

MINUTES OF THE STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF THE MIAMI VALLEY

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Oxford Presbyterian Church, Oxford, Ohio

Approved at stated meeting on November 10, 2018

The meeting was convened with prayer at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, by Teaching Elder Kelley Wehmeyer Shin, Moderator, at the Oxford Presbyterian Church, Oxford, Ohio.

LEGEND:

P – Present E – Excused Blank – Absent *Italics* – attendance recorded in more than one category

OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERY OF THE MIAMI VALLEY

<i>Teaching Elder Kelley Wehmeyer Shin, Moderator</i>	P
<i>Ruling Elder Bruce Saunders, Vice Moderator</i>	P
<i>Ruling Elder Cheryl (Gidget) Collins, Leadership Council Chair</i>	P
<i>Ruling Elder Larry Hollar, Stated Clerk</i>	P
<i>Ruling Elder Marge Morgan, Recording Clerk (first part of meeting)</i>	P
<i>Ruling Elder Kathleen Seewer, Recording Clerk (second part of meeting)</i>	P

TEACHING ELDERS ON ACTIVE ROLL

Adams, Garth	E	Garrigan, Carmen		Martin, Christopher	
Allen, Todd	P	Haddox, Clifford		McCormick, Dwight	P
Avotri, Solomon		Haddox, Emily	P	Neely, John	E
Bain, Marciana	P	Hamilton, Susan	E	Pelaez-Díaz, Francisco	
Baker, Jeri	P	Helling, Michael	E	Ramsey, Tom	P
Baker, Richard		Hernandez, David		Rupnik, Frank	P
Bartel, Lawrence	P	Hess, Lisa	E	Schenck, Angela	E
Beres, Benjamin	P	Hinds, Kathryn Blocher	P	Shin, Kelley Wehmeyer	P
Birdsong, Nancy	P	Hodgkins, Nancy	P	Soards, Marion	
Brakemeyer, Randall	P	Ingram, Steven	P	Sparks-Franklin, Sarah	P
Brown, Beau	P	Isaacs, Michael	P	Tidwell, Melissa	P
Burslem, Kathleen	P	Kukuk, Terry	P	Weaver, Denise	P
Cassedy, Karen	P	Lawler, Kevin	P	Wiley, Shelley	E
Circelli, Diana		Lawrence, Ronald		Worthen, Merritt	P
Dardaganian, Brad	P	Lee, Sang Un	P	Young, Darryll	P
Dennis, Ted	P	Lewis, John	E	Ziegler, Diane	P
Dozeman, Thomas		Linville, Deborah	P		
Evans, Michael		Maguire, Brian	P		

TEMPORARY MINISTER MEMBERS FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS

Gockel, Stan	P
Miller, Herbert	P
Saari, Aaron	
Schumm, Steve	P
Williamson, Julia	P

HONORABLY RETIRED TEACHING ELDERS (Excused unless attendance indicated)

Amidon, C. Forrest		Fulton, Robert		McConnel, George H.	
Barr, Judith Dunlap	P	Gerhart, Andrew		McNulty, Edward	P
Battin, Barbara		Girbert, David A.		Meyers, JoAnne	
Brown, Edward		Godfrey, Norman	P	Niece, Linda	
Conn, Arbuth		Graham, James		Nowak, Jackie	
Creager, Ronald		Hinds, Joe. M III		Philips, William	
Davis-Dudding, Kay		Hookey, Joseph R.	P	Phleger, Terry	
Edmonds, Cheryl		Horrigan, Kevin		Righter, Richard L.	
Edmonds, Hart		Howard, Kenneth		Schechter, Richard	
Edwards, Robert L.		Kester, Gordon L.		Sheldon, Jocelyn J.	
Fleming, David L.	P	Kim, Soo Kwang		Smith, Robert B., Jr.	
Foubert, David		Kingsbury, Edwin		Sparks, W. Franklin	

Stewart, Donald M.
Stewart, Raymond P
Swaim, Gerald G.
Thompson, Glenn E.
Thornton, Jesse

Wade, Robert
Wall, Evan
Walthour, William
Warren, Patrick
Williams, Russell D.

Yanney, William
Zuercher, John

ROLL OF CHURCHES (RULING ELDERS PRESENT)

BELLBROOK		3 -	OXFORD	
1 - Evans, Al	P	DAYTON: SUGAR CREEK	1 - Cross, Danny	P
2 - Seiler, Sue	P	1 - Arrowood, Brad	2 - Young, Diane	P
BELLE CENTER		DAYTON: TRINITY	PIQUA: GOOD SHEPHERD	
1 -		1 - Blackmon, M.J.	1 - Kerns, Sandra	P
BELLEFONTAINE		2 - Coleman, Gail	PIQUA: WESTMINSTER	
1 -		DAYTON: WESTMINSTER	1 -	
BLUE BALL		1 - Saunders, Gene	REILY	
1 - Biltz, Evelyn	P	2 - Lachman, Amy	1 -	
BRADFORD		3 -	RUSHSYLVANIA	
1 - Buker, Mike (CRE)	P	EATON: FIRST	1 -	
2 -		1 - Smith, Gerald	SEVEN MILE	
CLIFTON		FAIRBORN: FIRST	1 - Ault, Lee (CRE)	
1 -		1 - Seewer, Michael	2 -	
COLLINSVILLE		FARMERSVILLE: SLIFERS	SIDNEY: FIRST	
1 - Gabbard, M. (CRE)		1 -	1 -	
2 -		HAMILTON: THE P. C.	SPRINGBORO: COVENANT	
COVINGTON		1 - Eyler, Greg	1 -	
1 - Schultz, Judy	P	2 - Wolfe, Tim	SPRINGFIELD: COVENANT	
2 - Angle, Jackie	P	HAMILTON: WESTWOOD	1 - Yontz, Barbara	P
DAYTON: BATH		1 -	SPRINGFIELD: NORTHMINSTER	
1 - Drake, Verna	P	HUBER HEIGHTS: FAITH	1 - Shroyer, Lois	P
DAYTON: CENTRAL		1 - Grycz, Diane	TROY: FIRST	
1 - Henry, Don	P	HUNTSVILLE	1 - Riley, Deanna	P
DAYTON: COLLEGE HILL		1 -	2 - Mauntler, John	P
1 -		JAMESTOWN	URBANA: FIRST	
DAYTON: CORINTH		1 -	1 -	
1 - Hamilton, Kim	P	MIDDLETOWN: FIRST	WEST LIBERTY	
DAYTON: FAIRMONT		1 -	1 -	
1 - Gunlock, Kimberly	P	MIDDLETOWN: ST. LUKE	WILMINGTON	
2 - Boden, Brenda	P	1 -	1 - Gillette, James	P
DAYTON: IMMANUEL KOREAN		MONROE	XENIA: MEMORIAL UNITED	
1 -		1 -	1 - Van Horn, M.	P
DAYTON: MEMORIAL		NEW CARLISLE: HONEY CREEK	XENIA: WESTMINSTER	
1 -		1 - Perkins, Marilyn	1 -	
DAYTON: SOUTHMINSTER		NEW PARIS	YELLOW SPRINGS: FIRST	
1 - Lawson, George	P	1 -	1 -	
2 - Fyffe, Dorothy	P			

RULING ELDER MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY

Courtney, Donna (LC)	P	Niece, Don (LC)	E	Hollar, Larry (SC)	P
Collins, Gidget (LC Chair)	P	Saunders, Bruce (ViceMod)	P	Morgan, Marge (COM)	P
Mauntler, John (LC)	P	Shoemaker, Matt (LC)			
Mauntler, Marge (CPM)	P	Welborn, Diane (LC)			

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS (not otherwise registered): Teaching Elder Doug Portz (Pittsburgh); Teaching Elder Ken Locke (Cincinnati); Ruling Elder Kathleen Seewer (Recording Clerk—second part); Ruling Elder Julie Preisser (former moderator).

INQUIRERS AND CANDIDATES (not otherwise registered): None

STAFF MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY (not otherwise registered): Tom Oxley

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Gathering of God's People

WELCOMING MUSIC

Oxford Church Organist Lynn Jacobs

CALL TO WORSHIP AND CONVENING PRAYER

Teaching Elder Kelley Wehmeyer Shin, Moderator

OPENING HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation"

SPEAKING TOGETHER THE PRESBYTERY COVENANT

- To remind ourselves of what binds us together as a presbytery, the entire body spoke words from our Presbytery Covenant, including the mission statement.

HOSPITALITY REPORT

- The Oxford Church welcomed presbyters and noted aspects of the church's history and current ministries. The presbytery expressed gratitude for Oxford's gracious and warm hosting.
- The Hunger Offering today supports the Oxford Community Choice Pantry.
- Guests and first time Ruling Elders were welcomed and invited forward.
- **New pastors in our midst:** Ruling Elder Marge Morgan introduced and offered a prayer for Rev. Stan Gockel, interim pastor at Springfield: Covenant (from American Baptist Churches USA); Rev. Julia Williamson, interim pastor at Huber Heights: Faith (from United Church of Christ); and Teaching Elder Frank Rupnik, pastor at Troy: First. The presbytery also noted with sadness and prayer the passing of Teaching Elder Nehemias Garcia, Honorably Retired, and with gladness recalled his faithful service to the Lord both in Mexico and in this country.
- Following passing of the peace, the presbytery sang "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" in gratitude to God for the life of Teaching Elder Garcia and in welcome to our new pastoral colleagues and all those newly in our midst.

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK – Ruling Elder Larry Hollar

Preliminary Business

- A quorum was declared and on motion/second, the presbytery approved forming the roll by signatures obtained during registration showing an attendance of thirty-eight (38) teaching elders, four (4) minister member from other denominations, thirty-three (33) ruling elder commissioners (representing twenty-four (24) churches), and six (6) ruling elder members of presbytery: eighty-one (81) voting members. Also present and not otherwise registered were four (4) corresponding members, fourteen (14) visitors, and one (1) staff member of the presbytery. Including duplicate categories, total registered attendance of one hundred (100). A motion to accept excuses from nine Teaching Elders was adopted. A motion to seat as corresponding members Teaching Elders Douglas Portz (Pittsburgh) and Kenneth Locke (Cincinnati) was adopted. Other corresponding members were seated by presbytery rule.
- On motion/second, the docket as distributed was adopted.

Correspondence (May 8, 2018 to September 10, 2018) and other information matters:

- **Correspondence:** Delinquency reports; letter received Aug. 14 from City of Springboro regarding Board of Zoning Appeals hearing relating to property near Covenant Presbyterian Church.
- **Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) of the Presbytery**

Former Members Roster

D-5.0206b of the Book of Order says: "The designated stated clerk shall keep a current roster of those members of the permanent judicial commission whose terms have expired within the past six years...The stated clerk shall report the roster annually to the council." Should the current PJC lack a quorum, the clerk will select by rotation a sufficient number of these former members to constitute a quorum.

Class of 2020

Ruling Elder Marge Morgan (Dayton: Sugar Creek)—resigned before completion of term

Class of 2018

Teaching Elder Brian Maguire—term interrupted due to his assuming the office of

presbytery moderator

Teaching Elder Denise Weaver

Class of 2014

Ruling Elder James Dyer (Dayton: Westminster)

Class of 2012

Ruling Elder Robert Harley (Springfield: Covenant)

- **Leadership of the Current PJC**-- Under the Book of Order (D-5.0201), the Permanent Judicial Commission elects its own moderator and clerk. At an August 29 meeting of the PJC, the following were elected to serve through May 2020: Moderator, RE Steve Davis (Dayton: Southminster); Vice Moderator, RE David Weaver (Dayton: Westminster); Clerk, TE Sandy McConnel.
- **Investigating Committee for Disciplinary Case 2018-01**—An Investigating Committee has been formed under D-10.0201 of the Book of Order and the rules of this presbytery, and is currently inquiring into allegations of an offense filed against a member of this presbytery under D-10.0101, which were received on May 14, 2018 (Disciplinary Case 2018-01).
- **Redressing of Imbalance of Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders**—At the May stated meeting the Stated Clerk announced an imbalance of five slots in the number of authorized Ruling Elder and Teaching Elder voting members of presbytery. Presbytery authorized Leadership Council to redress this imbalance by choosing churches to invite to have additional Ruling Elder voting slots between this meeting and the May 2019 stated meeting. The following five churches will each have one additional Ruling Elder slot for that time period (the new temporary number of Ruling Elder slots is indicated after the church name): Bellbrook (2); Covington (2); Dayton: Trinity (2); Dayton: Southminster (3); and Oxford (2).
- **Presbytery Minutes Review** -- The presbytery's 2017 minutes were approved without exception at the August 2018 Assembly of the Synod of the Covenant. Comments from the reviewer at the May 1 minutes review, and the Stated Clerk's response, are in the May 2018 presbytery minutes.
- **Key upcoming dates** -- The Clerk noted the timing of the Clerk's Annual Questionnaire, annual church statistical reporting, and application deadlines for the Young Adult Volunteer program. Churches that have not had their 2017 minutes reviewed were encouraged to submit those for review to be completed prior to the November stated meeting. New 2019 presbytery directories are available today.
- **General Assembly Proposed Book of Order Amendments** -- The Clerk noted that he will orally outline the 10 proposed amendments to the Book of Order at the November stated meeting, and that the presbytery will vote on those amendments at the February 2019 stated meeting. He pointed out where the amendments and discussion of them are found online.
- **Connectional Support and other payments** -- The Clerk presented statistics and expressed heartfelt thanks for each church's contributions through August for Connectional Support, and per capita payments to General Assembly and the Synod.
- **Changing Tuesday meeting start times to 3:00 pm** -- Presbyters who had not voted in May on whether they prefer a 3:00 pm or 4:00 pm starting time for future Tuesday presbytery meetings did so at this meeting. The results from voting at both meetings, once compiled, showed 75 votes in favor of a 3:00 pm start time, 4 in favor of 4:00 pm, and 1 no preference. A Bylaws change to enable this change will be presented for first reading at the November stated meeting.
- Teaching Elder membership changes since last stated meeting:
 - a. **Gains: Julia Williamson** (as member from another denomination (United Church of Christ) for duration of service at Huber Heights: Faith); **Frank Rupnik** (from Lake Michigan)
 - b. **Losses: Margaret Gillespie** (to New Castle); **Kenneth Locke** (to Cincinnati); **Nehemías García** (to the Lord's Loving Care in death)
 - c. **In transition: None**

Treasurer's Report Summaries

September 11, 2018

Presbytery of the Miami Valley

- Year to Date Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet through August 2018 distributed. YTD Receipts for General: \$252,144; YTD Disbursements for General: \$257,038; Difference: (\$4,894). YTD Pass-Through Income and Expense: \$118,197. Total Liabilities and Fund Balance: \$1,556,756.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL, PART I – Ruling Elder Gidget Collins, chair

Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda below was presented. No items were requested to be pulled from the agenda, and by unanimous consent the following actions were approved:

From the Stated Clerk:

- **Presbytery Meeting Minutes:** Approve the minutes of the stated meeting of May 8, 2018.
- **Minutes of Administrative Commission:** Approve the minutes of the following Administrative Commission and thank the AC members for their participation--
 - To install Teaching Elder Timothy E. (Ted) Dennis as pastor of the Eaton: First Church, May 6, 2018 (Appendix A);

From the Leadership Council and Presbytery Trustees:

- **Approval of Summary Letter of 2017 Financial Audit:** Approve the summary letter of the 2017 presbytery audit done pursuant to G-3.0113 of the Book of Order (Appendix B);
- **Approval of mortgage payment extension for Peoples Baptist Church:** Move that the presbytery approve amending the Contract to Purchase Real Estate with the Peoples Baptist Church of Springfield, Ohio, that was authorized by the presbytery on March 26, 2013, to specify that:
 - the outstanding equity from that sale shall be due at the end of a 120-month period (instead of an 84-month period) from the effective date of the original contract, and
 - monthly payments for this extended period shall continue in the same amounts as calculated pursuant to the amortization schedule under the original contract.

From the Committee on Ministry:

- **Approval of Temporary Waiver of Session Term Limits for the Bellbrook Presbyterian Church:** Move that the presbytery grant a 1 (one) year waiver (extendable by one additional year if the church deems it necessary) of the limitation on Terms of Service for ruling elders on session (G-2.0404), to permit current Ruling Elders to remain on the 4-member session beyond their six-year term to assist in mentoring and preparing new session members for effective service, and to regularize the expiration of terms for the three reorganized classes of Ruling Elders to ensure balance of experienced and newer members in each class.

MODERATOR'S REPORT – The Moderator reported primarily on her experience as a Teaching Elder Commissioner to the 223rd General Assembly (2018) in St. Louis, MO. Her written report is included in Appendix C.

REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND YOUNG ADULT ADVISORY DELEGATE TO THE 223RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) JUNE 16-23, 2018 IN ST. LOUIS -- Ruling Elder Commissioner Cyndi Adams (Huber Heights: Faith) and Teaching Elder Commissioner Ken Locke reported in person on their committee and plenary experiences at the General Assembly, and on the meaning of this Assembly to their faith. Ruling Elder Commissioner Cynthia Nowka (Springfield: Covenant) and Young Adult Advisory Delegate Courtney Hemmelgarn were unable to be present, but they and the others submitted written reports (Appendix C). All expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve, and the presbytery gave its warm appreciation for their faithful work.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON – Teaching Elder Kelley Shin, Moderator

CONFESSIONS OF FAITH -- The presbytery together proclaimed faith through excerpts from A Brief Statement of Faith.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS – Teaching Elder Steven Ingram, chair
(*legend:* TE= Teaching Elder; RE= Ruling Elder)

The Committee nominated the following names to serve as presbytery officers and as chairs and members of Presbytery committees, and made a separate motion necessary to elect a particular person. Additional nominees from the floor were solicited, and none appearing, nominations were

declared closed and, **by voice vote, the presbytery elected the following people and approved the following motion:**

- **Class of 2021 (Three-year term)**
 - **Recording Clerk** RE Kathleen Seewer (Fairborn: First)
- Approved granting a one-year exemption from the Teaching Elder/Ruling Elder balance requirements of Sec. 1.03 of the Nominations Committee Policy and Practice to permit the election of TE Sarah Sparks-Franklin to fill a previous Ruling Elder vacancy on the Nominations Committee.
- **Leadership Council**
 - **Class of 2021** TE Sang Un (Brian) Lee
- **Committee on Ministry**
 - **Class of 2020** RE Cheryl (Gidget) Collins (Dayton: Bath)
- **Committee on Preparation for Ministry**
 - **Class of 2021** TE Beau Brown
- **Nominations**
 - **Class of 2020** TE Sarah Sparks-Franklin
- **Permanent Judicial Commission**
 - **Class of 2020** RE Cynthia Nowka (Springfield: Covenant)

INSTALLATION OF RECORDING CLERK – The newly-elected Recording Clerk, Ruling Elder Kathleen Seewer, was installed by Moderator Kelley Shin, with constitutional questions and prayer.

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER’S REPORT—Teaching Elder Terry Kukuk, Executive Presbyter, presented her report, noting the “balcony view” perspective that she brings in observing the big picture of the presbytery’s covenantal work. She is looking for ways for the presbytery to connect and understand that “we are the presbytery,” not “the presbytery is Them.”

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL, PART II – Ruling Elder Gidget Collins, chair

Reports for Information:

- **Budget Guidance for Churches:** To assist churches in planning 2019 congregational budgets, Council prepared the following budget guidance:
 - *Budget Guidance for Churches on Per Capita and Presbytery Connectional Support payments for 2019* – The per capita assessments for 2019 have been set by General Assembly and Synod action at **\$8.95 per active church member for 2019 General Assembly per capita, and \$3.25 per active church member for 2019 Synod per capita.** Remember that the “active member” number is already set by what each church reported at year-end 2017. That number as reported is on p. 40 of the advance packet. Leadership Council is still reviewing drafts of a proposed 2019 presbytery budget, so an estimate of expected Connectional Support payments per active member is not currently available. Following the next Leadership Council meeting on September 13, we anticipate being able to quickly communicate that estimate to pastors, clerks of session, and church treasurers. The 2019 presbytery budget that will establish the actual Connectional Support payments from churches will be presented, debated, and passed at the November 2018 stated presbytery meeting.

- **Hymn Focus for September** – Presbytery sang the hymn “Will You Come and Follow Me,” and in small groups discussed questions associated with the hymn. Churches are encouraged to use the monthly hymn focus at meetings, retreats, during worship, and on other occasions.
- **Responses to General Assembly Issues** – The 223rd General Assembly (GA) encouraged mid councils to respond to at least 46 issues on which GA acted. Leadership Council has decided

to focus attention on two that are very important to our presbytery: strongly urging and recommending that all churches create and adopt a Family Leave Policy for pastors and church employees; and responding to the major drug epidemic that plagues our area and nation. More explanation on plans for steps forward in these two critical areas is in Appendix D.

- **Synod of the Covenant Report** – The presbytery received a written report from Teaching Elder Diane Ziegler concerning the August 2018 Synod Assembly, and the report of the Synod itself (Appendix E).
- **223rd General Assembly Summary and Report of Overture Advocate:** Presbyters were offered links to places where summaries or more detailed accounts of what happened at the General Assembly in June could be found. This included the election as Co-Moderator of the General Assembly of a former pastor in this presbytery, Teaching Elder Cynthia Kohlmann. The report included information on the results of the Overture (Item 05-03) in which this presbytery concurred, asking for appointment of a General Assembly Administrative Commission to deal with disorder in the Synod of the Covenant. GA voted overwhelmingly to create such an Administrative Commission and members are now being appointed. This report is Appendix F.
- **Connectional Support payments:** The total of each PMV church’s 2018 Presbytery Connectional Support payments through August 2018 were made available. Council appreciated the covenantal generosity of churches that contribute to our shared life through Connectional Support payments throughout the year.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY – Teaching Elder Ray Stewart, chair

For Action: On motion and following discussion, presbytery approved the following action by voice vote:

- **Honorable Retirement—Teaching Elder Michael Evans:** Granted the status of Honorably Retired to Teaching Elder Michael Evans, effective September 11, 2018 (Approved by COM, Aug. 28.) Chair Marge Morgan offered thanks to Michael (in absentia since he recently moved to Florida) for his service and a prayer for a healthy and productive retirement.
- **2019 Pastors’ Compensation Recommendation**—Approved the 2019 Pastors’ Compensation Recommendation, providing for a 2.5% increase in the minimum effective salary, changes in several other compensation provisions for 2019, and urging each church to adopt a Family Leave Policy (Appendix G) (Approved by COM, Aug. 28)

Reports:

- **Teaching Elder Douglas Portz, Board of Pensions** – Teaching Elder Portz is senior church consultant with the Board and serves our synod. He reported on some exciting enhancements to Board programs and, prior to the stated meeting, held a gathering for anyone interested in receiving more detailed information about the Board’s programs.
- **Sexual Misconduct Response Taskforce** -- Received a report from Taskforce co-chair Ruling Elder Alice McConnel (Dayton: Westminster), with information on the number of Teaching Elders and other leaders who have taken the previous trainings. She encouraged others to attend the remaining upcoming training on October 9.

For Information:

On motion, the Committee completed the following actions on behalf of the presbytery on the dates indicated at the end of each action:

- **Bradford: First**--Renewed the part-time (14 hours per week) Commissioned Ruling Elder Covenant between Ruling Elder Mike Buker and the First Presbyterian Church in Bradford, effective May 6, 2018 through May 5, 2019. Duties: Preach and worship leadership, administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, perform weddings and funerals, provide pastoral care, advise and resource session and congregational committees. Serve as Moderator of session, attend meetings of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley with voice and vote. Mentoring by Teaching Elder Cliff Haddox. RE Buker's membership is in the Dayton: Central Church. Terms: Effective Salary including housing--\$9,600; Mileage and Professional Expense Reimbursement -- \$2,800; Continuing Education expense reimbursement--\$1,300. Vacation--4 weeks, including 4 Sundays; Continuing Education--2 weeks, including 2 Sundays. Salary terms do not meet 2018 presbytery minimum requirements for CREs. (COM, May 29)
- **Dayton: Trinity**--
 - Appointed Teaching Elder Ray Stewart as moderator of the session, effective May 21, 2018. (COM, May 29)
 - Authorized Ruling Elder Artence Walton (Dayton: Trinity) to preside at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during worship, until such time as ongoing pastoral leadership is available for the church. (COM, July 31)
 - Appointed Ruling Elder Marge Morgan as moderator of the session, effective immediately, replacing TE Ray Stewart (COM, Aug. 28)
- **New Carlisle: Honey Creek**—Appointed Teaching Elder Linda Niece as moderator of the session, effective July 1, 2018. (COM, May 29)
- **Shelley Wiley**—Authorized Teaching Elder Shelley Wiley to be moved to the member-at-large roll, effective July 1, 2018. (COM, May 29)
- **Yellow Springs: First**—On motion, appointed Teaching Elder Garth Adams as moderator of the session, effective immediately. (COM, May 29)
- **Randall Brakemeyer**—
 - At his request, approved adding the name of Teaching Elder member-at-large Randall Brakemeyer to the pulpit supply list. (COM, May 29)
 - In response to his request to be considered for Honorably Retired status, required that Rev. Randall Brakemeyer continue to comply with the requirements that were a condition of his transfer last year to this presbytery from the UCC and his current status as a member-at-large of this presbytery for a period of three additional years. Assuming full and active compliance with that status during that three-year period and following a thorough review of his previous ministry with the United Church of Christ, agreed that the Committee on Ministry at that time will entertain a request from him to be granted the status of Honorably Retired. (COM, June 26)
- **Troy: First**--
 - Authorized the Troy: First session to call a congregational meeting for the purpose of acting on the report of the Pastor Nominating Committee to elect Teaching Elder Frank T. Rupnik III as Pastor/Head of Staff, and to approve the following terms of call: Effective Salary \$75,500 (including cash salary, housing, and reimbursable medical deductible and supplements); full Board of Pensions dues; travel reimbursement (auto at IRS rate) \$500; continuing education reimbursement \$1,200; professional expense reimbursement \$800; moving costs up to \$10,000. Vacation 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays); Continuing Education 2 weeks (including 2 Sundays). Terms comply with 2018 presbytery requirements. Expected start date, pending congregational approval, is August 12, 2018.
 - Pending a favorable vote of the congregation, authorized the Stated Clerk to request Teaching Elder Frank Rupnik's transfer from the Presbytery of Lake Michigan, and upon completion to enter him on the active member roll of this presbytery. (COM, May 29)
 - Approved the specific terms of call for Teaching Elder Frank Rupnik that were agreed to by the Troy: First congregation on June 17, providing for 14 days per year of military leave for annual training, 2 days per month for military leave for drill, and the terms of the Mobilization Agreement under which, in the event of his mobilization to active military duty, COM will appoint a moderator of the Troy: First session, assist with arranging pulpit supply and pastoral care, and authorize him to labor outside the bounds of the presbytery as a military chaplain during the period of mobilization. (COM, July 31)
- **Huber Heights: Faith**--

- Approved the action of the session of the Faith Presbyterian Church, Huber Heights, to agree to the full-time interim pastor appointment of Rev. Julia Hinshaw Williamson, a minister in good standing with the United Church of Christ, for the period from July 8, 2018 through July 7, 2019, at the following terms: Effective Salary \$62,442 (including cash salary and deferred income only); SECA up to 50%; travel reimbursement (auto at IRS rate) \$1,500; continuing education reimbursement \$1,173; professional expense reimbursement \$600; Vacation 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays); Continuing education 2 weeks (including 2 Sundays). Terms comply with 2018 presbytery requirements;
- Appointed Rev. Williamson to serve as moderator of the session; authorized her to administer the Sacraments; and authorized her being entered as a Teaching Elder from another denomination on the rolls of the presbytery for the duration of her service as interim pastor, pursuant to Section 2.01 of the presbytery Bylaws. (COM, June 26)
- **Bellefontaine: First--**
 - Approved the church's Ministry Information Form as submitted;
 - Authorized the COM chair to appoint a moderator of the session effective August 1, 2018, if a successor interim pastor to Rev. Ken Locke is not yet appointed. (COM June 26)
 - Appointed Teaching Elder Kathleen Burslem as moderator of the session. (COM, July 31)
- **Clifton: United--**Approved the draft job description for the pastor position, with comments. (COM, June 26)
- **Candidate Anne Fyffe—**
 - Approved the request from the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta that this presbytery ordain Candidate Anne Fyffe (Dayton: Southminster) on their behalf, if the way be clear following examination and reception of Candidate Fyffe in the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta; and
 - following such ordination, authorized Stated Clerk Larry Hollar to complete the paperwork necessary to transfer her membership to the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. (COM, July 31)
- **Bellbrook--**At the request of the Bellbrook session, approved requesting that the presbytery grant a 1 (one) year waiver (extendable by one additional year if the church deems it necessary) of the limitation on Terms of Service for ruling elders on session (G-2.0404), to permit current Ruling Elders to remain on session beyond their six-year term to assist in mentoring and preparing new session members for effective service, and to regularize the expiration of terms for the three classes of Ruling Elders. (COM, July 31)
- **TE Charles Tinsley—**Authorized Teaching Elder Charles Tinsley, a member of the Presbytery of San Francisco, to labor within the bounds of this presbytery as a supply preacher and to preside at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. (COM, July 31)
- **Pastor Nominating Committee Process—**Approved changes to the current practice document to clarify the COM's role in the Pastor Nominating Committee process. (COM, July 31)
- **Collegial Conduct in Times of Conflict—**
 - Approved a guidance document, and authorized the document to be circulated among all Teaching Elder members of the presbytery as well as all clerks of session;
 - Approved a training session for pastors on the new guidance, if warranted; and
 - Encouraged discussions at session meetings and other venues concerning the meaning and ways to implement the guidance. (COM, July 31)
- **Teaching Elder Kenneth Locke—**At the request of the Presbytery of Cincinnati, authorized the Stated Clerk to release TE Kenneth Locke and transfer him to that presbytery, effective August 7, 2018. (COM, Aug. 28)
- **Rushsylvania—**Appointed TE Ray Stewart as moderator of the session, effective immediately, replacing TE David Girbert. (COM, Aug. 28)
- **Reily—**Reappointed Teaching Elder Thomas Ramsey as part-time (15 hours per week) Stated Supply pastor for one year, January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, at the following terms, and appointed him moderator of the session: Total Effective Salary (including cash salary and housing) – \$22,000; full Board of Pension dues; Professional expense reimbursement \$2,100; Continuing Education reimbursement – \$1,150; Vacation—4 weeks, including 4 Sundays; Continuing Education Time—2 weeks, including 2 Sundays. (COM, Aug. 28)

- **Administrative Commission to Install Teaching Elder Kelley Shin as Associate Pastor of the Dayton: Fairmont Church--**
 - Took note of the installation service scheduled to occur on Sunday, September 30, at 3:00 p.m. at the Fairmont church;
 - Approved the following members to serve on the Administrative Commission: RE Bruce Saunders (Wilmington), Vice Moderator, to moderate the AC; RE Danielle Rhubarb (Dayton: Fairmont); RE Gidget Collins (Dayton: Bath); TE Melissa Tidwell; TE Brian Maguire.
 - Authorized the celebration of the Lord's Supper, at the discretion of the Associate Pastor. (COM, Aug. 28)
- **Krebs Memorial Fund**—The Clifton Church has been sent \$139.57 as the initial year funding under the Krebs Memorial Fund of the Presbyterian Foundation, initially set up under the now-closed Morning Sun United Presbyterian Church.
 - Authorized the Stated Clerk to explore with the Foundation and the fund donors the possibility of releasing the fund principal amount for designated use rather than continue to receive small amounts annually, and to report back the results to a future COM meeting; and
 - If these explorations are not successful and the current arrangement continues, approved the Stated Clerk offering the next year's proceeds (for delivery in August 2019) to the Huntsville Presbyterian Church. (COM, Aug. 28)
- **Dayton: Westminster**—Ratified the approval of the Ministry Information Form for the Dayton: Westminster Associate Pastor position. (COM, Aug. 28)
- **Relief from Vacancy Dues**—Approved the Stated Clerk communicating to the Board of Pensions the presbytery's support for the request of the Huber Heights: Faith church to be granted a waiver from the payment of vacancy dues, due to financial hardship. (COM, Aug. 28)
- **Validated Ministries**—Approved on behalf of the presbytery for 2019 the validated ministry beyond the jurisdiction of the church, in accordance with G-2.0503a, for the following, and authorized these teaching elders to celebrate the Lord's Supper pursuant to Sec. 106(11) of the COM Policy and Practice (COM, Aug. 28):
 - **Carmen Garrigan** -- Church Mobilization, Missionary Air Group, Burlington, NC
 - **Terry Kukuk** -- Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of the Miami Valley
 - **Christopher Martin** -- U.S. Navy Chaplain for the Recruit Training Regiment, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC
 - **Thomas Dozeman** -- Professor of Hebrew Bible at United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH
 - **Steve Ingram** -- Pastoral Counselor/Chaplain at Premier Health, Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, OH
- **Members-at-Large**-- Approved on behalf of the presbytery for 2019 the status of members-at-large, in accordance with G-2.0503b, for the following (COM, Aug. 28):
 - **Kevin Lawler**
 - **Shelley Wiley**
 - **Kathryn Blocher Hinds**
 - **Randall Brakemeyer**
 - **Francisco Pelaez-Diaz**
- **Honorable Retirement for Teaching Elder Michael Evans**—Approved requesting that the presbytery grant the status of Honorably Retired to Teaching Elder Michael Evans, effective September 11, 2018, at his request. (COM, Aug. 28)
- **2019 Pastors' Compensation Recommendation**--Approved the 2019 Pastors' Compensation Recommendation which provides for a 2.5% increase in the minimum salary for 2019, and requested that the presbytery approve the Recommendation at the September 11, 2018 stated meeting. (COM, Aug. 28)
- **Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training**—Approved the general parameters of accountability policies for those who do not comply with the presbytery's sexual misconduct training requirements, and authorized further editorial work to align the new policy with existing language in the COM Policy and Practice. (COM, Aug. 28)
- **Ruling Elder Training to Serve Lord's Supper**—Authorized further discussion and drafting of specific guidelines for training and COM approval of particular Ruling Elders to

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- serve the Lord's Supper in situations when the absence of a Teaching Elder makes it necessary. (COM, Aug. 28)
- o **Lombard Mennonite Training in Wilmington Sept. 21-22**--Approved COM paying the registration fee to this training for COM members who do not have access to Continuing Education reimbursement. (COM, Aug. 28)

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY – Ruling Elder Marge Mauntler, chair

For information:

- o **Continuing Work:** The chair reported that the committee is continuing to work to prepare clearer processes for Certified Christian Educator (CCE) certification and for transferring ministerial credentials from other denominations. It is also working to identify and elect ordination examination readers for 2019. The Committee is arranging and carrying out annual consultations with inquirers and candidates.

Hearing God's Word Proclaimed

MUSIC "Give Me Jesus" Sung by Kent Peterson, Oxford Church Music Director

SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 9:10-19, 26-28

SERMON "The Call Protectors"
Teaching Elder Sarah Sparks-Franklin

Responding to God's Word

HYMN OF PREPARATION "For Everyone Born"

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Teaching Elder Michael Isaacs, Presiding

CLOSING HYMN "Take My Life," verses 1,5 and 6

TABLE BLESSING FOR DINNER, WHICH WE SHARE AS A COVENANT COMMUNITY

ADJOURNMENT WITH CLOSING PRAYER

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Moderator Kelley Wehmeyer Shin at 5:48 p.m. The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley will be held on Saturday, November 10, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., at Central Presbyterian Church, 4699 Lamme Road, Dayton, OH 45439.

Attest:

Larry Hollar, Stated Clerk

APPENDICES:

- A. Minutes of the Administrative Commission to Install TE Ted Dennis, Eaton: First Presbyterian Church
- B. Summary Letter, 2017 Presbytery Audit
- C. Reports of the Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegate from this presbytery to the

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223rd General Assembly (2018) in St. Louis

- D. Responses to General Assembly Issues
- E. August 3, 2018 Synod Assembly Reports
- F. 223rd General Assembly Summary and Overture Advocate Report
- G. 2019 Pastors' Compensation Recommendation