

Supplemental reports
February 23, 2019

Necrology Report Additions:

Charles Town – Gerald “Friz” Dorsey and C. Robert Henshaw
McDowell – Pearl McCray
Piedmont - Kathryn Mae Harvey
Staunton Second - Maxine Robertson and Joseph Wallace
Sunnyside June Hicks Carpenter

Stated Clerk:

FOR INFORMATION:

- A. Rev. Rufus Burton has renounced jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in a letter to the Stated Clerk dated February 5, 2019. He has been removed from membership of Shenandoah Presbytery and taken off the roll of the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- B. The First Presbyterian Church of Martinsburg has sent a letter informing us that by congregational vote they believe they have disaffiliated from the Presbyterian Church (USA) and been received by the EPC. Because they chose not to follow the policy and procedure of the Presbytery and the Book of Order a joint response has been sent from the Stated Clerk and our lawyer David Penrod reminding them that neither ecclesial (Book of Order) nor civil law (West Virginia statutes) has been complied with and that the property and assets are under the full authority of the presbytery as it holds it in trust for the PC(USA). To that end an Administrative commission has been suggested from the Committee on Relational Ministry.

RECOMMENDATION:

That RE Kate Lewis Brown (Tuscarora), RE Don Baker (Moorefield), TE Jonathan Bunker (Berryville), TE Carrie Evans (Front Royal), and TE Andy Sales (HR) be elected to form the Administrative Commission to “consider and conclude matters” (G.3.01b) arising from the actions taken by members of the First Martinsburg congregation.

Powers granted to this Administrative Commission:

- To determine if a viable congregation of the PC(USA) continues to exist at First Martinsburg
- To assume original jurisdiction of the session per Book of Order G-3.0303e
- To engage the services of and consult with Presbytery staff, the Stated Clerks of presbytery, Synod and/or the General Assembly
- To retain legal counsel and to take legal action when warranted
- To secure the minutes and records of the congregation
- To dissolve the congregational corporation and dispose of any remaining legal matters arising from the dissolution of the congregation, property or otherwise

The AC will give regular updates to the presbytery of its work. Before the final disposition of property and assets, the AC will make a report and bring in recommendations to the presbytery for vote.

Committee on Nominations:

- A. That Presbytery approve the following to serve:

Committee on Mission and Outreach:

Kate Lewis Brown, RE, Tuscarora, Class of 2021
Bobby Spurgeon, Co-Chair

Committee on Relational Ministry:

Howard Boswell, TE, Buena Vista, Class of 2021

- B. The Committee on Educational Resources requests their membership be reduced from 12 to 9.