)**, a member of the task force established by the 221st General Assembly that wrote the report "*Healing Before Punishment: Why Presbyterians Seek to End the War on Drugs*" who presented a program on: "**Addiction.**" The program included a testimony by a young man who is working through the Drug Court in Greenbrier County and a description of the Recovery Point program by **Bob Hansen**, a ruling elder from the **Teays Valley Presbyterian Church**.

Worshipped: Teaching Elders **Stephen Baldwin (Ronceverte)** and **Skip Seibel (First Huntington)** and Ruling Elder **Barbara Chalfant** (Associate for Mission) offered reflections on recent experiences of moving "*From Lamentation to Hope.*" Ruling Elder **Kathryn McCrary (Village Chapel)** served as the liturgist. Teaching Elders **Robin Ray (Bridgeport)** and **Bruce Stevens (HR)** presided at the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Received an offering of more than \$1,000 for food banks in the Presbytery of West Virginia.

Adopted the proposed 2017 Presbytery Budget of \$783, 675. **Per capita for 2017** will remain at \$29.

Learned that the presbytery had spent \$351,479. 95 of its 2016 budget of \$837,424.00 (or 42%) from January through June of this year.

Announced that the Elementary School Retreat for students in Grades 1-5 will be held at **Bluestone Camp and Retreat** from September 16-18. The theme will be "**Water: From Genesis to Revelation**"

Heard reports from our Commissioners to the 2016 General Assembly: Teaching Elders **Barbara Accord (Davis Memorial, Gassaway)** and **Todd Wright (Village Chapel)** and Ruling Elders **Chet Parsons (Morgantown First)** and **Tina Vial (Davis Memorial, Elkins)**, as well as our Young Adult Advisory Delegate **Maddy DiGiulian (Beckley)**

Learned about the progress of the Administrative Commission that was appointed at the May 2016 presbytery meeting to work with **First Presbyterian Church, Huntington**.

Elected Amy Parker (Village Chapel) as Moderator-Elect for 2017 and the following individuals to serve as moderators of presbytery committees during 2017: Ruling Elder **Sharon Rowe (Old Stone)** – Administration; Teaching Elder **Cinda Harkless (Beverly Hills)** – Ministry; Teaching Elder **Larryetta Ellis (Edgewood)** – Mission; Ruling Elder **Kari Preslar (Bream)** – Nurture; Ruling Elder **Nancy Tissue (Fayetteville)** – Relations; Teaching Elder **Gary McGrew (HR)** – Representation; Teaching Elder **Karen Kinney (Glenville)** – Stewardship; Ruling Elder **James Rowe (Old Stone)** – Trustees; Teaching Elder **Janice Frasier (Clifton)** – Vocations) and Ruling Elder **Terry Cunningham (Charleston, First)** - Nominations. Ruling Elder **John Bolt (First, Morgantown)** was also elected to a new term as a commissioner to the Synod of the Trinity.

Appointed Administrative Commissions to work with **McLean Presbyterian Church, Ronceverte; Montgomery Presbyterian Church; and First Presbyterian Church, Terra Alta.** All three congregations have requested that they be dissolved; however the **McLean Presbyterian Church** intends to continue as an independent congregation separate from the PC(U.S.A.)

Approved the 2017 Minimum Compensation for Teaching Elders and Certified Christian Educators, which was set at \$46,000, as well as presbytery policies on **Dissolution and Ethics for Departing Pastors.**

Presented a proposed **Policy on Overtures to the General Assembly and Requests for Concurrences from Other Presbyteries** for a first reading. It will be voted on at the November 17, 2016 presbytery meeting.

Approved the following dates and locations for 2017 Presbytery meetings

February 25	First Presbyterian Church, Charleston
May 18	Bridgeport Presbyterian Church
August 19	Davis Memorial Presbyterian Church, Elkins
November 16	Old Stone Presbyterian Church, Lewisburg

Heard that the **Nurture Committee** has scheduled the following events:

Child Protection Policy Workshop – September 10

“Nones” Workshop – November 12

Older Youth Retreat – November 18-20

Upcoming Presbytery Meeting

Thursday, November 17 – **First Presbyterian Church, St. Albans**

If you haven't yet filled out the survey for this presbytery meeting you can do it online at:
<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07ed466h9pis7njin4h/start>