

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
REPORT to Presbytery
September 24, 2024

Statement – In accordance with a settlement agreement in the remedial case *Rev. Dr. Willie Keaton vs. National Capital Presbytery*, the COM submits the following for inclusion in the minutes of this meeting: "Dr. Keaton and the Committee on Ministry have come to a mutual understanding regarding his call at Northeastern Presbyterian Church, and agree the dissolving of the call was in the best interest of all parties and no one particular person was at fault." [CC 8/1/24]

Exams

Kemery, Amanda - sustained the examination of Rev. Amanda Kemery on June 20, 2024 and recommend she be received as a minister member of National Capital Presbytery. [eVote June 20, 2024, CC 8/20/24]

Manning, Peter - Sustained the examination of Rev. Peter Manning on May 7, 2024 and recommend he be received as an at large minister member. [eVote 6/11/24, CC 6/18/24]

McCollum, Brian – sustained examination of Rev. Brian McCollum on August 16, 2024 and recommended he be received as a member at large of the National Capital Presbytery. [eVote August 20, 2024, CC 9/17/24]

Contracts/Terms of Call

Ensign, David - approved the contract between the session of Western Presbyterian Church and Rev. David Ensign to serve as Bridge Pastor for the period beginning June 10, 2024 through November 27, 2024. [eVote June 18, 2024, CC 8/20/24]

Phillips, Paul – approved the gap pastor contract between the session of the Church of the Covenant and the Rev. Paul Phillips, effective June 4, 2024 through August 31, 2024. [eVote July 10, 2024, CC 8/20/24]

Lewinsville/Dunfee - To approve the short term stated supply contract between the session of Lewinsville Presbyterian Church and Rev. Jennifer Sue Dunfee effective May 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. [CTC 6/6/24]

Rockville/Graceson - To approve the Terms of Call between Rev. Susan Graceson and the congregation of Rockville Presbyterian Church effective January 1, 2024. [CTC 6/6/24]

St. Andrew/Kemery – To approve the Terms of Call between Rev. Amanda Kemery and the congregation of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church if the way be clear. [CTC 6/6/24]

Silver Spring/Walker - To approve the Stated Supply contract between the Rev. Elizabeth

Walker and Silver Spring Presbyterian Church, effective June 3, 2024. [CTC 6/6/24]

Gaithersburg/Hodges – To approve an extension in the Associate Pastor Stated Supply contract between the Rev. LeAnn Hodges and Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church, effective November 1, 20204, to June 30, 2025. [CTC 7/18/24]

Heritage/Fields – To approve the Transitional Pastor contract between the Rev. Jeri Fields and Heritage Presbyterian Church, for a period of one year, beginning August 26, 2024. [CTC 7/18/24]

Christ/Lee – To approve the Stated Supply contract between the Rev. Sung Lee and Christ Presbyterian Church, effective August 12, 2024 to August 11, 2025. [CTC 7/18/24]

Redeemer/Morse – to approve the stated supply contract between Rev. Dr. Sterling Morse and Redeemer Presbyterian for one year, effective as of September 1, 2024. [CTC 9/5/24]

Appointment of the following moderators:

Elder Shani McIlwain for the session of Prince George’s Community Presbyterian Church, effective June 1, 2024 [CC 6/18/24]

Rev. Ed Taylor to preside at the congregational meeting held at Warner Memorial PC on August 18, 2024. [CC 8/20/24]

Rev. Jeri Fields, for the session meeting at Heritage Presbyterian Church, August 20, 2024. [This date falls outside the contract for her service as Gap Pastor.] [CC 8/20/24]

The **Rev. Carla Gorrell** as moderator of the session of the Church of the Covenant for a meeting held on September 10, 2024. [CC 9/17/24]

The **Rev. John Molina-Moore** as moderator of the session of Grace Presbyterian Church in Lanham, for a meeting to be held on October 8, 2024. [CC 9/17/24]

PNCs

Gaithersburg – To grant permission to the congregation to form a Pastor Nominating Committee. [CTC 6/6/24]

Taiwanese - to grant permission for Taiwanese Presbyterian Church to form a PNC. [CTC 7/18/24]

Validated Ministry

Approved the validation ministry of **Rev. Angela Tyler-Williams** as Co-Director for Movement Building at SACReD. [TEC e-vote August 17, 2024]

Dissolutions

Warner Memorial/Crawford – CTC approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Adele Crawford and Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church, effective August 31, 2024, subject to a severance agreement [CTC Called Meeting on August 15, 2024, CC 8/20/24]

Permission to Labor Within/Outside Bounds

Approved the **Rev. Dr. Perzavia Praylow** to labor outside the bounds of National Capital Presbytery for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, contingent upon her receiving permission from the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky to labor within their bounds. [Dr. Praylow has accepted a position as Director of Black Church Studies and Assistant Professor of Practical Theology at Louisville Seminary.] [CC 6/18/24]

Approved the **Rev. Lisa Rzepka** to labor outside the bounds of National Capital Presbytery for the period of July 1, 2024, through September 30, 2024, contingent upon her receiving permission from the Presbytery of Santa Fe to labor within their bounds. [Ms. Rzepka has accepted a sabbatical leave position at Second Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico] [CC 6/18/24]

Pulpit Supply List

Approved **Ms. Rebekah Givens**, a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, and an inquirer under care of NCP's CPM. She received her Master of Divinity degree from Virginia Theological Seminary this spring. Ms. Givens worked in her field education at Bush Hill Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Barbara Heck, who advises that she has preached six times during the past academic year, and who strongly recommends her inclusion on the pulpit supply list, calling her "a born preacher ... clear in delivery, curious in exegesis, and easy to follow in thought." [CC 6/18/24]

Approved **Rev. Allison Lundeen**, a member-at-large of NCP. She grew up at Rockville Pres. Church and was ordained by National Capital Presbytery in 1996. She served as pastoral intern for Gary Pinder at Lewinsville Pres. Church before moving to Illinois where she served a church in Great Rivers and a church in Chicago Presbytery, for a total of 27 years. She and her husband recently moved back to the DC area. She is not looking for a call- just to reconnect with her home presbytery, do some pulpit supply, take care of her mom in Bethesda, and be closer to their three adult daughters. [CC 6/18/24]

Dismissals to other Presbyteries

The **Rev. Chauncey Handy** to the Presbytery of the Cascades, effective May 21, 2024, at their request. [CC 6/18/24]

Parish Associate

Approved the renewal of the Parish Associate relationship of Rev. Mel Baars O'Malley and Fairlington Presbyterian Church. [TEC e-vote 7/17/24]

Other COM Actions

Ministry Crisis Fund – CC approved up to \$10,000 to be drawn from the crisis fund [CC 8/1/24]

Hwang, Yenna – approved that the recommendation of Mark Harper and Carla Gorrell to recommend that, following a period of discernment in accordance with the NCP Policy on Changes in Pastoral Role and with the concurrence of the session of Falls Church Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery grant an exception under G-2.0504c, so that the Rev. Yena Hwang, the interim pastor of Falls Church Presbyterian Church, may be eligible to be called as the installed pastor. [eVote June 20, 2024, CC 8/20/24]

Benefits Policy – CTC approved a revised version of the benefits portion of the compensation policy, incorporating recommendations that came from a legal review [Called Meeting on August 15, 2024, CC 8/20/24]

Budget - zero-out MRT support group line and reduce workshops line to \$2000 (i.e., reduce \$1000 from both). [CC 8/20/24]

Taiwanese/Hung – To accept the Covenant of Closure between Rev. Chien-Di Hung and Taiwanese Presbyterian Church of Washington. [CTC 7/18/24]

Coordinating Commission Membership –

approved that the following names be placed in nomination for CTC: Mark Harper, co-chair; Mike Volpe, co-chair; Carla Gorrell; Henry Brinton; Jesy Littlejohn; Susan Graceson; Kris Maldarelli; Dean McDonald; Matt Nabinger; Juli Wilson-Black; Taekhan Yoon

approved that the following names be placed in nomination for Coordinating Commission: Carla Correll, co-chair; Juli Wilson-Black, co-chair; Mark Harper; Gary Sowers; Michael Volpe; Linda Lanam; Emma Horn; Larry Goleman; Katherine Stanford [CC 9/17/24]

AC for PGCC - Moved to propose that National Capital Presbytery ESTABLISH an Administrative Commission for the Prince George's Community Presbyterian Church, in accordance with *Book of Order* G-3.0109(b), in response to reports of disorder. [CC 9/17/24]

Ordination and Installation Instructions – approved addition of the following language to the Ordination and Installation instructions provided by the presbytery:

<<A recommended alternative is participation in the Presbytery-wide Service of Installation offered on an annual basis. This reduces the planning responsibilities of the pastor, and reinforces the understanding of the event as a presbytery celebration. Contact the Stated Clerk

for more information about scheduling, commission members, and service participants.>> [CC
9/17/24]