

Your Presbytery Link

The Presbytery of Cincinnati met at Llanfair Retirement Community on July 13, 2004. Llanfair, a member of Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Services, offers a number of services and resources which the Presbytery is invited to use: consultants and speakers on a variety of health and aging related topics, a caregiver respite program, and meeting space.

Here is a *summary* of what we did at the meeting.

Shared joys and concerns in prayer.

Celebrated the ministry of the Rev. Richard Fouse and designated him honorably retired. Dick recently returned to the Presbytery of Cincinnati after serving as an interim pastor in Pennsylvania and in Arizona. During his previous tenure in this presbytery, he served at Westminster, Lakeside, and Ft. Thomas First.

Elected ordination exam readers: Elder Janis Adams (Mt. Auburn), the Rev. Christena Alcorn (associate pastor, Knox), the Rev. Thomas Brackbill (pastor, Venice), and the Rev. Rhonda O'Reilly (member at-large).

Examined and approved James Steiner for ordination as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament.

Elected presbytery officers and members at-large of Presbytery Council:
Moderator – the Rev. Steve Gorman (co-pastor, Westwood First)
Vice Moderator – Elder Rebecca Lindsay (Community of Faith)
Council, Class of 2007 – Elder Melanie Alexander (Providence) and the Rev. Ruth Dunn (HR)

Elected members of presbytery committees and the following committee chairpersons:

Board of Trustees – Elder Alexa Naramore (Knox)
Ecclesiastical Affairs – Elder Sharon Wilcox (Richwood)
Ethnic Church Affairs – Lashuna Meatchem (West Cincinnati)
Evangelism & Church Development – Pat Limbach (Mt. Washington)
Committee on Ministry – the Rev. Frank Wyche (pastor, White Oak)
Mission & Mission Interpretation – Elder Jack Kleier (Community of Faith)
Nominating – Elder Faye Burdick (Mt. Auburn)
Peacemaking & Social Justice – Elder Meg Doerzbacher (Harrison First)
Personnel – Elder Lois Whitney (Northminster)
Preparation for Ministry – the Rev. Tom York (pastor, Knox)
Representation – Elder Diane Brasie (Wyoming)
Small Membership Church – the Rev. Ruth Dunn (HR)

Stewardship – Elder Melanie Alexander (Providence)

Elected or recommended the Synod of the Covenant elect to its Permanent Judicial Commission – Elder Georgana Taggart (Knox) Council – Elder Tren Meyer (Wyoming)

Approved changes in calls or presbytery membership:
the Rev. Kathy Barlow Westmoreland from designated pastor to pastor, St. John's Westminster
James Steiner to associate pastor, Madeira-Silverwood upon his ordination
the Rev. Susan Duker to designated pastor, Oak Hills
the Rev. Peter Reed to interim pastor, Salem
the Rev. William Enns to interim pastor, College Hill
the Rev. Steven Willis from pastor, Seventh to member at-large
the Rev. Laura Sherwood to pastor, First Presbyterian Church in Decatur, IN
the Rev. Janet Dykstra from the Presbytery of the Western Reserve to the Presbytery of Cincinnati
the Rev. Preston Dawes (HR) from the Presbytery of Cincinnati to Miami Presbytery
the Rev. Laurence Woodruff (HR) from the Presbytery of Detroit to the Presbytery of Cincinnati and parish associate, Northminster

Commissioned participants to the 2004 Youth Triennium being held at Purdue University July 20-25:
from Blue Ash – Elizabeth Sander; from Heritage – Chris Broemsen, Ben Brown, Amanda Callahan, Amanda Downey, Andrea Hatfield, Stephanie Saffer, Rachel Taggart, Christy Tesorero; from Kennedy Heights – Giana Collins, Rachel Payne, Cyrni Reed, Allison Sheridan-Bebeau, Megan Swormstedt; from Montgomery – David Annett; from Mt. Auburn – Faye Burdick; from Mt. Washington – Alicia Abend, Laura Allspaw, TJ Doe, Kristin Dye, Jordan Huizenga, Michelle James, Hillary Klotz, Kate Martin, Don Neihoff, Nicole Re, Steve Shadix, Evan Stone, Randy Teetor, Megan Violetta; from St. John's Westminster – Susan Baer, Tommy Frank, Vince Paskal, Sam Westmoreland; from West Cincinnati – Jocelyn McNeill; from Westwood First – Rachel Hedrick; from Wyoming – Laura Braise; and member at-large Laura Sherwood

WORSHIPPED. The Rev. James Eddy (HR), a resident of Llanfair, served as liturgist. Through interpretive dance, Elder Nina Jackson (West Cincinnati) witnessed to the importance of our being available to God. In her sermon, the Rev. Kathy Barlow Westmoreland, reflecting on the narrative of the woman who anointed Jesus (Mark 14:3-9), reminded us that what leaders DO is more important than what they say.

Heard reports about the 216th General Assembly from Commissioners the Rev. Ruth Dunn (HR), Elder William Lewis (Sharonville), Elder Rebecca

Lindsay (Community of Faith), and the Rev. Martha Sexton (HR); Youth Advisory Delegate Morgan Moore (Heritage); and Theological Student Advisory Delegate Gregory Boettner (Mt. Washington and McCormick Seminary)

Learned about the US Congregational Life Survey and were encouraged to have our congregations participate. The survey helps congregations identify their strengths in order to build upon them.

Listened to the insights of the Rev. Kathy Angi, PCUSA mission co-worker with the Reformed Church in Hungary.

Approved a request from Reading-Lockland to secure loans for building improvements and a request from Providence to secure a loan to purchase property.

Postponed until September action upon a recommendation regarding the return of money from the Wildwood Endowment Fund to the Silverwood Fund, which is managed by the Madeira-Silverwood Session.

Dismissed Administrative Commissions that installed the Rev. Mark Wright as pastor of Kennedy Heights and ordained Amy Merrill Willis as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament.

Received updates concerning church history and the maintenance of records. Sessions were encouraged to have their minutes microfilmed.

Celebrated that the 216th General Assembly approved the transfer of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Fairfield from Miami Presbytery to the Presbytery of Cincinnati.

Upcoming Presbyterywide Events

Aug 2-5 Mobile Health Fair

Aug 6-16 Visit from members of K'anhab'al, our partner presbytery in Guatemala

Aug 21 Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery Summer Gathering at Richwood

Sep 19 Planting Seeds, Nurturing Faith: Workshops for Leaders in Christian Education at Wyoming