

**235<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Mid-Atlantic**  
**March 16-17, 2015**  
**Sylvia Sellers**

The 235<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Mid-Atlantic met in Richmond, Virginia on March 16-17, 2015.

The Presbytery of Western North Carolina was represented by commissioners: Sylvia Sellers and the Rev. Eddie Deas. The Rev. Laura Lupton of Coastal Carolina Presbytery is the current moderator. David Sanders, ruling elder from Charlotte Presbytery was installed as vice-moderator. Warren Lesane, Jr. serves as executive/stated clerk.

In response to the initiative from the General Assembly to reduce the number of synods from 16 down to 10 or 12, the Synod Discernment Committee was earlier appointed. The committee composed a questionnaire which was reviewed at this meeting. This questionnaire will now be distributed to various persons, presbyteries, sessions, etc. to determine our Synod's preferences for meeting this requirement. We could thus reach out to other synods to develop a proposal to restructure the number of synods. This committee reports to the synod at the September meeting.

The Synod awarded various scholarships, grants, awards and initiative requests. Our presbytery received a large number of these awards because we were diligent in applying for them. Recipients in our presbytery were:

*Euler Scholarship funds valued at \$3,470 each:*

Leah Epps, David Smith, Jason Myers, William Wilson

*New and Small Church Grants were awarded to:*

Dulatown for heating system - \$2,500

First Lincolnton for roof replacement- \$5,000

Marshall for heating system - \$5,000

*Visionary Fund grants:*

Northminster for pre-school ministry - \$3,800

Presbytery of Western NC for "art of listening workshops" - \$2,500

*Initiative funds:*

Historical Celebration of Catawba Unit - \$5,000

Global Village at Camp Grier - \$10,000

The Synod's 2016 proposed budget was approved with an operating deficit of \$14,388. The Assembly approved the 2016 per capita assessment to the presbyteries to be set at \$0.80 (eighty cents) per capita.