

Transylvania Presbytery Moderator's Report

Carlisle Presbyterian Church was a beautiful and historic setting for our March 13 Presbytery meeting. I extend sincere appreciation to the Carlisle congregation for hosting the meeting.

Since our March meeting, I have had the pleasure of visiting the Wilmore Presbyterian Church, at the installation of its new pastor, Beth Garrod-Logsdon, and the Midway Presbyterian Church, at the installation of its new pastor, Mary Seeger. The joy of seeing new pastors come into our midst to serve our churches is invigorating. And it's necessary – to offset the sadness of seeing so many others leave. I worshipped with Beaumont Presbyterian Church in Lexington; what a warm and welcoming faith community it is, working to shape its future during this interim time! I was at Hunter Presbyterian Church in Lexington on the last Sunday Gary and Claire Brooks preached and participated in wishing them farewell. On Pentecost Sunday I was at Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church in Lexington, knowing that the bright red colors and expectancy of the Holy Spirit was a common thread binding all of our churches together.

During these months the Presbytery Coordinating Council, in addition to its usual duties, has been discussing the Gleneagles property and the prospects of new church development in that location and Burnamwood and the shape of its future in our common life. This is a time of limited resources at the Presbytery and other church governing body levels. But it is a time for us to better define our focus and our mission. It is a time to look realistically at what we can do together to pass the faith to the next generation in this corner of God's kingdom. And I invite you – pastors, elders and congregational members – to communicate your thoughts on Gleneagles and Burnamwood to all of us on Coordinating Council.

Our June 9 meeting opens the door to summer. May we all use this time of warmth and recreation to strengthen our ministries to all of God's children.