

Presbytery of the Miami Valley Stated Meeting
Minutes (to be approved in February 2025)
November 9, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.
Via Zoom

PREPARE

At 9:04 a.m., CRE Janet Miller, Moderator, convened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was declared. The moderator welcomed everyone and reminded the body that minutes of good news could be shared in chat.

The Moderator recognized MWS Lynn Bova, Stated Clerk, to share a test poll to ensure that everyone was able to vote and then to form the roll and move the docket.

A MOTION PREVAILED to seat with voice Candidate Matt Aragon Bruce from Lake Michigan Presbytery and on staff at the Synod of the Covenant and to approve the 14 minister members of PMV asking to be excused and 2 Ruling Elders who also requested to be excused. (Attendance can be found in Appendix A)

A MOTION PREVAILED to adopt the Docket.

The moderator then welcomed any first time commissioners and invited the body to take a moment to pass the peace of Christ.

The Moderator invited MWS Annie Melick to introduce Rev. Bob Anderson who is serving as a temporary bridge pastor at Wilmington Presbyterian Church. MWS Diane Ziegler provided a memorial remembrance for Rev. Dr. Edward McNulty (Appendix B)

The Moderator shared that Presbyterian Disaster Assistance was selected as the Mission at Every Meeting focus and invited the assembly to give generously.

The Moderator recognized the Stated Clerk for a report.

+Correspondence has been received from PILP and a letter from Lake Huron Presbytery offering support for the Springfield area.

+The stated clerk reported that the minutes for the September 2024 stated meeting and the minutes of the Administrative Commission to install (for an undesignated term) MWS Annie Melick at Eaton (Appendix C) are in the consent agenda.

+ The Presbytery minutes for 2023 were approved with no exceptions on October 31, 2024.

+ The final report for congregational Minute Reading will be shared at the February meeting. The following churches have not completed their minute review as of Nov. 9: Blue Ball, Bath, Central, College Hill, Fairmont, IKPC, Westminster Dayton, Southminster Dayton, Huntsville, Jamestown, Middletown First, Middletown St. Luke, Honey Creek, Westminster Piqua, Reily, Rushsylvania, Sidney, Covenant Springboro, and Yellow Springs. (Appendix D) The final minute reading is scheduled for Nov. 16 at Honey Creek Presbyterian Church. Other arrangements may be made with the stated clerk if that will not work.

+ The stated clerk announced that the statistical season is beginning soon. With changes at OGA and PMA and their unification, information is still coming in and the clerks of sessions will be updated when the dates are announced. Training is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 25 at 7 pm on Zoom to answer questions and go over the information.

+ The stated clerk shared that an opportunity to discuss the 12 proposed amendments to the Book of Order and the Ecumenical Agreement between the Episcopal Church and the PC(USA) will be held on Wednesday, January 15 at 1 pm and again at 7 pm on Zoom.

+ A reminder to submit Boundary Training Certificates to the stated clerk when they are received.

+ The report from the Administrative Commission was read to the assembly. (Appendix E)

+The stated clerk thanked host churches and invited churches to consider hosting a presbytery meeting. Upcoming meetings were announced and a reminder that the in-person meetings in 2025 will begin at 2 pm. The 2025 schedule follows:

Saturday, February 8, 2025, 9:00 a.m., ZOOM (Host: Covington Presbyterian)
 Reports and docket requests due by January 24, 2025
 Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 2:00 p.m., at Oxford Presbyterian Church tentative
 Reports and Docket requests due by April 25, 2025
 Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 2:00 p.m., (TBA)
 Reports and docket requests due by Aug. 22, 2025
 Saturday, November 8, 2025, 9:00 a.m., ZOOM (Host: TBA)
 Reports and docket requests due by October 24, 2025

+Membership and Minister Changes since the September 2024 stated presbytery meeting:

- a. Gains: none
- b. Losses: Edward McNulty (to the Lord's loving care)
- c. In transition: none

The moderator recognized RE Michael Seewer, Chair for the report from Leadership Council who moved the consent agenda and nothing was requested to be pulled.

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve this meeting's Consent Agenda consisting of the action items below:

Stated Clerk

Approved the following actions of the Stated Clerk:

1. **Minutes** of the September 10, 2024, stated presbytery meeting as distributed, and that the Stated Clerk be authorized to make any technical and non-substantive corrections as needed.
2. **Minutes** of the Administrative Commission to install Annie Melick on October 27, 2024. (Appendix F)

Leadership Council:

Approved the action of the Leadership Council to:

Recommend approval by the presbytery the amended recommendation of the Trustees for the 2025 Budget including the terms of call for the Executive Presbyter and the Stated Clerk. (Appendices G, H, I)

Recommend a first reading of the proposed bylaw changes (Appendix J) and approval of the policy and practice changes. (Appendix K)

Recommend approval by the presbytery of the Investment Policy, the Gift Acceptance Policy, the Operating Reserve Policy, and the Record Retention and Destruction Policy and to add them to the Trustees Policy and Practice Manual. (Appendices L, M, N, O)

Receive the report of the Leadership Council:

Approved paying the expenses for PJC training for 4 members of the PMV PJC in an amount not to exceed \$1200 to be taken from account #330200 – Congregational Vitality.

Allocated an amount not to exceed \$5000 from account #330200 - Congregational Vitality - to be used for the speaker honorarium and travel for speaker Tod Bolsinger in 2025.

Approved Presbyterian Disaster Assistance as the mission focus for November's stated presbytery meeting.

Committee on Ministry:

Approve the action of the Committee on Ministry:

Recommend approval of changes to the COM Policy and Practice (including any additional instances found to change Honorably Retired to Retired and PIF to PDP and MIF to MDP) at the November Presbytery meeting. This includes the Family Leave Policy that was distributed for a first read at the September meeting. (Appendices P & Q)

Receive the report of the COM:

+ Approval of the following contract:

The Temporary Supply Pastor (Gap or Bridge)

On the 19th day of August, 2024 at a properly called meeting of the Session of the Presbyterian Church of Wilmington, Ohio, Rev. Robert Anderson was approved as Temporary Supply Pastor, effective from September 9, 2024 through September 9, 2025. Either party may terminate the contract with 30 days' notice.

This is a temporary appointment, with services paid as rendered and as requested by the session through the Personnel Committee.

The primary pastoral duties include:

- A. Rev. Robert Anderson agrees to provide pastoral leadership and guidance in the following ways during the period of this appointment:
 - 1. Preach and involve the congregation in worship, thereby facilitating spiritual growth.
 - 2. Administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as authorized by the Presbytery and the Session.
 - 3. Perform weddings and funerals as authorized by the Presbytery and the Session and in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio.
 - 4. Provide pastoral care, including visitation as requested by the session.
 - 5. Maintain personal growth programs through formal and informal study as required and as appropriate. (e.g., attending Sunday School)
 - 6. Moderate session meetings.
 - 7. Provide a written report of pastoral activities to the session monthly.
 - 8. Participate in evaluations of the pastoral experience with the Committee on Ministry.
 - 9. Agree to only perform pastoral duties for the church named in this agreement and agree to cease all pastoral functions with this church when this appointment ends. Unless this appointment ends by being called by the PNC as installed pastor.
- B. The congregation will support and cooperate with the Temporary Supply Pastor in every way and will assume responsibility for:
 - 1. Attending worship services and meetings.
 - 2. Supporting the Temporary Supply Pastor by engaging fully in the church's ministry to the community.
 - 3. Providing clerical assistance as needed.
 - 4. Participating in evaluation during and at the end of the appointment.
- C. The church agrees to compensate the Temporary Supply Pastor for services rendered according to the following fee schedule:

Pastor Expenses	Bi-Weekley	Annual
Annual Cash Salary	\$1,076	\$28,000
SECA	\$80.76	\$2,100
Medical Reimbursement- up to	\$ 230.77	\$6,000
Mileage for church related matters – up to		\$1560
Mileage to be documented and reimbursed at the prevailing IRS rate.		
Professional Expenses		\$1,000
Funeral/ Wedding Special Services (to be paid by the family)		
\$negotiated		
Vacation		4 weeks
Study Leave		2 weeks
Continuing Education		\$1750.

- D. Either the Session or the Temporary Supply Pastor can terminate the pastoral relationship, with notice of at least 30 days.

Approved installing MWS Cynthia Holder-Rich on a Sunday morning to be determined with the Moderator.

Removed RE Irwin Roberts from the pulpit supply list for noncompliance with the Boundary Training requirements (BOO G-3.0106).

Appointed CRE Gidget Collins to moderate the session at Blue Ball Presbyterian Church beginning in October 2024.

Appointed the Administrative Commission to install MWS Annie Melick for an undesignated term at Eaton Presbyterian church on October 27 at 3 pm. The following have been invited to serve on the AC: Galen Wilson, RE Corinth, Bruce Saunders, RE Wilmington, Molly Hurd, RE Eaton, Gidget Collins, CRE Seven Mile, Mark van Bulck, MWS, Kathleen Burslem, MWS, Janet Miller, PMV CRE, Bath, Moderator.

Approved the request to receive from Western New York Presbytery MWS Bruce Archibold pending a completed comprehensive background check. The stated clerk will request that transfer.

Approved Slifer's Presbyterian Church to receive the Krebs Memorial Fund for Rural Church Education or Evangelism for 2025.

Approved Dayton, Westminster to call a congregational meeting to approve calling and installing MWS Caitlin Deyerle for an undesignated term (terms of call are in process for 2025).

This concludes the consent agenda.

RE Michael Seewer recognized MWS Kazy Hinds, Chair of Trustees and RE Ivy Young, Treasurer to present the 2025 Budget and the Terms of Call for Executive Presbyter Terry Kukuk and Stated Clerk Lynette Bova.

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the 2025 Budget including the Terms of Call for the Executive Presbyter MWS Terry Kukuk and the Stated Clerk MWS Lynn Bova. (Appendices G, H, & I)

It was announced that a Post Election Worship Service would be held and communion would be served.

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the celebration of communion at the Post Election Worship Service on November 12, 2024 at 6:30 pm at Central Presbyterian Church.

The chair also reminded the assembly of the importance of supporting the mission at every meeting as part of how we connect with the larger church and offer support to those in need.

Please like our Facebook Page and sign up for Constant Contact. We have a new YouTube channel called Miami Valley Presbytery. You can find links to these on the Presbytery website: <https://miamipresbytery.org/>.

The moderator invited RE Ivy Young, Treasurer, to give a financial update on 2024. He asked churches to please check the connection and per capita giving statements to be sure they are correct. (Appendix R)

The Moderator called for a 5 minute break so participants could gather their communion elements.

The moderator called the meeting back to order and moved the assembly into worship including communion with the following participants: Moderator CRE Janet Miller and MWS Cliff Haddox, preaching

Following worship, the assembly was sent into a breakout session to reflect on the message and share how their churches participate in caring for the earth.

EQUIP

The moderator recognized Candidate Matt Bruce, Director of the Cultivating the Gift of Preaching Initiative (Lilly grant), who reported for the Synod and shared information about the 2025 cohort application process. He invited RE Alice McCollum a member of the 2024 cohort to share her experience with the program.

The moderator recognized MWS Mike Wakeland and RE Mary Jean Blackmon to report on Synod Assembly. (Appendix S)

The Moderator called on MWS Terry Kukuk, EP, who reported that the focus for 2025 would continue to be on building relationships. Upcoming equipping events include post-election

worship on Nov. 12 at 6:30 pm at Central Presbyterian and will be lived streamed, officer training on Zoom on February 22 from 1-3, hosting Tod Bolsinger August 23 (watch for more information). The assembly was thanked for all they do!

The Moderator then recognized RE Michael Seewer, chair of Leadership Council. Changes to the bylaws were presented for a first reading and to be voted on in February. (Appendix J) The LC Chair then recommended policy and practice changes to bring the presbytery into order with the Book of Order. (Appendix K)

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the policy changes found in the PMV Policy and Practice. (Appendix K)

The moderator then recognized MWS Kazy Hinds, chair of Trustees to present 4 new policies, Investment Policy (Appendix L), Gift Acceptance Policy (Appendix M), Operating Reserve Policy (Appendix N), and the Record Retention and Destruction Policy. (Appendix O)

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the four policies from Trustees to include: Investment Policy, Gift Acceptance Policy, Operating Reserve Policy, and the Record Retention and Destruction Policy.

The moderator then recognized RE Jim Griffin, chair of Committee on Ministry to present the Family Leave Policy (Appendix P) and other Policy and Practice changes (Appendix Q).

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the PMV Family Leave Policy.

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the changes to the COM Policy and Practice.

NURTURE

The Moderator recognized RE Jay Peterson, member of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry who reported that a new inquirer, Bethany Stewart from Bellbrook Presbyterian Church, had been received by the committee.

A MOTION PREVAILED to appoint MWS Ted Dennis and RE Anne Brienza as ordination exam readers and to appoint MWS Brian Maguire and RE Marge Mauntler as alternates.

The Moderator called on RE Marge Morgan, Chair of Nominating who presented a slate of nominees. There were no nominations from the floor.

A MOTION PREVAILED to elect the following slate of committee members and chairs:

Committee on Ministry

MWS Annie Melick Vice-chair Eaton

Committee on Representation and Diversity

MWS Justin Miller Class of 2026 Middletown First
RE Kathryn Mobley Class of 2027 Trinity, Dayton
MWS Francisco Pelaez-Diaz Class of 2027 VAL Ministry

Leadership Council

RE Cheryl Barrett Class of 2027 Hamilton

Staff Support

MWS Greg Menssen Class of 2026 Bellefontaine

The moderator reported that there were no requests from any other committees for docket time but a written report from Staff Support was received. (Appendix R) The moderator gave her report and reminded the assembly of all of the opportunities that are available, and that information could be found on the website in the papers for the meeting.

CONNECT

CRE Janet Miller, Moderator, adjourned the meeting with prayer at 11:29 am.

Our next stated presbytery meeting

Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 9:00 am

On ZOOM

Hosted by Covington Presbyterian Church