

**The Presbytery of Ohio Valley**  
**Docket for Assembly: March 5, 2020**  
**Mitchell Presbyterian Church – Mitchell, Indiana**  
**Elder Bill Henderson, Moderator**  
**Elder Joe Kimmel, Stated Clerk**

Call to Order

Opening Worship and Proclamation of the Word

Preacher: The Rev. Andrew Kort, Pastor

First Presbyterian Church, Bloomington

Introductory Business

Welcome, Greetings from the Host Pastor

Introductions of New Members, Guests

Seating of Corresponding Members

Consent Agenda

Minutes of Assembly December 3, 2019; Docket; Stated Clerk's Report;

Treasurer's Report

Report of the Presbytery Council

Recognition of the Parke Memorial Presbyterian Church, dissolved December 31, 2019

For Assembly Information

Resignation of Jane Gore as Presbytery Treasurer

Appointment of Jean Brown as Interim Treasurer

Proposed Overtures to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

received from the Session of First, Columbus:

On Reaffirming our Commitment to Gun Violence Protection

On Fossil Fuel Divestment

Final Report of the Newburgh Administrative Commission

**Lunch**

Order of the Day immediately following lunch: Special Meeting of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley,

Inc. for the election of a Corporate Treasurer

Report of the Committee on Ministry

Approval of Honorably Retired status for the Rev. John Ballard

Report of the Congregational Mission and Vitality Committee

and Evangelism and Congregational Witness Committee

Response to the Ministry and Mission Poll and presentation of checks

Greetings from Pyoca Camp and Conference Center

Speak Out Session

Report of the Executive Presbyter

New Business

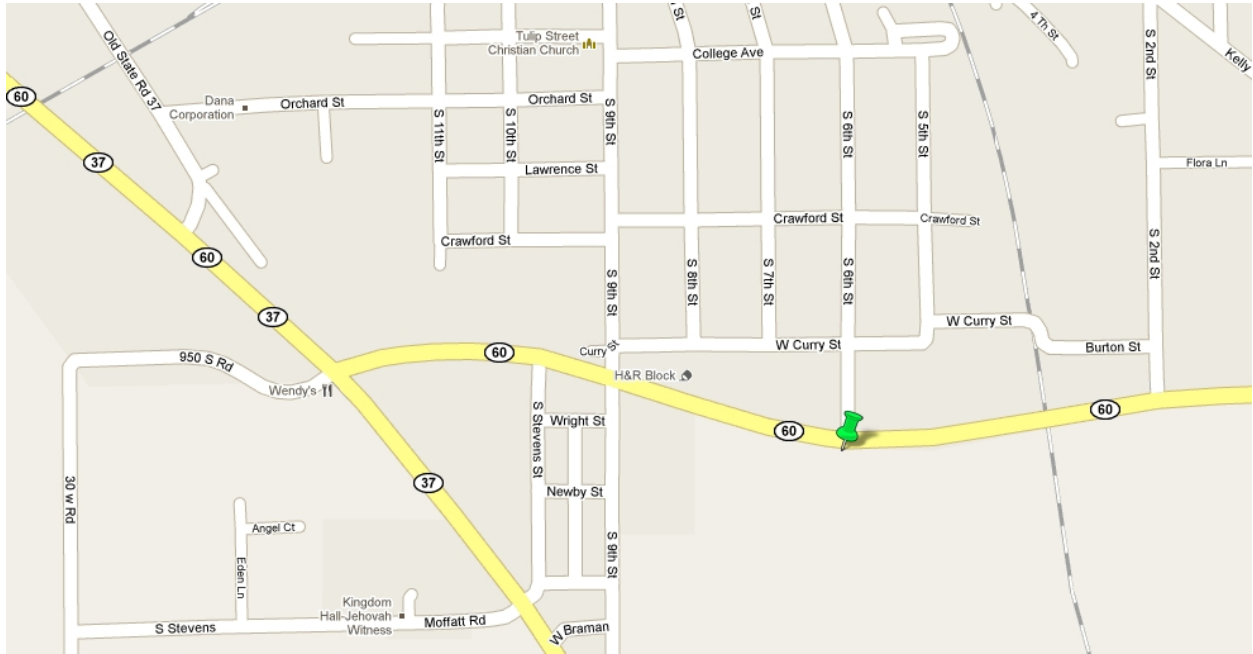
Prayers of the Presbytery

Offering

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

**Adjournment with Closing Litany**

**Presbytery of Ohio Valley  
Driving Directions  
Mitchell Presbyterian Church  
520 State Road 60 E, Mitchell, IN 47446  
(812) 849-3303**



As a courtesy, the Presbytery attempts to provide driving directions and parking information (when known) to all the members attending the Assembly.

Due to the size of the presbytery, we are unable to include all possible routes to the meeting. The directions we provide begin with major routes into the city/town where the assembly will be held, and include more detailed directions regarding the streets closer to the meeting site. Please use an online source or printed map to find the way from your starting point to the place where these directions begin. The POV website has all church locations marked on Google Maps to assist you.

Occasionally, there may be construction/detours that we are unaware of. To be prepared for this possibility, it is wise to have a map, Google map printout, or GPS navigation available, just in case.

**From the North:**

Take State Road 37 S to Mitchell and turn left onto State Road 60 E. Church is on the right.

**From the East:**

Take State Road 50 W and follow the sign to State Road 37 S. Take State Road 37 S and turn left onto State Road 60 E. Church is on the right at State Road 60 and Sixth St.

**From the Southeast:**

Take State Road 60 W to Mitchell. About 1 ½ to 2 miles beyond Spring Mill Park, just the other side of the railroad tracks – church is on your left.

**From the South:**

Take State Road 37 N and turn right on State Road 60 E. Church is on your right.

**From the West:**

Take U.S. 50 E and take the State Road 60 turnoff to the State Road 60 E and State Road 37 S junction. Turn right onto State Road 37 S to State Road 60 E. Turn left onto State Road 60 E and church is on your right.

## **Stated Clerk's Report**

Elder Joe Kimmel

### **A. Transfers, Ministers Received, and Church Celebrations:**

1. There were no ministers transferred to Presbytery of Ohio Valley since September 2019.
2. Courtney Bowen was transferred from Presbytery of Ohio Valley to the Presbytery of Mid-South on January 18, 2020.
3. There are no minister deaths to report.
4. Spencer Presbyterian Church will be celebrating its 150th anniversary on February 27, 2020.
5. Scott Hookey was installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Seymour, February 23, 2020.
6. Frank Harmon, will be installed at Vincennes, Indiana on Saturday, March 21, 2020.
7. Hanover Presbyterian Church will be celebrating its 200th anniversary on March 4, 2020.
8. Bethany Presbyterian Church, Spencer, will be celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary on March 20, 2020.

### **B. Updates on Church Closings:**

#### **1. Royal Oak (Vincennes)**

*Royal Oak AC: Cheryl Thorne (moderator), Alan Harder, John Vanderbeck*

The Administrative Commission met on November 11, 2019, as the governing body of the church to appoint Cheryle Thorne as President and Joe Kimmel as Secretary. Presbytery's attorney, Judy Woods, continues to work to reestablish the legal corporation in order that it can be dissolved.

#### **2. Newburgh (Newburgh)**

*Newburgh AC: Joe Kimmel (moderator), Jean Brown, Bill Henderson, Wendy McCormick, John VanderZee*

(See Newburgh AC Final Report.)

#### **3. Parke Memorial (Evansville)**

*Parke Memorial AC: Jean Brown (moderator), Alan Finnan, Bill Henderson, Scott Solether*

Susan McGhee, Joe Kimmel, Barbara Ferguson, and Bill Henderson met with the congregation on December 29, 2019, for its final worship service; Susan, Joe, and Barb met with the Clerk and another member of Session afterwards. The congregation was formally dissolved December 31, 2019. The Presbytery staff is retrieving and sorting through church records, settling banks accounts, and working with attorney to reinstate the corporation so that it may be properly dissolved. The Commission has contracted with Realtor Andrew Wilson to conduct a live auction in the spring.

#### **4. Immanuel (Evansville)**

*Immanuel AC: Jean Brown (moderator), Bill Henderson, Larry Langer, Scott Solether*

Susan McGhee and Joe Kimmel met with the Session at its request in late November 2019 to begin discussions on the dissolution of the congregation. Session voted unanimously on

12/1/19 to work toward dissolution, to be effective Easter 2020. The Presbytery Council elected the above-named to serve on the Administrative Commission.

- C. Jasper Church and the Property Agreement: The transfer of Jasper Church property to the PCA church has been completed.
- D. Child Protection Policy: A draft has been completed and will be presented to Council at next meeting for review and approval.
- E. Monroe Church bell remains at the Indiana Vincennes Church manse: Presbytery staff will be offering the bell to churches in Presbytery of Ohio Valley—if multiple churches are interested, there will be a drawing.
- F. Session Minutes Reviews: Stated Clerk continues to work with several clerks of session and assisting them to get their reviews completed by their peers. A grading system is being developed to simplify the review process and documentation to Presbytery. Will roll it to website in February 2020.
- G. Additional Assembly dates for 2020 are:
  - Saturday, May 16, 2020, at Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center
  - Saturday, September 19, 2020, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Washington.
  - Thursday, December 3, 2020, at Mitchell Presbyterian Church.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Elder Jean Brown

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

	<b>Jan - Dec 2019</b>	<b>Annual</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<hr/>		
<b><u>Revenue</u></b>		
Per Capita	\$ 208,393	\$ 225,880
Shared Giving (Unified Mission)	76,548	100,000
Contributions	6,153	7,000
Unrestricted Invest Inc & Trans	28,000	28,000
Restricted Invest Inc & Trans	51,839	51,839
	<hr/> 370,932	<hr/> 412,719
<b><u>Expense</u></b>		
Staff Expense	230,260	242,954
Ecclesiastical Expense	80,937	80,631
Meeting Expense	9,828	10,800
Administration & Office Expense	41,633	38,000
Program Expense	40,000	40,500
Total Expense	<hr/> 402,658	<hr/> 412,885
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	<hr/> \$ (31,726)	<hr/> \$ (166)

### **Fund Balances**

As of December 31, 2019

Church Legacy Funds	984,425
Monroe City Fund	254,892
Brown Trust	103,689
Lilly Grant	124,995
Restricted Funds (Specific Use)	33,855
Undesignated Net Assets	<hr/> 775,708
	<hr/> \$ 2,277,564

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](mailto:jean@presbyteryov.org)

**2019 Per Capita****40**

		<b>Members</b>	<b>2019 Per Capita</b>	<b>Received as of 12/31/2019</b>	<b>% Paid</b>
Bedford	First	97	3,880.00	\$ 3,880.00	100.0%
Bloomfield	First	69	2,760.00	2,760.00	100.0%
Bloomington	First	389	15,560.00	15,560.00	100.0%
Bloomington	United	61	2,440.00	2,400.00	98.4%
Boonville	Hemenway Memorial	93	3,720.00	3,720.00	100.0%
Brazil	First	285	11,400.00	11,400.00	100.0%
Brownstown	Brownstown	39	1,560.00	1,560.00	100.0%
Canaan	Jefferson	12	480.00		0.0%
Cayuga	Cayuga	26	1,040.00	1,040.00	100.0%
Central	Valley City	25	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.0%
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	3,640.00	100.0%
Columbus	First	407	16,280.00	16,800.00	103.2%
Corydon	Corydon	73	2,920.00	2,920.00	100.0%
Dale	Dale	51	2,040.00	2,040.00	100.0%
Elizabeth	Church of the Covenant	38	1,520.00	1,520.00	100.0%
Evansville	Eastminster	327	13,080.00	13,080.00	100.0%
Evansville	First	291	11,640.00	11,640.00	100.0%
Evansville	First Avenue	32	1,280.00		0.0%
Evansville	Immanuel	33	1,320.00	1,170.00	88.6%
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	4,320.00	100.0%
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	8,320.00	100.0%
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	720.00	40.0%
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	2,560.00	100.0%
Montezuma	First	21	840.00	840.00	100.0%
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	3,680.00	100.0%
New Albany	St. John United	168	6,720.00	2,270.00	33.8%

**2019 Per Capita      40**

		<b>Members</b>	<b>2019 Per Capita</b>	<b>Received as of 12/31/2019</b>	<b>% Paid</b>
New Washington	Trinity United	30	1,200.00	760.00	63.3%
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	1,440.00	100.0%
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	1,520.00	100.0%
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	1,580.00	50.0%
Sullivan	First	115	4,600.00	4,600.00	100.0%
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	3,600.00	100.0%
Washington	Westminster	61	2,440.00	2,440.00	100.0%
		<b>5625</b>	<b>\$225,000.00</b>	<b>\$208,240.00</b>	<b>92.6%</b>



## Shared Mission 2019

		Received as of December 31, 2019				
		Pledged	GA	Synod	POV	Total
Bedford	First					0
Bloomfield	First		210	70	420	700
Bloomington	First				2,000	2,000
Bloomington	Korean					0
Bloomington	United					0
Boonville	Hemenway Memorial	30	10	10	10	30
Brazil	First	1,500	450	150	900	1,500
Brownstown	Brownstown					0
Canaan	Jefferson					0
Cayuga	Cayuga					0
Central	Valley City	100	30	10	60	100
Charlestown	Community					0
Clarksville	Grace					0
Clinton	United	750	240	80	480	800
Columbus	Fairlawn		945	315	1,890	3,150
Columbus	First		11,248	3,750	22,497	37,495
Corydon	Corydon		750	250	1,500	2,500
Dale	Dale	100			100	100
Elizabeth	Church of the Covenant					0
Evansville	Eastminster	15,000	2,130	710	4,260	7,100
Evansville	First		4,500	1,500	9,000	15,000
Evansville	First Avenue					0
Evansville	Immanuel		45	15	90	150
Evansville	Parke Memorial					0
Farmersburg	First					0
Fort Branch	First		525	450	525	1,500
Grammer	Grammer	500	150	50	300	500
Greencastle	Greencastle					0
Hanover	Hanover		900	300	1,800	3,000
Henryville	Community					0
Henryville	Mount Lebanon	150			150	150
Jeffersonville	First	6,000	1,800	600	3,600	6,000
Laconia	Rehoboth		150	50	300	500
Laconia	United	150	45	15	90	150
Leavenworth	Community					0
Lexington	Lexington					0
Livonia	United					0
Madison	Madison	1,050	315	105	630	1,050
Madison	Smyrna-Monroe		300			300
Martinsville	First					0
Mitchell	Mitchell	50	15	5	30	50
Montezuma	First	500	150		350	500
Mount Vernon	First					0
Nabb	Nabb	100	30	10	60	100
Nashville	Brn County Fellowship	500	1,500	500	3,000	5,000
New Albany	Mount Tabor		30	10	60	100

## Shared Mission 2019

		Received as of December 31, 2019				
		<u>Pledged</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>Synod</u>	<u>POV</u>	<u>Total</u>
New Albany	St. John United		600	200	1,200	2,000
New Washington	Trinity United					0
Newburgh	Newburgh					0
North Vernon	Graham	50	15	5	30	50
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	450	150	900	1,500
Roachdale	Roachdale	100			100	100
Rockville	Memorial	100	30	10	60	100
Salem	Salem	100	30	10	60	100
Scipio	United	1,196	359	120	718	1,196
Scottsburg	First	2,300	200	100	2,000	2,300
Seymour	First					0
Spencer	Bethany					0
Spencer	Spencer	100	30	10	60	100
Sullivan	First					0
Terre Haute	Central	20,000	7,800	2,200	10,000	20,000
Terre Haute	Unity					0
Vernon	Vernon		195	55	250	500
Vevay	Caledonia	50	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		2,160	720	4,320	7,200
		<u>52,910</u>	<u>39,607</u>	<u>12,957</u>	<u>76,340</u>	<u>128,905</u>

## **Report of the Presbytery Council**

The Rev. Susan McGhee, Moderator

### **For Presbytery's Information**

**The Council conducted an electronic vote December 9, 2019, and took the following actions:**

1. Approved the following dates for 2020 Council meetings: February 11, April 21, August 18, November 10.
2. Acting as a Commission of the Presbytery, approved the attached resolution to dissolve the congregation of the Parke Memorial Presbyterian Church, Evansville, Indiana, effective December 31, 2019. Attachment A
3. Approved the attached Synod Rise-Up Grant. Attachment B

**The Council conducted an electronic vote January 1, 2020, and took the following actions:**

1. Acting as a Commission of the Presbytery, Approved the request of the Congregation of Main Street Presbyterian Church for a waiver of G-2.0404, which states: *Ruling elders and deacons shall be elected to serve terms of no more than three years on the session or board of deacons, and may be eligible for reelection according to congregational rule. However, no ruling elder or deacon shall be eligible to serve more than six consecutive years, and a ruling elder or deacon who has served six consecutive years shall be ineligible for election to the same board for at least one year. Election shall be to classes as nearly equal in number as possible, with the term of only one class ending each year. The presbytery may, upon written request and by majority vote, grant a congregation a waiver of this limitation on terms.*

**The Council met by video conference February 11, 2020, 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 the resignation of Elder Jane Gore as Presbytery Treasurer, due to unforeseen family and personal matters, and approved the recommendation of the Presbytery Personnel Committee to name Jean Brown as Interim Treasurer.
3. Received two overtures to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) from the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Indiana, determined them to be appropriate and decorous in content, and agreed to send them to the presbytery for its consideration at the March 5 Assembly. Attachments D & E

4. Concluded matters relating to the Newburgh Administrative Commission: \*
  - a. Dismissed the Newburgh Administrative Commission, with thanks.
  - b. Empowered the Officers and Council of the Presbytery to assist with and act on, as necessary, any remaining issues concerning the Newburgh Presbyterian Church.
5. Approved the attached resolution for the formation of the Immanuel Administrative Commission \*. Attachment C
6. Elected Alicia Holt and Wes Kendall as at-large members of the Presbytery Personnel Committee.

FOR PRESBTERY ACTION:

1. That the Presbytery of Ohio Valley consider making an overture to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), "On Re-affirming our Commitment to Gun Violence Prevention." (See Attachment D)
2. That the Presbytery of Ohio Valley consider making an overture to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), "On Fossil Fuel Divestment" (See Attachment E)

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**Resolution for the Dissolution**  
**of the Parke Memorial Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Evansville, Indiana**

**WHEREAS**, the Congregation of the Parke Memorial Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Evansville, Indiana, at a called meeting on September 8, 2019, requested that the that the Session and Church officers work with the Presbytery of Ohio Valley to dissolve the congregation of the Parke Memorial Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Evansville, Indiana, effective December 31, 2019, and wind up its ecclesiastical affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, acting through its Council, established the Parke Memorial Administrative Commission, with the following members: Elder Jean Brown, Moderator (First, Bloomington); Elder William Henderson (First, Mount Vernon); the Rev. Scott Solether; and the Rev. Alan Finnan; and gave the commission the authority and charge: 1) to work with the session and congregation to develop a plan of dissolution and take all necessary and reasonable steps to accomplish the dissolution; 2) to make regular reports to the Presbytery Council of its progress, and seek approval of Council for the authority to assume original jurisdiction if needed to carry out the dissolution; and 3) to hold the session and congregation in prayer, that this work may glorify God; and

**WHEREAS**, the Session and Administrative Commission have continued their work together, confirming December 31, 2019, as the date of the dissolution:

Now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, by means of its Council, dissolve the congregation of the Parke Memorial Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Evansville, Indiana effective December 31, 2019, with gratitude for its faithful ministry as a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Administrative Commission continue to work within the authority granted to it to further assist in matters pertaining to the dissolution of the congregation, and make regular reports to the Presbytery and the Presbytery Council of its progress; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Officers of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, in consultation with the Administrative Commission, be authorized to take all necessary and appropriate steps to satisfy any ecclesiastical obligations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Presbytery's Attorney be authorized to work with the Officers of the Presbytery and the Administrative Commission to take all necessary and appropriate steps to satisfy any corporate and civil obligations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Presbytery of Ohio Valley offer prayers for the members of the Parke Memorial Presbyterian Church as they continue in Christian witness, service, and fellowship in other congregations.

Adopted this 11<sup>th</sup> of December, 2019, by the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, through its Council.

## ATTACHMENT B

### Synod of Lincoln Trails Rise Up Grant Application

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley Council requests a grant of \$12,000 for the following:

**Title:** Addressing and Overcoming Potential Bias in the Pastoral Search Process

**Framing Question/Problem to Be Addressed:** Pastor nominating committees and search committees for temporary pastors (stated supply, transitional, etc.) often conduct their work with an archetype in mind of the “perfect pastor,” which may explicitly and/or implicitly limit their openness to the rich diversity of race, sex, age, and marital status.

**Project Goals:** To develop and implement a means to educate and provide ongoing encouragement, support, and accountability to pastor nominating and pastoral search committees in the presbytery to address, challenge, and seek to overcome explicit and implicit bias in the pastoral search process.

**Description of Activities:** We have already begun initial consultation with some potential team leaders, OGA and CLC staff, and potential trainers and facilitators. The steps of this process (along with an approximate timeline) are as follows:

- Jan: Further consultation with OGA/CLC staff and potential trainers/facilitators
- Jan-Feb: Identify and recruit design team to develop curriculum
- Mar-Apr: Train design team with outside leadership
- May-Jul: Design team meets to develop training and support materials
- Aug-Sept: COM liaisons are trained
- after Sept: new PNCs are trained and supported as they are elected

Grant monies will be used for training, consultant, and facilitator fees and travel, travel and accommodations for design team members and COM liaisons, and training and production materials as necessary.

We will be happy to make our materials available to other presbyteries in the synod, as well as nationally as appropriate. In addition, we will be available to offer workshops at Synod events (such as the COM/CPM Retreat).

**Assessment, Evaluation, and Response:** Assessments and evaluations will occur at several stages in the process: after the development team is trained, during and after the design of the training and support materials, after the training of COM liaisons, and during and after work with pastor nominating and pastoral search committees.

Approved by the Presbytery of Ohio Valley Council December 9, 2019

## **ATTACHMENT C**

### **Resolution for the Immanuel Administrative Commission**

At the request of the Session of Immanuel Presbyterian Church (USA), Evansville, Indiana, on December 1, 2019, that the Session and Church officers work with the Presbytery of Ohio Valley to dissolve the congregation of Immanuel Presbyterian Church (USA), Evansville, Indiana, effective Easter 2020, and wind up its ecclesiastical affairs, the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, acting through its Council, establishes the Immanuel Administrative Commission, with the following members:

Elder M. Jean Brown, Moderator (First, Bloomington)

Elder William Henderson (First, Mt. Vernon)

Rev. Larry Langer

Rev. Scott Solether

and gives the commission the authority and charge

1. to work with the session and congregation as appropriate, and take all necessary and reasonable steps to accomplish the dissolution;
2. to make regular reports to the Presbytery Council of its progress, and seek approval of Council for the authority to assume original jurisdiction if needed to carry out the dissolution;
3. to hold the session and congregation in prayer, that this work may glorify God.

## **ATTACHMENT D**

### **ON RE-AFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT TO GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley overtures the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2020) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to endorse the following affirmation and actions:

Affirmation:

We remember that the disciples ask Jesus when he saw them in faithful ministry and he answered, "As you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40). In our country 40,000 people are losing their lives each year to gun violence. Each one of these represents to us the crucified Christ, as do their orphans, their grieving parents and families, as do the nearly 100,000 who are injured and the countless others who are traumatized by gun violence through suicides, murders, family violence, and accidents; In faithfulness to the Prince of Peace, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) stands with, grieves with and calls for change alongside the victims of our uniquely-American epidemic of gun violence.

Recommendations:

- 1) Commend and give thanks for those who have stood with “the least of these” and taken action:
  - a) Every local congregation that has held a study group or conversation, reached out to the community and their elected officials or taken other actions; specifically, we celebrate the Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church and First United Church of Oak Park, congregations in Chicago that have jointly received the 2019 Peace-seeker Award of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship for pioneering work to prevent gun violence.
  - b) Every part of the Presbyterian family that has taken action on gun violence prevention, including:
    - i) Our General Assembly Moderators; the Office of the Stated Clerk;
    - ii) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance with its film and book resources and its pastoral presence with communities that experience gun violence;
    - iii) The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program & Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, for the co- sponsored webinar series, *Standing Our Holy Ground*;
    - iv) The Office of Public Witness; the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy Presbyterian News Service, the Presbyterian Writers Guild, *The Presbyterian Outlook*
    - v) The Presbyterian Peace Fellowship with its *Gun Violence Prevention Congregational Toolkit* and other resources;
    - vi) Grace Presbytery in Dallas, Texas for recognizing God’s call to Rev. Deanna Hollas, ordained as the first minister of Gun Violence Prevention;
    - vii) And all other entities, staff, officers and individuals in the PC(U.S.A.) that have taken action to save lives from gun violence.
  - c) The students of America who demand change;
  - d) The businesses such as Walmart, Dick’s Sporting Goods and 130 other corporations that have called for common sense laws to prevent gun violence;
  - e) The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms for banning the sale of bump stocks to convert guns into automatic weapons;
  - f) Action of the U.S. House and Senate to update the National Background Check System; the U.S. House in passing legislation for universal background checks, greater protection of women from domestic gun violence, and for restoration of federal funding for research into the causes and best solutions to gun violence ---and for all the organizations and individuals across America who call upon the U.S. Senate and all elected officials and candidates to support these actions and turn them into real change.
- 2) Call upon every congregation in the PC(U.S.A.) to prayerfully consider their role in helping to prevent gun violence. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. reminded us, “Everyone can do something.”
- 3) Direct the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy, in partnership with others, including, but not limited to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program; the Advisory Committee for Women’s Concerns; the Racial Equity Advocacy Committee; and the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, to update the historic 2010 policy of the 219th General



Assembly, ***Gun Violence, Gospel Values: Mobilizing in Response to God's Call*** and to present this update for a vote at the 225th General Assembly in 2022 which includes:

- a) **An update** of the 2010-era statistics and sources to current statistics and sources about gun violence; and an update on current legislative actions and efforts to seek common ground for saving lives.
- b) **The sinful, historical intersection between guns and race.** Issues to pursue:
  - i) The history of gun ownership being too often a means for white people to “protect” themselves and their families from perceived threats from black, brown and native people, creating a culture of entitlement to gun ownership that is born out of racism, white supremacy and violence.
  - ii) The beneficiaries versus the populations most at risk of becoming victims due to guns without safety technology, and distribution systems at risk of theft or illegal sale.
  - iii) The acknowledgement that structural racism has perpetuated trauma in communities of color that has resulted in the gun violence that we see, and that the systematic disinvestment in these communities is a root cause that needs to be repaired.
  - iv) The sources of and solutions to gun violence in predominately black and brown communities, seeking effective solutions that do not further contribute to mass incarceration.
  - v) The need for changes in police use-of-force training, police culture and fair prosecution of cases of police gun violence, so that all citizens feel safe in relation to those whose calling is to protect them.
- c) **The impact of gun violence on women and children:** such as domestic gun violence, murder-suicides of entire families, school shootings and accidents; including review of the legal responsibility of adults whose guns are used by children and others to commit violence or accidental shootings.
- d) **The affirmation, inclusion and referral to** actions of the General Assembly subsequent to 2010 on gun violence prevention (2014, 2018) and of resources to help every congregation with education, pastoral care and action as they seek God's plan for their role in helping to prevent gun violence.

## RATIONALE

In 2010, the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) *unanimously* passed a major and comprehensive policy, ***Gun Violence, Gospel Values: Mobilizing in Response to God's Call***. Based on prior General Assembly actions against gun violence since 1968, the 2010 document placed the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at the forefront of spiritual communities calling for common sense changes in gun regulations and for an affirmation that the uniquely American obsession with guns is not consistent with the love, healing and nonviolent witness of Jesus Christ. Rooted in biblical values and reform theology, this historic and excellent ten-year old document deserves to be updated and re-issued as a contemporary policy to help our congregations and our nation heal from the escalating epidemic and tragedy of gun violence.

The 2020 overture re-affirms the work of prior General Assemblies on this issue and commends those who have led the way in faithful witness to prevent gun violence.

The overture calls on every congregation in the PC(U.S.A.) to ask for God's guidance to them on how their congregation can faithfully respond to the challenge and reality of gun violence.

The overture proposes that the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP), coordinate an update to the 2010 policy to be presented for a vote to the 225th General Assembly in 2022. The overture does not call for a complete revision of the 2010 policy, which is excellent, but rather for an update based on changes in American culture and policy over the last ten years. There are now many outdated statistics and sources in the document, including, most unfortunately, the increase in annual gun deaths from 30,000 to 40,000.

The 2010 document does address the relation between guns and race and the impact of gun violence on women and children. However, there has been a great deal of new light shed on issues such as the historical connection between racism and gun "entitlement." A new generation of activists, elected officials and candidates have offered new approaches to protecting women from domestic gun violence and to preventing gun violence in black and brown communities beyond the failed approach of mass incarceration. Over the last ten years we have seen an increase in mass shootings, school shooting and police shootings. All of these difficult topics deserve review in light of current events and proposals.

## **ATTACHMENT E**

### **On Fossil Fuel Divestment**

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley overtures the 224th General Assembly to:

- 1) Recognize that fossil fuels have been used by humans to create a better world for many people and that the time of their usefulness is now over.
- 2) Recognize that divestment from fossil fuels is a viable approach to the climate emergency, which thousands of other institutions have used to hold the fossil fuel industry accountable for their inadequate responses to this emergency.
- 3) Commend Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) for their ongoing work with shareholder engagement to hold these industries accountable to the just and equitable values that Presbyterians seek to uphold.
- 4) Call on the PC(USA), The Presbyterian Foundation, the Board of Pensions, and Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program to divest from the fossil fuel industry, using the Carbon Underground 200 and the S&P Global Industry Classification Standard's list of publicly-traded companies engaged in coal, oil and gas exploration, extraction, and production as the criteria to identify which companies are considered to be fossil fuel companies.
- 5) Proscribe (stop) any new investments in fossil fuel industry securities.
- 6) Instruct MRTI to correspond through form letter to all fossil fuel companies and presbyteries in which they are headquartered of the action and the theological and moral rationale for this decision.
- 7) Encourage the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation to actively seek out and invest in securities of companies whose predominant focus is in renewable and/or energy efficiency.

- 8) Direct MRTI to monitor the Board of Pensions and Presbyterian Foundation on actions to divest/invest and to report to the 225th General Assembly on their progress in implementing recommendations 4-7.

Rationale:

Presbyterians, and all people of faith, are always called to serve the earth. This is God's call for all humanity from the very beginning (Genesis 2:15). While fossil fuels have allowed us to create a better world for many, we now know their impact on creation and future generations is threatening the life we know and cherish. As we confess that failure, we must listen to and engage with the people in frontline communities who are already experiencing climate change, to better understand the human toll climate change has taken and will continue to take on God's children.

Here are just a couple of their voices:

"Every time there's an investment in fossil fuels, we in Africa have never been the winners of that investment. So yes, this fight is about climate change but it's about decolonization and survival too." - Coumba Toure of Trust Africa

"There's 5.9 hours of sunlight on average every day in Puerto Rico [which is a lot]. But there's no [infrastructure for] solar or wind. Fossil fuel companies want to make money from oil here—and that's colonialism." - Dr. Ediberto Lopez of el Seminario Evangélico de Puerto Rico

Everything else we do as people of faith to rationalize the need for immediate and categorical divestment takes root in this context and the way our church already acts in the rest of the world. To that end, we offer the below rationale for divestment from fossil fuels from frontline communities, according to the science, and in line with previous Presbyterian policy.

## **Newburgh Administrative Commission Final Report**

Elder Joe Kimmel, Moderator

### **February 12, 2020**

In response to a 8/12/18 request of the Session of the Newburgh Presbyterian Church to work with the session and congregation of Newburgh Presbyterian Church toward dissolution and consideration of its legacy and continued contribution to the Kingdom of God, the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, on August 23, 2018 acting through its Council, established the Newburgh Administrative Commission, with the following members: *Joe Kimmel (moderator), Jean Brown, Wendy McCormick, Cheryle Thorne, William Henderson, and John VanderZee.* Cheryle Thorne later stepped down in order to work with another Administrative Commission.

The Newburgh Session has honored the legacy of the Newburgh church by working with the Community Foundation Alliance and the Presbytery to recommend or establish funds for local churches and community groups to respond to local youth needs (that had been previously supported by Newburgh Funds) and provide Christian education grants.

The Newburgh Church and Presbytery held a joint service of worship to celebrate the life and ministry of the Newburgh Presbyterian Church on Sunday, January 13, 2019, at 3:00pm (central time), to which the Presbytery and neighboring community was invited. At that time the congregation was formally dissolved and the church closed.

Since the closure, several former Newburgh members have begun attending Eastminster Presbyterian Church where they have been warmly welcomed. Session members and Commission members continued to address civil obligations and the care and disposition of the property and other assets. Many church materials have been given to local churches and not-for-profit community groups. The large cross at Newburgh was moved to Eastminster and placed in their Fellowship Hall.

Regarding the Marketing and Realtor Bidding Process, Andrew Wilson (William Wilson Auction-Realty, Inc.) and Carol McClintock (Realtor/broker, FC Tucker/Emge) provided the marketing and bidding process as well as the inquiries and submission of bids. In the initial bidding process, there were 6 bids submitted from 5 different bidders. After review and discussion, AC opened a second round of bidding allowing bidders to make their best and final offer for the property but allowing the current bids to stand --acknowledging that the current highest bid was \$367,500. Any and all new bids were due no later than 11:00 AM (Central Time), April 24, 2019. In the second round of bids, the Newburgh Administrative Commission accepted the bid of \$420,000 from Jordan Aigner.

On December 8, 2019, several members of the Newburgh AC met with Newburgh Advisory Committee, former Session members that included Jim Gulick, Rick Zire, and Jean Deamer. This meeting was called as a follow-up to the closure of the Newburgh Church. The Newburgh Advisory Committee provided recommendations to the Newburgh AC regarding how the remaining funds from the Newburgh checking account would be used in a manner that would honor the legacy of the Newburgh Presbyterian Church. The net remaining fund balance was \$94,839; after deducting another \$4,000 for potential tax liability for the church, there remains \$90,000 to be disbursed.

These funds being distributed are separate from the funds given by the Newburgh church session to local non-profits and separate from the Presbytery of Ohio Valley Education Grants established by the Newburgh session prior to their closure.

Following discussion, it was a consensus of both the Newburgh Advisory Committee and the Newburgh AC members present to recommend to the full Newburgh Administrative Commission that the remaining funds be distributed as follows:

Camp Pyoca: to replace the Main Sewer lines--covering estimated costs.	\$46,700
Hemenway Presbyterian Church: for Capital improvements and/or programs.	\$10,000
Eastminster Presbyterian Church: for Capital Improvements (including those already completed for installation of main cross from Newburgh church) and/or programs.	\$23,300
Presbytery of Ohio Valley: for Shared Mission	\$10,000
Total =	\$90,000

Subsequently, the full Newburgh AC electronically reviewed these recommendations and finalized the determination of these funds in order that distributions can be made as early as possible. Subsequently, The Newburgh Advisory Committee was notified along with the recipients of these funds—distribution was completed by early 2020.

On February 11, 2020, the Presbytery Council, acting as a Commission of Presbytery, took two actions relating to the Newburgh Presbyterian Church:

- a. Dismissed the Newburgh Administrative Commission, with thanks.
- b. Empowered the Officers and Council of the Presbytery to assist with and act on, as necessary, any remaining issues concerning the Newburgh Presbyterian Church.

### **Committee on Ministry Report**

The Rev. Alan Finnan and Elder Mary McClellan, Co-Moderators

Summary of COM actions, November 6, 2020 through February 24, 2020.

#### **FOR INFORMATION**

At the **February 24, 2020, meeting**, the Committee on Ministry took the following actions:

1. Noted contracts approved electronically since the last meeting:

- a. **First Presbyterian Church of Fort Branch** and the **Rev. Corey Atkins** serving as Ecumenical Pastor

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
01/01/2020 to 12/31/2020	20hrs/wk	\$29,983.37	\$4,000	Vch. IRS rate - \$1,300 est.	2 weeks incl. 2 Sundays	1 month incl. 4 Sundays	\$600	No

2. Approved recommending to the Presbytery that the status of honorably retired be granted to the Rev. John Ballard.
3. Approved the request of the Session of the Corydon Presbyterian Church to form a PNC.

#### **FOR ACTION BY THE PRESBYTERY**

1. That the Presbytery of Ohio Valley grant the status of Honorably Retired to the Rev. John Ballard.

### **Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report**

The Rev. Katrina Pekich-Bundy, Moderator

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry asks you to keep the two Candidates and one Inquirer in your prayers as they discern their future calling.

Jerusha Van Camp is an Inquirer who will begin seminary in the fall. The committee met with her in January.

Marietta Macy is a Candidate who currently serves at First Presbyterian in Columbus.

Heather Thiessen is a Candidate who is a Ruling Elder serving as clerk of session in Corydon.

The committee met in January, doing one annual consultation and reviewing guidelines for the Ruling Elder track to be commissioned to a call.

## 2020 PRESBYTERY PRAYER PARTNERS

By the tenth of the month preceding the month for your church (i.e., by January 10 for churches listed for February), please send a paragraph or two telling a little about your church or organization – size and activities, location and neighborhood, special programs, history, and anything else that would help others in the presbytery get a better sense of who and where you are. Also send us any joys you'd like to share or prayer requests for your church activities or programs. **If your church is in a parish, we'd also appreciate information on the benefits you feel parish membership has brought to the parish churches.**

Email your information to [bbsnyder22@gmail.com](mailto:bbsnyder22@gmail.com) or mail to Barbara Snyder at 1820 Wheeler Road, Vincennes. Please call 812-886-0272 for more information. The Presbytery of Ohio Valley encourages all our congregations to pray for each other throughout the year. Sharing prayers with each other works!

March 8	First, Brazil	August 9	First, Farmersburg
March 15	Brownstown	August 16	<i>Southern Hills Parish*</i>
March 22	United, Cayuga	August 23	*Community, Henryville
March 29	Valley City, Central	August 30	*Mt. Lebanon, Henryville
April 5	Grace, Clarksville	September 6	*Nabb, Nabb
April 12	(Easter) Your own congregation	September 13	First, Fort Branch
April 19	Community, Charlestown	September 20	Grammer
April 26	Fairlawn, Columbus	September 27	Greencastle
May 3	First, Columbus	October 4	Hanover
May 10	Commissioners to POV Assembly	October 11	First, Jeffersonville
May 17	Camp PYOCA	October 18	Rehobeth, Laconia
May 24	Corydon	October 25	United, Laconia
May 31	Dale	November 1	Community, Leavenworth
June 7	POV Chaplains and other Specialized Ministries	November 8	Presbytery of Ohio Valley Staff
June 14	Commissioners to PC(USA) General Assembly, Baltimore	November 15	Lexington
June 21	PCUSA General Assembly	November 22	Livonia
June 28	Church of the Covenant, Elizabeth	November 29	Madison
July 5	Eastminster, Evansville	December 6	Hanover College
July 12	First, Evansville	December 13	Churches Searching for Pastoral Leadership
July 19	First Avenue, Evansville	December 20	Peace on Earth
July 26	Immanuel, Evansville	December 27	Men and women serving in the military
August 2	To Be Announced		