

MINUTES  
20th Stated Meeting  
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
November 14-15, 1980

Faith PCA

Charleston, W.V.

Opening Worship: Moderator Jerry Martin opened the worship service with the congregation singing "To God Be The Glory", prayer, and the singing of the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". Rev. Ron Parrish preached from II Peter 1:1-11, and an offering was taken for the work of Presbytery.

Call to Order: The Presbytery was called to order by the moderator. Teaching elders present were Ron Parrish, Rod Mays, Charles McNutt, William Hill, Jr., Linwood Wilkes, George Alder, and Norman Evans. Ruling elders present were Pat Jenkins (Littlepage), Forrest Rumburg (Friendship), Nigal Loomis (Kanawha Salines), Jack Simpson (Covenant), Charles Kennedy (Little River), Thomas Minter (Lebanon), Roger Burke (Faith), L.M. Young, Jr. (Westminister), and A.T. Hillman (Westminister). A quorum was declared present by the clerk.

Election of Moderator: Jerry Martin was nominated to serve a second term. Motion seconded. There were no further nominations and Mr. Martin was elected unanimously.

Welcome by Host Church: Ruling elder James Miller welcomed the Presbytery and the annual meeting of the Women in the Presbytery.

Introduction of first time elders and quests: There were no first time elders but there were a number of guests from the various churches attending the evening service. These guests were introduced to the Presbytery.

Minutes: The minutes of the 19th stated meeting were approved as written.

Docket: The docket was approved as sent to the Presbytery's representatives, with the addition of the report by the Commission of Installation for Rev. Charles McNutt to the Kanawha Salines PCA.

Stated Clerk's Report: Those asking to be excused from attending the 20th stated meeting were Rev. John Dodd and Rev. Michael Bolus.

Communications:

- (1) Letter of July 15 from the General Assembly Clerk's Office requesting updated list of Presbytery's candidates (referred to Ministers and Candidates Committee)
- (2) Letter of July 16 from the General Assembly Clerk's Office notifying us we should be electing a teaching elder to the General Assembly Nominating Committee for a 2 year term (referred to our Nominating Committee with the note that in our last meeting we elected a ruling elder to that position)
- (3) Letter from the General Assembly Clerk's Office listing the schedule for PCA Presbyterys' turns to conduct worship services during the General Assembly - New River in 1985 (mentioned for information only)

- (4) Letter of October 14 from Dr. Marion Barnes, Chancellor of Covenant College, Dr. Barnes asking to attend a future Presbytery meeting and speak to the Presbytery concerning the college (referred to Christian Education Committee)
- (5) Request from Presbytery clerk for each representative's help in compiling the 1981 "Yearbook" by turning in names, addresses, and phone numbers of Ministers, Churches, Ruling Elders, President of each WIC, and chairman of Board of Deacons. (mentioned as information only)
- (6) Presbytery's committees were reminded to turn in their budget needs for '81 tonight so the Stewardship Committee can present a total budget tomorrow. (mentioned as information only)
- (7) Following a request from the clerk, Rev. Wilkes moved that permission be given to add a second signature to the Presbytery's checking account in the event the present treasurer is unavailable to handle needed business and that our previous treasurer be asked to perform this task. Motion seconded and carried.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the clerk's report be received as a whole.

Appointment of Committee on Thanks: The moderator appointed Rev. Charles McNutt and ruling elder Nigal Loomis to the Committee on Thanks.

Testimonies from churches: A time of testimony from our various churches was begun and the following testimonies were given:

Trinity Mission Church - Rev. Parrish reported blessings including financial gifts to purchase tables and chairs, the donation of a piano, and regular visitation by the church. Special prayer need is over their struggle to be accepted in the community and the need for additional new families to give the work stability.

Little River and Lebanon: Rev. Wilkes shared Little River's spiritual refreshment in their recent meetings with Rev. William Hill. The Lebanon Church has also been blessed to see 5 of its young people come to make their profession of faith and join the church.

Friendship: Rev. Alder reported their joy in having 3 new members and noted that others were being counseled.

Kanawha Salines: Ruling Elder Nigal Loomis shared the good news that growth has begun to take place, noting that 12 new members have been received and that the attendance at services is up greatly.

Rebecca Littlepage: Ruling Elder Pat Jenkins shared that though they've lost their pastor, the church has not become discouraged. They request prayer for God's will as they have called Rev. Lee Trinkle. It was also reported that they have been establishing a Sunday School at Orchard Manor and the attendance has ranged from 5 - 50.

Covenant: Rev. Mays reported that things are going well in St. Albans. The Session has outlined the purpose and goals for the church after much study. The Huntington Bible Study continues to meet, the radio program continues, and a possible new work in Hamlin may be opening up. It was also reported that they enjoyed a good VBS program this past summer and they have recently had services at the church with the Rev. Gordon Bayliss of England.

Faith - Ruling Elder James Miller and the pastor shared the blessing of being able now to use Faith's new building upstairs and downstairs. The church has also held services recently with Dr. Jack Scott, writer for our PCA Christian Education Committee. Prayer was requested that the church may see greater growth in the year ahead.

Following the testimonies, the Presbytery recessed at 9:15 with prayer by Rev. Evans.

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Presbytery reconvened Saturday morning at 8:40. A season of prayer was held with Rev. McNutt opening and Rev. Mays closing the time of prayer.

Report of the Commission for the Installation of Charles McNutt: George Alder read the minutes of the Commission and moved they be admitted to the record. Motion carried. (see Exhibit "A")

Rev. McNutt requested to be excused from the meeting to bring the morning's devotional to the ladies in their annual meeting. Permission granted.

Report of Nominating Committee: No report was available. The clerk moved that Rev. Ron Parrish represent New River Presbytery on the General Assembly's Nominating Committee in place of Mr. Robert Kresge. (The reason for this is listed under the clerk's report, #2.) Motion seconded and carried.

A motion was made by Mr. J.P. Jenkins that the moderator appoint a convenor in each committee as the new committee takes over in the fall meeting of Presbytery. Motion seconded and carried.

A motion was made by Rev. Mays that Presbytery recess for 15 minutes and committees meet and bring back their budget needs to the Stewardship Committee. Motion seconded and carried.

Report of the Stewardship Committee: Following the brief recess, Ruling Elder William Pascavis gave the Stewardship Committee report. The committee moved the following budget be approved for the Presbytery's work in 1981:

Mission to US	\$ 5,600
Mission to World	700
Christian Education	300
Ministers & Candidates	800
Stated Clerk's Office	250
Nominating Committee	150
Stewardship Committee	150
	<u>\$ 7,950</u>

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rev. Mays that the Stewardship Committee determine what a per capita asking would be for this budget and report it back to this meeting of Presbytery. Motion seconded and carried.

Report of the Ministers and Candidates Committee: The report was made by Rev. Parrish. First, a letter from Chaplain Wayne Good was read to the Presbytery. Second, the report of the General Assembly's Judicial Commission to adjudicate the case of Rod Mays vs. New River Presbytery was read. And third, it was noted that since the past chairman of the Committee was absent and it would not be possible to give an updated list of candidates at this time, the past chairman will be contacted to forward this list to the new Committee.

A motion was made by Rev. Parrish that this report be received as information. Motion carried.

Report of the Mission to US Committee: The report was made by Rev. Mays. Several items of information were given. First, the new Committee hopes to reach out into areas within the Presbytery which have no Presbyterian and Reformed witness. Second, that word seems to indicate the Indian River mission may be dissolving due to a number of families leaving the area. Third, it was noted that the Committee has not been in contact with the Pliny Church as it was instructed to do, but will be in contact and report at the next Presbytery meeting.

A motion was made by Rev. Mays that the report be received as information. Motion carried.

Report of Mission To World Committee: There was no report made by the Committee. Mr. J.P. Jenkins and Rev. Evans briefly reported on their contact with Ruling Elder Harry Musser who was then attending the MTW Committee meeting in Atlanta. Mr. Musser had called to convey to the Presbytery that several church planting fields in foreign lands were established and the leaders of the church planting teams were in Atlanta to report to the General Assembly Committee.

Mr. Jenkins urged the Presbytery to utilize Mr. Musser's membership on the General Assembly's MTW Committee in their local missions emphasis.

Rev. Evans moved that the foregoing statements be received as information. Motion carried.

Report of the Christian Education Committee: Ruling Elder Tom Minter made the report.

A motion was made that the following ladies be approved for the offices in the Women in the Presbytery: Mrs. Helen Musser, vice president; Mrs. Lois Caines, secretary; and Mrs. Linda Evans, MTW chairman. Motion carried.

It was reported that Rev. Wilkes and Mr. Robert Kresge were asked by the Committee to look into the possibility of a summer youth rally instead of a week of camp. They will report back at the spring meeting of Presbytery. A motion to receive this as information was made by Mr. Minter. Motion carried.

A motion was made that the report be received as a whole. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The yearly report (Nov. 1, 1979 - Oct. 31, 1980) of Presbytery's income and expenditures was made. (see Exhibit "B") A motion was made by Rev. Evans this report be received as information. Motion seconded and carried.

Proposed Amendments to the Book of Church Order: A motion was made by Rev. Parrish that we take each item serriatim. Motion seconded and carried.

motion to approve item 6, vote:  
affirmative 14, negative 0                      Motion carried

motion to approve item 1, vote:  
affirmative 15, negative 0                      Motion carried

motion to approve item 2, vote:  
affirmative 15, negative 0                      Motion carried

motion to approve item 3, vote:  
affirmative 15, negative 0                      Motion carried

motion to approve item 4, vote:  
affirmative 15, negative 0 Motion carried

motion to approve item 5, vote:  
affirmative 3, negative 13 Motion fails

(see Exhibit "C")

Report on the General Assembly's Judicial Commission to adjudicate the case of Rod Mys vs. New River Presbytery: A letter from Rev. Michael Bolus (Presbytery's representative to the Commission) was read earlier. In this letter the results of the Commission's work were made known to the Presbytery.

The following motion was presented by Rev. Evans. It was seconded and carried and is written as amended. It reads:

1. "That the results of the General Assembly's Judicial Commission to adjudicate the case of Rod Mays vs. New River Presbytery have been made known to the Presbytery.
2. That it is noted the Judicial Commission did not call for further action on the part of Presbytery.
3. That Presbytery does seek to comply with the Book of Church Order, 39-1 with the following statement and thereby settle this matter: 'That our brother, Rev. Linwood Wilkes, has made known his wrong in writing letters to certain members of the South Ruffner Church, in which he spoke against the character of the pastor of that church, Rev. William Fitzhenry. He has since been disciplined by Presbytery and has written letters of apology to those he previously wrote and has written a letter of apology to Rev. Fitzhenry. He has also received a letter of acceptance of apology from Rev. Fitzhenry. We also encourage each other within the Presbytery to be more discreet in our correspondence, that we may not cause problems among the brethren and dishonor the Name of our Great King and Saviour, Jesus Christ.'"

Stewardship Committee Report: con't. The Stewardship Committee reported that the per capita asking for 1981 would be \$8.00, based on our \$7,950.00 budget for '81 and 958 communicant members in the Presbytery as of the end of 1979.

The chairman moved that the Stewardship Committee report as a whole be approved. Motion carried.

Report of Thanks Committee: (Following the lunch hour) Rev. McNutt expressed the Presbytery's thanks as follows:

The Presbytery of New River expresses deep appreciation to the session and members of Faith Church, Charleston, W.V., and especially to the Women in the Church, for the truly Christian hospitality afforded the members of Presbytery at the time of the 1980 fall meeting. The church entertained both the elders and the visiting members of the Women in the Church of New River in the spirit of hospitality found in the New Testament Church and taught everywhere in the Scripture. We were truly refreshed, and give thanks for this first to God and then to all of you.

(Signed) Nigal Loomis, Charles W. McNutt, Committee

The invitation was received and accepted to have the Spring meeting of Presbytery at the Covenant Church in St. Albans. The date will be March 13 & 14.

There being no further business, Presbytery adjourned with a season of prayer closed by Rev. Evans. The time was 12:05 P.M..

Respectfully Submitted,

*R. Norman Evans*

R. Norman Evans  
Stated Clerk

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE INSTALLATION  
OF REV. CHARLES MCNUTT AT THE KANAWHA SALINES  
PCA

The Commission was called to order prior to 7:00 pm on October 26, 1980 by Rev. Michael Bolus. John P. Jenkins opened the meeting with prayer. Rev. George Alder was asked to keep the Minutes of the Commission.

Also present on the Commission were Jerry Martin, William Pascavis, and Rev. Warren Thuston, Pastor of the Calvary PCA, Raleigh, N.C., who at one time served in the Charleston area. It was noted that Rev. Norman Evans had notified Rev. Bolus that he could not be present at the meeting.

Rev. Bolus led in prayer for the upcoming meeting and dismissed the Commission to the Sancturay.

Rev. Bolus led with the Invocation and the congregation sang the hymn "Solid Rock". William Pascavis welcomed the congregation before special music by the Kanawha Salines Choir. The congregation sang the hymn "Like a River Glorious". The Scripture text was read by Jerry Martin from the first half of John 2 and Rev. Thuston preached from the text.

Rev. Bolus stated the purpose of the meeting, gave the installation prayer, and posed the questions to both the Pastor elect and the congregation. Rev. Alder then gave a charge to the congregation of their duties and John P. Jenkins gave the charge to the congregation. "Blest Be the Tie" was sung by the congregation and the right hand of fellowship was extended to Rev. McNutt and his family. Rev. McNutt then dismissed the congregation with the Benediction.

A reception was held in the fellowship hall after the service.

The Commission reconvened after the service and was closed with prayer by William Pascavis.

Submitted by George Alder, II  
Secretary

Treasurer's Report  
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY  
November 1, 1979 - October 31, 1980

Beginning Balance 11-1-79	\$ 952.76
Income 11-1-79 thru 10-31-80 (Church Giving & Special Offerings)	5,005.80
Total	<u>5,958.56</u>
Less Expenditures 11-1-79 thru 10-31-80 (Itemized below)	3,441.80
Closing Balance as of 10-31-80	<u>\$2,516.76</u>

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NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY EXPENDITURES - 11-1-79 thru 10-31-80

Mission to US : Princeton support	\$2,308.30
Princeton, Special Offering	277.00
Stated Clerk's Office	221.99
Ministers and Candidates (for candidate)	100.00
Nominating Committee (travel)	100.00
Presbytery's Commissions	93.51
Mission to World (travel)	100.00
Christian Education Committee	0
Miscellaneous (rent of Grace camp for Fall Presbytery meeting, 1979)	<u>241.00</u>
	\$3,441.80

Presbytery Treasurer

*Norman Evans*

R. Norman Evans