

Moderator and Vice Moderator, continued

**MWS Lawrence Bartel, Vice Moderator
Oxford Presbyterian Church, Oxford**

Lawrence is the pastor of Oxford Presbyterian Church (OPC). A Buckeye native, he returned to Ohio after graduating from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago and serving churches in Chicago as well as upstate New York. Lawrence and his wife, Amy, round out their family with a son, Jens, and daughter, Lydia.

Passionate about life-long learning, Lawrence has been shaped by formal classroom settings as well as the transformative experience of journeys around the region, the nation and the world. In 2016 & 2018, he served as the co-leader for the PC(USA) Mosaic of Peace to Israel and Palestine. Through the ministry of OPC, Lawrence has participated in mission journeys to sister congregations in Colombia and Russia. In 2022, he coordinated a learning journey to Scotland followed by a civil rights learning journey to Georgia and Alabama in 2023.

Changes to Special Offerings coming in 2026



The 226th General Assembly (2024) approved several changes to the churchwide Special Offerings to take effect January 1, 2026. These changes were recommended by the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board through the Special Offerings Review Task Force.

In 2026 there will be three Special Offerings: **One Great Hour of Sharing, World Communion Offering, and Christmas Joy Offering.**

The Pentecost Offering will be discontinued after the 2025 Offering. Ministries focused on children-at-risk, youth, and young adults will now be part of the Christmas Joy Offering. The Peace & Global Witness Offering will transform into the World Communion Offering beginning in 2026.

Over the next year, PC(USA) Special Offerings will be redefining the Offerings experience to encompass this new direction.

PRESBYTERY OF THE MIAMI VALLEY

Preparing, equipping, nurturing, and connecting congregations in their ministries for God's mission.

News & Information

Summer 2024

Meet our new Moderator and Vice Moderator



At its May 14, 2024 meeting, Presbytery of the Miami Valley elected Ruling Elder Janet Miller as Moderator and Minister of Word and Sacrament Lawrence Bartel as Vice Moderator for 2024-25.

**Ruling Elder Janet Miller, Moderator
Bath Presbyterian Church, Dayton**

I have attended Bath Presbyterian Church since 2001 with my husband, JO... I have been and am now a Ruling Elder at Bath, chairing the Mission Committee. While my advanced degrees have been technical, now that I am retired from working in technical fields, I am developing my compassionate, caregiving side. I am working to be a Commissioned Ruling Elder which included taking classes at Dubuque Theological Seminary such as Pastoral Caregiving. I completed the Older Adult Ministries Certificate Program with Columbia Theological Seminary and will be taking Clinical Pastoral Education this summer and in the fall. While I cannot disregard the possibility God has a church for me as a lay pastor, I look forward to emphasizing work with PMV's older adults, both congregants and retired pastors.

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Meet Ivy Young, PMV's New Treasurer



On July 1, 2024 Ruling Elder Ivy Young (College Hill Community Presbyterian Church, Dayton) became the new Treasurer of Presbytery of the Miami Valley, replacing retiring Treasurer John Ey.

Ivy serves as treasurer of the College Hill church, is a committee member of the Ohio Region Presbyterian Caucus, is a member of the Black Presbyterian Caucus, and is a board member and treasurer of the Clergy Community Coalition.

By way of introduction, Ivy has prepared the following article:

As a Certified Public Accountant, I have shared my accounting knowledge by providing services to several profit/nonprofit organizations. My resume includes services with the City of Dayton, Charles R. Drew Health Center, Project C.U.R.E., Inc., and Wright State University – School of Professional Psychology. I have managed to volunteer my services to several non-profits. Unfortunately, I feel there continues to be a shortage of financial expertise being provided for fledgling organizations, that continue to make financial reporting a low priority.

Currently, I am serving a plethora of organizations as their Treasurer/Bookkeeper. Each organization is unique and very rewarding, each in their own way. These organizations serve the homeless, house children (group homes), provide hospitality, provide a moment of respite, help make connections for assistance, as well as provide assistance. . .

My challenge is to receive. Pastor R. E. Jones stated on many occasions that I operate unfairly in that I am able to give and continue to give but run for the hills when it comes to receiving.

Life continues to be a collection of "Seasons." We come to a place, stay for a while, then we are prompted to move on because our work is "done." Or is it? There's only One who truly knows. .

I am blessed with a daughter and three sons. The youngest is still trying to figure it out.



Presbytery of the Miami Valley
www.miamipresbytery.org

Mark Yaconelli

"The Healing Power of Storytelling"
September 28-29 in Dayton



Renowned storyteller Mark Yaconelli will be in Dayton September 28-29 as part of a "Faith and Civic Life" series **co-sponsored by Presbytery of the Miami Valley and Westminster Presbyterian Church**, 125 N Wilkinson St., Dayton. Both events will take place at Westminster.

On Saturday, September 28 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Mark will lead a workshop about the healing power of storytelling. Cost is

\$20 and includes a copy of his book, *Between the Listening and the Telling*, as well as lunch. Registration is required.

On Sunday, September 29 he will lead worship and an Adult Education class. No cost or registration required.

► Learn more and register at <https://tinyurl.com/mark-yaconelli>

PMV at the 226th General Assembly



The 226th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met June 25 – July 4. The assembly included online committees and in-person plenary sessions. Online committees met June 25-27. Plenary sessions were held in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 30 - July 4.

Five hundred eighty-four commissioners and advisory delegates, plus hundreds of observers attended GA 226, including the delegation from Presbytery of the Miami Valley: **John Ey** (Ruling Elder Commissioner), **Olivia Collins** (Young Adult Advisory Delegate), and **Cliff Haddox** (Minister of Word and Sacrament Commissioner). PMV Executive Presbyter **Terry Kukuk** and Stated Clerk **Lynn Bova** also attended in non-voting capacities.

► Learn more about GA 226 at <https://tinyurl.com/226thGA>