

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)

Exploring Revisions to the PCUSA Directory for Worship

January 22, 2017 at, Beverly Hills Presbyterian, Huntington; Edgewood Presbyterian, Lewisburg; and First Presbyterian, Williamson
January 29, 2017 at Bridgeport Presbyterian, Bridgeport, and Westminster Presbyterian, Charleston

Youth in Service: Mission Possible

February 4, 2017 at First Presbyterian, Clarksburg; Old Stone Presbyterian, Lewisburg; and South Park Presbyterian, Charleston

Expanding Your Ministry Toolbox

February 10-11, 2017 at Village Chapel Presbyterian, Charleston

Next Stated Meeting

Saturday, February 25, 2017 at First Presbyterian Church, Charleston

Additional 2017 Presbytery Meetings

Thursday, May 18 at Bridgeport Presbyterian Church, Bridgeport
Saturday, August 19 at Davis Memorial Presbyterian Church, Elkins
Thursday, November 16 at Old Stone Presbyterian Church, Lewisburg

Highlights Prepared by Maureen Wright, Stated Clerk

PRESBYTERY STAFF

Ed ThompsonGeneral Presbyter
Maureen WrightStated Clerk & Associate for Congregational Support
Rocky PooleFinancial Administrator/Treasurer
Susan Sharp CampbellAssociate for Educational Ministry
Barbara Chalfant Associate for Mission
Nellie HowardResource Center Director
vacant Office Administrator
Mark Miller..... Director of Bluestone Conference Center

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 17, 2016

The Presbytery met at First Presbyterian Church, St. Albans, with **Moderator** Peter Vial presiding. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator. The Presbytery was welcomed by the Rev. Paul Romine, pastor of the church.

The highlights of the meeting are shared below.

Heard: *News from our Presbyterian Partners* beginning with Doug Portz of the **Board of Pensions** who shared both the stability of the Board as well as new options for churches and pastors. Presbytery also heard from Chris Wood, new President of **Davis and Elkins College**. Rev. Wood offered news of the college from capital improvements to his vision for the school, but focused on its spiritual life, including the development of a new Worshipping Community. Mark Spangler of **Davis Stuart** bore witness to the work being done to assist children and youth by the dedicated staff of the home.

Introduced: new Teaching Elders **Julie Hitsman**, Chaplain at Women’s and Children’s Hospital in Charleston; **Bill Hudson**, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Williamson, and **Anna Pinckney Straight**, pastor of Old Stone Presbyterian in Lewisburg.

Worshipped: with Rev. Chris Kilbert (Teaching Elder, Riverlawn, St. Albans) who preached the sermon based on Luke 17: 11-19 and with Jane Lothes (Ruling Elder, Riverlawn, St. Albans) as liturgist. Teaching Elders Kyle Key (Teays Valley) and Christina Tutterow (Bream Memorial, Charleston) presided at the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.

Received: an offering of \$1,155 for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance designated for international disasters.

Listened: to announcements from Nellie Howard, **Resource Center Director**, who shared books on CD, encouraging members of presbytery to listen and learn while driving throughout the presbytery. Susan Sharp Campbell (**Associate for Educational Ministry**) invited presbytery to events being offered by the **Nurture Committee**: Exploring Revisions to the Directory for Worship, Youth in Service: Mission Possible, and a trip to the Montreat Youth Conference. Todd Wright (Teaching Elder, Village Chapel, Charleston) encouraged pastoral leaders within the

presbytery to take advantage of the Expanding Your Ministry Toolbox events in 2017.

Approved: the **Consent Agenda** which included such items as appointing Session Moderators, Temporary Supply covenants, terms of call, Authorized Lay Preachers (ALPs) to serve communion in 2017 and Validated Ministries.

Received: the report of the **Stated Clerk**, Maureen Wright, who shared the 2015 Presbytery Statistical Report and plans to vote on Amendments to the PC (USA)'s Constitution at the February 25, 2017 meeting of presbytery.

Heard: the report of the **General Presbyter**, Ed Thompson, which included joys and concerns from around the Presbytery, including the deaths of Lawton Posey, Teaching Elder, and Mike Lykens, Authorized Lay Preacher; the birth of Harrison River Baldwin to parents Kerry and Stephen Baldwin (Teaching Elder, Ronceverte); the upcoming marriages of Teaching Elders Pat Ryan (Kuhn Memorial, Barboursville) to Karen Irwin and Bob Wood (Fayetteville) to Mary Hanson.

Acted: on the **Leadership Team Report** presented by Randy Fife (Ruling Elder, Bream Memorial, Charleston). The presbytery approved *The Policy on Overtures to the General Assembly and Requests for Concurrences from Other Presbyteries* and the following people to serve on the Nominating Committee: John Bolt (Ruling Elder, First, Morgantown), Marie Newcomb-Lewis (Ruling Elder, Beckley), George Spransy (Honorably Retired Teaching Elder) and Richard Thomas (Ruling Elder, Beechwood, Parkersburg).

Voted: on the report of the **Nominating Committee** presented by Terry Cunningham. George Lilley (Ruling Elder, First, Morgantown) was elected to serve as Chair of the Leadership Team for 2017. Kevin Starcher (Teaching Elder, Davis Memorial, Elkins) was approved to serve as Chair of the Vocations Committee for 2017. Leadership Team members Karen Kinney (Teaching Elder, Glenville), George Lilley, Steve Hornbeck (Ruling Elder, First, Buckhannon), Jim Musgrave (Ruling Elder, Highlawn, Huntington) and Amy Parker (Teaching Elder, Village Chapel) were elected. Presbytery also approved members to serve on its committees.

Approved: the recommendation of the **Trustees** presented by chair, Jim Rowe, to grant a lease of oil and gas rights to Antero Resources for the site known as the Presbyterian Cemetery in Pennsboro, West Virginia.

Joined: with Cinda Harkless, chair of the **Ministry Committee**, in celebrating the Honorable Retirement of Teaching Elder, Bonnie Boyce (Spring Valley, Huntington).

Received: the report of the **Administrative Commission** appointed to act on behalf of presbytery in matters regarding First Presbyterian Church, Huntington. The Administrative Commission members, represented by Nancy Didway (Teaching Elder, Highlawn, St. Albans), rejoice in the healing and health of the congregation and request to be dissolved. The request was approved.

Listened: to **Good News of Cooperative Ministry** from several Ruling Elder Commissioners, who told of ministry partnerships between churches and community organizations.

Heard: the report of Synod Commissioner David Lee (Teaching Elder, First, Nitro), which highlighted the **300th Anniversary of the Synod of the Trinity**.

Accepted: the financial reports presented by **Treasurer**, Rocky Poole. Stewardship Committee chair, David Lee, encouraged those present to participate in Giving Tuesday, November 29; this provides an opportunity for people to donate electronically to the Presbytery, the PC (USA) and for churches with preexisting accounts.

Reviewed: the report of the **Mission Committee** presented by chair, Larryetta Ellis (Teaching Elder, Edgewood, Lewisburg), which outlined grants from the 2017 mission budget and grants made from the Centsability Offering funds. Members of presbytery were also invited to consider participating in the trip to Nyeri, Kenya in early 2018, which will be a partnership between Davis Memorial, Elkins, and the presbytery. Presbytery was invited to celebrate the \$75,000 grant from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to the Greenbrier County Long Term Recovery Committee.

Heard: from Jim Walther acting chair of the **Bluestone Committee** regarding the need for capital improvements at the camp. The committee and other presbytery leaders are designing a plan to address these needs.

Listened: to the presentation by **Relations Committee** chair, Nancy Tissue, regarding Triennial Visits being planned in cooperation with the Ministry Committee.

Joined: in the celebration of thanks for outgoing committee members and leaders including Moderator for 2016 Peter Vial and in the installation of **Moderator**, Susan Perry, and **Moderator Elect**, Amy Parker. Committee chairs for 2017 were also installed.

The Meeting was adjourned with prayer by Moderator Perry.

For Information: the Administration, Nurture, Representation and Vocations Committees provided printed reports.