

**PRESBYTERY OF WEST VIRGINIA  
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS  
May 16, 2016**

The Presbytery of West Virginia met on Thursday, May 16, 2016 at the **Bluestone Camp and Retreat, Hinton, WV**. The following are the highlights of the meeting.

**Introduced** Teaching Elders **Rebecca Mihm** (Pastor at **Fleming Memorial Presbyterian Church, Fairmont**) and **Rachel Shepherd** (Pastor at **Marlinton Presbyterian Church**) as new members of the Presbytery.

**Heard** from Teaching Elder **Rebecca Davis**, Assistant Professor of Religion at Presbyterian College, who presented a program on **“Protecting Our Children.”** Rebecca will be back in West Virginia on September 10 to lead a Child Protection Policy workshop at **Village Chapel Presbyterian Church, Charleston**. Each session is now required by the Book of Order (G-3.0106) to have a Child Protection Policy for their church.

**Worshipped:** Teaching Elder **Andy Rice** (Pastor of the **Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro**) preached the sermon and Ruling Elder Mike Burton (**Fayetteville Presbyterian Church**) served as the liturgist. Teaching Elders **Joan Stewart** (Member-at-Large) and **Chris Kilbert (Riverlawn, St. Albans)** presided at the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.

**Received** an offering for the **West Virginia Ministry of Advocacy and Workcamps (WVMAW)**.

**Approved** the request of the Ministry Committee to appoint an Administrative Commission to work with the **First Presbyterian Church, Huntington**.

**Celebrated** the history of the **Brush Creek Presbyterian Church, Ridgeview** and voted to approve the request of the Administrative Commission, which had been working with the church to dissolve the congregation as of May 19, 2016.

**Heard** presentations from Teaching Elder **Nancy Didway (Highlawn, St. Albans)** on the presbytery’s **Prayer Vision Initiative** and from **Mark Parsons-Justice** on the presbytery’s **Communication Plan**.

**Elected Jim Musgrave (Highlawn, Huntington)** to serve on the Leadership Team, **James Rowe (Old Stone)** to serve on the Trustees and as its chair, **Mike George (Community)** to serve on the Mission Committee and **Larryetta Ellis (Edgewood)** as the Chair of the Mission Committee, **Bob Bondurant (HR)** to serve on the Permanent Judicial Commission, and **Carlene Rose (Ripley)** to serve on the Relations Committee.

**Learned** that 42 men representing 12 churches participated in the **Guy’s Weekend** and 30 people representing six churches participated in the **Spring Getaway at Bluestone**. Primary summer leadership and counseling staff have been hired. Summer staff training

will begin on June 3. The first camper session will begin on June 12 and run Sunday to Saturday for four weeks concurrently.

**Received** an overview of the three different kind of grants (**Mission Grants, Brick and Mortar Grants, Hunger Action Grants**) that are accessed through the work of the Mission Committee as well as a sample copy of the **Mission Grant Application**, which is due by October 11, 2016.

**Learned** that the presbytery had spent \$147,074.78 of its 2016 budget of \$837,424.00 (or 17.65) from January through March of this year.

**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 Meetings**

Saturday, August 20- **First Presbyterian Church, Clarksburg**

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:*