

MINUTES  
21st Stated Meeting  
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
March 13-14, 1981  
7:30 p.m.

Covenant PCA

St. Albans, W.V.

Opening Worship: The Covenant Church Choir opened the worship service with the singing of "Amazing Grace". Moderator Jerry Martin led in prayer, the hymn "To God Be The Glory" was sung by the congregation, and the Covenant choir sang "Jesus Shall Reign".

Rev. Charles McNutt preached the evening's sermon from the text of Revelation 3:7-13. Communion was observed, conducted by Dr. Rod Mays and the Covenant Church Session.

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: Charles McNutt, Linwood Wilkes, Rod Mays, William Hill, Jr., Norman Evans, George Alder, III, and John Dodd.

Ruling elders present were: Summers Dunbar (Kanawha Salines), Doug Dority (Westminister), Joseph Woodfield (Westminister), Thomas Minter, Jr. (Lebanon), Charles Kennedy (Little River), James Miller, Sr. (Faith), Virgil Roberts (Covenant), and Bob Kresge (Rebecca Littlepage).

A quorum was declared present by the clerk.

Election of Moderator: Rev. Linwood Wilkes was nominated from the floor. There were no additional nominations, and Rev. Wilkes was elected by acclamation.

Welcome by Host Church: Rev. Mays welcomed the Presbytery and the Women in the Church of the Presbytery, on behalf of the Covenant Church.

Introduction of first time elders and guests: Ruling elder Joseph Woodfield and student minister Jim Meador from the Westminister Church, and Presbytery candidate John Batusic were introduced. It was noted that John Batusic is completing studies at Gordon Conwell Seminary this Spring and is seeking a call at this time.

Minutes: The minutes of the 20th Stated meeting were approved as written and previously mailed to the members of Presbytery.

Docket: The docket was approved as sent to Presbytery's representatives with one addition. Ray Scott, a member of the Covenant Church, will be permitted the privilege of the floor for a special announcement following the testimonies from the various churches.

Memorial for elders who died in 1980: There were no reports of elders deaths in 1980. RE Doug Dority reported that the Westminister Church has incurred the deaths of two of its elders since Jan. 1 of this year. Official Memorials for RE Claude Hinton and RE Guy French will be made at the close of this year.

## Stated Clerk's Report:

### 1. Communications:

1st-- Special prayer need was made known for the Jim and Mary Alice Patterson family in Colombia, South America. The Patterson's are PCA Missionaries and their home has been bombed. Jim was injured in the blast. The injury was not extremely serious, but God's guidance is needed.

2nd - Rev. Ron Parrish attended the recent meeting of the General Assembly Nominating Committee and informs us the name of RE Robert Kresge has been placed in nomination for the General Assembly's Committee on Insurance and Annuities.

3rd - The clerk requests permission to include in the minutes of the spring meeting, a copy of the Report on Presbytery's Rolls sent to the General Assembly's clerk at the first of the year. Reason: It is a good statement on the Presbytery's standing each year, and there is no other entry in our minutes giving this concise and overall information. Approved. (Appendix B)

### 2. Excuses:

Requests for excused absence from this Stated meeting were Rev. James Fishel, Rev. Ron Parrish, Rev. Wayne Good, and Rev. Michael Bolus. Motion was made and approved for excused absence for these men.

It was noted also that ministers and churches not planning to attend Presbytery should notify the clerk.

Appointment of Committee on Thanks: The moderator appointed RE Joseph Woodfield and RE Ralph Harris to the Committee on Thanks.

Appointment of Committee to examine Sessional minutes and Presbytery's Treasurer's Books: The moderator appointed Rev. George Alder, Chairman, and Ruling elders Jerry Martin, Thomas Minter, Doug Dority, Jim Jarvis, Jack Simpson, and Virgil Roberts to the Committee to examine Sessional records. The moderator appointed Rev. John Dodd and RE Summers Dunbar to audit the Treasurer's books.

### Testimonies from the Churches:

Covenant - RE Virgil Roberts reported that ministries were going well with an expanded radio ministry, Huntington mission group, number of visitors at the church, several new members, and recent services with evangelist Gordon Bayliss of England, and the Covenant College Choir.

Faith - RE James Miller reported as one continued blessing in the church, the great number of children at Faith and the recent attendance of a number of young couples. The near future will have in it a "Humanism Seminar and Film" and services with Mickey Bolus.

Kanawha Salines - RE Summers Dunbar reported good services at the church with Mickey Bolus in the last couple of weeks. There were two commitments to Christ, and just this week a reconciliation between two people who haven't spoken to each other in years.

Lebanon - RE Thomas Minter gave thanks for their pastor and his teaching in the church. The church recently had the Geneva College Choir with them and they have also made plans for special services in the spring.

Rebecca Littlepage - Bob Kresge stated the pulpit committee is diligently seeking a pastor. Their Sunday School works at Orchard Manor continuing with varying weekly success. The church is pleased to have a good and constant financial support in the church, even beyond their budget expectations.

Westminister - RE Doug Dority expessed the church's blessing from their student ministor's work. Also, plans are set for a Missions Conference in the church in April.

Following the testimonies by the churches of the Presbytery, Mr. Ray Scott was allowed opportunity to speak regarding a special matter. He reported a new organization called 'Christians Against Secular Humanism' was being established and gave information on the 'why' and 'what' of the new group. Special prayer was requested for the work of those involved in the formation and labors of the group. Anyone desiring information on humanism or this group's plans and work may contact Ray Scott through the Covenant Church.

The worship and business of the evening being now completed, a motion to recess was made and approved and the moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

-Saturday, March 14, 8:35 a.m.-

The Presbytery reconvened with a season of prayer, led by Rod Mays and Linwood Wilkes. Rev. Mays introduced Rev. Michael Hall and moved that he be seated as a visiting brother at this meeting of Presbytery. Motion seconded and carried.

The Presbytery proceeded to Committee Reports:

Committee to Examine Presbytery's Treasurers Books: John Dodd read the following statement, "The treasury books of New River Presbytery have been audited and found to be in order."

Audit Committee: John R. Dodd  
Summers Dunbar

Rev. Dodd moved this report be received and approved as read. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee: No report.

Stewardship Committee: No report. (See later in these minutes for announcement by chairman)

Ministers and Candidates Committee: Chairman George Alder reporting and making the following motions:

1. That Ray Barousse, candidate under the Westminister Session, be removed from Presbytery rolls. It was noted he has already been removed by the Westminister Church Session. Motion Carried.
2. That Rev. Lee Trinkle be dismissed to the Gulf Coast Presbytery. He has accepted the call to the Covenant PCA in Panama City, Florida. Motion carried.
3. That this report as a whole be approved. Motion carried.

Mission to the U.S. Committee: Chairman Rod Mays issued a written report under the following headings.

- I. Minutes of MUS February 17 meeting.
- II. Report on Pliny - The few people left in the church have been meeting in homes instead of the church building through the winter. They have no formal preaching service but conduct a Sunday School class study.
- III. Report on MUS Chairmen Atlanta Meeting, February 13-14.
- IV. Report on the Work in Huntington.
- V. A 10 Year Proposed Church Growth Plan for the New River Presbytery.
- VI. Recommendations, by motion.
  - A. That Presbytery give \$200 a month through the Covenant Church for the new work in Huntington, beginning in March and continuing through June. Motion carried.
  - B. That the proposed plan on church growth be received by the Presbytery for study. Motion carried. (See Appendix A)
  - C. That \$200 be made available to the Friendship Church in Princeton for advertising in that area as they see fit. Motion carried.
  - D. That this report as a whole be approved. Motion carried.

MISSION TO THE WORLD COMMITTEE: No report.

The moderator noted that several committees had not met and elected a chairman since the new committees took over in November. The moderator therefore appointed RE Harry Musser convenor for the Nominating Committee and RE John P. Jenkins convenor for the Mission to the World Committee. These men are requested to convene their committee's by phone and select a chairman and report to the Stated Clerk by April 15.

It was noted that the Stewardship Committee had a quorum present and the motion was made by George Alder that Presbytery recess for 20 minutes, with the Stewardship Committee to report back after recess. Motion carried.

Recess at 9:50 am . Presbytery reconvened at 10:10 am.

RE William Pascavis, elected chairman for the Stewardship Committee, requested that Presbytery's Committees report their budget needs to the Stewardship Committee at the July meeting. Reason - The committee needs time to formulate the budget due to be approved at the November meeting.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Chairman Linwood Wilkes reporting as follows.

1. Motion made that Presbytery sponsor a Youth Rally on Saturday, May 2 at Hawk's Nest State Park in West Virginia. The cost of the Rally will be borne by the Presbytery furnishing \$140 and the participants of the Rally charged \$6. The motion was amended by changing the Presbytery's giving to \$200 and the participants cost to \$5. Motion was approved as amended.
2. Motion was made that the Presbytery's Women in the Church budget for the coming year be approved as presented for \$300. Motion carried.

As a point of information it was stated that the Committee was still looking into the possibility of a Youth Camp in the future.

EXAMINATION OF SESSIONAL RECORDS: George Alder reported for the Committee. Motion was made that the Sessional records be approved as follows:

With neither exception nor notations - Faith & Friendship  
With only notations - Little River, Lebanon, Kanawha Salines,  
Littlepage, & Covenant.

Motion carried.

The Westminster records were not brought to the meeting. The moderator appointed Jerry Martin and Norman Evans to examine these records and report back to the next meeting of Presbytery.

Motion was made that this report be received as a whole. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer reported \$5,250.64 in the bank at this time with all bills paid. The offering last evening for Presbytery's work totaled \$66.50. This gives a total of \$5,317.14 at the present time.

Motion was made and approved to receive this report as information.

The Presbytery received and accepted the invitation from the Littlepage Church for the next Stated Meeting, July 10-11.

A motion for adjournment was entered and approved and the meeting was closed with prayer by RE Jerry Martin.

Respectfully Submitted,

*R. Norman Evans*

R. Norman Evans  
Stated Clerk

The report of the THANKS COMMITTEE was made by RE Joseph Woodfield following the lunch hour. He expressed Presbytery's thanks to the Covenant Church for their well providing and warm hospitality.

A PROPOSED TEN YEAR CHURCH GROWTH PLAN FOR THE  
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY

- I. Evaluation of present status  
Note attached 1980 statistics for New River Presbytery
- A. Most of our churches are small and are doing all they can.
- B. Not in areas to promote Mission Churches.
- II. Population trends of our Presbytery boundaries.
- A. Location of areas of strategic growth.
- B. Location of areas of dwindling population.
- C. Site selection
1. Who do you want to reach?
  2. Where are they?
  3. Accessibility and visibility.
- III. Evaluation of our growth record.  
(Note attached sheet from G.A. MUS Committee).
- A. Second worst in G.A.
- B. Note Presbyteries surrounding us.
- IV. Goals
- A. To double our churches and members over a 10 year period.  
Approx. 20 churches and 2,000 members.
- B. Start one new church a year.
- C. Possible areas of church planting
- |                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Huntington (2)        | Clarksburg - Fairmont (1) |
| Roanoke (2)           | Morgantown (1)            |
| Beckley (1)           | Parkersburg (1)           |
| Bluefield (1)         | Ashland (1)               |
| Logan (1)             | Williamson (1)            |
| Lewisburg (1)         | Martinsville (1)          |
| Stanton-Lexington (1) |                           |
- D. Sources of funds.
1. Presbytery
  2. Existing churches
  3. Tent making ministries
  4. General Assembly

- V. How to reach these goals.
  - A. Mission-Church concept
  - B. Tent-Making ministries
  - C. Possible joint-venture with Westminster Presbytery to support a church planter.
  - D. The strengthening and growth of our existing churches.
  - E. Organizing pastors
    - 1. Forming a nucleus
    - 2. Internal development
      - a. cohesiveness
      - b. leadership development
    - 3. Characteristics of an organizing pastor.
      - a. Spiritual maturity - I Tim. 3:1-7, 4:7, 8
      - b. Biblical and Theological Knowledge - II Tim. 3:16, 17, II Tim. 1:3
      - c. An understanding and supporting family - Titus 1:6 - I Tim. 3:14
      - d. Open and friendly personality - II Tim. 2:24, 25
      - e. One who perseveres - II Tim. 4:2, 5, 6
      - f. A self-starter and hard worker - Acts 20:18, 31
      - g. An evangelist - II Tim. 1:8, 22, 4:5
      - h. An organizer - I Tim. 3:1, 4, 5, Titus 1:5
      - i. Flexible person - I Cor. 9:19-23
      - j. A motivator - I Tim. 5:12-16
      - k. A communicator - I Tim. 5:12-16
      - l. Common sense





PRESBYTERY New River

3. Ministers added to Presbytery roll in 1980:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Date Ordained</u> - new ministers or former presbytery or denomination for others
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Rev. Ron Parrish

April 12, 1980

Evangel

Rev. Charles McNutt

August 16, 1980

Eastern Carolina

4. Ministers removed from Presbytery roll during 1980:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date Removed</u>	<u>Cause of Remo - l</u> - to whom if transferred
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William Fitzhenry

March 15, 1980

Dismissed - RPCES

PRESBYTERY New River

MINISTERS ON THE ROLL OF PRESBYTERY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1980:

Names in Alphabetical Order (last name first)	Work (church(s) served)	Address	Telephone
1. Alder, George B., II	Friendship	, P.O. Box 187, Princeton, WV 24740	304 425-0038
2. Bolus, Michael D.	Westminister	, 2216 Peters Creek Rd., Roanoke, Va. 24017	703-366-2665
3. Dodd, John R., OB (Ev.)	3711 Malden Dr.	, Malden, WV 25306	304-925-4559
4. Evans, R. Norman, Faith	5315 Koontz Dr.	, Charleston, WV 25313	304-776-5694
5. Fishel, James L., OB (Xian Publ.)	1857 N. Atherton St. #12,	State College, Pa. 16801	814 237-8292
6. Good, Wayne (Chap.)	Fleet Relig. Support Activity,	Atlantic Fleet, Norfolk Component,	Norfolk, Va. 23511
7. Hill, William E. Jr., HR	2401 City Point Rd.,	Hopewell, Va. 23860	804-458-6488
8. Mays, Rod S., Covenant	819 Pennsylvania Ave.	St. Albans, WV 25177	304-722-4639
9. McNutt, Charles W., Kanawha Salines	4412 Malden Dr.	, Malden, WV 25306	304-925-7016
10. Parrish, Ronald, OP	P.O. Box 3186,	Martinsville, Va. 24112	703-632-7412
11. Trinkle, E. Lee, III, FM (until 1981)	3601 Dogwood Ln.	Roanoke, Va. 24015	703-342-1234
12. Wilkes, Linwood G., Lebanon/Little River	Box 464,	Craigsville, Va.	703-997-5382
13. Williams, David L., Prof.	159 Inman Dr.	, Decatur, Ga. 30030	404-378-2013
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CHURCHES ON THE ROLL OF PRESBYTERY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1980:

(LIST CHURCHES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY TOWNS - See Statistical Report in 1978 Yearbook)

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>NAME OF CHURCH</u>	<u>ADDRESS OF CHURCH</u>	<u>CLERK OF SESSION</u>
1. Charleston, WV	Faith	5315 Koontz Dr. 25313	Jerry Martin
2.	Kanawha Salines	4412 Malden Dr. 25306	Summers Dunbar
3.	Rebecca Littlepage	2185 Sissonville Rd. 25312	J. P. Jenkins
4. Craigsville, Va.	Lebanon	Box 464 24430	
5. Goshen, Va.	Little River	24439	
6. Pliny, WV	Pliny	25158	
7. Princeton, WV	Friendship	P.O. Box 187 24740	Forrest Rumburg
8. Roanoke, Va.	Westminister	2216 Peters Creek Rd. N.W. 24017	J.R. Harrell
9. St. Albans, WV	Covenant	819 Pennsylvania Ave. 25177	Paige Melton
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MISSION CHURCHES IN BOUNDS OF PRESBYTERY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1980:

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>NAME OF MISSION CHURCH</u>	<u>CONTACT PERSON AND ADDRESS</u>
1. Martinsville, Va.	Trinity	Rev. Ron Parrish P.O. Box 3186 Martinsville, Va. 24112
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Presbytery New River

CANDIDATES UNDER CARE OF THE PRESBYTERY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
1. Ray Barrosse	
2. John Batusic	
3. James Jarvis, Jr.	(No addresses sent with the
4. Charles Coleman Miller	list of candidates given)
5. Kurt Tippey	
6.	
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8.	
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LICENTIATES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
1. NONE	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
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