

**MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL BOARD MEETING  
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in West Virginia  
November 20, 2010**

The meeting of the Board of the West Virginia Region was convened at the Regional Center at 10:30 a.m. on November 20, 2010. Moderator Fred Bennett called the meeting to order. A Silent Roll Call was conducted. A motion to approve the minutes as written PASSED. Those present were asked to introduce themselves.

Regional Minister Thad Allen offered the Opening Prayer. He presented his written report (attached) with a note that his professional calendar can be found at [wvdisciples.org](http://wvdisciples.org). After introducing the regional staff, he presented a pie chart entitled, *Marks of a Faithful Regional Church*. This chart (attached) shows the many various areas of ministry that are facilitated by our regional staff throughout 2010.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Deputy Regional Minister, David T. Chafin**, continues to enjoy his varied activities within the regional church. His written report (attached) also notes his work in developing a resource center for liturgical renewal in the church which can be found at [lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com](http://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com). He is also serving as the chair of the Faith and Order Program for the WV Council of Churches.

**Associate Regional Minister for Youth and Young Adults, Kevin Snow**, presented his written report (attached). He is working on various programs within the region including planning the Mid-Winter Retreat for Youth in February.

**Mary Uhl** presented her report as the **Coordinator of Women's Ministries** (attached). Each month finds the women involved in many activities throughout the region. As one event is finished, the women are busy planning their next Retreat or meeting. The speaker for the 2011 Fall Retreat, Rev. Jolin Wilks McElroy from Charlotte, has just been announced.

**Joel Potts, III** gave his report as **Coordinator of Men's Ministries** (attached). The men also have a busy schedule throughout the year. Joel has attended many meetings to plan Men's Retreats and the upcoming General Men's Gathering (formerly called Sessions) at Bethany in 2012.

**REPORTS:**

**Fred (Fritz) Bennett, Moderator**, presented his written report (attached) listing the various meetings he has had regionally and with the General Church. His report noted that the region had inherited an old church building in Eskdale that was in very poor shape. He was later notified that the deed had been transferred to the neighbors of that building. There is the possibility that the region may own another meeting house in Jackson County.

**STAFF** were then excused from the meeting so that the board could discuss some matters

of financial enhancements for Mary Uhl, Joel Potts and David Chafin. It was decided by vote, with a motion made by Judie Church, that \$5000 as a one time payment, be divided between these three staff persons in January 2011. When Kevin Snow was called as an Associate Regional Minister, it was decided that \$240 per month would be paid by the Region for his Health Insurance. He was also provided a Laptop Computer.

#### **DEPARTMENTS:**

**Mission and Stewardship, Chair Mark Mayer**, stated that he had attended the Buffalo Seminary, the Media meeting at Bethany, Pastoral Care Workshop and the Regional Assembly. He is also serving as the District 1 Representative to the board.

**Leader Development and Church Life, Chair Steven Smith**, asked how the department was to meet: individually or as a part of a larger group planning meeting? It was suggested that a department could perhaps meet each month so that staff could be present with each department. Some ideas for discussion were an event emphasizing a Spiritual Gift based ministry; a new church perhaps in the Morgantown area; and ways to lift ministry as a calling or a vocation.

**Christian Formation:** No report.

**Betty Beeson, Disciples Women's Regional President**, gave her written report (attached). She stated that the retreat coordinator, Andrea Brownlee, had moved out of the region and that Gwen Allen has assumed that position.

**Randal Dawson, Disciples Men's Regional President**, stated that the meeting in Bethany in 2012 will be a model for other areas that will possibly be conducting a similar type of event.

#### **COMMISSIONS:**

**Ministry: W. E. Chambers, Chair** presented the commission's written report (attached). The Buffalo Seminary, which is sponsored and led by the commission, is now in full partnership with Bethany College. In addition to the leadership of Dean Jim Trader, Dr. Larry Grimes is also helping coordinate workshops using the Bethany College facilities. A winter ministerial ethics and boundaries workshop is planned which will be live-streamed from Bethany for those unable to be physically present.

**The Manual on Ministry** is being revised into alignment with the General Church's new document on ordering ministry. The **Ministers and Mates Retreat** will be March 11-13 (note corrected dates).

Proposed actions to be taken by the Regional Board:

- Grant standing to The Rev. William Pollack, as an ordained minister of the Church. PASSED.
- Grant to Timothy Graves Candidacy for Ordained Ministry. PASSED.
- Grant to Kenneth Hardway Candidacy for Ordained Ministry. PASSED.
- Grant to Rodney Hubbs Standing as a Commissioned Minister. PASSED.

- Grant to Xenia Rae Browning Standing as a Commissioned Minister. PASSED.
- Grant to Douglas Richardson his request to be ordained. PASSED.

Appropriate celebrations will be planned for the latter three persons to recognize this milestone in their ministry.

**Personnel:** There was no report as a chair will be chosen at a later date.

**Property: Chairperson Cheryl Robinson** talked about water problems in the building that are to be solved. David Chafin's region's vehicle had been sideswiped by another car and that problem is being worked on.

**Finance: Judie Church, Chair,** talked about the auditor's statement and shared the Profit and Loss statement for the previous 10 months of 2010.

**General Board Member** is Kevin Bowers: It was noted that Dr. Sharon Watkins is being considered to serve a second six year term.

#### COMMITTEES:

**Disaster Response:** Ray Uhl stated to check link on the region's website for possible needs.

**Regional Assembly:** Joel Potts has been talking with the Blennerhasset Hotel in Parkersburg. No contracts have been signed but it is hoped that one building can be used for meetings and meals and that valet parking might be available.

**Buffalo Seminary:** Jim Trader shared the possible subjects to be presented at the 2011 event.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The **All Saints Fund** was presented as a possible way to support the region's ministry for future generations. A gift was given by Mrs. Lois Drum in memory of her husband, Jim Drum. "The All Saints Fund for Regional Ministry is designed specifically to assist the region in fulfilling its work of pastoral care and oversight in West Virginia and Allegany County, Maryland. Monies placed within the fund are managed by the Christian Church Foundation, and distributions are made quarterly to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in West Virginia for unrestricted use." A brochure was given to the board stating this information and also that "To memorialize a loved one who has not had an All Saints Fund honor in the past, please make your gift for at least \$25 to establish the name." A motion to receive this program, The All Saints Fund, was made by Freeman Wickham, seconded by Cheryl Robinson and PASSED.

The **Cleveland Christian Home** is establishing a Capital Campaign and they had offered for the West Virginia Region be a part of this campaign and that we would receive five percent (5%). The Board recommended that the Cleveland Christian Home keep these

funds for the benefit of their work.

In relationship to a matter previously discussed in regards to giving three of our staff members an enhancement of their salary in January, a motion was made by Maggie Sebastian, seconded by Cheryl Robinson, that the \$5000 be taken from Reconciliation Funds and placed in Operational Funds for this one-time payment. This motion PASSED.

A motion was made to “Freeze the region’s budget and leave it as is until the March meeting.” The motion PASSED.

A question was raised about the possibility of changing the fiscal year of our budget.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. with prayer by Freeman Wickham.

Dates for **2011 Board Meetings** are:

March 5

June 4

November 19

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Trader, Secretary