

MINUTES - PARISH ELDERS
Monday, March 18, 2019

Present: Chair, Mark Unrue, Jeff Bergeson, Chris Stewart, Sally Walker, Rich Holmes, Suellen Skinner
Ex Officio: GP, Matt Skolnik. Excused: Eldon Trubee & David Smith

Call to Order - Chair, Mark Unrue

Devotions and opening prayer given by Suellen Skinner - Psalm 77 - How do we deal with anger? How do we encourage people to face their anger as a faithful response?

Upon MSA – Minutes from January 14, 2019 meeting. APPROVED with spelling corrections.

Upon MSA – All Terms of Calls before us. APPROVED

Anne Weirich with College Drive PC

Linda Kaufman with Plymouth First PC

Herbert C. Perry (CLP) with Putnam PC

Michael J. Parker with Ashland First PC

Merlin A. Wentworth (CLP) with Antrim PC

Darla Revennaugh with Dresden-Madison PC & Duncan Falls PC

Carolyn C. Behrendt with Dennison First PC

Jeffrey D. Bergeson with Unity PC

Richard Hastings (CLP) with Pioneer PC

David R. Smith with Marietta First PC

James McConnell (CLP) with Freeport PC & Nottingham PC

Thomas W. Roepke (CLP) with Linden Road PC

Healthy Boundaries Mandatory Training

First training was held at Ashland First PC on Monday, March 11, 2019 with 14 attendees

More HB trainings are scheduled throughout the Presbytery through April 24th

There will be a sign-in sheet at each meeting and attendance will be taken. You must stay for the entire training event.

If anyone cannot attend without taking time off from work, Matt Skolnik will work with them.

Are there any other exceptions and if so what? What can we do if someone does not take the class? Those who can't attend need to contact Matt for a follow up time.

Upon MSA - Matt requested approval by Parish Elders to specify that the Healthy Boundary Training 101 for will be sufficient for 2019. Healthy Boundaries training 201 will be presented later. APPROVED
Each of the Parish Elders need to remind the people in their Parish to plan to attend one.

Parish Reports

Ashland/Richland/Wayne – Eldon Trubee

Ashland First, Bellville, Congress Community, Creston, Dalton, East Hills, Lexington, Linden Road, Milton, Orrville First, Plymouth First, Savannah, Seville, Wayne, Wooster First, Wooster Westminster

- Seville - Tricia is there now.
- Wooster Westminster - Enikő Ferenczy's ordination has been re-set for April 28th.

Upon MSA - Chris Stewart will moderate session for Wooster Westminster. APPROVED

- Orrville First is considering selling some property next door. This requires Presbytery approval.
- Savannah has not yet sold their manse.

Carroll - Vacant PE

Alliance First United, Bethesda, Carrollton First, Carrollton United, Corinth, Hanoverton, Minerva First, Scroggsfield, Stillfork

- Hanoverton and Bethesda are not ready to continue the process of seeking a new minister at this

time? Inconclusive situation. Matt will check with them.

- Mark met with the Minerva Session. Struggling. PNC frustrated.
- Carrollton First - Slow process, PNC is functional but there are some challenges to overcome.

Holmes/Coshocton - Chris Stewart

Clark Community, Coshocton, Fresno, Loudonville First, Millersburg First, Perrysville First, Warsaw First

- Coshocton - Things going well with new pastor. Having many funerals.
- Clark - No longer yoked with Millersburg, working on it's own. They are working on their MIF. Greg Bendle will preach for them until Sept. 30, 2019.
- Fresno - Chris will check in with Donna Westfall about them.
- Loudonville First & Perrysville First - Gathering information and working on their MIF reflecting their yoke. Matt will work with them in creating their website.
- Millersburg First - has completed their MIF and it is posted on-line. Process is moving along.
- Warsaw First - Luanne West, became a member and a Presbyterian, still working on the process.

Harrison/Tuscarawas - Sally Walker

Dennison First, Freeport, New Philadelphia First, Nottingham, Uhrichsville First

- Freeport & Nottingham. Jim McConnell - sister recently passed away
- Dennison First - Carolyn Behrendt - all is well

Guernsey/Muskingum - Jeff Bergeson

Antrim, Bloomfield, Buffalo, Cambridge First, College Drive, East Union, High Hill, Mt. Hermon, North Salem, Old Washington First, Rix Mills, Senecaville First, Unity, Westminster-New Concord

- Jeff has been unsuccessful in reaching Timothy Berger from High Hill and Charles Hutchison from Mt. Hermon.
- College Drive - Transition team - Jeff is trying to contact Will Mullins, meeting with PNC. Will set date for exit interview.
- Cambridge First - Things going well with Caleb. They had a joint Ash Wednesday worship service with Unity PC.

Morgan/Perry/Zanesville - Suellen Skinner

Brighton, Central-Zanesville, Deerfield, Dresden-Madison, Duncan Falls First, Frazeysburg, McConnelsville, Norwich, Putnam, Roseville, Trinity

- Brighton - Suellen is leaving. Still looking into pastoral parish.
- New Parish Elder needed. Moderators needed. New Direction group starting work on new structure. Calling pastoral parish "New Path".
- Trinity - candidate interviewed did not accept position. Interviewed another candidate. They do not want to be in pastoral parish.
- Deerfield - need moderator. They are a very missional church in community. 8 or 10 people.
- Roseville - down to 6 people.

Stark - Rich Holmes

Calvary, Central-Massillon, Christ Canton, Church of the Covenant, Hopewell, John Knox, Northminster, Reedurban, Shreve

- Rich has had exit interviews with both John Knox and Tom Houston. John Knox has completed their MIF and it's posted online. Matt Skolnik will review and make matches.
- Christ Canton is having a confirmation class led by Michael Wallace.
- Calvary is preparing for Mike Baker's (CRE) departure.
- Reedurban - beginning process for Lynn Shetzer's retirement.

Washington/Noble - David Smith

Barlow, Beverly, Caldwell First, Marietta First, Pioneer, Sharon, Watertown

- Beverly & Caldwell continue to seek pastoral leadership through their parish partnership.

- Marietta First is planning several activities.
- Pioneer & Barlow moving along.

MIF's that are circulating: Trinity United, Millersburg First, Carrollton First, John Knox, Minerva First, Caldwell First. Plus the College of Wooster is looking for a Chaplain

General Presbyter's Report - Matt Skolnik

- Council members will be out and about forming relationships in the Presbytery
- 10,000 cups of Joe in 2020
- Trying to put together a formal structure around Cross Cultural context

Final discussions

Parish Elder vacancies and reviewing the classes, identifying which need to be re-elected or replaced.

Upon **MSA** – the 23 Ruling Elders who completed the Communion Training are authorized to serve communion within their congregations without a pastor. **APPROVED**. Certificates will be distributed at the April Presbytery meeting.

Robin Swinsburg. What recourse do we have if a disgruntled church won't pay severance pay? How can we handle it.

Matt Skolnik shared a letter from another Presbytery about how slow the process is to find a new minister.

Board of Pensions program. <http://www.pensions.org/your-path-to-wholeness/healthy-pastors-healthy-congregations>. Seminar for Ministers and Elders: once we have a number of pastors together to complete their training, Doug Portz is available to come and lead the seminar.

Rich Holmes will bring devotions for the next Parish Elders meeting being held on May 20th, 2019 at the Mission Center office. Mark Unrue will not be there. Jeff Bergeson will moderate the meeting.

Upon MSA - Adjournment followed by prayer at 12:45. **APPROVED**