

MINUTES  
23rd Stated Meeting  
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
November 13-14, 1981

Westminster PCA

Roanoke, Va.

Friday evening, 7:30 P.M.

Opening Worship: Moderator Linwood Wilkes opened the meeting with prayer and the congregation sang "All Hail the Power".

Rev. Ron Parrish, stated supply for Westminster Church, read Isaiah 55 and Rev. William E. Hill, Jr. preached from the text.

An offering was taken for the work of Presbytery which amounted to \$ 56.25.

Call to Order: The Moderator called the 23rd Stated Meeting of New River Presbytery to order and a quorum was determined present.

Present at the meeting:

Teaching Elders - C.W. McNutt, L.G. Wilkes, R.Norman Evans, George B. Alder II, Michael Hall, Chap. Wayne Good, Ron Parrish, William E. Hill, Jr.

Ruling Elders - Nigal Loomis (Kanawha Salines), F.D. Shockley Jr. and Stuart P. Jackson (Westminster), D.H. Dority (Westminster alternate), Pat Jenkins (Littlepage), J.F. Martin (Faith), J.L. Jarvis (Covenant).

Election of Moderator: Rev. Wilkes was renominated and elected by acclamation.

Welcome by Host Church: Rev. Ron Parrish welcomed the Presbytery and the ladies for their annual "Women in the Presbytery" meeting.

Introduction of 1st Time Elders and Guests: Ruling Elder Stu Jackson of the Westminster Church was introduced.

Guests introduced during the Friday and Saturday sessions were:

Mr. Otto Whittaker, author of "Watchman, Tell it True", the biography of William Hill, Jr.

Dr. David Laverell, Pastor of Christ RPCES in Roanoke

Rev. Richard Horner, Pastor of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Roanoke

Mr. Richard Williams, layman in Christ RPCES in Roanoke

Mr. Thurmond Harris, ruling elder in Indian Valley PCUS

Mr. Gene Loudermilk, deacon in the Kanawha Salines PCA of Charleston

Dr. Marion Barnes, Chancellor of Covenant College, Lookout Mtn., Tennessee

Mr. Roy Gamble, member of PCA General Assembly Sub Committee on Stewardship Ministries

Rev. Fred McFarland, Pastor of Grace RPCES in Lexington, Va.

A motion was made and carried during the Friday evening session that Dr. David Laverell be seated as a visiting brother and be given the privilege of the floor.

This same motion was made and carried Saturday morning for Rev. Richard Horner and Rev. Fred McFarland.

Approval of Previous Minutes: A motion was made and carried that the Minutes of the 22nd Stated Meeting on July 10-11, 1981 be approved as printed and previously mailed to Presbytery members and representatives.

Approval of Docket: A motion was made and carried that the docket be approved as presented to Presbytery.

Appointment of Committee on Thanks: The Moderator appointed Rev. Wayne Good and RE Nigal Loomis to this committee. They will report during the lunch hour Saturday.

Stated Clerk's Report:

1. The following ministers and church have requested to be excused from attendance at this meeting: Dr. Rod Mays, Rev. James Fishel, and the Friendship Church. The motion was made and carried that they be excused.
2. Items of Correspondence with the Clerk's office:
  - a. Amendments to BCO approved by the recent 9th General Assembly are now to be voted by Presbyteries. By general consent Presbytery will vote on these amendments at the Spring meeting.
  - b. A letter from the General Assembly Administration Committee concerning possible future "Delegated Assemblies" requesting 'advice' from Presbyteries. Referred for answer to Ministers and Candidates Committee.
  - c. A letter from the office of the Assembly Clerk giving Assembly action on the case of Mays vs. New River. Noted for information.
  - d. Letter from Assembly Clerk's office on Committee on Review and Control of Presbyteries concerning notations in New River minutes needing correction.

A motion was made and carried that this report be received as a whole.

Treasurer's Report: Brief information was given on finances of the Presbytery as follows:

Balance	1-1-81	\$ 4,281.92
Income Jan. - Sept. '81:		
Churches		3,899.00
Other		<u>1,049.43</u>
Total		\$ 9,230.35
Less Expenditures		<u>-2,326.10</u>
Balance Sept. 30		\$ 6,904.25

Total on hand November 12 with all bills paid is \$ 7,544.85.

Testimonies from Churches:

Covenant - RE Jim Jarvis reported the church is alive and well and recently held services with evangelist Gordon Bayliss of England.

Faith - RE Jerry Martin reported a number of additions in the church including adults by profession of faith. The church also continues to be blessed with the addition of infants in the congregation. It was also stated that the Session has deleted a number of folks from the roll and better than 70% of the membership is in attendance on Sunday.

Friendship - Rev. Alder reported a number of visitors in recent weeks and expressed a positive outlook for the near future. He also spoke of past problems among some of the folks that are working out now.

Kanawha Salines - RE Nigal Loomis expressed the rich spiritual blessings in the church. PEF evangelist Don Dunkerley recently conducted services at the church. The church is growing consistently.

Lebanon/Little River - Rev. Wilkes also reported many blessings in the 2 churches. There were a number of children led to the Lord in their summer VBS program and Rev. Wilkes rejoiced that his 3 sons recently professed publicly their faith in Christ. Rev. Fred Murphy held evangelistic services in recent weeks.

Pliny - Rev. Hall reported the small group is conducting Sunday School each Sunday and has Morning Worship 2 Sundays a month. An average of 5 - 12 attend and a small banquet was recently held at the church.

Littlepage - Rev. Hall stated that services had been planned with Rev. Bert Edwards, PEF evangelist, but were postponed due to a back injury to him and were being set for the spring. The junior church led by Mrs. Jenkins goes well at the church, and Rev. Hall reported 3 additions since Easter.

Westminster - Rev. Parrish reported the pulpit committee was searching for a pastor for the church. He noted also a special study among adults in the church on "How to Study the Bible".

Huntington mission - Virgil Roberts stated that the work is solid and steady and they continue to search for a pastor.

Chaplain Wayne Good - He reported he has been a sea going chaplain since 1979. His work involves much counseling to military men and expressed this is one of the great mission fields. He also expressed concern that many chaplains are not evangelical and do not offer the risen Christ as the solution to mens' needs.

A motion was made and carried that Presbytery recess. Rev. McNutt closed the meeting with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 14, 8:45 a.m.

The Moderator called the meeting to order and RE Jerry Martin led in prayer.

Dr. Marion Barnes, Chancellor of Covenant College, was introduced to the Presbytery and he spoke on the history and present status of the college at Lookout Mountain, Tennessee.

Mr. Roy Gamble, member of our Assembly Subcommittee on Stewardship Ministries, spoke to Presbytery about Assembly financial needs and planning for giving for 1982.

Voting on "joining and receiving" of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and the Reformed Presbyterian Church Evangelical Synod denominations.

The Presbytery proceeded to vote as follows:

1. On the motion "Shall the Presbyterian Church in America receive the Orthodox Presbyterian Church under its jurisdiction?"

Motion failed

Affirmative 5, Negative 9, Not Voting 0

2. On the motion "Shall the Presbyterian Church in America receive the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod under its jurisdiction?"

Motion carried

Affirmative 9, Negative 5, Not Voting 0

3. On the motions "That the Presbytery of New River approves changes affecting either its boundaries or rolls as proposed in the report of the Ad-Interim Committee as set forth on pages 1407-1415 of the Commissioner's Handbook for the Ninth General Assembly."

Note: New River boundaries are not changed (p.1408) and our vote will be to support our present boundaries.

- a. If both the OPC and the RPCES join the PCA.

Motion carried.

Affirmative 14, Negative 0, Not Voting 0

- b. If the OPC joins but the RPCES does not.

Motion carried.

Affirmative 14, Negative 0, Not Voting 0

- c. If the RPCES joins but the OPC does not.

Motion carried.

Affirmative 14, Negative 0, Not Voting 0

A motion was made and carried at 10:15 that Presbytery recess for 20 minutes. (This recess occurred between the above votes # 1 and # 2.)

Upon receiving information that the Mid Atlantic Presbytery may be requesting boundary changes that will affect us, a motion was made that the clerk send a letter to the Assembly Stated Clerk and the Clerk of Mid Atlantic Presbytery. This letter is to express our deep concern and desire that no churches in our bounds nor our boundaries be changed.

Motion carried. ( Unanimous ) by voice vote

#### Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee: RE Ralph Harris made the following motion:

That the following men be presented to the General Assembly Nominating Committee to serve, if elected, on these committees:

RE Virgil Roberts - Administration

RE S.P. Jackson - PCA Foundation

That the following men be presented if they agree to serve if elected by the Assembly:

RE James Miller - Interchurch Relations

RE Paige Melton - Christian Education

RE Harry Gardner - Stewardship

That RE Robert Kresge represent New River Presbytery on the Assembly Nominating Committee in 1982.

Motion carried.

Ministers and Candidates Committee: Rev. Ron Parrish reporting:

For information -

1. A report was given on the accreditation of Chaplain Wayne Good. Chaplain Good is endorsed by the Associated Gospel Churches and our own Presbyterian and Reformed Joint Commission is seeking to have him change his endorsement. For the record Chaplain Good expressed his reservation about giving up his billet under the AGC in that they would thereby lose this billet altogether. Chaplain Good will be corresponding with the PCA Commission on this matter.

2. The following motion was made on the matter of the PCA going to a "Delegated Assembly":

"Although a Delegated Assembly has its advantages we recommend that the 'grass roots' participation be maintained even though

it may be sometimes unwieldy."

Motion carried.

3. A motion was made that Presbytery treasurer send \$ 25 to each of our 3 present candidates as a Christmas gift and expression of our interest and concern.

Motion carried.

A motion was made and carried this report be approved as a whole.

Mission to U.S.: Rev. Charles McNutt reporting:

For information -

1. The Huntington work is strong and will probably be organizing in '82.

2. There are presently 4 families in Camp Creek, W.V. (between Princeton and Flat Top) that may be approached in the near future.

3. In the Bluefield area members of the Westminster PCUS are considering a possible move if the vote on union with the Northern Church occurs this spring.

4. Westminster Presbytery (PCA) in the Tennessee/western Virginia area is still interested in an evangelist between our 2 Presbyteries.

A motion was made that Rev. Mike Hall be approved as stated supply at the Pliny Church with the permission of the Littlepage Session.

Motion carried.

A motion was made that \$200 be sent to the Friendship Church.

Motion carried.

The motion was made and carried this report be approved as a whole.

Mission to World: No report

Christian Education Committee: Rev. Mike Hall reporting:

1. A motion was made that the 1982 budget of \$ 330 by the Women in Presbytery be approved. The motion also included approval of new officers for the W.I.P. as follows:

President - Eloise Jarvis

Treasurer - Vonajeane Murad

Chairman of Spiritual Growth - Jean Sensabaugh

Mission to World - Marie Loudermilk

Motion carried.

2. For information - Discussion was held on a Summer Camp or one day outing but no decision was made.

A motion was made and carried this report be approved as a whole.

A motion was made that Presbytery recess for lunch and reconvene in 45 minutes at 12:45. Motion carried.

Prayer was offered in the Dining Hall.

Following the meal RE Nigal Loomis, representing the committee on Thanks, expressed Presbytery's thanks to the church for their warm hospitality and to the ladies for the delicious meal.

Presbytery reconvened in the Sanctuary following lunch.

Stewardship Committee: No report.

A motion was made that the treasurer be allowed to use the 1981 budget until the '82 budget is approved in March.

Motion carried.

Report on Presbytery Response to 1981 General Assembly Committee on Review and Control of Presbyteries: The clerk stated he and Mr. Jenkins were not prepared to present a report.

A motion was made that the clerk and Mr. Jenkins be permitted to respond to the General Assembly Committee on behalf of Presbytery.

Motion carried.

New Business:

The treasurer made the motion that due to serious financial needs on the Assembly level and our own present reserve of money this Presbytery send \$ 400 to the General Assembly Committee on Christian Education and Publications, and \$ 400 to the General Assembly Mission to North America Committee.

Motion carried.

Time and Place of Next Meeting:

The 24th Stated Meeting of Presbytery will be held March 12 - 13, 1982 and the invitation to the Kanawha Salines PCA of Charleston was accepted.

The motion to adjourn was made and carried and this meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. William E. Hill, Jr.

Respectfully Submitted,



R. Norman Evans, Clerk