

Staff Support Committee of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley

The Bible is full of the sense of time. Scripture often speaks of the generation, the year, the season, the day, the hour, and the moment. Samuel answered God's call in the midnight hour. Esther courageously stepped up to serve for such a time as this. The apostle Paul paid tribute to David who served God's purpose in his generation.

The Staff Support Committee (SSC) is so grateful to work with and support our gifted and dedicated staff who serve our presbytery in this time.

Annual Reviews

In late November, we began our annual staff reviews. Our Presbytery staff is the Rev. Terry Kukuk, Executive Presbytery; the Rev. Lynn Bova, Stated Clerk; John Ey, Treasurer; Kat Millhouse, Bookkeeper; and Don Nowak, Website Manager and Communications.

We've met with each member of our presbytery staff and heard from them that through the joys and challenges of their work throughout the year, they find it deeply meaningful and life-giving.

The one staff exception for an annual review was the Rev. Lynn Bova. As the presbytery is aware, the SSC conducted a comprehensive review with Lynn through the summer of 2023 in consideration of the possible renewal of the contract as Stated Clerk of the presbytery in late 2023. This review culminated with the presbytery renewing our contract with Lynn as Stated Clerk at the September 2023 stated meeting of presbytery.

We are so grateful for covenant partnership of all our staff with the congregations of the presbytery as we seek to share the gospel with our communities and throughout the region.

Policy and Practice.

The committee continues to document necessary updates to the Policy and Practice document. SSC is also working with a team convened by the Stated Clerk to update the Family Leave policies. Revising this document will be an ongoing focus of our work over the coming months.

For Everything There Is a Season. When we met for the annual review with John Ey, treasurer of the presbytery, we learned that he plans to retire from this position in the summer (target date is June 30). We celebrated John's gifts of time, passion and expertise that he shared with the presbytery – as a volunteer! His work with Kat, Terry, Lynn, Don, the trustees and so many others elevated our mutual ministry. Thank you, John, for serving the presbytery in this season!

Over the coming months, SSC will evaluate with our staff and trustees the optimal model of the treasurer moving forward – such as volunteer or paid.

If members of the presbytery know of anyone skilled as a treasurer in a not-for-profit setting, please reach out to me, Terry, or Lynn. We'd love to discern together who God is calling to serve our presbytery as treasurer in such a time as this.

Throughout every season and every year, your SSC strives to offer the greatest support and care for our gifted staff as together we serve Christ through the Presbytery of the Miami Valley.

Submitted with gratitude by Lawrence H. Bartel, chair.