The Presbytery of Ohio Valley
Docket for Assembly: November 19, 2026
Zoom Video Conference
Elder Rob Henson, Moderator
The Rev. Cheri Harper, Vice Moderator
The Rev. Dr. Scott Seay, Stated Clerk
10:00am ET/9:00am CT

Declaration of Quorum

Call to Order and Opening Prayer: Rob Henson

Introductory Business
- Welcome
- Introduction of New Members: Scott Seay and Susan McGhee
- Seating of Corresponding Members: Scott Seay
- Consent Agenda: Minutes of August 22, 2026; Docket; Stated Clerk's Report; Treasurer's Report

Proclamation of the Word: Donna Phillips, Candidate for Ministry
- Matthew 10:40–42
- "When Love Has Open Hands"

Report of the Committee on Ministry
- Examination of Donna Phillips for the Ordered Ministry of Minister of the Word and Sacrament

Report of the Presbytery Council: Susan McGhee
- 2027 Budget

Report of the Nominating Committee: Wendy VanderZee

Annual Meeting of the Corporation: Bill Henderson

Greetings from the Synod of Lincoln Trails: Wellspring 2026

Speak Out Session

New Business

Prayers of the Presbytery

Minute for Mission & Invitation to the Offering

Recognition of Out-Going Presbytery Leadership

Installation of Presbytery Moderator and Vice-Moderator for 2027

Adjournment with Closing Litany

Stated Clerk's Report

The Rev. Dr. Scott Seay

I. Constitutional Matters

Since the last stated meeting on August 22, 2026, the Stated Clerk has carried out routine duties under authority granted by G-3.03 of the *Book of Order* and by the Presbytery of Ohio Valley. **No constitutional irregularities** requiring Presbytery action are reported.

II. Records Review

A. Dissolved Congregations

The records of **all recently dissolved congregation** have been reviewed and sent to the Presbyterian Historical Society.

B. Review of Session Records

A new process is in development for **Session Records Review** forms for 2026. Clerks of Session should watch their e-mail for instructions before the end of November.

III. Ministerial and Membership Changes

The following **changes to the rolls** of presbytery are reported:

A. Teaching Elders

1. Received: (a) Marietta Macy received from the Presbytery of West Virginia as a Member-at-Large, September 23, 2026; and (b) Manuel Silva-Esterrich received from el Presbiterio del Noroeste de Puerto Rico as a Validated Minister, September 23, 2026.
2. Dismissed: None
3. Status changes: None
4. Deaths: James Ackerman on August 11, 2026

B. Commissioned Pastors / Ruling Elders

1. Received: None Reported
2. Dismissed: John Turner by retirement from Farmersburg, First as of October 18, 2026
3. Status changes: None Reported
4. Deaths: None Reported

IV. Congregational and Pastoral Matters

A. Churches with Significant Anniversaries in 2026

Church	Founded	Anniversary
Boonville, Hemenway Memorial	01 Jan 1866	160
Dale, Dale	08 May 1841	185
Evansville, First	01 Jan 1821	205
Henryville, Community	01 Apr 1961	65
Livonia, Livonia United	16 Feb 1816	210
Madison, Smyrna-Monroe	01 Jan 1941	85
Martinsville, First	23 Jul 1841	185
Patoka, Patoka	04 Jan 1871	155
Petersburg, Main Street	01 Jan 1821	205
Vincennes, Indiana	01 Jan 1806	220
Washington, Westminster	01 Jan 1811	215

V. Judicial Matters

There are **no judicial cases** pending before the Presbytery of Ohio Valley.

VI. Reminders

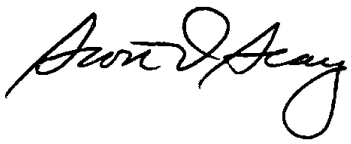
A. Assembly Dates for 2027

1. Saturday, February 27: Zoom Videoconference
2. Thursday, May 20: In-Person
3. Saturday, August 21: In-Person
4. Thursday, November 18: Zoom Videoconference

B. Contacting the Stated Clerk

You are warmly invited to **contact the Stated Clerk** with questions and concerns. Please do so by using the contact information in the signature line below or by scheduling a Zoom consultation through the Stated Clerk page on the Presbytery website: https://www.presbyteryov.org.

Respectfully submitted,



Rev. Dr. Scott D. Seay, Stated Clerk
Presbytery of Ohio Valley
(866) 344-7853, ext. 2 or (317) 701-0207 (cell)

Treasurer's Report

Jean Brown

Presbytery of Ohio Valley, Inc.
Condensed Statement of Revenues and Expenses (Actual vs Budget)
January 1, 2026 through September 30, 2026

	Jan-Sept 2026 Actual	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Revenue			
Per Capita	$ 198,052	$ 253,638	78%
Shared Giving (Unified Mission)	63,616	85,000	75%
Contributions	2,889	17,750	16%
Unrestricted Invest Inc & Trans	12,750	17,000	75%
Restricted Invest Inc & Trans	56,250	75,000	75%
	333,558	448,388	74%
Expense			
Staff Expense	223,634	296,660	75%
Ecclesiastical Expense	53,904	77,011	70%
Meeting Expense	1,473	5,000	29%
Administration & Office Expense	38,768	42,000	92%
Program Expense	18,205	31,750	57%
Total Expense	335,983	452,421	74%
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	$ (2,426)	$ (4,033)	

Fund Balances
As of September 30, 2026

Church Legacy Funds	915,479
Restricted Funds (Specific Use)	32,860
Undesignated Net Assets	1,991,605
	$ 2,939,944

Charlie Pye Fund for Excellence in Ministry	83,461
Supporting Hoosier Churches Grant	327,587

If you would like a detailed statement or any other additional information, please contact Jean Brown at (866) 344-7853 or at jean@presbyteryov.org

2026 Per Capita	61				
		Members	2026 Per Capita	Received as of 10/31/2026	% Paid
Bedford	First	83	5,063	3,085	60.9%
Bloomfield	First	48	2,928	2,928	100.0%
Bloomington	First	326	19,886	19,886	100.0%
Bloomington	United	46	2,806	2,806	100.0%
Boonville	Hemenway Memorial	70	4,270	4,270	100.0%
Brazil	First	140	8,540	6,405	75.0%
Brownstown	Brownstown	39	2,379	2,379	100.0%
Canaan	Jefferson	6	366		0.0%
Cayuga	Cayuga	19	1,159	1,159	100.0%
Central	Valley City	14	854	854	100.0%
Charlestown	Community	18	1,098		0.0%
Clinton	United	16	976	976	100.0%
Columbus	Fairlawn	77	4,697	4,697	100.0%
Columbus	First	433	26,413	26,413	100.0%
Corydon	Corydon	68	4,148	4,148	100.0%
Dale	Dale	35	2,135	2,135	100.0%
Elizabeth	Church of the Covenant	28	1,708	1,708	100.0%
Evansville	Eastminster	232	14,152	7,076	50.0%
Evansville	First	274	16,714	13,928	83.3%
Evansville	First Avenue	32	1,952		0.0%
Farmersburg	First	9	549	549	100.0%
Fort Branch	First	53	3,233		0.0%
Greencastle	Greencastle	105	6,405	6,405	100.0%
Hanover	Hanover	43	2,623	2,623	100.0%
Henryville	Community	24	1,464	1,464	100.0%
Henryville	Mount Lebanon	19	1,159	1,159	100.0%
Jeffersonville	First	150	9,150	6,863	75.0%
Laconia	Rehoboth	47	2,867	2,867	100.0%
Laconia	United	13	793	793	100.0%
Leavenworth	Community	40	2,440		0.0%
Lexington	Lexington	68	4,148	4,148	100.0%
Livonia	United	30	1,830	1,830	100.0%
Madison	Madison	135	8,235	8,235	100.0%
Madison	Smyrna-Monroe	5	305		0.0%
Martinsville	First	63	3,843	3,843	100.0%
Mitchell	Mitchell	43	2,623		0.0%
Montezuma	First	12	732	732	100.0%
Mount Vernon	First	48	2,928	2,928	100.0%
Nabb	Nabb	11	671	671	100.0%
Nashville	Brn County Fellowship	38	2,318	2,318	100.0%
New Albany	Mount Tabor	73	4,453	4,453	100.0%
New Albany	St. John United	93	5,673		0.0%
New Washington	Trinity United	15	915	532	58.1%
North Vernon	Graham	19	1,159	1,159	100.0%
Paoli	First	46	2,806	1,155	41.2%
Patoka	Patoka	28	1,708	1,708	100.0%
Patoka	Union Bethel	10	610	610	100.0%
Petersburg	Main Street	47	2,867	2,867	100.0%
Princeton	Fairview	45	2,745	2,745	100.0%
Princeton	Princeton	63	3,843	3,843	100.0%

2026 Per Capita	61				
		Members	2026 Per Capita	Received as of 10/31/2026	% Paid
Roachdale	Roachdale	27	1,647	1,647	100.0%
Rockville	Memorial	9	549		0.0%
Salem	Salem	37	2,257	751	33.3%
Scipio	Scipio	18	1,098	1,098	100.0%
Scottsburg	First	33	2,013	2,196	109.1%
Seymour	First	103	6,283	6,283	100.0%
Spencer	Spencer	70	4,270	4,270	100.0%
Sullivan	First	41	2,501	251	10.0%
Terre Haute	Central	170	10,370	10,370	100.0%
Terre Haute	Unity	52	3,172	2,989	94.2%
Vernon	Vernon	7	427		0.0%
Vevay	Caledonia	4	244		0.0%
Vincennes	Indiana	95	5,795	3,000	51.8%
Vincennes	Upper Indiana	57	3,477	3,477	100.0%
Washington	Westminster	53	3,233	3,025	93.6%
		4,175	$ 254,675	$ 210,710	82.7%

Shared Mission 2026

			Received as of October 31, 2026			
		Pledged	GA	Synod	POV	Total
Bedford	First					0
Bloomfield	First		210	35	455	700
Bloomington	First				3,600	3,600
Bloomington	Korean					0
Bloomington	United					0
Boonville	Hemenway Memorial					0
Brazil	First					0
Brownstown	Brownstown					0
Canaan	Jefferson					0
Cayuga	Cayuga					0
Central	Valley City					0
Charlestown	Community					0
Clinton	United		250	75	450	775
Columbus	Fairlawn		960	160	2,080	3,200
Columbus	First		12,334	1,231	15,999	29,563
Corydon	Corydon					0
Dale	Dale					0
Elizabeth	Church of the Covenant					0
Evansville	Eastminster					0
Evansville	First		1,125	188	2,438	3,750
Evansville	First Avenue					0
Farmersburg	First					0
Fort Branch	First					0
Greencastle	Greencastle					0
Hanover	Hanover		550	250	1,200	2,000
Henryville	Community					0
Henryville	Mount Lebanon					0

Shared Mission 2026

			Received as of October 31, 2026			
		Pledged	GA	Synod	POV	Total
Jeffersonville	First		900	300	3,300	4,500
Laconia	Rehoboth		150	25	325	500
Laconia	United					0
Leavenworth	Community					0
Lexington	Lexington					0
Livonia	United		1,413	399	1,812	3,623
Madison	Madison		150	25	325	500
Madison	Smyrna-Monroe					0
Martinsville	First					0
Mitchell	Mitchell					0
Montezuma	First		300	50	650	1,000
Mount Vernon	First					0
Nabb	Nabb		30	5	65	100
Nashville	Brn County Fellowship					0
New Albany	Mount Tabor					0
New Albany	St. John United					0
New Washington	Trinity United					0
North Vernon	Graham					0
Paoli	First					0
Patoka	Patoka					0
Patoka	Union Bethel					0
Petersburg	Main Street					0
Princeton	Fairview					0
Princeton	Princeton					0
Roachdale	Roachdale					0
Rockville	Memorial		165	28	358	550
Salem	Salem					0
Scipio	Scipio				25,000	25,000
Scottsburg	First		150	75	1,125	1,350
Seymour	First					0
Spencer	Spencer					0
Sullivan	First					0
Terre Haute	Central		4,875	1,375	6,250	12,500
Terre Haute	Unity					0
Vernon	Vernon					0
Vevay	Caledonia					0
Vincennes	Indiana					0
Vincennes	Upper Indiana					0
Washington	Westminster		1,620	270	3,510	5,400
		0	25,182	4,489	68,940	98,611

Committee on Ministry Report

The Rev. Cindy Cushman and Elder Alan Harder, Co-Moderators

Summary of COM actions, **September 23, 2026**, through **November 10, 2026**.

FOR INFORMATION

At the **September 23, 2026**, meeting, the Committee on Ministry took the following actions:

1. Approved the following pastoral agreements:

   a. **Dale Presbyterian Church** of **Dale** and **Gonwo Dahnweih** serving as extended pulpit supply

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
06/01/2026 to 05/31/2027	Part time – 20hr/wk	$725/wk*	*	Vch. IRS rate	N/A	N/A	N/A	No

   *housing included in salary

   b. **Fairview Presbyterian Church** of **Princeton** and **the Rev. Eric McKnight** serving as ecumenical supply

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
08/01/2026 to 12/31/2026	Part time – 20hr/wk	$12,932	N/A	Vch. IRS rate	2 weeks incl. 2 Sundays	1 month incl. 4 Sundays	$700	No

2. Approved presbytery membership for the following Ministers of the Word and Sacrament, pending the approval of an interview team:
   a. The Rev. Marietta Macy, Presbytery of West Virginia
   b. The Rev. Manuel Silva-Esterrich, el Presbiterio Del Noroeste de Puerto Rico

At the **November 10, 2026**, meeting, the Committee on Ministry took the following actions:

1. Approved the following pastoral agreements:

   a. **Patoka Presbyterian Church** of **Patoka** and **the Rev. William Morris** serving as ecumenical supply

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
01/01/2027 to 12/31/2027	Part time – 10hr/wk	N/A	$15,312	Vch. IRS rate-est. $5,500	2 weeks incl. 2 Sundays	1 month incl. 4 Sundays	$1,200	No

   b. **Southern Hills Parish** (**Community Presbyterian Church, Henryville; Mount Lebanon Presbyterian Church, Henryville;** and **Nabb Presbyterian Church, Nabb**):and **Donna Phillips** serving as stated supply

Period	Hrs./wk	Salary	Housing	Auto Mi.	Study L	Pd.Vac	Cont.Ed.	Pension
12/01/2026 to 11/30/2027	Part time – 20-25hr/wk	$31,500*	*	Vch. IRS rate **	2 weeks incl. 2 Sundays	1 month incl. 4 Sundays	$2,000 **	Yes

   *50% of salary designated as housing allowance
   **Shared equally by the three congregations

2. Items relating to the match between **Donna Phillips** and the **Southern Hills Parish** (**Community Presbyterian Church, Henryville; Mount Lebanon Presbyterian Church, Henryville;** and **Nabb Presbyterian Church, Nabb**):
   a. Approved the match between Donna Phillips and the Southern Hills Parish
   b. Agreed to present Donna Phillips to the Presbytery for Examination for the Ordered Ministry of Minister of the Word and Sacrament on November 19, 2026

3. Received into the Presbytery of Ohio Valley the following Ministers of the Word and Sacrament:
   a. The Rev. Marietta Macy, Presbytery of West Virginia, effective September 23, 2026
   b. The Rev. Manuel Silva-Esterrich, el Presbiterio Del Noroeste de Puerto Rico, effective September 23, 2026

FOR ACTION

1. That Donna Phillips, whose stated supply pastoral agreement was approved unanimously by the sessions of the Southern Hills Parish and confirmed by the Committee on Ministry, be examined by the Presbytery of Ohio Valley for Ordination to the Ordered Ministry of the Word and Sacrament
2. That, if the way be clear following her examination, Donna Phillips' first day of service will be December 1, 2026, and that she be ordained to the Ordered Ministry of the Word and Sacrament on December 5, 2026, at Community Presbyterian Church, Henryville

Donna R. Phillips
Faith Journey Statement
November 1, 2026

Called to Ministry? Who Me?

A Journey of Faith, Discernment, and Calling

If someone had told me when I was growing up that I would one day be called to ministry, my response would have been, "Who me? You must be thinking of somebody else. Seriously, I'm not the called-to-ministry type."

At the age of twelve, I attended an adult Bible study concerning the gifts of the Spirit and the various ministries of the church. I remember thinking, *I wouldn't mind helping in the church, but I don't want to be a preacher or a pastor, and I certainly don't want any gift that requires speaking in public or being in charge of anything.*

The irony is that, regardless of my attempts to fade into the background, I was often pressed into leading music for worship, which required standing up in front where everybody could see me. And singing in public proved just as terrifying as speaking in public, perhaps even more so. When my nerves kicked in, I couldn't breathe, and my voice would crack.

Little did I know that my life's journey would eventually lead me to a place that frightened twelve-year-old could never have imagined.

In my youth, I had absolutely no idea what to do with my life. Because I loved music, my father suggested I attend college and major in music. I auditioned and was accepted into the University of Kentucky School of Music. *This must be the direction God is leading me,* I reasoned.

My parents were supportive, but my church was not. I grew up in a small Pentecostal church with strict rules of conduct, particularly for women. Singing anything other than Gospel music and wearing makeup to perform opera on stage categorically broke with church tradition. The greatest achievement to which one could aspire was to become a preacher. Consequently, our small church had a rather large number of aspiring ministers.

At fifteen, my pastor drafted me into delivering my first mini sermon at a youth revival. Afterward, church members were certain I was destined to become an evangelist or the next Vanessa Bell Armstrong (professional gospel singer extraordinaire), whichever came first.

Subconsciously, I resisted being pushed into such a tiny box.

Me, become a minister? Not likely.

College introduced me to different ways of thinking about the world and my faith. This alarmed the church folks back home, who felt compelled to drag me to the altar for prayer whenever I returned for a visit. When I graduated, my pastor even removed my graduation invitation from the church bulletin board because the ceremony was scheduled on a Sunday, and congregants were not permitted to miss worship to attend.

Is this what ministry is about? I wondered. *If so, ministry is definitely not for me.*

I studied music education in college, but after several years of teaching in the public school system, I realized I was on the wrong path. In 1996, I moved back to Lexington, Kentucky, having left my childhood church, become discouraged by my unsuccessful attempt at a teaching career, and grown weary of the unfulfilling jobs I had held since. I was struggling with what seemed to be a profound lack of direction and purpose.

Friends, tired of hearing me complain about my predicament, invited me to worship at Second Presbyterian Church in Lexington. When the music director discovered I had a degree in music education, she quickly drafted me into service in the music ministry. Once again, I found myself serving the church through music. But this time, something was different.

At Second Presbyterian, I discovered an accepting and nurturing church community. My gifts were welcomed, my questions were not threatening, and I found joy in serving God through the life of the congregation. My faith began to grow, and I discovered a sense of spiritual balance that had previously eluded me.

After attending for a year, I asked my Pentecostal mother and Baptist minister father what they thought about my joining a Presbyterian church. They both offered the same advice: "Go where God leads you."

In 2008, my pastor, Dan Hans, asked me a question that would linger in my heart: "If you could choose to do anything with your life, what would it be?" Without hesitation, I answered, "Work in the church." Was God leading me toward ministry all along? Perhaps. Unfortunately, I still wasn't paying attention.

One Wednesday evening in 2011, one of our associate pastors, Kristi Elhert, sat down with me during a church dinner. She was completing her qualifying examinations at seminary and shared how much she loved studying and preparing for ministry. I remarked, "If I had been more self-aware when I was younger, I probably would have gone into ministry." She responded, "It's not too late. The Seminary is full of people our age. It just takes some of us a while to grow up." Her words stirred something in my heart.

For the next two years, that seed continued to germinate. Along the way, people entered my life who encouraged me to consider ministry more seriously, including faculty members from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

After considerable soul-searching, I sought my father's counsel. He listened and then declared, "You know what has happened, don't you? You've been called."

At last, I began to recognize what others had seen long before I was willing to acknowledge it. The call to ministry had been woven throughout my life, even when I had resisted it, misunderstood it, or simply failed to recognize God's voice.

Entering Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary was another turning point in my journey. My theological education not only deepened my knowledge but also challenged me to examine beliefs and assumptions I had carried since childhood.

I began to move away from a position of certitude, in which I always needed definitive theological answers to the mysteries of life and faith, toward becoming comfortable with questions.

I discovered that questions did not weaken my faith. Instead, they kept me in constant dialogue with the Holy Spirit. I began to develop a posture of faith continually seeking understanding, recognizing that spiritual growth is not necessarily measured by the number of answers we possess but by our willingness to remain open to God's ongoing revelation and guidance.

That understanding has continued to shape my approach to ministry. Over the years, I have had the privilege of serving congregations through pulpit supply, developing relationships with people who have graciously welcomed me into their communities and their lives. They have been more than congregations to whom I preached. They have been partners in my formation as a pastor.

They accepted me with grace and allowed me room to learn, make mistakes, and grow into my calling. They were patient when I accidentally skipped over Ms. Janet's prelude and dove straight into the Call to Worship after the announcements. And Ms. Lois taught me an important lesson about sermon length when I handed her my 14-point, double-spaced sermon manuscript at the beginning of worship. Looking at the pages, she exclaimed, "Oh no, this is going to be a long one!" Immediately, I understood.

No long sermons. Check.

But beneath the humor was an important lesson. I have come to understand that preaching is not about demonstrating how much I know or how much I have to say. It is about faithfully proclaiming God's Word in a way that the congregation can hear, understand, and carry into their daily lives.

These congregations have taught me that pastoral ministry is not simply something one does for people. It is a relationship in which pastor and congregation learn, grow, worship, and serve together. They have helped me understand that answering God's call requires not only a willingness to lead but also the humility to listen and to be led.

Today, I stand at another threshold in my journey. I have accepted a call to serve three rural congregations: Henryville Community Presbyterian Church, Mt. Lebanon Presbyterian Church, and Nabb Presbyterian Church, as their Stated Supply Pastor. This new relationship represents both the continuation of a journey begun many years ago and the beginning of another chapter in my life of service.

My prayer is that, as we continue our journey together, I may faithfully nurture and support each congregation in its individual ministry while encouraging the shared ministry through which these churches enrich the communities they serve.

I recognize that the Church faces challenges, particularly in smaller rural communities. Yet I also recognize the faithfulness, resilience, and commitment of congregations that continue to gather for worship, care for one another, and bear witness to God's love in their communities. I consider it a privilege to walk alongside them as we discern together where God is leading us.

Years ago, I wondered whether I could ever become the person God was calling me to be. Today, I understand that answering God's call is not a single decision made at one moment in life. It is an ongoing journey of listening, learning, growing, and responding faithfully to wherever God leads.

The frightened twelve-year-old who wanted nothing to do with preaching could never have imagined this journey. Yet here I am, still learning what it means to answer God's call. And still saying, "Here I am. Send me."

Donna R. Phillips
Statement of Faith

November 11, 2026

I believe in one God, Creator of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen, who brought all things into being and continues to sustain, redeem, and uphold creation in steadfast love. God's sovereignty is revealed not through domination, but through covenantal faithfulness, mercy, and an enduring commitment to the flourishing of all creation. God is both transcendent and intimately present, faithful across time and active within every moment.

Within the mystery of God's being, I confess the triune nature of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, distinct yet united, eternal in communion, and relational toward the world. Creation itself flows from God's desire for relationship. God seeks communion with humanity and with all creation, calling it good and sustaining it by grace.

God makes Godself known through Scripture, which bears unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ, as well as through the witness of the faithful, the unfolding of history, and the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit. God's grace is continually offered, not earned, inviting all people into a deeper relationship and faithful response.

I believe that humanity is created in the image of God, endowed with dignity and worth. Yet I acknowledge the reality of sin, a pervasive condition that distorts our relationships with God, one another, ourselves, and the created world. Sin is both personal and systemic, shaping lives and structures in ways that resist God's intention. Still, our brokenness does not negate our belovedness. God does not abandon creation, but continually moves toward it in grace.

I believe that God's reconciling love is made known most fully in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Fully human and fully divine, Jesus enters into the fullness of human life and reveals the character of God's reign through compassion, justice, mercy, and radical welcome. In his life of obedience, his suffering and death on the cross, and his resurrection from the dead, Jesus embodies God's self-giving love.

Through the cross, Christ bears the weight of sin and enters into the depths of human suffering. In the resurrection, God proclaims that sin, death, and injustice do not have the final word. In Jesus Christ, we are offered forgiveness, reconciliation, and new life. Salvation is both the promise of life everlasting and the invitation to transformed living here and now, shaped by love of God and neighbor.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the giver and sustainer of life, who comforts, convicts, guides, and renews. The Spirit inspires Scripture, nurtures faith, equips the Church for ministry, and continually calls the people of God into renewal and reformation. Through the Spirit, we are gathered into the body of Christ and sent into the world as witnesses to God's grace.

I believe that the Church is called by God and formed by the Spirit to be a sign and instrument of God's reign in the world. The Church is a community of grace, gathered for worship, prayer, proclamation of the Word, and celebration of the Sacraments. In baptism, we are claimed by God's grace; in the Lord's Supper, we are nourished and united in Christ.

The Church is most faithful not when it seeks power, but when it listens, repents, and bears witness through lives of service, justice, compassion, and reconciliation. Empowered by the Spirit, the Church is

called to stand with the oppressed, care for the vulnerable, and work toward peace, trusting that God is at work both within and beyond us.

I believe that faith is a living journey, shaped by Scripture, prayer, and ongoing discernment. God continues to speak, and we are continually being reformed according to the Word of God. I place my trust not in my own understanding, but in God's grace.

Finally, I believe in the promise of God's enduring faithfulness. In life and in death, we belong to God. Rooted in the hope of the resurrection, I trust in the life everlasting and in God's ultimate restoration of all creation. This faith sustains me, calls me, and shapes my vocation for service in the Church and in the world.

Report of the Presbytery Council

The Rev. Susan McGhee, Moderator

For Presbytery's Information

The Presbytery Council met September 23, 2026, by videoconference and took the following actions:

1. Acting as a Commission of Presbytery, granted a request from Community Presbyterian Church, Henryville, for an exemption to G-2.0404, which limits the service of a ruling elder or deacon to six consecutive years (pending a request of the congregation)
2. Acting as a Commission of Presbytery, appointed Mark Miller as Moderator of Session for Farmersburg First, effective 10/15/26
3. Acting as a Commission of Presbytery, granted a request for an increase in the Executive Presbyter's housing allowance designation from $30,000/yr to $45,000/yr (Note that this does not increase compensation, but rather redistributes the amounts designated as salary and housing allowance)

The Presbytery Council met November 10, 2026, by videoconference and took the following actions:

1. Appointed the following persons to the Charlie Pye Fund Administration Team: Susan McGhee, Dave Crittenden, and Alan Harder.
2. Set locations for the 2027 Presbytery Assemblies:
    a. Saturday, February 27: Zoom Videoconference
    b. Thursday, May 20: Pyoca Camp & Retreat Center
    c. Saturday, August 21: First, Martinsville
    d. Thursday, November 18: Zoom Videoconference
3. Voted to recommend a Proposed 2027 Presbytery Budget for Assembly consideration (attached)

For Presbytery Action

1. That the Presbytery of Ohio Valley adopt the proposed budget for 2027 (see below)

Presbytery of Ohio Valley
Proposed Budget Summary
January 1, 2027 - December 31, 2027

Description	Proposed 2027 Budget	Change From 2026 Budget	Per Capita	Mission	2026 Budget
INCOME					
Income From All Sources	$ 447,065	$ (1,323)	$ 252,315	$ 194,750	$ 448,388
TOTAL INCOME	**$ 447,065**	**$ (1,323)**	**$ 252,315**	**$ 194,750**	**$ 448,388**
EXPENSES					
Staff and Office Expense	$ 347,902	$ 9,242	$ 173,402	$ 174,498	$ 338,660
Other Administrative Costs	$ 81,684	$ 4,673	$ 81,684	$ -	$ 77,011
Meetings & Committees	$ 2,500	$ (2,500)	$ 2,500	$ -	$ 5,000
Presbytery Programs	$ 29,750	$ (2,000)	$ 4,000	$ 25,750	$ 31,750
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$ 461,836**	**$ 9,415**	**$ 261,586**	**$ 200,248**	**$ 452,421**
SURPLUS (GAP)	**$ (14,771)**	**$ (10,738)**	**$ (9,271)**	**$ (5,498)**	**$ (4,033)**
Per Capita	**$ 63.00**	**$ 2.00**			**$ 61.00**

Presbytery of Ohio Valley
Proposed Budget
January 1, 2027 - December 31, 2027

	Proposed 2027 Budget	Change From '26 Budget	Per Capita	Mission	2026 Budget	Comment on Changes
INCOME						
Per Capita Giving	252,315	(1,323)	252,315	-	253,638	Approved by Assembly
Shared Giving from Churches	85,000	-	-	85,000	85,000	
Undesignated Funds Including Interest & Dividends	17,000	-	-	17,000	17,000	
First Vincennes Mineral Rights Proceeds	5,000	-	-	5,000	5,000	
Legacy Funds	70,000	-	-	70,000	70,000	
Returned Reimbursements	750	-	-	750	750	
Individual Contributions	15,000	-	-	15,000	15,000	
Assembly Offerings	2,000	-	-	2,000	2,000	
TOTAL INCOME	**447,065**	**(1,323)**	**252,315**	**194,750**	**448,388**	
EXPENSES						
Staff, Office, & Administrative						
EP Salary & Housing	115,786	3,645	57,893	57,892	112,141	Personnel recommendation
EP Benefits	32,271	2,711	16,135	16,135	29,560	Personnel recommendation
EP Continuing Education	5,000	-	2,500	2,500	5,000	
EP Professional Expense	3,000	-	1,500	1,500	3,000	
EP Travel	20,000	-	10,000	10,000	20,000	
Stated Clerk Salary & Housing	21,936	690	21,936	-	21,246	Personnel recommendation
Stated Clerk Cont Ed	1,200	-	1,200	-	1,200	
Stated Clerk Professional Expenses	1,000	-	1,000		1,000	
Stated Clerk Travel	3,000	-	3,000	-	3,000	
Contract Staff	5,000	-	-	5,000	5,000	
Consulting & Coaching	10,000	-		10,000	10,000	
Administrative Associates Salary & Benefits	63,440	2,112	25,376	38,064	61,328	Personnel recommendation
Treasurer Salary	16,178	509	16,178		15,669	Personnel recommendation
Treasurer Travel	1,000	-	1,000		1,000	
Payroll Tax Expense	6,091	(1,425)	4,934	1,157	7,516	Based on Salaries
Office & Administrative Expense	43,000	1,000	10,750	32,250	42,000	
Total Staff and Office Expense	**347,902**	**9,242**	**173,402**	**174,498**	**338,660**	
Ecclesiastical Expenses						
GA Expense	-	(500)	-	-	500	No GA in 2027
Moderator's Expense	750	-	750	-	750	
Insurance	5,500	-	5,500		5,500	
GA Per Capita	52,225	5,406	52,225		46,819	Per GA

Synod Per Capita	15,259	(583)	15,259		15,842	Per Synod
Permanent Judicial Commission	500	-	500		500	
Commissions	750	-	750		750	
Outside Accounting Services	6,700	350	6,700		6,350	Based on activity and current costs
Total Other Administrative Costs	**81,684**	**4,673**	**81,684**	**-**	**77,011**	
Presbytery Meetings & Committees						
Presbytery Assembly	2,500	-	2,500	-	2,500	
Council	-	(500)	-	-	500	Based on activity
Preparation for Ministry	-	(500)	-		500	Based on activity
Committee on Ministry	-	(750)	-		750	Based on activity
Mission & Witness Resource Committee	-	(500)		-	500	Based on activity
Stewardship	-	(250)		-	250	Based on activity
Nominating Committee	-	-	-	-	-	
Trustees	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Meetings & Committees	**2,500**	**(2,500)**	**2,500**	**-**	**5,000**	
Presbytery Programs						
Council Program Expenses	750	-	-	750	750	
CPM Program Expenses	1,500	-	1,500		1,500	
COM Program Expenses	2,500	-	2,500	-	2,500	
Resource Center Purchases	250	-	-	250	250	
Mission & Witness Resource Committee	500	-	-	500	500	
Stewardship	250	-	-	250	250	
Clergy Career Development & C/E Scholarships	-	(2,000)	-	-	2,000	Other sources of funding available
Camp Pyoca	24,000	-	-	24,000	24,000	
Total Presbytery Program	**29,750**	**(2,000)**	**4,000**	**25,750**	**31,750**	

Presbytery of Ohio Valley
Per Capita Calculations
January 1, 2027- December 31, 2027

Description	2027 Per Capita	Change	2026 Per Capita
Per Capita Amounts			
Presbytery - Base 2026 Amount, increased by unpaid per capita	$ 41.39	$ -	$ 41.39
Partial Increase due to lost membership and unpaid per capita	$ 4.76	$ 0.22	$ 4.54
Synod	$ 3.81	$ -	$ 3.81
General Assembly	$ 13.04	$ 1.78	$ 11.26
Total Per Capita	$ 63.00	$ 2.00	$ 61.00
POV Members	$ 4,005	(153)	$ 4,158
Income from Per Capita	$ 252,315	$ (1,323)	$ 253,638
Per Capita Expense	$ 261,586	$ 7,490	$ 254,096
Surplus (GAP)	**$ (9,271)**	**$ (8,813)**	**$ (458)**

Note: In 2025, 11 churches failed to pay all or part of their Per Capita.
Unpaid Per Capita raises the Per Capita expense for all the other churches in the Presbytery.
For 2027, the effect of unpaid Per Capita has been projected as part of the budget process.

Report of the Nominating Committee

The Rev. Wendy VanderZee, Moderator

* person serving in a second term

Presbytery of Ohio Valley Moderator: Rev. Cheri Harper
Presbytery of Ohio Valley Vice Moderator: Elder Zack Ellison (First, Columbus)

Presbytery Council At-Large Members:
Class of 2029: Rev. David Lee

Board of Trustees:
President: Elder William Henderson (First, Mt. Vernon)
Class of 2029: Rev. Tommy Grimm

Committee on Ministry:
Co-Moderators: Elder Alan Harder (Central, Terre Haute)
Rev. Cindy Cushman
Class of 2028: Rev. Mark Miller
Rev. Mary Beth McCandless *
Elder Gayle Henderson (First, Mt. Vernon)
Elder Steve Wylie (First, Evansville)

Committee on Preparation for Ministry:
Moderator: Rev. Sue Trigger
Class of 2029: Rev. Molly Atkinson
Elder Debbie Prince (St. John United, New Albany)

Mission and Witness Resource Committee:
Moderator: Elder Beth Snyder (First, Jeffersonville)
Class of 2028: Elder Susie Russell (Brown County Presbyterian Fellowship, Nashville) *
Rev. Elizabeth Kirkpatrick *

Stewardship Committee:
Moderator: Elder Janet Huber Lowry (Hanover)
Class of 2029: Elder Rob Henson (First, Evansville) *

Permanent Judicial Commission:
Class of 2032: Rev. Martha Lasher

Commissioner to the Synod of Lincoln Trails Class of 2029
Elder Principal: Elder Karen Walker (Unity, Terre Haute)
Minister Principal: Rev. John VanderZee

Nominees to the Pyoca Board of Directors (for its election):
Class of 2029: Elder Don Lopp (St John United, New Albany)

2026 PRESBYTERY PRAYER PARTNERS

The Presbytery of Ohio Valley encourages all our congregations to pray for each other over a two-year span. Sharing prayers with each other works! Here's how you can help:

By the tenth of the month preceding the month for your church (i.e., by January 10 for churches listed for February), please send a paragraph or two telling a little about your church or organization – size and activities, location and neighborhood, special programs, history, and anything else that would help others in the presbytery get a better sense of who and where you are. Also send us any joys you'd like to share or prayer requests for your church activities or programs. **If your church is in a parish, we'd also appreciate information on the benefits you feel parish membership has brought to the parish churches.**
Email your information to office@presbyteryov.org. Call 866-344-7853 for more information.

November 22	Livonia	December 13	POV Chaplains and others in Specialized Ministries
November 29	Madison	December 20	4th Advent (Christmas anticipated)
December 6	Hanover College	December 27	Peace on Earth

2027 PRESBYTERY PRAYER PARTNERS

(The remainder of 2027 will be posted online in December)

January 3	The New Year	February 7	First, Martinsville
January 10	Jefferson, Canaan	February 14	First, Mount Vernon
January 17	Smyrna-Monroe, Madison	February 21	Synod of Lincoln Trails
January 24	Presbytery Committee Members	February 28	Brown County Fellowship, Nashville
January 31	Commissioners to POV Assembly		