

GATHERING OF THE CHURCHES OF BEAVER- BUTLER PRESBYTERY

Tuesday, July 25, 2023
Beginning at 6:00 PM

In-Person at:
The Hill United Presbyterian Church
501 Second Street, Butler, PA 16001
Rev. Leigh Benish, Pastor
5:30 pm Registration

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87957423253>

Meeting ID: 879 5742 3253

One tap mobile
+19292056099,,87957423253# US (New York)
Dial by your location
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87957423253>

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.*

History of Hill United Presbyterian Church



First United Presbyterian Church, Butler (now known as St. Andrews United Presbyterian Church) made a resolution in August 1910 to establish the Second United Presbyterian Church at the corner of Brady and Second Streets, at the top of “Institute Hill.” The cornerstone was laid on June 29, 1911, with approximately 1,000 people in attendance, and the first worship service was held in March 1912. The total cost of the building and furnishings was \$32,574.

The architectural style of what is now named Hill Church is known as the Akron Plan, characterized by an auditorium-form worship space with a sloping floor and seats arranged in a semi-circle rather than straight rows. This plan provides a place where all can see and hear, along with educational space contiguous with the Sanctuary in a circumscribing balcony. The main panel of the stained-glass window, known as the “Gethsemane Window,” was part of the original church building with the two side panels added later.

The two-story education/office wing was dedicated in September 1956. The original Moller organ was replaced by a Schantz organ with 1,100 pipes that still serves our congregation today. Handbells were dedicated in July 1969. Over the years, building improvements have included the addition of air conditioning in 2003, the construction of a Brady St. parking lot, renovation/expansion of the chancel area, and the installation of a lift and automatic doors to make the building accessible to all.

Mission has been a vital part of Hill Church from the beginning. The church was intentionally placed at the top of Institute Hill, where the Streetcar line ended, as a mission plant to the neighborhood. We have a long history of programs for children and youth, including a weekly drop-in night for neighborhood youth, mission trips, and other educational events. We prepare and serve community lunches and dinners once a month and host an AA meeting every Saturday. We are proud to say that 10% of our church budget is dedicated to mission, both locally and around the world. You can learn more in our “Giving Corner.”

At Hill Church, we believe that all are welcome, and that everyone, regardless of age, gender, race, orientation, physical or mental ability, socio-economic status, political standing, and anything else that separates us from one another, has a place here.

Rev. Leigh Benish came to Hill Church in October of 2018. Together, we have worked to make Hill more welcoming and accessible, with additions such as the “Prayground” area for children and families to use during worship, and technology to bring worship to our members at home. We continue to build relationships with our fellow “Butler Area Presbyterian” (BAP) churches, as well as the local ecumenical and interfaith community. In all we say and do, Hill Church strives to be a beacon of love and acceptance in our community and beyond.

Directions to Hill Church:

501 Second St, Butler PA 16001- at the corner of Second & Brady Streets

From Beaver County, Cranberry,

points West and Southwest: Take PA Rt. 68 north through Evans City. Rt. 68 joins PA Rt. 356 outside of Butler City. Continue on 356/68, which turns into Cunninghams St., into downtown Butler. At the corner of Cunningham

and Main St. (which is also PA Rt. 8), turn left (north) onto Main St. A few blocks down, turn right (east) onto Brady St. – there will be a Dunkin’ Donuts to your left. Continue up the hill on Brady St., and Hill Church is at the top on your left.



From the South: Take PA Rt. 8 north into Butler. Rt. 8 becomes Main St. in Butler City. Follow Main St. through downtown, then turn right (east) onto Brady St. – there will be a Dunkin’ Donuts to your left. Continue up the hill on Brady St., and Hill Church is at the top on your left.

From points North and Northwest: Take PA Rt. 8 south into Butler. Rt. 8 becomes Main St. in Butler City. Follow Main St. into the city, then turn left (east) onto Brady St. – there will be a Dunkin’ Donuts to your right. Continue up the hill on Brady St., and Hill Church is at the top on your left.

From the Southeast: Take PA Rt. 356 into Butler, following the road as it turns right at the Sheetz to become Center Avenue. At the bottom of the hill, turn right at the light onto Monroe St. – there will be a Key Bank to your left. Follow Monroe St. over PA Rt. 68/Jefferson St.. You will pass the Monroe Hotel, and then Butler Catholic School on your right. At the flashing light, take a right onto Brady St., go up the hill, where Hill Church is located at the top on the left.

PARKING is limited and carpooling is encouraged. There is on-St. parking available around the church, and we have a small parking lot (17 spaces) across Brady St., just past the church on the right. Parking may also be available at Butler Hospital in their parking garage or small side lot, located just 1½ blocks past the church on Brady St.. Please follow posted signage.

Parking assistants will be available to assist that evening.

ACCESSIBILITY

There are two handicap accessible entrances to the church:

- When facing the church on Second St., use the lower-level door on the right. The door has a push button to open, and right inside there is a lift to bring you to the upper level.
- Past the church on Second St., turn into the Alley (McCarren Way) and use the alley entrance. The door has a push button to open, and this is the main floor where the meeting will be held.

There is one fully accessible restroom on the main level in the hallway behind the sanctuary.

Registration to take place in the Ken Hall Memorial Lounge
Prayer Room will be in the Adult Library

A GATHERING OF THE CHURCHES OF BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Registration 5:30 pm

HYBRID Meeting Begins at 6:00 pm

(In-Person)

The Hill Presbyterian Church

501 Second Street, Butler, PA 16001

Rev. Leigh Benish, Pastor

(VIA Zoom: See Email for Link)

GATHERING

PRELUDE

PRESBYTERY GREETING

WELCOME FROM HOST CHURCH:

Clerk of Session, Louis Evans

WELCOME OF NEW ELDERS AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

OPENING PRAYER

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

L: For many reasons, from many places, carrying wrongs and rights

P. some unsure, some very certain, each with a story

L. we are called to be loved and to love, to see and be seen, to be made and re-made

P. perspective shifted, spirits moved, bodies in motion

L. to be the Beaver-Butler Presbytery: a covenant community of churches that supports, nurtures, and helps to grow disciples in the way of Christ.

HYMN (On screen)

“The Servant Song”

THE WORD READ

Matthew 18:15-20

THE WORD SPOKEN

“Talk It Out”

Rev. Leigh Benish

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Solid Rock”

arr. Jason W. Krug

Hill Church Memorial Handbell Quartet

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. Approve the Docket
4. Receive CT Minutes of May 3, 2023 & June 7, 2023

Pg. 6-10

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 5. Receive Stated Clerk Report May – June, 2023 | Pg. 11 |
| 6. Receive Treasurer's P&L and Balance Sheet May 31, 2023 | Pg. 12 -13 |
| 7. Approve Presbytery Meeting Minutes May 23, 2023 | Pg. 14-20 |
| 8. Receive Rev. Richard Klein, HR, member of Redstone Presbytery as a member of Beaver-Butler Presbytery | |

B. Coordinating Team Report

- a. Synod Special Administrative Review Commission Report
- b. Presbytery Visioning Discussion: Cultural Awareness Development

ENCOURAGING CHURCHES TO FOURISH

FELLOWSHIP BREAK

MISSION AND COMPASSION MINISTRY UNIT

Rev. Dr. Judy Angleberger

MINISTRY AND VOCATION COMMITTEE

Rev. Bob Goossen

- A. Introduction of Rev. Richard Klein
- B. Recognition of the Retirement of Rev. Dr. James Kirk

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COMMISSIONING OF RULING ELDER TIMOTHY CASEY TO PASTORAL SERVICE

Moderator Carolyn Paulsen

Order of Worship
Sentences of Scripture
Constitutional Questions
Prayer
Welcome and Charge

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

OFFERING RECEIVED

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery Mission Budget

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO OUR HOST CHURCH

ADJOURNMENT, PRAYER & CLOSING SONG (On screen)

"God Be With You"

For Information--MVC approved the following:

1. If the way be clear, approved the retirement of Rev. Dr. James Kirk.
2. If the way be clear, approved the transfer of Rev. Ron Schermerhorn to the Charlotte Presbytery to serve the Rockingham First congregation.
3. Ordination Exam Readers for October 2-6, 2023 appointed: Carmen Shullo (Ruling Elder); Jason Sinagra (Teaching Elder)

Sunday, August 13 CRE Picnic sponsored by the Encouraging Churches to Flourish
Ministry Unit for CRE graduates (and current candidates), Seminary Graduates,
and their families @ Quality Gardens' Bloom Café, 5:00 PM
Wednesday, August 16 Pastors Picnic sponsored by the Collaboration, Fellowship &
Youth Ministry Unit **Pg. 22**
Wednesday, August 30 Book of Order - Bulk Order Deadline **Pg. 23**
September 21 -27 International Peacemaker Visit **Pg. 24**

BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY

2023 Presbytery Meetings

The Office Will Close Early on These Dates

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
May 3, 2023

The Coordinating Team (CT) held a stated meeting at the Presbytery Center on Wednesday, May 3, 2023.

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

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

Excused: Carolyn Paulsen

Absent: Bill Mumaw

The Stated Clerk attested to the presence of a quorum and the meeting was called to order by the CT Chair, Andrew Why at 6:33pm. Andrew Why opened the meeting with prayer and a time of group sharing over the instances we've seen God at work.

Consent Agenda Approvals and Receipt of Reports:

1. Approve the Coordinating Team Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2023
2. Receive the Presbytery Meeting Minutes of March 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 as of March 31, 2023)

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.

The Stated Clerk also noted that the 2022 minutes and records of Beaver-Butler Presbytery were approved with commendation by the Synod of the Trinity during the annual records review held on April 26, 2023.

Executive Presbyter's Report:

Tom Harmon

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

Jihyun Oh and Amanda Craft will conduct the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI). CT will meet on May 24th at 1:00pm to review the process and take the inventory. CT will reconvene at 9:00am on May 25th to discuss the results.

The Executive Presbyter reported that he and Lauren Cesnales have been in conversation with an individual who is interested in purchasing the former Calvary Presbyterian Church building (Beaver Falls). The asking price for the building is \$200,000. The individual had originally offered \$135,000 "as is" but after learning of some of the needs of the building revised his offer to \$1,000 plus closing

costs. CT agreed to decline the revised offer. The individual intends to use the church building for a private residence.

CT received the rental agreement between the Covenant Church, Butler and the Trinity Church, Butler. The Covenant congregation will begin nesting inside the Trinity Presbyterian Church building (effective 5/22/23).

Treasurer's Report:

Lauren Cesnales

Treasurer Cesnales referred the Team to her written report.

CT Visioning Team / Mission Statement

Discussed the comments and feedback received since the March Presbytery meeting when the mission statement was introduced. There is consensus on the current version of the statement:

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

CT's recommendation to approve the mission statement will be placed on the May Presbytery meeting agenda.

Presbytery Meeting Docket Requests:

1. MVC Examination – 20 minutes
2. Finance Committee – 15 minutes
3. Mission and Compassion Unit – 10 minutes
4. Exploratory Mission Team – 10 minutes

Motion: To approve the Docket Time requests – PASSED

Old Business:

CT discussed the importance of ruling elder involvement at Presbytery Meetings. Andrew Why, Allen Kitchen, Beth Wierman, Tom Harmon, and Lauren Cesnales will meet to consider ways to increase ruling elder participation.

New Business: *None*

Motion to adjourn – PASSED

The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:06pm. Our next stated meeting is June 7, 2023 at 6:30pm.

In Service to Christ,

Rev. Randall K. Clow
Stated Clerk

Schedule of CT Minute Attachments

Facilities Usage Agreement Between Trinity and Covenant
Independent Accountant's Review Report

COORDINATING TEAM
BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY
June 7, 2023

The Coordinating Team (CT) held a stated meeting at the Presbytery Center on Wednesday, June 7, 2023.

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

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

Excused: Bill Mumaw, Doug Dorsey, Beth Wierman

The Stated Clerk attested to the presence of a quorum and the meeting was called to order by the CT Chair, Andrew Why at 6:40pm. The meeting was opened with prayer and a devotion from Luke 1:37 led by Jim Kirk.

Consent Agenda Approvals and Receipt of Reports:

1. Approve the Coordinating Team Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2023
2. Receive the Stated Clerk's Report
3. Receive the Executive Presbyter's Report
4. 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.

Executive Presbyter's Report:

Tom Harmon

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

Additionally, Tom reported the following:

The United Presbyterian Church of Ambridge and the Zion Lutheran Church have been in discernment and are working towards becoming a union congregation. MVC has appointed Tom Harmon, David Byers, and Lynn Byers to work with members of this congregation and the leadership within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) as they explore becoming a union congregation. This group is drafting a formula of agreement and bylaws for the union church. The United Presbyterian Church of Ambridge has been worshipping with the Zion Lutheran Church for two years.

The Covenant Presbyterian Church (Butler) building is officially sold. The Covenant Church had its first worship service at the Trinity Presbyterian Church (Butler) building.

The potential buyer for the Calvary Presbyterian Church (Beaver Falls) building has withdrawn his offer. A Hispanic congregation, which has ties to Tiger Pause Youth Ministry, has indicated some interest in the building. The boiler for the church building is no longer operational.

Treasurer's Report:

Lauren Cesnales

Treasurer Cesnales referred the Team to her written report.

Old Business:

Ruling Elder Taskforce

Andrew reported that this taskforce will be meeting soon to discuss ideas for new elder involvement as well as continued elder involvement.

Mission Statement Next Steps

Jaime Fowler shared the responses to the questions posed at the Presbytery meeting in response to our new mission statement. CT discussed the need to be intentional to allow space to incorporate the mission statement into our goals, vision, etc.

Forrest Classen will be invited to an upcoming CT meeting to help us continue the conversation around community so that we live into our mission statement.

CT also discussed the creation of a new logo that incorporates the culture of the Presbytery's new mission statement.

Motion: To move forward on the creation of a new logo that is in concert with our new mission statement. - PASSED

New Business:

General Assembly Commissioners

CT reviewed the Procedure for Nominating & Electing GA Commissioners & YAADS. The 226th General Assembly will be held in the Summer of 2024 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Allen Kitchen, who is a former GA Commissioner, agreed to serve as the convener from CT and will begin contacting other former commissioners to establish members of the taskforce to nominate commissioners and a YAAD for 2024 per the policy.

IDI Recap and Next Steps

Tom led a discussion around CT's thoughts and reflections on the recent IDI process. CT felt the process was fruitful. CT discussed ways to bring this conversation to our congregations in the future. Tom Harmon, Allen Kitchen, Cindy Miller, and, possibly Beth Wierman, will develop a presentation for the July Presbytery meeting. The purpose of the presentation is both to provide a sense of completion of the SpARC requirements and provide for ongoing conversation in the area of cultural sensitivity and diversity.

Building Needs

Tom shared that the tenants renting the front office have had to close their business early on several occasions due to unbearable heat in their office space. The air conditioning unit for the main building cannot sufficiently cool that space. Motta Heating & Air Conditioning, with

whom we have a relationship, is recommending the installation of a “mini-split unit” to supplement the heating and cooling for that space.

Motion: To approve the mini split unit. - PASSED

Presbytery Meeting Docket Requests:

1. Mission and Compassion Unit – 10 minutes for the July meeting.
2. Ministry and Vocation Committee – 30 minutes

Motion: To approve the Docket Time requests – PASSED

Motion: to adjourn – PASSED

The meeting was closed with prayer at 7:56pm. Our next stated meeting is July 5, 2023 at 6:30pm.

In Service to Christ,

Rev. Randall K. Clow
Stated Clerk

STATED CLERK'S REPORT
BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY
FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE 2023

**This report contains items from April received/taken after the closing date of my previous report.*

April 19, 2023

Received the 2024 per capita apportionment from The Synod of the Trinity (\$2.40/per active member – this is unchanged since 2020). Forwarded / Filed.

April 24-26, 2023

Attend Synod Leaders Event and Records Review.

April 26, 2023

Participate in the Synod Records Review. The minutes of Beaver-Butler Presbytery were found to be in perfect order and were approved with commendation (no exceptions or delinquencies).

May 3, 2023

Attend Coordinating Team meeting.

May 4, 2023

Attend Presbytery meeting planning meeting.

May 23, 2023

Attend Presbytery meeting.

May 23 and 24, 2023

Attend Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) at The Presbytery Center. This was a two day event in response to the recommendation from the SpARC.

June 1, 2023

Updated OGA with the new address of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Received final report of the IDI. Filed.

June 7, 2023

Attend Coordinating Team meeting.

In Service to Christ,

Rev. Randall K. Clow
Stated Clerk

Beaver-Butler Presbytery

Profit & Loss by Class

January through May 2023

	Administrative	Mission	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
51102 • Per Capita Apportionment	107,403.79	0.00	107,403.79
52105 • Rev.Mission Causes-Budget	0.00	45,688.62	45,688.62
52110 • Rev. Mission Causes-Other	0.00	349.00	349.00
53112 • Tinker Trust - PNC Bank	26.84	0.00	26.84
53113 • ESB Checking Interest	984.01	0.00	984.01
53114 • Northwest Interest	2.92	0.00	2.92
53816 • Presby. Invest and Loan Income	1,870.36	0.00	1,870.36
56110 • Rent Complete Travel	2,250.00	0.00	2,250.00
56115 • Rent - Tenants	6,275.00	0.00	6,275.00
57104 • Small Church Leadership Grant	2,416.92	0.00	2,416.92
57105 • Miscellaneous Income	5,494.61	332.00	5,826.61
Total Income	126,724.45	46,369.62	173,094.07
Expense			
71105 • Per Capita Expense GA	19,639.35	0.00	19,639.35
71110 • Per Capita Expense Synod	3,746.70	0.00	3,746.70
72105 • Mission Causes Exp- Synod/GA	0.00	18,567.95	18,567.95
72110 • Mission Causes Exp- Other	0.00	700.00	700.00
73000 • Salary/Wage/Benefits	78,411.00	0.00	78,411.00
74000 • Units/Officers	2,834.66	1,193.77	4,028.43
75100 • Cost of Space	6,198.17	0.00	6,198.17
75200 • Communications	2,409.62	0.00	2,409.62
75300 • Furniture and Equipment	9,538.83	0.00	9,538.83
75400 • Office Expense	1,935.84	0.00	1,935.84
75500 • Training and Professional	1,225.00	0.00	1,225.00
75600 • Travel Expense	3,374.32	0.00	3,374.32
75700 • Conferences/Meetings	100.00	0.00	100.00
75900 • Miscellaneous Expense	242.40	0.00	242.40
Total Expense	129,655.89	20,461.72	150,117.61
Net Ordinary Income	-2,931.44	25,907.90	22,976.46
Net Income	-2,931.44	25,907.90	22,976.46

Beaver-Butler Presbytery

Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2023

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

10000 - Cash

10107 - WesBanco	562,897.00
10108 - Northwest Savings Bank	6,044.07
10109 - Northwest Savings Market Fund	72.86
10115 - Petty Cash	153.40

Total 10000 - Cash 569,167.33

10300 - Investments

10511 - Presbyterian Investment & Loan	308,334.99
10512 - PILP Fixed Term Note	213,613.89
10513 - Charles Schwab & Co.	76,831.17
10520 - Ecumenical Cooperative	1,500.00

Total 10300 - Investments 600,280.05

Total Checking/Savings 1,169,447.38

Total Current Assets 1,169,447.38

TOTAL ASSETS 1,169,447.38

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)	448,338.51
29127 - Departed Churches Fund (Fund B)	685,374.58

Total 29125 - New Church Development Fund 1,133,713.09

29140 - Support of Candidates Fund 876.70

29145 - Leadership Training Fund 20,000.00

29160 - NWV Seed Grant 7,467.05

29165 - Champ Education Fund 5,253.89

Total 29100 - Temporarily Restricted 1,171,163.30

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 1,193,741.97

39000 - Retained Earnings -75,644.31

Net Income 21,349.72

Total Equity 1,139,447.38

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 1,169,447.38

A GATHERING OF THE CHURCHES OF BEAVER-BUTLER PRESBYTERY
May 23, 2023, 6:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting – In-Person & Zoom

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held a stated meeting at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, using a *Hybrid* format: in-person and Zoom technology. The meeting was held at First Presbyterian Church, Beaver Falls, where Rev. Dr. David S. Oyler, Jr. 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.

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 Andrew Why welcomed the Presbyters and gave details of the facility, including fellowship location.

WELCOME OF NEW ELDERS, PASTORS, AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:

First-time Commissioner Elders and Pastors were introduced.

The following Corresponding Member was enrolled:

- Rev. Dr. Rebecca Anne Kahnt (Eastminster Presbytery)

Moderator Paulsen opened the meeting with prayer.

CALL TO WORSHIP: The Presbyters opened the meeting with a Responsive Call to Worship

HYMN: “The Servant Song”

THE WORD READ & SPOKEN: John 4:1-6 Rev. Dr. David Oyler
“Next Stop, Samaria”

First Church Pastor Rev. Dr. David Oyler spoke from John 4, Jesus’ encounter with the Samaritan Woman at the Well. Instead of talking about Jesus’ conversation with the woman, he spoke about the verses *before* the exchange. He noted that many religious leaders of the day would avoid Samaria, due to the risk of travelling through a territory of non-believers. Essentially, Jesus was “...pushing the religious norms” – he was off the beaten track, and speaking to a woman, no less.

Dr. Oyler asked the Presbyters if God was pushing us to travel through a territory where we might be uncomfortable! A mission trip? A new opportunity to speak the “Good News” with someone we’ve never met? Perhaps Jesus is “nudging us along” beyond our comfort zone, our circle of friends, beyond where we Christians might be uncomfortable!

Jesus’ own risk to be uncomfortable has sparked conversations through the centuries. God may be leading us to such places! Are there new territories to which God is leading us?

HYMN:

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

GOOD NEWS FROM THE PEWS:

Commissioners offered items of good news that were happening in the churches, as well as various Announcements.

STATED CLERK REPORT:

Rev. Randall Clow

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

- He thanked everyone who attended the various *Session* Minutes reviews.
- He attended the recent Synod-wide *Presbytery* Minutes Review, and our Minutes were received and approved, with Commendation. Randall thanked Assistant Stated Clerk Rev. James Steiner for his contribution.

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT:

Rev. Dr. Tom Harmon

Tom informed the Presbyters about a “redesign initiative” from the Board of Pensions, *Season of Rebuilding*. Changes will occur in early 2025, and will come over the following months. Several monthly online Town Hall meetings will take place over the summer. For more information, folks are encouraged to go to seasonsofrebuilding.pensions.org for more information.

Tom spent several minutes highlighting a recent study, “Twenty Years of Congregational Change: The 2020 Faith Communities Today Overview” – Faith Communities Today. It was a national survey of congregations, looking at churches over twenty years from 2000 until the beginning of the Pandemic. Not surprisingly, church attendance in America has declined, to the point where 70% of all churches in the U.S. have fewer than 100 in the pews.

On the other hand, the Study showed that the larger a congregation is, and the faster it grows, there is a significant decline in individual giving. Also, the larger a church gets, the less likely members are to volunteer – not just at church, but anywhere.

The smallest 70% of congregations – those with attendance less than 100...

- Have the highest level of member commitment;
- Had more participation in weekly worship;
- Have members who give more money per person and were more likely to volunteer, and
- Spend less on staffing, and gave higher percentages missions and charity.

The mission and ministry of smaller churches is not to be ignored! Our Executive Presbyter is blessed to lead this faithful community.

Tom closed his comments with a reflection on the closure of the Covenant Church building, but the congregation’s continuing commitment to ministry in partnership with Trinity.

COORDINATING TEAM:

Elder Andrew Why

A. Consent Agenda – the Coordinating Team (CT) recommended that the Presbytery:

1. Form the roll;
2. Seat Corresponding Members and grant them voice;
3. Approve the Docket;
4. Receive the Coordinating Team Minutes, March 1, 2023;
5. Receive the Stated Clerk Report, March – April 2023;

6. Receive the Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss, March 2023, and
7. Approve the Presbytery Meeting Minutes, March 28, 2023.

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

B. Mission Statement Discussion:

Moderator Carolyn Paulsen

“Beaver-Butler Presbytery is a
covenant community of churches that
supports, nurtures, and helps grow
disciples in the way of Christ.”

The Coordinating Team moved that the Presbyters accept the Mission Statement. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Vice-Moderator Rev. Jamie Fowler discussed the Statement and its implications. It is not something that hangs on a wall, or sits in a drawer for future reference. Jamie and various CT members the discussion. The Presbyters broke into groups (in person and online) for discussion.

MISSION AND COMPASSION MINISTRY UNIT:

Rev. Dr. Judy Angleberger

Judy introduced First Church Elder David Ross, who spoke about particular missions at First Church.

FELLOWSHIP BREAK:

After a time of fellowship, Moderator Fowler called the meeting back to order at 8:06 PM

MINISTRY AND VOCATION COMMITTEE (MVC):

Rev. Robert Goossen

Bob referred the Presbyters to his written report.

Floor Action:

- A. Examination of Candidate Rev. Dr. Rebecca Anne Kahnt (Eastminster Presbytery), as Pastor, North Sewickley Church, Ellwood City:
 1. The Ministry and Vocation Committee (MVC) moved that, *if the way be clear*, Beaver-Butler Presbytery approve the Call for Rev. Dr. Rebecca Anne Kahnt (Eastminster Presbytery) to the North Sewickley Presbyterian Church, Ellwood City; approve the Terms of Call as presented; receive Rev. Dr. Kahnt as a member of the Beaver-Butler Presbytery; appoint her as Moderator at North Sewickley; and authorize the Presbytery Moderator to appoint an Administrative Commission to install her at a time to be determined.
 2. Terms of Call for Rev. Dr. Kahnt as Pastor of North Sewickley Church, Ellwood City, were as follows:
 - Salary (with Manse), \$50,500 – full utilities, including internet

- Board of Pensions Benefits
- Medical Deductible withheld at pastor's discretion up to \$3,050
- Social Security Supplement at 7.65% of effective salary minus medical deductible
- Mileage reimbursements @ IRS rate, vouchered
- Vacation – one month with 4 Sundays
- Continuing Education- \$1,200, 2 weeks with 2 Sundays, cumulative to \$3,600, 6 weeks with 6 Sundays
- Laptop and full moving costs

MVC Chair Goossen opened the questioning for Becky. After acknowledging Jesus Christ as Savior, she was asked to articulate her sense of call to North Sewickley. Some additional questions were offered from the floor.

Becky stepped out of the meeting, and Elder Jim Paff from the North Sewickley Pastor Nominating Committee spoke about their journey, and their unanimous affirmation of Rebecca.

Motion: To end the debate, and approve the recommendation of the Ministry & Vocation Committee – PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Becky returned to the meeting (with applause!), and Bob offered a prayer for her and the North Sewickley Church.

EXPLORATORY MISSION TEAM (EMT) REPORT: Elder Dennis Krebs
Dennis referred the Presbyters to their Final Report. Dennis reviewed the formation and work of the EMT, and their reasons for bringing their investigations to a close. Elder Anthony Wannamaker from the EMT thanked the various churches and groups who had supported the Refreshing Springs Ministry over the years.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business

NEW BUSINESS: There was no New Business

OFFERING RECEIVED: The Beaver-Butler Presbytery Mission Budget

RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO THE HOST CHURCH:
A Resolution of Thanks was offered to the First 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 8:34 PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 25, 6:00 PM, The Hill Church, Butler, “hybrid” format – In-person and Zoom (Note: Office will close early day of meeting.)

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

Rev. Randall K. Clow, Stated Clerk

For Information – from the Coordinating Team:

1. Affirmed Covenant Church, Butler’s plans to sell their building and continue as a congregation worshiping in a new space at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Butler. (Their final worship with de-commissioning of the sanctuary was May 21.)

For Information – Ministry & Vocation:

1. Approved part-time Supply contract between Highland, Slippery Rock and Rev. Jeff Curtis.

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

Tuesday, July 25, 6:00 P.M. The Hill, Butler
Tuesday, September 26, 4:00 P.M. Trinity, Butler – *Dinner* Hosted by the Exploratory Mission Team
Tuesday, November 14, 6:00 P.M. New Salem, Midland

TABLE OF ATTACHMENTS TO MINUTES, MAY 23, 2023 PRESBYTERY MEETING:

- A. Record of Participation in (In-Person and via Zoom), Presbytery Meeting, May 23, 2023
- B. Coordinating Team Minutes, March 1, 2023
- C. Presbytery Meeting Minutes, March 28, 2023
- D. Report of the Stated Clerk, March – April 2023
- E. Report of the Treasurer: Balance Sheet & Profit & Loss, March 2023
- F. Exploratory Mission Team Final Report

MINISTERS

Allen, Todd		P
Allio, Mark		P
Angleberger, A. Gary	H.R.	EXC
Angleberger, Judy A.	H.R.	P
Angleberger, Kelley		P
*Barr, Eva-Maria		A
Benish, Leigh		P
Benson, James		A
Bittner, Lee	H.R.	EXC
Black, Keith		EXC
Bosserman, Lauren		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.		P
Dorsey, Douglas		P
Dreyer, W. Lee	H.R.	EXC
Dunn, Connie	H.R.	P
Edmondson, Robert		P
Erwin, Kirk	H.R.	EXC
Fowler, Jamie		P
*Frailey, Mark		A
Frierson, Connie	H.R.	EXC
Gebhard, Doug		A
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.	EXC
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.	EXC
Maley, Lawrence	H.R.	P
*Marquis, Jeff		A
Mathias, Robert V.	H.R.	EXC
*McMeekin, Thomas		A
Meloy, Merry		P
Morris, Melissa		A
Mumaw, William		A
Nelson, Jon		A
Oyler, David	H.R.	P
Paul, A. David		P
Porter, John W.		A

Rowe, Richard F.		A
Roy, Dena		P
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		A
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	Janet Kesler
(2 votes)	Diana Spencer
Ohio	
(2 votes)	
Raccoon	
Service	
Ambridge	
Ambridge U.P.	
Baden	
Concord	John Laudenslager
Beaver	
Park	Becky Pilarski
(2 votes)	Susan Ivey
Beaver Falls	
First	Jim Stillwagon
Steffin Hill	
Butler	
Covenant	J.R. Morrison
Faith	
Hill	Tom Graham
(2 votes)	
Mt Chestnut	
(2 votes)	
Saint Andrews	
Trinity	
Callery	
Crestview	
Cherry Valley	
E. Unity	
Chicora	
North Butler	

ATTENDANCE

Clintonville	
Union	
Connoquenessing	
White Oak Springs	Tom Marlowe
Conway	
Conway	
Cranberry	
Cranberry Community	Cindy Miller
(2 votes)	
Plains	
Darlington	
First	
Mt. Pleasant	Timothy Casey
East Butler	
East Butler	
Eau Claire	
Eau Claire	
Ellwood City	
North Sewickley	James Paff
(2 votes)	Tom Umstott
Evans City	
Westminster	Ruthie Pickett
(2 votes)	
Frankfort Springs	
Frankfort	
Harmony	
Camp Run	
Hooker	
Concord	Jeff Banks
Mars	
Mars United	Susan Cox
Old Union	Mary Rae Thompson
(2 votes)	Jill McDonald
Midland	
First	
New Salem	
Monaca	
First	
North Branch	
New Brighton	
First	Lauren Cesnales
Westminster	
New Galilee	
The Galilean	Paul Morrison
N. Washington	
N. Washington	
Parker	
First	
Prospect	
Mt Nebo	Zachary Fraizier
P. Church Prospect	Leslie Raisley
Rochester	
First Presb.	
New Sewickley	Jennifer Brown
Sarver	
Buffalo	Virginia Shirey
Westminster	Pat Hebda

ATTACHMENT A

Saxonburg	
Clinton	Thomas Hamilton
Jefferson Center	
Saxonburg Memorial	
(2 votes)	
Shippingport	
Bethlehem	
Slippery Rock	
Center	
Friendship	
Highland	
Valencia	
Glade Run	Marissa Louttit
(2 votes)	Janis Schaudé
Valencia	Annamary McMullen
Vanport	
Vanport	
(2 votes)	
West Sunbury	
West Sunbury	
Zelienople	
Calvin	
(2 votes)	
Park	Jason Anger

COORESPONDING MEMBERS

Name	Presbytery/Affiliation
Rev. Dr. Rebecca Kahnt	Eastminster Presbytery

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

Name	Presbytery/Affiliation
Andrew Why	Coordinating Team Chair
Judy Lipsack	Nominating Chair
Carolyn Paulsen	Moderator

VISITORS

Name	Church
Julie Vurdelja	First, Beaver Falls
Marilyn Vinch	First, Beaver Falls
Larry Paulsen	Buffalo, Sarver
Dave Ross	First, Beaver Falls
Larry Ott	First, Beaver Falls
Ray Why	First, Beaver Falls
Bill White	Park, Zelienople
Joyce Hamilton	Clinton, Saxonburg
Bruce W. Hayward	First, Beaver Falls
Anthony Wannamaker	Mission Exploratory Team
Dennis Krebs	The Galilean, New Galilee
Joanne Lacrone	North Sewickley, Ellwood
Alex Lathom	North Sewickley, Ellwood
Susan Moore	North Sewickley, Ellwood
Tyla Benell	North Sewickley, Ellwood

We welcome Rev. Richard ‘Dick’ Klein, H.R. into our fellowship

Dick Klein is a native of Columbus, Ohio, where he graduated from The Ohio State University in 1974 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. Dick was raised in a Christian home along with his two brothers. His parents instilled their faith in them by living the Christian life and attending worship. This led Dick to confirm the vows made by his parents in Baptism, ultimately resulting in his answering the call by God to ministry. He studied at Princeton Theological Seminary graduating in 1980 with a Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained in 1981.

Dick has fulfilled his call serving western Pennsylvania churches—the Calvary United Presbyterian Church, Indiana, as a student intern; the Elfinwild United Presbyterian Church, Glenshaw, as assistant pastor; the Conway United Presbyterian Church, Conway, as pastor; the New Salem United Presbyterian Church, Ohioville, as Stated Supply; and Rehoboth United Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, as pastor where he retired in 2016.

Dick has also served beyond the local church in the community and Presbytery. He has served as president of the Belle Vernon Ministerium and Rostraver Council of Churches and directed the local Foodbank. He has served on Presbytery committees—Worship, Christian Ed., and Ministry. He has also been a commissioner to Synod and General Assembly.

Honorably Retired, Dick now lives in Aliquippa to be close to his son Tim with wife Angie and grandson Ben.

ALL Pastors (MWS & CRE)
are invited to a

PASTOR'S FELLOWSHIP LUNCH*

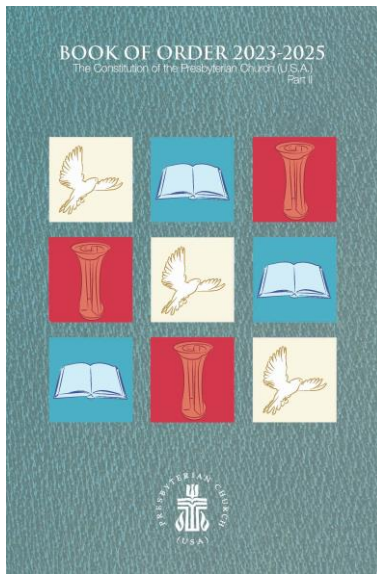
Wednesday, August 16 | 12:00 pm
Zelienople Community Park
Shelter 2 - Rotary Shelter
Food and Drinks Provided!

RSVP to the Presbytery Office by August 9, and include
dietary restrictions or if you will bring your own lunch

*No "Shop-Talk" allowed - just fellowship and fun

Book of Order 2023 - 2025

This book is Part II of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This volume contains the Foundations of Presbyterian Polity, the Form of Government, the Directory for Worship, and the Rules of Discipline. Additional information is provided to the reader through the inclusion of Received Ecumenical Statements of Guidance and Articles of Agreement.



The Beaver-Butler Presbytery Office will be placing a bulk order for the 2023-2025 Presbyterian Book of Order.

Price: \$9.25

If you or your church would like to place an order, please contact the Presbytery Office by **August 30, 2023** indicating the number of copies you will need.

Payment is due at time of order.

You may return via:

E-mail: office@beaverbutler.org

Mail: P.O. Box 279, Zelienople, PA 16063

Fax: 724-452-7522

The Book of Order can also be downloaded free of charge at:

https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/boo_2023-2023_publishedversion_cover_and_boo_complete.pdf

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Questions? Contact: Barbara Paff, 724-452-7515 ext.10

International Peacemakers

Palestine

Amira Barham

Amira Barham, a Palestinian Christian, was born and raised in the town of Beit Jala, near Bethlehem. With a passion for social justice, equality, and helping people, Amira obtained a Master's Degree in Social Work (MSW) from California State University Long Beach in 1999 as a Fulbright Scholarship recipient. She has worked as a social worker with many diverse and vulnerable populations in Palestine, the United Kingdom and the United States. She's worked with young unaccompanied asylum seekers fleeing war-torn and dangerous countries, young people and adults struggling with substance misuse and criminal behavior, and vulnerable young people and women suffering gender-based violence.



Most recently, Amira's work has been focused on supporting marginalized children in Palestine, mainly from refugee camps, with Sounds of Palestine. Sounds of Palestine is an organization that uses music and orchestra lessons to enhance children's self-esteem and impact positive social change and community involvement. Additionally, she is connected to Al Harah Theater, as the developer of policies for safeguarding children.



Amira recently completed a postgraduate diploma in Health Action Training, which offers training on utilizing drama practice and drama techniques to enhance person-centered care and resilience, specifically in the aftermath of the pandemic to help healthcare professionals.

Amira will be with us September 21st through the 27th. She is available for any events on the 22nd, 23rd, and 25th. Please consider inviting her to join you for speaking engagements or possibly fellowship (Picnics, Sports, Youth, Senior) events.

Joyce Hamilton is coordinating her schedule. She can be reached at piecesjkh@zoominternet or 724-822-3494.