

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 May 8, 2018, a beautiful spring day, at First Presbyterian Church in Calvert City, Kentucky. A delicious breakfast buffet awaited members and friends of Presbytery as they gathered in the church's fellowship hall prior to the commencement of the day's activities.

Call to Worship and Constituting Prayer

The Call to Worship was led by Rev. Dr. Anthony Barta, Moderator of the Presbytery of Western Kentucky, and *Pastor Emeritus* of First Presbyterian Church in Hopkinsville.

Worship

The morning worship service was led by Lay Pastor Karen Napier, Commissioned Ruling Elder Pam Goolsby, both of whom serve as co-pastors of First Presbyterian of Calvert City, and Teaching Elder Terry Newland, Executive Director of the Synod of Living Waters. Ruling Elder Teri Ford of Calvert City served as liturgist. Ruling Elder Tom Moody of the Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green served as organist. Rev. Newland spoke on the encounter of the Disciples and their encounter with the risen Jesus following their night of unsuccessful fishing and the relevance of the story to the world of today.

Welcome by Host Church

Lay Pastor Karen Napier of First Presbyterian of Calvert City welcomed members and guests to the meeting. She spoke briefly about the church's "Feed the Community" garden project.



Introduction & Seating of Corresponding Members

Rev. Dr. Barta recognized Rev. Newland and Ruling Elder Rob Fohr. It was moved and seconded to grant these two men voice without vote. Motion granted. There were no first-time Elder Commissioners present.

Stated Clerk's Report

Stated Clerk Ben Talley declared a quorum present. The docket for the day was approved. Mr. Talley presented his report. Motion was made to amend the Administrative Manual to remove the moderator of the Permanent Judicial Commission as a member of the Oversight Commission. Motion carried. Motion was made to add a new section to the Administrative Manual related to the appointment of Presbytery Investigating Committees. Motion carried. Motion was made to accept the invitation received from First Presbyterian Church of

Mayfield regarding the church's willingness to host the August 11, 2018 meeting of Presbytery. Motion seconded and carried. Mr. Talley noted that Session minute reviews would be held at today's meeting as well as in August. Mr. Talley presented the "Condition and Progress of the Churches in the Presbytery of Western Kentucky" report. It was moved to approve the report. Motion seconded and carried.

Teach-In

Teaching Elder Terry Newland reported on "Functions of Synod". He reflected on the history, present condition, and future of Synods in the denomination. Ruling Elder Ralph Young provided additional information.

Commissioning to the General Assembly

Teaching Elder Charlie Evans and Ruling Elder Carol Brand were commissioned as representatives from the Presbytery of Western Kentucky to the General Assembly meeting to be held next month in St. Louis, Missouri. Coordinating Presbyter Kenneth Dick and Stated Clerk Ben Talley asked the requisite questions. Rev. Evans and Mrs. Brand answered appropriately. Mr. Talley and Rev. Barta offered prayers for Rev. Evans and Mrs. Brand.



Lunch

Prior to a delicious lunch in the church fellowship hall, Rev. Barta offered a prayer of grace and thanksgiving. Following lunch, Rev. Barta offered a reconvening prayer, noting the hospitality of the members of the church.

BUSINESS MEETING

Ruling Elder Rob Fohr, Director of Mission Responsibility Through Investment, discussed the role of investments in the denomination at present. He noted how this factor will impact the General Assembly next month.

Commission on Ministry

Ruling Elder Frank Montgomery noted the continuing work regarding structuring the Manual. He moved to make changes to guidelines as recommended by the commission. Motion carried. Mr. Montgomery further presented an addition to Section IX. Motion carried. Mr. Montgomery noted that Ruling Elder Becky Durham had recently accepted a position in North Carolina. Best wishes were extended to Rev. Durham.

Nominating Committee

Teaching Elder Charlie Evans reported for the committee. He noted that Teaching Elder John Guthrie and Ruling Elder Shane Fortner had been selected by the committee to serve on the Permanent Judicial Commission as representatives for the classes of 2018 and 2023 respectively. Motion carried.

Finance Committee

Coordinating Presbyter Teaching Elder Kenneth Dick presented the financial report. "We are on line," he stated. He reminded churches of the importance of per capita commitments and that the finance committee would be calling for requests in the very near future.

Personnel

Ruling Elder Frank Montgomery noted that Tiffany Thomas would be working in the Presbytery during "crunch times".

Youth Committee

Teaching Elder Becky Durham reported on a Middle School Mission Trip to be held at Highland Presbyterian Church in Hopkinsville this summer. She also noted the fall retreat for youth to be held November 9-11, 2018, at Camp Loucon.

Coordinating Presbyter's Report

In addition to his printed report, a part of the day's packet, Coordinating Presbyter Teaching Elder Kenneth Dick noted the blessing of being in the Calvert City Church and joy that issues at Calvert City and the Central City Churches appear to be settled. He noted the success of recent cluster meetings in the Presbytery and reminded those present of the Presbytery's web page, declaring it a good way to communicate and share events with

and among other churches of the Presbytery. He noted the November 2-3, 2018 meeting of all the Presbyteries of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to be held at Danville, Kentucky. He extended his and the Presbytery's best wishes to Becky Durham and thanks to Terry Newland. On a personal note, Rev. Dick noted the recent graduation of his son Kevin from Seminary. He extended thanks to the congregation of Smiths Grove for its support of Kevin as well as to the churches of the Presbytery where Kevin has pastored during his time in seminary. He also thanked Rev. Charlie Evans for his mentoring of Kevin.

Joys and Concerns

Teaching Elder Jenna Goggins reported on the upcoming medical mission trip to Guatemala with representatives of First Presbyterian of Paducah, First Presbyterian of Murray, and MSU Campus Ministry in attendance. She noted that additional shoes for children were still needed.

Teaching Elder Christine Coy Fohr noted that members of the Owensboro congregation had committed to a program wherein they would read the entire Bible in ninety days! She reported that about twenty-five people were expected to complete the project around Pentecost.

Teaching Elder Lon Lorton stated that this month marked his seventeenth year at the First Presbyterian Church at Madisonville and that it had truly been a blessing. Madisonville Ruling Elder Jane Mosley noted what a blessing Rev. Lorton had been to the church and to the community.

Teaching Elder Rich Cooper noted that his daughter-in-law, Teaching Elder Jennifer Cooper, would soon be returning to the United States and an assignment in Washington, D.C., following Chaplain Cooper's most recent deployment to Germany.

Cecelia Memorial reported on the congregation's recent Spring Giveaway, the third of its kind, and an opportunity for the congregation to serve the community. Thanks for support from the Bowling Green Presbyterian Church was shared.

Best wishes were extended to Becky Durham from her home church as well as the Presbytery of Western Kentucky.

With no further business, Presbytery was adjourned with prayer by Teaching Elder Anthony Barta, Moderator, at 2:15 p.m.

The next meeting of the Presbytery of Western Kentucky will be on August 11, 2018, at the First Presbyterian Church of Mayfield, Kentucky:

