



**MINUTES
OF THE STATED MEETING
OF THE PRESBYTERY OF MUSKINGUM VALLEY**

Saturday, May 19th, 2012 – 9AM
First Presbyterian Church of Marietta in Marietta, Ohio

OUR VISION

*Journeying with Jesus to touch the world—Empowered by the Spirit to:
Make Disciples, Nurture Our Faith, and Serve the Needs of Community*

Roll of Ministers Present

Church	Representative
Alliance First United	
Antrim	
Ashland First	Mike Parker
Augusta Stillfork	
Bakersville	
Barlow	(CLP)
Bellville	Karin Wright
Belpre Pioneer	(CLP)
Beverly	Tom O'Connor
Bloomfield	
Caldwell First	
Cambridge East Union	
Cambridge First	
Cambridge Mount Hermon	
Cambridge Unity	
Canton Calvary	Sue Ann Schmidt
Canton Christ	
Canton Covenant	
Canton Reedurban	Darrell Holmes
Canton Westminster Community	
Carrollton First	
Carrollton United	
Clark Community	
Congress (Federated)	
Coshocton	Jon Carlisle
Creston	Alice Phillips
Cumberland Buffalo	(CLP)
Dalton	
Dennison First	

Dresden Madison	William McClelland
Duncan Falls First	
Frazeyburg	
Fredericksburg	(CLP)
Freeport	
Fresno	
Hanoverton	
Hanoverton Bethesda	
High Hill	
Hopewell	Christopher Stewart
Lexington	
Loudonville First	(CLP)
Malta Deerfield	Barbara Morrison
Mansfield East Hills	
Mansfield Linden Road	Andy Gerhart
Marietta First	George Spransy
Massillon Central	
McConnelsville First	Barbara Morrison
Mechanicstown Corinth	
Millersburg First	
Minerva First	Ben George
Mount Perry	Diana Circelli
Muskingum	
Nankin (Federated)	
New Concord College Drive	
New Concord Westminster	
New Harrisburg	John Lane
New Lexington	
New Philadelphia First	Jacquelyn Pinkowski
North Canton John Knox	
North Canton Northminster	
North Salem	
Norwich	
Nottingham	(CLP)
Old Washington First	(CLP)
Orrville First	(CLP)
Perrysville First	(CLP)
Plymouth First	
Rittman Milton	
Rix Mills	(CLP)
Roseville	
Savannah	
Scroggsville	
Senecaville First	
Seville	Dick Wereley
Sharon	

Shreve	Christopher Stewart
Uhrichsville First	Mark Unrue
Veto	Robin Swinsburg
Warsaw First	(CLP)
Watertown	Robin Swinsburg
Wayne	
Waynesburg First United	
Wooster First	
Wooster Westminster	
Zanesville Brighton	
Zanesville Central	Ray Morrison
Zanesville Putman	(CLP)
Zanesville Trinity	

*CLP – Commissioned Lay Pastor Representative

Roll of Retired Minsters Present

Eldon Trubee	Ross Gooch
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Roll of Members at Large Present

Lynn Bozich-Shetzer	
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Commissioned Lay Pastors (CLP) Present

Church	Representative
Antrim	
Barlow	
Belpre Pioneer	
Cumberland Buffalo	
Fredericksburg	Jack McClelland
Loudonville	Kathleen Walkerow
Nottingham	
Old Washington	
Orrville First	Ron Walker
Perrysville	Kathleen Walkerow
Rix Mills	
Warsaw First	Tim Thomas
Zanesville Putman	

Roll of Ministers Excused

Dennis Allison (HR)	Cathy Arble (North Canton John Knox)
Wayne Barnard (HR)	Stuart Barr (HR)
Edward Barrett (HR)	Donald Bartow (HR)
James Bean (HR)	David Binau (HR)
William Briggs (HR)	James Collier (HR)
Jack Dawson (HR)	Elizabeth Sykes (HR)
John Dryer (HR)	Dudley Field (HR)
Ralph Fogal (HR)	Ralph Green (HR)
David Hartzfeld (HR)	Bill Johnson (HR)
David Kearns- Preston (HR)	Harold Keesee (HR)
Cloyd Kress (HR)	Herbert Thomson (HR)
William McClelland (HR)	Carroll Meyer (HR)
Gordon Tait (HR)	Roger Naftzer (HR)
Thomas Neff (HR)	Douglas Patton (HR)
James Rila (HR)	Donal Rossire (HR)
John Russell (HR)	Kenneth Shafer (HR)
Reford Nash (Rittman Milton)	Andries Coetzee (Wooster Westminster)
Bob Porter (MVP Council Elder)	Herb Perry (Zanesville Putman)
Suellen Skinner (Zanesville Brighton)	Rick Nutt (Muskingum University)

Elder Commissioners Present

Church	Representative
Alliance First United	
Antrim	
Ashland First	
Augusta Stillfork	
Bakersville	
Barlow	
Bellville	
Belpre Pioneer	
Beverly	Diane Tuten
Bloomfield	
Caldwell First	
Cambridge East Union	
Cambridge First	
Cambridge Mount Hermon	
Cambridge Unity	
Canton Calvary	
Canton Christ	
Canton Covenant	
Canton Reedurban	
Canton Westminster Community	
Carrollton First	
Carrollton United	

Clark Community	
Congress (Federated)	
Coshocton	Donna Westfall
Creston	
Cumberland Buffalo	
Dalton	Karol Niehaus
Dennison First	
Dresden Madison	Kendra Scurlock
Duncan Falls First	
Frazeyburg	
Fredericksburg	
Freeport	
Fresno	
Hanoverton	
Hanoverton Bethesda	
High Hill	
Hopewell	
Lexington	
Loudonville First	
Malta Deerfield	Ruth Orr
Mansfield East Hills	
Mansfield Linden Road	
Marietta First	Gail Reynonds
Massillon Central	
McConnelsville First	
Mechanicstown Corinth	
Millersburg First	Elaine Hand
Minerva First	
Mount Perry	
Muskingum	Donna Edsall
Nankin (Federated)	
New Concord College Drive	
New Concord Westminster	
New Harrisburg	
New Lexington	
New Philadelphia First	
North Canton John Knox	Alison Blondheim
North Canton Northminster	
North Salem	
Norwich	
Nottingham	
Old Washington First	
Orrville First	Wendy Most
Perrysville First	
Plymouth First	
Rittman Milton	Donna Robertson

Rix Mills	
Roseville	
Savannah	
Scroggsville	
Senecaville First	
Seville	John Drotos
Sharon	
Shreve	Sandra Butterbaugh
Uhrichsville First	
Veto	Dawn Sundquist
Warsaw First	
Watertown	
Wayne	
Waynesburg First United	
Wooster First	
Wooster Westminster	Barbara Tartir, Cindy Gooch
Zanesville Brighton	
Zanesville Central	
Zanesville Putman	
Zanesville Trinity	

Staff Members Present

General Presbyter	Debbie Rundlett
Transitional Stated Clerk	Paula Lane
Administrative Assistant	Shauna Engeldinger
Financial Assistant	Barb Schie

MVP Council Elder

Church	Representative
Marietta First	Cathy Piekarski

Visitors

Cambridge First	Dama Ferguson,
Cambridge Unity	Charlotte O'Neil, Cindy Krause, Sheila Ellenberger
Millersburg First	Elaine Hand
New Philadelphia First	Richard Sheaffer
Orrville First	Cora Walker
Shreve	Sally Fusek
Wooster Westminster	Dave Rogers
Veto	Drema Gillespie

The Moderator, Teaching Elder Diana Circelli, called the meeting to order at 9:15AM with prayer. The Clerk announced that a quorum was present (at least 10 teaching elders and 10 ruling elders representing at least 5 congregations; meeting attendance roll is attached to and incorporated in these Minutes). Corresponding members, including Dr. Paul Hooker, Executive Presbyterian of St. Augustine Presbytery, and first-time presbyters were recognized and welcomed.

Dr. Hooker was recognized by the Moderator for his morning plenary address: "The Theological Foundation of the New Form of Government." He distributed copies of his essay: "What is Missional Ecclesiology?"

The meeting stood in recess at 12Noon for a time of food and fellowship. At 1PM, the Moderator called the meeting to order.

Teaching Elder Chris Stewart, chair of the Committee on Ministry (COM), reported on the committee's continuing work, in cooperation with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM), to move from the current four area structure into a grouping of congregations by county, each to be led by a Parish Elder responsible for regular contact with each congregation and referral of congregations as necessary to one or more specific response teams. He explained that the new Book of Order does not require presbyteries to have COMs and CPMs but provide the flexibility needed for each presbytery to determine the procedures and structures that meets its needs. Action on approval of those individuals who have agreed to serve as Parish Elders will be on the docket of the agenda of the September 29th stated presbytery meeting.

The report of the Nominating Committee, presented by committee member Elder Alison Blondheim, included the need for election of two additional elder commissioners to the 220th General Assembly in June 2012. She noted that two alternate elder commissioners had already been elected by the presbytery.

Motion: elect the two previously elected alternate commissioners as elder commissioners to the 220th GA in Pittsburgh--Ruling Elder Barbara Tartir and Teaching Elder John Lane (HR).

The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

The Moderator called the four commissioners forward and led the liturgy of commissioning for the 220th GA in Pittsburgh:

Ruling Elder: CLP Tim Thomas, Pastor, Warsaw Presbyterian Church

Ruling Elder: Barbara Tartir, Member, Westminster Presbyterian Church
(Wooster)

Teaching Elder: Rev. Darrell Holmes, Pastor, Reedurban Presbyterian Church

Teaching Leader: Rev. John Lane, HR, Temporary Pastor, New Harrisburg
Presbyterian Church

The Nominating Committee report also included notice that the previously elected Young Adult Advisory Delegate had failed to register for the General Assembly and that the previously elected Alternate YAAD will be contacted to determine her availability to attend.

Teaching Elder Jon Carlisle, on behalf of MVP's Administrative Commission on Congregational Dismissal (ACCD), gave a first reading of its recommendation that the Evangelical Covenant Order of Presbyterians (ECO) be recognized as a Reformed body to whom an MVP congregation may be dismissed following an intentional season of mutual discernment and consultation between the presbytery and the congregation. The recommendation will be presented for action at the September 29, 2012, stated meeting.

He also presented for information the last communication the ACCD received from Westminster Community Church regarding its dismissal to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. He then reported on the discussions with First Presbyterian Church/Mansfield and the ACCD's conclusion that there is no opportunity for continued ministry and mission in partnership between MVP and the Mansfield congregation.

Motions: dismiss First Presbyterian Church, Mansfield, following request from its session and congregation, from MVP and approve the transfer of the church with all assets to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church; and direct the MVP Stated Clerk to send notification of MVP's action to the Mansfield session and the stated clerk of the Presbytery of the Alleghenies of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

The motions were approved by majority voice vote.

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation was convened with prayer by the Moderator Teaching Elder Andy Gerhart, chair of the MVP Administration Committee, reviewed the financial statements and annual mission reports, following which the reports were approved by consensus. Since no further business was brought before the Corporation, the Annual Meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator.

The Clerk's report included several action items.

Motion: approve all action items contained in the Omnibus Motion.

The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

There being no further items of business to be brought before the presbytery, the stated meeting of Muskingum Valley Presbytery was adjourned at 3:45PM with prayer by the Moderator.

Next Stated Presbytery Meeting:

Saturday, September 29, 2012, 8:30AM-4:30PM

Christ Presbyterian Church, Canton