

**Minutes of the
190th Stated Session
of the
PRESBYTERY OF SHENANDOAH**

August 28, 2021

Via Zoom

NEXT STATED SESSION

**Tuesday, November 16, 2021
TBA**

**Saturday, February 26, 2022
TBA**

**Tuesday, May 24, 2022
TBA**

SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY IS A COVENANT BODY WHERE:

- » **congregations are empowered to be centers for mission,**
- » **lay persons are equipped to be Disciples of Christ in a challenging world,**
- » **church leaders and members are nurtured and strengthened for service,**
- » **open communication and information are used constructively and creatively to keep us connected.**

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Current Officers

Kenneth Miller, President
Ronald Hylton, Vice President
Alan Garrison, Secretary
Linnea J. Spradlin, Treasurer

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Kelley Connelly

Home Church – Winchester First

INQUIRERS FOR MINISTRY OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Hannah Altman

Home Church - Warrenton

Mark Dewey

Home Church – Winchester First

Benjamin Kent

Home Church – Warrenton

Cassandra Semler

Home Church - Tuscarora

Bobby Snell

Home Church – Tinkling Spring

GOVERNING BODIES

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**PRESBYTERY OF SHENANDOAH
MINUTES OF THE 190th STATED MEETING**

The 190th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Shenandoah was called to order via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 28, 2021. Moderator Judy Hensley led in prayer.

MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

Moderator Judy Hensley gave detailed procedural instructions for the meeting.

QUORUM AND ENROLLMENT

The Stated Clerk reported that a quorum was present. The final enrollment was as follows:

Adm	Administrator	DYP	Director, Youth Program	P	Pastor
Asst	Assistant	ED	Educator	Prof	Professor
Assoc	Associate	HR	Honorably Retired	SS	Stated Supply
Chap	Chaplain	IA	Interim Associate	Stu	Student
CM	Campus Minister	IN	Inactive	T	Teacher
COP	Co-Pastors	IP	Interim Pastor	TM	Tent Making
Coun	Counselor	ML	Minister-at-Large	TP	Transitional Presbyter
DP	Designated Pastor	OM	Overseas Missionary	WC	Without Charge

(Description code for attendance: P = present E = excused A = absent)

E	Allamon, Karen H.	P	Staunton First	Absent
A	Allen, Donald R., Jr.	HR		
E	Atwood, Roxana M.	HR		
A	Barner, Ann Elizabeth	HR		
A	Barner, Fred Thomas	HR		
P	Bethard, John T.	P	Charles Town	Roger Snook
P	Boswell, Bronwen W.	GP/SC		
P	Boswell, Howard W., Jr.	P	Buena Vista	Stewart MacInnis
E	Boyer, Grace Jones	HR		
E	Brandon, Joseph C.	HR		
E	Bridgman, Stewart G.	HR		
E	Brownlee, J. Malcolm	HR		
P	Bunker, Jonathan W.	P	Berryville	Jim Green
A	Caperton, William G.	HR		
P	Carr, Gwendolyn B.	ML		
P	Carrico, Thomas J., Jr.	P	Finley Memorial	Absent
A	Cathcart, C. Stevens	HR		
P	Channell, Kevin J.	P	Collierstown	Roger Lees
A	Chapman, George W.	ML		
A	Clark, Casey R.	COP	New Monmouth	Absent
A	Clark, Rachel F.	COP	New Monmouth	
E	Condro, Joseph F.	HR		
A	Conrad, Scott A.	Supply	Hot Springs	
A	Corder, William "Lee"	ML		
E	Cornish, Homer T.	HR		
E	Cox, C. William	HR		
A	Craft, John K.	P	Bethany	Absent
A	Cranford, April H.	P	Westminster	Matthew Rider
A	Crannell, J. Scott	ML		
A	Crumley, Rachel	P	Tuscarora	Ellen DeLong
E	Cushwa, John W.	HR		
A	Dawkins, Edward C.	Supply	Nineveh	
E	Dax, Betty G.	HR		
P	Dent, William H., Jr.	HR		
E	Dietrich, Richard S.	HR		

A Donohoe, Patricia A.	HR		
A Douty, Horace D.	HR/IP	Oxford	
P Evans, Caroline B.	P	Front Royal	Deanne McVey
E Evans, George W.	HR		
P Everhart, William G.	Supply	Sunnyside	
P Farthing, Stanley H.	Supply	Zetta	
P Fetterman, Amy	Supply	New Providence	
E Field, Robert F.	HR		
E Fisher, Merle L., Jr.	HR		
P Forbes, Thomas H.	P	Keyser Piedmont	Absent Kermit Becker
E Franklin, John S.	HR		
E Garrison, John D.	HR		
E Goodman, William R., Jr.	HR		
E Goshorn, Robert D.	HR		
P Greenawalt, Karen J.	P	Gerrardstown	Absent
P Groome, Thomas P., III	IP	Lexington	
A Harmon, Melissa L.	ML		
P Hay, Kevin W.	P	Middletown	Absent
E Hay, Thomas D.	HR		
P Held, Ann Reed	HR		
E Hellmuth, Barton L.	HR		
A Hendy, Susanna	ML		
E Hill, Richard H.	Supply	Beulah/Monterey	
E Hill, Robert S., Jr.	HR		
P Hill, Sarah L.	HR		
P Holden, Thomas J., III	HR		
P Hopkins, E. Reed	P	Loch Willow	Gene Sours
P Howard, Carl D.	HR		
P Howard, David D.	P	Strasburg	Absent
E Hunt, Patricia	HR		
P Hutcheson, Fletcher, Jr.	P	Circleville Seneca Rocks	Absent Absent
A Inglis, J. Leslie	HR		
P Johns, James E.	HR		
A Kave, Jacob R.	SS	Broadway	
E Klein, Deborah H.	HR		
E Klein, William M.	HR		
P Lanaghan, Patrick R.	P	Timber Ridge	Donna Lanaghan
P Langdon, J. Bradford	HR/SS	Mt. Hope	
A LaPrade, Lester N., Jr.	HR		
A Lawton, James S.	HR		
A Lewis, Elizabeth	Chap	Westminster-Canterbury	
E Lowe, Emory G.	HR		
E Lown, John W.	HR		
A Lowrance, William J.	HR		
P Lunde, James E., II	P	Warrenton	Ken Austin Betty Hadden
E Macbeth, Bruce A.	HR		
A Martin, Tracie E.	PA	Opequon	
A McCoig, Dan M., Jr.	P	Winchester First	Patricia Grosso Absent Absent
A McDonald, John L.	IP	Falling Waters	
A McKune, Debra Y.	ML		
A Miles, Larry C.	HR		
P Mitchell, Loren T.	P	New Providence	Excused
E Moore, William L.	OM		
E Muncy, Robert L.	HR		
E Newman, Howard A.	HR		

P Newquist, Gusti L.	P	Shepherdstown	Absent
A Noll, Frederick E.	IP	Bethesda	
P Normington, Seth A.	P	Cooks Creek	Don Myers
A Osborne, Robert S.	HR		
E Owen, Jan G.	HR		
A Painter, William L., Jr.	HR		
P Peterson, John C.	P	Covenant	Anne Bell Tom Compton
P Pettit, Ann R.	Assoc	Massanutten	
P Pettit, Patrick S.	IP	Waynesboro First	
A Poland, Ernest L. Jr.	ML		
E Pollock, Richard	HR		
P Potter, Ronald R.	SS	Bunker Hill	
E Price, Norman G.	HR		
A Pyles, Elizabeth A.	P	McDowell	Absent
A Rascoe, Clayton T.	ML		
P Rascoe, Kathryn R.	IP	Woodstock	
E Rayle, Kelly-Ann	PA	Lexington	
E Reller, Charles K.	HR		
E Rhyne, C. Thomas	HR		
P Robertson, Helen	SS	Fairfield	
E Ross, Anne M.	HR		
A Ryan, Patrick S.	P	Tinkling Spring	Debra Fitzgerald-O'Connell Absent
A Sale, M. Anderson	HR		
A Shearer, J. David	ML		
A Sherman, H. Wray	HR		
P Sieck, Philip L.	HR		
A Singleton, Jacob R.	P	Staunton Third	Absent
E Slider, C. Richard II	HR		
E Smith, Alexa A.	IP	Berkeley Springs	
P Smith, Evan R.	P	Staunton Second	Jerry Siford
P Smith, James M.	P	Mossy Creek	Absent
A Smith, Nancy A.	HR		
P Smith, Vanessa M.	P	Hedgesville	Excused
P Sommer, Philip W.	HR		
P Sorge, Stephanie	P	Trinity	Nancy Hopkins-Garriss
E Stanley, Arthur L.	HR		
E Stephens, Millard M.	HR		
A Stow, Elizabeth J.	ML		
A Summers-Minette, Teresa L.	HR		
E Swezey, Charles M.	HR		
E Symons, Charles D., Jr.	HR		
P Thomas, Aaron Lee	P	Olivet	Absent
A Thomas, Amanda M.	AP	Winchester First	
A Thornton, Joel P.	DP	Ivanhoe	Absent
		Wardensville	Absent
A Tongen, Harold M.	HR		
E Tremba, Randall W.	HR		
P Vaughan, Robert C.	P	Romney	Lisa Hileman
E Vernon, Joseph H. J.	HR		
E von Oeyen, Jr., Robert	HR		
A Watkins, John M.	HR		
A Whiteley, Nancy S.	HR		
E Wilkers, Jack B.	HR		
A Wilson, Joan M.	HR		
E Wilson, Stanton R.	HR		
A Wing, Andrew P.	ML		
P Witt, David R.	P	Opequon	Katherine Newhouse Absent

P	Wolf, Sarah	AP	Covenant	
P	Yao, James C.	P	Moorefield	Absent
P	Yao, Nancy Meehan	AGP		
E	Young, Betty Jean	HR		
E	Young, Richard O., Sr.	HR		

CHURCHES WITHOUT INSTALLED PASTORS

Augusta Stone	Absent
Ben Salem	Absent
Berkeley Springs	Brice Williams
Bethel	Timothy Turner
Bethesda	Absent
Beulah	David Blanchard
Bloomery	Absent
Bridgewater	Absent
Broadway	Absent
Buckton	Lisa Schlosser
Buffalo Gap	Absent
Bunker Hill	Absent
Burlington	Excused
Burnt	Absent
Clear Brook	Absent
Craigsville	Absent
Elk Branch	Absent
Elkton	Excused
Fairfield	Absent
Falling Waters	Absent
Franklin	Absent
Glen Kirk	Absent
Goshen	Absent
Halltown	Absent
Hebron	Absent
Hermitage	Absent
Highland Memorial	Absent
Hot Springs	Absent
Immanuel	Absent
Lexington	Poppy Orendorf
Little Falls	Absent
Martinsburg First	Absent
Massanutten	Hunter Davis
	Gus Scheidt
McCutchen	Absent
Millboro	Absent
Monterey	Lorraine White
Mount Carmel	Mary Jane Mutispaugh
Mount Hope	Absent
Mount Horeb	Sammy Lantz
Mount Joy	Absent
Mount Olive	Karen Britton Lough
Mount Storm	Absent
Nineveh	Absent
Oxford	Absent
Petersburg	Lila Frye
Pines Chapel	Absent
Rocky Spring	Absent
Ruddle	Absent
Second Opequon	Absent
Slanesville	Absent
Smyrna	Absent
Springfield	Excused

Sunnyside	Krissy Reynolds
Tabler	Henry Hogmire
Tomahawk	Absent
Union	Absent
Waynesboro First	Jen Jones
Waynesboro Second	Linda Fields
Williamsville	Absent
Woodstock	Absent
Zetta	Absent

VOTING RULING ELDERS:

Commissioned Ruling Elders

A Michele Elliott	P Judy Hensley	P Mark Johnson
A Isca Mitchell	P David Ombs	E Linda Reece
A Alvin Russell	P Bobby Spurgeon	A Susanne Taylor
A Paul Wolverton		

Voting Ruling Elders of Presbytery Staff or Coordinating and Planning Commission (CPC):

P Richard Comstock, CPC
P Donna Lanaghan, Staff (also Timber Ridge Commissioner)

NON-VOTING VISITORS:

Visiting Ministers

B. Ron Gilmer, Incoming Pastor to Woodstock	Keith Phillips, Incoming Pastor to Massanutten
Stephen Scott, Synod of the Mid-Atlantic	Steve Willis, Hebron Interim
Richard Schempp, Palo Duro Presbytery	James Young, Baltimore Presbytery

Presbytery Staff

Kim Stroupe

Visitors

Patricia Armstrong	JoAnn Harman	Betsy Hay
Betsy Ruehl		

Teaching Elders = 48 Voting Ruling Elders = 42 Additional Guests = 11 TOTAL = 101

WELCOME

The Moderator welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting of the Presbytery of Shenandoah. The following teaching elders were seated as corresponding members: Stephen Scott of Salem Presbytery, Steve Willis of Peaks Presbytery, and James Young of Baltimore Presbytery.

Teaching Elder Stephen Scott, Synod Vice-Moderator and Acting Executive Director and Stated Clerk, brought greetings from the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic.

DOCKET

The docket was approved as revised by replacing the Committee on Nominations with an introduction of the new online Directory. (See page 65)

WORSHIP

Worship was led by Ruling Elder Richard Comstock (Trinity), CRE and Presbytery Moderator Judy Hensley, Sermon by Teaching Elder Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, Teaching Elder Nancy Meehan Yao, Teaching Elder David Howard, and Ruling Elder Dave Thalman (PDA). Music included various hymns written by Teaching Elder Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.

STATED CLERK REPORT

Teaching Elder Bronwen Boswell gave the following report, *which was approved*:

I. FOR INFORMATION:

- A. Please see pages 75-78 for informational reports from the Committees on Preparation for Ministry, Representation, and the Coordinating and Planning Commission.
- B. The reading of Shenandoah Presbytery 2020 minutes has taken place and were found to be in order and consistent with the standards of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

II. RECOMMENDATIONS: (all approved)

- A. That Presbytery excuse from attendance from all or part of this stated meeting those ministers who submit such a request.
- B. That Presbytery approve the minutes from May 25, 2021, Presbytery Meeting, as well as the minutes from the Special Meeting from July 13, 2021.
- C. That Presbytery grant the status of honorably retired to Teaching Elder Nancy Smith effective April 1, 2021.

ASSOCIATE GENERAL PRESBYTER

Teaching Elder Nancy Meehan Yao encouraged the Presbytery to walk together, rest, breathe, and to slow down. “Let’s begin to discern what to carry with us and what to let go of.”

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Teaching Elder Tommy Carrico gave a brief PowerPoint for the upcoming Big Event September 18, 2021. The theme is **WHEN DID WE SEE YOU LORD?** and features the Rev. Dr. Margaret Grun Kibben, Chaplain to the U.S. House of Representatives; and the Rev. Jimmie Hawkins.

A presentation for SPYCE was led by John Dull, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at Tinkling Spring Church.

See page 66 for a full written report.

COMMITTEE ON PRESBYTERY ADMINISTRATION

Teaching Elder Fletcher Hutcheson, Chair, referenced their written report as found on pages 67-68.

COMMITTEE ON PASTORAL TRANSITION

Teaching Elder Patrick Pettit, Chair, briefed the Body on the work of the Committee, and introduced Teaching Elder Jonathan Bunker, Chair of the Examinations Committee. See pages 69-71 for a full written report

INTRODUCTION OF NEW TEACHING ELDERS

Teaching Elder Jonathan Bunker introduced Teaching Elder Ron Gilmer who has received a call to the Woodstock Church. TE Gilmer was asked to give a brief sense of his Christian journey and call to ministry at Woodstock. There were no questions from the floor.

Teaching Elder Jonathan Bunker introduced Teaching Elder Keith Phillips who has received a call to the Massanutten Church. TE Phillips was asked to give a brief sense of his Christian journey and call to ministry at Massanutten. There were no questions from the floor.

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONAL MINISTRY

Teaching Elder Howard Boswell, Chair, gave a brief report as follows. See page 72 for a full written report

RECOMMENDATIONS: *(all approved)*

- A. That Teaching Elder Wray Sherman be granted the status of honorably retired effective July 1, 2021.
- B. Recommend that the current listening team to the Bethel Church become the Administrative Commission with the powers granted to it as stated in the Presbytery Policy for Discernment toward Reconciliation or Separation of Congregations in Shenandoah Presbytery.

INTERIM REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LISTENING TEAM FOR BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The session of Bethel Presbyterian Church voted on Sept. 13, 2020, to seek gracious dismissal from the PCUSA. A listening team to inquire into this issue was formed by the Shenandoah Presbytery and held its initial meeting on Dec. 10, 2020. Over the ensuing months, the listening team met with the session and other church leaders, and contacted a majority of congregation members either by telephone or in person to gauge their support for the proposed action. The listening team became aware of a letter sent by session to congregation members that contained mischaracterizations of PCUSA policies. The listening team sent a letter to congregation members and held two information sessions to present accurate information about PCUSA policies.

The listening team developed an understanding that the congregation was divided into two groups, a dominant group wanting to leave the PCUSA and a smaller, much less organized group wanting to remain in the denomination. The dominant group alleges that policies of the PCUSA and/or the Presbyterian Mission Board have politicized the denomination and are so far out of step with the values of the congregation as to render continued alignment with the PCUSA impossible. The issues most often cited by members of this faction were policies on same-sex marriage, abortion, and social justice issues. The most cited social justice issue was the Mission Board's statement in support of the Black Lives Matter movement. Also mentioned as reasons to leave the denomination were the failure of the congregation to engage a pastor sufficiently in step with its views and the belief that an evangelical posture beyond that of the PCUSA is needed to retain current members and to attract new members to the congregation.

Members of the minority group within the congregation have alleged the dominant group has needlessly introduced political issues into worship services, feel they are marginalized within the congregation, and are nearly unanimous in saying they disagree with the vote to seek gracious dismissal and that many of the reasons put forward in support of that vote are values which are counter to their understanding of the teachings of Christ. They seem to have been worn down by years of what they consider heavy-handed tactics by a core group within the dominant group. The minority group has no apparent natural leader, is small, and is relatively unorganized. The listening team determined that the two groups do not share sufficient common ground to discuss their differences in a productive manner.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW ONLINE PRESBYTERY DIRECTORY

Ruling Elder Donna Lanaghan gave a brief introduction for the new Breeze Directory.

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH VITALITY AND TRANSFORMATION

Teaching Elder David Witt, Chair, referenced their written report as found on page 73. TE Witt noted the virtual evangelism conference sponsored by Montreat November 1-3, focusing on the 8 Habits of Evangelism. <https://montreat.org/events/revangelism21> as well as Integrating Spirituality in Today's Healthcare sponsored by Shenandoah University and Valley Health November 10. For more information go to su.edu/SUspirituality

Teaching Elder James Lunde introduced a slideshow of the ministry and mission at Warrenton Presbyterian Church.

COMMITTEE ON NEW CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teaching Elder Karen Greenawalt, Chair, led in prayer for the new worshipping communities. See page 74 for a full written report.

ADJOURNMENT


The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. with prayer by the Moderator. The Presbytery will meet in stated session on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, possibly to be held at Massanutten Presbyterian Church.

Judy Hensley, Moderator

Bronwen W. Boswell, Stated Clerk

Kim Stroupe, Recording Clerk

DOCKET

- 9:30 a.m. Call to Order, Prayer & Meeting Instructions
- 9:35 a.m. Determining a Quorum
Procedural Rules
Welcome, Introduction of Guests, and Seating of Corresponding Members
Adoption of the Docket
- 9:40 a.m. Worship
- QR code for online giving
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- 
- 10:30 a.m. Report of the Stated Clerk – TE Bronwen Boswell
- 10:35 a.m. Report of the Associate General Presbyter – TE Nancy Meehan Yao
- 10:40 a.m. Committee on Educational Resources – TE Tommy Carrico
- 10:50 a.m. Committee on Presbytery Administration – TE Fletcher Hutcheson
- 11:05 a.m. Committee on Pastoral Transition – TE Patrick Pettit
- 11:20 a.m. Committee on Relational Ministry – TE Howard Boswell
- 11:35 a.m. Introduction of New Online Presbytery Directory
- 11:40 a.m. Committee on Church Vitality & Transformation – TE David Witt
- 11:55 a.m. Committee on New Congregational Development – TE Karen Greenawalt
- 12:00 p.m. Anticipated Adjournment

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (CER)

The CER met on May 6 and June 17, 2021 by Zoom.

Big Event – The Big Event is scheduled for September 18 from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm at Massanetta Springs. The theme of “When Did We See You?” is centered around the Matthew 25 initiative of the PC (USA). The Keynote speaker will be The Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, director of PC (USA) Office of Witness and Public Policy in Washington, D.C. Worship will be led by Ret. Rear Admiral, Rev. Dr. Margaret Grun Kibben, Chaplain to the US House of Representatives. Both Revs. Hawkins and Grun Kibben will lead workshops in the afternoon. Also in the afternoon, a book discussion on the book *Caste* will be offered by Rev. Thomas Groom and there will be a panel discussion by church leaders from Presbytery churches who have adopted the Matthew 25 initiative. The cost of attending the Big Event which includes lunch is \$20. Reservations and payment may be made online at www.shenpres.org.

Scholarships –

The committee awarded 33 camper/conference attendees with scholarship funds which totaled \$4,605. Campers attended a diverse range of camps/conference including Massanetta, Camp Paddy Run, Montreat and Camp Hanover. Also, the committee sent funds to Massanetta and Montreat conference centers for an overall contribution from the camps and conference funds totaling \$6,605 in 2021.

The committee awarded 24 applicants with college scholarships which totaled \$18,000 or \$750 per applicant from the following churches: Bunker Hill, Burlington, Colliertown, Hebron, Lexington, Massanutten, Mt. Carmel, Opequon, Petersburg, Romney, Tinkling Spring, Trinity, Tuscarora, and Westminster. The funds came from the following invested accounts: Blue, Brown & Hogshead, McClung and Grafton. Thanks to those individuals who set up and donated monies to the scholarship funds, the awards exceeded any that had been given in the past.

CER Members

Tommy Carrico, (TE)
Sarah Wolfe, (TE)
Amanda Thomas, (TE)
Judith Lepera (RE)
John Dull (DCE)
Sarah Hill (HR-TE) – co chair
April Cranford (TE)- co chair
Rev. Nancy Meehan Yao – Associate GP

COMMITTEE ON PRESBYTERY ADMINISTRATION (CPA)

“The purpose of the C.P.A. is to oversee the management of presbytery funds, property, and staff” (from *The Presbytery Manual*).

Members of the C.P.A.: Hannah Bush, Emerson Deitz, Betsy Hay, Ann Held, Fletcher Hutcheson, Edwina Johansen, Jim Johns, Clayton Rascoe, Pam Snyder, and Harold Tongen

The C.P.A. held a Zoom meeting on May 20th. It was moved, seconded, and carried to invest \$400,000 of the settlement amount from First Presbyterian Church of Martinsburg with the Presbyterian Foundation. This is specified to be a medium risk investment.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to designate \$37,925.80 of the settlement amount from First Presbyterian Church of Martinsburg for use with current and future requests from congregations for funding. The remaining \$30,074.20 of the Martinsburg settlement funds will be used to reimburse the presbytery’s legal costs related to the settlement.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to select the pastor’s participation option with what the presbytery pays the Board of Pensions for Bronwen Boswell and Nancy Meehan Yao. This will not affect anything in the budget. It only involves our choosing that particular option in the plan details for Bronwen and Nancy.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve a \$5,000 grant for the next two years to Ivanhoe and Wardensville Presbyterian Churches, using the Martinsburg settlement funds. It also was moved, seconded, and carried to approve a \$25,000 grant, using the Martinsburg settlement funds, to Massanutten Presbyterian Church for a portion of their capital campaign debt. **The remaining \$7,925.80 of the Martinsburg settlement amount that we have not invested is available to help congregations of the presbytery with financial needs.**

Betsy, Ann, Clayton, Bronwen, and Nancy have continued to meet with Harrisonburg agencies and organizations that work to address community needs, and that possibly would be interested in the presbytery office property on North Main Street. The committee is pleased to welcome its newest member, the Rev. Jim Johns! The C.P.A. will have its next Zoom meeting on August 19th.

Regarding: Summary of Action on Sale of Presbytery Property

An article was published in the July 27, 2021 Daily News Record entitled, “Presbytery In Talks to Sell Site for Homeless Shelter.” This being the case, we thought it would be a good time to update the Presbytery on the actions CPA has taken regarding sale of the property.

The first thing to know is that as of August 20, 2021, no formal offer has been made by any party for the property. When/if an offer comes in, CPA will negotiate with the interested party through our real estate agent. If a price is agreed upon by CPA and the interested party, that negotiated price would come to Presbytery for approval as a recommendation from CPA.

Here are the major steps to date:

October 25, 2015 Property initially listed for sale at \$995,000

June 22, 2018 Lot sold to Dollar General for \$276,667

February 2, 2021 CPA reduced price for remaining lot to \$829,000

In the spring of 2021, CPA paused to ask a simple, yet profound, question:

“With no serious offers being made in one of the hottest real estate markets in American history, might the Holy Spirit be nudging us to consider other options for the property?”

Clayton Rascoe and Betsy Hay were then asked to explore how the property might be used in mission to the “least of these” in the Harrisonburg and Rockingham County area. They hosted a series of three open houses at the property that were attended by representatives from United Way of Harrisonburg & Rockingham County, Faith in Action, Harrisonburg City Manager’s office and over ten different nonprofit organizations.

Subsequently, two significant actions have occurred:

- The board of directors of one nonprofit voted to “engage in negotiations with the Shenandoah Presbytery regarding the property at 1111 N. Main Street with the goal of a favorable purchase. The potential purchase of this property is for the intent of establishing a long-term, 12 month, low-barrier shelter to alleviate homelessness in the City of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County.”

- Harrisonburg City Council approved the designation of \$326,000 from CARES Act funds for the purpose of purchasing property and/or services for a low-barrier homeless shelter.

CPA now awaits with hope to see how the Holy Spirit may possibly use these actions to move us toward God's purposes for the property. We invite your prayers!

Respectfully submitted,
Fletcher Hutcheson

COMMITTEE ON PASTORAL TRANSITION (CPT)

I. FOR INFORMATION:

The Committee continues to meet monthly via Zoom.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Added Teaching Elders Bob Osborne and Jim Young to the supply list.
- B. Gave permission to the Hebron and Lexington congregations to elect pastor nominating committees and proceed with creating a ministry information form:
- C. Appointed the following:
 - Bridgewater – Stephanie Sorge moderator
 - Hermitage – Karen Allamon liaison and moderator
 - Mt. Horeb – Ann Pettit moderator
 - Sunnyside – Carrie Evans liaison
- D. Approved the following Ministry Information Forms and authorized Kim Stroupe to input the data onto the Church Leadership Connection web site:
 - Waynesboro Second = Pastor
 - Warrenton = Director of Christian Education
- E. Approved the contract between the McCutchen Session and the Rev. David Bain (Pentecostal) from June 26, 2021-June 26, 2022.
- F. Renewed the interim contract between the Falling Waters Session and Interim John McDonald from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022.
- G. Renewed the temporary supply contract between the Augusta Stone Session and TE Bill Reinhold from September 1-December 31, 2021.
- H. Approved the following terms of call between the Ivanhoe and Wardensville churches and Teaching Elder Joel Thornton beginning August 1, 2021: (TE Thornton was serving as their designated pastor. The two churches will share the call 50/50)

Annual Cash Salary	33,000
Housing Allowance	12,000
Automobile Expense	2,200
Books & Subscriptions	500
Continuing Education	500
Major Medical	12,150
Pensions & Disability	4,500
SECA	3,443
Moving expenses to the field as negotiated	
Four week's annual paid vacation, including four Sundays	
Two week's annual study leave with pay, including two Sundays	
Primary and Support Family Leave	
Disability and/or Death Benefit	

- I. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder B. Ron Gilmer, who has received a call to the Woodstock Church, and received him as a member of Shenandoah Presbytery effective September 1, 2021.

- J. Approved the following terms of call between Teaching Elder B. Ron Gilmer and Woodstock Church effective September 1, 2021:

Annual Cash Salary	45,000
Housing Allowance	15,000
Automobile Allowance	2,000
Books and Subscriptions	500
Continuing Education	2,500
Major Medical	16,200
Pension and Disability	6,000
SECA	4,590
Moving expenses to the field not to exceed \$8,000	
Four week's annual paid vacation, including four Sundays	
Two week's annual study leave with pay, including two Sundays	
Primary and Support Family Leave	
Disability and/or Death Benefit	

- K. Approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Teaching Elder Ann Pettit and Massanutten Church effective August 31, 2021.

- L. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder Ann Pettit, who has received a call as co-pastor to the Massanutten Church, and recommended that her call be approved by Shenandoah Presbytery a motion that requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ approval of the quorum at Presbytery since she is currently serving Massanutten as their installed Associate Pastor. (This was approved at the Special Meeting of Presbytery on July 13, 2021.)

- M. Approved the following terms of call between Teaching Elder Ann Pettit (serving as co-pastor) and Massanutten Church effective August 15, 2021:

Annual Cash Salary	38,000.00
Housing Allowance	20,000.00
Dental	445.46
Vision	46.48
Automobile Allowance	3,000.00
Books and Subscriptions	500.00
Continuing Education	1,500.00
Major Medical	15,792.90
Pension and Disability	5,849.22
SECA	4,437.00
Moving expenses to the field as negotiated	
Four week's annual paid vacation, including four Sundays	
Two week's annual study leave with pay, including two Sundays	
Primary and Support Family Leave	
Disability and/or Death Benefit	

- N. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder Keith Phillips, who has received a call as co-pastor to the Massanutten Church, and received him as a member of Shenandoah Presbytery effective August 15, 2021.

- O. Approved the following terms of call between Teaching Elder Keith Phillips (serving as co-pastor) and Massanutten Church effective August 15, 2021:

Annual Cash Salary	38,000.00
Housing Allowance	20,000.00
Dental	445.46
Vision	46.48
Automobile Allowance	3,000.00
Books and Subscriptions	500.00
Continuing Education	1,500.00

Major Medical	15,792.90
Pension and Disability	5,849.22
SECA	4,437.00
Moving expenses to the field as negotiated	
Four week's annual paid vacation, including four Sundays	
Two week's annual study leave with pay, including two Sundays	
Primary and Support Family Leave	
Disability and/or Death Benefit	

P. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder Kevin Channell (member of Shenandoah Presbytery) who has received a call to Petersburg Church.

Q. Approved the following terms of call between TE Kevin Channell and Petersburg Church effective October 1, 2021:

Annual Cash Salary	48,500
Deferred Income	1,200
Dental	635
Use of Manse Value	15,101
Automobile Expense	1,800
Books and Subscriptions	500
Continuing Education	500
Cell Phone	700
Major Medical	17,668
Pension and Disability	6,544
SECA	4,169
Utilities and Furnishing Allowance paid directly by the church	
Moving expenses to the field as negotiated	
Four week's annual paid vacation, including four Sundays	
Two week's annual study leave with pay, including two Sundays	
Primary and Support Family Leave	
Disability and/or Death Benefit	

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONAL MINISTRY (CRM)

I. FOR INFORMATION:

The Committee continues to meet monthly via Zoom.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

A. Approved the following revised Continuing Education Policy:

The Committee on Relational Ministry reminds the session that terms of call within Shenandoah Presbytery require two weeks of study leave and funds in order to allow pastors to attend continuing education. Furthermore, we encourage teaching elders who serve in pastoral positions that continuing education is essential to professional development and personal care. To ensure continuing education occurs, we ask teaching elders to respond to the following questions:

- 1. List all courses, seminars, workshops, and conferences you attended. Please include title of the continuing education, dates of attendance, and place of attendance.*
- 2. Which of these experiences would you recommend to your colleagues?*
- 3. Was your continuing education fund sufficient to cover the cost of the events you attended? If not, how did you make up the deficit?*

The following is the former policy:

Each year when the pastor's terms of call are negotiated, said pastor shall report to both the session of the church they serve and to the Committee on Relational Ministry a one-page summary of the continuing education courses, seminars or the like that the teaching elder participated in during the year, with the associated costs incurred, detailing continuing education funds available, spent and if any balance remains. Unspent funds and unused continuing education should be discussed by the teaching elder and session determining how these are to be handled moving forward. . The Committee on Relational Ministry will evaluate the use of continuing education time and funds before presenting terms of call to the Presbytery for ratification.

- B. Dissolved the pastoral relationship between the Heritage Church and Teaching Elder Wray Sherman effective June 30, 2021.
- C. Dissolved the pastoral relationship between the Bridgewater Church and Teaching Elder Kerry Foster effective June 30, 2021.
- D. Dismissed Teaching Elder Kerry Foster to the Presbytery of the James effective June 30, 2021.
- E. Dissolved the pastoral relationship between the Mt. Horeb Church and Teaching Elder Jonathan Ytterock effective August 31, 2021.
- F. Dismissd Teaching Elder Jonathan Ytterock to the Presbytery of the Plains and Peaks effective August 31, 2021, to accept a call at the Timnath Presbyterian Church.
- G. Renewed the temporary supply contract between the Fairfield Session and Teaching Elder Helen "Punker" Robertson from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022.
- H. Renewed the temporary supply contract between the Clear Brook and Highland Memorial sessions and Rev. Charly Franks (Baptist) from August 1, 2021-July 31, 2022.
- I. Renewed the temporary supply contract between the Broadway Session and Teaching Elder Jacob Kave from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022, pending TE Kave's signature.

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, David Dax, JoAnn Harmon, Mary Jo Johnson, Tracie Martin, Juliana Ritchie, Alexa Smith, Nancy Meehan Yao, Associate General Presbyter, Staff Support

Report to Shenandoah Presbytery – Saturday, August 28, 2021

✓ **Grants to Churches for Innovative Worship**

CCVT has awarded 26 grants since March 2020, totaling over \$21,000, 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. In light of 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. The current balance of the funds provided by CPA is just under \$4,000. Our application and consideration have recently been changed to reflect both the requirement for more information reflecting needs-based grants and reporting back to our committee three months and six months after the grants are awarded, primarily so we can assist other churches.

✓ **Craigsville Church/Our Hearts**

As we provide both prayer support and financial support to this mission endeavor, CCVT will visit Our Hearts to participate in a “mission weekend” on Saturday and Sunday, October 16-17.

✓ **Vital Congregations Initiative** – We are studying this presbytery-wide, PCUSA initiative, considering its applicability for Shenandoah Presbytery and our churches. We are also thinking through other opportunities for transformation as we partner with congregations.

✓ **REvangelism Conference (PCUSA) Upcoming**

A virtual Evangelism Conference sponsored by the Montreat Conference Center in partnership with the PCUSA is upcoming on November 1-3. The REvangelism Conference is designed to take you on a deeper journey into faith: into the lives of others, into justice, hope, and the wonder of God. Together we will practice habits of Evangelism that will engage us in the gospel of good news — God’s justice and reconciliation for the world. At REvangelism, you will interact with the wise, diverse voices in the church who contributed to the [*8-Habits of Evangelism resource*](#). As you work through each habit together, you will experience the goodness and richness of Christ’s body and the Holy Spirit transforming you, and the world around you. This conference is for not just pastors, but for elders, deacons, and members, who may sign up together as a church.

✓ **Encouragement for Congregations**

We know that the pandemic has intensified fear and anxiety within our churches, especially those who were fragile and struggling before the pandemic. One of our goals is to provide resources that will empower churches to think and act differently as we all pivot and change.

✓ We have recently welcomed **three new members to CCVT**: David Dax, ruling elder at Lexington Church; Mary Jo Johnson, ruling elder at Sunnyside Church; Alexa Smith, interim pastor at the Berkeley Springs Church.

✓ Our **next meeting** is scheduled for Monday, September 20th.

✓ **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...

Respectfully Submitted,
David Witt, CCVT Chair

COMMITTEE ON NEW CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CNCD)

The Committee for New Church Development continues to plan and discuss ways to partner with, support, and/or educate those who are hearing a call to begin something new in worship.

We continue to offer support for Church of the Wild Two Rivers in Shepherdstown, <https://www.churchofthewild2rivers.com/>; Stephen City 2 and the Sherando Food Pantry <https://www.facebook.com/sherandofoodpantry> and the future NWC Community Cup in Martinsburg, WV. We hope you will go visit online or in person one of these two NWC ventures or discuss your dream of a NWC with your Session, your church, and your CNCD.

The members of this wonderful committee are: Adrienne North, Judith Becker, John Bethard, Karen Greenawalt, Kevin Hay, Gusti Newquist, Evan Smith, as well our Executive and Associate Presbyters: Bronwen Boswell and Nancy Meehan Yao.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Chair: Kate Rascoe; members: Linda Bradley, Betsy Stow, Jim Yao, Dan Summers-Minette, and Tom Forbes

“The purpose of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry of Shenandoah Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is to provide the best possible leadership for the church by assuring that persons called to the ordered ministry of teaching elder are firm in their faith in Christ, assured of their call to serve God and the church as a teaching elder, and receive the fullest personal and professional preparation for this office.”

The Committee thanks John Bethard, Beth Pyles, Mary Lou McMillin and Jean Kilby for serving as readers of ordination exams in May. The CPM says “good bye and God bless” to co-chair Rev. Jonathan Ytterrock, who has moved to accept a call in CO. We continue to discuss the financial resources available to inquirers and candidates through Shenandoah Presbytery and beyond. We are re-reading the denomination’s Advisory Handbook on Preparation for Ministry. Soon, we will review our psychological testing agreement (required of all Inquirers) to assure that it is a beneficial process for discernment.

It is never too early to bring trusted mentors into discernment, beginning with a “home” congregation that knows you well. The CPM has pulled together a few resources that may help individuals and congregations with the beginning of the discernment process that can be accessed here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mrmlFB Ae2q0fyI23G7C72PcSM_tcDRiy?usp=sharing

On behalf of the presbytery, the CPM has six individuals currently under our care, for whom we seek your prayers:

Kelley Connelly, Candidate

Home Church: 1st Presbyterian, Winchester; seminary: UPSCE; intern 1st Richmond

Mark Dewey, Inquirer

Home Church: 1st Presbyterian, Winchester; seminary: Chicago; residency at UVA Hospital

Benjamin Kent, Inquirer

Home Church: Warrenton; seminary: Duke

Cassandra Semler, Inquirer

Home Church: Tuscarora; seminary: Pittsburgh

Bobby Chance Snell, Inquirer

Home Church: Tinkling Spring; seminary: Dubuque

Debbie Romano, Inquirer

Home Church: Shepherdstown

Kim Shank, Inquirer

Home Church: Mossy Creek; seminary: Eastern Mennonite

Hannah Oneal von Oeyen Altman, CE Track

Home Church: Warrenton Presbyterian Church; seminary: UPSCE; Children & Youth Program Director, Massanutten PC

PRESBYTERY REPORT TO SYNOD ON REPRESENTATION
2021 Form for Year 2020

Page 1 of 2

Presbytery: Shenandoah

I a If you have a COR:

how often does it meet? As/if needed

does it meet with the Presbytery Nominating Committee? As needed

how does it report to Presbytery? Annual reports presented for information

b If you do not have a COR, please state how you handle oversight of appropriate representation?

II What is the size of your presbytery? Churches____100____ Members____10,268____

What percentage of members are minorities? ____2%____

III. Of the leadership positions with in your presbytery (Leadership includes all Presbytery level committee members) :

How many are filled by women? 41 How many are filled by men? 47

IV. In the past 5 years, have you had a non-majority Moderator?

Yes_____

No____x_____

V. What actions or initiatives has your COR taken to try and improve your record of representation on committees? Periodically reviewing balance related to race, gender, ordered ministry, and geographic representation and pointing out any areas for particular focus to the Nominating Committee

VI. What might the Synod COR do to assist your efforts to be more effective in your work?

Unsure - with such a small number of non-majority members in the congregations and among the minister members of Presbytery, racial ethnic representation continues to be a challenge. We are happy to hear from other Presbyteries facing similar challenges!

Report submitted by____Stephanie Sorge____ Signature

Phone #__540-435-8097____ e-mail
stephanie@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org



This document was/will be part of COR's report to Presbytery on ____August 28, 2021____

Stated Clerk Bronwen Boswell
Date August 4, 2021

Signature 

	Committee	Total	Male Clergy	Male Laity	Female Clergy	Female Laity	Asian Amer.	African	African Amer.	Hispanic Latino	Native American	Multi- Cultural	Middle Eastern	White	Other Self Ident	Person With Disability	Youth 25/ Under	YAt 26-35	Adult 36-64	Senior Adult 65+
1	Presbytery Administration	10	4	1	1	4								10					4	6
2	New Church Development	7	4	0	1	2								7					7	
3	Relational Ministry	12	7	0	0	5								12				1	10	1
4	Presbytery Officers	2	0	0	2	0								2					2	
5	Presbytery Council	13	4	2	6	1								13					12	1
6	Nominating	4	2	0	0	2								4					4	
7	Commissioner to 222 GA/ 239-243 SOMA Assembly	6	2	1	1	2								6					5	1
8	Committee on Preparation	7	3	1	1	2	1							6				1	3	3
9	Pastoral Transition	10	5	1	4	0								10					9	1
10	Church Vitality, Transformation	11	3	3	2	3								11					8	3
11	Educational Resources	8	1	1	4	2								8				2	4	2
12	Mission, Outreach	12	3	4	2	3								12					9	3
	TOTAL	102	38	14	24	26	1							101				4	77	21

Coordinating and Planning Commission

I. FOR INFORMATION:

The CPC met via Zoom on July 27 and heard reports from all committees.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Designated the offering taken at the August 28 Presbytery Meeting to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.
- B. Approved serving the Lord's Supper at the Big Event on September 18, 2021.

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