

## PRESBYTERY REPORTS—SEPTMBER 2019

### *From the Stated Clerk*

- The Stated Clerk reports the following resignations from committees/commissions:  
Nominating Committee: Tara Spuhler-McCabe  
Church Development: John Molina-Moore  
Committee on Ministry: Jay Losher  
Leadership Council: Tara Spuhler-McCabe
- The Stated Clerk reports that she dismissed the Rev. Michael Jones to Presbytery of the James effective August 8, 2019.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she approved the ordination commission and plans for Chauncey Diego Francisco Handy, who will be ordained on September 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she approved the ordination plans for Linda M. Kurtz, who will be ordained on September 22, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. at Burke Presbyterian Church.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she approved the ordination and installation plans for Billy Kluttz, who will be ordained and installed on September 29, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at Church of the Covenant.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she appointed the Rev. Larry Hayward to moderate the June 23, 2019 Vienna Presbyterian Church congregational meeting.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she dismissed the Rev. Olivia Marilynn Lane to Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery effective February 12, 2019.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she dismissed the Rev. Jodi Lingan to Salem Presbytery effective July 25, 2019.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she dismissed the Rev. Glenn Zuber to New Castle Presbytery effective February 19, 2019.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she appointed the Rev. Michael Koppel to moderate the New Hope Presbyterian Church session meeting on September 15, 2019.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she appointed the Rev. Leslieanne Braunstein as moderator of the Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church congregation and session meetings.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she dismissed the Rev. Jay Losher to Shenandoah Presbytery effective August 15, 2019.

- The Stated Clerk reports that she appointed the Rev. Lyman Smith to moderate the August 11, 2019 session meeting of Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church.
- The Stated Clerk reports that she appointed the Rev. Mark Tidd to moderate the Aldie Presbyterian Church Session meeting in September 2019.
- The Stated Clerk appointed the Rev. Dwight Peace to moderate session and congregational meetings of New Hope Presbyterian Church until a pastor is called or contracted.
- The Stated Clerk appointed the Rev. Kerry Stoltzfus to moderate the September 2019 session meetings of Hermon Presbyterian Church.
- The Stated Clerk appointed the Rev. LeAnn Hodges to moderate at the September 15, 2019 session meeting of Berwyn Presbyterian Church.

**From the Leadership Council**

**NCP LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING  
June 5, 2019 Minutes**

**Present:** Miriam Dewhurst, Beth Goss, Lee Bishop, Charles Barber, Neill Morgan, Cameron Byrd, Laura Cunningham, Dave McClung, Pat Futato

**Excused:** Elsie Reid, Brian Clarke, Quinn Fox

**Staff:** Todd McCreight, Sara Coe, Karen Chamis, LaJuan Quander, Jan Moody

At noon Karen Chamis led the discussion on Chapter Seven of *Canoeing the Mountains*.

At 12:30 Charles Barber called the meeting to order.

Neill Morgan led the devotion with a reading and commentary of 2 Kings 2: 19-25, and its assurance to the people of Israel that even when they were in exile God continued to provide prophets such as Elisha. Neill concluded by reading Matthew 6:26, a reminder that God continues to care for us. He then led a prayer.

Guests, Elders Mark Eakin and Therese Taylor-Stinson were welcomed to the meeting.

- Mark Eakin presented the Annual Report from the Mission Coordinating Committee (MCC)

**Motion:** To receive with gratitude the annual report from MCC.

**Approved**

- Therese Taylor Stinson presented the report from Confronting Racism Task Force.

**Motion:** To receive with extreme gratitude the report of the Confronting Racism Task Force.

**Approved**

**Motion:** To include a report which will include the names of those on the Task Force, along with findings and next steps, in the September 24, 2019 NCP meeting packet.

**Approved**

Therese will coordinate with staff and the Worship and Theology Team to include in the September meeting docket an update on the work of the Task Force.

Leadership Council will continue to consider the recommendations outlined in the report and Charles Barber will discuss responding to the report with John Molina-Moore.

- Presbytery Leader Formation (PLF) Funding update.

Todd McCreight reported that for the budget years 2018 and 2019, NCP has been supporting the Presbytery Leader Formation (PLF) program with annual contributions of \$15,000. NCP's \$15,000 contributions to PLF in 2018 and 2019 have been made by reducing the roughly \$90,000 of annual Unified Giving that had been going to the Presbytery Mission Agency by \$15,000, thus avoiding any negative impact on Unified Giving funds that are used to support other NCP mission programs. At the end of May 2019, NCP received an unexpected check from OGA of \$15,000 payable to PLF, which has been deposited in the PLF account. NCP has already paid one quarter's worth of the budgeted \$15,000 contribution to PLF for 2019. After discussion, Leadership Council concluded that the remaining 2019 contribution should be remitted to the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

**Motion:** that \$11,250 originally allocated to PLF and not spent be sent to the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

**Approved**

- Nominations

Sara Coe presented the recommendations from the Nominating Committee for committee chairs.

**Motion:** To approve the following recommendations from the Nominating Committee:

- Richard Riegel as chair of ACCP
- Quinn Fox as chair of Bills and Overtures
- Mark Stunder as chair of B&F
- Mary Hill as chair of CDC
- Stephen Smith-Cobbs as chair of COM
- Karl Hoffman as chair of Investments
- Mark Eakin as chair of Mission Coordination Committee
- Ann Herlin as chair of Personnel
- Kevin Powell as chair of Representation
- Lyman Smith as co-chair of Transitions
- Harriet Hopkins as co-chair of Transitions
- Charles Van Gorder as chair of CPM
- Karl Mattison as chair of Stewardship

**Approved**

**Motion:** To approve the following recommendations from the Leadership Council for members of the Nominating Committee:

- Linda Rice-Johnston, RE, Knox, Class of 9-1-22
- Casey Fitzgerald, MWS, John Calvin, Class of 9-1-22, pending confirmation.

**Approved**

- Commission on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) Scholarship Requests

Sara presented the recommendations from CPM.

**Motion:** To accept request from CPM for the following distribution of Scholarship Funds:

Matthew Hackworth, attending Chicago Seminary: 10,205.50

Tamarah Bush, attending Princeton Seminary: 10,205.50

Nat Amarquaye, attending Dubuque Seminary: 10,205.50

Beatrice Laryea, attending Wesley Seminary: 10,205.50

**Approved**

- Update on the loan of Communion Set to Dumbarton House

Sara provided information on the arrangements between NCP and Dumbarton House for the display of the Ninian Beall Communion Set. There was also discussion about possible plans for the set after the display.

**Motion**

To approve loan of (1) a pair of silver chalices dated 1707-8 by Matthew Lofthouse and (2) a silver flagon dated 1707-8 by Matthew Lofthouse to Dumbarton House, for display at Dumbarton House during the period June 20 through August 20, 2019. To authorize Stated Clerk Sara Coe and Treasurer Todd McCreight to execute loan agreements documenting the loan.

**Approved**

- Update on Community PC

Sara reported that the Circuit Court of Alexandria Virginia ruled in May 2019 that the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is the owner of the property located at 1122 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, Virginia and ordered the defendants, New Life Missionary Baptist Church, to vacate the property. The NCP Church Development Committee will discuss plans for the site.

- Leadership Council Meeting Schedule

Charles will work with staff to coordinate a time during the summer for LC to meet with the new NCP General Presbytery John Molina Moore. Decision about LC retreat to be determined.

-Cameron, recognizing that his term on the LC was expiring and that this was his last meeting, expressed appreciation for his time on LC. He also urged the LC to renew efforts to bring diversity to the LC.

-It was decided that LC will elect its chair and vice chair at next LC meeting.

Meeting closed at 2:40 with a prayer led by Neill Morgan.

## **NCP LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING Minutes**

**September 4, 2019**

**Present:** Lee Bishop, Laura Cunningham, Neill Morgan, Dave McClung, Michael Rankin, Brian Clark, Pat Futato, Beth Goss, Elsie Reid, Tara Spuhler McCabe, Miriam Dewhurst, Quinn Fox, Charles Barber, Sara Coe, Todd McCreight, John Molina-Moore, LaJuan Quander, Jan Moody

**Guests:** Elder Mark Stunder, Rev. Stephen Smith-Cobbs

- Chair Charles Barber called the meeting to order at 12:30. As a devotion, Lee Bishop read Psalm 96 followed by prayer.
- Rev. Smith -Cobbs presented the annual report from the Commission on Ministry.

**Motion:** To accept, with gratitude, the Commission on Ministry annual report. **Approved**

Note: A summary of the changes to the Minister Compensation Policy and a link to the complete revised policy is attached to the COM report for the September presbytery meeting.

- Elder Mark Stunder presented the report from Budget and Finance.

The following recommendation for the 2020 Operating Budget was approved for vote at the September presbytery meeting:

**Motion:** To set the proposed 2020 Operating Budget at \$1,067,382 which includes an increase in the combined per capita rate from \$41.73 to \$42.63 (a 2.2% increase). \$32.53 of the \$42.63 goes to NCP. **Approved**

The Mission Budget proposed by Budget and Finance, based on the spending requests of the relevant committees (which did not call for a significant increase in spending), resulted in a \$61,375 deficit budget. The Leadership Council was uncomfortable with the deficit.

**Motion:** Leadership Council will identify mission budget cuts after a comprehensive look at mission giving and aligning the budget with mission priorities, and will present a balanced budget to the presbytery at its November meeting for a First Reading, with the Second Reading and vote to be at the January meeting. **Approved**

John Molina-Moore will work with the relevant committees and commissions to identify possible reductions in the mission budget.

- Sara Coe presented a recommendation from the Nominating Committee.

**Motion:** Approve the election of Elder Daniel Stokes as Chair of the Session Records Review Committee. **Approved**

- Election of LC Chair and Vice Chair

**Motion:** Approve reelection of Elder Charles Barber as Leadership Council Chair and Elder David McClung as Leadership Council Vice Chair. **Approved**

- General Presbyter Rev. John Molina-Moore presented the recommendation from the Search Committee for the Interim Director of Congregational Development and Mission with the request to change the title of the position to *Transitional* instead of *Interim*.

**Motion:** To hire a Transitional Director of Congregational Development and Mission.

**Approved**

**Motion:** To approve the recommendation from the Search Committee to hire Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe as the Transitional Director of Congregational Development and Mission. **Approved**

Note: For the vote, Rev. Spuhler was excused from the meeting.

- NCP Moderator Miriam Dewhurst presented a recommendation on the reelection of the Stated Clerk.

**Motion:** To approve the re-nomination of Sara Coe as NCP Stated Clerk and recommend approval by the Presbytery. **Approved**

- Beth Goss summarized the final report of the Financial Planning Task Force.

**Motion:** To dismiss the Financial Planning Task Force with gratitude.

**Approved**

Pat Futato agreed to chair the Vision Implementation Team, formed in April 2019, to include Brian Clark, Laura Cunningham, Lee Bishop, Pat Futato, LaJuan Quander, Tara Spuhler McCabe, and Todd McCreight, to study the relationship between the budget categories and the accomplishment of the presbytery's stated mission addressing the need for increased membership growth in congregations. The team will report back to the Leadership Council at its next meeting.

- The LC chair announced that LC will consider at the October LC meeting the recommendations from the Confronting Racism Task Force report.
- The schedule for 2019/2020 LC meetings and 2021 NCP meetings was presented:

**Motion:** to approve the following dates for Leadership Council and NCP meetings

<u>LC Meeting Dates:</u>	<u>NCP Meeting Dates:</u>
September 4, 2019	
	September 24, 2019
October 2, 2019	
November 6, 2019	
	November 19, 2019
December 4, 2019	
January 8, 2020	
	January 28, 2020
February 5, 2020	
March 4, 2020	
	March 24, 2020
April 1, 2020	
May 6, 2020	
	May 26, 2020
June 3, 2020	
	June 30, 2020
September 2, 2020	
	September 22, 2020
October 7, 2020	
November 4, 2020	
	November 17 (third Tuesday to avoid TG week)
December 2	

**2021 Presbytery Meetings:**

**January 26, March 23, May 25, June 22, September 28, November 16**

**Approved**

Meeting closed with prayer.

**From the Commission on Preparation for Ministry**

Kaytlin Butler, member of Arlington PC, was enrolled as a candidate, May, 2019.

### **From the Wheaton Community PC Administrative Commission**

Adhering to the charter given to AC since the inception, AC, acting as the session, met with various parties who are affected by the WCC conflict to hear and register all facets of the issues. We have met the groups that left the church as result of the conflict and those who stayed, some were the leaders and some were lay folks. Regardless, AC tried to meet as many people as possible to compile and assess the WCC conflict as completely as possible for most effective recommendation and resolution.

As a result of the meetings, the AC determined that the contract entered between some members of Wheaton Community and the pastor should be terminated. The Congregational Transitions Commission approved the AC's recommendation and the pastor has been given notice of the termination. After some period of negotiation with Wheaton members, the AC has now obtained control over the financial accounts and information of Wheaton Community. The mortgage loan that Wheaton Community has with the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program is in arrears, and the National Capital Presbytery Director of Business Affairs is working with PILP to arrange a new payment plan.

The AC has arranged for pulpit supply for the immediate future and will work toward the reconciliation and restoration of the congregation, including the election of a new session, which it hopes will eventually lead to full independent WCC church operation.

### **From the Riverdale PC Administrative Commission**

The Riverdale Administrative Commission is composed of Rev. Geoff McLean, Chair, Ruling Elder Sally Shiomichi, Secretary, Rev. Michael McNamara, Ruling Elder Lisa Massey, and Rev. Maggie Hayward. They have met six times since May with three of the meetings with the Riverdale session. The AC is concentrating on several things: Riverdale's vision for itself, church finances (including a financial audit), support for the pastor, and the staffing plan.