

The Synod of the Trinity
2011 Vice Moderator and 2012 Moderator
James Ihlenfeld (Elder, Beaver-Butler)

To be presented for election at the October 2010 Synod Meeting

Jim Ihlenfeld has been a member of the Hill United Presbyterian Church in Butler, Pennsylvania since he was confirmed in 1954.

He was ordained as an Elder in 1968 and throughout the years, he has served as a teacher for the youth and adults of the church. His current assignments, as time permits, include working with the third-fourth graders and the seventh-eighth graders. He occasionally preaches or is the worship liturgist or is an usher. He chairs the church's Ghana Mission Committee working to create a partnership with the Bubiashie District Churches in West Africa. He is now a member of the church's Planning Committee for the 100th anniversary celebration to be held in 2012.

Within the Presbytery of Beaver-Butler, Jim served on the Camping Board for Camp Lambec and Westminster Highlands. He has worked as a Camp Counselor and a Camp Director. He has been a member of the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry, the Personnel Committee, and is now a member of the Congregational Strategy Unit. He has been a General Assembly Commissioner. Jim has been the Presbytery's Moderator, as well as the Vice Moderator.

In the 1980's, Jim served on the Council of the Synod of the Trinity and has now been serving as an Elder Synod Commissioner since 2007. He is currently Co-Chairperson of the 2011 Summer Conference Planning Team.

Jim served as a member of the General Assembly Nominating Committee and was Moderator of this committee in 1990. He has been working with the Ghana Mission Network since 2008.

A graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a degree in Industrial Management, Jim worked for Armco/AK Steel Corporation as an Industrial Engineer, a Quality Engineer, and then in Labor Relations. He retired after 42 years with Armco/AK Steel Corporation, and in addition to serving God through his congregation and the wider church through Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, Jim is a volunteer for Amedisys Hospice.

Jim and his wife, Deborah, have two daughters, Elizabeth and Kathryn. They are the grandparents of Elizabeth's five children. Kathryn is studying for her Bachelor of Arts degree from Geneva College.

In addition to his active church, community and family life, Jim enjoys gardening and he is "too serious" about golf.