

# Presbytery of Coastal Carolina

## Comments on Presbytery Meeting

March 25, 2017

The evaluations of the Presbytery Meeting were generally positive. The following remarks were taken from 26 forms with comments out of a total of 62 forms returned.

### People Appreciated Particularly

- Discussion on *Book of Order* Amendments
- Worship Service
  - Sermon by Dr. Colclough
  - Commissioning of Rev. Clarence Page
  - Music during service
  - Communion service and table decoration
  - Remembrance of Ministers and Elders (Necrology)
- Reception of Candidate
  - Bobby's sermon
  - Bobby's answers to questions
- Presentation of Certificates to Hispanic CRE Students
- Testimony of Associate for Youth
- Report from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)
- Sense of Community
- That we had some unscripted theological discussion!

### People Missed or Disliked or Make Suggestions

- Disliked making the candidate preach and answer questions  
“If a candidate for ministry preaches, COM doesn't need to ask them questions. Please limit the 'grilling' to either sermon or COM questions. Obviously other questions can come from the floor. (COM can choose one or other (sermon or questions) for each candidate as necessary.” (Other people responded that this was one of the best parts of the meeting.)
- Missed having prayer requests
- Wished that 1-2 congregations could give a report on what they are doing at each meeting
- Disliked the use of acronyms
- Confusion over housing – “Only one improvement needed – housing info for those looking for overnight lodging. The first place given, Clamdiggers, said there were no rooms reserved for Presbyterians. Only church group with rooms were Catholics.” *Explanation* – The Presbytery did not reserve blocs of rooms at any of the hotels, only listed some that were convenient to the church. Hotels were not willing to reserve a block of room without financial guarantees that the Presbytery was not able to make.
- Give retiring ministers 3 minutes to say whatever they want
- Give a break in the morning session – 3-1/2 hours is too long without a break
- Cut bread into pieces for communion – it was hard to tear pieces off the loaf
- Confusion over voting – moderator needed better knowledge of *Roberts Rules of Order*
- Vote on Amendments to the *Book of Order* should have been earlier in the meeting and more information about the amendments was needed
- COM report was disjointed – writer recognized that the report had to be adjusted to fit schedules.
- “Meeting was too scripted. (If it is a standing joke, why not just do it by email?) If we didn't have to pretend we were giving reports, we could discuss some ideas of substance.” *Comment* – We do use a script that is often adjusted several times before a meeting to make sure that all the steps are taken to assure the full participation of everyone and to be sure that the motions are properly put before the presbytery in a clear fashion. The intention of the script to enable more discussion and participation – not less. *Bill Reinhold, Stated Clerk.*