

Presbytery of the Miami Valley Stated Meeting

Minutes – **to be approved May 2026**

Saturday, February 14, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Via Zoom with Piqua Good Shepherd Church as Host

Opening

At 9:00 am, MWS Lawrence Bartel, Moderator, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer. The moderator invited commissioners to share good news in chat area, provided the Zoom meeting protocols, and declared a quorum. Voting would be done using polls.

Election of the Stated Clerks

The Moderator called RE Janet Miller, Chair of Leadership Council, to present the following motion, that MWS Terry Kukuk be elected Stated Clerk *Pro Tempore* as both the corporate and ecclesiastical officer, and that RE Marge Morgan be elected Interim Associate Stated Clerk, to handle record keeping functions only and that she be granted voice and vote. This motion coming from the LC committee does not require a second. To provide background on this request, MWS Cynthia Holder Rich, from the Staff Support Committee, spoke. When MWS Lynn Bova, who was PMV Stated Clerk, advised Staff Support that she planned to retire, the committee talked to Lynn, and others about various staffing models. They reviewed Lynn's job description, made some changes, then posted the position. When no applications were received, the committee decided it needed more time to find the right staffing model for Stated Clerk. They talked with the Leadership Council which agreed. Several questions were raised as to who provides staff support to the CoRD committee as well as the other committees. The initial answer was Lynn, as Stated Clerk, was the staff support attending committee meetings. Since her departure, Cynthia did not know the answer to the question but would investigate. Marge will also help clarify. The Moderator restated the motion and asked for the vote. He thanked MWS Holder Rich for her input and indicated that the **Motion Passed**.

Formation of the Roll & Adoption of the Final Docket

Interim Associate Stated Clerk, Marge Morgan, moved to seat, with voice corresponding members MWS Ruth-Aimée Belonni-Rosario, Synod of the Covenant Associate Executive for Racial Justice and MWS Luke Choi, Board of Pensions; to give voice to RE Megan Worcester for a report from the Colombia Network; and to approve 7 excused minister members of PMV. A second was received. The Moderator restated the motion and asked for the vote. **Motion Passed**.

Marge moved to adopt the Final Docket (A-1) which was posted on the website when the final call for the meeting went out. A second was received. The Moderator asked for the vote. **Motion Passed**.

Welcome to New Commissioners & Hospitality Report

The Moderator recognized first-time commissioners; 7 new commissioners were present. He asked, "In this winter season, where do you see signs of New Life in your congregation and your community?" Please share your Good News and Greetings via the Chat. Seven members shared Good News about their churches.

The Moderator recognized RE Sandra Kerns from host church Piqua Good Shepherd (I-1, I-2) to present the Hospitality report and to introduce a video that shared their church history and ministry at Piqua.

Worship

MWS Ruth-Aimée Belonni-Rosario, Synod of the Covenant Associate Executive for Racial Justice, preached on the Scripture reading from Mark 14: 22-24 and gave the Sermon. The Sacrament of Holy Communion was presided over by MWS Francisco Pelaez-Diaz. At the conclusion of the Worship service, Moderator Lawrence Bartel thanked the Worship participants and thanked MWS Cliff Haddox for his

expertise in monitoring “Mission Control” to allow for the Zoom meeting.

Committee on Ministry Report

Following Worship, the Moderator called for RE Jim Griffin to present the Committee on Ministry Report. Jim stated that COM had two housekeeping items to share. The Committee extended a sincere Thank you to MWS Kazy Hinds for her help with College Hill Community Church. COM reminded Pastors and Leaders of each PMV church, that the Book of Order requires Boundary training every 3 years. A list of classes is available in the Synod of the Covenant Newsletter. Once the training is completed, the Stated Clerk needs to be notified.

Jim introduced MWS Don Sherman and RE Greg Eyer who conducted the Memorial for MWS William Philips (A-2).

Stated Clerk’s Report

The Moderator recognized the Interim Associate Stated Clerk, RE Marge Morgan to give the Stated Clerk’s Report. She provided the following information.

- + **Correspondence** – A Letter of introduction was received from the Rev. Rachel Anderson, the new **U.S.-Facing Global Ecumenical Liaison** (US-GEL) for the synods of Covenant, Lakes and Prairies, Lincoln Trails, and Living Waters (S-1, 2, 3)
- + **Minutes** are included in the consent agenda (A-12) including Minutes of November 2025 stated meeting (A-3)

+ Reports of Administrative Commissions

- Report of the Administrative Commission for Honey Creek Church (A-4) – oral report by AC Chair MWS Bruce Miller. He reported that the congregation donated the buildings to the city of New Carlisle. The PMV trustees executed an Agreement with the hope that the closure will be completed by mid-March. Congregation members are in the process of cleaning out the church. There are many items available. A list of items will be posted.
- Report of the Administrative Commission for Corinth Church. (A-5) - oral report by AC member MWS Jody Noble. Jody stated that it is an amazing congregation with lots of energy. The biggest issue is financial. The pledge campaign resulted in \$87,000. She is incredibly grateful for PMV support.
- Report of the Administrative Commission for St. Luke Church (A-6)
- Report of the Administrative Commission to Install Rev. Jody Noble (A-7)
- Report of the Administrative Commission to Install Rev. Daria Schaffnit (A-8)
- Report of the Administrative Commission to Ordain Candidate Caroline Eader (A-9)

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

- **Gains:** The Rev. Stan Gockel (MOAD at Fairborn)
The Rev. Caroline Eader (ordained 1/18/26)
- **Losses:** The Rev. Wm. (Bill) Philips to God’s tender care
- **In transition:** The Rev. Caroline Eader to Whitewater
- **Other changes:** The Rev. Lynette Bova to Retired
The Rev. Frank Rupnik to MAL

+ Other information (A-10 & 11)

- **Congregational Minute Review** – The final report on the **2024** congregational minute review is complete. The following churches have not completed their minute review: Blue Ball, Dayton Central, College Hill Community, IKPC, Dayton Southminster, Dayton Westminster, Huntsville, Jamestown, Middletown St. Luke, Piqua Westminster, Troy, Urbana, and Yellow Springs. All other churches were approved with no exceptions. (A-11)

A single review of **2025** minutes is scheduled for Saturday, **March 14, 2026, at 10:00 am** at Sugar Creek Church, 4417 Bigger Road, Kettering 45440. A current checklist is available on the Clerk’s Corner on the PMV website. All Clerks are encouraged to attend.

• **Statistical Reports**

The PCUSA Statistical reports are due this week! Friday, February 20 is the final day clerks will have access to the portal. If clerks have questions, please contact me at the stated clerk’s email address. The Interim Stated Clerk will have access to the portal for a brief period after it closes to clerks. Thank you to all the churches who have already completed the reports and entered the data in the portal.

• **Other Reports**

Please remember to submit your 2025 Necrology Report ASAP even if you had no Ruling Elders who died. Also, please submit your 2026 Pledge Form to the Bookkeeper ASAP.

+ **Boundary Training Reminder**

New BoO rules state that MWS, CREs, CCEs, Inquirers, Candidates, CEs in certification process and Ruling Elders serving the presbytery must have boundary training and child protection training every 36 months. There are two no-cost methods to meet these requirements:

1. **Praesidium Training** – this is online training provided through our insurance company. If you are in one of the groups above, you should have received an invitation. If you did not, please contact me. Two units are required but many others are available:

- a. Preventing Abuse & Exploitation in Pastoral Ministry
- b. Keeping Your Church Safe

2. **Practical Resources for Churches** – PMV is partnering with PRC to provide this training. PRC is a nonprofit, non-denominational, education-based service organization providing consultants, educational webinars, workshops, and resources. PRC has created a series of free and short (no more than 15 minutes) video modules on a variety of topics that, together, fulfill a session’s Boundary Training requirement and open the door to discussion. A document has been prepared that includes the video links, discussion questions, along with general directions and guidance. Links to this training may be found on the PMV website under the training tab. No matter what training you complete, you **MUST** send documentation to the Stated Clerk at statedclerk@miamipresbytery.org.

+ **Upcoming 2026 Presbytery Meeting Dates**

We are grateful to churches for agreeing to host. Please consider hosting a meeting. The Stated Clerk is beginning to schedule 2027 meetings. February and November meetings will usually 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 in November or February or to partner with another small church to host an in-person meeting.

Please note the time change to 2:00 pm for May and September meetings.

Currently planned dates and locations:

<p>Tuesday, May 12, 2026, 2:00 p.m., at Bellbrook Presbyterian Church Reports and Docket requests due by April 21, 2026</p> <p>Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 2:00 p.m., Presbyterian Church of Wilmington Reports and docket requests due by Aug. 18, 2026</p> <p>Saturday, November 14, 2026, 9:00 a.m., ZOOM, Host: TBD Reports and docket requests due by October 23, 2026</p>
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The Interim Associate Stated Clerk reminded commissioners that all official correspondence is shared through the clerk of session who should be sharing it with the appropriate parties in their church.

Leadership Council Report

The Moderator recognized RE Janet Miller, chair of Leadership Council who presented the consent agenda for approval, and no items were pulled. Janet announced: Please like our Facebook Page and sign up for Constant Contact. We also have a YouTube channel called Miami Valley Presbytery. You can find links to these on the Presbytery website: <https://miamipresbytery.org/>.

Consent Agenda:

A MOTION PREVAILED to approve the consent agenda. **Motion Passed.**

Stated Clerk

Approved the following actions of the Stated Clerk:

Minutes (A-3) of November 8, 2025, stated presbytery meeting as distributed, and that the Stated Clerk be authorized to make any technical and non-substantive corrections as needed.

Approved the action of the Leadership Council: Receive the report of the Leadership Council:

A MOTION PREVAILED: to approve the Wilmington Presbyterian Church as host for the September 2026 PMV meeting. Moved by Jim Gillette, seconded and approved.

A MOTION PREVAILED: to approve communion to be served at all stated PMV meetings in 2026. Moved by Donna Courtney, seconded and approved.

A MOTION PREVAILED: to approve communion to be served on November 23, 2025, at Fairborn Presbyterian Church for the Collaborative Congregations Thanksgiving worship service. Moved by Cynthia Holder Rich, seconded and approved.

A MOTION PREVAILED: to approve MWS Terry Kukuk as Stated Clerk *Pro Tempore* until the election of the new stated clerk. Motion comes from committee, approved.

A MOTION PREVAILED: to approve the new job description for the Stated Clerk. Motion comes from Committee, approved.

A MOTION PREVAILED for MWS Kazy Hinds to serve as the facilitator for the Good Futures Accelerator and to be offered the following: stipend of \$250/month, mileage reimbursement at current IRS rate up to \$1,000, and \$1,500 to facilitate PMV wide cohort gatherings.

A MOTION PREVAILED to offer a one-time grant of up to \$5,000 for participating congregations that develop a social enterprise project. With a maximum of 8 congregations in 2026. A grant task force will establish the grant application.

Committee on Ministry (COM):

Received the report of the COM:

Seven Mile Presbyterian Church

A motion prevailed to approve the action of the session of Seven Mile Presbyterian Church to agree to a part-time (20 hrs/wk) Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) contract with Ruling Elder Cheryl (Gidget) Collins from January 1, 2026-December 31, 2026 at the following terms: \$29,580 annual cash salary; \$500 mileage & professional expenses; \$1,750 continuing education; vacation of one week per quarter, cumulative to four weeks per year, study leave, at one week per six months for a total compensation of \$31,830. Mentor is MWS Kelley Shin. Terms comply with 2026 presbytery requirements.

One Community Church, Monroe, OH Church:

A motion prevailed to approve the action of the session of One Community Church, Monroe, OH, to agree to a part-time (10 hrs/wk) stated supply contract with the Rev. Steven Copeland from January 1, 2026-December 31, 2026 at the following terms; \$17,250 deferred income; \$5200 for pastoral care; \$900 to moderate session for a total effective salary of \$23,350; \$1,750 continuing education; Vacation of 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays), study leave of 2 weeks (including 2 Sundays) for a cumulative 6 weeks; for a total compensation of \$25,100. Terms comply with 2026 presbytery requirements.

One Community Church, Monroe, OH Church:

A motion prevailed to approve the action of the session of One Community Church, Monroe, OH, to agree to a part-time (10 hrs/wk) stated supply contract with the Rev. Vaughn Lewis from January 1, 2026-December 31, 2026 at the following terms; \$17,250 salary; \$1,750 continuing education; Vacation of 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays), study leave of 2 weeks (including 2 Sundays) for a cumulative 6 weeks; for a total compensation of \$19,000. Terms comply with 2026 presbytery requirements.

Faith Huber Heights:

A motion prevailed to approve the action of the session of Faith Presbyterian Church of Huber Heights, Oh, to agree to a part-time (20 hrs/wk) stated supply contract with the Rev. Julia Williamson from January 1-2026-December 31, 2026 at the following terms: Annual Cash Salary: \$29,822.27; Deferred Income: \$5,010.14; Total Effective Salary: \$34,832.41; SECA: \$2281.40; Auto: \$1120.00; Cont. Ed.: \$4000; Prof. Exp.: \$500 Total: \$42,733.81. Terms comply with 2026 presbytery requirements.

A motion prevailed by Steve Davis and seconded by Bridget Hawkins to authorize the COM chair to take any necessary urgent actions, in consultation with the Executive Presbyter and Vice Chair, prior to the first COM meeting in January 2026, subject to the ratification of those actions by the COM at the first January meeting.

A motion prevailed by Bridget Hawkins and seconded by Bob Wade to approve the ordination of Candidate Caroline Eader to the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament on behalf of and at the request of Whitewater Presbytery at First United Presbyterian Church, Bellefontaine on January 18 at 3 or 4 pm and to approve communion for that service. And also, to approve the leadership team to approve the names for the Administrative Commission to be ratified in January.

A motion prevailed by Annie Melick and seconded by Michael Seewer to add MWS Stan Gockel to the pulpit supply list.

A motion prevailed by Steve Davis and second by Bridget Hawkins to approve reimbursements to CRE Janet Miller for the expenditures from 27 September through 30 November for the current items:

Reimbursement category	Date	Activity	Rate/Cost	Hours/Mileage	Amount per activity	Total per category
Purchases	10/25/2025	Buy Christmas Cards	20.4		\$20.40	\$20.40
Mileage	9/30/2025	Visit Woody Amidon	0.7	102	\$71.40	
	10/24/2025	Visit Shelley Wiley	0.7	30	\$21.00	
	10/28/2025	Visit Bill Walthour & Don Stewart	0.7	126.75	\$88.73	
	11/11/2025	Visit Jerry Swaim	0.7	87	\$60.90	\$242.03
Hours traveling	9/30/2025	Visit Woody Amidon	20.78	2	\$41.56	
	10/24/2025	Visit Shelley Wiley	20.78	0.5	\$10.39	
	10/28/2025	Visit Bill Walthour & Don Stewart	20.78	1.95	\$40.52	
	11/11/2025	Visit Jerry Swaim	20.78	1.5	\$31.17	\$123.64
Hours direct pastoral care	9/30/2025	Visit Woody Amidon	20.78	3	\$62.34	
	10/24/2025	Visit Shelley Wiley	20.78	1	\$20.78	
	10/28/2025	Visit Bill Walthour & Don Stewart	20.78	3	\$62.34	
	11/11/2025	Visit Jerry Swaim	20.78	2.5	\$51.95	
	Various	Prepare ordination ann cards	20.78	5	\$103.90	
	Various	Email updates	20.78	3	\$62.34	
	11/16/2025	Prepare Christmas cards	20.78	3	\$62.34	\$425.99
						\$812.06

Sidney – Motion prevailed to appoint RE Michelle Slone to moderate the congregational meeting Dec. 14.

Fairborn – Motion prevailed by Steve Davis and second by Annie Melick to appoint MWS Lynn Bova as moderator for Fairborn Presbyterian Church beginning in February. **Motion prevailed** by Kelley Shin and

seconded by Daria Schaffnit to appoint RE Jay Peterson to moderate the Fairborn PC session meeting in January and MWS Terry Kukuk to moderate the congregational meeting in January.

A motion prevailed to approve the request of MWS Joe Hinds, retired, to be placed on the pulpit supply list.

A motion prevailed to approve the action of the Session of FPC Fairborn to agree to a temporary supply contract with the Rev. Stan Gockel at the following terms: worship leadership \$175 each Sunday, pastoral care and visitation up to 3 hours per week at \$28/hr, weekly bulletin contribution up to 2 hours per week at \$28/hr. and mileage reimbursement at \$.725/mile

A motion prevailed for the AC for Corinth to use \$200.00 from Board restricted account 330202 COM 2023 to provide lunch after the Corinth annual meeting on February 1, 2026.

A motion prevailed to approve the following Administrative Commission to install the Rev. Josh Rodriguez on March 8, 4:00 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church Piqua:

- MWS Lawrence Bartel- Oxford Presbyterian Church, Moderator of PMV
- RE Cody Meyer- First Presbyterian, Sidney
- RE Judy Schultz- Covington Presbyterian
- RE Brenda Peters- College Hill Community Church
- CRE Gidget Collins- Seven Mile United Presbyterian Church

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

Received the report of the CPM:

A Motion prevailed to authorize inquirer Cate O'Malley to register for the Bible Content Ordination Exam.

A Motion prevailed to authorize candidate Bethany Stewart to register for the Worship and Sacraments Ordination Exam.

Nominating Committee

Appointed the following people to serve at the 227th General Assembly (2026) pursuant to the authority granted at the November 2025 PMV meeting:

- YAAD = Adriano Herrera (College Hill)
- YAAD alternate = Will Ford (College Hill)
- RE commissioner alternate = RE Marge Morgan (Sugar Creek)

Here ends the Consent Agenda

Treasurer's Report

The Moderator invited RE Ivy Young, PMV Treasurer, to present his report for 2025. (A13-A15) Ivy noted that we are doing well. We budgeted \$232,000 for Connectional Support and received \$248,000. We planned to withdraw \$100,000 from investments but only needed to withdraw \$87,000. Ivy stated that PMV earned a 7% return in 2025. MWS Kazy Hinds, Chair of Trustees, indicated that the committee decided to move our investments to Johnson Investment Counsel. This has proved to be a sound decision. Johnson Investment Counsel Representative will attend the March Trustee meeting to provide a 6-month review of our funds. The Moderator thanked Ivy, Kat Millhouse (bookkeeper), Kazy Hinds, and the Trustees for their work PMV finances.

Synod Report

The moderator recognized MWS Ruth-Aimée Belonni-Rosario, Synod of the Covenant Associate Executive for Racial Justice. She shared information about February and March workshops, upcoming training opportunities, and answered any questions. She shared that the Synod applied for a grant related to AI (artificial intelligence). The funds were received and the staff are discussing how best to utilize these funds. The Synod just hired a Comptroller who will work 10 hours per week.

Executive Presbyter Report

The Moderator recognized MWS Terry Kukuk, Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk *Pro Tempore*. Terry shared a letter from our Global Liaison Rev. Rachel Anderson. Provided an update related to the Good Futures Accelerator.. Please contact Marge Morgan, Kazy Hinds, or Terry if your church would like to participate. Terry also read a letter she received with an emergency request from the North Coast Presbytery in Colombia. A natural disaster involving severe flooding has impacted the area. Prior to the end of the meeting, Terry advised that a link to donate funds to this disaster was on the PMV website.

Moderator's Report

MWS Lawrence Bartel stated that our Connection is deep, referencing the letter (I-3). Our world has become so much noise causing us to retreat. We are called to be courageous, to see our neighbors, to CARE. He encouraged the attendees to sign up for the Christian Nationalism training on February 22, and again in March.

Board of Pensions MWS Luke Choi

The 2026 Benefit Regional Summit will be held April 21 starting at 10:00 am on Zoom. Registration will start in March. Watch the starting date. Medical plan costs and dues package will be available soon. There are Assistance Program updates such as adoption assistance, housing supplement, and debt relief. A PMV retirees' luncheon will be held on September 21 starting at 10:30 am. Location decision will be announced later.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

CPM requests Presbytery's approval for the use of alternate examinations for Worship and Sacraments, Exegesis, and Theology for Haley Ingram Onken, using the guidelines from the Task Force on Theology and Practice of Ordination. Discussion followed with a point of clarification asked. Does CPM need to wait for GA approval, or can you proceed with the examination? Answer: this is a tool and standard assistance so we may proceed. Comments from floor supported this motion. The Moderator called for the vote, restated the motion, noting that this motion requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ vote. **Motion Passed.** Emily Haddox offered a prayer of thanks.

Nominating Committee Caitlin Deyerle

The committee moves that the following people be elected to PMV committees:

- Committee on Ministry (Class of 2027), RE Michele Slone (Urbana: First)
- Trustees (Class of 2027), RE Patti Jones-Logan (Troy: First) **Motion Passed.**

Committee on Representation & Diversity Report (CoRD)

MWS Francisco Pelaez-Diaz presented the motion to concur with the Presbytery of San Jose's Overture "On Taking Action to Repudiate Christian Nationalism and Affirm Our Faith Commitments" A clarification question was raised whether this overture was an addendum to F1.0104 or a replacement? Francisco answered that in discussions with the San Jose Presbytery, he believed it was an addition to F1.0104. The moderator restated the motion and called for the vote. **Motion Passed.** Prior to the end of the meeting Francisco provided information that it was an addition not replacement.

Committee & Network Reports

Colombia Network: RE Megan Worcester talked about the 30th anniversary celebration of our Colombia Partnership which will occur here in Dayton July 9-July 13. Due to recent challenges in the political situation in South America, obtaining visas and travel permits may derail the celebration. Currently, we are proceeding with the planning. The recent flooding that occurred has impacted parts of the North Coast Presbytery. This may also prevent our local celebrations. Please pray for our sister Presbytery.

Collaborative Congregations: MWS Emily Haddox provided information regarding the Collaborative Congregations and the upcoming gathering at College Hill Community Church on February 22 starting at 2:00 pm. The theme is Black History month. A video related to Christian Nationalism will also be presented. The next Collaborative Congregation gathering will be held at Bath Presbyterian Church with a theme related to the 3rd Thirty (ages 60 to 90).

The Moderator acknowledged the various written reports and referred attendees to the Announcements (I-4). He called for adjournment and closed the meeting with prayer at 12:43 pm.

Our next stated presbytery meeting
Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 2:00 pm
At The Bellbrook Presbyterian Church
72 West Franklin Street, Bellbrook, OH 45305
937-848-2378

Recorded by:

MWS Terry L. Kukuk, Stated Clerk *pro tempore*

Appendices

- A – Attendance
- B – AC for Honey Creek Church Report (A-4)
- C – AC for Corinth Report (A-5)
- D – AC for St. Luke Report (A-6)
- E – AC Minutes for Jody Noble Installation (A-7)
- F – AC Minutes for Daria Shaffnit Installation (A-8)
- G – AC Minutes for Eader Ordination (A-9)
- H – 2024 Session Minutes Review Final Report (A-11)
- I – Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report (S-4)
- J – Letter from Leadership
- K - Concurrence on Overture to Repudiate Christian Nationalism (S-5)
- L - FYE Delta Statement of Financial Position (A-14)
- M –FYE 2025 Giving Pledge Campaign (A-15)
- N–FYE 2025 Treasurer’s Report (A-13)

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