

CALL TO THE STATED MEETING

National Capital Presbytery November 17, 2020 @ 6:00pm

Via Zoom

Stated Meeting Items:

- 1) Vote on Second Reading of 2021 Mission Budget
- 2) Sermon preached by Dr. Rick Elgandy
- 3) Necrology
- 4) Election of NCP Treasurer and Stated Clerk
- 5) Motion from the Committee on Ministry

Registration Instructions:

To register for the meeting, go to the following link:

<https://thepresbytery.org/presbyterymeeting/>



November 6, 2020

Greeting Siblings in Christ,

As we prepare for our November Presbytery meeting, I begin this letter with grateful thanks and praise to Almighty God for showing favor on our country during this season of elections of our nation's leaders. As I write votes are still being counted and winners and losers are yet to be determined, but thus far we see that millions of Americans across the nation have cast their ballots with confidence in our electoral process. In spite of occasional civil unrest in scattered communities across the country and the ongoing challenges to physical and mental health caused by the novel Coronavirus that can lead to Covid 19, more Americans than ever have voted in the 2020 federal, state and local elections. This is due in no small part to the actions of the Governors and Secretaries of States who gave assurance to citizens that voting would be safe and that their votes will be counted. In spite of myriad challenges that accompanied this election season the people of this nation have shown yet again that we deeply believe in a democratic form of government, "of the people, by the people and for the people." (A. Lincoln, Gettysburg, Pa., Nov. 19, 1863).

On November 17, 2020, at 6pm, we will gather remotely via Zoom, to worship our Lord and Savior and to see to the business of our worshipping community. We are truly blessed to have Rev. Dr. Rick Elgendy (hard G), Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics and Public Theology, Wesley Theological Seminary, to bring us a word from the Lord. Dr. Elgendy will also host an open space. There are several action items on the agenda as well, among them: motions to approve the nominations of the Stated Clerk and the Treasurer, and a motion to establish an Administrative Commission to work with Boyds PC. I encourage you to go to the NCP web site and download the Presbytery meeting packet in advance of the meeting to get more information and see other Open Space opportunities. We will use Zoom's drop-down polling feature to tally votes.

On behalf of our Presbytery staff and leadership I thank you for your faithful work in service to God's church. We ask for your patience and continuing support as we pray for our heavenly Father's grace and guidance as we seek to do His will for His people.

Elder Michael Rankin
Moderator



**Stated Meeting
National Capital Presbytery
November 17, 2020
Via Zoom**

We Gather in Community

6:00PM CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER

Elder Michael Rankin, Moderator

6:05PM CALL TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship
(based on Matthew 25: 31-46)

We come, for God gathers us here,
with that community called faith:
**where the hungry are served first,
where the thirsty drink life's water.**

Rev. Bob Melone

We come, for God welcomes us here
into that home called grace:

**where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;
where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.**

We come, for God reunites us here,
sisters and brothers in that family called love:

**where the imprisoned model justice,
where the sick are cradled in God's peace.** — written by Thom Shuman

6:10PM CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Michael Rankin

God is not far from us. When trouble is near, God is our help and our refuge. Let us confess our sins to God, that we might receive mercy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.

O Lord make haste to help me!

I need grace, O God.

Listen to my prayer:

Silent Confession

You are my help and my deliverer,

O Lord, in you I trust.

ASSURANCES OF PARDON (Psalm 103:8-12)

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

We Are Immersed in the Word

6:20PM SCRIPTURE Ephesians 1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46.

SERMON "The Power of Love, Vindicated". Dr. Rick Elgendy

6:40PM TRANSITIONS Rev. John Molina-Moore

Introduction of Heather Deacon, Director of Business Affairs

6:50PM NECROLOGY pp 7-10

7:00PM Mission Budget (Motion) pp 11-15, 18 Elder Charles Barber

7:15PM Election of Treasurer (Motion) p 18 Elder Charles Barber

7:25PM Election of Stated Clerk (Motion) p 18 Elder Charles Barber, Rev. Lyman Smith

7:40PM Motion from COM pp 19-20 Rev. Stephen Smith-Cobbs and Rev. Mary Austin

We Are Sent into the World

HYMN* *Come Live in the Light* p 6

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Diane Hendricks, Vice Moderator

Meeting Leadership

Elder Michael Rankin, NCP Moderator

Rev. Bob Melone, Chair Worship and Theology

Rev. Diane Walton Hendricks, NCP Vice Moderator

Elder Jan Moody, Interim Stated Clerk

Rev. John Molina Moore, NCP General Presbyter

Elder Charles Barber, Chair, Leadership Council

Rev. Stephen Smith-Cobbs, Chair, Commission on Ministry

Rev. Mary Austin, Co-Chair, Congregational Transitions Commission

Rev. Lyman Smith, Chair of Stated Clerk Search Committee

Guest Speaker: Dr. Rick Elgandy

Dr. Elgandy is an Associate Professor of Christian Ethics and Public Theology at Wesley Theological Seminary. His research interests are animated by asking questions of subjectivity, spirituality, and politics at the intersection of political theology, systematic theology, and critical theory. His first book, *Life Among the Powers: A Political Spirituality of Resistance*, is currently in preparation. In addition to WTS, he has taught at Lake Forest College and the University of Chicago.

*Julie Vidrick Evans, Director of Music and Organist at Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, collaborated with Dr. Bobb Robinson (CCPC Assistant Director of Music) and Dr. Rob Tudor, (Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Shepherd University) as soloists and Ms. Evans accompanied them on the piano for this digital collaboration.

Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God.

We are called to act with justice;
we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love.

We are called to act with justice;
we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

NCP Necrology Report October 31, 2018-November 1, 2019

<u>Church</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Ordained</u>
Bethesda	Louise Williams	10/3/2020	1979
	Dorothy McDowell	09/24/2020	1985
Boyd's	Richard D Ernst	10.6.2020	1/26/1986
Burke	George Steel	10/22, 2020	2/ 9.2003
Calvary	Mary Ellen Page	9/27/2020	4/27/1969
	Rebecca Yeboah	2/22/2020	11/10/1996
Chevy Chase	William B Glew	11/21/2019	02/04/1968
	William B. Clotworthy	02/24/2020	06/16/1985
	Nancy L. Mauzy	06/30/2020	05/17/1988
	David P. Notley, Sr.	08/08/2020	05/20/1990
	William M. Bond	09/24/2020	06/05/1983
Darnestown	Charles Carlson	3/15/2020	/8/89
	Nancy Daughtry	7/17/2020	1/5/97
	Mildred Pier	4/8/2020	1/23/83
Falls Church	Merry Huley	5/13/2020	12/10/2000
	Donald Bisbee	10/18/2019	12/28/1958
Fairfax	Doris Evans Naeher	12/01/2019	11/19/1989
	David Cornell Ralston	01/24/2020	prior to 1976
	Robert George Coon	01/24/2020	01/20/1963
	Marylove Wiley Klein	02/18/2020	01/01/1979
	Janice Johnson	07/07/2020	01/10/1993
	James Sabatino	10/03/2020	09/21/2008
First, Annandale	Miriam Houseworth	12/24/2019	05/ 1, 1977
Gaithersburg	Maxine Brown	11/ 22/2019	11/ 29/1987
	Harold "Bud" Curtis	02/23/2020	01/1969
	Krishna Banaudha	03/30/ 2020	12/31/ 2002
	Jack Harris	06/17/2020	01/12/1989
	Thomas R. Gira	06/20/ 2020	12/ 13/2001

NCP Necrology Report October 31, 2018-November 1, 2019

	Henry R. Mastroni	09/ 2/ 2020	09/ 24, 1961
<u>Church</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Ordained</u>
Georgetown	Charles Alexander	1/15/19	
	Stephen Hopkins	2/16/20	
	Bradford Crane	2/28/20	
Good Samaritan	Robert Edmond Beigel	12/17/2019	6/15/2003
	Anne H. Creveling	6/4/2019	6/26/1988
Grace, Springfield	Bernice M. Elwell	2/11/2020	6/25/2000
	Linda A. McGraw	8/7,/2020	6/27/1993
	Lyle C. McLaren	8/31, 2020	6/26, 1994
Heritage	John D. McLellan	4/19/2020	1/25/1959
Lewinsville	Michael Werner	12/21/ 2019	1973
	Robert (Bob) Alden	6/7/2020	January 4, 1970
National	Ruth Barham	6/12/20	
	Dixie Falvey	9/11/20	
	Ann James	9/14/20	
	Noble McCartney	7/14/20	
	Louise Pinckernell	1/17/20	
	Dick Schaefer	11/18/19	
	Mildred Wheat	10/4/2020	
	Michael Wiseman	3/1/2020	
	Carol Wiseman	09/23/2020	
Northminster	Thomas Brown	11/22/2019	1/22/2006
	Barbara B. Williams	8/2/2020	1/16/83
Northwood	Alan Minnigh	07/08/2020	03/14/1982
	Gloria Pendleton	05/28/2020	01/12/1975
	Eleanor McIntire	02/23/2020	07/08/2001
	Constance Wilcher	12/19/2019	04/21/1996
	Mort Rian	08/27/2019	01/27/1963

NCP Necrology Report October 31, 2018-November 1, 2019

	Doris Cotts	07/19/2019	06/17/1990
	James C. Kennedy	04/28/2019	01/05/1969
<u>Church</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Ordained</u>
Old Meeting House	Howard L. Clark Jr.	06/19/2020	01/07/1973
Patuxent	Elizabeth Eichel Follet	1/4/2020	8/12/1973
	Daniel Waters	3/21/2020	9/19/1971
Saint Mark	Jane Tebbutt	4/20/20	1/27/74
	David Lyman	12/2019	1/27/91
Sargent Memorial	Bertie Brame	1/3/2019	
Sixth	Helen Nichols	12/14/2019	04/10/1927
	Maizline Baird	12/15/2019	02/16/1987
	Hildred Vanderpool	12/15/2019	07/15/1996
	Barbara Yancey	12/24/2019	09/26/1999
	Mae Spellman	10/16/2020	06/02/1963
	Marjorie Skinker	04/18/2020	11/17/1991
St. Matthew	Nancy Wilder Zaharko	3/23/2020	2/13/1977
	Donald Stuart Sasscer	5/1/ 2020	1961
Trinity, Herndon	Charles Anthony Novak	12/13/2019	1/30/1972
	Dorothy Crabtree	05/21/2020	01/11/1987
United Christian Parish	Kathy Dally	2/25/2020	5/5/2005
Vienna	Evelyn Elaine Wiesnet	2/19/2020	11.16.1997
	Ann Rivers Hutcheson	5/6/2020	1/21/1990
Warner Memorial	Cheryl Geiger	2/ 1/2020	1/24/2020
Western	John Goto	3/20/2020	2/21/1965
	Hilda "Mickey" Voight	5/14/ 2020	2/8/ 1976
	John Lytle	5/16/2020	1/1985
Westminster, Alexandria	Thomas Dean Paulsen	3/27/ 2020	4/23/72
	Loren Russell Larson	8/3/2020	2/11/1990
	Howard Stocker Olmsted, Jr	10/17/ 2020	1/7/1973

NCP Necrology Report October 31, 2018-November 1, 2019

<u>Teaching Elders/Ministers</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Ordained</u>
Rev. George Chauncey	11/ 24, 2019	1952
Rev. Tom Davidson	1/ 6, 2020	01/15/1948
Rev. Kermit Johnson	1/9/2020	1960
Rev. Frank C. Goodlake	1/15, 2020	
Rev. Diane Hutchins	1/25, 2020	07/18/2004
Rev. Gayraud Wilmore	4/ 18, 2020	1950
Rev. Jim Williams	6/14, 2020	04/04/1972
Rev. Gary McMichael	6/28, 2020	08/12/1979
Rev. Dorothy Ann Davis McKinney Wright	10/15/2020	09/26/1982
Rev. James Brassard	11/4/2020	09/09/1984

National Capital Presbytery
Mission Budget & Receiving Center
2020 Budget with 2021 Proposed

		2020	Proposed 2021
Total Anticipated Receipts		\$513,600.00	\$513,600.00
Presbyterian Mission Agency	14.80% 14.80%	\$76,012.80	\$76,012.80
National Capital Presbytery	85.20% 85.20%	\$437,587.20	\$437,587.20

Mission Budget
2020 Budget with 2021 Proposed

		2020	Proposed 2021
Unified Mission Giving (Benevolence Income)		\$437,587.20	\$437,587.20
Benevolence Interest Income		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total		\$437,587.20	\$437,587.20
Transfers - Non Revenue			
Resurrection Funds		\$110,106.00	\$110,106.00
DC Resurrection Funds		\$35,317.00	\$35,317.00
New Growth Funds		\$127,000.00	\$227,000.00
Mission Fund Balance Un-Restricted		\$100,000.00	\$103,754.41
Miscellaneous Income		\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Income		\$372,423.00	\$476,177.41
Total Funds Available for Mission Budget		\$810,010.20	\$913,764.61

Mission Budget
2020 Budget with 2021 Proposed

	2020	Proposed 2021
New Things Team		
NWC Coaching/Training	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Seed Money for New Projects	<u>\$100,000.00</u>	<u>\$200,000.00</u>
Subtotal	\$110,000.00	\$210,000.00
Intercultural Ministries		
Immigration Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Brazilian Bible Presbyterian	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00
Emmanuel Indonesian Presbyterian	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
Indo-Park Presbyterian	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Indonesian-American Presbyterian	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Universal Evangelical Presbyterian	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Youth/Young Adult Program	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Intercultural Support	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
Subtotal	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
Transforming Congregations		
Transformation Grants	\$140,000.00	\$140,000.00
Leadership Training Events	<u>\$7,000.00</u>	<u>\$7,000.00</u>
Subtotal	\$147,000.00	\$147,000.00
CDC Resources		
Equipping Leaders Grants	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Equipping Ministries Grants	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Research Services	<u>\$6,500.00</u>	<u>\$6,500.00</u>
Subtotal	\$26,500.00	\$26,500.00
Spiritual Formation Team		
Scholarships	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Grants to Churches and Originations	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Support and Resourcing Congregations	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Consultant/Facilitator Teams	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Equipping Young Leaders	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
Subtotal	\$10,000.00	\$12,000.00
Total Church Development	\$373,500.00	\$475,500.00

Mission Budget
2020 Budget with 2021 Proposed

	2020	Proposed 2021
Mission Coordination Committee		
Mission Team Support	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Research & Development	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
Subtotal	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Direct Support Peace & Justice Advocacy		
VA Interfaith Center Public Policy	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Action in Montgomery (AIM)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
V. O. I. C. E. (IAF VA)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
PCUSA Office of Public Witness	<u>\$6,500.00</u>	<u>\$6,500.00</u>
Subtotal	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Young Adult Ministries		
Young Adult Volunteer Support	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Campus Ministry Support	<u>\$67,137.00</u>	<u>\$67,137.00</u>
Subtotal	\$82,137.00	\$82,137.00
Local Mission Grants		
Matching Dues for WIN AIM	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Congregational Grants	<u>\$15,000.00</u>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
Subtotal	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00

Mission Budget
2020 Budget with 2021 Proposed

	2020	Proposed 2021
Congregational Support		
Global Mission		
Network Global Mission	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Mission Worker Matching Grant	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
International Seminaries	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Congregation Partnership Grant	<u>\$50,000.00</u>	<u>\$50,000.00</u>
subtotal	\$71,000.00	\$71,000.00
Other Networks		
Earth Care Grants	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Refugee Ministry Network	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Israel/Palestine Network	\$2,300.00	\$2,300.00
Urban Ministry Grant	<u>\$12,500.00</u>	<u>\$12,500.00</u>
Subtotal	\$27,800.00	\$27,800.00
Total Mission Coordination	\$223,937.00	\$223,937.00
Other		
Leadership Council Anti-Racism Team	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Black Presbyterian Caucus	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Educator Network Support	<u>\$1,400.00</u>	<u>\$1,400.00</u>
Total Other	\$32,400.00	\$32,400.00

Mission Budget
2019 Budget with 2020 Proposed

	2019	Proposed 2020
Mission Staff Costs		
Salaries	\$85,490.69	\$86,687.56
Board of Pension	\$31,631.56	\$32,074.70
Supplemental Medical Coverage	\$1,709.81	\$1,733.75
Social Security	\$6,540.04	\$6,631.60
CE - Non Exempt Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
CE- Exempt Staff	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Travel	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Personnel Costs	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Supplemental Expenses	\$3,300.00	\$3,300.00
Staff Calibration	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Training/Bonus/Moving	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
Total Mission Staff Costs	\$180,172.10	\$181,927.61
Total Mission Budget Expenditures	\$810,009.10	\$913,764.61
Total Mission Budget Income	\$810,010.20	\$913,764.61
Total Mission Budget Expenditures	\$810,009.10	\$913,764.61
Surplus / Deficit	\$1.10	\$0.00

OMNIBUS MOTION FOR THE NOVEMBER 17, 2020 PRESBYTERY MEETING

From the Interim Stated Clerk

- The Interim Stated Clerk moves the approval of the minutes of the September 22, 2020 presbytery meeting.
- The Interim Stated Clerk moves that the presbytery receive the report of the following commission and dismiss the commission with thanks: the commission to ordain Catherine Taylor whose ordination took place at Burke Presbyterian Church via Zoom on September 13, 2020.
- The Interim Stated Clerk moves that the presbytery receive the report of the following commission and dismiss the commission with thanks: the commission to install Rev. Ashley Goff whose installation took place at Arlington Presbyterian Church via Zoom on September 27, 2020.

From the Leadership Council

The Leadership Council nominates and recommends to the presbytery Rev. Lisa Kenkeremath to serve on Nominating Committee in the class of 09-2023

From the COM Coordinating Commission

The COM Coordinating Commission nominates and recommends the following COM members to be on the COM Coordinating Commission and the Congregational Transitions Commission for the year ending September 1, 2021:

- **COM Coordinating Commission**
 - Stephen Smith-Cobbs, MWS, Trinity (Herndon)
 - Mary Austin, MWS, Gaithersburg
 - Michael Volpe, RE, Falls Church
 - Aaron Fulp-Eickstaedt, MWS, Immanuel
 - Shelby Etheridge Harasty, MWS, Saint Mark
 - Juli Wilson-Black, MWS, Fairlington
 - Susan Graceson, MWS, Christian Community of Bowie
- **Congregational Transitions Commission**
 - Mary Austin, Co-Chair, MWS, Gaithersburg
 - Michael Volpe, Co-Chair, RE, Fairfax
 - Mary Ann McGibbon Dana, MWS, Member at Large
 - Jay Losher, MWS, Colesville

Paul Dornan, RE, New York Avenue

Susan Wisseman, MWS, Member Large

Priscilla Andre Colton, RE, Old Presbyterian Meeting House

Robert Bayley, MWS, HR

James Sledge, MWS, Falls Church

From Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee moves the following people for nomination:

- ACCP
% 2023 Mike McAdoo, Westminster (Alexandria)
% 2023 Rev. Ruth Hamilton
- Mission Coordinating Commission
% 2023 Rev. Dwight Peace
- CDC
% 2022 Rev. John Lee
- COM
% 2023 Andrea Brown, RE, Falls Church
% 2022 Jim Reisner

ACTION ITEMS FOR THE NOVEMBER 17, 2020 PRESBYTERY MEETING

- **Mission Budget**

The Leadership Council moves that the proposed 2021 Mission Budget of \$913,764.61 be approved.

- **NCP Treasurer**

The Leadership Council moves to approve the recommendation from Moderator Elder Michael Rankin, Vice Moderator, Rev. Diane Hendricks, Elder Miriam Dewhurst, Rev. Rachel Vaagenes and Rev. Laura Hollister, of the nomination of Heather Deacon as Treasurer of National Capital Presbytery for a term of three years beginning November 18, 2020.

- **Heather Deacon Bio**

Heather has extensive nonprofit and business experience, holding positions in executive leadership, commercial real estate, and fiscal oversight. Over the course of her career she has used her understanding of systems development and risk assessment to strengthen organizations as they work to build capacity. She is passionate about the role strong organizations play in building and unlocking communities for their citizens. Heather is excited about joining National Capital Presbytery as Director of Business Affairs in part because of the pivotal role that churches play in community building. She holds a BS in Business Administration from the University of Illinois Springfield.

Heather lives in Bowie, Maryland with her husband, Chris (Pastor at United Parish of Bowie), their 7-year-old daughter Hannah and their golden retriever, Toby. When not working, she enjoys collecting hobbies, cooking, and cheering on her Tennessee Titans!

- **NCP Stated Clerk**

To approve the Stated Clerk Search Committee's nomination of Elder Jan Moody as Stated Clerk of National Capital Presbytery and the recommended salary package for a term of five years beginning November 18, 2020.

- **Jan Moody Bio**

Jan is a focused and devoted member of National Capital Presbytery (NCP), with over 25 years of experience in both administrative and education roles. She has extensive experience supporting the work of the Stated Clerk's office, Leadership Council, Commission on the Preparation for Ministry, and the Worship and Theology Team. Since June of 2020 she has served as the Acting Stated Clerk of NCP. She is a Ruling Elder and clerk of session for Bethesda Presbyterian Church. She is a recognized subject matter expert in presbytery guiding principles and is dedicated to the long-term synergy of new visions and traditional structure.

- **From Committee on Ministry**

The Coordinating Commission of COM moves, with the approval of the Leadership Council, that the presbytery designate an Administrative Commission (AC), members to be appointed by the moderator, for Boyds Presbyterian Church to address rebuilding of trust in leadership and ensuring effective ministry to the current congregation and the community. The AC will have the authority to assume original jurisdiction to accomplish these goals, if it judges that action advisable.

Background:

- Responsibility of the Presbytery in relationship with congregations (from Book of Order G-3.0303 e)

A presbytery, being composed of the teaching elders and commissioners elected by the session of congregations within its district, has a particular responsibility to coordinate, guide, encourage, support, and resource the work of its congregations for the most effective witness to the broader community. To this end, a presbytery has the authority to assume original jurisdiction, or full power and responsibility, over a session. In applicable cases and in order to accomplish its responsibility towards the session, a presbytery may: Assume original jurisdiction in any situation in which it determines that a session cannot exercise its authority. After a thorough investigation, and after full opportunity to be heard has been accorded to the session, the presbytery may conclude that the session of a congregation is unable or unwilling to manage wisely its affairs, and may appoint an administrative commission with the full power of session. This commission shall assume original jurisdiction of the existing session, if any, which shall cease to act until such time as the presbytery shall otherwise direct.

- Rationale for appointing an AC for Boyds PC

Boyds Presbyterian Church is located at 19901 White Ground Rd, Boyds, MD. Membership, according to the 2019 Statistical Report, is 147 members with an average worship attendance of 45. Leadership in the church includes seven Ruling Elders on Session, and Deacons. In 2014 the long-time pastor retired, and the church has since been served by two Transitional Pastors. The current Transitional Pastor has served the church since 2017.

The community surrounding the church has always been rural in nature, but several years ago major development began nearby and now many homes will be built within a five-mile radius in the next ten years.

The congregation is divided in how it is called to respond to the rapidly changing community that surrounds them. One group feels deeply called to traditional forms of ministry to current members. Other members of the church have invested resources of time and finances into promoting new growth in the church. COM and NCP staff have provided guidance, including the sending in of a mediator, to try to reconcile the differences between the two sides. However, all efforts thus far have failed. It is the recommendation of the COM after consulting with the outside mediator, listening to the congregation, Session, and pastor, that the presbytery approve the appointment of an AC to address issues of leadership and trust between the leaders and the members of the congregation.

Should the AC decide that assuming original jurisdiction is in the best interests of the continued ministry of the congregation, they will do so only after consultation with the Session. This is an instance where the AC is a means by which the presbytery is seeking to come alongside the session in partnership to better allow the congregation to serve Jesus Christ and be the church.