

**CALL TO THE STATED MEETING**  
National Capital Presbytery May 26, 2020 @ 6:00pm  
Via Zoom

**Stated Meeting Items:**

- 1) Election of Moderator and Vice-Moderator
- 2) Appointment of Search Committee for Stated Clerk
- 3) Appointment of Interim Stated Clerk
- 4) Dissolution of Riverdale Presbyterian Church
- 5) Commissioning of General Assembly Commissioners

**Registration Instructions:**

The link to register for the meeting which will be held remotely will be posted with instructions will post **here**.

Greetings, Siblings in Christ,

In this time of pestilence and uncertainty, we will gather as a presbytery on Tuesday, May 26, online. So many pieces of our lives are changing so fast. Most of us are sheltering at home and many of us are working from home. Some of us are essential workers and brave the threat of illness every day to provide service to others. These are times that produce anxiety as the virus spreads and lives and jobs are lost. These are times that produce depression as our social outlets are few and there is no certainty of when the painful pause in the life of the country will end or what our society will look like in the coming months and years. God is with us in these times, of course, comforting, healing, redeeming, but also inspiring and moving us to see new possibilities.

I am so grateful for the technology that is allowing our congregations to continue to worship together and that will allow us to hold a presbytery meeting this month. The packet includes the meeting docket along with reports. The link to register, along with instructions for meeting remotely, will be posted on **[www.thepresbytery.org](http://www.thepresbytery.org)** next week. We will have a short time for worship and then we will have business to conduct. We will elect a Stated Clerk Search Committee and appoint an Interim Stated Clerk. We will vote on a motion to dissolve the Riverdale Presbyterian Church. We will (I hope!) elect Ruling Elder Michael Rankin as Moderator and Teaching Elder Diane Hendricks as Vice Moderator and we will commission our 2020 GA Commissioners. GA is being held online this year, a challenge for everyone involved, and perhaps a model for other denominations. The Methodists have cancelled their convention this year. Finally, we will bid a sad but fond farewell to our Stated Clerk Sara Coe.

Thank you for your participation in this meeting. We hope that it will go as smoothly as possible. Thank you for your patience.

Let us continue to hold one another and our country in prayer.

In Christ's service,

Miriam Dewhurst  
Moderator

**Stated Meeting of the National Capital  
Presbytery May 26, 2020  
Via Zoom**

6:00PM CALL TO ORDER WITH PRAYER	Elder Miriam Dewhurst, Moderator
6:05PM CALL TO WORSHIP	Rev. Bob Melone
6:10PM Meditation Video	Worship and Theology Team
6:20PM Omnibus Motion p. 3-4	Elder Sara Coe, Stated Clerk
6:25PM Transitions	Rev. John Molina-Moore
6:35PM Word from the Personnel Committee	Rev. Ann Herlin
6:45PM Election of Stated Clerk Search Committee (Motion p. 5)	Elder Charles Barber
6:50PM Appointment of Interim Stated Clerk (Motion p. 5)	Elder Charles Barber
6:55PM Dissolution of Riverdale PC (Motion p. 5 )	Elder Lisa Massey
7:15PM Election of NCP Moderator and Vice Moderator (Motion p. 5-6)	Rev. Rachel Vaagenes
7:25PM Commissioning of 2020 GA Commissioners	Rev. John Molina-Moore
7:45PM Charge and Benediction	Elder Michael, Vice-Moderator

**Serving Tonight:**

Elder Miriam Dewhurst, Moderator  
 Rev. Bob Melone, Chair of Worship and Theology  
 Elder Sara Coe, Stated Clerk  
 Rev. John Molina-Moore, General Presbyter  
 Rev. Ann Herlin, Chair of Personnel Committee  
 Elder Charles Barber, Chair of Leadership Council  
 Elder Lisa Massey, Riverdale AC  
 Rev. Rachel Vaagenes, Chair of Nominating Committee  
 Elder Michael Rankin, Vice Moderator

## **Biographies of Nominees**

### **2020-2021 Moderator—Elder Michael Rankin**

Michael, the 2019-2020 Vice-Moderator of NCP, is an active member of the Church of the Redeemer where he has served three terms on the Session. He has chaired Redeemer's Personnel Committee, served as a member and secretary of the Strategic Planning Committee and served as clerk of session for six years. He is also a member of the Chancel Choir. Michael is a member of the NCP Permanent Judicial Commission, Class of September 2019. He served as an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Superior Court for 33 years and assumed the status of Senior Judge in 2019.

### **2020-2021 Vice Moderator-Rev. Diane Hendricks**

Diane has been on staff at Falls Church Presbyterian since 2004, where she serves as Pastor for Spiritual Growth. She received her Doctor of Ministry from Virginia Theological Seminary and her Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. A practicing spiritual director, Diane previously served on staff at Little Falls Presbyterian in Arlington, Virginia. In her time at NCP she has served actively on the Church Development Committee and its working groups. Diane and her husband, Andy, make their home in Arlington and have two college-aged children. When not doing church work, Diane can be found walking or running the paths of Northern Virginia, drawing zentangles, listening to The Wailin' Jennys, or hanging out with friends and family. She trusts in God's grace "to do abundantly far more than we can ask or ever imagine." (Ephesians 3:20).

### **Interim Stated Clerk-Elder Jan Moody**

Jan has been on staff at NCP since 2017 and serves as Administrative Assistant to the Stated Clerk and Leadership Council. She is a member and Clerk of Session at Bethesda PC. A PC(USA) Certified Educator, Jan previously served on staff at Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church as Director of Education and Youth. She is currently under the care of NCP's Commission on Preparation for Ministry and is completing her MDiv degree at Wesley Seminary.

## OMNIBUS MOTION FOR THE MAY 26, 2020 PRESBYTERY MEETING

### *From the Stated Clerk*

- The Stated Clerk moves the approval of the minutes of the January 28, 2020 presbytery meeting.
- The Stated Clerk moves that presbytery receive the report of the following commissions and dismiss the commissions with thanks:
  - The commission to ordain Blair Moorhead, which ordination took place on February 23, 2020 at Clarendon PC
  - The Wheaton Community Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission which has completed its work. (See final report in Presbytery Reports)
  - The Community Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission which has completed its work. (See final report in Presbytery Reports)
- The Stated Clerk moves the election of Nicholas Carson, a student at Columbia Theological Seminary under care of National Capital Presbytery who has been nominated by his seminary, to be an Alternate Theological Student Advisory Delegate to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, June 20 – June 27, 2020 in Baltimore, MD.

### *From the Leadership Council*

- The Leadership Council moves that the presbytery approve a change to the Manual of Administrative Operations to provide that the membership for the Commission on Preparation For Ministry read: “Commission shall be composed of ~~thirty-six (36)~~ twenty-seven (27) ruling and teaching elders divided into three (3) equal classes, one of which is elected each year by the Presbytery. Term of service is three (3) years with an individual eligible to serve up to six (6) consecutive years.”
- The Leadership Council moves that the presbytery amend the Manual of Administrative Operations by adding a bullet at the end of “Other Practices” (l. 321) to read as follows: “The presbytery may meet by electronic means if all ministers of Word and Sacrament and ruling elder commissioners have reasonable notice of the electronic meeting and the ability to discuss, deliberate, discern the will of God, and vote on business items. The quorum for such a meeting is twelve (12) teaching elder members and ruling elder commissioners representing twelve (12) separate congregations of National Capital Presbytery. All actions taken previously that are consistent with this provision are hereby ratified.”  
**Rationale:** Neither the bylaws of National Capital Presbytery Inc. nor National Capital Presbytery’s Manual of Administrative Operations contains a provision authorizing electronic meetings of the presbytery. A recent Advisory Opinion from the Office of General Assembly states: “May a presbytery hold a meeting electronically or virtually?”

Yes. A presbytery may provide by rule for the meeting of the presbytery by electronic or virtual means. The rule needs to be included in the presbytery's manual of administrative operations. The presbytery should make sure that all presbytery members and commissioners who are available as a quorum are able to participate in the discussion and vote. A presbytery may provide by rule for a quorum for the meeting but not fewer than three ministers of the Word and Sacrament who are members of the presbytery and three ruling elder commissioners from three different congregations. An example of such a rule is: "The presbytery may meet by electronic means if all ministers of Word and Sacrament and ruling elder commissioners have reasonable notice of the electronic meeting and the ability to discuss, deliberate, discern the will of God, and vote on business items. The quorum for such a meeting is [x] minister members and [x] ruling elder commissioners, or at least three ministers of Word and Sacrament and three ruling elder commissioners from three different congregations."

- The Leadership Council nominates the following to serve on the Nominating Committee as indicated:
  - **Rev. Patrick Hunnicutt**, TE, Westminster (VA), c/o 09-2021
  - **Elder Margaret Washnitzer**, RE, 15th Street PC, c/o 09-2020

### **From the Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee nominates and recommends to the presbytery the following to serve on the indicated commission or committee:

- Committee on Representation  
**Rev. Kevin Powell % 9-2022 (2 year term)**
- Commission on Preparation for Ministry  
**Rev. Robert Erickson, Heritage PC % 9-2023**  
**Freddie Asinor, , RE, Christ the King % 9-2023**  
**Rev. Beth Williams, United Christian Parish, TE % 9-2023**
- Mission Coordinating Committee  
**Norma Parker, RE, Bradley Hills PC, % 9-2022 (2 year term)**
- Other Boards--Synod Committee on Representation  
**Gerry Hendershot, RE Church of the Pilgrims, % 2022**

## ACTION ITEMS FOR THE MAY 2020 PRESBYTERY MEETING

### *From the Leadership Council*

1. The Leadership Council moves election of the following slate of ruling and teaching elders to comprise a Stated Clerk Search Committee: Rev. Cameron Byrd, HR; Rev. Lyman Smith, Specialized; Elder Jackie Moore, Sergeant Memorial; Rev. Becca Messman, Trinity; Elder Paula Hays, Christian Community; Elder Scott Slocum, Vienna; Rev. Katherine Stanford, Old Presbyterian Meeting House; Rev. Adam Ogg, Burke; and Elder Catherine Gillette, Fairlington.
2. The Leadership Council moves that the presbytery approve the appointment of Ruling Elder Jan Moody to be Interim Stated Clerk for the period beginning May 30, 2020 and until there is a new Stated Clerk.

### *From the Riverdale Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission*

The Riverdale Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission moves the National Capital Presbytery to approve the dissolution of Riverdale Presbyterian Church effective May 31, 2020 and directs and authorizes the current Administrative Commission to oversee the dissolution of Riverdale Presbyterian Church to include:

- arranging for pastoral care for church members,
- planning a celebration of the life and ministry of the congregation to take place following the end of “social distancing,”
- settling the financial affairs of the congregation,
- transferring all remaining financial assets to National Capital Presbytery,
- determining the disposition of personal property or memorials,
- dissolving the corporation, securing the session records to be transferred the Stated Clerk who will grant letters of transfer for Riverdale members for one year after dissolution,
- reporting quarterly to the Stated Clerk concerning the progress of dissolution, and
- submitting a final report to presbytery.

### *From the Nominating Committee*

The committee nominates **Elder Michael Rankin** (Redeemer) to be Moderator of the National Capital Presbytery for 2020-2021.

The committee nominates the **Reverend Diane Walton Hendricks** (Falls Church) to be Vice-Moderator of the National Capital Presbytery for 2020-2021.