

## **PRESBYTERY REPORTS**

### ***Report from the Stated Clerk***

- The Stated Clerk reports the dismissal of Rev. Christine Foster to New England Presbytery, May 12, 2021

The Stated Clerk approved the following ministers to moderate session meetings:

- Rev. Nancy Clark to moderate the session meeting at Northeastern PC on June 12, 2021
- Rev. Jeri Fields to moderate the session meeting at Berwyn PC on June 20, 2021

### ***Report from the Leadership Council***

#### **Leadership Council Meeting Minutes**

**June 2, 2021**

**12:30 PM via Zoom**

**Present:** Charles Barber, Lee Bishop, Brian Clark, Miriam Dewhurst, Quinn Fox, Pat Futato, Diane Hendricks, Dave McClung, Neill Morgan, Sterling Morse, Nancy Neal, Michael Rankin, Elsie Reid, Le Quan Turner

**Absent:** Laura Cunningham

**NCP Staff:** John Molina Moore, LaJuan Quander, Jan Moody, Tara Spuhler McCabe, Heather Deacon, Dina Bickel

**Guests:** Charles Van Gorder, CPM Chair; Stephen Smith-Cobbs, COM Chair; Charles Kuo, MCC Chair

LC Chair Charles Barber opened the meeting with prayer at 12:30 PM.

Pat Furtato offered devotions.

Charles Van Gorder, Commission on Preparation for Ministry Chair, presented the Annual Report of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry. (The report will be posted on the NCP website)

Leadership Council voted on the following recommendation from the Commission on Preparation for Ministry:

***Motion:*** *The Leadership Council moves to approve the following recommendations from the Commission on Preparation for Ministry for the distribution of the scholarship funds:*

*Matt Hackworth - \$20,500.00 (Chicago Theological School)*

*Emilee Williams - \$ 7,368.00 (Wesley Theological Seminary)*

***Approved***

Stephen Smith-Cobbs, Committee on Ministry Chair, presented the Annual Report of the Committee on Ministry. The Council accepted the report, with gratitude. (The report will be posted on the NCP website)

Charles Kuo, Mission Coordinating Committee Chair, presented the Annual Report of the Mission Coordinating Committee. The Council accepted the report, with gratitude. (The report will be posted on the NCP website)-

David McClung and Pat Furtato presented their review of the 2020 NCP Audit prepared by Mike Davis of Anderson, Davis and Associates and recommended its approval by LC.

***Motion:*** *The Leadership Council moves to approve the 2020 Audit prepared by Anderson, Davis and Associates.* ***Approved***

The Council also discussed financial management practices, as well as proposed random reviews of office records, that would improve internal financial controls

LC received recommendations of chairs for NCP committees and commissions.

***Motion:*** *The Leadership Council moves to approve the Nominating Committee's recommendations for committee/commission chairs, September 2021-August 2022:*

*Elder Walter Laessig, Chair, Investment*

*Rev. Megan Klose, Chair, CPM*

*Elder Erik Kloster, Chair, Budget & Finance*

*Elder Karl Mattison, Chair, Stewardship*

***Approved***

LC requested that the Nominating Committee, in the future, provide additional information about each recommended chair for a committee or commission, such as a brief bio and if person has served as chair of the committee/commission previously.

#### **Updates:**

**Boyd's PC:** LC discussed the report from the Administrative Commission for Boyd's Presbyterian. The report was presented to the Session of Boyd's Presbyterian Church at its Stated Meeting on May 13, 2021. Following that meeting, the AC met and voted to assume original jurisdiction, effective May 13, 2021 at 8:00 pm. The former session of Boyd's Presbyterian Church sent LC a response to the May 13<sup>th</sup> AC Report, which was reviewed and discussed by the Council. After due consideration, the Council was persuaded that the steps being taken by the AC are appropriate and in the best interests of the church.

**Wheaton PC: Next steps** Wheaton PC is working with the Church Development Commission to complete a CAT Scan Interpretation. The NCP Treasurer and GP are developing a payment

schedule for Wheaton to reimburse the NCP funds used from the NCP Resurrection Fund to pay the balance on Wheaton's loan from PILP.

### **May 25, 2021 NCP Meeting Evaluation**

LC reviewed responses following May 25 NCP meeting. LC recommended that the June 22 presbytery meeting begin at 5:00 PM with a brief business meeting, followed with worship that will include a sermon from Moderator Rankin; Communion; and the Installation of Moderator Elect Rev. Diane Hendricks and Vice Moderator Elect Shani McIlwain. The Bills and Overtures Committee will lead an Open Space at 4:00 PM to give updates on the 2022 General Assembly.

**Next Leadership Council** meeting will be **Wednesday, September 1 @ 12:30 PM**. Brian Clark will lead devotions.

Le Quan closed the meeting in prayer at 2:40 PM.

### ***Report from the Mid-Atlantic Synod***



The 247<sup>th</sup> Synod Assembly was a Matthew 25 design. More than 50 commissioners, corresponding members, and presenters participated during the March 13, 2021 Virtual Assembly. Pre-assembly orientation and introductions were high energy and commissioners could NOT speak without mentioning their grandchildren. Everyone came ready to work.

Occupying St. Paul Presbyterian Church's pulpit was CRE Pastor and **Synod Moderator Felecia Hardy**. She convened the Body, welcomed everyone, and reminded all to abide by particular Zoom Courtesies and Community Practices. Maybe that's why everyone was on their best behavior or did it have anything to do with the assembly being on Facebook Livestream? This assembly showcased inclusivity and diversity. Recognizing March as Women's History Month, women moderated, preached, and presented. BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) were front and center.



**Chief Emeritus Ken Adams**, representing the Upper Mattaponi Tribe (located in the area of Eastern Virginia Presbytery), propounded a powerful reminder that God owns the land and we are stewards of God's land. Chief Adams greeted the Assembly, thanked Presbyterians for its renunciation of the Doctrine of Discovery and offered the gifts of grace, love, and hospitality. The Chief was presented to the assembly by his very good friend, TE Jon Barton (HR). Jon was the 2020 recipient of the PCUSA Office of the General Assembly's Ecumenical Award. Jon also testified before the US House and Senate advocating for federal recognition of Six Virginia Native American Tribes which that were awarded in 2018.



It was noted that present during this assembly were three individuals who have or currently hold the distinction of GA Co-Moderator. They included TE Byron Wade, now General Presbyterian of Western North Carolina Presbytery, TE Cindy Kohlmann, now Connectional Presbyterian of New Castle Presbytery and the current Co-Moderator, RE Elona Street Stewart. The gallery of pics provides a sample of the beautiful people who all were chumping at the bits. <https://photos.app.goo.gl/2i9xsrjvbcqnC9es6>.

**Co-Moderator Elona Street Stewart** stands with Co-Moderator Greg Bentley drawn in solidarity to present a moral witness to talk about the repairing, healing, damage and loss caused by racism and poverty in this country. "African Americans and Indigenous people have always been part of this church but not always recognized." Her focus is to speak to truth telling and reconciliation to fulfil a commitment to justice in our diverse faith communities. Both Moderators have been guided by prophetic messages of inspiration of "*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to preach good news to the poor.*" This good news is translated into being **good medicine**, and the invitation to lift up the M-25 vision for church and to strategically address the issues of poverty and inequities. We are encouraged to see our neighbors through Jesus's eyes. People who are hungry, sick, who need access to housing, food and shelter, are owed the basic necessity of life as anyone else. They are also due respect, purpose and protection of their human rights. God sends gifts our way so that we can generously use them to repair lives. This begins when we respond to needs to feed, provide shelter or speak for those whose voices are denied and to pursue justice with one another. We must walk carefully and deliberately to repair. Our institutions, including the church, are culpable of issues leading to systemic racism. We must remember, repair and restore! During breakout group time, four



questions drove the conversation; these are questions the synod will continue to discuss as it digs deeper into Matthew 25.

**Spotlight – Charlotte Presbytery:** Associate General Presbyter, Alice Ridgill, effectively highlighted the presbytery’s response to M-25: (1) Locust PC is partnering with the presbytery’s



Community Disaster Response Team to build a warehouse on church property where the Disaster Response team can house supplies, vehicles and equipment. The response team supports mission trips, provides clothing and provides no or low cost supply transportation for local agencies and the Presbytery Disaster Agency of the national church; (2) The Presbytery has established COVID-19 grants as well as technology grants to help congregations gather virtually, livestream their services and provide online giving. (3) The presbytery made M-25 the theme for 2020 and each presbytery meeting featured a sermon and worship on the M-25 initiative to ensure that all three of the focus areas were highlighted over the course of the year. In 2021 the presbytery still demonstrates a commitment to M-25 specifically while planning presbytery worship services for the year, the presbytery leadership were intentional about having more preachers of color to preach at presbytery meetings. (4) The presbytery administration committee, along with council, has recognized that there are 28 historically black congregations in its presbytery that can no longer afford a call and installed pastor; they rely on temporary ministers which means that many ministers do not have benefits. They are exploring ways to assist with this dilemma. Alice provided four questions for Breakout room discussion and for synod committees to follow up throughout the year.

Nominating Committee

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2023	Mary Newbern Williams	BFTE	Eastern Virginia
2023	Doug Sensabaugh	WMRE	Shenandoah

Jubilee Fund Committee

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2023	Veronica Thomas	BFTE	Eastern Virginia
2023	Margaret Washnitzer	BFRE	National Capital

Committee on Representation

Class	Name	Designation	Presbytery
2022	Rian Baldwin	BMRE	Western North Carolina

Re-balancing the Committee on Representation by moving TE Paul Min to the class of 2023; and TE Jerry Cannon to the class of 2023 was approved.

**Committee Reports:**

- Kate B Reynolds Certification Committee approved Wells Fargo Bank authorization on December 10, 2020 to distribute \$598,873.31, and the distribution was made in equal shares of \$1,324.94 to the certified ministers.
- Committee on Representation urges adoption of Matthew 25 to all Presbyteries; SCOR Team to hopefully select Anti-Racism curriculum to complete as a Team Study; and encourages Synod

Nominating to “Rebalance” class sizes. Request Paul Min (Abingdon) and Jerry Cannon (Charlotte) to move from Class of 2021 to Class of 2023.

- The Emerging Ideas serves as an incubator and promoter for new projects. It solicits, receives, evaluates, develops and promotes proposed creative ideas and recommends appropriate responses to proposed ideas or projects that arise from presbyteries, related groups, and the synod. This assembly introduced the newest synod committee. More to come!
- Finance Committee continues to monitor the inflow and outflow of funds, as well as keep close watch on the performance of the asset funds through the markets and will take actions before the end of the year to move funds and allocate shortfalls and surpluses as best suits the financial interests of the Synod of Mid-Atlantic.
- Grants Committee presented the following grants and scholarship requests that were approved by the Assembly: (a) A \$3,000 Stultz Scholarship was awarded to Hanna Alma Jeffrey’s; (b) A \$4,000 Stultz Scholarship was awarded to Rian Wesley Freeman; (c) A \$6,000 Euler Scholarship was awarded to Jenny Chunn; and (d) a \$5,000 Small Church Grant was awarded to Bethesda Presbyterian Church to replace a water well at the church manse.
- Administration Committee reported conversations will begin with the Synod Stated Clerk. His term of office ends December 31, 2021. The committee will address the Board of Directors for Westminster Presbyterian Homes Inc. and their request for the Synod to assume their responsibilities, synod policies on the per capita apportionment and will be determining the dates and venue for next year’s assemblies.
- Executive Committee reported the following: (a) Matthew 25 surveys were developed and sent to Presbyteries for responses and the feedback will assess whether the presbyteries are implementing Matthew 25; (b) Emerging Ideas Committee is chaired by Walter Canter (JAM); (c) Synod will resume receiving grant applications for the August 1 deadline; (d) A Pastoral Epistles was drafted by Moderator and Vice Moderator in response to the assault on our Nation’s Capital; and (e) Synod leadership has committed to greater visibility at Presbytery meetings.
- The Assembly received insightful reports from Massanetta Springs Camps and Conference Center Executive Director and from the Board of Pension Church Consultant.

**Stated Clerk’s Report** presented a statement about Violence Against Asian Americans “Over the past year, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have been increasingly targeted for discrimination and violence in the United States – which we have seen intensify over the past several weeks. The pain, fear and uncertainty that accompany this horrific trend are being felt across the country and around the world. As families cope with this new reality, we urge Presbyterians and Americans to look out for one another, to be thoughtful about the language they use, and to embrace inclusivity as a core principle of this nation and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A).” The Clerk’s Report highlighted the following: (a) COVID deaths in the US has surpassed 500,000 lives lost; (b) Judicial Charges against the synod were dismissed by the GAPJC; (c) Matthew 25 Presbyteries include AKAP, CHA, NEW, NHO, SAL, SHE, WNC and also Massanetta Springs Camps; (d) PMA/PMAB is in transition and involved in an eight month discernment process surrounding Matthew 25. Warren is appreciative to the Synod Moderator and Vice Moderator who are assisting to ease his workload in order for him to effectively chair the PMAB; (e) Presbytery Leadership

Changes includes BAL Mary Gaut Acting SC, NEW Cindy Kohlmann CP, PEA Carl Utley as GP and David Baker as SC, SAL Barbara Smith TGP, WNC Byron Wade GP. JAM will elect a Search Committee in June for leadership and NHO will employ an Interim GP as Ted Churn retires May 2021; (f) Kate B Reynolds Certification Committee, in partnership with Wells Fargo, is transitioning from paper checks to electronic deposits for those who elect; (g) Ecumenical Ministries are ongoing with the Virginia Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches; (h) While synod offered presbyteries up to one-quarter of relief on 2020 per capita to the synod, no presbytery requested relief and nearly all presbyteries are current with per capita payments; (i) Website Enhancement has been made to the synod website. Presbyteries are able to remit per capita and anyone can make contributions or donations at [www.synatlantic.org](http://www.synatlantic.org); (j) Presbytery Minutes for 2019 were certified by the synod and minutes with exceptions noted should be addressed in the 2020 minutes.

**Worship Services:** The Assembly began its meeting with the prophetic preaching of TE Cindy Kohlmann, Connectional Presbyterian (NEW). The sermon, “Impatience and Misery” was based on the pillars of Matthew 25 (Eradicating Systemic Poverty, Dismantling Structural Racism, and Building Vital Congregations). Highlighted was the people’s impatience as they journeyed cross the Red Sea out of enslavement in Egypt. Vice Moderator Steven Scott led the Assembly in a solemn time of remembrance during the closing devotion. Candles were lite; names were called in recognition of those who have died from the pandemics. Can you recount where you were when this pandemic arose? What did you think? What did you feel? We have been changed forever.



# National Capital Presbytery

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## Committee on Representation Report for 2020

June 2021

### Contextual Statistics

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#### Total Membership for 2020

- 25,713 Active Members (A decrease of 632 Active Members from 2019)
- 104 congregations (No change from 2019)

#### Gender

- Of 25,713 Active Members, 59.3% are female (Female: 15,243; Male: 10,470)
- Of 188 Leadership Positions, 49.5% were fulfilled by females (49.1% female in 2019)

#### Age

- Of 3,415 Active Members 25 years old and under, 0 serve in NCP Leadership positions (No change from 2019)
- Of 13,256 Active Members 26-64 years old, 131 serve in NCP Leadership positions (An increase of 15 from 2019)
- Of 9,042 Active Members 65+ years old, 57 serve in NCP Leadership positions (An increase of 4 from 2019)

#### Ethnicity

- Of the 25,713 Active Members, during 2020 there were 188 Leadership positions (An increase of 17 from 2019)
  1. 3.9% of Active Members were Asian American; Thirteen Asian Americans were in Leadership positions
  2. 11.9% of Active Members were African American or African; Twenty five African Americans and one African were in Leadership positions
  3. 1.0% of Active Members were Hispanic or Latino; One Hispanic or Latino served in a Leadership position
  4. There were ninety-five Middle Eastern/North African members and thirteen Native American members. These groups were not represented in NCP Leadership positions in 2020
  5. 21.3% of NCP Leadership Positions were held by Active Members other than Caucasian (19.9% in 2019)
  6. Three of fourteen members of Leadership Council were other than Caucasian (21.4%)

**Observation** - The number of members serving on multiple committees during 2020 is similar to 2019

**Growing Edge** - Continued recruitment of members in the 'Young Adult' and 'Adult' age categories to leadership positions as the 'Senior Adult' category grows



# National Capital Presbytery

## Committee on Representation

### Summary of Leadership Positions – 2020

	2019 Total	2020 Total	Male Clergy	Male Laity	Female Clergy	Female Laity	Asian Amer.	African Amer. & African	Hisp. Latino	Native Amer. (1)	Multi- Cultural (1)	Middle Eastern (1)	Caucasian	Other Self ID	Disabil.	Youth 25 & Under	Young Adult 26-35	Adult 36-64	Senior Adult 65+	(2)
<b>COMMISSIONS</b>																				
AC on Congregational Property	9	11	2	5	2	2		3					8				1	4	6	3
COM Coordination	8	9	2	1	6								9				1	7	1	
COM Transition	8	14	4	4	4	2							14					8	6	
Permanent Judicial	6	7	2		1	4	2	1					4					6	1	
<b>COMMITTEES</b>																				
Bills & Overtures	12	10	2	4	2	2	1	1					8				1	6	3	3
Budget & Finance	6	5	2	2	1			1					4				1	2	2	
Church Development	10	9	3	1	3	2	3						6				1	7	1	2
Committee on Ministry	32	34	10	5	16	3	2	2					30				2	23	9	2
Investments	2	2		2									2					1	1	
Leadership Council	13	14	5	3	3	3		3					11					11	3	2
Mission Coordination	10	14	3	6		5	3	3	1				7				2	10	2	4
Nominating	9	10	2	1	4	3	1	3					6				1	5	4	
Other (Chesterbrook Residences)	1	1				1							1					1		
Personnel	7	9	2	1	1	5	1	2					6					3	6	
Preparation for Ministry	19	18	7	3	4	4		2					16				1	14	3	1
Representation	3	3	1	1		1		2					1					1	2	
Session Records	4	6		2		4							6					4	2	
Stewardship	6	6	1	4	1								6					5	1	
Synod	6	6		2	1	3		3					3					2	4	
<b>TOTAL (3)</b>	171	188	48	47	49	44	13	26	1	0	0	0	148	0	0	0	11	120	57	

Notes:

(1) May be under-reported due to data collection method

(2) Depicts the number of committee members serving on the committee who are also serving on another committee

(3) Represents total Leadership Positions as opposed to total persons