

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

**Upcoming Events**

(Details at [www.wvpresbytery.org](http://www.wvpresbytery.org) or call 304-744-7634)

**Festival of Faith**

*All the Light We Can See* – Keynote by Shannon Craigo-Snell  
April 6, 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. – First Presbyterian Church, Charleston

**2024 Spring Youth Retreat**

*Crossing Paths* – Led by Joseph Jumper  
April 12-14, Jackson’s Mill, Weston

**2023 Guy’s Weekend**

April 26-28, Bluestone Camp & Retreat

**Ruling Elder Training for Presiding at the Lord’s Supper**

April 28, Zoom  
Advance Assignments Required

**Spring Getaway Retreat**

May 3-5, Bluestone Camp & Retreat

**2024 Presbytery Meetings**

Thursday, May 16 – Clifton Presbyterian Church  
Saturday, August 17 – Highlawn Presbyterian Church, Huntington  
Thursday, November 21 – First Presbyterian Church, Fairmont

*Highlights Prepared by Maureen Wright, Stated Clerk*

**PRESBYTERY STAFF**

Maureen Wright ..... Transitional General Presbyter & Stated Clerk  
Chris Alfred ..... Financial Administrator/Treasurer  
Susan Sharp Campbell..... Associate for Educational Ministry  
Mark Miller ..... Bluestone Camp and Retreat: Director of Facilities  
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) 744-7634**  
**Email: [office@wvpresbytery.org](mailto:office@wvpresbytery.org)**

**Presbytery Highlights**  
**Meeting of the Presbytery of West Virginia**  
*February 17, 2024*

The Presbytery met using the Zoom platform with **Moderator** Dawn Adamy (minister, Bream Memorial) presiding. The meeting was called to order with prayer by the Moderator. The highlights of the meeting are shared below.

**Approved** the **Consent Agenda**, which included the requests for excused absences, the designation for the offering to go to Appalachia Service Project, the celebration of the Lord’s Supper at the Spring Youth Retreat, and authorization of a ruling elder from Glenville Presbyterian Church to serve communion in their church of membership.

**Listened** to Annalee Posey, Assistant Director of Home Repair for **Appalachia Service Project (ASP)**. ASP focuses on repairing and replacing homes and building hope in central Appalachia. Ms. Posey shared her experiences working with ASP, focusing on community partnerships. ASP has partnered with the Bream Memorial Presbyterian Church in Charleston for several years.

**Heard** the report of the **Stated Clerk**, Maureen Wright. She highlighted one item of information from her printed report: the roster of members of the Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) whose terms have expired within the past six years as required by the Book of Order. Ms. Wright explained Session Record Review events will be held quarterly in person and using the Zoom platform. Churches may choose which event to attend. She reminded churches about the need to complete the annual Statistical Report.

**Worshipped** with Kathryn Willoughby Weed (Honorably Retired minister member of Presbytery), who preached the sermon; and Lynn Proudfoot (ruling elder, Davis Memorial Elkins) who served as liturgist. Minister of Word and Sacrament Doug Pendleton (First Huntington) presided at the celebration of the Lord’s Supper. Music was provided by Cinda Harkless (minister, Kuhn Memorial) and Ed Harkless (organist for First Presbyterian Church, Huntington). Worship included the honoring of those ruling elders, reported by their churches, and ministers who had joined the church triumphant in 2023.

**Listened** to the report of the **Transitional General Presbyter**, Maureen Wright (ruling elder, Village Chapel). She acknowledged that the land on which we met and live belonged to the native peoples who inhabited West Virginia long before white settlers arrived. Maureen shared prayer concerns from around the Presbytery. She expressed gratitude for the Leadership Team and the committees of the Presbytery as well as those who made the meeting possible, and recognized and thanked the presbytery staff. She shared reflections on leadership during this time of transition.

**Heard** the report of the **Leadership Team**, presented by chair, Randy Fife (ruling elder, Bream Memorial). He presented nominations for the Committee on Representation: chair, Susan Perry (ruling elder, First Logan) and members of the Class of 2026 Rich Cardot (minister) and Beth Madison (ruling elder, First Morgantown). There were no nominations from the floor. All nominations were approved. He highlighted the first reading of a change to the Presbytery manual clarifying the Presbytery boundaries as part of a denomination wide effort to clarify the boundaries of all presbyteries. The Presbytery approved the team's recommendation to use unspent Synod Small Church Grant funds to purchase the music for 10 hymns for 75 of the Presbytery's small churches as part of the Public Domain Hymn Project. Randy presented the recommendation to approve the use of the \$40,000 grant from National Church Residences to fund a part time position for pastoral services for eleven senior housing complexes in WV. The Presbytery approved the team's recommendation to transfer \$10,000 from the 2024 budget for the Bluestone Program Director to augment the compensation for 2024 Bluestone summer staff. Randy also presented for concurrence three overtures from Lake Erie Presbytery adding clarification to wording in the Book of Order to broaden shared ministry among small congregations. The concurrences were approved unanimously.

Randy presented an update on the team's work for **A Season of Discernment** that seeks to determine what God is calling the Presbytery to be and do. The team met on January 15 with Emily Swanson of Holy Cow! Consulting. Additional meetings will take place with Ms. Swanson as the team develops a vision for the Presbytery.

**Approved** the 2024 Bluestone budget as recommended by the Bluestone Committee and presented by the committee chair, David Kaufman (ruling elder, First Parkersburg). He directed commissioners to the printed report of the committee and highlighted upcoming spring retreats and summer camp staffing needs and dates for 2024.

**Listened** to the report of the **Committee on Representation** presented by Susan Perry, chair of the committee. She nominated Elizabeth Campbell-Maleke (minister, First Williamstown and Waverly-Bethel), to serve as Synod Commissioner, class of 2026. There were no nominations from the floor. Rev. Campbell-Maleke was elected.

**Heard** the report of the **Administrative Commission** to dissolve the St. Marys Presbyterian Church. The chair of the commission, Rick Johnson (Honorably Retired minister) presented the report and a brief history of the church. The Presbytery approved the recommendation of the commission regarding a legacy gift to the general scholarship fund at Davis & Elkins College among other gifts to organizations in St. Marys and Pleasants County. The Presbytery approved the recommendation to dissolve the church effective February 17, 2024.

**Listened** to the report of the **Nurture Committee** presented by committee member, Ginna Taylor (ruling elder, First Charleston). She encouraged members of the Presbytery to attend two upcoming Ministry Toolbox events using video invitations from the event presenters.

**Celebrated Good News from the Pews** in breakout rooms where all were asked to share something in their church life that has softened their heart in such a way that brought them joy.

**Heard** the report of the **Stewardship Committee** presented by **Financial Administrator/Treasurer**, Chris Alfred who presented the financial reports.

**Listened** to the report of the **Vocations Committee** presented by committee chair, Todd Wright (minister, Village Chapel). He presented for the Presbytery's approval an updated version of the Policy on Authorized Lay Preachers (ALPs). The policy was approved. A new class of ALPs was recommended for approval. The presbytery unanimously approved and requested that their names be distributed to the churches.

**Heard** the report of the **Committee on Ministry**, presented by chair, George Lilley. Moderator Adamy and Ruling Elder Lilley led Presbytery in a celebration of the ministry and retirement of Charla and John Koerner.

Moderator Adamy reminded Presbytery to review the printed reports of the **Administration, Mission, and Relations** committees. These reports were included in the meeting packet.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Moderator Adamy.