

**Presbytery of Ohio Valley- Docket for Assembly**  
**April 12, 2008**  
**Bloomington Hospital**  
**10:00 a.m.**

9:00 a.m.	Registration	
9:30 a.m.	Orientation	Rev. Lorna Kuyk
10:00 a.m.	Call to Order/ Opening Prayer & Hymn	Elder Fred Barnes
10:05 a.m.	Establishment of Quorum	Rev. Larry Jackman
	Adoption of Docket	
	Consent Agenda (Minutes of 2/12/08, Meeting, Treasurer's, Report, COM part 1, Nominations, CLP)	
10:07 a.m.	Welcome by Hosts	Revs. John and Wendy
	Bloomington Hospital	VanderZee
10:25 a.m.	Proclamation of the Word	Rev. Lorna Kuyk
10:45 a.m.	Moderator's Report	Elder Fred Barnes
10:50 a.m.	COM part 2	Elder Phil Newton
10:55 a.m.	Speak Out Session	
11:05 a.m.	Mission Vision and Goals	Elder David Holt
11:35 a.m.	Natural Church Development	
	Feature Story	
11:40 a.m.	Celebration of Communion	Revs. John and Wendy
		VanderZee
Noon	Lunch (Cluster Conveners and Communicators with Vice-Moderator)	
	(Trustees Meeting.)	
1:15 p.m.	Proposed Presbytery Structure	Elder David Holt
1:45 p.m.	Natural Church Development	
	Feature Story	
2:00 p.m.	Executive Presbyter's Report	Rev. Lorna Kuyk
2:10 p.m.	Stewardship	Rev. Brad Napier
2:15 p.m.	Committee on Preparation for Ministry	Elder Mary Jean DeMarr
2:30 p.m.	Cluster Reports	
2:42 p.m.	Mission and Social Justice	Elder Jo Lucas
3:00 p.m.	Natural Church Development	
	Feature Story	
3:05 p.m.	Prayers of the Presbytery	Rev. Lorna Kuyk
3:25 p.m.	Report of Council	Elder David Holt
3:30 p.m.	Bills and Overtures	Elder Bill Gerhard
3:50 p.m.	Report of the Trustees	Rev. Rob Allen
3:55 p.m.	Suspension of the Rules for June	Rev. Larry Jackman
4:00 p.m.	New Business	
4:05 p.m.	Adjournment and Closing Hymn	

The Next Meeting is June 12. Assembly will be in multiple locations  
which will be linked together electronically.

**Presbytery of Ohio Valley**  
**What You May Expect at the April Assembly**  
**Bloomington Hospital, April 12 2008**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**Orientation**-Every Presbytery meeting includes the opportunity for a period of orientation prior to the meeting. Our Executive Presbyter, Lorna Kuyk offers this opportunity for first time commissioners and others to learn about the meeting itself and the whole reality that is Assembly. This begins at 9:30 a.m.

**Vision Report**-The Vision Report has been a subject of consideration for the last two meetings of Assembly and will continue to be a subject for several more. Important developments in this area of discussion are:

A Task Force of Council developed the drafts of the Vision Report. Those groups have reported up till now. The Presbytery Council has now received the final Report of the Task Force and dismissed that group with great appreciation for their work. The amended report is now from the Council itself.

The Report has two elements. One is concerning a statement of Vision itself and a second element is the proposed structure which would implement the Vision. It is appropriate to consider a Vision statement as one element and to present that for a vote at this meeting.

The structure portion of the Report is a change of by-laws. That part of the report requires a first reading. The structure part of the report will be presented and then presented again for a vote in September.

Structure and Vision are really two separate issues. The Vision is something that could be implemented with the structure in the Report or some refinement of that structure.

**Consent Agenda**-At each meeting, there are a variety of issues which are not anticipated to create much debate—issues presented for acceptance or information. Those matters are presented as an agenda that can be adopted together to preserve time for issues that require time and intense consideration.

**Community Activity**-Worship, fellowship, prayers of the Presbytery, eating together are all elements of each Assembly which deserve time and energy.

**Committee Reports**-Committees will report activity and propose actions.

**Hosts**-We have the special opportunity to be hosted at this meeting by Bloomington Hospital and Chaplains from two of its programs. This is another special ministry and is different from our normal pattern of a host Church.

**Commission Reports**-Commissions have the authority to act as the Presbytery when the Assembly is not in session. However, these Commissions report back the actions that they have taken at each Assembly. The Commissions of Presbytery (including Council) will report.

**Rules Suspension** – Our current electronic meeting policy does not include Assembly meetings, so a proposal to suspend the rules so that we can electronically is in order.

**Presbytery of Ohio Valley  
Minutes of the Stated Meeting, 12 February 2008  
Unity Presbyterian Church - Terre Haute, Indiana**

**CALL TO ORDER, OPENING PRAYER**

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley met Tuesday, February 12, 2008. The meeting, which was held at Unity Presbyterian Church, Terre Haute, began at 10:05 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. Fred Barnes, Moderator, called the meeting to order, and opened the meeting with prayer.

Elder David Holt, First Presbyterian Church-Bloomfield moved, and Elder Joyce Clark, Terre Haute Central, moved the appointment of Rev. Lant Davis of Terre Haute-Central as Acting Clerk in place of Larry Jackman, who was injured. **APPROVED**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM, SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS**

The Moderator announced the presence of a quorum. The following persons were enrolled as corresponding members: (add names)

**APPROVAL OF DOCKET**

The Stated Clerk moved adoption of the docket with the following changes: In the absence of the treasurer because of illness, the Treasurer's five minutes will go to the Executive Presbyter. The Prayers of the People will follow the Sharing of Small Group Discussions in the afternoon. The moderator also acknowledged that because of the bad road conditions caused by inclement weather, some flexibility in the docket might be necessary during the day. The original docket follows:

Presbytery of Ohio Valley  
Assembly at Terre Haute Unity Church  
February 12, 2008

10 a.m. Call to Order-Opening Prayer, Declaration of a Quorum, Approval of Docket and welcome by Host Pastor.

10:05 a.m. Introduction of New Members and Delegates to Assembly

10:15 a.m. Adoption of Consent Agenda-Minutes Approval, Report of Stated Clerk, Report of Trustees, Committee on Ministry (Part 1).

10:20 a.m. Moderator's Report

10:25 a.m. Worship and the Celebration of Communion

Elder Fred Barnes /  
Rev. Peggy Casteel

11:10 a.m. Vision Task Force Report

Rev Jack Cormack  
Rev. Gene Gladney

11:30 Small Group Discussion of Report

Noon Lunch

1:00 p.m. Vision Task Force Sharing of Small Group Discussions

1:25 p.m. Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Elder Mary Jean DeMarr

Presentation of Peter Barnes-Davies, Candidate

1:45 p.m. Committee on Ministry

Elder Phil Newton

1:52 p.m. Church Development and Redevelopment

Rev. Steve Geckeler

2:07 p.m. Pyoca

Elder Rich Swartwood

2:15 p.m. Mission and Social Justice

Elder Jo Lucas

2:25 p.m. Treasurer's Report

Rev. Charlie Pye

2:30 p.m. Report from Clusters

2:42 p.m. Speak Out Session

2:52 p.m. Executive Presbyter

Rev. Lorna Kuyk

3:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee

Rev. Brad Napier

3:10 p.m. Nominations

Rev. Mitch Coggin

3:15 p.m. Presbytery Council

Elder David Holt

3:25 p.m. New Business

3:30 p.m. Adjournment

With the changes noted above, the docket was **APPROVED**.

## **Driving directions:**

### **From the North:**

From SR 37 S, take the Bloomfield Road/2<sup>nd</sup> Street exit and turn east (left) on Bloomfield Road, which will turn into 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Drive approximately 1.5 miles and Bloomington Hospital will be on your right at the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Rogers Street. Turn right before the parking garage and then immediately left to enter the garage. Follow the directions below.

### **From the South:**

From SR 37 N, take the Bloomfield Road/2<sup>nd</sup> Street exit and turn east (right) on Bloomfield Road, which will turn into 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Drive approximately 1.5 miles and Bloomington Hospital will be on your right at the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Rogers Street. Turn right before the parking garage and then immediately left to enter the garage. Follow the directions below.

### **From the West:**

From SR 45, continue taking SR 45 E. You will cross over SR 37. Drive approximately 1.5 miles and Bloomington Hospital will be on your right at the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Rogers Street. (SR 45 will turn into 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.) Turn right before the parking garage and then immediately left to enter the garage. Follow the directions below.

From SR 46, take SR 37 S. Take the Bloomfield Road/2<sup>nd</sup> Street exit and turn east (left) on Bloomfield Road, which will turn into 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Drive approximately 1.5 miles and Bloomington Hospital will be on your right at the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Rogers Street. Turn right before the parking garage and then immediately left to enter the garage. Follow the directions below.

### **From the East:**

SR 46 W will become 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. When SR 46 turns off to the right, stay on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Drive through downtown to Rogers Street and turn left. Bloomington Hospital will be on your right at the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Rogers Street. Turn right on Second Street. Go past the hospital and past the parking garage and immediately take two lefts into the parking garage and follow the directions below.

### **At Bloomington Hospital:**

Park in the parking garage on one of the top two levels. Take the elevator to the first floor and take the walkway into the hospital. Wegmiller Auditorium will be on your left just before you enter the hospital. There will be signs posted.

# Presbytery of Ohio Valley

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Phone: 812-334-1152 • info@povpc.org

March 29, 2008

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley

Dear Friends:

Grace to you and peace in the name of our Risen Lord! The Council at its meeting today voted to present the two attached documents to the presbytery assembly on April 12. These documents are the result of much conversation, prayer, and revision. We thank those who have given time and energy to prepare them and those who have given feedback to make them more cohesive and faithful. Council came to recognize that what had formerly been one document is really two.

The first document is a Proposed Mission, Vision, Goals for the presbytery. The presbytery last adopted such a document a decade ago, in the last century. Later attempts to flesh that statement out did not “take” and this seemed a time to articulate more clearly for our time who God is calling us to be and our vision and goals for living our common calling.

The second document is a Proposed Presbytery Structure for living out the Mission, Vision, and Goals. This structure is designed to

- diversify decision making
- simplify committee structure
- encourage churches to work more collegially and connectionally with other churches.

You will recognize both although there are changes brought about by the conversations they generated. Each suggestion and comment was considered. We have incorporated many, but not all, into these documents. We now send them to the presbytery as the best work we are capable of producing. This is how we have been led, what feels right and workable and good to us for the Presbytery of Ohio Valley in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Now the presbytery must claim them as its own. We expect the claiming will include changes. These documents are dynamic, remaining fluid and pliable. We propose the following process and timeline for their consideration and growth:

- April 12, POV Assembly      Presentation and vote on Mission, Vision, Goals document  
First reading, Proposed Structure with discussion, but no vote
- April and May      Cluster meetings with Council members and others to consider and discuss Structure document
- August 18      Courtesy deadline for submitting motions and amendments for assembly consideration (not required, but gives time for consideration before voting)
- Sept. 13, POV Assembly      Second reading, discussion, possible amendments, and vote
- on Structure document
- December 4      Elections based on new structure
- January 1, 2009      Transition to new structure

We believe that the Presbytery of Ohio Valley has an important ministry in our corner of God's world. We believe that we are called to carry that ministry out in new ways. We believe that those new ways must be increasingly relational and missional. We believe that working together

to further discern God's leading will help us to create a adopt a new way of being part of the Body of Christ that will be faithful and effective. We look forward to that common work.

Faithfully yours,

David Holt, Moderator  
For the Council of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley

# **Presbytery of Ohio Valley Proposed Mission, Vision, Goals**

*For Presentation to Assembly  
By Council Action Taken March 29, 2008*

## **Mission**

**God's Purpose for Us Is To Be a  
Transforming Community of Churches  
Sharing the Light of Christ**

## **Vision**

**In our common life we**

- **demonstrate what God intends for all humanity by living together in unity, forgiveness, and reconciliation;**
- **show the new reality revealed in Jesus Christ sharing together in God's mission of proclamation and service;**
- **acknowledge differences while living out "good hope for all."<sup>1</sup>**

## **Goals**

**Our priorities as we live into our mission and vision are to**

- **identify, encourage, develop, and empower gifts for leadership and ministry at all levels of the Church;**
- **call, ordain, and commission people to use their spiritual gifts for particular missions and ministries;**
- **form provisional structures that enable people to use their gifts and are respectful of the resources God has given the Presbytery;**
- **develop and use church clusters to build relationships for worship, study, fellowship, support, witness, and service.**

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<sup>1</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Helvetic Confession, 5.055; Phil 1:3-11



# Presbytery of Ohio Valley Proposed Presbytery Structures

*For Presentation to Assembly  
By Council Action Taken March 29, 2008*

Led by the Holy Spirit, we order our life together and form structures in order to accomplish our mission. All of our structures are flexible and fluid, supportive and encouraging, equipping and providing loving accountability so that we will be a people who are constantly being transformed by the power of God for greater effectiveness in our life together. These structures will necessarily change as the clusters increasingly provide mutual support and accountability for their closest sister churches and as God works in our midst.

## Missional Structure: Summary

<b>Presbytery Assembly</b> (Commissioners to other Governing Bodies)		
<b>Clusters</b>		
<b>Council</b> (Personnel, a Committee of Council)		
Ecclesial Division	Witness & Mission Support Division	Corporate Division
Ministry (COM) Preparation for Ministry Lay Pastor Nominating Representation Permanent Judicial Commission	Church Planting* Church Transformation* Mission Partnership* Stewardship* Response* Leadership Institute*  Task Forces Teams	Trustees

- The Ecclesial Division consists of elected groups that fulfill functions required by the *Book of Order*.
- The Witness and Mission Support Division includes groups that the presbytery determines are essential to carry out our mission. Those marked with asterisks (\*) will be ongoing groups with elected moderators. Members shall be co-opted<sup>2</sup> and/or elected.

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<sup>2</sup> A co-opted member is a non elected person who has special skills and abilities in a particular area of ministry and who has been invited by the moderator of the committee/work group for a specific purpose and specified period of time.

- Task Forces will form when individuals, congregations, or clusters respond to the leading of the Spirit to engage a missional issue, task, or service for a period of time. Both groups will depend on co-opted rather than only on elected members. Task Forces may be formed by action of the Assembly or Council.
- Teams consist of individuals who develop expertise and join together to accomplish ongoing work throughout the presbytery.
- The Corporate Division fulfills legal requirements of the state.

## **Missional Structure: Details**

### **The Presbytery Assembly**

The presbytery, gathered in solemn assembly, shall fulfill the above duties and responsibilities, but will also engage in theological discussion and discernment; review the work of its commissions; respond to initiatives from clusters, congregations, and its own entities; communicate and coordinate mission and ministry partnerships; and act on recommended changes to the presbytery bylaws or manual of operations. The presbytery may delegate work to commissions, and may form particular provisional program committees and task forces that will bring their recommendations to the whole Presbytery Assembly or to groups designated by the Assembly.

Presbytery Assemblies are open, and all connected to the presbytery are encouraged and invited to attend. Visitors may be given voice. Notice of Presbytery meetings will be sent to all minister members and elder commissioners, as well as to other committees, and mission and ministry moderators. The Presbytery may go into executive session by a simple majority of those present and voting, for sensitive personnel matters or for matters requiring confidentiality regarding minister members or congregations.

The Council recommends for the time being that the Presbytery keep the provisional by-law suspension and continue to meet three or more times a year at a place and meeting model determined by the Council. We further recommend that the Council continue to explore creatively and widely other models for meeting (for example, teleconferences through satellite or web and committee meetings incorporated into or prior to Assembly). As clusters develop, the Assembly schedule will need to change.

### **Officers of the Presbytery**

Officers elected by Presbytery include the constitutional officers of Moderator, Vice Moderator, and Stated Clerk; and the administrative officers of Missional Presbyter and Treasurer.

(Position responsibilities will be developed for later Assembly approval.)

### **Commissioners to Other Governing Bodies**

Presbytery shall elect people to serve with other governing bodies (currently Synod and General Assembly) on a schedule and in numbers determined by those bodies.

Currently serving commissioners to General Assembly plus the Stated Clerk and Missional Presbyter, *ex officio* without vote, will serve when needed as a committee to consider and present overtures and amendments, with or without recommendation, to the presbytery assembly. They shall consider requests for concurrence with overtures from other presbyteries and may present them to presbytery assembly at their discretion.

### **Clusters**

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley shall be divided into geographic clusters of congregations. Clusters are sacred relational centers for accountability and responsibility and will form the heart of the presbytery's life and missional activity. The clusters will function much as smaller presbyteries did in the past, serving as close neighbors who band together for mutual support and fellowship and who strengthen one another's ministries and mission and share gifts and resources with one another. There are currently six clusters.

Clusters will have some required functions (see responsibilities listed below), but each cluster will develop a unique personality, style, and mission to fulfill its vision and carry out its work. Much of the purpose of the clusters will be done in informal gatherings or events. Required functions will be carried out in formal meetings (see below).

### **Cluster Vision**

Guided by the vision of the presbytery the clusters come together regularly to

- develop and empower leadership;
- encourage and develop gift oriented mission and ministry;
- nurture passionate spirituality and offer joint Christian education events;
- develop and maintain functional structures for their clusters;
- provide opportunities for inspiring worship, prayer, and theological discussion and discernment;
- develop small groups that minister to whole persons (Presbyterian Women, Presbyterian Men, youth, older adult ministries, or other groups with particular mission or ministry interests);
- initiate/coordinate evangelism, church planting, and congregational transformation;
- foster loving relationships.

### **Cluster Gatherings**

Gatherings to fulfill the vision of the cluster shall be held at least quarterly and will be announced widely throughout the cluster so that all may have opportunity to attend.

### **Cluster Responsibilities**

Each cluster shall express the ministry of the greater Presbytery community and shall

- provide primary pastoral and supportive care to congregations and clergy within its area;
- aid in the assimilation of new pastors into the life of POV;

- order its life together to provide for required meetings and leadership;
- provide session minutes and record review guided by the Stated Clerk;
- work with the Committee on Ministry, Nominating, the Leadership Institute, and other commissions and committees that are developed for the good of the whole Presbytery;
- nominate one elder and one minister to POV Nominating Committee to serve on Council;
- involve entire congregational communities in the life of the cluster.
- each cluster has the responsibility to establish and communicate an equitable way to determine who may vote at cluster meetings.

### **Cluster Meetings**

Each cluster shall hold a formal meeting at least annually to conduct business required of the cluster. This business includes, but is not limited to,

- election of cluster leadership
- nomination of one elder and one minister to the POV Nominating Committee to serve on Council
- other business as may properly belong to the cluster.

Notice of time, place, and purpose of meetings shall be sent to pastors and church offices within the cluster for inclusion in church bulletins at least two Sundays prior to the meeting. Notice shall also be sent to the Stated Clerk and the presbytery office.

### **Cluster Leadership**

Each cluster will elect at minimum a Convener and a Communicator. Clusters may, at their discretion, have a leadership team that includes the functions of the Convener and Communicator. The leadership from all clusters will meet together three or four times a year. This group will be convened by the Vice Moderator of the Presbytery and these gatherings may happen at Assembly. The purpose of these meetings will be to build relationships, to strengthen communication, to share ideas, and to learn from each other effective ways to fulfill their roles and the mission of the clusters.

Conveners and communicators shall have gifts and commitment to

- support the mission and vision of the Presbytery and the PC(USA);
- delegate tasks and authority, knowing the expectations of their positions;
- work collaboratively;
- be spiritually mature, compassionate, motivated, and able to motivate others
- attend cluster leadership meetings three to four times a year.

Conveners will

- schedule cluster meetings,
- plan the agenda,

- ensure leadership for each meeting.

Communicators will

- keep information flowing to their congregations through various media;
- communicate with other clusters and presbytery entities (including the presbytery office, committees, and work groups);
- stay connected with the other cluster communicators, sharing events and other information;
- be computer literate and knowledgeable with email and web (in relation to the Presbytery website).

**Council**

Responsibilities: The Council seeks to advance the Reign of God by holding up the mission and vision of the Presbytery. It has responsibility for the work of the Presbytery between assemblies. It is not the responsibility of Council to regulate access to the assembly or to execute programming. Its work includes, but is not limited to the following:

- discussing and discerning theology
- visioning
- deciding matters that require response before the next Presbytery Assembly
- grant money from special/designated funds at the request of entities of the presbytery (churches, clusters, council, committees, task forces, teams) in consultation with others as necessary
- receiving and dismissing members of Presbytery between meetings of Committee on Ministry and the Presbytery
- planning Assemblies
- responding to initiatives from congregations, clusters, committees, and groups between assemblies
- communicating, coordinating, and scheduling
- validating expenditures from special accounts
- recommending changes to the Presbytery Bylaws or Manual of Operations to the Assembly
- carrying out any work delegated to it by the Assembly
- assuring that clusters continue to function.

Council must always report its actions in full at the next meeting of Presbytery.

Membership: The Council shall consist of the following elder or minister members:

- Moderator of Council (1)
- Moderator and Vice Moderator of Presbytery (2)
- Moderator of Personnel (1)
- Immediate past moderator of POV for one year (1)
- One elder or minister representative from each cluster (currently 6)

Additionally, the Missional Presbyter, the Stated Clerk, and the Treasurer will serve, *ex officio*, without vote.

**The Council Moderator will be elected by Presbytery for a two-year term, is eligible for re-election, and may serve a total of four consecutive years. The Moderator, Vice Moderator, and Personnel Moderator serve on Council for the lengths of their respective terms. Representatives from each cluster will be elected for two year terms and are eligible for re-election and may serve a total of four consecutive years.**

Discernment and Process for Selection of Cluster Representatives to Serve on Council: Clusters will submit the names of one elder and one minister to the POV Nominating Committee. These may include the convener and/or communicator or others actively involved in the life of the cluster. These names will be chosen by the cluster at a meeting whose call clearly includes the nomination of one elder and one minister to the POV Nominating Committee. Care will be taken to follow the requirements below and to allow for nominations by the assembled body. From the names proposed, the POV Nominating Committee will nominate one individual to the Assembly taking into consideration the balance of the Council and the gifts needed. Representatives from Northwest, Southwest, and Southeast will be elected in even years and all others elect in odd years.

Service on Council is a position of significant leadership within the Presbytery and, as with all positions, a call from God to specific service. Women and men, elders and ministers are eligible and needed for service on the Council. Each person selected to serve on Council shall have been active in the life of this or another Presbytery for at least one year. This may include service on a Presbytery committee or serving as a commissioner to assembly. Each person must be willing and able to attend up to six Council meetings each year. Each person selected must have the ability to think theologically and exhibit an understanding of Reformed/Presbyterian faith. Each should be visionary and bold, wise and discreet. Each should have shown an ability to lead and display spiritual and emotional maturity.

After reading the above statement, the cluster shall use a process of discernment that takes into account the gifts and qualifications of persons, and the needs of the Council.

Meetings: Council meetings are open. Members of Presbytery and of presbytery committees and groups may attend and shall be given voice. Notice of Council meetings will be sent to all Council members, to committee moderators, and to Synod and General Assembly commissioners. By a majority vote of members present, the Council may go into executive session for sensitive personnel matters or for matters requiring confidentiality regarding minister members or congregations.

The Council shall meet at least three times each year at times and places determined by the Council, coordinating with the schedule of the Committee on Ministry and the Assembly. One of these meetings may be a retreat. One or more of the meetings may

use technology rather than face-to-face gatherings. A quorum for any Council meeting is one more than half the current elected membership.

### Transition Period for Council Membership

The current structure of the Council will be retained for one to two years to enable the clusters to develop their common life and leadership. In the third year, cluster representatives will meet with an enlarged Council to learn its work. In the fourth year the new structure will be in place. During the transition, the Nominating Committee is urged to consider cluster representation as it seeks to balance the members of Council thus ensuring a smooth transition. (Thus if the Structure is adopted in September, 2008, the current Council would continue through 2009, the enlarged council would meet in 2010, and the new Council structure would be in place in 2011.) Council may recommend changes in this timeline to the Assembly if needed.

### Personnel Committee

Responsibilities: As a committee of Council, the Personnel committee is responsible to

- review annually the work of all paid Presbytery staff and paid elected officers of the Presbytery and to report the results to the Presbytery through the Council;
- conduct a five-year comprehensive review of the work of the Missional Presbyter, to conduct a three year comprehensive review of the work of the Stated Clerk and the Treasurer, and to make recommendations to the presbytery Nominating Committee regarding advisability of re-election for those staff whose election is for a specified term;
- review annually the staff position descriptions and to update them as necessary;
- make recommendations to the Trustees about changes in compensation for staff;
- recommend to the Presbytery through the Council the dismissal of elected staff for cause;
- receive requests for extended sick leave, which shall be reported to the committee moderator, with action taken by the full committee if temporary replacement is required;
- assist in conflict management among exempt and non-exempt staff, in accord with the Personnel Policies and the *Form of Government*;
- support the Head of Staff in optimizing and coordinating staff availability and absences;
- ensure that the Personnel Policies of the presbytery are up to date and are followed in all employment practices;
- determine staffing needs for non-exempt staff upon recommendation of the Missional Presbyter, Stated Clerk, or other bodies. The Missional Presbyter, the Stated Clerk, and/or the Personnel Moderator shall be empowered to dismiss non-exempt staff for cause.

Membership: The Moderator shall be elected by the presbytery for three years and may be reelected for a second term. Although the moderator is elected by the Presbytery, the committee functions as a committee of Council. In addition to the moderator, Personnel also will include the Moderators of the Mission Partnership Work Group, Committee on Ministry, Trustees, and Congregational Transformation Work Group. The Missional Presbyter is an *ex officio* member. A representative from the Synod of Lincoln Trails may be asked to participate.

Meetings: The Personnel Committee shall meet at least semi-annually. Additional meetings may be called if needs arise. A quorum shall be one more than half the current membership.

## **Ecclesial Division**

### **Committee on Ministry (COM)**

Responsibilities: The purpose of this committee is to fulfill the requirements of the *Form of Government*. The presbytery may grant commission powers to COM to receive ministers into membership of presbytery and to dismiss ministers to other bodies.

Membership: The committee shall consist of twelve (12) members elected by the Presbytery from the clusters, plus the moderator, the total membership divided as equally as possible between ministers and elders. Ordinarily, there will be two members from each cluster. Members may be elected to serve a cluster other than their own when necessary to accomplish the work of the committee. Members shall be elected for terms of three years, except where necessary to fill partial terms.. Members may serve for full or partial terms not to exceed six years and shall not be eligible for re-election until a full year has elapsed. Staff resource for COM shall be the Missional Presbyter. The COM shall co-opt ministers and elders in each cluster to aid its work.

Members should possess the following qualifications: sensitivity to and experience in congregational life, diplomacy, good communication skills, ability to keep confidences, conflict management skills, ability to enhance the ministry of others, vision for long range planning, and administrative skills.

Meetings: The committee shall meet as often as necessary to complete its work, at least quarterly on dates agreed by the committee, and as called by the moderator. A quorum shall be one more than half the current elected membership.

### **Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)**

Responsibilities: The Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall

- assist Presbytery in fulfilling the functions required by the *Form of Government* regarding preparation of persons for the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament;

- administer the Candidates' Scholarship Funds according to policies and directives of Presbytery;
- counsel with pastors and sessions as they relate to Inquirers and Candidates from congregations;
- suggest to Nominating Committee the names of elder(s) and minister(s) to serve as readers of examinations for candidates for ordination.

It is vital that those who are to become ordained as Ministers of Word and Sacrament receive full preparation for their task. Members of this committee enter into a covenant relationship with those preparing to become ministers of Word and Sacrament to prayerfully guide, direct, and support inquirers and candidates throughout this process, finally recommending to presbytery certification as ready to receive a call.

Membership: The committee shall consist of three (3) elders, and three (3) ministers elected from as many clusters as possible, plus the moderator. All are elected by the presbytery for three (3) year terms and may be re-elected for one additional term by the presbytery. The Stated Clerk will serve *ex-officio*.

Meetings: The committee shall meet as often as necessary to complete its work, at least quarterly on dates agreed by the committee and as called by the moderator. A quorum shall be one more than half the current elected membership.

### **Lay Pastor Committee (LPC)**

Purpose: To develop and maintain competent and faithful Elders to serve as Commissioned Lay Pastors to specific congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley.

Responsibilities: This committee

- administers and coordinates the Lay Academy for education of elders,
- recruits, selects, trains, and mentors elders through the Lay Academy, including those who may be commissioned as lay pastors;
- endorses to COM those who complete the Academy and whose gifts are suitable for commissioning;
- maintains records of those not currently serving, but who are eligible for commissioning together with their ongoing continuing education;
- coordinates continuing education, mentoring, and transitions of Lay Pastors;
- The LPC and COM may work with the Leadership Institute to meet continuing education requirements for ongoing eligibility for service.

Membership: The LPC is composed of one elder or minister from each cluster plus a moderator, all elected by the Assembly. At least two members will be Ministers of Word and Sacrament and ordinarily one member will be a currently serving CLP or a person eligible for commissioning.

Meetings: The committee shall meet as often as necessary to complete its work, at least quarterly, on dates agreed by the committee and as called by the moderator. A quorum shall be one more than half the current elected membership.

## **Nominating**

Responsibilities: The Nominating Committee is responsible to

- nominate to the Assembly qualified, dedicated persons to serve on presbytery committees and entities;
- nominate commissioners and youth advisory delegates to Synod and General Assembly, Readers of Ordination exams, and other entities of the larger church as requested;
- consult with the Chair of Representation prior to making nominations and pay particular attention to principles of inclusion, non-discrimination, and balance in nominations;
- consult periodically with moderators to ascertain effectiveness of members, determine the needs of the committee or entity, and be aware of changing descriptions of the work of the committee or entity;
- maintain a list of qualified ministers, elders, deacons, and lay persons who are gifted and available for service at Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly, always seeking new persons available for service.

Membership: The Nominating Committee shall be composed of six (6) elders and ministers plus the moderator, with one-third lay women, one-third lay men, and one-third ministers.. The members of the Nominating Committee shall be nominated through the Council or may be nominated from the floor of presbytery and shall be elected by Presbytery for one three-year term; they may be re-elected once, but may not serve more than six consecutive years.. The Missional Presbyter and Moderator of Representation serve *ex-officio* with voice, but without vote.

Meetings: The committee shall meet as often as necessary to complete its work on dates agreed by the committee and as called by the moderator. A quorum shall be one more than half the current elected membership.

## **Representation**

Responsibilities: The Moderator of Representation shall fulfill all duties assigned to the Committee on Representation by the *Form of Government*.. including to

- make an annual report to Presbytery concerning distribution in all of Presbytery's elective and administrative positions and the presbytery's progress toward fair representation relating to racial/ethnic, age, and ability considerations.
- attend meetings of the Nominating Committee
- advise the Nominating Committee regarding nominations in particular categories that need increased representation
- consult with Personnel regarding employment practices that promote inclusiveness and diversity.

Membership: One person is elected for a three (3) year term as Moderator of Representation. This person may be re-elected once, but may not serve more than six consecutive years. Because this is not a racial-ethnically diverse presbytery, the presbytery took an action in 1996 not to form a committee, choosing instead to use effectively those persons who would qualify on various committees.

### **Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC)**

Responsibilities: The Permanent Judicial Commission of Presbytery shall be created in accordance with the *Rules of Discipline*, to be the ecclesiastical court of the presbytery. Its decisions, unless appealed, are final and shall be reported to Presbytery and entered in the Minutes. The Permanent Judicial Commission shall be accountable to the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod through the appeal process, and shall be resourced by the Stated Clerk of Presbytery.

Members: There shall be nine (9) Commission members, who are elders or ministers and represent the clusters. They shall be elected by Presbytery for one six (6) year term. After completing a term, those persons remain on the reserve roster and may be called upon to serve when needed to create a quorum. The Commission shall elect its own officers. Members should be familiar with the *Rules of Discipline*, be prayerful, intuitive, and non-judgmental, and seek justice and fairness for all parties involved.

Meetings: The Permanent Judicial Commission acts only when needed.. Periodic training is called and provided by the Stated Clerk. A quorum shall be one more than half the current elected membership.

## **Witness & Mission Support Division**

The purpose of this division with its work groups and task forces is to facilitate and aid the clusters and their congregations in various means of Christian witness and to coordinate mission work common to the life of the Presbytery.

### **Church Planting Work Group**

Purpose: This work group will work with clusters, their congregations, and the presbytery to establish new churches and will

- receive requests from clusters or groups,
- take initiative to generate interest within clusters or groups,
- develop expertise in church planting,
- encourage, support, and develop leaders for church planting
- maintain awareness of and develop sources of funding for new churches.

Membership: This work group consists of three persons elected by the presbytery from at least two clusters with one member designated Moderator by the presbytery. The work group shall co-opt others who are called and passionate to carry out this work. The Missional Presbyter shall support the work of this committee *ex officio*.

Meetings: The group shall meet as often as needed, at least quarterly, to carry out its work.

### **Church Transformation Work Group**

Responsibilities: The purpose of this work group is to aid and assist the clusters, their congregations, and their leaders in creating a transformational culture in which:

#### Pastors

- enter into and remain in accountable, supportive networks,
- become increasingly clear about who God is shaping them to be and what God is calling them to do,
- engage in lifelong spiritual formation and transformational learning,
- work in partnership with congregational leaders to lead congregations..

#### Congregational leaders

- become increasingly clear about who God is shaping them to be and what God is calling them to do,
- engage in lifelong spiritual formation and transformational learning,
- work in partnership with pastors to lead congregations.

#### Congregations

- grow deeper in their love of God and one another,
- grow wider in their love of the people among whom God has called them to serve .

This work group will continue building on the success the Presbytery is experiencing with Natural Church Development, coaching, and creating a coaching network, as well as working with the Leadership Institute in developing and maintaining pastoral excellence.

Membership: This work group consists of 3 persons elected by the presbytery from at least two clusters with one member being designated moderator by the presbytery. The work group shall co-opt others who are called and passionate to carry out this work.

Meetings: The group shall meet as often as needed, at least quarterly, to carry out its work.

### **Leadership Institute**

The purpose of the Institute is to encourage and equip God's people for the tasks to which God is calling them, serving as an umbrella to foster programs such as retreats, continuing education opportunities and other spiritual growth events. The Principal will assure that Youth Triennium has a registrar and assist the registrar as needed.

Presbytery entities that desire to offer educational events must coordinate through the Leadership Institute Principal.

The Presbytery Assembly shall elect a Principal for the Leadership Institute to provide the overall direction and coordination of the Institute to aid the clusters, their congregations, and individual Christians with educational opportunities. The Principal may co-opt individuals for a Work Group. The Missional Presbytery provides staff support.

### **Mission Partnerships Work Group**

The main goal is to facilitate cluster and/or presbytery-wide networks on common mission, social justice, and peacemaking projects. A new description will need to be created by those called to this ministry.

The Moderator is elected by the presbytery as nominated by the Nominating Committee or from the floor of presbytery for a term of three (3) years and may be re-elected for one additional term. All other members are co-opted. The Missional Presbyter serves as staff resource.

### **Stewardship Work Group**

The Stewardship Work Group's purpose is to provide interpretation of the mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) including local, presbytery, synod and General Assembly and to help churches grasp the holistic concept of stewardship. A new description will need to be created by those called to this ministry.

The Moderator is elected by the Presbytery as nominated by the Nominating Committee or from the floor of presbytery for terms of three (3) years, and may be re-elected for one additional term. All other members are co-opted. The Missional Presbyter serves as staff resource..

## **Corporate Division**

### **Trustees**

#### **Responsibilities:**

The Board of Trustees is responsible to

- fulfill relevant requirements of the *Book of Order*
- fulfill legal requirements of the State of Indiana for religious corporations
- develop, present and recommend the annual Presbytery budgets
- manage the investments, property, and funds of the presbytery
- report regularly through the Treasurer the balances and expenditures of all funds to each Assembly and each Council meeting
- maintain sufficient insurance coverage for the Presbytery
- approve all sales and major renovations of church property
- determine annually the adequacy of insurance coverage for congregations.

#### **Membership:**

Six (6) elders and ministers are elected by the Presbytery as nominated by the Nominating Committee or from the floor of presbytery and may be re-elected for additional terms, not to exceed six consecutive years of service. The board shall elect one of its members to serve as President and one as Vice President. The Treasurer of Presbytery shall serve *ex officio* and the Missional Presbyter and Stated Clerk are available to the Board as needed. One or more of the Trustees may serve as Legal Counsel for the presbytery from time to time without conflict of interest. The Trustees may co-opt members who will have voice, but no vote. Additionally, they may use consultants to gain necessary expertise to complete their work.

Skills required by the Board include sensitivity to congregations and their property, knowledge of finance, investments, insurance, property, civil law, and budgeting.

Meetings:

The Trustees shall meet at least three times a year. A day long training/discussion meeting is ordinarily held annually. Conference call meetings are permitted in accordance with the Presbytery's electronic meetings policy. The President is responsible for moderating the Annual Meeting of the Corporation held at the last presbytery assembly of the year.

**Committee on Preparation for the Ministry**  
**Report to Presbytery**  
**April 12, 2008**

Information item:

Inquirer Kathryn M. Wolf was examined by the committee and approved to be moved to Candidacy. She will be presented to presbytery for approval of this action at its meeting of September 13, 2008. She is unable to appear at today's meeting, and the committee believes that the first electronic meeting of presbytery is not appropriate for her appearance. If she is approved on September 13, the official date of the beginning of her candidacy will be March 26, 2008, the date she was approved by the committee, as established by presbytery policy.





**Presbytery of Ohio Valley**  
**April 12, 2008**  
**Report of the Stated Clerk**

**Commissioners to General Assembly**

Following the General Assembly of 2006 the denomination moved to meetings every other year instead of the old pattern of every year. Representation changed at that time to a new formula. Presbyteries with more 8001 or more members were permitted two ministers and two elders. We elected by the old formula and therefore had only two persons on our delegate roster. We did, however, have two alternative delegates elected at the time it came to register our delegates. Our Commissioners to the 2008 General Assembly are:

Elder Jayne Williams  
Elder Andy Traister  
Rev. Scott Paul-Bonham  
Rev. Martha Friz-Langer

The Youth Advisory Delegate is David Davenport.

**Statistics for 2007**

Statistics for the year 2007 demonstrate a decline in total active membership to 7,628. That net loss of 316 active members is actually better than the 8 year average.

Our Presbytery continues to become older in the process. Our median age (estimated) in 2007 was 54+years.. That represents a change of approximately 4 plus years in the median from year 2000.

**Suspension of the Rules**

The Presbytery's Electronic Meeting Policy allows for meetings of Commissions, Committees, Task Forces, Sub-Committees through electronic means. Meetings of the Assembly itself were not included in this policy. Such meetings are permitted only when they are stated to be permitted in by-laws. Presbytery has planned and approved an electronic meeting of the Assembly for June 12, 2008. At near the close of the April 12 meeting, a motion will be made to suspend the rules for the June meeting. This process is in keeping with an opinion of the General Assembly/Constitutional Services.

Business at the June meeting will not contain action items which require face to face discussion and discernment. The meeting is only planned for two hours.

**Investigative Committee**

The Stated Clerk is in receipt of a self accusation from a minister member of Presbytery in a matter which will require a disciplinary process. The next step in that process is the appointment of an Investigative Committee by the Moderator. The date of the receipt of the self accusation is April 2, 2008.

**Assembly Meetings for the Remainder of 2008**

June 13, 2008      Electronic Meeting at several linked locations.  
September 13, 2008      Mt. Tabor Church, New Albany  
December 4, 2008      Eastminster Church, Evansville

**Session Record Review Dates Remaining for 2008**

May 17, 2008      Camp Pyoca  
September 6, 2008      Indiana Church, Vincennes  
November 1, 2008      Presbytery Office, Bloomington

**Lawrence Jackman**