

Informal Summary of Major Actions
Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley
May 8, 2018, 3:00 pm starting time
at Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church, Kettering, OH

Documents for this meeting are at http://www.miamipresbytery.org/pmv_presby_docs.htm. Page numbers below from pp. 1 to 37 are in the May advance packet; pp. 38 and higher are in the May supplemental packet.

Moderator **Gidget Collins** presided at the May 2018 meeting until new Moderator **Kelley Shin** was installed.

Consent Agenda--

1. Approved February 10, 2018 stated meeting and March 27, 2018 special meeting minutes, and minutes of three Administrative Commissions--those to install Teaching Elders Beau Brown, Nancy Birdsong, and Jeri Baker (pp. 7-27).

From the Committee on Nominations—

1. Approved motions to elect Teaching Elder **Kelley Shin as Moderator**; Ruling Elder **Bruce Saunders as Vice Moderator**, and Ruling Elder **Gidget Collins as Leadership Council Chair**, all for 2018-2019. These three were installed as officers toward the end of the meeting. Also elected were Teaching Elders **Michael Isaacs and Karen Cassedy as Teaching Elder Alternate Commissioners** to the 223rd General Assembly, June 16-23 in St. Louis, MO. An extensive slate of Leadership Council, committee, and Permanent Judicial Commission members were also elected, along with a Commissioner to the Synod of the Covenant, Teaching Elder **Diane Ziegler** (pp. 31-36).

Leadership Council—

1. Requested that the Moderator **commission the presbytery's representatives to other councils: Commissioners to the 223rd General Assembly--** Ruling Elders Cyndi Adams and Mike Buker; Teaching Elders Kelley Shin and Ken Locke; and Young Adult Advisory Delegate Courtney Hemmelgarn. Also commissioned were Ruling Elder Alternate Commissioners Marj Lawson and Cynthia Nowka; Teaching Elder Alternate Commissioners Michael Isaacs and Karen Cassedy, and Alternate Young Adult Advisory Delegate Anne Paquette. Teaching Elder Diane Ziegler was commissioned as Synod Commissioner.
2. Learned from Teaching Elder Steven Ingram, chair of the Nominations Committee, about Synod-sponsored training with Molly Casteel that he and Moderator Gidget Collins recently took on **Representation matters**, to insure inclusiveness and embody welcome in all the presbytery's activities.
3. Introduced a new **Monthly Hymn Focus** for 2018-2019 by singing "When in Our Music God is Glorified," and engaging small group conversations on questions related to music, worship and faith. Council encourages continued use of the monthly hymn theme in committees, sessions, Networks, groups and churches: <http://www.miamipresbytery.org/pdf/council/Hymn-Focus-2018-19.pdf>. (pp. 44, 46-50)
4. Heard energizing reports from two Networks: from Teaching Elder Darryll Young on behalf of the **Colombia Partnership Network** about a presbytery delegation's recent visit to Barranquilla and Cartagena and the upcoming July-August visit of the MAJUP youth praise band from the Cartagena Presbyterian Church; and from outgoing **Presbyterian Youth Connection** co-moderators Abby Schultz and Caroline Eader on their sense of call to serve to the Lord, on the recent Spring Youth Retreat, and on exciting future PYC events.

5. Updated the presbytery on the **situation with the Synod of the Covenant**, noting that Ruling Elder Marvella Lambright has been designated Overture Advocate for Item 05-03 to the General Assembly (the so-called Cincinnati Overture in which our presbytery concurred). Also noted that the Synod has approved its own Overture that opposes the Cincinnati Overture's request for a General Assembly-appointed Administrative Commission to deal with disorder at the synod. (pp. 44-45; 51-53)

From the Committee on Preparation for Ministry—

1. Expressed joy at Haley Ingram's enrollment as an Inquirer, and noted Shelby Oda's withdrawal as an Inquirer to pursue another vocational path. (p. 37).

From the Committee on Ministry—

1. Approved granting the status of **Honorably Retired** to Teaching Elder **Hart Edmonds**, effective June 1, and celebrated Hart's work as a pastor and member of the presbytery Trustees (p. 37).
2. Welcomed Teaching Elders **Beau Brown and Ted Dennis**, who are now serving as pastors at Urbana: First and Eaton, respectively (p. 5).
3. Heard an update from Ruling Elder Alice McConnel on the status of **Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training** for all Teaching Elders and other presbytery leaders. The final planned training for the year is on September 11, just prior to the presbytery meeting at Oxford.

Other matters—

- The Moderator made the **introduction of first-time Ruling Elders** welcoming and intentional, encouraging others to greet them as we passed the peace early in the meeting. Also later welcomed the Eaton: First confirmation class to the meeting.
- Heard reports from **Moderator Gidget Collins** and from **Executive Presbyter Terry Kukuk** reflecting on their perspectives of the presbytery's work and each of their calls to serve the people and churches of the presbytery.
- Received word from the **Stated Clerk** about several things: the video on the presbytery web site of the recent Tom Hay briefing on the upcoming 223rd General Assembly; statistical reports included in the packets; and the process to redress the imbalance of Ruling and Teaching Elders. A survey at this meeting showed very substantial support for starting Tuesday presbytery meetings at 3:00 pm rather than 4:00 pm, as Council is experimenting with at this and September's meeting. Presbytery paused to remember with thanks the faithful work of Ruling Elders in our churches who died in 2017. (pp. 6, 38-43)
- Experienced the Word proclaimed by Ruling Elder **Gidget Collins, outgoing Moderator**, preaching on Hebrews 10:23-25, and on the theme "That's OK, you're doing good."
- Shared the Lord's Table, led by Teaching Elders **Kelley Shin and Garth Adams**.
- Heard the **Word expressed through music** from violinist Teaching Elder Steven Ingram and pianist Betsy Ingram; pianist Jill-Ann Bryant; and soloist Brad Mattingly.
- Enjoyed fellowship at a delicious dinner provided by the wonderful people at the **Dayton: Sugar Creek Church**. Thank you, Sugar Creek friends, for hosting us so lovingly!

UPCOMING STATED PRESBYTERY MEETINGS—

Tuesday, September 11, 2018, at **3:00 p.m. (note the start time)**, at Oxford

Saturday, November 10, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., at Dayton: Central

(Formal and official minutes of this May meeting will be reviewed and approved at the September 2018 stated presbytery meeting.)