

**CALL TO THE STATED MEETING**

**National Capital Presbytery January 26, 2021 @ 6:00pm**

**Via Zoom**

**Stated Meeting Items:**

- 1) Sermon preached by Rev. Cameron Trimble
- 2) Introduction of new minister members of National Capital Presbytery
- 3) Recommendation from the Church Development Commission

Registration Instructions:

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

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

January 15, 2021



Greetings and Happy New Year my dear siblings in Christ,

Happy New year indeed! Let us thank Almighty God, praise His glorious name, for having given us strength and fortitude we needed for the year that was 2020. Thanks all the more, Holy Spirit, for giving us the faith and hope that allows us to move forward into the challenges that lie ahead in 2021. As our General Presbyter recently reminded us, “God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” II Timothy 1:7. As Dr. King said in his “I’ve been to the Mountaintop” speech the day before his assassination in Memphis, “...we’ve got some difficult days ahead.” But another great Apostle of our Lord and Savior preached that we must “be strong in the Lord” and resist the “spiritual forces of evil. In order to do this, we must “put on the full armor of God.” With the knowledge that the great “I AM” is always true to His word we can march on into this new year understanding that God is not done with us yet, there is much work to be done, so let’s get busy!

I am excited for our January 26 virtual meeting (*zoom webinar platform*) and I want to thank Rev. Bob Melone and the members of the Worship & Theology Committee for planning this meeting around a theme of **God’s church moving forward amid multiple pandemics**. We have a fantastic speaker in the person of the Reverend Cameron Trimble, a dynamic leader in the United Church of Christ. Her focus is on building both ordained and lay leaders who are empowered to spread the Gospel in new and innovative ways. Rev. Trimble is not only a dynamic speaker, she is also an author, an adjunct professor, a consultant and an airplane pilot. Rev. Trimble leads an organization called *Convergence*. She will lead an Open Space at 4pm prior to the start of the meeting, which of course begins at 6pm.

On the subject of Open Spaces, I will briefly describe our other Open Space opportunities. **Presbytery’s New Things Team, led by Reverends Carrie Yearick and Norm Gordon, will present on *For such a time as this...A Ministry Hub Proposal***. In this Open Space you will learn about the New Growth Fund ministry hub proposal and exciting opportunities for doing a new thing amid such great need in the world. The proposal is an action item that will be presented by the Leadership chair in the business meeting.

Another exciting Open Space opportunity will be led by **Rev. Jessica Tate**, a truly great preacher and **Director of Next Church**. She will talk about **where God is calling us next**. You can go to [Nextchurch.net](http://Nextchurch.net) to see and learn more about Jessica’s work. For all you Carolina folk, I’m told that Jessica bleeds Carolina Blue.

We do have a couple action items on the agenda. Our Stated Clerk will present an Omnibus motion, and, Leadership Council will move the recommendation from the Commission on Church Development (CDC) for approval of an allocation of funds for an interesting project in the Germantown area. This project and the proposed allocation of funds is the subject of the New Things Team’s Open Space mentioned above.

I ask you to please go on the NCP website ([www.thepresbytery.org](http://www.thepresbytery.org)) at your earliest convenience and download the packet for this meeting. The action items are described much better there than here. Reading the material in advance of the meeting allows you to ask questions and to gain a more complete understanding of the issues.

I look forward to seeing you and having a joyful time together on the 26<sup>th</sup>. God be with you,

Michael Rankin, NCP Moderator



**Stated Meeting  
National Capital Presbytery  
January 26, 2021  
Via Zoom  
We Gather in Community**

6:00PM CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER

Elder Michael Rankin, Moderator

6:05PM CALL TO WORSHIP

The Genesis scribe calls to us all:  
Each of us is created in God's image.

Elder Jesy Littlejohn

God calls to Jesus – and calls to us all:  
“You are my Beloved.  
With you I am well-pleased.”

We are created in God's image.  
We are Beloved per God's pleasure.  
Let us celebrate these two epiphanies  
that dawn upon us – even today!

6:10PM HYMN

*The Summons* p. 6

Brooklyn Anderson

6:15PM PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev, Chuck Booker

God of justice inconvenient,  
how could we not see the disparities?

In June: peaceful protestors cleared by tear gas and clubs –  
all for a photo opp in front of a church ...

And then, came The Epiphany.  
And then, came that day ...

So much violence  
to our respectability!

Reorient us, O God, we pray,  
to the call of our prophets – to the call of Jesus –

their nonviolent call  
to look within

and reveal what is being done by our respectability....

—  
SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**We Are Immersed in the Word**

SCRIPTURE	Micah 6:8	Rev. Cameron Trimble
6:20PM SERMON	"The Great Unveiling"	Rev. Cameron Trimble
6:40PM TRANSITIONS		Rev. John Molina-Moore

7:00PM Omnibus Motion p. 7		Elder Jan Moody
7:05PM Church Development Commission-Motion pp. 8- 10		Elder Charles Barber, Rev. Jeri Fields

**We Are Sent into the World**

7:30PM ANTHEM	<i>Sing a New Song unto the Lord</i>	Brooklyn Anderson
7:35PM CHARGE AND BLESSING		Elder Michael Rankin

SERVING TONIGHT

Elder Michael Rankin, Moderator

Elder Jesy Littlejohn, Oaklands PC

Brooklyn Anderson, Music Director, Clarendon PC

Rev. Chuck Booker

Rev. Cameron Trimble

Rev. John Molina-Moore, General Presbyter

Elder Jan Moody, Stated Clerk

Elder Charles Barber, Chair, Leadership Council

Rev. Jeri Fields, Chair, Church Development Commission



Guest preacher Rev. Cameron Trimble is the Executive Director and CEO of Convergence (formerly the Center for Progressive Renewal), an organization created to recruit, assess, train and coach innovative, entrepreneurial leaders for the church. She began her ministry as a new church developer and, to pay for her “ministry habit”, also owns a real estate company and a software company. Before starting the Convergence, she served as an advisor to the Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Team of Local Church Ministries for the United Church of Christ and as Associate Conference Minister of Church Development in the Southeast Conference of the UCC. She has worked with many denominational bodies as they set up systems for church development, and she coaches new church start pastors in the UCC, Episcopal, ELCA, United Methodist and Presbyterian churches. Rev. Trimble has served an adjunct professor teaching church planting/renewal and leadership with the Pacific School of Religion, Brite Divinity School, Auburn Seminary and Chicago Theological Seminary. She co-authored the book “Liberating Hope” and most recently published “Piloting Church: Helping Your Congregation Take Flight” in 2019. One of the great honors of her life is serving as the board chair of an organization called Stop the Traffik, focused on putting an end to human trafficking around the world through the use of intelligence-led prevention. STT works in partnership with IBM, Homeland Security, MI5, Facebook, Twitter, Wells Fargo, the Financial Times and many others to develop the tools to identify human trafficking networks and disrupt them. When she is not working, she will be found piloting single engine Cirrus and Cessna planes with passengers who love to see this wonderful, wild world from the sky.

726<sup>6</sup> Will You Come and Follow Me

## The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)  
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B<sup>b</sup> F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?  
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)  
 Gm7 B<sup>b</sup> Am7 B<sup>b</sup> Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B<sup>b</sup> F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"  
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"  
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"  
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"  
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

**OMNIBUS MOTION FOR THE JANUARY 26, 2021 PRESBYTERY MEETING****From the Stated Clerk**

- The Stated Clerk moves the approval of the minutes of the November 17, 2020 presbytery meeting.
- The Stated Clerk moves that the presbytery receive the report of the following commission and dismiss the commission with thanks: the commission to install the Rev. Diane Hendricks whose installation took place at Clifton Presbyterian Church via Zoom on December 13, 2020 at 3:00 PM.

**From the Nominating Commission**

The Nominating Committee moves the following person for nomination:

- Commission on Ministry  
Class of 2021 Rev. Chauncey Handy

## **ACTION ITEM FOR THE JANUARY 26, 2021 PRESBYTERY MEETING**

### **Motion**

Leadership Council moves the recommendation from CDC to approve the New Things Team request that a onetime allocation of \$100,000.00 from the New Growth Fund be used to contribute to Sheppard Pratt's effort to secure funding for a Community Hub in which National Capital Presbytery (NCP) Germantown Ministry HUB will establish space to coordinate services to address the educational, health, and social inequities that exist among low income families living in the Germantown area. This onetime allocation is consistent with the priorities of NCP and is contingent upon Sheppard Pratt purchasing an appropriate ministry site. This agreement is further contingent upon the Church Development Commission (CDC) approving the site and the terms of the 15 year no cost lease and for CDC to submit the proposed lease for Leadership Council's final approval.

### **Background**

**The New Things Team** is a sub-team of the Church Development Committee/Commission that works with and oversees New Things in areas of 1001 New Worshipping Communities of PCUSA and New Things of NCP. For the last two years the **NCP Germantown Global Connection (GGC)**, a New Worshipping Community of NCP, has been working with non-profit agencies to coordinate services to low income families in the Germantown Maryland area. One of these agencies, **Sheppard Pratt**, is seeking funding to establish a Community Hub, a shared space for non-profits including the NCP Germantown Global Connection and other congregations and ministries currently working in the Germantown area, to establish a **NCP Germantown Ministry Hub**.

Founded in 1853, Sheppard Pratt provides hospital psychiatric care, special education services, community-based mental health and addiction treatment, and social service support to over 70,000 adults and children through 160 programs in 15 Maryland counties.

Sheppard Pratt is currently seeking funds to purchase property to establish a Community Hub of social services and is in negotiations to purchase an 8,500 square foot commercial condominium unit on the fourth floor of a building located at **12850 Middlebrook Road in Germantown**. The unit has over 20 offices and four conference rooms. It is an accessible location for families served by the non -profits and is across the street from Montgomery County government's Upcounty Regional Services Center which houses an array of county-operated social services and education support.

It is anticipated that the total capital project cost of purchase and acquisition will be around \$2 million. To date, Sheppard Pratt has secured commitments totaling \$1.5 million, including \$1 million from a Maryland State Legislative Bond Grant and \$500,000 from Montgomery County. A one-time allocation of \$100,000 from NCP would offer a key component to this public-private partnership.



A condition of the State bond grant requires that Sheppard Pratt use the property for the intended purpose for at least 15 years. While the other nonprofits will be paying nominal rent in order to pay for carrying costs of the building, NCP would be provided a 15-year, **no cost lease** to use one of the offices and the shared conference room space. This important part of the Community Hub will allow pastors to network with the nonprofits, coordinate volunteer opportunities for congregations, and provide spiritual support to interested individuals served by the nonprofits and interested staff of those nonprofits.

If Sheppard Pratt is successful in entering into a contract to purchase the Middlebrook property, then it will be critical to know how much total capital funding commitments are available. If Sheppard Pratt is not able to secure a contract for the Middlebrook property, it still needs to know the total amount of committed funding in order to determine the budget for alternative properties and to fundraise toward that budget goal.

**Sheppard Pratt is asking for NCP to agree to a one-time funding commitment of \$100,000.00 by February 2021. No NCP funds will be transferred until:**

- **CDC approves the site purchased by Sheppard Pratt as appropriate for a NCP Ministry Hub**
- **CDC approves the terms of the 15 year no cost lease.**
- **Leadership Council approves the no cost lease**

This request for a one-time allocation is consistent with the mission priorities of NCP and the guidelines for use of the NCP New Growth Fund which provides resources to increase membership and participation in National Capital Presbytery, particularly in new ministries, under the direction of the Church Development Committee (CDC) or its successor committee.

**New Growth Fund** expenditures are budgeted as part of the annual NCP Mission Budget. Monies additional to the approved Mission Budget during a given year are allocated by Presbytery vote after approval by the Leadership Council.

Background of the fund as written in the NCP Financial Policy:

- Initial funding of the New Growth Fund will come from the New Church Development Fund, which is hereby subsumed into the New Growth Fund, along with the full proceeds (approximately \$950,000) from the disaffiliation agreement with Neelsville Presbyterian Church.
- Recommendations for use of the funds will be presented to Leadership Council, from the CDC, for its approval. Rationale: Leadership Council oversight will ensure that the use of the fund reflects the priorities of the presbytery for areas of new growth in our presbytery and our congregations.
- New Growth Fund requests are evaluated and managed by CDC.
  - CDC, through leadership of the New Things Team, manages requests through a thorough application process that requires a three- to five-year budget plan, coaching and mentoring partnerships, and local NCP congregational support.
  - All New Growth Fund requests need to be in a partnership with a current congregation within the presbytery. Rationale: The partnership affirms the opportunities for current congregations to be strengthened through the missional and prophetic opportunities of new growth

- These applications will be considered even if they are beyond the scope or have already gone through the New Worshipping Communities 1001 grant process. Rationale: The two can be related. CDC recognizes that for some opportunities, there can be a best practice to start with a 1001 grant initiative and work from the first year or two in evaluating to viability of a longer and larger growth opportunity.
- There will be an 18-month evaluation with New Things Team and Church Development Commission.

The New Things Team's request was presented and approved by the Church Development Committee (CDC) on December 16, 2020. Leadership Council approved the request on January 6, 2021.