

Highlights of November 8, 2011 Stated Meeting of Shenandoah Presbytery Opequon Presbyterian Church, Winchester, VA

Actions of Shenandoah Presbytery:

- Voted to have a called meeting of presbytery after Easter to approve the 'Gracious Separation Policy'
- Approved the examination of Karen Long who is the Interim Pastor for Keyser Presbyterian Church and she transferred from the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia
- Approved changes to the policy for Authorized and Commissioned Ruling Elders to conform with the new Form of Government
- Re – commissioned the following Commissioned Ruling Elders:
 - Michele Elliott – Slanesville
 - Linda Reece – Burlington and Springfield
 - James Boyette – Buckton
- Approved the status of honorably retired be granted to the following persons and celebrated their years of ministry:
 - Jan G. Owen
 - Philip Sieck
- Received the auditor's report ending December 31, 2010
- Dismissed with thanks the task force appointed for the disposal of Stone's Chapel Church
- Held the annual meeting of the Shenandoah Corporation and reelected five trustees to the class of 2014
- Approved the actions of the Administrative Commission for Round Hill Presbyterian Church:
 - Celebrated their rich and long history since 1880 of the Round Hill Church and approved the closing of the church
 - Affirmed that they will become a Chapel of Second Opequon Presbyterian Church
- Dismissed the Administrative Commission with thanks
- Approved the 2012 Budget
- Elected Ruling Elder Lucille Gohdes to serve as Treasurer through February 29, 2012
- Elected Teaching Elder Dan Williams to serve as Acting Stated Clerk beginning January 1, 2012
- Elected Teaching Elder Bob Osborne to serve on the Synod Nominating Committee
- Elected the following persons to as commissioners and alternates to the 220th meeting of the General Assembly:
 - Principal Teaching Elders
 - Robert Osborne, Sally Robinson, and Patrick Pettit
 - Principal Ruling Elders
 - Mary Lou McMillin, Jim Johnston, and Linda Koogler
 - Youth and Young Adult Advisory Delegate
 - Logan McDonald
 - Alternate Teaching Elders
 - Anne Ross, Tim Arnold, and Charlie McFarlin
 - Alternate Ruling Elders
 - Ellen Blöse, Janet Scott, and Linda Ritchie

- Elected members to serve on presbytery committees and the Permanent Judicial Commission
- Elected the following individuals to serve in leadership capacities for 2012:
 Moderator of Presbytery – Ruling Elder Paul Dana
 Vice Moderator of Presbytery – Teaching Elder Olivia Haney
 Chair of Presbytery Council – Ruling Elder Karen Thatcher
 Vice Chair of Council – Teaching Elder Patrick Pettit

Written and verbal reports:

- Welcomed Kes Tariku Tolossa, President, Illubabor Bethel Synod Ethiopian Evangelical Church of Mekane Jesus who also served as the preacher for the worship service
- Received a wooden engraved plaque from our Ethiopian Partnership
- Welcomed four Ethiopians from the Jimma Church in the IBS who are in a partnership with First Harrisonburg
- Commissioned the Search Committee for the General Presbyter
- Heard a brief history about the 275 years of ministry of the Opequon Church
- Received a banner from international peacemakers which was made by Presbyterian Women in Guatemala
- Heard staff reports from:
 Sally Hinchman – Interim General Presbyter
 Lisa Hedrick – Resource Coordinator
 Doug Sensabaugh – Communications Coordinator/Hunger Action Enabler
- The task force for developing ‘A Gracious Separation Policy’ presented their report for a 1st reading
- Received actions taken by the Committee on Ministry
- Heard the Moffett for Mission report from Carol and Rebecca Witt regarding their Mission Trip to Appalachia
- Lisa Webb reported that the Search Committee was working on the Church Information Form and requested each congregation to lift the committee up in prayer
- Received position descriptions for the Treasurer and part time Acting General Presbyter
- Honored Treasurer Lucille Gohdes and Interim General Presbyter/Stated Clerk Sally Hinchman with flowers and a certificate
- A service of celebration of the ministry of Round Hill Church will be held on Sunday, November 27 at 3:00 PM
- Received a resource regarding Stewardship
- Heard about the plans for individuals to attend the Collegiate Conference at Montreat following Christmas
- Received a report from synod commissioner, Hugh Robertshaw

**Next Stated Meeting – Saturday, February 11, 2012
 Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church, Hinton, VA**