

The Minutes Of Mississippi Valley Presbytery

General Synod of the
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church



Spring Stated Meeting March 7-8, 2016

Hopewell ARP Church
New Albany, Mississippi

Called Meeting June 7, 2016

Bonclarken Conference Center
Flat Rock, North Carolina

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PROCEEDINGS
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY
Hopewell ARP Church
New Albany, Mississippi

Spring Stated Meeting
March 7-8, 2016

The registration of delegates began at 4 p.m. Following an evening meal provided by the host church at 6 p.m., the Spring 2016 Stated Meeting of Mississippi Valley Presbytery began at 7 p.m. with an opening worship service led by Rev. Randy Kolb, the stated supply pastor of the Hopewell ARP Church (see **Appendix A**). Rev. Kolb preached a sermon from Luke 17:7-10 entitled “The Parable of the Master and Servant.” Rev. Bill Everett led in the celebration of the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.

Following the worship service and a brief recess, Moderator Alex Coblenz called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer. Mr. Troy Graham, an elder from the Hopewell Presbyterian Church, welcomed the presbytery to the meeting.

The stated clerk confirmed a quorum was present.

Ministers Present

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

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

Elders Present

Bethany – David Frazier	Hickory Springs – none
Brighton – Randy Goulder	Hopewell – Troy Graham
Ebenezer – Edwin Dees	Midlane Park – none
Ellisville – none	Mt. Zion – Charles Bunner
Elsberry – none	New Albany – Steve McCollum
Faith – none	New Geneva – none
French Camp – Larry Littlejohn	Pottsville – none
Gospel of Grace – none	Providence – David Strock
Graceview – Jerry Lyons	Richland – Bob Mitchell
Gum Tree – John Robinson	Salem – Scott Fletcher
Helena – none	Sharon – none
Hernando – Steve Rice	Wood Avenue – none

Guests

Brad Robinson (Student of Theology), Danny Taylor, Steve Nichols (ARP Foundation), Amy Fletcher, Sarah Fletcher, Carl Patterson, Charles Covington (stated supply for Gum Tree), Barbara Cheatham, Mike Thomason, Milton Murphy

Several guests were introduced by members of the court.

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 agenda of the meeting was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix A**).

The Fall 2015 Minutes were adopted by the presbytery.

Under unfinished business, a report by the Dunlap Commission was presented to the presbytery by Mr. Carl Patterson (see **Appendix B**). Mr. Patterson expressed the hope that there would be a closing on the sale of the property by the end of the month of March. A correction was noted in the report – the sale price was actually \$495,000. A request in the report to approve an advance of \$4000 was seconded and passed. A recommendation was added to the report in the form of a motion: dispersing \$1000/month (if needed) to pay expenses until the sale of the property is closed.

Rev. John Tucker was asked to pray for the sale of Dunlap, and also for two members of presbytery: Mike Thomason, who had been involved in a minor automobile accident, and Thornton Fee, who was having heart by-pass surgery.

Rev. Mark Miller presented a report from the Moderator's Committee on Stated Supplies (see **Appendix C**). Rev. Miller went over various sections of the report and explained them in detail, and he answered questions from the floor concerning the report. After much discussion concerning recommendation 1, it was noted that the approval of recommendation 1 would only be a "first reading" and would need to be voted on again at the next stated meeting in order to become a part of the Rules of Mississippi Valley Presbytery. Rev. Miller also briefly explained the rationale for recommendations 2 and 3. The 3 recommendations were approved, and the report as a whole was adopted.

Rev. Kent Moorlach was asked to pray by the Moderator.

Rev. Alex Coblenz delivered the Retiring Moderator's Address. He read from Galatians 6:1-10 and exhorted the members of the court to pray for one another and love one another, and to tend to their own congregations and keep careful watch over them.

Rev. Coblenz then introduced Mr. Charles Browning as Moderator of MVP. Mr. Browning appointed Benjamin Glaser, David Strock, Scott Fletcher, and Conrad Cheatham to the Moderator's Committee on Sessional Records.

Mr. Steve Nichols then addressed the presbytery about the work of the ARP Foundation. A question was asked by a member of the court concerning online giving, and there was an announcement about a golfing event being held near the time of the upcoming meeting of General Synod with proceeds going to support World Witness.

Moderator Browning took a few minutes to thank the presbytery for attending the meeting at Hopewell. He noted that 2016 marks the 165th anniversary of the Hopewell ARP Church.

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

Tuesday Morning, March 8, 2016

The meeting of MVP reconvened at 8:00 a.m. with a call to worship by Moderator Charles Browning from Psalm 24. Rev. Mark Miller preached from Matthew 11:28-30. Following worship, the Moderator called the business portion of the meeting to order.

The Treasurer's Report was distributed to the presbytery (see **Appendix D**). Mr. John Robinson, Treasurer of MVP, gave a brief explanation of the report. The report was received as information.

Mike Thomason, Chairman of the Stewardship Committee, thanked the churches for paying their presbytery assessments in a timely manner.

The report of the Nominations Committee was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix E**). There was discussion about the makeup of the Dunlap Board. A motion was made by Rev. Howard Wheeler to allow the Nominations Committee to contact current members of the Dunlap Board to see who is willing to serve and to make recess appointments where necessary (seconded). The motion passed. Recommendation 1 from the Nominations report was approved and Recommendation 2 was defeated. The report was adopted by the presbytery.

The report of the presbytery representative to the Dunlap Board was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix F**). Rev. Benjamin Glaser encouraged members of the presbytery to buy poinsettias at the end of year from the Palmer Home, and Mr. Steve Nichols spoke favorably about the work of the Dunlap Board, as well as a special leadership fund available that might be beneficial to the presbytery for such work. The report was received as information by the presbytery.

The report of the Minister and His Work Committee was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix G**). The first recommendation of the report was amended to read that the decision be postponed until the Fall Stated Meeting of MVP (essentially, the word "tabled" in the report would be changed to "postponed"). The amended was seconded and passed. The recommendation was divided into parts for the purpose of voting and discussion. The first half of the recommendation (that the request be postponed) was seconded and passed. The second half of the recommendation was also seconded and passed. The recommendation as a whole therefore passed.

A motion was made to drop the second recommendation from the report (seconded, passed).

There was discussion about the third recommendation; specifically, the terms of the change in call regarding Rev. Gary Jones and the Hernando Presbyterian Church. The change in call was read out loud to the presbytery as information. The recommendation passed.

It was noted that “Manual of Authorities and Duties” should read “Rules of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery” on recommendations 4 and 5.

Recommendation 4 of the report was passed by the presbytery.

Recommendation 5 was discussed. An amendment to the recommendation was made for recommendation 5 to read as follows: *That presbytery be directed to change Minister and His Work Committee from a Standing Committee to a Standing Commission* (seconded). Recommendation 5 (as amended) was then discussed.

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

Recess for Committee Meetings (10 a.m.)

Business resumed at 11:10 am. An amendment for recommendation 5 of the Minister and His Work Committee report was offered: *that a new subsection be added to the Rules of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery concerning the Minister and His Work Committee, so that it shall be the responsibility of the committee to act as a commission in situations that involve conflict in the local church.* The motion was seconded, and much discussion ensued. The question was called (seconded, passed). The motion as amended was voted on, and the motion passed.

Recommendation 6 was passed by the presbytery. Mr. Larry Littlejohn was called upon to offer up prayer on behalf of Mr. Brad Robinson.

Recommendation 7 was then considered by the presbytery. The recommendation was amended to require the commission to report back to the next stated meeting of presbytery (seconded, passed). After discussion, the recommendation was passed by the presbytery.

The report of Minister and His Work was then adopted.

The order of the day was reached, and Rev. Meredith Cavin 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.

Business resumed with the report from the Christian Education Committee (see **Appendix H**). The recommendations from the report were all approved, and the report as a whole was adopted by the presbytery.

The report of the Committee on Sessional Records was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix I**). The report was received as information by the presbytery.

A motion was made to have presbytery strongly recommend churches that did not bring their minutes to this meeting bring them to the fall stated meeting (seconded). The motion was amended to direct the stated clerk to be the one to notify the churches to do so (seconded). The motion as amended passed.

The report from the ONA Committee was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix J**). The recommendation to recommend Josh and Krystal Walker attend the ARP Assessment Center was considered. Chairman John Tucker noted that there was a mistake on the date of the Assessment Center (it would be in April, not January). Also, it was noted in Minutes from February 22 that Mike Chipman was doing the preaching at the Redeemer mission and Elder Andy French was doing discipleship/teaching (they were not sharing preaching duties). Also, Rev. Mike Yarman gave a brief update of the work taking place with a potential core group in Little Rock, Arkansas. The recommendations in the report were approved, and the report as a whole was adopted by the presbytery.

Rev. Conrad Cheatham was called upon to pray for the ONA Committee and the work of church planting in the presbytery.

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

- Fall 2016, Richland Presbyterian Church in Millington, Tennessee
- Spring 2017, Gum Tree Presbyterian Church in Tupelo, Mississippi

A motion was made that Graceview Presbyterian Church in Southaven, Mississippi, host the meeting of presbytery in Fall of 2017 (seconded, passed).

Rev. Howard Wheeler gave a brief report on the health and well-being of Rev. Nale Falls, who recently celebrated his 100th birthday.

Rev. Mike Yarman gave a brief oral report regarding the recent meeting of the Board of World Witness.

Rev. Mark Miller expressed his thanks to Moderator Charles Browning and the congregation of Hopewell for helping to provide housing for him and his family in New Albany, Mississippi.

Mr. Mike Thomason announced the upcoming 150th anniversary celebration for the Richland Presbyterian Church.

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

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting (seconded, passed). After the singing of Psalm 133 (“Christian Unity”), the Spring 2016 meeting of MVP was closed with prayer and the benediction by Rev. Tim Phillips.

**Called Meeting
Bonclarken Conference Center
Flat Rock, North Carolina**

There was a called meeting of Mississippi Valley Presbytery on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at the Bonclarken Conference Center in Flat Rock, NC, at 10 a.m.

Moderator Charles Browning called the meeting to order and opened the meeting in prayer.

The Principal Clerk confirmed that a quorum was present.

The following ministers and elders were in attendance:

Ministers

Robert White
Meredith Cavin
David Storment
John Tucker
Tim Phillips
Mike Yarman
Don Watkins
Alex Coblentz
Jim Coad
Conrad Cheatham
Matthew Heathman
Howard Wheeler
Kent Moorlach
Benjamin Glaser
Mark Miller
Zech Schiebout

Elders

Troy Graham (Hopewell)
Charles Browning (serving as
Moderator)
David Strock (Providence)
Edwin Dees (Ebenezer)
Larry Littlejohn (French Camp)
John Scott (Brighton)
Mike Thomason (Richland)
Jerry Lyons (Graceview)
Steve McCollum (New Albany)

There were three items of business that were considered during the meeting.

The first item of business was to approve the call of the Rev. Robert White to the Salem ARP Church (Rev. White is being called as minister of the Salem church). The terms of the call were read to the presbytery by Rev. Kent Moorlach (Chairman of Minister and His Work). There was a motion to accept the call (seconded, passed). Rev. Moorlach also informed the presbytery that Rev. White, who is already a member of presbytery and who has been serving faithfully as a stated supply pastor for a number of years, had been examined by the committee prior to the call being issued. Rev. White accepted the terms of the call, and members of the presbytery extended the right hand of fellowship to Rev. White (see **Appendix K**).

The second item of business was to hear a report from the Dunlap Commission and consider any business which may arise from the report. The report was presented to the presbytery by Rev. John Tucker (see **Appendix L**). The report explained the pending sale of the Dunlap property for the total amount of \$495,000 and a closing date of June 21, 2016. There was discussion, and report was received as information by the presbytery.

The third item of business was considered: To hear a report from the special moderator's commission concerning Faith ARP Church, Rev. David Storment, and the situation surrounding his marriage, and to consider any business which may arise from the report.

There was a motion to go into executive session (seconded, passed). There was also a motion to turn the report back in after its presentation to the presbytery (seconded, passed). There was a third motion to include only the recommendations from the report in the minutes (seconded, passed).

Rev. Benjamin Glaser, the chairman of the commission, read the report in its entirety to the presbytery.¹ Several questions and concerns arising from the report were addressed. After the report was presented and the actions of the commission were detailed, a motion was made to come out of executive session (seconded, passed).

Moderator Browning called upon Rev. Howard Wheeler, Rev. John Tucker, and Rev. Robert White to pray for Rev. Storment, his wife, and the Faith ARP Church.

The following recommendations were considered by the presbytery (due to the fact that the report is not included in the minutes, these are listed in detail below):

- That the actions of the commission listed in the report be sustained (these include: 1) that the Rev. David Storment step down from the pulpit effective this day of Presbytery; 2) the commission suggested to the session of Faith ARP Church that Rev. Storment be given a sabbatical of approximately three months, to be assisted with money from ONA's Revitalization funds, in order to put his affairs in order and find other labors; 3) the commission admonished Rev. David Storment for his failure to provide biblical leadership in his home; Rev. Storment received this with repentance). This was seconded and passed.

Members of the commission also made a motion that the pastoral relationship between Rev. David Storment and Faith ARP Church be dissolved effective June 30, 2016 (seconded).² An amendment was offered: that the dissolution date be effective September 30, 2016, and that a three-month paid leave for Rev. Storment begin July 1, 2016 (seconded). There was

¹ The members of the commission are Rev. Glaser, Rev. Mark Miller, and Elder Steve McCollum.

² It was noted that the dissolution of the pastoral relationship by the presbytery was in accordance with the *Form of Government* 9.60, which reads: "When a Presbytery desires to dissolve a pastoral relationship, it has the authority to do so without formal application from any party when, acting on good information, and it has determined it is in the best interest and welfare of the congregation and pastor to dissolve the relationship." (see also FoG 9.55)

discussion on the motion as amended. The motion passed. Rev. Alex Coblenz was called upon to pray for the situation.

- That the Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser be named moderator of the session of the Faith ARP Church in Leakesville, MS, at Rev. Storment's exit (seconded). The recommendation was amended to specify July 1, 2016, as the effective date (seconded, passed). The recommendation as amended then passed.
- That the Mississippi Valley Presbytery be tasked with developing a plan of assistance to provide prayer, mentorship, and support for Rev. Storment after the dissolution of the pastoral relationship (seconded). It was noted that the Moderator would direct the existing commission to carry out this recommendation. The recommendation passed.

A motion was made by Rev. Alex Coblenz to postpone recommendations 3 and 4 until the Fall 2016 meeting of presbytery (seconded, passed).

- That the Minister and His Work Committee, working alongside the Commission, examine and reflect upon how and why that there was a failure to act in an appropriate time and manner, both at the October 2015 meeting of Presbytery, and for the last 16 years in the troubled marriage of a fellow minister, and that the Commission report back at the Fall meeting of Presbytery with recommendations (postponed)
- That the moderator appoint a committee to develop a plan for and/or provide instruction to local sessions on how to deal and counsel with members of fellow ARP Churches who have come into the orbit of influence of other ARP Churches, and present the plan at the Fall 2016 meeting of Presbytery at Richland ARP Church in Millington, Tennessee (postponed)
- That the commission continue as a commission until the Fall 2016 meeting of Presbytery at Richland ARP Church in Millington, Tennessee (so ordered by the Moderator).
- That the Presbytery pause for a moment of prayer for all of our marriages (seconded, passed). Mr. David Strock was called upon to pray.
- That the moderator assign a day of fasting and prayer for the Storment family, the Faith ARP Church in Leakesville, MS, and all of our marriages (seconded, passed). The Moderator determined Friday, July 1, 2016, to be that day, with prayers to continue through Sunday, July 3.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and passed. Rev. Kent Moorlach closed the meeting with prayer.

Mississippi Valley Presbytery
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

Spring Stated Meeting
Hopewell ARP Church
New Albany, Mississippi
March 7-8, 2016

Opening Worship Service

Call to Worship	Mr. Charles Browning
*Hymn No. 64	“To God Be the Glory”
*Invocation	Mr. Browning
Special Music	
Scripture	Luke 17:7-10
Sermon	Rev. Randy Kolb
	“The Parable of the Master and Servant”
*Hymn No. 9 (1-4)	“The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”
The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper	Rev. William B. Everett
*Hymn No. 9 (5)	“The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”
*Benediction	Rev. Everett

*Congregation Standing

Spring 2016 Meeting Agenda

Monday, March 7

Registration	4 pm to 6 pm
Supper	6 pm
Opening Worship	7 pm
Opening of Business	8 pm
Constitution with Prayer	
Welcome and Greetings by Host Church	
Constitution of the Roll	

Appendix A

Introductions and Procedural Motions
Presentation of the Program
Adoption of Fall 2015 Minutes
Unfinished Business
 Report from Dunlap Commission
 Report from Moderator's Committee on Stated Supplies
Retiring Moderator's Address
Introduction of Moderator-Elect
Appointment of Moderator's Committee on Sessional Records
Presentation by Mr. Steve Nichols, ARP Foundation
Announcements
Closing Prayer

Rev. Alex Coblentz
Mr. Charles Browning

Tuesday, March 8

Breakfast	7 am
Morning Devotion	8 am
Mr. Stephen Ewing, Student of Theology	
Brief Recess	8:25-8:30 am
Business Resumes	8:30 am
Recess for Committee Meetings	10 am
Business Resumes	11 am
Lunch	Noon
Season of Prayer	12:45 pm
Business Resumes	1 pm
Brief Recess	2:30 pm
Business Concludes	2:45 pm

Selection of Meeting Place for Fall 2017 meeting
Reading and Adoption of Minutes
Announcements
The Singing of Psalm 133, "Christian Unity"
Adjournment with Prayer and Benediction

Report of the Dunlap Commission

March 7, 2016

The Dunlap Commission has been in contact with a number of prospective buyers over the past months. Unfortunately none of them were able to secure adequate financing.

Meanwhile the costs continue and as of the end of 2015.

Loans to Dunlap

Mississippi Valley Presbytery

Authorized by Presbytery in the Spring meeting to advance funds received from Covington Bank Account		
Disbursed as follows:	03/17/15	\$10,000.00
	04/15/15	\$5,000.00
	05/04/15	\$6,137.48
Approved by Commission and Moderator and Ratified by Presbytery in Fall Meeting		
	05/27/15	\$5,000.00
	07/28/15	\$2,500.00
Approved by Commission and Moderator and needs to be ratified by Presbytery		
	09/08/15	\$5,000.00
Total through December 31, 2015		\$33,637.48
Additional Advance made in January 2016		\$4,000.00
Grand total as of Spring Meeting of Presbytery		\$37,637.48

We decided to secure the services of a Real Estate Agent and have a contract pending. This is the same agent who was involved in the sale of the Covington Church. We have hit several snags with Federal EPA requirements and financing and are in the process of negotiation.

Appendix B

January 28, 2016

DUNLAP RETIREMENT CENTER PROPERTY

BUYER HAS INSPECTED PROPERTY AND ACCEPTS PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS 'AS IS' AT CLOSING.

Sale Price – 495,000.00

Down Payment Required -100,000.00

Owner Financing- 375,000.00 to be amortized in equal payments over 20 years.

Collateral- First Deed of Trust on property

Interest- 3 % fixed for five years. Interest will be adjusted for years 6 through 20 at the New York Prime rate and adjusted annually on sale date.

Closing- Within 30 days

Seller to provide Warranty Deed and Certificate of Title

This has been tedious work but moving along thanks to Mr Carl Patterson and John Robinson Presbytery Treasurer who have worked tirelessly on this great project. We owe them our resounding appreciate for their service. Thank you men for using your talents for the Lord Jesus.

Respectfully submitted

John Tucker Secretary

MVP Committee on Stated Supplies

February 18, 2016

The special Moderator's Committee on Stated Supplies met by teleconference on February 18, 2016, at 3 pm (EST). Present were Mark Miller, Kent Moorlach, Tim Phillips, and Howard Wheeler. Rev. Phillips was asked to open the meeting in prayer.

Rev. Mark Miller was elected as chairman of the committee and Rev. Tim Phillips was elected as secretary.

The committee discussed the current standards concerning stated supply pastors in the presbytery. There was some discussion as to whether occasional supply pastors should be included in the discussion. It was decided that the committee would deal with supply pastors at the present and make recommendations about occasional supply pastors afterward.

Chapter 19 of the Presbyterian Church in America Book of Common Order was discussed to see if it might be helpful in the work of the committee. In particular, the potential need for a licensure examination for stated supply pastors was considered. The administration of the sacraments by a supply pastor was also discussed. It was suggested that stated supplies who were a part of fellow NAPARC denominations would be acceptable for administration of the sacraments.

The current listed of churches with stated supply ministers was discussed and the current procedures utilized by the Minister and His Work Committee for examining stated supply pastors was also considered. Coming up with a list of questions for stated supplies is a possibility that was discussed.

Other areas were discussed by the presbytery, such as visitations and the administering the Lord's Supper to shut-ins. Also, topics to be asked of potential stated supplies were discussed (e.g., election and predestination, spiritual gifts).

It was suggested by the chairman that a date be set for another meeting and in the interim potential topics be circulated via email and discussed at the upcoming meeting. It was also proposed that such changes would need to be included as changes to the Rules of Presbytery and that the procedure for amending the rules would need to be followed.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 25, at 3 pm (EST). A motion was made to adjourn (seconded, passed), and Rev. Howard Wheeler closed the meeting in prayer.

MVP Committee on Stated Supplies

February 25, 2016

The special Moderator's Committee on Stated Supplies met by teleconference on February 25, 2016, at 3 pm (EST). Present were Chairman Mark Miller, Kent Moorlach, Tim Phillips, and Howard Wheeler. Rev. Moorlach was asked to open the meeting in prayer.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Proposed changes to the Rules of Mississippi Valley Presbytery concerning stated supply ministers (found in Chapter 6, section IV) were discussed. Various changes in the document under Recommendation 1 were suggested. Recommendations 2 and 3 were agreeable by the committee. The changes to the document will be circulated via email and agreed upon by the members of the committee, and that will be presented to the presbytery at the Spring 2016 meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn (second, passed). Rev. Miller closed in prayer.

Appendix C

Recommendation 1. WHEREAS, the Form of Government, 9.52.A states that “The relationship [of a stated supply and congregation] shall be established by permission of the Presbytery only after it has given careful consideration to the qualifications of the individual and to all other factors involved; and

WHEREAS, the Rules of Mississippi Valley Presbytery do not provide specific directions to the Standing Committee on the Minister and His Work (Chapter Six) concerning Stated Supplies;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Chapter Six, Section IV.g of the Rules of Mississippi Valley Presbytery be renumbered as Chapter Six, Section IV. h and replaced by the following:

g. Concerning Stated Supplies, the duties of the Standing Committee of the Minister and His Work shall be:

1. To have personal conferences with all candidates for Stated Supply before they are approved by the Presbytery. It shall provide counsel concerning all necessary matters and any matters about which the candidate may have questions.
2. To examine each candidate for stated supply who is not ordained in Mississippi Valley Presbytery of the ARPC for initial approval to preach under jurisdiction of the Presbytery. The examination shall cover the essential elements of:
 - a. Doctrine as set forth in the Westminster Confession and Catechisms
 - b. Church Government as set forth in the Form of Government
 - c. Bible knowledge of both Old and New Testaments
 - d. Church History
 - e. The Work of Ministry (Practical Theology)
 - f. Personal relation to the Lord and qualifications for ministry
3. To provide opportunities for Stated Supplies to preach before Presbytery, or to make arrangements to hear Stated Supplies preach (either in person or by recording).
4. To correspond with the ordaining courts of non-ARP ministers and the Presbyteries of ARP ministers not holding ordination in Mississippi Valley seeking to serve as Stated Supplies in order to verify their ordination and standing.
5. To maintain current records of all compensation agreements between churches and Stated Supplies, and include them in its reports to Presbytery.
6. To communicate with all Stated Supplies in the Presbytery as well as the Sessions (including Moderators) of all churches served by Stated Supplies, and maintain an accurate knowledge of their situations. Specifically, the Committee shall interview each Stated Supply upon request of the Session at least once a year if the Stated Supply relationship is to be renewed.
7. To keep accurate records of all churches served by Stated Supplies, all current Stated Supplies, and any approved Ministers (ARP and others approved) and Licentiates available for Stated, Student, and/or Occasional Supply. The Committee shall report these records to Presbytery at each stated meeting so that they may be easily accessible to all churches in the Minutes of Presbytery.
8. To help churches secure suitable ministers to administer sacraments in the event that they are served by Stated Supplies who are not able to do so.
9. To have personal conferences with all previously examined Stated Supplies in the event of annual renewal.

10. To maintain and oversee the following standards for Stated Supplies:

a. Definitions:

1. A Stated Supply is a minister (ordained in the ARP or another body) or a man found acceptable to the Session and the Presbytery who either (a) preaches at least twelve times in the space of twelve months at a church in Mississippi Valley Presbytery without an installed minister, or (b) preaches more than six consecutive Sundays at a church in Mississippi Valley Presbytery that has an installed minister in unusual circumstances (such as extended illness, leave of absence, etc.).

2. A Student Supply is a Licentiate under care of Presbytery who serves in the same circumstances set forth in Chapter Six, Section IV.g.10.a.1 (a) or (b), *supra*. Student Supplies, being Licentiates, are subject to the requirements set forth in Chapter Six, Section IV.F, *infra*.

3. An Occasional Supply either (a) fills the pulpit of an installed minister in his absence less than six consecutive Sundays, or (b) fills the pulpit of a church without an installed minister less than twelve times in the space of twelve months. Occasional Supplies are not subject to interview or examination of the Presbytery or its Committee. This is the business of the Session.

b. Criteria:

1. A minister whose ordination is held in Mississippi Valley Presbytery, ARPC does not need to be examined in order to serve as a Stated Supply.

2. A candidate for Stated Supply who is not an ordained minister in Mississippi Valley Presbytery, ARPC (ordained in another Presbytery, denomination, or non-ordained) shall be initially interviewed and examined by the Committee on the Minister and His Work at the outset of his service to the Presbytery in accordance with Chapter Six, IV.g.1-2, *supra*.

3. A candidate for Stated Supply who is not affiliated with a NAPARC denomination shall be interviewed with respect to the compatibility of his views to the Standards of the ARPC. Any determinations in this matter are left to the discretion and wisdom of the Committee and, ultimately, of the Presbytery.

4. A Stated Supply shall not serve longer than twelve months without renewal by the Committee and the Presbytery.

5. A Stated Supply does not need to be examined in order to be renewed; however, the Committee shall interview him to ensure that his views remain agreeable to the ARPC. The Committee shall report the interview to Presbytery when his renewal comes before the Court.

6. A Stated Supply relationship that needs to begin before the next stated meeting of Presbytery shall be approved by the Committee on the Minister and His Work acting as a Commission, in accordance with Chapter Six, IV.h.v, *infra*. If that Stated Supply relationship continues beyond the next stated meeting of Presbytery, the Stated Supply shall be approved to continue through the appropriate process under Chapter Six, IV.g.10.b.1-3, *supra*. If that Stated Supply relationship has ceased before the next stated meeting, then the action of the acting Commission shall be received by Presbytery as information.

7. [to expire one year after it goes into effect] A Stated Supply not ordained in the ARPC, who was approved before these rules went into effect, shall complete his term without examination; however, if he was never examined in accordance with Chapter Six, Section IV.g.2, *supra*, he shall be thus examined prior to beginning a new term.

Appendix C

c. Responsibilities:

1. A Stated Supply who is an ordained minister in Mississippi Valley Presbytery, ARPC may discharge all duties of an installed minister other than moderating the Session, unless he is appointed Moderator by the Presbytery.

2. A Stated Supply who is an ordained minister in another Presbytery of the ARPC or another NAPARC denomination may discharge all duties of an installed minister, but shall not moderate the Session.

3. A Stated Supply who is an ordained minister in a denomination not associated with NAPARC may discharge all duties of an installed minister other than (a) administering the sacraments, except by approval of the Committee and Presbytery, or (b) moderating the Session.

4. A Stated Supply who is not an ordained minister may discharge all duties of an installed minister, but shall not in any circumstances (a) moderate the Session, (b) administer sacraments, or (c) pronounce the Benediction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Chapter Six, Section IV.g (changing per this action to “h”).v of the Rules of Mississippi Valley Presbytery be renumbered as Chapter Six, Section IV.h.vi and replaced with the following:

“To approve Stated Supply relationships in unusual circumstances that need to begin before the next meeting of Presbytery.”

Recommendation 2. WHEREAS the Rules of Mississippi Valley Presbytery are not outlined in conformity with commonly accepted alphanumeric standards;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Committee on Stated Supplies be given an extension of its term in order to correct the numeration of the Rules (taking Recommendation 1 into account if the way is clear).

Recommendation 3. That the Committee on Stated Supplies be given an extension of its term in order to prepare an examination for Stated Supplies that may be used as a resource by the Committee on the Minister and His Work.

Mississippi Valley Presbytery
2015 Financial Reports

General Fund Report	Page 1
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Schedule of Assessments Paid by Individual Churches	Page 4
Details of Loans made to Dunlap for Liquidation	Page 5

John Robinson, Treasurer
1568 Sunflower Circle
Tupelo, MS 38801
johnr1568@att.net
662-401-9934

General Fund

Mississippi Valley Presbytery

For the Year Ended December 31, 2014 and 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Balance January 1	<u>\$174,623.77</u>	<u>\$88,986.73</u>
Receipts:		
Assessments from Member Churches	\$13,870.00	\$12,995.00
Interest Income	\$41.85	\$623.09
Received from Down Payment on Covington Church		\$79,790.00
Proceeds from Covington's Remaining Bank account	\$21,137.48	
Total Receipts	<u>\$35,049.33</u>	<u>\$93,408.09</u>
Disbursements:		
Contribution to Christian Education Fund	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Contribution to Dunlap Retirement Home	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00
Printing, Postage, Supplies and Clerk's Travel	\$572.59	\$546.05
Wire Transfer Fee		\$25.00
Transfer Covington Sale Proceeds to ONA	\$79,790.00	
Loans to Dunlap – see attached	\$33,637.48	
Appraisal Fee and Insurance paid for Dunlap	\$4,741.42	
Total Disbursements	<u>\$125,941.49</u>	<u>\$7,771.05</u>
Excess Receipts (Disbursements)	<u>\$90,892.16</u>	<u>\$85,637.04</u>
Balance December 31	<u>\$83,731.61</u>	<u>\$174,623.77</u>
General Fund Bank Accounts:		
Renasant Bank 2200123455	\$18,731.61	\$109,623.77
Bank of New Albany Certificate of Deposit	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00
Total Bank Accounts	<u>\$83,731.61</u>	<u>\$174,623.77</u>

Christian Education Fund Mississippi Valley Presbytery

For the Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Balance January 1	<u>\$4,049.34</u>	<u>\$1,057.09</u>
Receipts:		
Received from General Fund	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Received from Summer Campers	\$19,240.00	\$20,650.00
Received from Fall Retreat Campers	\$1,715.00	\$2,205.00
Total Receipts	<u>\$25,955.00</u>	<u>\$27,855.00</u>
Disbursements:		
Expenses of Summer Camp	\$21,068.41	\$21,160.00
Expenses of Fall Retreat	\$2,118.60	\$3,255.66
Camp Leadership retreat	\$388.00	
Synod CEM Reimbursement (cancelled flight in 14/Workshop)	\$473.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$110.26	\$447.09
Total Disbursements	<u>\$24,158.27</u>	<u>\$24,862.75</u>
Excess Receipts over Disbursements	\$1,796.73	\$2,992.25
Balance December 31	<u>\$5,846.07</u>	<u>\$4,049.34</u>
Christian Education Bank Account:		
Bank of New Albany 162026003	<u>\$5,846.07</u>	<u>\$4,049.34</u>

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Outreach North America Funds Mississippi Valley Presbytery

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Balance January 1, 2015				
Receipts:				
Collection on Covington Note (\$1,111.11 per month)				
Transfer of Covington down payment from General Fund				
Collection from an individual for Little Rock Church Plant				
Interest Income				
Received from Ross Exploration (Havana Church)				
Total Receipts	-			
Disbursements:				
Support of Hernando Church				
Embers to Flame Registration Fee				
Little Rock Church Plant Supply Pastor				
Total Disbursements	<u>\$195.00</u>			
Excess Receipts (Disbursements)	< <u>\$195.00</u> >			
Increase (Decrease) in Value for the year				
Balance December 31, 2015	<u>\$25,025.72</u>			
Annualized return on our accounts				
ONA Accounts:				
Bank of New Albany 1620260-01 Checking	\$8,127.57			
Bank of New Albany 1620260-09 Money Market	\$40,745.95			
Bank of New Albany Certificate of Deposit	\$65,000.00			
Total in Banks	<u>\$113,873.52</u>			
ARP Investment Fund A (Moderate)	\$275,664.00			
ARP Investment Fund B (Conservative)	\$256,110.00			
Total in Managed Accounts	<u>\$531,774.00</u>			
Total in all accounts	<u>\$645,647.52</u>			

	Church	Church	ARP Invest-	ARP Invest-
	Revitalization	Planting	ment Fund A	ment Fund B
	<u>\$25,220.72</u>	<u>\$54,186.60</u>	<u>\$200,166.87</u>	<u>\$252,105.81</u>
	\$13,333.32	\$32,000.00	\$79,790.00	
	\$300.12	\$300.12		
	\$377.76	\$46,011.20	\$79,790.00	-
	\$195.00	\$10,000.00		
	<u>\$195.00</u>	<u>\$1,350.00</u>		
	< <u>\$195.00</u> >	<u>\$34,661.20</u>	\$79,790.00	< <u>\$4,292.87</u> >
	<u>\$25,025.72</u>	<u>\$88,847.80</u>	< <u>\$275,664.00</u> >	<u>\$4,004.19</u>
			< <u>2.14%</u> >	<u>\$256,110.00</u>
				<u>1.59%</u>
	Totals			

Schedule of Assessments Paid by Churches
Mississippi Valley Presbytery
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

Bethany, Guntown, MS(2014 and 2015)	\$700.00
Brighton, TN	\$1,100.00
Ebenezer, Blue Mtn., MS	\$400.00
Ellisville Presbyterian, Ellisville, MS (2014 and 2015)	\$750.00
Elsberry, MO	\$80.00
Faith Presbyterian, Leakesville, MS	\$500.00
French Camp, MS	\$900.00
Graceview, Southhaven, MS	\$1,000.00
Gospel of Grace, Springfield, MO	\$0.00
Gum Tree, Tupelo, MS	\$690.00
Havana Mission, Havana, AR	\$0.00
Helena, Moss Point, MS	\$500.00
Hernando Reformed, Hernando, MS	\$200.00
Hickory Springs, AR	\$50.00
Hopewell, New Albany, MS	\$400.00
Midlane Park, Louisville, KY	\$490.00
Mt. Zion, Troy, MO	\$280.00
New Albany, MS	\$1,950.00
New Geneva, Paducah, KY	\$640.00
Pottsville, AR	\$300.00
Providence, Bartlett, TN	\$500.00
Richland, Rosemark, TN	\$500.00
Salem, Atoka, TN	\$1,600.00
Sharon, Brighton, TN	\$200.00
Wood Avenue, Monticello, AR	\$140.00
Total Receipts from churches	<u>\$13,870.00</u>

✕

Loans to Dunlap

Mississippi Valley Presbytery

Authorized by Presbytery in the Spring meeting to advance funds received from Covington Bank Account	
Disbursed as follows:	
03/17/15	\$10,000.00
04/15/15	\$5,000.00
05/04/15	\$6,137.48
Approved by Commission and Moderator and Ratified by Presbytery in Fall Meeting	
05/27/15	\$5,000.00
07/28/15	\$2,500.00
Approved by Commission and Moderator and needs to be ratified by Presbytery	
09/08/15	\$5,000.00
Total through December 31, 2015	\$33,637.48
Additional Advance made in January 2016	
	\$4,000.00
Grand total as of Spring Meeting of Presbytery	\$37,637.48

Nominations Committee Report

The Nominations Committee conferred multiple times via email in January and February of 2016.

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

Position	Class of	Name
Christian Ed (pastor)	2019	Alex Coblentz
Christian Ed (elder)	2019	John Moore
Minister and His Work (pastor)	2020	Mike Chipman
Minster and His Work (elder)	2020	Shelby Lowery
Nominations (either)	2020	David Strock
ONA Committee (pastor)	2019	Mike Yarman
ONA Committee (elder)	2019	Milton Murphy

The Nominations Committee makes the following recommendations:

- 1) That the persons listed for service be approved by the presbytery.

- 2) That no new appointments be made to the Dunlap Board, but that the current board members be allowed to serve until such time as the sale of the Dunlap property is finalized and the board dissolved by Mississippi Valley Presbytery (note: current board members would already be serving through June 30, 2016).

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Phillips, secretary

Report to Presbytery

March 7-8, 2016

Hopewell, MS

As a presbytery representative to Synod's Board of William H. Dunlap Orphanage, Inc., it is my responsibility to keep presbytery informed as to the work and ministry of this board and how presbytery can be involved.

The William H. Dunlap Orphanage ('Dunlap') served our denomination at its location outside of Brighton, TN, from 1905 until its closing in 1978. Founded by Annie Bell Dunlap in memory of her father, William H. Dunlap, and her aunt, Elizabeth Dunlap Spain, the purpose of the orphanage was to provide "for the maintenance, support, and education of orphans."

Following the closing of Dunlap in 1978, the assets from the sale of its property were entrusted to the Board of the William H. Dunlap Orphanage, Inc. The board was charged with the responsibility of providing for children who have been made vulnerable by loss of normal parental care and whose vulnerability is compounded by their youth. The purpose of the corporation as it now exists is to assist organizations providing orphans with all basic physical necessities; spiritual, mental, and emotional well-being; and assistance toward greater self-reliance. This assistance has been provided in the form of grants made on an annual basis. In June of 2011, Synod approved the establishment of an additional fund to assist the families of ARP pastors who have adopted children.

This entire ministry is self-funded, relying entirely on the assets within its trusts as well as the gifts and donations of others. No government funding whatsoever is involved.

Any child-related ministry that wishes to be considered for financial assistance is encouraged to make due application through Synod's William H. Dunlap Orphanage Board. Each application is reviewed and, if found in agreement with the terms and purpose of the Dunlap Trust, may then be given a financial grant. Such grants are awarded on an annual basis.

While other children's ministries can and do make such applications each year, Synod has approved and established several on-going ministries that receive the majority of the monies being awarded each year. These works with which we have entered into a special and continuing relationship are:

Collins Home (Seneca, SC)

Palmer Home (Columbus, MS, and Hernando, MS)

French Camp (French Camp, MS)

HOW CAN MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY HELP?

1. If you know of a children's ministry that might need assistance, encourage them to contact Synod's William H. Dunlap Orphanage Board.
2. If you know of a child or children in crisis situations, be encouraged to contact either French Camp (662-547-6482) or Palmer Homer (662-328-5704). They stand ready and eager to reach out to 'the least of these.'
3. Support these ministries with our prayers. (These children's homes will happily supply prayer cards with the pictures and names of these precious children.)
4. Support these ministries with our dollars. (As individuals and as churches, consider making an on-going gift of any size. Such gifts really do make a difference in a child's life and are a tremendous help to these ministries as they plan for the future.)
5. Consider getting involved in an on-site project. (This might involve sending a work crew to help with some painting, light renovation, landscaping, etc., or stuffing envelopes for a mail out. Perhaps a Sunday School class would like to help with Christmas gifts for a children's cottage. Opportunities abound!)

As James 1:27 reminds us, *This is pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father, to visit orphans and widows in their distress...* These children's ministries that our denomination is supporting are, by God's grace, doing just that as they seek to bring the healing love and saving truth of Christ to these broken and hurting lives. To God be the glory!

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Everett, Presbytery Representative
Board of William H. Dunlap Orphanage, Inc.,

Appendix G

Mississippi Valley Presbytery, Minister and His Work Committee – March 8, 2016 4:00pm

Present – Ministers: Rev. Kent Moorlach, Chairman Ruling Elders: John Robinson Visitors: Rev. Alex Coblenz
Rev. Don Watkins Steve McCollum Bro. Taylor Shaffer
Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser, Secretary Randy Goulder RE David Frazier
Larry Littlejohn

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

The agenda for the meeting was approved by the motion of Rev. Moorlach, seconded by Rev. Glaser, and passed.

The minutes from the October meeting of MHW were received and approved by motion of RE Larry Littlejohn, seconded by RE Randy Goulder, and passed.

The first order of business was meeting with Mr. Taylor Shaffer, a candidate for Stated Supply at Bethany ARP Church. Mr. Shaffer was introduced by RE David Frazier of the Bethany Church. After a brief examination both Mr. Shaffer and RE Frazier were excused. Discussion followed with concerns about Mr. Shaffer's ability to meet the minimum requirements of a Stated Supply. Questions developed from the examination about the situation at Bethany ARP and it was moved, seconded, and passed to make a recommendation to Presbytery regarding the matter.

The second order of business was to receive correspondence from Rev. Moises Chan.

After this the committee took up communication from the Hernando ARP Church concerning a change of Rev. Gary Jones call. Discussion followed with a motion to approve by RE Steve McCollum, seconded by Rev. Watkins, and passed.

A fourth order of business taken up was a question from the session of the Brighton ARP Church about the process of presenting a candidate for consideration by the Presbytery. It was moved, seconded, and passed to recommend the Presbytery remind each session of the Manual of Authorities and Duties Chapter IV, section b, subsection v.

Next there was conversation concerning the inability of Minister and His Work to act in any authoritative way with serious and pressing issues in the presbytery between meetings of presbytery. Due to the unique geographic problems associated with MVP and with the knowledge of an existing precedent in Catawba Presbytery (see Manual of Authorities and Duties of Catawba Presbytery Section F) it was moved by RE Larry Littlejohn, and seconded by Rev. Watkins, and passed to have presbytery change the Manual of Authorities and Duties of MVP to reflect the mission of Minister and His Work be changed from a Standing Committee to a Standing Commission with all decisions of that commission to be reviewed by the presbytery at their next stated or called meeting.

Minister and His Work was closed with prayer by RE John Robinson at 6:02pm.

After supper and worship the committee reconvened with prayer by RE Steve McCollum at 9:38pm.

The first order of business was to meet with Student of Theology Brad Robinson and we were given an encouraging report concerning his studies and new life as father. The committee paused for prayer with RE Larry Littlejohn leading.

The next order of business was to receive information about a situation at Faith Presbyterian Church in Leakesville, MS. After much discussion it was moved by RE Larry Littlejohn, seconded by Rev. Glaser, and passed to have MVP appoint a commission to investigate and counsel with the session, congregation, and pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church concerning the health of the church family and the pastor's family.

Lastly the committee received a report from the chairman about issues at the Gospel of Grace church. The report was received as information and prayer was led by Rev. Moorlach.

Appendix G

At 11:38pm it was moved by RE Randy Goulder, and seconded by Rev. Don Watkins to adjourn and close with prayer.

The Minister and His Work Committee has the following recommendations:

- 1) That due to some concerns we have that Bethany's request of a Stated Supply be tabled until a moderator is appointed for the session of Bethany ARP Church and to have an ARP pastor fill the pulpit once a month.
- 2) That correspondence from Rev. Moises Chan be received as information.
- 3) That presbytery approve the change of call between Rev. Gary Jones and the Hernando ARP Church.
- 4) That presbytery by letter remind each session of the requirements of the MVP Manual Authorities and Duties Chapter IV, section b., subsection v. concerning the process of calling a pastor and to generally remind each session of the presence of Minister and His Work to help them when a need may arise.
- 5) That presbytery be directed to change the Manual Authorities and Duties to reflect the modification of the Minister and His Work Committee from a Standing Committee to a Standing Commission.
- 6) That presbytery graciously commend Student of Theology Brad Robinson for his seminary work and prayerfully encourage him in this labor both in his studies at seminary and his duties as father and husband.
- 7) That presbytery appoint a commission to investigate and counsel with the session, congregation, and pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church in Leakesville, MS concerning the health of the church family and the pastor's family.

Christian Education Committee
– Report to the Spring 2016 meeting of Presbytery –

The Christian Education Committee began its work on Monday, March 7, at the Hopewell ARP Church.

Present were: Joey Donahue (chm.), Jerry Lyons, Mark Miller, and Charles Browning.

There were several items of business discussed at this meeting.

The first was the Camp Joy Vision Dinner scheduled for May 20 at the Richland Church. The purpose of this dinner is to explore the possibility of a week of Camp Joy being conducted somewhere in Mississippi Valley Presbytery – most likely in the Memphis area. The primary concern for our committee is to help promote that event among the churches in that area.

The second item was a discussion of a proposed Child Protection Workshop sponsored by Synod's office of Christian Education.

The third item was with respect to a Youth Rally to be conducted at the Providence church in April. This will be sponsored and hosted by the Providence church – something of a Summer Camp reunion, as well as an opportunity for planning and promoting the 2016 Camp.

The last item of business was the 2016 MVP Summer Camp.

The committee recessed for dinner at 6:00, and reconvened on Tuesday morning at 10:00 to conclude its business.

Recommendations:

1. That we extend an invitation to Judy Hodges to make a presentation on child protection at the fall meeting of presbytery.
2. That MVP conduct its camp the week of July 11 – 16 at French Camp, with Kent Moorlach as director.

Submitted by Joey Donahue, acting secretary

Review of Sessional Records

March 8, 2016 – 10:00am

Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser, chairman

Rev. Conrad Cheatham

Ruling Elder David Brock

Ruling Elder Scott Fletcher

The meeting of the committee overseeing the review of sessional records was opened with prayer by Rev. Glaser at 10:05am.

After review the following sessional records were approved without exception:

Hernando ARP Church

Sharon ARP Church

Pottsville ARP Church

Graceview ARP Church

Gumtree ARP Church

After review the following sessional records were approved with exception:

Salem ARP Church

New Albany ARP Church

Midlane Park ARP Church

Richland ARP Church

The following sessional records were not available for review:

Faith ARP Church

Gospel of Grace ARP Church

Hickory Springs ARP Church

Wood Avenue ARP Church

Rev. Glaser closed with prayer at 11:00am.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Benjamin P. Glaser

Meeting of the ONA Committee of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery

Minutes of November 23, 2015

The ONA Committee met, Monday, November 23, 2015 at 7:00pm, CST, by Skype. The following members were present : Mr. Carl Patterson, Rev. John Tucker, Rev. Mike Yarman, and Rev. Howard Wheeler. Absent were Mr. Charles Bunner and Mr. Troy Graham.

Also present were guests Mr. Britton Noel, Mr. Josh Walker and his wife Krystal.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Rev. Mike Yarman.

Mr. Walker shared a little about his conversion and call to the ministry. He affirmed subscription to the WCF and Catechisms. The Committee had good conversation regarding the Walkers interest and qualifications for the position of church planting in LR.

Rev. Tucker outlined what the timeline would be for further assessment and evaluation if we and the Walkers felt God's call to this work. Following this discussion, the Walker's were dismissed and the ONA Committee had further discussion with Mr. Britton Noel, a member of the Little Rock core group.

Carl Patterson made a motion that we recommend Josh and Krystal Walker attend the ARP Assessment Center in January 2016 and to pay expenses for travel to the Assessment Center as well as other incidentals related to childcare for their son, Calvin. The motion was seconded by Mike Yarman and passed unanimously following discussion.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer offered by Mr. Carl Patterson.

Respectfully,

Howard Wheeler, Secretary.

Outreach North America Committee of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery

Meeting Minutes, February 22, 2016

The ONA MVP Committee met by teleconference on Monday, February 22, 2016 at 7:00pm CST. Attending were: Rev. John Tucker, Mr. Carl Patterson, Mr. Troy Graham, Mr. Charles Bunner , Rev. Mike Yarman and Rev. Howard Wheeler.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Rev. Mike Yarman.

The Committee acted by consensus to authorize the funds necessary to utilize Zoom for teleconferencing.

Rev. Mike Yarman gave a report on the Little Rock Bible Study group.

Rev. Wheeler made a motion that we authorize \$1600.00 plus actual transportation expense, eg. Airfare, rental car, etc. for Josh and Krystal Walker to attend the Church Planter Assessment Center at Bonclarken, April 11-15, 2016. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The following report from Redeemer Community Church was received as information.

**Report from the Redeemer Church
Spring 2016**

Redeemer Community Church is doing well to the glory of God! This past year has been a very good one for us. We have over twenty coming consistently now, with a new couple who just started visiting us. We have several on the fringes who are waiting for various reasons. Andy is discipling men on Wednesday morning with his Bible study. This New Year, he began going back through the basics of the Christian faith, and many men are purchasing their first Bibles and reading them for themselves for the first time in their lives. He is teaching them how to study the word and lead their families in a God-honoring way.

We recently revamped our website and launched it, which features weekly sermons, which is one request that people who are interested keep asking for. We plan to begin a local advertising campaign soon as well.

I'm continuing to preach through the book of John, which may take me the better part of this year to finish. Preaching is a blessing to my soul and sermon prep is something I look forward to each week as a reprieve from the Biology classroom.

Specific things you can pray for RCC:

1. That the Lord would move men and women to repentance and faith through the teaching and preaching of his Word in Murray.
2. That men and women in Murray would crave the truth of Scripture and seek it out.

Appendix J

3. That our advertising would be successful.
4. That the Lord would bring those on the fence around to us, so we could work hand in hand for the gospel
5. That our people would be encouraged with the Lord's work and his goodness.
6. That Emily and I would be light in the darkness to our school. People need Jesus.

Rev. Tucker gave a report on concerns regarding Church Revitalization. He made the following recommendations. First, that the committee consider the possibility and nature of developing a pastor/elder revitalization conference within our Presbytery. Second, that the committee consider developing a grant program for our Presbytery's churches to utilize for special projects related to revitalization. Third, that the committee purchase several books related to the topic of pastoral development or revitalization and make them available for pastors.

Meeting adjourned with prayer offered by Mr. Carl Patterson.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howard Wheeler, Clerk.

Recommendations:

That Presbytery give thanks for the good work going on at the Redeemer Church: For Mike Chipman and Andy French as they alternative preaching. For conversions and growth in grace of new people and members.

That Presbytery pray for the development work in Little Rock.

That Presbytery approve \$1600.00 plus actual transportation expense, eg. Airfare, rental car, etc. for Josh and Krystal Walker to attend the Church Planter Assessment Center at Bonclarken, April 11-15, 2016.

Appendix J

ONA Committee of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery

March 7, 2016

The ONA Committee met at Hopewell ARP Church, New Albany, MS at 4:00pm CST, March 7, 2016. The following were present: Rev. John Tucker, Chairman, Rev. Mike Yarman, Mr. Charles Bunner, Mr. Troy Graham and Rev. Howard Wheeler. Absent was Mr. Carl Patterson.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Rev. Mike Yarman.

Rev. Tucker demonstrated the Zoom application purchased by ONA to simply teleconference meeting.

The Committee discussed the process of vetting Church Planting Candidate, Josh Walker and possible timelines for the milestones in the process. The Committee also discussed the terms of a call for a church planter for the Little Rock mission. The Committee also discussed ONA Synod's new funding formula for new church development.

The Committee discussed different options for church revitalization within our Presbytery. Rev. Yarman moved that ONA provide copies of "The Elder" by David Dickson for Ruling and Teaching Elders and that our elders be encouraged to utilize these as teaching tools and for discussion within Session Meetings.

The Committee discussed Synod ONA's "Dare to Dream" grant initiative and how to promote this resource among our churches.

The Committee discussed providing scholarships for pastors attending conferences related to pastoral ministry or church revitalization. Scholarship requests must be approved by the ONA Committee prior to registration and will be awarded upon submission of an expense report with receipts. Scholarships will cover conference registration and housing expenses only, up to \$750 total. Pastors are eligible for only one scholarship per calendar year.

The Committee discussed the Pre-Synod Conference which examines the reasons why people are leaving our churches. Dr. Josh Packard, author of "Church Refugees" will lead this Conference. The Committee encourages all ruling and teaching elders attending Synod to also attend this Pre-Synod Conference.

The meeting was closed with prayer offered by Mr. Troy Graham.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howard Wheeler, Secretary.

Call For A Pastor

We the officers and the members of the Salem Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Atoka, TN, being well satisfied with your ministerial qualifications, and confident that we have been led to you by the Holy Spirit as one whose ministry will be profitable to our spiritual interest, do earnestly call you, Robert White, to undertake the office of pastor of this congregation. On the acceptance of this call we promise you in the discharge of your duty all proper support, encouragement, and obedience to the Lord.

That you may devote yourself wholly to Ministry of the Word, we promise and obligate ourselves to:

- a. Pay you an annual salary of \$40,200, in at least monthly payments.
- b. Housing-provide you with the free use of the manse with utilities. (valued at approximately \$16,000 annual benefit)
- c. Pay your moving expenses.
- d. Grant you a travel allowance of \$3,000 annually (distributed in monthly allotments).
- e. Pay into the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Retirement Fund as prescribed by the General Synod.
- f. Group insurance: We will pay 100% of the cost of your participation in Synod's insurance programs (life, dependent life, medical, dental, accidental death and dismemberment, and disability).
- g. Review with you annually the adequacy of this compensation.
- h. Grant you an annual vacation of 2 weeks.
- i. Educational material allotment \$3,600 annually (distributed in monthly allotments).
- j. Cover expenses for General Synod meeting.

We desire to also express our commitment to you and to your family for events which could occur in the providence of God. Every effort will be made to assist and lovingly sustain and uphold you and/or your family should such an event occur.

- a. In the event of total disability, as defined by Synod's insurance program, we promise to continue the provisions of this call during the prescribed waiting period for commencement of the benefits from Synod's insurance program. (Currently 90 days) We also promise to provide the use of the manse with utilities for a period of 6 months beginning at the point the disability occurs.
- b. In the event you should die during the terms of this call, we promise to provide the use of the manse with utilities for your wife and your salary paid through the end of the month of your death.

Report to MVP on the Pending Sale of Dunlap Retirement Home
June 7, 2016

The Dunlap Commission has been working to oversee the sale of the Dunlap Retirement Home since the spring meeting of Presbytery at French Camp March 3, 2015. Over this time, we have had several offers from interested groups and individuals but no contract. We tried selling it ourselves but this did not work out so we have engaged the services of Mr Harold Morris on the recommendation of Milton Murphy and Mike Thomason. He is the same agent involved with the sale of the Covington Church.

As of last month we have a contract signed by Lacy and Mary Ann Enis, the same people who financed the purchase of the Covington Church. The closing date is set for Tuesday June 21 which we pray will come about as planned.

The sales price is \$495,000 with a down payment of 100,000 and \$395,000 financed by the presbytery in equal payments over 20 years. The first 10 years' interest rate is at 3% with annual adjustment yearly on the sales date beginning year 11 and not to exceed 6%. The buyer will have a Phase 1 environmental study with the closing dependent upon the study.

We have offered a discount if buyer pays the loan off in two years as he is planning. Buyer is hoping for a USDA loan and from all accounts, he thinks he has it.

We, the Presbytery agree to *subordinate the 2nd lien on the Covington ARP Church properties (prior note) to Brighton Bank for the loan amount of 420,000. The first payment will be made 90 days after closing.

Over the past 15 months approximately \$4,000 a month has been paid for insurance, maintenance and other repairs. \$1,000 a month has come in from the rent of the Duplexes. The expenses have been paid out of the Presbytery General Fund and rent has gone in to defray expenses.

A full financial accounting will be available when the property is sold. Please remember that the Salem Church loaned Dunlap \$20,000 which should be repaid out of the proceeds.

For the Dunlap Commission

John Tucker Secretary.

*The subordination refers to the pecking order of the collateral on the Covington Building note. In other words if there were a foreclosure auction, the question is who gets paid first? We are currently in second place with a \$100,000 note to a bank in first place. By subordinating we are agreeing to be second to a \$320,000 note. This makes it unlikely we would receive anything if the buyer of Covington were to default. However we did not have a very strong position to start with so we are not giving up much. This enables the buyer of Dunlap to borrow money to make down payment and improvements to Dunlap using the Covington property as collateral and avoid

Report to MVP on the Pending Sale of Dunlap Retirement Home
June 7, 2016

environment issues if Dunlap were his collateral. Plus it allows us to be first mortgage or in first place on the \$395,000 Dunlap note

For the Dunlap Commission

John Tucker 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 meeting in 2010 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, Graceview

OFFICERS OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

- Moderator:** Mr. Charles Browning
110 Magnolia, New Albany, MS 38652
(C) 662-539-1485
(E) *hammerpecker@icloud.com*
(Spring 2017)
- Vice-Moderator:** Rev. Alex Coblentz
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(H) 662-547-6520
(C) 803-984-0678
(E) *alexcoblentz@gmail.com*
(Spring 2017)
- 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)
Jerry Lyons (2017)
Rev. Mark Miller (2018)
Mr. Charles Browning (2018)
Rev. Alex Coblenz (2019)
Mr. John Moore (2019)

Minister and His Work

Rev. Kent Moorlach, Chairman (2018)
Rev. Benjamin Glaser (2017)
Mr. John Robinson (2017)
Mr. Randy Goulder (2018)
Rev. Don Watkins (2019)
Mr. Larry Littlejohn (2019)
Rev. Mike Chipman (2020)
Mr. Shelby Lowery (2020)

Nominations

Rev. Gary Jones, Chairman (2019)
Mr. Carl Patterson (2017)
Rev. Tim Phillips (2018)
M. David Strock (2020)

Outreach North America

Rev. John Tucker, Chairman (2017)
Rev. Howard Wheeler (2017)
Mr. Troy Graham (2018)
Mr. Carl Patterson (2018)
Rev. Mike Yarman (2019)
Mr. Milton Murphy (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
Mr. Terry Griffith
Ms. Barbara McFarland
Mr. Tim Pilkington
Mr. Mike Thomason (secretary)
Ms. Linda Clark
Ms. Kim Gray
Ms. Lisa Simpson
Mr. Jeff Huffman
Mr. Milton Murphy (chairman)

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. John Tucker (2017)
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
Brighton: B.J. Maxwell
Ebenezer: Randy Kolb
Elsberry and Mt. Zion: Rev. Conrad Cheatham
Gum Tree: Charles Covington
Helena: Rev. Leslie Rhodes
Hickory Springs and Wood Avenue: Rev. Mike Garvey
Hopewell: Rev. Bill Everett
Redeemer Community Church: Rev. Mike Chipman
Salem and Sharon: Rev. Robert White

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY DIRECTORY

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Appendix P

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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

Hopewell

Mt. Zion

New Geneva

Pottsville

Providence Reformed

Redeemer

Richland