

UPPER OHIO VALLEY PRESBYTERY  
MINUTES OF STATED MEETING, NOVEMBER 17, 2009

*The primary purpose of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery is to serve as a resource body, designed to equip, challenge, and encourage the churches within its jurisdiction to carry out their call to prepare the saints to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with others through worship, discipleship, fellowship, ministry, and mission*

Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery met in stated meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, at Starkdale Presbyterian Church, Steubenville, Ohio, beginning at 6:15 p.m. The moderator for 2009 presided at the opening of the meeting.

**OPENING PRAYER.** The moderator for 2009, opened the meeting with prayer.

**QUORUM.** The Stated Clerk, announced that a quorum was present for this meeting. According to the presbytery's bylaws, a quorum for a presbytery meeting is not fewer than three ministers and the elders present, provided that at least three churches are represented by the elders.

**FORMATION OF THE ROLL AND PRESENTATION OF EXCUSES.** The Stated Clerk announced that the roll of presbytery was being formed by the signing of attendance sheets in the Narthex of the church. Excuses were given to the Journal Clerk; Enrollment Clerk; or to the Stated Clerk. The attendance record is included at the end of these minutes.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES.** The Stated Clerk **moved, it was seconded and passed**, that the persons requesting to be excused be so listed and noted in the minutes of this meeting.

**CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.** The Stated Clerk **moved, it was seconded and passed**, that two pastors from Pittsburgh Presbytery be seated as corresponding members with voice for this meeting of presbytery.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR.** The Sated Clerk **moved, it was seconded and passed**, that one person from the Urban Mission, Steubenville, Ohio, be granted privilege of the floor with voice for this meeting of presbytery.

**ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET.** The Stated Clerk **moved and it was seconded** to adopt the docket for this meeting. The docket was amended by adding the Council report before the Nominating report and removal of the Camping and Youth report. The amended docket was then **adopted**.

**CONSENT AGENDA.** The Stated Clerk **moved** approval of the Consent Agenda. The Moderator asked if anyone wanted any item removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion later in the meeting. No item was removed. The Consent Agenda was then **adopted**.

**Committee on Ministry Consent Agenda Item:**

**1. Member at Large.** The Committee on Ministry **moves** that a pastor be classified as a Member at Large of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery effective July 1, 2009.

-end of Consent Agenda-

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE STATED MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2009.** These minutes were approved by the presbytery Council on November 3, 2009.

**STATED CLERK'S REPORT.**

**Items for Information:**

**Last Worship Service.** United Presbyterian Church, Rayland, Ohio, will hold its final worship on Sunday, December 13, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. Rayland Presbyterian Church was organized in July, 1870, and has given its community one hundred and thirty nine and a half years of witness to God's presence.

**Members Added:** none

**Members Removed:** none

**Other Member Changes:** One pastor was changed to Member at Large, as approved at this meeting of presbytery.

**Administrative Commissions to Elect:** none

**Administrative Commission Reports:** The final report from the Administrative Commission to Dissolve the Morristown Presbyterian Church is included below.

**Final Report of the  
Administrative Commission to Close  
Morristown Presbyterian Church  
November 17, 2009**

The Commission to close the Presbyterian Church at Morristown, Ohio, was appointed by the Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery on September 22, 2006. Shortly thereafter the Commission met at the church and organized itself, appointing one member as chair. The Commission consisted of seven members.

At the time the Commission was appointed, the remaining congregational membership consisted of four members. The Commission wrote to each member encouraging them to unite with another congregation close to where they reside. To date, none have requested a letter of transfer. In the same communication, the Commission solicited the input of the members with regard to the disposition of the church's assets.

The Church property consists of a lovely old brick building in reasonably good repair, situated on a town lot in Morristown, Ohio. The church has stood at its present location since 1848, and prior to the collapse of the real estate market, the property had been appraised at \$25,000. The church is also co-owner of an adjoining vacant lot. The other co-owner is the Morristown United Methodist Church, which is situated on the lot adjoining the vacant lot to the East. The deed to this property contains the following language:

In the event that either of said churches is abandoned, its interest in and to said property shall immediately vest in the Trustees of the other church.

The deed for the vacant lot was easily located in the Belmont County Recorder's Office. Unfortunately searches by several attorneys failed to locate any deed to the church lot itself. Either there never was a deed, or it was never recorded. The engineer's records going back to the 1800's showed the property in the name of the church, as did the Auditor's Records, but the deed records showed the lot still in the name of the Village of Morristown.

What followed were extensive negotiations with the Village of Morristown over a protracted period, which led to an ordinance passed by the Village Council authorizing a deed to the church, which was finally recorded by the Commission in March of 2008.

Once title was established, the Commission and church members began searching for a buyer for the real estate. The preference was to sell the property to another church. It eventually became evident that this was not going to be possible after several potential buyers failed to express interest or make an offer. The Commission became aware that neighbors of the church were very interested in purchasing the property to use as a community center. Subsequently, negotiations with two persons led to the execution of a purchase agreement to sell the property for \$18,500. As of this writing that transaction had not closed, but it is anticipated that it will very soon, as the agreement calls for possession on or before September 30, 2009.

Prior to finalizing the sales agreement, the remaining church members met as a Session on July 5, 2009, to approve the proposed sale which the Commission had negotiated, and to express their desire concerning the distribution of the church's personal property and the proceeds of the sale. The remaining members saw to the disposition of the personal property with anything undistributed to pass to the new owners. They also approved the following distribution of the sale proceeds:

Project Mana of Union Local School District:	\$3,000.00
Helping Hands/Caring Hearts for Union Local	2,000.00
Union Local Social Services	2,000.00
Tonya Kelly in trust for Joshua Kelly's Education	5,000.00
Kathleen Angel Memoriam for Kathleen Snodgrass	2,000.00
Crossroad Parish	300.00

Juvenile Diabetes Foundation	1,000.00
Moving Expenses for Church Items	1,000.00
Appraisal Fee	150.00
Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery	Balance after payment of final utilities

Once the details of the sale were finalized, arrangements were made for a final closing service, which was held on Sunday, September 6, 2009.

It is anticipated that the Clerk of Session will deliver all available Session Record Books to the Stated Clerk of Presbytery for delivery to the Presbyterian Historical Society.

The Commission wishes to express their appreciation to its attorney for his gracious assistance in bringing this protracted matter to conclusion.

This concludes the work of the Commission which requests that it be dismissed from further service.

Respectfully submitted, Chairperson

**REPORT OF THE SESSION RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 2009, READINGS**

AREA CITY	CHURCH	MINUTES STATUS	MINUTES ACTION	REGISTER STATUS	REGISTER ACTION	
3	Bridgeport	Kirkwood	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt
3	Colerain	Colerain	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt
3	Dallas	Dallas Community	Due 9-17-07		Due 9-17-07	
3	Dillonvale	First	Read 9-14-09	Appr W/Excpt	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt
3	Harrisville	Covenant	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt
3	Martins Ferry	First	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt
3	Martins Ferry	Grace	Due 9-12-05		Due 9-12-05	
3	Martins Ferry	Scotch Ridge	Due 9-15-08	Excused	Due 9-15-08	Excused
3	Mt. Pleasant	First	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-14-09	Appr W/Excpt
3	Rayland	Glen Robbins	Read 10-22-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 10-22-09	Appr No Excpt
3	Rayland	United	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt
3	St. Clairsville	Calvary	Due 10-8-07		Due 10-8-07	
3	St. Clairsville	First	Due 9-14-09		Due 9-14-09	
3	St. Clairsville	Uniontown	Due 9-13-04		Due 9-13-04	
3	Triadelphia	Roney's Point	Read 9-29-09	Appr W/Excpt	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt
3	West Liberty	Federated	Due 9-14-09		Due 9-10-01	
3	Wheeling	Bethlehem United	Read 9-14-09	Appr W/Excpt	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt
3	Wheeling	First	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt
3	Wheeling	Stone	Read 10-22-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 10-22-09	Appr No Excpt
3	Wheeling	Vance Memorial	Due 9-29-09		Due 9-29-09	
3	Wheeling	Warwood	Due 9-10-01		Due 9-10-01	
4	Barnesville	First	Due 10-19-09		Due 10-19-09	
4	Bellaire	Bellaire	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt	Due 11-1-04	Not presented
4	Bellaire	Belmont	Read 10-19-09	Appr W/Excpt	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt
4	Bellaire	First United	Due 11-5-01		Due 11-5-01	
4	Bellaire	Rock Hill	Due 10-19-09		Due 10-19-09	
4	Blaine	Pleasant Valley	Read 10-22-09	Appr W/Excpt	Due 11-7-05	Not presented
4	Cameron	First United	Due 10-19-09		Due 11-1-04	
4	Cameron	Wolf Run	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt
4	Centerville	Concord	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt
4	Key	Bethel	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt
4	Laings	Laings	Due 10-19-09		Due 10-19-09	
4	Lewisville	Buchanan	Due 10-19-09		Due 10-19-09	
4	Moundsville	First	Read 10-22-09	Appr W/Excpt	Read 10-22-09	Appr No Excpt
4	Moundsville	Limestone	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt
4	Neffs	Coalbrook	Due 10-19-09		Due 10-19-09	
4	New Athens	First	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt
4	New Martinsville	First	Due 10-19-09		Due 10-19-09	
4	New Matamoras	First	Due 10-6-08		Due 10-6-08	

4	Powhatan Point	First	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt
4	Shadyside	First	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 10-19-09	Appr No Excpt
4	Sherrard	Allen Grove	Due 10-6-08		Due 10-6-08	
4	Sistersville	First	Due 10-19-09		Due 10-19-09	
4	Warnock	Community	Read 10-23-09	Appr W/Excpt	Read 10-23-09	Appr W/Excpt
4	Woodsfield	Woodsfield	Due 10-19-09		Due 10-19-09	
1	Bergholz	Trinity	Due 4-30-07		Due 4-30-07	
1	East Liverpool	Grace	Read 4-20-09	Appr W/Excpt	Due 4-11-04	Not presented
1	East Liverpool	Trinity	Read 4-30-09	Appr W/Excpt	Due 4-18-05	Not presented
1	Hanoverton	New Lebanon	Due 4-20-09		Due 4-20-09	
1	Newell	First	Due 4-20-09		Due 4-20-09	
1	Salineville	Bethel	Due 4-20-09		Due 4-20-09	
1	Wellsville	Covenant	Due 4-20-09		Due 4-20-09	
1	Wellsville	Yellow Creek	Due 4-24-06		Due 4-24-06	
2	Bloomington	Annapolis	Due 5-21-07		Due 5-21-07	
2	Brilliant	First United	Due 4-29-08		Due 4-30-09	
2	Cadiz	Cadiz	Due 4-29-08		Due 4-29-08	
2	Colliers	Cross Creek	Due 5-21-07		Due 5-06-02	
2	Follansbee	United	Due 4-30-09		Due 4-30-09	
2	Hopedale	United	Due 4-30-09		Due 4-30-09	
2	Jewett	Jewett	Read 6-23-09	Appr W/Excpt	Due 4-30-09	Not presented
2	Piney Fork	Piney Fork	Due 4-30-09		Due 4-30-09	
2	Richmond	United	Due 4-29-08		Due 4-29-08	
2	Smithfield	Smithfield	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-14-09	Appr No Excpt
2	Steubenville	First Westminster	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 9-29-09	Appr No Excpt
2	Steubenville	Pleasant Hill	Due 4-29-08		Due 4-29-08	
2	Wellsburg	First	Read 6-24-09	Appr No Excpt	Read 6-24-09	Appr No Excpt

-end of Clerk's Report-

**TREASURER'S REPORT.** After time for discussion, the treasurer's report was filed for annual financial review.

	<u>Jan - Oct 2009</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Missions</b>	49,096.23	100,000.00	-50,903.77	49.1%
<b>Per Capita</b>	150,281.25	220,625.00	-70,343.75	68.12%
<b>Special Offerings</b>	794.17	650.00	144.17	122.18%
<b>Committee Income</b>	5,676.17	4,500.00	1,176.17	126.14%
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>	5,322.57	50.00	5,272.57	10,645.14%
<b>Fund Transfers</b>	<u>79,975.00</u>	<u>20,000.00</u>	<u>59,975.00</u>	<u>399.88%</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	291,145.39	345,825.00	-54,679.61	84.19%
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>General Presbyter</b>	78,240.74	90,589.00	-12,348.26	86.37%
<b>Administrative Asst</b>	22,937.86	27,058.00	-4,120.14	84.77%
<b>Treasurer</b>	6,613.52	7,925.00	-1,311.48	83.45%
<b>Resource Coordinator</b>	21,857.34	24,838.00	-2,980.66	88.0%
<b>Educator/Youth Coordinator</b>	18,346.60	21,000.00	-2,653.40	87.37%
<b>Stated Clerk</b>	53,999.76	62,773.00	-8,773.24	86.02%
<b>Stated Clerk's Office</b>	1,043.87	675.00	368.87	154.65%
<b>Journal Clerk</b>	2,264.06	2,668.00	-403.94	84.86%
<b>Connector Editor &amp; Ad Manager</b>	4,940.54	6,279.00	-1,338.46	78.68%
<b>Connector Composition</b>	3,444.80	4,321.00	-876.20	79.72%
<b>Associate GP</b>	58,909.43	72,243.00	-13,333.57	81.54%
<b>Sub Contractors</b>	450.00	750.00	-300.00	60.0%
<b>Other Personnel Expenses</b>	923.60	1,750.00	-826.40	52.78%
<b>Per Capita Expense</b>	27,289.92	68,747.00	-41,457.08	39.7%

Council	1,509.71	4,450.00	-2,940.29	33.93%
Committee on Ministry	3,939.37	5,400.00	-1,460.63	72.95%
Committee on Preparation	3,234.04	4,700.00	-1,465.96	68.81%
Nominating Committee	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Commissions	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Committee on Representation	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Congregational Nurture	4,149.32	4,500.00	-350.68	92.21%
Mission Outreach	35,591.19	69,150.00	-33,558.81	51.47%
Stewardship	21,457.85	26,575.00	-5,117.15	80.74%
Training & Development	15,480.70	29,500.00	-14,019.30	52.48%
Presbyterian Women	132.00	100.00	32.00	132.0%
Judicial Process	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>-100.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>386,756.22</u>	<u>536,391.00</u>	<u>-149,634.78</u>	<u>72.1%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>-95,610.83</u>	<u>-190,566.00</u>	<u>94,955.17</u>	<u>50.17%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><b>-95,610.83</b></u>	<u><b>-190,566.00</b></u>	<u><b>94,955.17</b></u>	<u><b>50.17%</b></u>

-end of Treasurer's Report-

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR REPORT.** The Presbytery's Christian Educator showed a video made at the Richmond, United Presbyterian Church about the youth program conducted there. The CLP has served the church for fourteen years. This program brings approximately 100 children together to do all types of programs: work nights, games, meals, songs, Christmas cards, outreach, etc. The Richmond congregation has a communicant membership of 85. The Christian Educator is available to help make programs like this come to life in churches throughout the presbytery.

**CONGREGATIONAL NURTURE REPORT.** The co-chairs of the Congregational Nurture Committee reported that financial grants and help with planning programs are available through this Committee.

The chair of New Church Development (NCD) Task Force, introduced two pastors from Pittsburgh Presbytery, who spoke about what new church development has meant in Pittsburgh Presbytery and how to apply these concepts in Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery.

On behalf of the Congregational Nurture Committee, it was **moved and seconded** that the Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery adopt the following policy for new church development in this presbytery. After a time for questions, the motion **passed**.

Also, on behalf of the Congregational Nurture Committee, it was **moved, seconded and passed**, that the CNC's New Church Development Task Force serve as the New Church Development Administrative Commission.

**NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS  
AND MANUAL FOR STARTING A NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT**

**Warrant for a Standing Administrative Commission of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery  
Concerning New Church Developments**

Based on the Policy of Elizabeth Presbytery

[Jesus said] "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." *Matthew 28:18b-20*

One responsibility and mission of presbytery is starting new churches. This is both joyful and hard work in responding faithfully to our present changing and challenging cultural context. We are conscious that America needs to be viewed as a mission field. In our presbytery we find ourselves increasingly surrounded by neighbors who do not know the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

In order to respond to our present urgency and opportunity to start new churches, the New Church Development Task Force recommend that the Presbytery of Upper Ohio Valley form an Administrative Commission to start and oversee the development of new churches in our presbytery. This commission shall be called the Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery New Church Development Commission (NCDC), and

functions pursuant to G-9.0502. It shall have the services of a Clerk who shall keep minutes which shall become the minutes of the presbytery.

1. The NCDC shall educate itself and the presbytery in strategies of developing new churches in the complex, challenging, and changing context of Southeastern Ohio and the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia.
2. The NCDC shall actively do demographic and other research to discover potential NCD sites, paying close attention to communities and groups which are not served by existing congregations.
3. The NCDC shall be open to all groups and individuals who approach it with ideas for potential NCD efforts, target populations, or sites.
4. The NCDC shall take the initiative in reaching out to elements of the population which it identifies as potential NCD sites.
5. The NCDC shall communicate with other Christian denominations, particularly those with which we are in full communion (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, United Church of Christ, Reformed Church of America), to ensure that there is no wasteful duplication of efforts, and to engage in cooperative mutual endeavors when such opportunities present themselves and are viewed as beneficial. At the same time, the NCDC shall not regard resistance from an existing local congregation, no matter of what denomination, as necessarily an obstacle to the development of an NCD in a certain area.
6. The NCDC shall be responsible for pursuing requests for funding of NCD efforts. Funding may be sought from sources within the denomination, or from sources outside the church. The NCDC's efforts in this area should not be thought to preclude an NCD seeking still other sources of support.
7. The NCDC is specifically authorized by the presbytery to assume any and all powers and responsibilities of a session for the benefit and ministry of the congregation with respect to any NCD of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery, and is also specifically authorized to delegate such powers and responsibilities to a committee of the new congregation, all to the full extent permitted by the *Book of Order*. The NCDC is authorized to identify and train new leaders from within the NCD, and to form a Steering Committee within the NCD membership, which Steering Committee may be delegated by the NCDC the powers and responsibilities referred to in this paragraph, all to the extent determined by the NCDC.
8. The NCDC shall recommend to the Committee on Ministry (COM) candidates for the position of organizing pastor for a specific NCD, when, in consultation with the NCD (through its Steering Committee, if there be one) it determines that such an approach is appropriate. The NCDC shall recommend to COM the specific terms of an organizing pastor covenant, including details of how the position will be funded and for how long. The NCDC may recommend to the COM whether the organizing pastor may become the installed pastor of any new chartered congregation that results.
9. The NCDC shall recommend to presbytery that an NCD advance to the status of chartered congregation of this presbytery, overseeing all the foundational and organizational work necessary to accomplish this. The presbytery shall appoint a separate Administrative Commission (which may include members of the NCDC) to organize the worship service at which the chartering takes place. Once a congregation is chartered it passes out of the NCDC's responsibility.
10. If the NCDC determines that a particular NCD is not likely to become an ongoing congregation, it may ask presbytery to transfer responsibility for its work to another committee of the presbytery, or simply remove it from the set of groups it chooses to work with. This decision shall not preclude the group's reacceptance as an NCD at some time in the future.
11. If the NCDC determines that the emerging mission and ministry are not in harmony with the Reformed tradition of Presbyterian practice, it shall work with the group to bring it into a closer relationship and appreciation of our understanding of the Christian faith. The NCDC also has the option of encouraging the NCD to consider transfer to a branch of Christianity more in tune with its particular spirit. The NCDC may also decide to simply terminate its, and presbytery's, relationship with an NCD.
12. The NCDC may make a detailed report to any meeting of the Council and any Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Upper Ohio Valley. It may inform the presbytery of the learnings of all research and note any conversations with potential groups and people which may lead to an NCD. When the

NCDC has a set of NCDs with which it is working, it shall report on membership, worship attendance, leadership, budget, and other matters it deems useful for the presbytery to know. The NCDC shall report to presbytery no less than three times a year.

13. The NCDC shall require that all NCD groups with which it is officially working have a checking account at a bank and a person assigned to manage its money and financial affairs. This account may be managed by the NCDC on the group's behalf until it can be turned over to a responsible member of the group. Every NCD shall be required to keep a detailed account of its finances and report to the NCDC at least quarterly, or more frequently at the discretion of the NCDC. Money raised within a particular NCD shall remain with that NCD except for whatever the NCD determines to donate to other mission.
14. The presbytery gives to the NCDC the authority to permit qualified persons to celebrate the sacraments in a specific NCD.
15. The NCDC shall consult with the presbytery's Evangelism Committee and Congregation Nurture Committee concerning its activities and strategies regarding NCDs with the presbytery.
16. The NCDC shall work with the Council regarding its annual budget.

**Composition of the Administrative Commission.** The commission shall be made up of a minimum of seven people who understand and are committed to the development of new congregations and are familiar with basic concepts of evangelism and church growth. It shall reflect the diversity of the presbytery and follow the requirements of the *Book of Order* for Administrative Commissions. (G-9.0504b; G-9.0504b (3)) The commission may include organizing pastors among its membership.

Membership on this commission will be by appointment of the Council, with presbytery's approval. The presbytery will extend an invitation to all churches, referring interested people to the Moderator or Council.

The commission shall be composed of ministers and laypersons who shall serve for two, four, and six year terms when it begins in 2009. Thereafter, six-year, non-renewable terms will be preferred for purposes of continuity of leadership on the commission with leadership of emerging congregations.

This commission shall begin its work as soon as its membership has been approved by the presbytery. This commission will cease to exist when it is dissolved and dismissed by a vote of the presbytery.

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#### **Citations from the *Book of Order***

G-9.0502 A commission is empowered to consider and conclude matters referred to it by a governing body. The appointing body shall state specifically the scope of power given to a commission. A commission shall keep full record of its proceedings, which shall be submitted to its governing body to be incorporated in its minutes and to be regarded as the actions of the governing body itself.

G-9.0503a. .... The functions ordinarily entrusted to an administrative commission are:

G-9.0503a. (2) to organize churches. When such commissions are appointed by a presbytery to organize new congregations (G-11.0103h), the presbytery may authorize that commission to assume any or all powers and responsibilities of a session (G-10.0102) for the benefit and ministry of the new congregation. The presbytery may authorize the commission to delegate such powers and responsibilities to a committee of the new congregation;

G-9.0503a. (2)(a) For immigrant fellowships with roots in the Reformed tradition, if the presbytery determines (1) that its strategy for mission with that constituency requires it and (2) that the chosen lay leadership of the immigrant fellowship is equivalent to elders and session, then the presbytery or its administrative commission may recognize that status as equivalent and proceed to recognize those leaders as elders. In making this determination the presbytery shall be guided by written criteria developed by the presbytery. These criteria shall be based upon the description of the nature of ordained office found in G-6.0100 and G-6.0300.

G-9.0503a.(2)(b) For immigrant fellowships the presbytery may, if it determines that its strategy for mission with that constituency requires it, grant designated leader(s) of a fellowship voice and vote in the meeting of presbytery on an annual basis.

G-9.0505a. The decision of an administrative commission shall be the action of the appointed governing body from the time of its completion by the commission and the announcement, where relevant, of the actions to parties affected by it. Such decision shall be transmitted in writing to the stated clerk of the go-

governing body, who shall report it to the governing body at its next meeting. A governing body may rescind or amend an action of an administrative commission in the same way actions of the governing body may be modified.

First introduced to presbytery: (set for September 22, 2009)

Motion for adoption and time for discussion: (proposed for November 17, 2009)

**Proposed Manual – NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT -  
Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery (Inspired by the Pittsburgh Presbytery Manual for NCDs)**

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- Pastor Identification and Placement Strategy
- NCD Task Force Responsibilities for Commission Members
- Guidelines for Chartering

**Why New Congregations?**

**New Congregations Are More Evangelistic**

Lyle Schaller, in his book *44 Questions for Church Planters* writes: "...new churches are more likely to reach more people and to grow in size than are long-established parishes. Perhaps the simplest explanation of this pattern is that new congregations are organized around evangelism and reaching people not actively involved in the life of any worshipping community. By contrast, powerful internal institutional pressures tend to encourage long-established churches to allocate most of their resources to the care of members. One result is that the vast majority of new congregations in the United States reach their peak in size during the first two or three decades of their existence and then remain on a plateau in size or begin to shrink in members."

New congregations have a higher level of commitment toward evangelism. They realize that their survival as a church depends on constantly reaching new people.

**New Congregations Are a Blessing to Established Churches**

It is a mistaken perception that a new church starting in the area of established churches will hurt their attendance and income. No one church is going to be effective in reaching the entire community; each will have a target group. The exciting thing about starting new churches is that they are often able to reach people that have been unreached by all efforts of established churches.

Lyle Schaller, again, on planting a new congregation in the midst of existing congregations of the same denomination says, "Contrary to conventional wisdom, congregations usually benefit from intra-denominational competition. While it is impossible to isolate one factor as being decisive, the presence of two or more congregations with the same denominational affiliation usually results in a higher level of congregational health and vitality than if one congregation has a denominational monopoly in that community."

Research shows that a new church is able to keep one person in ten that it is able to reach. The other nine out of ten often start going to or return to other congregations.

**New Congregations Raise Up New Leaders**

Planting new churches spurs opportunities of ministry to people who want to be better used of the Lord in ministering.

**New Congregations Reach Other Cultures**

Today, over 60% of our nation is composed of cultures other than WAS (White Anglo-Saxon). If we are going to be effective in reaching America, we should realize that establishing new church plants is the only way we will reach all types of people.

**Document One – New Church Development Plan**

This New Church Development Plan was first proposed to Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery on September 22, 2009.

I. The Vision For our future reads:

*"By the year 2015, Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery will be known by its contagious faith and hope in the resurrected Christ and by its role in fostering a continuous spirit of renewal in its members, congregations, and the wider community. Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery will be able to assess the realization of our mission and vision to the extent to which we demonstrate the following characteristics: There is enthusiastic support among congregations for planting new Presbyterian congregations."*

II. New Congregation Development (NCD) does not happen in a vacuum. NCD occurs within the Presbytery where all churches have needs for development or redevelopment at various levels. It would benefit the Presbytery and the New Church Development Commission (NCDC) in its work if there were a "Presbytery Plan for the Development of Congregations." Such a plan would foster an atmosphere of empowerment for all types of congregations within the Presbytery and would promote encouragement and understanding rather than jealousy and competition. Such a plan could include this component: a Plan for New Church Development as well as opportunities for church transformation. With the inclusion of staff persons with responsibilities to its congregations, the Presbytery is beginning to address the need for comprehensive congregational development. Yet a "plan" would facilitate the work of these staff persons and guide Presbytery in congregational relations. It is beyond the scope of the work of the NCD Commission to propose such a "plan" for congregational development; nevertheless, it is the environment in which we do our work.

III. The Proposed New Church Development Commission recommends the Presbytery adopt a New Congregation Development Vision that will enable it to be intentional and proactive in the development of new congregations. The vision will inform the New Congregation Development Plan by which Presbytery will affirm its mission to "plant" new congregations and evangelize in Christ's name. Rather than being a static policy, the plan needs to be reworked and reaffirmed regularly by the Presbytery so that the passion for new congregation development is fresh and focused in the life of the Presbytery. The first step in creating a plan is adopting a vision. NCD Task Force requests at a subsequent Presbytery meeting that a New Church Development Commission be proposed to council with the request that it be presented to Presbytery at our September 22, 2009, meeting for a first reading and in November for a final reading and adoption. This will confirm the commitment of the presbytery to New Church Development.

IV. The Vision

The congregations of the Presbytery of Upper Ohio Valley unite in their desire to fulfill Christ's calling to love one another and to share that love, with those who do not know it, through the creation of new worshipping communities. These new congregations will be ones:

- through which persons are engaged in the process of learning how to love God and one another more passionately,
- through which persons are invited into the friendship of Jesus Christ,
- from which persons go to touch others with God's love,
- in which persons are nurtured to discipleship and wholeness, and
- in which the Great Ends of the Church are lived.

**Document Two – New Church Development**

This is a sample covenant. An actual covenant will be developed in conversation between the NCD Commission and the leaders of a New Worshipping Community.

**Covenant** between Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery and \_\_\_\_\_ Church

Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery (through the New Church Development Commission (NCDC)) will:

- Provide some funding for the NCD for a period of up to five years in declining amounts
- Support the NCD in requesting funds from the synod and General Assembly
- Act as session for the NCD until such time as the NCD is prepared to appoint a session (G-10.0102 and G-9.0503a2)
- Provide training opportunities for organizing pastor and church leaders
- Encourage people from the churches of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery to serve as Volunteers in Mission at the NCD
- Create a task force for each NCD
- Provide payroll services for the staff of the NCD until the church is chartered

- Maintain and administer the portion of the income that covers staff salaries and transfer the remainder of the income to a bank account held by the NCD
- Authorize and supply leadership if necessary for the administration of sacraments
- Make decisions regarding geographical areas and schedule for NCD starts
- Call NCD pastors and evangelists
- Approve hiring of non-ordained staff
- Approve NCD budgets
- Provide general oversight for all NCD and task forces
- Provide a coach for the NCDC and established NCD's as required or needed.

The Task Force mentioned above will:

- Consist of seven to nine members of which at least two are representatives of the NCDC and the remainder are members of the worshipping community. The organizing pastor or evangelist will serve as an *ex officio* member without vote.
- Operate under the authority of the NCDC
- Meet on a regular schedule
- Provide leadership until the NCD becomes chartered
- Develop ministry plans for the NCD
- Provide monthly reports of attendance, finances, and mission to the NCDC
- Initiate grant applications to synod, GA, and other sources of support
- Provide prayer support and spiritual leadership for the NCD
- Work with the organizing pastor or evangelist to recommend hiring of non-ordained staff
- With the pastor, provide for the evaluation of the staff
- Recommend observances of sacraments to the NCDC
- Submit an annual budget proposal to the NCDC
- Develop a mission statement for the NCD
- With the pastor, administer the budget approved by the NCDC
- Recommend an appropriate time for chartering
- Develop and implement a plan for visibility and marketing
- Offer leadership development opportunities for the NCD

The new congregation will:

- Become self-sustaining and effective in mission within two to five years of holding worship services
- Serve the community through evangelism and service
- Reach out to the unchurched and invite them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Making at least 100 contacts with unchurched people per week
- Appoint a treasurer
- Initiate grant applications after the Task Force has been disbanded
- Submit an annual budget proposal and monthly reports of attendance, finances, and mission to the NCDC after the Task Force has been disbanded
- Provide vibrant worship services
- Offer a disciple-making process that includes Bible study, prayer, Christian community, and stewardship
- Offer Christian education opportunities for adults, children and youth
- Contribute at least 10% of its budget to mission through Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery
- Participate in a stewardship program emphasizing tithing
- Evaluate and revise the church's mission every three years
- Consist of members who are actively involved in ministry
- Consist of members who develop personal relationships with Jesus Christ

The NCD organizing pastor will:

- Attend a NCD Pastor/Spouse Retreat at least once in the first two years of service
- Attend at least one training event per year
- Take appropriate responsibility for worship leadership (W-1.4005)
- Administer sacraments as authorized by the NCDC

- Meet with the task force as an *ex officio* member without vote
- Provide pastoral oversight as prescribed by the *Book of Order*
- Provide entrepreneurial leadership
- Cultivate excellence in leadership, membership, stewardship, and discipleship

_____ Signature of Organizing Pastor	_____ Date
_____ Signature of Task Force Chair	_____ Date
_____ Signature of NCD Commission Representative	_____ Date

### **Document Three – NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

Each New Church Development is different. The activities are not listed in any particular order within each phase. This is meant to be a strategy to provide guidelines rather than a recipe for new church development.

#### **Phase I – NCD Commission**

Explore demographics of region  
Meet with pastors of neighborhood churches  
Consult with Congregational Nurture Committee  
Conclude that NCD is appropriate for the area

#### **Phase II – NCD Commission and Task Force**

Organize prayer team  
Identify and meet with possible partner churches  
Create a task force  
Establish a covenant and year one benchmarks  
Continue to explore community demographics  
Call organizing pastor or evangelist

#### **Phase III – Organizing Pastor, Task Force, and Commission**

Adopt a mission statement and set specific goals based on the mission statement  
Begin small group Bible study  
Hold regular Task Force meetings  
Hold small group worship services  
Create a strategy for person-to-person evangelism  
Hire additional staff  
Secure temporary meeting and office space  
Meet with community and government developmental agencies to plan outreach strategy  
Begin Christian education and discipleship ministries

#### **Phase IV – Organizing Pastor, Task Force, Congregation, and Commission**

Plan a grand opening with all elements of “church” in place  
Worship weekly  
Create a stewardship ministry, which includes tithing  
Continue to reach out to the community with evangelism and service efforts

#### **Phase V – Congregation, Pastor, and Commission**

Charter the church  
Elect a session  
Evaluate and set new benchmarks  
Seek a permanent worship space

### **Document Four – NCD CORE VALUES & YEAR ONE BENCHMARKS**

#### **Core Values**

In order to carry out its vision, each new church development will hold the following core values:

- New church development has as its chief purpose the development of new disciples of Christ
- A new church development offers a ministry that is shaped to reach a particular community

- A new church development offers vibrant, culturally relevant worship experiences
- The number of participants in church ministries continues to grow each year
- Both the pastor and the congregation are actively engaged in ministry within the community
- The congregation provides a variety of opportunities for discipleship and leadership development

### **Benchmarks**

By the end of its first full year of offering worship services, a new church development will show the following:

- A clear statement of mission, vision, and core values
- A specified target community with a rationale
- An overall ministry plan which includes strategy, short-term goals, accountability and time line
- An organizational structure including an operative task force, financial procedures, effective ministry teams and staff
- A disciple-making strategy that includes Bible study, prayer, Christian community, and stewardship, with target dates for implementation
- An evangelism strategy conducted by pastor and members which includes making at least 100 contacts with prospective new members per week, using a variety of methods
- At least 100 people in worship attendance
- At least 75% of members participating in ministry through use of their time and talent
- The majority of new members coming into the church through baptism, affirmation of faith, or reaffirmation of faith
- A visibility strategy
- A stewardship program emphasizing tithing
- Participants supporting 25% of the church's budget
- 10% of the congregational giving toward the operating budget directed toward mission. Of this, 50% will be directed to Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery Shared Benevolence.
- New benchmarks for year two

### **Document Five – NEW CHURCH PASTOR IDENTIFICATION AND PLACEMENT STRATEGY**

1. NCD Commission will identify type of leadership needed for the new church development, i.e. evangelist, organizing pastor, pastoral team, etc.
2. NCD Commission will write a position description for each leadership position.
3. NCD Commission will inform the Committee on Ministry of its intention to begin a search.
4. NCD Commission will appoint a pastor nominating committee consisting of two members of the NCD Commission and two or more members of the task force for the particular new church development. A member of the commission will chair the committee.
5. The pastor nominating committee will advertise the position using suitable journals and websites as well as sending letters to the churches of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery and to the Executive Presbyters of all presbyteries and by word of mouth at New Church Development and Redevelopment conferences.
6. Pastor nominating committee will receive Personal Information Forms (PIFs) and dossiers of interested candidates and identify candidates who will be interviewed.
7. Pastor nominating committee will interview viable candidates for each position using Committee on Ministry Manual for calling leadership.
8. Up to three final candidates will be interviewed by pastor nominating committee.
9. The pastor nominating committee will make a recommendation to the NCD Commission.
10. NCD Staff member will do background checks on up to three final candidates.
11. The NCD Commission will notify the COM of the names of the final candidates.
12. The NCD Commission will make a recommendation for person(s) to fill the pastoral leadership position of the new church development to presbytery through the COM.

### **Document Six – NCD TASK FORCE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COMMISSION MEMBERS**

Members of the NCD Commission on individual area Task Forces

1. Will be the primary representatives of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery on the Task Force
2. Will attend all Task Force meetings as voting members

3. Will attend worship services and other programs of the NCD when possible (Presbytery staff cover the pulpit responsibilities of pastor members twice a year if needed.)
4. Will stay up-to-date on NCD strategy through attending training events and reading relevant articles
5. Will take an active role in developing NCD strategies that reflect current NCD principles
6. Will pray daily for the NCD
7. Will report to the NCD Commission at each commission meeting
8. Will assure that the NCD provides monthly financial, attendance, and mission reports to the commission

**Document Seven – NCD TASK FORCE GUIDELINES FOR CHARTERING**

1. Congregation has been worshipping weekly for at least one year.
2. Average attendance of at least 100 for three months or more.
3. Organizing pastor has been in place for at least six months.
4. Leadership and church governance training for potential elders has taken place.
5. Congregation supports at least 75% of operating budget.
6. Task Force meets regularly and, with the pastor, effectively provides spiritual, financial, and strategic leadership for the congregation.
7. Vision, mission and core values have been developed and effectively communicated to congregation.
8. Church membership qualifications and processes have been developed.
9. Church holds appropriate liability insurance.
10. Financial procedures are in place and operating effectively with appropriate accountability and ownership.
11. Pastor has received ethical training by the presbytery.
12. Ten per cent (10%) of congregational giving is directed to mission.
13. Congregation is incorporated as a non-profit organization if provided by state law.
14. An Employer Identification Number/Tax Identification Number has been applied for and received.
15. NCD shows evidence of consistently setting and reaching benchmarks.
16. Bylaws have been approved by the Task Force.
17. PIN number has been obtained from Presbyterian Church (USA).

-end of NCD Material-

**PRESBYTERY COUNCIL REPORT.**

**Items for Action** (not on consent agenda)

**1. Nominations for Nominating Committee.** Council **nominated** four persons to the presbytery's Nominating Committee: There were no nominations from the floor for these positions, and they were then **elected**.

**Items for Information:**

The Council, acting on behalf of the presbytery, voted to create an Administrative Commission to dissolve the United Presbyterian Church of Rayland, Ohio (also known as the Rayland Presbyterian Church). The Commission is to be composed of seven members to be named by the presbytery's moderator, general presbyter, and stated clerk.

**Administrative Commission  
To Dissolve the  
United Presbyterian Church of Rayland, Ohio**

The Presbytery Council, on behalf of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery, and acting on the request of the session of the United Presbyterian Church of Rayland, Ohio, (also known as the Rayland Presbyterian Church), creates on this day, November 3, 2009, an Administrative Commission to dissolve that congregation effective December 31, 2009, in consultation with the congregation's members (G -11.0103i).

The Administrative Commission shall have the powers as described below. If the Commission believes that additional authority is needed to complete its work, it shall request that authority from the presbytery.

The Administrative Commission shall have the authority and power to:

1. Assist the session to wind up the affairs of the congregation, to transfer remaining members to other

congregations, plan a closing worship service, and give thanks to God for the congregation's 140 years of ministry (1869-2009). Effective today, November 3, 2009, the session of the United Presbyterian Church of Rayland may make day-to-day decisions in accordance with its general practices, but decisions or actions addressed in this document shall be made in coordination with this Administrative Commission;

2. Arrange for disposition or transfer of financial assets, real and personal property, as described in paragraphs 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10 below, but no actual transfer or disposition shall occur until after the presbytery's Stewardship Committee (the presbytery's board of trustees) shall vote to concur, except that day-to-day expenses may be paid without concurrence from the Stewardship Committee;
3. Receive the session records (books of minutes, rolls of the congregation, bank records and other financial records, trustee records, etc.) at the time of dissolution, and at the conclusion of the Commission's work to forward them to the Stated Clerk of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery, who will forward them to the Presbyterian Historical Society;
4. Take jurisdiction over any remaining members when the congregation is dissolved and to grant them certificates of transfer to other congregations (G-10.0302b (2)). Members not transferred to other congregations within one year from the dissolution of the congregation will be removed from the roll;
5. Take possession of all real and personal property, financial accounts and records, inventories of equipment, and arrange for transfer of title to Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery of all accounts and real property known to be in the possession of the United Presbyterian Church of Rayland. Under the Church Constitution (*Book of Order*), Form of Government, Chapter VIII, Section 2 and Section 4 (G-8.0200, and G-8.0400) all property of the United Presbyterian Church of Rayland is held in trust for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.);
6. Arrange for payment of any prior outstanding bills or commitments made by the session or congregation, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 above;
7. To arrange for the disposition of the personal property of the United Presbyterian Church of Rayland in accordance with paragraph 2 above, or arrange for its retention and storage for future use at the direction of the presbytery. The Commission shall consult with the session in making these decisions, especially in regard to requests the congregation may have relating to the disposition of equipment, memorials, and other property. Furnishings or other similar items may be given to members or friends of the congregation or to historical societies, which are to receive such items as gifts. Remaining items may be given away or sold at the discretion of the Commission, after it receives approval as described in paragraph 2 above;
8. Coordinate with the Stewardship Committee of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery to assert the claim of the presbytery to any property of the United Presbyterian Church of Rayland not known at this time, or property which may come to the United Presbyterian Church of Rayland as the beneficiary of a will or trust not known at this time;
9. Arrange (including receiving the prior approval as described in paragraph 2 above) to sell at fair market value all properties received from the congregation excepting those furnishings or other similar items already distributed by the Commission and session (see paragraph 7 above). Proceeds from the sale of real and personal property shall be placed in the presbytery's New Church Development Fund;
10. In coordination with the presbytery's Stewardship Committee, execute or approve for execution any and all deeds or other papers necessary to conclude the dissolution of the congregation;
11. Maintain adequate insurance on any of the congregation's property until it is sold or disposed of, either through the congregation's insurance carrier, or that of the presbytery.

Pertinent Sections of the *Book of Order*:  
 Property of a congregation - G-8.0401  
 Members: G-10.0302b (2)  
 Dissolving a congregation - G-11.0103i

-end of Administrative Commission-

## Summary of the Stated Council Meeting of September 1, 2009

### Assoc. General Presbyter's Report.

**1. Congregational Transformation.** Several congregations are already involved in transformation programs, and several are still considering it. There will be an all-day retreat on September 12<sup>th</sup> for the Bridgeport, Kirkwood, and Neffs, Coalbrook congregations. The Associate GP is working up a process congregations can use to increase their overall health. One session already wants to use the process, and two others are considering it.

**2. New Church Development.** The Associate GP distributed New Church Development (NCD) material he would like the presbytery to adopt. After discussion, it was **moved, seconded and passed**, that the material be introduced at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting for information only, and again at the November 17, 2009, presbytery meeting for action. At the meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, presbyters will be asked to contact the current NCD Task Force with questions about the proposal prior to the meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Those questions and new ones from the floor will be entertained when the proposal is discussed. There is some urgency on this matter, because the General Assembly has a March 1, 2010, deadline for NCD funding applications. There are two parts to this proposal, a motion to create an Administrative Commission for NCD, and a manual to direct the NCD process. See the presbytery minutes of September 22, 2009, or November 17, 2009, for the text.

**3. NCD Training.** Five people from the presbytery will be attending a NCD training workshop September 21-24, 2009.

**Stated Clerk's Report.** The Morristown Presbyterian Church will hold its final worship service on Sunday, September 6, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. A final report of the Administrative Commission to dissolve the congregation will be made no earlier than the November 17, 2009, presbytery meeting.

**Treasurer's Report.** After a time for questions, the treasurer's report was filed for annual review.

**Christian Educator's Report.** The Christian Educator reported that she is part of a new Bible study program that the pastor has started at Bellaire, Rock Hill. She is also going to meet with the Christian Education Committee of the New Cumberland, First congregation on September 3, 2009.

**Congregational Nurture Committee Report.** Several VitaMin grants have been made recently, and there is probably only \$500 or less available in the grant fund.

**Congregational Stewardship Education Task Force Report.** A Task Force meeting with the Shady-side, First session has been rescheduled for a later date. However, two Task Force members will meet with the Wheeling, Vance Memorial session in October.

**Evangelism Committee Report.** The Committee has seminars scheduled for September 8 (Shadyside, First), September 10 (Wellsville, Covenant), September 14 (St. Clairsville, Calvary), and with Newell, First at a date to be determined. These scheduled seminars are at 6:00 p.m.

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report.** There are Candidates "under care" at this time, one almost ready to become an Inquirer, and another in the process of getting a session endorsement to become an Inquirer. There is also one pastor working through the transition process to become a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

**Committee on Ministry Report.** The Lay Ministry Committee is planning a celebration at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> presbytery meeting to honor the 25th anniversary of the Commissioned Lay Pastor program.

**Mission Outreach Committee Report.** The Committee is scheduling a 2010 mission trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

**Nominating Committee Report.** The Committee is gearing up for committee nominations for 2010 and for election of General Assembly commissioners for 2010.

**Stewardship Committee Report.** On behalf of the Committee, the General Presbyter presented the proposed 2010 budget. The proposed budget generally reflects the requests from committees, including the Stewardship Committee's proposed 3% staff salary increase. One change is that there is no proposed transfer from Managed Assets. Rather, the full amount needed is shown in the Missions Income line, as a better way to show the amount needed from congregations to balance the budget. After discussion it was

**moved, seconded and passed**, that the budget as proposed be presented at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> presbytery meeting for a vote. Per capita remains at \$25. It was **moved, seconded and passed**, that one of the Council members be selected to make the budget presentation at the presbytery meeting on September 22, 2009.

**Schedule for Next Council Meeting.** The date of the next Council meeting was discussed, on account of both the General Presbyter and Stated Clerk scheduled to be at the Fall Polity Conference in Minneapolis, MN, the first week of October. It was **moved, seconded and passed**, that the October Council meeting be held on Tuesday, September 29, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. at the presbytery office.

### Summary of the Stated Council Meeting of September 29, 2009

**General Presbyter's Report.** Council members were reminded to check their email at least each week for announcements, etc., from the presbytery office. The news, announcements, etc., that are in the weekly "Happening Around the Presbytery" email are usually sent on Wednesdays. The General Presbyter also thanked the Bridgeport, Kirkwood and Neffs, Coalbrook congregations for the gracious way they hosted the September 22<sup>nd</sup> presbytery meeting.

#### Associate General Presbyter's Report.

**1. Leadership Retreats.** The Associate GP reported on leadership retreats he has led for the Bridgeport, Kirkwood and Neffs, Coalbrook sessions and the upcoming retreat with the Follansbee, Follansbee session.

**2. New Church Development.** The NCD team is about two-thirds of the way through their process. The NCD team recently attended a conference in Virginia, which affirmed the work they have done. Kline also recommended the NCD material for any existing congregation, because of its helpful content.

#### Stated Clerk's Report.

**1. Comments on the presbytery meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.** Remarks included: the presentation on the budget was entertaining, but not sure if people understood that the presbytery is asking for the doubling of giving in 2010; several commented on the worship service, especially the music.

**2. Nominations for Nominating Committee.** It was **moved, seconded and approved**, that two persons be elected as the committee to nominate a chairperson and committee members for the Presbytery's Nominating Committee, Class of 2012. This sub-committee is to report back at the Council meeting on November 3, 2009.

**3. Synod Networks Presentation.** The Synod of the Trinity Network Team has asked to make a presentation at either the November presbytery meeting, or a Council meeting. Council asked that the presentation be made at a Council meeting in November or December.

**Treasurer's Report.** After a time for questions, the treasurer's report was filed for annual review.

#### Christian Educator's Report.

**1. Teacher Training Workshop.** The Christian Educator attended the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Teachers' Workshop at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary on September 26, 2009. Other participants from Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery were four persons from the Wellsville, Covenant congregation.

**2. Evangelism Retreat.** The Christian Educator reported that she will be one of the leaders at the Annual Autumn Evangelism Retreat on October 9 and 10 at Oglebay Park, being hosted by the Steubenville, Starkdale congregation.

**3. Presbyterian Women Fall Workshop.** Also included in the report were comments on the PW Fall Workshop held at the Wintersville, Two Ridges church earlier in the day. The Christian Educator reported on conversations regarding about how hard it is to bring in new members, especially children and young people: "We invite them but they won't come." Someone added comments about how parents or teachers are ready to get down to the level of children to teach them when they are small, but asked the rhetorical question: "When did we become unwilling to get down to their level?"

**Bills and Overtures Committee Report.** The committee chair said he is gathering information on overtures already submitted for the 2010 General Assembly, before he calls a Committee meeting to consider how to proceed on the overture the presbytery adopted on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Evangelism Committee Report.**

**1. September Visits with Sessions.** Evangelism Committee visits made in September: Shadyside, First (September 8); Wellsville, Covenant (September 10); and St. Clairsville, Calvary (September 14).

**2. Future Visits with Sessions.** The Committee is planning the following presentations: Wellsville, Yellow Creek (October 18); Moundsville, Limestone (October 25); Church Officers' Training Workshop (October 31); Chester, Westminster (November 1); Martins Ferry, Grace (to be determined); and Wellsburg, First (to be determined).

**3. Evangelism Retreat.** The Annual Autumn Evangelism Retreat, sponsored by the Steubenville, Starkdale church, will take place October 9-10 at Oglebay Park in Wheeling, W. Va.

**Mission Outreach Committee Report.** The Committee chair introduced two guests, who were formerly PC(USA) missionaries in Africa. One talked about how Presbyterians feel good about the denomination's international mission work once they hear the stories about it. Being engaged in world mission helps congregations look upward and outward. He said that it is helpful when a congregation selects one missionary and prays for them, corresponds with them, supports them. In this way people here can come to see the world through the eyes of the missionaries. The other guests added a word of thanks to the presbytery and congregations for their support for world mission. She suggested using the PC(USA) web page as a way to find out more about our world mission. She also thanked the committee chair for being their host while here, and two others for letting them stay at Seeds of Hope Farm in Mt. Pleasant, Ohio, during their visit. They leave our presbytery on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Presbyterian Women's Report.** The PW Fall Workshop for the north end of the presbytery was held earlier in the day at the Wintersville, Two Ridges church. The Fall Workshop for the south end of the presbytery will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2009, at Moundsville, First.

**Training and Development Committee Report.** Church Officer Training is scheduled for October 31, 2009, at the Martins Ferry, Grace church. Also, a new class for Commissioned Lay Pastors started in September, although one instructor has been unable to teach his classes because of his health. However, starting on October 5<sup>th</sup>, the classes will meet at the Colerain, Colerain church so the person can teach. The Committee is looking for nominations for the Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) position for the 2010 General Assembly meeting next summer in Minneapolis, Minn. The Committee will also be promoting the Youth Triennium in 2010.

**Worship Committee Report.** It was suggested by several Council members that the Worship Committee be in contact with churches hosting presbytery meetings well in advance of the meeting, regarding whether or not local musicians will be asked to take part in the presbytery worship.

**Other Business.**

**1. Board of Pensions Representative.** It was pointed out how important it is for church treasurers to stay current on payment of Benefits Plan Dues to the Board of Pensions.

**2. Bus Driver.** It was reported that Laughlin Memorial Chapel is in need of a bus driver with a commercial driver's license for passenger vehicles. Several names were suggested.

**3. Camp and Youth Task Force.** The presbytery's Christian Educator reported on a meeting she attended September 19, 2009, with the Board of Directors of Camp Presmont. She said the meeting was helpful, although she was the only member of the Task Force to attend. She said the Board was willing to listen to concerns from the presbytery, wants to maintain a relationship with the presbytery, and possibly make some accommodations to their organizational structure. But she asked the Council, "What does the presbytery want to do regarding its association with Camp Presmont? Will we put our money and time and love where our mouth is?" One person commented that he believes Camp Presmont is financial sound, but does need campers and volunteers from the congregations in the presbytery; the camp needs support and access to the people within the presbytery.

-end of Council Report-

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE.**

**1. Nominations** for commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegate for the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2010)

**Nominees for Minister Commissioner (two positions):** four persons were nominated.

**Nominee for Elder Commissioner (two positions):** one person was nominated.

**Nominee for Young Adult Advisory Delegate (one position):** one person was nominated.

Because only one elder had submitted the required nomination form, it was **move, and seconded**, that the bylaws be suspended in order to make a nomination from the floor for the position. This motion was **passed by a standing count of 64 yes and 9 no votes**. Then an elder was nominated as Elder Commissioner. There were no other nominations. It was requested that the elder answer the same five questions orally as those who had submitted them in advance, and the request was approved.

Each nominee was then given a chance to make a statement to the presbytery, and a time for questions from the presbyters was provided (no questions were asked).

Voting was conducted by ballot. Two Minister Commissioners were elected and the other two became Alternate Minister Commissioners Two Elder Commissioners were elected. No alternates for elder commissioner were elected. One Young Adult Advisory Delegate was elected.

**2. Elections for Presbytery Officers and Committee Chairs and Members.** A slate of officers and members of the various committees of presbytery was presented. The Nominating Committee **moved** that those so nominated be elected. There were still openings on some committees. No nominations were made from the floor. The nominees were then **elected**.

**COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY REPORT.** The chair of the Committee presented one person from the Newell, First Presbyterian Church to be **approved** as an Inquirer under the Care of Presbytery. It was **moved, seconded and passed** that the person be enrolled as an Inquirer in preparation for ordination as Minister of Word and Sacrament. Currently, he is enrolled at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary as a part-time student. The Committee has met with and approves him in all respects of the process. The CPM chair closed this portion of the meeting with prayer for the Inquirer.

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT.****Items for Action (consent agenda):**

**1. Member at Large.** The Committee on Ministry **moved** that one pastor be classified as a Member at Large of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery effective July 1, 2009.

**Items for Action (not on consent agenda):**

**1.** It was **moved, seconded and passed**, that Presbytery grant the requests of the Piney Fork Presbyterian Church and the Jewett Presbyterian Church, that these congregations be granted a three-year waiver on the limitations on re-election of elders after six years. This waiver is allowed in G-14.0226 c. of the *Book of Order*, for a congregation in which it is impossible, because of limited membership, to provide for the rotation of terms of office. The Piney Fork congregation reported 27 members and the Jewett Congregation reported 11 members at the end of 2008.

**2. Lay Pastor Commissioning.** Two elders were presented for commissioning as Lay Pastors. The Vice-Moderator of Presbytery led the service for commissioning and asked the Constitutional questions of each elder. Both answered the questions in the affirmative.

**Items for Information:**

**1. Task Force on Pastoral Leadership.** The Task Force will report to the Committee on Ministry regarding ways the presbytery can meet future needs for pastoral leadership while experiencing declining membership and finances.

**2. Board of Pensions.** One of the COM members is the presbytery's new local Board of Pensions representative.

**3. New Matamoras, First.** The Committee has approved the resignation of the temporary supply pastor at New Matamoras, First, effective December 31, 2009.

**4. Wintersville, Two Ridges.** The Committee reports it has approved the stated supply covenant between the session of the Wintersville, Two Ridges congregation and the pastor, effective October 1, 2009, for one year.

**5. Mingo Junction, First.** The Committee has approved the covenant between the Mingo Junction, First session and an elder, effective October 1, 2009, for one year. The elder was examined by presbytery on June 26, 2007, and approved for commissioning. This is a part-time position, as he will also be serving as part-time pulpit supply at the Bloomingdale, Bloomingdale congregation, and continue to study at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

This is a standard three-year commission. The specific details of the commission are as follows:

Leading and preaching regular Sunday services; administering the Lord's Supper as ordered by session; responding pastorally to emergency situations such as serious sickness, injury or death, and to refer people for further care as needed; making regular visits to the members of the congregation on a plan agreed to by session and the lay pastor; conducting funerals as needed; teaching in the church as needed; counseling parents and administering the Sacrament of Baptism as ordered by session; counseling couples and performing services of Christian marriage as invited and authorized by session;

**6. Bloomingdale, Bloomingdale.** The Committee has approved the part-time covenant agreement for non-commissioned preaching, etc., between the session of the Bloomingdale, Bloomingdale congregation and an elder, effective October 4, 2009 to December 31, 2011.

**7. Powhatan Point, First.** The Committee has approved a Commissioned Lay Pastor covenant between the session of the Powhatan Point, First, congregation and an elder, effective October 4, 2009, for one year.

This is a standard three-year commission. The specific details of the commission are as follows:

Leading and preaching regular Sunday services; administering the Lord's Supper as ordered by session; responding pastorally to emergency situations such as serious sickness, injury or death, and to refer people for further care as needed; making regular visits to the members of the congregation on a plan agreed to by session and the lay pastor; conducting funerals as needed; teaching in the church as needed; counseling parents and administering the Sacrament of Baptism as ordered by session; counseling couples and performing services of Christian marriage as invited and authorized by session;

-end of Committee on Ministry Report-

## **BILLS & OVERTURES COMMITTEE.**

### **Items for Action:**

**1. Authoritative Interpretation.** The Bills and Overtures Committee **moved** the adoption of the following resolution and its submission to the 219th General Assembly (2010): **The motion passed.**

The Presbytery of the Upper Ohio Valley concurs with Overture 001 as presented by the Presbytery of San Diego, which reads as follows:

*The Presbytery of San Diego overtures the 219th General Assembly (2010) to issue an authoritative interpretation of G-6.0106 as follows: "Restoring to full force and effect the interpretive statements concerning ordained service of homosexual church members by the 190th General Assembly (1978) of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and the 191st General Assembly (1979) of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and all subsequent affirmations including the Bush v. Pittsburgh Presbytery (218-10) General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission decision."*

Further, the Presbytery of the Upper Ohio Valley concurs with the rationale for this overture added by the Presbytery of Yukon:

*Declaring the authoritative interpretation (AI) of 1978 and 1979 to have "no further force or effect" leaves the church without a clear response to the question of whether ordination of self-affirming, practicing homosexual persons remains "an act in contradiction to its charter and calling in Scripture"*

*and "to the will of Christ," as the wording of the AIs say. While both the Old and New Testaments speak clearly on the matter, and the PC(USA) Constitution in Part I speaks explicitly to this matter, the authoritative interpretation has been of great benefit and guidance to the church's life and witness.*

*Further, the authoritative interpretation addresses many helpful aspects of the church's relationship with persons in homosexual relationships, correctly advising Christians to love and care for their brothers and sisters and giving explicit authoritative counsel on the church's proper pastoral role. The church is poorer for the removal of that guidance.*

**For information:**

The Committee recommends that Presbytery vote YES on concurring with the San Diego overture and the Yukon rationale because they most closely reflect the original wording (and therefore, intent) of the overtures submitted by the sessions of the Wellsburg, First and St. Clairsville, Calvary churches, and the combined overture approved by Presbytery at its September 22 meeting.

**2. Day of Prayer for Healing.** The Bills and Overtures Committee **moved** the adoption of the following overture and its submission for consideration by the 219th General Assembly (2010): The **motion passed**.

Whereas, more than half a million Americans die every year of cancer;

Whereas the World Health Organization predicts, "Cancer rates could further increase by 50% to 15 million new cases in the year 2020, according to the *World Cancer Report*, the most comprehensive global examination of the disease to date;"

Whereas, Jesus healed the sick and called upon his church to pray for healing;

Whereas, the Revelation to John promises an end to suffering, dying and grief as a sign of God's ultimate victory;

Therefore, it is resolved that May 1<sup>st</sup> be set aside every year as a day of prayer for healing. Local churches and communities are encouraged to gather together and offer prayer for the discovery of ever more effective means of treatment. These gatherings may be an occasion to give thanks for the lives of saints who have died; prayers for healing for those who are currently receiving treatment; as well as prayers for doctors, nurses and scientists who are seeking to bring healing and hope.

**For information:**

The Committee recommends that Presbytery vote YES on this overture. Any call to prayer by the people of God is appropriate, especially when it concerns a disease that affects almost every person in some way.

-end of Bills & Overtures report-

**MISSION OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT.** The chair of the Committee reported that the evening's offering of \$821.00 would be evenly split between the Urban Mission and the Fourth Street Health Center, both of Steubenville. Also, those who are applying for the Malawi trip in 2010 need to have their applications into the Presbytery Office by December 15, 2009. Interviews will be held on December 31<sup>st</sup> or on January 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Next summer's mission trip will be August 12-18, 2010, and will go to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. More information will be forthcoming in January, 2010.

**EVANGELISM COMMITTEE REPORT.** The chair of Presbytery Evangelism Committee reported that the committee is meeting with various churches in presbytery. Over eight churches already have engaged in conversation with this committee with five other churches in the process. Churches are given ways of encouragement, learning, exploring and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ within their communities. The Good News is there for us to share.

**INTRODUCTION OF FIRST-TIME ELDERS.** The moderator of Presbytery welcomed five elders who were attending presbytery for the first time.

**PRESBYTERY WORSHIP.** The theme of worship was "Evangelism." One of the pastors from Pittsburgh Presbytery gave the sermon on Evangelism and New Church Development, from Mark 5:1-20.

**OTHER REPORTS:** The host pastor welcomed presbyters on behalf of the Steubenville, Starkdale congregation, host congregation for this meeting. A representative of the Urban Mission gave a Minute for Mission on the Urban Mission and the Fourth Street Health Center, both of Steubenville. On behalf of Presbyterian Women, all PW groups were asked to submit their 2010 pledge forms. A word of thanks was given to the presbytery for its support of Laughlin Memorial Chapel.

**OTHER BUSINESS.**

**1. Overtures.** The following two items were received from the Weirton, Cove session via email at the presbytery office on October 27, 2009. They are being presented here as items of **Other Business** for a **first reading**, after which they will be forwarded to the Bills and Overtures Committee for their consideration, and presentation for a second reading and vote at a subsequent presbytery meeting.

**First overture:**

RECOMMENDATION

Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery respectfully overtures the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2010) to do the following:

1. Direct the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:
  - a. Under G-9.0308, change "*Per capita funds may be used by...*" to "*The congregational tithe may be used by...*"
  - b. Under G-9.0404 (d.), make the following changes:
    - i. From "...and may fund it with a *per capita apportionment among the particular churches within its bounds. The presbyteries shall be responsible for raising their own per capita funds, and for raising and timely transmission of per capita funds to their respective synods and to the General Assembly. The presbyteries may direct per capita apportionments to the sessions of the churches within their bounds.*"
    - ii. to "...and may fund it with a *congregational tithe among the particular churches within its bounds. The congregational tithe will be based on a percentage of the congregational operating budget and apportioned to the appropriate presbytery, synod, and General Assembly. The General Assembly shall be responsible for collecting the tithe from individual congregations, and for timely transmission of the funds to their respective presbyteries and synods.*"
  - c. Under G-16.0201 (p.), make the following changes:
    - i. Title – from "*Per Capita Apportionments*" to "*The Congregational Tithe.*"
    - ii. From "*Per capita apportionments or assessments shall be paid to each governing body of jurisdiction on the basis of the total active membership of the union church, equally divided among the denominations involved.*"  
To "*The congregational tithe shall be paid to the General Assembly on the basis of the percentage of the operating budget of the union church, determined by the percentage of the total congregational membership belonging to each denomination. The fund will be equally divided among the denominations involved.*"
  - d. Under G-16.0401 (j.), make the following changes:
    - i. Title – from "*Per Capita Apportionments*" to "*The Congregational Tithe.*"
    - ii. From "*Per capita apportionments or assessments shall be paid to each governing body of jurisdiction on the basis of the total active membership of the union church, equally divided among the denominations involved.*"  
To "*The congregational tithe shall be paid to the General Assembly on the basis of the percentage of the operating budget of the union church, determined by the percentage of the total congregational membership belonging to each denomination. The fund will be equally divided among the denominations involved.*"
  - e. Eliminate G-17.0200 (3)

RATIONALE

This change is appropriate for the following reasons:

1. The idea of a tithe has a solid biblical foundation (Genesis 14:18-20; Genesis 28:22; Numbers 18:11-24; Numbers 18:26; Nehemiah 13:5; Malachi 3:8-12. Hebrews 7:5); therefore, it becomes easier to explain the assessment to congregations and the membership. Congregational support for presbytery, synod, and General Assembly will no longer be viewed as a "head tax."
2. By basing the apportionment on a percentage of a congregational operating budget rather than on membership, this change encourages congregations to become better stewards of their resources. There is a financial incentive to reduce the budget, when appropriate. It also eliminates the current financial incentive to "purge the rolls." The per capita assessment encourages congregations to reduce active membership. In an age of membership decline, congregations should be encouraged to increase, not reduce, membership.
3. Since the tithe is paid directly from the congregation to the General Assembly, a congregation may more effectively register a protest directly toward denominational policy. Currently, even if a presbytery assesses the per capita to individual congregations, any withholding of funds impacts the presbytery and diminishes local mission.

### Second overture:

#### RECOMMENDATION

Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery respectfully overtures the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2010) to do the following:

1. Direct the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:
  - a. Under G-5.0101 1. "The Meaning of Membership," add a new "a." that reads as follows:
 

"It is understood that church membership is first and foremost defined by a covenant, not of human concept, but of divine making. 'You did not choose me, but I chose you' (John 15:16) All the sections below must need be viewed through this lens."
  - b. Re-letter the old a. to b., etc.

#### RATIONALE

The session of Cove Presbyterian Church believes this simple addition to the *Book of Order* represents a fundamental sea change. It tackles the toughest church governance issue of our times. But as Christa Klein of *In Trust Magazine* recently wrote, "We draw from a biblical tradition full of hard truths about human failings, commands to be faithful, and admonitions not to be afraid."

To understand the background and rationale for this overture, one may refer to an article by Edwin Chr. Van Driel's entitled, *Church and Covenant*. An excerpt from that article follows:

"In the face of growing divisions between (our) conservative and liberal wings, how should (we) think about the unity of the church? In recent years, proposed solutions to mainline crisis have invoked the idea of "covenant." For example...the members of the Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church started their work by covenanting that, amid all their differences, they would hold together in prayer, worship, reading of Scripture, and intense listening.<sup>1</sup> More prominently, in 2006 the Archbishop of Canterbury proposed a covenant for the members of the Anglican Communion in an attempt to restore unity<sup>2</sup> and trust after the ordination of Gene Robinson as bishop in New Hampshire.

"I, too, suggest the notion of covenant as the basis of the church's unity. However, unlike the covenants I mentioned above, I will interpret this covenant not as a human concept, a covenant made between church members, congregations, or, as in the case of the Anglican covenant, national churches, but of divine making....

"Given the concept of a divine covenant as the basis of the church's unity, liberals and conservatives still accepted each other as members of the same church. The church membership of the other was not to be at stake, because this membership does not rest on a human, but a divine choice, expressed in the baptism: 'You did not choose me, but I chose you' (John 15:16). If God chooses the other as a fellow member of the covenant, what right would we have to separate 'us' from 'them.'"<sup>3</sup>

As Chris Erdman states in his article in *The Presbyterian Outlook*, "We must preach the gospel to ourselves over and over again, every time despair or worry or hand wringing takes over. This is not our church, it's God's.... In Acts 5:38-39, Rabbi Gamaliel invites an assembly of agitated 'presbyters' into the relinquishment that could have opened them to the newness of God in Jesus Christ: Let it go, he said. If

this 'is of human origin, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them – in that case you may even be found fighting against God!'" 4

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Edwin Chr. Van Driel studied theology at Utrecht University (the Netherlands) and Yale University, and is assistant professor in theology at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. His *Incarnation Anyway: Arguments for Supralapsarian Christology* was published by Oxford University Press in 2008.

**Footnotes:**

1. *A Season of Discernment: The Final Report of the Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church*, as approved by the 217<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2006) (Louisville, KY: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), n.d.), 51.
2. *The Challenge and Hope of Being an Anglican Today: A Reflection for the Bishops, Clergy, and Faithful of the Anglican Communion*, a statement by Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, released by the Archbishop's office on June 27, 2006.
3. From *Church and Covenant: Theological Resources for divided Denominations*, by Edwin Chr. Van Driel, *Theology Today*, January, 2009.
4. From *How to enter the future: five practices for the Church*, in *The Presbyterian Outlook*, Vol. 191 No. 35, Oct. 19, 2009, commentary by Chris Erdman, p. 10-11.

**2. Special request.** Elder Frank Haas (Wellsburg, First) requested permission to officiate next summer at a wedding for a cousin who resides in Oklahoma. Since Oklahoma is outside the bounds of this presbytery and officiating at any wedding is outside the approved actions of a non-commissioned lay preacher, the request was referred to the Committee on Ministry for their ruling and report at the next meeting of presbytery.

-end of Other Business-

ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER 17, 2009, MEETING:

**Voting Members:**

Minister Members serving congregations	31
Members at Large	0
Retired Ministers not serving cong.'s	1
Commissioned Lay Pastors	7
Elder Commissioners	35
Officers (voting)	3
Elder members of Council	<u>3</u>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>81</b>

**Non-voting Members:**

Non-commissioned Lay Preachers	6
Corresponding Members enrolled w/voice	2
Granted Privilege of the Floor	1
Officers/Staff (non-voting)	3
Guests/Committees/Other	<u>22</u>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>334</b>

**Total Attending 114**

**56 churches were represented in attendance.**

**ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER.** At the completion of the agenda for the meeting, it was **moved, seconded and passed**, that the meeting be adjourned with prayer. At 9:10 p.m., the closing prayer was offered by the Vice Moderator of Presbytery.

**NEXT MEETING OF PRESBYTERY.** Before the closing prayer, the moderator announced that the next stated meeting of presbytery would be held on Saturday, January 23, 2010, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Chester, W. Va., beginning at 9:30 a.m.

ATTESTED: Stated Clerk and Journal Clerk