

Upcoming Events

December 21, 2007 until January 2, 2008	Presbytery Office Closed
January 4-5	Committee on Preparation for Ministry Retreat
January 21 – Martin Luther King Day	Presbytery Office Closed
January 21-22	COM – CDC Retreat
January 25-26	Council Retreat
February 8-20	RHINO Mission Trip
February 21-23	Synod of the Trinity, Canonsburg, PA
February 25-26	Educator/Clergy/CLP Retreat

YOUR PRESBYTERY STAFF

Gay Mothershed	Executive Presbyter
John Bolt	Stated Clerk
Lois Coffey	Financial Administrator/Treasurer
Terry Cunningham	Ministry with Older Adults
Susan Sharp Campbell.....	Associate for Educational Ministries
Karen Robinson.....	Resource Center Director
Sherri Walker	Information Services Director
Margaret Bolt	Office Coordinator
Erica Panaro	Bluestone Conference Center Secretary
Mark Miller	Director of Bluestone Conference Center
Carolyn Arbuckle	Hunger Action Enabler/Co-Staff Resource for Quadrant 3
Mary Jane Knapp.....	Special Presbyter for Quadrant 1
Peter Vial....	Assoc. for Congregational Development/Co-Staff Resource for Quad 3

PRESBYTERY OFFICE HOURS

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Monday thru Thursday

Phone (304) 744-7634 Fax (304) 744-7649

Email: office@wvpresbytery.org

Presbytery Digest

Presbytery of West Virginia

November 29, 2007

The Presbytery met on November 29, 2007 at **Riverlawn Church, St. Albans**. Moderator **James Harless** presided at the meeting which was attended by 209 individuals. Presbytery was welcomed by **Chris Kilbert**, pastor.

Presbytery welcomed four new pastors: **Bonnie Boyce**, pastor of **Spring Valley Church, Huntington**; **Mike Ducheneau**, pastor of **Bates Memorial Church, Huntington**; **Claire Butler**, associate pastor of **First Church, Charleston**; and **Robin Blakeman**, member-at-large, **Barboursville**. The Presbytery received greetings from **Dennis Sparks**, Executive Director of the **West Virginia Council of Churches** and **Bruce Stevens**, Executive of the **Synod of the Trinity**.

The meeting began with morning worship. **Susan McGhee** reported for Presbytery's Council and the following persons were elected to the Presbytery Nominating Committee: **Louise Corbett**, **Bonnie Morrison** and **Pat Schumann**. Also, Presbytery approved the requests of the Committee on Ministry and Committee on Preparation for Ministry to adopt Chapter 14 of the *2005-2007 Book of Order* as Presbytery's policy until such time as it is changed and to adopt a structure for the oversight of the Authorized Lay Preacher/Commissioned Lay Pastor program.

The Mission Interpretation and Stewardship Committee introduced the delegation visiting from our sister Presbytery in Kenya. The visitors included **Dr. James Munyi**, moderator of Nyeri Presbytery, **Monicah Githae** and **Prisca Gichuki**. The delegation brought greetings from Nyeri Presbytery and presented Presbytery with a clock and presented Executive Presbyter, **Gay Mothershed**, with a necklace, wrap and handbag. The Presbytery of West Virginia presented the delegation with a monetary gift.

The Social and Ecumenical Ministries Committee reported that applications are still being solicited for the Presbytery mission trip to the **RHINO Project** in New Orleans from February 9 -17, 2008. The \$1,440 offering from the afternoon worship service was designated to help support this mission trip. Representatives from

Mission WV presented a call for churches to participate in the One Church – One Child program to encourage adoption in West Virginia.

Presbytery approved a *Manual* change to increase the Stated Clerk position from 1/4 time to 3/8 time effective October 1, 2007. Also, a change in the 2008 mileage reimbursement rate was approved for volunteers. If traveling alone, the mileage reimbursement will be \$0.22 per mile; and if carpooling, the mileage reimbursement will be \$0.35 per mile. The Personnel and Administration Committee also recommended and Presbytery approved new five-year terms for **Lois Coffey**, Financial Administrator/Treasurer; **Karen Robinson**, Resource Center Director; **Susan Sharp Campbell**, Associate for Educational Ministries; and **Carolyn Arbuckle**, Hunger Action Enabler and Co-staff Resource for Quadrant 3.

Presbytery elected the following: **Kristi Moore**, Pastor of **Highlawn Church, St. Albans**, Moderator of Presbytery for 2008; **James Harless**, CLP of **First Church, Kenova**, Chair of Council; **James Rowe**, elder from **Old Stone Church, Lewisburg**, moderator – elect; **Rod Jones**, elder from **Enslow Park Church, Huntington**, Vice-Moderator of Quadrant 1; **Tina Vial**, elder from **Upperglade Church**, Vice-Moderator of Quadrant 2; and **Tom Campbell**, elder from **Old Stone Church, Lewisburg**, Vice-Moderator of Quadrant 3. In addition, 55 persons were elected to serve on Presbytery committees.

The following were elected to serve as commissioners and alternates to the 218th General Assembly in San Jose, CA – June 21-28, 2008:

Ministers:

Principal, Q3	Adrian Pratt	Beckley
Principal, Q1	Mary Jane Knapp	First, Ripley
Alternate, Q4	Paul Romine	First, St. Albans
Alternate, Q2	George Spransy	Bridgeport

Elders:

Principal, Q2	Sally Gray	First, Clarksburg
Principal, Q4	Bob Hutton	Highlawn, St. Albans
Alternate, Q1	Nancy Baldwin	Winfield
Alternate, Q3	John Arbuckle, Jr.	Edgewood, Lewisburg

The Finance and Development Committee approved a \$8,680.00 grant for **First Church, Terra Alta** from the Mission Development Fund to repair the church roof.

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry reported that **Janet Allison Smith**, a member of **First Church, South Charleston**, currently enrolled at **Pittsburgh Theological Seminary**, had been enrolled as an inquirer and **Greg Bolt**, a member of **First Church, Charleston**, and a recent graduate of **Union-PSCE**, had been certified as ready to receive a call.

The Committee on Ministry recommended approval of the stated supply covenants between **Greg Stone** and **Trinity Church, Shady Spring** and **Pam McCalla** and **Eleanor Church**; approval of the renewal of the stated supply covenants between **Robert Klein** and **Mill Creek Church, Dan Festa** and **Winfield Church, Benjamin Simmons** and **Alexander Memorial, Baxter** and **Liberty Churches**, and **Robert Hortsman** and **Church of Our Savior Clarksburg**; approval of the renewal of the Commissioned Lay Pastor agreements between **James Harless** and **First Church Kenova**, and **James Musgrave** and **First Oak Hill** and **Summerlee Churches**; the amendment of the Commissioned Lay Pastor covenant between **Charles Shafer** and **South Hills Church**; and the approval of seven moderators. In addition, Presbytery approved the request of **Edward Knight** to be placed on the inactive roll of ministers and approved the request of the **Smithers Church** for a waiver in the rotation of elders. All of these recommendations were approved on the consent agenda. The ministries of the following pastors were validated: **Doug Pendleton, Kathryn Willoughby Weed, James Morley, Rick Wilson** and **Jean Sutton**. The COM also reported the covenant agreements of **Bonnie Boyce** as pastor of **Spring Valley Church, Huntington** and **Claire Butler** as associate pastor of **First Church, Charleston**. **Robin Blakeman** was received as a member-at-large from Miami Presbytery and the COM has approved the installation commissions of **Claire Butler** as associate pastor of **First Church, Charleston** and **Pamela Eliason** as pastor of **Union** and **Centerville Greenville Churches**. **John Harris** and **Victoria Moss** were dismissed to the Presbytery of New York City.

The Trustees reported that the congregation of the **Old Stone Church Lewisburg** has purchased property as provided by the *Book of Order* G-8.0701. Also the following property matters were approved: **First Church Mullens**, sale of manse; **Beechwood Church**, sale of property; and **Beechwood Church**, loan refinancing.

The meeting concluded with recognition of the following outgoing chairpersons: **Rob Laukoter, Gary McGrew, Ed Pettus**, and **Lucy Youngblood**; and the installation of the following new chairpersons: **Jim Harless, Amy Sutherland, Jim Robinson, John Arbuckle, Tom Hastie, Jesse Haynes, David Richards, Pam McCalla, Mike Seely, Jim Musgrave, John Koerner, Susan McGhee, George Lilley, and Ed Rugeley**. Finally, **Kristi Moore** was installed as moderator for 2008. The following will be installed at a later date: **James Rowe** as moderator-elect; and **Rod Jones, Tina Vial** and **Tom Campbell** as vice-moderators. **Jim Harless** was recognized for his service as moderator in 2007 and presented with a hand-carved cross.

**The next Presbytery meeting will be:
Saturday, March 15, 2008 – First Church, Huntington**