

Committee on Ministry
Report of Combined Central Arkansas and Northwest
Arkansas Examinations Subcommittees
Examination of Jim Ratliff for
Temporary Membership in the Presbytery of Arkansas

January 29, 2019

Members of the Central Arkansas and Northwest Arkansas Examinations Subcommittees of the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Arkansas met on January 29, 2019 electronically to conduct the examination of Jim Ratliff for temporary membership in the Presbytery of Arkansas.

Members in attendance were: Phil Butin, moderator, Carol Clark, Charles Harwell, Cyril Hollingsworth and Don Eilbott, moderator.

Phil Butin opened the meeting with prayer

Jim is a retired Cumberland Presbyterian Church minister and is serving as Temporary Supply of Spring River Hardy. Jim is a graduate of Bethel College (Magna Cum Laude) and Memphis Theological Seminary (Summa Cum Laude), has served as a pastor in parish ministry for forty years prior to his retirement to Cherokee Village. His most recent pastorate was for 12 years as the Pastor of First Presbyterian Cumberland, Olive Branch, Mississippi.

Jim was previously examined by the Subcommittee as a minister of a denomination not in full communion with the PC(USA) for serving the congregation and to serve the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

A request has been made that he be granted temporary membership to permit him to moderate the Session.

While the examination covered several areas such as Questions for Discerning Views in Theology, Views Regarding the Sacraments, the Government of the Church and his background and experience, specific emphasis was placed on issues concerning the understanding of the requirements of the PC(USA) for moderating Sessions.

The subcommittees unanimously sustained the examination.

Accordingly, the Subcommittee recommends the approval of same to the Committee on Ministry.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Jim.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don A. Eilbott", enclosed within a circular flourish that extends to the right.

Don A. Eilbott, Moderator