

MINUTES
26th Stated Meeting
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
November 12-13, 1982

Lebanon and Little River PCA

Craigsville, Virginia

Opening Worship: The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, RE Alex Keleman, at 7:15 p.m., Friday, November 12, 1982 at the Grace Bible Camp. The meeting was opened with a season of prayer led by several ministers and elders. The congregation sang "Amazing Grace" and the Rev. Fred MacFarland preached, taking as his text the opening verses of II Chronicles 29. At the close of the service an offering was received for the work of Presbytery.

Testimonies from the churches: Representatives from each church gave a brief account of some of their church ministries, blessings, and burdens as follows:

Covenant - A recent and excellent seminar on "God and Government" with Gary Demar.

- Several individuals working through the Evangelism Explosion Training.

Christ Reformed - A recent blessing of a young lady and her children attending the church.

- Special prayer requested for a crisis pregnancy center to be established by some individuals in the church. Richard Garman reported on this.

Faith - Recent blessings through special services with Rev. Paul Settle.

- Added blessing also with many visitors to the church.
- One young couple has indicated that God may be leading them into mission service.

Friendship - No report.

Grace Covenant - 59 new members taken in this past year representing a 70% increase in membership.

- This brings with it certain problems as well as blessings, such as the need for more leadership.

- Because of meeting on the VPI campus, there are more students than families in the church.

- One couple now in missions training and one other girl has gone with Wycliffe.

- Problem of meeting place mentioned and decision to be made soon.

Grace - Old sanctuary burned 5 years ago and just recently has the congregation moved into their new facilities.

- Church experienced good growth this past year.

Kanawha Salines - Revival Services to be held this week with Pastor preaching: Prayer requested.

- Church visitation going well with 20 out visiting in last meeting.

Lebanon - Roof of the church recently blown off and now replaced and other work done on facilities.

- Recent services with Rev. John Dodd have gone very well.

Little River - Church continues with small but very faithful group of 15-20.

Pliny - Steve Rauscher still preaching on Sunday mornings.

- Recent problems in community with teenage vandals affected church members but a spirit of love has come out of it for them.

Rebecca Littlepage - Attendance at services has increased.

- Church has recently had a number of good missionaries speak at the church.

- Plans are being made to expand the church facilities.

- Spirit in the church is good.

Valley Reformed - Question lately of whether to continue as a church due to small number has been resolved by the entrance of a number of folks from Westminster.

- RE Riley Ware coming to be ordained and installed as Pastor.

- Attendance up and now in the thirties, and largest offering ever was received last Sunday, \$1,131.

Westminster - Spirit of openness and questioning in the church.

- Leadership training beginning.

- Attendance steady, 7 new members received and 9 others in the process.

- Recent missions conference very successful.

- Prayer requested for ministries and for leadership realities and potentials.

Providence Reformed Mission - Average attendance now around 60 and offerings at \$4,000 a month.

- Giving to benevolences has been set at 25% off the top.

- Present facilities almost too small now and need another place.

- \$2,400 given lately for a building fund that hasn't even yet been established.

- Officer training set up.

- People willing to be Biblically challenged.

First Reformed - No report.

Ascertaining of Quorum - The moderator called for a declaring of the quorum and the clerk stated a quorum was present as follows:

Teaching Elders - W. David Laverell (Christ Reformed), Frederick S. MacFarland (Grace/Lexington), Linwood G. Wilkes (Lebanon and Little River), Don Post (Providence Reformed), Michael Hall (Littlepage), Charles W. McNutt (Kanawha Salines), Lonnie W. Barnes (Westminster), Max Harris (Grace Covenant Fellowship), Rod S. Mays (Covenant), Jack Arnold (OB), David Hoover (WC), R. Norman Evans (Faith).

Ruling Elders - Richard Garman (Christ Reformed), J.R. Yaeger Jr. (Grace/Lexington), Bob Kresge (Littlepage), Jim Jarvis (Covenant), Bill Pascavis (Kanawha Salines), Riley W. Ware (Valley Reformed), Robert Miller (Grace Covenant Fellowship), Forrest Rumburg (Friendship), Thomas F. Minter, Jr. (Lebanon), David Shockley (Westminster).

Number Registered: TE - 12
RE - 10

Election of Moderator - The floor was opened for nominations and TE Michael Hall and TE Fred MacFarland were nominated. The motion was made and carried nominations cease and by hand vote Fred MacFarland was elected.

Approval of Docket - Rev. MacFarland assumed the chair and called for the approval of the Docket, previously mailed to the ministers and churches. Amendment to the Docket:

A motion was made that the Commission to report on complaints against the Westminster Session be moved up between the Treasurer's Report and the beginning of Committee Reports instead of after the Committee Reports. Motion carried.

A further motion was made that Presbytery's evening session not recess until after the Commission reports. Motion carried.

The motion was then made that the Docket be approved as amended. Motion carried.

Welcome by Host Church - RE Thomas Minter from the Lebanon Church welcomed the Presbytery on behalf of the Lebanon and Little River Churches. Mr. Minter expressed the churches' delight to be able to host the now enlarged New River Presbytery and welcomed all to return in the future.

Introduction of First Time Elders and Guests: Mr. Jimmy Yaeger was introduced from the Grace PCA in Lexington, Virginia. Mr. Roger Clifford was introduced from Huntington's Providence Reformed Mission.

A motion was made and carried that Rev. Harold Kelley from Ascension Presbytery of the PCA and Mr. Rick Ferguson from New Martinsville, W.V. be seated as visiting brethren.

William Lowry from Roanoke's Christ Reformed Church was introduced and Presbytery informed he will be seeking internship in Presbytery.

Several ladies were also introduced and it was noted that the Women in the Presbytery organization was holding its annual meeting concurrent with Presbytery meeting.

Approval of Previous Minutes: The minutes of the 25th Stated Meeting held in July '82 had previously been mailed out. A motion was made and carried that the minutes of that meeting be approved as printed.

Appointment of Committee on Thanks: The moderator appointed RE Robert Miller and TE Jack Arnold to express Presbytery's thanks to the Lebanon and Little River Churches during the Saturday lunch hour.

Stated Clerk's Report:

1. A motion was made and carried that Rev. George Alder be excused from this meeting at his request.
2. For information: The clerk requested upcoming BCO amendments be docketed for vote at the Spring Meeting. Approval given by general consent.
3. A motion was made and carried that exceptions to this Presbytery's minutes from the 10th General Assembly be answered by the clerk and the moderator.

4. A letter was read from the Westminster Session to the Presbytery concerning the recent events in the church and the Commission's work in handling complaints against the Session. A motion was made and carried that the letter be received as information. A motion was made and carried to postpone any further decision on the letter until the next morning when elders from the Westminster Church would be present. Final action in this matter is recorded on page 6 of these minutes.
5. A letter was read from RE Stu Jackson to the Presbytery concerning the recent complaint against him. A motion was made and carried the letter be received as information.
6. A portion of a letter from Rev. Fred MacFarland was read to Presbytery indicating he is in the process of applying to become a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. To complete application he needs the endorsement of Presbytery. A motion was then made and carried that such endorsement be sent to the Executive Director of the Chaplain's Commission as given in the letter.

Committee Report concluded on page 6 .

Treasurer's Report: Bill Pascavis, Presbytery treasurer, gave the following report for the period of July 9 - November 6, 1982.

Beginning Balance	\$ 1,685.00
Math error on dep. slip	- 20.00
	\$ 1,665.00
Income	2,965.00
	\$ 4,630.00
Debits	2,626.68
	\$ 2,003.32
Minus "stop paym." check	-130.00
Balance (checking)	\$ 1,873.32
Balance in savings acct.	\$ 6,073.78

The motion was made and carried the report be received as information.

Commission Reports:

Commission of Installation of Rev. Lonnie W. Barnes as Pastor of the Westminster Church, Roanoke. The commission report was read by RE Richard W. Garman, clerk of the commission. The motion was made and carried the report be admitted to the record. (See Appendix "A")

Commission to Investigate complaints against the Westminster Church Session. The commission report was read by RE Robert Miller, chairman of the commission. The motion was then made and carried the report be admitted to the record and other records be filed. (See Appendix "B")

The motion was then made and carried a vote of thanks be given the commission for its work and the commission be dissolved.

The Presbytery then recessed for the evening and was led in closing prayer by TE David Hoover.

The Presbytery reconvened at the Lebanon Church at 8:45 a.m., Saturday, November 13, 1982.

The Moderator opened the meeting with prayer and read from Leviticus 9. RE Riley Ware, to be presented to Presbytery later for ordination, then preached his trial sermon before Presbytery from Isaiah 58.

A motion was made and carried that the Stated Clerk's Report be completed after the 10:00 break.

A motion was made and carried that the docket be amended to have the Mission to North America Committee report before the report of the Ministers and Candidates Committee.

Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee: RE Don Leech reporting -

1. It was noted for information that RE Robert Kresge should again this year serve as our representative to the General Assembly Nominating Committee.
2. The motion was made and carried the following names be submitted for nomination to General Assembly Committees:

Administration	-	TE George Alder II
		RE Forrest Rumburg
Christian Ed. & Pub.	-	TE David Laverell
		RE Richard Garman
Mission to NA	-	RE Summers Dunbar
Mission to the World	-	RE Jerry Martin
Interchurch Relations	-	TE Michael Hall
		RE John Jenkins
Judicial Business	-	TE Rod S. Mays
		RE Ralph Martin
Trustee Ins. & Ann.	-	RE Tom Minter Jr.
Assem. Theol. Examining	-	RE Mike Conklin
Trustees Ridge Haven	-	TE David Hoover
		RE Bob Miller
Trustees of Covenant Col.	-	TE Lonnie W. Barnes
		RE Stuart P. Jackson
Trustees of Coven. Sem.	-	TE Fred MacFarland
		RE Don Leech

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

Mission to North America Committee: Charles McNutt reporting -

1. A motion was made and carried that beginning February 1, 1983 the Presbytery support the work of Rev. Harold Kelley at New Martinsville, W.V. in the amount of \$500 per month for one year, if he is called as organizing pastor.
2. A motion was made and carried that in accordance with Par. 13-8 of the BCO the Presbytery appoint a committee to visit the Friendship Church, Princeton, W.V. and confer with the Pastor, Session, and members and make recommendations to Presbytery concerning the work.

This committee will consist of:

TE
R. Norman Evans, Convenor
Rod Mays
Fred McFarland

RE
Summers Dunbar
J. P. Jenkins
Robert Miller

3. A motion was made and carried that the following commission be appointed to organize the Providence Reformed Presbyterian Mission in Huntington, W.Va. into a particular church, date and hour to be set by the commission, the Session of Covenant Church to be appointed to examine the nominees for office.

Commission consisting of:

TE
Rod Mays, Chairman
Mike Hall
Max Harris

RE
Virgil Roberts
Roger Burke
Ray Scott

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

The Presbytery recessed following prayer at 10:00 and reconvened at 10:20 with prayer by the moderator.

Stated Clerk's Report: continued from page 4.

Relating to the letter from the Westminster Session (pg. 4, clerk's report, # 4, a brief time of open discussion was held with Westminster representatives. Following discussion, the motion was made and carried no further action would be taken on the letter.

The motion was then made and carried that the clerk's report be approved as a whole.

Mr. Roy Gamble was then introduced to Presbytery. Mr. Gamble is employed by the General Assembly's Stewardship Committee and reported to Presbytery the new facts, figures, and needs of the now enlarged PCA.

Ministers and Candidates Committee:

1. Work handled by the Committee was briefly outlined.
2. RE Riley Ware seeking ordination

A motion was made and carried we proceed toward ordination under the extraordinary clause (BCO 21-4) for the following reasons:

- (1) RE Ware has no seminary degree but has pastored regularly for 32 years, including 8 years teaching English Bible at the college level and 20 years serving the Valley Reformed Church in Roanoke.
- (2) At the time of 'joining and receiving' of the RPCES, RE Ware was in the process of moving toward ordination in that denomination.

A motion was made and carried that the sermon preached from Isaiah 58 be approved as required for ordination.

A motion was made and carried the paper presented entitled, "Building again the Tabernacle of David" be approved as the paper required in theology.

Clerk's note: By agreement it was voted that we are wavering the language requirement due to the lack of a seminary degree and a detailed outline paper on the sermon preached were accepted in lieu

of the exegetical paper.

Formal examination before Presbytery on knowledge and views:
in Christian experience, examined by TE Post,

Motion to sustain carried
in Theology, examined by TE Harris,

Motion to sustain carried
in Sacraments, examined by TE Evans,

Motion to sustain carried
in Church Government, examined by TE Evans

Motion to sustain carried
in English Bible, examined by TE Post,

Motion to sustain carried
A motion was made and carried the examination as a whole be
approved.

The call was not yet in the hands of the clerk; therefore a
motion was made and carried that the Ministers and Candidates
Committee be allowed to approve the call when it is received and
place it in Mr. Ware's hands.

A motion was made and carried that the Commission to ordain Mr.
Ware and install him as Pastor of the Valley Reformed PCA be com-
prised of - TE: Max Harris, David Laverell (Convenor), and Jack
Arnold. RE: Don Leech, Michael Conklin, and Richard Garman. Also
included was allowance for the date to be set at the convenience of
the church and Commission after approval of the call.

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

The appointed time having now arrived the Presbytery recessed for
lunch at 12:15 and the meeting was recessed with prayer.

Report of the Committee on Thanks: During the lunch hour RE Robert Miller
expressed the Presbytery's sincere gratitude to the Lebanon and Little
River Churches and to Bill White, director of the Grace Bible Camp. The
Christian friendship, desire to please, and excellent food have been a
blessing to this meeting of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery reconvened after lunch at the camp and the meeting was
opened with prayer by RE Jimmy Yaeger.

Christian Education Committee Report: Chairman Michael Hall reporting -

1. A motion was made and carried the New River Presbytery WIC budget
for 1983 be approved as follows:

Travel Expense for President	\$ 180.00
Mission to US	10.00
World Mission	10.00
CE & P Committee	30.00
Speakers	100.00
Miscellaneous (supplies & expenses)	30.00
	<u>\$ 360.00</u>

Submitted by Vonajeane Murad, NRPWIC Treasurer

2. For information - No youth camp is planned for 1983.

3. A motion was made and carried that Charles Dunahoo of the General Assembly CE & P Committee be contacted for a possible seminar in 1983.
4. A motion was made and carried that arrangements be made for another day's outing at Hawk's Nest State Park and \$ 100 be allocated for it.
5. A paper on " Confessional Subscription " was distributed and a motion was made and carried it be studied and docketed for the Spring Stated Meeting.
6. Regarding our Proposed Ministerial Training Program, a motion was made and carried that the CE Chairman write Dr. Jack Scott and convey to him that since our plan recently submitted to his committee was sent back for revisions, we are now completing the revisions and will resubmit the plan in early '83.

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

Stewardship Committee: Chairman reporting -

1. A motion was made and carried that the 1983 budget be approved as amended for Presbytery as follows:

Stated Clerk's Office	\$ 500
Ministers & Cand. Comm.	900
Christian Educ. Comm.	1,150
Nominating Committee	500
Mission to N. Amer. Comm.	9,300
Mission to World Comm.	<u>250</u>
	\$12,000

(Amended portion included above and found in motion under "new business")

The motion to approve the budget also called for a per capita asking of \$ 10.

The Pastor and ruling elder from Westminster Church requested their abstaining from this vote be inserted in the record and by general agreement is so noted.

A question was raised from the floor on a request for funds for a Christian Abortion Crisis Center in Roanoke, Virginia. A motion was made and carried this be referred to the MNA Committee.

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

Committee on Standing Rules and Bylaws: No report.

New Business:

1. A motion was made and carried that Presbytery give \$ 75 to defray the costs of renting the Grace Bible Camp for this meeting.
2. The following motion was made and carried:

" Whereas, committee business is rushed by meetings held only on Friday evenings, and, our docket does not reflect sufficient detail or information to prepare commissioners for Presbytery business,

Therefore be it moved that committees be required to meet 30 days before a Stated Meeting of Presbytery and a copy of the committee's business forwarded to the clerk no later than 3 full weeks prior to the upcoming Stated Meeting. The clerk will then reproduce and mail a more detailed docket and the committee business to be handled at the Stated Meeting. Any committee not meeting these guidelines shall not be permitted to report except by 2/3 approval of Presbytery. To cover expenses, each committee's expenses will be covered through an additional \$ 300 in the budget for the MNA and Nominating Committees. (Other active Committees have already budgeted travel expenses.)"

Time and Place of Next Meeting: The invitation was extended and a motion made and carried that the Spring Stated Meeting of Presbytery be held March 11 - 12, 1983 at the Christ Reformed PCA in Roanoke.

A motion was then made and carried that this 26th Stated Meeting of Presbytery be adjourned. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer and the Benediction.

Respectfully Submitted,



R. Norman Evans, Clerk

INSTALLATION COMMISSION FOR THE REVEREND LONNIE W. BARNES
AS PASTOR OF THE WESTMINSTER PCA, ROANOKE, VA.
AUGUST 15, 1982

On August 15, 1982 the Commission to install Pastor Lonnie Barnes convened at 6:40 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church before the installation service.

A quorum was determined by convener C.W. McNutt, and he proceeded to call the meeting to order with prayer.

Members of the commission present were: Jack Arnold, Richard W. Garman, James Harrell, W. David Laverell, C.W. McNutt. (Arnold, Laverell, & McNutt are TE and Garman, Harrell RE)

By acclamation C.W. McNutt was elected chairman of the commission and Richard Garman was elected clerk.

By common consent the following were appointed to give the respective charges:
Charge to Pastor - Jack Arnold
Charge to congregation - Jim Harrell
Installation prayer - David Laverell

By arrangement of the New River Presbytery of the PCA C.W. McNutt had been appointed to give the installation message.

The Commission recessed from the business on hand to attend and lead in the installation of Pastor Lonnie Barnes.

Upon successfully completing its assigned tasks, the commission reconvened to close the meeting previously recessed, to finish the business at hand. Jack Arnold ended the meeting with prayer upon the motion and seconding of said motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard W. Garman, clerk of commission

COMMISSION FOR INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST
SESSION OF WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION--AUGUST 28, 1982

Chairman Miller called the Commission to order in Executive Session at 1:13 P.M., Elder Max Harris opening the meeting with prayer. Complaints were considered in order with the following motions and votes:

Complaint 1--M/S to sustain:

To sustain: 5; Not to sustain: 0

Complaint 2--M/S not to sustain:

Not to sustain: 4; To sustain: 1

M/S to adopt this comment: Nevertheless, we do feel that greater care could have been taken to clarify the situation at Presbytery. We impugn no motives in this matter.

For motion: 4 ayes; 1 abstention

Complaint 3--M/S not to sustain:

Not to sustain: 5; To sustain: 0

Complaint 4--M/S to sustain:

To sustain: 3; Not to sustain: 2

M/S to adopt this comment: We recognize that the Session acted innocently from lack of understanding in the above matter, and not with deliberate intent to promote the teachings of Dispensationalism. We commend the Session's request for instruction in this matter and commit this to the pastor.

For motion: 4; 1 abstention

Complaint 5--M/S not to sustain:

Not to sustain: 3; to sustain: 2

M/S to adopt this comment: Commission found it difficult without written or taped evidence to determine the context of the remarks. However, we do affirm the Biblical doctrine of electing grace.

For motion: 5; against motion: 0

Complaint 6--M/S not to sustain:

Not to sustain: 5; to sustain: 0

Complaints 7-10: M/S to rule Complaints 7, 8, 9, & 10 out of order (BCO:33-1).

For motion: 5; Against: 0

Complaint 11--M/S to rule this complaint out of order since the congregation is not a court of the Church (BCO:10-2).

For motion: 5; Against: 0

Complaint 12--M/S not to sustain;

Not to sustain: 3; Abstentions: 2

M/S to adopt the following comment: We commend to the Session careful and Biblical concern for all the members of Westminster Church in all their needs, including their theological concerns.

For motion: 5; Against: 0

M/S/C to adopt the Commission's Report as a whole.

For motion: 5; Against: 0

Chairman Miller declared Executive Session adjourned and Commission returned to assembly where Elder Ware presented the Commission's Report.

There being no further official business for the Commission to consider, the meeting was, upon motion made and duly seconded, unanimously adjourned. Elder Ware closed in prayer, imploring God's healing and restorative blessing upon all involved, whereupon the Commission retired to an informal and pastoral session with complainants and some members of the Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Riley W. Ware
Riley W. Ware, Clerk of Commission