

Presbytery Meeting Summary January 28, 2017

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held a stated meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 28, 2017 in the **West Sunbury Presbyterian Church, West Sunbury**, where **Rev. Jeffrey Lang** serves as Pastor. Our Moderator, **Elder Tom McMeekin**, and Vice Moderator, **Rev. Dr. Tom Harmon**, presided over the meeting. **Elder Suzanne Reese**, Clerk of Session of our host church, welcomed the presbyters.

The Presbytery held its **annual memorial service**, commemorating those ruling elders, deacons, ministers and trustees of the Presbytery who died during 2016. Our Vice Moderator read Luke 18:9-14 and delivered a message encouraging the presbyters relate to one another with humility and forbearance.

ACTIONS TAKEN:

- J Agreed to the following ecclesiastical matters:
 - ✓ Approved the Minutes of the November 15, 2016 stated Presbytery meeting.
 - ✓ Approved the Report of the Stated Clerk, the **Rev. David Byers**.
 - ✓ Approved the Treasurer's Report for January-November 2016.
 - ✓ Approved the Report of the Coordinating Team in the form of Minutes.
- J Learned, from our Executive Presbyter, **Rev. Alan Adams**, about the **church transformation project** of the Presbyterian Foundation called **PneuMatrix**. Our presbytery is one of only 8 selected to participate, and a \$30,000 grant from the Lily Foundation will pay three-fourths of the cost. The process of selecting the 8 participating churches in our Presbytery is nearly complete. The project calls for 8 "apprentices" to be trained this year in order to work with additional churches in the future.
- J Heard a progress report on the **Refreshing Springs Ministry (RSM)**. In December 2016 the Presbytery acquired the property of RSM on Davis Street in Aliquippa, in order to avoid paying future property taxes. The acquisition cost was the pay-off of back taxes.
- J Established a **commissioned board** for **Refreshing Springs Ministry**, chaired by **Rev. C.F. Hoffman**. The powers of the board's commission include:
 - (1) Management of the property and matters related to the property of RSM,
 - (2) Supervision of the staff, (3) Oversight of the ministry, and (4) Oversight of the finances of RSM. The board will supersede the former task force.
- J Formally dissolved, with prayer, the **Conway Presbyterian Church**, which held its final worship service on January 22, 2017.
- J Dissolved the **Fountain Park Administrative Commission**, with thanks for their work.
- J Agreed to the following recommendations from the Ministry and Vocation Committee:
 - ✓ To approve terms of call for **Rev. Donna Yanosy** as **Designated Pastor** of the **Friendship** church for 2017.
 - ✓ To appoint **Rev. Merry Meloy** as **Moderator** of the **Mount Chestnut** church, Butler.

- ✓ To provide an honorarium to **Rev. Jeff Curtis** of \$500 per month through April, while he serves in a **temporary pastor relationship** at the **Highland** church Slippery Rock.
 - ✓ To approve renewal of **temporary pastoral relationship** contracts between **Rev. Dennis Burnett** and the **First Rochester** and **New Sewickley** churches for 2017.
 - ✓ To extend the **interim pastor** contracts between **Revs. Terry Stoops** and **Bill Jackson** and the **Mars U.P.** church until February 28, 2017 or the new pastor's arrival.
-) Agreed to enroll Inquirer **Ian Leyda** (a member of the **Steffin Hill** church) as a **Candidate under Care** of Beaver-Butler Presbytery.
 -) Examined **Rev. Dr. Janet A. Hufford** and agreed to receive her as a member of the Presbytery, and to concur with the action of the **Jefferson Center** church, Saxonburg, to call her as their **Designated Pastor**, effective February 1, 2017.
 -) Elected **Elder John Stokes** (a member of Calvin church, Zelienople) to the Permanent Judicial Committee, and **Elder Suzanne Reese** (West Sunbury church) to the Ministry and Vocation Committee.
 -) **Thanked the pastor and people of the West Sunbury** church, for hosting this meeting.

OTHER INFORMATION OF NOTE:

-) The presbyters enjoyed a **hot lunch** prepared and served by the people of the **West Sunbury** church in their **newly-remodeled and equipped fellowship hall and kitchen**.
-) The presbyters shared together in **Communion**, served by intinction. **Rev. Jeffrey Lang** presided at the Lord's Table.
-) A total of 101 persons attended the meeting, which adjourned with prayer at 1:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next stated meeting of Beaver-Butler Presbytery will be at **6:00 p.m.** on **Tuesday, March 28, 2017** at the **Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church, Darlington**, where **Mr. Robert Saul** is pastor.