

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT
to Presbytery
March 19, 2024

Exams

Wood, Shelly – Sustained the examination of Rev. Dr. Shelly Wood on February 12, 2024 and recommend she be received as a minister member of National Capital Presbytery. [Exam 2/12/24, eVote 2/12/24, CC 02/20/24]

Harasty, Shelby – Congregational Transitions Commission requested that COM Coordinating Commission grant an exception for the Rev. Shelby Harasty to the requirement that NCP ministers seeking a new installed position in the presbytery be re-examined, if they were received more than 10 years ago. [CTC eVote 2/13/24, CC 2/20/24]

COM Coordinating granted an exception for the Rev. Shelby Harasty to requirement that NCP ministers seeking a new installed position in the presbytery be re-examined, if they were received more than 10 years ago. [CC eVote 2/14/24, CC 2/20/24]

Contracts/Terms of Call

Adelphi/Fields – Approved the Transitional Pastor contract between the session of Adelphi Presbyterian Church and Rev. Jeri Fields dated October 1, 2023 and is renewable every 6 months with consent of the pastor, session and presbytery. [eVote 2/27/24, CTC 3/7/24]

Berwyn/Ulmer - Approved the contract between Rev. Holly Ulmer and the session of Berwyn Presbyterian Church, for the position of Stated Supply Pastor, effective February 28, 2023 through February 27, 2024. [eVote 2/16/24, CTC 3/7/24]

Bush Hill/Heck - Approved the contract between Rev. Dr. Barbara Heck and the session of Bush Hill Presbyterian Church, for the position of Stated Supply Pastor, effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. [eVote 1/29/24, CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

Clarendon/Tewell - Approved the contract between Rev. Alice Tewell and the Session of the Clarendon Presbyterian Church, for the position of supply pastor effective January 1, 2024 through December 21, 2025. (Two year contract) [eVote 2/7/24, CC 2/20/24]

Emmanuel Indonesian/Kekung - Approved the part time contract between Rev. Cynthia Kekung and session of Emmanuel Indonesian Presbyterian Church, for the position of Pastor, effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. (eVote 1/29/24) – Note: The session's salary is a little under the minimum. We can back her up with a letter to say we hope to move in that direction and offer them to accept a gradual movement to increase the salary in future years. [eVote 1/29/24, CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

Grace Lanham/McDonald, Jim - Approved the contract between Rev. Jim McDonald and the Session of the Grace Presbyterian Church Lanham, for the position of part time temporary supply pastor effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. [eVote 1/29/24, CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

National/Larsen - Approved the contract between Rev. Lisa Larsen and the session of National Presbyterian Church, for the position of Stated Supply Associate Pastor for Care,

effective February 27, 2024 through February 26, 2025. [eVote 2/12/24, CC 2/20/24]

Northeastern/Greiner – Approved the contract between Rev. Mark Greiner and the session of Northeastern Presbyterian Church, for the position of Transformative Stated Supply Pastor, effective January 2, 2024 and ending January 1, 2025. [eVote 2/23/24, CTC 3/7/24]

Northwood/Deacon - Approved the contract between Rev. Dr. Chris Deacon and the Session of Northwood Presbyterian Church, for the position of Stated Supply Pastor for Redevelopment and is effective October 3, 2023 through December 31, 2024. [eVote 1/23/24, CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

Oaklands/Nabinger - Approved the contract between Rev. Matthew Nabinger and the session of Oaklands Presbyterian Church, for the position of Stated Supply Pastor, effective February 6, 2024 through February 5, 2025. [eVote 1/11/24, CTC 2/1/24]

OPMH/Wood - Approved the proposed Terms of Call Form A between Old Presbyterian Meeting House and Rev. Dr. Shelly Wood to serve as Pastor- Head of Staff effective April 22, 2024. [eVote 2/12/24, CC 2/20/24]

OPMH/Sledge - Approved the "First Amendment" to the existing contract between Rev. James Sledge and the session of Old Presbyterian Meeting House, for the position of Transitional Pastor and Head of Staff for the term of the Agreement is hereby extended to a date (the "Expiration Date") not later than the earlier of the new installed pastor's start date or May 15, 2024.[eVote 2/12/24, CC 2/20/24]

Providence/Baker - Approved the proposed Terms of Call Form A and General Housing Agreement between Providence Presbyterian Church and Rev. Matt Baker to serve as Head of Staff pending the congregational meeting. [eVote 9/13/23, CC 9/26/23]

United Parish of Bowie/Wilson - Approved the contract between Rev. Caroline Wilson and the Parish Board of the United Parish of Bowie, for the position of Interim Pastor and is effective January 15, 2024 through January 14, 2025. [eVote 2/21/24, CTC 3/7/24]

PNCs

Burke – Approved Burke Presbyterian Church to form an APNC. [CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

Laurel – Approved Laurel Presbyterian Church to form a PNC. [CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

Heritage – Approved Heritage Presbyterian Church to form a PNC. [CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

Dissolutions

Immanuel/Strednak Singer - Approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Katie Strednak Singer and Immanuel Presbyterian Church effective October 4, 2023. [CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

Silver Spring/Hankins – Approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Rev. Ron Hankins and Silver Spring Presbyterian Church effective February 4, 2024. [CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

COM Motions

ConEd Event/Gorrell – Approved using the COM discretionary fund (\$225) for Rev. Carla Gorrell to attend NCP's Continuing Education Gathering & Retreat.

EEO/AA policy change - This is NCP's *current* EEO/AA Policy:

Affirmative Action Program

1. The COM and its liaisons with PNCs will assist in finding qualified *women, persons of color, and persons with disabilities*.
2. Each PNC must include, hear preach, and interview *at least one woman* among its final candidates unless granted an exception by COM.
3. Any exception must be requested and granted prior to interviewing final candidates, and only after a PNC has made diligent efforts to find qualified persons of *both* genders and diverse race, ethnicity, and with disabilities.

This is the *proposed* change to the Policy:

(The definition of diversity is quoted directly from the Book of Order.)

1. The COM and its liaisons with PNCs will advise PNCs on openness to finding qualified candidates of a diversity of ages, races, ethnicities, abilities, genders, and worldly conditions. (Book of Order F-1.0403 and F-1.404)
2. A PNC is required to include and interview candidates that represent diversity among its final candidates as defined in #1.
3. Any exception must be requested and granted prior to interviewing final candidates, and only after a PNC has made diligent efforts to find diverse qualified persons as defined in #1.

Rationale for the change: The current policy language was approved in 1998. We have received feedback about the policy being outdated. Since there is currently no a lack of women candidates being called to all types of pastor positions, this requirement is dated. What if a PNC has only women and no men as final candidates? How do we acknowledge there are more than two genders and include candidates who are non-binary? Also, diversity as described in the Book of Order now has a much broader meaning.

Litchfield AC – Approved a motion to authorize Stated Clerk, Rev. David Baer, to put together language for an Administrative Commission at Litchfield Presbyterian Church and request the COM's Coordinating Commission's approval through eVote. [CC 2/20/24]

TRANSITIONS

to Retired

Hankins, Ron – Approved the status of Rev. Ron Hankins to retired effective February 1, 2024. [CTC 2/1/24, CC 2/20/24]

Parish Associate

Evans, Abigail – Approved the Parish Associate relationship between Rev. Abigail Evans and Fairfax Presbyterian Church for a period of one year beginning 1/1/2024. [TEC 2/13/24, CC 2/20/24]

Hopkins, Gerald – Approved the Parish Associate relationship between Rev. Gerald Hopkins and Fairfax Presbyterian Church for a period of one year beginning 1/1/2024. [TEC 2/13/24, CC 2/20/24]

Mulvihill, Kathleen – Approved the Parish Associate relationship between Rev. Kathleen Mulvihill and Fairfax Presbyterian Church for a period of one year beginning 1/1/2024. [TEC 2/13/24, CC 2/20/24]

Woodward, Grace – Approved the Parish Associate relationship between Rev. Grace Woodward and Georgetown Presbyterian Church for a period of one year beginning January 1, 2024. [TEC 2/13/24, CC 2/20/24]

2024 Housing Allowance Requests Approved:

Rev. Larry Golemon - \$35,000