

of unity and diversity. The **Trustees** outlined funds available to churches from **The John Calvin and Mildred Broome Pack Endowment Fund**.

For more information about reports, opportunities or events please see the website or call the presbytery office.

Upcoming Events

(Details at www.wvpresbytery.org or call 304-744-7634)

Educator, Clergy, CRE Retreat –*New, New Ways to Tell the Old, Old Story*

Tracy Radosevic, professional biblical storyteller
February 19-20, 2018 at Hawk’s Nest State Park

Expanding Your Ministry Toolbox: Evangelism

Led by Ray Jones, Presbyterian Mission Agency
March 15, 2018 Location to be announced

2018 Expanding Your Ministry Toolbox Events

March 15, 2018 – Evangelism (note date change)
April 17, 2018 – Mental Illness Awareness & Response
June 2, 2018 – Leading Congregations through Change
September 8 – Biblical Storytelling
October 27 - Preaching

2018 Presbytery Meetings

Saturday, February 24, at First Presbyterian Church, Huntington
Thursday, May 17, at Village Chapel Presbyterian Church, Charleston
Saturday, August 18, at First Presbyterian Church, Fairmont
Thursday, November 15, at Ronceverte Presbyterian Church, Ronceverte

Highlights Prepared by Maureen Wright, Stated Clerk

PRESBYTERY STAFF

Ed Thompson General Presbyter
Maureen Wright Stated Clerk & Associate for Congregational Support
Rocky Poole Financial Administrator/Treasurer
Susan Sharp Campbell Associate for Educational Ministry
Barbara Chalfant Associate for Mission
Nellie Howard Resource Center Director
Mark Miller Director of Bluestone Camp and Retreat
Amy Robinson Director of Communications/Office Administrator

PRESBYTERY OFFICE HOURS

8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday thru Thursday

Phone (304) 744-7634 Fax (304) 744-7649

Email: office@wvpresbytery.org

Presbytery Highlights

Meeting of the Presbytery of West Virginia

November 16, 2017

The Presbytery met at Old Stone Presbyterian Church, Lewisburg, with **Moderator** Susan Perry presiding. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator. The Presbytery was welcomed by the **Rev. Anna Pinckney Straight**, pastor of the church. The highlights of the meeting are shared below.

Celebrated the **30th Anniversary of the Presbytery of West Virginia** throughout the day with song and the reading of letters from Brad Bradburn, Gay Mothershed Kathryn McCrary, and John Goodman. The celebration included special cupcakes commemorating the anniversary.

Heard greetings from the **Board of Pensions** brought by Senior Consultant for the Synod of Trinity, Doug Portz. Rev. Portz shared the ways in which the Board of Pensions assists ministers, congregations and employees of congregations.

Listened to **Rev. John Vest**, Visiting Assistant Professor of Evangelism, Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. Rev. Vest focused on *Post-Christendom Missionaries* calling all in the Presbytery of West Virginia to the work and witness of Jesus Christ.

Heard an announcement from Nellie Howard, **Resource Center Director**, who highlighted new resources and encouraged commissioners to visit the Resource Center Display and to come by the center at the Presbytery office

Worshipped with Rev. John Vest (Minister of Word and Sacrament, Presbytery of the James) who preached the sermon and with Peggy Ryan (Ruling Elder, Edgewood) as liturgist. Ministers of Word and Sacrament Laryetta Ellis (Edgewood) and Lanny Howe (Honorably Retired, i Supply Pastor, Alderson) presided at the celebration of the Lord’s Supper. The service included special music with trumpet provided by Old Stone Presbyterian Church’s choir, Organist and Director of Music.

Received an offering of \$1,158 for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Introduced new Minister of Word and Sacrament **Christian J. Johnson** who is now serving as the associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Charleston.

Seated corresponding minister members for this meeting: Doug Portz (Pittsburgh Presbytery), John Vest (Presbytery of the James), and Susan Faye Wonderland (Philadelphia Presbytery).

Approved the **Consent Agenda** which included such items as approving the requests for excused absences, Terms of Call for two new installed pastors, new and renewed pastoral covenants, session moderators, Authorized Lay Preachers to administer the Lord's Supper for 2018, approval of Honorable Retirement for three pastors (Leonard Graham, Paul Romine, and Donald Spencer), the approval of a Validated Ministry, and approval to administer the Lord's Supper by a Campus Pastor. The designation for the offering was also approved.

Received the report of the **Stated Clerk**, Maureen Wright; the report included a motion that the letters in celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Presbytery be included in the permanent record of the meeting. The motion was approved.

Heard the report of the **General Presbyter**, Ed Thompson. Rev. Thompson greeted the body and reported that the Presbytery directory is now online. Churches are encouraged to contact the Presbytery office for the password. He also reported on the status of the Montgomery church building and the possible outcomes of the property negotiations with the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant. He lifted up specific individuals for pastoral care and concern. His report concluded with the introduction of those Presbytery staff members who were present.

Received greetings from the **Synod of the Trinity** by Transitional Executive, Susan Fay Wonderland. Rev. Wonderland shared her joy in the presbytery's 30th Anniversary within the context of the Synod's 300th Anniversary. She also introduced newly elected Synod Moderator, John Bolt of West Virginia Presbytery.

Listened to the report of the **Leadership Team** and elected Ruling Elders Pam Johnson (Riverlawn Presbyterian Church) and Sharon Rowe (Old Stone Presbyterian Church) to serve on the **Nominating Committee** in the class of 2020. Presbytery also approved the request from Bridgeport Presbyterian Church to assume original jurisdiction only for a judicial matter. George Lilley, Chair of Leadership Team, shared that the team had met in October to receive a report of the Bluestone Strategic Plan Task Force which called for the creation of a new staff position, Bluestone Program Director. He explained that the Leadership Team had concurred with the report and requested that the Stewardship Committee identify funding for the position and bring a recommendation to Presbytery at this meeting.

Approved the amended 2018 Budget as presented by **Stewardship Committee** chair, Karen Kinney. The amended budget allows for an increase to the **Administration Committee** of up to \$48,000 for the new Bluestone Program Director. Treasurer Rocky Poole presented the financial reports.

Heard the report of the **Ministry Committee** presented by chair, Cinda Harkless. Presbytery approved the Terms of Call for Joan Stewart as pastor of the Summersville Presbyterian Church. The recommendations of the committee to appoint Administrative Commissions to inquire into the life and ministry of the Richwood and Red Sulphur Springs Presbyterian Churches were approved.

Listened to the report of the **Mission Committee**. Chair, Larryetta Ellis, encouraged support of Giving Tuesday on November 28, 2017. She encouraged churches to apply for grants. Edgewood Church presented \$826 to Joan Stewart, Director of West Virginia Ministry of Advocacy and Workcamps for its work throughout the state.

Voted: on the report of the **Nominating Committee** presented by Bob Wood. Elizabeth Campbell Maleke (Minister, First, Williamstown and Waverly-Bethel) was approved to serve as Chair of the Relations Committee for 2018. Leadership Team members for the Class of 2020 Steve Hornbeck (Ruling Elder, First, Buckhannon), Karen Kinney (Minister, Glenville), Parry Johnson (Laity, Riverlawn), and Andrew Rice (Minister, Oak Grove) were elected. Presbytery also approved members to serve on its committees.

Listened to **Good News from the Pews** where Ruling Elder Commissioners from churches throughout the presbytery shared good news of mission and ministry.

Heard a **Minute for Stewardship** from minister of the Word and Sacrament, Elizabeth Campbell Maleke who shared the importance of congregations participating in Shared Mission giving.

Listened to the report of the **Vocations Committee** from chair, Jim Musgrave, who highlighted the start of a new **Authorized Lay Preacher (ALP)/Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE)** preparation program starting in September 2018.

Joined: in the celebration of thanks for outgoing committee members and leaders including Moderator for 2017 Susan Perry and in the installation of **Moderator**, Amy Wallace Parker, and **Moderator Elect**, Steve Hornbeck. Committee chairs for 2018 were also installed.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Moderator Parker.

For Information: Bluestone, Nurture, and Relations Committees, the Committee on Representation and the Trustees provided printed reports. Highlights of these reports include: The **Bluestone Committee** summarized the fall retreat season, the purchase of a new tractor, and a call to join the Friends of Bluestone. The **Nurture Committee** outlined events for 2018. The **Relations Committee** provided a summary of their completed Triennial Visits for 2017. The **Committee on Representation** reported to presbytery regarding the implementation of principles