

## **Presbytery Highlights, Opequon Presbyterian Church**

**November 19, 2019**

The 184<sup>th</sup> Stated meeting of the Presbytery of Shenandoah was called to order at 9:30 and opened with prayer by the moderator. We entered worship welcoming Kes Amena to the pulpit, President, Illubabor Bethel Synod, of our Ethiopian partnership. We celebrated communion.

An overture from Trinity Church concerning fossil fuels was distributed for study to be voted on in February. Watch for further information after the first of the year.

We recognized our newly honorably retired pastors Bob Osborne and Sarah Hill and CRE Bill Moore. We said goodbye to Frank Wyche as he takes a new call.

The Matthew 25 Bible Studies and worship material were encouraged. ( [pcusa.org/matthew25](http://pcusa.org/matthew25) )

Associate GP Nancy Meehan Yao discussed Per Capita and our responsibility to take part in it.

We elected ordination exam readers from CPM. We elected new presbytery committee members and the Commissioners to the Synod, General Assembly and our Youth Advisory Delegate!

We welcomed The Rev. Gusti L. Newquist as the new pastor of the Shepherdstown Church and we welcomed Patrick S. Ryan as the new pastor of the Tinkling Spring Church!

The presbytery was informed that background checks will be done for all persons in pastoral positions that have not yet had one done by the presbytery. They are to be completed by the February 28, 2020.

The Committee on New Church development updated us on three NCD's and shared insights from the book they are studying.

The education hour was led by Virginia Interfaith Power and Light on Environmental Justice. The annual lobby day at the Va. General Assembly is Wednesday January 22, 2020.

LUNCH was a Thanksgiving feast! Thank you Opequon

The annual Shenandoah Corporation meeting was held. Work on clearer reports will be done.

We are anticipating a balanced budget for 2019. The 2020 budget was passed!

Carolyn Thalman shared how Moffett Grant funds continue to help feeding the poor.

CCVT invited the Bethesda Church to share their revitalization story. And on that good news,

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 3:20ish

Respectfully submitted,

Bronwen Boswell