

Presbytery Meeting Summary January 25, 2025 Stated Meeting

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held a stated meeting at 10:00 A.M. Saturday, January 25, 2025, at the Old Union Presbyterian Church, Mars, where Rev. Peter C. de Vries, Ph.D. serves as Pastor. Moderator was Elder Dennis Krebs, Vice-Moderator Rev. Brian Hauser.

OPENING WORSHIP: The meeting opened with the annual recognition of Ministers, Elders, Deacons, and Trustees who had passed away and entered the *Church Triumphant* in 2024.

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PRESBYTERY:

- *Approved* Presbytery Meeting Minutes November 19, 2024
- *Received* the Coordinating Team Minutes December 4, 2024
- *Received* Stated Clerk Report November-December 2024
- *Received* Treasurer's Report – Balance Sheet & P&L November 2024
- *From Ministry & Vocation: Authorized* Kerry Dowdy, Candidate certified to receive a call, to serve communion in the churches of the Presbytery when invited.

226TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2024) AMENDMENTS TO THE *BOOK OF ORDER*:

Twelve Amendments to and one Ecumenical Agreement for the *Book of Order* were considered and voted upon by the Presbyters. The various Amendments were assigned to The Coordinating Team, Ministry & Vocation, and the Permanent Judicial Commission for recommendation (*Approve or Disapprove*).

The recommendations for *seven Amendments and the Ecumenical Agreement* were approved as part of a Consent Agenda. The *five remaining Amendments* were removed from the Consent Agenda for individual discussion and voting by the body. The recommendations for all five Amendments were PASSED (i.e., the Presbyters AGREED with the various Committee recommendations; details may be obtained from Rev. Randall Clow, Stated Clerk.)

All one hundred sixty-six Presbyteries will vote on the Amendments and the Ecumenical Agreement. Presbyteries must submit their votes to the Office of the General Assembly by July 4, 2025. Results will be announced at a future Presbytery meeting. Approved Amendments will be added to the *Book of Order*.

COORDINATING TEAM CLERK REPORT:

A Look Forward: Goals for 2025: CT Chair Andrew Why took a moment to bring the Presbyters up to date on the activities of the Coordinating Team, including what lies ahead for the Presbytery:

- New Mission Statement
- New Goals & Objectives
- Multi-Church conversations & activities
- Joint mission opportunities
- On-line worship training
- Understanding church property issues in a time of change
- More connected gathering among churches
- Equip church leaders in more training events

STATED CLERK REPORT:

- We need a host church for the September 2025 meeting (includes dinner)
- Clerks were reminded to submit Annual Reports

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FROM MINISTRY & VOCATION:

For Information – Ministry & Vocation:

1. Transferred Rev. Melissa Morris' membership to Pittsburgh Presbytery effective 9/1/24
2. Approved Rev. Rob Swinsburg's contract with Buffalo, Sarver.
3. Approved Rev. Robert Saul's contract with North Branch, Monaca.
4. Approved contract between Rev. John Porter to Park Zelenople, and Plains, Cranberry Township and serve on a part-time basis doing transitional work.
5. Approved the Installed pastoral call for Rev. Mark Allio and Mt. Chestnut, Butler on behalf of and as a commission of the Presbytery should the way be clear pending the vote of the Mt. Chestnut congregation and ask the Presbytery to create an Administrative Commission for his Installation.
6. Approved Rev. Randall Clow as Moderator of Service, Aliquippa.
7. Approved Rev. Jan Reed to serve on Pulpit Supply List.
8. Approved waiver of rotation for Elder Betty Gailey of Westminster, New Brighton (1 year).
9. Approved waiver of rotation for Elder Walter Parrish of Mt. Pleasant, Darlington to serve an extra year (3rd extension – 1 final year).
10. Received letter of separation for Rev. Robert Saul with First, Monaca.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 25, 6:00 PM – Glade Run, Valencia

2025 Presbytery Meetings

Tuesday, March 25 6:00 p.m. Glade Run, Valencia
Tuesday, May 27 6:00 p.m. Crestview, Callery
Tuesday, July 22 6:00 p.m. Vanport/Park (at Vanport)

Tuesday, September 23 4:00 p.m. (Dinner) HOST NEEDED!

Tuesday, November 18 6:00 p.m. Ohio, Aliquippa

OTHER INFORMATION:

- There were a total of 74 participants at the meeting:
 - 23 Teaching Elders
 - 29 Ruling Elders from 24 Churches
 - 2 Ruling Elders who are officers, CT, or Chair of a Committee or Unit
 - 20 Visitors & 8 more for Memorial Service