

SEVENTH STATED MEETING

OF

NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY

August 13-14, 1976

Rebecca Littlepage Church PCA, Charleston, W. Va.

Opening prayer by Moderator Charles W. McNutt

Hymn -- "To God Be The Glory"

Worship Service --

The Presbytery was led in worship by George B. Alder, II. The text for his sermon was Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20. Title: "Now Reigneth The King".

Call to Order --

The Presbytery was called to order by Moderator Charles W. McNutt.

Roll: --

Teaching Elders: Michael Bolus, John R. Dodd, W. A. Fitzhenry,
C. W. McNutt, Linwood G. Wilkes, David L. Williams

Ruling Elders:

R. W. Batusic	-	Rebecca Littlepage
James W. Eades	-	Covenant
B. W. Gallagher	-	South Ruffner, day 1
Ralph D. Harris	-	Kanawha Salines
C. A. McDaniels	-	South Ruffner, day 2
James B. Miller	-	Faith
L. M. Young, Jr.	-	Westminster

The Stated Clerk announced that a quorum was present.

Adoption of Docket --

The proposed docket was presented by the Stated Clerk and was adopted with amendments.

Host Welcome --

The Presbytery was welcomed to the Rebecca Littlepage Presbyterian Church In America by Ruling Elder R. W. Batusic.

Introduction of first-time Elders --

James W. Eades - Covenant Church
Ralph D. Harris - Kanawha Salines
R. W. Batusic - Rebecca Littlepage

Introduction of non-voting Ruling Elders and other visitors --

W. Frank Albert, Mr. and Mrs. Summers Dunbar, all from Kanawha Salines
George Stafford - Faith
John Batusic - Rebecca Littlepage
James C. Allen - Lynchburg, Virginia
James Francis Miller, Lexington, Ky.
Paul Whittington, South Ruffner
George B. Alder, II - Princeton, W.Va.

Women in the Church were recognized at this time.

Prayer Requests --

Judy Brown, missionary candidate requests prayer that her financial problem will be solved this fall concerning her school.

Mrs. Winston Brown prayer request was presented to the Presbytery.

Testimonies were then given by Church Delegates --

James W. Eades - Covenant
James B. Miller - Faith
B. W. Gallagher - South Ruffner
R. W. Batusic - Rebecca Littlepage
L. M. Young, Jr. - Westminster
Ralph D. Harris - Kanawha Salines

Testimonies by Teaching Elders --

Charles W. McNutt - Pliny (no elder present)
William Fitzhenry - South Ruffner
Linwood Wilkes - Lebanon and Little River Churches
Michael Bolus - Westminster
David Williams - Covenant
John Dodd - Kanawha Salines

Offering was taken for the work of Presbytery - \$58.22

Offering prayer by John P. Jenkins.

Appointment of Committee of Thanks --

Moderator Charles W. McNutt appointed L. M. Young, Jr. B. W. Gallagher, and John Dodd

Meeting of Committees following adjournment.

Refreshments to be served in the fellowship hall.

Adjournment --

The Presbytery adjourned at 9:00 p.m. , to meet 8:30 a.m. August 14.
Motion by David Williams which received a second. Closing prayer by Rev. Michael Bolus

The Presbytery Reconvened at 8:30 a.m., August 11, 1976.

Call to Order --

Moderator Rev. Charles McNutt

Opened with prayer by the Stated Clerk, and also a season of prayer by delegates in attendance.

Communication --

The following requests by delegates to be excused from the Presbytery were granted: Rev. William E. Hill, Jr., James Brown (Pliny)

Dismissal --

A motion by Rev. William Fitzhenry to dismiss Candidate James F. Miller to Vanguard Presbytery was seconded and passed.

Introduced at this time were: Elder Allison McDaniel, South Ruffner; Dan Toney, Faith; and Women In the Church.

Examination of Candidates for the Ministry --

Committee on Examination of Ministers and Candidates recommends that John Batusic be examined as candidate for the ministry at this time.

Rev. William Fitzhenry conducting the examination found John Batusic's credentials in order.

Experimental religion -- approved

Motives for seeking the ministry -- approved

Rev. David Williams moved that the examination be sustained as a whole, received a second and passed.

Constitutional questions asked by the Moderator.

Charge given by Moderator Charles McNutt, reading from I Timothy 4:6-7-8, Acts 4:13

Prayer by Rev. William Fitzhenry

John Batusic was received under care of Presbytery and given right hand of fellowship.

Examination of George B. Alder, II for licensure --

His transfer as a Candidate was received from Westminster Presbytery. Credentials found in order.

Reports on written parts of trial were approved and sustained.

The Presbytery instructs its Committee on Examination of Ministers and Candidates to follow the procedure for examination to licensure from B.O.C. 20-6.

Rev. William Fitzhenry conducted the examination.

1. Christian experience and testimony be sustained.
2. The examination in theology be sustained.
3. The examination in English Bible be sustained.
4. The examination in the sacraments be sustained.
5. The examination in Church Government be sustained.

A motion was made (which received a second) that the examination as a whole be sustained and that the Presbytery proceed to licensure. Motion passed.

Moderator Charles McNutt propounded questions from the B.C.O. (Book of Church Order) for licensure and closed with prayer.

Therefore, at Rebecca Littlepage Church, the 14th day of August, the Presbytery of New River, having received testimonials commending George B. Alder, II, and evidence of his being a communicant of the Church, of his good moral character, and of his having pursued suitable course of study, proceeded to submit him to the prescribed tests for licensure, which were met to the approval of the Presbytery on his satisfactorily answering the questions appointed to be put to applicants for licensure.

George B. Alder, II was licensed by the Presbytery to preach the Gospel within the bounds of this Presbytery, or wherever he in an orderly way shall be invited to preach.

He accepted the call pending ordination by Presbytery at a later meeting.

The right hand of fellowship was extended by all in attendance.

Introduction of Overtures --

Rev. Linwood Wilkes read the following overture (with amendments):

OVERTURE TO THE FOURTH STATED GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY THE
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY

Whereas, all Christian Churches have but one major job description and we call it the Great Commission, and

Whereas, many of our churches can testify that only through self-denying work in evangelism from their own door to the ends of the world, have they received great blessings.

Therefore, be it resolved that New River Presbytery overtures the General Assembly meeting in Greenville, South Carolina, to appoint a committee to study our present priorities and report its finding to the General Assembly.

And further, that the General Assembly instruct the Committee to seek a percentage base for the 1977 budget of undesignated funds, other than the

35% for World Mission, 35% for Christian Education, 20% for Missions to the United States, and 10% for Administration, proposed in the Administration Committee Report.

Whereas, we would recommend to the General Assembly the continuence of a policy which would closely approximate 40% for Missions to the World, 30% for Missions to the United States, 20% for Christian Education, and 10% for Administration.

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A motion by Rev. David L. Williams that we accept the overature as amended and present it to the Fourth General Assembly. A second to the motion by Rev. Michael Bolus. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report -- \$4,348.42

Report of Committees --

Committee on Examination of Ministers and Candidates:

Request from Candidate Donald H. Post, Jr., who is in need of financial aid for school expenses. This request will be taken care of under provisions previously set aside for Candidates in the Ministry.

Christian Education --

Rev. David L. Williams made a report on New River Presbytery Church Camp held on June 28 - July 3, 1976, at the Grace Bible Camp near Craigsville, Virginia. The camp was attended by 47 campers.

Church Camp Financial Report

June 28 - July 3, 1976

RECEIPTS:	\$1,885.00
EXPENDITURES:	<u>2,012.65</u>
ACTUAL COST TO PRESBYTERY:	127.65

Time and place of next meeting -- South Ruffner Presbyterian Church,
November 12-13, 1976

The March meeting to be held at Westminster Church, Roanoke, Virginia.

Motion by Summers Dunbar that the summer meeting be held at Kanawha Salines in 1977. William Fitzhenry seconded the motion, and passed.

Report of Committee on Thanks --

We, the members and guests of New River Presbytery wish to express our deep thanks to the Pastor, Session, members and Women of the Rebecca Littlepage P.C.A. Church for:

1. Your warm and gracious Christian hospitality.
2. Your consideration of all our needs.
3. Your marvelous provision of this meal.

L. M. Young, Jr.
Chairman

New Business --

Rev. William Fitzhenry made a request for \$300.00 (if needed) from the Presbytery to be used in his ministry on the Morris Harvey College Campus. It was moved and seconded and motion passed.

Lunch will be served after adjournment.

Adjournment 12:45 p.m. Closing prayer by Rev. Charles W. McNutt.

Respectfully submitted,

James N. Gay
James N. Gay, Stated Clerk