

The Minutes Of Mississippi Valley Presbytery

General Synod of the
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church



Spring Stated Meeting

March 6-7, 2023

French Camp Presbyterian Church
French Camp, Mississippi

Called Meeting

November 12, 2022

Richland ARP Church
Rosemark, Tennessee

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

Spring Stated Meeting
March 6-7, 2023

The registration of delegates began at 4:00 p.m. on March 6, 2023. After a meal prepared by the host church and served in the new Living Stones Building at French Camp, the meeting began at 7 p.m. with an opening worship service led by Rev. Alex Coblentz, the pastor of French Camp Presbyterian Church. (see **Appendix A**). Rev. Nick Robison, pastor of Salem Presbyterian Church, preached a sermon from 1 Thessalonians 2:13 entitled “The Word Works.” Rev. Coblentz then led the presbytery in the celebration of the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.

Following the worship service and a brief recess, Moderator Kent Moorlach called the business portion of the meeting to order with prayer. Mr. John Robert Cockerell, an elder at French Camp, welcomed the members of Mississippi Valley Presbytery to the meeting.

The Principal Clerk confirmed a quorum was present.

Ministers Present

Thomas Braithwaite (<i>E</i>)	Matthew Heathman (<i>E</i>)
Ron Brunson (<i>E</i>)	Kent Moorlach
Meredith Cavin (<i>E</i>)	Christopher Neiswonger
Conrad Cheatham (<i>E</i>)	Tim Phillips
Mike Chipman	James Ritchey (<i>E</i>)
Gary Clowers (<i>E</i>)	Dean Rydbeck
James Coad III (<i>E</i>)	David Stark
Alex Coblentz	Brian Taylor
Charles Covington	Charles Todd (<i>E</i>)
David Dively (<i>E</i>)	John Tucker (<i>E</i>)
Joey Donahue	Don Watkins (<i>E</i>)
Bill Everett (<i>E</i>)	Howard Wheeler
Michael Garvey (<i>E</i>)	Robert White (<i>E</i>)
Jodie Gaston (<i>E</i>)	David Winburne
Steve Hardy (<i>E</i>)	Timothy Wohlers
William Holiman	Steve Woods
David Huang (<i>E</i>)	Mike Yarman
Gary Jones	

(A) = Unexcused Absence

(E) Excused Absence

Ruling Elders Present

Bethany – Harry Fitzgerald	Hernando – Steve Rice
Brighton – John Scott	Hickory Springs – none
Calhoun -- none	Hope – Dirk Andrepont
Ebenezer – none	Hopewell – Charles Browning
Ellisville – none	Midlane Park – none
Elsberry – none	Mt. Zion – none
Faith – Leslie McNeal, III	New Albany – Don Nichols
Faith Fellowship – Jim Liptrap	New Geneva – none
French Camp – Lance Ragsdale	Pottsville – none
Friend of Sinners – None	Providence – none
Good Shepherd – Ricardo de la Fuente	Redeemer – none
Graceview – Marty Smithhart	Richland – Mike Thomason
Gum Tree – John Robinson	Salem – Scott Fletcher
Helena – none	Sharon – none
Heritage – Aaron Rozeboom	Wood Avenue -- none

Guests

Eric Orr, Jack Holt, Frank Du, Daisy Du, Rev. Ron Pierce, Brenda Pierce, Mallie Fitzgerald, Joshua Monson (Student of Theology), Denise Monson, Zephaniah Monson, Bill McKay, Janet McKay, Maggie Robertson, Randy Kolb, Stephen Ewing (Student of Theology), David Orr

Several first-time guests were introduced to the presbytery.

The Moderator of General Synod, Bill McKay, was introduced and brought greetings to the presbytery.

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 for the meeting was presented by Elder Lance Ragsdale and was adopted by the presbytery (see **Appendix A**).

The Fall 2022 Minutes were adopted by the presbytery.

Under unfinished business, a second vote was taken to receive the Friend of Sinners Reformed Church as a church in Mississippi Valley Presbytery. The vote passed.

A second vote was taken on a change to the Rules of Presbytery: *That the Moderator be allowed to appoint additional members of the presbytery to serve on the Sessional Records Committee on a temporary basis during a stated meeting if a quorum of the committee is not present at the meeting.* The vote passed.

A report from the Bethany Commission was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix B**). Because Moderator Moorlach also serves as chairman of the commission, Vice Moderator Aaron Rozeboom moderated this portion of the meeting. After discussion, motions 2 and 4 of the report were ruled out of order. A motion was made to table the report until Tuesday (seconded, passed).

Rev. Moorlach presented his Retiring Moderator's Address to the presbytery.

Aaron Rozeboom, an elder at Heritage ARP Church, was introduced as the new Moderator of MVP.

After announcements, the meeting was recessed for the evening. Moderator Rozeboom closed in prayer.

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 (8 a.m.)

The second day of presbytery began with a devotion on Psalm 34 by Larry Littlejohn, an elder at French Camp and former Moderator of MVP and General Synod.

The meeting was called to order and Moderator Rozeboom opened the business portion of the meeting in prayer. The Moderator called upon the court to express thanks to the host church for its hospitality. A motion was made to consider the Minister and His Work Committee report first so that transferring ministers would have the privilege of voting on subsequent business (seconded, passed).

The Minister and His Work report was then presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix C**). The recommendations in the report were considered. The ministers transferring from Catawba Presbytery were presented to the presbytery. The recommendations in the report were then considered individually. Recommendations 1 and 2 passed. Recommendation 3 (Rev. Steve Woods' call to Faith Fellowship) was considered and passed. Recommendations 4 and 5 passed.

Rev. David Stark was presented to the court. He gave his testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. He gave his reasons for desiring affiliation with the ARP Church. He was asked a question about the language of "covenant" and "testament" in the Westminster Standards. Rev. Stark's examination

was sustained, Recommendation 6 passed, and Rev. Stark was given the right hand of fellowship by the court. Recommendations 7 and 8 were also considered and passed.

A motion was made: *That the Minister and Work Committee be authorized to grant up to \$2000 as needed per request to Students of Theology in the presbytery* (seconded, passed). It was noted that if the committee would always report such grants to the presbytery.

The Minister and His Work supplemental report was presented to the presbytery. The recommendations in the report were considered and both passed. Both reports were then received as a whole and adopted by the presbytery.

Two overtures from General Synod were presented to the presbytery for a vote.

OVERTURE #1

A motion carried to amend the *Directory of Public Worship* of the Standards by adding V.B.8.c.(10) Virtual participation in communion is not permissible.

OVERTURE #2

Synod approved a recommendation from Executive Board of Synod (Index 38) to change the wording in Form of Government 14:11 (which has been reviewed by the Committee on Revisions) as follows: 14.11 All matters not addressed in the constitutional document of the ARPC shall be governed by the most current *Roberts' Rules of Order*.

The votes were as follows:

Overture # 1: 31 affirmative; 0 negative, 0 abstaining

Overture # 2: 31 affirmative; 0 negative; 0 abstaining

A motion was made to suspend the order of the day to consider a complaint (see **Appendix D**) to the presbytery (seconded, passed). A motion was made to go into executive session, but it was withdrawn after discussion. Parliamentarian Howard Wheeler was granted permission to speak to the court about the nature of complaints. A motion was made to take up the complaint (seconded, passed). A motion was then made to go into executive session (seconded, passed).

The presbytery came out of executive session and proceeded with the next order of the day. Alex Pettett, Director of World Witness, gave a presentation to the presbytery.

After the presentation, the court went back into executive session. At the next order of the day, the presbytery came out of executive session. Moderator Rozeboom prayed for the meal.

Order of the Day (Lunch – noon)

Presbytery reconvened with a season of prayer.

The issue of the complaint to the presbytery was considered. A motion was made and seconded:

In response to the Complaint from Jeff and Libby Landry against removal of their names from the roll of the Calhoun Presbyterian Church, the Mississippi Valley Presbytery instructs the Session of the Calhoun Presbyterian Church to restore Jeff and Libby Landry to active communicant membership in good standing.

Furthermore, the Mississippi Valley Presbytery advises the Session of the Calhoun Presbyterian Church inquire into whether Jeff or Libby Landry have committed disciplinable offenses and if so, follow the Book of Discipline regarding charging and trying these offenses and applying any warranted censures and report to Mississippi Valley Presbytery the outcome of these proceedings at its Fall 2023 MVP Meeting.

After discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed.

A motion was made to pause and pray for the Calhoun Presbyterian Church session and congregation (seconded, passed). Prayer was offered up by Rev. Alex Coblenz, Rev. Dean Rydbeck, and Elder Scott Mitchell.

The Treasurer's Report was offered to the presbytery (see **Appendix E**). The report was received as information.

The Nominations Committee Report was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix F**). After discussion, the report was approved. It was noted in the report that David Orr would be serving as new Treasurer of MVP. While there would be a period of transition, it was expected that John Robinson would conclude his duties as Treasurer on March 31, 2023, and that Mr. Orr would begin his duties on April 1, 2023. Mr. John Robinson was thanked for his many years of faithful service as Treasurer.

The report from the Sessional Records Committee was presented to the presbytery. The records of churches were received as follows:

Without Exception: Faith Fellowship, Hernando, Salem, Heritage, Gum Tree

With Exception: Hope, New Albany, Faith

No Records Submitted: Graceview, Helena, Hickory Springs, Midlane Park, River City, Sharon, Wood Avenue

The report was approved by the presbytery.

The Christian Education Committee report was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix G**). All the recommendations were approved by the presbytery, and the report was adopted by the presbytery.

The Outreach North America Committee report was presented to the presbytery (see **Appendix H**). The recommendation to establish a mission work in Burbank, CA, was considered and passed. Marty Smithhart and Mike Thomason were nominated and approved to serve on the

provisional session. In considering recommendation # 2, a motion was made to amend the report to remove the recommendation. The report as amended was approved by the presbytery.

A motion was made to take the report of the Bethany Commission off the table (seconded, passed). A substitute report was presented (this is the report included in Appendix B, per the will of the Moderator and the court). A motion was made to extend the work of the commission to the Fall meeting of MVP (seconded, passed). Another motion was made: *That the commission provide two reports, one by June 1 and the second by September 1, to be submitted to the clerk for distribution* (seconded, passed).

The Principal Clerk announced the following locations for upcoming meetings of MVP:

- Fall 2023 (October 2-3, 2023), Heritage ARP Church in Springfield, Missouri
- Spring 2024 (March 4-5, 2024), Redeemer Community Church in Murray, Kentucky
- Spring 2025 (March 3-4, 2025), Gum Tree Presbyterian Church in Tupelo, Mississippi

A motion was made for Salem Presbyterian Church to host the Fall 2024 meeting of MVP (seconded, passed).

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

After announcements, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting (seconded, passed). After the singing of Psalm 133 (“Christian Unity”), the Spring 2023 meeting of MVP was closed with prayer and the benediction by Rev. David Winburne.

Called Meeting of MVP

Mississippi Valley Presbytery met on November 12, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. at the Richland ARP Church in Rosemark, Tennessee. This was a called meeting for the purpose of examining Rev. Nick Robison and approving his call to the Salem Presbyterian Church. In attendance were the following:

<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Guests</u>	
Kent Moorlach	Marty Smithhart (Graceview)	Kerry Regan	Thomas Simpson
Tim Phillips	Scott Fletcher (Salem)	David McDaniel	Nick Robison
Brooks Pipher	John Scott (Brighton)	Sloan Regen	Buddy Bibb
	Raymond Griffin (Sharon)	Rosemary Fite	Bonnie Griffin
		Kenneth Fletcher	Tim Morgan
		Carol Bibb Fletcher	Lisa McDaniel
		Ann Wylie Blackmon	

A quorum was determined to be present.

Moderator Kent Moorlach called the meeting to order and opened the meeting in prayer. Joseph McDaniel, an elder at Salem and chairman of the pulpit search committee, introduced Rev. Robison to the court. Rev. Robison was asked to give testimony of his faith and his sense of call to the ministry. The floor was opened to questions from the floor. Rev. Robison was asked several questions, including the importance of the doctrine of the Trinity as well as his favorite theologians. He was asked to give a definition of the gospel. He was asked about Martin Luther and how Titus 3:9 (the warning to avoid the divisive man) would or would not apply to him. He was asked about Paul's admonition in 2 Timothy 4 to preach the word. He was asked about his view of apologetics and how he might use apologetics in speaking with Jews and Muslims. He was asked about his knowledge and familiarity with the ARP Church. He was asked if he took any exceptions to the Westminster Standards (he stated that he took none). Rev. Robison was also asked about particular themes in Scripture that were important to him.

A motion was made to sustain Rev. Robison's examination (seconded, passed). The call for Rev. Robison was read to the court. A motion was made to approve the call (seconded, passed), and Rev. Robison accepted the terms of the call.

It was noted that January 8, 2022, was the date set for Rev. Robison's installation.

A motion was made to adjourn (seconded, passed), and Elder Scott Fletcher was called upon to close the meeting in prayer.

Pastoral Call

We the officers and members of the Salem Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Atoka, Tennessee, 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, Joseth Nicholas Robison, to undertake the office of pastor of this congregation. On the acceptance of this our call we promise you in the discharge of your duty all proper support, encouragement, and obedience in 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 \$65,000 in at least monthly payments.
- B. 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 an annual vehicle/travel allowance of \$8,000 (distributed in monthly allotments).
- E. Pay the pastor funds for retirement as prescribed by the General Synod.
- F. Insurance
 - 1. 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).
 - 2. We will pay 100% of the cost of your family's participation in Synod's insurance programs. (Medical and dental)
- G. Review with you annually the adequacy of this compensation.
- H. Grant you an annual vacation of 4 weeks.
- I. Pay you an annual book/education allowance of \$1,000 distributed in monthly allotments
- J. Pay you a monthly cell phone allowance.

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:
 - 1. We promise to continue the provisions of this call during the prescribed waiting period for commencement of the benefits from Synod's insurance program.
 - 2. We promise to continue the provisions of this call for a period not to exceed 6 months from the onset of total disability.
- B. In the event you should die during the terms of this call:
 - 1. We promise to continue the provisions of this call dealing with annual salary, housing, and group insurance for a period of 6 months.

Appendix A

Mississippi Valley Presbytery - Stated Spring Meeting	
French Camp Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church French Camp, MS	
Worship Service - 7:00 p.m., March 6, 2023	
Prelude	
Welcome	
Call to Worship	Rev. Alex Coblentz
Invocation	Rev. Coblentz
*Hymn # 122	"Glorious Is Thy Name"
Scripture Reading	1 Thessalonians 2:13
Message from God's Word	Rev. Nick Robison Salem ARP Church, Atoka, TN
	Sermon: "The Word Works"
*Hymn # 344	"Grace Greater Than Our Sin"
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper	
*Hymn # 151	"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"
*Benediction	Rev. Coblentz
*Postlude	*(Congregation Standing.)
There will be a brief recess before Presbytery convenes.	

MVP Schedule

Monday, March 6, 2023

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Registration at Living Stones Building, FCARP Find Lodging/Tour French Camp (4 pm)
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Dinner at Living Stones Building, FCARP
7:00 p.m.	Worship at French Camp ARP Ch. Sanctuary
8:00 p.m.	Opening of MVP Business Meeting

- The Constitution of Presbytery with Prayer
- Welcome and Greetings by Host Church
- Constitution of the Roll
- Introductions and Procedural Motions
- Presentation of the Agenda
- Adoption of the Fall 2022 Minutes
- Unfinished Business
 - Second Vote on transfer of Friend of Sinners R. C.
 - Second Vote on Change to Rules of MVP
 - Report from Bethany Commission
- Retiring Moderator's Address by Rev. Kent Moorlach
- Introduction of Moderator-Elect Aaron Rozeboom
- Address from Bill McKay, Moderator of General Synod
- Announcements
- Closing Prayer

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

7:00 a.m.	Breakfast in the Living Stones Fellowship Hall
8:00 a.m.	Morning Devotion, Larry Littlejohn
8:20 – 8:30 a.m.	Brief Recess
8:30 a.m.	Call to Order and Convening Prayer Business Vote on Overtures from Synod Presentation of Complaint
*10:00 – 10:50 a.m.	Recess for Committee Meetings
11:00 a.m.	Presentation by Alex Pettett, World Witness
*12:00-12:45 p.m.	Lunch in the Living Stones Fellowship Hall
12:45 p.m.	Season of Prayer
1:00 p.m.	Business Continues - Afternoon Session
2:15 – 2:30 p.m.	Brief Recess
2:30 p.m.	Business Concludes - Closing Session Selection of Meeting Place for Fall 2024 Reading and Adoption of the Minutes Announcements Bible Song: Psalm 133, "Christian Unity" Adjournment with Prayer and Benediction *(Order of the Day)



Hosted by

**French Camp Presbyterian Church
March 6-7, 2023**

*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)*

Actions of the Bethany Commission

Actions

1. Due to the irregularities listed above in the body of our report regarding the certification of the communicant roll for the Bethany ARP Church and per FOG 10.3.D, which states: “the Presbytery has power to: ... review and approve or censure the records of Sessions and to require their correction, to redress anything contrary to order, and to take effectual care for the observance of the Standards of the ARPC,” ***the Bethany Commission repudiates of actions of the recent congregational meeting at which a vote was taken to withdraw from the MVP and the ARP Church.***
2. Furthermore, due to the unwillingness of the Session of the Bethany ARP Church to keep proper minutes, properly receive members, or exercise proper oversight of the worship and pastoral care of the congregation in accordance with our FOG and the directives of MVP,
 - a. the Bethany Commission deems that the Session meets what the Book of Discipline 2.20 defines as “FAILURE TO ACT,” and
 - b. per FOG 10.3.C which states, “the Presbytery has power to:... advise and to assume original jurisdiction for adjudication on matters from church Sessions where their authority cannot be exercised,”
 - c. ***the Bethany Commission assumes original jurisdiction for all matters normally entailed upon the Session by the FOG.***
3. Consequently, the Bethany Commission will:
 - a. Demand access to all Session Records
 - b. Constitute the rolls of the church in accordance with the FOG.
 - c. Determine and recommend to Presbytery at a course of action regarding the future of the Bethany ARP Church.
4. Additionally, the Bethany Commission will:
 - a. Inquire into whether officers and/or members of the Bethany ARP Church have committed disciplinable offenses and if so,
 - b. Follow the Book of Discipline regarding charging and trying these offenses and applying any warranted censures and report to MVP the outcome of these proceedings.

Recommendations

1. That MVP allow the Bethany Commission to continue its work until the Fall 2023 meeting of MVP at which time it will:
 - a. Make a recommendation regarding the future of the Bethany ARP Church
 - b. Report on the outcome of any disciplinary proceedings against the members and/or officers of Bethany ARP Church.

Report of the Minister and His Work Committee

Spring 2023

Meeting on December 6, 2022

The Minister and His Work Committee met on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 4 p.m. via Zoom. Present were Chairman Mike Chipman, Bill Holiman, Tim Phillips, David Jones, Don Watkins, and John Scott. Also present as guests were Kent Moorlach (Moderator of MVP) and Joshua Monson.

Chairman Chipman opened with prayer and a devotion from Proverbs 22:7-9.

The committee spoke with Joshua Monson, who gave an update on his seminary studies, including financial needs for the upcoming semester. John Scott was called upon to pray for Mr. Monson, who was dismissed from the meeting.

The former MVP Education Fund was discussed by the committee. There were concerns over the original status of incorporation for the fund and implementation of the previous by-laws for the fund.

A motion was made to recommend that presbytery provide a gift of \$2000 to Joshua Monson to help pay for seminary expenses (seconded, passed).

A motion was made that the chair appoint a sub-committee to research the legality of the MVP Education Fund and report back to the committee (seconded, passed). Tim Phillips, John Scott, and David Jones were appointed to serve on the sub-committee.

The committee also discussed Student of Theology James Weir. Chairman Chipman volunteered to speak with Mr. Weir about his current status and progress as a Student of Theology.

The installation service for Nick Robison was briefly discussed. The service is scheduled for January 8, 2023.

Rev. Bill Holiman gave updates on Rev. Mike Yarman, who is having hip surgery, and Rev. Matthew Heathman, who has successfully arrived in the U.S.

A motion was made to adjourn (seconded, passed). The meeting was closed in prayer by Don Watkins.

Meeting on January 3, 2023

A meeting of the Minister and His Work Committee was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 4 p.m. via Zoom. In attendance were committee members Mike Chipman, Bill Holiman, Larry Littlejohn, David Jones, and Tim Phillips. Also, attending as a guest was Rev. Tim Wohlers. Moderator of MVP Kent Moorlach was also in attendance. Chairman Mike Chipman opened the meeting in prayer.

Rev. Wohlers, pastor of Good Shepherd ARP Church in League City, Texas, was introduced to the presbytery. Rev. Wohlers is seeking to transfer his credentials due to the transfer of Good

Appendix C

Shepherd to MVP. Rev. Wohlers was asked to speak about his beliefs, Christian character, qualifications, and whether he had any exceptions to the ARP Standards. It was clarified that he is seeking a transfer as a minister in good standing from Catawba Presbytery, and he was asked about the challenges to ministry as an ARP in Texas. Rev. Wohlers also spoke about his wife and family. A motion was made to recommend the transfer of Rev. Wohlers as a minister in good standing to MVP (seconded, passed).

The committee discussed Student of Theology James Weir. Rev. Chipman had tried to contact Mr. Weir unsuccessfully, but Rev. Phillips had been able to meet with Mr. Weir. He is currently looking at potential schools in order to continue his education, but he would likely need financial help from the presbytery as well.

Rev. Phillips brought up a matter to the committee concerning a member (and his wife) of Calhoun Presbyterian Church regarding their removal from membership. It was decided that no action would need to take place until a formal complaint or appeal was received.

A motion was made to adjourn (seconded, passed). The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Tim Phillips

Meeting on February 7, 2023

The Minister and His Work Committee met at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, via Zoom. In attendance were Chairman Mike Chipman, Tim Phillips, Larry Littlejohn, Don Watkins, Bill Holiman, David Jones, and John Scott.

Also in attendance were several guests: David Stark, Steve Woods, and Dean Rydbeck, along with Moderator of MVP Kent Moorlach.

Rev. Chipman opened the meeting in prayer.

Rev. Chipman spoke briefly about the transfer of ministers from Catawba Presbytery to Mississippi Valley Presbytery, as well as a minister transferring from a church in California.

The committee first interviewed Rev. David Stark, pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church in Redding, California. Rev. Stark is desiring to transfer his credentials to the ARP Church. Rev. Stark spoke about his background, his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and his call to the ministry. Rev. Stark takes no exceptions to the Westminster Standards. He gave satisfactory answers on the historicity of Genesis, women's ordination, the Lord's Day, and Roman Catholicism. He was asked about the size of his congregation and the views of the session in transferring to the ARPC. A motion was made to recommend that MVP receive Rev. David Stark as a minister (seconded, passed).

The committee interviewed Rev. Steve Woods. Rev. Woods is serving as the stated supply pastor of Faith Fellowship in Cypress, Texas, which has transferred to MVP from Catawba Presbytery. Rev. Woods has no objections with the ARP Standards. He spoke about his ministry at Faith Fellowship. A motion was made to recommend the transfer of Rev. Woods (seconded, passed).

Appendix C

Rev. Woods' call to Faith Fellowship was also discussed. A motion was made to recommend the approval of the call to MVP (seconded, passed).

The committee met with Rev. Dean Rydbeck, pastor of Hope Presbyterian Church. Rev. Rydbeck spoke about his ministry at Hope. He takes no exceptions to the Standards. Rev. Rydbeck is also planning to retire as a minister on April 30, 2023 (this will need to be approved by the presbytery at the Spring stated meeting). A motion was made to recommend the transfer of Rev. Rydbeck to MVP (seconded, passed).

A letter from MVP Treasurer John Robinson was discussed. Mr. Robinson is asking permission to invest \$80,000 (out of \$85,000) for the MVP Educational Fund with the ARP investment managers. It was agreed that the chairman would contract Mr. Robinson for further clarification.

The session of Sharon ARP is requesting that Rev. Nick Robison be made stated supply for their congregation. A motion was made to recommend that presbytery approve Rev. Robison as stated supply for Sharon and appoint Rev. Robison as moderator of the Sharon session (seconded, passed).

The chairman informed the committee that Faith Presbyterian Church is close to calling a pastor. The candidate has been licensed by his presbytery in the PCA but has not been ordained.

Rev. Phillips gave a brief update about a complaint that had been filed with the presbytery.

Rev. Holiman gave update on Chaplain Matthew Heathman and Rev. Mike Yarman.

Rev. Moorlach gave an update about the Bethany ARP Church.

A motion was made to adjourn (seconded, passed). The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Kent Moorlach.

Recommendations

1. That Rev. Tim Wohlers be transferred to MVP from Catawba Presbytery as a minister in good standing
2. That Rev. Steve Woods be transferred to MVP from Catawba Presbytery as a minister in good standing
3. That Rev. Woods' call to Faith Fellowship be approved
4. That Rev. Dean Rydbeck be transferred to MVP from Catawba Presbytery as a minister in good standing
5. That Rev. Rydbeck be granted honorable retirement
6. That Rev. David Stark be received by MVP as a minister
7. That Rev. Nick Robison be approved as stated supply for Sharon ARP Church and appointed as moderator of the Sharon session
8. That MVP provide a gift of \$2000 to Student of Theology Joshua Monson to help pay for seminary expenses

Minister and His Work Supplemental Report

The Minister and His Work Committee met on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 3:15 p.m. Present were committee members Mike Chipman, Charles Browning, Bill Holiman, John Scott, and Tim Phillips. Also present were guests Ron Pierce, Erick Kruger, and David Winburne. Chairman Chipman opened the meeting in prayer.

Rev. Pierce gave a brief report of his work as stated supply at Faith Presbyterian Church in Leakesville, Mississippi. He also introduced the committee to Mr. Erick Kruger, who is seeking a call to the Faith church as pastor. Mr. Kruger has not yet received a call to the congregation, and he will need to complete his student exams prior to being ordained and installed. Mr. Kruger gave his testimony of faith in Jesus Christ and his sense of call to the ministry.

The committee met with Rev. David Winburne, who is serving as pastor of Calhoun Presbyterian Church. Rev. Winburne is seeking to transfer his credentials from Catawba Presbytery to MVP. Rev. Winburne stated that he had no exceptions to the Westminster Standards. He also gave his background as a pastor and church planter in the ARPC and how he became pastor of Calhoun Presbyterian Church. A motion was made to recommend Rev. David Winburne's transfer of credentials from Catawba Presbytery to Mississippi Valley Presbytery (seconded, passed).

Rev. David Huang also joined the meeting by phone. Rev. Huang is currently serving at Faith Fellowship and is seeking to transfer his credentials from Catawba Presbytery to MVP. Rev. Huang stated he took no exceptions to the Westminster Standards. Rev. Huang also gave the committee a review of ministerial background and his association and ministry at Faith Fellowship as well as his work as a medical doctor. Rev. Huang was asked to compare and contrast his ministry style with that of Tim Keller. He was asked if he had any past difficulties in his ministry, and he was asked about working with different ethnic communities. A motion was made to recommend the transfer of Rev. David Huang's credentials from Catawba Presbytery to Mississippi Valley Presbytery (seconded, passed).

The chairman gave an update on Student of Theology Stephen Ewing's academic progress.

Rev. Bill Holiman presented a plan for the committee to help shepherd churches within MVP. This was discussed by the committee.

After the reading of the minutes a motion was made to adjourn (seconded, passed). The meeting was closed in prayer by John Scott.

Recommendations:

- 1) Transfer the credentials of Rev. David Winburne from Catawba Presbytery to MVP
- 2) Transfer the credentials of Rev. David Huang from Catawba Presbytery to MVP

CALL FOR A PASTOR

We the officers and members of the **Faith Fellowship** Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Cypress, Texas, 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, **Stephen R Woods**, to undertake the office of **Pastor** of this congregation. On the acceptance of this our call we promise you in the discharge of your duty all proper support, encouragement, and obedience in 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 **\$11,000**, in at least twice-monthly payments.
- b. Housing - Provide you with the free use of a manse with utilities.
- c. Pay your moving expenses.
- d. Grant you a travel allowance of **\$1,500** annually.
- e. Pay into the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Retirement Plan Fund, or its equivalent, as prescribed by the General Synod.
- f. Group Insurance:
 - (1) Pay 100 % of the cost of your participation in Synod's insurance programs (life, dependent life, accidental death and dismemberment, and disability) as required by the General Synod.
 - (2) The Pastor waives medical and dental coverage under the Synod's group policy for himself and his dependents, who are covered under his spouse's group policy.
- g. Grant you an annual vacation of four weeks, one week for evangelistic or other church related meetings, and one week and expenses for continuing education.
- h. Expenses for the meetings of Presbytery and General Synod.
- i. Review with you annually the adequacy of this compensation.

We desire also to 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:
 - (1) To continue the provisions of this call during the prescribed waiting period for commencement of benefits from Synod's insurance program.
 - (2) If you are residing in the manse, and during the month following the terms outlined in above, to assist you in relocating and to contribute up to a minimum of one month's base salary toward your relocation expenses.
- b. In the event you should **die** during the terms of this call, we promise:
 - (1) To continue the provisions of this call dealing with annual salary, housing, and group insurance for your immediate family for a minimum of three months.
 - (2) If you are residing in the manse, and during the month following the terms outlined above, to assist your family in relocating and/or contribute up to a minimum of one month's base salary toward those relocation expenses.

In testimony whereof we have subscribed our names this 29th day of January, A.D. 2023

RULING ELDERS:

_____ (Clerk of Session)

Commission Report

A commission of Mississippi Valley Presbytery met at 4:45 p.m. on Sunday, January 8, 2023, at the Salem Presbyterian Church in Atoka, Tennessee. The members of the commission were Kent Moorlach, Tim Phillips, James Ritchey, John Scott, and Kerry Regen. The purpose of the commission was the installation of Rev. Nick Robison as minister of the Salem Presbyterian Church.

The installation service began at 5 p.m. (see attached order of service), with Rev. Phillips giving the Call to Worship and Invocation. The sermon text for the service was Mark 10:32-45, and it was preached by Rev. Joe Steele, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church (P.C.A.) in Huntsville, Alabama. Rev. Moorlach read the Formula of Questions to Rev. Robison and Elder Scott read the question for the congregation. Rev. Ritchey gave the Charge to the Minister, and Elder Regen gave the Charge to the Congregation. Mr. Bebo Elkin, an elder at First Presbyterian Church (P.C.A.) in Jackson, Tennessee, offered prayer for the newly installed minister, and the service ended with the benediction by Rev. Robison.

"Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy!"

5 O'CLOCK	INSTALLATION SERVICE for Rev. Nick Robison	January 8, 2023
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THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE SANCTUARY	Elder Joe McDaniel
THE DEVOTIONAL PRELUDE	Silent Prayer & Meditation
*THE CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION	Rev. Tim Phillips
*THE HYMN # 1 (ALL)	All People on Earth Do Dwell
SERMON	Rev. Joe Steele
THE HYMN # 521 (ALL)	My Hope is Built on Nothing Less
FORMULA OF QUESTIONS TO THE MINISTER	Rev. Kent Moorlach
QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION	Elder John Scott
CHARGE TO THE MINISTER	Rev. James Ritchey
CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION	Elder Kerry Regen
PRAYER	Elder Bebo Elkin
THE HYMN # 455 (ALL)	And Can It Be
*BENEDICTION	Rev. Nick Robison
*THE POSTLUDE	Choral Amen

* Congregation stands

Appendix D

To: Rev. Tim Phillips
Clerk, Mississippi Valley Presbytery
57 Church Street
Brighton, TN 38011

COMPLAINT

Pursuant to Book of Discipline 5.12, I am filing a Complaint concerning the action of the Session of Calhoun Presbyterian Church. On November 14, 2022, the Session removed my name and my wife's name from the roll of membership. I submit the Session acted contrary to Form of Government 4.16.

I have received from the session of Calhoun Presbyterian Church a letter dated February 16, 2023, stating "Concerning the Landry's charge that they were removed from membership without process, we firmly disagree." The word "charge" in the session's response should be "complaint" as submitted on January 4, 2023 per Book of Discipline 5.13 A. Therefore, per BOD 5.13. B., the lower court has rejected our original complaint and failed to restore Libby Landry and myself as members of Calhoun Presbyterian Church. With my complaint now being filed with the next highest court, I now await the opportunity to make oral arguments to the Presbytery per BOD 5.13. C if the court feels more information is needed.

BACKGROUND

Up until November 14, 2022, Libby and I were communicant members in good standing of Calhoun Presbyterian Church, and I was the duly elected Treasurer. On November 13, 2022, I had a discussion with Elder Sven Eklund. He said that the Session did not have to follow the Form of Government. In my frustration I stated that I resigned as Treasurer, and we are leaving the Church. I texted Elder Kensill Brewer that we are leaving the Church. I did so, because I was frustrated with what had become apparent to me, and now confirmed by Elder Eklund, that the Session felt it does not have to follow the ARP Form of Government.

The very next day, November 14, 2022, the Session met and removed our names from the roll. I was notified in writing of the Session's action. (See attached copy of letter, dated November 14, 2022.)

COMPLAINT

The Session acted contrary to Form of Government 4.16, which states, "No names of persons shall be removed from the roll until the Session has made diligent effort to restore such persons to good standing with the congregation."

First, Neither I nor Libby requested that our names be removed from the roll.

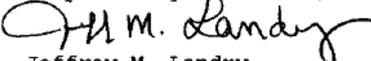
Second, the Session did not receive a request from another Christian congregation to transfer my membership. See Form of Government 4.9.

Third, the Session does not have accurate information that I have united with another congregation without having requested a transfer, because I have not united with another congregation. See Form of Government 4.14.

Fourth, the Session did not make a diligent effort to restore me or to address the reasons for my frustrations.

Therefore, I respectfully request that Mississippi Valley Presbytery instruct the Session of Calhoun Presbyterian Church to restore my name and Libby Landry's name to the roll of members as communicant members in good standing.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey M. Landry
March 1, 2023



Calhoun Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

1567 HWY 80 East

Calhoun, LA 71225

318-644-0005 • CalhounPres@gmail.com • www.calhounpres.org

Date: 11/14/2022, 6 pm Session Meeting
From: Calhoun Presbyterian Church Session
Re: Resignation from Treasurer and Church Membership

Dear Jeff and Libby,

As per both your verbal statement and text sent indicating your resignation from the position of Church Treasurer and that you were leaving the church, the session at Calhoun Presbyterian Church has met and accepted the resignation of Jeff from the position of Treasurer and also the resignation of Jeff and Libby from membership at Calhoun Presbyterian Church. Your names are now removed from the roles. We have consulted with the Presbytery and the parliamentarian of the Presbytery/Synod before taking this action. Jeff, please return the checkbook and other treasurer materials at your earliest convenience or someone can pick them up from you if you so desire.

Sincerely,

Calhoun Presbyterian Church Session

Kensill Brewer

Sven Eklund

David Winburne

General Fund
Mississippi Valley Presbytery
For 2022 and all year 2021

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Balance January 1	<u>\$121,660.58</u>	<u>\$138,661.56</u>
Receipts:		
Assessments from Member Churches	12,900.00	13,990.00
Transfer from Investment Fund	-00	50,000.00
Transfer from Educational Fund (see note)	84,600.00	-00
Royalties from mineral interests	792.09	386.76
Interest Income	<u>269.76</u>	<u>183.61</u>
Total Receipts	<u>98,561.85</u>	<u>64,560.37</u>
Disbursements:		
Printing, Postage and Clerk's Travel and Stipend	772.56	1,003.71
Committee Expenses	2,176.12	557.64
Chaplain Fund to Synod (2021 and 2022)	800.00	-00
Transfer to ONA Fund	-00	30,000.00
Ministerial student assistance	600.00	-00
Contribution to Ministers Retirement Fund	<u>-00</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>4,348.68</u>	<u>81,561.35</u>
Excess Receipts or (Disbursements)	<u>94,213.17</u>	<u>(17,000.98)</u>
Balance December 31	<u>\$215,873.75</u>	<u>\$121,660.58</u>
 General Fund Bank Accounts:		
Renasant Bank 2200123455	\$115,873.75	\$21,660.58
Bank of New Albany Certificate of Deposit	<u>100,000.00</u>	<u>100,000.00</u>
Total Bank Accounts	<u>215,873.75</u>	<u>\$121,660.58</u>

Note: The Educational Fund, which was operated as a separate entity, is now combined with General Presbytery funds. These funds are awaiting direction from Presbytery and MaHW Committee as to how these funds should be invested.

**Christian Education Fund
Mississippi Valley Presbytery
For the Years 2022 and 2021**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Balance January 1	<u>\$10,885.18</u>	<u>\$10,885.18</u>
Receipts:		
Received from Campers	<u>16,596.29</u>	
Total Receipts	<u>16,596.29</u>	
Disbursements:		
Camp Supplies and T Shirts	1,367.01	
Camp of the Rising Son (net of 2020 deposit)	<u>15,613.00</u>	
Total Disbursements	<u>16,980.01</u>	
Excess Receipts over Disbursements	<u>(383.72)</u>	
Balance December 31	<u>\$10,501.46</u>	<u>\$10,885.18</u>
 Christian Education Bank Account:		
Bank of New Albany 162026003	<u>\$10,501.46</u>	<u>\$10,885.18</u>

Note: There were no camps in 2020 or 2021 due to Covid
 A deposit in amount of \$2262 was paid in 2020 that
 was applied to reduce the 2022 camp cost
 therefore total 2022 camp cost was \$19,242

Outreach North America Funds

Mississippi Valley Presbytery

For the years 2022 and 2021

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<u>ONA FUNDS:</u>		
Balance January 1	<u>\$22,808.60</u>	<u>\$35,203.55</u>
Receipts:		
Received from Synod for Revitalization funds and other	2,053.00	2,676.18
Contributions designated for Burbank CA Mission	16,500.00	
Transfer from Florida Presbytery designated for Burbank	23,321.78	
Transfer from General Fund and Investment Accounts	<u>30,000.00</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>
Total Receipts	<u>\$71,874.78</u>	<u>\$52,676.18</u>
Disbursements:		
Contribution to River City Reformed Church	<u>\$51,414.00</u>	<u>\$65,071.13</u>
Balance ONA Funds December 31	<u>\$43,269.38</u>	<u>\$22,808.60</u>
<u>Restricted Funds:</u>		
Balance Restricted for Louisville KY Church Plant	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Interest earned to date	<u>\$2,067.15</u>	<u>1,757.53</u>
Balance in Restricted Funds	<u>\$152,067.15</u>	<u>\$151,757.53</u>
<u>ONA and Bank Accounts:</u>		
Bank of New Albany 1620260-01 Checking	\$43,269.38	\$22,808.60
BNA Bank 1620260-09 Money Market (Restricted)	<u>152,067.15</u>	<u>151,757.53</u>
Total in Banks	<u>\$195,336.53</u>	<u>\$174,566.13</u>

Note 1: Florida Presbytery transferred funds to MVP that had been contributed to that presbytery by individuals and designated for the work in Burbank CA. MVP also received contributions from individuals also designated to that work. The balance designated at the end of 2022 was \$39,821.78. MVP also committed \$12,000 for 2023 to the expenses of Burbank and an additional \$12,000 as housing allowance for Rev Piper.

Note 2: MVP's commitment to River City Reformed Church for 2023 is \$45,000

Mississippi Valley Presbytery

Endowment Funds

	Moderate ARP Invest- ment Fund A	Conservative ARP Invest- ment Fund B	Total
Value of Accounts January 1, 2021	\$886,967.36	\$328,623.64	\$1,215,591.00
Withdrawals in 2021	(70,000.00)	0	(70,000.00)
Increase in value of Accounts during 2021	<u>124,768.89</u>	<u>14,004.95</u>	<u>138,773.84</u>
Value of Accounts December 31, 2021	\$941,736.25	\$342,628.59	\$1,284,364.84
Withdrawals in 2022	(30,000.00)	-00	(30,000.00)
Decrease in value of accounts in 2022	<u>(131,881.60)</u>	<u>(38,252.99)</u>	<u>(170,134.59)</u>
Value of Accounts December 31, 2022	<u>\$779,854.65</u>	<u>\$304,375.60</u>	<u>\$1,084,230.25</u>
Rate of Return for 2022	<u>-14.2%</u>	<u>-11.16%</u>	
Increase in Value since Inception	<u>\$247,244.65</u>	<u>\$54,375.60</u>	<u>\$301,620.25</u>
Initial Investment	\$200,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$450,000.00
Additional Contribution in 2015	79,790.00	-00	79,790.00
Additional Contribution in 2017	342,820.00	-00	342,820.00
Additional Contribution in 2018	100,000.00	-00	100,000.00
Withdrawals in 2020	(90,000.00)	-00	(90,000.00)
Withdrawals in 2021	(70,000.00)	-00	(70,000.00)
Withdrawals in 2022	<u>(30,000.00)</u>	<u>-00</u>	<u>(30,000.00)</u>
Net Invested	<u>\$532,610.00</u>	<u>\$250,000.00</u>	<u>\$782,610.00</u>

Note: During January of 2023 that accounts earned \$54,000
 \$28,550 was withdrawn in January 2023 to fund the first six months support of River city and Burbank

Appendix E



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY ACCOUNTS
GENERAL SYNOD ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

As of 12/31/2022

Comparative Review

Account Name	Model	12/31/2021 Value	Net Contribution	Net Investment Gain	12/31/2022 Value
Endowment/Investment					
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY - PART B	B: Conser 20/80 A	\$342,628.59	\$0.00	(\$38,252.99)	\$304,375.60
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY - PART A	D: Mod Aggr 65/35 A	\$941,736.25	(\$30,000.00)	(\$131,881.60)	\$779,854.65
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY ACCOUNTS		\$1,284,364.84	(\$30,000.00)	(\$170,134.59)	\$1,084,230.25

Committee on Nominations

– Report to MVP Spring 2023 –

The following are our recommendations to presbytery.

Christian Education

[six members: 3 pastors / 3 lay – 3 yr. term]

Brandon Penniger (Graceview) ('26)

Dennis Cox (French Camp) ('26)

Minister and His Work

[eight members: 4 pastors / 4 elders – 4 yr. term]

Rev. Steve Woods (Faith Fellowship) ('27)

Mr. David Orr (Faith Fellowship) ('27)

Nominations

[four members – 4 yr. term]

Milton Murphy (Brighton) ('24) [*note: serving remainder of an unexpired term*]

Gary Jones ('27)

Outreach North America

[six members: 3 pastors / 3 elders – 3 yr. term]

Rev. Nick Robison (Salem) ('26)

Rev. Dean Rydbeck (Hope ARP Opelousas, La.) ('26)

Stewardship

Dan Cobb (Graceview) -- Chairman

Sessional Records

[five members: 3 pastors / 2 elders]

Jim Liptrap (Faith Fellowship)

Rev. Mike Yarman

Rev. Alex Coblentz (French Camp)

Rev. Bill Holiman

Kerry Regen (Salem)

Principal Clerk Tim Phillips

Treasurer David Orr

Parliamentarian Howard Wheeler

Appendix G

Report of the Christian Education Committee. Rev. Howard Wheeler will answer questions regarding this report as Rev. James Ritchey will be absent from presbytery.

The Christian Education Committee met November 1, 2022.

Present: Rev. James Ritchey, Elder Charles Browning, Elder Randy Goulder, Rev. Charles Covington

1. Rev. Ritchey read from 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and opened in prayer
2. The committee discussed Potential MVP camp directors.
3. The committee discussed officer training, to be held Saturday, January 21, 2023 from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM with lunch provided. Rev. Charlie Wingard is the speaker for this event. Advertisement and cost were discussed.
4. Mr. Randy Goulder closed in prayer.

The Christian Education Committee met Tuesday, 1/17/23

Present: Rev. James Ritchey, Rev. Charles Covington, Elder Charles Browning, Elder Randy Goulder, Rev. Kent Moorlach

1. Rev. James Ritchey opened in prayer.
2. The leadership training seminar scheduled January 21, 2023 was discussed, as well as the event cost. The committee also discussed the need for receiving attendee feedback for future seminars. The committee discussed briefly the possibility of a yearly seminar.
3. The committee discussed MVP summer camp as well as possible camp directors. The committee discussed the possibility of Ms. Maggie Roberts being the director of the camp. She has been a long time Camp of the Rising Son chief and serves with youth at Salem. Rev. Kent Moorlach contacted Mrs. Carrie Browning (former director of CRS) for her thoughts, and she expressed that Ms. Roberts would be a good fit for this position. Ms. Roberts has also expressed enthusiastic willingness to serve. Along these lines, Mr. John Scott is willing to help the camp director in an administrative support role.
4. The committee discussed a possible stipend for camp staff, though no decisions were made on this.
5. The committee also agreed to discuss teaching themes and topics at the next meeting.
6. The possibility of a youth fall retreat was discussed.
7. The meeting was closed in prayer by Mr. Charles Browning.

The Christian Education Committee met on 2/6/2023

Christian Education Committee Zoom Meeting Monday, 2/6/23

Present: Rev. James Ritchey, Rev. Charles Covington, Elder Charles Browning, Elder Randy Goulder, Rev. Kent Moorlach, Elder Bruce Hosket, Rev. Howard Wheeler, Elder John Scott

Appendix G

1. The committee was opened in prayer by Rev. James Ritchey
2. The committee discussed MVP Summer camp. The committee discussed again and affirmed its recommendation of Ms. Maggie Roberts as a director for MVP summer camp. Ms. Roberts is a longtime CRS chief and works with youth at Salem ARP, and is recommended by Mrs. Carrie Browning, the former director of CRS. John Scott is also willing to help the camp director in an administrative support role. During the meeting, he spoke to his experience and willingness to help. The committee expressed thanks to him for joining the meeting. Ben Stormant, youth director at New Albany Presbyterian is also willing to help the director in any way he can.
3. The committee discussed the possibility of a directors meeting between Mr. John Scott, Rev. Kent Moorlach, Mr. Stephen Ewing, Ms. Maggie Roberts, Ms. Carrie Browning's replacement.
4. The committee discussed Potential teaching topics. Those topics were Covenants, Sermon on the Mount, Early Life of Christ, Beginning of Exodus, Life of David, etc...) The committee discussed the merits of letting the teachers decide the lessons and the idea of different ages being taught different topics.
5. The committee discussed the leadership seminar held on Saturday, January 21, 2023 10:00am-3:00pm at Richland ARP. The committee gave feedback in the form of positives and suggestions. Positives were: the speaker, the theme/topics, the low cost, the location, facility, and hosts, and the live-streaming that allowed the Pottsville church men to participate. Suggestions were: perhaps next time to have an ARP speaker rather than a PCA speaker, name tags to participants, more lessons before lunch, and possibly an earlier start time to allow more teaching earlier in the day. The committee also discussed an enhanced livestream to allow far off church participation with powerpoints, etc..., and increasing the price to \$20.00 per person.
6. The committee Discussed the merits of having the leadership seminar every year or less often.
7. Thanks were given to Rev. Moorlach and the Richland church for hosting so well.
8. The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Charles Covington.

Recommendations for Presbytery Approval:

1. **That MVP camp be approved for this summer at the Camp of the Rising Son in French Camp, MS. The dates of camp would be July 17-22.**
2. **That Ms. Maggie Roberts be approved as MVP camp director.**
3. **That Mr. John Scott be approved as an administrative support to the MVP Camp Director.**
4. **That the following teaching topic for MVP camp be approved: God's Covenants**

Appendix H

Report of the ONA Committee of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery

Rev. Chris Neiswonger met with Eld. Mark Paris and Eld. Steve severally

The committee has been concerned mainly with the new church plant/evangelist in Burbank CA and the transition and acceptance of Grace Presbyterian Church of Redding in the ARP.

1. Pastor David Stark has been examined by the MaHW and is expected to be received by Presbytery as an ARP Minister.
2. The Church has had one meeting and approved transition into the ARP and is planning to have a second such meeting.

The Committee has questions as to whether the Presbytery can act upon the first of the two votes for admission required by our FOG?

3. ARP Minister Brooks Pipher is serving as an Evangelist in Burbank CA. His work has come to the place where the best plan of action might be to transition his labor to a church plant or mission work status. He has attendees of his base group requesting baptism. In consultation with the MVP Clerk Philips and Parliamentarian Wheeler we agreed that he was authorized to perform baptisms as an evangelist of the MVP. That there is no church or work for them to join into is unusual but permissible under the circumstances.

4. We have the ongoing issue of the status and relationship of the churches currently outside the jurisdiction of the MVP for resolution.

in Burbank CA and approve an acting session with Elders and or Ministers to work with Rev. Pipher.

Motion: That the Mississippi Valley Presbytery establish a mission work in Burbank CA hereby called: "Covenant ARP Burbank", approve a temporary session and continue all existing financial support and oversight.

Motion: That Grace Presbyterian Church of Redding be accepted into the Mississippi Valley Presbytery of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

HOST CHURCHES OF STATED MEETINGS OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

- 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
- 2018** – Salem, Brighton
- 2019** – French Camp, New Geneva
- 2020** – New Albany, Providence (moved from Pottsville)
- 2021** – Hopewell, Graceview
- 2022** – Providence, Pottsville
- 2023** – French Camp, Heritage
- 2024** – Redeemer, Salem
- 2025** – Gum Tree

OFFICERS OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

- Moderator:** Mr. Aaron Rozeboom
1864 East Cardinal Street
Springfield, MO, 65804
417-300-6207
(E) *bonjomon1@yahoo.com*
(Spring 2024)
- Vice-Moderator:** Rev. Kent Moorlach
(C) 714-345-052
(E) *kmoorlach@gmail.com*
(Fall 2023)
- Principal Clerk:** Rev. Tim Phillips
57 Church St., Brighton, TN 38011
(O) 901-476-7233
(C) 901-451-7892
(E) *tjparp@gmail.com*
(Fall 2027)
- Reading Clerk:** Rev. Joseph Donahue
5444 Stage Road, Bartlett, TN 38134
(H) 901-386-5467
(O) 901-388-5885
(C) 901-370-9881
(E) *providencearp@outlook.com*
(Fall 2025)
- Treasurer:** Mr. David Orr
18008 Cindy Lane
Conroe, TX 77302
832-799-9965
dorr5760@gmail.com
(Spring 2027)
- Parliamentarian:** Rev. Howard Wheeler
47 E Ash St, PO Box 318, Pottsville, AR 72858-0318.
(C) 479-970-1384
(E) *hwheele@gmail.com*
(Fall 2026)

STANDING COMMITTEES OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

Christian Education Ministries

Rev. James Ritchey, Chairman (2025)
Mr. Dennis Cox (2026)
_____ (2026)*
Rev. Charles Covington (2024)
Rev. Howard Wheeler (2024)
Mr. Charles Browning (2025)

Minister and His Work

Rev. Mike Chipman, Chairman (2026)
Rev. Don Watkins (2024)
Mr. David Jones (2024)
Rev. Bill Holiman (2025)
Mr. Charles Browning (2025)
Mr. John Scott (2026)
Rev. Steve Woods (2027)
Mr. David Orr (2027)

Nominations

Rev. Joey Donahue, Chairman (2025)
Mr. Milton Murphy (2024)
Mr. Richard Moore (2026)
Rev. Gary Jones (2027)

Outreach North America

Rev. Chris Neiswonger, Chairman (2025)
Mr. Lance Ragsdale (2024)
Mr. Steve Rice (2024)
Mr. Mark Paris (2025)
Rev. Nick Robison (2026)
Rev. Dean Rydbeck (2026)

Stewardship

Mr. Dan Cobb, Chair (2027)
Rev. Christopher Neiswonger (2025)
Rev. James Ritchey (2025)
Rev. Mike Chipman (2026)
Mr. John Robinson – *Ex Officio*

Sessional Records

Mr. Jim Liptrap (2025)
Rev. Mike Yarman (2025)
Rev. Alex Coblentz (2025)
Rev. Bill Holiman (2025)
Mr. Kerry Regen (2025)

Trustees of Presbytery

Mr. Charles Browning
Mr. Milton Murphy
Mr. Paul Walley

Synod Board & Agency Representatives

Dunlap: Diane Clowers (2025)
Exec. Board: Mr. Larry Littlejohn (2025)
MaHW: Rev. Mike Chipman (2026)
Nom.: Rev. Joey Donahue (2025)
ONA: Rev. Chris Neiswonger (2025)
Stewardship: Mr. Dan Cobb (2027)
Revisions Committee: Rev. David Dively

Students of Theology

Stephen Ewing (RTS-Jackson)
Marty Smithhart (Erskine)
James Weir (Third Mill)
Joshua Monson (Erskine)
Lars Griggs (Erskine)

Missionaries

Jodie Gaston

(* After the meeting, a nominee informed Nominations that he would not be able to serve on the CE committee)

Appendix I

Honorably Retired Ministers

Rev. Thomas Braithwaite (retired chaplain)
Rev. Ron Brunson (retired missionary)
Rev. Meredith Cavin
Rev. Conrad Cheatham
Rev. Gary Clowers
Rev. James Coad III (retired missionary)
Rev. David Dively
Rev. Bill Everett
Rev. Michael Garvey
Rev. Carl Geisik
Rev. William Holiman (retired chaplain)
Rev. Dean Rydbeck
Rev. Charles Todd
Rev. John Tucker
Rev. Don Watkins
Rev. Robert White
Rev. Mike Yarman (retired chaplain)

Churches Served by Stated Supplies

Bethany and Hopewell: Bro. Randy Kolb
Ebenezer: Rev. Bill Everett
Elsberry and Mt. Zion: Rev. Conrad Cheatham
Faith: Rev. Ron Pierce
Helena: Leslie Rhodes
Hickory Springs and Wood Avenue: Rev. Mike Garvey
Midlane Park: Rev. David Dively
New Albany: Mr. Stephen Ewing
Sharon: Rev. Nick Robison

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Schedule for Review of Minutes of Sessions

Spring Meeting

Faith
Faith Fellowship
Graceview
Gum Tree
Helena
Heritage
Hernando
Hickory Springs
Hope
Midlane Park
New Albany
River City
Salem
Sharon
Wood Avenue

Fall Meeting

Bethany
Brighton
Calhoun
Ebenezer
Ellisville
Elsberry
French Camp
Good Shepherd
Hopewell
Mt. Zion
New Geneva
Pottsville
Providence Reformed
Redeemer
Richland