

MINUTES OF THE THIRD STATED MEETING

of

NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY

The Third Stated Meeting of New River Presbytery convened on March 21, 1975 at 7:30 p.m. at the Faith Presbyterian Church in Charleston, West Virginia. Moderator Rev. William E. Hill, Jr. called the meeting to order. Opening prayer by Rev. Joe D. Bishop.

The Stated Clerk notified the Presbytery that a quorum was present, including the following:

Teaching Elders: Charles W. McNutt, Joe D. Bishop, Linwood G. Wilkes, William E. Hill, Jr., Warren F. Thuston

Ruling Elders from the following churches:

|                    |    |                             |
|--------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| Kanawha Salines    | -- | Nigal F. Loomis             |
| Westminster        | -- | D. H. Dority, J. R. Harrell |
| Lebanon            | -- | Thomas R. Temple            |
| South Ruffner      | -- | B. W. Gallagher             |
| Rebecca Littlepage | -- | R. W. Batusic               |
| Faith              | -- | H. L. Hanger                |

The docket then called for the election of a moderator. S. C. Dunbar was nominated. There being no further nominations, Moderator William E. Hill, Jr. then declared S. C. Dunbar elected moderator by acclamation.

The Moderator then called for the introduction of visitors and first-time Elders, who were then given privilege of the floor for discussion.

Rev. David L. Williams, St. Albans, WV  
Rev. Carl W. Bogue, Akron, Ohio  
Rev. John R. Dodd, Malden, WV

Ruling Elders:

L. Curtis Carroll, Roanoke, Va  
Oliver Blake, Charleston, WV  
Sherman Young, Princeton, WV  
James R. Bruder, Copley, Ohio  
G. H. Stafford, Charleston, WV  
James Francis Miller, Lexington, Ky  
Lawrence Lusher, Jr., St. Albans, WV

Total attendance at Friday evening worship service was approximately 110.

Retiring Moderator's message, Rev. William E. Hill, Jr. --

CHRIST LIVES WITHIN OUR HEART

Philippians 3:8-12, 17-21

Mature Christians gather to worship 52 times a year. The power of Christ's resurrection from the dead is the fruit of his Diety--in Him dwell all power of the God Head--he and the Father are One. Christ's resurrection is also proof of overcoming death. Spiritual death is worse than physical death. Those who don't know him will be separated from God for ever and ever. When he conquered sin he conquered hell. Amen.

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Welcoming address by host church ruling elder, Mr. Jerry Martin.

Testimonials from churches and individuals were received concerning the work in their churches.

An offering was received to help defray the expenses of the Presbytery. (\$84.41)

Moderator called for election of a recording clerk for today's meeting. The name of Clyde Armstrong was submitted from the floor. There being no further nominations he was elected by acclamation.

Committees were to meet briefly after adjournment.

There being no further business and the hour being 9:30 p.m., the meeting was adjourned until Saturday, March 22, 1975, at 8:30 a.m.

Closing prayer by Rev. Michael Bolus.

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Presbytery reconvened at 8:30 a.m., March 22, 1975.

Moderator S. C. Dunbar opened the meeting by calling for sentence prayers by delegates.

A motion by Charles McNutt for the Stated Clerk to read all communications was seconded. Communications read was from Mission to the United States the Presbyterian Journal.

Moderator appointed Curtis Carroll and Linwood Wilkes as a Committee of Thanks.

Report by Charles McNutt of the Examination Committee. Ministers to be received for examination:

|                        |    |                                  |
|------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| Rev. Michael Bolus     | -- | Westminster Church, Roanoke, Va. |
| Rev. John R. Dodd      | -- | Kanawha Salines, Malden, WV=     |
| Rev. Carl W. Bogue     | -- | Akron, Ohio                      |
| Rev. David L. Williams | -- | St. Albans, WV                   |

Examination was conducted by Warren Thuston.

Michael Bolus' credentials were found in order.

Experimental Religion approved  
Theology approved  
Sacraments approved  
Church Government approved

A motion was made by Warren Thuston, and seconded, that the examination be approved as a whole.

Call read by Charles McNutt, and placed in Michael Bolus' hands.

The installation of Michael Bolus will be Sunday, April 20, 1975, 7:30 p.m. at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Roanoke, Va.

COMMISSION FOR INSTALIATION:

To Preside and Propound the questions---

Principal: Harry Musser  
Alternate: James N. Gay

To Preach---

Principal: Charles McNutt  
Alternate: William E. Hill, Jr.

To Charge the Pastor--

Principal: David L. Williams  
Alternate: Warren Thuston

To Charge the Congregation--

Principal: Robert Miller  
Alternate: James Meador

The examination of John R. Dodd

A motion by Charles McNutt, seconded by D. H. Dority, to begin the examination without certificate of dismissal from UPUSA Church.

Experimental Religion approved  
Theology approved  
Sacraments approved  
Church Government approved

A motion by Warren Thuston, seconded by Nigal Loomis, that the examination be approved as a whole.

The call was read by Charles McNutt, and placed in the hand of John R. Dodd.

The installation of John R. Dodd will be Sunday, May 11, 1975, 7:30 p.m. at Kanawha Salines Presbyterian Church, 4412 Malden Drive, Charleston, WV.

COMMISSION FOR INSTALLATION:

To Preside and Propound the questions---

Principal: S. C. Dunbar, Moderator

To Preach---

Principal: Charles McNutt  
Alternate: Warren Thuston

To Charge the Pastor---

Principal: David L. Williams  
Alternate: Harry Musser

To Charge the Congregation---

Principal: Warren Thuston  
Alternate: Charles McNutt

Reading of the Scripture---

Nigal Loomis

Prayer-- Harry Gardner

The examination of Carl W. Bogue

Motion by Charles McNutt, seconded by Warren Thuston, that Carl Bogue be examined now, but reception be postponed until released by UPUSA.

Experimental Religion approved  
Theology approved  
Sacraments approved  
Church Government approved

A motion made and seconded that the examination be approved as a whole-- reception pending.

A petition was presented with 74 signatures for the organization of a PCA church in Akron, Ohio. A motion which was seconded that Rev. W. E. Hill, Jr. Evangelist be instructed to organize a church at Akron, Ohio, if the way be clear.

Recessed for lunch.

\* \* \* \* \*

Reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Afternoon session opened by prayer by Warren Thuston.

Delegates from Roanoke, Virginia and Akron, Ohio were excused at this time.

The following statement was read by Rev. W. E. Hill, Jr.:

"Rev. Robert Pate--at his own request--chose not to join the New River Presbytery at this time."

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The examination of David L. Williams

Motion by Charles McNutt, which was seconded, that we examine David Williams, and if said examination is sustained, his reception be dated March 24, 1975, and his membership be effective the same date.

Experimental Religion approved  
Theology approved  
Sacraments approved  
Church Government approved

A motion by Warren Thuston, seconded by Rev. W. E. Hill, Jr., that the entire examination be sustained and approved as a whole.

A motion by Charles McNutt, seconded by Warren Thuston, that Rev. W.E.Hill, Jr. be instructed by organize a group of Christians in St. Albans, W.Va., March 23, 1975 into a congregation (church) in the P.C.A. at 3:00 p.m.--meeting held at the former A. W. Cox Department Store on 56 Main Street, St. Albans, W.Va.

The following ministers were enrolled upon signing the EX-ANIMO statement:

Michael Bolus  
John Dodd  
David L. Williams

Motion by Charles McNutt, seconded by Linwood Wilkes that James F. Miller, Lexington, Kentucky be advised to seek membership in one of the churches of the New River Presbytery, and that there be an adjourned meeting of the Presbytery in about two months at which time the Presbytery will take necessary steps for his reception if the way be clear.

A motion was made by Rev. W. E. Hill, Jr., and seconded, that Linwood Wilkes be approved as stated supply for the Lebanon Presbyterian Church, Craigsville, Va. Motion was approved by Presbytery.

Treasurer's report was read by Stated Clerk--balance of \$943.27 as of 3/1/75.

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#### REPORT OF COMMITTEES

##### MISSION TO THE WORLD

Chairman Warren Thuston reported on the retreat in Jackson, Miss. Miss Judy Brown was interviewed as a possible candidate for World Mission work. Report received as information that the request of Miss Brown be included in adjourned meeting to be held in about two months.

##### MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES

Chairman Charles McNutt reported that Candidate John Smith has accepted a call in Greenville, S. C., and will not be available for work in New River Presbytery. Received as information.

##### COMMITTEE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chairman Linwood Wilkes presented a pamphlet on "The P.C.A. Church Is". An invitation was extended to the men of the churches in the Presbytery to attend a camping retreat at the Lebanon Presbyterian Church, Craigsville, Virginia on April 11, 12, 13. Received as information.

##### STEWARDSHIP

In the absence of Chairman Bob Kresge the Stated Clerk read a letter received from W. Jack Williamson, Chairman of the Sub-Committee P.C.A. --

"stating that a full-time director of stewardship ministeries is in the making who will assist in organizing and implementing a total stewardship program in our Presbyteries. "

A statistical report of the New River Presbytery which was mailed to the General Assembly was read by Charles McNutt.

A resolution of thanks to the Faith Presbyterian Church was read by Linwood Wilkes--

"We came to the Faith Church to feed upon the bread of heaven. This we did, and more. We extend our thanks to this fine congregation for we were entertained well. We also rejoice with Faith Church in acquiring a church plant which we found comfortable and adequate for this meeting."

Linwood G. Wilkes, Chairman  
L. Curtis Carroll

EXAMINATION OF SESSIONAL RECORDS

Received without exception:

South Ruffner Presbyterian Church  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Kanawha Saline Presbyterian Church  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
Rebecca Littlepage Presbyterian Church

Received with exception:

Lebanon Presbyterian Church

A motion was made by David L. Williams, seconded by George Stafford that a letter be sent to Rev. W. E. Hill, Jr. expressing appreciation for his help in the organization of the New River Presbytery, and his service as the first Moderator.

Motion by Charles McNutt, and seconded that the next Presbytery meeting be held on July 11-12, place to be announced later.

Closing prayer, and the singing of "Blest Be The Tie".

Respectfully submitted,

*James N. Gay*

James N. Gay, Stated Clerk  
Clyde Armstrong, Recording Clerk