

Team Commissioned for the Pulaski Presbyterian Church
Initial Meeting – January 7, 2017

The initial meeting between members of the commissioned Pulaski Team for the Pulaski Presbyterian Church and the church members of Pulaski Presbyterian Church took place Saturday, January 7, 2017 in the home of Ron and Karen Mendenhall. Those who were present were Marcia Smith-Wood, Steve Mullin, and Lyle Ewing of the commission (team members Roger Hartzler and Brian Laffoon were excused), and Ron and Karen Mendenhall and Mike and Mary Shurn, members of the Pulaski Church. Marcia offered an apology on behalf of the presbytery for inadequate communicate with their congregation over recent years. We assured them that we were not here with intent to close down the church and take over the property, but to prayerfully listen to them, listen to God with them, and for us all to mutually discern what God wants. A feeling of trust seemed to grow as the AC deeply, prayerfully listened and all openly shared.

We learned that they are maintaining good stewardship of the building and the church grounds, and have a positive intent to discern God's will.

The Team requested the members present to contact the remaining members in order to let them know (1) of the presbytery team meeting with them in order to try to prayerfully listen to God about whether the church stays open or if it is time to close; and (2) for them to contact all members in order to set a date/time for all members to have a direct consultation with the Team about this question.

The four members who were present planned to get together Friday, January 20, and determine a way of getting a letter out to members of the church to share what is happening with the Pulaski Presbyterian Church; and if some say they want to come to this consultation with the Pulaski Team, then the Mendenhalls and Shurns will set a date for this consultation, and also let the Team know when it is so we can be there. Meeting closed with prayer.

Since then, correspondence has continued between this commission and the members present at the initial meeting. As of Feb. 2, these four members have met and are sending this letter out to all remaining members.

Respectively submitted,
Marcia Smith-Wood (moderator) and Lyle J. Ewing (liaison)