

Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Newton Presbytery
 Online ZOOM Meeting
 Tuesday, October 20th, 2020
*(to be approved at the November 10th, 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 October 20th, 2020 on the ZOOM platform.

The Moderator, Rev. David Young, called the meeting to order at 7 pm 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

<u>Congregation</u>	<u>Teaching Elder</u>		<u>Ruling Elder</u>	
Allamuchy, Panther Valley	Rev. Ninabeth Metcalf	P		A
Alpha	Rev. Tex Culton (HR)	E		A
Andover	Rev. Karen Brostrom (HR)	P		A
Belvidere	Rev. Dr. Pamela Szurek	A		A
Blairstown	Rev. David Harvey	P	Deb Albrecht	P
Boonton (2)	Rev. Jennifer Van Zandt	E		A A
Branchville (2)	Rev. Dr. Jefferson Hatch	P	Buzz Alden Cathy Bambrick	P P
Califon, Fairmount	Vacant	V	Pete Peterson	P
Califon, Lower Valley	Rev. Chad Rodgers	P		A
Cedar Knolls, Hildale Park	Rev. Ross Lang	A		A
Chatham Township (2)	Rev. Heather Morrison-Yaden Rev. Thomas Brown	P P		A A
Chatham, Ogden Memorial	Rev. Kathi Heath	P		A
Chester	Rev. Christopher Scrivens	E	Jeanne Perry	P
Delaware	Rev. Amy Sandlin	A		A
Denville, Union Hill	Rev. Tim Clarkson	P	Patty Bevacqua	P

Dover, First Memorial (2)	Rev. Alan Schaefer (HR)	E		A
East Hanover	Rev. Joanne Miller	P		A
East Hanover, Kitchell	Rev. Dan Schroeder	P	Carol Williams	P
Flanders	Vacant	V	Lois Steward	P
Florham Park, Calvary	Rev. Ronald de Groot	P		A
Franklin	Rev. Julie Raffety	P	Judy Perentin	P
Gillette, Meyersville	Rev. Barbara Aspinall	P		A
Hackettstown (2)	Rev. Brian Merritt	E		A A
Hampton, Musconetcong Valley	Stephanie Farley, CRE	A		A
Hazen, Oxford 1st	Rev. Amy Sandlin	A		A
Long Valley (2)	Rev. Robin Curras	P		A A
Long Valley, Highlands	Rev. Claire Pula	E	Ruth Babula	P
Madison (2)	Rev. Jacquelyn Van Vliet	P	Becky Moody	P A
Mendham (2)	Vacant Rev. Alison Paden	V P	Jeff Betz	P
Mine Hill	Rev. Charles Thompson	E	Debbie Hooper	A
Morris Plains (2)	Rev. Donald Brown	E	Susan Vigilante Alec Jain	P P
Morristown (3)	Rev. Dr. Ed Halldorson Rev. Sarah Green	E P	Diane Grenz Wendy Doidge Lisa Fraebel	P P P
New Vernon (2)	Rev. William Stone	P	Chris Willis	P
Newton (2)	Rev. David Young	P	Alice Sharick Terry Van Auken	P P
Newton, Yellow Frame	Rev. Michael Nelms	P		A
Oak Ridge	Rev. Christopher Doyle	P		A
Ogdensburg	Rev. Alden Johnson	A		A
Oxford 2nd	Rev. Joicy Becker-Richards	A		A
Parsippany	Rev. Donald Bragg	A		A
Phillipsburg, Harmony	Rev. Scott Bohr	P		A
Phillipsburg, Pilgrim	Rev. Richard Gelson	A	Doris Haring	P
Phillipsburg, Westminster	Rev. Scott DeCaro	P		A
Port Murray, Rockport	Vacant	V		A
Rockaway (2)	Rev. Dr. Nancy Young	P	Joe Martinoni	P

				A
Sparta (2)	Rev. Dr. Patrick Sileo	A		A
				A
Stanhope (2)	Rev. Peter Magnan	A		A
				A
Stewartsville (2)	Rev. Stephen Choi	P		A
				A
Stewartsville, Old Greenwich (2)	Vacant	V	Lisa Gray	P
				A
Stirling	Rev. Dr. Thomas Peters	A		A
Succasunna (2)	Rev. Carie Morgan	P		A
				A
Sussex (2)	Vacant	V		A
				A
Wantage, Beemerville	Rev. Barry Young	P		A
Washington (2)	Rev. James Scovell	A		A
				A
Wharton	Rev. Kathleen Stone	A		A
Wharton, Berkshire Valley	Rev. Christopher Doyle	P	Beth Blanchard	P
Wharton, Hungarian	Rev. Csilla Lucskay	A		A
Whippany (2)	Rev. Sarah Cairatti	A		A
				A

Teaching Elders Engaged in a Validated Ministry

Rev. Dr. Robert Gamble (<i>This Child Here Inc.</i>)	E
Rev. Barbara Peters (<i>Pastor – Wilson Memorial Union Church, Watchung</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

Members at Large

Rev. Liz Blythe	E
Rev. Scott Foster	A
Rev. Elizabeth Morrison	P
Rev. Hayley O'Connor	A
Rev. Gail Pendleton	A

Honorably Retired

Rev. Peter Amerman	E
Rev. Jeff Archer	E
Rev. John Arnedt	E
Rev. Arthur Benjamin	P
Rev. Clifford Bergdahl	E
Rev. George Blank	E
Rev. Karen Brostrom (<i>serving Andover</i>)	P
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. Dr. Edward Halldorson <i>(serving Morristown)</i>	E
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Hall	E
Rev. Anita Hendrix	E
Rev. Herbert Huffmon	E
Rev. Harold Johnson	E
Rev. Eugenia Johnston	E
Rev. Heup Young Kim	E
Rev. Dr. David Lawrence	E
Rev. Unzu Lee	E
Rev. William Lehr	E
Rev. Tony MacNaughton	P
Rev. Richard Oppelt	E
Rev. Chet Penza	E
Rev. Donald Prytherch	P
Rev. Bronc Radak	E
Rev. Jack Roan	E
Rev. Stephen Ross	E
Rev. Alan Schaefer <i>(serving Dover)</i>	E
Rev. Donald Scott	E
Rev. Lorrie Skinner	E
Rev. Sherman Skinner	E
Rev. Sara Taylor	E
Rev. Charles Thompson <i>(serving Mine Hill)</i>	E

Ruling Elders by Virtue of Office

Paula Benson, Moderator of PCT, <i>(Highlands Presbyterian Church, Long Valley)</i>	P
John Crozier, Moderator of COM <i>(First Presbyterian Church, Boonton)</i>	P
John Hellreigel, Member of PCT <i>(Community Presbyterian Church, Chester)</i>	P

Others in Attendance

Rev. Jeremy Campbell, Stated Clerk <i>(Newton & Elizabeth Presbyteries)</i>	P
Sonja Gaertner, Office Manager & Attendance Clerk <i>(Newton Presbytery)</i>	P
Lizabeth Hutchinson, Financial Administrator <i>(Newton Presbytery)</i>	P
Elise Bates Russell, <i>Executive Director – Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center</i>	P
Laura Choi, <i>NJ Missional Structures Transitions Working Group</i>	P
Dale Selover, <i>Director of The House Next Door, spiritual director and retreat leader</i>	P
Craig Barth <i>(Presbyterian Church of Morristown)</i>	P
Randy Hooper <i>(Mine Hill Presbyterian Church)</i>	P
Lilly Kwong <i>(Kitchell Memorial Presbyterian Church, East Hanover)</i>	P
Donna Rahmann <i>(Fairmount Presbytrian Church, Califon)</i>	P
Hildy Benjamin <i>(Presbtyerian Church of Morris Plains)</i>	P

Total in Attendance – 70

~ Sonja Gaertner, Attendance Clerk – Newton Presbytery

Introductory Items

Quorum was present

ENROLLMENT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Dale Selover – Pastor, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Elise Bates Russell - Executive Director, Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center

Larissa Kwong Abazia – Transformational Pastor of Hillsborough Presbyterian Church, Monmouth Presbytery

Laura Choi – Stewartsville Presbyterian Church

ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

The Presbytery **VOTED** to adopt the docket

REPORT ON ARRANGMENTS:

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

STATED CLERKS REPORT:

Consent Agenda

SC-1

Approve the minutes of the Presbytery meetings held September 15, 2020.

SC-2

Approve excuses for the Presbytery meeting of October 20, 2020.

SC-3

Receive the report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

SC-4

Receive the report of the Presbytery Coordinating Team.

PRESBYTERY COORDINATING TEAM

David Harvey introduced the NJ Missional Structure Team

Laura Choi – How we got here

Becky Moody – The numbers

Jeff Hatch – where do we go from here

NJ Missional Structures Transitions Working Group Report

MOTION: To accept the invitation to realign the NJ presbyteries in accordance with the Missional Communities Working Group

Transition Team – Robin Curras spoke about the team. They will be hosting zoom coffees with pastors of new churches. Fall will be building relationships, and in the new year will begin mission and vision.

Budget Update – John Hellriegel. Budget is completed and will be presented to PCT and onto Presbytery for the November meeting.

Personnel Recommendations – Chad Rogers
Office Mgr
Change Resource
Add hours to resource

MOTION APPROVED

Johnsonburg Camp and Retreat Center Presentation – Elise Bates Russell

WORSHIP

Rev. Dale Selover, Director of The House Next Door, spiritual director and retreat leader.

Members of presbytery had the opportunity to participate in small group discussions.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn with benediction.

MOTION APPROVED

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Attested: _____
Jeremy Campbell, Stated Clerk

Reports:
Committee on Preparation for Ministry
Presbytery Coordinating Team

Items for Consent Agenda:

None.

Items for Action:

None.

Items to Report:

CPM-1

May 18, 2020

- The committee met with Candidate Stephen Scovell (Washington) via Zoom to consider his request to be declared ready in all

respects to receive a call. Stephen led a short time of worship and preached for the committee. Following the time of worship, the committee discussed with Stephen his sermon, accompanying exegetical paper, CPE evaluation and PIF.

- Motion: That Stephen Scovell be declared ready in all respects to receive a call and that he be given permission to circulate his PIF. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

CPM-2

June 15, 2020

- The committee met with Inquirer Kristy Woodrow (Newton) via Zoom for her Annual Consultation. Kristy recently completed her second year at Princeton Theological Seminary, where she is enrolled in the dual degree (4-year) program. The committee reviewed her progress and talked with her about her emerging sense of call.
- *Motion:* To continue Kristina Woodrow in the care process as an Inquirer. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

CPM-3

September 21, 2020

- The committee met with Candidate Jessica Fisher via Zoom for her Annual Consultation. She has been certified ready to receive a call.
- *Motion:* To continue Jessica in the care process as a Candidate for Ministry. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Brown

Rev. Thomas A. Brown, CPM Moderator

Report of the Presbytery of the Coordinating Team October 20, 2020

Items for Consent Agenda:

None.

Items for Action:

PCT recommends the following changes to the Presbytery Staff positions.

The recommendations are to assist in the transition to the Northwest NJ Presbytery. All position descriptions will be reviewed and adapted as needed following the Presbytery of Northwest NJ discernment process which is to take place during 2021.

PCT 1

Recommends that the transitional Resourcing Coordinator position be dissolved as of December 31, 2020.

Rationale:

The Transitional Resourcing Coordinator's position was only for one year as we awaited the outcome of the votes for the NJ presbytery transition. The process was delayed because of the pandemic so this position was extended to the end of the year. It was always intended to be a transitional position.

PCT 2

Recommends that the Office Manager position be increased by 10 hours from 30 hours to 40 hours for 2020 only. (See attached position description.)

Rationale:

The Presbytery of the Northwest will be comprised of parts of four different presbyteries. The initial administration of the new presbytery will have additional responsibilities such as database development, additional coordination of events and meetings, collection and coordination of physical files and information, along with the daily administration of the presbytery business. Because of the upfront work that needs to be done the personnel committee recommended the position hours be expanded for 2021.

PCT 3

Recommends that the Presbytery Leader position responsibilities be adjusted for 2021. (See attached position description)

Rationale:

The development of the new presbytery will require the Presbytery Leader to focus on building relationships, the discernment process and structural and mandated issues and concerns (i.e. COM, CPM and Administration). The position description for Presbytery Leader for 2021 reflects the work that needs to happen in the immediate days and months of the new presbytery.

PCT 4

Recommends that the presbytery approve a Transitional Support and Resourcing staff position for 2021. (See attached position description)

Rationale:

The Presbytery leader also has several responsibilities for resourcing the presbytery and presbytery committees and teams. The Transitional Support staff person will be a one-year position that will focus on continuing the important work of the resourcing the presbytery congregations.

PCT 5

Information Only - The Positions of the Stated Clerk and Financial Administrator reflect some reassignment or assignment of responsibilities but not a change in time allocation. (See attached position descriptions.)

Items for Report:

From the September 22 PCT meeting:

PCT Reports:

PCT 6

Reviewed the September Presbytery meeting.

PCT 7

Planned the October and November Presbytery meetings. Both will continue as ZOOM meetings.

PCT 8

Took action on the Personnel Committee Recommendations (See recommendations.)

PCT 9

Continued discussions on 2021 Budget.

PCT 10

Approved the establishment of a Technical Team for the Transition.

PCT 11

Discussed New Jersey Working Group Report.

PCT 12

Approved a Design Team to continue conversations on structural racism. Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson, Presbyterian Mission Agency and Director for Self-Development of People will work with the design team.