



## Mission and Vision Statement

God calls us through the Holy Spirit to connect with each other to plant, grow, and nurture vital, faithful communities of Christ for service and ministry.

In response, we build partnerships,  
communicate with and support congregations, leaders,  
and individuals, and embody Christ's transforming love in the world.

November 2012

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## The Presbytery of Scioto Valley Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Pre-Presbytery Meeting    Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 2:00 p.m. –3:00 p.m.  
246th Stated Meeting    Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 3:30 p.m. –7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church  
13 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601  
TEL: 740-774-4440



[www.fpcchillicothe.org](http://www.fpcchillicothe.org)

### General Notes for this Meeting

1. The offering for this meeting will go to the One Great Hour of Sharing. Please make checks payable to Presbytery of Scioto Valley.
2. Requests to include audio-visual presentations at the Presbytery Meeting should be addressed to the stated clerk, Sally Robinson at [statedclerk@psvonline.org](mailto:statedclerk@psvonline.org)
3. Contact Dagmar Romage at [dagmar@psvonline.org](mailto:dagmar@psvonline.org) or 614-847-0565: To register an excused absence from the meeting; to reserve display space; to arrange for childcare at the meeting site, and to obtain a printed copy of the Commissioner Hand-Book.

**Driving Directions** to First Presbyterian Church, 13 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601,  
TEL: 740-774-4440

Coming from Columbus or points North - take Route 23 South, to the 207 Exit. Continue on 207 North, and then stay straight to continue on 104 South. At 5-way intersection, proceed onto Carlisle Place, which will be your second right hand turn option at the intersection. Continue up Carlisle Place, and make a left turn onto Grand Avenue. Follow Grand Avenue to the end and make a right-hand turn onto Bellevue Avenue, and then a left-hand turn onto Mead Drive.

Coming from Waverly or points South - take Route 23 North, to the 104 North/Bridge Street exit. Follow 104 North/Bridge Street to the light at Main Street - make a left-hand turn onto Main Street. Follow on Main Street and then make a left-hand turn onto Walnut Street. Make a right-hand turn onto Bellevue Avenue and follow up the hill. Then make a left-hand turn onto Mead Drive.

#### **The Presbytery of Scioto Valley(PSV) Stated Meetings for 2018**

February 20, 3:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. - First Presbyterian Church, Chillicothe

May 15, 3:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. - First Presbyterian Church, Fredericktown


September 18, 3:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m. - First Presbyterian Church, Grove City

November 27, 3:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. - First Presbyterian Church, Logan

Special meetings may be called at the request of, or with the concurrence of, two teaching elders and two ruling elders representing different churches

#### **STAY CONNECTED**

If you would like to join the email distribution list for the *Weekly E-Mail* News, the Presbytery digital newsletter go to [www.psvonline.org](http://www.psvonline.org) and fill in the box in the left column, or email Dagmar at [dagmar@psvonline.org](mailto:dagmar@psvonline.org).

Follow the Presbytery on Facebook.  Search for **PSV Congregational Life**. Hit the Like button. Look for forms, reports, and important web links at [www.psvonline.org](http://www.psvonline.org)

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## Commissioners Orientation

So, This Is Your First Presbytery Meeting!

As a new commissioner to the Presbytery, we welcome you! The information below is provided for your orientation to the presbytery meeting and its activities. The meetings of Presbytery are designed to provide opportunities for the community to worship and discuss issues together, as well as do the necessary Presbyter business. Please read the introductory items in the handbook. These items contain information about parking, childcare, directions to the meeting, how to make motions if you wish, and information on parliamentary process.

When you arrive, look for the registration area, which opens prior to the meeting or any pre-Presbytery forums. Commissioners will be asked to register their attendance by signing next to the church they are representing. Commissioners will receive a name badge which entitles them to voice and vote during the meeting. Visitors are also asked to sign in and receive a guest tag. There will also be a table with additional handouts not submitted in time to be published in the Commissioner Handbook.

There may be one or more pre-Presbytery forums which will usually begin one hour before the Presbytery meeting. The forums are small group opportunities to discuss topics coming before the Presbytery, to explore ministry tools, to share best practices, or to engage in the ministry of prayer for the Presbytery. There will be directions to the forums. Also available during the registration time may be several displays.

Presbytery meets from 3:30 to approximately 7:30 p.m. The meeting will begin with worship designed by the Presbytery worship committee. A worship bulletin will be in the registration area. There will be an offering which will be designated for one of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) seasonal special offerings.

At 3:30 p.m. the Presbytery moderator will

- convene the meeting and invite greetings,
- ask the stated clerk if there is a quorum present,
- call for the adoption of the agenda for the meeting, and
- invite greetings from the host pastor.

Most of the business for the Presbytery to consider is contained in this handbook. The materials are divided into several sections for easy access. The sections are arranged according to the agenda. The sections are:

- Consent Agenda -- items being reported to the Presbytery, including Commission actions concluded by standing rule on behalf of the Presbytery. (Any presbyter may ask that a Consent Agenda item be removed for discussion and action during the responsible Commission's reporting time or at the end of the meeting.)
- Commission for Congregational Life
- Commission for Church Professionals
- Commission for Presbytery Operations
- Commission for Nurture and Outreach
- Coordinating Team
- Committee for Presbytery Nominations
- Committee for Overtures and Amendments
- Committee for Representation
- Permanent Judicial Commission
- Other Entities
- Information

***Seeking to be Faithful Together:***

**Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement**

- In a spirit of trust and love, we promise we will...
- Give them a hearing...listen before we answer (*John 7:51 and Proverbs 18:13*)

**1 Treat each other respectfully so as to build trust, believing that we all desire to be faithful to Jesus the Christ;**

- we will keep our conversations and communications open for candid and forthright exchange,
- we will not ask questions or make statements in a way which will intimidate or judge others.

**2 Learn about various positions on the topic of disagreement.**

**3 State what we think we heard and ask for clarification before responding, to be sure we understand each other.**

- Speak the truth in love (*Ephesians 4:15*)

**4 Share our concerns directly with individuals or groups with whom we have disagreements in a spirit of love and respect in keeping with Jesus' teachings.**

**5 Focus on ideas and suggestions instead of questioning people's motives, intelligence or integrity;**

- we will not engage in name-calling or labelling of others prior to, during, or following the discussion.

**6 Share our personal experiences about the subject of disagreement so that others may more fully understand our concerns.**

Maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace (*Ephesians 4:3*)

**7 Indicate where we agree with those of other viewpoints as well as where we disagree.**

**8 Seek to stay in community with each other though the discussion may be vigorous and full of tension;**

- we will be ready to forgive and be forgiven.

**9 Follow these additional guidelines when we meet in decision-making bodies:**

- urge persons of various points of view to speak and promise to listen to these positions seriously;
- seek conclusions informed by our points of agreement;
- be sensitive to the feelings and concerns of those who do not agree with the majority and respect their rights of conscience;
- abide by the decision of the majority, and if we disagree with it and wish to change it, work for that change in ways which are consistent with these Guidelines.

**10 Include our disagreement in our prayers, not praying for the triumph of our viewpoints, but seeking God's grace to listen attentively, to speak clearly, and to remain open to the vision God holds for us all.**

Adopted by the 204<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (1992) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for use by sessions and congregations

**Notes:**

- The Commission Handbook is available online at [www.psvonline.org](http://www.psvonline.org).
- "Supplemental Reports" refers to papers available the day of the meeting in the Registration area.
- NEW BUSINESS items are to be presented to the stated clerk prior to the convening of the meeting.

## Agenda

### **The Presbytery of Scioto Valley** Two Hundred Forty-Sixth Stated Meeting

Pre-Presbytery Meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 2:00 p.m. –3:00 p.m.

246th Stated Meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 3:30 p.m. –7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church - 13 Mead Drive, Chillicothe, OH 45601

Moderator: Minister of Word and Sacrament Rev. Charlsie Ramsey

The Commissioner Handbook is available online at [www.psvonline.org](http://www.psvonline.org)

"Supplemental Reports" refers to papers available the day of the meeting in the Registration Area

NEW BUSINESS items are to be presented to the Stated Clerk prior to convening the meeting.

PRE-PRESBYTERY EVENT – 4 Conversational Gatherings – 2:00-3:00 p.m.

1. Board of Pensions of PC(USA) Rev. Dr. Douglas Portz, Senior Church Consultant for Pastors, Clerks of Session, Chairs of Personnel Committees, Church Business Administrators, and Treasurers.

**Topics to be discussed:** Changes in the Benefits Plan for 2018. A look at some changes in 2019. Ways in which full-time and part-time employees can get benefits. Update on the housing allowance for taxes. Update on 403b (retirement savings) limits for 2018. Update of new coverage for diabetes patients. Ministerial Educational debt changes and limits.

2. Follow up Conversation on the Opioid Crisis.
3. Conversation on Security and Safety Issues for Church Gatherings.
4. Bills & Overtures – listening session on "Religious Freedom" overture.

(Commissioners are invited to attend a listening session on a General; Assembly overture coming before presbytery for a vote. Those who are interested may speak to the committee about the overture.)

#### I. THE PRESBYTERY IS CALLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT – 3:30 P.M.

- A. Convening the Meeting
- B. Declaration of a Quorum and Formation of the Roll – Rev. Sally Robinson
- C. Adoption of the Meeting Agenda
- D. Greetings from Host Pastor – Rev. Dr. Jason Link

#### II. TO WORSHIP GOD

The Word will be preached by the Rev. Doug Portz, Board of Pensions. We will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, and receive the offering on behalf of One Great Hour of Sharing.

### III. TO STEWARD CHRIST'S WORK

- A. Introduction of Guests, New Commissioners, Seating of Corresponding Members
- B. Staff Reports
  - Rev. Dr. Jeannie Harsh, Executive Presbyter
  - Rev. Sally Robinson, Stated Clerk
- C. Appointments by Stated Clerk
  - Assistant Clerks (To be named prior to meeting)
- D. Announcement of New Business (Please present New Business items to the stated clerk before the convening of the meeting. Items will be discussed after the scheduled agenda items.)
- E. Consent Agenda Commissioner Handbook

(The Consent Agenda contains items that the Stated Clerk and Commission chairs think may be adopted without debate. Any presbyter may request that an item in the omnibus Consent Agenda motion be removed for separate discussion and action. Removed items will be scheduled during the responsible Commission or Committee's reporting time or at the end of the meeting.)

### IV. TO CELEBRATE CHRIST'S MISSION

- A. PCUSA Investment & Loan Program (PILP) – James G. Rissler, President
- B. Bills and Overtures – Overture on "Religious Freedom"
- C. Commission for Church Professionals –Rev. Ann Melick
  - a. Welcoming new Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Commissioned Pastors
  - b. Retirement of Rev. Robert Coberly
  - c. First Reading of Leaves for Called Ministers Policy
  - d. Examination for Ordination -- Adam Anderson to Old Stone Church Delaware
- D. Commission for Presbytery Operations – Dr. Robert Gustafson
  - a. Second Reading: Church Development Fund Policy
- E. Commission for Congregational Life – Rev. Dr. Jeri-Lynne Bouterse
  - a. First Reading – Gracious Separation Agreement Revisions
  - b. Second Reading: Ministry Initiative Program (with CPO)
- F. Commission for Nurture and Outreach – Rev. Mary Gause
  - a. Announcements
- G. Nominating Committee – Elder Carla Mavis
- H. Administrative Commission for Marion Forest Lawn Church – Rev. Patricia Stout

### V. TO EMBODY CHRIST'S LOVE

- A. Announcements, Invitations, Joys, and Concerns for the Community
- B. Closing Prayer and Benediction

## Stated Clerk Report

### APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Clerks for meeting – to be named

Investigating Committee

At the request of the Stated Clerk, having received a written statement of an alleged offense, the Moderator appointed an investigating committee, Rules for Discipline, D-10.0103:

Ruling Elders:            Jim Baily, Boulevard Church  
                                 Jim Hamilton, Covenant Church

Teaching Elders:        Jennifer Eastman Hinkle, Dublin Church;  
                                 Susan Warrenner Smith, Honorably Retired

### ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION MINUTES

- a. Minutes of the Administrative Commission for the Commissioning of Richard S. Mickley CRE as Pastor's Assistant for Education and Visitation for the First Presbyterian Church in Marysville, Ohio.
- b. The following Commission of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) convened with prayer on January 28, 2018 at 3:05 p.m. to approve the commissioning of CRE Richard S. (Dick) Mickley as Pastor's Assistant for Education and Visitation for the First Presbyterian Church in Marysville.

The following were present:

Rev. Charlsie Ramsey, Moderator, PSV  
Rev. Dr. Jeannie Harsh, Executive Presbyter, PSV  
Rev. Jennifer Eastman Hinkle, pastor, Dublin PC  
CRE Charlene, Baughman, chaplain, Marion General Hospital  
Rev. Scott Schnapp, pastor, Lee Street PC  
Rev. Jeff Schooley, pastor, Marysville First PC  
Elder Kevin Crosthwaite, Marysville, First PC  
Rev. Donald Hilkerbaumer, honorably retired pastor, PSV

There was a motion and second to approve & proceed with the commissioning service as presented and to dismiss the commission following the benediction. The Commission reviewed the order of service, seating, and the logistics of the service.

The installation was completed in the worship service that followed.

The installation sermon was preached by Rev. Scott Schnapp.

The charge to the commissioned ruling elder was given by Rev. Donald Hilkerbaumer.

The charge to the congregation was given by Rev. Jeff Schooley.

The commission meeting was adjourned with prayer by Rev. Dr. Jeannie Harsh at 3:20 p.m. January 28, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Charlsie Ramsey, Moderator PSV



- c. Minutes of the Administrative Commission for the Installation of  
Rev. Joel Esala as Pastor for Circleville Presbyterian Church in Circleville, OH

The following Commission of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) convened with prayer on February 11, 2018 at 2:15 p.m. to approve the installation of Rev. Joel Esala as Pastor of Circleville Presbyterian Church in Circleville, Ohio.

The following were present:

Rev. Charlsie Ramsey, Honorably Retired, Moderator of PSV

Rev. Dr. Jeannie Harsh, Executive Presbyter PSV

Mr. Andrew Solovey, Ruling Elder, Circleville Presbyterian Church

The Commission reviewed the order of service, seating, and the logistics of the service.

Mrs. Carla Mavis, Ruling Elder, Circleville Presbyterian Church

Rev. Gray Marshall, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Washington Court House

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Davis, Pastor, Central College Presbyterian Church, Westerville

Rev. David Redding, Pastor, Central College Presbyterian Church, Westerville

Rev. Dr. Jason Link, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Chillicothe

Rev. Dr. Anne Marshall, Director of Contextual and Experiential Formation at Trinity Lutheran Seminary

Mr. Darrell Smith, Ruling Elder, Circleville Presbyterian Church

Mrs. Dianne Gerber, Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church of Middletown,  
Presbytery of the Miami Valley

A motion and a second was made to seat on the commission corresponding member

Mrs. Dianne Gerber, Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church of Middletown,  
Presbytery of the Miami Valley.

There was a motion and second to approve & proceed with the installation service as presented and to dismiss the commission following the benediction.

The installation was completed in the worship service that followed.

The installation sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Jeannie Harsh

The charge to the installed pastor was given by Rev. Ronald Lokhorst

The charge to the congregation was given by Rev. Dr. Anne Marshall

Symbols of Ministry as Presented by Elder Carla Mavis

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Charlsie Ramsey, Moderator PSV

## ROLL CHANGES

### Receive

Adam Anderson, from candidacy

### Dismiss

### Changes

Rev. Roger Au from member-at-large to Transitional Pastor, St Andrew

Rev. James Gray Marshall from Transitional Pastor, Washington C.H. First to Installed Pastor, same church.

## **Treasurer's Report (Supplemental Report)**

## **Bills and Overture Committee**

### ***Recommendation***

The [Synod][Presbytery] of Scioto Valley respectfully overtures the 223rd General Assembly (2018) to take the following actions to reaffirm and clarify the position of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) regarding the appropriate boundaries of religious liberty:

1. To reaffirm the “Guiding Principles for Ethical Decisions Concerning Religious Freedom Around the World” as adopted by the 214th General Assembly (2002), as the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s position regarding the intersection of religious freedom and human rights, and a sound application of the denomination’s Policy Statement, *God Alone Is Lord of Conscience* as adopted by the 200th General Assembly (1988);
2. To reaffirm, consistent with these actions of previous Assemblies, and the principles of the *Belhar Confession*, that religious freedom is not a license for discrimination against any of God’s people, and cannot justify the denial of secular employment or benefits, healthcare, public or commercial services or goods, or parental rights to persons based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression;
3. To direct the Stated Clerk and the Office of Public Witness to oppose legislative, judicial and administrative efforts at the state and federal levels to limit the protection of persons based upon race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression in the guise of religious freedom;
4. To encourage synods and presbyteries to oppose legislative, judicial and administrative efforts at the state and federal levels to limit the protection of persons based upon race, ethnicity, gender, physical limitations, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression in the guise of religious freedom; and
5. To encourage all Presbyterians to distinguish between our historical understanding of our religious freedom to practice the essential tenets of our faith, and the misuse of the term religious freedom as a justification for discrimination in the provision of secular employment or benefits, healthcare, public or commercial services or goods, or parental rights to persons based on race, ethnicity, gender, physical limitations, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

### ***Rationale***

The misuse of “religious liberty” is costing lives and depriving individuals of basic human rights. The federal government and state legislatures are considering and passing legislation, and adopting administrative rules and regulations, under the guise of religious freedom that in reality are nothing more (or less) than a targeted attempt to promote a singular religious viewpoint that does not believe LGBTQ individuals are entitled to the full scope of human rights to employment, healthcare and parenting rights. These laws give businesses, service and healthcare providers, government workers, and private citizens engaged in commercial activities the unfettered right to discriminate against others, deny them needed services, and impose their own religious beliefs on others, so long as they cite

their religious or moral belief as the reason for doing so. Similarly, individuals found to have violated laws guaranteeing against discrimination in public accommodations and the delivery of commercial services are claiming a right to assert religious freedom as a shield against liability for such discrimination. Categorizing discrimination against individuals on the basis of such individuals' race, ethnicity, physical limitations, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression as an exercise of religious freedom flies in the face of the foundation of such freedom – the assurance of the dignity and basic human rights of all human beings – and should not be condoned by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The General Assembly, in its previous adoption of "Guiding Principles for Ethical Decisions Concerning Religious Freedom Around the World" by the 214th General Assembly (2002), of the Policy Statement, *God Alone Is Lord of Conscience* by the 200th General Assembly (1988), has laid a firm foundation for the necessity of and boundaries for the exercise of religious freedom. However, **neither statement** addressed the misuse of religious freedom to justify denial of basic human rights to individuals based upon race, ethnicity, physical limitations, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. Recent executive and legislative actions – such as the "Presidential Executive Order Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty," issued May 4, 2017, and the so-called "First Amendment Defense Act" – seek to justify discrimination against individuals, particularly individuals who face discrimination based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression under the guise of religious freedom. Likewise, in *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*, the United States Supreme Court is currently determining whether individuals can avoid liability for violating state anti-discrimination laws regarding public accommodations and the delivery of commercial goods and services by claiming a religious right to engage in such discrimination. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) should speak with a clear voice for "the destitute, the poor and the wronged" (*Belhar Confession*) to affirm that "religious freedom" can never be a pretext for denying all of God's children basic human rights and freedom from discrimination in secular employment or benefits, healthcare, public or commercial services or goods, or parental rights.

## Commission for Church Professionals

### Report of the Actions and Recommendations of the Commission on Church Professionals

Class	Name	E mail	MWS/ RE	Term
2018	Sarah Juist	pastorsarahj@gmail.com	MWS	1st
2018	L. Kae Merold	pastorkae@rroho.com	MWS	2nd
2018	Liz Wagner	firstprespastor@midohio.twcbc.com		1st
2019	Mathias Akih	akigeh@yahoo.com	MWS	2nd
2019	Ann Melick	annie@melick.net	MWS	1st
2019	Carol Evans	willie.evans25@gmail.com	RE	2nd
2020	Robert E. Martin	rmartin@athensfpc.org	MWS	2nd
2020	Todd Tracy	tddtrcy@gmail.com	MWS	2nd
2020	Deb Russell	d_russell_oz@yahoo.com	RE	1st

Pursuant to the authority granted by The Book of Order, "Form of Government" Chapter 3, (G-3.0307), Presbytery Standing Rule G-1, and Presbytery action, the Commission has taken the following actions:

#### 1. Calls

- a. Concurred with the call of the congregation of Old Stone Presbyterian Church in Delaware to Candidate Adam Anderson for ordination and installation, effective July 1, 2018. pending examination by the presbytery on February 20, 2018. (See bio and Statement of Faith at the end of this report.)
- b. Concurred with the call of the congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Washington Court House to Minister of Word and Sacrament James Gray Marshall, effective January 1, 2018.

#### Effective Salary for Pension Calculation – James Gray Marshall

Cash Salary	42,000.00
Fair Rental Value of Manse	18,000.00
SECA Supplement (up to 50%)	
Professional Expense Reimbursements*	
Auto Expense (current IRS mileage rate)	1,000.00
Business/Professional expense	500.00
Continuing Education	2,500.00
Deferred Compensation	1,200.00
Other Allowance	
Other Pensionable Compensation	
Moving Costs	
Other Allowances	
Other Pensionable Compensation	
Total Effective Salary	61,000.00
Paid Vacation Leave: 4 weeks	
Paid Continuing Education Leave: 2 weeks cumulative up to 6 weeks	

After six continuous years of service the teaching elder is eligible for three months Sabbatical Leave, per presbytery policy.

**2. Covenants for Temporary Pastoral Service**

- a. Concurred with the request of the Session of the Galloway Presbyterian Church to renew the contract for part-time Transitional Pastor with Rev. Thom Shuman for a period of one year.
- b. Concurred with the request of the Session of the St. Andrew Presbyterian Church to enter into a contract for temporary full-time pastoral service with Minister of the Word and Sacrament Rev. Roger Au for a period of one year.

**3. Dissolutions/Honorable Retirements**

- a. Concurred with the request of the congregation of the St. Andrew Presbyterian Church to dissolve the call with Minister of Word and Sacrament the Rev. Phyllis Heffner, effective December 31, 2017, and to grant her the status of Honorably Retired, effective January 1, 2018.
- b. Granted the status of Honorably Retired to Rev. Robert Coberly, effective February 1, 2018, former Chaplain, Hospice of Central Ohio.

**4. To be Brought Before Presbytery**

- a. Welcome of new Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Commissioned Pastors.
- b. Retirement of Rev. Robert Coberly.
- c. Examination for Ordination of Adam Anderson.
- d. First Reading of "Leaves for Called Ministers" document.

## ***Leaves for Called Ministers***

### SCIOTO VALLEY Commission for Church Professionals LEAVES FOR CALLED MINISTERS

All terms of call approved by the Presbytery of Scioto Valley will provide that the church and pastor will adhere to provisions of this policy.

#### **1. Sick Leave**

Sick leave is a benefit provided by the congregation for the sole purpose of the minister's self-care or the minister's caring for an immediate family member in a time of illness or medical treatment. "Immediate family" means the minister's spouse, brother, sister, parent, child, step-child, father-in-law, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, any other member of the minister's residential household, or anyone for whom the minister has a custodial relationship. Sick leave is normally to be granted in the amount of five days annually. A session may choose a larger number of days if it wishes. Unused sick leave does not accrue beyond the end of the calendar year.

During the first year of employment, ministers are authorized sick leave at the rate of one day for the first three months of employment and one day for each of the next four months, to a maximum of five working days.

Sick days may be pro-rated for ministers serving calls that are less than full-time.

#### **2. Extended Leave - Medical Evaluation and Release**

When a minister is unable to work a minimum of ten continuous work days as a result of an extended illness or injury, the minister shall be medically evaluated and asked to provide a written medical evaluation to the clerk of session and the Commission on Church Professionals (CCP). Further, prior to returning to work after an extended illness or injury, the minister will forward a written medical release to the session and CCP.

#### **3. Parental Leave**

The addition of children to a family is a gift and blessing of God. In the case of childbearing and child rearing, the church recognizes and agrees to accommodate the special needs of pastor/parents. In order to foster healthy relationships, ensure adequate recovery from childbirth, and/or provide for bonding with a new child, leave shall be granted to all parents welcoming a new child, and pastoral compensation and all terms of call shall continue. The following specific guidelines will apply:

a. Minimum leave shall be provided as follows:

Parental Leave: 8 weeks

Adoptive Parent Leave: 8 weeks

Foster Parent/New Placement Leave: 2 weeks

b. The need for longer leave shall be upon the recommendation of the physician and shall be subject to the same procedures as apply to extended sick leaves.

c. Sessions will make adequate provisions for the continuation of pastoral functions during the leave period. If this policy creates a hardship for a congregation, they may negotiate with the Commission on Church Professionals for relief.

- d. Pastors will inform their sessions and the CCP as early as possible regarding the need for leave.
- e. Childbirth brings risks of complications, unexpected needs, and other uncertainties. It is the duty of the pastor and the session to deal with these issues in an open and caring relationship.

#### **4. Disability**

##### **a. Definition:**

- i. **Temporary Disability:** According to the Board of Pensions, a minister is considered disabled if he or she is mentally or physically unable to perform his or her regular work duties.
- ii. **Permanent Disability:** After 24 consecutive months of such disability, the member is still considered disabled if, due to physical or mental ability, he or she cannot perform any type of work for which he or she is suited for by education, training, or experience. The Board must certify all member disabilities.

##### **b. Duration:**

- i. Temporary disability will begin only on the expiration of any sick leave benefits, and will last up to three (3) months at full salary unless otherwise covered.
- ii. Permanent Separation for Disability will be in accord with the process provided by the Presbyterian Pension Plan.
  - 1. During the first 90 days of disability, the church or employing organization is required to continue paying your Benefits Plan dues.
  - 2. After 90 days, Plan benefits continue at no cost to the member or employing organization.
- iii. As long as you are receiving disability benefits through the Board of Pensions, the minister is eligible for the following:
  - 1. a monthly income benefit
  - 2. continuation of medical benefits
  - 3. continuation of death benefits for member and dependents, and of supplemental death benefits if the minister was participating in that plan immediately before becoming disabled
  - 4. continuation of pension credits if the minister was participating in the Pension Plan immediately before becoming disabled.

#### **5. Leaves of Absence**

Leaves of absence are provided under the following circumstances:

##### **a. Jury Duty/Serving as a Witness**

- i. Ministers serving on jury duty on regularly scheduled work days will be granted paid leave. If called as a witness, leave will be handled in the same way. A minister employee will not be granted leave for serving as a witness in a civil matter in which they have a personal or financial interest or for pursuing or defending their own court case.

##### **b. Funeral Leave**

- i. In case of death in the immediate family (spouse/significant other, child, parent, sibling, grandparent, parent-in-law; or other relative in the same household) the minister will receive full pay for absence from the day of death up to and including the day after burial. This leave should not exceed four (4) working days.



c. Military Leave

- i. If a minister is called or recalled for active duty, the minister is entitled to a leave of absence without pay. Reemployment rights shall correspond with Federal (USERRA) and State regulations.
- ii. Continuation of pension and medical benefits will be in accord with the applicable administrative rules of the Board of Pensions.
- iii. A minister who is completing compulsory military training by service in the active reserves can use vacation time for such training and receive full salary during that vacation period.
- iv. When a minister takes time other than vacation time, the leave is unpaid.
- v. Normal allowance for reserve duty will be thirteen (13) working days of unpaid leave. During time of reserve duty, all benefits will be continued.

d. Churches must comply with the Family Medical Leave Act of 2015.

e. Other Leave - A non-compensated leave of absence may be negotiated with minister, the session and the Presbytery's Commission on Church Professionals. Normally such leaves shall not be longer than sixty (60) days.

**6. Sabbatical Leave**

Sabbatical Leaves are covered by the separate Presbytery policy, "Sabbatical Leaves."

## ***Biography of Adam W. Anderson***

Adam William Robert Anderson is a candidate in the Presbyterian (PCUSA) church. Adam first received an undergraduate degree from Grove City College, and has received graduate degrees from Geneva College, and The Ohio State University. Adam is currently enrolled and finishing his last year at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary as the Elizabeth Currie fellow.

During his time at seminary, Adam has been active in the community, acting as a student representative on the Worship and Program of Study committees, as well as performing worship planning and sacristan duties as a chapel beadle. Additionally, Adam has acted as regular pulpit supply at a small church in Caldwell, TX. Adam recently completed his SPM at Montreat, where he acted as the summer liturgist and bulletin preparer.

Before coming to seminary, Adam had a career in Public Policy, working for the city of Dublin, Ohio, as well as the Ohio Housing Finance Agency, the Ohio Department of Medicaid, and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction services, where he received a commendation for his efforts in caring for people with severe and persistent mental illness.

He is the recipient of the 2018 Janie Maxwell Morris Fellowship, which carries a prize this year of \$5,000. This fellowship was established in 1953 by a bequest from the will of Mrs. Milton Morris of Austin, Texas. This fellowship was given in the Spirit of aiding a Master of Divinity student who desires to pursue further studies.

Adam is married to Lindsey Anderson, and together they have two children: Abraham (3) and Faustena (2).

## ***Statement of Faith Adam W. Anderson***

The earliest memory I have of faith is sitting on my grandfather's lap as he explained what he believed to me. I didn't necessarily understand what he told me, but I sensed his love, and what he said was important: somehow, these ideas were a part of who I was. That simplicity still matters to me, but now as I've grown in understanding, I see it more as elegance.  $E=mc^2$ , all of five characters, unlocks so much of the wonder of our universe. Scripture, for all its depth and for all of the millennia of commentary, still tells a story of a God loving people, and people trying (and failing) to love back.

I believe God - Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer - loves. God, in total freedom, chose to be in relationship with the Creation and humanity through no doing of our own: God chose to love us before we even existed. We are as people loved just simply because we exist, far more richly than we can understand, like the newborn being held in a loving parent's arms. Moreover, because we have been loved before we even existed, as our brokenness overtook us, God would always choose to save us.

I believe Jesus Christ - Prophet, Priest, King - reveals and redeems. Jesus Christ's entire existence was one of a steward, pouring out all of himself to care for all. At moments when he could have done violence for self-gain, he chose peace. When he could have chosen to divest from pariahs - the tax collector, the prostitute, the leper, the commoner - he chose instead to be a steward to them. And when the opportunity arose that he could abandon it all, even pleading that the cup be passed, he stayed faithful. As fully God and fully human, Jesus Christ took on the weight of sin, and linked God the Father, Son, and Spirit in the work

of the election of humanity, bearing the humility of the cross, by choice, for us. Jesus Christ continues to be our savior and teacher, demonstrating God's always-and-forever love to us.

I believe the Holy Spirit - Guide, Presence, Gift - embraces. Just as we have always been loved, always been saved, the Holy Spirit always holds, prods, and directs us to find those Jesus Christ saved and is still redeeming, even when they are convinced otherwise. The modern tax collector, prostitute, leper, and commoner need to know that they, too, are forever loved and redeemed. The Holy Spirit within aids us - as best as our imperfect and limited selves can achieve - to tell others the same story of love and hope.

I believe the Church - the gathered believers, holy people assembled - reminds. It is in the church that we lift our sung and spoken prayers with a simple question: "is it true?" God responds to us God's resounding "Yes!" As we hear the Gospel proclaimed, we hear the stories of life again, and we know that we are never alone, and will never be alone - past faithfulness and future promise gathering into now and always. We remember that we are a people never meant to be alone - not from God nor each other - and so we go out together in the world, reminding them that they, too, are welcome at the assembly.

I believe the Sacraments are the taste and touch of the Holy Trinity surrounded by the assembly. In baptism, we are given the sign and seal through water, being washed clean and given grace in simple bath, and reminded of our shared belonging. In the Lord's Supper, we taste a sustaining meal in community - a meal that reminds us of Jesus Christ's death, and a meal where Jesus Christ reveals himself in resurrection. As often as we can celebrate the sacraments together in worship, we are invited to celebrate with all of the Saints from every time and place, who have all asked and heard, even for a fleeting moment God's promise of presence. We may go forth, elegantly washed and fed to continue the mission to serve those who wish to be clean and no longer hungry.

And so, I am still in the lap of One who loves me, speaking the story of life to me. I understand enough of the story, but I believe that I am loved more than I can entirely understand, and that in spite of all the reasons I should think myself otherwise, I simply believe that every single cell of my body is loved. I want others to know there is a place for them - that they are loved, too. And when I know that there are others who have been told they are not beloved, I come along beside them and share that they, too, are loved, for all of our stories, simple though they may be, carry the elegance of the Holy Trinity.

## Commission for Presbytery Operations

### Report on the Actions and Recommendations of the Commission on Presbytery Operations

Class	Name	E mail	MWS/RE	Term
2018	William C. Acklin	wacklin@windstream.net	RE	1st
2018	Bill Lucas	lucasb766@aol.com	RE	1st
2018	Preston S. Shealy	Boulevardpastor@aol.com	MWS	1st
2019	Bob Gustafson	gustafson15@gmail.com	RE	2nd
2019	Kristin Schutte	pastorkristin06@yahoo.com	MWS	2nd
2019	Karen Zent	kmzent@aol.com	RE	1st
2020	Sydney V. Jackson	skipjackson@indianolapres.org	MWS	2nd
2020	Roger Au	rogerau@aol.com	MWS	2nd
2020	Jim Hamilton	Jim.Hamilton55@gmail.com	RE	1st

*Pursuant to the authority granted by The Book of Order, "Form of Government" Chapter 3, (G-3.0307), Presbytery Standing Rule G-1, and Presbytery action, the Commission has taken the following actions:*

1. Voted to use current audit firm of HW & Co. for the coming year. Will be reviewed next year.

#### Recommendations to Presbytery

1. Second Reading – Church Development Fund Policy
2. Second Reading – Ministry Initiative Fund Program (with CCL)

## ***Church Development Fund Policy***

### **Presbytery of Scioto Valley**

## **Church Development Fund Policy**

Second Reading February 20, 2018

### Introduction:

The Church Development Fund was established by the Commission for Presbytery Operations at its November 11, 2013 meeting. It encompasses four pre-existing funds; NCD Fund (D), Church Dev Fund (D), Cong. Fund Balance (R), and Building Fund (R). The former Board of Trustees had agreed in principle to do this late in 2012, but had not taken formal action. The fund creation was retroactive to January 1, 2013. The Church Development Fund oversight is responsibility of the Commission for Presbytery Operations.

### Purpose:

The purpose of the Church Development Fund shall be to advance church development in the Presbytery consistent with the mission of Christ within the bounds of the Presbytery in accordance with Scripture and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the mission and vision statement of the Presbytery, and the ongoing ministry strategy of the Presbytery and its Commissions.

### Procedures:

The assets of Fund shall consist of:

- ✓ All real property, cash, and investments from the dissolution or separation of congregations and the sale of their real and personal property, as provided for in "Form of Government" (G-4.02) and the Presbytery Financial Policy (Article III.D).
- ✓ All cash and investments assigned to the Fund by action of the Presbytery or its Commission for Presbytery Operations.
- ✓ All dividends, interest and market gains on investments associated with the assets of the Fund.
- ✓ All proceeds from leases and notes issued to congregations.
- ✓ All property received or purchased for new church development.

The Fund shall be responsible for:

- ✓ All liabilities, taxes, insurance, legal fees,
- ✓ Investment costs, and all market losses on investments,
- ✓ Any other expenses necessary to acquire, maintain, defend, transfer, or dispose of any of the assets of the Fund.

Assets of the fund may be allocated to projects and programs of the Presbytery by:

- ✓ Action of the Commission on Presbytery Operations to establish or continue a program or project consistent with the purpose of the fund,
- ✓ Only if sufficient uncommitted balance of the fund remains.

The Commission for Presbytery Operations will report status of the fund to the Presbytery on a regular basis, no less than annually.

## Committee for Congregational Life

### Report of the Actions and Recommendations of the Commission on Congregational Life

Class	Name		MWS/RE	Term
2018	Jeff Schooley	fpcjeff82@gmail.com	MWS	1st
2018	Jeri-Lynne Bouterse	jl@bouterse.com	MWS	1st
2018	Natalie Alter		RE	1st
2019	Allison Bauer	revatbauer@yahoo.com	MWS	1st
2019	Marquell Segelken	dsegelke@columbusrr.com	RE	1st
2019	Deb Bowsher	dbowsher@gmail.com	MWS	1st
2020	Bob Armstrong	bob@hilliardpres.org	MWS	2nd
2020	Mark Johnson	maj@prismnet.com	RE	1st
2020	Charlotte O'Neil	revcharlotte@sbcglobal.net	MWS	2nd

*Pursuant to the authority granted by The Book of Order, "Form of Government" Chapter 3, (G-3.0307), Presbytery Standing Rule G-1, and Presbytery action, the Commission has taken the following actions:*

- a. Action was taken not to meet in April since April 2 is the first day after Easter.
- b. Motion was made and approved to empower the Transitions Team to approve mission studies and MIF's. Rev. Dr. Jerri-Lynne will continue to sign off on the Leadership Connection.
- c. 62 session records were reviewed, 35 without exception and 27 with exception.
- d. Gracious Separation Policy be presented to presbytery for 1<sup>st</sup> reading.
- e. Ministry Initiatives Programs be presented to presbytery for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

## ***Policy for Gracious Separation of Congregations***

### **PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY**

#### **Commission for Congregational Life (CCL)**

#### **Policy for Gracious Separation of Congregations**

From the Presbytery of Scioto Valley

Approved by the Presbytery

November 15, 2011

Addendum Added May 15, 2012

**Revised by CCL December 4, 2017 – First Reading**

### **Introduction**

As Christians, as the Church, we embody Christ in the here and now. We celebrate Christ's resurrection. We rejoice in the living, Triune God. Our hands, our hearts, our minds, and our spirits become the vessels, the instruments, which God calls and uses to share God's blessings and love with each other and the whole of creation.

*"On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member that there may be no dissension with the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it." (1 Cor. 12:22-27)*

*"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." (1 Cor. 12:4-7)*

However, when disagreement, sometimes vehement, pulls at the community, God is still with us. As God's children, we are gathered up and asked to extend forgiveness and strive for reconciliation. The gift of grace, which we have been so generously and freely given, is to be shared with one another. The other cheek is to be turned. The merciful and the peacemakers will be and are blessed.

We, individually and corporately, stand in the need of grace. Differences which are untended can become chasms that divide us. As Presbyterians, we have struggled for decades with certain theological and Biblical teachings, and we realize that persons of strong faith and understanding can differ in their understandings of Scripture and in ministry practice. These differences can divide us. We hope that what we share in common – namely, faith in the living God, Father, Son and Spirit; Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer; a deep and rich shared history, and a dedication to the great ends of the church – will sustain us in communion with one another. We have much to learn from one another. The Spirit is



always at work within us, calling us to listen in all humility to one another. We fervently pray to sustain the connectional nature of the faith community called the Presbyterian Church (USA). *"With God, all things are possible."* (Matthew 19:26)

If a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) desires to leave the denomination, God first of all weeps for and with us as the body of Christ. The body's gifts are separated from each other; both the congregation and the denomination suffer the loss. To reconcile and to heal is our deepest hope and prayer.

Being members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and brothers and sisters in Christ, we are called to reconciliation and unity. A congregation's request to separate from a presbytery and denomination is of great import, and must be considered with compassion, thoughtfulness, and prayer. Our hope is that there may be a way to continue together. Please know that the door will always be open to you and that we in Scioto Valley Presbytery stand with open hands and hearts toward your congregation.

Together, we are the body of Christ; we are God's Church; we are the instruments of the Holy Spirit. As a Presbytery, we pray for unity, but commit ourselves to working with you through any separation in the name of the God who so graciously loves us and as a denomination, as churches and as individuals, gives us the gift of life.

Gracious separation requires mutual good faith and recognition of the Constitutional principles that bind congregations to the Presbytery. Unilateral actions taken to separate a congregation from the Presbytery are a rejection of an officer's ordination vows and inconsistent with the invocation of this Policy.

The Book of Order provides the guiding principles under which we operate.

### **Guiding Principles**

- The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is one denomination. [G-1.0102]
- All church property is held in trust for the use and benefit of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). [G-4.0203]
- A congregation is required to have written permission from the presbytery
  1. To sell or encumber any of its property.
  2. To lease any property for more than five years. [G-4.0206]
- Presbyteries have the express power to dismiss a congregation. [G3.0301]
- It is the duty of the presbytery, each congregation and each Presbyterian to follow the biblical model of conciliation and mediation rather than seek judicial solutions to church disagreements. [D-1.0103]
- A congregation that seeks to utilize this policy acknowledges that it is subject to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), including G-4.0203, unless and until it is dismissed by the Presbytery.

## **Assumptions**

1. Presbyteries are called to consider questions concerning church property in light of the unique circumstances of each situation, and to use good judgment and all appropriate resources to the glory of God.
2. All actions of sessions, presbyteries and their members shall conform to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Nothing in this document will limit or attempt to supersede the Constitution. Any attempt to modify a congregation's articles of incorporation, bylaws, regulations, or deeds to facilitate actions that are contrary to the Constitution shall disqualify a congregation from using this Policy to gain dismissal to another Reformed body.
3. Our denomination is a connectional church, with a time tested connectional polity. Within that polity the presbytery is the primary unit of governance.
4. All property held by congregations or by the presbytery is held in trust for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The presbytery cannot ignore, abdicate or delegate these stewardship responsibilities. The presbytery has the sole discretion to determine terms and conditions of dismissal, should that be necessary.
5. Neither a session nor a congregation may act unilaterally to separate from the presbytery or the denomination. However, it is within the constitution to request proper dismissal. Any actions taken by session or congregation to vote to withdraw from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) are out of order, unless requested by the presbytery. While a congregation or session may engage in a discernment process to ascertain whether members wish to discuss requesting dismissal to another Reformed body, such discernment must be accompanied by a clear communication that neither the session nor the congregation may act unilaterally to separate from the presbytery or the denomination. If a session determines that a significant portion of the congregation is interested in further exploring dismissal, the presbytery shall be advised and shall be permitted to participate in the discernment process from that point forward.
6. A presbytery has the authority to dismiss a particular congregation to another Reformed body. The Presbytery will not dismiss a congregation to a Reformed body that does not acknowledge that only the Presbytery has the power to dismiss a congregation to it.
7. Before any actions are considered the presbytery is bound to consult with the leadership and membership of the congregation, and to assist it in information that is true, fair, and balanced.)
8. It is the responsibility of everyone to seek peaceful resolution of all differences, and to achieve reconciliation where possible. These actions further the six "Great Ends of the Church" [F-1.0304]. Civil litigation will be avoided unless it is deemed the only way to defend the Constitution.

## **Process**

When the Commission for Congregational Life (CCL) or the Executive Presbyter is notified that a particular congregation is experiencing schism or is in a state of dissatisfaction so that it is considering separation from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Presbytery of Scioto Valley will take action in these ways.

1. At the request of the Commission for Congregational Life, and at the direction of the presbytery, the Moderator may appoint an Administrative Commission to ~~continue~~ work with a particular congregation. The Commission will be charged to establish communication with the staff and the congregation, to work to understand the congregation's concerns and actions and make any recommendations it deems necessary to the presbytery about further action.
2. Powers to be granted to the Commission may include authority
  - a. To convene boards and committees of the congregation, including Session.
  - b. To interview pastors, staff, leaders, members of the congregation.
  - c. To have access to pertinent church records.
  - d. To determine whether a congregational meeting is called for to advise the congregation concerning the relationship of the congregation to the presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). To call such a meeting and to provide moderator and clerk for that meeting.
  - e. To recommend to the presbytery any action concerning the dissolution or dismissal of the congregation to another Reformed denomination and appropriate disposition of all property.
  - f. To request such other powers as may be deemed necessary.
3. The Commission shall have the authority to consult with Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly staff when necessary. They may retain legal counsel, and consult with appropriate committees and commissions of the presbytery in order to do their work.
4. Failure of a congregation, session or pastor to cooperate fully with the Administrative Commission shall constitute a rejection of the process of gracious separation.
5. The commission shall usually complete its job in 9 months but may petition presbytery for additional time.

## **Conclusion**

It is the goal of this policy and of the presbytery to work with its constituent congregations in peace for the glory of God.

*"Where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."*

*– Matthew 18:20*

Addendum (May 15, 2012)

Revised (December 4, 2017)

Presbytery's Guidelines "appropriate disposition of all property" in Process 2 e of  
"Policy for Gracious Separation of Congregations from the Presbytery of Scioto Valley" (PSV)

To allow the Presbytery and the departing congregation to act graciously to one another, the Administrative Commission will negotiate clear and specific terms by which the Presbytery will make a gift of the property to the congregation and the congregation will make a financial contribution to the Presbytery. These gifts will tangibly recognize the congregation's and Presbytery's history of ministry together, and will bless one another for their future ministries.

These terms will take into account the following guidelines:

1. Consideration shall be given to any denominational grants made to the congregation, either to plant the congregation or to further its mission and ministry.
2. Denominational loans shall be repaid prior to release.
3. Congregational records are property of the denomination. The records shall be brought up to and relinquished to the presbytery to be reviewed and retained.
4. In the event the congregation is not current in its payments of per capita, then the congregation shall reimburse PSV for any and all per capita paid by PSV to the Synod of the Covenant and PC(USA) for years not paid by the congregation up to the previous five years.
5. In determining the financial settlement, the following minimums will apply, being careful not to burden either the congregation or the Presbytery:
  - o 5 times current year's assessed per capita
  - o 5% of total assets (cash, investments, property & equipment)
  - o 20% of prior year's actual offerings

However, none of these minimums shall bind the Presbytery or supersede the obligation of the Presbytery to make inquiry into the full value of the assets, real and personal, held by the congregation in determining the terms under which it will approval dismissal of the congregation to another Reformed body.

6. Reasonable terms of payment shall be negotiated (e.g. paid over three years, five years maximum), ensuring that the departing church's payment is properly secured prior to departure.

## ***The Ministry Initiatives Program***

A Program of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley administered by the Commission for Congregational Life (CCL)

**(Approved by CCL September 5, 2017) Second Reading**

**Introduction:** The Presbytery Church Development Fund was established in 2013. A Task Team was appointed to develop a policy for the use of these funds. Contingent on the approval of the policy for the Church Development Fund, this Ministry Initiatives Program is proposed to be supported from the Church Development Fund.

**Purpose:** The primary purpose of the Ministry Initiatives Program is to support development and initial implementation of imaginative efforts in the domain of church development and redevelopment in order to fulfill the Mission and Vision of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley.

**Program Assumptions:** As part of defining this purpose for the Ministry Initiatives Program, the following assumptions are made:

1. Grants are generally intended for new initiatives, redevelopment of congregations or missions, or restart situations. Attainable and measurable benchmarks will be included in all proposals.
2. Funds are not ordinarily available for general maintenance and upkeep on buildings, or the operation of existing programs of the congregation. Exceptions may be considered if redevelopment includes maintenance needed to support uses described in item 1.
3. While administered by CCL, each Commission, and the Presbytery, may apply for funds for projects that meet the criteria. Each will receive equal consideration under these guidelines.
4. In instances where a congregation has petitioned CCL to engage in ending their ministry, funds may be available to assist with a closing celebration.
5. Cooperative efforts among the congregations of the Presbytery will be encouraged, with grants in cases where these congregations may meet the criteria in assumption item 1.
6. CCL will establish a panel to oversee grant requests, herein named the Ministry Initiatives Board (MIB). The MIB will consist of one (1) active member from each commission, the active Vice Moderator of the Presbytery, and one (1) presbytery staff persons. The Vice Moderator will serve as the MIB moderator and the staff person will serve in an advisory and non-voting capacity.
7. The MIB will set the timing, criteria, and process for receiving and evaluating grants. The MIB will be asked to make final determination for funding requests. Approved grants will be submitted to CCL for payment using the appropriate presbytery forms.
8. While requests may come from individual congregations to the various commissions, it will be the responsibility of each commission to determine eligibility, evaluate, and present recommended applications to the Ministry Initiatives Board. ***Requests to the Ministry Initiatives Board must come through, and be supported by, one of the commissions or the Presbytery.***

9. All granted requests will be accompanied by anticipated outcomes and the requesting commission will report those outcomes to CCL.

10. Grants may be considered for additional program years, up to two (2), in instances when anticipated outcomes may require more long-term planning and support. However, the requesting and supporting commission must provide all required outcome reporting to CCL. ~~Additional years, beyond two (2), may be available, but will require a new grant request and consideration by the Ministry Initiatives Board.~~ Moved and seconded -- approved

**Funding Assumptions:**

- Initially, and for a projected period of five (5) years, an annual amount of \$150,000.00 will be included in the budget of CCL and named the Ministry Initiatives Program. Even though \$150,000.00 is allocated per year, there is no assumption that the entire annual amount will be spent in any given year if the presented and approved applications don't warrant the expenditure. The unexpended balance would be returned to the Church Development Fund for future use.
- This funding program will be evaluated by Committee on Presbytery Operations (CPO) and CCL in a period of no more four (4) years. Initial funding assumptions by CPO determined that funds are available for five (5) years at this funding level. Program assumptions may be evaluated for appropriateness by CCL as needed, or at least annually.
- If, at any time, CPO determines an adjustment is necessary to preserve the stability of the funding source(s), new allocations may be reduced or suspended.
- Should there be an unexpected opportunity consistent with the purpose of the fund, the Presbytery, through a request to CPO, may approve spending more than the \$150,000 yearly limit.

## **Commission for Nurture and Outreach**

### **Report on the Actions and Recommendations of the Commission on Nurture and Outreach**

Class	Name	E mail	MWS/RE	Term
2018	Les Sauer	lessauer@hotmail.com	MWS	1st
2018	Anne Marshall	annecsmarshall@gmail.com	MWS	1st
2018	Susan Imel	susanimel1@gmail.com	RE	2nd
2018	Rebecca Tollefson	rtollefson@ohcouncilchs.org	MWS	NA
2019	Kathie Bubb	kathibubb@gmail.com	RE	2nd
2019	Steve Brand	firstnewark@gmail.com	MWS	2nd
2019	Joel Esala	circlevillepastor@gmail.com	MWS	1st
2020	Peter Galbraith	pcgalbraith@gmail.com	MWS	2nd
2020	Mary Gause	mgause@overbrookchurch.org	MWS	1st
2020	Brian Edwards	bedwards@worthingtonpresbyterian.com	RE	1st

*Pursuant to the authority granted by The Book of Order, "Form of Government" Chapter 3, (G-3.0307), Presbytery Standing Rule G-1, and Presbytery action, the Commission has taken the following actions:*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## Nominating Committee

### Report of the Recommendations of the Nominating Committee

Class	Name		MWS/RE	Term
2018	Carla Mavis	carla.mavis@gmail.com	RE	2nd
2018	William (Bill) Acklin	wacklin@windstream.net	RE	2nd
2018	Robert J. Armstrong	bob.armstrong74@gmail.com	MWS	2nd
2019	Kristin Schutte	pastorkristin06@yahoo.com	MWS	2nd
2019	Rebecca Tollefson	rtollefson@ohcouncilchs.org	MWS	2nd
2019	Pam Patterson	pammyjane3@gmail.com	MWS	1st
2020	Bob Bethge	bobbethge@gmail.com	RE	2nd
2020	Betty Lou Stull	jandblstull@earthlink.net	RE	2nd
2020	Don Hilkerbaumer	dhilkerbaumer@icloud.com	MWS	1 <sup>st</sup> full

#### Recommendations:

For the Commission for Church Professionals -- Rev. Elizabeth Wagner, First Church Logan, class of 2018.

For the Commission on Presbytery Operations – Ruling Elder Jim Hamilton, Covenant Church, class of 2020.

For the Commission on Nurture and Outreach – Elder Brian Edwards, Director of Youth Ministry, Worthington, class of 2020.



## **Administrative Commission for Marion Forest Lawn**

### **REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR THE MARION FOREST LAWN CONGREGATION**

The Administrative Commission #2 for the Marion Forest Lawn Congregation has worked since the commission was called to attempt reconciliation between the Presbytery and the Forest Lawn congregation. We have communicated with the Forest Lawn Session multiple times in writing and attempted an in-person meeting. We have met face to face with Mr. Ed Rollins, the CRE formerly commissioned to Forest Lawn, and with ECO Great Lakes Presbytery Moderator Rev. Jerry Kasberg.

On the basis of this communication, we have concluded, with great reluctance, that reconciliation is not possible with people who do not desire reconciliation. We do not foresee a time or circumstance when reconciliation will be possible.

On the advice of counsel and on behalf of the Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (USA), we have filed with the Marion County Clerk of Courts an Affidavit of Title, signed by the Stated Clerk, for the property at 908 East Center Street, Marion, known as the Marion Forest Lawn Presbyterian Church (USA). This prevents the former Forest Lawn congregation from having clear title to sell or transfer title to this property without dealing with the Presbytery.

At this time, the commission unanimously moves that the Presbytery of Scioto Valley take the following actions:

1. Leave the Affidavit of Title active and on record.
2. Dissolve, as opposed to dismissing, the Marion Forest Lawn Presbyterian Church (USA), as it has no members per its own recorded statements, effective immediately.
3. Request that the records of the former Marion Forest Lawn Presbyterian Church (USA) be submitted to the Presbyterian Historical Society (425 Lombard St., Philadelphia, PA, 19147), for archival copying, with the retention of originals to be determined by the ECO Presbytery of the Great Lakes. Further, request that the ECO Presbytery of the Great Lakes convey a copy of all Forest Lawn Session Records to the Presbytery of Scioto Valley, immediately following the completion of the copy process by the Presbyterian Historical Society.
4. Direct the Presbytery attorney to prepare and present a letter to the Ohio State Attorney General's Office, documenting the dissolution of the Marion Forest Lawn Presbyterian Church (USA), with all legally pertinent details.
5. Dissolve the Marion Forest Lawn Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission #2, effective as of the action of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley.

Respectfully submitted,

Reverends Deb Bowsher, Douglas Browne and Patricia Stout and  
Elders Edward Pool, Fred Vaughan, Brenda Wilson