



Dear Friends,

In the summary of the May 28th meeting of the Presbytery of Carlisle which appears below, you will find links to the content of actions taken by the Presbytery and to the content of the learning experience led by Interim Executive Presbyter Cheryl Galan.

During the dinner hour, a power-point loop highlighted announcements of upcoming events of interest to our congregations. For those who project announcements during worship or on screens in your gathering places, here is a link to some slides you are welcome to include.

[https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/R\\_May-Pres-Mtg-](https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/R_May-Pres-Mtg-Announce.pdf)

[Announce.pdf](https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/R_May-Pres-Mtg-Announce.pdf)

As we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, may we pray for a fresh out-pouring of the Spirit among us, that we may be translators of the language of Jesus, especially among those who feel lost, left-out or alone. May our presbytery be a community that thrives on the love that sparks our imaginations and kindles our courage, as we follow the Risen Christ who goes before us, generating new life!

### **Summary of May 28, 2019 Carlisle Presbytery Meeting, Stated Clerk- Jim Speedy**

In spite of rain, severe thunderstorm warnings and tornado watches, 100+/- Ruling Elder Commissioners and Ministers of Word and Sacrament, “hardy folks all”, were greeted by the wonderful and friendly members of Highland United Presbyterian Church, the location of the second meeting of Carlisle Presbytery for 2019. What a beautiful church and location, on top of a hill outside of Newport, PA where one can see the mountains and fields of Perry County, aka God’s country!

### **Pre-Presbytery Workshop**

Prior to the meeting, Rev. Doug Portz, the Senior Regional Associate of the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A, conducted a workshop on the benefits plan and options. Doug also spoke to the presbytery during the regular business meeting about the changes/additions to the benefits program.

### **Worship**

Revs. Kelly Wiant, (Associate Pastor, Market Square PC) Jane Anabe, (Associate Pastor, Silver Spring PC) and Donna Christopher (Associate Pastor, Second Carlisle PC) led the presbytery in a service of evening prayer and scripture reading. During worship, some of the youth who are participating in the Youth Triennium this summer were commissioned.

## **Stated Clerk's Report**

Jim Speedy reported that the Synod reviewed the 2018 meeting minutes of Carlisle Presbytery on May 2, 2019. For the twelfth straight year, the minutes were approved without exception or delinquency! Thanks to Permanent Clerk Rev. Graham Fowler who wrote the minutes and all the Teaching and Ruling Elders who reviewed them, for their dedicated work. Jim also reported that the presbytery's churches had a total net loss of 233 members. The total membership of our churches as the end of 2018 was 10,070.

## **Community Learning Time**

Interim Executive Presbyter Rev. Cheryl Galan, led the presbytery in an interactive learning experience on the topic "Off The Map: Learning and Leading in Uncharted Territory." Drawing from The Agile Church and Canoeing the Mountains, Cheryl invited presbyters to consider the adaptive challenges we face as leaders in the church today. Asking the question, "Could it be that God is taking our churches into uncharted territory in order for the church to become even more of a witness for the future of the world?" Cheryl underscored the need for purposeful movement with new tools and fresh perspectives.

The PowerPoint of Cheryl's presentation is found here:

[https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/R\\_Cheryl\\_Learning\\_05\\_2019.pdf](https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/R_Cheryl_Learning_05_2019.pdf)

## **Policy and Bylaw Recommendations**

1. On behalf of the Coordinating Council, Cheryl Galan presented for a first reading a proposed bylaw change that would give more flexibility in scheduling presbytery meetings. The text of the proposed change is found here:

[https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/PM\\_2019-05\\_1\\_Bylaw\\_Mtgs.pdf](https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/PM_2019-05_1_Bylaw_Mtgs.pdf)

This proposed change will be presented to the presbytery for action at the September 24, 2019 Presbytery meeting. Comments, questions and/or suggestions may be sent to the Coordinating Council through the Interim Executive Presbyter, [cheryl.galan@carlislepby.org](mailto:cheryl.galan@carlislepby.org).

2. The Presbytery voted to approve a change to the Bylaws that would allow the Nominating Committee to seek/recruit nominees to be General Assembly Commissioners if the Nominating Committee had not received enough applicants seeking to be considered as GA Commissioner. The text of this change is found here

[https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/PM\\_2019\\_05-Nom-Rpt.pdf](https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/PM_2019_05-Nom-Rpt.pdf)

3. The Presbytery voted to approve a revision to the "Definitions of Pastoral Relationships" policy that is part of Carlisle Presbytery's Leadership handbook. The change states the policy and procedure for churches who wish to seek an exception to the Book of Order's governance (G-2.0504 b-c) that ordinarily Interim/Transitional Pastors, Temporary Pastors or Associate Pastors are not eligible to serve as the next installed pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor. The text of this change is found here

[https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019\\_05\\_COM\\_Rpt2.pdf](https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019_05_COM_Rpt2.pdf)

## **Miscellaneous Business and Celebrations**

The Presbytery celebrated the Honorable Retirements of **Rev. Bill Hambright** and **Rev. Ron Martin-Minnich**. Bill was the Pastor at Centre Presbyterian Church in Loysville. Ron was a Navy Chaplain and was serving as Temporary Pastor at the Presbyterian Church of the Upper West Conococheague in Mercersburg at the time of his retirement.

The new Executive Director of Camp Krislund, Kim Bosse, was introduced to the Presbytery. She thanked the presbytery for its support of Krislund and reminded presbyters to encourage the youth in their respective churches to sign up for Summer Camp.

The Presbytery recognized and gave thanks to **Revs. Anne Myers** and **Bill Beck** for their work as Regional Associates.

Presbytery Treasurer. Ruling Elder Debby Madden gave an overview that celebrated the generous giving of our congregations and offered a 2018 year-end report of the presbytery's finances. The financial position of the Presbytery remains strong, enabling us to continue to serve the needs of our congregations, communities and world, as partners in Christ's service. The entire report is found here:

[https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/PM\\_2019\\_05\\_2018-Yr-End\\_rpt.pdf](https://carlislepby.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/PM_2019_05_2018-Yr-End_rpt.pdf)

**The next meeting of Carlisle Presbytery will be on September 24, 2019 at the Central Presbyterian Church in Chambersburg. This an evening meeting that will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner being served prior to the meeting. More information will be distributed in late August or early September.**