

May 15, 2026



Siblings in Christ,

“It’s my last letter....It’s the last one!”

[I hope at least one of you sang that in your head like the witch from *Into the Woods*]

It’s my last letter because at this upcoming meeting we will spend a portion of our time together electing a new Moderator and Vice Moderator! We will also vote to elect our new Stated Clerk candidate, the Rev. Alex Evangelista. Additionally, we will commission those who were selected to serve at the 227th General Assembly this summer in Milwaukee. We are blessed to be led by such gifted people, and I am thankful for the ways God is moving through each of these folks to faithfully serve this presbytery and the greater church.

This Tuesday we will also receive an update from Leadership Council about where we currently stand regarding the property formerly known as Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church; we will learn about transitions happening within our congregations; and we will have the opportunity to worship and come together at the table to join in the sacrament of communion.

In so many ways, this feels like a standard Presbytery meeting, business as usual. But friends: things are happening in this Presbytery. I have had the opportunity, in my time as Moderator, to visit and preach at many of our churches. There is excitement, there is energy, and as we approach Pentecost, I am reminded so deeply of how the Spirit is at work in this place and this body.

So friends, as our time in the “woods” quickly comes to a close, I give thanks for the ways you have entrusted me to walk this path with you. It hasn’t always been straight, and what I thought I knew well often held beautiful surprises and unexpected challenges. And still, I am blessed to know that I have not walked this journey alone. I give thanks for the ways the Spirit keeps showing up among us: in transition, in worship, at the table, and in one another.

See you Tuesday!

Jesy Littlejohn (they/them)
Moderator, National Capital Presbytery

PS - Shoutout to Rev. Blair Moorehead and Rev. Mark Harper who enthusiastically texted me after my last letter to answer my not-so-hidden trivia question! Bonus for this one: Who knows the song I referenced at the beginning of my letter?

**Stated Meeting
National Capital Presbytery
May 19, 2026
5:00 PM National Presbyterian Church
We Gather in Community**

5:00 PM CALL TO ORDER	Elder Jesy Littlejohn
OPENING PRAYER	Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes
SEATING OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS	Elder Jesy Littlejohn
5:05 PM FORMATION OF THE ROLL, OMNIBUS MOTION (p.3), REPORT FROM ACTING STATED CLERK	Elder Jesy Littlejohn & Rev. John Molina-Moore
5:10 PM ACTION ITEM #1 LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (p. 5) Garden Memorial	Rev. Jeri Fields & Heather Deacon
5:25 PM TRANSITIONS	Rev. John Molina-Moore
5:35 PM ACTION ITEM #2 NOMINATING COMMITTEE (p. 16) Election of Moderator and Vice Moderator	Rev. Katie Murchison Ross
5:45 PM ACTION ITEM #3 STATED CLERK SEARCH COMMITTEE (p. 18) Election of the Stated Clerk	Rev. Juli Wilson-Black
5:55 PM WORSHIP	
Commissioning of GA commissioners	
o Elder Jesy Littlejohn (Oaklands)	
o Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes (Capitol Hill)	
o Elder Kristin Ford (New York Ave)	
o Elder Beverly Johnson (Lewinsville)	
o Elder Jacquelyn Moore (Sargent Memorial)	
o Rev. Elizabeth Brookens-Sturman (Retired)	
o Rev. David Douthett (Catoctin)	
o Rev. Emma Horn (Immanuel)	
o Sofia Turkman (YAAD) (Saint Mark)	
Communion	
6:25 PM NEW BUSINESS	Elder Jesy Littlejohn
6:30 PM CHARGE AND BLESSING	Elder Jesy Littlejohn

Meeting Leaders

Rev. John Molina-Moore, General Presbyter and Acting Stated Clerk

Elder Jesy Littlejohn, NCP Moderator

Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes, NCP Vice-Moderator

Rev. Jeri Fields, Leadership Council Chair

Heather Deacon, Senior Director of Finance & Operations and Treasurer

Rev. Katie Murchison Ross, Nominating Committee Chair

Rev. Juli Wilson-Black, Chair, Stated Clerk Search Committee

OMNIBUS MOTION

From the Stated Clerk:

- The Stated Clerk recommends the **APPROVAL** of the minutes of the NCP Stated Meetings held on March 24, 2026.

From the Nominating Committee

To move the following for nomination:

Administrative Commission on Congregational Property

- Peter Manning (TE, First Arlington), c/o 2029

Budget and Finance

- Richard Johnson (RE, OPMH), c/o 2029
- Don Humphries (RE, Northminster), c/o 2029

Committee on Ministry (COM)

- Scott Ramsey (TE, Lewinsville), c/o 2029

Congregational Transitions Commission (CTC)

- Roy Martin (TE, Retired), c/o 2029
- Carolyn Tilley (TE, validated ministry/Takoma Park), c/o 2029

Personnel

- Alice Ogden Bellis (TE, validated ministry/Fifteenth Street), c/o 2029

Session Records

- Bob Patrick (RE, Grace-Springfield), c/o 2029

From the Nominating Committee

To move the following for nomination:

Nominating Committee

- Kori Philips McMurtry (TE, Christian Community Presbyterian), c/o 2029
- Erin Counihan (TE, Pilgrims/Western), c/o 2029

To move the following to serve as co-chair for the 26-27 year:

- COM Co-Chair: Kris Maldarelli (RE, Gaithersburg)

To move the following to serve as chairs for the 26-27 year:

- ACCP: LeAnn Hodges (TE, Gaithersburg)
- Budget and Finance: Mark Stunder (RE, Boyds)
- CPM: Blair Moorhead (TE, Immanuel)
- Investments: Karl Hoffman (Lay member, New York Avenue)
- Nominating: Katie Murchison Ross (TE, Grace Springfield)
- Session Records: Julia McBee (RE, St. Matthew)

ACTION ITEM #1

Leadership Council - Garden Memorial

MOTION: Leadership Council moves that National Capital Presbytery utilize the DC Resurrection fund to pay outstanding taxes owed to the District of Columbia for the property located at 1720 Minnesota Avenue, SE, Washington, DC, formerly known as Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Rationale: As outlined in the enclosed materials, NCP has been in a 3-year legal process of defending our claim to the worship property related to the former Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church. As part of this process, the property was declared vacant. This declaration triggered a property tax liability. The DC government allows for a significant reduction in property taxes if the property is subject to litigation. NCP has been able to access this reduction each year, but only after going through a multi-level appeal process. The result being that a portion of the 2024 and 2025 tax debt was sold at tax sale before the appeal process for 2024 and 2025 had concluded. On the advice of NCP attorneys, we did not pay those portions until the resolution was reached. With the litigation reduction now properly applied, NCP must redeem the taxes for 2024 and 2025

The current amount of tax debt owed to the District of Columbia is approximately \$109,626.

Note: The balance in the DC Resurrection fund as of March 31 is \$1,100,269

Garden Memorial Summary Background

In 2017, tax debt for the worship property associated with Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church located at 1720 Minnesota Ave SE (Washington DC) was sold at tax sale. Months of correspondence and negotiations resulted in NCP paying property taxes totaling approximately \$55,000 and incurring \$20,000 in legal fees. The congregation entered into an agreement to repay the tax portion only on a monthly, interest-free plan. These payments were consistently made through April of 2021. The last payment recorded on the loan was in March of 2022. The tax liability impacting this situation occurred because of a for-profit day care that operated in the basement of the church building. As part of the agreement with NCP, the daycare was to vacate the premises to ensure they would not continue to incur property taxes.

In July 2022, NCP became aware that Garden Memorial was again delinquent in property taxes, which resulted in the property being sold again at tax sale in large part because they had continued to allow the for-profit day care to operate in their basement.

The resulting actions led to the Presbytery advancing funds to redeem property taxes and set up an AC to access congregational vitality (2022). After multiple attempts to meet with congregation members, and in light of there being no services held or business conducted by the church since March of 2020, the Presbytery amended the authority of the AC to dissolve the congregation (2023). The AC took action to dissolve the congregation in June of 2023. As a result, NCP files legal action to have the property placed in its name. A 3-year legal battle ensued. During this time, the property became inhabited by unhoused people resulting in significant damage and causing disruption to the neighborhood.

Since 2022, NCP has spent approximately \$610,233 caring for and defending its claim to the property. This is in addition to costs still not recovered from the tax issue in 2017 and outstanding monies owed by Garden Memorial to the Ministry Crisis Fund. A summary of monies spent to date is included in this packet.

The property is currently listed for sale with Foundry Commercial. We anticipate coming back to the floor in the coming months requesting permission to approve the sale of this property.

Garden Memorial Expenses

Below is line item summary of expenses paid to date relating to Garden Memorial.

Expenses 2022-March 31, 2026		
Legal	\$	146,574.54
Taxes	\$	190,077.41
Property Fines & Related Expenses	\$	109,473.24
Deed Transfer Fees	\$	<u>164,108.10</u>
	\$	610,233.29
Outstanding Monies (Prior to 2022)		
Remaining Expenses Related to 2018 Tax Matter	\$	42,000.00
Outstanding Ministry Crisis Loan	\$	14,935.79
Past Due Per Capita	\$	<u>31,659.18</u>
	\$	88,594.97

Line-Item Descriptions

- Legal – Attorney Fees, Filing Fees, Notary Expenses, Legal Research, etc.
- Taxes – Property Taxes
- Property Fines & Related Expenses – Department of Building Fines, Code Violations & Remediations, Expenses Related to Securing the Property, Clearing Utility Debt owed by congregation
- Deed Transfer Fees – Fees paid to transfer deed into NCP name (a chance this will be recouped through appeal)
- Remaining Expenses Related to 2018 Tax Matter – Balance of loan to Garden Memorial for the tax lien portion of clearing the 2017/18 tax situation
- Outstanding Ministry Crisis Loan – Balance remaining on loan to Garden Memorial to pay out severance related to pastoral transition
- Past Due Per Capita – Per Capita owed for years 2004-2023

Garden Memorial Timeline, 2020-Present

This timeline outlines events from 2020-present and does not document or account for the issues prior to 2020 which include the sale of tax debt on the property in 2017.

July 2022 Became aware that the tax debt on the worship property had been sold at DC tax sale.

August 2022 Gathered information, consulted church representatives, reviewed history of tax sale for this property, sought legal counsel, and updated Leadership Council.

September 2022 Leadership Council takes the following actions:

Leadership Council moves that the Presbytery pay outstanding taxes owed to the District of Columbia for the worship property located at 1720 Minnesota Avenue, SE, Washington, DC, known as Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church. Communication regarding this action is to be sent to all known members of the church. The DC Resurrection Fund will be used for expenses related to this action, including all legal fees incurred by the Presbytery.

Leadership Council moves that the presbytery designate an Administrative Commission (AC), members to be appointed by the moderator, to assume original jurisdiction and act as the session for Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church to assess the vitality of the congregation. The commission is instructed to report quarterly to Leadership Council. (Congregation notified of these actions)

Requested to meet with representatives of the congregation at the property. Were denied.

Staff visited property to assess condition (exterior only).

Met with members of the congregation via zoom. Learned that the congregation had not been worshipping since 2020 (when the pandemic began). Learned there had been no Session or Congregational meetings since 2020 because they had no business to discuss (their words).

Prior to September Presbytery Meeting Church Member B began campaign to pastors in the NCP directory asking them to vote “no” on an AC, calls Synod Executive, and threatens civil action.

Presbytery Meeting approved the motion put forward by Leadership Council (listed in timeline above). As part of this meeting an Action Item Dialogue was held to educate Presbytery on scope of issues.

October 2022

AC is formed. Congregation is notified. Members of AC are: Rev. Bernice Parker-Jones, Elder Charles Barber, Elder Sandra Barrett, Rev. Mark Gaskill, Rev. Juan Guthrie, and Rev. Ruth Hamilton.

Members of AC and Presbytery Staff meet at church to further assess building condition and obtain membership information so that work of AC can begin. Met at church by a member who refused to provide directory/roles/member contact information.

Church Member B successfully submits DC Real Property Tax Exemption Form so that tax liability is reduced

NCP pays past due taxes in the amount of \$54,439.27

11/22-3/23

AC attempts to meet several times with members of the congregation. Attempts are blocked by Church Members A & B. A handful of members do meet with AC and those are very supportive of the work that is trying to be done.

March 2023

AC approves the following action:

*Administrative Commission for Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church **AUTHORIZE** the National Capital Presbytery Treasurer to take appropriate legal action to secure and hold the property of the church in the name of National Capital Presbytery, Inc.*

Presbytery Staff authorize legal counsel to file quiet claim to the property.

At the March Presbytery Meeting, the following action was taken:

*The Leadership Council recommends that the Presbytery **AMEND** the charge of the Administrative Commission for Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church, established in September 2022, to add the following:*

The Administrative Commission, after consultation with such remaining members of the congregation as it is able to contact, shall have the power and authority, at its sole discretion, to carry out all matters related to the dissolution of the church:

- 1. The continued exercise of original jurisdiction, in accordance with **Book of Order G-3.0303e**.*
- 2. Pastoral care of the members.*
- 3. An appropriate celebration of the ministry and mission of the congregation.*
- 4. The orderly dismissal of members to other congregations of their choosing.*
- 5. Securing, holding, and using of the properties of the congregation, including the maintenance of property and liability insurance.*
- 6. The making of recommendations to the Presbytery about the sale or disposition of such property.*
- 7. Conveying all original church records (minutes, rolls, and registers) and historically important documents or artifacts to the Stated Clerk of the presbytery for preservation.*
- 8. Dissolving the legal corporation once all property has been transferred or disposed of.*

The Moderator of the Presbytery shall have the authority to fill any vacancies that may arise in the membership of the Commission.

*In accordance with **Book of Order G-3.0109(b)**, the Commission shall keep a full record of its proceedings for incorporation into the records of the Presbytery. The Commission shall report its decisions to the Stated Clerk, who shall report them to the Presbytery at its next stated meeting.*

Dr. Walton-Hendricks invited the Rev. Bernice Parker-Jones, chair of the Administrative Commission for Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church to speak about the work of the commission.

*Following a period of discussion, the Presbytery voted, and the motion was **carried**.*

April 2023 Presbytery becomes aware that “congregation” is attempting to mortgage the property. Legal counsel advises and is subsequently authorized to file a lis pendant on the property to prevent mortgage.

Rev. Bernice Parker-Jones steps down from AC. Edler Lucius Durden joins AC and is elected chair.

DC Government affixes notice to the property door declaring the property vacant.

Become aware of \$9,000 lien on property by DC Water and multiple Department of Building infractions relating to condition of property (i.e. overgrown bushes, etc.).

May 2023 Member B of sends letter to PC(USA) notifying of their intent to disaffiliate/withdrawal from PC(USA).

June 2023 The AC took the following action:

The Administrative Commission for Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church acted in accordance with the authority conferred by the Presbytery on March 28, to DISSOLVE Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church as a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

August 2023 Paperwork filed with courts asserting NCP’s claim to the property.

Members of “congregation” meet offsite (no utilities were on at the property) to discuss putting Solar Panels on property as a means of generating income.

NCP attorneys send letter notifying “congregation” that they may not install solar panels.

NCP is notified that solar panel project is on hold due to the need for roof repairs. Attorneys intervene to prevent contractor from performing repairs as property is not insured. (Note, NCP is unable to insure property at this time because NCP is not allowed to access property to perform basic inspection required by insurance company.)

September 2023 Received notice that Church Member A responded to NCP’s claim to filing and subsequently filed a counterclaim asserting his authority to hold the property as a Trustee of the church.

Received notice that court rejected said member’s counterclaim.

Counterclaim was refiled by Church Member A.

October 2023 On advice of counsel, NCP files paperwork to have the property declared vacant.

Received word that property is being occupied by unhoused people.

Filed order with DC courts that NCP be granted access to the property so that steps to secure it can be taken.

Presbytery staff go to property to observe activity.

November 2023 Receive notice that NCP's request to have property taxes exempted on grounds of legal dispute was denied. Appeal subsequently filed.

Received notice that counterclaim to NCP filing (original filing) was dismissed.

Affidavits are filed by staff, contractors and neighbors to bolster request to have access to building granted for purpose of securing property.

Received notice that an attorney entered his appearance as counsel for "defendants" however, the "defendants" were not identified.

December 2023 At hearing for access to property the "defendants" attorney requested more time to identify who he represents as well as to respond to this hearing. Both were granted.

Opposing party files motion opposing our request to access the property.

Received notice that our initial claim asserting our right to the property was dismissed on the grounds they the DC court did not have jurisdiction.

January 2024 Motion to have dismissal reconsidered was filed.

Hearing requesting access to property was cancelled. Notice that an order was forthcoming was received.

February 2024 Metro Police Department begins calling NCP regarding complaints from neighbors about activity at property.

Received Department of Buildings notice that property has been fined because a door has been kicked in.

Motion to reconsider our claim asserting NCP right to the property was granted. Court requested we refile all previous motions to date.

March 2024 Send letter to DOB outlining our position as owner of the property and requesting all outstanding invoices so they can be cured.

Received notice that motion to serve defendants and unknown persons by publication was approved.

Church Member A filed motion to intervene in our claim as well as a counterclaim asserting his right to the property.

Church Member A files motions opposing service by publication and our request to access the property. NCP filed responses to both.

April 2024 Motion allowing NCP access to the property for purposes of securing it is granted. Order placed some conditions on any repairs that might be done.

Motion denying Church Member A's request to intervene in NCP's claim to the property was denied.

A deadline of May 8th was set for filings related to the Property Claim case.

June 2024 Hearing in the case resulted in additional time for the opposing party to submit answers.

July 2024 Church Member A filed an additional counterclaim stating he had been appointed as a Trustee.

Opposing counsel submitted filing withdrawing himself from case. The defendant was given time to file an answer to his filing.

August 2024 NCP files witness list ahead of hearing.

Our motion to strike Church Member A's response and counter claim was granted.

September 2024 Church Member A filed motion to have his answer and counterclaim reconsidered.

October 2024 Court denies Church Member A's request for reconsideration.

November 2024 Church Member A files appeal of denial of his request for reconsideration.

NCP files motion of default to advance Property Claim case.

Opposing counsel was granted permission to withdraw.

December 2024 Hearing on the NCP's default motion is continued until late January.

January 2025 Motion filed by Church Member A appealing their counsel's withdrawal from the case was denied.

Work to secure property is completed. Cost of this work is \$56,282.70.

All appeals by Church Member A are denied.

Fire breaks out on porch of the church. Minimal damage was done. Fire did not breach into the interior.

NCP staff visit property to assess damage from fire.

February 2025 At hearing, NCP's motion of default was granted; however, order had to be amended to include both the Church and Trustees.

March 2025 NCP Files motion for judgement.

NCP receives order granting judgement.

April 2025 Church Member A filed motion appealing judgement. Despite missing the filing deadline, DC Court of Appeals agrees to hear the case.

May 2025 NCP files to record deed in its name, based on the Judgement Order.

DC Court of Appeals issues Order to Show Cause to Church Member A. He has 20 days to respond.

June 2025 Recorder of Deed rejects NCP Deed because they are requiring NCP to pay recordation and transfer taxes (despite judgement order stating these fees were not applicable in this case).

Leadership Council passes the following motion allowing NCP to pay recording fees relating to recording deed in NCP's name:

That the Leadership Council AUTHORIZE the expenditure of \$164,108.10 from the Office Fund for the full amount of the fees related to recording the deed for Garden Memorial Presbyterian Church, with the funds to be reimbursed to the Office Fund when

either the fees are refunded or the property sells, whichever happens first.

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|---------------|--|
| July 2025 | Church Member A does not file a response to Show Cause Order from DC Court of Appeals; however, DC Court of Appeals rules to allow the appeal to go forward without response from Church Member A. |
| August 2025 | NCP is finally able to obtain liability only insurance on property. |
| February 2026 | Church Member A failed to submit his brief and appendix as required to advance his appeal. |
| March 2026 | Court of Appeals dismisses case. No motions to vacate order or reconsider were filed within the deadline. Property Claim case concludes. |

Not included in this timeline are the multiple vacancy tax exemption filings and appeals that occurred to keep the property current on property taxes and the work done with Department of Building to cure fines related to activity at the property.

ACTION ITEM #2

Nominating Committee – Election of the Moderator and Vice Moderator

The committee nominates **Rev. Rachel Vaagenes** (Capitol Hill) to be Moderator of the National Capital Presbytery for 2026-2027.

The committee nominates **Elder Marco Grimaldo** (Church of the Pilgrims) to be Vice Moderator of the National Capital Presbytery for 2026-2027.

Biographies of Nominees



2026-2027 Moderator – Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes (she/her) has been active in NCP for nearly 16 years, serving at Georgetown Presbyterian for 10 years and currently at Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church. This past year has been a privilege serving as Vice Moderator and on Leadership Council, and preparing for GA. Previously, she served on the Nominating Committee (for as long as Jacob labored in Laban's fields) and has also served on

MCC, contributed to the refugee network, supported dismantling racism efforts, and participated in NCP Pride events. Having heard the call to ministry, Rachel left Los Angeles and her dream of becoming an extra in Hallmark movies to attend seminary in New Jersey. She ended up in DC and has loved it ever since. She is bisexual and cares deeply about ensuring everyone feels welcome and knows they are loved by God! Rachel lives in Glover Park with her librarian husband Adrian; their two teen daughters, Maewynn and Evangeline; dogs Ladybird and Lucy; and 100 rescued houseplants.



2026-2027 Vice Moderator – Elder Marco A. Grimaldo is a Ruling Elder at Church of the Pilgrims. Marco has served on various committees and boards of National Capital Presbytery, including the first anti-racism team and currently the Mission Coordinating Committee. He has also served on General Assembly committees at the denominational level and on the boards of the Presbyterian AIDS network, the Presbyterian

Health, Education and Welfare Association, More Light Presbyterians, and the Virginia Coalition for Immigrants' Rights. In his professional life, Marco works at Bread for the World as a strategist for national church partners and Latino communities. Marco is honored to be nominated to this role and shares that, in his experience moderating various

committees and church groups in the past, "I have come to believe that very rarely is it the role of the moderator to solve the problem. Far more often, the most important next step is to answer the question, 'What will we do to move forward?' Marco hopes to use his service as vice-moderator of the presbytery to continue living into his life motto, "be of good service."

ACTION ITEM #3

Stated Clerk Search Committee: Election of NCP Stated Clerk

Motion: To approve the Stated Clerk Search Committee's nomination of **Rev. Alex Evangelista** as Stated Clerk of National Capital Presbytery for a term of five years beginning June 15, 2026.

Dear NCP,

The Stated Clerk Nominating Committee is pleased to present our candidate for Stated Clerk to the Presbytery at the May 19, 2026 meeting. Rev. Alex Evangelista brings a broad background in ministry and leadership in councils of the PC(USA), having served churches, small and large, in the Presbytery of Philadelphia and Peace River. He served as Assistant Clerk in the Presbytery of Philadelphia, chaired the Presbytery of Philadelphia's Bills and Overtures committee, and currently serves on the Advisory Committee on the Constitution, a permanent committee of the General Assembly. Alex combines imagination with critical thinking and close attention to detail, integrates pastoral sensitivity with adherence to polity, and takes leadership initiative while forming strong relationships with colleagues.



A native Spanish speaker, Rev. Evangelista graduated from Azusa Pacific University before moving across the country to study for his Master of Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary. He is currently working on a Doctor of Ministry in Leadership Studies at Columbia Theological Seminary.

Our committee was impressed by Alex's demonstrated ability to fairly apply our polity in contested situations, as a pastor and presbyter, having navigated conflict with care in his own congregation and having communicated and interpreted our Constitution at the Presbytery and GA levels. We were also impressed by Alex's collaborative leadership approach to solving complex problems. In one former congregation, The Church on the Mall in Philadelphia, Alex led a process of community listening and engagement that resulted in the opening of a volunteer-run emergency shelter for unhoused neighbors, and an affordable after-school childcare in the church.

Alex's enthusiastic references described him as an excellent listener, passionate about polity, with a great love of the church and its people. As one said, "I have seen him put a lot of thought and intentionality into a session meeting's learning moments in order to connect the current issues the elders are facing with a Bible study, case study, or brainstorming session."

A common refrain among his references was that Alex seeks ways to get to "yes" within the framework of our polity and responds with empathy when that is not possible. One experienced Stated Clerk said, "Alex listens for the issue behind a request and tries to find the means for carrying out the mission of God to help it happen, or to help the people involved understand if what they seek will not fit within our framework." As Alex himself says, "I see the Book of Order as a gift for thriving, a theological and constitutional resource that forms trust, clarifies purpose, encourages holy risk, and equips congregations to pursue mission with courage and joy!"

Our committee is delighted to nominate Rev. Alex Evangelista for the approval of the Presbytery to become our next Stated Clerk.