

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH STATED MEETING

OF

NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY

The Fourth Stated Meeting of New River Presbytery was held 7:30 p.m., Friday, July 11, 1975 at the Faith Presbyterian Church in Akron, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by Moderator S. C. Dunbar who called Rev. Warren Thuston to lead in the opening prayer.

Evening message by Rev. John R. Dodd

Text: Mark, Chapter 2; 3-13

Title: "Flame for Evangelism"

Jesus healing the man of palsy. Flame of Evangelism is compassion to others bringing God's word--His word is worth propagating in unity in the Presbyterian Church in America, unity of mind, unity of purpose, and to proclaim Jesus Christ as man's salvation. Stay with the call that God has proclaimed in reaching others; having a passion for souls that are lost and dying in sin. As Christians we are given God's commission to seek the lost.

Closing prayer by Rev. Dodd.

An offering was received to help defray the expenses of the Presbytery--\$50.00.

Welcoming address by the host church--Rev. Carl W. Bogue

Stated Clerk notified the Presbytery that a quorum was present. The roll was taken as follows:

Teaching Elders: Rev. W. Bogue, Rev. John R. Dodd, Rev. Charles McNutt,
Rev. Warren F. Thuston, Rev. David L. Williams

Ruling Elders from the following churches:

Covenant	-	Tom Owens
Faith of Akron	-	Phillip Bevington
Faith of		
Charleston	-	Clyde Armstrong
Kanawha Salines	-	Oliver G. Blake
Rebecca Littlepage	-	John P. Jenkins
South Ruffner	-	B. W. Gallagher

The following asked to be excused: Rev. William E. Hill, Jr., Rev. Linwood Wilkes, and Rev. Michael Bolus

Introduction of visitors and first-time Elders:

Elder Oliver Blake, Kanawha Salines
Rev. William Fitzhenry, South Ruffner
Rev. Frank Moser, Monroeville, Pennsylvania
Rev. Alvin W. Smith, Bloomington, Indiana
Rev. R. C. Sproul, Pennsylvania
Elder James Brown, Pliny, W. Va.
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bowen, Covenant Church, St. Albans, W. Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bricker, Covenant Church, St. Albans, W. Va.
Mrs. S. C. Dunbar, Kanawha Salines, Malden, W. Va.
Mrs. J. B. Jenkins, Rebecca Littlepage, Charleston, W. Va.
Mrs. Mary McDaniels, South Ruffner, Charleston, W. Va.
Elder Robert Oldaker, Faith Church, Akron, Ohio
Mrs. Carl W. Bogue, Faith Church, Akron, Ohio

Total attendance for the evening was 51.

The docket was approved with the following amendments:

Rev. McNutt moved that the word "licensure" be changed to "examination" of Rev. William Fitzhenry for the ministry at South Ruffner Church.

Also, include for examination the following ministers:

Rev. Alvin W. Smith, Rev. Frank Moser, and Rev. R. C. Sproul.

A second was received and motion passed.

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Testimonials from delegates were received concerning the work in their respective churches.

Rev. Charles W. McNutt explained why New River Presbytery meetings start on Friday evening and continue through Saturday afternoon.--When New River Presbytery was formed just over a year ago, it was decided then by those in attendance that more fellowship was desired with our brethren. This, we did not have in our former denomination. Rev. McNutt also made a progress report of the New River Presbytery covering the first year of operation which was encouraging to all.

The Moderator then called for the election of recording clerk for this day's meeting. The name of John P. Jenkins was placed on the floor and was elected by acclamation.

Report by Rev. Warren Thuston of the Examination Committee. Ministers to be received for examination: Rev. William Fitzhenry, Rev. Alvin W. Smith, Rev. Frank Moser, Rev. R. C. Sproul.

Rev. Warren Thuston suggested that we examine Rev. William Fitzhenry at this time due to the heavy docket for the next day. A motion to this effect was made by Rev. David L. Williams, which motion received a second. Rev. Charles McNutt made an amendment that we start the examination at this time, and if not completed by 10:00 p.m. to continue the examination tomorrow. This also received a second, and motion passed as amended.

The examination of Rev. William Fitzhenry was begun, but will be concluded tomorrow--July 12, 1975.

A motion was made for adjournment which was seconded at 10:00 p.m.

Closing prayer by Rev. David Williams.

Meeting of committees after adjournment.

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The Presbytery reconvened at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, July 12, 1975 at the Faith Presbyterian Church, Akron, Ohio.

The Moderator opened meeting, asking those who so desired to join him in a season of prayer.

The examination of Rev. William Fitzhenry was continued from Friday night. (The motion to do this was made by Rev. Warren Thuston, Which was seconded and carried.)

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| 1. | Personal Testimony | Sustained |
| 2. | Theology | Sustained |
| 3. | Sacraments | Sustained |
| 4. | Church Government | Sustained |

The examination as a whole was sustained on motion by Rev. Warren Thuston, which motion was seconded and carried.

The questions in the Book of Church Order were propounded by Rev. Thuston. Rev. Fitzhenry then signed the Ex Animo Statement.

On motion by Rev. McNutt, the call of the South Ruffner Presbyterian Church to Rev. Fitzhenry was read and approved. The motion was seconded and carried. The call was placed in Rev. Fitzhenry's hands, which he accepted.

Rev. McNutt made the motion that the first order of business after lunch be the appointment of the committee to install Rev. Fitzhenry as Pastor of the South Ruffner Presbyterian Church. The motion was seconded and carried.

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The examination of Rev. Alvin W. Smith--

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| 1. | Personal Testimony | Sustained |
| 2. | Theology | Sustained |
| 3. | Sacraments | Sustained |
| 4. | Church Government | Sustained |

Rev. Thuston made the motion that the examination as a whole be sustained and that after the questions are propounded that Rev. Smith sign the Ex Animo Statement and that the Presbytery have a season of prayer for Rev. Smith's guidance. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. McNutt made the motion that the Presbytery should note that Rev. Smith was ordained in the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, that he had been transferred to the New Prospect Baptist Church of Bloomington, Indiana; and that he was being received on the basis of his ordination in the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. David Williams was named Chairman of the Committee of Thanks, along with Rev. John Dodd and Mr. Stalnaker.

Communication from The Covenant Church, St. Albans, W. Va. expressing their thanks to the Presbytery for financial help was read by the Clerk.

A report was read from Rev. William E. Hill, Jr., concerning the work of evangelist and organizer of new church work.

Rev. McNutt made the motion that these reports be received as information. The motion was seconded and carried.

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Rev. McNutt, who is Chairman of the M.U.S. made the recommendation that the Stewardship Committee be requested to ask churches \$6.00 per capita in 1975, which would amount to at least \$6,000.00. Of this amount, \$400.00 per mo., (or \$4800. per yr.) would be set aside for the particular support of a presbytery's home missionary who would develop work at Blacksburg, Virginia and Princeton, W. Va.. Also, that a committee composed of Dr. Robert Miller, Chairman, and Sherman Young, L. M. Young, Jr., Oliver Blake, and Michael Bolus; plus the Chairman of the Missions in the U. S. Committee, ex officio, be appointed to contact a man and over-see this work.

Rev. McNutt made a motion to this effect which was seconded and carried.

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The examination of Rev. Frank Moser--

1.	Personal Testimony	Sustained
2.	Theology	Sustained
3.	Sacraments	Sustained
4.	Church Government	Sustained

Rev. Thuston made the motion that the examination as a whole be sustained and that after the Book of Church Order questions were propounded that Rev. Moser sign the Ex Animo Statement. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. McNutt made the motion that Rev. Moser's ordination in the United Presbyterian Church U. S. A. be accepted and that he be enrolled as a member of the New River Presbytery. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. David Williams made the motion that the Presbytery adjourn for lunch. The motion was seconded and carried.

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The Presbytery reconvened at 1:00 p.m. July 12, 1975. Opening prayer by Rev. Frank Moser.

Commission for Installation of Rev. William Fitzhenry

<u>To preside:</u>	Rev. Charles W. McNutt
<u>Reading of the Scripture:</u>	Elder Donald Post, Jr.
<u>To Preach:</u>	Rev. Warren Thuston
<u>To Charge the Pastor:</u>	Elder James R. Bruder
<u>To Charge the Congregation:</u>	Rev. David L. Williams

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The examination of Rev. R. C. Sproul--

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| 1. | Personal Testimony | Sustained |
| 2. | Theology | Sustained |
| 3. | Sacraments | Sustained |
| 4. | Church Government | Sustained |

Rev. Thuston made the motion that the examination as a whole be sustained and that after the Book of Church Order questions were propounded that Rev. Smith sign the Ex Animo Statement. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. McNutt made the motion that Rev. Sproul's ordination in the United Presbyterian Church U. S. A. be accepted and that he be enrolled as a member of the New River Presbytery as of July 27, 1975 in order to coincide with the formation of a new presbytery on July 29, 1975. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. McNutt made the motion that the following: Rev. Alvin W. Smith, Rev. Carl Bogue, Rev. R. C. Sproul, Rev. Frank Moser, and the Faith Presbyterian Church, Akron, Ohio be dismissed to a new presbytery to be formed on July 29, 1975 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The motion was seconded and carried.

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The examination of Tom Owens, candidate for the ministry--

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| 1. | Personal Testimony | Sustained |
| 2. | Reason for seeking the ministry | Sustained |

The Book of Church Order questions were propounded by the Moderator. He was charged by Rev. David Williams. Rev. Thuston made the motion that he be placed under the care of the Presbytery which was seconded and carried.

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The examination of Jim Brown, candidate for the ministry--

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| 1. | Personal Testimony | Sustained |
| 2. | Reason for seeking the ministry | Sustained |

The Book of Church Order questions were propounded by the Moderator. He was charged by Rev. Charles McNutt. Rev. Thuston made the motion that he be received under the care of the Presbytery pending receipt of the Pliny Presbyterian Church into the Presbytery. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. David Williams made the motion that the Pliny Presbyterian Church be admitted to New River Presbytery pending notification of the Greenbrier Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of this action. The motion was seconded and carried.

At this time a Covenant of Intent was presented by the Pliny Church with a petition containing nine signatures for membership.

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The examinations of Mr. Paul Bricker, candidate for the ministry, and Mrs. Paul Bricker, candidate for foreign mission service as a trained nurse.

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| 1. | Personal Testimony | Sustained |
| 2. | Reason for seeking the ministry | Sustained |

The Book of Church Order questions were propounded by the Moderator. Mr. and Mrs. Bricker were charged by Rev. Thuston who made the motion that they be received under the care of the Presbytery. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. McNutt made the motion that The Sovereign Grace Presbyterian Church which Rev. William E. Hill, Jr. is to organize at Monroeville, Pennsylvania, on July 27, 1975, in response to a petition presented to the Presbytery, be dismissed to the new presbytery that will be organized on July 29, 1975. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Thuston made the motion that Rev. Lynwood Wilkes be approved as Supply Pastor for the Lebanon Church for a period of six months. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. McNutt made the motion that the Nominating Committee of which Rev. Warren Thuston is chairman, be empowered to name committee members for representation at the General Assembly. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. McNutt made the motion that the manual be amended to allow committee members to be increased from three to five, consisting of two Teaching Elders and three Ruling Elders, and that the Commission on Examination of Candidates be increased from three to six. The motion was seconded and carried.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$2,053.43 as of June 30, 1975. The Treasurer's report was approved, and motion by J. P. Jenkins was seconded and carried.

Report of Committee of Thanks--

Be it, therefore, resolved that the New River Presbytery express its appreciation to the Faith Presbyterian Church for the kindness shown us during our visit. Especially, do we express our thanks to the ladies for the fine meal prepared and so elegantly served.

Also, we are appreciative for the splendid accommodations provided for our comfort during our over-night stay in your midst.

We pray God's great blessing upon Faith Church, Akron, as they continue in their witness to Christ Jesus in this place.

Signed: David L. Williams, Chairman
John R. Dodd
Lawrence A. Stalnaker

Rev. McNutt made the motion that The Faith Church, Akron, Ohio reimburse Rev. John Dodd for expenses to Akron in connection with the installation of Rev. Carl Bogue as Pastor and that a policy covering these matters be established at the November meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. David Williams spoke of the possibility of a summer camp to be sponsored by the two Presbyteries jointly. Rev. Thuston made the motion that this matter be docketed for the November meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

Time and place for our fall meeting of the New River Presbytery will be: 7:30 p.m. November 14, and 15, 1975, at the Lebanon Church, Craigsville, Virginia.

At 5:00 p.m. a motion was made for adjournment, which received a second and carried.

Closing prayer by Rev. Frank Moser.

Respectfully submitted,

James N. Gay

James N. Gay, Stated Clerk

J. P. Jenkins, Recording Clerk

*Presbyterian
Church
in
America*

OFFICE OF THE STATED CLERK
P.O. Box 256 Clinton, Mississippi 39056

January 28, 1976

To: The Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries

From: The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly

Subject: Review of Presbytery Minutes

Enclosed is a copy of the Report of the Assembly's Committee on Review and Control relating to your particular Presbytery. This does include material other than that which is officially recorded in the Minutes of the Assembly. It is being sent to you for your guidance as to the kinds of matters that need to be watched in the future.

Let me call your attention to the fact that if your Presbytery had exceptions made by the Assembly, then at some point this year these should be reviewed by the Presbytery and any corrective action that would be possible should be made. In the future, one of the things that the Review and Control Committee will look for will be just this matter of whether the Presbytery has done anything about the exceptions taken by the last Assembly.

I have delayed in sending this material to you, because the Assembly had asked that the Chairman of the Committee of Commissioners write some sort of statement regarding this to you. I have not received such a statement from him, and so am simply passing on these copies of the Committee's work sheets to you.

Exam. 9 minutes of the session

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSIONERS ON REVIEW AND CONTROL OF PRESBYTERIAL
ON THE MINUTES OF NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY PRESBYTERY
minutes of Church

I. List the Dates of all Minutes reviewed, indicating whether approved without exception or not. If there are exceptions or notations, they should be detailed below in the space provided.

June 22, 74 Nov 21, 75
Sept. 17, 74 May 21, 75
" 18, 74 July 11, 75
Nov 15, 74

W/...

II. Exceptions: Identify Minutes to which exception is taken, and specify the exception taken, which is to be reported to the Assembly. (Use additional sheet if necessary.)

No exceptions

III. Notations: Identify the Minutes to which notations are made. Notations are of a minor nature and are not to be reported to the Assembly. A copy of the notations will be sent to the Clerk of the Presbytery concerned, to guide him in future Minute keeping.

Nov 21, 75 Librarian changed...
page exception not noted.
Nov 21, 74; Nov 30, 75, p2. Services of call not listed
Nov 15, 74 p1, ~~not~~ Elders are "not presbyterial" not "delegates"
Sep 18, 75 p1 churches should be listed with full names.
Nov 15, 74 p2 (Congregational approval of call)
Jul 11, 75 p3 Commission to install not "committed"

Note: Prepare a separate copy of this report for each Presbytery. Use items I and II only in preparing the report for the General Assembly.