

MODERATOR'S APRIL REPORT TO PRESBYTERY MARCH 31, 2018

Romans 12:4-5 "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."

When God ignited the spark within me to make church visits, I was hesitant and anxious to say the least. As much as I didn't want to, God continued to fan the spark urging me to share God's idea with others. I was encouraged with unanimous affirmation. And in so doing, God really put me on the spot to carry through with His idea.

So at the January Presbytery meeting I told you that I planned to visit and worship with as many churches as I could in 2018. That I hoped to carry a message of unity and fellowship that encourages people in their understanding and their role and participation in the life of the community of faith that God has formed, called the Presbytery of Western NC; that there is so much more that we can accomplish together, when we work side by side, more than any one church can do on their own.

So now I go with the following objectives:

- Join in worship
- Take the Presbytery to them, be a face of the Presbytery in their midst
- Let them know that they are not alone, that we are all an important part of the larger community of faith known as the Presbytery of Western NC
- Encourage them to be an active participant in the mission of the Presbytery and to share their mission with the Presbytery
- Present a Building HOPE plaque to the congregation (where applicable)
- Take the pastor and family to lunch as a thank you and to just talk

Now, having completed many visits, God has turned my anxiousness and hesitance into a wonderful blessing. Without exception, I have received a warm welcome from the pastors and congregations. People recognized me as a visitor and welcomed me, even before knowing who I was and why I was there. And I am thankful to the pastors for allowing me 7 minutes to speak during worship. It has been a true joy and pleasure to worship with these congregations and hear about their mission and fellowship, and to see their energy and vitality. Please pray for me, that I can fulfill the commitment that I have made to God and you; that I will do no harm, but instead will strengthen the community of faith known as the Presbytery of Western NC.

Summary - First Quart

January 1 – March 31, 2018	Sundays	Other Days Of The Week
Moderator Visits	8 Sundays, 8 Church Visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dulatown, Lenoir • New Vision, Conover • Northminster, Hickory • Old Fort, Old Fort • Rutherfordton, Rutherfordton • Sherrill's Ford, Sherrill's Ford • Sweetwater, Hickory • Union, Gastonia 	1 Ordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montreat, Montreat 1 Presbytery meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowell, Lowell
Home Church: First, Hickory	2 Sundays	n/a
Other Sundays	2 Sundays, Mexico mission trip	n/a
Totals	12 Sundays, 8 Church Visits	2

Summary – Future plans

April 1 – December 31	Sundays	Other Days Of The Week
Currently Scheduled Moderator Visits	3 Sundays, 4 Church Visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banner Elk, Banner Elk • First, Asheville * • Fletcher, Newland • Korean, Asheville * * visiting on same day	1 Installation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unity, Denver 2 Presbytery meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banner Elk • First, Hickory
Home Church: First, Hickory	8 Sundays	n/a
Other Sundays	1 Israel 5 vacation	n/a
Sundays Available For Visits	23 Sundays	n/a
Totals	40 Sundays	3

Melvin Meares, 2018 Moderator of the Presbytery of Western NC