

**Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Newton Presbytery**  
 Online ZOOM Meeting  
 Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
*(to be approved at the September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Stated Meeting of the  
 Newton Presbytery)*

**The Body of Christ, A Call to Gather**

The Presbytery of Newton of the Presbyterian Church (USA) held its Stated Meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 on the ZOOM platform.

The Moderator, Teaching Elder David Young, called the meeting to order at 10 am and led the opening prayer.

**FORMATION OF THE ROLL**

The roll was formed as Commissioners signed the registration forms. Stated Clerk, Teaching Elder Jeremy Campbell, certified that a quorum was present.

**REPORT OF THE ATTENDANCE CLERK**

<b><u>Congregation</u></b>	<b><u>Teaching Elder</u></b>		<b><u>Ruling Elder</u></b>	
<b>Allamuchy, Panther Valley</b>	Rev. Ninabeth Metcalf	A		A
<b>Alpha</b>	Rev. Tex Culton (HR)	E		A
<b>Andover</b>	Rev. Karen Brostrom (HR)	E		A
<b>Belvidere</b>	Rev. Dr. Pamela Szurek	A		A
<b>Blairstown</b>	Rev. David Harvey	P		A
<b>Boonton (2)</b>	Rev. Jennifer Van Zandt	A	John Crozier Ken Nickel	P P
<b>Branchville (2)</b>	Rev. Dr. Jefferson Hatch	A	Kathleen Katzenstein	P A
<b>Califon, Fairmount</b>	Rev. Kathryn Shevel	A		A
<b>Califon, Lower Valley</b>	Rev. Chad Rodgers	P		A
<b>Cedar Knolls, Hildale Park</b>	Rev. Ross Lang	A		A
<b>Chatham Township (2)</b>	Rev. Heather Morrison-Yaden Rev. Thomas Brown	P A		A A
<b>Chatham, Ogden Memorial</b>	Rev. Kathi Heath	A		A
<b>Chester</b>	Rev. Christopher Scrivens	A	Jeanne Perry	P
<b>Delaware</b>	Rev. Amy Sandlin	A	Mary Van Horn	P
<b>Denville, Union Hill</b>	Rev. Tim Clarkson	A	John Ware	P

<b>Dover, First Memorial (2)</b>	Rev. Alan Schaefer (HR)	E		A A
<b>East Hanover</b>	Rev. Joanne Miller	P		A
<b>East Hanover, Kitchell</b>	Rev. Dan Schroeder	P	Carol Williams	P
<b>Flanders</b>	Rev. Richard Oppelt	A		A
<b>Florham Park, Calvary</b>	Rev. Ronald de Groot	A		A
<b>Franklin</b>	Rev. Julie Raffety	P	Bill Truran	P
<b>Gillette, Meyersville</b>	Rev. Barbara Aspinall	A		A
<b>Hackettstown (2)</b>	Rev. Brian Merritt	A		A A
<b>Hampton, Musconetcong Valley</b>	Stephanie Farley, CRE	A		A
<b>Hazen, Oxford 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Rev. Amy Sandlin	A		A
<b>Long Valley (2)</b>	Rev. Robin Curras	P	Mel Prestamo	P A
<b>Long Valley, Highlands</b>	Rev. Claire Pula	A	Paula Benson	P
<b>Madison (2)</b>	Vacant	V	Becky Moody	P A
<b>Mendham (2)</b>	Vacant Rev. Alison Paden	V P		A A
<b>Mine Hill</b>	Rev. Charles Thompson	E	Jane Smith	P
<b>Morris Plains (2)</b>	Rev. Jacqui Van Vliet	A	Hildy Benjamin Susan Vigilante	P P
<b>Morristown (3)</b>	Rev. Dr. David Smazik Rev. Sarah Green	P P	Craig Barth Diane Grenz Cheryl McGinley	P P P
<b>New Vernon (2)</b>	Rev. William Stone	A		A A
<b>Newton (2)</b>	Rev. David Young	P	Colleen Duffy Robert Gerdes	P P
<b>Newton, Yellow Frame</b>	Rev. Michael Nelms	A		A
<b>Oak Ridge</b>	Rev. Christopher Doyle	A		A
<b>Ogdensburg</b>	Rev. Alden Johnson	A		A
<b>Oxford 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Rev. Joicy Becker-Richards	A		A
<b>Parsippany</b>	Rev. Donald Bragg	A		A
<b>Phillipsburg, Harmony</b>	Rev. Scott Bohr	A		A
<b>Phillipsburg, Pilgrim</b>	Rev. Richard Gelson	A		A
<b>Phillipsburg, Westminster</b>	Vacant	V		A
<b>Port Murray, Rockport</b>	Tyler Callum, Student Pastor	A		A

<b>Rockaway (2)</b>	Rev. Dr. Nancy Young	A	Joe Martinoni Laura Morse	P P
<b>Sparta (2)</b>	Rev. Dr. Patrick Sileo	P	John Winsted	P A
<b>Stanhope (2)</b>	Vacant	V	Carol Barry Cathy Palmer	P P
<b>Stewartsville (2)</b>	Rev. Stephen Choi	A		A A
<b>Stewartsville, Old Greenwich (2)</b>	Rev. Anita Hendrix	A	Lisa Gray	P A
<b>Stirling</b>	Rev. Dr. Thomas Peters	A		A
<b>Succasunna (2)</b>	Rev. Carie Morgan	P		A
<b>Sussex (2)</b>	Rev. Amy Lawrence	A	Charles Bates	P A
<b>Wantage, Beemerville</b>	Rev. Barry Young	A		A
<b>Washington (2)</b>	Rev. James Scovell	A		A A
<b>Wharton</b>	Rev. Kathleen Stone	A		A
<b>Wharton, Berkshire Valley</b>	Rev. Christopher Doyle	A		A
<b>Wharton, Hungarian</b>	Rev. Csilla Lucskay	A		A
<b>Whippany (2)</b>	Rev. Sarah Cairatti	A		A A

Rev. Dr. Robert Gamble ( <i>This Child Here Inc.</i> )	A
Rev. Heup Young Kim ( <i>Professor – Kangnam University, South Korea</i> )	A
Rev. Unzu Lee ( <i>World Mission Office of Asia and the Pacific</i> )	A
Rev. Peter Magnan ( <i>Interim Pastor - Presbyterian Church at Tenafly</i> )	A
Rev. Barbara Peters ( <i>Pastor – Wilson Memorial Union Church, Watchung</i> )	A
Rev. Bronc Radak ( <i>Interim Pastor – First Presbyterian Church of Monroe, NY</i> )	A
Rev. Jeanne Radak ( <i>Presbytery Leader – Newton Presbytery</i> )	P
Rev. Salvatore Seirmarco ( <i>Chaplain – United Methodist Communities</i> )	A
Rev. Angella Son ( <i>Professor – Drew University</i> )	A

Rev. Scott Foster	A
Rev. Elizabeth Morrison	A
Rev. Hayley O'Connor	A
Rev. Gail Pendleton	A

Rev. Peter Amerman	E
Rev. Jeff Archer	E
Rev. John Arnedt	E
Rev. Arthur Benjamin	E
Rev. Clifford Bergdahl	E
Rev. George Blank	E
Rev. Karen Brostrom ( <i>serving Andover</i> )	E
Rev. James Coen	E

Rev. Robert Colman	E
Rev. Cindy Crowner	E
Rev. William Culton <i>(serving Alpha)</i>	E
Rev. James D'Angelo	E
Rev. William Davis	E
Rev. Richard Dole	E
Rev. Birda Ferguson	E
Rev. Guy Ferguson	E
Rev. Janet Fishburn	E
Rev. Richard Gibbins	E
Rev. Dr. Edward Halldorson	E
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Hall	E
Rev. Herbert Huffmon	E
Rev. Harold Johnson	E
Rev. Eugenia Johnston	E
Rev. Dr. David Lawrence	E
Rev. William Lehr	E
Rev. Tony MacNaughton	E
Rev. Chet Penza	E
Rev. Donald Prytherch	A
Rev. Jack Roan	A
Rev. Stephen Ross	A
Rev. Alan Schaefer <i>(serving Dover)</i>	A
Rev. Donald Scott	A
Rev. Lorrie Skinner	A
Rev. Sherman Skinner	A
Rev. Sara Taylor	A
Rev. Charles Thompson	A

Paula Benson, PCT Moderator <i>(Highlands Presbyterian Church, Long Valley)</i>	P
John Crozier, COM Moderator <i>(First Presbyterian Church of Boonton)</i>	P
Lisa Gray, Presbyterian Women Moderator <i>(Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church, Stewartsville)</i>	P

Rev. Jeremy Campbell, Stated Clerk <i>(Newton &amp; Elizabeth Presbyteries)</i>	P
Sonja Gaertner, Office Manager & Attendance Clerk <i>(Newton Presbytery)</i>	P
Lizabeth Hutchinson, Financial Administrator <i>(Newton Presbytery)</i>	P
Scott DeCaro, Candidate for Ordination <i>(Monmouth Presbytery)</i>	P
Rev. Myrlene Hamilton, Mentor of Scott DeCaro <i>(Monmouth Presbytery)</i>	P

### **Introductory Items**

Quorum was present

### **ENROLLMENT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS**

Rev. Myrlene Hamilton Monmouth Presbytery

## **ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET**

The Presbytery **VOTED** to adopt the docket

## **REPORT ON ARRANGMENTS:**

Stated Clerk Jeremy Campbell reviewed the methods of using Zoom for a Stated Meeting.

## **COM**

### **Ordination Examination**

The COM recommends that Scott DeCaro be examined and approved for ordination as Minister of the Word and Sacrament, and be enrolled as a member of the Presbytery of Newton.

After examination, the motion was approved. Scott DeCaro has received a call from Westminster Presbyterian Church, Phillipsburg NJ, and will be ordained on October 8, 2017.

## **CELEBRATION**

Anita Hendrix retirement  
Amy Lawrence to Maryland  
David Smazik to Indianapolis

## **Worship**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: To adjourn with benediction by Smazik.

## **MOTION APPROVED**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeremy Campbell, Stated Clerk

Reports:  
Committee on Ministry

Attached:  
Scott DeCaro docs

Report of the Committee on Ministry  
May 12, 2020

**Items to Report:**

***From the April 1, 2020 COM Meeting:***

The April meeting was by ZOOM Video Conferencing Platform.

**COM-1**

Continued the training module on *How to Lead When you Don't Know Where You are Going: Leading in a Liminal Season* by Susan Beaumont.

**COM-2**

Reported that the Clergy Care Fund is \$2500. The lowest it has been in a long time.

**COM-3**

Approved the Terms of Call for the following:

- Kitchell Memorial Presbyterian Church and Rev. Dan Schroeder
- First Presbyterian Church of Whippany and Rev. Sarah Cairatti
- United Presbyterian Church in Belvidere and Rev. Dr. Pamela Szurek
- Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains and Rev. Jacqui Van Vliet
- Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church and Rev. Anita Hendrix
- Pilgrim Presbyterian Church and Rev. Rich Gelson
- Panther Valley Ecumenical Church and Rev. Ninabeth Metcalf (UMC mininums)

**COM-4**

Approved the Ministry Information Forms (MIF) of the Presbyterian Church in Chatham Township and Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church.

**COM-5**

Concurred with the Dissolution Agreement between Rev. Scott Foster and the Presbyterian Church of Madison.

**COM-6**

Because of the Pandemic approved the changes to the start date of Rev. Donald Brown, as pastor of Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains, from mid May to June 1. Concurred with Newark Presbytery that Rev. Brown be allowed to return to previous church when allowed to gather for the dissolution vote and farewell party.

***From the May 5, 2020 COM Meeting:***

The May meeting was by ZOOM and the COM teams met in "virutal breakrooms".

**COM-7**

Rev. Barbara Aspinall was appointed Moderator for the Presbyterian Church of Madison.

**COM-8**

Rev. Carrie Mitchell, BOP Consultant for the Synod of the Northeast, presented the upcoming 2021 change to the Board of Pension plans.

### **COM-9**

Approved the Terms of Call for the following:

- First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon and Rev. William Stone
- Fairmount Presbyterian Church and Rev. Katy Shevel

### **COM-10**

Acknowledged the retirement of Rev. Heup Young Kim, and approved the status of Honorably Retired.

### **COM-11**

Approved the position description and possible TOC for Covenant Supply Pastor for the Presbyterian Church in Madison.

### **COM-12**

Conducted exit interview with the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Stanhope.

## Report of the Presbytery Coordinating Team

May 12, 2020

### **Items for Report:**

#### **PCT-4**

The PCT has agreed to meet monthly throughout the Pandemic.

#### **PCT-5**

At the April 7 and April 28 meetings reviewed and discussed the book *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You are Going*.

**April 7, 2020**

#### **PCT-6**

Approved the May Presbytery Meeting by Zoom for May 12 starting at 6:30pm.

#### **PCT-7**

Empowered the Executive Team to work out the details and process of the virtual Presbytery meeting.

#### **PCT-8**

Approved pausing several ongoing payments until the Finance Team can review more data about next financial steps.

#### **PCT-9**

Approved applying for the CARES Act Small Business Association, Payroll Protection Program (PPP).

#### **PCT-10**

Agreed to communicate to all teams and committees to cease spending from their budgets until a review from the Finance Team.

#### **PCT-11**

Agreed to communicate with Churches the importance of paying their Per Capita.

#### **PCT-12**

Approved a request from the Finance Team to approve the use of Congregational Development Fund by COM to assist congregations who may have difficulty paying their pastors.

### **PCT-13**

Approved the recommendation from the Finance Team to begin planning for life on the other side of the Pandemic by forming a Re-entry Team.

**April 28, 2020**

### **PCT-14**

Reviewed details for the May Presbytery Meeting

- Zoom Video Conferencing Platform
- Will be an abbreviated meeting
- Moderators will develop agenda
- Worship will be 15 minutes followed by Installation service
- Participants will practice ahead of time

### **PCT-15**

Received Financial Reports from Finance Team and approved recommendations for finances moving forward.

- Quarterly/YTD statements will be sent to all churches whether received remittances from them or not.
- Recommend to Presbytery a revised working budget for 2020.
- Recommend to Presbytery that Newton Presbytery will pass through all Per Capita received and will not make up the difference in unreceived GA and Synod Per Capita.
- Continue financial commitment to Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center.