

Presbytery Meeting Summary November 14, 2023 Stated Meeting

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery (BBP) held its stated meeting at 6:00 P.M. Tuesday, November 14, 2023, using a Hybrid format, in-person and via Zoom. Moderator was Elder Carolyn Paulsen, Vice-Moderator Rev. Jamie Fowler; the meeting was hosted by the New Salem Presbyterian Church, Midland, where Jeffrey Marquis serves as Commissioned Pastor (CP).

FROM THE COORDINATING TEAM (CT) – IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING FUTURE MEETINGS: Beginning January 2024, Presbytery meetings will be Live-Streamed, but participation and voting via Zoom will no longer be available.

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PRESBYTERY:

- *Approved* the Presbytery Meeting Minutes, September 26, 2023
- *Received* the Coordinating Team Minutes, September 6 & October 4, 2023
- *Received* the Stated Clerk Report, September-October 2023
- *Received* the Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss, September 30, 2023
- *From Ministry & Vocation (MVC):*
 - *Approved* dissolution of the call between Rev. Robert Edmundson and the Concord, Hooker and North Washington Churches, effective October 31
 - *Approved* the dissolution of the call between Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson and the Park, Zelienople and Plains, Cranberry Churches, effective November 21
 - *Received* Rev. Mark Davis, H.R. as a member of the Presbytery, by transfer from Kiskiminetas Presbytery
 - *Granted* Elders Kathleen Davis and James Paff permission to serve communion when leading worship across churches of the Presbytery.

FUN AND GAMES WITH SYNOD EXEC, FORREST CLAASSEN: Using pastors and elders, Forrest led the Commissioners through a series of games, connected to Presbyterian Life.

STATED CLERK:

Rev. Randall Clow reminded the Commissioners that there were only two open meeting dates for 2024 Meetings – January and September.

MINISTRY & VOCATION:

- The Presbyters examined and approved Rev. James W. Gear (Redstone Presbytery) as Transitional Pastor at Concord, Hooker, and North Washington Churches, as well as his membership transfer from Redstone.
- The Presbyters recognized Rev. Bob Edmundson's retirement, and bid farewell to Rev. Jon Nelson, who has accepted a call in Pittsburgh Presbytery.
- The Presbyters approved the new *Process to Receive New Members (Note: Previously ordained clergy wishing to become members of BBP)*.

MISSION & COMPASSION (MCM):

- The Presbyters welcomed Rev. Joshua D. Heikkila, West Africa Regional Liaison, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Using a series of slides, Josh spoke about the differences in landscape, vegetation (and non-vegetation), and commerce across Ghana.

- Pastor Tim Casey, Mt. Pleasant, Darlington, discussed his mission work at the Beaver County Jail.
- MCM Chair Rev. Dr. Judy Angleberger noted an upcoming Matthew 25 Summit Meeting in Atlanta GA, January 16-18, 2024. MCM is offering financial support to those wishing to attend.

NOMINATING & REPRESENTATION: The Presbyters elected a Moderator and Vice-Moderator for 2024, as well as various Committee and Unit members. General Assembly Commissioners were also chosen. *NOTE: Positions are still open on the CT and Collaboration, Fellowship & Youth.*

OFFICER INSTALLATIONS: 2024 Presbytery Moderator Rev. Jamie Fowler (Concord, Baden) and Vice-Moderator Elder Dennis Krebs (The Galilean, New Galilee) were installed by outgoing Moderator Elder Carolyn Paulsen. Carolyn was thanked and congratulated for her service.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, January 27, 2024, 10:00 A.M, HOST STILL NEEDED

ADDITIONAL DATES AND INFORMATION OF IMPORTANCE:

- **Sunday, December 10, 5:00 PM:** Park Church, Beaver, will host musicians from the Pittsburgh Symphony, in a special concert to raise funds for humanitarian assistance for Ukraine. Information is available on their website.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FROM MINISTRY & VOCATION:

- Granted Rev. Bonnie Taylor status of Honorably Retired effective January 1, 2023.
- Granted Rev. Robert Edmundson status of Honorably Retired effective October 31, 2023.
- Received the Administrative Commission minutes of Rev. Dr. Rebecca Kahnt's installation at North Sewickley, Ellwood City.
- Appointed Rev. Monica Hamilton as Moderator at Concord, Hooker & North Washington churches for November & December.
- Appointed Rev. Dr. Peter de Vries as moderator for Plains Church, Cranberry Twp.
- Appointed Rev. Andy Shaffer as Moderator for Park Church, Zelenople.
- Approved Rev. Dr. Robert Frazier for the Pulpit Supply list.
- Granted permission for Elder (CRE) Brian Graff to preside at the Lord's Table at Covenant Church, November 26th.
- Granted Rev. Doug Gebhard permission to "labor outside the bounds" as he serves at the Open Door Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh Presbytery, beginning December 1.
- Approved Rev. Gary Brown (United Methodist Chaplain) as regular preaching supply for The Galilean and First, Darlington churches.
- Received the report of the United Presbyterian Church of Ambridge and Zion's First Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregations' unanimous vote to become a joint witness, now to be known as "One in Christ".

OTHER INFORMATION:

- There were a total of 65 participants at the meeting:
 - 14 Teaching Elders
 - 2 Corresponding Members
 - 28 Ruling Elders from 24 Churches
 - 1 Ruling Elders who are officers, CT, or Chair of a Committee or Unit
 - 20 Visitors