

The Minutes
Of
Mississippi Valley Presbytery

General Synod of the
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church



Fall Stated Meeting

October 7-8, 2013

New Albany Presbyterian Church
New Albany, Mississippi

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PROCEEDINGS
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY
New Albany Presbyterian Church
New Albany, Mississippi

Fall Stated Meeting
October 7-8, 2013

The registration of delegates began at 5 pm. Following an evening meal provided by the host church at 6 p.m., the Fall 2013 Stated Meeting of Mississippi Valley Presbytery began at 7 p.m. with an opening worship service led by Rev. Bill Everett (see **Appendix A**).

Following the worship service and a brief recess, Steve McCollum, an elder at the New Albany Presbyterian Church, welcomed the presbytery. Prayer was requested for Hubert Foley, an elder at the New Albany church, who was unable to attend because he had injured his shoulder earlier that day. Mr. Foley had originally been scheduled to give the welcome.

The Principal Clerk confirmed a quorum was present.

Ministers Present

Thomas Braithwaite (<i>E</i>)	Dan Hazen
Ron Brunson (<i>E</i>)	Gary Jones
Meredith Cavin	Matthew Heathman
Moises Chan (<i>E</i>)	Kent Moorlach
Conrad Cheatham (<i>E</i>)	Tim Phillips
Gary Clowers	Troy Pritt
James Coad III (<i>E</i>)	Zech Schiebout
Alex Coblentz	David Searfoss (<i>E</i>)
Joey Donahue	Wayne Stanchfield (<i>E</i>)
Bill Everett	David Storment
W. Nale Falls (<i>E</i>)	Charles Todd
Michael Garvey (<i>E</i>)	John Tucker
Jodie Gaston (<i>E</i>)	Don Watkins
Carl Geisik (<i>E</i>)	Howard Wheeler (<i>E</i>)
Benjamin Glaser	Robert White
Steve Hardy (<i>E</i>)	Mike Yarman

(A) = Unexcused Absence (E) = Excused Absence

Ruling Elders Present

Bethany – David Frazier	Ebenezer – Edwin Dees
Brighton – John Moore	Elsberry – none
Covenant Reformed – none	Faith – none
Covington – Milton Murphy	French Camp – Bruce Hosket

Gospel of Grace – Marshall Snodgrass
Graceview – Gene Adams
Gum Tree – Carl Patterson
Helena – none (excused)
Hernando – Steve Rice
Hickory Springs – none (excused)
Hopewell – Troy Graham
Midlane Park – none
Mt. Zion – Charles Bunner

New Albany – Steve McCollum
New Geneva – Kevin Myers
Pottsville – none
Providence – David Strock
Richland – Bob Mitchell
Salem – Kerry Regen
Sharon – none
Wood Avenue – none

Stated Supply

Charles Covington
Al Herrington

Guests

David Patterson, John Robinson, Carolyn Murphy, David Earle, Larry Littlejohn, Mike Thomason, Barbara Thomason, Mrion Bunner, Dell Mills, Lillian Roberts, Joan Herrington, Jane Patterson, Carolyn Strickland, Marge Smith, Blanche Strong, Lorraine Pritt, Martha Dees, Mary Nell Coblentz, Rodney Shands, Ginger Shands, Thomas Maclin, Betty Maclin, Jerry Harmon, Vicki Harmon, Charles Browning, Jean Browning, Howard Roberts, L.V. McNeal, Mac Fennell, Laura Fennell, Ancie Lowery, Daniel Gillespie, Stephen Ewing, Kathy Nowlin, Linda Everett, Ashley Gillespie, Nan Miller, Sandra McCollum, and Linda Yarman

Several guests were introduced as first-time attendees to the meeting.

Thomas Maclin, an elder at the New Albany Presbyterian Church, presented the agenda for the meeting (see **Appendix A**).

The following procedural motions were presented to the court by the Reading Clerk and adopted without objection:

- That each minister or ruling elder delegate who has contacted the clerk requesting an excused absence from this meeting of presbytery be granted an excused absence.
- That honorably retired ministers not in attendance be granted an excused absence.
- That each minister and ruling elder delegate who must leave this meeting of presbytery before adjournment and who submits a request for an excused absence from the remaining portion of the meeting of presbytery, be granted an excused absence.
- That ministers of other presbyteries of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church or other Christian denominations, who have been registered with the clerk for this meeting, may be seated as consultative members of the presbytery, in accordance with the FOG, Chapter XII.C.3.
- That clergy and/or laity who represent institutions or agencies related to the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church who have registered with the clerk for this meeting be invited to sit with the presbytery and be granted the privilege of the floor.

The Principal Clerk noted the following ministers and elders had submitted excuses for this stated meeting of MVP: Rev. Howard Wheeler, Rev. Moises Chan, Rev. Conrad Cheatham, Rev. Mike Garvey, and Elder Wilmont Green. In addition, representatives from the Helena Presbyterian Church also requested an excused absence from the meeting.

Updates were given about those who were absent from the meeting, and Rev. Dan Hazen was called upon to pray for those missing from the meeting because of illness and injury.

The minutes from the Spring 2013 meeting of presbytery were adopted.

Moderator Yarman appointed a committee to examine the records of sessions: Carl Patterson, Rev. Gary Clowers, Kerry Regen, and Rev. Matthew Heathman.

Mr. Carl Patterson, an elder at Gum Tree Presbyterian Church, was nominated as Vice-Moderator/Moderator-elect of MVP. There were no other nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed and Mr. Patterson was elected.

Mr. David Earle, Vice President for Advancement for Erskine College and Seminary, gave a presentation on Erskine to the presbytery. Rev. Joey Donahue was then called upon to pray for Erskine and prayed for the Board of Trustees of Erskine as its members search for a new president for the college and seminary.

After announcements, there being no further business for the evening, the meeting recessed until the following morning. Moderator Yarman closed with prayer and a benediction.

Tuesday Morning, October 8, 2013

The meeting of MVP reconvened at 8:30 a.m. Moderator Mike Yarman opened in prayer, and Rev. Meredith Cavin led the presbytery in morning worship by preaching a sermon from Ezekiel 34:6-16, entitled "The Seriousness of Shepherding."

The presbytery considered an overture from General Synod concerning the proposed revised Form of Government. It was noted that the presbytery would discuss the revised Form of Government at this meeting, and that church sessions were instructed to examine the document in preparation for a vote at the spring meeting of MVP. There was much discussion on the document, particularly the issue of inactive membership rolls. The Principal Clerk was asked to see about sending out a list of changes between the old and revised Forms of Government to the churches of the presbytery.

There was no written report from the Board of Dunlap Retirement Center. Rev. Meredith Cavin, the current chairman of the board, gave an update, as did Mr. Milton Murphy, a member of the board. Both spoke in great appreciation of board member Gene Tate, who recently passed away unexpectedly.

The presbytery heard an address from Mrs. Marge Smith, President of Mississippi Valley Presbyterian Union of ARP Women's Ministries. Rev. Bill Everett made a motion that Mrs. Smith's comments be included in the Minutes of Presbytery (seconded, passed). (See **Appendix B**).

The commission report for the installation of Rev. Kent Moorlach as pastor of the Richland ARP Church was presented and adopted by the presbytery (see **Appendix C**).

The commission report for the reception of the Ellisville Presbyterian Church and the installation of Rev. Benjamin Glaser as pastor of that church was presented and adopted by the presbytery (see **Appendix D**).

The commission report for the installation of Rev. Gary Jones as pastor of the Hernando Presbyterian Church was presented and adopted by the presbytery (see **Appendix E**).

A letter by Rev. Jodie Gaston updating his preparations for mission work in Wales was read to the presbytery (see **Appendix F**). Dr. Al Harrington was asked to pray for Rev. Gaston and his work.

The Principal Clerk made an announcement concerning the request for suggestions and comments to be sent to Synod's Committee on Revising the Book of Discipline. Rev. Alex Coblenz, a member of Synod's committee, also addressed the presbytery about the document and the request.

A letter from the Covington Presbyterian Church requesting the dissolving of the church by the presbytery was presented (see **Appendix G**). Mr. Marshall Snodgrass made a motion to grant the request of the church (seconded). There was much discussion. Mr. Milton Murphy (an elder at Covington) and Rev. Matthew Heathman (the church's pastor) addressed the presbytery concerning the reasons for the request. Low attendance numbers and a decrease in giving were cited. The church is currently down to only three households.

The order of the day was reached, and the presbytery recessed for committee meetings.

Recess for Committee Meetings (10 a.m.)

Discussion continued regarding the request from the Covington Presbyterian Church. A vote was taken on the matter. The motion passed, effectively dissolving the church. Rev. Benjamin Glaser was asked to pray for the situation. A motion was made to form a moderator's commission to oversee the aftermath of the dissolution of the congregation (seconded). After discussion, the motion passed.

The Report of the Committee on Nominations was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix H**). The report was amended to substitute Mike Thomason's name in place of Ed Dees as a Trustee of MVP. The report as amended was adopted by the presbytery.

The Stewardship Committee Report was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix I**). It was noted in the report that John Robinson had been elected as the new Treasurer of MVP and Carl Patterson's name was added as an additional signatory on the accounts of presbytery. There was further discussion on the report. The report was adopted by the presbytery. Rev. Bill Everett was asked to pray for the Tate family due to the recent death of Mr. Tate.

The Treasurer's Report was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix J**). The report was adopted by the presbytery.

The report of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery Education Fund Committee was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix K**). The report was adopted by the presbytery.

The report of the Moderator's Committee on Sessional Records was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix L**). The report was adopted by the presbytery.

The order of the day was reached, and Rev. Dan Hazen was called on to pray for the lunch meal.

Order of the Day (Lunch – noon)

Presbytery reconvened at 1 p.m. with a season of prayer.

The report of the Minister and His Work Committee was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix M**). The report was amended to include Al Harrington as the stated supply of the Ebenezer Presbyterian Church. A question was asked about Rev. Mike Garvey's status as stated supply of the Wood Avenue and Hickory Springs churches. Mr. Marshall Snodgrass stated that he would see that the churches be contacted with regard to Rev. Garvey. The recommendations were approved and the report was adopted as amended.

The ONA Committee report was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix N**). Each of the recommendations was considered individually. The first recommendation was amended to include seeking the input of Outreach North America in finding church planting candidates (seconded). The recommendation as amended was approved. Recommendation 2 was then considered. After much discussion, the question was called, and the recommendation was voted on and passed. Recommendations 3 and 4 were considered and both recommendations passed. Recommendation 5 was then considered. An amendment was offered to the recommendation: *that Larry Littlejohn be allowed to resign as presbytery's representative to the Wood Avenue and Hickory Springs churches* (seconded). After discussion, the recommendation as amended passed. The report was then adopted. After the report was adopted, Martha Dees informed the presbytery that the Wood Avenue Presbyterian Church had received a grant from the Arkansas Historical Society to do necessary repairs to the building, and this would be very helpful for the church.

The Christian Education Committee report was presented to presbytery (see **Appendix O**). During the report, a short promotional video for MVP Camp was shown. The recommendations from the committee were then considered. The recommendation to bless

Thomas Graves with a gift of no more than \$1000 was considered and passed. The recommendation to distribute evaluation forms passed. The recommendation to reimburse travel expenses for Christian Education Ministries passed. The recommendation to hold the fall retreat at Camp of the Rising Son, to include college students, and to invite Kent Moorlach as the speaker, passed. The recommendation to update the signatures on the Christian Education bank account was considered and discussed. The recommendation was amended to change the current signatories of the bank account to Rev. Dan Hazen, Mr. Larry Treadaway, and Mr. John Robinson. The amendment was seconded and passed. The recommendation as amended then passed. The report as a whole was then adopted by the presbytery. A motion was made to commend Dan Hazen on the recent MVP summer camp (seconded, passed).

It was announced that the Spring 2014 meeting of MVP would be held at the Ellisville Presbyterian Church. Mr. Marshall Snodgrass rose and made a motion to extend an invitation from the Gospel of Grace Church to host the Fall 2014 meeting of MVP. The motion was seconded and passed.

A motion was made to dispense with the reading and adoption of the minutes and to adjourn (seconded, passed). After announcements, the meeting concluded with the singing of "Christian Unity," followed by a closing prayer by Rev. Bill Everett.

Mississippi Valley Presbytery
 Fall Stated Meeting
 New Albany Presbyterian Church
 October 7 & 8, 2013

4:00 Registration
 6:00 Supper
 7:00 Evening Worship

Service of Worship

The Prelude	<i>When I Survey the Wondrous Cross</i>	McKechnie
Call to Worship		
*Hymn, No. 172:1-5		<i>Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder</i>
*The Invocation		
Responsive Reading		Psalm 51 (page 804)
Prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving		
The Anthem		<i>Behold the Lamb</i>
The Reading of God's Word		Romans 9:1-24
The Proclamation of God's Word		<i>The Mystery of Mercy</i>
*Hymn, No. 455:1-3		<i>And Can It Be That I Should Gain</i>
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper		
*Hymn, No. 455:4-5		<i>And Can It Be That I Should Gain</i>
*The Benediction		
The Postlude	<i>Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me</i>	Practorius

Brief Recess

Constitution of Presbytery with Prayer	Moderator Mike Yarman
Welcome by Host Church	Mr. Hubert Foley
Constitution of the Roll	
Introductions	
Presentation of the Program	Mr. Hubert Foley
Adoption of Spring Minutes	
Appointment of Moderator's Committee on Sessional Records	
Election of Vice-Moderator/Moderator-elect	
Address by Mr. David Earle, Erskine College	
Unfinished Business	
Announcements	
Closing Prayer and Benediction	Moderator Mike Yarman
Recess for the night	

Tuesday

8:30 Morning Worship	
Hymn, No. 575:1-3	<i>Soldiers of Christ, Arise</i> Ezekiel 34:6-16
Scripture	
Message	<i>The Seriousness of Shepherding</i> The Rev. Meredith Cavin
Psalter, No. 23A:1-3	<i>The Lord's My Shepherd</i> Moderator Mike Yarman
Call to Order	
Overture from Synod on Proposed <i>Form of Government</i>	
Dunlap Retirement Update	
Report of Mississippi Valley Presbyterian Union of ARP Ministries	
	Mrs. Marge Smith, President
Business	
10:00 Recess for Committee Work	
11:00 Reconvene for Business	
12:00 Recess for Noon Meal	
1:00 Season of Prayer	
Business	
Announcement of Meeting Place for Spring 2014	
Reading and Adoption of Minutes	
Motion to Adjourn	
Song of Christian Unity	Bible Song, No. 280
Closing Prayer and Benediction	

Welcome to New Albany Presbyterian Church! It is our pleasure to host the fall meeting of Mississippi Valley Presbytery and we hope you have a pleasant stay. May our fellowship together be sweet as we gather in our Savior's great name and may He guide and bless the work we do to the advancement of His kingdom and to His eternal glory!

280 Christian Unity
F. A. M. 183. C. M.

1. Be-hold, how good a thing it is And how becoming well, To-ge-th-er
 2. Like precious olivment on the head That down the beard did flow, Ev'n Aaron's
 3. As Hermon's dew, the dew that doth On Zi-on's hills de-scend; For there no
 such as brethren are In u-ni-ty to dwell! In u-ni-ty to dwell!
 beard, and to the skirts Did of his garments go, Did of his garments go,
 blessing and commands, Life that shall never end, Life that shall never end.

Report to Mississippi Valley Presbytery

Mississippi Valley Presbyterial Union of ARP Women's Ministries President's Report

October 8, 2013

Mr. Moderator, thank you for allowing me to speak on behalf of the women of Mississippi Valley Presbytery. On August 23-24, 2013 we met for the 81st session of the Mississippi Valley Presbyterial Union. Since our beginning as auxiliaries organized to provide support for our youth and for missionaries overseas our name has changed several times – from the Women's Missionary Society to the Women's Synodical Union, and recently to ARP Women's Ministries. During that time the boundary of our presbytery has been extended to include 26 congregations, some as far apart as 700 miles.

The number of women participating in organized women's ministries in our presbytery has become smaller. Most of us work outside the home in addition to caring for our families and participating in our local ministries. However, as a presbytery-wide organization of church women, we are in danger of losing our sense of community, just as it seems we are becoming more marginalized within synod. Facing the realities of our changing culture, leaders at the synod and presbytery level have been re-evaluating our purpose and simplifying organizational structure. As Christian women we believe that our first priorities are spiritual growth and Christian fellowship. We have addressed these areas through our retreats and workshops attended by members within a one or two hour drive from various locations. We sincerely appreciate the support given by the presbytery to make such events possible.

Acknowledging the changing lifestyle of our women and the changing structure of ARP Women's Ministries, in August the presbyterial executive board authorized the appointment of a committee to recommend amendments to our constitution and bylaws. Questionnaires were mailed to every pastor and to women in each congregation. Responses include such suggestions as replacing the annual meeting with regional meeting, more emphasis on spiritual growth and Christian fellowship, and better communication.

The speaker for our meeting in August, Mrs. Camille Kendall, challenged us to venture beyond our "comfort zone" by intentionally reaching out in friendship to others, in keeping with I John 3:23: "And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another as He gave us commandment." These connections with other women in friendship were addressed at our annual meeting by Sally Illman, president of ARP Women's Ministries. Our goal as Christian women is to meet this challenge.

As we begin a new year a biblical verse key to me is Proverbs 16:3 "Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed."

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Smith

President, Mississippi Valley Presbyterial Union ARP Women's Ministries

Appendix C

The Installation Service for the Rev. Kent Moorlach was held at 3:00 P.M. on June 2, 2013 at the Richland A.R.P. Church. After the officiates were led into the sanctuary by a bagpiper, the Rev. Meredith Cavin led the antiphonal call to worship and after the singing of "Before the Lord We Bow", he offered the Invocation. The Rev. Charles Todd gave the welcome and the Rev. Matthew Heathman read Ezekiel 33:1-9 and I Timothy 4:6-16 and led in the recitation of the Apostles Creed. The Questions for Installation were asked by the Rev. Joey Donahue, all of which were answered in the affirmative by the Rev. Kent Moorlach and the congregation. The Charge to the Pastor was brought by the Rev. Charles Todd and the Charge to the Congregation by Elder Seth Stark. Psalm 133 and Amazing Grace were then sung and after the Rev. Moorlach offered the benediction, a reception was held in Memorial Hall which everyone enjoyed.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Y. Todd

Commission of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery
Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2013

The Commission of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery met for a called meeting on March 18, 2013 at the Ellisville Presbyterian Church in Ellisville, MS at 1730.

Present were Rev. Mike Yarman, Moderator of Mississippi Valley Presbytery, Rev. Dr. David Storment, Leakesville ARP Church, Rev Ben Glaser, Michael Shotwell, Clerk of Session, Ellisville Presbyterian Church, Dr. Charlie Probst, Ruling Elder Emeritus, Ellisville Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Cary Williams, Ruling Elder Leakesville ARP Church.

Rev. Yarman called the meeting to order at 1730 and the opening prayer was offered by Rev. Ben Glaser. Mr. Shotwell was asked to serve as Secretary.

Rev. Yarman reviewed the purposes of the Commission.

1. To receive the Ellisville Presbyterian Church into the Mississippi Valley Presbytery.
2. To install Rev. Ben Glaser as the pastor of the Ellisville Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Yarman reviewed the order of service (see attached) which includes the following duties.

- Rev. Mike Yarman will preach the installation sermon entitled “ How will they hear” from Romans 10:5-17.
- Rev. David Storment will administer the vows of installation and the charge to Rev. Ben Glaser.
- Mr. Williams will administer the vows of membership to the congregation.
- Rev. Yarman will administer the vows to the ruling elders and declare the church received into the Mississippi Valley Presbytery.
- Rev. Ben Glaser will pronounce the Benediction

The meeting was adjourned at 1750 with prayer by Rev Yarman.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Shotwell, Secretary

Appendix D

**The Ellisville Presbyterian Church, ARP
Ellisville, Mississippi**

The Lord's Day

August 18, 2013

Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser, Pastor

Service of Installation and Reception 6:00 P.M.

Welcome and Announcements

Greetings From Mississippi Valley Presbytery, ARP

*The Call to Worship Isaiah 12:1-6

*The Invocation and Lord's Prayer

*Opening Psalm *"Deliverance is from the LORD!"* #3

*Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

Old Testament Reading 1 Kings 8:54-66

Presentation of Candidate for Installation

Formula of Questions for Installation

Charge to Newly Installed Minister

Prayer of Thanksgiving

New Testament Reading 1 Timothy 4:1-16

Pastoral Prayer *Confession, Thanksgiving, and Intercession*

Sermon Text Romans 10:5-17

The Sermon How Will They Hear? Rev. Mike Yaman

* CONGREGATION STANDS BY ANZE

*Psalm of Response *"Behold How Good a Thing"* #133A

Renewing of the Vows of the Ruling Elders

Renewing of the Vows of the Congregation

Declaration of Reception and Charge to the Congregation

Closing Prayer

*Closing Hymn *"The Church's One Foundation"* #317

*Benediction From God's Word

Welcome!

We want to welcome you to our service of worship this evening! It is a blessing to have you with us as we celebrate the uniting of this congregation of Jesus Christ with the Mississippi Valley Presbytery, ARP and the installation of Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser as our Pastor. We thank our brothers and sisters in the Mississippi Valley Presbytery for their warm hospitality and especially the Faith Presbyterian Church of Leakesville, Mississippi for their support.

Participants

Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser..... Pastor, Ellisville Presbyterian Church, ARP
 Michael Showell.....Clerk of Session, Ellisville Presbyterian Church, ARP
 Rev. Mike Yaman..... Moderator, Mississippi Valley Presbytery, ARP
 Dr. Charles Probst..... RE Emeritus, Ellisville Presbyterian Church, ARP
 Rev. David Stormont..... Pastor, Faith Presbyterian Church, ARP
 Cary Williams..... Ruling Elder, Faith Presbyterian Church, ARP

"Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery; Meditate upon these things: give thyself wholly to them, that thy profiting may appear to all." -- 1 Timothy 4:14-15

Appendix E

MVP Commission to Install Rev Gary Jones as pastor of the Hernando ARP Church

The Commission to install Rev Gary Jones as pastor of the Hernando ARP Church met at 4:45 at the Church on August 25.

Present: Rev Charles Todd Chairman of the Minister and His work Committee, Rev Joe Donahue Pastor of the Providence ARP Church, John Tucker pastor of the Graceview ARP Church, Mr David Strock and Mr Steve Rice.

The Commission was called to order by the Chairman and the meeting opened with prayer.

The following order of worship was adopted:

Prelude

Call to Worship and Prayer: Steve Rice

Hymn

Scripture Reading and Sermon: Joey Donahue

Hymn

Reaffirmation of Ordination Vows; Installation Questions;

Congregational Question; Declaration Installation: Charles Todd

Charge to Pastor and Prayer for Pastor: John Tucker

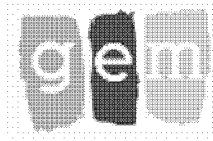
Charge to Congregation and Prayer for Congregation: David Strock

Hymn

Benediction: Gary

The Commission concluded its work with the Benediction.

Respectfully Submitted



JODIE & TINA GASTON

8 Brook Laurel Lane
Taylors, SC 29687

Jodie- 864-593-8901
jodie.gaston@emission.org

Tina- 864-436-1824
tina.gaston@emission.org
gastonsinwales.com

Fathers and Brethren:

I wanted to write to give you a brief report of our progress towards our mission to serve in Wales. We have currently reached 80% of the funds we need for launch. We anticipate reaching our launch goal by the end of this year. We still need churches and individuals who are willing to partner with us through regular financial support in the future. We currently need approximately \$2500 per month in pledges to be fully funded.

We have registered to attend CIT (The Center for Intercultural Training) in February 2014, and we anticipate being in Wales later in the Spring. We are currently working with an educational consultant to plan out our children's education. The current plan is to begin homeschooling in January and to continue until we depart for Wales.

On a more personal note, I am continuing to recover from ankle surgery. When we were in Wales in July, I was running and ruptured two tendons in my ankle. I underwent surgery three weeks ago. Since then, I have been in a cast. In two more weeks I will be put in a walking boot and begin physical therapy. Needless to say, not being able to drive has been difficult, but we are thankful that there have been no complications thus far.

Here are some ways that you and your churches can be praying for us:

1. Pray for continued healing for my ankle and that no complications will develop during the healing process.
2. Pray for wisdom in planning our children's education. Pray for stability in that process as we will be spending a significant amount of time traveling the coming months.
3. Pray for continued development partnerships in the gospel.
4. Pray that we will be diligent in our continued preparation for intercultural training and service on the field.

Thanks again for all your support and prayers in coming days. We look forward to keeping you all informed as we continue on this journey.

Sincerely yours,

Jodie Gaston
Cooperative Missionary Appointee
World Witness & Greater Europe Mission



Covington Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

*133 W. Washington Ave
P. O. Box 217
Covington, TN 38019
(901) 476-2222*

*S. Matthew Heathman
Pastor*

August 18, 2013

There was a called Congregational Meeting after morning worship. The purpose was to discuss the concerns and future of the Covington Church. A quorum being present the meeting was called to order by Rev. Heathman.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Heathman.

The future of the church was discussed.

Greg Watts made a motion that we adjourn and meet again next week, August 25, to discuss what action we would take. Charlie Moss seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned with prayer by Elder Richard Moore.

August 25, 2013

The continuation of the called Congregational Meeting of August 18 was held after morning worship. A quorum being present the meeting was called to order by Rev. Heathman.

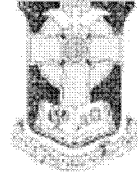
The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Heathman.

Carolyn Murphy moved that we ask presbytery to dissolve the congregation of the Covington ARP Church. Norma Turner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Leah Heathman moved we approve the minutes as read. Grace Watts seconded. Motion passed.

Norma Turner moved we adjourn after prayer. Leah Heathman seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting was closed with prayer by Elder Richard Moore.



Report of the Committee on Nominations Mississippi Valley Presbytery

The Committee on Nominations met via email on October 5, 2013 to finalize recommendations for Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Wheeler, Chairman.

Recommendations:

1. That the following recommendations for service be approved by Presbytery.

Name	Position of Service	Term
Eric Krull	Dunlap	Immediately - 2015
John Robinson	Treasurer of MVP	Immediately-2017
Edwin Dees Mike Thomason	Trustee of MVP	n/a
Milton Murphy	Trustee of MVP	n/a

(Note: This report was amended and Mike Thomason's name was substituted in place of Edwin Dees as Trustee of MVP.)

Appendix I

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY OCTOBER 7-8, 2013, NEW ALBANY A.R. P. CHURCH, NEW ALBANY, MISSISSIPPI

It is with great sadness that the Stewardship Committee prepares its report this fall without input from our beloved treasurer, Mr. Gene Tate, who was called home to his Father on August 2, 2013. His dedication to this Presbytery was unequal and we are thankful for the privilege of knowing this servant of our Lord.

The attached proposed budget for 2014 is made using estimated receipts from the churches based on (1) membership per the 2012 Synod Minutes, or (2) prior year's contribution, or (3) contributions to date in 2013. In 2012 all but one church contributed to the MS Valley Presbytery budget and we express our appreciation to all of you. With each church participating we are able to fund the Presbytery operating cost as well as support two major causes, Dunlap Retirement Center and the MS Valley Presbytery Camp. All proposed expenditures are the same as 2013.

In the proposed budget also is the \$10,000.00 from Parkway Place Part D Funds for support of the Hernando ARP Church that was approved at the March 2013 Presbytery meeting. A total of \$20,000.00 was approved for their support from Parkway Place Part D Funds. Payments are to be made from March 2013 through October 2014.

To make the transition to a new treasurer, the Stewardship Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. That the minutes show John Robinson was elected Treasurer of MS Valley Presbytery effective 10/8/2013 and beginning 10/8/2013 is authorized to sign checks, make deposits, withdrawals, invest funds and other financial business of the Presbytery as needed.
2. That Carl Patterson be approved as an authorized signer on accounts of Presbytery along with the new treasurer-elect in #1.
3. That Rev. William B. Everett and Carl Patterson be approved as an authorized signers on all checking accounts of the Presbytery and any and all certificates of deposits owned by the Presbytery at BNA Bank, New Albany, MS, Renasant Bank, New Albany, MS, and Bancorp South Bank, New Albany, MS until such time as the new treasurer in number (1) above may relocate funds to a bank nearer his home town.
4. That the name of Mr. Gene Tate be removed from all financial documents pertaining to the Mississippi Valley Presbytery, including checking accounts and certificates of

deposits at BNA Bank, New Albany, MS, Renasant Bank, New Albany, and Bancorp South Bank, New Albany, MS

5. That Andy Coburn be removed as a signer on checking account 01-620260-03, MS Valley Presbytery Associate Reform Presbyterian Church, Christian Education Committee, at BNA Bank, New Albany, MS, since Rev. Coburn is no longer a member of this Presbytery. Rev. Dan Hazen and Mr. Charles Browning are signers also on this account and need to remain.
6. That Presbytery, in appreciation of Mr. Tate's service as Treasurer of our Presbytery and also a member of the Dunlap Retirement Center Board, stand while a special prayer of gratefulness for this servant be rendered and that the Clerk notify Mr. Tate's family of this recognition.

In addition, the Stewardship Committee makes recommendations 7 and 8 below:

7. that Presbytery request the Dunlap Retirement Center Board to furnish the Presbytery Treasurer a copy of the Retirement Center's latest audit report for his records.
8. That churches make their checks payable to the Mississippi Valley Presbytery, not to the name of the treasurer, while paying their commitment.

As mentioned in our reports over the years it is very important that matters which are going to require financial support from Presbytery be presented to the Stewardship Committee for consideration prior to being brought to the floor of Presbytery. The funds of Presbytery, especially in the Parkway Place accounts, have dwindled and caution must be used.

Respectively submitted,

Martha Dees
Stewardship Chairperson

Appendix I

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY
PROPOSED 2014 BUDGETS – ALL FUNDS

GENERAL FUND for OPERATIONS

Receipts from Mississippi Valley Presbytery Churches:

Bethany	\$	300.
Brighton		1,000.
Covington		250.
Ebenezer		400.
Ellisville		300.
Elsberry		100.
Faith		750.
French Camp		800.
Gospel of Grace		690.
Graceview		750.
Gum Tree		690.
Havana Mission Church		100.
Helena		250.
Hernando Reformed		300.
Hickory Springs		40.
Hopewell		200.
Midlane Park		380.
Mt. Zion		280.
New Albany		2,000.
New Geneva		490.
Pottsville		350.
Providence Reformed		300.
Richland		500.
Salem		1,600.
Sharon		190.
Wood Avenue		<u>140.</u>
Receipts from churches		\$13,150. @95% collection =

\$12,493.

MVP Share of 2013 ONA Endowment \$
200.

Total Estimated Receipts

\$12,693.

Expenditures:

Dunlap Retirement Center	\$2,200. (same)
MVP Christian Education	5,000. (same)
MS Valley Presbyterial Annual Retreat	500. (same)
Administrative cost (supplies, postage, etc.)	2,000. (same)

Minister & His Works Committee operations	400. (same)
Stewardship Committee	100. (same)

Appendix I

Nominations Committee	200. (same)
C. E. Ministries Committee	500. (same)
MVP ONA Committee	500. (same)
Committees & Officer Travel	400. (same)
Special Committees/Commissions Expenses	400. (same)
Total Expenditures	

\$12,200.

MVP/ONA Revitalization Expenses
200.

Total Estimated Expenses General Fund

\$12,400.

Difference between estimated receipts and estimated expenditures **\$**
293.

Parkway Place Part D Funds

Hernando ARP Church (Support January – October 2014)

\$10,000.

(Approved at the March 2013 Presbytery Meeting)

TREASURER'S REPORT – MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

OCTOBER 7-8, 2013

Attached you will find the following items: MVP 2013 Budget showing receipts and expenditures through September 30, 2013, a spreadsheet showing the monthly receipts from churches, a listing of individual expenditures for the year, and the cash balances/fund balances sheet for January 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013.

The cash balance/fund balance sheet shows the Dunlap Retirement Home 12/31/2012 book value that Mr. Tate used. Since Dunlap Retirement Center is wholly owned by Mississippi Valley Presbytery, Mr. Tate included this as an asset of the Presbytery. The new book value as established by the CPA who audits and reports on Dunlap needs to be submitted to the Treasurer.

To date 16 churches have paid all or part of their 2013 commitment. Churches are encouraged to pay your commitment as soon as possible. Several churches have started paying either monthly or quarterly and we encourage them and others to continue this practice.

Please have the person who pays bills at your church verify what is showing on the list agrees with their records. Let me know if your record shows something different. Remember the commitment is \$10.00 per active member per your Statistical Report to Synod.

Martha Dees
Stewardship Chairman

Appendix J

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	MVP Budget 2013	Budgeted	Collected	Budget Adjustment	Expended	Remaining Budget	
2							
3	RECEIPTS						
4	Bethany, Guntown, MS	\$210.00				\$210.00	
5	Brighton, TN	\$1,100.00	\$980.00			\$120.00	
6	Covington, TN	\$290.00				\$290.00	
7	Ebenezer, Blue Mtn, MS	\$400.00	\$400.00			\$0.00	
8	Ellisville Presbyterian, Ellisville, MS					?	
9	Eisberry, MO	\$110.00	\$100.00			\$10.00	
10	Faith Presbyterian, Leakesville, MS	\$780.00	\$750.00			\$30.00	
11	French Camp, MS	\$780.00	\$800.00	\$20.00		\$0.00	
12	Graceview, Southaven, MS	\$750.00	\$675.00			\$75.00	
13	Gospel of Grace, Springfield, MO	\$530.00	\$690.00	\$160.00		\$0.00	
14	Gum Tree, Tupelo, MS	\$670.00	\$690.00	\$20.00		\$0.00	
15	Havana Mission, Havana, AR	\$140.00				\$140.00	
16	Helena, Moss Point, MS	\$250.00				\$250.00	
17	Hernando Reformed, Hernando, MS	\$300.00				\$300.00	
18	Hickory Springs, AR	\$40.00				\$40.00	
19	Hopewell, New Albany, MS	\$300.00				\$300.00	
20	Midlane Park, Louisville, KY	\$380.00	\$320.00			\$60.00	
21	Mt Zion, Troy, MO	\$280.00	\$280.00			\$0.00	
22	New Albany, MS	\$2,040.00	\$1,462.50			\$577.50	
23	New Geneva, Paducah, KY	\$460.00	\$490.00	\$30.00		\$0.00	
24	Pottsville, AR	\$360.00				\$360.00	
25	Providence, Bartlett, TN	\$650.00	\$200.00			\$450.00	
26	Richland, Rosemark, TN	\$500.00	\$500.00			\$0.00	
27	Salem, Atoka, TN	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00			\$0.00	
28	Sharon, Brighton, TN	\$190.00				\$190.00	
29	Wood Avenue, Monticello, AR	\$120.00	\$140.00	\$20.00		\$0.00	
30	Total Receipts from churches	\$13,230.00	\$10,077.50	\$250.00		\$3,402.50	
31							
32	Interest on General fund						
33	Total All Receipts	\$13,230.00					

Appendix J

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
	MVP Budget 2013	Budgeted	Collected	Budget Adjustment	Expended	Remaining Budget	
1							
2							
34							
35	Receipt Ross Exploration		\$104.20		\$104.20	0	
36							
37	EXPENSES						
38	Direct Support:						
39	Dunlap Retirement Center	\$2,200.00			\$2,200.00	0	
40	MVP Christian Education	\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00	0	
41	MVP Annual Retreat	\$500.00					
42	Operating Expenses:						
43	(Supplies, postage, printing, etc.	\$2,000.00			\$580.78	\$1,419.22	
44	Committee Expenses:						
45	Minister and His Works	\$400.00					
46	Stewardship	\$100.00					
47	Nominations	\$200.00					
48	Christian Edu. Ministries Com.	\$500.00					
49	ONA Committee	\$500.00					
50	Committees & Officer Travel	\$400.00					
51	Special Comm/Commissions Exp.	\$400.00			\$435.71	(\$35.71)	
52	MVP/ONA Revitalization Expenses	\$200.00		\$620.44	\$820.44	\$0.00	
53	Total Expenses	\$12,400.00		\$13,020.44	\$9,036.93	\$3,983.51	
54							
55	Excess of Rec. over/under expenses	\$429.56					
56							
57	Parkway Place Fund Part D						
58	Hernando's ARP Church Support			\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$2,000.00	

Appendix J

	A	B	C	D	E
1					
2	Date	Ck. #	Paid To from		
3			BNA Bank Account		
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14	Date	Ck.#	Paid to from		
15			Renasant Bank Account		
16	1/2/2013	2135	R. Roger, Havana Tr	\$104.60	Tfr. Gas well receipt
17	1/12/2013	2136	Tim Phillips	\$228.69	postage, copies
18	1/21/2013	2137	Dunlap Retirement	\$2,200.00	2013 Allotment
19	1/29/2013	Debit	Deluxe Checks	\$96.25	Checks
20	3/5/2013	2151	MVP C.E. Fund	\$5,000.00	2013 Allotment
21	3/5/2013	2152	Hernando Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	March support
22	3/5/2013	2153	General Synod ARP Church	\$84.48	Inv. 41712, Conf.call re.: divide Presby.
23	4/9/2013	2154	Susan Bailey, Hernando	\$138.66	Presby. Revitalization workshop cost
24	4/9/2013	2155	Hernando Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	April support
25	5/1/2013	2156	Hernando Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	May support
26	6/1/2013	2157	Hernando Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	June support
27	4/23/2013	2158	Larry Littlejohn	\$205.36	Travel Wood Avenue Church
28	5/23/2013	2159	Larry Littlejohn	\$230.35	Travel, Warren, AR
29	6/20/2013	2160	Outreach North America	\$681.78	Ken Priddy Expenses MVP
30	7/1/2013	2161	Hernando Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	July support
31	8/1/2013	2162	Hernando Presbyterian Church	\$1,000	August support
32	9/1/2013	2163	Hernando Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	Sept. Support (pd before Mr. Tate died
33	7/30/2013	2164	Tim Phillips	\$171.36	Presby. Minutes and postage
34	9/18/2013	2165	Hernando Presbyterian Church	\$1,000.00	Oct. Support
35					
36			Sub-total	\$17,141.53	

Appendix J

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1								
2								
3	Cash Balances January 1, 2013	Checking	Receipt	Interest	Notes	Expenses	Ret.	
4	BNA Bank 01-620260-01	\$1,642.80	\$5,142.50	\$1,090.17		0	\$7,875.47	
5	BNA Bank 01-620260-05	\$30,145.47		\$35.57		0	\$30,181.04	
6	BNA Bank 2200123455	\$20,196.79	\$4,934.00	\$1,849.17	\$104.60		\$9,944.09	
7								
8	Total in checking accounts	\$51,985.06	\$10,077.50	\$2,974.91	\$104.60		\$48,000.54	
9								
10	Total in checking accounts	\$51,985.06	\$10,077.50	\$2,974.91	\$104.60		\$48,000.54	
11								
12	Certificates of Deposits							
13	Remesent Bank (Gen. Fund)*	\$50,000.00					\$50,000.00	
14	Remesent Bank (Parkway Place)*	\$180,000.00					\$180,000.00	
15	BNA Bank (Parkway Place)	\$130,000.00					\$130,000.00	
16	BNA Bank (Parkway Place)	\$70,000.00					\$70,000.00	
17	Bancorp South (Parkway Place)	\$140,000.00					\$140,000.00	
18	* 1 CD totaling \$230,000.00							
19	Total Cash Balance	\$621,985.06	\$10,077.50	\$2,974.91	\$104.60		\$618,000.54	9/30/2013
20								
21	Fund Balances January 1, 2013							
22	General Fund	\$83,619.54	\$10,077.50	\$318.15	\$104.60		\$85,799.10	
23	MVP OMA retribution	\$22,446.16					\$21,835.72	
24	Parkway Place Part A	\$200,000.00					\$200,000.00	
25	Parkway Place Part B	\$250,000.00					\$250,000.00	
26	Parkway Place Part C	\$44,853.47					\$44,853.47	
27	Parkway Place Part D	\$21,065.49		\$2,856.76			\$18,208.73	
28	Total Fund Balance	\$621,985.06	\$10,077.50	\$2,874.91	\$104.60		\$618,000.54	9/30/2013
29								
30	Dunlap Retirement Home	\$54,964.52					\$54,964.52	12/31/2012
31	Per M.C. Title 12/31/12							
32	Parkway Place Fund owed five							
33	General Fund \$4,081.04 Interest							

Appendix K

The annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Presbyterian Educational Fund committee was held on August 27th at the Salem church at 7 PM. Those in attendance were Rev, Charles Todd, Danny Hughes, Jimmy Rammage and Randy Goulder.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev Charles Todd.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The treasures report was read and approved

Business

- There are no requests for funds at this time
- There was discussion on the possibility of investing a portion of the educational fund in the ARP Foundation fund. The current interest on CDs is very low – around .5 %. At this time the ARP Foundation account has several options with varying amounts of risks. A conference call was made to one of the fund administrators which gave information about how funds could be handled. A decision was made to take the matter in prayerful consideration, investigate further and make a recommendation at the spring presbytery on investment changes.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Jimmy Rammage

Randy Goulder

Mississippi Valley Presbytery
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Educational Fund
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Net Assets
Resulting From Cash Transactions
For the Year Ended August 31, 2013

RECEIPTS AND ADDITIONS:

Interest income - certificate of deposit No. 1	170.39
Interest income - certificate of deposit No. 2	<u>105.21</u>
 Total Receipts and Additions	 275.60

DISBURSEMENTS AND DEDUCTIONS:

Disbursements	<u>000.00</u>
 Increase in Net Assets	 275.60
 Net Assets Balance, September 1, 2012	 <u>77,483.73</u>
 Net Assets Balance, August 31, 2013	 \$ <u>77,759.33</u>

NET ASSETS REPRESENTED BY:

Cash in the bank checking-Regions Bank Covington, TN	\$ 2,759.33
Cash in the bank certificate of deposit No. 1 -BancorpSouth Covington, TN (Matures 11/10/13 at 0.35%)	45,000.00
Cash in the bank certificate of deposit No. 2 -Regions Bank Covington, TN (Matures 12/15/13 at 0.350%)	<u>30,000.00</u>
 *Net Assets, August 31, 2013	 \$ <u>77,759.33</u>

*(Net Assets - one-half restricted at August 31, 2013 \$ 38,879.67)

Appendix L

The Committee on Sessional Records met October 8, 2013. Chairman Matthew Heathman, Gary Clowers, Kerry Rogers, and Carl Patterson were present. The meeting was opened with prayer by Matthew Heathman.

Approved without exception:

Ellisville Presbyterian Church
Gum Tree Presbyterian Church
Providence Reformed ARP Church
Bethany ARP Church
Ebenezer ARP Church
Mt. Zion ARP Church
Elsberry ARP Church
New Geneva ARP Church
French Camp ARP Church

With Exception:

Hopewell ARP Church – No closing prayer January, 2013 and no rules for record keeping in book.
Brighton ARP Church – Missing December 16th minutes and minutes for Congregational Meeting.

Not Presented:

Richland ARP Church
Pottsville ARP Church
Havana ARP Church

Kerry Regen closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Heathman

Minister and His Work
Mississippi Valley Presbytery, ARP

October 7, 2013 4:00pm

Members Present

Rev. Charles Todd, Chairman

Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser, Secretary

Rev. John Tucker, Rev. Zech Schiebout, RE John Robinson, RE Kerry Regan, RE Steve McCollum

Minutes of the Meeting

The meeting was constituted with prayer by Charles Todd at 4:00pm. The committee heard from the Gumtree ARP Church who notified the committee that their Stated Supply Charles Covington continues to make progress in his course of study through RTS and has completed 19 hours in his 60 hour program.

The committee then met with David Patterson, a member of the Ellisville ARP Church, regarding his sense of call, his Christian testimony, his work in the Ellisville church, and his future plans for ministry and the completion of his theological education.

Next we met with Kevin Myers of the New Geneva Community Church, ARP who was meeting with the committee to further understand his sense of call and the committee discussed his future plans for his ongoing ministry and his education.

Finally, the committee spoke with Matthew Heathman concerning his situation with the Covington ARP Church and his future plans concerning the ministry and his and his family's welfare.

The meeting was adjourned by prayer at 5:27pm by the Rev. Zech Schiebout.

Recommendations

- 1) That the Mississippi Valley Presbytery approve the Stated Supply positions of Charles Todd at the Sharon ARP Church, Conrad Cheatham at the Mt. Zion and Elsberry ARP Churches, and Charles Covington at the Gumtree ARP Church.
- 2) That the Mississippi Valley Presbytery instruct the Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser to continue to meet regularly with David Patterson for prayer and instruction and assist him in finding work and finishing his education.
- 3) That the Mississippi Valley Presbytery instruct the Rev. Don Watkins to continue his mentorship of Kevin Myers affirm his current work in the church and his wider vocation and that he continue to have his call to the ministry clarified.
- 4) That the Mississippi Valley Presbytery approves the Church Transition Package provided to Matthew Heathman by the Covington ARP Church and that the Presbytery would continue to pray for Rev. Heathman and his future plans in the ministry.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser,
Secretary

Appendix N

ONA Committee meeting Mississippi Valley Presbytery August 27, 2013

Those present for the Skype voice meeting were Meredith Cavin, Don Watkins, Charles Bunner, David Strock, and Marshall Snodgrass

The meeting was opened with prayer by Don Watkins.

Charles Bunner began by bringing up the idea that work such as the Havana Church led by Moises Chan was similar to any mission work that was under the guidance of World Witness and should be supported as such. Discussion followed that perhaps the MVP should focus on starting a church plant. This idea was to be discussed in depth at the Fall MVP meeting and brought in front of Presbytery in our report. The idea was introduced that a sermon from Ezekiel 34 might be presented as an encouragement for shepherding to the leaders who represent the congregations of the MVP at the next meeting. Meredith volunteered to present the sermon.

David Strock gave a report on the work at Hernando ARP. He also reported on the installation of Gary Jones as the minister of Hernando.

Marshall brought up his discussions regarding Wood Avenue and Hickory Spring ARP churches. He reported that Larry Littlejohn had felt that it was not necessary to continue paying for his trip to those churches for monthly session meetings and that the same amount could be accomplished by using Skype for the meeting and save the MVP money. Marshall reported that in his correspondence with both churches little if any interest was held by the members regarding the ideas the ONA committee from the Spring meeting of the MVP. He then reported that he had corresponded by email and learned that some felt the MVP had no interest in them. Marshall then reported after receiving the letter that he asked specifically if the churches would send requests for help they found acceptable for their congregations to Marshall so he could bring it up at the fall MVP meeting. As of August 27th no further communication had been received.

Meredith gave a report on Covington and explained they were receiving some of the youth at their Wednesday night meetings. It was clarified that the congregation had voted on disbanding and that it would be presented as a request at the fall Presbytery meeting.

Marshall asked questions about the state of Erskine Seminary and College. Several added information regarding the outlook for the Seminary.

Marshall who had spoken with Mike Yarman prior to the night's meeting reported on the correspondence he had with Miles, one of the church planters in Jackson, MS. The question was raised as to what specifically was the reason the Minister and his

works committee had found objection in the idea of bringing them into the MVP. Marshall said he would contact Rev. Charles Todd for an answer to that question and report back to the committee members.

Marshall made a request for topics for the Fall meetings of the ONA committee.

- 1.) Ask churches for a report of any specific actions resulting from the Priddy seminar.
- 2.) Check for additional website work by the churches.
- 3.) At Monday's meeting the devotion and opening prayer will be by Rev. Don Watkins and closing prayer will be by Charles Bunner.
- 4.) At Tuesday's committee meeting opening devotions will be by David Strock and closing prayer will be by Rev. Meredith Cavin.
- 5.) Charles Bunner brought up the idea of investing our money with Synod ARP Foundation. Steven Nichols is the person of contact. Marshall agreed to contact Mr. Nichols. Charles noted he would send contact information and financial information for which funds are coming due soon and could be transferred if approved by Presbytery.

Meredith made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by David Strock. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

The closing prayer was given by Marshall

ONA Committee
October 7, 2013

Those present were Don Watkins, David Strock, Charles Bunner, Meredith Cavin, Marshall Snodgrass, and Mike Yarman.

Don Watkins presented opening devotions from the book of Ecclesiastes. He then opened the meeting with prayer.

ONA questionnaire was looked at and discussed with the hope of gathering information regarding progress from the churches in attendance. Mike will announce at the Monday evening business meeting the need to have these filled out and returned to David Strock.

An update was given regarding the church from Wisconsin. Marshall reported he had spoken with the pastor and there was still work to be done regarding leaving their current denomination.

The idea of a church plant was brought up for discussion. Don Watkins gave a report they are going to daughter a church in Murray. Martha Dees met with the committee explaining source for funding for a church plant. It was appointed out that some Presbyteries have all the churches in the Presbytery give their offerings from one Sunday to ONA committee for church planting.

Reinvestment ideas were discussed and the committee supported bringing this up in our recommendations.

Questions were again raised regarding the church in Madison, Marshall agreed to talk with Charles Todd some more regarding this and report back to the committee on Tuesday.

It was agreed within the committee to ask Gary Jones to take a few minutes on Tuesday and let the committee know more regarding the progress at Hernando.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Charles Bunner.

Continuation of Fall 2013 meeting of the MVP

David Strock brought a devotional from 2 Samuel 6 on the Holiness of God. He then offered the opening prayer.

Gary Jones provided an update on the work at the Hernando Church.

Marshall provided an update on the church in Madison, MS after talking with the Chairman of the Minister and his Works Committee.

The results of the questionnaire were discussed and recommendations were made for involvement of key people in the church ministries. This increases the ownership and effectiveness of the church and its outreach.

Financial discussion was held on the current appropriated application of funds and options that were available. The concern was increasing the amount of interest prudently to allow money to be used for church planting.

A motion was made by Meredith to present the recommendations below as recommendations from the ONA committee. It was seconded by David. A vote was taken and passed.

Motion to adjourn was made by Meredith and seconded Charles.

Closing prayer was by Meredith.

Recommendations.

1. The Minister and His Works committee contact a few seminaries asking for names and contact information of students with a heart for church planting, and a plan in place for doing a church plant. We are asking the Minister and His Works Committee to appoint one individual to do this.
2. We recommend the Presbytery evaluate the possibility of reinvesting funds to achieve a better interest rate and that these monies generated be used for the purpose of planting churches. A motion to be made to change recommendation F from Attachment 1 dated 10-2008 to allow funds to be invested in other means rather than restrict the fund to Banks and CD's.
3. We recommend the appointment of the first Sunday of February as a special time where an offering in each of the Presbytery churches would be given for church planting/home missions for the MVP ONA committee.
4. The minister and ruling elders leave this meeting and return to their churches with the intent to get key people involved in the ministries of the church.
5. Larry Littlejohn who agreed to be a representative from the Presbytery to the combined session of Wood Avenue and Hickory Spring be allowed to discontinue the current Skype meetings due to the current position of the representatives from those churches which is they are comfortable with the status quo and are not bringing anything to the agenda of the meetings.

Christian Education Committee Meeting, 10/8/2013

Members present:

Opened with prayer by:

Business to be considered:

1. Camp Report.
 - a. Approximately 80 children and 20 adults attended the retreat, "Who Is Your Hero?" Responses to the retreat were positive. There were 2 foot injuries. Strangely, male attendance dropped off and female attendance increased, such that we had almost twice as many girls as boys.
 - b. DVD Progress. Mr. Thomas Graves and his son Cameron shot video at camp, and have worked on a promotional and keepsake DVD.
 - c. Options for showing gratitude (monetary or otherwise) to Mr. Thomas Graves for his work.
2. Family Life Conference (September 14)
 - a. Approximately 83 people attended the conference, "The God Who Speaks".
 - b. Evaluation Forms regarding the conference held at New Albany ARP. Requested by Judi Hodges. Reworked by Dan Hazen and submitted here for correction/approval. (See attached). To be passed out to Presbytery today if possible.
 - c. Request from CEM to our CEC to subsidize CEM for \$1437.62 for their expenditures (mainly travel) in implementing the Family Life Conference held at New Albany ARP. (See attached).
5. Fall Youth Retreat for Jr. and Sr. High students needs to be scheduled.
 - a. Date: Recommended dates are November 22-24 (Friday-Sunday right before Thanksgiving).
 - b. Location: Recommended locations are Camp of the Rising Son in French Camp or Camp Armstrong in New Albany. (Camp of the Rising Son is very nice, but Camp Armstrong is almost free. We held the retreat there 3 or 4 years ago. Ask Charles Browning for details on the camp if interested). (Please refer to 5.d and 6.a regarding the budget)
 - c. Attendees: It has also been suggested that we include college age students in this retreat since we do not have a college age retreat implemented yet.
 - d. Fees: Last year's attendance fees were \$40 per individual, with a max of \$60 per family. Note that in 2012 the retreat cost MVP \$1298.50 (the \$1440 fees did not cover the \$2738.50 cost of the retreat).
 - e. Speaker: Potential speakers for retreat? (Recommendation to involve new ministers or ministers that have not yet participated in our youth retreats)
6. Budget Report
 - a. Current Account Balance is: \$3773.04 (needs to last through the end of 2013.) If \$1437.62 CEM reimbursement is approved, the balance will become \$2335.42. The \$5000 stipend from Presbytery is usually not received until the next year, when funds begin to run low after the Fall Youth Retreat.
 - b. Deposits since last Fall: \$24740
\$1440 in attendance fees for the Fall Youth Retreat
\$500 in attendance fees for the Officer Training Seminar
\$17800 in attendance fees for Summer Camp
\$5000 in stipend from Presbytery

Appendix O

c. Expenditures since last Fall: \$23898.75 (\$25336.37 if CEM \$1437.62 reimbursement is approved)

Expenditures are as follows:

Fall Youth Retreat: \$2738.50

\$1984.26 plus \$165.85 to Camp of the Rising Son for the Fall Youth Retreat

\$263.47 to Hopewell for food at the Fall Youth Retreat

\$324.92 to Tim Phillips for travel reimbursement as speaker for Fall Youth Retreat

Officer Training Seminar: \$1100

\$1000 to Guy Richardson for speaking at Officer Training Seminar

\$100 to Guy Richardson for travel reimbursement

Counselors' Retreat: \$345.75

\$78.25 to Dan Hazen as reimbursement for food costs

\$267.50 to Camp of the Rising Son for the Counselors' Retreat

Summer Camp: \$19474.72

\$2025 to Camp of the Rising Son for summer deposit

\$16705 to Camp of the Rising Son for summer fees

\$744.72 to Southern Tees for Camp Tshirts

Family Life Conference: \$1677.40 (pending approval of CEM reimbursement)

\$239.78 to Hopewell for food reimbursement

\$1437.62 to CEM for travel and other reimbursements (pending current CEC approval)

7. College and Career Young Adults Retreat. Continue discussion on possibilities for beginning a retreat for young adults 18 and up (as time permits).

8. New Business?

Closed with prayer by:

Appendix O

CE Committee

Convened by David - 10 am mtg to order

David Storment, John Moore, Alex Coblentz, Larry Treadaway, Steve Rice , Dan Hazen

See agenda outline...

A. Camp

1. Camp Report from July, 2013

80 students & 20 adults in attendance

Who is You Hero? Theme for the week

2. Thomas Graves shot DVD of camp. PCA pastor from Leaksville. Very positive experience. Donated his time.

3. M.s.p. to bless Thomas with a gift to be determined by Dan & David costing no more than \$1000.

3. Twice as many girls as boys...

One of the best camps we've ever had.

Viewed DVD by T. Graves. Copies available from David Storment.

Final version still in production.

Will be went out to all participants, and all MVP churches.

B. Family Life Conference

1. 83 in attendance

2. Evaluation form presented. m.s.p. to send out to all attendees for feedback.

3. Reimburse CEM for travel expenses - \$1437.62. m.s.p.

C. Fall Retreat

Nov. 22-24 scheduled.

Recommendation to move it to Camp Armstrong because of the cost.

Suggestion: to include college kids as well...

Approx. \$1300 shortfall last year.

M.s.p. to keep it at CRS, include college kids, Keep the fees the same.

M.s.p. to invite Kent Morlach to be speaker for Fall Retreat.

D. Budget. - see agenda for details.

Current balance of \$2335.42. (After reimbursing CEM)

C. Consider possibility of a retreat for college age / young adults.

To be discussed at fall retreat with however many college age kids are there.

D. Need for additional signatures on the CE bank account, and the removal of Charles & Andy who are no longer active.

M.s.p. to remove past names and make it current with members of the committee.

E. Issue over denying a camper access to camp for discipline reasons. Need to communicate better with parents involved.

M.s.p. to adjourn 10:59 am.

HOST CHURCHES OF STATED MEETINGS OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

- 1991 – Graceview, Salem
- 1992 – Ebenezer, Midlane Park
- 1993 – Brighton, Parkway Place
- 1994 – Graceview, Covington
- 1995 – Pottsville, New Albany
- 1996 – St. Paul, Graceview
- 1997 – Brighton, Salem
- 1998 – Providence Reformed, Elsberry/Mt. Zion
- 1999 – Hopewell, Covington
- 2000 – New Albany, Graceview
- 2001 – Hopewell, Parkway Place
- 2002 – Pottsville, Richland
- 2003 – Providence Reformed, Covington
- 2004 – Salem, Brighton
- 2005 – New Albany, Graceview
- 2006 – Hopewell, Helena
- 2007 – Ebenezer, Dunlap/Sharon
- 2008 – Pottsville, Richland
- 2009 – Midlane Park, Mt. Zion
- 2010 – Gum Tree (*no Spring meeting in 2010*)
- 2011 – Hopewell, Providence Reformed
- 2012 – French Camp, Brighton
- 2013 – Graceview, New Albany
- 2014 – Ellisville, Gospel of Grace

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STANDING COMMITTEES OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

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 Rev. Alex Coblentz (2015)
 Mr. John Moore (2015)
 Rev. David Storment (2016)
 Mr. Larry Treadaway (2016)
 Presbyterian Youth Chair – *Ex Officio*

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Students of Theology

None

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Jodie Gaston

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Rev. Ron Brunson (retired missionary)
Rev. Conrad Cheatham
Rev. James Coad III (retired missionary)
Rev. W. Nale Falls
Rev. Michael Garvey
Rev. Carl Geisik
Rev. Troy Pritt
Rev. David Searfoss
Rev. Wayne Stanchfield
Rev. Mike Yarman (retired chaplain)

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Bethany: Dale Whitlock
Ebenezer: Dr. Al Herrington
Elsberry and Mt. Zion: Rev. Conrad Cheatham
Gum Tree: Charles Covington
Helena: Rev. Leslie Rhodes
Hickory Springs and Wood Avenue: Rev. Mike Garvey
Sharon: Rev. Charles Todd

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Schedule for Review of Minutes of Sessions

Spring Meeting

Covington

Faith

Gospel of Grace

Graceview

Gum Tree

Helena

Hernando

Hickory Springs

Midlane Park

New Albany

Salem

Sharon

Wood Avenue

Fall Meeting

Bethany

Brighton

Ebenezer

Ellisville

Elsberry

French Camp

Havana

Hopewell

Mt. Zion

New Geneva

Pottsville

Providence Reformed

Richland