

GATHERING OF THE CHURCHES OF BEAVER- BUTLER PRESBYTERY

Tuesday, May 23, 2023
Beginning at 6:00 PM

In-Person at:
First Presbyterian Church
1103 – 8th Avenue, Beaver Falls, PA
Rev. Dr. David Oyler, Pastor
5:30 pm Registration

OR VIA Zoom
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82106959377>

Meeting ID: 821 0695 9377
One tap mobile
+16469313860,,82106959377# US

Dial by your location
+1 646 931 3860 US

Please connect to the meeting between
5:30 and 5:45 PM

Registration for the meeting is required for In-Person and Zoom via Email
(office@beaverbutler.org) or Telephone (724-452-7515)

*All new business and requests for items to be removed from the Consent Agenda, must be to
the Stated Clerk's Desk 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.*

DIRECTIONS TO THE CHURCH AND PARKING

From the Presbytery Office in Zelienople

1. Go **NORTH** on **S. MAIN ST/US-19/PA-68/PERRY HWY** toward **E. NEW CASTLE ST**
3. Turn **LEFT** on to **W. NEW CASTLE ST/PA-288** (go 0.8 mi)
4. Turn **SLIGHT LEFT** on to **PA-588** (go 3.9 mi)
5. Turn **LEFT** to stay on **PA-588** (go 7.9 mi)
6. Turn **RIGHT** onto **PA-588/EASTVALE BRIDGE**. Continue to follow **PA-588** (go 1.0 mi)
8. Turn **LEFT** onto **7th AVE/PA-18 S/PA - 588 S**. Continue to follow **7th AVE/PA-18 S** (go 1.0 mi)
10. Turn **RIGHT** on **11th Ave**
11. Turn **RIGHT** onto **8th Ave** (church on left)



From Pittsburgh International Airport

1. Go **West** on **I-376** (formerly 60 N) Toward **BEAVER/CHIPPEWA**
2. Take the **PA-51** exit, **EXIT 31**, toward **CHIPPEWA** (go 0.3 mi)
3. Merge onto **PA-51 S/CONSTITUTION BLVD** toward **ROCHESTER** (go 1.2 Mi)
5. Turn **SLIGHT LEFT** onto **8th ST** (go 0.6 mi)
6. Turn **LEFT** onto **DARLINGTON ROAD** (go 0.2mi)
7. Turn **RIGHT** onto **W 11th STREET** (go 0.8 mi)
8. Turn **LEFT** onto **8th AVE** (church on left)

From North (New Castle Area)

1. Go **EAST** on **I-376** (formerly 60 S)
2. Merge onto **PA-60-TOLL S** toward **TOLL ROAD/PITTSBURGH** (go 16.4 mi)
3. Take the **PA-51** exit, **EXIT 31**, toward **CHIPPEWA** (go 0.3 mi)
4. Take the **PA-51 S** ramp toward **ROCHESTER**
5. Turn **LEFT** onto **PA-51 S/CONSTITUTION BLVD** (go 1.4 mi)
6. Turn **SLIGHT LEFT** onto **8th ST** (go 0.6 mi)
7. Turn **LEFT** onto **DARLINGTON ROAD** (go 0.2mi)
8. Turn **RIGHT** onto **W 11th STREET** (go 0.8 mi)
9. Turn **LEFT** onto **8th AVE** (church on left)

PARKING is allowed on the street at meters (no charge after 4:00 pm) or in the parking lot behind the Beaver County Health & Human Services Building on the corner of 8th and 11th)

REGISTRATION AND PRAYER ROOM:

Enter the church walking up the elevated ramp to the **LEFT** of the main doors to the Sanctuary. Go **straight**. Registration is in Room 11.

The Prayer Room will be in the Chapel. After registering, turn **RIGHT** down the hall and the Chapel is on the **LEFT**.



A Brief History of First Presbyterian Church, Beaver Falls

First Presbyterian Church was founded in 1867. On December, 7, 1930, this present church structure was completed and formally opened with a service of Consecration. We still have four members living who attended that service, two who still are able to actively attend worship!

As evidence of the grandness of the building, First Presbyterian was once a large congregation bustling with members. Yet, as with many congregations existing in former steel towns up and down the valley, First Presbyterian continues to seek ways to remain faithful in a community that has drastically changed.

Today we are a small congregation in a large building, blessed with commitment and purpose to serve this community and its surrounding environs. We support a weekly soup kitchen where we serve a meal every Weds from 4-5pm. In 2018 we hosted the Plants & Pillars Homeschool Co-op weekly and Adult Literacy classes twice a week. In April 2018 we began a twice a month Wheelchair Basketball night! We also have an active Board of Deacons, and Service Committee each which pursue the mission of reaching those in need both near and far.

“The mission of First Presbyterian Church is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ as we strive to be a nurturing and faithful community of believers; informed by tradition and open to God's Spirit as we serve Beaver Falls and surrounding area in faith, hope, and love.”

Presently our church is staffed by Rev. Dr. David Oyler, Transitional Pastor and Kathryn J. Shearer, Administrative Assistant & Financial Secretary.

A GATHERING OF THE CHURCHES OF BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Registration 5:30 pm

HYBRID Meeting Begins at 6:00 pm

(In-Person)

First Presbyterian Church

1103 – 8th Avenue, Beaver Falls, PA

Rev. Dr. David Oyler, Pastor

(VIA Zoom: See Email for Link)

GATHERING

PRELUDE

PRESBYTERY GREETING

WELCOME FROM HOST CHURCH:

Clerk of Session, Andrew Why

WELCOME OF NEW ELDERS AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

OPENING PRAYER

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship God.

Surely, God is in this place and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.

God's love is for you and for all people everywhere.

**That we may share God's love and life, may we be renewed
in the refreshing Spirit of the living Christ.**

The living Christ is with us.

Praise the Lord!

HYMN (On screen)

"The Servant Song"

THE WORD READ

John 4:1-6

THE WORD SPOKEN

Rev. Dr. David Oyler

"Next Stop Samaria"

HYMN #276

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

THE GOOD NEWS FROM THE PEWS

STATED CLERK REPORT

Rev. Randall Clow

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT

Rev. Dr. Tom Harmon

COORDINATING TEAM

Elder Andrew Why

A. Consent Agenda:

The Coordinating Team recommends that the Presbytery:

1. Form the Roll
2. Seat Corresponding Members and grant them voice
3. Approval of the Docket
4. Receive CT Minutes of March 1, 2023

Pg. 5-8

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 5. Receive Stated Clerk Report March – April 2023 | Pg. 9-10 |
| 6. Receive Treasurer's P&L and Balance Sheet March 31, 2023 | Pg. 11-12 |
| 7. Approve Presbytery Meeting Minutes March 28, 2023 | Pg. 13-20 |

B. Action Items:

- a. Beaver-Butler Presbytery Mission Statement Discussion & Approval
*"Beaver-Butler Presbytery is a covenant community of churches
that supports, nurtures, and helps grow disciples in the way of Christ."*

MISSION AND COMPASSION MINISTRY UNIT

Rev. Dr. Judy Angleberger

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Elder Scott Meiser

FELLOWSHIP BREAK

MINISTRY AND VOCATION COMMITTEE

- A. Examination of a Candidate
- B. Exploratory Mission Team

Rev. Bob Goossen
Provided Day of Meeting
Pg. 21-22

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

OFFERING RECEIVED

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery Mission Budget

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO OUR HOST CHURCH

ADJOURNMENT

SENDING #540

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

For Information--MVC approved the following: (or CT)

1. Approved part-time Supply contract between Highland, Slippery Rock and Rev. Jeff Curtis.
2. Affirmed the Covenant Church, Butler's plans to sell their building and continue as a congregation worshipping in a new space at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Butler.
 - a. Their final worship with de-commissioning of the sanctuary was May 21.

BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY

2023 Presbytery Meetings

The Office Will Close Early on These Dates

Tuesday, July 25	6:00 p.m.	Hill, Butler
Tuesday, September 26	4:00 p.m.	Exploratory Team (Dinner) Hosted by Trinity, Butler
Tuesday, November 14	6:00 p.m.	New Salem, Midland

COORDINATING TEAM
BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY
March 1, 2023

The Coordinating Team (CT) held a stated meeting at the Presbytery Center on Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

Present: Andrew Why (Coordinating Team Chair), Carolyn Paulsen (Presbytery Moderator), Jamie Fowler (Presbytery Vice Moderator), Doug Dorsey, Jim Kirk, Allen Kitchen, Beth Wierman, John Laudenslager, Cindy Miller

Ex-Officio: Tom Harmon (Executive Presbyter), Randall Clow (Stated Clerk), Lauren Cesnales (Presbytery Treasurer)

Excused:

Absent: Lee Dreyer, Bill Mumaw

Guests: Scott Meiser (chair of Finance Committee), Ray Rosenbauer, by Zoom (Chair of the Investment Team)

The Stated Clerk attested to the presence of a quorum and the meeting was called to order by the CT Chair, Andrew Why at 6:34pm. Andrew opened the meeting with prayer and a Lenten devotion from Genesis 3:19b.

Consent Agenda Approvals and Receipt of Reports:

1. Approve the Coordinating Team Meeting Minutes of January 4, 2023
2. Receive the Presbytery Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2023
3. Receive the Stated Clerk's Report
4. Receive the Executive Presbyter's Report
5. Receive Treasurer's Report (P&L and Balance Sheet)

Motion: To approve the Consent Agenda as presented – PASSED

Stated Clerk's Report:

Randall Clow

Stated Clerk Randall Clow referred CT to his written report, highlighting the 2022 Presbytery Statistical Report and 2023 Parity Report.

Executive Presbyter's Report:

Tom Harmon

Executive Presbyter Tom Harmon referred the Team to his written report.

Additionally, Tom met with Jihyun Oh and Amanda Craft of the Office of the General Assembly to discuss options for the Coordinating Team to take the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI). CT agreed to meet on May 24th in the afternoon to review the IDI process and take the inventory. CT will reconvene on the morning of May 25th to discuss the results. Tom will coordinate the finalized times for those two meetings with Jihyun and Amanda and notify the CT once confirmed.

Treasurer's Report:

Lauren Cesnales

Treasurer Cesnales referred the Team to her written report.

Lauren also presented the Report of the Financial Review of Beaver-Butler Presbytery's financial statements and procedures by the independent accountant, Cypher & Cypher (attached). It was noted that Cypher & Cypher provided the following conclusion:

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

Motion: to receive the report of the financial review of the Presbytery's financial statements and procedures of Cypher & Cypher Accounting. – PASSED

Lauren called on Scot Meiser, chair of the Finance Committee and Ray Rosenbauer, chair of the Investment Team to make a presentation to CT. Speaking on behalf of the Investment Team, Ray recommended the investment strategy for the Presbytery's long term funds transition to a more aggressive model and that some of our current holdings be changed to holdings that have historically grown in greater amounts.

Motion: to endorse the Investment Team's recommendations. – PASSED

CT reviewed documents pertaining to the sale of the church building belonging to Covenant Church, Butler. The documents were a Letter of Intent and the Agreement for the Sale of Commercial Real Estate between the Seller: Covenant United Presbyterian Church located at 230 East Jefferson Street, Butler, PA 16001 and the Buyer: Jerome P. Oliver or Assigns. The purchase price is \$265,000. Note: On January 28, 2023, the Presbytery empowered CT to work with the Covenant Presbyterian Church (Butler) Congregation and Session to manage and approve the sale of the Covenant Presbyterian Church property, should the way be clear.

Motion: to grant approval for the sale of the Covenant United Presbyterian Church building "if the way be clear" pending congregational approval of the sale on March 6, 2023. – PASSED

Visioning

CT discussed ways to introduce the final draft of the mission statement to the Presbytery and invite discussion and feedback over the next several months. The statement will be unveiled at the March meeting of Presbytery.

Committee and Unit Reports

CT reviewed the 2023 Terms of Call Report from MVC.

Motion: Receive MVC 2023 Terms of Call for inclusion in the Presbytery meeting packet. – PASSED

CT reviewed the Strengthening Congregational Connections Grant from Collaboration, Fellowship, and Youth.

Motion: to approve the grant proposal with a recommendation that clarification over the last sentence of the purpose paragraph as well as clarity over the timing is provided at the Presbytery meeting. -PASSED

Presbytery Meeting Docket Requests:

1. Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson, Synod Stated Clerk (Previously Approved)
2. Mission & Compassion Unit - update on work and goals (Previously Approved)
3. Encouraging Churches to Flourish – to give a report after the Leadership Training Event (5 minutes)
4. Collaboration, Fellowship, and Youth Ministry: grant proposal (10 minutes)
5. Coordinating Team: introduction of the draft mission statement. (10 minutes)
6. Chuck Cline – to promote the Synod grants (5 minutes)
7. MVC - requesting time for Caroline Baker to be examined for candidacy.
8. Dennis Molnar – requesting time to promote Camp Lambec (5 minutes)

Motion: To approve the Docket Time requests – PASSED

New Business:

CT learned that Trinity, Butler expressed a desire to partner with the Mission Exploratory Team as the host for the September meeting of Presbytery. Trinity, Butler is providing the meeting location and some volunteers. The Mission Exploratory Team will provide the meal and some volunteers. The 2023 Presbytery meeting schedule (with the revised location) is as follows:

Tuesday, March 28, 6 p.m. Park, Beaver	Tuesday, September 26, 4 p.m. Dinner Hosted by Trinity, Butler Mission Exploratory Team will provide dinner
Tuesday, May 23, 6 p.m. First, Beaver Falls	
Tuesday, July 25, 6 p.m. Hill, Butler	Tuesday, November 14, 6 p.m. New Salem, Midland

Motion: to approve the revised Presbytery meeting schedule. – PASSED

CT learned of a request to consider more permanent nametags for ruling elder commissioners (rather than the adhesive name badges). This may be difficult given many churches send different elder commissioners for each meeting. CT will consider ways to uplift the role of the elder commissioners and promote elder engagement.

Motion to adjourn – PASSED

The next stated meeting of the Coordinating Team will be held on April 5, 2023, 6:30 PM

Closing prayer was given by Tom Harmon at 8:23 PM.

In Service to Christ,

Rev. Randall K. Clow
Stated Clerk

Schedule of CT Minutes Attachments

Attachment 1: Report of the Financial Review

Attachment 2: Letter of Intent, Covenant Church Building, Butler

STATED CLERK'S REPORT
BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY
FOR THE MONTHS OF MARCH AND APRIL 2023

March 1, 2023

Dismiss Rev. Nicholas Marlatt to the Presbytery of Lake Michigan.

Received notification that the Trinity Church, Butler will partner with the Mission Exploratory Team to host the September meeting of Presbytery. Forwarded/Filed.

Received the independent auditor's report (Cypher & Cypher) containing the results of the financial review of the Presbytery's financial statements and practices. Forwarded/Filed

Attended Coordinating Team meeting.

March 5, 2023

Received a notification that the Congregation of the Covenant Presbytery Church, Butler voted in favor of approving the sale of the church building as specified on the finalized Agreement of Sale presented to CT. The vote was taken by secret ballot during called meeting for that purpose on March 5, 2023 at 12:30pm. Filed.

March 6, 2023

Received the Minutes of the Installation of the Reverend Melissa Ann Morris to Vanport Church, Vanport. Filed.

March 7, 2023

Attended meeting to create the docket for our upcoming Presbytery meeting.

March 16, 2023

Reported the death of the Reverend Richard Anshutz, now a member of the Church Triumphant, to the Office of the General Assembly.

March 19, 2023

Led workshops for clerks of session at the Presbytery Leadership Training Event.

March 23, 2023

With the Assistant Stated Clerk, prepared the Presbytery minutes for the Synod Records Review.

March 28, 2023

Attended the meeting of the churches of Beaver-Butler Presbytery.

March 29, 2023

Attended meeting with Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson, the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Trinity.

April 7, 2023

Completed Synod of the Trinity Records Review Checklist and sent the checklist and the 2022 Minutes of Beaver-Butler for pre-review. Special Thanks to Assistant Stated Clerk, Rev. Jim Steiner, for his work recording the minutes and prepping for the review!

April 14, 2023

Completed the pre-review of the minutes of Donegal Presbytery in preparation for the Synod Records Review.

April 17, 2023

Received an update on the GA proposed amendment voting totals and re-reviewed the proposed amendments for anticipated impacts on the Presbytery.

[Note: the report concludes on April 17th due to the CT information deadline. Stated Clerk items that occur after April 17th will be recorded on the May-June Report.]

In Service to Christ,

Rev. Randall K. Clow
Stated Clerk

Beaver-Butler Presbytery

Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2023

	Mar 31, 23
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · Cash	
10107 · WesBanco	570,680.29
10108 · Northwest Savings Bank	69,470.99
10109 · Northwest Savings Market Fund	2,461.73
10115 · Petty Cash	153.40
Total 10000 · Cash	642,766.41
10300 · Investments	
10511 · Presbyterian Investment & Loan	308,334.99
10512 · PILP Fixed Term Note	211,743.53
10513 · Charles Schwab & Co.	76,831.17
10520 · Ecumenical Cooperative	1,500.00
Total 10300 · Investments	598,409.69
Total Checking/Savings	1,241,176.10
Total Current Assets	1,241,176.10
TOTAL ASSETS	1,241,176.10
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Long Term Liabilities	
28001 · Deferred Mortgage Income	30,000.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	30,000.00
Total Liabilities	30,000.00
Equity	
29000 · Restricted Funds	
29100 · Temporarily Restricted	
29105 · Peacemaking Fund	3,852.57
29125 · New Church Development Fund	
29126 · Closed Churches Fund (Fund A)	434,832.12
29127 · Departed Churches Fund (Fund B)	685,374.58
29125 · New Church Development Fund - Other	28.78
Total 29125 · New Church Development Fund	1,120,235.48
29140 · Support of Candidates Fund	876.70
29145 · Leadership Training Fund	20,000.00
29160 · NWV Seed Grant	7,443.97
29165 · Champ Education Fund	4,258.49
Total 29100 · Temporarily Restricted	1,156,667.21
29200 · Permanently Restricted	
29205 · Endowment Fund	2,575.09
29210 · Lyndora Scholarship Fund	20,003.58
Total 29200 · Permanently Restricted	22,578.67
Total 29000 · Restricted Funds	1,179,245.88
39000 · Retained Earnings	-5,254.19
Net Income	37,184.41
Total Equity	1,211,176.10
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,241,176.10

Beaver-Butler Presbytery
Profit & Loss by Class
 January through March 2023

	Administrative	Mission	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
51102 · Per Capita Apportionment	81,866.50	0.00	81,866.50
52105 · Rev.Mission Causes-Budget	0.00	26,309.20	26,309.20
53112 · Tinker Trust - PNC Bank	26.84	0.00	26.84
56110 · Rent Complete Travel	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
56115 · Rent - Tenants	3,165.00	0.00	3,165.00
57105 · Miscellaneous Income	3,291.32	332.00	3,623.32
Total Income	89,849.66	26,641.20	116,490.86
Expense			
72105 · Mission Causes Exp- Synod/GA	0.00	16,814.12	16,814.12
72110 · Mission Causes Exp- Other	0.00	700.00	700.00
73000 · Salary/Wage/Benefits	42,676.29	0.00	42,676.29
74000 · Units/Officers	1,064.66	678.77	1,743.43
75100 · Cost of Space	7,540.49	0.00	7,540.49
75200 · Communications	1,849.52	0.00	1,849.52
75300 · Furniture and Equipment	3,445.65	0.00	3,445.65
75400 · Office Expense	1,191.69	0.00	1,191.69
75500 · Training and Professional	1,225.00	0.00	1,225.00
75600 · Travel Expense	1,964.55	0.00	1,964.55
75900 · Miscellaneous Expense	106.00	0.00	106.00
Total Expense	61,063.85	18,192.89	79,256.74
Net Ordinary Income	28,785.81	8,448.31	37,234.12
Net Income	28,785.81	8,448.31	37,234.12

A GATHERING OF THE CHURCHES OF BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY

March 28, 2023, 6:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting – In-Person & Zoom

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held a stated meeting at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, using a *Hybrid* format: in-person and Zoom technology. The meeting was held at Park Presbyterian Church, Beaver, where Rev. Todd Allen serves as Pastor.

Presbytery Moderator Elder Carolyn Paulsen called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and affirmed the presence of a quorum with Stated Clerk Rev. Randall Clow. Carolyn opened by reading from Psalm 131.

WELCOME, ORIENTATION, AND OPENING WORSHIP:

Moderator Paulsen welcomed Minister Members, Elder Commissioners, and visitors. Carolyn took a moment to familiarize those attending on Zoom how to interact with the meeting.

WELCOME FROM THE HOST CHURCH:

Elder Susan Ivey from Park Church welcomed the Presbyters and gave details of the facility, including fellowship location. Pastor Allen opened the meeting with prayer.

WELCOME OF NEW ELDERS, PASTORS, AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:

First-time Commissioner Elders and Pastors were introduced.

The following Corresponding Members were enrolled:

- Rev. Dr. N. Graham Standish (Pittsburgh Presbytery), Executive Director, Samaritan Counseling, Guidance & Consulting of Western PA
- Rev. Dr. Michael R. Wilson (The Presbytery of Donegal), Stated Clerk, Synod of the Trinity

Motion: To form the roll, and to seat the Corresponding Members.

Seeing no objections, the Moderator declared the motion passed.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The congregation opened the meeting with a responsive Call to Worship.

HYMN:

“The Servant Song”

THE WORD READ & SPOKEN:

Rev. Dr. Michael R. Wilson
Stated Clerk, Synod of the Trinity

Dr. Wilson spoke to those gathered about “thriving in ministry” – everyone. If we are to thrive, we will need a grand & glorious vision of ministry. Dr. Wilson read from Ephesians 4:1-6. Paul begs us to “...lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called.”

Dr. Wilson described the role of the Synod Stated Clerk, and brought greetings from the almost 900 churches in the other 15 presbyteries, made up of nearly 120,000 brothers and sisters in Christ. He introduced his remarks with the metaphor of hiking the Appalachian Trail. These are not the paths we usually follow, but our goal is still to reach our destination.

As Paul encouraged the church to stay together, he was interested in sustaining a community. In the early days of the Reformed Church, pastors met and prayed regularly each week – sometimes for an hour or more. The early “Presbyteries” were not about meetings to make decisions, but staying together in life and ministry.

If we as a church are going to make our way into a future, we need to be with one another in ways we have not yet figured out. We need each other: we need to walk together, study together, and pray together. We have one Lord, one faith, one baptism together. We need such a vision to sustain us for the future.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

“Give Me Jesus”
Arranged by Ron McVey

Eric Kochanowski, Soloist
Debra McCowin, Accompanist

GOOD NEWS FROM THE PEWS:

Commissioners offered items of good news that were happening in the churches.

CAMPING ASSOCIATION OF THE PRESBYTERIES OF NW PA:

Rev. Dennis Molnar

Rev. Molnar offered greetings from Camp Lambec, on the shore of Lake Erie. Camp Lambec continues to celebrate 75 years of camping ministry. He mentioned their new website,

camplambec.com. Interested parties can email him at **dennis.molnar@camplambec.com**. They are offering two new camps this summer, and are inviting former campers from Westminster Highlands. Dennis spoke with enthusiasm about upcoming programs and opportunities for service at the Camp.

STATED CLERK REPORT:

Rev. Randall Clow

Randall referred the Presbyters to his written report – some highlights:

1. The 2022 Financial Review was completed, but the document was delayed and not received for the January 2023 Presbytery meeting. It is now available for examination.
2. Clerks are reminded of the upcoming Session Minutes Review dates and locations.
3. The results of the 225th General Assembly Amendments voting were in the Meeting packet.
4. The 2023 Elder / Minister Parity Review was provided.
5. There was an item of New Business.

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT:

Rev. Dr. Tom Harmon

Tom reflected on the tragic events of the past days, but offered words of encouragement and thanks to the “Easter People” who continue to reach out and serve in churches and the community. Easter people share hope in the darkness, look to the light, and know that not even death ends it all. We are Easter people, and Easter people give hope to a broken world.

Tom spoke of his desire to “encourage the encouragers” – pastors who preach Resurrection’s Good News, whose words give the hope of God’s love to those who thirst for comfort; to Ruling Elders whose leadership calls communities of faith together who share a novel truth, showing what it means to follow Christ.

As he concluded his remarks, Tom invited Elder Mark Finch, Personnel Committee Chair, to come forward to honor and congratulate Barb Paff – Secretary to the Executive Presbyter, Officers, Committees, and Units; and Office Coordinator – for *twenty years* of faithful service and ministry to the Presbytery.

COORDINATING TEAM:

Elder Andrew Why

- A. *Consent Agenda* – the Coordinating Team (CT) recommended that the Presbytery:
1. Seat Corresponding Members and grant them voice;
 2. Approve the Docket;
 3. Receive the Report of the Coordinating Team Minutes, February 1, 2023;
 4. Receive the Stated Clerk Report, January & February 2023;
 5. Receive the Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss, January 2023;
 6. Approve the Presbytery Meeting Minutes, January 28, 2023, and
 7. From Ministry & Vocation:
 - a. Receive the 2023 Ministers' Terms of Call

Seeing no questions or objections, the Moderator declared the Consent Agenda approved as presented.

B. *Mission Statement Presentation*

Vice-Moderator Rev. Jamie Fowler

Jamie asked the Presbyters if anyone knew the “current” Mission Statement. (*No one knew!*) She subsequently reminded the Presbyters that it's fifteen years old! Therefore, the CT has been working diligently to craft a Statement that reflects things now. She showed the Statement on the screen, and asked everyone to think about what being a “Covenant Community” means.

Beaver-Butler Presbytery is a Covenant Community of churches that supports, nurtures, and helps grow disciples in the way of Christ.

Using a giant ball of yarn as a prop, Jamie and other members of the Coordinating Team led a discussion highlighting various aspects of “Covenant Community.” It needs to be more than something hanging in a frame in the Presbytery office!

- Covenants are trust-based promises that rely on the integrity of mutual accountability.
- We believe God calls all people of faith into a covenantal life together.
- We seek to reframe the term “Presbytery” from an office or institution into a collaborative partnership.
- The Presbytery is the community of congregations that willingly join each other in our purpose together.

At the end of the presentation, Synod Stated Clerk Dr. Wilson was invited to say a few words about the process through which the BBP leadership had gone. He congratulated the CT for its efforts, and offered some remarks from a book he had recently read:

“[Denominations] that [are] organized to sustain congregations in their *legacy forms* face a highly uncertain future. Denominational identity and loyalty do not hold the same sway for younger Christians as they did for older generations in a hybrid and fluid world.” (*Italics added*)¹

Dr. Wilson continued: The way we have organized ourselves in some things is not sustainable – it does not have staying power. Now is the time to think about identity, reimagine ourselves,

¹ Craig Van Gelder and Dwight J. Zscheile, *Participating in God's Mission: A Theological Missiology for the Church in America*. Grand Rapids: Eerdsman's Publishing Co, 2018, p. 309.

and think biblically and wholistically about who we are going to be in the future.

Concluding, CT Chair Why thanked the CT and others for their efforts in crafting the Statement. He encouraged everyone to think and pray about how we as a Presbytery can live out this Mission Statement together, into the future. The CT hopes the Presbytery can discuss and approve the Statement at the May 2023 Presbytery meeting.

FELLOWSHIP BREAK:

After a time of fellowship, Moderator Paulsen called the meeting back to order at 8:07 PM

MISSION AND COMPASSION MINISTRY UNIT:

Rev. Dr. Judy Angleberger

Judy recognized the current and former members of the Unit. She asked Rev. Todd Allen, pastor at Park Church, Beaver, to talk about some of their activities, to serve as an inspiration for others. Todd encouraged others to be open to God's goodness regarding ministry. He spoke about the re-opening of their Preschool, and other ministries they are developing.

COLLABORATION, FELLOWSHIP & YOUTH MINISTRY UNIT:

Rev. Leigh Benish

Leigh referenced Jesus' words about "*when two or more are gathered together*" (Mt. 18:20), but instead spoke about two or more *congregations* gathering together. She referred the Presbyters to a new Grant, "**Strengthening Congregational Connections.**" She discussed the details of the Grant, and offered suggestions to the Presbyters. Leigh encouraged churches to join forces to apply!

ENCOURAGING CHURCHES TO FLOURISH MINISTRY UNIT:

Rev. Jamie Fowler

Jamie offered very positive remarks about the recent officer training event (some 90 leaders attended!), and welcomed suggestions for future events.

MINISTRY AND VOCATION COMMITTEE (MVC):

Rev. Bob Goossen

Bob referred the Presbyters to his written report.

Floor Action:

Ministry and Vocation moved that Inquirer Caroline Baker (Calvin, Zelienople) be approved to move from Inquirer to Candidate Status for ordination. He explained the differences between the two Phases, compared to when a Candidate is presented for Ordination.

Chair Goossen asked Caroline to share her sense of call to Ministry.

Caroline was asked to step outside, and the Moderator opened the floor for discussion.

There were no questions from the floor, or on Zoom.

Motion to approve Caroline Baker to move to Candidate Status – MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUSLY

VICE-MODERATOR REV. JAMIE FOWLER NOW MODERATING...

SYNOD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

CRE Chuck Cline

Chuck referenced the remarks from Michael Wilson, Tom Harmon, and the Mission Statement – Support, Nurture, and Help. He highlighted the various Grants available from the Synod to assist congregations in ministry and outreach.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business

NEW BUSINESS:

Elder Andrew Why

The Coordinating Team (CT) moved that Beaver-Butler Presbytery allow the CT – acting as Trustees of the Presbytery, in consultation with the Administrative Commission for Calvary Church, Beaver Falls – to enter into a contract to sell the property of the former Calvary Presbyterian Church, should the way be clear.

There were no questions from the floor or Zoom.

Motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

OFFERING RECEIVED:

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery Mission Budget

RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO THE HOST CHURCH:

A Resolution of Thanks was offered to the Park Church for their hosting.

HYMN:

“God, Be With You ‘Till We Meet Again”

ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER: The meeting was closed in prayer by Vice-Moderator Fowler at 8:42 PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 23, 6:00 PM, First Church, Beaver Falls, “hybrid” format – In-person and Zoom (*Note: Office will close early...*)

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. James R. Steiner, Assistant Stated Clerk

Rev. Randall K. Clow, Stated Clerk

For Information – from the Coordinating Team:

1. Covenant, Butler is under contract to sell its church building with a May 31, 2023 closing date. This was approved at a duly-called Congregational meeting, March 5, 2023.

For Information – Ministry & Vocation:

1. Granted a waiver of rotation to First, Midland for three Elders/Trustees for three years.
2. Granted a waiver of rotation to First, Darlington for one Elder.
3. Appointed Rev. Mark Davis, Kiskiminetas Presbytery, as Moderator for North & East Butler, permitting him to labor within our bounds.
4. Appointed Rev. Larry Maley as Moderator for North Sewickley, Ellwood City

**BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY
2023 Presbytery Meetings
The Office Will Close Early on These Dates**

Tuesday, May 23 6:00 P.M. First, Beaver Falls
Tuesday, July 25 6:00 P.M. Hill, Butler
Tuesday, September 26 4:00 P.M. Exploratory Mission Team (Dinner) Hosted by Trinity, Butler
Tuesday, November 14 6:00 P.M. New Salem, Midland

TABLE OF ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES, MARCH 28, 2023 PRESBYTERY MEETING:

- A. Record of Participation in (In-Person and via Zoom), Presbytery Meeting, March 28, 2023
- B. Coordinating Team Minutes, February 1, 2023
- C. Presbytery Meeting Minutes, January 28, 2023
- D. Report of the Stated Clerk, January – February 2023
- E. Report of the Treasurer: Balance Sheet & Profit & Loss, January 2023
- F. 2023 Parity Report
- G. *Strengthening Congregational Connections* Grant – Document and Application

ATTENDANCE

MINISTERS

Allen, Todd		P
Allio, Mark		P
Angleberger, A. Gary	H.R.	P
Angleberger, Judy A.	H.R.	P
Angleberger, Kelley		A
*Barr, Eva-Maria		A
Benish, Leigh		P
Benson, James		A
Bittner, Lee	H.R.	EXC
Black, Keith		P
Brewer, David R.	H.R.	EXC
Burkley, Michael	H.R.	EXC
Byers, David D.	H.R.	EXC
Campbell, James W.	H.R.	EXC
*Cline, Charles		P
Clow, Randall		P
Clyde, Tom	H.R.	EXC
Cramer, Stephen	H.R.	EXC
Currie, Susan	H.R.	EXC
Curtis, Jeffrey A.	H.R.	EXC
de Vries, Peter C.		EXC
Dorsey, Douglas		P
Dreyer, W. Lee	H.R.	EXC
Dunn, Connie	H.R.	EXC
Edmondson, Robert		P
Erwin, Kirk	H.R.	EXC
Fowler, Jamie		P
*Frailey, Mark		A
Frierson, Connie	H.R.	EXC
Gebhard, Doug		EXC
Goossen, Robert		P
Hamilton, Monica		EXC
Harmon, Tom		P
*Hartung, Gregg		P
Hauser, Brian		P
Heller, F. Edwin	H.R.	EXC
Hoffman, C. F.	H.R.	P
Horstman, Katherine A. L.	H.R.	EXC
Huffmyer, Deborah E.	H.R.	EXC
Jackson, Bill	H.R.	EXC
Jamieson, William A.	H.R.	EXC
Kennedy, Robert W.	H.R.	EXC
Kennedy, Vicki		A
Kirk, Jim		P
Kitchen, Mary	H.R.	P
Maley, Lawrence	H.R.	P
March, Lauren		A
*Marquis, Jeff		A
Mathias, Robert V.	H.R.	EXC
*McMeekin, Thomas		A
Meloy, Merry		EXC
Morris, Melissa		A
Molnar, Dennis		P
Mumaw, William		P
Nelson, Jon		P
Oyler, David		P

ATTACHMENT A

Paul, A. David		P
Porter, John W.		A
Rowe, Richard F.		A
Roy, Dena		A
Salyers, James		A
Saul, Robert P.		A
Sawyer, Clark T.	H.R.	EXC
*Schaefer, Paul		A
Schermerhorn, Ron		P
Shaffer, Andrew C.		A
Shullo, Carmen		P
Silbert, John		P
Sinagra, Jason		A
Smith, Jean	H.R.	EXC
Smothers, Andrew		P
Snyder, Donald F.	H.R.	EXC
Steiner, Jim	H.R.	P
Stoops, Leland (Terry) R.	H.R.	EXC
Swanson, James	H.R.	EXC
Swinsburg, Rob Dale		P
Tuft, John T.		A
Weston, Gary L.	H.R.	EXC
*Whitman, Diane		A
Wiebe, John M.	H.R.	EXC
Wierman, Beth		P
Winship, Michael	H.R.	EXC

ELDERS

Aliquippa	
New Bethlehem	Mary Clow
(2 votes)	Mary Cary
Ohio	
(2 votes)	
Raccoon	
Service	
Ambridge	
Ambridge U.P.	Cathy Torhan
Baden	
Concord	John Laurenslager
Beaver	
Park	Becky Pilarski
(2 votes)	Roxanne Walker
Beaver Falls	
First	Andrew Why
(2 votes)	
Steffin Hill	
Covenant	Gina Loebell
Faith	Ron McKissick
Butler	
Hill	Anne Miller
(2 votes)	Louise Evans
Mt Chestnut	
(2 votes)	
Saint Andrews	
Trinity	
Callery	
Crestview	

Cherry Valley	
E. Unity	
Chicora	
North Butler	Allen Kitchen
Clintonville	
Union	
Connoquenessing	
White Oak Springs	Tom Marlowe
Conway	
Conway	
Cranberry	
Cranberry Community	Cindy Miller
(2 votes)	
Plains	
Darlington	
First	
Mt. Pleasant	
East Butler	
East Butler	Kerry Dowdy
Eau Claire	
Eau Claire	
Ellwood City	
North Sewickley	Tom Umstott
(2 votes)	
Frankfort Springs	
Frankfort	
Harmony	
Camp Run	
Hooker	
Concord	Denise Hobough
Mars	
Mars United	John Ivory
Old Union	Jill McDonald
(2 votes)	MaryRae Thompson
Midland	
First	
New Salem	
Monaca	
First	
North Branch	
New Brighton	
First	Jeff Young
Westminster	
New Galilee	
The Galilean	Paul Morrison
N. Washington	
N. Washington	
Parker	
First	
Prospect	
Mt Nebo	Lynnett Patton
P. Church Prospect	Leslie Raisley
Rochester	
First Presb.	
New Sewickley	Jennifer Brown
Sarver	
Buffalo	Virginia Shirey
Westminster	Pat Hebda

Saxonburg	
Clinton	Tom Hamilton
Jefferson Center	
Saxonburg Memorial	
(2 votes)	
Shippingport	
Bethlehem	
Slippery Rock	
Center	
Friendship	
Highland	
Valencia	
Glade Run	Beverly Dietrich
(2 votes)	Eric Scholtz
Valencia	Karen Peterman
Vanport	
Vanport	
West Sunbury	
West Sunbury	
Zelienople	
Calvin	Thomas Reiber
(2 votes)	Alecia McKee
Park	

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Name	Presbytery/Affiliation
Michael Wilson	Synod of the Trinity
Graham Standish	Pittsburgh Presbytery

ELDER MEMBERS WHO ARE: OFFICER, COORDINATING TEAM, OR UNIT CHAIR

Name	Presbytery/Affiliation
Carolyn Paulsen	Moderator
Lauren Cesnales	Treasurer
Judy Lipcsak	Nominating
Mark Finch	Personnel

VISITORS

Name	Church
Larry Paulsen	Buffalo, Sarver
Susan Ivey	Park, Beaver
Debra McCowin	Park, Beaver
Pat Angerelt	
Annamary McMullen	Valencia, Valencia
Frank Baker	Calvin, Zelienople
David Wuchina	Calvin, Zelienople
Craig Barrod	Calvin, Zelienople
John E. Connolly Jr.	Calvin, Zelienople
Jim Paff	North Sewickley, Ellwood

Exploratory Mission Team
Beaver Butler Presbytery
Final Report
4-27-23

To All Concerned:

As we are reminded from Ecclesiastes 3:1, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

Unfortunately, the Exploratory Mission Team has determined its time to bring our exploration of ministry possibilities in the Ambridge and Aliquippa area to a close.

After the Refreshing Springs Mission Church closed about 8 months ago, we were wondering if God was calling the remaining remnant of that congregation to a particular mission in southern Beaver County. So, the Presbytery formed an Exploratory Mission Team to investigate various possibilities. For the past 8 months, we have met monthly with a 1001 New Worshiping Communities coach, Rev. Colin Pritchard. We also met weekly for Saturday evening worship services at the Ohio U.P. Church, and more recently had a Thursday morning Bible Study on Zoom.

We have experienced significant challenges over the past 3 years. First, after an Administrative Commission was formed for Refreshing Springs Mission Church in January 2021, everything was delayed until October 2021, due to a stay of enforcement preventing the Administrative Commission from proceeding. Second, only a remnant of the former congregation remained. Third, the worshiping community was without pastoral leadership. Also, after COVID eased up, we hoped the Community Center at Crestview Village in Ambridge would be available once again. However, the Beaver County housing Authority did not grant us permission, because the use of the community center was designated specifically for residents of Crestview Village, not for the greater Ambridge community. So, this was a significant disappointment for us concerning the future.

Month after month, we strived to discern where God was leading us, however, no ideas or plans gained traction. No matter what we tried, or which way we turned, doors did not open for us. Therefore, at our April 20, 2023 Exploratory Mission Team meeting we discerned it was time to cease investigating possibilities for the time being.

The Exploratory Mission Team is scheduled to provide the meal for the September 26th Presbytery Meeting, and we look forward to fulfilling that prior obligation.

God is always up to something. However, at the time, we don't see or grasp what that might be. Therefore, we're stepping away, taking Sabbath rest, but keeping our eyes

and ears, hearts and minds open to what God may be up to in the Ambridge and Aliquippa communities. So, if you see anything, or hear anything, please let us know.

Blessings and Peace,

The Exploratory Mission Team

Pastor C.F. Hoffman, Moderator

Elder Dennis Krebs, Clerk

Elder Anthony Wannamaker

Elder Claudia Guest

Deacon Elsie Gaskins

Elder Andrew Honess

Rev. Ralph Lowe (Consultant)

Sonya-Marie Morley (Consultant)