

**Stated Meeting ~ Presbytery of Geneva  
Saturday May 21, 2016  
Huron Presbyterian Church, Huron, New York**

*Together, we pray, play, and energize our congregations to live out the Good News of Jesus Christ.  
Together, we lift up each other in love.  
Together, we call others into the circle of God's grace.*

**MINUTES**

The Presbytery of Geneva held a duly-called Stated Meeting on Tuesday May 21, 2016 at Huron Presbyterian Church, Huron, New York.

**CONVENING**

Elder Dick Schied CRE, moderator, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., a quorum being present. The Moderator offered the opening prayer.

**ROLL**

**ACTIVE MINISTERS SERVING CHURCHES (P = Present; Ex = Excused; A = Absent)**

Name	Jan 30	Mar 15	May 21	Sept 27	Nov 12
Austin, Amy Loving – Bellona Memorial Seneca, Seneca #9	P	P	Ex		
Baker, Kirk – Newark, Park (Transitional Pastor)	P	P	P		
Bhasker, Stanley – Bath, Bath	P	P	A		
Crimmins, Betsey – Elmira, First	P	P	Ex		
Donnan, Ellen – Dundee, First / Junius, Junius	P	P	P		
Duncan, Russell – Lyons, First	Ex	P	A		
Griffis, Katherine – Hornell, United	P	Ex	P		
Grohman, Deb – Ontario, Ontario	P	A	A		
Heimberger, Gail – Sodus, First United	P	P	P		
Kennedy, Glen – Painted Post, United (Stated Supply)	P	P	A		
Kerr, James - Canandaigua, United	Ex	P	Ex		
Knight, Jonathan – Horseheads, First	A	P	Honorably	Retired	
Lester, Donald – Howard, Union*	A	A	A		
Lind-Schmitz, Deborah – Geneva, First	P	P	Ex		
McDonald, John – Ithaca, First	P	P	A		
Malles, Paul – Penn Yan, First	Ex	P	P		
Marr, Peter – Addison, Addison (Stated Supply)*	A	A	A		
Ntuala, Leah – Seneca Falls, First	P	P	A		
O'Leary, Lucinda – Rock Stream (Stated Supply)*	P	P	A		
Peeples, Cheryl – Trumansburg, First Ulysses	Ex	P	P		
Price, Richard – Big Flats, Big Flats	P	P	Honorably	Retired	
Riehl, Kirianne Weaver – Ithaca, First	A	P	P		
Roth, Russ – Huron, Huron	P	P	P		
Smith, Paul – Marion, Marion*	A	A	A		
Tierson, A.J. – Phelps, United Shortsville, Shortsville (Stated Supply)	P	P	Ex		
Ugoretz, Jeffrey – Corning, First	P	A	A		
Weaver, Cindy (Ovid Federated)	Ordained	04/24/16	P		
West, Sarah – Waterloo, First (Temporary Supply)*	A	P	A		
Winters, Jane – Elmira, Westminster (Temp. Supply)	P	P	P		
Yao, James – Lodi, Lodi Hector, Hector (Co-Pastor)	P	Ex	P		
Yao, Nancy Meehan – Hector, Hector (Co-Pastor) Hammondsport, First (Stated Supply)	P	P	P		
<b>TOTAL PRESENT</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>12</b>		
<b>TOTAL EXCUSED</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>		
<b>TOTAL ABSENT</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>		

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**MINISTERS IN VALIDATED MINISTRIES / MINISTERS AT-LARGE**

(V = Validated ~ AL = At-large)

Name	Jan 30	Mar 15	May 21	Sept 27	Nov 12
Ashby, David (V) <i>Interim Pastor, Honeoye Falls, NY</i>	Ex	Ex	P		
Campbell, Anne (AL)	A	A	A		
Delhagen, Harold (V) <i>Synod Executive, Synod of the Northeast</i>	A	Ex	A		
Fitzgerald, Janice (V) <i>Pultneyville, Reformed</i>	P	P	P		
Haines, Todd (AL)	A	A	A		
Huling Hummell, Cynthia (AL)	A	A	A		
McCollister, Dan (AL)	A	A	A		
Moore, Banu (AL)	A	Ex	Ex		
Moore, James (AL)	P	Ex	Ex		
Roth, Marjorie (V) <i>Chaplain, Friendly Home, Rochester, NY</i>	A	A	P		
Wareham, J. Christy (AL)	A	Ex	A		
Warrington, Karl (AL)	A	Ex	A		
<b>TOTAL PRESENT</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>		
<b>TOTAL EXCUSED</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>		
<b>TOTAL ABSENT</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>		

**HONORABLY RETIRED MINISTERS** (If serving a church, service is noted in parentheses)  
(Honorably Retired Ministers, if not present, are automatically marked as "excused.")

Name	Jan 30	Mar 15	May 21	Sept 27	Nov 12
Barnard, David	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Bartel, Joanne	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Bembower, Dean	Ex	Ex	<b>Deceased</b>		
Bidelspacher, Nancy Torpey	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Bollinger, Zane	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Coffman, Fred	Ex	P	P		
Courtney, Philip			Ex		
Creelman, Gilmore	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Crego, Peter	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Edwards, Sam	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Elder, John	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Farrell, Nancy	Ex	Ex	P		
Flaherty, Scott	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Gerling, Jim	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Gould, John	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Hicks, James	Ex	P	Ex		
Hood, Kenneth	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Husted, Susan	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Johnson, Timothy	P	P	P		
Karr-Lyon, Beverly	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Kellam, Jeffrey	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Kilgore, David	P	P	P		
Knight, Jonathan			Ex		
Magley, Fred	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Meiser, Jr., Edward	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Montgomery, Tom	Ex	P	Ex		
Murray, Virginia	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Newman, James	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Otterbacher, Suzanne	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Outterson, Hugh	<b>Deceased</b>	<b>01/18/16</b>			
Price, Richard			Ex		
Rochelle, Robert	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Teller, Gailey	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Tennies, Herb	Ex	Ex	Ex		
Tyrrell, Jamie— <i>Interim, Atlanta</i>	Ex	Ex	Ex		

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Valk, John	Ex	Ex	Ex		
<b>TOTAL PRESENT</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>		

**CORRESPONDING MEMBERS WITH VOICE AND VOTE** (Ministers of another Denomination or another Presbytery who are serving Presbyterian Churches in the Presbytery of Geneva)

Name	Jan 30	Mar 15	May 21	Sept 27	Nov 12
Boswell, the Rev. Bronwen ( <i>Temporary Transitional Leader / Presbytery of Western New York</i> )	P	P	P		
Elfond, the Rev. Cheryl Ann ( <i>Elmira, North / Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley</i> )	A	P	A		
Gasparri, the Rev. Francis ( <i>Williamson / American Baptist Church</i> )	A	P	A		
Lostetter, the Rev. Robin ( <i>Palmyra, Western / Presbytery of Pittsburgh</i> )	A	P	A		
Shevlin, the Rev. Linda ( <i>Naples, Trinity Federated / United Methodist Church</i> )	P	A	A		
Stuber, the Rev. Walter ( <i>Wolcott / Presbytery of Genesee Valley</i> )	Ex	Ex	A		
<b>TOTAL PRESENT</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>		
<b>TOTAL EXCUSED</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>TOTAL ABSENT</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>		

**CORRESPONDING MEMBERS** (Ministers of another denomination or another presbytery who serve the Presbytery of Geneva in roles other than pastor of a particular church. **VOICE, NOT VOTE**)

Name	Jan 30	Mar 15	May 21	Sept 27	Nov 12
The Rev. Val Fowler, Stated Clerk ( <i>Presbytery of Genesee Valley</i> )	P	P	P		
<b>TOTAL PRESENT</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>		
<b>TOTAL EXCUSED</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		

**COMMISSIONERS FROM CHURCHES**

Church Name	Jan 30	Mar 15	May 21	Sept 27	Nov 12
Addison, Addison	A	A	A		
Almond Union	A	A	A		
Andover, First	A	A	A		
Arkport, First	A	A	A		
Atlanta, Atlanta	A	A	A		
Bath, First	Kathleen Swan	Ex	Larry Bates		
Benton, Bellona	Jan Newby	Jan Newby	Jan Newby		
Big Flats, First	A	A	A		
Burdett, Burdett	A	A	A		
Canandaigua, United	A	Ron Fulle	A		
Canisteo, Canisteo	A	A	A		
Cohocton, First	A	A	A		
Corning, First	A	Kirk Allen	A		
Dundee, First	A	A	A		
Elmira, First	Rehana Stanley	Unreadable	A		
Elmira, Lake Street	A	Alice Kain	A		
Elmira, North	A	Jeff Rikus	Jeff Richards		
Elmira, Westminster	A	A	A		
Fayette, W. Fayette	A	A	A		
Geneva (1)	Bill Fox	Bill Fox	Bill Fox		
Geneva (2)	A	Chris Gerling	A		
Hammondsport, First	James Walling	A	A		
Hector, First	Susan Rocholl	A	A		
Hornell, United	Cheryl A. Green	Cheryl Green	A		

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Horseheads, First	James Zearfoss	A	Jim Zearfoss		
Howard, Howard Union	A	A	A		
Huron, Huron	Linda Hayes	Lois Wafler	Lois Wafler		
Ithaca, First	Sandra Greene	Ex	A		
Jasper, Jasper	A	A	A		
Junius, Junius	Kristi Crance Ward	Ex	Ex		
Lodi, Lodi	Amanda McGonigal	Martha Cherwak	Amanda McGonigal		
Lyons, First	A	Tracy Rankert	A		
Marion, United	A	A	Connie Franks		
Moreland, Moreland	Robert Bellman	Robert Bellman	A		
Naples, Trinity Fed.	Don Braun	A	Don Braun		
Newark, Park	Paul Salisbury	A	A		
Oaks Corners	Ernest Day Sr.	A	A		
Ontario, First	A	A	A		
Ovid Federated	A	Roberta Morris	A		
Painted Post, United	A	A	A		
Palmyra, East Palmyra	A	A	A		
Palmyra, Western	Phil Opdyke	Phil Opdyke	Phil Opdyke		
Penn Yan, First	Sue Goodrich	Sue Goodrich	A		
Phelps, United	A	A	Nan Clark		
Prattsburg, First	A	A	A		
Pulteney, First	Hariette Potter	Rosanna Bates	Rosanna Bates		
Red Creek	A	A	A		
Rock Stream	A	A	A		
Romulus	A	A	Ex		
Seneca Falls, First	A	A	A		
Seneca, Seneca #9	A	A	A		
Shortsville, First	A	A	A		
Sodus, First United	Jim Hopkins	A	Jim Hopkins		
Spencer, Christ the King Fellowship	Tom Bailey	Kermit Bossard	Tom Bailey		
Trumansburg, First of Ulysses	A	Virginia Miller	A		
Waterloo, First	A	A	A		
Watkins Glen, First	Karen Rhodes	Karen Rhodes	A		
Weston, Weston	Vera Dykes	A	A		
Williamson	A	Kevin Ginett	A		
Wolcott	A	Carol Merrell	Carol Merrell		
<b>TOTAL PRESENT</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>		
<b>TOTAL EXCUSED</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>		
<b>TOTAL ABSENT</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>43</b>		

**ADDITIONAL ELDER COMMISSIONERS**

(Appointed by presbytery to correct elder-clergy imbalance)

Name	Church	Relationship	Jan 30	Mar 15	May 21	Sept 27	Nov 12
Alling, Kris	Trumansburg	General Council	P	P	P		
Andrews, Priscilla	Elmira, Lake	COM	P	P	P		
Baker, Phoebe		Nominating Chair		P	P		
Beals, Steven	West Fayette	CRE	P	Ex	A		
Braun, Joann	Naples, Fed	Vice-Moderator	P	P	P		
Champlin, Virginia	Geneva	SNE Min. & Mission	A	P	P		
Colvin, Donna	Ovid	Synod Commissioner	P	P	A		
Erb, Milt		Presbytery Treasurer	P		A		
Evans, Richard	Burdett	CRE	A	P	A		
Gingerich, John		CRE / CPM Chair		P	P		
Novack, Joy	Romulus	CRE	A	P	P		
Peek, Donald	Canisteo	CRE	P	A	A		
Reynolds, Ellen	Geneva	General Council	P	P	P		
Richmond, Lucille	Red Creek	CRE	A		A		
Schied, Dick	Weston	CRE / Moderator	P	P	P		
Weaver, Cindy	Ithaca	Personnel Co-chair	P	P	<b>Ordained</b>	<b>as Teaching</b>	<b>Elder</b>
Wertz, Linda		P.W Representative			<b>P</b>		

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TOTAL PRESENT		10	12	10		
TOTAL EXCUSED		0	1	0		
TOTAL ABSENT		4	1	6		

**CORRESPONDING MEMBERS ENROLLED FOR THIS MEETING**

Name	Presbytery / Agency
The Rev. David Preisendanz	Presbytery of Philadelphia (call to Elmira, North)

**REGISTERED Guests (current meeting)**

Includes CREs not serving churches

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SUMMARIES FOR EACH MEETING	Jan 30	Mar 14	May19	Sept 19	Nov
Total Minister Commissioners Present*	26	33	20		
Total Elder Commissioners Present	33	34	25		
Parity (expressed in terms of Elders, + or -)	+ 7	+1	+5		
Total Minister Commissioners Absent, Unexcused**	16	11	24		
Total Churches Unrepresented by Elders***	36	36	37		
Total Churches Unrepresented by Elders and Pastors	25	23	32		
Total Registered Visitors	14	14	0		

\* Includes Corresponding Members with voice and vote. Does not include Corresponding Members, with voice, not vote. Includes Validated, At-large, and Honorably Retired

\*\* Does not include Corresponding Members with voice only; and Honorably Retired Ministers

\*\*\* Includes churches marked "excused"; does **not** include Additional Elder Commissioners, as they are not elected by sessions.

**INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS**

**(Enrollment of Corresponding Members)**

The Rev. David Preisendanz (Presbytery of Philadelphia)

**(New Commissioners / Guests)**

The presbytery welcomed first-time commissioners from the following churches:

The presbytery welcomed guests present for the meeting.

**(Approval of Docket)**

The presbytery VOTED to approve the final docket for the meeting.

**(Minutes of Previous Meeting)**

The presbytery VOTED to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2016 stated meeting.

**(Privilege of Voice)**

The presbytery VOTED to grant privilege of voice to non-commissioners who will be making or participating in reports to the presbytery.

**WELCOME BY HOST CHURCH / RESOLUTION OF THANKS**

The Rev. Russ Roth welcomed the presbytery to Huron Presbyterian Church, Huron, NY. *He noted that the sanctuary was designed by a student of Frank Lloyd Wright, and designed to resemble a tent. He shared some information about the stained glass windows in the Fellowship Hall. Researchers believe that the registered Tiffany "Good Shepherd" window is earliest window of that theme installed by Tiffany & Co. He*

*noted that the church's Food Pantry will open at noon, having decided to remain open during the presbytery meeting.*

The Moderator appointed [name] to draft a Resolution of Thanks to the host congregation for presentation at the end of the meeting.

### **WORSHIP**

The presbytery shared a service of worship, led by the Rev. Russ Roth. During the service, the sermon focused on Genesis 11:1-9 (the story of the Tower of Babel). The Rev. Ross noted that the real issue of the story (related to God's commandment at the end of the Noah account to "multiply and spread through the earth" is the people's resistance to the commandment to spread out through the earth. In fact, the text makes it clear that the motivation for building the tower is precisely to *avoid* being spread out. He related this commandment and resistance to the story of Pentecost in Acts 2. Rather than correcting the confusion of tongues in the Babel story, Pentecost is about the empowerment of the Holy Spirit so that the people of God will be sent as witnesses.

Following worship, the presbytery moved outside, where the rest of the meeting was conducted in a tent behind the church building.

### **REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK**

Stated clerk Val Fowler presented the following report:

#### **REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK May 21, 2016 ~ Huron Presbyterian Church, Huron, NY**

##### **Stated Clerk Information Items**

##### **(Training Events for Clerks of Session & Pastors)**

**A.** The stated clerk thanked the Polity & Review Committee for their work in planning and carrying out the recent orientation gatherings for clerks of session and pastors. He thanked the host churches for the five events: Hornell, Lyons, Bath, Geneva, and Elmira First.

- 36 churches participated
- 47 persons were present, including 12 pastors.

The response to the gatherings was very positive, and the new *Handbook for Clerks of Session* was well-received. The Polity & Review Committee will be meeting soon, and will begin planning for the review of session minutes, to occur later this year.

##### **(Ordination Anniversaries)**

**B.** The following are the significant ordination anniversaries of ministers that will occur this year (listed in 5-year increments):

##### **10 years (2006)**

The Rev. Kirk Baker (March 12, 2006 – Presbytery of Geneva)

##### **15 years (2001)**

The Rev. Jeffrey Ugoretz (July 8, 2001 – Presbytery of West Jersey)

The Rev. Karl Warrington (January 29, 2001 – Elizabeth)

The Rev. Jane Winters (August 19, 2001 – Susquehanna Valley)

##### **20 years (1996)**

The Rev. Cynthia Huling Hummel (August 25, 1996 – Presbytery of Elizabeth)

##### **25 years (1991)**

The Rev. Cheryl Ann Elfond (October 13, 1991 –

##### **30 years (1986)**

The Rev. Susan Otterbacher (September 14, 1986 – Presbytery of Great Rivers)

**35 years (1981)**

The Rev. Beverly Karr-Lyon (July 19, 1981 – Presbytery of Geneva)  
The Rev. Jim Kerr (August 39, 1981– Presbytery of The Western Reserve)

**40 years (1976)**

The Rev. David Barnard (July 11, 1976– Presbytery of Geneva)

**50 years (1966)**

The Rev. Jim Hicks (July 29, 1966 – Presbytery of The Western Reserve)

**Over 50 years**

The Rev. Sam Edwards (**51 years**, May 23, 1965 – Presbytery of Washington)  
The Rev. Gilmore Creelman (**53 years**, June 18, 1963 – Presbytery of Mahoning)  
The Rev. John Valk (**55 years**, October 15, 1961 – Presbytery of Newark)  
The Rev. Fred Coffman (**56 years**, July 1, 1960 – Presbytery of Philadelphia)  
The Rev. John Elder (**56 years**, May 20, 1960 – Presbytery of Northern New England)  
The Rev. Herb Tennes (**57 years**, May 14, 1959)  
The Rev. Zane Bolinger (**61 years**, June 6, 1955 – Presbytery of Blairsville)  
The Rev. Dean Bemower (**64 years**, June 15, 1952 – Presbytery of Boston)  
The Rev. Fred Magley (**68 years**, October 13, 1948 – Presbytery of Newark)  
The Rev. Kenneth Hood (**76 years**, January 24, 1940 – Presbytery of Steuben-Elmira)

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

Ellen Donnan, co-chair of the Committee on Ministry presented the Rev. David Preisendanz to the presbytery, and the presbytery proceeded to examine the Rev. Preisendanz for membership in the presbytery.

The presbytery VOTED to:

**(Examination for Membership)**

1. **Sustain** the examination of the Rev. David Preisendanz (a member of the Presbytery of Philadelphia) for membership in the presbytery of Geneva, effective June 1, 2016.

**(Elmira, North / the Rev. David Preisendanz)**

2. **Approve** the call to the Rev. David Preisendanz to be Pastor of North Presbyterian Church, Elmira, NY effective June 1, 2016, at the following terms of call:

Cash Salary	44,000.00
Housing Allowance	18,000.00
<b>Total Effective Salary</b>	<b>62,000.00</b>

SECA offset	4,743.00
Benefits Plan, PCUSA	full coverage
Business/professional expenses	1,000.00
Continuing Education	2,500.00
Automobile expense at the current IRS rate (\$.54 per mile)	

Study Leave: 2 weeks, including two Sundays

Vacation: 4 weeks, including 4 Sundays

The call fulfills all AA/EEO requirements.

Jim Mosher and Karen Mosteller spoke to the process of the work of the Pastor Nominating Committee and the call of the North Presbyterian Church, Elmira, NY to the Rev. Preisendanz.

Ellen Donnan led the presbytery in prayer, including prayer for the Chair of the Pastor Nominating Committee, who has recently become seriously ill.

3. **Request** transfer of membership from the Presbytery of Philadelphia, effective June 1, 2016.
4. **Appoint** the Rev. David Preisendanz as moderator of the session of North Presbyterian Church, Elmira, NY effective June 1, 2016.
5. **Appoint** an Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. David Preisendanz on July 10, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at North Presbyterian Church, Elmira, NY; with the names of the Commission to be reported to the presbytery at the next meeting of the presbytery.

**(Summer Leadership)**

6. **Empower** the General Council and the Committee on Ministry the authority to act on behalf of the presbytery during the summer months between May 21, 2016 and September 27, 2016.

**ACTIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF PRESBYTERY**

Acting on behalf of the presbytery, the Committee VOTED to:

**(Moderator Appointment)**

1. **Appoint** Elder Bob Sell, CRE as moderator of the session of the Addison Presbyterian Church, effective April 5, 2016. [NOTE: May 15, 2016 is scheduled as the first meeting for which he will serve as moderator.]

**ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION**

The Committee VOTED to:

**(Romulus / Members of Administrative Commission)**

The presbytery acted in March 2016 to approve the appointment of an Administrative Commission to support the work of the session of the Romulus Presbyterian Church, as the session deals with issues of the viability of the congregation, especially in light of the needs of the building.

The Administrative Commission members are:

The Rev. Russell Duncan  
Elder Stephen Beals, CRE  
The Rev. Nancy Biddlespacher, HR

Elder Joan Braun, Vice-Moderator, assumed leadership of the presbytery meeting.

**COMMISSIONING COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS**

Moderator Dick Schied, Moderator, led a service commissioning Elder Jim Mosher, CRE to serve the Lord's Supper as requested by sessions within the Presbytery of Geneva.

**GENERAL COUNCIL**

The Rev. Russ Roth, Chair, presented the report of the General Council.

**FOR PRESBYTERY'S ACTION**

The General Council VOTED to recommend that the presbytery:

**(Addition to Administrative Commission for Williamson)**

1. **Approve** the addition of Elder Joan Braun to the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church, Williamson, NY.

**ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION:**

The General Council VOTED to:

**(Penn Clark / Building Rental)**

1. **Approve** the installation of a 4-digit lock on the presbytery office back door, and authorize Karen Jensen to communicate the decision.

**Background / Rationale**

The renters have approached Karen Jensen about paying for the installation of a 4-digit lock on the front door, for their participants to enter the building. They paid for replacing the broken railing by the back stairs,



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and have repaired the fence, at their own cost. The back room has been cleaned up, and is in use. Presbytery persons with keys would still be able to use keys. Karen would have the 4-digit number as well (and the numbers could be shared with presbytery persons).

**(Retired Ministers Luncheon)**

2. **Approve** the funding for the Retired Ministers Luncheon, to be held at noon on May 3, 2016, the source to be determined by the Finance Committee.

**(September Presbytery Meeting)**

3. **Invite** the Rev. Harold Delhagen to lead worship during the September meeting of the presbytery at Camp Whitman (with Amaury Tannon-Santos as back-up, depending on Harold's health). Virginia Champlin will issue the invitation on behalf of the General Council. [NOTE: The invitation was confirmed during the May meeting of the General Council.]

**(Camp Whitman)**

4. **Receive** the Camp Whitman Board update. [See **Appendix A.**]

**(Fairly Traded No-Sweat T-Shirts)**

5. **Grant permission** for the Rev. Jamie Tyrell to present a video for EPICapparel during the May 21, 2016 presbytery meeting and to set up a table for information/purchase. The presbytery presentation will need about 12 minutes on the docket.

**Background / Rationale**

The Council welcomed the Rev. Jamie Tyrell, HR who is currently a member of the Budget & Finance Committee and formerly served as Stated Supply of the Atlanta Presbyterian Church. Jamie spoke of Dick Matthews, a mission worker of the Independent Baptist Church, who inspired Jamie and his wife to teach at mission schools in Cambodia. The community in which Jamie has volunteered has developed a "no-sweat" manufacturing business, in order to become more self-sufficient. The Council viewed samples of the T-shirts which are produced. Jamie asked permission to show a 9 ½-minute video during the upcoming presbytery meeting; and to have a table to provide information and the opportunity to purchase shirts at \$8.00 apiece. Dick Matthews is a micro-financer, who has facilitated loans for the business; all they need are sales. Custom colors can be provided for orders of fifty or more. Fourteen people are trained, but they do not have the orders to employ all fourteen. The sizes of the T-shirts run from Extra Small to XXLlarge.

The Council encouraged Jamie to help the organization pursue legitimate certification of the business as "Fair Trade," to enhance their marketing in the United States.

**(Transitional Leader Search Team)**

6. **Approved** a request of the Transitional Leader Search Team for time on the docket of the May presbytery meeting. The Ministry Team will report to the presbytery maximum full-time total salary for a Transitional Leader of \$105,000. This will assist in seeking and calling the person whom God has in mind for leadership of the presbytery in this particular time.

The Search Team will prepare the required figures for the minimum and maximum effective salaries, based on the full-time total salary.

**(Polity & Review Committee)**

7. **Received** a report from the Polity and Review Committee that the five gatherings for stated clerks and pastors were held as scheduled, with the following results:

Five events were held (Lyons, Hornell, Bath, Geneva, Lodi).

- 32 churches were represented
- 49 persons were present, including 12 pastors.

The response to the gatherings was very positive, and the new *Handbook for Clerks of Session* was well-received.

The gathering at Hornell was followed by the first meeting of that area's cluster, who began making plans for the rest of the year.

Many clerks expressed concern that it is difficult to find contact information for clerks. Several noticed that clerks of session are not listed in the directory of congregations, only pastors. At three of the sessions, e-mails were gathered. Perhaps the list can be more fully completed, with a directory accessible on the website.

**(Rural & Migrant Ministries)**

8. **Endorse** an upcoming annual Women's Conference, hosted by Rural and Migrant Ministries, to be held in Binghamton, NY; and **authorized** Moderator Dick Schied to send a letter confirming the action. The endorsement will help Rural Migrant Ministries to obtain a Synod grant for the Women's Conference). The focus of the conference is empowering women.

**(West Virginia Mission Work Trip)**

9. **Endorse** the September 2016 West Virginia Work Trip.

**(Budget & Finance)**

10. **Place** last year's budget item for debt reduction (\$52,000) in a special interest-bearing account. This would be a good faith response to the goal of eliminating the presbytery's own debt to the funds (@ \$200,000).

**CAMP WHITMAN**

Lea Kone, Director of Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake, and Tom Bailey, Board member, presented the report. Tom Bailey celebrated that for the first time in over five years, Camp Whitman has a functioning Board of Directors. Tom Bailey is Chair of the Board; Marsha Wenholt (Genesee Valley) is Vice-Chair; and Michelle Sumption (Genesee Valley) is Secretary.

The Board hosted Brian Frick, from the Office of the General Assembly, to help the board to understand various models for organizing camp programs. There are 122 camps in the PCUSA: one third are independent; two thirds are owned by a council or mid-council. Tom shared a presentation by Brian Frick that encouraged the Camp Whitman Board to begin with the question, "**Why** do we have a camp/conference ministry within the two presbyteries?" and only then move to the "How" and "What" questions. The presbyteries will be invited to participate in the question of "Why?"

Ton Bailey challenged the members and the presbytery to consider a challenge of donating \$500 donation to place a steel roof on one of the ten cabins which need roof repairs. Of the 20 smaller cabins, 10 are in serious need of roof replacement.

Lea Kone noted that while she is clear as to what her "Why?" is, personally, the nature of camping has changed in the 63 years the camp has been in existence. "It is really hard to lead an organization which does not have a clear statement of what its mission and purpose is." She asked, "Can we put the same intention into the mission of the camp, and its leadership, as we put into examining pastors for congregations?"

**"WE HAVE ALL OF OUR LEADERSHIP FOR THE SUMMERTIME!!!!!!"**

Pine Camp is 100% full. We are on par with last year's registration for the Traditional Camp, but have only 63 registered at this point.

Weston Presbyterian Church gave a \$3000 donation to the scholarship fund.

Nancy Farrell has volunteered to be Chaplain for Week One.

**PRESBYTERY OF GENEVA  
STATED MEETING**

**HURON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HURON, NY  
MAY 21, 2016**

25 persons attended the camp Workday: cleaning cabins, clearing trails, painting in the Dining Hall and building the "Gaga Pit."

**PRESBYTERY NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Elder Phoebe Baker, chair, presented the report of the Presbytery Nominating Committee.

The presbytery VOTED to:

1. **Elect** the following persons to service in the presbytery:

Elder Don Braun – Budget & Finance, Class of 2018

Elder Virginia Champlin – Synod Commissioner & member of the Synod Mission & Ministry Commission

**COMMISSIONING GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS**

Moderator Dick Scheid led a service of commissioning for the commissioners to the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly (2016, Portland, OR), and persons attending for other reasons:

Commissioner: Elder Rob Johnson (Penn Yan) – Middle East Issues Committee

Commissioner: The Rev. Nancy Meehan Yao (Watkins Glen) – Mid-Councils Committee

The Rev. Bronwen Boswell, parliamentarian for Committee #9: Environmental Issues & Immigration

Elder Virginia Champlin, hospitality for the Synod of the Northeast

The Rev. Jim Yao will be attending as an observer.

**PRESENTATION: FAIRLY-TRADED T-SHIRTS**

The Rev. Jamie Tyrell, HR offered a presentation concerning a mission project in Cambodia: fairly-traded T-shirts produced by EPIC – Empowering People in Cambodia.

**SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST**

Virginia Champlin offered two synod-related announcements:

1. Synod Assembly: October 14-15, 2016 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Albany.

2. <http://synodne.org> – You can sign up for the Synod's monthly newsletter

**RECESS FOR LUNCH**

Following worship, the presbytery recessed to the Fellowship Hall for a lunch hosted by members of First Presbyterian Church, Horseheads, NY.

**RECONVENING**

Moderator Dick Shied assumed leadership of the meeting, and offered prayer.

**REPORT OF TRANSITIONAL LEADER SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Elder Rosanna Bates and the Rev. David Ashby presented the report of the Search Committee for a Transitional Leader, and distributed copies of the revised Ministry Information Form for the Transitional Presbytery Leader. They guided the presbytery through the Ministry Information Form, describing the process by which they came to the results shown in the Form.

Opportunity was given for questions and comments from presbyters.

Conversation turned to the financial implications of the search. *Do the presbytery's resources allow for a full-time call.* A suggestion was made that the Search Committee explore possibilities for grants through organizations researching change experiences in organizations (e.g. Lilly Foundation).

Upon motion, the presbytery VOTED to:

1. **Approve** the Ministry Information Form with the change of the Effective Salary to \$30,000 - \$50,000; and **authorize** the Transitional Leader Search Committee to distribute the Ministry Information Form through Church Leadership Connection, and engage in appropriate advertising of the position.

2. **Refer** to a joint committee, composed of members of the Transitional Leader Search Committee and the Budget & Finance Committee, along with the Temporary Transitional Leader (with voice and not vote) and others whom the Moderator may appoint, to analyze the ability of the presbytery to finance a full-time leader for two years; and report back to the presbytery no later than the September 27, 2016 presbytery meeting.

### **BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Tim Johnson HR, chair, presented the report of the Budget & Finance Committee.

- The Committee voted to create a separate account, seeded with the \$53,000 budgeted surplus from 2015, toward paying the presbytery's debt to itself.
- The Committee is working on the issue of the Dedicated Accounts, and how they are spent. The Committee is trying to bring to a close the practice of "spending other people's money" in order to support the work of the presbytery.

### **DESIGN TEAM REPORT**

David Kilgore reported for the Design Team, which is working on three projects:

- Cluster Arrangements (11 clusters)
  - Several clusters have been working already
  - Some clusters are in process
  - A few clusters have not yet reported.
- A means of sharing resources. This is more complicated than the cluster process, and would involve networking of shareable resources (both to give and to receive). The presbytery website may be an important medium to implement such a network.
- Communication throughout the presbytery. How does communication happen in this presbytery, and what are possibilities, moving forward?

The Committee on Ministry is working on investing in our smaller churches. Two of our churches—Romulus and Prattsburgh—have needs related to their buildings. David provided a flyer for a "Weekend Workday" (the weekend of July 29, 2016 at Prattsburg). The Romulus church invited the presbytery to appoint an Administrative Commission to "come alongside" the church session as the congregation discerns its future.

### **PRESBYTERY WOMEN**

Linda Werts presented the report of the Presbytery Women of the Presbytery of Geneva. The Spring Gathering on April 30 at Elmira First was an excellent event. Worship was led by the Rev. Katherine Griffis. More than fifty women attended, representing twelve congregations. The program was "Building Minds in South Sudan," presented by Sabastian Dits, one of the Lost Boys from South Sudan.

The opportunity has arisen for women from Geneva Presbytery to participate in a mission group to Cuba, working with the Reformed Church of Cuba.

The Church-wide women ministry has begun a poster campaign, and has initiated a "lantern campaign." Park Church, Newark has participated in a lantern campaign for girls attending a new girls school in South Sudan.

The Fall Gathering will be Friday September 16, 2016 in Geneva.

### **SYNOD MEDIATION TEAM**

Katherine Griffis reported on a Synod-sponsored mediation training event offered by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center in Lombard, Illinois. Katherine and Leah Ntuala attended the event. Katherine shared a basic overview of the event.

### **DISMISSAL OF FAIRVILLE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

The presbytery VOTED to dissolve the Fairville Administrative Commission, with the authority to resolve any remaining details related to the sale of the Fairville Church property.

## **HEDGESVILLE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

The presbytery VOTED to approve the resolution regarding the conveyance of the Hedgesville Church property to the Boyd's Corners Bible Church. [See **Appendix B**]

## **RESOLUTION OF THANKS**

The presbytery AFFIRMED the following *Resolution of Thanks*, prepared by David Kilgore.

*It was apple blossom time in Huron, and the church invited us to enjoy the North Country orchards. The presbytery thanks the church for its hospitality, for the lunch and the worship service. You enabled us to have a productive meeting.*

## **CLOSING**

The presbytery VOTED to adjourn the meeting. Vice Moderator Joann Braun offered the closing prayer.

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Attest: Val Fowler, Stated Clerk

**Next Meeting of the Presbytery:  
Tuesday September 27, 2016 ~ Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake**

## **APPENDIX A**

### **2016 Camp Whitman Board Update**

#### **Staffing:**

- Counselors: 10 confirmed, 5 pending (need 14-15 total)
- Lifeguards: 1 confirmed, 3 Pending (need 3 total)
- Returning Leadership Staff: Taylor, John, Courtney
- Pending: Camp Nurse
- New positions:
  - Maintenance/housekeeping: Shane
  - Worship & Volunteer Coordinator: Jeremy
- Positions to be filled:
  - Head Cook
  - Assistant Cooks
  - Assistant Property Manager

#### **Enrollment:**

- Pine Camp: 82 camper weeks
- Traditional Camp: 39 camper weeks
- Pioneer Camp: 9 camper sessions
- Mission Trip Base Camp: 1<sup>st</sup> group—Ballston Spa, NY

#### **Marketing**

- Digital ad in Genesee Valley *Parent* magazine
- Ad in CITY newspaper special (3 weeks)
- Finger Lakes Vacation Guide
- Ithaca Times Summer Guide

#### **Chaplains**

- Leah Ntuala, Colin Pritchard, Susan Orr, Laurel Nelson
- Need 2 more, preferably from Geneva (weeks 1 & 4)

- Michelle Sumption, Nancy & Jim Yao, and Jan Kennedy have offered to help with Wednesday worship on weeks 1 & 4, if Chaplains are not secured

**Conferences / Trainings**

- Renewed PCCCA (Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association) membership
- Lea, Courtney, and Taylor attended ACA (American Camping Association) New England Conference in March

Recommendations needing approval / action [**NOTE: These were approved by the General Council on 04/05/2016**]

Program Equipment Allocation from Vittum Fund (\$5,000)

- Purchase of 5 S.U.P.'s \$680 / unit = \$3400
- Materials to build Gaga Pit = approximately \$400
- Purchase of Archery Equipment = approximately \$1200

**Meeting dates / locations**

April 21 – Board Meeting at Victor Presbyterian – guest Brian Frick from the PCUSA

May 7 – Work Day (open to everyone: individuals, youth groups, church members, friends . . . .)

May 14 – Open House

May 27-30 – Family Camping Weekend

August 7-12 – Mission Trip Base Camp

October 22 – Fall Fundraiser

**APPENDIX B**

**Sale of Hedgesville Presbyterian Church Property**

That the Administrative Commission appointed by the Presbytery of Geneva on November 17, 2014, in accordance with the Resolution adopted by the presbytery on May 19, 2015, dissolving the Hedgesville Church, and with the concurrence of the Presbytery Board of Trustees [General Council] recommends that the Presbytery of Geneva, Inc. (the "Presbytery"):

1. Convey the property heretofore known as **Hedgesville Presbyterian Church**, located at 2757 County Route 102, in the Town of Woodhull, County of Steuben and State of New York (Tax Acct. No. 309.00-01-015.000), as acquired by said church by Deed recorded in the Steuben County Clerk's Office in Liber 92 of Deeds, page 220, to the Boyd's Corners Bible Church by Quit Claim Deed pursuant to the Purchase and Sale Contract last dated March 24, 2016, and approved by the Administrative Commission, providing for a sale price of One Dollar (\$1.00), subject to:
  - a. Vesting of title to the property in presbytery, by reason of dissolution of the church, as confirmed by the Supreme Court of the State of New York;
  - b. Approval of the terms and conditions of the conveyance by the Supreme Court of the State of New York; and
2. Authorize payment of all necessary and customary closing costs, including attorney's fees and the expenses of procuring the Court Order [both as to (i) dissolution of the Church and vesting of title to the Property in the Presbytery, and (ii) conveyance of the Property as authorized herein] from the \_\_\_\_\_ Fund of presbytery; and
3. Authorize the Moderator of the Administrative Commission, the Chairperson of the Presbytery Board of Trustees [General Council] and the Stated Clerk of Presbytery and/or the Presbytery Attorney to execute and deliver such documents, and other such actions as may be required to effectuate the foregoing.