

Highlights

Presbytery of Western Kentucky

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Wayne Goolsby, Editor

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PRESBYTERY HIGHLIGHTS



The Presbytery of Western Kentucky met on Saturday, August 11, 2018, at First Presbyterian Church of Mayfield, Kentucky, for its regularly scheduled, quarterly meeting. A delicious brunch buffet awaited members and guests in the church fellowship hall as they gathered for the day's activities. It was a great time for visiting with friends.

Call to Worship and Constituting Prayer

Rev. Dr. Anthony R. Barta, Moderator of the Presbytery of Western Kentucky, opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m., with the constituting prayer,

Worship

The morning worship service was led by Teaching Elder Lynn Shurley, Jr., interim pastor, and Ruling Elder Carol Brand of First Presbyterian Church of Mayfield. Mrs. Brand read from Ephesians 4:1-16 and presented an excellent sermon entitled, "The Kingdom of God", reminding all of those present of their close kinship with one another and with Jesus Christ. A flute solo by Jacque Dale served as the prelude; organ accompaniment was provided by Elaine Shurley.

Welcome

Rev. Shurley welcomed members and guests. He introduced Ruling Elder Dale Usher who gave a brief and interesting history of the First Presbyterian Church of Mayfield.

Introduction and Seating of Corresponding Members

Moderator Teaching Elder Anthony Barta welcomed first-time Elder Commissioners to Presbytery,

Stated Clerk's Report

Ruling Elder Ben Talley, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Western Kentucky, declared a quorum present. He presented the docket for the day which was seconded and approved. Mr. Talley presented the names of those members requesting excuses and moved that the requests be approved. Motion seconded and carried. Mr. Talley noted that many Session record books had been approved and that he was available to examine books during lunch. He presented correspondence from First Presbyterian Church of Owensboro and the Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green offering to host Presbytery meetings for November 2018, and May 2019, respectively. It was moved and seconded to approve the invitations. Motion carried. It was also moved and seconded that Presbytery sponsor an October 6, 2018, mission trip of fifteen members of First Presbyterian Church of Madisonville's Living Waters for the World team to the Yucatan Peninsula with no cost to Presbytery. Motion carried. Thanks were extended to Reverends Kevin Dick and Charlie Evans as well as Ruling Elder Carol Brand, delegates from the Presbytery of Western Kentucky to the recent meeting of the General Assembly in St. Louis, Missouri.

Teach-In

Finance committee members Jordan Talley and Phil Fort reported on the financial process and status of Presbytery. They noted that now was the time for commissions, committees, *etc.*, to make budget requests for next year. Those present were given an informal “test” to ascertain their understanding of how the finance team works and how Presbytery funds are obtained and dispersed.

Mission Committee

Ruling Elder Mitch Brand reported on the committee’s July 5th meeting. He stated that two grants had been approved by the committee: \$500 for the Salvation Army food program of First Presbyterian Church of Hopkinsville and \$500 for the Brain Injury Camp (BIAC) at Henderson. He presented the question, “What can the Presbytery do to help churches attract young people?” as the committee’s continuing theme. Their next meeting will be on November 7, 2018.

Task Force

Teaching Elder Jenna Goggins noted that the Guatemala Mission Trip, originally scheduled for the summer of 2018, had to be postponed due to volcano activity in Guatemala this past summer, but that plans were already being made for a similar trip for March 16-23, 2019.

Rev. Goggins reported on the status of the Diploma School, noting that most of the classwork will be done on-line in the future under the auspices of the Dubuque Theological Seminary. Teaching Elder Kenneth Dick, Coordinating Presbyter, noted the continuing need in our Presbytery for Commissioned Lay Pastors. Ruling Elder Mabeth Cortner suggested that a representative from Dubuque might be invited to lead a teach-in at a future meeting of Presbytery. It was moved to approve the actions of the Task Force. Motion carried.

Lunch

Rev. Lynn Shurley, Jr., offered a prayer of grace and thanksgiving prior to lunch. A delicious fish fry lunch was served by members of First Presbyterian of Mayfield in the church fellowship hall. Following lunch, Presbytery reconvened with prayer by Moderator Anthony Barta.



BUSINESS

MEETING

Trustees

Ruling Elder Allison Fort reported that the session of First Presbyterian of Auburn, Kentucky, wanted to sell a piece of property acquired in 1979 and adjacent to the church property. It was moved, seconded, and approved to offer the property for sale.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

It was noted that newly ordained Teaching Elders Becky Durham and David Madewell had accepted positions in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and Owensboro, Kentucky, respectively. It was moved and seconded to dissolve their ordination committees with thanks. Motion carried. Recent graduate of the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary Brittney Hesson was presented for examination. Miss Hesson answered questions on church polity, worship and sacraments, and theology, responding with grace and authority. It was moved and seconded to sustain Miss Hesson’s examination and to allow her to begin a search for a call. Motion carried. Prayer for Miss Hesson was offered by Teaching Elder Renee Meyer of First Presbyterian Church of Murray, Kentucky. Nathan Dick was examined by Presbytery as he sought the status of Commissioned Lay Pastor. Mr. Dick answered questions on church polity, worship and sacraments, and theology with dignity and understanding. It was moved and seconded to sustain Mr. Dick’s examination and to approve his installation at Shepherd’s House in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Motion carried. Teaching Elder Kenneth Dick offered prayer for Nathan Dick. It was also noted that Rob Wilson’s covenant with First Presbyterian Church of Madisonville had been renewed and that Teaching Elder Stuart Drake, formerly of Highland and Lester Memorial, had moved to California.

Committee on Nominations and Representations

Teaching Elder Charlie Evans reported for the committee, noting that a full report would be

forthcoming at the November 2018, meeting of Presbytery. It was moved and seconded that Teaching Elder Eric Hoey serve on the committee on Nominations and Representations. With no additional nominees, the motion carried.

Youth Committee

Ruling Elder Certified Christian Educator Leslee Kirkconnell reported that a Camp Yucon Retreat for senior high students was in the works for November 2018, and that plans were already under way for a summer, 2019, senior mission trip to Florida with the theme "Challenge to Change". A host city is being sought for the 2019 summer middle school mission trip "City Lights".

Coordinating Presbyter's Report

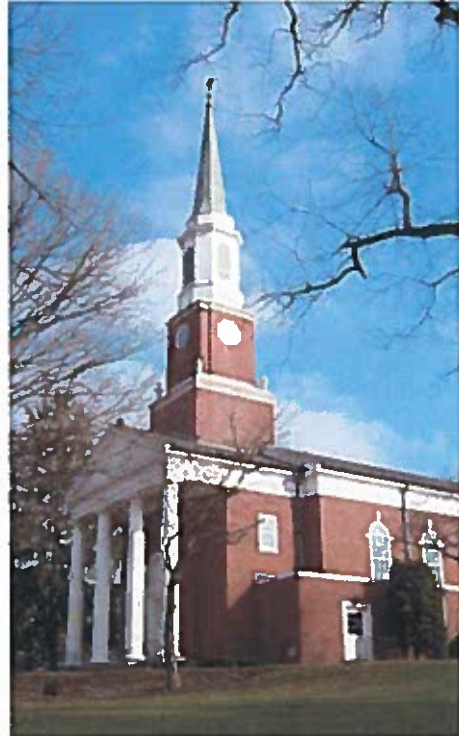
In addition to his printed report, a part of the day's packet, Coordinating Presbyter Teaching Elder Kenneth Dick informed Presbytery of the state-wide meeting of Presbyteries to be held in Danville, Kentucky, on November 2-3, 2018.

Joys and Concerns

Moderator Anthony Barta commented on the "circus with the Holy Spirit" experienced by Presbytery. Thanks were expressed by representatives of Cecelia Memorial Presbyterian Church for contributions to their back to school program for area young people. Concern was noted for CLP Karen Napier who had recently had surgery. Leslee Kirkconnell shared good news that The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green was enjoying the services of a youth trainee/intern David Clark of Northern Ireland. Concern was expressed for a number of children suffering from cancer. Curry Davis expressed joy at his granddaughter's birthday. Sympathy and concerns were shared for local minister Rev. Harold Riley upon the recent death of his daughter in an automobile accident. Joy was expressed as children return to school; prayers were offered for the safety and well-being of students and teachers returning to school.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m., with prayer by Teaching Elder Anthony Barta, Moderator.

The next scheduled meeting of the Presbytery of Western Kentucky will be on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at the First Presbyterian Church of Owensboro, Kentucky:



<https://www.firstpresbyterianowensboro.com/home.php>