

Presbytery Meeting Summary July 30, 2024 Stated Meeting

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held its stated meeting at 6:00 P.M. Tuesday, May 28, 2024. Moderator was Rev. Jamie L. Fowler, Vice-Moderator Elder Dennis Krebs; the meeting was hosted by the Clinton Presbyterian Church, Saxonburg, where Rev. Kelley A. Angleberger serves as Covenant Pastor.

Before the meeting, training was held for new Elder Commissioners (or anyone else wanting a refresher). Expect subsequent meetings to have similar training sessions.

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PRESBYTERY:

- *Approved* the Presbytery Meeting Minutes, May 28, 2024
- *Received* the Coordinating Team Minutes, May 1, 2024
- *Received* the Stated Clerk Report, May-June 2024
- *Received* the Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss, May 2024
- *Approved* the dissolution of the call between Rev. Melissa Morris and the Vanport Congregation, and grant her At-Large Status

EAST UNITY CHURCH: The Presbytery approved the appointment of an Administrative Commission to conclude the life and ministry of East Unity, and dissolve the congregation, effective July 11, 2024. The Presbytery also empowered the Executive Presbyter and Treasurer to work as its agents regarding any negotiations and/or property transfers. The Presbytery heard from East Unity Elder Martha Altmire, celebrating the history, life and ministry of East Unity. A prayer, offering hope and thanks to the members, concluded the actions.

CULTURES OF GENEROSITY – THE PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION: Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley, Ministry Relations Officer, gave a thorough presentation, “Discovering Resources for Church Financial Leadership.” The Foundation is the *oldest and largest religious foundation in the United States*, and offers a multitude of resources and assistance to congregations regarding their financial stability and future. Ellie emphasized that she and all the Foundation's resources are available to churches at no cost.

MISSION & COMPASSION MINISTRY UNIT: The Presbyters welcomed Rev. Catherine S. Chang (Presbytery of Lake Huron) & her husband Juan Lopez, Presbyterian Mission Co-workers, Philippines. Using many photos, Cathy and Juan gave a brief but thought-provoking view of their work and ministry in the Philippines.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Those who attended the 226th General Assembly gave their reports (through a variety of media!)

COLLABORATION, FELLOWSHIP, AND YOUTH: Pastors are invited to a picnic on August 21, Noon – 2:00 PM, at Old Union Church, Mars. Chair Brian Hauser also reminded the Presbyters of *free money* available for joint churches engaging in new ministries.

ENCOURAGING CHURCHES TO FLOURISH: Church leaders were reminded of the upcoming Wee Kirk Conference – October 14-16, Laurelville Conference Center. Funds are available.

MINISTRY & VOCATION (MVC): Executive Presbyterian Rev. Dr. Tom Harmon gave an extensive presentation regarding upcoming changes in the Board of Pensions healthcare coverage.

Pastors and church leaders are reminded of upcoming online workshops August 15 and August 21, as well as an in-person opportunity August 26. Emails have been sent to pastors and leaders.

REV. ROBERT W. GOOSSEN RECOGNITION: Bob's retirement from ministry was recognized by the Presbyters. Various wishes of good will were offered. Moderator Fowler offered a prayer as Bob and ChrisAnn enter their new life.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 24, 4:00 PM, (Dinner) First, Darlington/The Galilean, New Galilee (at The New Galilee Community Center)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FROM MINISTRY & VOCATION:

- Approved the resignation, with regret, of Rev. Monica Hamilton from North and East Butler Churches due to health issues
- Approved the Retirement of (and granted *Honorably Retired* status to) Rev. Robert Goossen, effective July 1, 2024 (Bob moved to part-time at Ohio Church on July 1, 2024, with official final date July 15, 2024)
- Appointed Rev. Lee Dreyer as Moderator for North and East Butler Churches, beginning July
- Appointed Rev. Todd Allen as Moderator for Vanport Church, starting in July
- Removed Rev. Stephen Cramer from the Pulpit Supply List
- Set September 12, 2024 for Boundary Training Part II
- Approved Elder Lynn Byers and Rev. Jason Sinagra as Ordination Exam Readers
- Approved Covenant Pastor Contract between Rev. Mark Davis and West Sunbury Church
- Approved Candidate Kerry Dowdy as *Certified to Receive a Call* on the endorsement of the Preparation for Ministry Team. Candidate Kerry has met all the ordination process criteria to become a Minister of Word and Sacrament

OTHER INFORMATION:

- There were a total of 93 participants at the meeting:
 - 23 Teaching Elders
 - 3 Corresponding Members
 - 27 Ruling Elders from 24 Churches
 - 3 Ruling Elders who are officers, CT, or Chair of a Committee or Unit
 - 37 Visitors