DRAFT: corrections in these minutes should be submitted in writing to the stated clerk within ten days of receipt. If no corrections are received within that period, all items shall be considered correct. These minutes are not an official record of the presbytery until approved by the body.

Maumee Valley Presbytery

Stated Meeting

First Presbyterian Church, Bryan, Ohio

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

**THE ROLL**

**Minister Members**

**Present**

Bartley, Dave, HR

Bella, Roberta

Brown, Bruce

Commeret, Jessica

Desterhaft, Janice

Emery, Thomas

Gay, Jeanne, HR

Hodsden, Sara

Holmes, Douglas

Hruaia, J H Vanlal

Kim, Jin Seung

Kling, Julie

Layraman, Tawee, HR

McClean, Alex, HR

McGormley, Dean, HR

McGormley, Ellen, HR

Meinke, Matt

Pech, Leo

Rivera-Torea, Kathryn

Schooley, Jeffrey

Short, Pamela, HR

Steensma, Thomas, HR

Tolbert, Clint

Treadway, Kathryn

Wasson, Ann

**Excused**

Aber, David, HR

Bell, George, HR

Brewer, Jr., Clair, HR

Burnett, William, HR

Butcher, Robert, HR

Chorle, Kenneth, HR

Clancy, Nan

Clendenin, Ruth Ellen

Cooper, Mark, HR

Esterly, Barbara, HR

Gallant, Melinda, HR

Good, David, HR

Hodsden, James

Hoff, Rick, HR

Johnson-Paine, Cathy

King, Cathi

Kivlin, Keith, HR

Ladd, Dennis, HR

Leckrone, Donald, HR

Lemon, Jack, HR

Merold, Steve, HR

Miller, R. James, HR

Mills, Harold, HR

Murr, Barry, HR

Myers, Alton, HR

Nutting, Cheryl, HR

Pannabecker, Donald, HR

Pitt, Gavin, HR

Remaklus, Amy

Resseguie, James, HR

Saunders, Gary, HR

Saunders, Mary, HR

Schwartz, Tom, HR

Smith, William, HR

Sweet, Barry, HR

Wessler, Kenneth

Young, David, HR

Zuehlke, Beth, HR

**Absent**

Brundage, Chris

Chandler, Doris

Metcalf, Darcy

Middleton, William

Pistoria, Tomas

Rife, Richard

Ross, Sarah

Rowland Miller, Susan

Speakman, Stephen

Stecker, Michelle

Williams, Alicia

Zuehlke, Matthew

**Ruling Elder Commissioners**

**Present**

Adrian, First, Lisa Gillin

Bowling Green, First, Anne Moser

Clyde, First, Lynda Wilbert

Fremont First, William Taylor

Maumee First, John Sluhan

Maumee First, Sherry Stiles

Montpelier West Bethesda, Janet Bostater

Montpelier, West Eagle Creek, Junior Rath

Napoleon, First, Lynn Yarnell

Ottawa, Beth Myers

Palmyra Community, Doris Van Sickle

Perrysburg First, Kathy Jarosz

Port Clinton, Firelands, Marta Vielhaber

Sandusky First, Norma Wible

Tiffin First, Ken Krieger

Toledo Eastminster, Mike Kowalec

Van Wert, First, Bill Knoll

Venedocia, Salem, Robert McCollow

Waterville First, Dave Woodward

West Unity, First, Gloria Paine

**Excused**

Bluffton, Lori Schmidt

Fremont East Side, Ann Weiler

Milan, Donald Loving

Toledo Collingwood, Mary Weil

**Absent** *(no commissioner present)*

Adrian, Cadmus

Antwerp, First United,

Britton, Raisin,

Bryan, First

Bucyrus, First

Cecil

Celina, First,

Defiance, First,

Delphos, First United

Dola

Erie, First,

Findlay, Enon Valley

Findlay, Faith

Findlay, First

Findlay First,

Fostoria, First,

Galion First,

Grand Rapids, First

Huron First,

Kenton, Trinity United

LaSalle First

Lima Faith,

Lima Market Street,

Marseilles

McComb, First

Monroe, First

Montpelier, First,

Norwalk First

Pemberville First,

Shelby First

Tecumseh

Toledo Christ

Toledo Christ

Toledo, Fairgreen,

Toledo, Hanmi Covenant

Tontogany

Upper Sandusky

Van Buren

**Others** *(Presbytery Officers, Commission Moderator Elders, Commissioned Ruling Elders, Former Ruling Elder Moderators, Certified Christian Educators, Corresponding Members*

**Present**

Armstrong, Jason, Maumee, Commission Chair

Berkheiser, Nancy CP

Bettendorf, Ed, Firelands, Commission Chair

Burnworth, Carole, Eastminster, Moderator

Jones, Rose, CP

Juhasz, Jen, CCE, Christ Presbyterian, Toledo

Myers, Chas, Former Moderator

Tolhurst, Harry, CP

Wiesmann, Lance, CP

**Excused**

Kirkconnell, Leslee, CCE, Findlay First Presbyterian

Loving, Donald, CP

Manon, Lora, CP

**Absent**

Fogle, Julie, CP

Louden-Hanes, Marie

Pennington, Mike CP

**Visitors**

Balazer, Linda, West Unity Presbyterian Church

Bella, Wes, Firelands, Port Clinton

Bruce, Matt , Synod Staff

Buda, Peg, West Bethesda Presbyterian Church

King, Belinda, MVP

Klinger Julie, West Unity Presbyterian Church

Nofziger, Shirley, West Unity

Palmer, Christine, Collingwood, Christian Educator

Pech, Sybel, First Presbyterian Church Bryan

**GETTING ORGANIZED The meeting was called to order with prayer at 10:01AM by Moderator** Elder Carole Burnworth. A quorum was declared.

Stated Clerk Dean McGormley Adoption of the Docket Dean McGormley Clerk

**ON MOTION: To approve the docket. Approved.**

**ON MOTION: To approve the Minutes of September 17, 2024, with corrections. Approved.**

Seating of Corresponding Members - none

**ON MOTION: To grant privileges of the floor, Matt Aragon Bruce, from the Synod. Approved.**

Report of the Clerk – The Clerk reported:  
1) PJC past members

R. James Miller (2022), Elder Missey Kaser (2020) Toledo, Christ, David Bartley (2018). Elder Lori Schmidt (2016) Bluffton, Elder Arthur Statler (2016) Toledo, Fairgreen

2) Presbytery minutes for last year have been submitted for approval with no response at the time of this meeting.

3) Plans to vote on proposed Amendments to the Book of Order in February (as an omnibus motion, with those to be debated removed from the motion) and May (voting on those that have been “lifted”: Book of Amendments from 226th GA: <https://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/proposed-amendments-constitution/>

4) Dean will be leading a breakout group for Retirees on Humana and other supplemental plans. Other breakout sessions were briefly announced.

5) Announcement of South African drummers at Tecumseh Church

Welcome was given from the Elder Steve Bird on behalf of FPC Bryan and host pastor Leo Pech.

Recognition of First Time Commissioners: Jan Bostater (West Bethesda) and Marta Vielhaber, Firelands, Port Clinton.

**Report of General Presbyter** (Packet 2a, 2b )

Matt Meinke gave the Land acknowledgment/historic First Peoples of Ohio: Shawnee; recognized Ordiversaries; and mentioned 2024 Volunteer of the Year Award coming later in meeting.

**Report of Synod of the Covenant**

Matt Aragon-Bruce reported regarding Synod activities, thanking Synod Commissioner Lora Manon, announcing Post-Christmas service, Scholarships for Christian leaders winners including Jonathan Hruaia from FPC Van Wert, and two from Hanmi, Seyun Grace Kim and Yaewon Nam, announced Matthew 25 grant winner of Hanmi Korean Presbyterian $5000 synod grant, and Cultivating the Gift of Preaching workshop, including Nikki Morey (Collingwood), and Peg Buda (West Bethesda), and concluded by announcing the Synod is looking for a volunteer Treasurer and a full time position.

**Report of New Worshipping Communities Commission**

Jason Armstrong gave the report of the commission, noting the work they are doing and the question that shapes the work: “To whom and where is God sending us?” Shared two examples of this. Inviting others to virtual meeting to hear stories and talk about how we can minister in different that the commission has agreed to “host” the virtual presbytery meeting in February 2025 and will draw attention to NWCs. He also reported on Hanmi’s University of Toledo college ministry and FPC Maumee’s moving forward with a discernment group for a potential NWC.

**Report of Leadership Commission**

**Ann Wasson gave the report of Leadership Commission, including the actions taken on behalf of presbytery:**

1. Appointed the Rev. Steve Merold, H.R. as Moderator of Dola Presbyterian Church effective October 28, 2024;
2. Appointed the Rev. Jessica Commeret as appointed Moderator of Van Buren Presbyterian Church effective October 28, 2024;
3. Appointed the Rev. Dave Bartley, H.R. as Moderator of Fairgreen Presbyterian Church, Toledo, OH effective November 11, 2024;
4. Appointed the Rev. Tawee Layraman, H.R. as Moderator of West Eagle Creek and West Bethesda Presbyterian Churches, effective October 28, 2024;
5. Approved the pulpit supply contract between First Presbyterian Church, Adrian MI and Ruling Elder Scott Elliott (Professor of Religious Studies at Adrian College). The contract includes leadership for Sunday worship, faith formation, and communications; at $ 600 per week, for one year. Since Scott is also an Inquirer, the Discipleship Commission will have oversight of this relationship as well.
6. Gave permission to Rev. Ruth Clendenin to labor outside the bounds of the presbytery for the installation and worship leadership for Rev. Jonathan Seitz as Associate Pastor of Liberty Barn Presbyterian Church in Scioto Valley Presbytery on November 3, 2024.

Ann also reported that everything is weird, and then highlighted the work of the Vision Team and also the FACT team, who will both be presenting a breakout session later in the day.

Comings and Goings: It was noted that Rev. Stephen Speakman is leaving the Mercy St. Vincent CPE program as their administrator; Ruth Brown, lay pastor, is retiring from Van Buren Presbyterian Church; and Rev. Elizabeth Hadler, an UMC elder from the Eastern Ohio Conference is serving Faith Presbyterian Church in Findlay, Ohio.

**The docket was amended without objection and at 10:40 the Discipleship Commission gave its report.**

Vanlal Hruria gave the report of Discipleship, noting boundary training resources and plans for in-person training next year; Follow Me curriculum survey data. Dave Bartley gave a report of the ReKindle Youth Retreat which recently happened at Kirkmont Retreat Center on November 8, 9, 10 and included 100% of Certified Christian Educators. He shared the tie-dyed t-shirts designed by Amanda Ark from BG; and highlighted the history of the Shawnee People at Kirkmont; and presented a t-shirt to the moderator. Pamela Short gave a report of the Spiritual Formation Retreat, which occurred at Lial Renewal Center on October 13, 14, 15, and invited the presbytery into new spiritual rhythms including the Try and Deny interactive time. Pamela blessed the presbytery.

Vanlal continued, inviting Clint Tolbert to announce the Attentive Church Leadership event by Jim Singleton, rescheduled to March 1, 2025. Youth Triennium is planned for July 28-31, 2025 and CCE Jen Juhasz spoke to Youth Triennium who will be this year’s Registrar. Also CRE Program resources were highlighted.

**At 11:02am, Moderator Carole Burnworth declared a recess** so presbyters could attend any of the breakout sessions with topics of supporting local congregations. Jeff Schooley leading a breakout on finance assessment tools. Katie Rivera-Torea leading a breakout on behalf of the Vision Team as Julie Kling was having car trouble.

Lunch was served at noon.

The presbytery reconvened at 1:00pm with worship and communion, with Rev Leo Pech presiding, and Rev. Doug Holmes and others preaching and singing the word with an Advent Lessons and Carols.

At 1:55, after singing Happy 80th Birthday to Tom Steensma the presbytery turned to Central Support Commission for their report.

Chas Myers, gave the report of Central Support, including an update on the Nominating slate which will be voted on later in the meeting, and the proposed amendment to the Synod Bylaws which must be ratified by the majority of the presbyteries.

**ON MOTION: Central Support Commission recommends** **to the presbytery approve the amendment to the Synod Bylaws (see attached). Approved.**

**ON MOTION: Central Support Commission recommends to presbytery the host churches/sites for 2025 as follows:**

**February 18, 2025 Virtual meeting @ 10am – NWC Commission as host and providing worship**

**May 20, 2025 FPC Van Wert @ 3pm**

**September 16, 2025 Cadmus Presbyterian Church (Adrian/Cadmus, MI) @ 3pm**

**November 18, 2025 FPC Perrysburg @ 10am**

**Approved by consensus.**

Chas called on Ed Bettendorf, who on behalf of the Trustees of the Presbytery (aka Central Support Commission), reported on the fence repairs at Hanmi Church.

Regarding the Hanmi Fence Issue:

**ON MOTION:**

**Resolved, That Hanmi Covenant Presbyterian Church (“Hanmi”) hereby agrees to enter into a**

**twenty (20) year Lease for One Dollar ($1.00) of church land on which is located an**

**approximately 2.5’ x 25’ concrete pad to Nathan Boss (2927 Densmore Avenue, Toledo, Ohio**

**43606) and his successors-in-interest, if any, as depicted on the attached 3/26/24 Lewandowski**

**Engineers Survey. The said Lease is subject to Mr. Boss’s use of the concrete pad as a parking**

**space for his vehicle(s); provided, however, that if he ceases this use, the Lease will lapse and**

**terminate, whereupon the land shall return unencumbered to the church. All other property lines**

**shown in the said Survey and otherwise filed of record at the Lucas County Recorder’s Office**

**shall remain in full force and effect throughout the Lease and beyond. Presbytery hereby authorizes The Rev. Jin-Seung Kim or his designee to execute the Lease containing the within provisions; and otherwise to take any other action necessary to conclude this matter. Presbytery further authorizes Dr. Matt Meinke or his designee to do the same.**

**Second. APPROVED.**

The Commission on Churches Concluding their Ministry was given. Ed Bettendorf, chair, noted that Erie Presbyterian Church recently had their last worship service and closed, handing the keys over to Ed Bettendorf, Trustee. He reported on the pending sale and the communities plan to use this as a community center.

**ON MOTION:**

**Resolved, That Maumee Valley Presbytery hereby approves the sale of First Presbyterian Church of Erie, Michigan (including the manse), which ceased and closed its ministry as of Sunday, November 3, 2024, for Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($225,000.00), the proceeds of which shall be allocated to the New and Redevelopment Fund; and that Central Support Trustee and CCCM Chair, Edward L. Bettendorf, and, if necessary, General Presbyter Dr. Matt Meinke, may enter into a sales agreement with duly authorized officials and/or representatives of Erie Township and otherwise take any further action necessary to effectuate the said sale.**

**SECOND. APPROVED.**

Ed Bettendorf was presented with 2024 Volunteer of the Year Award.

The September Financials were shared.

The Nominating Team of Central Support Commission gave its report.

Doug Holmes shared the nominations for 2025, which is a joint effort of Central Support and Leadership Commission.

The slate was MOVED. Nominations from the floor were taken. Hearing none, the **MOTION was made to close nominations and vote the slate by unanimous ballot. So Ordered.**

**Vice Moderator** \* Nan Clancy

**Leadership Commission Chair:** \* Doris Chandler

**Discipleship Commission** **Chair**: \* Amy Remaklus

**Mission Commission** **Chair**: \* Cathi King

**New Worshipping Communities Commission Chair** Jason Armstrong

**Commission for Churches Concluding Ministry Chair:** Ed Bettendorf

**Leadership Commission Members**

2027 \*Doris Chandler (2nd term)

2027 \*Bobbie Bella (1st term)

2027 Lance Wiesmann, Tecumseh (1st Term)

**Discipleship Commission Members**

2027 Kevin Clancy, Celina (2nd term)

2027 \*Sara Hodsden (2nd term)

**Mission Commission Members**

2027 Cindy Frownfelder, 1st Adrian (2nd term)

2027 Peggy Lobb, 1st Findlay (2nd term)

**New Worshipping Communities Commission**

2026 \*Jim Miller (1st term)

2027 \* Doug Holmes (2nd term)

***Central Support Commission Members (Nominated by Leadership Commission)***

2026 Rose Jones, BG (1st term)

2027 Russ Herman, Antwerp (1st term)

**Commission on Churches Concluding Ministry**

2027 Harry Tolhurst (2nd term)

**Permanent Judicial Commission**

2030 \*Jeanne Gay

2030 Dane Nelson, 1st Adrian

2030 \* Tawee Layraman

**Personnel Team (subcommittee of Central Support)**

2027 Rose Jones, BG

**Good News from Churches was shared**

Jeanne Gay shared that many of her books are in the back of her car, available after.

Katie Rivera Torea and Jeff Schooley about the Cocoon in Wood County, and thanked the presbytery for the mission monies that have been made available for new projects like the dog run.

Matt Meinke shared the good news of Bob Butcher doing communion training for elders

**The Report of the Mission Commission was given.**

Leo Pech gave the report, noting the Hanmi Korean Student Ministry. Jin spoke about the ministry and shared slides, thanking FPC Maumee for use of their van, and spoke to the partnership with Fairgreen as well. Mission Trip Video to Mexico was shared, celebrating the recent Maumee Valley Presbytery trip and partnership with Principe de Paz Church. He shared plans to go back in two years and invited presbyters to join.

**The Moderator led in the Installation of the new Moderator Doug Holmes, with the Vice Moderator-elect being absent due to COVID.**

**At 2:27pm, a motion to adjourn was made. Second. So ordered. Doug closed us with prayer.**

Next stated meeting of Maumee Valley Presbytery was announced: **Tuesday, February 18, 2025 on Zoom at 10am.**

Respectfully submitted, Attested,

Matt Meinke Dean McGormley

Acting Journal Clerk/General Presbyter Stated Clerk

Attachments:

1. Central Support Minutes – 10-22-2024
2. 2024 September Balance Sheet Summary
3. 2024 September Balance Sheet
4. 2024 September Income and Expense
5. 2024 September Mission and Per Capita Report