

## **Presbytery Meeting Summary September 23, 2025 Stated Meeting**

The Beaver-Butler Presbytery held a stated meeting at 4:00 P.M. Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at the New Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, Aliquippa where Rev. Randall Clow serves as Pastor. The meeting included a dinner hosted by the New Bethlehem congregation. Moderator was Elder Dennis Krebs.

*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:**

1. Received the Coordinating Team Minutes, August 6, 2025
2. Received the Stated Clerk's Report, July-August 2025
3. Received the Treasurer's Report – Balance Sheet & P&L July 2025
4. Approved the Presbytery Meeting Minutes, July 29, 2025

### **MINISTRY AND VOCATION (MVC):**

1. Presbyters approved 2026 minimum Terms of Call for pastoral calls, Certified Christian Educators, and Certified Associate Christian Educators to be \$67,700.45 (\$48,854.09 with Manse) and a recommended but not required 2.5% cost of living increase for 2026, acknowledging changes to the Board of Pensions.
2. Presbyters approved the First Reading of the revised MVC Policies: As a First Reading, only questions for clarification were permitted; the Second Reading, including debate and voting, will be held at the November Presbytery meeting.
3. Presbyters approved the request of MVC to concur with the action of the Ohio, Aliquippa, congregation to dissolve the call between Rev. Kalyn Stevwing and Ohio Church, effective August 17, 2025.
4. Presbyters approved, *if the way be clear*, the Presbytery to authorize the Moderator to appoint an Administrative Commission to ordain Caroline Baker at Calvin Church, Zelienople, on behalf of the Pittsburgh Presbytery, on a date and time to be determined.

### **PERSONNEL:**

1. Presbyters approved the 2026 Terms of Call for the Executive Presbyter – Transitional Pastor's Participation, plus a 2.5% Cost of Living increase.

### **FINANCE:**

1. Presbyters approved the Per Capita Matching Program: Beaver-Butler Presbytery will match (at the Church Session's request) 50 cents per dollar, up to the church's assessed and remitted Synod and/or General Assembly Per Capita to be paid from Beaver-Butler reserves (Deadline December 1, 2026).
2. Presbyters approved the 2026 Beaver-Butler Per Capita amount: proposed \$33.00 (\$1.00 increase from 2025). (FYI for 2026 – General Assembly \$11.26; Synod \$2.40).
3. Presbyters approved the proposed 2026 Beaver-Butler Presbytery Budget.

**STATED CLERK REPORT:** Randall Clow encouraged churches to consider hosting a Presbytery meeting in 2026. He took a moment to explain the meaning of “First Reading” of the new MVC policies. He advised the Presbyters of an item of New Business for later in the meeting.

**GOOD NEWS FROM THE PEWS:**

- The Saxonburg Area Presbyterian Churches are holding another collaborative ministry event in October
- Faith, Butler and White Oak Springs will host musical groups in October
- First, Monaca recently celebrated 140 years of ministry
- Ohio Church, Aliquippa reported on a growing Children’s Story Time
- Hill Church will host gatherings for LGBTQ persons experiencing religious trauma

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS TASK FORCE:** The Task Force is encouraging Pastors, Elders, and Young Persons to consider attending the 226<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, next summer in Milwaukee, WI. Committee work is done online before the Assembly, then Commissioners attend the event in late June-early July. Applications are on the BBP website, and anyone may contact a Task Force member (Judy Angleberger, Kerry Dowdy, David Paul & Kemp Clow) for additional information.

**MISSION AND COMPASSION MINISTRY UNIT:** Common Grounds U.S.A. will offer a presentation on *how to have difficult conversations*. Sunday, October 19, a Presbytery-wide event will be held.

**COLLABORATION, FELLOWSHIP, & YOUTH MINISTRY UNIT:** Funds are available for churches wanting to collaborate with other churches in mission and ministry!

**EQUIPPING LEADERS MINISTRY UNIT:** Grant monies are available to attend this year’s Wee Kirk Conference at Laurelville, October 13-15, 2025, as well as the upcoming annual meeting of the Association of Partners in Christian Education (APCE) will be held in Pittsburgh, January 21-24

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

**Ministry & Vocation approved the following:**

- Approved 2026 Ordination Exam Readers: Lynn Byers and Jason Sinagra
- Concurred with North Washington and Concord (Hooker) Churches that the Rev. James Gear will conclude his service as of December 31, 2025.
- Appointed Rev. David Byers Moderator of Ohio, Aliquippa
- Accepted the resignation of Kathleen Davis from MVC, with regrets.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 18, 6:00 p.m. Ohio, Aliquippa**

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**OTHER INFORMATION:**

- There were a total of 71 participants at the meeting:
  - 23 Teaching Elders
  - 20 Ruling Elders from 19 Churches
  - 1 Corresponding Members
  - 3 Ruling Elders who are officers, CT, or Chair of a Committee or Unit
  - 24 Visitors