

HANDBOOK OF REPORTS
for the
188th STATED MEETING
of the
SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY

Via Zoom
Saturday, February 27, 2021
9:30 a.m.

Shenandoah Presbytery is a covenant body where:

- ~congregations are empowered to be centers for mission,
- ~people of God are equipped to be Disciples of Christ in a
challenging world,
- ~church professionals are nurtured and strengthened for service,
- ~open communication and information are used constructively and
creatively to keep us connected.

INFORMATION PERTAINING TO MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERY

Per Presbytery Manual Chapter V

Number of Meetings – Our Book of Order (G-3.0304) requires presbytery to hold stated meetings at least twice each year. At this time, there will be four STATED meetings for 2021: February 27, May 25, August 28, and November 16 OR 30 (TBD).

Kind of Meetings – Besides stated meetings there are adjourned meetings and special meetings.

Adjourned Meetings – Held to conclude unfinished business of preceding stated meeting. New Business may be placed on docket.

Special Meetings – The moderator shall call a special meeting at the request of, or with the concurrence of, two ministers and two elders being of different churches. Should the moderator be unable to act, the stated clerk shall, under the same conditions, issue the call. If both moderator and stated clerk are unable to act, any three ministers and three elders, the elders being of different churches, may call a special meeting. The Synod may direct the Presbytery to convene a special meeting for the transaction of designated business. Notice of a special meeting shall be sent not less than ten (10) days in advance to each minister and to the session of every church. The notice shall set out the purpose of the meeting and no other business than that listed in the notice shall be transacted.

Who Determines Type of Meetings? – The presbytery itself. If the business at a stated meeting is not completed in the time allowed on the docket, then the presbytery votes to extend the time on that day or votes to schedule an adjourned meeting later. Special meetings may be called in conformity with presbytery's policy, expressed in its manual.

Docket Preparation – The Presbytery Meeting Planning Committee composes the docket. Time periods for committee reports are arranged in consultation with chairs and others responsible for reports.

Docket Problems – The times listed for the presentation of reports are only general orders, and not orders of the day, unless specifically noted (see Procedural Rule A). Frequently, debate bogs down over procedural matters, and controversial issues create considerable discussion. Presbytery can always limit debate. Candidates and transferring ministers of necessity may require special considerations for their examinations because of such things as travel schedules and seminary schedules. The docket may be amended at any time during the meeting. Commissioners should be aware of possible extension of time needed for such amendments and the possible delay in adjournment.

PROCEDURAL RULES

5.5. OPERATING PROCEDURES

- 5.5.1. The Presbytery shall in its proceedings abide by the requirements of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), its Standing Rules or Manual of Operations, and Robert's Rules of Order (newly revised) in this order. A list of procedural rules adopted by Presbytery shall be printed on the inside cover of each handbook.
- 5.5.2. A report of any agency of Presbytery requiring more than 10 minutes of Presbytery time may be made an Order of the Day.
- 5.5.3. Reports having been mailed out in advance, the committee chairperson shall not read the report except to make reference to a few highlights of the report and to recommendations by numbers, moving their adoption.
 - A. Any reports not included in the Handbook shall be submitted as part of a Supplemental Report available either electronically or on paper distributed prior to the beginning of the Presbytery meeting at which the report is presented.
 - B. Any report not so circulated shall not be received by the Presbytery except by approval of the governing body by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting. If a group wishes to submit such a report, a person shall summarize its content and purpose before the vote is taken.
- 5.5.4. On matters where there may be deep concern, possible controversy or lack of information, the committee making the report shall provide critical background information, so that the governing body may expeditiously make wise and considered decisions.
- 5.5.5. Debate shall be free and open, with equal time being given to proponents and opponents insofar as possible.
- 5.5.6. Any member of the governing body desiring to speak must stand, identify themselves by name and congregation, be recognized by the Moderator, and go to a microphone if available.
- 5.5.7. A member of the presbytery may speak twice on any particular motion, and not for more than a total of five minutes, but the second time may only be granted after all who have not yet spoken have had an opportunity to do so. The maker of the motion is entitled to speak first, if desired.
- 5.5.8. Lengthy motions must be written out and presented to the Stated Clerk.
- 5.5.9. References to the following procedures from Robert's Rules of Order may prove useful:
 - A. A committee recommendation does not require a second to be on the floor.
 - B. Other motions require a second prior to discussion or action.
 - C. When there is no apparent disagreement or objection to a motion, the Moderator may declare it is adopted by common or general consent.
- 5.5.10. No flash photography will be allowed during the worship service at meetings of Presbytery.
- 5.5.11. When Presbytery meets in a location where seating is limited, priority shall be given to voting members for seating within the meeting area. If it is necessary to use other rooms for overflow seating, visitors and other non-voting members shall use these areas.
- 5.5.12. QUORUM:
A quorum of the Presbytery shall be any ten teaching elders and ten ruling elders from at least ten different congregations. (G-3.0304).

Seeking to be Faithful Together:

Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement

In a spirit of trust and love, we promise we will . . .

<p>Give them a hearing . . . listen before we answer John 7:51 and Proverbs 18:13</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Treat each other respectfully so as to build trust, believing that we all desire to be faithful to Jesus the Christ; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · we will keep our conversations and communications open for candid and forthright exchange, · we will not ask questions or make statements in a way which will intimidate or judge others. 2. Learn about various positions on the topic of disagreement. 3. State what we think we heard and ask for clarification before responding, in an effort to be sure we understand each other.
<p>Speak the truth in love Ephesians 4:15</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Share our concerns directly with individuals or groups with whom we have disagreements in a spirit of love and respect in keeping with Jesus' teaching. 5. Focus on ideas and suggestions instead of questioning people's motives, intelligence or integrity; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · we will not engage in name-calling or labeling of others prior to, during, or following the discussion. 6. Share our personal experiences about the subject of disagreement so that others may more fully understand our concerns.
<p>Maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace Ephesians 4:3</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Indicate where we agree with those of other viewpoints as well as where we disagree. 8. Seek to stay in community with each other though the discussion may be vigorous and full of tension; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · we will be ready to forgive and be forgiven. 9. Follow these additional Guidelines when we meet in decision-making bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · urge persons of various points of view to speak and promise to listen to these positions seriously; · seek conclusions informed by our points of agreement; · be sensitive to the feelings and concerns of those who do not agree with the majority and respect their rights of conscience; · abide by the decision of the majority, and if we disagree with it and wish to change it, work for that change in ways which are consistent with the Guidelines. 10. Include our disagreements in our prayers, not praying for the triumph of our viewpoints, but seeking God's grace to listen attentively, to speak clearly, and to remain open to the vision God holds for us all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
VOTING MEMBERS OF SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY

All ministers enrolled in Shenandoah Presbytery

Ruling elders commissioned to churches

Ruling elders from each church session

0-400 members = 1 ruling elder

401-800 members = 2 ruling elders

801-1200 members = 3 ruling elders

1201+ = 4 ruling elders

Ruling Elders who serve in the following capacities shall be enrolled as members of Presbytery for the term of their service:

- moderator or vice moderator of Presbytery
- chair or vice chair of Coordinating and Planning Commission
 - chair of a committee
- exempt employees of the Presbytery (on at least a half-time basis)
- Commissioned Ruling Elders providing particular pastoral services, as authorized by presbytery
- Certified Christian Educators who are serving in an educational ministry under the jurisdiction of the presbytery

Such service does not count towards the number of ruling elders a congregation is entitled to send.

ACRONYMS YOU MAY HEAR AT THE MEETING

AC – Administrative Commission	EPC – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
ARE – Authorized Ruling Elder	GA – General Assembly
CCVT– Committee on Church Vitality & Transformation	IC – Investigating Committee
CER - Committee on Educational Resources	KCC – Key Church Communicator
CMO – Committee on Mission & Outreach	LRT – Listening Response Team
CNCD–Committee on New Congregational Development	MIF – Ministry Information Form
CPA – Committee on Presbytery Administration	PAM – Presbyterian Association of Musicians
CPC – Coordinating and Planning Commission	PCA – Presbyterian Church in America
CPM – Committee on Preparation for Ministry	PCUS – Presbyterian Church in the United States
CPT – Committee on Pastoral Transition	PCUSA – Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
CRE – Commissioned Ruling Elder	PDA – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
CRM – Committee on Relational Ministry	PIF – Pastor Information Form
DPRT – Disaster Preparedness Response Team	PJC – Permanent Judicial Commission
ECO – A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians	PNC – Pastor Nominating Committee
EECMY - Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus	RE - Ruling Elder
	SPYCE – Shenandoah Presbytery Youth Council
	Extraordinaire
	TE – Teaching Elder
	TPR – Temporary Pastor Relationship

DOCKET

(Members of Presbytery are urged to sign in to Zoom at 9:15 to avoid back log)

- 9:30 a.m. Call to Order, Prayer & Meeting Instructions
- 9:35 a.m. Worship with Installation of New Moderator
- 10:05 a.m. Determining a Quorum
Procedural Rules
Welcome and Introduction of Guests
Adoption of the Docket
Report of the Stated Clerk – TE Bronwen Boswell
Report of the Associate General Presbyter – TE Nancy Meehan Yao
- 10:30 a.m. Board of Pensions, Martha Reisner, Church Consultant
- 10:40 a.m. Committee on Educational Resources – TE April Cranford
- 10:45 a.m. Committee on Church Vitality and Transformation – TE David Witt
- 11:00 a.m. Committee on Nominations – TE Brad Langdon
- 11:10 a.m. Committee on Mission and Outreach – CRE Bobby Spurgeon
- 11:30 a.m. Intercessory Prayer with Elder Recognition
- 11:45 a.m. Committee on Pastoral Transition – TE Patrick Pettit
- 11:55 a.m. Committee on New Congregational Development – TE Karen Greenawalt
- 12:00 p.m. Committee on Preparation for Ministry – TE Kate Rascoe
- 12:05 p.m. Committee on Relational Ministry – TE Howard Boswell
- 12:15 p.m. Anticipated Adjournment

STATED CLERK REPORT

I. FOR INFORMATION:

- A. PJC Reserve List. The roster of former members of the Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC) who may be called when necessary to constitute a quorum (see Book of Order D-5.0206b):
- Class of 2019: Jim Lunde (TE), Karen Thatcher (RE), and Ann Massie (RE)
 - Class of 2017: David Howard (TE), Frank Wyche (TE), and Creigh Deeds (RE)
 - Class of 2015: Ed Brown (RE)
 - Class of 2013: Phil Sommer (TE)
- B. Dates for the meetings of Shenandoah Presbytery:
- Tuesday, May 25 = via Zoom
 - Saturday, August 28 = TBD
 - Tuesday, November 16 = TBD
- C. The Stated Clerk presents the list of ruling elders of the churches of the Presbytery who died in 2020. The information listed depends on reports from clerks of sessions of the churches. See pages 4-5.
- D. Please see page 19 for informational reports from the Committee on Presbytery Administration and the Coordinating and Planning Commission.
- E. As Presbyterians we are called to recognize that the land we occupy was taken from those who lived here for generations long before our ancestors landed on its shores. We live on the lands of the native peoples of the Massawomeck, Manahoac and the Monacan. Please learn more information concerning the native congregations of our denomination at presbyterymission.org.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. That Presbytery excuse from attendance from all or part of this stated meeting those ministers who submit such a request.
- B. That Presbytery receive the minutes of the commission to ordain Teaching Elder Molly Morris found on page 6.
- C. That Presbytery receive the financial summary for the year ending December 31, 2020 as found on pages 7-9.
- D. That Presbytery approve the minutes from the November 17, 2020, meeting of Presbytery as distributed.
- E. It is the policy of Shenandoah Presbytery to allow resident retired minister members who for good reason decide that they will not be participating in the Presbytery's voting for the year to remove themselves from the need to attend and the need to be counted in the Stated Clerk's recommendation for balancing minister/elder voting.

While the Presbytery strongly encourages participation in the full life of the Presbytery, the following have by signed request asked to be automatically excused from Presbytery meetings for the year 2021 indicating they will not be voting and will be “inactive participants” for Presbytery business: (If you are a resident retired minister member of Presbytery and did NOT sign such a form for 2021, you are counted and expected to attend Presbytery.)

Roxana Atwood	Joseph Brandon	William Cox
Betty Dax	Richard Dietrich	Merle Fisher
John Garrison	Barton Hellmuth	Patricia Hunt
John Lown	Thomas Rhyne	Richard Slider
Charles Symons, Jr.	Randall Tremba	Robert von Oeyen, Jr.
Jack Wilkers		

F. Membership and Attendance Balance. Each year the Stated Clerk is required to recommend to Presbytery a way of balancing the representation of ruling elders and ministers (Manual 5.2.2.). The following is the analysis for 2021 (for ministers as of 12/31/20 and church membership as of 12/31/19.

TEACHING ELDERS:
 Total Enrollment of Teaching Elders, 12/31/2020.....155

Active Participants
 Installed Pastors45
 Interims and Supplies.....19
 Serving in other validated ministries6
 Parish Associates1
 Members at Large10
 Resident Honorably Retired (not inactive or infirm)28
Total Active Participants.....109

Non-participants for 2021
 Resident Honorably Retired requesting to be inactive.....16
 Resident Honorably Retired who are infirm7
 Honorably Retired living outside the bounds of presbytery22
 Overseas Personnel1
Total Non-Participants46

TOTAL TEACHING ELDERS PARTICIPATION109

RULING ELDERS:
 Ninety-three (93) congregations send one ruling elder.....93
 Six congregations send two ruling elders: Covenant, Lexington, Massanutten,
 Opequon, Tinkling Spring, Warrenton12
 One congregation sends three ruling elders: Winchester 1st3
 Commissioned Ruling Elders for Particular Pastoral Services10
 Certified Christian Educators serving0
 Presbytery staff1
 Ruling elders serving on Coordinating and Planning Commission1
TOTAL POTENTIAL RULING ELDERS PARTICIPATION.....120

CONCLUSION: No imbalance exists for 2021

2020 NECROLOGY REPORT

Augusta Stone	Bruce Grover Terry Showalter Drehla Sours Tom Starkey
Berkeley Springs	Irene Hedrick
Bloomery	Kenneth Glenwood Johnson
Bridgewater	Jean Shull
Broadway	Jody Abt
Burnt	Jack Butler
Clear Brook	James Baker
Circleville	Robert Vint
Collierstown	Elizabeth Lee Knick Clark Ellis Freeman Morris
Cooks Creek	Emily Hill Mike Liskey
Covenant	Dennis Avery
Elkton	Wilda Billhimer Chuck Davis Madelyn Dixon
Franklin	Carolyn Catherine Ruddle
Halltown	Mary Costello Edge
Hebron	Nancy Hewitt
Hedgesville	Lyman Edward Burt Peggy Helmick
Hot Springs	Ronda Lawhorn Clayton
Keyser	Orie Thomas Harman Mark Allen Trenter
Lexington	Delma Rae Carpenter Ron Downey Ouida Reaves Goehring Barbara Joyner Paul McNeil Penick Marion Rohne
Massanutten	Edward Comer Nancy Lu Irvine Bob Porter John Schneider
Middletown	Nancy Gardenhour
Monterey	Francis Fenn
Moorefield	Harold Dwane Barr

Mt. Horeb	Mildred Evelyn Detamore Gene Saufley Garber
New Monmouth	Gene Duff
New Providence	Mary Lou Gordon Richard Kauffman James Wade, Sr.
Opequon	Frances Pitcock
Petersburg	Helen Smith Boor
Staunton First	Henry Baker Carey
Staunton Third	Willard Botkin, Sr. George Colvin, Jr. Renata Dinkle Payne Fisher, Jr.
Strasburg	Harry Propst Marie Spence
Tinkling Spring	Fred Ray Stone Houston Irvine "Jack" Todd, Jr.
Tomahawk	David Parril
Trinity	Carolyn Arbuckle Margaret Hottel Challace McMillin Patricia Wingo
Union	Edgar Skelton Christine Stogdale
Wardensville	Nancy Pat Harmon
Warrenton	Tony Lukeman Paul Lumbye
Waynesboro First	William Bare Campbell Epes Aileen Kennedy
Waynesboro Second	Betty Firebaugh Alice Pugh
Westminster	John Chestnut Lindsay, Jr. Harding Watson Lonas Thomas Holcomb Smith Steven Alexander Yancey
Winchester First	Edward Janes Bell, III Paula Gay Wahlman
Zetta	Melvin Thomas Lawhorn

Teaching Elders:

James Atwood, John Baxter, Philip Unger, Robert Woodworth, and Philip Young

MINUTES OF COMMISSION TO ORDAIN MOLLY KATHLEEN MORRIS, as minister of the Word and Sacrament. In accordance with the appointment of the Presbytery of Shenandoah, the commission convened at the First Presbyterian Church, Staunton, Virginia, on Sunday, December 13, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

Commission members present: Teaching Elders: Karen Allamon, Richard Dietrich, and Kate Rascoe Ruling Elders: Richard Comstock (Presbytery Moderator), Paige Kullman (Staunton First), and Dan Summers-Minette (Covenant). Also invited and present were Rev. Eleanor Shell, Rev. Dr. Fred Holbrook, and Ruling Elder Laura Holbrook.

A quorum was present.

Richard Comstock, called the commission to order and led in prayer. The commission elected Richard Comstock, Moderator, and Karen Allamon, Clerk.

The congregation was called to worship. Eleanor Shell preached the sermon on the subject "Justice, Faith and Power" from Luke 1:35-55.

Richard Comstock stated the proceedings of the Presbytery preparatory to the ordination and pointed out its nature and importance and then asked the questions of the candidate, Molly Morris. These being answered in the affirmative, the candidate knelt and with prayer led by Fred Holbrook and the laying on of hands, the commission ordained her to the ordered ministry of teaching elder..

Kate Rascoe delivered the charge to the pastor.

At the conclusion of the service the newly ordained minister made a brief statement and pronounced the benediction.

Richard Comstock, Moderator
Karen Allamon, Clerk

	Actual Twelve Months December 31, 2020	2020 Twelve Month Budget	Remaining Budgeted Funds	% Used
Resources Provided by:				
Acceptances from Congregations	\$ 480,411.30	\$ 487,130.57	\$ 6,719.27	99%
Supplemental Income (1x from Corp)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	100%
H'burg First Settlement	\$ 24,800.00	\$ 24,800.00	\$ -	100%
Total	\$ 515,211.30	\$ 521,930.57	\$ 6,719.27	
Resources Used for:				
Church Vitality & Transformation CCVT	\$ 107.27	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 892.73	11%
Educational Resources CER	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ -	100%
Mission and Outreach CMO	\$ 9,124.49	\$ 11,300.00	\$ 2,175.51	81%
Presbytery Administration CPA				
GA - Per Capita	\$ 100,463.75	\$ 100,463.75	\$ -	100%
Synod - Per Capita	\$ 12,908.75	\$ 12,908.75	\$ -	100%
GA - Shared Mission Support	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	100%
Synod - Shared Mission Support	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -	100%
Total to GA and Synod	\$ 117,572.50	\$ 117,572.50	\$ -	100%
Occupancy	\$ 24,239.20	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 9,760.80	71%
Office Expenses	\$ 19,833.58	\$ 28,300.00	\$ 8,466.42	70%
Presbytery	\$ 161.48	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,338.52	5%
Personnel Expenses	\$ 352,360.50	\$ 380,302.00	\$ 27,941.50	93%
Total CPA	\$ 396,594.76	\$ 446,102.00	\$ 49,507.24	89%
Preparation for Ministry CPM	\$ 692.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 308.00	69%
Pastoral Transition CPT	\$ 85.86	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,914.14	1%
Relational Ministry CRM	\$ 21.02	\$ 775.00	\$ 753.98	3%
Total	\$ 530,697.90	\$ 590,249.50	\$ 59,551.60	90%
	\$ (15,486.60)	\$ (68,318.93)		
	\$ 8,239.47	2020 acceptances received in 2021		
	\$ (7,247.13)	2020 deficit		

Restricted Net Assets as of December 31, 2020		
Cmte on Church Vitality & Trans		
Innovations in Worship Grant		2,395.00
Total Cmte on Church Vitality & Trans		2,395.00
Cmte on New CongregationalDevel		
Community Cup NWC		7,500.00
H'burg 1st to CNCD		77,310.99
Total Cmte on New CongregationalDevel		84,810.99
Cmte on Educational Resources		
Brown & Hogshead		668.00
Blue Funds		19,744.53
Thomas & Martha Grafton		659.08
Harry S McClung		3,087.00
Peacemaking % Retained		11,271.49
Women in Community(SacrameLife)		4,512.11
Youth Council - SPYCE		5,452.48
Total Cmte on Educational Resources		45,394.69
Cmte on Mission & Outreach		
Covenant Shower Trailer - DRT		508.80
MVMC Shower Trailer		1,779.53
Baja Mission Trip - HAMC		
2020 Baja Mission Trip		12,483.94
Tool Fund		2,309.72
Baja Uniform Fund		100.00
Sterrett Memorial Fund		2,029.44
Total Baja Mission Trip - HAMC		16,923.10
Hunger		
Hunger Funds		13,188.25
Ethiopian Famine Relief		586.00
Total Hunger		13,774.25
Living Waters Team		
Water Projects - Undesignated		27,428.15
El AyalEscuelaOficialRuralMixta		459.75
WP-ComalapaEscuelaTecnicoChixot		459.75
WP-Guat.SantiagoAtitlan,Iglesia		1,024.53
El Sinaca IglesiaAsambleaDeDios		459.75
Iglesia Christiana Y Misionera		50.00
Total Living Waters Team		29,881.93
Moffett Grant		12,365.00
PCUSA Ethiopian Network		1,836.94
Ramsey fund		10,814.43
Partnership Committee		
Darimu Presbytery storm damage		1,050.00
Special Projects Ethiopia		1,300.00
ESL - Project Funds		3,839.11
Ethiopian Banquet		323.79
Gambella Girls		2,000.00
iCARE Gore Home		
iCARE - Christmas pool		100.00
iCARE Discretionary		1,500.00
iCARE - Sponsorships		16,169.98
iCARE Staff		1,250.00
Wakjira Haile Scholarship		183.72
Total iCARE Gore Home		19,203.70
Partnership Discretionary		4,443.27
Total Partnership Committee		32,159.87

	Total Cmte on Mission & Outreach	120,043.85
	Cmte on Pastoral Transition	
	CRE/ARE Training Program	3,525.06
	CRE/ARE Mentor Training	511.97
	CRE/ARE Vocational Assessments	1,025.66
	CRE/ARE Annual Meeting	1,025.66
	McClung - CAT WALK training	3,481.07
	Total Cmte on Pastoral Transition	9,569.42
	Cmte on Prep for Ministry	
	CPM Discretionary	278.47
	Total Cmte on Prep for Ministry	278.47
	Cmte on Presbytery Administrati	
	Ordination Funds	150.00
	2021 Acceptances	1,406.98
	Continuing Education	
	Cont Ed 2020 - Support Staff	1,000.00
	Con Ed 2019 - Support Staff	91.20
	Cont Ed 2020 - Bronwen	1,245.93
	Total Continuing Education	2,337.13
	G.P. Discretionary Acct	18,360.09
	Investment Interest	1,828.58
	Legal Fees	2,826.98
	Presbytery Upgrades	110.93
	Total Cmte on Presbytery Administrati	27,020.69
	Cmte on Relational Ministry	
	Boundary Training	3,057.98
	CRM Discretionary	9,177.29
	Mediation and Conflict Training	5,069.16
	Ministry-SenecaRock/Circleville	41,667.00
	Strong Ministers' Program	117,691.26
	The Oasis (Ramkey) Project	20,261.06
	Total Cmte on Relational Ministry	196,923.75
	TOTAL	486,436.86

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (CER)

Are you starting to put events on your calendar these days? Let the Big (BIGGER) Event be the first event you add to the wall, desk, and google calendar.

Date: September 17, 2021

Location: Massanutten Springs

Speaker: TBD (share ideas with Rev. Nancy Meehan-Yao or Rev. Tommy Carrico)

Gathering: Hybrid model for both In-Person and Virtual. Along with prayers we will follow all state and local guidelines in planning for the event.

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH VITALITY AND TRANSFORMATION (CCVT)

Stated Purpose of CCVT: To provide processes and support for congregations that have an identified need, willingness, and ability to engage in spiritual and/or programmatic growth which can lead to deeper commitment both within and beyond current membership.

CCVT Members: David Witt, chair; Phil Sommer, vice-chair; Malcolm Brownlee, Rick Comstock, Ed Dawkins, JoAnn Harmon, Tracie Martin, Juliana Ritchie, Nancy Meehan Yao, Associate General Presbyter, Staff Support

Report to Shenandoah Presbytery – Saturday, February 27, 2021

- ✓ Grants to Churches for Innovative Worship
CCVT has awarded 25 grants since March 2020, totaling just under \$20,000, all the grants for the advancement of technology for worship, both hardware and connections (ZOOM). These grants have come from the 2018 Fund, which was originally for \$3,000 per year, 3 grants per year, with a single congregation receiving up to \$1,000 per year. The application is on the presbytery website, has been highlighted at presbytery meetings, and has been included in recent e-letters. Considering the COVID pandemic, CCVT has set aside the limit of three grants per year but reaffirmed the \$1,000 per year to one congregation benchmark. CPA has graciously and generously allocated additional funds for CCVT to award. These grants are making virtual worship available now within many communities and will be useful for ministry through worship and other areas in the future. Since our last meeting, we have awarded grants to Broadway, Gerrardstown, Nineveh, Shepherdstown, and Nineveh Churches. An email recently followed up with churches who have received grants, checking in with them, asking how the grant had made an impact on their church's ministry, and calling for their gifts and willingness to share their technological gifts and learnings with others. A summary is being written and a resource will be made available in the future.
- ✓ Ministry Program Grant
We awarded a Ministry Program Grant to the Collierstown Church for their learning POD (PIKE) in Rockbridge County, in coordination with the Rockbridge County Public Schools hybrid model. Children, who are either totally virtual learners or hybrid learners on at home days, come to the church. An employed teacher/facilitator and an assistant (retired public-school teacher) help the children and coordinate activities.
- ✓ “Rethinking Evangelism Conference”
Since several of us attended this PCUSA conference back in October via ZOOM, we are hoping to follow up here in our presbytery by sponsoring a virtual workshop this year. How do we define and how should we redefine “evangelism?” How do we share our faith? What are the “nuts and bolts” of being a hospitable congregation? How do we get beyond the numbers? How do we go beyond the walls of our church buildings?
- ✓ Rethinking Our Witness, in a New Year, for a New Time
Consider this question, “In the midst of a pandemic, how will your church witness outside the church building and share the good news of the gospel?”
We have all taken a vow to “pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?” How will we creatively do that as the Church? Many churches have been doing that for almost a year. Many were extremely imaginative during the Advent/Christmas season. Many are gearing up for a creative Lent/Easter season. What about your church? How are you engaging and connecting with others in new ways?
- ✓ Vital Congregations
This is part of the PCUSA Faith Formation, Theology, and Evangelism work area. We have been reading and thinking through this program initiative that would involve the commitment of the presbytery. For that reason, we will continue studying, talking, and listening to see if this would be a good step for us a year from now.

✓ Meeting RE: “First Call Pastors/Congregations”

This would be a new opportunity for our presbytery to partner with smaller churches, rural/small town etc., in a type of pastoral residency program for first-call pastors. It could be based upon the “For Such a Time as This” program that the PCUSA CLC sponsored a few years ago (now inactive). This would be a way for smaller churches to “train up new pastors” and new pastors to share vitality and new thinking, providing the mutual recognition of gifts.

✓ Asking Questions – Please keep asking these questions...

- For what are we grateful?
- What are some new opportunities for ministry?
- How is the Church becoming something new and different?
- What have we learned? What will we do in the future?

As a committee, we will ask, “How can we listen to help/accompany/empower the churches of Shenandoah Presbytery?”

We understand we may need to target churches who need help by providing people resources. There may be churches coming out of the pandemic without much hope. We pray. We discern. We encourage. We “weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice” as we empathize, lift up, and help one another.

✓ Today’s Presentation

- ❖ CCVT is pleased to present a special report from special people from a special church at the presbytery meeting today...we celebrate Collierstown Presbyterian Church and their PIKE program, as we have recently awarded them a Ministry Program Grant for this new outreach. With Collierstown, we also celebrate Fairfield, New Providence, and Timber Ridge churches and their Rockbridge County learning PODS and for their heartfelt outreach and imaginative mission.

COMMITTEE ON PASTORAL TRANSITION (CPT)

ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Appointed the following liaisons and moderators:
 - Elkton – TE Karen Allamon as liaison
 - Waynesboro Second – TE Kelly-Ann Rayle as moderator
- B. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder Gwen Carr to serve as parish associate at Trinity Church.
- C. Approved the Parish Associate Contract between TE Gwen Carr, the Trinity Session, and the Trinity pastor TE Stephanie Sorge from January 1-December 31, 2021.
- D. Sustained the examination of Honorably Retired Teaching Elder John Cushwa to serve as temporary supply pastor at Tomahawk Church.
- E. Approved the temporary supply pastor contract between the Tomahawk Session and Honorably Retired Teaching Elder John Cushwa from January 1-December 31, 2021.
- F. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder Ernie Poland to serve as temporary supply pastor at Second Opequon Church.
- G. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder Alexa A. Smith (Ohio Valley Presbytery) and received TE Smith as a member of Shenandoah Presbytery effective January 1, 2021. (See page 14 for bio and faith statement)
- H. Approved the interim contract between the Berkeley Springs Session and TE Alexa A. Smith for a period of one year beginning January 1, 2021.
- I. Approved the contract between the Second Opequon Session and TE Ernie Poland from January 1-June 30, 2021.
- J. Approved renewing the temporary supply contract between the Augusta Stone Session and TE Bill Reinhold through June 30, 2021.
- K. Approved the temporary supply contract between the Millboro Session and TE Scott Conrad from March 1, 2021-March 1, 2022.

ALEXA A. SMITH
STATEMENT OF FAITH

I believe in a God I do not understand.

Who depends on weak human beings to make justice in this world -- to feed the hungry, to help the blind see and the lame walk.

And who loves a very raw creation, where death and life, pain and beauty, clash and intermingle. Who does not coerce or impose, because that is not power at all ... but who loves us into loving, for now and all time.

I believe in Jesus whose life gives us hope that it is possible to live justly in the here and now and that some will say yes.

Whose murder show us just how risky it is to live doing justice and mercy and love in a world where evil desperately works to squelch goodness.

Whose resurrection tells us it is possible to forgive despite terrible betrayal, to love when there is hate all around, to hope when there is every good reason to despair and to be merciful when judgment is deserved.

I believe in a Spirit whose fire may both comfort and set us aflame.

Who calls us into alternative communities where we are nurtured and fed and where every one of us is equal.

Who pulls us into the midst of life in all its messiness and gives us purpose.

This story is told to us in the scriptures, where very old words come to life all over again and give meaning to generation after generation. And it is embodied in the communities whose traditions mold us for ministry.

ALEXA A. SMITH
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Alexa Smith is a Presbyterian minister who has served as a journalist with the Presbyterian Church (USA), covering global issues through world mission, and has served congregations in Indiana, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Presently, she is serving as the pastor of two small churches in the United Church of Christ in Western Maryland, where she was born and where her extended family lives still. She is a graduate of Louisville Seminary, has a doctor of ministry degree in marriage and family therapy, and has a journalism degree from West Virginia University. She worked with U.S. presbyteries on international issues in the Presbyterian Hunger Program before returning to Maryland. She is a writer, a lover of coonhounds (and all other dogs, actually) a reader and a movie-watcher.

COMMITTEE ON NEW CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CNCD)

The work and purpose of the CNCD is to create space for, encourage, and support ideas and leadership for NWCs as the Spirit brings them forth. Our New Worshiping Community Liaisons reported that each of the two New Worshiping Communities, Church of the Wild Two Rivers and SC2 Sherando Food Pantry, both are doing well. The Faith on Tap portion of the SC2 has not been functioning. The prospective NWC in Martinsburg, the Community Cup, is still considering whether it will be a tax exempt or for-profit coffee shop and a worship center. The CNCD is working to discover more information regarding this question.

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONAL MINISTRY (CRM)

ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Renewed the supply pastor contract between the Bunker Hill Session and TE Ron Potter from January 1-December 31, 2021.
- B. Renewed the commissioned ruling elder contract between the Glen Kirk Session and CRE Isca Mitchell from January 1-December 31, 2021.
- C. Renewed the commissioned ruling elder contract between the Slanesville Session and CRE Michele Elliott from January 1-December 31, 2021.
- D. Renewed the supply pastor contract between the Zetta Session and TE Stan Farthing from January 1-December 31, 2021.
- E. Renewed the supply pastor contract between the Bethesda Session and TE Fred Noll from February 9, 2021-February 9, 2022.
- F. Renewed the commissioned ruling elder contract between the Halltown Session and CRE Alvin Russell from January 1-December 31, 2021.
- G. Renewed the supply pastor contract between the Hot Springs Session and TE Scott Conrad from March 1, 2021-March 1, 2022.
- H. Renewed the supply pastor contract between the Williamsville Session and TE Punker Robertson from January 1-December 31, 2021.
- I. Granted a waiver for the rotation of elders for 2021 for the following sessions: Elkton, Keyser, Little Falls, Mt. Storm, Ruddle, Second Opequon, and Zetta.
- J. Sustained the examination of Honorably Retired Teaching Elder James Johns (Peaks Presbytery) and received TE Johns as a member of Shenandoah Presbytery effective February 11, 2021. (See page 17-18 for bio and faith statement)
- K. Received the summary of the annual reports of those serving as parish associates, validated ministries, and at-large.

JAMES E. JOHNS
STATEMENT OF FAITH

I believe in one God the Father Almighty who is omnipotent, omnipresent, creator of heaven and earth. God created all things out of nothing. The created world is good and life is good because God is good. God alone is sovereign and rules with perfect justice and righteousness and grace. For God's good pleasure God created humankind in God's image giving humans the capacity to love, forgive, and have compassion and empathy for one another.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son who is the visible image of the Father. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being. Jesus collaborated with the Father at the beginning of creation and took on human form in order to come to earth to bring good news to the poor, proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. At the right time, according to the will of the Father, while the rest of the human race was sinning, Jesus took the sins of the world upon himself and became the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world.

I believe in the Holy Spirit who works in and through human beings to bring us to faith, to empower us to serve God and cleanses us from sin. The Holy Spirit is the presence of the living God working in the world and in the church and in our individual lives. The Spirit is our teacher, counselor, comforter, and works in the world to create a whole new humanity and a whole new creation. The Spirit renews and restores life and brings all who trust in Jesus resurrected life in this world and in the world to come.

Though we were made in the image of God that image has been distorted by sin. Sin is not only disobedience to God but our inclination to trust in ourselves more than we trust in God. It is our inclination to be centered on ourselves that keeps us from loving God and loving our neighbor.

By God's grace according to divine providence, God sent his only Son Jesus Christ to deliver us from sin and death and in so doing God reconciled humanity to God's self restoring the relationship that was broken by sin. By God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ, God's adopts us as God's children making us joint heirs with Jesus granting us our inheritance of everlasting life.

I believe that there are two sacraments instituted by Christ, the Lord's Supper and Baptism. Through the Lord's Supper, we remember the suffering death of Jesus who died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. It is also a celebration of God's grace in creation, covenant, the gift of the church, and the coming kingdom that Jesus promised to all who trust in him and live according to his word. Through Baptism, God claims us as God's children. In response we turn from sin and turn to the ways of Jesus Christ. Baptism is a sign of the believer being grafted into Jesus, having their sins washed away, and being incorporated into the body of Christ which is the church.

Finally, I believe that scripture is God's word to humanity and our guide to living a blessed life in accordance with God's will. It is God's manual of operations leading us to know God and God's instructions for living a life in accordance to God's will and a vision of God's kingdom.

JAMES E. JOHNS
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

I was born a cradle Presbyterian in the town of Front Royal, Virginia, a small town in the Shenandoah Valley about an hour and a half west of Washington DC. My family attended a small Presbyterian Church where my father was clerk of session and my mother taught Sunday School. In addition to attending church I took part in youth fellowship activities, attended church camp, and played on the church softball team.

Upon graduating from high school, I attended Madison College, now James Madison University, where I attained my Bachelor Degree in Business Administration. Following my graduation from college, I entered retail management and managed a chain drug store for thirteen years in various locations in Virginia and West Virginia. I was also privileged to work in the construction and marketing industries. It was while I was managing the drug store that I became reacquainted with one of my high school classmates whom I married. Terry Johns remains the love of my life. We have three children, all grown and married. We are also blessed to have five grandchildren.

For many years I resisted God's call to ministry but at the age of 45, with the blessings of my wife, we sold our home and marched off to Richmond Virginia and Union Theological Seminary and the Presbyterian School of Christian Education where I received my Master of Divinity Degree. In July, 1998 I was ordained in the Coastal Carolina Presbytery and served my first church, the Montpelier Presbyterian Church, in Wagram, North Carolina. In March 2001 I accepted the position of pastor at Indian Trail Presbyterian Church located in the Charlotte North Carolina where I served for 14 years. .

In 2008, I began work on my Doctor of Ministry degree and was awarded the Doctor of Ministry degree in 2011 from Union Presbyterian Seminary. Because I eventually wanted to work as an interim minister, I took the Interim Ministry Training course offered by Union Presbyterian Seminary in November 2013.

On January 1, 2015, I left my position as pastor of Indian Trail Presbyterian Church to begin my interim ministry.. This opportunity has taken me to pastorates at Carolina Beach North Carolina, Farmers Branch Texas, and to Lynchburg Va.

On October 15, 2020, I completed my tenure as interim pastor at Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church in Lynchburg Virginia. My wife and I have moved to a house we have built in Stephens City Virginia and I am seeking to obtain membership in the Presbytery of Shenandoah. The Lord has blessed me in my ministry and I constantly give thanks to God for God's providence, Christ's redemption, and the presence of the Holy Spirit in my life.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS

Committee on Presbytery Administration

At the end of 2020, Heidi Rutz and Wray Sherman completed their terms on C.P.A. We are grateful for their work. Wray has served as Chairperson for a number of years and has provided excellent leadership. In 2021, Hannah Bush (Vice Chairperson) and Clayton Rascoe have begun new, consecutive terms, and Betsy Hay has started her work as a new committee member. We are blessed by their involvement, as well as that of all our members and the presbytery staff members.

At our November 19th meeting, Heather Carter, Funds Administrator for the presbytery, reported that congregations are doing well in paying their per capita pledges, compared to this same time in past years. The C.P.A. shared and received annual evaluations for our five, full-time presbytery staff members. We approved bonuses for all the presbytery staff members, given in the form of gift cards.

We next met on January 21st. Heather Carter reported that all congregations that had sent in their 2020 per capita pledge forms have paid at least a portion of what they pledged. Heather has submitted the reports on the 2020 receipts and expenditures to the presbytery's treasurer for his review. At its February meeting, the committee plans to take any action needed on contacting congregations that have not sent in per capita pledge forms for 2021. The C.P.A. approved having Heather apply, on behalf of the presbytery, for the Paycheck Protection Program assistance, if we qualify. We also approved the request of the Committee on Church Vitality and Transformation (C.C.V.T.) for an additional \$10,000 for Innovation in Worship grants to our congregations. This will be allocated from the 2018 Fund. Jeff Robb, the realtor handling the sale of the presbytery's office, reported that businesses and individuals are looking at the property, but have not made offers to us. The C.P.A. approved for us to lower our asking price from \$845,000 to \$829,000.

Fletcher Hutcheson, Jr., Chairperson

Coordinating and Planning Commission

CPC met on Tuesday, January 26 via Zoom, and heard reports from all Presbytery committees.

ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Requested the Committee on Presbytery Administration to explore online giving options for the Presbytery.
- B. Designated the offering taken at the February Presbytery Meeting to the 4 Cents A Meal Program.
- C. Approved moving the fall Presbytery meeting to November 16.
- D. Approved housing the Bills and Overtures Committee with the Stated Clerk with the membership being drawn as much as possible from former General Assembly Commissioners.

Volunteer Service to Shenandoah Presbytery

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

Congregation _____

___ Ruling Elder ___ Teaching Elder ___ Retired

I am interested in serving God through Shenandoah Presbytery in the following ways:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

I am currently serving in Shenandoah Presbytery in the following ways:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

Opportunities to Serve in Shenandoah Presbytery

Committee on Church Vitality and Transformation (CCVT)

Purpose: To provide processes and support for congregations that have an identified need, willingness, and ability to engage in spiritual and/or programmatic growth which can lead to deeper commitment both within and beyond current membership.

Committee on Educational Resources (CER)

Purpose: To provide education and resources in the areas of stewardship, children's ministry, youth and young adult ministry, evangelism, social justice issues, and other areas related to congregational ministry through the use of specialized teams and regional and presbytery-wide training events.

Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO)

Purpose: Coordinate and oversee local, national, and international mission work through congregations and mission communities. CMO will provide information, resources, encouragement and support.

Committee on New Congregational Development (CNCD)

Purpose: To formulate and implement a comprehensive plan for location, funding, and development of new congregations and new worshipping communities within the bounds of the presbytery.

Committee on Nominations (CN)

Purpose: To nominate to Presbytery individuals to serve on presbytery committees, adhering to established norms of committee membership and representation including vacancies, chairs and vice-chairs; and to nominate persons to serve on presbytery's PJC and as commissioners to Synod and General Assembly meetings.

Committee on Pastoral Transition (CPT)

Purpose: To fulfill all Book of Order and Presbytery Manual responsibilities related to oversight of and guidance to churches and pastors in the process of moving from one pastor/congregation relationship to another. These responsibilities include work related to dissolving pastoral relationships, working with churches in all processes leading to the next pastor call, and examining teaching elders for readiness and suitability to receive calls.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

Purpose: To oversee the care and examination of inquirers and candidates for ministry, inform sessions of the process for inquiry and candidacy, and conduct examinations of candidates seeking calls within the bounds of this presbytery.

Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA)

Purpose: To oversee the management of presbytery funds, property, and staff.

Committee on Relational Ministry (CRM)

Purpose: To fulfill all Book of Order and Presbytery Manual responsibilities related to oversight of and assistance to churches and teaching elders in their ministry. These responsibilities include all matters related to matriculation of new pastors, periodic visits with sessions and pastors, support for clergy wellness and continuing education.

Committee on Representation (COR)

Purpose: To advise the Presbytery with respect to membership of its committees and to the employment of its personnel per Book of Order G-3.0103.