

Presbytery Meeting Summary November 16, 2021 Stated Meeting

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held its stated meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, using a Hybrid format, in-person and via Zoom. The meeting was hosted by Highland Church, Slippery Rock, where Rev. Clark T. Sawyer serves as pastor.

OPENING WORSHIP:

Moderator Lipsak opened worship with a reading from Psalm 92. After the opening hymn, Vice-Moderator Rev. Ron Schermerhorn read from Esther 4, the exchange between Esther and her uncle Mordecai. Ron spoke about the words from the passage, "...for such a time as this." The presbyters, on-line and at the meeting, gathered and reflected on these words.

STATED CLERK REPORT:

- **2022 Presbytery Meetings:** Clerk Byers pointed the presbyters to the dates for 2022, and encouraged the presbyters to pray about hosting a meeting.
- **Installation:** Clerk Byers noted the installation of Rev. Mark Allio, Jefferson Center, Saxonburg.
- **Session Minutes and Record Review:** Clerk Byers thanked the Clerks for their diligence and hard work.
- **Annual Statistical Reports:** Clerk Byers reminded the Pastors and Clerks that their Annual Statistical Reports will be required soon. Necessary information including the deadlines for the reports will be sent to all Clerks.

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- **Synod of the Trinity Permanent Judicial Commission (SPJC), Remedial Case 2021-1: Session of Refreshing Springs Mission Church (RSMC / PCUSA), Complainant, vs. Beaver-Butler Presbytery, Respondent:** Clerk Byers read the text of the case and ruling from the SPJC; the trial was held October 2, 2021.

The full text of the Case and Ruling will be in the November Presbytery Minutes. Questions should be directed to the Stated Clerk.

- **Synod of the Trinity Permanent Judicial Commission (SPJC), Remedial Case 2021-2: Rev. Oghene'tega Swann, Complainant, vs. Beaver-Butler Presbytery, Respondent:** This Trial has been cancelled by the SPJC. Clerk Byers dismissed the Committee of Council.
- **Dismissal of Investigative Committee:** Clerk Byers dismissed the Committee, formed in January 2021.

Clerk Byers took a moment to thank the two Committees of Council for the two Remedial Cases, the Investigative Committee, and the presbytery staff for their hard work these past months.

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT:

Rev. Dr. Harmon reflected upon the past twenty months of trial and tribulation around the pandemic and other challenges. He encouraged the presbyters to remain steadfast, invoking Ezekiel and his words about dry bones.

SYNOD TRANSITIONAL EXECUTIVE REPORT:

Rev. Susan Wonderland, due to retire at year's end, offered remarks of thanks and appreciation to various members of the presbytery, as well as to the presbytery as a whole.

COORDINATING TEAM:

Agreed to the following ecclesiastical matters:

- Received the Report of the Coordinating Team Minutes of 09/01/21
- Received the Report of the Assistant Stated Clerk
- Received the Report of the Treasurer - Profit /Loss & Balance Sheet
- Approved Minutes of the 09/28/21 Presbytery meeting
- Received Moderator Report: Installation of Rev. Mark Allio
- Accepted the bid from Keystone Signs, Freedom PA, for a new sign on the Main St. side of the building, plus two door decals, not to exceed \$6,500.00
- Approved the Stated Clerk Job Description, as submitted by Personnel
- Approved 2022 Presbytery Meeting and Holiday Schedule

MINISTRY & VOCATION COMMITTEE:

- Elected one additional member to the RSMC PCUSA Administrative Commission, and established the quorum at four persons
- Honored the Rev. Connie Dunn on her retirement
- Concurred with the dissolution of the call of Rev. Derek Marotta, Plains Church, Cranberry, and dismiss him to Providence Presbytery, effective October 31, 2021.

For Information – MVC Actions:

- Approved Transitional Pastor and Pastoral Review documents
- Approved Contracts:
 - Rev. Dr. Judy Angleberger at Vanport (3 mo. ending Jan. 31, 2022);
 - Rev. Larry Maley at North Branch, Monaca (12mo. ending Oct. 11, 2022)
- Waiver of Rotation:
 - Westminster, Evans City of one Elder; Ohio, Aliquippa of one Deacon
- Approved Westminster, Evans City to form PNC if the way be clear
- Received guidelines on review procedures for pastoral leadership – guidelines only...

ADDITIONAL ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PRESBYTERY:

- Elected Rev. Randall Clow as Stated Clerk
- Elected members of various Committees and Units
- Elected General Assembly Commissioners and Alternates
- Received a report from the Synod Commissioner
- Installed Rev. Ron Schermerhorn as Moderator, and Elder Carolyn Paulsen as Vice-Moderator
- Thanked Elder Judy Lipsak for her service as Moderator

OTHER INFORMATION OF NOTE:

- There were a total of 94 participants at the meeting:
 - 35 Teaching Elders
 - 31 Ruling Elders from 27 Churches
 - 1 Corresponding Member
 - 6 Ruling Elders who are officers, CT, or Chair of a Committee or Unit
 - 21 Visitors