

THE PRESBYTERY OF WASHINGTON
STATED MEETING – May 9, 2017
PIGEON CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EIGHTY FOUR, PENNSYLVANIA

The Presbytery of Washington of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) held a stated meeting in Laboratory Presbyterian Church, Washington, PA. Presbytery convened at 7:00 p.m. with prayer led by Moderator, TE Geoff Rach.

RE Robert Devore offered greetings to the presbytery and gave the appropriate details for the day.

RECOGNITION OF RULING ELDERS ATTENDING FOR THE FIRST TIME

The moderator called upon, greeted and welcomed ruling elders attending presbytery for the first time.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT – RE JOHN RODGERS

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Presbytery Meeting Schedule

Sept. 23, 2017	10:00 AM	Pine Springs Camp
Nov. 14, 2017	7:00 PM	Waynesburg University
Jan. 20, 2018	9:00 AM	TBD
March 13, 2018	4:00 PM	TBD
May 8, 2018	7:00 PM	TBD
Sept 11, 2018	4:00 PM	Cokeburg
Nov. 13, 2018	7:00 PM	Moderator's church

Council Meeting

June 20, 2017	1:00 PM	Presbyterian SeniorCare
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Information:

1. The membership of the Presbytery is comprised of teaching elders in our jurisdiction, commissioned ruling elders, those with a vote as a result of office, and ruling elder commissioners. Most churches have only one ruling elder commissioner. All others are to register as guests without voice and without vote.
2. Only one ruling elder commissioner from each church is registered as a commissioner for each meeting. The only exceptions are the Church of the Covenant and Canonsburg each of which have two ruling elder commissioners. Please put only one name on a line when registering. This is of great importance when we must count votes.
3. Minutes of the meetings of the Presbytery are posted on line at www.washingtonpresbytery.org . This is a password protected, copy protected file. The password is distributed by email or by calling the presbytery office.

4. The Stated Clerk is receiving invitations for the January, March and May 2018 stated meetings.
5. On February 28, 2017, the stated clerk reported to the Synod of the Trinity the 2016 Statistical Reports for 2016 for Washington Presbytery.
6. On April 26, 2017, the 2016 Minutes of Washington Presbytery were read by the Synod of the Trinity and no exceptions and no delinquencies were noted. The stated clerk thanks Nancy Youmans for attending the event on behalf of the presbytery.
7. On May 1, 2017, a letter dated April 12, 2017 was received at the presbytery office from Dana W. Robinson, Clerk of Session of First Presbyterian Church of Finleyville, informing the presbytery that on that date the Session of said congregation voted unanimously to enter the discernment process to be dismissed from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). On May 4, 2017, the stated clerk referred the matter to TE William Youmans, Chair of the Committee on Ministry, in accordance with the provisions of the Gracious Discernment Policy adopted by the presbytery on November 10, 2105.
8. On May 9, 2017, CRE Gary Gibson submitted to the stated clerk his resignation as chair of the
9. Congregational Vitality Committee, and the vacancy has been reported to the Nominating Committee.

OMNIBUS MOTION
May 9, 2017

In order to energize and shorten our meetings, Council has recommended the use of a single OMNIBUS MOTION to be presented by the Stated Clerk early in the meeting. This omnibus motion will contain **only non-controversial** items that are necessary business of the presbytery. The omnibus motion is not debated, but any ruling elder commissioner or teaching elder member can simply request that any item be pulled from the motion for individual consideration.

The Stated Clerk moves the following:

From the Stated Clerk

1. That the roll of Presbytery be constituted by all teaching elder members and ruling elder commissioners of churches registered, and those entitled to be enrolled by the BOOK OF ORDER and the MANUAL. A quorum is present.
2. That the docket, as included in the packet of materials, be adopted as the docket of the meeting.
3. That the minutes of the March 14, 2017 meeting, as corrected by the presbytery and reviewed by Ruling Elder Jane Noble be approved. The full copies of minutes are available on the presbytery web site. The Stated Clerk can provide a paper copy upon request.
4. That the following be given privilege of the floor at this meeting: TE Jerome Creach (Temporary Supply, Claysville); Greg Davis (Camp Pine Springs); Mike Hurley (Camp Pine Springs); TE Louise Rogers (Pittsburgh Presbytery, for Temporary at Peters Creek); Catherine Lynch (Presbytery of Western North Carolina, presentation by Investment & Loan Program); Rev. Keis Endrias Essaye (preaching, South West Bethel Synod, Ethiopian Evangelical Church – Mekane Jesus; Emma Neishloss (certified ready to receive a call); and Diane Flynn (certified ready to receive a call).

At the request of TE Craig Kephart, the Docket was lifted from the Omnibus Motion, and then Items 1, 3, and 4 in the Omnibus Motion were **seconded and passed**.

TE Craig Kephart then announced that, because of illness, Catherine Lynch, from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, who had been scheduled to make a presentation on the PC(USA) Investment and Loan Program, is unable to attend the meeting this evening. For that reason, TE Craig Kephart **moved** to amend the docket, as included in the packet of materials, be amended to grant the time published in the docket for a presentation by Catherine Lynch, instead be granted to Keis Endrias Essaye for a presentation regarding the Ethiopian Partnership. The motion was **seconded and passed**, to approve the docket, as amended.

INTENT TO INTRODUCE NEW BUSINESS

None.

Southwest Bethel Synod, Ethiopian Evangelical Church –Mekane Jesus

Keis Endrias Essaye, President of Southwest Bethel Synod, Ethiopian Evangelical Church –Mekane Jesus, offered remarks and presented a gift to the presbytery.

WASHINGTON PRESBYTERY AT WORSHIP

The presbytery was led in worship, with Keis Endrias Essaye preaching. He is the President of Southwest Bethel Synod, Ethiopian Evangelical Church –Mekane Jesus. During the worship service the TE Geoff Rach and RE Meg Steele also led the presbytery in memorializing those ruling elders who died during 2016, a list of which appears as an appendix to these minutes.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY – RE JOHN MARK SCOTT, Jr.

RE John Mark Scott, Jr. reported from the committee the following two items of information, and each of the following individuals offered remarks:

1. Candidate Emma Neishloss has been certified ready to receive a call should the way be clear with remaining requirements.
2. Candidate Diane Flynn has been certified ready to receive a call should the way be clear with remaining requirements.

Vice Moderator, RE Meg Steele, assumed the chair to moderate the meeting.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – RE RICHARD HULTMAN

RE Richard Hultman presented the report of the Board of Trustees, as follows:

For information: RE Hultman reported that full financial reviews of all financial books and records of the presbytery have been complete through the year 2016 (Book of Order, G-3.0113)

For Action:

1. Center Presbyterian Church Refinancing

Background: In September 2009 Center PC borrowed \$1,200,000 @ 5.52% with a monthly payment of \$8,322. In 2014, after significant pay down, the rate was adjusted to 4.27% with a monthly payment of \$6,256. As of the end of April 2017 \$519,913 remains. Center Presbyterian Church is refinancing in order to reduce the monthly payment. The new mortgage is for \$580,000 @2.75% plus the five-year fixed rate index for a term of 15 years (20 year amortization) and a monthly payment of ~\$4,000. The extra cash is to cover loan costs, manse improvements, and replenish savings for unexpected expenses. The Session approved the loan on May 3, 2017. The congregation is expected to approve the loan May 14, 2017. **Motion:** The Board of Trustees recommends, when the way be clear, the approval of mortgage refinancing for Center Presbyterian Church, McMurray. The principal is \$580,000, interest rate of 2.75% plus the five-year fixed rate index, and estimated monthly payment of \$4,000. This motion is contingent on approval of congregation. **The recommendation passed.**

2. Lower Ten Mile PC Gas Lease

Background: The Session approved the terms on March 19, 2017. The congregation approved the terms April 2, 2017. The lease is with EQT for 3.29 acres at 653 Amity Ridge Road, Amity, PA 15311. The cash signing bonus is \$4,000 per acre (\$31,160) and the royalty rate is 16%. Proceeds from the lease will be shared with the Lower Ten Mile Presbyterian Church Cemetery Association, details to be determined between the Session and the cemetery board (all church members-amicable). Legal counsel was provided by David Posner.

Motion: The Board of Trustees recommends the approval of the gas lease between Lower Ten Mile Presbyterian Church and EQT. **The recommendation passed.**

The Treasurer, Jess Rigby, presented the current financial report of the presbytery, as follows:

	<u>End of March 2017</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>25% % of Budget</u>	<u>End of March 2016</u>
Income				
Per Capita	41,466.24	149,894.00	28%	51,351.14
Mission Contributions	13,197.95	84,800.00	16%	10,111.17
Trust Fund Income	0.00	18,500.00	0%	3,220.25
Investments Income	2,451.45	0.00		-
Miscellaneous Income	174.97	1,500.00	12%	690.58
Interest Income	0.00	20,492.21	0%	1,382.05
Total Income	<u>57,290.61</u>	<u>275,186.21</u>	21%	<u>66,755.19</u>
Expense				
Payroll Expenses	36,895.88	149,266.21	25%	37,099.26
Office Expenses	5,019.41	22,520.00	22%	6,665.44
Property Expenses	3,532.52	17,250.00	20%	5,592.99
Program Expenses	0.00	350.00	0%	-
Administration	0.00	1,100.00	0%	115.87
Council Expenses	250.00	7,000.00	4%	4,573.14
Ecclesiastical Expenses	175.00	1,200.00	15%	225.00
Related Support Mission	20,250.00	76,500.00	26%	19,625.00
Total Expense	<u>66,122.81</u>	<u>275,186.21</u>	24%	<u>73,896.70</u>
Net Income	<u>(8,832.20)</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>(7,141.51)</u>

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – RE JUDY SCOTT

RE Judy Scott reported for the committee the following nominations:

COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Missional Outreach Committee	Larry Deemer (Upper Ten Mile)	Chairperson/Class of 2019
Personnel	Bradley Shelton (First, 1793)	Class of 2018
Congregational Vitality Committee	TE John Dykstra	Chairperson/Class of 2017

The moderator called for nominations from the floor and, hearing none, the nominations were declared closed and the **recommendations** were passed and the individuals were elected to the positions indicated above.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY – TE WILLIAM YOUMANS

TE William Youmans presented the report from the committee:

For Action: The committee **recommends** the addition of “Spiritual Director” to the validated ministry designation for TE Clarejean Haury (honorably retired). This motion is preceded by a brief statement by TE Haury of the reasons for the request. **Recommendation passed.**

For Information:

1. CRE Pat Cook has announced that she will be ending her commissioned status as of July 31, 2017.
2. The following Teaching Elders are celebrating ministry anniversaries during the year 2017:

Kathryn Balderose, 15 years December 15
Hugh Crawford, H.R., 65 years June 13
Don Coleman, 10 years July 7
Emily Miller, 10 years December 9
3. The Committee considered the meaning of a dual Presbytery membership status of “Honorably Retired” and “Validated Ministry” in response to requests. It concluded that Honorably Retired TE’s may have dual status, and the Committee will include them in the annual review of all Validated Ministries outside the Parish.
4. The November Committee meeting has been moved from November 15 to November 8, 2017.

Moderator, TE Geoff Rach, resumed the chair to moderate the meeting.

PINE SPRING CAMP – GREG DAVIS and MIKE HURLEY

Greg Davis and Mike Hurley made presentations regarding the status of the capital fund drive and the upcoming camping season.

PRESBYTERY COUNCIL – CRE JUDY MAYER

CRE Gary Gibson and TE Stuart Broberg informed the presbytery about plans for the Presbytery Mission Dinner on October 11, 2017.

CRE Judy Mayer introduced the topics for the Breakout Sessions and then the presbytery, for a period of 45 minutes following adjournment, engaged in Breakout Sessions on the following topics:

- The Growing & Changing Ministry of our Presbytery at Pine Springs Camp
- Challenging Congregations and Engaging Communities: What We Can Learn From Our Ethiopian Partners
- The Good News of Peters Creek Church

NEW BUSINESS

None

It was **moved, seconded, passed** at 9:05 p.m. that the presbytery adjourn, and the meeting was closed with prayer led by TE Geoff Rach.

REPORT ON ATTENDANCE

CHURCH	Ex	Pre	Name	CHURCH	Ex	Pre	Name
Amity, Lower Ten Mile		P	Illegible signature	Midway, Center		P	Nancy Hillberry
Avella				Millsboro			
Bulger, Raccoon		P	Linda Ely	Monongahela, First			
Burgettstown PC				Prosperity, Upper Ten Mile		P	Illegible signature
California				Rice's Landing, Hewitt			
Canonsburg UPC	1	P	Illegible signature	Roscoe			
	2	P	Rachel Mumford	Taylorstown			
Canonsburg, Chartiers Hill		P	Rodger Rainey	Thomas		P	Tess Bansavage
Charleroi				Venetia, Peters Creek		P	Rose Marie Leslie
Clarksville, Pleasant Valley				Washington, First 1793		P	Emily Minor
Claysville		P	Cheryl Cumer	Washington, Fourth			
Coal Center				Washington, Church of 1		P	Robynne Myers
Cokeburg		P	Kim Hansburg	The Covenant 2		P	Charles Bowers
Concord				Wash., Chartiers CrossRds		P	Illegible signature
Daisytown				Washington, East Buffalo		P	Becky Grice
Donora, Calvary				Washington, Laboratory		P	Colleen Dille
Eighty Four, Emmanuel		P	Doris Milligan	Washington, Faith			
Eighty Four Pigeon Creek		P	Bob Devore	Washington, No. Buffalo		P	Nellie Baker
Finleyville, First				Washington, Mt Pleasant		P	Patty Catlett
Graysville, Unity				Wash., Upper Buffalo			
Greensboro				West Alexander		P	Jane Noble
Houston				West Middleton, Grove		P	Illegible signature
Independ., Lower Buffalo				West Union			
Langeloth				Wind Ridge, Harmony			
McDonald, Irons Memorial		P	Cathy Lodge				
McMurray, Center		P	Dave DeLuca	TOTAL		25	

Teaching Elders	Ex	Pr									
Austin, Donald C.		P	Haury, Clarejean		P	Powell, Eric	Ex		Soberg, Fred		P
Bailey, James B.			Hedges, Robert A.			Puff, Charles		P	Stratton, Lawrence		P
Balderose, Kathryn		P	Hefner, Jason		p	Rach, Geoff		P	Timko, Merle M.		
Broberg, Stuart D.		P	Hornung, Keith G.			Rodgers, Joseph H.	Ex		Trotta, Francis		
Coleman, Don		P	Johnson, Donna			Roe, Nathaniel C.			Vande Kappelle, Robert	Ex	
Cook, Candace			Johnson, Terry			Schooley, Jeffrey		P	Vande Kappelle, Susan	Ex	
Corbett, Louise			Kephart, Craig		P	Scott, Benjamin			Voigt, Betty F.		
Crawford, Hugh M.			Kilbert, Brian		p	Scott, John Mark			Weiss, Gerald H.	Ex	
Davis, Wm Bradford			Kisner, Jeffrey Allan			Sherwood, Dawn		p	Wilson, Donald P.		
Dykstra, John			Miller, Emily		P	Shoup, Lesley I.	Ex		Woomer, Mark T.		P
Emerick, Jack H.		P	Miller, Robert A.			Shoup, Robin W.	Ex		Woomer, Sharon		
Gebhard, Doug	Ex		Nelson, Arthur W.	Ex		Slade, Andrew G.			Youmans, William		P
Gras, Mary Lynn			Perrell, Eric J.			Smith, Stephen L.		P	TOTAL	9	19

Commissioned Ruling Elders			Council (not TE or CRE)			Committee Chairs					
P	Ex		P	Ex		P	Ex				
Baird, Russ	P		Narus, Rich			Watkins, Ronald	P		Carla Hayes, Representation		Ex
Cook, Patricia	P		Shaw, Linda	P		Jefferys, Joseph			Judy Scott, Nominating	P	
Deemer, Larry	P		Schaeffer, Patricia	P		Wainwright, Virginia			Richard Hultman, Board of Trustees	P	
Gibson, Gary	P		Skariot, Fran	P							
Lowe, David			Young, Kevin			Officers (not TE or CRE)					
Mankey, Linda	P					Meg Steele, Vice Moderator	P				
Mayer, Judy	P					John A. Rodgers, Stated Clerk	P				
						Jess Rigby, Treasurer	P		TOTAL OTHERS WITH VOTE	15	1

Christian Educators	Privilege of the Floor	Guests
none	Rogers, Louise (Pittsburgh Presbytery, Temp. Supply, Peters Creek UP)	Jim Leslie Nancy Youmans
Journal Clerk	Davis, Greg (Pine Springs Camp)	Carol McVicker
none	Hurley, Mike (Pine Springs Camp)	Rusty Salminen
	Neishloss, Emma (certify ready for a call)	Susanna Caldwell
	Flynn, Diane (certify ready for a call)	Rex Daniels
	Rev. Keis Endrias Essaye (preaching, South West Bethel Synod, Ethiopian Evangelical Church – Mekane Jesus)	Mike McCamey
	TOTAL PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: 6	TOTAL GUESTS: 7

ATTEST:

Ruling Elder John A. Rodgers

APPENDIX A TO MAY 9, 2017 WASHINGTON PRESBYTERY MINUTES

Washington Presbytery's Tribute to Ruling Elders Who Died During 2016

1/8	Walter Atalski	Hewitt
1/15	Ronald L. Cochran	Church of the Covenant
1/22	Martha Louise Dille	Upper Ten Mile
1/28	John Murray	Thomas
2/21	Lorraine A. Gallo	Thomas
3/3	John W. McCreight	Church of the Covenant
3/10	James R. Grimm	Church of the Covenant
3/19	Joseph Soloboay	Canonsburg UP
3/24	Wilma F. Beeghly	Church of the Covenant
4/6	Donald Underwood	Cross Creek UP
4/19	Michael Daube	First, Monongahela
4/20	Edward Krepps	Laboratory
5/24	Tom McWilliams	Canonsburg UP
6/9	Marilyn S. Crawford	Church of the Covenant
6/17	Karen M. Jurczak	Charleroi
6/20	Sarah Bane	Hewitt
7/24	Rick Henderson	Canonsburg UP
8/7	Phyllis Gray Cowden	Upper Ten Mile
8/12	Ruth Walker	North Buffalo UP
8/14	Joseph A. Donham	Church of the Covenant
8/26	Dorothy Hoffman	Canonsburg UP
8/28	Harold V. Fergus	First 1793, Washington
9/15	Edward Leisman	Canonsburg UP
9/26	Ruth Nolan	Burgettstown
10/7	John M. Meikle, Jr.	Charleroi
10/8	Donald Morford	First UP, Houston
11/9	Margaret Mooney	Church of the Covenant
11/11	Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Donaldson	Church of the Covenant
11/20	Mary Holets	First, Monongahela
12/6	Richard Breeding	Harmony
12/24	Judith G. Macosko	Charleroi
12/30	Gerald Miller	Center UP, Midway