

YOUR PRESBYTERY STAFF

Gay Mothershed Executive Presbyter
John Harris Stated Clerk, *Pro Tempore*
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 BoltOffice Coordinator
Erica PanaroBluestone Conference Center Secretary
Mark MillerDirector of Bluestone Conference Center
Carolyn Arbuckle Hunger Action Enabler
Mary Jane Knapp..... Special Presbyter for Quadrant 1
John Harris Special Presbyter for Quadrant 2
Malcolm BrownleeInterim Special Presbyter for Quadrant 3
Ed Thompson Special Presbyter for Quadrant 4
Peter Vial..... Associate for Congregational Development
Bill KnottDirector of Planned Giving

Presbytery Digest

Presbytery of West Virginia
May 20, 2006

The Presbytery meeting was held at **Davis & Elkins College** in Elkins. **Moderator Susan McGhee** presided, and **Dr. Tom Mann, President of D&E** welcomed the Presbytery.

Presbytery welcomed one new pastor: **Mike Seely**, Pastor at First Church, Parkersburg.

Stated Clerk John Harris reported the Presbytery's statistics as of December 31, 2005. Currently there are 13,259 active members in Presbytery's 145 churches, a net loss of 491 from a year before. The Presbytery has 144 ministers, half of whom are retired, inactive or engaged in ministries other than pastorates. Of the 1,061 active elders in our churches, the balance of men and women is just about equal. He also reported the results of session record reviews done in March and April.

The Stated Clerk Search Committee recommended elder **John A. Bolt**, a member of First church Charleston as the new stated clerk effective July 1, 2006. He is the Vice-Moderator of Quadrant 4, an authorized lay pastor, and a member of the General Assembly Council of the PC (USA). He was elected unanimously.

The Personnel and Administration Committee asked for input from the Presbytery regarding possible staffing patterns for the future to better serve the priorities of the Presbytery for transformational ministry and to address the future financial realities. They welcome input!

The Presbytery Worship, Review and Polity Committee proposed that Presbytery Quadrant meetings be held beginning in September 2007 for a two year period. The quadrant meetings will be held from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. to allow for prayer/worship, essential business, and time for discussion/fellowship and presentations. Any recommendations requiring vote by the full Presbytery will be counted by aggregate vote. The recommendation was approved and the dates for the 2007 Presbytery meetings are:

March 17, 2007	[Quadrant 2]
May 18-19, 2007	Bluestone Camp and Retreat
September 6, 7, 10 & 11	Quadrant meetings
November 20, 2007	[Quadrant 4]

Nominating Committee presented names of additional persons for service on several Presbytery committees and asked that congregations and individuals earnestly seek qualified individuals in each quadrant for service to the Presbytery. They request nominations by June 30, 2006.

Presbytery adopted the PC (USA)'s **Commitment to Peacemaking** and commended the Commitment to Peacemaking to the churches in the Presbytery for their consideration. Currently, 35 churches have adopted the commitment.

The **Mission Interpretation and Stewardship Committee** celebrated the ministry of the Rock Forge Neighborhood House and recognized the following:

<u>Top Five Churches in Total Giving:</u>	<u>Top Five in Giving Per Member:</u>
Charleston First	Glenville
Huntington First	Tygarts Valley
Old Stone	Belle
Village Chapel	Salem
Beckley	Village Chapel

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry approved the final assessment of **Emily Accord Haddox** and **Jamie Smith** and has certified them ready to

receive a call. Also inquirer **Charles Shumaker** and candidate **David Warner** have withdrawn from the care of the Presbytery of West Virginia.

The Committee on Ministry presented the **Pastor Compensation Report for 2006** and a **Policy Concerning Termination of Pastoral Relationships** and both were approved. The COM also reported that the proposed merger of three Kanawha City churches was not approved during congregational votes on May 7, 2006.

Several changes to the Presbytery's *Manual* were accepted to reflect the current practices of the Presbytery regarding the make-up of Council, the size of Presbytery's committees, organization of the Permanent Judicial Commission and Trustees and to change the designation of the meeting for election of Moderator, Vice Moderators and Committees and Commissions from the Winter to the Fall Stated Meeting.

Upcoming Events

Summer Camping begins at Bluestone Camp and Retreat – June 18

Synod Conference Meeting – June 5-7, Davis & Elkins College

General Assembly – June 15-22, Birmingham, AL

CE Conference– July 5 -9 at Montreat Conference Center

Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women – July 7-11

Sharing in Faithful Ministry/New Transformative Initiative Retreat – September 8-9 at Hawk's Nest State Park

Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering – September 23 at Flatwoods

TOOLS Workshops – Begin September 23 [Registration deadline Aug. 25]

Renovare Conference – October 6-7 at Christ Church United, Charleston

Older Youth Retreat at Bluestone Camp and Retreat – November 10-12

**The next Presbytery meeting will be
Thursday, September 7, 2006 at First church in Logan, WV**