

Presbytery Meeting Summary January 27, 2024 Stated Meeting

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held its stated meeting at 10:00 A.M. Saturday, January 27, 2024, in-person and via *non-interactive* Zoom. Moderator was Rev. Jamie Fowler, Vice-Moderator Elder Dennis Krebs; the meeting was hosted by the North Sewickley Presbyterian Church, Ellwood City, where Rev. Dr. Rebecca A. Kahnt serves as Pastor.

OPENING WORSHIP: The meeting opened with the annual recognition of those Ministers, Elders, Deacons, and Trustees who had passed away and entered the *Church Triumphant* in 2023.

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PRESBYTERY:

- *Approved* the Presbytery Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2023
- *Received* the Coordinating Team Minutes, December 6, 2023
- *Received* the Stated Clerk Report, November-December 2023
- *Received* the Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss, November 2023

STATED CLERK:

Assistant Stated Clerk Rev. James Steiner reminded Clerks to submit their Annual Reports. He also reminded pastors about overdue background checks.

ENCOURAGING CHURCHES TO FLOURISH:

Rev. Dr. John Silbert encouraged everyone to attend the **FREE!** upcoming Leadership & Administrative Event to be held at Cranberry Community United Presbyterian Church, Sunday, March 10, 2:00 – 5:00 P.M. (*Did we say it's FREE???*)

COLLABORATION, YOUTH, & FELLOWSHIP:

Rev. Brian Hauser reminded the Commissioners about a \$500 Presbytery Grant that's available to churches who, in partnership with one another, do something *new or different* in ministry together – mission, fellowship, education, etc. He also asked everyone to think about the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, July 28-31, 2025, Louisville, KY.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Presbytery Communications Assistant ChrisAnn Goossen took a moment to talk about her responsibilities, and the benefits of both reading and *contributing to* the weekly Presbytery Newsletter. Everyone is encouraged to subscribe!

MISSION & COMPASSION (MCM):

- North Sewickley Pastor Rev. Dr. Rebecca Kahnt spoke about the church's history, and its connection to the various Native Nations that came before.
- Elder Pat Vegas discussed their mission in Uganda providing water resources to outlying communities.
- Churches interested in pursuing a Mission Trip can access a "Tool Kit" from the denomination.

COORDINATING TEAM:

Using a lively skit, representatives from the Coordinating Team highlighted the CT's 2024 Goals & Objectives. During lunch, the Commissioners considered questions about how each person and congregation will connect and contribute to the life of the Presbytery by thinking about ideas for collaboration.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 19, 6:00 P.M., Calvin Church, Zelienople – In-person and non-interactive Zoom. (Note: Office to close early that day.)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FROM MINISTRY & VOCATION:

- Approved the transfer of membership of Rev. Dr. James W. Kirk to Washington Presbytery.
- Approved contract between Rev. James Salyers and Westminster United Presbyterian Church, New Brighton effective September 1, 2023.
- Approved contract between Commissioned Pastor Gregg D. Hartung and Crestview Community Church, Callery effective January 1, 2024.
- Approved contract between Rev. Monica Hamilton and the North Butler, Chicora and East Butler, East Butler Presbyterian churches effective January 1, 2024.
- Approved contract between Rev. Robert Goossen and the Ohio United Presbyterian Church, Aliquippa effective January 1, 2024.
- Approved contract between Rev. John Sweitzer from Pittsburgh Presbytery and Frankfort Presbyterian Church, Frankfort Springs effective October 1, 2023.
- Approved a waiver of rotation for session members Mr. Homer Ray and Mr. Raymond Bell for the First United Presbyterian Church, Darlington.
- Received the resignation of Rev. Doug Gebhard, with regret, from Ministry & Vocation due to more demands on his time at his new interim work.
- Approved Rev. Dennis Molnar to labor outside the bounds of Beaver-Butler Presbytery, serving a church in Kiskiminetas Presbytery.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- There were a total of 98 participants at the meeting:
 - 26 Teaching Elders
 - 30 Ruling Elders from 25 Churches
 - 4 Ruling Elders who are officers, CT, or Chair of a Committee or Unit
 - 38 Visitors