

Presbytery Meeting Summary January 22, 2022 Stated Meeting and Memorial Service

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held its stated meeting at 10:00 A.M. Saturday, January 22, 2022, using a Hybrid format, in-person and via Zoom. The gathering also was the Annual Memorial Service, celebrating the lives of Ministers, Ruling Elders, Deacons and Trustees who entered the *Church Triumphant* in 2021. The meeting was hosted by New Bethlehem Church, Aliquippa, where Rev. Randall Clow serves as pastor.

THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDING MEMBERS WERE ENROLLED:

- Rev. Alan G. Adams (Peace River Presbytery), Honorably Retired, former Executive Presbyter, Beaver-Butler Presbytery
- Rev. Michael R. Burkley (Albany Presbytery), Honorably Retired
- Rev. Dr. David S. Oyler, Jr. (Lake Erie Presbytery), Honorably Retired, former Temporary Executive, Beaver-Butler Presbytery
- Rev. Dr. Douglas E. Portz (Pittsburgh Presbytery), Senior Church Consultant, Board of Pensions
- Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Yost (Kiskiminetas Presbytery), Stated Clerk, Synod of the Trinity

OPENING WORSHIP:

Moderator Rev. Ron Schermerhorn read from Acts 2, and using the example of the response of the community to Peter's words, spoke about the need for us as the Body of Christ to recall and return to our roots.

STATED CLERK REPORT:

Clerk Byers took a moment to thank former Moderator Bill Mumaw for his leadership in the "difficult days" of 2020, as he had neglected to mention Bill in his November comments.

Dave offered a gentle reminder to Clerks of Session that the Annual Reports are coming due.

As no appeal was filed against the ruling of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission regarding Remedial Case 2021-1 / *Refreshing Springs Mission Church v. Beaver-Butler Presbytery*, he was dismissing the Committee of Counsel for that Case. Dave thanked them for their excellent work.

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT:

Tom's remarks were focused on the retirement of Stated Clerk Dave Byers, who has served the Presbytery as Assistant and Stated Clerk for twenty-eight years. Remarks were offered from the Corresponding Members, and Presbyters were invited to share comments as well.

COORDINATING TEAM:

Agreed to the following ecclesiastical matters:

- Received the Report of the Coordinating Team Minutes, November 3, 2021
- Received Presbytery Meeting Minutes, November 16, 2021
- Received Stated Clerk Report, July – December 2021
- Received Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss, November 2021
- From Ministry & Vocation:
 - Approved Tim Rauch (Plains, Cranberry) for Inquirer Phase
 - Approved Carolyn Baker (Calvin, Zelienople) for Inquirer Phase

- Received Rev. Michael R. Burkley (Albany Presbytery), Honorably Retired, as a member of Beaver-Butler Presbytery

BOARD OF PENSIONS: SENIOR CHURCH CONSULTANT REV. DR. DOUGLAS PORTZ

Doug offered his annual review of recent changes and improvements from the Board of Pensions. Details are available from Doug himself or the Presbytery office.

REPORT FROM THE SYNOD:

Synod Stated Clerk Rev. Dr. Wayne Yost gave an update on Synod activities, including the arrival of the new Synod Executive, Forrest Classen.

ENCOURAGING CHURCHES TO FLOURISH:

ECF is reminding everyone about the upcoming Presbytery Leadership Training Event, Sunday, March 22. Details coming soon, or on the Presbytery website.

MINISTRY & VOCATION COMMITTEE:

The following actions were taken by the Presbyters:

- Approved the formation of an Administrative Commission for Calvary Church, Beaver Falls, to celebrate and conclude their ministry.
- Approved Mathew Meyer (Park, Beaver) to move to the Candidate Phase for Ministry.

Additional items for information:

- Waiver of rotation for one Elder, The Galilean, New Galilee
- Tammy Hall (Vanport) to enter the Inter-Presbytery Leadership Forum (CRE Training with Redstone Presbytery)
- Dismissal and transfer Rev. Stephen P. “Gutty” Gutridge to Coastal Carolina Presbytery

NOMINATION AND REPRESENTATION:

Approved the following:

- Ministry & Vocation: Rev. Clark Sawyer, H.R. Class of 2024
- Ministry & Vocation: Elder Tom Hamilton, Clinton, Saxonburg, Class of 2024

ADDITIONAL ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PRESBYTERY:

Rev. Randall Clow was installed as Stated Clerk.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 22, 6:00 PM, Calvin Church, Zelienople, “hybrid” format – In-person and Zoom

OTHER INFORMATION OF NOTE:

- There were a total of 100 participants at the meeting:
 - 31 Teaching Elders
 - 29 Ruling Elders from 25 Churches
 - 6 Corresponding Members
 - 3 Ruling Elders who are officers, CT, or Chair of a Committee or Unit
 - 31 Visitors (includes those for the Memorial Service)