

Presbytery Meeting Summary March 22, 2022 Stated Meeting

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held its stated meeting at 6:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 22, 2022, using a Hybrid format, in-person and via Zoom. The meeting was hosted by Calvin Church, Zelienople, where the Rev. A. David Paul serves as pastor.

THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDING MEMBERS WERE ENROLLED:

- Rev. Forrest Claassen (Presbytery of Los Ranchos), Synod Executive, Synod of the Trinity
- Rev. Owen (Lee) Clark (Pittsburgh Presbytery), Special Administrative Review Committee, Synod of the Trinity
- Rev. Dr. N. Graham Standish (Pittsburgh Presbytery), Executive Director, Director of Caring for Clergy and Congregations, Samaritan Guidance, Counseling, Consulting
- Rev. Dr. Michael R. Wilson (The Presbytery of Donegal), Special Administrative Review Committee, Synod of the Trinity

OPENING WORSHIP:

Host Church pastor Rev. A. David Paul led a time of worship and reflection, reading from Luke 13:31-35. Presbyters were asked to consider the question, “God, what are you calling me to do?” while viewing a video of a poem, *Gathering Her Brood*, by Phuc Luu.

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER REPORT:

After enduring the pandemic, Tom now hopes we can focus on the building and rebuilding work that has come from years of disruption. We are re-formed and will continue to be re-formed, according to the Word of God.

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW SYNOD EXECUTIVE:

New Synod of the Trinity Executive Rev. Forrest Claassen spoke about the warm hospitable spirit he has felt since arriving. He described the purpose of the Synod as “Help Presbyteries help their congregations do ministry better.”

There are three ways the Synod is doing this:

1. Connecting Presbytery leaders with one another
2. Encouraging innovation in ministry
3. Fostering conversation and action for justice and righteousness in the church and in the wider world

COORDINATING TEAM:

Agreed to the following ecclesiastical matters:

- Received the Report of the Coordinating Team Minutes, January 5, 2022;
- Received the Presbytery Meeting Minutes, January 22, 2022;
- Received the Stated Clerk’s Report;
- Received the Treasurer’s Report – Balance Sheet 12/31/21 & 1/30/22, and Profit & Loss January – December, 2021 & January 2022, and
- Received the 2022 Pastors Terms of Call Spreadsheet

GREETINGS FROM THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE (SPARC):

Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson, Rev. Owen (Lee) Clark, and Elder Lenore Williams represented the SPARC, formed in response to recommendations made by the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission at the conclusion of *Remedial Case 2021-1, Refreshing Springs Mission Church Session vs. Beaver-Butler Presbytery*. Some highlights:

- As a result of the Case Ruling, there were three issues to be addressed:
 - Training of Elders and Clerks of Session,
 - Handling of finances, and
 - Recognition that the Case dealt with issues of race and diversity
- SPARC will be working with the Coordinating Team for the next 12-18 months, and the members are committed to working together as brothers and sisters in Christ.

MISSION & COMPASSION MINISTRY UNIT:

M&C is asking for information on how churches are addressing the current food crisis issue.

MINISTRY & VOCATION COMMITTEE:

The following action was taken by the Presbyters:

- Waived the one-year Candidacy requirement for Elder Ralph Lowe (Calvin, Zelienople), so, *if the way be clear*, he may be examined and approved for ordination by Pittsburgh Presbytery.

Additional items for information:

- Waiver of rotation for one Elder, Frankfort, Frankfort Springs;
- Granted the Rev. William Jackson permission to serve as pulpit supply at Glade Run, Valencia for longer than six consecutive weeks;
- Appointed the Rev. Nick Marlatt as Moderator of Vanport, Beaver;
- Approved CRE Jeff Marquis to moderate the Session of Bethlehem Church, Shippingport; and
- Approved Rev. Michael Burkley to moderate the Session of Plains Church, Cranberry, and to preach there for longer than six continuous weeks.

NOMINATION AND REPRESENTATION:

Approved the following:

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|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|------|
| • Elder Heather Yesko | Crestview, Callery | Coordinating Team | 2023 |
| • Elder Jim Ihlenfeld | The Hill, Butler | Mission & Compassion | 2022 |
| • Elder Thomas Marlowe | White Oak Spr, Con. | Administration | 2024 |
| • Elder Scott Meiser | Mt. Chestnut, Butler | Finance | 2024 |
| • Elder Nancy Phyllis | Steffin Hill, Beaver Falls | Personnel | 2024 |

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 24, 2022, 6:00 PM, Old Union Church, Mars, “hybrid” format

OTHER INFORMATION OF NOTE:

- There were a total of 78 participants at the meeting:
 - 28 Teaching Elders
 - 35 Ruling Elders from 29 Churches
 - 4 Corresponding Members
 - 2 Ruling Elders who are officers, CT, or Chair of a Committee or Unit
 - 9 Visitors