

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH STATED MEETING
OF
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY

The New River Presbytery, Presbyterian Church in America held its fifth stated meeting at Lebanon Presbyterian Church at Goshen, Virginia on November 14 & 15, 1975. The Presbytery was called to order and led in prayer by Moderator Summers Dunbar at 7:30 p.m. on November 14, 1975. The Moderator declared a quorum present: eight ministers and eight ruling elders.

Rev. William Fitzhenry, South Ruffner Presbyterian Church, Charleston, W. Va. preached at the opening worship service. Text: 2nd Timothy, 1:13,14 A hymn was sung, and an offering was taken in the amount of \$43.21.

In the absence of Mr. James Gay, the Stated Clerk, a call was made to elect a temporary clerk for this meeting. Rev. William Fitzhenry nominated Don Post, Sr. There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed and Don Post was elected by acclamation.

Roll: Rev. Linwood G. Wilkes, Rev. Charlest W. McNutt,
Rev. John R. Dodd, Rev. David L. Williams,
Rev. Bill Fitzhenry, Rev. William E. Hill, Jr.,
Rev. Warren F. Thuston, Rev. Michael Bolus

Ruling Elders:

Jerry L. Martin	Faith of Charleston
L. A. Stalnaker	South Ruffner
Bob Kresge	Rebecca Littlepage
James F. Jarvis	Covenant
Summers Dunbar	Kanawha Salines
William Byram	Lebanon
L. M. Young	Westminster, Roanoke, Virainig
A. T. Hillman	Westminster, Roanoke, Virginia

Introduction of guests and first-time elders by Rev. Charles McNutt. Guests included:

Ed Meredith of Richmond
Otto Whittaker (Rev. Hill's biographer)
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Allen (attending Lynchburg Baptist Seminary)

and, members of the Women in the Church of New River Presbytery.

Testimonies were then given by the following elders:

Jerry Martin	Faith
Lawrence Stalnaker	South Ruffner
Bob Kresge	Rebecca Littlepage
Jim Jarvis	Covenant

Summers Dunbar
Charles McNutt
Bill Byram
Curtis Carroll

Kanawha Salines
Pliny (no elder present)
Lebanon
Westminster

Testimonies were then given by the following pastors:

Rev. Charles McNutt, Rev. David Williams, Rev. John Dodd,
Rev. Bill Fitzhenry, Rev. William Hill, Jr., Rev. Linwood
Wilkes, Rev. Warren Thuston, Rev. Mickey Bolus

Announcement was made of committee meetings to follow the evening service.

Closing prayer was led by Rev. Warren Thuston.

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The Presbytery meeting was reconvened at 8:30 a.m., November 15, 1975.
The meeting was called to order by the Moderator and opened by a season
of prayer led by Mr. Dunbar.

A motion was made and seconded that the docket as printed be adopted.
Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded that the minutes of the Fourth Stated Meeting,
having been previously mailed to all churches, be approved. Motion carried.

Rev. Warren Thuston made comments regarding the Mission to the World manual.
He asked that all churches get their comments to the Clerk of the General
Assembly. Members of Presbytery were asked to prayerfully study and give
in-put on these three areas:

1. Concerning the Manual of the Committee on the Mission to
the World. (changes, recommendations, etc.)
2. Concerning new materials and methods for the Committee on the
Mission to the World to consider.
3. Concerning the Position Paper, "A Plan for Mission to the World
of the P.C.A." (changes, recommendations, etc.)

Rev. Linwood Wilkes presented to the Presbytery a petition containing the
names of fourteen people of the Little River Presbyterian Chapel, Goshen,
Virginia to be organized and to join the New River Presbytery. Rev. William
Hill was instructed to organize the church and Rev. Linwood Wilkes was approved
as stated supply. A motion was made and seconded that this church's petition
be accepted, that the organization take place at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 16,
at the Little River Chapel with Rev. Wilkes as stated supply. Motion carried.
A prayer for this church was offered by Rev. Wilks.

The next item of business was the examination of candidates for the ministry.
Rev. Hill announced that Don Post, Jr. and Tom Courtney had been examined and
approved by the committee and were recommended to the Presbytery as candidates
for the ministry under care of the Presbytery.

Don Post, Jr. from Covenant, and Tom Courtney from Westminster gave their personal testimonies and their motives for entering the ministry. Comments were made by Rev. McNutt and Rev. Dodd concerning these candidates.

Rev. Williams moved, seconded by Rev. Hill, that the examination of these two be sustained and that they be accepted under care of the New River Presbytery as candidates for the ministry. Motion carried. Rev. Mickey Bolus made the charge to Mr. Courtney, and Rev. Williams made the charge to Don Post, Jr. Mrs. Connie Post was asked to stand with her husband.

Rev. Hill announced that Mr. Jim Allen, a student at Lynchburg Baptist Seminary would probably be a candidate at a future date.

A report of the installation of Rev. William Fitzhenry as Pastor of South Ruffner Presbyterian Church was made by the Clerk. A motion was made and seconded that the report be admitted to record. Motion carried.

Comments were made by the following regarding their attendance at the General Assembly in Jackson, Mississippi: Rev. Charles McNutt, Rev. David Williams, Rev. Warren Thuston, L. M. Young, Jr., Rev. Mickey Bolus

The meeting was recessed from 10:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. for a break and refreshments--served by the women of the Lebanon Church.

Following the break a report from Women in the Church was made. Mrs. Georgia Settle was introduced and showed slides called "Equipping the Saints" which was an appeal for financial support for Christian Education and Publications.

Rev. McNutt introduced his mother, Mrs. W. B. McNutt.

Rev. Warren Thuston, Chairman of the Nominating Committee made the following report:

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE
NEW RIVER PRESBYTERY

Previous action to enlarge all Presbytery Committees to two Teaching Elders and three Ruling Elders.

New recommendations to make Sub-committee on Stewardship a full Committee.

In order to implement both of the above:

Add to the Committee on Mission to the World:

Teaching Elder: Rev. Michael Bolus of Westminster Presbyterian Church in America

Ruling Elder: James Brown of Pliny Presbyterian Church

Add to the Committee on Mission to the U. S.:

Teaching Elder: Rev. John Dodd of Kanawha Salines Presbyterian Church in America

Ruling Elder: Alex Kellerman of Covenant Presbyterian Church in America

Add to the Committee on Christian Education:

Teaching Elder: Chairman Rev. David Williams of Covenant Presbyterian Church in America
Ruling Elder: Charles Buerhaus of South Ruffner Presbyterian Church in America
Teaching Elder: Rev. John Dodd of Kanawha Salines Presbyterian Church in America; remove Linwood Wilkes

Increase the membership of the new Committee on Stewardship:

Teaching Elder: Rev. Michael Bolus of Westminster Presbyterian Church in America
Teaching Elder: Rev. Linwood Wilkes of Lebanon Presbyterian Church in America
Ruling Elder: Lawrence Stalnaker of South Ruffner Presbyterian Church in America

Add to the Committee on Examination of Ministers and Candidates:

Teaching Elder: William Fitzhenry of South Ruffner Presbyterian Church in America
Ruling Elder: Donald Post, Sr. of Covenant Presbyterian Church in America

Nominating Committee:

James Harrell to replace Hugh McGavock

The final recommendation is that, following the usual procedure, Presbytery nominate from the floor and elect Ruling Elder to replace Hugh McGavock, whose term expires, on the Nominating Committee.

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Rev. McNutt moved and it was seconded that the Sub-committee on Stewardship be made a full committee. Motion passed.

Motions were made, seconded and voted to accept committee's nominations for the various committees. All passed.

Mr. Harrell was nominated by Rev. McNutt to replace Hugh McGavock on the Nominating Committee. Mr. Young moved that the nominations be closed and he be elected by acclamation. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rev. McNutt reported for the Committee on Missions to the U. S. He reported on the new work at VPI and plans for Princeton, W. Va. Rev. Bolus supplemented the report on VPI and asked on behalf of Westminster Church that an allocation of up to \$50.00 per month be made toward the work at VPI upon the specific request of Dr. Miller. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve this \$50.00 per month.

A motion was made and seconded to reimburse the Christian Education Committee to pay 1/2 of the WIC expense for Mrs. Settle's travel. Motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to pay \$60.00 for rental of the camp where facilities were provided for the people attending this meeting. Motion carried.

Robert Kresge issued an invitation to the Presbytery to hold its spring meeting at Rebecca Littlepage. Rev. Williams suggested that the Presbytery might like to meet at Covenant to help them celebrate their first anniversary on March 19 and 20, 1976.

A motion was made and seconded to meet at Covenant for the spring meeting on March 19 and 20, 1976. Motion carried.

Rebecca Littlepage changed its invitation to the July meeting. Presbytery then voted to accept its invitation for that time.

For information, Rev. John Dodd reported for the Special Committee on the Bible For You Conference to be held by several churches in the Kanawha Valley October 17-20, 1976 with Rev. Manford Gutzke as leader.

A motion was made and seconded directing the Treasurer to send \$500.00 to Covenant Presbyterian Church as recommended by the Committee to the U. S. Motion carried. Rev. Williams thanked the Committee for its gift.

Rev. Williams then reported concerning a proposed youth camp to be held jointly with the Presbytery of the Ascension. He reported that a suitable place had not been found. Rev. McNutt moved that a youth camp be held at Grace Bible Camp, Goshen, Virginia, if the way be clear. Motion seconded and carried.

The matter of travel expenses was turned over to a committee to be appointed by the Moderator.

A brief report on stewardship was made by the Chairman, Bob Kresge. Each church was asked for \$6.00 per capita for Presbytery work in 1976.

The acting clerk reported for the Treasurer a balance of \$3,039.88.

A motion was made and seconded to defer the nomination of a moderator until the March meeting. Motion carried.

The Moderator appointed Rev. Warren Thuston, Chairman of the Committee on Thanks. The following report was made during the luncheon:

"We, the members of New River Presbytery, want to take this opportunity to express our appreciation and thanks to the Session, congregation and Pastor of the Lebanon Presbyterian Church in America for their generous, full and loving supply of our physical needs during the past twenty-two hours.

The evening meal was delicious and delectably served by the Lebanon Presbyterian Church in America "Spiritual Rescue Squad".

Our lodging was ample and excellent; for some of us it was a most "interesting" and unique experience.

At breakfast we were provided with the sustenance and setting for one of the warmest and most loving fellowship.

The mid-morning snack was "exceeding, abundantly above" which enriched the morning session of Presbytery and the sunlite setting of the picturesque church building were we were privileged to meet.

To conclude this super session of Presbytery, we were served a sumptuous fare; a luncheon meal fit for Children of the King by some of His Super Saints.

As unmistakable evidence of our gratitude, we rise to applaud and thank our God upon every remembrance of you, the Lebanon Presbyterian Church in America."

Meeting adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Post, Sr., Temporary Clerk

James N. Gay, Stated Clerk