

**Presbytery of the Miami Valley
Called Special Meeting
Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.
ON ZOOM**

The registration form can be found here:

<https://miamipresbytery.org/presbytery-meeting-registration/>

NOTE: MWS = Minister of Word and Sacrament

CRE = Commissioned Ruling Elder

RE = Ruling Elder

ORDER OF THE DOCKET

2:00 pm **Convening Prayer and Welcome** MWS Lawrence Bartel, Moderator

+ **Attestation to call of the meeting.** In accordance with Section 4.02 of the Bylaws of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley, a called special meeting of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley has been called for the purpose of:

1. Considering approval of the recommendation that the Moderator of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley appoint an Administrative Commission for Rushsylvania Presbyterian Church, called by the moderator at the request of the Leadership Council by action at their meeting on June 12, 2025.

This is the only business that can be considered because this is a called special meeting.

+ **Declaration of Quorum** MWS Lawrence Bartel, Vice-Mod.

+ **Zoom Protocols and Basic Rules of Order** – raise hand to speak, polls will be open for about 30 seconds, chat is public and not appropriate to use during debate (rules require that everyone must be able to be seen and heard), during debate speakers will be given 2 minutes to speak.
TEST POLL

+ **Formation of the Roll** (Appendix A will be found in the minutes) MWS Lynn Bova, Stated Clerk

ON MOTION: to approve ____ excused minister members.

+ **NOTES:** MWS Lynn Bova, Stated Clerk

- Only commissioners have voice and vote. Commissioners include Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Ruling Elders serving on a presbytery committee that gives them vote, Ruling Elders elected by their congregation, Commissioned Ruling Elders, and Certified Christian Educators who are also a Ruling Elder.
- Past Moderators of the presbytery, Recording Clerk, and Certified Christian Educators (not a ruling elder) have voice but not vote per presbytery bylaws.
- Voting will be done using polls. This meets the criteria for electronic meetings per Robert's Rules.

Report of the Leadership Council

CRE Janet Miller, chair

+ **ON MOTION:** The Leadership Council of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley recommends that the Moderator of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley appoint an Administrative Commission for Rushsylvania Presbyterian Church as described below. The Moderator of the Presbytery is to appoint the members according to our bylaws Article VI, Section 6.02.

+ PC(USA) Book of Order, G-3.0109 Committees and Commissions

....A commission is empowered to consider and conclude matters referred to it by a council. The designating council shall state specifically the scope of the commission's powers and any restrictions on those powers.

Purpose:

The Leadership Council having received clear evidence of the intent of the Rushsylvania Presbyterian Church to close its doors and be dissolved as a congregation recommends, pursuant to G-3.0109b of the Book of Order provisions, that the Presbytery authorize the PMV Moderator to appoint an Administrative Commission (according to our bylaws Article VI, Section 6.02) to work with the Rushsylvania Presbyterian Church. The Commission will consist of at least five (5) presbyters, and at least one of whom shall be a member of the Committee on Ministry, with the remaining members representing an even distribution of teaching and ruling elders from churches in the Presbytery of the Miami Valley, for the following purposes, including but not limited to:

- a. Working with the Session and congregation to dissolve the current congregation and dispose of some or all property, (see scope and authority of the AC below)
- b. Keeping accurate minutes of AC actions for the Presbytery,
- c. Providing an initial report of its findings and recommendations to the Presbytery of the Miami Valley at the next immediate stated meeting following its appointment, and
- d. Providing regular reports to the Presbytery of the Miami Valley at all stated meetings thereafter until completion.

Scope and Authority

The Administrative Commission (AC) of the Rushsylvania Presbyterian Church, Rushsylvania, OH in consultation with the church's session and congregation, shall:

1. Arrange for all liabilities of the church to be paid in full;
2. Determine the care and distribution of the real property and contents of the church, with the authority to dispose of such property granted to the Trustees of the Presbytery of Miami Valley. The Administrative Commission shall determine the amount of reserve funds to be retained to offset anticipated presbytery expenses for the continued maintenance of the vacant building. Once the congregation is dissolved, the presbytery may direct, limit, and appoint, or such property may be sold or disposed of as the presbytery may direct. (BoO G-4.0205). The AC may work with Trustees of the Congregation to transfer property to the Presbytery and/or consult with attorney at law for the most appropriate means

to transfer the property to the Presbytery. This may need to be accomplished prior to formal dissolution of the congregation.

3. Consult with an Attorney at law for any associated licenses or certifications for ongoing ministries and missions controlled by the congregation.
 4. Determine the use of undesignated mission funds.
 5. Arrange for ways to address the pastoral care of the congregation and transfer of membership upon dissolution of the congregation.
 6. Arrange for transfer of session and financial records to the presbytery.
 7. Determine an appropriate schedule for the congregation's last worship service and celebration;
 8. Dissolve the congregation's corporation under state law.
 9. Dissolve the congregation after the last worship service.
 10. Prepare minutes of its proceedings and a final report upon completion of its actions that will be reported at stated meetings of the presbytery.
- b. Should additional authority not specified above be necessary to implement the AC's mandate, the AC, in consultation with the congregation, may request the presbytery's Leadership Council to approve and grant the AC additional or clarifying authority. The Leadership Council shall report on any such authority granted to the AC to the next stated presbytery meeting.

Adjournment with Prayer

Our next stated presbytery meeting:

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 2:00 pm

At Covenant Presbyterian Church

201 North Limestone Street, Springfield, OH 45503

937-325-2427