

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley
UNAPPROVED Minutes of the May 21, 2019 Stated Meeting
Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center – Brownstown, Indiana
The Rev. Catherine Knott, Moderator
The Rev. David Crittenden, Stated Clerk

Call to Order

The Moderator, The Rev. Catherine Knott, called the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley to order with prayer at 10:10am. The Stated Clerk, Rev. David Crittenden, declared that a quorum was present, as indicated by the roll below:

Formation of the Roll

The roll was established by written registration. Minister members and Elder Commissioners were present (P), absent (A), or excused (E) as listed below.

Ministers

Ackerman, Jim (E)
Adams, Kim (P)
Aelick, E. Duane (E)
Atkinson, Molly (A)
Ballard, John (A)
Bangert, Byron (E)
Barrett, Bill (A)
Barrett, Carol (A)
Bean, Michael (E)
Black, Andrew (A)
Black, Dawn (A)
Bowen, Courtney (A)
Brand, Cal (P)
Clark, Andrew (E)
Colwell, Allen (A)
Cramer, James (E)
Crittenden, David (P)
Cushman, Cindy (A)
Davenport, Dennis (E)
Dennis, Phillip (P)
Dorsey, Lee (E)
Elliott, Hana (P)
Erickson, Eric (E)
Erickson, John (A)
Erickson, Norie (E)

Church

Honorably Retired
Bloomington, First
Honorably Retired
Laconia, United
Member-at-Large
Honorably Retired
Member-at-Large
Member-at-Large
North Vernon, Graham/Vernon
Terre Haute, Unity
Terre Haute, Indiana State University
Elizabeth, Church of the Covenant
Honorably Retired
Mount Vernon, First
New Albany, St John United
Honorably Retired
Presbytery of Ohio Valley
Southern Hills Parish
Honorably Retired
Corydon, Corydon
Member-at-Large
Scipio, United/Grammer
Honorably Retired
Member-at-Large
Honorably Retired

Ministers

Finnan, Alan (A)
Fleming, Kevin (A)
Flucke, Aaron (P)
Fortel, Deborah (P)
Fox, Kathleen (E)
FrizLanger, Martha (P)
Frost, Randall (E)
Gladney, Eugene (E)
Hainer, Frank (E)
Harper, Cheri (A)
Haw, Ann (P)
Heldring, Boyd (A)
Hookey, Scott (A)
Hruaia, Vanlal (P)
Hudson, Jay (E)
Hudson, Jill (E)
Hueftle, Keith (E)
Jensen, Mary (A)
Jessen, Timothy (P)
Keeney, William (E)
Kendall, Wes (A)
Kim-Kort, Mihee (A)
King, Rick (E)
Kirkpatrick, Elizabeth (P)
Knight, Jo Ann (E)
Knott, Catherine (P)
Kort, Andy (P)
Langer, Larry (P)
Lasher, Martha (A)
Lee, David (P)
Lee, Je (A)
Lee, Sang Tae (A)
Lorimer, Robert (E)
Martinez, Felipe (P)
McCormick, Wendy (A)
McDaniel, Mark (P)
McDonald Smith, Karen (P)
McGhee, Susan (P)
McGlasson, Paul (E)
McKenney, Sarah (A)
McKune, John (E)

Church

Member-at-Large
Evansville, First
Lexington, Lexington
Honorably Retired
Honorably Retired
Dale, Dale
Honorably Retired
Honorably Retired
Honorably Retired
Presbyterian Women
Honorably Retired
Petersburg, Main Street
Madison, Madison
Princeton, Princeton
Honorably Retired
Honorably Retired
Honorably Retired
Bloomington, IU Health Bloomington Hospice
Member-at-Large
Honorably Retired
Greencastle, Greencastle
Member-at-Large
Honorably Retired
Columbus, Fairlawn
Member-at-Large
Hanover, Hanover College
Bloomington, First
Vincennes, Indiana
Indiana National Guard
Spencer, Spencer
Presbyterian Parish of Lawrence County
Bloomington, Korean
Honorably Retired
Columbus, First
Evansville, Center for Congregations Southwest
Huntingburg, Salem United Church of Christ
New Albany, Mount Tabor
Presbytery of Ohio Valley
Member-at-Large
Bloomington, Stone Belt
Honorably Retired

Ministers

Montgomery, Cheryl (P)
Moore, Gregory (E)
Napoli, John (P)
O'Neill, Shane (E)
Owens, William (P)
Park, Jaeseok (E)
Paul-Bonham, Scott (P)
Pekich-Bundy, Katrina (E)
Peters, Linda (E)
Poole-Adams, Vicki (E)
Porter, Mark (E)
Pye, Charlie (P)
Ramirez-Spears, Amy (E)
Recob, Tami (P)
Riggins, Mike (P)
Robinson, Mark (E)
Roseland, Chris (A)
Rosen, David (E)
Rumsey, William (E)
Samsell, Sharon (A)
Scroggins, Gary (A)
Seay, Scott (P)
Smith, Alexa (E)
Stokes, Donald (A)
Stuart, Irene (E)
Summerfield, Don (P)
Taylor, Veltri (A)
Thorne, Cheryl (P)
Tracy, Doug (E)
Turner, Bob (E)
VanderZee, John (P)
VanderZee, Wendy (A)
Walden-Fisher, Beth (A)
Walters, Ralph (E)
Waters, Nancy (P)
Watson, Daniel (P)
White, Robert (E)
Williams, Sharon (A)

Church

Sullivan, First
Member-at-Large
Bloomington, United
Honorably Retired
Jeffersonville, First
Member-at-Large
Honorably Retired
Hanover, Hanover
Honorably Retired
Member-at-Large
Honorably Retired
Clarksville, Grace
Member-at-Large
Boonville, Hemenway Memorial
Terre Haute, Central
Honorably Retired
GA/Mission Council
Honorably Retired
Honorably Retired
Terre Haute, Indiana State University
Brazil, First
Nashville, Brown County Fellowship
Member-at-Large
Livonia, Livonia United
Honorably Retired
Scottsburg, First
Evansville, Asera Care Hospice
Washington, Westminster
Honorably Retired
Paoli, First
Martinsville, First
Bloomington, IU Health Bloomington Hospice
Member-at-Large
Honorably Retired
Honorably Retired
Seymour, First
Honorably Retired
Member-at-Large

Ministers,

Other Denomination

Atkins, Corey (A)
Bower, David (A)
Feagan, Gene (A)
Fisher, Stephen (A)
Henry, Bill (A)
Holland, Mark (A)
Morris, William (A)
Perkins, R. Wayne (A)

Church

Fort Branch, First
Roachdale, Roachdale
Evansville, First Avenue
Salem, Salem
Cayuga, Cayuga
Princeton, Fairview
Patoka, Patoka
Evansville, Immanuel

Commissioned

Ruling Elders

Doll, Larry (A)
Finch, Mick (A)
Poff, Dick (A)
Snyder, Barbara (A)
Turner, John (A)

Church

Vincennes, South Side
Leavenworth, Community
Spencer, Bethany
Farmersburg, First

Church

Bedford, First
Bloomfield, First
Bloomington, First
Bloomington, United
Boonville, Hemenway Memorial
Brazil, First
Brownstown, First
Cayuga, Cayuga
Central, Valley City
Charlestown, Community
Clarksville, Grace
Clinton, United
Columbus, Fairlawn
Columbus, First
Corydon, Corydon
Dale, Dale
Elizabeth, Church of the Covenant
Evansville, Eastminster
Evansville, First
Evansville, First Avenue
Evansville, Immanuel
Evansville, Parke Memorial

Commissioner

Mary Hardesty (P)
David Holt (A)
Karen Hahn (A)
Bob Hammel (A)
Peggy Collins (P)
Vanita Moore (A)
Megan White (A)
Commissioner (A)
Brenda Bliss (P)
Pat Pangburn (A)
John Trueblood (A)
Jack Fenoglio (E)
David Doup (P)
Luther Pierson (P)
Charles Eckart (P)
Ellen Rexing (A)
Richard Goodwin (A)
Melissa Mattingly (A)
Michael Thissen (P)
Ed Marlin (A)
Bea Clem (A)
Terra Divine (A)

Church

Farmersburg, First
Fort Branch, First
Grammer, Grammer
Greencastle, Greencastle
Hanover, Hanover
Henryville, Community
Henryville, Mount Lebanon
Jeffersonville, First
Laconia, Rehoboth
Laconia, United
Leavenworth, Community
Lexington, Lexington
Livonia, Livonia United
Madison, Jefferson
Madison, Madison
Madison, Smyrna-Monroe
Martinsville, First
Mitchell, Mitchell
Montezuma, First
Mount Vernon, First
Nabb, Nabb
Nashville, Brown County Fellowship
New Albany, Mount Tabor
New Albany, St John United
New Washington, Trinity United
North Vernon, Graham
Paoli, First
Patoka, Patoka
Patoka, Union Bethel
Petersburg, Main Street
Princeton, Fairview
Princeton, Princeton
Roachdale, Roachdale
Rockville, Memorial
Salem, Salem
Scipio, United
Scottsburg, First
Seymour, First
Spencer, Bethany
Spencer, Spencer
Sullivan, First

Commissioner

James Sharpe (A)
Commissioner (A)
Jacque Denny (A)
Tom Webb (A)
Janet Lowry (P)
Janet Mullins (A)
Marianna Dietrich (A)
Doyle Criswell (P)
Paula Hensley (A)
Judy Beckort (A)
John Stutzman (A)
George Hill (A)
Vicki Green (A)
Commissioner (A)
Jennifer Saroka (A)
Carol Bell (A)
Mike Stiver (P)
Janet Phillips (A)
Ann Stanley (P)
Bill Henderson (P)
Roberta Bastian (A)
Jane Gore (P)
Rikke Hopper (P)
Robert Barstead (A)
Ruby Taflinger (P)
Steve Graham (A)
Jim Huddelston (A)
Byron Bingham (A)
Gerald Bane (A)
Gary Graves (P)
Commissioner (A)
Troy Davidson (P)
John Boruff (A)
Don Sink (P)
Norma Eisert (P)
Bill Gerhard (P)
Brian Nowling (P)
George Ernest (P)
Robert Pedro (A)
Carol Miller (P)
Jim Exline (A)

Church

Terre Haute, Central
Terre Haute, Unity
Vernon, Vernon
Vevay, Caledonia
Vincennes, Bethany
Vincennes, Indiana
Vincennes, South Side
Vincennes, Upper Indiana
Washington, Westminster

Commissioner

Bob Guell (P)
Jayne Williams (P)
Beth Gosman (A)
Caren Griffith (A)
Donald Opell (A)
Alanna Charlton (P)
Allison Doll (A)
Bob Slayton (A)
John Vanderbeck (P)

Elder Members

By Reason of Office

Brown, Jean (P)
Ellison, Zack (P)
Ferguson, Barbara (A)
Folz, Fred (A)
Goodwell, Karen (A)
Holt, Alicia (A)
Kimmel, Joe (P)
McClellan, Mary (P)
McLaren, Anne (A)
Moles, Cheryl (P)

Corresponding

Members

Rev. Jihyun Oh Greater Atlanta Presbytery, Office of the General Assembly
Rob Peterson Whitewater Valley Presbytery, Pyoca Advisory Council

Visitors

Trudy Vanderbeck	Washington, Westminster	Rob Peterson	Pyoca Advisory Committee
Beth Snyder	Jeffersonville, First	Jerusha Van Camp	Evansville, First
Alice Sink	Rockville, Memorial	Jean Beaver	Madison, Madison
Jihyun Oh	Louisville, OGA	Mike Beaver	Madison, Madison
Larry Brown	Bloomington, First	Susie Russell	Martinsville, First

Opening Worship and Proclamation of the Word

The Assembly was led in worship by Rev. Jihyun Oh, Assistant Stated Clerk and Manager, Call Process Support for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A). Her message was based on John 1:35-42 and entitled “Come and See.” The liturgist was Rev. Catherine Knott and the pianist was Rev. Tim Jessen.

Greetings from Pyoca Camp and Conference Center

Senior Director Mike Davis was introduced and brought us greetings from the camp. He shared that a workshop on the opioid crisis will be held at the camp. He also complimented the churches for the young people who were sent to the Confirmation Retreat.

Introductions of New Members, Guests

Stated Clerk, Rev. David Crittenden, asked that new members and guests be introduced.

Seating of Corresponding Members

The seating of the following Corresponding Members was approved:

The Rev. Jihyun Oh, from the Office of the General Assembly and member of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta Presbytery.

Elder Rob Peterson, the Moderator of the Pyoca Advisory of the from the Whitewater Valley Presbytery be seated as corresponding members.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda was approved:

- Minutes of the Assembly March 2, 2019
- Clerk's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Docket

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley
Docket for Assembly: May 21, 2019
Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center – Brownstown, Indiana
The Rev. Catherine Knott, Moderator
The Rev. David Crittenden, Stated Clerk

- Call to Order
- Opening Worship and Proclamation of the Word
- Introductory Business
 - Welcome
 - Greetings from Pyoca
 - Introductions of New Members, Guests
 - Seating of Corresponding Members
 - Consent Agenda
 - Clerk's Report; Minutes of March 2, 2019; Docket; Treasurer's Report
- Report of the Committee on Ministry
 - Examination of Molly DeWitt for the ordered ministry of minister of the Word and Sacrament
 - Proposed Amendment to Policy for Involuntary Dissolution of Pastoral Relationships
- Report of the Congregational Mission and Vitality Committee
 - Recommendation concerning our Bethlehem partnership

- Report of the Nominating Committee
 - Rev. Vanlal Hruaia to the Permanent Judicial Commission (unexpired term, class of 2022)
- Lunch
- Report of the Presbytery Council
 - Pyoca Covenant and Agreement
- Update on the Lilly Economic Challenge Grant
- Speak Out Session
- Report of the Executive Presbyter
- Installation of Joe Kimmel as Stated Clerk
- Recognition of David Crittenden's service as Stated Clerk
- New Business
- Necrology Report
- Prayers of the Presbytery
- Offering
- Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
- Adjournment with Closing Litany

Stated Clerk's Report

The Rev. David Crittenden

1. Transfers of Membership

a. The following former members of the Newburgh Presbyterian Church have been transferred to Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Evansville:

Bendetti, Ben
 Matzen, Mary Lou
 Miller, Brenda
 Miller, Mark
 Moran, Barbara
 Moran, David
 Zeiher, Janet
 Zeiher, Rick

b. Peter Davies was transferred to the Hanover Presbyterian Church.

2. Session Minutes Reading

Arrangements have been made to review 2018 Session minutes and any other minutes that have not been approved at face-to-face meetings on the following dates:

May 18, 2019 at Indiana Presbyterian Church - Vincennes

June 1, 2019 at Mitchell Presbyterian Church – Mitchell

The results of these reviews will be shared at the next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery.

Treasurer's Report

Elder Jean Brown

Presbytery of Ohio Valley, Inc.
Condensed Statement of Revenues and Expenses (Actual vs Budget)
January 1 through March 31, 2019

	Jan - Mar 2019	Annual
	Actual	Budget
<u>Revenue</u>		
Per Capita	\$ 116,048	\$ 225,880
Shared Giving (Unified Mission)	18,505	100,000
Contributions	1,078	7,000
Unrestricted Invest Inc & Trans	7,000	28,000
Restricted Invest Inc & Trans	12,960	51,839
	<hr/> 155,591	<hr/> 412,719
<u>Expense</u>		
Staff Expense	53,893	242,954
Ecclesiastical Expense	18,914	80,631
Meeting Expense	2,810	10,800
Administration & Office Expense	9,825	38,000
Program Expense	8,818	40,500
Total Expense	<hr/> 94,261	<hr/> 412,885
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	<hr/> \$ 61,330	<hr/> \$ (166)

Fund Balances

As of March 31, 2019

Church Legacy Funds	619,992
Monroe City Fund	262,392
Brown Trust	132,443
Restricted Funds (Specific Use)	32,423
Undesignated Net Assets	<hr/> 713,345
	<hr/> \$ 1,760,595

If you would like a detailed statement or any other additional information, please contact Jean Brown at (866) 344-7853 or at jean@presbyteryov.org

2019 Per Capita		40		2019	Received	%
			Members	Per Capita	as of	Paid
					4/30/2019	
Bedford	First		97	3,880.00	\$ 1,500.00	38.7%
Bloomfield	First		69	2,760.00	2,760.00	100.0%
Bloomington	First		389	15,560.00		0.0%
Bloomington	United		61	2,440.00		0.0%
Boonville	Hemenway Memorial		93	3,720.00		0.0%
Brazil	First		285	11,400.00	2,850.00	25.0%
Brownstown	Brownstown		39	1,560.00	1,560.00	100.0%
Canaan	Jefferson		12	480.00		0.0%
Cayuga	Cayuga		26	1,040.00		0.0%
Central	Valley City		25	1,000.00		0.0%
Charlestown	Community		24	960.00	960.00	100.0%
Clarksville	Grace		6	240.00	240.00	100.0%
Clinton	United		34	1,360.00	1,360.00	100.0%
Columbus	Fairlawn		91	3,640.00	910.00	25.0%
Columbus	First		407	16,280.00	16,800.00	103.2%
Corydon	Corydon		73	2,920.00	1,460.00	50.0%
Dale	Dale		51	2,040.00		0.0%
Elizabeth	Church of the Covenant		38	1,520.00	1,520.00	100.0%
Evansville	Eastminster		327	13,080.00	2,400.00	18.3%
Evansville	First		291	11,640.00	2,910.00	25.0%
Evansville	First Avenue		32	1,280.00		0.0%
Evansville	Immanuel		33	1,320.00	300.00	22.7%
Evansville	Parke Memorial		26	1,040.00		0.0%
Farmersburg	First		20	800.00	800.00	100.0%
Fort Branch	First		68	2,720.00		0.0%
Grammer	Grammer		12	480.00	480.00	100.0%
Greencastle	Greencastle		108	4,320.00		0.0%
Hanover	Hanover		61	2,440.00	2,440.00	100.0%
Henryville	Community		42	1,680.00	1,680.00	100.0%
Henryville	Mount Lebanon		19	760.00	760.00	100.0%
Jeffersonville	First		208	8,320.00	2,080.00	25.0%
Laconia	Rehoboth		60	2,400.00	2,400.00	100.0%
Laconia	United		14	560.00	560.00	100.0%
Leavenworth	Community		45	1,800.00		0.0%
Lexington	Lexington		50	2,000.00	2,000.00	100.0%
Livonia	United		51	2,040.00	2,040.00	100.0%
Madison	Madison		120	4,800.00	4,800.00	100.0%
Madison	Smyrna-Monroe		8	320.00	240.00	75.0%
Martinsville	First		63	2,520.00	2,520.00	100.0%
Mitchell	Mitchell		64	2,560.00	1,160.00	45.3%
Montezuma	First		21	840.00		0.0%
Mount Vernon	First		64	2,560.00	2,560.00	100.0%
Nabb	Nabb		12	480.00	480.00	100.0%
Nashville	Brn County Fellowship		36	1,440.00	1,440.00	100.0%
New Albany	Mount Tabor		92	3,680.00	3,348.00	91.0%
New Albany	St. John United		168	6,720.00		0.0%
New Washington	Trinity United		30	1,200.00		0.0%

2019 Per Capita 40

		Members	2019 Per Capita	Received as of 4/30/2019	% Paid
Newburgh	Newburgh	106	4,240.00	4,240.00	100.0%
North Vernon	Graham	14	560.00	560.00	100.0%
Paoli	First	36	1,440.00		0.0%
Patoka	Patoka	7	280.00	280.00	100.0%
Patoka	Union Bethel	12	480.00	480.00	100.0%
Petersburg	Main Street	61	2,440.00	2,440.00	100.0%
Princeton	Fairview	53	2,120.00	2,120.00	100.0%
Princeton	First	65	2,600.00	2,600.00	100.0%
Princeton	United	43	1,720.00	1,720.00	100.0%
Roachdale	Roachdale	38	1,520.00		0.0%
Rockville	Memorial	42	1,680.00	1,680.00	100.0%
Salem	Salem	77	3,080.00	3,080.00	100.0%
Scipio	United	57	2,280.00	1,560.00	68.4%
Scottsburg	First	50	2,000.00	2,000.00	100.0%
Seymour	First	137	5,480.00	5,480.00	100.0%
Spencer	Bethany	20	800.00	600.00	75.0%
Spencer	Spencer	79	3,160.00		0.0%
Sullivan	First	115	4,600.00		0.0%
Terre Haute	Central	261	10,440.00	10,440.00	100.0%
Terre Haute	Unity	82	3,280.00	3,280.00	100.0%
Vernon	Vernon	14	560.00	560.00	100.0%
Vevay	Caledonia	4	160.00		0.0%
Vincennes	Bethany	13	520.00	480.00	92.3%
Vincennes	Indiana	105	4,200.00	2,100.00	50.0%
Vincennes	Royal Oak	9	360.00		0.0%
Vincennes	Southside	9	360.00		0.0%
Vincennes	Upper Indiana	90	3,600.00	1,800.00	50.0%
Washington	Westminster	61	2,440.00	610.00	25.0%
		5625	\$224,904.00	\$117,428.00	52.2%

Shared Mission 2019

		Pledged	Received as of April 30, 2019			Total
			GA	Synod	POV	
Bedford	First				0	
Bloomfield	First		210	70	700	
Bloomington	First				2,000	
Bloomington	Korean				0	
Bloomington	United				0	
Boonville	Hemenway Memorial	30			0	
Brazil	First	1,500	113	38	375	
Brownstown	Brownstown				0	
Canaan	Jefferson				0	
Cayuga	Cayuga				0	
Central	Valley City	100			0	
Charlestown	Community				0	

Shared Mission 2019

		<u>Received as of April 30, 2019</u>				
		<u>Pledged</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>Synod</u>	<u>POV</u>	<u>Total</u>
Clarksville	Grace					0
Clinton	United	750				0
Columbus	Fairlawn		236	79	473	788
Columbus	First		3,749	1,250	7,499	12,498
Corydon	Corydon		150	50	300	500
Dale	Dale	100			100	100
Elizabeth	Church of the Covenant					0
Evansville	Eastminster	15,000	533	178	1,065	1,775
Evansville	First		1,500	500	3,000	5,000
Evansville	First Avenue					0
Evansville	Immanuel					0
Evansville	Parke Memorial					0
Farmersburg	First					0
Fort Branch	First		175	150	175	500
Grammer	Grammer	500	38	13	75	125
Greencastle	Greencastle					0
Hanover	Hanover		900	300	1,800	3,000
Henryville	Community					0
Henryville	Mount Lebanon	150			150	150
Jeffersonville	First	6,000	450	150	900	1,500
Laconia	Rehoboth		150	50	300	500
Laconia	United	150				0
Leavenworth	Community					0
Lexington	Lexington					0
Livonia	United					0
Madison	Madison	1,050				0
Madison	Smyrna-Monroe					0
Martinsville	First					0
Mitchell	Mitchell	50				0
Montezuma	First	500				0
Mount Vernon	First					0
Nabb	Nabb	100				0
Nashville	Brn County Fellowship	500				0
New Albany	Mount Tabor					0
New Albany	St. John United					0
New Washington	Trinity United					0
Newburgh	Newburgh					0
North Vernon	Graham	50				0
Paoli	First					0
Patoka	Patoka	209	63	21	125	209
Patoka	Union Bethel	100				0
Petersburg	Main Street		1,200	400	2,400	4,000
Princeton	Fairview					0
Princeton	Princeton	1,500				0
Roachdale	Roachdale	100			100	100
Rockville	Memorial	100				0

Shared Mission 2019

		Received as of April 30, 2019				
		Pledged	GA	Synod	POV	Total
Salem	Salem	100	30	10	60	100
Scipio	United	1,196				0
Scottsburg	First	2,300	100	50	1,000	1,150
Seymour	First					0
Spencer	Bethany					0
Spencer	Spencer	100	30	10	60	100
Sullivan	First					0
Terre Haute	Central	20,000	2,600	733	3,333	6,667
Terre Haute	Unity					0
Vernon	Vernon					0
Vevay	Caledonia		8	3	15	25
Vincennes	Bethany	75				0
Vincennes	Indiana	550				0
Vincennes	Royal Oak					0
Vincennes	Southside					0
Vincennes	Upper Indiana					0
Washington	Westminster		720	240	1,440	2,400
		52,860	12,953	4,293	27,015	44,261

Committee on Ministry Report

Elder Mary McClellan, Co-Moderator

Summary of COM actions, January 8, 2019, through April 30, 2019.

FOR INFORMATION

At the **April 30 2019, meeting**, the Committee on Ministry took the following actions:

1. Contracts approved electronically since the last meeting:

a. **Livonia United Presbyterian Church of Livonia** and the **Rev. Donald Stokes** serving as Transitional Pastor.

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
01/01/2019 to 12/31/2019	20hrs/wk	\$23,958	N/A	Vch. IRS rate - \$7,047 est.	2 Weeks incl. 2 Sundays	1 month incl. 4 Sundays	N/A	No

b. **Bethany Presbyterian Church of Spencer** and **Elder Richard Poff** serving as Ruling Elder Commissioned to a Particular Service.

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
01/01/2019 to 12/31/2019	10hrs/wk	\$9,376.65	N/A	Vch. IRS rate	N/A	N/A	N/A	No

c. **United Presbyterian Church of Scipio** and the **Rev. Hana Elliott** serving as Stated Supply.

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
01/06/2019 to 06/30/2019	8hrs/wk	N/A	\$6,782	Vch.IRS rate	1 Week incl. 1 Sundays	2 Weeks incl. 2 Sundays	\$240	No

d. **Grammer Presbyterian Church of Grammer** and the **Rev. Hana Elliott** serving as Stated Supply.

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
01/01/2019 to 06/30/2019	8hrs/wk	N/A	\$2,000	Vch.IRS rate	1 Week incl. 1 Sundays	2 Weeks incl. 2 Sundays	\$240	No

e. **First Presbyterian Church of Jeffersonville** and the **Rev. William Owens** serving as Transitional Pastor.

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
04/16/2019 to 04/15/2020	40hrs/wk	\$55,000	\$28,800	Vch.IRS rate-est. \$1,800	2 Weeks incl. 2 Sundays	1 month incl. 4 Sundays	\$1,500	Yes

f. **First Presbyterian Church of Seymour** and the **Rev. Daniel Watson** serving as Transitional Pastor.

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
05/01/2019 to 04/30/2020	40hrs/wk	\$56,100	N/A	Vch.IRS rate-est. \$1,000	2 Weeks incl. 2 Sundays	1 month incl. 4 Sundays	\$1,200	Yes

Moving expenses: up to \$5,000

2. Actions taken regarding Molly DeWitt (candidate for ministry) as Program Director for Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center:
 - a. Approved the position meets the requirements for an ordainable call
 - b. Approved presenting her to the May 21 Assembly for examination for ordination as Minister of the Word and Sacrament

3. Approved the contract between the **Community Presbyterian Church of Leavenworth** and **Elder Mick Finch** serving as Ruling Elder Commissioned to a Particular Service.

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
06/01/2019 to 05/31/2020	20hrs/wk	N/A	\$18,000	Vch. IRS rate	2 Weeks incl. 2 Sundays	1 month incl. 4 Sundays	\$1,200	No

Funeral services: \$125 + mileage

FOR ACTION BY THE PRESBYTERY

1. On behalf of the Committee on Ministry Elder Mary McClellan, Co-Moderator presented Molly DeWitt for examination for ordination to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Molly's statement of faith and faith journey are a part of this report.

Action

Following her response to several questions, the Assembly approved arresting the examination. After discussion, the Assembly sustained the examination and voted to approve the ordination of Molly DeWitt to the call of Program Director, Pyoca Camp, Conference and Retreat Center. Elder Rob Peterson, Pyoca Advisory Council, offered prayer for Molly and her ministry.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Molly DeWitt

In life and in death all of creation belongs to God.¹ We come to know our God in triune communion as Creator, Redeemer, and Spirit. Our sovereign, infinite, and mysterious Creator continuously seeks to be in relationship with all of Creation. From Eden to Gethsemane, and even to Mt. Baldy today,² God has walked and continues to walk with us so that we may better understand and serve our Creator.

In all things we place our trust in God. Yet, in the midst of God seeking to build relationship, humankind has lapsed over and over again by falling into sin and brokenness. Despite our brokenness, God remains faithful: rebuilding the relationship after each misstep. It was out of love for Creation that God sent a vulnerable child into the world as an act of grace to redeem humanity. Through the saving grace of Jesus Christ the world was liberated and reconciled to God.

It is in Jesus Christ that we are brought into deeper relationship with our Creator. In Jesus' humanity we find the reflection of God and goodness in ourselves in the midst of our brokenness, and in his divinity we are claimed as God's people seeking to come closer to our Creator each day. Through his life we were called to love and serve. Through his ministry we are called to proclaim the good news that the realm of God is at hand. Through his death on the cross we were given grace that we can never earn, and in his ascension we are given eternal hope that God is with us in Jesus today, tomorrow, and every day to come as we await the coming realm.

All of Creation is empowered by the Holy Spirit, which enlightens our path to God. We meet the Spirit in Scripture and in our shared communal life as the Church. These three: Creator, Redeemer, and Spirit, work independently and simultaneously as one. Through them, the church is called to minister to the world.

The mission of the church is to glorify God while living in righteous community. In

order to live accordingly, the church is called to love, seek justice while denouncing injustice, proclaim the good news of the gospel, and work for peace as we await the coming realm of God.

The church ministers to the world and proclaims its identity through the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, bringing together those who seek to learn and work together as members of an imperfect body, renewed by the nourishment of Jesus' holy meal. These seals of faith mark us as God's people and bind us together in community.

Our faith calls us to never stop working to become closer to our Creator through the love and teaching of Jesus Christ.

¹ *Brief Statement of Faith*, <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/what-we-believe/brief-statement-of-faith/>

² Also known as Pinnacle Peak; located in the Jackson-Washington State Forest adjacent to Pyoca.

FAITH JOURNEY Molly DeWitt

In the summer of 2014 I distinctly remember sitting in a cafe with my YAV Program site coordinator Kurt in Daejeon, South Korea about two months before I would head home. He asked me if I had discerned where God may be calling me upon my return. I told him that after a year of learning about justice and reconciliation, I felt that God was calling me to engage in reconciliation work through camp and retreat ministry.

This call was solidified when I returned to the United States and began working as a YAV at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center. Barely a few months into my service there, my home church in Logansport left PC(USA). It was quite the blow for me. As I was still serving in a PC(USA) program, I felt like I had been left behind and discarded. I recognized that my beliefs and values still aligned with PC(USA), and at the same time I began to discern that God was calling me to seminary to follow my call into camp ministry.

When I think back to my childhood, I am forever grateful for the faith foundation that my church in Logansport bestowed upon me. From Sunday School, to VBS, to sending me to camp for nine summers, that church invested a great deal of love and faith in me. I also recognize that I grew up in a relatively tense and cynical period within the church. Churches were leaving quickly from PC(USA) over the issue of LGBT marriage and ordination. Much of

my youth and early young adulthood was spent hearing people in the church complain about the church dying, losing money, and turning away from God.

I must admit that I was pretty annoyed and frustrated with the adults around me making major decisions in the church. The church was fracturing and the place that shaped my faith the most, Geneva Center, was falling by the wayside and lacked serious, committed leadership. In an effort to put resources into keeping churches from leaving, camp ministry didn't seem as important.

My YAV years were quite the turning point in my life of faith. Before my years of service I worked at Geneva Center as a counselor and it almost made me leave the church. Not because I didn't love camp, it was the place where I felt most connected to God and most deeply ingrained in Christian community, but because I saw the place that I loved quickly begin to fall apart over bickering, money, and theological feuding.

While I lived in Little Rock, Arkansas during my second YAV year, I joined Second Presbyterian Church to find a new faith community. At the time I was heartbroken, feeling as if I had lost the community that had raised me, yet Second welcomed me with open arms. I began discerning if seminary was the right place for me as I pursued a call to camp ministry. I spoke with the Senior Pastor, Steve Hancock, about my frustration with the state of the Church. He responded to me that many people who go into ministry have a love/hate relationship with the Church. We have been transformed and shaped by it, but it does not always give us what we need at the right time. The church is led by each of us, who are broken, and we will not always get it right, yet we keep trying to pursue Christ's mission for what the Church is meant to be.

I knew after this conversation that I wanted to be a part of transforming and shaping the Church. I could leave and complain about it, which would be easy, or I could let God use me to lift up and transform it.

It's taken a long road for me not to be as frustrated or upset with the circumstances of my home church. I was overjoyed that a significant aspect of them parting ways with PC(USA) was staying connected with Geneva Center. It has long been recognized as a place of healing, connection, and deep transformative experiences in peoples' faith journeys. When I learned of their decision, I realized that camp has the ability to bring people together that may not otherwise choose to do so.

As I began working as the seminary intern at Pyoca, I noticed similar fractures between

churches who did not agree with LGBT inclusion and inevitably chose to leave PC(USA), yet they wanted to be a part of camp because it is a thin space. Camp somehow brings us closer to the divine and one another in true communion. Through our ministry we are given the time and space to learn intimately and vulnerably from one another in ways that ordinary life does not allow.

During seminary I chose to complete my congregational internship with a rural, conservative church who completely redefined my understanding of inclusivity and what it means to be the body of Christ. My beliefs may differ drastically from those that I serve, yet when I say that God welcomes all to the body and Christ welcomes all to the table, I now know that those are no longer just words. Those words are not just for people that believe exactly like me. They're for everyone.

I believe that our ministry at camp allows us to be bridge builders. We offer space for people to come together who otherwise would never do so. We seek not only to build up future leaders in the church, but to reconnect, reconcile, and heal those who are members of this large and diverse body. After feeling hopeless for a number of years about the church and GC, I now find renewed hope in the work that I do.

We can never fully be one until Christ brings us into full union in the coming realm, yet I believe that God is working within us toward that place of unity and completion, and I hope that I am faithfully responding to God's work through me. I am forever grateful that I am able to serve and glorify God in this ministry as we seek wholeness in Christ.

2. Elder Mary McClellan, Co-Moderator Committee on Ministry presented a proposed amendment to the COM's "Policy on the Involuntary Dissolution of Installed Pastoral Relationships" in the section on negotiating the number of months that salary continuation be offered to state: "ordinarily, this shall be one month per year of service, with a minimum of six months." The entire policy is a part of this report, with the proposed amendment appearing on page 3 of the policy, Section b.ii, in red and italicized.

A motion to lay this matter on the table until the next Stated Presbytery Meeting passed so that the Committee on Ministry can consider adding a cap on the number of months of severance pay which may be required of a church upon dissolution of the pastoral relationship.

Presbytery of Ohio Valley Committee on Ministry

Policy on the Involuntary Dissolution of Installed Pastoral Relationships

INTRODUCTION

Ordinarily and ideally the dissolution of an installed relationship between the pastor* and the congregation is accomplished amicably, with expressions of great appreciation and a measure of grief as the pastor transitions to a new place of ministry or to retirement. At times, however, dissolution is a difficult and painful decision, often made in times of conflict or crisis. For such occasions, the Committee on Ministry provides this policy to ensure due process, as well as some degree of care for both pastor and congregation. This policy is intended to supplement the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and shall not supersede the constitutional and parliamentary rights and responsibilities of the presbytery, pastor, session, or congregation.

** Throughout this document, the term "pastor" refers to any installed pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor.*

GOVERNING PRINCIPLES FROM THE BOOK OF ORDER

The relevant governing provisions from the Book of Order are:

G-2.0901 Congregational Meeting: An installed pastoral relationship may be dissolved only by the presbytery. Whether the teaching elder, the congregation, or the presbytery initiates proceedings for dissolution of the relationship, there shall always be a meeting of the congregation to consider the matter and to consent, or decline to consent, to dissolution.

G-2.0902 Pastor, Co-Pastor or Associate Pastor Requests: A pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor may request the presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship. The teaching elder must also state her or his intention to the session. The session shall call a congregational meeting to act upon the request and to make recommendations to the presbytery. If the congregation does not concur, the presbytery shall hear from the congregation, through its elected commissioners, the reasons why the presbytery should not dissolve the pastoral relationship. If the congregation fails to appear, or if its reasons for retaining the relationship are judged insufficient, the request may be granted and the pastoral relationship dissolved.

G-2.0903 Congregation Requests: If any congregation desires the pastoral relationship to be dissolved, a procedure similar to G-2.0902, above, shall be followed. When a congregation requests the session to call a congregational meeting to dissolve its relationship with its pastor, the session shall call the meeting and request the presbytery to appoint a moderator for the meeting. If the pastor does not concur with the request to dissolve the relationship, the presbytery shall hear from him or her the reasons why the presbytery should not dissolve the relationship. If the pastor fails to appear, or if the reasons for maintaining the relationship are judged insufficient, the relationship may be dissolved.

G-2.0904 Presbytery Action: The presbytery may inquire into reported difficulties in a congregation and may dissolve the pastoral relationship if, after consultation with the teaching elder, the session, and the congregation, it finds the church's mission under the Word imperatively demands it.

G-2.0905 Officiate by Invitation Only: After the dissolution of the pastoral relationship, former pastors and associate pastors shall not provide their pastoral services to members of their former congregations without the invitation of the moderator of session.

ADDITIONAL GOVERNING PRINCIPLES

Several principles of our polity also provide background to understanding and implementing this policy:

1. Every call in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is an agreement that includes the presbytery, the pastor and the congregation. All three parties are involved in every decision regarding the establishment of a pastoral relationship and the dissolution of a pastoral relationship.
2. When the congregation and the pastor are in agreement, the Committee on Ministry is commissioned to act on behalf of the presbytery to dissolve the relationship. If the parties are not in agreement, the matter goes to the floor of the presbytery, in a stated or called meeting, as specified in the Book of Order.
3. All conditions for dissolution shall be compatible with the provisions of the Book of Order.
4. The dissolution process shall be complete only after the congregation and the presbytery act on the dissolution of the call and any terms of dissolution.

DETAILS OF THE PROCESS

1. Communication from Session and Session Responsibilities

- a. A Session desiring that the pastoral relationship be dissolved shall contact the Committee on Ministry in writing, stating its request and providing a brief overview of the reasons.
- b. The Clerk of Session shall provide the Committee on Ministry the full minutes of the session meeting in which the action was taken.
- c. The Clerk of Session shall also send to the Presbytery Office, by registered mail, a current membership roll of the congregation within five days of its request to the Committee on Ministry. The COM *strongly advises* that the session not receive any new persons to membership in the congregation, or make any other adjustments (such as reinstating former members or removing current members from the roll), once it has made the decision to request that the pastoral relationship be dissolved. Any changes that are made to the membership roll against COM advice shall be reported to the COM immediately.

2. Response of the Presbytery

- a. Once notified, the Committee on Ministry Moderator and Executive Presbyter will appoint a visitation team to meet with the pastor and the session to hear concerns and explain the process. This meeting shall take place as soon as possible, ordinarily within thirty days of the receipt of the written request.
- b. Following this meeting, the visitation team shall confer with the Committee on Ministry Moderator and Executive Presbyter. If the matter is not referred for further consideration or action, arrangements shall be made to begin the process of negotiating proposed terms of dissolution for congregational decision and presbytery action as outlined below.

3. Negotiating Proposed Terms of Dissolution

- a. A task force of nine persons shall meet to negotiate proposed terms of dissolution. The task force shall be composed of three teams:
 - i. Three members of session, appointed by the session;
 - ii. The pastor and two persons of the pastor's choosing, who may be members of the congregation and/or ruling or teaching elders within the presbytery;
 - iii. A team of three ruling or teaching elders within the presbytery, appointed by the Committee on Ministry Moderator and Executive Presbyter. One of these people will be assigned to moderate the negotiation, one will be assigned to provide guidance to the session's team, and one will be assigned to provide guidance to the pastor's team.

- b. The terms of dissolution shall include:
 - i. The number of days that the pastor shall continue service following the final action to dissolve the pastoral relationship (ordinarily, this shall be no fewer than thirty days);
 - ii. The number of months following the last day of service that salary, housing allowance, and benefits shall be paid at 100%, (*ordinarily, this shall be one month per year of service, with a minimum of six months*) and a statement indicating at what interval these payments shall be made;
 - iii. The number of months, if any, following the last day of service that salary, housing allowance, and benefits shall be paid at a lower percentage, and a statement indicating at what interval these payments shall be made;
 - iv. The number of unused vacation days the pastor has accrued, and a statement indicating that the pastor will be paid for these days on the final day of service;
 - v. In the event the pastor lives in church-owned housing, the amount of time following the last day of service that the pastor may continue to reside there, as well as any other arrangement concerning the manse (such as the payment of utilities and inspection of the property);
 - vi. A statement indicating whether continuation of salary and benefits shall cease if the pastor begins comparable employment during that time;
 - vii. A statement indicating that, following the dissolution of the pastoral relationship, the former pastor shall not provide pastoral services to members of the congregation without the invitation of the moderator of session [G-2.0905];
 - viii. Other provisions, as needed or appropriate, such as additional coverage for medical insurance at the conclusion of the salary continuation period.
 - ix. The current terms of call for the pastor shall be included as an appendix.

- c. The process for the negotiation meeting(s) shall be as follows:
 - i. The session and pastor shall make available to the task force, prior to the meeting, the following documents: current terms of call for the pastor, the most recent annual report to the congregation, recent financial statements that have been presented to the session, and any other documents that the session and pastor determine to be relevant. These documents shall also be made available to the task force in paper form at the time of the meeting.
 - ii. The moderator of the task force shall open the meeting with prayer, allow for introductions of those present, and review the process for the meeting.

- iii. The task force shall begin to negotiate the terms of dissolution as outlined in 2(b).
 - iv. During the meeting, either the pastor's team or the session's team may ask for time to caucus. In that event, the member of the presbytery team assigned to each shall meet with the caucusing teams. Should the presbytery team need to confer, the other teams shall remain at the table together.
 - v. While it is the hope that proposed terms of dissolution acceptable to the entire task force will be negotiated, a majority vote of each of the three teams shall be sufficient to carry a proposal forward. In the event that proposed terms of dissolution cannot be agreed upon after two meetings, the matter shall be referred to the Committee on Ministry.
 - vi. All members of the task force agree to keep the proposed terms of dissolution confidential until a congregational meeting is called.
- d. If the task force agrees on proposed terms, the session team shall present the proposed terms to the session for approval. The session meeting shall be scheduled in consultation with the Committee on Ministry, so that a representative of the presbytery can be present to provide support and guidance.
- i. If the session approves the proposed terms, it shall communicate its action to the Committee on Ministry and coordinate with the COM for scheduling the congregational meeting so as to give ample notice to the congregation and allow for the presbytery to provide a moderator.
 - ii. If the session does not approve the proposed terms, the matter shall be referred to the Committee on Ministry.

4. Calling the Congregational Meeting

If the proposed terms of dissolution are approved, the session shall call a meeting of the congregation for the purpose of requesting that the Presbytery of Ohio Valley dissolve the pastoral relationship. Copies of the terms of dissolution shall be made available to the congregation at least one Sunday before the date of the congregational meeting.

5. Process for the Congregational Meeting

- a. The following general principles shall apply to the meeting:
 - i. A moderator appointed by the Presbytery of Ohio Valley shall preside.
 - ii. The presbytery shall provide at least one other person to assist with the meeting.
 - iii. The clerk of session shall bring a copy of the current membership roll
 - iv. The pastor shall have the privilege of voice.
 - v. Members of the pastor's family who are also members of the congregation shall not be denied their right of voice and vote.
 - vi. Ordinarily, no other business shall be considered at this meeting.
 - vii. The meeting shall be conducted in a spirit of mutual respect.
- b. The meeting shall be conducted in the following way:
 - i. The moderator shall call the meeting to order, open with prayer and state the purpose of the meeting.
 - ii. The moderator shall ask the clerk of session to ascertain whether there is a quorum. (If there is not a quorum, the meeting shall not proceed, and the matter shall be referred to the Committee on Ministry).

- iii. A written copy of the terms of dissolution shall be distributed.
- iv. A representative of the session shall bring the motion: That the Congregation of _____ Presbyterian Church request that the Presbytery of Ohio Valley dissolve the pastoral relationship with the Rev. _____ with the following terms [as distributed to the congregation]. Please note that the question of dissolution and the terms of dissolution shall be brought as a single motion.
- v. The moderator will open the floor for questions and discussion. All comments and questions shall be directed to the moderator, who will call upon persons as needed and appropriate to respond.
- vi. When the moderator perceives that the body is ready to vote, tellers will be asked to distribute paper ballots to members of the congregation.
- vii. While the pastor has the right to remain in the meeting room during the vote, he or she may choose to wait elsewhere.
- viii. A representative of the presbytery shall be in the room where the votes are being counted. The presbytery representative shall deliver the vote count in writing to the pastor, and one of the tellers shall deliver the vote count in writing to the moderator. The moderator shall announce the vote count to the congregation.
 - 1. If the vote is in the affirmative, the moderator will remind the body that the provisions of G-2.0903 shall be followed. The pastor may choose to concur at this time, not concur at this time, or ask for a brief period of time in order to decide (ordinarily no longer than twenty-four hours).
 - 2. If the vote is not in the affirmative, the moderator will inform the body that the matter shall be referred to the Committee on Ministry.
- ix. The moderator will determine if other comments need to be made following the announcement. If not, the moderator will ask for a motion to adjourn.
- x. The moderator shall adjourn the meeting with prayer.

6. Concluding the Process

- a. The formal process shall be concluded by the presbytery according to the provisions of the Book of Order.
- b. Both the treasurer of the congregation and the pastor should notify the Board of Pensions promptly following the final action to dissolve the relationship to obtain and complete the necessary forms.
- c. The presbytery will provide guidance on any other documents that may need to be executed.
- d. The pastor and session shall honor the terms of dissolution, and address any concerns that may arise to the Committee on Ministry.
- e. The Committee on Ministry will provide guidance and assistance to the session, congregation and pastor as needed and appropriate.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The Committee on Ministry acknowledges the deep pain and frustration that so often accompany an involuntary dissolution of the pastoral relationship. Members of the committee covenant to hold both pastor and congregation in prayer, in the firm conviction that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words, and trusting that God is at work in even the most difficult circumstances.

Report of the Congregational Mission and Vitality Committee

The Rev. Andy Kort, Moderator

Motion from the committee:

The Congregational Mission and Vitality Committee recommends that the Presbytery of Ohio Valley acknowledge the completion of our partnership with the International Center of Bethlehem giving thanks for its ministry, the years of the partnership, and the work of the Holy Spirit throughout.

History and Rationale:

In 2006, the Mission and Social Justice Committee of the Presbytery proposed a partnership with the International Center of Bethlehem (ICB). The work, to be directed by the committee, was to include links to the ICB and ways to grow the partnership. See accompanying material for details.

The Mission and Social Justice Committee no longer exists, but is now the Congregational Mission and Vitality Committee. We have continued this work and partnership. However, as a committee, we have been talking and discerning for about a year to either:

Push the partnership with more time, energy, and money

OR

To acknowledge the partnership's completion, because where we have been does not honor the partnership.

The committee feels we are at a place where we can recognize the good work of the partnership, but also formally end it from a Presbytery level and acknowledge its completion.

Some of the reasoning behind this includes:

- The struggle to get people to attend and go on the trips. Most recently the minimum number of travelers for the trip was not met, eventually costing us more money for people to attend.
- We feel that we have not been able to honor the intentions of the partnership, for various reasons.
- Most recently, the relationship has been more with Bright Stars of Bethlehem than with the ICB.
- With the shift in committee name and structure, there is now more of an emphasis on encouraging our local congregations in local mission. The feeling is that we are now less about a signature mission partnership or event, and more about mission in our local churches and communities.
- Of course, we still commend ICB to the congregations of the Presbytery to keep up any connections as they feel called and discern.

Excerpt from August 26, 2006, assembly minutes, pp. 4969-4970

Committee Moderator Jo Lucas presented the Mission & Social Justice Committee Report. The Committee selected Beth Burcham of Bloomfield for the Light in Darkness Award. She is Coordinator of the Greene County Literacy Commission, which now serves 25 learners; she has also has developed a Literacy Road Show; Rev. Scott Hill (Corydon) then introduced the committee's proposal for a partnership with the International Center of Bethlehem and reviewed and moved the proposal:

R-1 *That the Presbytery of Ohio Valley form a partnership with the International Center of Bethlehem and Mission/Social Justice direct the work to include:*

- 1. Linking with the work of the International Center of Bethlehem*
 - A. Presbytery of Ohio Valley provides student scholarship(s) for Dar-Al Kalima K-12 Model School in Bethlehem. Congregations, individuals, and funds available for education could provide the funds.*
 - B. Presbytery of Ohio Valley will explore ways to be a resource in services to the elderly. We do that work well in POV and the work is new to the ICB.*
 - C. Pen pals (electronic or otherwise) are established between Sunday Schools and classrooms of Dar-al Kalima School (serving 250 K-12 children in Bethlehem)*
 - D. Presbytery congregations provide new or used digital hearing aids for the audiology work of the ICB. Medical resource/teaching group's travel to Bethlehem in the fall and the units can be sent each year.*
- 2. Grow the Partnership*
 - A. Mission/Social Justice Committee members who traveled to the ICB will seek opportunities to speak to congregations to interpret the work of the ICB and the possibilities for partnering.*
 - B. Support and encourage each other to travel to Bethlehem and host International Center of Bethlehem travelers here.*
 - C. Dr. Patricia Tull is currently organizing a trip to the area for early 2007; she can be reached at Louisville Seminary.*
 - D. L. Michael Spath, D.Min., Ph.D. of Indiana University-Fort Wayne leads groups to the area. He can be reached at IU Fort Wayne*
- 3. Pray for the Presbytery of Ohio Valley and the International Center of Bethlehem as we partner with Palestinian Christians in a suffering part of the world.*

*Commissioners asked a variety of questions about the ICB. In response, it was pointed out that the ICB is affiliated with the Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, which was founded in 1874. It is now affiliated with the Lutheran World Federation and the ELCA. Rev. Wendy McCormick (Evansville First) said she looked forward to the development of e-mail pen pals. Rev. Martha Friz-Langer wondered aloud if any political agendas were involved, as she noticed no connections with the Jews in Israel. Rev. Jerry Kuyk (Petersburg Main Street) said he had made the trip to visit the ICB and declared it was a wonderful experience. Mitri Raheb, the pastor, is an amazing individual, he declared. Elder Vern Yorck asked about the identity of students enrolled at the K-12 school, and was informed that a balance was maintained between Muslims and Christians. Susan Ryan (PDA) said that One Great Hour of Sharing has aided the Augusta Victoriana Hospital in East Jerusalem, another Lutheran ministry which the group visited. **By voice vote, the proposal was APPROVED***
End of excerpt

Action

After discussion, the Assembly approved the motion by a vote of 28 for and 21 opposed.

Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

The Rev. Hana Elliott

Rev. Elliott called upon Jerusha Van Camp to be introduced as a new inquirer to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. Following a brief introduction, Hanna led the Assembly in prayer for Jerusha.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Elder Cheryl Moles, Moderator

Cheryl brought two nominations to the Assembly.

Action

After nominations were asked for from the floor, the Assembly elected:

Rev. Vanlal Hruaia to the Permanent Judicial Commission to fulfill an unexpired term, class of 2022.

Elder Bill Henderson to fulfill the position of Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley.

Bidding Good-bye and Godspeed to Elders Mike and Jean Beaver

The Rev. Susan McGhee, Executive Presbyter

Susan invited Mike and Jean to come forward to be recognized for their ministries and thanked for their service to the Presbytery of Ohio Valley.

Lunch

The Assembly broke for lunch.

Report of the Presbytery Council

The Rev. Susan McGhee, Moderator

For Presbytery's Information

The Council met May 2, 2019, and took the following actions:

** denotes the Council acting as a Commission of Presbytery*

1. Received reports of Presbytery officers, staff, committee, and commission leadership.
2. Received a gift from the Newburgh Presbyterian Church for \$19,782.46 to make grants to churches for Christian education ministries and to support young people to attend the Presbyterian Youth Triennium.
3. Received and endorsed the attached “Covenant and Agreement with the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, and Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center” for presbytery action (see below).
4. Established an electronic vote policy for the Council:

When the Presbytery Council needs to act between meetings, it may do so by electronic vote (e-vote), within the following guidelines:

 - A call for e-vote shall be issued by the Moderator of Council, or by the Clerk of Council (Stated Clerk) in the Moderator’s absence.
 - The email shall state the question, and give a window for voting, ordinarily within 48 hours of the call for the vote.
 - If any member of the Council believes that conversation/deliberation is necessary, that person shall notify the Moderator and Clerk of Council within 24 hours of the call for the vote. At that time the Moderator and Clerk shall arrange for a teleconference or videoconference.
 - Any action taken by e-vote shall be reported by the Clerk to the next Council meeting, and shall be entered into the minutes of that meeting
5. Received and endorsed a proposal that the Congregational Mission and Vitality Committee will bring to the full assembly May 21, 2019: “that the Presbytery of Ohio Valley acknowledge the completion of our partnership with the International Center of Bethlehem giving thanks for its ministry, the years of the partnership, and the work of the Holy Spirit throughout.”

For Presbytery Action

1. That the Presbytery of Ohio Valley adopt the following “Covenant and Agreement with the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, and Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center”

**A Covenant and Agreement
with the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley,
the Presbytery of Ohio Valley,
and Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center**

I. Parties

The Presbyteries of Whitewater Valley and Ohio Valley are non-profit Indiana religious corporations (i.e., qualified as tax exempt entities under 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3), operating under the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Advisory Council of Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center (Pyoca) (which is currently owned by The Presbytery of Whitewater Valley) is considering establishment of Pyoca as a non-profit Indiana religious corporation with the encouragement and support of both Presbyteries. It is contemplated that the Advisory Council will transition to function as a Board of Directors, if and when a new entity is established, so when “Pyoca Advisory Council” or “Advisory Council” appears in this Covenant, it is understood to also include the successor Board of Directors.

II. Covenant

The Presbyteries of Whitewater Valley and Ohio Valley and the Pyoca Advisory Council covenant together to affirm our present and historic partnership in which there is a mutuality of purpose and to outline the promises of all parties to each other as the Pyoca Advisory Council pursues establishment as a non-profit camp and retreat center. Recognizing that this is a time of significant transition for Pyoca and our partner Presbyteries, it is anticipated that this Covenant will be revised as circumstances evolve; this is provided for in Section VII.

III. The Promises of the Presbyteries of Whitewater Valley and Ohio Valley to Pyoca

- A. The Presbyteries provide Pyoca an affiliation with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and recognize Pyoca as an institution related to both Presbyteries through this covenant. The Presbyteries recognize Pyoca as a Presbyterian-related institution where programs with multiple denominations and/or interfaith endeavors may take place.
- B. The Presbyteries will encourage their pastors and congregations to consider Pyoca for summer camping programs, retreats, and/or other conferences hosted by Pyoca. They will publicize Pyoca camps, retreats, and other programs on their web sites and in emails, newsletters, etc., and will provide links on their web sites to the Pyoca home page.
- C. The Presbyteries will collaborate with Pyoca in planning and sponsoring events each year designed to meet the needs of the Church: these may include, but are not limited to Presbytery assemblies, youth conferences or pastor retreats.
- D. The staff and leaders of both Presbyteries will remain informed about the programs and policies of Pyoca, and will support and interpret its mission.

- E. Each Presbytery will provide Pyoca access to its Council, and will offer Pyoca the opportunity to report at its regular assemblies.
- F. Each Presbytery will name two members to the Pyoca Advisory Council each year through its normal nomination and election process.
- G. The Presbyteries will encourage support of Pyoca through inclusion of financial support in their annual budgets, and will encourage congregations to participate in the financial support and fundraising objectives of Pyoca, in consultation and collaboration between Pyoca and the Presbytery Councils.

IV. An Additional Promise of the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley to Pyoca

The Presbytery, working through the Board of Directors and the Coordinating Council, will at the appropriate time transfer the current Pyoca real property, fixtures, equipment and tangible assets to the new independent Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center for reasonable consideration.

V. The Promises of the Pyoca Advisory Council to the Presbyteries of Whitewater Valley and Ohio Valley

- A. The Advisory Council covenants to offer staff leadership and physical facilities for appropriate training events, programs, seminars, and related activities, including events specifically designed to meet the needs of the Presbyteries, their member congregations, and their other organizations and institutions.
- B. Pyoca will provide complimentary weekday lodging for renewal and study leave to clergy and youth staff of congregations from both Presbyteries, and will communicate this amenity to the Presbyteries each year.
- C. Pyoca will offer a lodging discount to congregations from both Presbyteries for youth, adult, and family retreats, and will communicate this discount to the Presbyteries each year.
- D. The Pyoca Advisory Council will operate Pyoca according to its Bylaws. Pyoca will provide both Presbyteries an annual financial report along with periodic updates as necessary at the request of the leadership of either Presbytery.
- E. Pyoca, through its Advisory Council and staff, will strive to provide programming and leadership to uphold the historic and present focus of the Reformed tradition.
- F. Pyoca will cooperate and collaborate with both Presbyteries, seeking ways to support them, their member congregations, and their other organizations and institutions.

VI. Additional Promises of the Pyoca Advisory Council to the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley

- A. The Advisory Council and the Pyoca staff will maintain the real property, fixtures, equipment and tangible assets of Pyoca in good working order and repair, and will make improvements as finances allow and needs require.

- B. During the transition of Pyoca to an independent camp and retreat center, the Advisory Council will not create or permit any mortgage, lien, encumbrance, or conditional sale of property without written approval from the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, or its successor, prior to taking such action. It is anticipated that the bylaws created for the new Pyoca non-profit corporation will include provisions placing limits acceptable to the Presbytery on the amount of any indebtedness which Pyoca may incur and that these bylaws will be reviewed with and approved by the Presbytery.
- C. The Advisory Council will not sell any land and buildings upon the land transferred to it from the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley without approval from the Presbytery's Board of Directors. If at any time in the future Pyoca is formally dissolved, declares bankruptcy, or has a receiver appointed, its real and personal assets remaining after provision for payment of valid debts and liabilities shall be distributed to the Presbytery or its successor.

VII. Review and Renewal of the Covenant

Recognizing that this is a time of significant transition for Pyoca and our partner Presbyteries, the partners agree to review and renew this Covenant at least every three years, or at the request of any of the parties as circumstances require.

Action

After presentation by Rob Peterson, Moderator of the Pyoca Advisory Council, the Presbytery voted to adopt the proposed Covenant and Agreement by a vote of 55 for with 1 against.

Update on the Lilly Ministry Excellence Fund

Rev. Charlie Pye

Rev. Charlie Pye shared the ways that the Ministry Excellence Fund aids pastors' financial needs in the Presbytery of Ohio Valley and ways that those in need can contact Rev. Pye. He noted that the Lilly Foundation is no longer a partner in this effort.

Speak Out Session

Members of the Assembly shared thanksgivings, stories, information and concerns.

Report of the Executive Presbyter

Rev. Susan McGhee

Susan shared of her work aiding in searches for pastors, staffing COM and CPM, considering changes in staff, and trained members of the Permanent Judicial Committee. Susan then shared how she practices a meditative technique to help during stressful times, concluding with sharing that she was grateful for those of us gathered as the Assembly.

Installation of Joe Kimmel as Stated Clerk

Rev. Catherine Knott and Elder Zack Ellison

Catherine invited Elder Kimmel to come forward and respond to the questions of installation as Stated Clerk of the POV. The Assembly also answered questions of acceptance. Elder Kimmel was installed. He will begin his work on June 1, 2019

Recognition of David Crittenden's service as Stated Clerk

Elder Zack Ellison and Rev. Susan McGhee

Action

The Assembly approved the following Resolution and gave appreciation of David Crittenden from the Personnel Committee.

Resolution in Appreciation of David Crittenden's Service as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, January 1, 2017 - May 31, 2019

WHEREAS, The Reverend David Crittenden has served the Presbytery of Ohio Valley as Stated Clerk since January 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, he has done so with an abundance of energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, relying on God's mercy and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and

WHEREAS, he has brought his broad knowledge of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), having served as a leader in every level of council in the church: Session, Presbytery, Synod, and the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, he has been a friend among his colleagues, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit; and

WHEREAS, he is one fine human being, with a can-do spirit, a love of this presbytery, and a confidence in the abundant providence of God: Now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Presbytery of Ohio Valley express its deep gratitude for David's good and faithful service as Stated Clerk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Presbytery offer its fervent prayers for David's well-being, and for all those with whom he is deeply connected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Presbytery make a financial contribution in the amount of one thousand dollars to a charity of David's choosing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that those here gathered today recommit themselves, as David has done throughout his ministry, to a church called into its being by Christ, who gives it all that is necessary for its mission in the world;

Adopted this 21st Day of May 2019, by the Presbytery of Ohio Valley.

New Business

There was no new business.

Necrology Report and Celebration of the Saints

Rev. David Crittenden and Elder Joe Kimmel lead the body in remembering the elders who died in 2018. The remembrance was concluded with prayer.

*Celebration of the Saints
Minister & Elder Necrology Report
January 1 - December 31, 2018*

<u>Churches</u>	<u>Elder Ordination Date</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
<u>Bedford, First</u>		
Jesse Day	04/30/1978	07/23/2018
<u>Bloomfield, First</u>		
Kenny Nocus	00/00/1957	04/14/2018
Jeni Wampler	01/07/1990	06/09/2018
<u>Bloomington, First</u>		
Barbara Burkhead		11/21/2018
<u>Brownstown, First</u>		
Mary Ann Montgomery	01/13/1974	08/07/2018
<u>Columbus, First</u>		
Nancy Fleetwood	01/09/1995	04/16/2018
Herschel O'Shaughnessey	00/00/1961	05/31/2018
<u>Evansville, First</u>		
William Asbury	01/22/2012	10/03/2018
Jean Brubeck	01/31/1999	07/18/2018
<u>Evansville, First Avenue</u>		
Joyce G. Marlin	12/07/1969	09/04/2018
<u>Hanover, Hanover</u>		
Dick Conklin	01/12/1964	03/07/2018
James Shaffstall	12/23/2012	06/14/2018
<u>Henryville, Community</u>		
Curtis D. Waggoner	01/17/1965	12/01/2018
<u>Martinsville, First</u>		
James Wells	00/00/1966	11/05/2018

New Albany, Mount Tabor

Sylvan G. Payne	09/00/1964	03/05/2018
Perry R. "Junie" Rusk, Jr.	01/24/1960	02/02/2018

Patoka, Union Bethel

Bobbie Scott Harvey		09/20/2018
Judy Kolb		12/30/2018
Elizabeth Ann Loveless		09/30/2016

Petersburg, Main Street

Mary Lou Kinman	12/27/1982	02/19/2018
Lois E. Wilson	01/00/1992	07/26/2018
Cynthia L Burns Graves	01/18/1987	10/04/2018

Princeton, United

Sandra Silkey	01/23/2000	02/01/2018
Joe Silkey	12/26/1976	03/31/2018
Martha Helen Brokaw	01/13/2002	04/21/2018
Joseph Carithers	10/22/1950	04/26/2018

Salem, Salem

Donna LaFollette		05/11/2018
------------------	--	------------

Scottsburg, First

Michael H. King	01/08/1995	01/12/2018
-----------------	------------	------------

Terre Haute, Central

Robert Horneker	01/18/1976	11/05/2018
Carolyn Payne	02/10/1991	07/11/2018

Washington, Westminster

Daniel Land		02/18/2018
James Hammersly		

	Ordination Date	Date of Death
The Rev. Lawrence E. Jackman, Jr.	06/08/1966	01/28/2018
The Rev. David M. Brookman	09/07/1980	02/20/2018
The Rev. Sarah J. Cochran	08/16/2009	03/17/2018
The Rev. Benjamin G. Lenhart	06/15/1969	08/11/2018

Let not your heart be troubled. You are trusting God, now trust in me.

There are many homes up there where my father lives, and

I am going to prepare them for your coming.

When everything is ready, then I will come and get you,

so that you can always be with me where I am.

John 14: 1-3

Prayers of the Presbytery

The Rev. Susan McGhee

Requests for prayers were given by members of the Assembly and were lifted up. The Presbyterian Youth Triennium participants and the Pyoca Summer Staff were commissioned and prayed for.

Offering

The Assembly shared their monetary gifts.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The celebrants were Rev. Cheryl Montgomery and Rev. David Crittenden. The elements were shared by intinction and gluten-free bread was available.

Adjournment

The Moderator adjourned the meeting at 3:02 pm. with prayer and the Closing Sentences. The next Assembly of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley will be Saturday, September 14, 2019, at a location to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. David Crittenden, Stated Clerk
Rev. Larry Langer, Recording Clerk