

The Minutes  
Of  
Mississippi Valley Presbytery

General Synod of the  
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church



Spring Stated Meeting

March 2-3, 2015

French Camp Presbyterian Church  
French Camp, Mississippi

Called Summer Meeting

June 9, 2015

Bonclarken Conference Center  
Flat Rock, North Carolina

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### **Schedule for Review of Minutes of Sessions**

**PROCEEDINGS**  
**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY**  
**French Camp Presbyterian Church**  
**French Camp, Mississippi**

**Spring Stated Meeting**  
**March 2-3, 2015**

The registration of delegates began at 3 pm. Following an evening meal provided by the host church at 6 p.m., the Spring 2015 Stated Meeting of Mississippi Valley Presbytery began at 7 p.m. with an opening worship service led by Rev. Mark Miller (see **Appendix A**). Rev. Miller preached a sermon from John 8, entitled “Light All the Way Through the Tunnel.” Rev. Alex Coblentz, pastor of French Camp Presbyterian Church, led in the celebration of the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.

Following the worship service and a brief recess, Moderator Carl Patterson called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. Mr. John Cockrell, an elder at the French Camp Presbyterian Church, welcomed the presbytery.

Rev. Howard Wheeler, serving as acting clerk, confirmed a quorum was present.

**Ministers Present**

Thomas Braithwaite ( <i>E</i> )	Gary Jones ( <i>E</i> )
Ron Brunson ( <i>E</i> )	Matthew Heathman ( <i>E</i> )
Meredith Cavin	Mark Miller
Moises Chan ( <i>E</i> )	Kent Moorlach
Conrad Cheatham	Tim Phillips ( <i>E</i> )
Gary Clowers ( <i>A</i> )	Troy Pritt ( <i>E</i> )
James Coad III ( <i>E</i> )	Zech Schiebout
Alex Coblentz	David Searfoss ( <i>E</i> )
Joey Donahue	Wayne Stanchfield ( <i>E</i> )
Bill Everett ( <i>E</i> )	David Storment ( <i>E</i> )
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
Benjamin Glaser	Robert White
Steve Hardy ( <i>E</i> )	Mike Yarman ( <i>E</i> )

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

### **Ruling Elders Present**

Bethany – none	Hickory Springs – none
Brighton – none	Hopewell – Charles Browning
Ebenezer – Edwin Dees	Midlane Park – none
Ellisville – none	Mt. Zion – none
Elsberry – none	New Albany – Steve McCollum
Faith – none	New Geneva – none
French Camp – John Robert Cockrell	Pottsville – none
Gospel of Grace – none	Providence – David Strock
Graceview – Jerry Lyons	Richland – Bob Mitchell
Gum Tree – John Robinson	Salem – none
Helena – none	Sharon – none
Hernando – Steve Rice	Wood Avenue – none

### **Guests**

Charles Covington, Mike Jones, Martha Dees, Milton and Carolyn Murphy, Kathy and Val Keiter, Mike Chipman, Susan Tanner, Larry Littlejohn, Barbara Cheatham, Troy Graham, Glen Barlow, Jim Henson, Jerry Harmon

Several guests were introduced: Mike Jones (ONA Director), Val and Kathy Keiter (from Dunlap Retirement Center), Susan Tanner (ARP Magazine), Larry Littlejohn (Moderator of General Synod), Stewart Edwards (President of French Camp Academy)

The agenda of the meeting was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix A**). Rev. Alex Coblentz moved to amend the agenda to place a presentation by the Dunlap Retirement Center as the order of the day for 8:30 am on Tuesday, March 3. The motion was seconded and passed by the presbytery.

The Minutes from the Fall 2014 meeting of MVP were approved with an editorial change to the title.

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.

There was no unfinished business.

The presbytery heard an address from retiring Moderator Carl Patterson. The presbytery then welcomed Rev. Alex Coblentz as Moderator of MVP.

Moderator Coblentz appointed a committee to examine the records of sessions: Carl Patterson, Mark Miller, Zech Schiebout, Benjamin Glaser

The presbytery heard an address from Mrs. Susan Tanner, editor of the *ARP Magazine*. Mrs. Tanner spoke about the website ARPnews.org, the new free online magazine, and subscriptions to the print magazine being available for a \$20 annual subscription.

Mr. Larry Littlejohn, Moderator of General Synod, addressed the presbytery.

There being no further business for the evening, the meeting recessed until the following morning. Rev. Kent Moorlach closed with prayer.

### **Tuesday Morning, March 3, 2015**

The meeting of MVP reconvened at 8:15 a.m. with worship led by Rev. Alex Coblentz. Rev. Coblentz delivered a message from Zechariah 4:6-10. Following worship, the business portion of the meeting was resumed with prayer by Rev. Conrad Cheatham.

Moderator Coblentz recognized Mr. Milton Murphy and Mrs. Kathy Keiter (Dunlap Director) to make a presentation regarding the Dunlap Retirement Center. Following their presentation, Moderator Coblentz opened the floor for questions and answers regarding the request of the Dunlap Board for direction from the presbytery concerning the future of Dunlap Retirement Center (the report from Dunlap is included in **Appendix B**).

Rev. John Tucker made a motion that the Moderator appoint a commission to close Dunlap Retirement Center and to report to this meeting of presbytery. There was discussion and the motion was amended as follows: *That the Moderator appoint a commission to execute an exit strategy for MVP from ownership of Dunlap Retirement Center and that the commission report back to presbytery and that John Robinson, MVP Treasurer, be included in this commission.*

The language of the amended motion was approved and the presbytery moved to vote on the motion as amended (note: this commission will hereafter be referred to as “the Dunlap Commission”). A motion was made to take the vote on the amended motion by secret ballot (seconded, passed). The results of the vote were as follows: 12 yes, 5 no, 2 abstentions.

### **Recess for Committee Meetings (10 a.m.)**

The presbytery meeting reconvened at 11 a.m. The report from the Minister and His Work Committee was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix C**). The presbytery examined Rev. Mike Chipman in order to receive him from the Potomac Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America. Rev. Chipman’s examination was sustained by the presbytery. The presbytery also approved the recommendation that Rev. Chipman be approved as stated supply for the Redeemer Community Church in Murray, Kentucky.

The presbytery approved the recommendation for the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Moises Chan and the Havana mission church. Rev. Chan was approved as the stated supply for the congregation.

The presbytery approved that Rev. Bill Everett and Rev. Randy Kolb serve as stated supply pastors for the Hopewell and Ebenezer churches.

The presbytery approved the request that Rev. Carl Geisek be allowed to labor outside the bounds of presbytery as the supply pastor for the Wrens and Ebenezer churches in Second Presbytery of the ARP Church.

The Moderator’s Committee on Sessional Records presented its report to the presbytery. The following church’s records were approved without exception: Graceview, Salem, Gum Tree, New Albany, Sharon, Hernando. The following records were not submitted for examination: Faith, Gospel of Grace, Helena, Hickory Springs, Midlane Park, Wood Avenue. The report was adopted by the presbytery.

The presbytery took up the Overture from General Synod concerning additional chapters and notes found in the ARP version of the Westminster Confession of Faith. The votes were as follows:

- Recommendation 1, to remove Chapter 34, “Of the Holy Spirit”: 17 yes, 2 no, 0 abstentions
- Recommendation 2, to remove Chapter 35, “Of the Gospel”: 16 yes, 2 no, 0 abstentions
- Recommendation 3, to remove note (b): 14 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention

The presbytery also took up the Overture from Synod concerning the change to the *Form of Government* X.E.12. The votes were as follows: 18 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining.

The report of the Nominations Committee was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix D**). The recommendations for service were all approved, and the report was adopted by the presbytery.

The presbytery received a report from Rev. Bill Everett, MVP's representative to Synod's Board of Dunlap (see **Appendix E**). The report was received as information.

The presbytery received the report from the Christian Education Committee (see **Appendix F**). The recommendation concerning the reimbursement of Synod's CEM Committee was approved, and the report was adopted.

The Minister and His Work Committee presented Mr. Brian Bol, a member of the French Camp Presbyterian Church, to the presbytery as a candidate for Student of Theology. Mr. Bol shared his testimony of faith in Jesus Christ and his sense of call to gospel ministry. The committee recommended that Mr. Bol be approved as a Student of Theology under care of MVP pending a letter of recommendation from the session of the French Camp Presbyterian Church. This recommendation was approved unanimously by the presbytery. The presbytery then adopted the Report from the Minister and His Work Committee.

Rev. Mike Jones, Director of Outreach North America, addressed the presbytery and gave a presentation introducing ONA's E3 strategy for evangelism. E3 is designed to encourage church members to help others embrace the gospel, equip new believers as disciples, and engage believers in local ministry.

The order of the day was reached, and Rev. Don Watkins was asked to pray for the lunch meal.

### **Order of the Day (Lunch – noon)**

Presbytery reconvened at 12:45 p.m. with a season of prayer. The business portion of the meeting resumed with prayer led by Mr. David Strock.

The Report of the Covington Commission was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix G**). The recommendation to dissolve the commission, effective March 15, 2015, passed, and the report was adopted.

Mr. Carl Patterson made a motion: *That \$10,000 from the closing of the Covington Presbyterian Church checking account be given to Dunlap and that the balance of the account be deposited with MVP to be held at the discretion of the Dunlap Commission.* The motion was seconded and passed by the presbytery.

Rev. John Tucker reported on the first meeting of the Dunlap Commission. The commission made the following five recommendations:

- That thanks be extended to Kathy Keiter for her work of love and mercy as Director of Dunlap Retirement Center for the past 8 years.
- That Kathy Keiter's living arrangements at Dunlap, including housing and utilities, continue for the foreseeable future.
- That MVP permit the Dunlap Commission to engage legal counsel and that \$2,000 be granted for preliminary expenses.
- That the commission meet with the Dunlap Board at its next meeting on March 16, 2015.
- That new residents be accepted only after the present situation is explained to them.

All of these motions were approved by the presbytery, and the presbytery adopted the report of the Dunlap Commission.

The report of the ONA Committee was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix H**). The seven recommendations included in the report were all approved. The report was then adopted by the presbytery.

Mr. John Robinson presented the Treasurer's Report to the presbytery (see **Appendix I**). The report was received as information.

The report of the Stewardship Committee was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix J**). The four recommendations in the report were all approved, and the report as a whole was adopted by the presbytery.

The Moderator opened the floor for discussions regarding upcoming meetings of MVP. The following meeting locations were approved:

- Fall 2015, Providence Reformed Church in Bartlett, Tennessee
- Spring 2016, Hopewell Presbyterian Church in New Albany, Mississippi
- Fall 2016, Richland Presbyterian Church in Millington, Tennessee
- Spring 2017, Gum Tree Presbyterian Church in Tupelo, Mississippi

The Moderator directed the Principal Clerk, Rev. Tim Phillips, to draft a letter of good standing for the requested transfer of Rev. Steve Hardy to Second Presbytery.

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes (seconded, passed).

Rev. Meredith Cavin made a motion to adjourn the meeting (seconded, passed). After the singing of Psalm 133 ("Christian Unity"), the Spring 2015 meeting of MVP was closed in prayer by the Rev. Howard Wheeler.



**PROCEEDINGS**  
**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY**  
**Bonclarken Conference Center**  
**Flat Rock, NC**

**Called Meeting**

Moderator Alex Coblentz called the meeting to order at 10 am. Rev. Mark Miller opened in prayer.

The principal clerk verified that a quorum was present.

**Ministers Present**

Meredith Cavin	Benjamin Glaser
Robert White	Kent Moorlach
Mike Chipman	Stephen Hardy
John Tucker	Alex Coblentz
Charles Todd	Tim Phillips
Conrad Cheatham	Howard Wheeler
Zech Schiebout	Mark Miller
David Storment	Mike Yarman
Joey Donahue	Jim Coad

**Elders Present**

Troy Graham	Larry Littlejohn
Mike Thomason	James DeJonge
Jerry Lyons	Richard Moore
Charles Browning	Shelby Lowery
Edwin Dees	

**Guests**

Brad Robinson  
Lance Ragsdale

A report from the Dunlap Commission presented to the presbytery by Rev. John Tucker (see **Appendix K**). The lone recommendation in the report (authorization for additional funding of \$15,000) was then considered by the presbytery (seconded). After discussion, a vote was taken and the recommendation passed. The report was then approved as a whole by the presbytery. A commendation was given to the Dunlap Commission for its the hard work. Rev. Kent Moorlach led the presbytery in prayer for the Dunlap Retirement Center and the work of the commission.

Mr. Larry Littlejohn also noted that several letters of thanks had been written by those who had benefited previously from the ministry of Dunlap. Moderator Coblenz directed that these letters be also included in the minutes (*note: these will be included in the Fall 2015 Minutes of MVP*).

The item of business concerning the retirement of Meredith Cavin was considered. A motion was made to grant honorable retirement to Rev. Cavin, effective June 30, 2015 (seconded, passed). A motion was made to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Rev. Cavin and the Brighton ARP Church (second, passed). Rev. Kent Moorlach was appointed as moderator of the Brighton session (second, passed).

A third item of business concerning Rev. David's Storment's call at the Faith Presbyterian Church was removed as an item of business, since Rev. Storment's call had not been altered at this time. Moderator Coblenz asked Rev. Storment to speak briefly about the situation as a point of information for other churches in the presbytery.

Moderator Coblenz made a comment expressing appreciation to Mr. Larry Littlejohn for his service the past year as Moderator of General Synod.

Being no further business, Rev. Meredith Cavin made a motion to adjourn (seconded, passed). Rev. Zech Schiebout closed the meeting in prayer.

**Mississippi Valley Presbytery - Stated Spring Meeting**

French Camp Presbyterian Church  
French Camp, MS

**Worship Service - 7:00 p.m., March 2, 2015**

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship

\*Hymn No. 3: *Holy! Holy! Holy!*

\*Unison Reading: Revelation 4:8, 12-13

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth, and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

Amen.

\*Invocation & Lord's Prayer

Message from God's Word

Rev. Mark Miller  
Pastor, New Albany Presbyterian Church

**Sermon: Light All The Way Through The Tunnel**

Text: John 8

Quartet: *I Believe In A Hill Called Mount Calvary*

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

\*Hymn (Overhead): *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

\*Benediction & Postlude

\*(Please stand.)

There will be a brief recess before Presbytery convenes.

**MVP Schedule**

**Monday, March 2, 2015**

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Registration at French Camp ARP Church

4:00 p.m. Guided Tour of French Camp

5:00 – 6:45 p.m. Dinner at the Lodge, Camp of the Rising Son

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Worship at French Camp ARP Church  
Communion

8:15 p.m. Opening of Spring Meeting of MVP

The Constitution of Presbytery with Prayer

Welcome and Greetings

Constitution of the Roll

Introductions and Procedural Motions

Presentation of the Agenda

Adoption of the Fall Minutes

Unfinished Business

Retiring Moderator's Address

Induction of Moderator-elect

Appointment of Moderator's Committee on Sessional Records

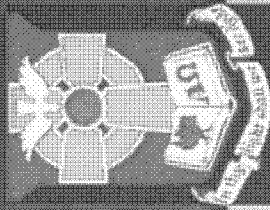
Presentation by Mrs. Susan Tanner, Editor of ARP Magazine

Message from Moderator of General Synod, Larry Littlejohn

Announcements

Closing Prayer

ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Mississippi Valley  
Presbytery  
Stated Spring Meeting



Hosted by

French Camp Presbyterian Church

March 2-3, 2015

Behold how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity;  
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, "life forevermore."  
(Psalm 133:1-3)

Thursday, March 3, 2015

- 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 – 8:20 a.m. Morning Devotion  
Rev. Alex Coblenz,  
Pastor, French Camp Presbyterian Church
- 8:20 – 8:30 a.m. Brief Recess
- 8:30 a.m. Call to Order and Convening Prayer
- 17y 20y* Business: *read into order*
- 16y 20y* Overture from Synod Concerning Addition Chapters of WCF
- 14y 01 16y* Overture from Synod Concerning Proposed Revision to Form of Government (X.E.12)
- \*10:00 – 10:50 a.m. Recess for Committee Meetings
- 11:00 a.m. Business: Cont inued
- 11:30 a.m. Presentation by Rev. Mike Jones, Director of Outreach North American
- \*12:00-12:45 p.m. Lunch in the Fellowship Hall
- 12:45 p.m. Season of Prayer
- 1:00 p.m. Business: Cont inued - Afternoon Session
- 2:15 – 2:30 p.m. Brief Recess
- 2:30 p.m. Business: Concluded - Closing Session
- Selection of Meeting Place for Spring 2016
- Reading and Adoption of the Minutes
- Announcements
- Bible Song: Psalm 133, Christian Unity
- Adjournment with Prayer and Benediction
- \* (Order of the Day)

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DUNLAP RETIREMENT CENTER(Spring Presbytery 2015)

Pastors, Elders, and guest Kathy and I bring you greetings from Dunlap.

As all of you know the financial situation at Dunlap has become precarious at best. We attribute this to the financial ups and downs of the economy in general and the changes in the federal health care over the past several years. We ask that each of you keep Dunlap in your prayers as we make necessary decisions as to the future of our facility and its residents.

The following seem to be key factors:

Changes in the federal health care programs more and more people are getting care in their home. The result of this is that by the time residents come to Dunlap they are in worse condition than residents we used to get so their time with us is usually shorter before they have to go to skilled care facilities.

The cost of living is going up.

Buildings are old(built in 50's) costly to maintain.

We have increased room rates by \$50.00 and the level of residents that we get can't afford higher rates. This makes it more difficult to keep rooms filled.

The board would like to make the following recommendations to Presbytery:

1. Vote to decide whether to keep Dunlap Retirement Center Open.
2. Determine how to finance either keeping open or close.
3. Set up a contingency fund (\$40-50 thousand) to use when needed. Monitored by a committee set up by MVP to approve money spent out of this fund.

The financial situation is so critical at this point that we hope we do not need funds to pay bills but it is a real possibility that over the next couple of months we will not have enough money to pay bills. This money would be kept on the books of MVP to be repaid if and when Dunlap closes and the property is sold. Depending on the decision made by MVP a contingency plan needs to be created to handle the process of keeping Dunlap open or closing it.

Respectfully submitted

Milton G. Murphy  
Chairman of the Board(Dunlap Retirement Center)

## Appendix C

### Mississippi Valley Presbytery, Minister and His Work Committee – March 2, 2015 4:00pm

Present – Ministers: Rev. Charles Todd, Chairman      Ruling Elders: John Robinson      Visitors: Brian Bol  
Rev. Kent Moorlach      Steve McCollum      Rev. Mike Chipman  
Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser, Secretary  
Rev. Zech Schiebout

Opened with Prayer by Rev. Kent Moorlach at 4:05pm

The first order of business was meeting with Brian Bol, member of the French Camp ARP Church for the purpose of meeting with him concerning a call to the ministry. He was examined concerning his sense of call, Christian character, and Christian testimony. After discussion RE John Robinson moved and Rev. Glaser seconded that Brian Bol be brought under the care of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery as a Student of Theology. The motion passed.

The second order of business concerned the examination for transfer from Potomac Presbytery of the PCA of Rev. Mike Chipman. Rev. Glaser examined Rev. Chipman covering his views on inerrancy, Molinism's incapability with the Reformed faith, his understanding of Westminster Larger Catechism, 109 and mental images, the place of Good Works in Justification and Sanctification, the three uses of the law and the threefold division of the law and how they work themselves out in the Christian life, and the continuity and application of the Christian Sabbath. Rev. Chipman was also asked about his beliefs concerning the millennium, Antichrist, the role of the Civil Magistrate and the church (WCF 23.3), and his position on the two-office vs. the three-office view of the church. Rev. Todd asked questions regarding Rev. Chipman's Christian character and spiritual life, Rev. Schiebout examined Rev. Chipman's sense of call to ministry and his wife's understanding of the pastoral life and her support thereof. RE John Robinson also spoke about the life of a church planter and a bi-vocational pastor and how Rev. Chipman would work both callings while maintaining a Christian home. Rev. Moorlach closed out the examination with a focus upon Rev. Chipman's understanding of the sacraments and why he wanted to join with this presbytery of the ARP. It was moved by Rev. Schiebout that we accept his transfer, with RE John Robinson seconding the motion. The motion passed.

The third order of business was that the committee approve the request of Rev. Chipman to be the bi-vocational stated-supply of the Redeemer Murray Mission Church. It was moved by Rev. Schiebout and seconded by RE John Robinson that we approve this request. The motion passed.

The fourth order of business was receiving the report from Rev. Moises Chan that he had resigned from his call to the Havana ARP Church and a request that he be made Stated Supply of that congregation until it ceased to exist on or before April 26, 2015. It was moved by Rev. Schiebout that we approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Havana and Rev. Chan, seconded by Rev. Moorlach. The motion passed.

The fifth order of business was to approve the request for Rev. Chan to be the Stated Supply of the Havana ARP Church. It was moved by RE John Robinson and seconded by RE Steve McCollum. The motion passed.

The sixth order of business was to approve a request from Rev. Carl Geisik to labor out of bounds in 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbytery.

The Minister and His Work Committee has the following recommendations:

- 1) That Brian Bol be approved as a Student of Theology and be brought under care of MVP Presbytery.
- 2) That Mike Chipman, following an examination by the Presbytery, be approved for transfer into MVP.
- 3) That Mike Chipman, following a successful examination, be approved as Stated Supply of Redeemer Murray.
- 4) That presbytery approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Havana ARP and Rev. Chan.
- 5) That presbytery approve the request of Havana ARP Church for Rev. Chan to be the Stated Supply.
- 6) That presbytery approve Rev. Bill Everett and Rev. Randy Kolb to be Stated Supply of Hopewell ARP Church and the Ebenezer ARP Church.
- 7) That presbytery approve Rev. Carl Geisik to labor out of bounds as Stated Supply of Wrens ARP & Ebenezer ARP

**Nominations Committee Report**

The Nominations Committee conferred multiple times via email from 2/22- 2/28/2015.

Those who have agreed to serve on the various MVP Committees are listed below.

Position	Class of	Name
Principal Clerk	2019	Tim Phillips
CEM (pastor)	2018	Mark Miller
CEM (elder)	2018	Charles Browning
MaHW (pastor)	2019	Don Watkins
MaHW (elder)	2019	Larry Littlejohn
Nominations (either)	2019	Gary Jones
ONA (elder)	2018	Carl Patterson
ONA (elder)	2018	Troy Graham
Stewardship (chair)	2019	
Dunlap	2018	Kim Gray (Salem ARP)
Dunlap	2018	Lisa Simpson (Salem ARP)
Dunlap	2018	Jeff Huffman (Salem ARP)
Dunlap	2018	Annette Wiggins (Holly Grove Cumberland PC)

You will notice that we were unable to fill the Stewardship Chair position.

In light of this, the Nominations Committee makes the following recommendations:

- 1) That the persons listed for service be approved by the presbytery.
- 2) That presbytery permit the Committee on Nominations to make a recess appointment for the Chair of the Stewardship Committee and the MVP representative to Synod's Stewardship Board to be affirmed at the Fall 2015 stated meeting of MVP.
- 3) That Kent Moorlach serve as the Chair of Minister and His Work Committee of MVP, and be the MVP representative to Synod's Minister and His Work Committee.
- 4) That Gary Jones continue to serve as MVP Chair of the Nominations Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L. Jones

## Report to Presbytery

March 2 & 3, 2015

French Camp, MS

As a member of Synod's Board of Dunlap, I serve as a liaison between the board and Palmer Home for Children. And, as a presbytery representative to the Board of Dunlap, it is my responsibility to keep the presbytery informed of the work and ministry of the board.

What follows in this report is a summary of information gathered at Palmer Home's Semi-Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors which was held in Southaven, MS, on Feb. 24, 2015.

During the business portion of the meeting, it was noted that a review is underway to determine if changes regarding board member qualifications are needed. Points of concern have to do with current geographic restrictions as well as with their denominational clause which requires good standing in a Presbyterian denomination. The consensus seems to be that the clause needs to be strengthened by restricting it to denominations that are truly evangelical. As to the financial status of Palmer Home, they have been blessed and are a bit ahead of budgeted projections for the first 6 months of the fiscal year. They continue to seek to do all things decently and in order in keeping with their by-laws and other regulations.

Drake Bassett, President, of Palmer Home, noted several points of special interest:

- Focus continues to be and must ever stay on the children to whom they minister. (By God's grace they are reaching more children than ever before. They went from 64 children in 2014 to 104 at present and hope to increase to 150 or more by 2016.)
- Ministry is directed to the needs of the whole child—physical, emotional, educational, social, and especially spiritual.
- On-campus schooling has been started for those children who would not function well in public schools.
- Palmer Home is continuing to see positive results through internet exposure regarding their ministry—i.e., increased giving and public awareness of the needs of children and the ministry of Palmer Home.
- The ministry is reaching well beyond Palmer Home, itself, as more and more people and agencies around the country and in other countries have expressed an interest in providing similar ministry to children in need.

Following the business meeting, the board of directors met with a large number of guests who share an interest in the ministry of Palmer Home. Along with a few others, President Bassett gave an impressive and moving presentation. He noted that some 800,000 children are going through foster care in the United States every year. 1 in 28 children have an incarcerated parent. The human trafficking



industry is growing and has been valued at \$32 billion a year. It is from such horrendous backgrounds that these dear children come.

President Bassett made clear that Palmer Home's mission and story have never changed. Namely, to help unknown and hurting children become known and loved, ever seeking to restore the child's identity as one made in God's image and precious to Him. In short, every child matters...every child has worth!

Indeed, the passion and purpose of Palmer Home, by God's grace and Spirit, continue to help broken children become 'whole' in a Christ-centered environment so that they may one day be able to go out into the world with dignity and purpose and the ability and desire to serve and be productive.

The challenge before Christ's church is clear. Namely, do all we can to reach and rescue children in need. As President Bassett rightly noted, while these children may be unknown to us, they are known to God our heavenly Father. We must never forget them.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Everett

(Special Note: Along with Palmer Home, our denomination supports French Camp Academy in its ministry to children in need. Representatives from both these institutions will be happy to come to your church and personally share what God is doing and how we can be a part.)

## Christian Education Committee

The Christian Education Committee of Mississippi Valley Presbytery met on Monday, March 2, at the French Camp Church in French Camp, Mississippi.

Present were: Joey Donahue (chm.), Alex Coblintz, and Jerry Lyons, the meeting being opened in prayer by Rev. Coblintz.

The first item of business was a report on recent MVP Christian Ed activities.

1. The fall youth retreat at French Camp (see attached report)
2. The Leadership workshop conducted at Providence on January 24 (see attached report)

It was moved (passed) that we follow up on payment to CEP for travel expenses in the amount of \$273 incurred in conjunction with the Discipleship workshop that was cancelled in October.

It was moved (passed) that CEM be reimbursed for expenses incurred in conjunction with the Leadership workshop in January in the amount of \$250.

The second item of business was a report on the 2015 MVP Camp leadership retreat conducted in February, and plans for the upcoming camp.

First, there were around 16 in attendance, including a strong showing of college age young people, and was an extremely productive time of interaction and planning. A number of our young people have now been involved with the Camp of the Rising Son, and are bringing a wealth of energy, experience, and ideas to our efforts, the benefits of which have already begun to manifest themselves.

The theme of the 2015 camp is borne out or R. B. Kuiper's book The Glorious Body of Christ, and will emphasize the importance of the church in the life of the believer.

It was reported that the camper costs will increase by \$10 due to increased costs, bringing the cost to \$260. per camper.

It was suggested that a co-director be selected to work with the director.

Recommendations: that the treasurer reimburse Synod's CEM for expenses relating to the October workshop that was cancelled, and for those connected with the Leadership workshop in January

The meeting was closed in prayer by Jerry Lyons.

## MVP Youth Retreat

On the weekend of November 21-23 MVP conducted its annual Fall Youth retreat at French Camp. We were blessed to experience beautiful weather after a week of near record cold that resulted in the previous group cutting their retreat short.

There were a total of 73 people involved in the retreat, including 61 youth and 12 adults.

One of the things that made this somewhat different from previous retreats was the presence of over a dozen college students. This was a first, and we hope to build on it in the future. Alex Coblentz spoke to this group in the two sessions on Saturday, and at their request, followed up with a third that evening. David Storment addressed the Junior, and Kent Moorlach the Senior highs. Each of these built on the theme from Ephesians 5:15-16 that was introduced on Friday evening by Joey Donahue. Scott Fletcher led our worship sessions, and Ben and Joey Storment provided a variety of recreational activities.

In addition to beautiful weather, spirits were high during the entire event, with very uplifting times of praise and worship, and with these sixty plus youth being confronted with serious challenges about the Christian life in times that put their faith to the test.

Expenses totaled \$ 3,255 (\$ 3,001 to CRS and \$253 to Hopewell for the Saturday lunch). Receipts from Campers totaled \$ 2,290 with presbytery picking up the balance of \$965.

As is evident from the numbers, we were \$465 over budget (\$500 being budgeted from presbytery to supplement camper fees), a concern that will be addressed by the committee before our next retreat.

Submitted by: Joey Donahue

## Leadership Workshop

On January 24, Mississippi Valley Presbytery, in cooperation with CEM, sponsored a leadership workshop for the men of the presbytery. It was held at the Providence-Reformed church in Bartlett, Tennessee, and featured Dr. Derek Thomas, pastor of First Presbyterian church in Columbia, South Carolina. In addition to two addresses by Dr. Thomas, there were break-out sessions in which the subjects he presented were discussed in greater detail. The conference lasted from 10:00 in the morning until around 3:00 in the afternoon, with lunch being served at the church. The response that was received has been very favorable, and we are considering the possibility of having Dr. Thomas return for future events.

Submitted by: Joey Donahue

**Appendix G**

COMMISSION MEETING - MIKE THOMASON'S APT. - THURS. FEB. 19, 2015 - 2:00 PM

PRESENT; CHAIRMAN M. CAVIN, M. THOMASON AND D. STROCK

Chairman Cavin called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. The secretary read the minutes of the Sept. 12, 2014 meeting and they were approved as read.

The commission will make available to the clerk of MVP for distribution to those who may wish to review them, all minutes of the commission meetings. Also available will be the copies of various expenditures and the settlement statement of the sale of the Covington properties.

The commission reports that there is approximately \$20,000 remaining in the Covington Church checking account. This account will be closed at the end of March 2015 and the funds turned over to MVP. It is to be noted that the session of the Covington Church had requested that any remaining funds be donated to Dunlap Retirement Center. The commission responded that it did not have the authority to determine the distribution of the monies, but would recommend to MVP to partially honor their request by donating \$10,000 to Dunlap, provided it is deemed a viable ministry of MVP.

Chairman Cavin wishes to make a statement on his behalf and of MVP thanking Mike Thomason and David Strock for their faithful service as members of a commission that was appointed to undertake a very difficult task of overseeing the disposition of the properties of our sister church, the Covington ARP Church. The commission wishes to thank MVP for the privilege of serving in this capacity and respectfully requests that it be dissolved effective the March 2015 meeting of MVP.

The secretary read the minutes of this meeting and they were approved as read.

There was no other business and a motion was made and passed to adjourn. The meeting was closed in prayer by M. Thomason.

  
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CHAIRMAN

  
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SECRETARY

### ONA Committee Minutes and Report

The ONA Committee met at French Camp Presbyterian Church at 4:00pm, Monday March 2, 2015 with the following present: Chairman, Rev. John Tucker, Mr. David Strock and Rev. Howard Wheeler. Also present was Stewardship Chair, Martha Dees. Dr. Marshall Snodgrass participated by teleconference. Absent were Rev. Mike Yarman and Mr. Charles Bunner.

Meeting opened with prayer by Mr. David Strock.

The first item of business was regarding the investment of Parkway Place Memorial Fund monies. Stewardship Committee reported that they will recommend that we leave the funds in the ARP Foundation Investments for at least 1 year to evaluate the rate of return and management of the funds before discussing any other investment options. Ms. Dees reported that the Stewardship Committee felt that MVP currently had sufficient funds immediately available to support church planting for at least one year.

The Committee had additional discussion regarding the investment of money from the sale of the Covington Church. The recommendation from Dr. Marshall Snodgrass was to invest \$79,790 from the sale of the Covington Church into the moderate risk fund managed by the ARP Investment Committee. David Strock seconded the motion. Motion passed with no opposition.

Chairman, Tucker read a letter from the Session of the New Geneva Church to request that ONA recommend to MVP that we recognize the Murry, KY exploratory work as a mission church of our Presbytery, to be called Redeemer Community Church under the oversight of a provisional session of elders from New Geneva with Rev. Don Watkins appointed as moderator. The Committee agreed to make this recommendation to MVP.

Rev. Wheeler reported on the recommendation of the Havana Provisional Session regarding closing the Havana Mission. Rev. Moises Chan has resigned his call as pastor, effective February 28, 2015. The remaining members met with the provisional Session on February 15, 2015 to discuss closing the church. The provisional session requested that the ONA Committee request that MVP appoint a commission to dissolve the Havana Mission, appointing Rev. Howard Wheeler, as chairman with Mr. Matt Wylie and Mr. Leslie Oates as commissioners. The ONA Committee further recommended that MVP Treasurer, John Robinson be included as an ex officio member and that the commission schedule final services for the church to be held no later than April 26, 2015.

Rev. Tucker shared a report on the Hernando Church and reported on discussion with Rev. Gary Jones, pastor of the Hernando Church, regarding strategies for church growth. No recommendations were made at this time.

The Committee discussed possibilities for church planting in Arkansas and recommended that the ONA Committee undertake demographic studies related to a possible church plant in either Little Rock or Conway, Arkansas to be reported to the Fall 2015 meeting of MVP.

## Appendix H

Rev. Tucker shared a request from ONA Director, Mike Jones requesting two representatives to attend a "Coaches Clinic for Presbytery Church Planting." The committee discussed recommending providing travel expenses for this clinic from the monies provided by Synod to the MVP for church revitalization.

Rev. Benjamin Glaser reported that he had been contacted by an elder of the United Presbyterian Church of Sandersville, Mississippi regarding inquiry about possibly considering information about the ARPC.

The committee discussed the "E3" strategy for personal evangelism promoted by ONA Director, Mike Jones. We reviewed the basic thrust of this strategy and noted that Mike Jones would be presenting this strategy to MVP on Tuesday morning.

The committee discussed correspondence with members of the Wood Avenue Church.

Meeting adjourned until 10am Tuesday am with prayer offered by Dr. Marshall Snodgrass.

The ONA Committee met again at French Camp Presbyterian Church, Tuesday March 3, 2015 at 10:00am. Present at this meeting were Chairman Rev. John Tucker, Mr. David Strock, Rev. Howard Wheeler. Dr. Marshall Snodgrass attended by teleconference. Also present were Mr. Troy Graham and Rev. Mike Jones, Director of ONA.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Rev. John Tucker.

Rev. Jones presented the E3 evangelism strategy promoted by the ONA Board of Synod. The committee agreed to recommend this strategy and its resources to our churches for use.

There was further discussion regarding the condition of the Wood Avenue and Hickory Springs Churches. The ONA Committee has interacted extensively with the members of these churches to present numerous plans for revitalization over the past 3 years, all of which have been summarily rejected. In response to ongoing complaints from the churches that MVP has not offered adequate support, the committee recommended inviting these congregations to submit a plan for revitalization to the ONA Committee for the consideration of support.

The meeting was closed in prayer.

### Recommendations:

1. That the \$79,790 received to date from the sale of the Covington Church be invested into the moderate risk fund managed by the ARP Investment Committee.
2. That we recognize the Murry, KY exploratory work as a mission church of our Presbytery, to be called Redeemer Community Church and placed under the oversight of a provisional session of elders from New Geneva with Rev. Don Watkins appointed as moderator of the Session.
3. That MVP appoint a commission to dissolve the Havana Mission. We recommend that this commission be made up of Rev. Howard Wheeler, as chairman with Mr. Matt Wylie and Mr. Leslie Oates as commissioners and MVP Treasurer, John Robinson as an ex officio member. We further recommend that the commission schedule final services for the church to be held no later than April 26, 2015.
4. That the ONA Committee undertake demographic studies related to a possible church plant in either Little Rock or Conway, Arkansas to be reported to the Fall 2015 meeting of MVP.
5. That MVP pay travel expenses for up to two church planting coaches from MVP to attend the "Coaches Clinic for Presbytery Church Planting" scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Charlotte, NC to be funded by monies received by MVP from Synod for Church Revitalization. We recommend that Rev. John Tucker be appointed as one of these two representatives.
6. That the churches of the MVP utilize the E3 evangelism strategy and resources provided by Synod's ONA Board.
7. That the ONA Committee invite members of the Wood Avenue and Hickory Springs Churches to submit proposals for revitalization to be considered by the MVP.

# General Fund

## Mississippi Valley Presbytery

For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

Balance January 1, 2014	<u>\$88,986.73</u>
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Assessments from Member Churches	\$12,995.00
Interest Income	623.09
Proceeds from Sale of Covington Church-See Attachment	\$79,790.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u>\$93,408.09</u>
<b>Disbursements:</b>	
Contribution to Christian Education Fund	\$5,000.00
Contribution to Dunlap Retirement Home	\$2,200.00
Expenses of Presbytery Clerk-Printing and Travel	\$546.05
Wire Transfer Fee	\$25.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<u>\$7,771.05</u>
Excess Receipts over Disbursements	\$85,637.04
<b>Balance December 31, 2014</b>	<u>\$174,623.77</u>
General Fund Bank Accounts:	\$109,623.77
Renasant Bank 2200123455	\$65,000.00
Bank of New Albany Certificate of Deposit (50%)	<u>\$174,623.77</u>
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<u>\$174,623.77</u>

See Attachment for Explanation of Covington Sale



**Christian Education Fund  
Mississippi Valley Presbytery**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

<b>Balance January 1, 2014</b>	<b><u>\$1,057.09</u></b>
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Received from General Fund	\$5,000.00
Received from Summer Campers	\$20,650.00
Received from Fall Retreat Campers (net of refund)	<u>\$2,205.00</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b><u>\$27,855.00</u></b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>	
Expenses of Summer Camp	\$21,160.00
Expenses of Fall Retreat	\$3,255.66
Expenses of 2013 Fall Retreat paid in 2014	<u>\$447.09</u>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b><u>\$24,862.75</u></b>
Excess Receipts over Disbursements	<u>\$2,992.25</u>
<b>Balance December 31, 2014</b>	<b><u>\$4,049.34</u></b>
<b>Christian Education Bank Account:</b>	
Bank of New Albany 162026003	<b><u>\$4,049.34</u></b>

# Outreach North America Funds Mississippi Valley Presbytery

For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Church Revitalization	Church Planting	Parkway A	Parkway B
Balance January 1, 2014	<u>\$23,323.72</u>	<u>\$59,648.72</u>	<u>\$200,000.00</u>	<u>\$250,000.00</u>
Receipts:				
Received from General Synod	\$1,897.00			
Received from Special Offering for Church Planting		\$3,884.00		
Interest and Dividend Income		\$653.88	\$3,670.02	\$5,147.81
Realized and unrealized Gains and (Losses)		\$0.00	< \$2,394.38 >	< \$1,410.90 >
Total Receipts	<u>\$1,897.00</u>	<u>\$4,537.88</u>	<u>\$1,275.64</u>	<u>\$3,736.91</u>
Disbursements:				
Support of Hernando Church		\$10,000.00		
Professional Asset Management Fees		\$0.00	\$1,108.77	\$1,631.10
Total Disbursements		\$10,000.00	\$1,108.77	\$1,631.10
Excess Receipts ( Disbursements)	< \$1,897.00 >		\$166.87	\$2,105.81
Balance December 31, 2014	<u>\$25,220.72</u>	<u>\$54,186.60</u>	<u>\$200,166.87</u>	<u>\$252,105.81</u>
Interest and Dividends to be transferred from A and B		<u>\$8,817.83</u>	< \$3,670.02 >	< \$5,147.81 >
<b>ONA Accounts:</b>				
Bank of New Albany 1620260-01 Checking	\$5,669.79			
Bank of New Albany 1620260-09 Money Market	\$8,737.53			
Bank of New Albany Certificate of Deposit (50%)	<u>\$65,000.00</u>			
Total in Banks	<u>\$79,407.32</u>			
Parkway A Investment Account	\$200,166.87			
Parkway B Investment Account	\$252,105.81			
Total in Managed Accounts	<u>\$452,272.68</u>			
Total in all accounts	<u>\$531,680.00</u>			
Commitment already made for 2015:				
Hernando Church		\$10,000.00		

Schedule of Assessments paid by Churches  
 Mississippi Valley Presbytery  
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Actual Receipts	Budget-based on Membership in 2013 Synod Minutes
Bethany, Guntown, MS	\$0.00	\$300.00
Brighton, TN	\$1,265.00	\$1,000.00
Ebenezer, Blue Mtn., MS	\$400.00	\$400.00
Ellisville Presbyterian, Ellisville, MS	\$0.00	\$300.00
Elsberry, MO	\$90.00	\$100.00
Faith Presbyterian, Leakesville, MS	\$800.00	\$750.00
French Camp, MS	\$1,000.00	\$800.00
Graceview, Southhaven, MS	\$990.00	\$750.00
Gospel of Grace, Springfield, MO	\$710.00	\$690.00
Gum Tree, Tupelo, MS	\$690.00	\$690.00
Havana Mission, Havana, AR	\$100.00	\$100.00
Helena, Moss Point, MS	\$0.00	\$250.00
Hernando Reformed, Hernando, MS	\$0.00	\$300.00
Hickory Springs, AR	\$100.00	\$40.00
Hopewell, New Albany, MS	\$500.00	\$200.00
Midlane Park, Louisville, KY	\$490.00	\$380.00
Mt. Zion, Troy, MO	\$280.00	\$280.00
New Albany, MS	\$1,950.00	\$2,000.00
New Geneva, Paducah, KY	\$510.00	\$490.00
Pottsville, AR	\$0.00	\$350.00
Providence, Bartlett, TN	\$500.00	\$300.00
Richland, Rosemark, TN	\$500.00	\$500.00
Salem, Atoka, TN	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
Sharon, Brighton, TN (two years)	\$380.00	\$190.00
Wood Avenue, Monticello, AR	\$140.00	\$140.00
Total Receipts from churches	\$12,995.00	\$12,900.00

Mississippi Valley Presbytery Financial Reports  
Notes Regarding the Sale of Covington Property

On December 5, 2014, The Commission closed on the sale of the Covington Property. The terms of the deal are as follows:

Stated Sales Price: \$300,000

Received at closing: Down Payment \$100,000 less \$20,210 expense of sale for a net proceeds of \$79,790.

Financing by Seller: Presbytery received a \$200,000 interest free note payable at \$1,111.11 per month for fifteen years or 180 months. The January and February payments have been received in a timely manner.

Discount of the Face of the Note due to being interest free: Using the Applicable Federal Rate (AFR) of 2.7% that is prescribed for long term interest free loans the note would be discounted to \$164,305. Buyer will receive a tax deduction for imputed interest based on this formula.

Credit Risk of Presbytery's Note: Primary source of repayment: as any good banker or lender will tell you, the primary source of repayment is always the integrity and ability of the borrower to repay. From all reports the borrower comes from a well respected wealthy family in the area with ample cash flow and resources to pay the note as agreed to. Secondary source of repayment: Presbytery received a second deed of trust to secure its interest in the note. Therefore, Presbytery's security interest is junior to other financing. The buyer borrowed the \$100,000 down payment from a local bank and gave the bank a first deed of trust on the property. In the event of default, Presbytery would have to satisfy the banks' senior lien to protect Presbytery's security interest in the property.

Use of Proceeds of Sale: The down payment and the monthly payments received to date have been deposited into the General Fund. The stewardship committee has recommended that Presbytery approve transferring the down payment to the Parkway A (moderate risk) investment model to help fund future church planting by ONA. Furthermore, the stewardship committee recommends that Presbytery approve the direction of the monthly payment to the ONA Fund to cover the commitment to Hernando Church.

## Appendix J

Stewardship Committee Report to the MS Valley Presbytery  
Meeting at the French Camp ARP Church, French Camp, MS March 2-3, 2015

The MVP Stewardship Committee met at the Graceview Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Southaven, MS on February 23, 2015. Members present were Rev. Charles Todd, Rev. John Tucker, Rev. Joe Donahue and Martha Dees, Chairperson. Also present was Presbytery's Treasurer Mr. John Robinson. Rev. Donahue opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. Robinson discussed at length with the Committee the investment of the Presbytery's funds with the ARP Investment Program. Parkway Place Funds A and B are invested in the program's Conservative Allocation and Moderate Allocation options. Synod's Investment Committee, made up of members who have institutional investment experience and expertise, meets at least quarterly with its investment consultants to review portfolio performance and asset allocation and make any necessary changes in investment managers or investment strategies. Matt Wylie of the Pottsville, Arkansas ARP Church is a member of Synod's Investment Committee. As always there are ups and downs with the stock market. Yet, our funds still increased over \$8,800.00 after being invested in the ARP Program in late April 2014.

Mr. Robinson then discussed notes he has made regarding the sale of the Covington Property. The details of the sale will be made by the Commission to sell the Covington property but currently the initial income is a net of \$79,790.00 which he has deposited into the Presbytery's General Fund, awaiting action by the Presbytery. There is also a monthly income of \$1,111.11 to be received over a period of 180 months (15 years). With the sale of the Covington property final, the funds left in the church's bank account need to be transferred to the Presbytery treasurer as well as financial records such as tax forms, etc.

The Stewardship Committee wishes to request that the churches that did not pay their 2014 annual Presbytery assessment of \$10.00 per communicant member to please do so or communicate to the stated clerk any problem, need or concern they have. These funds are used to operate the Presbytery General Fund.

The Stewardship Committee makes the following recommendations to the Presbytery:

1. That ONA Parkway Place funds A and B continue to be invested with the ARP Investment Fund without withdrawal until such time as there is a need for the additional income in the church planting fund.
2. That Presbytery approve investing the \$79,790.00 received from the sale of the Covington property in the ARP Investment Program, ONA Parkway Place A fund.
3. That the \$1,111.11 monthly receipts from the Covington property sale be deposited into the ONA Parkway Place Church Planting Fund (formerly called Parkway Place C and D funds) and use the first \$10,000.00 of these funds to pay the \$1,000.00 per month (payable January – October 2015) approved by Presbytery last year for support of the Hernando ARP Church.
4. That the balance in the checking of the Covington Church, along with the church's financial records, be transferred to Mr. John Robinson, MVP Treasurer. (Note: Per the Commission Chairman, Rev. Meredith Cavin, the Commission is recommending the transfer take place at the end of March.)

Rev. Donahue closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Dees, Chairperson

## Appendix K

### Report of the Commission to Develop an Exit Strategy for Dunlap Retirement Center MS Valley Presbytery June 7, 2015

The Commission consisting of Carl Patterson Chairman, John Robinson Treasurer of Presbytery, John Tucker Secretary of the Commission and Kent Moorlach was appointed at the Spring Presbytery meeting at French Camp on March 3, 2015 by Rev Alex Coblentz Moderator of Presbytery.

#### Summary of the Commission's actions and activities:

Since the meeting of Presbytery the Commission met with the Dunlap Board on March 17 and has conducted business via e mail. Much has transpired since Presbytery. We knew this would be a time consuming task and it has been and continues to be. God has been gracious and speeded the process along. Special thanks go to Carl Patterson and John Robinson for their business and financial gifts which have made this process manageable. A time line of the events so far is as follows:

Prior to the meeting with the Board on March 17<sup>th</sup> the Commission met to hear complaints from a few of the residents and their families about closing the home. They all expressed dismay and regret and appreciated the ministry of the Center. It has impacted lives.

It is my personal opinion that Presbytery took the right action. The health care industry requires a much higher degree of expertise today. There were also some business matters that could have been better managed. This field requires concern and caring but also some hard nosed business actions to succeed.

Afterward we met with the Board and asked them to continue on serving until the Center was sold to which they agreed.

The process of closing the Center began immediately after that April Board meeting at Dunlap. The Board sent out official notice to each resident that the Center was closing the end of April and the last resident was out by the end of April and the staff was paid thru the end of April.

Included in this report is the financial accounting of Presbytery money spent at Dunlap provided by John Robinson the Treasurer who has spent lots of time and effort in keeping the bills paid and accounting of money spent on the home.

A huge unforeseen expense is paying unemployment taxes to the state of TN. The Center had not paid any and one lady filed for benefits and others have followed. (There were 18 staff on the pay roll and a Director and Assistant Director before the Commission started the closing process. Thankfully we are only required to back pay the last 4 quarters and estimated that this would be about \$6,000 but the costs are adding up as other staff file for benefits.

An appraisal of the property was made by a commercial real estate agent who calculated the worth between \$700,000 and 800,000. The cost was \$2,700 and is a 90 page document. Carl Patterson has a hard copy, if anyone is interested in looking it over.

## Appendix K

Report of the Commission to Develop an Exit Strategy for Dunlap Retirement Center  
MS Valley Presbytery June 7, 2015

Dunlap consists of 19.5 acres of land and 3 buildings that have been used as residences, three unused buildings, a dining hall, 3 standalone apartments which were being rented. Since the home closed 1 of those renters has moved out but there are two present and bring in \$1,000 each a month and that money is being used to pay utilities. There is also a director's home which is in good condition.

We have had two groups interested in purchasing the property. The first is a Dr May whom as I understand has withdrawn his offer. He was expecting the price to be much lower. I believe he has withdrawn his offer.

A Veterans group represented by Mr James Kent is very much interested and according to him, they have the business model, business plan for opening a Veterans Home. The Board of Directors is meeting to review the price. He says that assuming the Board approves everything, they will then get Sandeep Pednekar a prominent and legitimate financier in Memphis who will be providing the funding for the group. Carl said that he said that he would be emailing his written proposal to me soon as he wants to act on this immediately.

His contact info is: [www.Memphis.edu/wumr/profile/Sandeep.php](http://www.Memphis.edu/wumr/profile/Sandeep.php)  
another is [www.commercialappeal.com/business/b23myjob](http://www.commercialappeal.com/business/b23myjob)

As of Friday June 6, 2015 we have not received an official offer.

Our goal is to sell the Center as quickly as possible and at the highest price and spend the least amount of money.

We have one request and that is that the Commission be authorized additional funding of \$15,000.00 to pay bills of the Center until it is sold.

Respectfully Submitted

John Tucker

**Appendix K**

Report of the Commission to Develop an Exit Strategy for Dunlap Retirement Center  
MS Valley Presbytery June 7, 2015

Mississippi Valley Presbytery	
2015 Funds Transfers Regarding Dunlap Retirement Center	
as of June 5, 2015	
	<u>\$21,137.48</u>
March 17, 2015 Received from dissolution of Covington ARP Church	<u>8</u>
March 17, 2015 Disbursed to Dunlap Retirement Center	\$10,000.00
April 15, 2015 Disbursed to Dunlap Retirement Center	\$5,000.00
May 4, 2015 Disbursed to Dunlap Retirement Center	\$6,137.48
May 27, 2015 Disbursed to Dunlap Retirement Center	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
	<u>\$26,137.48</u>
Total disbursed to Dunlap	<u>8</u>
Additional Expenses regarding Dunlap Retirement Center-appraisal fee	<u>\$2,700.00</u>
Net Funds paid out of MVP General Fund Balances	<u>\$7,700.00</u>
The Commission Requests Presbytery to Authorize additional funding to maintain until sold	<u>\$15,000.00</u> <u>0</u>
Note: MVP General Fund has adequate funds to meet this request	
Dunlap has \$3,224.25 in the bank after June 1st Payroll to Kathy	
Dunlap is receiving \$2,000 per month rent on the Triplex-June rent is currently due	



Report of the Commission to Develop an Exit Strategy for Dunlap Retirement Center  
MS Valley Presbytery June 7, 2015

**Minutes of the Commission to Develop an Exit Strategy for Dunlap Retirement Center  
French Camp Presbyterian Church  
March 3, 2015**

Present: Carl Patterson, John Robinson Treasurer of Presbytery, John Tucker and Kent Moorlach.

Visitors: Milton Murphy Chairman of Dunlap Retirement Home and Kathy Keiter Executive Director of the Center

The meeting was opened with prayer.

Carl Patterson was elected chairman and John Tucker Secretary by acclamation.

The Commission was appointed at Presbytery and given the responsibility to develop an exit strategy for Closing and Selling Dunlap Retirement home.

The Committee discussed with Milton and Kathy the multitude of responsibilities and actions necessary to fulfill our mandate and a time line for the sale. Some of the items needed would be an appraisal, legal counsel, realtor, notifying the residents, and of course expenses, income, and Presbytery financial assistance.

All agreed that closing and sealing Dunlap would be a huge and possibly long event.

We discussed the departure of the residents and what was involved.

We discussed dismissing the staff and who would be needed to care for the residents.

We discussed allowing the renters to stay on and using their income to help pay monthly expenses of the Center.

We discussed the fact that Dunlap was a separate entity (Corporation) governed by its own board and the final business would need to be conducted by the board and the commission's role would be one of oversight and representing the owner's (Presbytery) interest during the liquidation process.

We discussed that we may need to engage legal counsel to advise the Commission.

## Appendix K

Report of the Commission to Develop an Exit Strategy for Dunlap Retirement Center  
MS Valley Presbytery June 7, 2015

We discussed the anticipated costs and the cash flow problem and financial need and that we will need presbytery funds to pay expenses at the center.

We asked Kathy if she would be willing to continue living in the Director's house with the utilities paid until the sale of the Dunlap Center for watching the grounds and have the grass cut.

We asked for an inventory of furniture and other items and left over food and that the money be applied toward monthly expenses and asked that no items be taken or given away.

Milton informed us that the Dunlap Board was meeting on 3/16/15 at Dunlap and that we would meet with them and discuss the details.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted

John Tucker Secretary

We came to several agreements with Kathy Keiter the Executive Director which are as follows and to which she agreed were fair and reasonable. These were all approved by the Commission.

**Agreements Concerning the Closing of Dunlap Retirement Home  
Telephone conversation with Kathy around 6:00 pm, on April 6, 2015.**

That Kathy would be paid salary until the end of May 2015.

That she be allowed to live in the Director's house & utilities paid, for taking care of the apartment rent & other utilities & being in charge of the maintenance of the apartments & the yard worker until Dunlap is sold.

That her daughter the Assistant Director be paid until the end of April.

That the accountant be retained until the end of June to complete all paper work necessary to closing the Center and pay the bills.

That staff be given \$100 severance pay.

**The Commission to develop an exit strategy for closing Dunlap meeting with the Board of Dunlap at the Retirement Center on 3/16/15 at Dunlap Retirement Center in Brighton.**

The Commission met with the Board and a number of residents and staff to ask questions and verbalize their feelings. Some had questions about the running of the home, why the closing and complaints about the closing. This lasted about half an hour.

Commission members present: Carl Patterson Chairman, John Tucker Secty., John Robinson Treasurer of Presbytery and Ken Moorlach.

Present for Dunlap: Milton Murphy Chairman, Mike Thomason Secty, Kathy Keiter Director, the Assistant Director and the Dunlap Board plus legal counsel.

We met with the Board and the meeting was opened with prayer by Milton Murphy, chairman of the Board. Also present was legal counsel which the Commission requested.

The Financial Report was presented: Total Income for the month of February was \$34,068.57 and expenses were \$34,384.36 which is a deficit of \$279.00. As of 3/12/15 there was \$1350 in the checking account at Patriot Bank in Millington.

There was discussion about the financial shortfall of the home for March. John Robinson the Treasurer of Presbytery passed on a check for \$10,000 as directed by Presbytery.

The Commission then presented a list of requests and questions for the Board

First we thanked them for their service. These are fine people who have faithfully served, several of them multiple terms. They are definitely committed to serving the elderly.

We asked them to continue in place until the property is sold to oversee the closing and implement the requests of the Commission. They agreed.

We asked about the time required by the state of TN to give residents time to relocate. Legal counsel said it was 30 days.

Report of the Commission to Develop an Exit Strategy for Dunlap Retirement Center  
MS Valley Presbytery June 7, 2015

Kathy is to notify all legal guardians of the closing of the home in 30 days by registered letter or some other means to secure the signatures.

We asked them to contact an experienced Commercial Realtor and Appraiser. Mike Thomason the Secy of the Board said that Harold Morris was experienced in real estate and was who was used to sell the Covington Church. Van Bales was the appraiser.

We asked about ways to cut costs of property insurance and other utilities and they agreed and consolidating residents as they moved out.

We asked for a list of inventory of equipment and that nothing be taken or sold without approval of the commission. They agreed. There are a number of items that can be sold and the money used to pay on going expenses of the home.

We also thought that some of the equipment might be useable for mission Churches and other MVP Churches.

We asked that other facilities be invited to meet with residents to present their service.

We asked the Director to keep a list of ongoing expenses once all occupants are gone. She agreed.

There are three free standing apartments and we agreed that these residents should be allowed to remain after the retirement home residents are gone. Their rent can help pay utilities.

We also asked the Director to stay on in the current living agreement. We need to formalize an agreement for staying and what is included and her salary until the residents are relocated and what it will be after they are gone. We do need her services throughout the sale the dissolving.

Respectfully submitted

John Tucker Secretary

## Dunlap Board Minutes

May 18, 2015

Members present: Milton Murphy, Mike Thomason, Terry Griffin, Barbara McFarland, Tim Pilkington, Robert Martin Simpson, Carolyn Ramage.

Motion made by Terry Griffin seconded by Tim Pilkington to approve minutes from April 20, 2015 meeting. Passed

Treasurer's report was presented and filed.

Director's report was presented and filed

Old Business:

- Grass cutting = Motion made by Terry Griffin seconded by Carolyn Ramage to hire Zack Doty to cut, edge, blow, pickup sticks. His bid of \$100 per week total \$400 per month. Passed Kathy to contact to start right away.
- Church and Scouts = have moved out.
- Gifts for staff = report that the gift were given out.
- Insurance = Report that we are in good coverage and we are paid up.
- Budget = Covered in the director's report.

New Business:

- Un-employment insurance = Board directed Kathy to send all paper work and information to Carl Patterson chairman of commission for them to handle this item.
- Sale Status = no information on bids or action. The VIP are still very interested.
- Sale of mower = Kathy asked if the board would consider selling mower to her and Val when it is put up for sale. This item was put on hold until the sale of the place is done.

Motion was made by Robert Simpson seconded by Terry Griffin to adjourn passed

Closing in prayer by Barbara McFarland

## Appendix K

Report of the Commission to Develop an Exit Strategy for Dunlap Retirement Center  
MS Valley Presbytery June 7, 2015

Mike Thomason

Secretary

## 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 stated meeting due to called meeting of Synod*)
- 2011 – Hopewell, Providence Reformed
- 2012 – French Camp, Brighton
- 2013 – Graceview, New Albany
- 2014 – Ellisville, Gospel of Grace
- 2015 – French Camp, Providence
- 2016 – Hopewell, Richland
- 2017 – Gum Tree



**OFFICERS OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY**

- Moderator:** Rev. Alex Coblentz  
One Fine Place, French Camp, MS 39745.  
(H) 662-547-6520  
(C) 803-984-0678  
(E) *alexcoblentz@gmail.com*  
(Spring 2016)
- Vice-Moderator:** Mr. Carl Patterson  
670 CR 1460, Tupelo, MS 38804  
(C) 662-231-0073  
(E) *carlpcycle@yahoo.com*  
(Spring 2016)
- Principal Clerk:** Rev. Tim Phillips  
4106 Roxbury Road, Louisville, KY 40218  
(H) 502-671-2413  
(O) 502-491-0269  
(C) 502-741-5442  
(E) *tjparp@gmail.com*  
(Spring 2019)
- Reading Clerk:** Rev. Joseph Donahue  
5444 Stage Road, Bartlett, TN 38134  
(H) 901-386-5467  
(O) 901-388-5885  
(E) *providencereform@bellsouth.net*  
(Fall 2017)
- Treasurer:** Mr. John M. Robinson  
1568 Sunflower Circle, Tupelo, MS 38801  
(H) 662-840-8095  
(C) 662-401-9934  
(E) *johnr1568@att.net*  
(December 2017)
- Parliamentarian:** Rev. Benjamin Glaser  
East Ivy Street, Ellisville, MS 39437  
(O) 601-477-3086  
(C) 601-577-1359  
(E) *pastor@ellisvillepres.org*  
(Fall 2018)

**STANDING COMMITTEES OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY**

**Christian Education Ministries**

Joey Donahue, Chairman (2017)  
Rev. David Storment (2016)  
Mr. Larry Treadaway (2016)  
Jerry Lyons (2017)  
Rev. Mark Miller (2018)  
Mr. Charles Browning (2018)

**Minister and His Work**

Rev. Kent Moorlach, Chairman (2018)  
Mr. Steve McCollum (2016)  
Rev. Zech Schiebout (2016)  
Rev. Benjamin Glaser (2017)  
Mr. John Robinson (2017)  
Mr. Randy Goulder (2018)  
Rev. Don Watkins (2019)  
Mr. Larry Littlejohn (2019)

**Nominations**

Rev. Gary Jones, Chairman (2019)  
Mr. Mike Thomason (2016)  
Mr. Carl Patterson (2017)  
Rev. Tim Phillips (2018)

**Outreach North America**

Rev. John Tucker, Chairman (2017)  
Mr. Charles Bunner (2016)  
Rev. Mike Yarman (2016)  
Rev. Howard Wheeler (2017)  
Mr. Troy Graham (2019)  
Mr. Carl Patterson (2019)

**Stewardship**

Mr. Mike Thomason, Chair (2019)  
Rev. Joey Donahue (2017)  
Rev.. John Tucker (2017)  
Rev. Kent Moorlach (2018)  
Mr. John Robinson – *Ex Officio*

**Educational Fund Board of Trustees**

Rev. Charles Todd, Chairman  
Mr. Randy Goulder  
Mr. Danny Hughes  
Mr. Russell McDaniel  
Mr. Jimmy Ramage

**Trustees of Presbytery**

Mr. Charles Browning  
Mr. Milton Murphy  
Mr. Mike Thomason

**Dunlap Board of Trustees**

Mr. Don Tabb (2016)  
Mr. Robert Simpson (2016)  
Mr. Terry Griffith (2016)  
Ms. Barbara McFarland (2016)  
Mr. Tim Pinkington (2017)  
Mr. Mike Thomason (2017)  
Ms. Tina Ballard Russell (2017)  
Ms. Linda Clarke (2017)  
Ms. Kim Gray(2018)  
Ms. Lisa Simpson (2018)  
Mr. Jeff Huffman (2018)  
Ms. Annette Wiggins (2018)

**Synod Board & Agency Representatives**

Christian Ed.: Rev. Joey Donahue (2017)  
Dunlap: Rev. Bill Everett (2019)  
Exec. Board: Mr. Carl Patterson (2017)  
MaHW: Rev. Kent Moorlach (2018)  
Nom.: Rev. Tim Phillips (2018)  
ONA: Rev. Mike Yarman (2016)  
Stewardship: Mr. Mike Thomason (2019)

**Students of Theology**

Stephen Ewing (RTS-Jackson)  
Brad Robinson (Mid-America Reformed)  
Brian Bol

**Missionaries**

Jodie Gaston

**Honorably Retired Ministers**

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

**Churches Served by Stated Supplies**

Bethany: none  
Ebenezer: Randy Kolb  
Elsberry and Mt. Zion: Rev. Conrad Cheatham  
Gum Tree: Charles Covington  
Havana: Rev. Moises Chan  
Helena: Rev. Leslie Rhodes  
Hickory Springs and Wood Avenue: Rev. Mike Garvey  
Hopewell: Rev. Bill Everett  
Redeemer Community Church: Rev. Mike Chipman  
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