

Summary of the 315th Stated Meeting of National Capital Presbytery

The National Capital Presbytery held a stated meeting via Zoom teleconference on January 24. The Moderator, **Rev. Dr. Chris Deacon**, convened the meeting, and the co-chairs of the Commission on Ministry, **Rev. Carla Gorrell** and **Rev. Juli Wilson-Black**, led the assembly in its opening devotions.

During the meeting the presbytery:

- Recognized transitions and milestones in our community:
 - New member of NCP, the **Rev. Koon Im Choi**, serving as Stated Supply Pastor of Wheaton Community Presbyterian Church.
 - The upcoming ordination of Candidate **Samuel Sarpong**, called to serve as Designated Pastor of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church. The service will be held at Ebenezer on Saturday, February 10, at 1:00 p.m.
 - A celebration of NCP Director of Communications **LaJuan Quander's** 40 years of service to the presbytery, featuring a video with greetings from past colleagues.
- Approved a redevelopment plan for Clarendon Presbyterian Church that will provide affordable housing that is specifically welcoming to LGBTQIA+ seniors, as well as a gathering place for the congregation. Clarendon's pastor, the **Rev. Alice Tewell**, shared the congregation's excitement at discerning a faithful way to put its property in the service of mission in the community.

A video presentation summarizing the redevelopment plan can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/t2WeChz5J34>

Presbytery's final approval comes at the end of a thorough exploration over more than three years between Clarendon Presbyterian Church, NCP's Administrative Commission on Congregational Property, and the Congregational Development Commission, which facilitated discernment through its administration and interpretation of the Church Assessment Tool (CAT).

If your church would like to explore creative and faithful projects like this one, please contact presbytery staff, so that we can help your congregation to step out in faith in this way!

- Established an Administrative Commission for Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church, whose session's members have become too few in number to govern the congregation. The Administrative Commission will visit with the outgoing and remaining members of the session and will exercise the authority of the presbytery in ways aimed at reconstituting the session.
- Approved an exception allowing the Rev. Rachel Vaagenes, currently serving as Stated Supply Pastor, to become the installed Pastor at Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church (Book of Order, G-2.0504c).
- Approved a waiver of the minimum time period of two years for two persons under care of the presbytery's Commission on Preparation for Ministry, Luke Bultena and A. R. (Flanny) Flannigan (Book of Order, G-2.0602, G-2.0610).

- Declined to forward a proposed amendment to the Book of Order to the General Assembly for consideration.

The NCP Leadership Council has adopted the following schedule for upcoming stated meetings:

- March 19, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. – virtual, via Zoom
- May 21, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. – in person, at National Presbyterian Church
- September 24, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. – in person, at National Presbyterian Church
- November 19, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. – virtual, via Zoom

Grace and Peace,
David Baer, Stated Clerk

