

## PRESBYTERY REPORTS—MARCH 2018

### *From the Stated Clerk*

- The Stated Clerk reports that she:
  - Dismissed the Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nippah to the Lake Huron Presbytery effective January 25, 2018
  - Appointed the Rev. Lyman Smith to moderate to moderate the January 21, 2018 congregational meeting of Neelsville Presbyterian Church.
  - Appointed Ruling Elder Dave Gillard to moderate the February 4, 2018 congregational meeting of Ashburn Presbyterian Church.
  - Dismissed the Rev. Dottie LaPenta to Baltimore Presbytery effective February 15, 2018.
  - Appointed the Rev. Paul Kabo, Jr. (Giddings Lovejoy), to moderate the March 4, 2018 Litchfield Presbyterian Church congregational meeting.
  - Appointed the Rev. Ed Taylor to moderate the February 20, 2018 session meeting of Silver Spring Presbyterian Church.
  - Appointed the Rev. Fay Acker to moderate the March and April session meetings of Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church.
  - Appointed the Rev. Wilson Gunn to moderate the February 11, 2018 congregational meeting of Silver Spring Presbyterian Church.
  - Authorized celebration of the Lord's Supper at the Reformed Institute's Confirmation Retreat, March 2-4, 2018, with Rev. John Lee as officiant.
- The Stated Clerk reports the following resignations from committees/commissions:
  - Rev. Larry Lees, Committee on Ministry
  - Rev. Caroline Wilson, Committee on Ministry
- The Stated Clerk reports that the January Presbytery Reports that were attached to the January Meeting Packet erroneously indicated Rev. Derek Longbrake had failed to file his 2017 report. In fact, Rev. Longbrake did file a timely report and this error has been corrected in the January Minutes.

### *From the Leadership Council*

#### **NCP LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING Minutes**

**February 7, 2018**

**“God is doing a new thing, now it springs forth. Do you perceive it?” Isaiah 43:19**

**Sent by the Triune God to be agents of salvation, reconciliation and justice, we empower and challenge our congregations to be Missional, Pastoral and Prophetic**

**Present:** Charles Barber, Bill Plitt, Quinn Fox, Elsie Reid, Laura Cunningham, Therese Taylor-Stinson, Dave McClung, Lee Bishop, Beth Goss, Cameron Byrd

NCP Staff: Wilson Gunn, Sara Coe, LaJuan Quander, Todd McCreight, Karen Chamis, Jan Moody

**Excused:** Rudy Cohen, Pat Futato, Denise Anderson

Meeting began with prayer led by Bill Plitt.

Charles Barber called meeting to order at 12:40.

Stated Clerk Sara Coe presented the following:

### **Omnibus Motion**

The Leadership Council moves and recommends to the presbytery the following committee chair: Karl Mattison, Stewardship Committee, RE, Georgetown PC.

The Leadership Council approves placing the portrait of Woodrow Wilson (formerly owned by Central Presbyterian Church) on deposit with the C. Benton Kline Jr., Special Collections and Archives at Columbia Theological Seminary.

The Leadership Council authorizes the Stated Clerk and the Chair of Council with the power to approve Leadership Council minutes if both are in agreement. **Approved**

### **New Business**

Wilson Gunn reported on the COM/CDC Summit on Feb. 15 at Saint Mark, 11:00-2:30. Quinn Fox and Theresa Taylor-Stinson agreed to represent Leadership Council at the meeting.

### **Report on plans for filling G P Vacancy:**

Beth Goss presented an update on the Feb. 10 Leadership Council planning session with consultant Peter Nord.

**Motion:** The Leadership Council approves a budget variance of \$10,000 in the Operations Budget for expenses related to the search for a new General Presbyter (expenses, consultants, moving, etc.).

**Approved**

### **Church Updates**

Todd McCreight reported on Neelsville PC.

**Motion:** The Leadership Council approves the *Outline of Disaffiliation Agreement between Neelsville Presbyterian Church and National Capital Presbytery* **Approved**

Wilson Gunn reported on Community PC.

**Motion:**

Regarding the Community Presbyterian Church of Alexandria, the Leadership Council moves and approves that the Moderator of Presbytery be empowered to appoint an Administrative Commission with the following duties:

1. The Commission shall invite the members of the Community Presbyterian Church of Alexandria to a conversation about returning to right relationship as a congregation of the PCUSA and to attend to the training of the Session in their duties.
2. The Commission shall afford the members of Community Presbyterian Church of Alexandria an opportunity to be heard on the matter of the dissolution of the congregation.
3. If the members of the Community Presbyterian Church are
  - a. unresponsive to this inquiry or
  - b. unwilling to comply with the requirements of a Session,

the Administrative Commission shall act to dissolve the Community Presbyterian Church of Alexandria.

4. If the Community Presbyterian Church of Alexandria is to be dissolved, the Administrative Commission shall attend to all matters related to the dissolution including but not confined to:
  - a. The collection of financial records, Session minutes, rolls and registers, and other documents.
  - b. The transfer of the real property deed (or deeds) and other any other property to National Capital Presbytery.
5. The Administrative Commission shall keep a full record of its proceedings and shall submit that record to the Stated Clerk for incorporation into the Presbytery records.
6. The Administrative Commission shall report all of its decisions to the Stated Clerk who shall report them to the Presbytery at its next stated meeting. **Approved**

Charles Barber reported on the meeting with Garden Memorial, Feb. 4.

**Motion:** The Leadership Council approves the payment of all expenses related to the tax lien held over the Garden Memorial property from General Director's funds (funds authorized to be expended by the Leadership Council) in order to preserve the fiduciary interests of the PCUSA and not allow the current lien holder to assume title to the property. This payment will be made as soon as possible after the Leadership Council vote on February 7. **Approved**

**Motion:** The Leadership Council recommends that the Presbytery approve posting the Garden Memorial lien payoff as a liability owed by the Garden Memorial Church to the DC Resurrection Fund. Repayment of this loan would accrue back to the DC Resurrection Fund. This action will be proposed at the March 20 Presbytery meeting. **Approved**

**(See Attachment 1)**

**Motion:** The Leadership Council moves to endorse the **Agreement Between Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church and National Capital Presbytery** (Attachment 1)

**Approved**

### **NCP Website Upgrade**

LaJuan Quander reported on the proposed website upgrade.

**Motion:** The Leadership Council approves a budget variance of \$8,700 in the Operating Budget for a website upgrade.

### **Worship and Theology**

Bill Plitt reported on the evaluations from the January 23 presbytery meeting.

### **Announcements**

- **February 10 LC Meeting at Geneva PC.**
- **Oct. 20, 2018 Racial Awareness Festival, Westminster D. C. PC**

Meeting was adjourned with prayer led by Wilson Gunn.

## **Attachment 1**

### **Agreement Between Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church and National Capital Presbytery**

1. NCP will pay off the outstanding taxes, penalties, fees and tax lien legal fees (approximately \$56,000) due on the GMPC property related to the pending tax lien.

2. After the payment has been made, NCP and GMPC will work together to petition the DC Office of Tax and Revenue for consideration regarding the amount paid, with the goal of obtaining a partial refund for NCP of the overdue taxes, etc. paid by NCP.

3. GMPC will give NCP an unsecured note in the amount of the overdue taxes, etc. paid by NCP, less any refund provided by the DC Office of Tax and Revenue, to be repaid in equal monthly payments, without interest, over 171 months. The first payment will be due on the first day of the month following thirty days after the court case is dismissed. GMPC will have the option to make larger monthly payments without penalty.

4. A conversation between the designated representatives of the NCP Leadership Council and the Garden Memorial Session will take place within sixty days after the case is dismissed. This meeting will be to discuss how GMPC operates and answer questions of the Leadership Council.

5. The NCP Church Development Committee (CDC) and the Garden Memorial Session will select a working team to review and help to develop financial planning, strategic planning, Presbyterian polity, and leadership development. The working team will report to the CDC quarterly.

6. The Leadership Council will receive quarterly written reports from the CDC.

7. After the conversation between the Leadership Council and GMPC there will be a better understanding concerning the history of Garden Memorial's Ministry Crisis Fund loan (\$14,973) and the working team will make such recommendation as needed. GMPC will continue to make payments as was agreed, whenever possible.

8. GMPC agrees to pay a reasonable late charge for any payment due if paid after the 5<sup>th</sup> day of each month.

## NCP LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING Minutes

February 10, 2018

**“God is doing a new thing, now it springs forth. Do you perceive it?” Isaiah 43:19**

**Sent by the Triune God to be agents of salvation, reconciliation and justice, we empower and challenge our congregations to be Missional, Pastoral and Prophetic**

The retreat took place at Geneva Presbyterian Church, Potomac, MD and began shortly after 12:30 p.m. on February 10, 2018.

In attendance: Charles Barber, Lee Bishop, Cameron Byrd, Laura Cunningham, Quinn Fox, Pat Futato, David McClung, Bill Plitt, Elsie Reid, Therese Taylor-Stinson

Cameron Byrd opened us in prayer.

Council members worked with the moderator to capture LC views about the priority of various GP tasks and responsibilities, and that feedback will be provided to the Search Committee for its consideration as part of the search

A motion to elect a General Presbyter Nominating Committee was seconded and approved, with an email to the presbytery’s mailing list using the following language:

The Leadership Council seeks nominations for a General Presbyter Nominating Committee for a new general presbyter for National Capital Presbytery. We are looking for a total of nine members comprised of teaching and ruling elders who shall represent the richness of the presbytery’s diversity, particularly with respect to race, ethnicity, age, gender, disability, geography, or theological conviction. Members should also have demonstrated commitment to the mission and ministry of NCP as reflected in our [mission statement](#) and bring an awareness of the presbytery’s current and upcoming needs.

An additional motion for the to develop a schedule and report back to Leadership Council no later than the May 3 LC meeting was seconded and approved.

The meeting adjourned with prayer close to 4 p.m.

*Submitted by Laura Cunningham*

## NCP LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING Minutes

February 28, 2018

**“God is doing a new thing, now it springs forth. Do you perceive it?” Isaiah 43:19**

**Sent by the Triune God to be agents of salvation, reconciliation and justice, we empower and challenge our congregations to be Missional, Pastoral and Prophetic**

**Present:** Charles Barber, Bill Plitt, Quinn Fox, Elsie Reid, Laura Cunningham, Dave McClung, Lee Bishop, Pat Futato, Joyce Rarumangkay (Non-voting)

**NCP Staff:** Sara Coe, Todd McCreight, Jan Moody

**Excused:** Rudy Cohen, Denise Anderson Cameron Byrd, Therese Taylor- Stinson, Beth Goss,

At 12:30 PM Charles Barber called to order, with prayer, the Executive Session of Leadership Council.

The following three motions were moved and approved:

**Motion:** The Leadership Council resolves to present at the March 20, 2018 NCP meeting its slate of nominees to serve on the General Presbyter Nominating Committee (PNNC) with a summary (attached) of the process the Leadership Council used and considerations that led Leadership Council to pursue immediate search for new General Presbyter. **Approved**

**Motion:** The Leadership Council resolves that there be a means established to invite input to the General Presbytery Nominating Committee from members of the Presbytery at large about the GP transition process, to include a dedicated time at the 4/24/18 presbytery meeting to discuss transition issues or concerns for which a consultant/facilitator may be employed. **Approved**

**Motion:** The Leadership Council adopts the slate of nine nominees as proposed by the Transition Task Force.

At 1:45, NCP Staff members Sara Coe, Todd McCreight and Jan Moody were invited into the meeting.

In response to motion two, Sara noted that the April 24 presbytery meeting was to be a called meeting for concurrences. If there are no concurrences, there will not be a called meeting. It was suggested however that the General Presbyter Nominating Committee could still take advantage of the fact that we have reserved space at National PC and have a Presbytery Forum at which presbytery members are invited to come hear about the GP transition process and discuss with the General Presbyter Nominating Committee any issues or concerns they may have.

Todd McCreight gave background information about proposed changes in the NCP Financial Policies.



**Motion:** Leadership Council moves to approve the following changes in the NCP Financial Policies:

1. Replacing the former "Vision Statement" with the "Mission Statement" approved by the Presbytery last year.
2. To change the title "Managing Director of Business Affairs" to the current title of "Director of Business Affairs" which is the current title approved by Leadership Council about three years ago.
3. To remove the title "Finance Director" which was a title three years ago but is no longer a Position title.
4. To include "General Presbyter" among those who can recommend changes in fund creations to the Leadership Council. The Director of Business Affairs continues to be vested with this ability to introduce changes in fund creation.
5. To remove the "Covenant Manassas Fund" which is now completely expended with the property sale.
6. To create the "Arlington Presbyterian Church Fund" which has been created per policy with the receipt of the real property sale receipts.
7. Some minor spelling and grammatical corrections. **Approved**

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 2:30

**From the Commission on Preparation for Ministry**

- It was moved and approved to enroll Matthew Hackworth as Inquirer, effective November 16, 2017.
- It was moved and approved that Stella Lee move from Inquirer to Candidate, effective Jan. 18, 2018.
- It was moved and approved to remove Griffin Gasink from the NCP roll of Inquirers.
- The following were elected to serve on the CPM Scholarship Committee:  
Freddie Asinor, Nancy Daugherty, and Alan Wisdom