

Presbytery of the Miami Valley Stated Meeting
ORDER OF THE DOCKET
September 9, 2025, at 2:00 pm
Covenant Presbyterian Church, Springfield

We will Livestream the meeting. This link will take you to the YouTube channel for Miami Valley Presbytery: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg5xdqkKB5iO8dKZ6DcaP-g>

Registration for the meeting or request to be excused can be found here:
<https://miamipresbytery.org/presbytery-meeting-registration/>

PREPARE

NOTE: MWS = Minister of Word and Sacrament
CRE = Commissioned Ruling Elder
RE = Ruling Elder

1:00 pm Gathering and Registration

2:00 pm Convening Prayer & Welcome

MWS Lawrence Bartel, Moderator

+ **Minute for Good News** – please write down your minutes of good news and signs of hope so we can share them throughout the meeting.

+ **Declaration of Quorum**

MWS Lawrence Bartel, Moderator

+ **Formation of the Roll**

MWS Lynn Bova, Stated Clerk

+ **ON MOTION:** approve excused minister members

+ **Adoption of the Docket** (A-1)

MWS Lynn Bova, Stated Clerk

+ **ON MOTION:** Adoption of the Docket (A-1)

+ **Welcome** to any first-time commissioners with us today.

+ **Passing of the Peace**

+ **COM Report:**

RE Jim Griffin, Chair

Memorial – Rev. Joe Whitt, Trinity Presbyterian (A-6)

Hospitality Report

+ **Minute for Good News and Greetings:**

MWS Jody Noble

+ **Mission at Every Meeting** – Covenant Children's Academy is the Mission project for this meeting. For more information on the mission opportunities selected by Covenant Presbyterian Church. (I-1)

Mission at every meeting supports our involvement as a Matthew 25 Presbytery

+ **Land Acknowledgement** (I-7)

MWS Jody Noble

Report of the Stated Clerk

MWS Lynn Bova

- + **Correspondence** – Thank You's from CHCC campers
Reminder that the BOP Employer Reps should update their information between Aug. 29 and Oct. 3.
- + **Minutes** are included in the consent agenda (A-2) including:
 - Minutes of May 2025 stated meeting (A-3)
 - Minutes of June 2025 called special meeting (A-4)
 - Terms of Call for Installed Pastors from COM (A-5)
- + **Minute Review** –
Congregational Minute Review – 2024 Minute Review has been scheduled.
Presbytery Minutes for 2024 will be read in October by the Synod.
- + **The 2025-2027 Book of Order** is now available. They are available today for \$8.
There are also a few copies of Canoeing the Mountains available for \$20.
- + **Minister Cards** – are in your nametag if you did not pick it up in May.
- + **Boundary Training Reminder** – The new BOO rules state that all MWS (active and retired), CREs, CCEs, Inquirers, Candidates, CE's in certification process and Ruling Elders serving the Presbytery on committees must have boundary training and child protection training every 36 months.

RE Marge Morgan has been sending out invitations for boundary training and child protection training to every MWS, CRE, CCE, Ruling Elders on presbytery committees and others as required, to do training on Praesidium. You will receive a passcode to enter the system. Enter your email and the passcode you receive. There are two (2) trainings required. On the left hand side of the page you will find a tab that says industry, in that tab it says religious and you should select that. *Keeping your Church Safe* and *Preventing Abuse and Exploitation in Pastoral Ministry* are available in English and Spanish. You must complete both of these. There are also other training opportunities about Sexual Misconduct, Mandated Reporting, Social Media safety, etc. that you may also select to do. They are not required but could help. This training is provided through our insurance coverage. If you have not received the link for the training please contact Marge Morgan or the stated clerk.

Our Policy also states that every pastor should receive a copy of our Misconduct Policy and our Child Protection Policy and the Standards of Ethical Conduct and sign stating that they have read them. The Stated Clerk will be sending them out to be sure that we have a current, updated signature sheet.

- + **Former PJC Members** (required by BoO)

The Book of Order requires the following report to appear in the minutes each year: *D-3.0602b and c of the Book of Order says: "The 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 or councils."Should the current PJC lack a quorum, the clerk will select by rotation a sufficient number of these former members to constitute a quorum.*

Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) of the Presbytery

- **Former Members Roster**

Class of 2024

RE Sarah Conover (Troy: First)

RE David Weaver (Dayton: Westminster)

Class of 2022

RE Steve Davis (Dayton, Southminster)

Class of 2020

MWS George (Sandy) McConnel (HR)—resigned before completion of term to serve on COM

RE Marge Morgan (Dayton, Sugar Creek)—resigned before completion of term to serve on COM

RE Cynthia Nowka (Springfield, Covenant)

MWS Robert Wade (HR)

+ **Report of the Administrative Commission** for Rushsylvania. (A-7)+ **Report of the Administrative Commission** for Corinth Presbyterian Church. (A-8)
MWS Annie Melick and RE Greg Eyler+ **Report of the Administrative Commission** for Honey Creek. (A-9)+ **Upcoming 2025 - 2026 Presbytery Meeting Dates**

We are grateful to churches for agreeing to host our meetings. Please note that there has been a ***change for the November meeting***. Leadership Council, at the request of Staff Support, has voted to have an in-person meeting on Saturday, November 8 at 9:00 a.m. at Sugar Creek. Please be sure to change this on your calendar! **Also**, remember the time change to 2:00 pm for the September meeting in 2025.

Please consider hosting a meeting in 2026. The stated clerk is seeking meeting hosts for the September and November meetings. February and November meetings will be held on Zoom and May (typically at the home church of the incoming moderator) and September meetings will be in person. Churches interested in hosting stated presbytery meetings are encouraged to contact the Stated Clerk. We encourage our smaller churches who might not be able to host an in-person meeting to host a Zoom meeting or to partner with another small church to host an in-person meeting.

Currently planned dates and locations:**2025**

Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 2:00 p.m., Springfield Covenant

Reports and docket requests due by Aug. 22, 2025

Saturday, November 8, 2025, 9:00 a.m., Sugar Creek

Reports and docket requests due by October 24, 2025

2026

Saturday February 14, 2026, 9:00a.m., ZOOM, Host: Piqua Good Shepherd

Reports and docket requests due by January 30, 2026

Tuesday, May 12, 2026, 2:00 p.m., Bellbrook Presbyterian

Reports and docket requests due by April 24, 2026

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2:00 p.m., Host: TBA

Reports and docket requests due by August 21, 2026

Saturday November 14, 2026, 9:00 a.m., ZOOM, Host: TBA

Reports and docket requests due by October 24, 2026

+Membership and Minister Changes since the May, 2025 stated presbytery meeting:

- a. Gains:
- b. Losses: Rev. Joseph Whitt (to the Lord's loving care), Rev. Steven Schumm (to the Presbyterian Church of Canada – pending today's approval)
- c. In transition:
- d. Within the PMV:

Leadership Council

MWS Amy Duiker, Member

+ ON MOTION: Adoption of the Consent Agenda (A-2)

+ Consideration of Action Items, if any, pulled from the Consent Agenda.

+ Proposed GA Overtures First Reading (A-10-12)

MWS Cynthia Holder-Rich

180-Day Deadline

December 24, 2025

Commissioner and Advisory Delegate names submitted.

120-Day Deadline

February 22, 2026

All reports from General Assembly entities, all overtures with constitutional implications, all requests for authoritative interpretation.

60-Day Deadline:

April 22, 2026

All overtures without constitutional implications and the report of the Advisory Committee on the Constitution.

45-Day Deadline

May 7, 2026

All comments from entities, concurrences from mid councils, and minutes of entities (including Synods).

30-Day Deadline

May 22, 2026

Report of the General Assembly Nominating Committee.

June 23, 2026

Commissioner's Resolutions (more information on process to come in 2026).

+ Triennium Report

MWS Marc van Bulck

+ Trustees report

MWS Kazy Hinds

Connectional Support and Per Capita (A-13)

Letter concerning rental of church space (I-2)

Letter to Ministers

+ Yearly Financial Review Report 2024 (A-14)

+ ON MOTION: Approve the Independent Accountant's Review dated August 29, 2025

relating to the presbytery's financial statements as of December 31, 2024, in accordance with G-3.0113 of the Book of Order, which include the conclusion that, "Based on my review, I [Matthew J. Scarr, CPA LLC] am not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

+ Announcements & Information:

TREASURER'S REPORT (A- 15-17)

RE Ivy Young, Treasurer

EQUIP

Synod Report

MWS Ruth-Aimée Belonni-Rosario
Associate for Racial Justice

Executive Presbyter's Report

MWS Terry Kukuk

NURTURE

COM

RE Jim Griffin, chair

+ **CRE Commissioning** - Just a reminder that we voted in May to recommission CRE Mike Buker at this meeting.

+ **Minimum Terms of Call recommendation** (A-18)

+ **ON MOTION:** to approve the minimum terms of call recommendation for 2026 including:

1. 2.7% COLA increase
2. To make the CRE and CCE terms comparable.
3. To recommend adding this language: Churches are encouraged to follow this recommendation: Base salary plus one percent per year for each year of experience beyond five years be provided.

+ **Request** to appoint an Administrative Commission for St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Middletown.

+ **ON MOTION:** The Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley recommends that the Moderator of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley appoint an Administrative Commission for St. Luke Presbyterian Church. The Moderator of the Presbytery is to appoint the members according to our bylaws Article VI, Section 6.02. The purpose and authority of the Administrative Commission will be:

Purpose:

The Committee on Ministry having received clear evidence of the intent of St. Luke 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 St. Luke 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 St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Middletown, OH in consultation with the church's session and congregation, shall:

- i. Arrange for all liabilities of the church to be paid in full.

- ii. 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 if needed. 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.
- iii. Consult with an Attorney at law for any associated licenses or certifications for ongoing ministries and missions controlled by the congregation.
- iv. Determine the use of undesignated mission funds.
- v. Arrange for ways to address the pastoral care of the congregation and transfer of membership upon dissolution of the congregation.
- vi. Arrange for transfer of all session and financial records to the presbytery.
- vii. Determine an appropriate schedule for the congregation's last worship service and celebration.
- viii. Dissolve the congregation's corporation under state law.
- ix. Dissolve the congregation after the last worship service.
- x. Prepare minutes of its proceedings and a final report upon completion of its actions that will be reported at stated meetings of the presbytery.
- a. 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 Committee on Ministry to approve and grant the AC additional or clarifying authority. The Committee on Ministry shall report on any such authority granted to the AC to the next stated presbytery meeting.

+ 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.

CPM -

MWS Emily Haddox, Chair

+Ordination Exam Readers

+ ON MOTION: to appoint MWS Ted Dennis and RE Anne Brienza as ordination exam readers and to appoint MWS Cliff Haddox and RE Marge Mauntler as alternates.

+ Introduce Inquirer Bethany Stewart and have her read her statement of call. (A-19)
Examination of inquirer **on call only**.

+ON MOTION: to approve moving Inquirer Bethany Stewart to Candidacy.
+ Liturgy for Receiving a Candidate

Nominations Committee

RE Marge Morgan, Chair

The application to serve as a GA commissioner or alternate is included in the packet. (I-3)

September 9, 2025

Presbytery of the Miami Valley

+ **ON MOTION:** the Committee nominates the following slate of committee members and GA Commissioners:

Committee on Representation and Diversity

Class of 2028	MWS Jay Kim, Wilmington
Class of 2027	RE Keith Williams, Faith, Huber Heights

Committee on Ministry

Class of 2027	RE Gene Saunders, Westminster, Dayton
---------------	---------------------------------------

GA Commissioners

RE 2026	RE Alice McCollum, Trinity
MWS 2026	
RE Alt. (2028)	
MWS Alt. (2028)	
Youth Delegate	

Committee & Network Reports –

Network Support and Grants	MWS Jody Noble, Chair
Committee on Representation and Diversity	MWS Justin Miller, Co-chair
Bolsinger Event Report	MWS Diane Ziegler, Vice Moderator

Moderator's report

MWS Lawrence Bartel, Moderator

Living into our theme of “cultivating the quality of our relationships” let us form small groups of 2 or 3 people that we don’t know and engage these questions inspired by the presbytery event with Tod Bolsinger:

- What is great about living in my community?
- What is not so great about living in my community?
- If good people came together, what could we do to make it great for everyone who lives in my community?

Acknowledgement of Written Reports

MWS Lawrence Bartel, Moderator

Announcements

- + **Memorial Service** for Rev. McNulty on Friday September 12 at 1pm at Bellbrook (I-4)
- + **Summit on Affordable Housing** (I-5)
- + **Great Lakes Call Finder** (I-6)
- + **Colombia Network** (I-9)

Break – 10 minutes

CONNEC 

We Worship Together (I-8)

Participants: Rev. Jay Kim, Rev. Jody Noble, Rev. Lawrence Bartel
Commissioning of CRE Mike Buker to serve at Bradford – Moderator Lawrence Bartel

Adjournment & Closing Prayer

MWS Lawrence Bartel, Moderator

Our next stated presbytery meeting
Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
At Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church
4417 Bigger Road, Dayton, OH 45440
937-298-3743

REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

May 13, 2025

Presbytery of the Miami Valley