

Maury River Mission Community
Meeting Minutes July 10, 2011 - Collierstown Presbyterian Church

Members Present

Carl Moore (Pastor and Community Convener, Fairfield), Bonny Wilson Community Treasurer and Secretary Pro Tem, Fairfield), Doug Sensabaugh (Shenandoah Presbytery), Janet Scott (Collierstown), Mary Linda Wolfe (New Providence), Linda Koogler (Mount Carmel), Janet Mayo (Mount Carmel), George Chapman (Pastor, Buena Vista), Keith Cornfield (Pastor, New Providence), Christina Tutterow (Pastor, Bethesda), Ken Mohler (Bethesda), Rebecca and John Shillingburg (Interim, Collierstown), Jerry Close (Fairfield), Malcolm Brownlee (Pastor, Retired).

The meeting began with prayer and personal introductions at the appointed hour of 2:30 p.m. as those present enjoyed refreshments prepared by the host church.

Convener Carl Moore distributed an agenda for the meeting. The first item of business was to appoint a secretary for the meeting. Bonny Wilson volunteered to take minutes and distribute them to the community.

Treasurer's Report

Current expenditures and balances were reviewed by Treasurer Bonny Wilson. For 2011 the Community has a \$4,000 budget. The Community has spent the following: from the Mission Support category - \$750 for the Windy Cove Haiti mission and \$250 for the Adult Workshop at Massanetta Springs; from the Youth category- \$250 for the Windy Cove Haiti mission. Total expenditures to date are \$1,250. MRMC's current balance is \$2,750.00 with no obligations outstanding.

Report from Presbytery Staff

Doug Sensabaugh brought greetings from the Presbytery staff. He said there had been some changes in the support staff. Cheri Bowman has retired, and Heather Carter is now working full time doing both administrative work and bookkeeping. He announced that there was a Council meeting on July 13th and Presbytery would meet August 27th at Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church. Doug said the disaster response team has been very busy and will take a break in September. Because of the number of disaster relief efforts mounted, he said churches could continue to put together emergency clean-up buckets – of all the kits needed, these are a major need. Collection points for all kits, including the emergency clean-up kits, are the Presbytery Office and New Monmouth Church (please call before dropping off). Doug reminded everyone the list of items included in clean-up kits is on the web site (<http://www.shenpres.org/DisasterDocs/CWScoupons.pdf>).

He also reported that the Big Event and Mission Fair are scheduled for September 10th, Saturday, at Massanetta Springs. Although specific workshops and classes have not been published yet, there will be sessions similar to those of last year's event.

Report on Living Waters of the World

Prior to the full community meeting, Carl Moor, Malcolm Brownlee, Doug Sensabaugh, Jerry Close, and Bonny Wilson met to discuss a third trip to Guatemala involving MRMC pastors and congregants. The gist of the discussion involved next steps in the current partnership with La Iglesia Alianza which began two years ago with a MRMC mission group installing a water purifying system, helping with Bible study, and assisting with health-related needs. The group agreed one purpose of the third trip would be a final inspection of the water system; but the group also discussed how MRMC might expand the current relationship with La Iglesia Alianza to make this more of a partnership imagined by the *Vision for a Guatemala Mission Program Sponsored by MRMC* in 2009. The group felt that if MRMC is to have an ongoing relationship with La Iglesia Alianza, then we need to know how they view the partnership, what they need and want from a partner, and what MRMC's people and talents bring to the partnership. The original *Vision* approved by MRMC talked for the most part about how our foreign mission might be enhanced by the partnership but was not specific about what the mission would BE - Bible study, fellowship, health training, building projects?

Following this meeting prior to the full community meeting, MRMC heard the following and then took action: as the first 'next step,' Moderator Carl Moore will put together a meeting with David Dax, Roy Fauber, Malcolm Brownlee, and any other interested individuals to talk about the purposes of the third trip to Guatemala, one purpose being the final inspection of the previously installed water purifying system. Upon proper motion with second, Rev. Moore was approved to direct MRMC's mission efforts with La Iglesia Alianza and to lead the third trip to Guatemala.

Doug Sensabaugh reported that On October 12 -17, 2011, Shenandoah Presbytery and Winchester First Presbyterian

Church would be hosting an International Peacemaking Team from Guatemala - Karla Koll, PCUSA Mission Co-worker from CEDEPCA, and Juana Herlinda Yak, a Guatemalan woman with who has served as a leader of her presbytery's women's group. They would be able to come to the Lexington area for a time to hear about their work and to engage in conversations about our interest and work in Guatemala. Dates available are Friday, October 14, or Saturday, October 15. Christina Tutterow, Pastor at Bethesda, said she would ask her session to host an event for MRMC churches on one of these dates.

Elder Training

MRMC sponsored Elder Training will be held on October 29th at New Monmouth. Moderator Moore and Rev.'s Keith Cornfield and Christina Tutterow will meet July 26th at 7 pm to discuss the format of the half-day workshop.

Moderator Moore asked the community for suggestions about presentations to be included in this training event.

Presbytery Meeting August 27th

Moderator Moore reviewed the program for the Presbytery meeting at Timber Ridge Church on August 27th and thanked these MRMC members for their upcoming participation:

- Call to Worship Christina Tutterow
- Confession and Assurance of Pardon Carl Moore
- Sermon Candidate for the Ministry or Carl Moore
- Affirmation of Faith Janet Scott
- Prayer Linda Koogler
- Benediction Keith Cornfield

Reports from Churches

Colliertown: VBS fellowship with Oxford and Mt. Horeb churches; Pastor Skip Hastings taking a course at Columbia University; Shillingburgs welcomed as interim.

Bethesda: Plans for a Health Fair hosted by Bethesda are in the works. Pastor Tutterow passed out fliers that would be mailed/e-mailed to churches again at a later date. The Fair is September 24th at the Rockbridge Baths Fire Department; planners are asking other MRMC churches to contribute items for a 'granola station' to be part of the health fair offerings; 2 individuals from Bethesda may join those from New Providence on the Glade Spring trip.

New Providence: Adopted the 2009-11 Book of Order as an interim measure; lots of discussion on 10a to be followed by a town hall meeting at a later date; recently complete a successful VBS in which the church youth built a handicapped deck and ramp as part of their VBS experience; ~ 12 people from NP are going on a mission trip to the Glade Spring area through Mission Next Door the week of July 18.

Windy Cove: Pastor Rob Sherrard had shared via e-mail that their mission team would be in Haiti at the time of our meeting. He also reported on the success of the Hymn Sing/Fellowship Event at the Windy Cove Pavilion in June which was attended by ~60 individuals from the MRMC community.

Mount Carmel: Hosted a Five Wishes seminar earlier in the spring and also sponsored a talk by a member of the ethics committee at AMC on Advance Directives; Mt. Carmel has also completed a successful VBS.

The next MRMC community Meeting is scheduled for **October 9 at Fairfield.**

The Community adjourned with prayer by Christina Tutterow.

Respectfully submitted, *Bonny Wilson*, Secretary, Pro Tem