# **Reports for the Annual Meeting**

# of the Presbytery of Geneva

# Tuesday, March 18, 2014

# held at the First Presbyterian Church of Bath

6 East Morris Street, Bath, NY 14810 (607) 776-6464

The Rev. Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, Host Pastor

# The Presbytery in Worship

The Rev. Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, Ruling Elder Richard Schied, and Ruling Elder Priscilla Andrews will lead our worship service and the Celebration of the Lord's Supper.

#### 1.00 The Report of the Stated Clerk

- \*2.01 The Clerk moves that the minutes of the September 17, 2013 Stated Meeting be received. (The minutes are posted online with the September meeting materials.)
- \*2.02 The Clerk moves that the Presbytery elect the Rev. Jamie Tyrrell (H.R.) to serve as Assistant Stated Clerk for this meeting of the Presbytery of Geneva.
- \*2.03 The Clerk moves the report of the review of the minutes and registers of congregations as found in **Addendum A.**
- \*2.04 The Clerk moves that the presbytery approve the plans of the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca to spend up to \$145,000 for a new lift (elevator). That is the upper cap of the project including 20% for contingency. The congregation has the money in hand from pledges from their campaign.
- \*2.05 The Clerk moves that the presbytery approve the request of the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca for permission to approach the PC(USA) PILP for a loan of \$563,000. This would be secured by the church's unrestricted reserves. This will cover costs associated with the roof and boiler repair until pledged monies are received.
- \*2.06 The Clerk moves that the presbytery approve the request of the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca for the approval of the expenditure of \$1.2 million on various capital improvements, including the fixing of the roof and the potential replacement of the boiler.
- \*2.07 The Clerk moves that the presbytery grant the General Council and the Committee on Ministry authority to act on timely and necessary business of the presbytery for the period following this meeting until the next stated meeting of the presbytery and to report all such actions to the presbytery at the next stated meeting.
- **2.08** The Clerk **reports** for information the Clergy Classifications as of March 1, 2014 (see **Addendum B**).
- **2.09** The Clerk **reports** that all communications have been forwarded to the appropriate committees.

#### 2.00 Report of Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake

Ms. Rhonda Everdyke, Interim Camp Director, will share information about the 2014 camping season and plans for the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

# 3.00 The Report of the Executive Presbyter

The Rev. Dr. Joelle Davis, Executive Presbyter, will give her Annual Report on the life and ministry of the Presbytery.

# **4.00** The Report of the Committee on Ministry

- **4.01** The committee **moves** approval to transfer the Rev. Cynthia Huling-Hummel from the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley to the Presbytery of Geneva.
- **4.02** The Committee on Ministry **invites** the Presbytery to welcome the following colleague into ministry: Rev. Dr. Kathleen Waters, Interim Pastor at Elmira, North
- **4.03** The Committee on Ministry **reports** the following actions that have been taken by the committee for information:
  - 1. It was **moved and carried** if the way be clear, to approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Park Presbyterian Church of Newark and the Rev. Christy Wareham effective November 15, 2013. It was **moved and carried** to approve a severance package of one year of salary and benefits and a letter of recommendation from the Rev. Dr. Joelle S. Davis, approved by COM and Rev. Wareham. The congregational meeting was held on October 27, 2013.
  - 2. It was **moved and carried** to concur with the request of the Wolcott Presbyterian Church and the Huron Presbyterian Church to dissolve the yoke between the two congregations.
  - 3. It was **moved and carried** to allow CREs to request the opportunity to serve communion in other churches from the co-chairs of COM or the EP/Stated Clerk. It will be approved on a case by case basis.
  - 4. It was **moved and carried** to approve the Vision Study Report and to approve the election of the Pastoral Nominating Committee for the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca.
  - 5. It was **moved and carried** to allow the Andover Ruling Elders to administer communion once each quarter following instruction from their Moderator, the Rev. Steve Jewell, and if no Teaching Elders are available.
  - 6. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Kirk Baker and the Administrative Commission of the Park Presbyterian Church of Newark at the following terms: \$15,252 cash salary, \$8,209 housing allowance, \$12,474 in medical/pension benefits to be paid into the pastor's selected fund, mileage at current IRS rate, \$500 for study leave and two (2) weeks including two (2) Sundays, vacation of one month including four (4) Sundays.
  - 7. It was **moved and carried** to approve the extension of the contract between the Rev. Dr. Deborah Lind-Schmitz and the Presbyterian Church in Geneva through April 21, 2014.
  - 8. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Dr. Kathleen Waters and North Presbyterian Church of Elmira to serve as Interim Pastor beginning on December 1, 2013 at the following terms, as well as to give her permission to labor inside the bounds as a member of the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse: \$39,000 cash salary, \$22,000 housing allowance, \$4666 SECA offset, medical and pension benefits through the Board of Pensions, \$2500 reimbursement account for professional expenses, mileage reimbursement at the current IRS rate, \$1000 continuing education funds and two (2) weeks earned at a ½ week per quarter, vacation of one (1) month including four (4) Sundays earned at one (1) week per quarter.
  - 9. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Russell Duncan and the First Presbyterian Church of Lyons to serve as a Stated Supply Pastor, beginning December 1, 2013, at the following terms: \$35,750 cash salary, use of the manse, medical and pension benefits through the Board of Pensions, mileage paid at the current IRS rate, vacation of 31 days per 12 month period to include four (4) Sundays, study leave of \$1000 and 14 days per 12 month period to include two (2) Sundays.
  - 10. It was **moved and carried** to approve the resignation of the Rev. Russell Duncan as Stated Supply Pastor at Christ the King Fellowship, Spencer, as November 30, 2013.

- 11. It was **moved and carried** to approve the dissolution of call between the Rev. Russell Roth and the First Presbyterian Church of Huron as approved at their congregational meeting in September.
- 12. It was **moved and carried** to approve the Rev. Russell Roth as a member at large of the Presbytery of Geneva.
- 13. It was **moved and carried** to approve the Ministry Information Form for the First Presbyterian Church of Bath.
- 14. It was **moved and carried** to approve a waiver for Ruling Elder Linda Hodges and Ruling Elder Barb Goodrich of the Cohocton congregation to serve for another term as Elders.
- 15. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Bryan Bond and the First Presbyterian Church of Pulteney to serve as a Stated Supply Pastor, beginning January 1, 2014, at the following terms: \$17,373 cash salary, \$6081 housing, medical and pension benefits through the Board of Pensions, mileage paid at the current IRS rate, vacation of four (4) weeks per year to include four (4) Sundays, study leave of \$500 and two (2) weeks per year to include two (2) Sundays.
- 16. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Sarah West and the First Presbyterian Church of Waterloo to serve as a Stated Supply Pastor, beginning January 1, 2014, at the following terms: \$18,150 cash salary, \$6350 housing, medical and pension benefits through the Board of Pensions, mileage paid at the current IRS rate, vacation of one (1) week per quarter, study leave of \$500 and one (1) week every six months
- 17. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Lucinda O'Leary and the Lakemont-Rock Stream Yoked Parish to serve as a Stated Supply Pastor, beginning January 1, 2014, at the following terms: \$25,000 cash salary and housing allowance, \$3626 pension benefits, mileage paid at the current IRS rate, vacation of four (4) weeks per year period to include five (5) Sundays, study leave of \$500 and two (2) weeks per year to include two (2) Sundays.
- 18. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Dr. Peter Marr and the First Presbyterian Church of Addison to serve as a Stated Supply Pastor, beginning January 1, 2014, at the following terms: \$8686 cash salary, \$3040 housing, \$4104.10 medical and pension benefits, mileage paid at the current IRS rate, vacation of four (4) weeks per year period to include four (4) Sundays, study leave of \$250 and two (2) weeks per year to include two (2) Sundays.
- 19. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Nancy Meehan Yao and the First Presbyterian Church of Hammondsport to serve as a Stated Supply Pastor, beginning January 1, 2014, at the following terms: \$20,954 cash salary, \$2500 housing, medical and pension benefits through the Board of Pensions, dental coverage of \$278.88, mileage paid at the current IRS rate, vacation of four (4) weeks per year period to include four (4) Sundays, study leave of \$500 and two (2) weeks per year to include two (2) Sundays.
- 20. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Anne Campbell and the First Presbyterian Church of Moreland to serve as a Stated Supply Pastor, beginning January 1, 2014, at the following terms: \$12,648 housing, \$2400 medical and pension benefits through the Board of Pensions, mileage paid at the current IRS rate, vacation of four (4) weeks per year period to include four (4) Sundays, study leave of \$250 and two (2) weeks per year to include two (2) Sundays.
- 21. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between the Rev. Jane Winters and the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Elmira to serve as a Temporary Supply Pastor, beginning January 1, 2014, at the following terms: \$100 per service, \$20 per hour for pastoral services, \$20 per hour for meetings, mileage paid at the current IRS rate.

- 22. It was **moved and carried** that permission be granted to the First Presbyterian Church of Corning to form the PNC.
- 23. It was **moved and carried** to approve granting an extension for two elders from the Canisteo congregation to continue to serve past their allotted terms.
- 24. It was **moved and carried** that the presbytery concurs with the request of the congregation to dissolve the pastoral relationship with the Rev. Marjory Roth, if the way be clear.
- 25. It was **moved and carried** that the presbytery concurs with the request of the congregation to have a contract with the Rev. Russell Roth to serve as a Stated Supply Pastor, if the way be clear.
- 26. It was **moved and carried** to approve the contract between Pastor Lucille E. Richmond and the First Presbyterian Church of Red Creek to serve as a Stated Supply Pastor, beginning January 1, 2014, at the following terms: \$95 per week, mileage paid at the current IRS rate, vacation of four (4) weeks per year to include four (4) Sundays.
- 27. It was **moved and carried** to approve the Ministry Information Form for the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca.
- 28. It was **moved and carried** to approve the Rev. Marjory Roth as a pastor in a validated ministry.
- **4.04** The committee submits the 2014 Ministerial Compensation report to the presbytery as **Addendum** C. Please note that blank lines represent reports not received by the committee to date.

#### 5.00 The Report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry

- **5.01** The committee **moves** to recommend that Matthew Derrenbacher (Sodus) become an Inquirer under care of the Presbytery of Geneva.
- **5.02** Following approval of the above motion, the committee invites the Presbytery to pray for our new Inquirer.

The Presbytery welcomes Rev. Richard Witt, Executive Director of Rural and Migrant Ministries, to present information on this important ministry.

## 6.00 Report of the Presbyterian Women

Carol Limner, Presbyterian Women's representative to the General Council, will share information about the upcoming events of this organization.

#### 7.00 Report of the General Council

**7.01**Action items from the General Council

- **7.01.1** The General Council **moves** that the Presbytery of Geneva hold three stated meetings each year, with the first meeting each year being an Annual Meeting.
- **7.01.2** The General Council **moves** that the Presbytery of Geneva concur with the overture from the Synod of the Covenant amending G-3.0500 to give Young Adult Advisory Delegates voice and vote and renaming them "Youth Adult Commissioners."
- **7.01.3** The General Council **moves** that the Presbytery of Geneva concur with the overture from the Presbytery of East Iowa on issuing an Authoritative Interpretation of W-4.90000 to affirm pastoral discretion in performing marriage ceremonies.
- **7.01.4** The General Council **moves** that the Presbytery of Geneva concur with the overture from the Presbytery of New York City encouraging programs and ministries of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) agencies to give preference to companies that have signed the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism (ECPAT).

- **7.01.5** The General Council **moves** that we concur with the overture from the Presbytery of Hudson River concerning gun violence prevention.
- **7.01.6** The General Council **moves** that we concur with the overture from the Presbytery of San Francisco on divestment from Caterpillar, Hewlett-Packard, and Motorola Solutions.
- **7.01.7** The General Council **moves** that we concur with the overture from the Presbytery of New Brunswick on calling for a boycott of all Hewlett-Packard products.
- **7.01.8** The General Council **moves** that we concur with the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca and approve a concurrence with OVT-18, with additional rationale, on Divestment from Fossil Fuel Companies, brought by the Presbytery of Boston.
- **7.01.9** The General Council presents the following question for debate and vote to the presbytery: Shall the position of Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk continue to be combined?
- **7.02** Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance
  - **7.02.1** The Rev. Jim Yao, Chair of the Committee, will present information about the 2013 Year End Report. Reports will be distributed at the meeting.
- **7.03** Report of the Subcommittee on Nominations
  - 7.03.1 The Subcommittee on Nominations places the following names into nomination:
    - Rev. Jim Yao as GA alternate
    - Elder Kristin Alling (Trumansburg) as GA alternate,
    - Ileya Heins (Prattsburgh) as YAAD GA alternate,
    - Ruling Elder Sharon Schied (Hammondsport) to the Class of 2016 on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry
    - Ruling Elder John Peeples (Trumansburg) to the Class of 2016 on the Committee on Ministry
    - Rev. Kirk Baker to the Class of 2016 on the Subcommittee on Personnel
    - Ruling Elder Micah Beck (Ithaca) as the Member-at-Large to Council for 2014
- **7.04** Reports of the Administrative Commissions
  - **7.04.1** The report from the Chinese Koinonia Administrative Commission may be found as **Addendum D**. Questions on the report will be taken as time allows.
  - **7.04.2** The report from the Administrative Commission for Mercy Place may be found as **Addendum E**. Ouestions on the report will be taken as time allows.
  - **7.04.3** The report from the Administrative Commission for Park Presbyterian Church in Newark may be found as **Addendum F**. Questions on the report will be taken as time allows.
- **7.05** Reports of the 1001 New Worshiping Grant Recipients
  - **7.05.1** The report from Fusion on Fire found as **Addendum G**. Questions on the report will be taken as time allows.
  - **7.05.2** The report from  $S^2$  may be found as **Addendum H**. Questions on the report will be taken as time allows.
- **7.06** The General Council **reports** for information:
  - 1.A PPG block grant in the amount of \$9,400.00 was received in September. The money is to be used for church transformation, new worshipping communities, spiritual development of youth and young adults, and working with existing congregations in how to be the church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
  - 2.At the October meeting of the General Council, Ruling Elder Priscilla Andrews and Juhura Shazer presented on the 1001 New Worshiping Communities grant application that has been prepared by the Lake Street Presbyterian Church Session. The new worshiping community is called FUSION on Fire and began on November 30, 2013. It was **moved and carried** to approve the application and commit the \$2000 requested from the presbytery.

3.It was **moved and carried** to amend the current by-laws of the Board of Directors for Camp Whitman to read that membership will be three (3) persons from each presbytery, elected for three-year terms, with the chairperson alternating between the two presbyteries annually. No board member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. The Director of Camp Whitman and Executive Presbyters of both presbyteries shall serve as ex-officio members without vote. 4.The following people were approved to serve in open positions on presbytery committees and other bodies: For the Committee on Ministry -, For the Personnel Committee – Ruling Elder Hank Schurr (Big Flats) - Chair, Ruling Elder Harriette Potter (Pulteney) – Class of 2014, Rev. Deborah Grohman – Class of 2015, and, For, Permanent Judicial Commission – the Rev. Tim Johnson (H.R.) to the Class of 2016, Rev. Beverly Karr-Lyon to the Class of 2014 of the Budget and Finance Committee.

5.At the November meeting of the General Council, the Rev. Leah Ntuala presented information on the 1001 New Worshiping Communities grant application for the Wednesday night service at Seneca Falls. This worshiping experience has helped build community between the church and its neighbors. It was **moved and carried** to approve the grant application for S<sup>2</sup> from the Seneca Falls congregation.

6.At the November meeting of the General Council, Ruling Elder Dick Schied shared a request from the Rural Migrant Ministries for grant support. The first proposal is a request for grant money from the Synod of the Northeast to support a Liturgia Coordinator (the center in Lyons). The second proposal is a request for grant money from the Presbytery of Geneva to support a Liturgia Youth Empowerment Coordinator. It was **moved and carried** to support the proposal for the \$8000 from the presbytery in 2014 and 2015 and to endorse the application to the Synod of the Northeast. The Budget and Finance will determine from where these funds are taken. 7.At the November meeting of the General Council, it was **moved and carried** that the General Council of the Presbytery of Geneva concur with the request of the Session and congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Ontario Center to sell their manse located at 2113 Evergreen Circle, Ontario, NY.

8.At the December meeting of the General Council, it was **moved and carried** to approve the request of the Memorial Presbyterian Church of Bellona to expend \$32,400 from current investments to repaint their sanctuary and narthex. Appropriate paperwork has been submitted to the Stated Clerk.

9.At the December meeting of the General Council, it was **moved and carried** to make the treasurer the primary signatory for our investment funds and the secretary of the corporation (Stated Clerk) the secondary signatory. It was reported that churches are behind on their giving so that the second half of mission grants, per capita, and mission giving to Synod have not been paid.

10.At the February meeting of the General Council, it was **moved and carried** that Ruling Elder Micah Beck (Ithaca) be made a member of the Administrative Commission for Mercy Place and that Ruling Elder Tom Bailey (Spencer) be removed at his request.

11.At the February meeting of the General Council it was **moved and carried** to reaffirm the action of prior General Councils and presbytery who have stated that no more than \$10,000 for Mercy Place shall be spent in 2014, after which the financial support of the Presbytery of Geneva has been completed for the year, and that any grant money received shall be returned to the Lauter grant fund, up to \$36,739.00.

12.At the March meeting of the General Council it was **moved and carried** to give permission to Ruling Elder Dick Schied and Ruling Elder Priscilla Andrews be given permission to officiate at the Celebration of the Lord's Supper at the presbytery meeting on March 18, 2014



# Report of the Stated Clerk on the Review of Minutes and Registers of the Congregations of The Presbytery of Geneva

# **Approved with Commendation**

Geneva Hornell

#### **Approved without Exceptions**

Addison

Andover

Bath

Bellona

**Big Flats** 

Cohocton

Corning

East Palmyra

Elmira, Lake Street

Hector

Huron

Lodi

Marion

Moreland – The register was NOT APPROVED and needs to be resubmitted after correction

**Oaks Corners** 

**Ontario Center** 

Ovid Federated

Painted Post

Pulteney

**Red Creek** 

Seneca Falls

Shortsville

Sodus

Spencer

Trumansburg

Watkins Glen

Weston

### **Accepted with Recommendations**

Arkport

Burdett

Canisteo – Register not submitted for approval

Elmira, First

Jasper

Lyons

Penn Yan

#### **Accepted with Recommendations (continued)**

Rock Stream Seneca #9 Williamson

#### **Approved with Exceptions**

Canandaigua – Minutes have not been signed by the Clerk or Moderator

Elmira, Westminster – Page numbers must be entered.

Fairville – The acting moderator must be entered, by name, in the minutes; meetings must be opened with prayer; special meetings must include attendance and opening and closing prayer; baptisms and communion must be approved prior to administration and information entered into the minutes following their occurrence.

Hammondsport – Page numbers must be entered

Phelps – Page numbers must be entered consistently; the annual report to General Assembly must be included; an annual financial review must be conducted; baptisms must be approved prior to them occurring and full information entered in the minutes

Trinity Federated (Naples) – Minutes have not been signed by the Clerk or Moderator.

Westminster - Page numbers must be entered

Waterloo – Page numbers must be entered

The following churches have not responded to requests for submission of minutes and are therefore in violation of the *Book of Order*: Almond, Atlanta, Dundee, Hedgesville, Horseheads, Howard, Ithaca, Junius, Newark, Palmyra (Western), Romulus, West Fayette, Wolcott.

# Roll of Clergy Members of Presbytery by Classification: (As of March 1, 2014)

**Active Presbyterian Members Serving as Presbytery Staff:** 

Name: Position:

Joelle Davis Executive Presbyter/ Stated Clerk

**Active Presbyterian Members Serving Presbyterian Churches:** 

Name: **Position:** Church: Kirk Baker Temporary Supply Newark David Barnard Stated Supply Jasper Stated Supply Moreland Anne Campbell **Betsey Crimmins** Pastor Elmira. First Fllen Donnan Pastor/Stated Supply Junius/Dundee

Russell Duncan Interim Lyons

Nancy Farrell Pastor Palmyra, Western

Janice Fitzgerald Interim Bath

Deborah Grohman Pastor Ontario Center

Gail Heimberger Pastor Sodus
Steven Jewell Pastor Arkport
Beverly Karr-Lyon Pastor Watkins

Beverly Karr-Lyon Pastor Watkins Glen Glenn Kennedy Pastor Painted Post James Kerr Pastor Canandaigua Jonathan Knight Pastor Horseheads

Amy Loving Pastor Bellona and Seneca #9

Paul Malles Pastor Penn Yan
Thomas Montgomery Stated Supply Shortsville
Banu Moore Interim Co-Pastor Corning
James Moore Interim Co-Pastor Corning
Virginia Murray Interim Hornell
Leab Nituals Pastor

Seneca Falls Leah Ntuala Pastor Cheryl Peeples Pastor Trumansburg Richard Price Big Flats **Pastor** Russell Roth Stated Supply Huron Alice Tewell Associate Pastor/HOS Ithaca Karl Warrington **Pastor Naples** 

Jane Winters Temporary Supply Elmira, Westminster

James Yao Co-Pastor/Pastor Hector/Lodi

Nancy Meehan Yao Co-Pastor/Stated Supply Hector/Hammondsport

#### **Active Non-Presbyterian Members Serving Presbyterian Churches:**

Name: **Church:** 

Joshua Baker (M.Div.) E. Palmyra and Fairville Norma Bond (American Baptist) Canisteo (Temporary Supply) Hedgesville (Temporary Supply) Brian Diffenbacher (American Baptist)

Steve Dygert (American Baptist) Almond (Union) Donald Lester (South African) **Howard Union** 

Peter Marr (American Baptist) Addison (Stated Supply)

Lucinda O'Leary (United Church of Christ) Rock Stream(PC)/Lakemont(UCC)

Lee Prong (American Baptist) Williamson (Interim) A. J. Tierson (Methodist) Phelps United David VanWagnen (American Baptist) Marion United

Diane Walker (Methodist) Ovid Federated

Sarah West (Disciples of Christ) Waterloo (Temporary Supply) Daniel Zhao (Reformed Church of China) Corning Chinese Fellowship

# **Presbyterian Members Serving in Specialized Ministry:**

Name: **Position:** 

David Ashby, Interim United Church of Christ, Ithaca

Bryan Bond, Organizing Evangelist Mercy Place

Harold Delhagen Transitional Leader, Synod of the Northeast

Marjory Roth, Chaplain Happy Home of Rochester

Jane Winters, Chaplain Schuyler Hospital

# **Presbyterian Members At-Large:**

Name:

Jeffrey Falter **Todd Haines** Ross Raymond J. Christy Wareham

Samuel Edwards

#### **Retired Presbyterian Members:**

Name:

Kenneth Hood Robert Rochelle, Jr. Joanne Bartel Dean Bembower B. David Hostetter Marlin Stewart Nancy Bidlespacher Susan Husted Gailey Teller Zane Bolinger Timothy Johnson **Herbert Tennies** Fred Coffman Jeffrey Kellam James Tyrrell Gilmore Creelman David Kilgore John Valk Peter Crego Fred Magley

**Edward Meiser** 

John Elder Virginia Murray R. Scott Flaherty James Newman W. James Gerling Suzanne Otterbacher

John Gould **Hugh Outterson**  March 18, 2014

**Ruling Elders Commissioned To Particular Service:** 

Name: Church:

Priscilla Andrews Elmira, Lake Street

Stephen Beals West Fayette

Richard Evans
Joy Novack
Don Peek
Lucille Richmond (UMC)
Richard Schied

Burdett
Romulus
Prattsburgh
Red Creek
Weston

**Presbyterian Ministers Laboring Within the Bounds:** 

Name: Church:
Deborah Lind-Schmitz Geneva
Walter Stuber, Interim Wolcott

# **2014** Ministerial Compensation Report

Name	Church	2014 Cash Salary	2014 Housing Allowance	2014 Effective Salary	2014 Plan Dues	Study Leave	2014 Vouchered Expenses	FTE
Davis, Joelle	EP/SC	\$45,025	\$24,000	\$69,025	\$24,159	\$1,000	\$11,200	1
Donnan, Ellen	Junius	\$10,150	\$13,454	\$23,604	\$12,492	\$500	\$125	0.5
Dygert, Stephen	Almond Union	\$34,235	\$14,069	\$48,304	N/A	\$1000	\$3000	1
Farrell, Nancy	Palmyra, Western	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$17,896	\$5,000	\$3,515	1
Grohman, Deborah	Ontario Center							1
Heimberger, Gail	Sodus	\$29,530	\$16,000	\$45,530	\$16,417	\$1,000	\$500	1
Jewell, Steven	Arkport	\$40,900	\$17,500	\$58,400	\$22,700	\$1,000	\$450	1
Karr-Lyon, Beverly	Watkins	\$40,169	\$14,059	\$54,228	\$18,980	\$1,000	\$500	1
Kennedy, Glenn	Painted Post							1
Kerr, James	Canandaigua	\$52,530	\$26,790	\$79,320	\$26,176	\$1,190	\$340	1
Knight, Jonathan	Horseheads	\$36,825	\$18,000	\$54,825	\$18,093	\$2,500	\$1000	1
Loving, Amy	Bellona/Seneca #9	\$34,306	\$12,600	\$46,906	\$16,416	\$1832	\$1500	1
Malles, Paul	Penn Yan							1
Ntuala, Leah	Seneca Falls	\$43,260	\$14,700	\$57,960	\$20,286	\$1,000		1
Peeples, Cheryl	Trumansburg	\$22,268	\$28,560	\$50,828	\$16,773	\$2,000		1
Price, Richard	Big Flats	\$49,255	\$19,442	\$68,697	\$22,670	\$1,000	\$500	1
Tewell, Alice	Ithaca							1
Tierson, Adrian J.	Phelps	\$30,000	\$16,605	\$46,605	N/A	\$1000	\$9,000	1
VanWagnen, David	Marion	\$25,813	\$24,645	\$50,450	N/A	\$669		1
Walker, Diane	Ovid							1
Warrington, Karl	Naples	\$34,760	\$8,000	\$41,744	\$16,211	\$750		0.75
Yao, James and Nancy	Hector	\$24,808	\$11,415	\$36,223	\$14,067	\$1,125	\$300	0.75
Yao, James	Lodi	\$8,239	\$3,805	\$12,074	\$4,689	\$375	\$100	0.25

# Chinese Koinonia Administrative Commission (CKAC) Update for March 18, 2014 Meeting of Geneva Presbytery

The Chinese church fellowship that CKAC has overseen since 2008 has grown and now stabilized to a worshiping community that averages between 35-50 people (including children) on a typical Sunday morning. Financially, the fellowship has developed from being totally funded by outside monies (mostly from within Geneva Presbytery) to providing the majority of its own support (over \$50,000 in 2013). The fellowship achieved a balanced budget in 2013, leaving a small positive balance leading into 2014.

Happening now: on-going discussions and plans that should enable the group to incorporate as a new congregation by or near the end of 2014. Those on-going discussions include the possibility that the new church will incorporate as part of Geneva Presbytery. Also under on-going discussion is the type of pastoral leadership (i.e. full-time, part-time, shared or ??) that will fit the new church's needs in the near-term future.

The Chinese fellowship and CKAC as well greatly appreciate the support of Geneva Presbytery for its nurture and growth over the last several years.

Submitted by Glenn Kennedy, CKAC Chair

### Mercy Place Administrative Commission Report for March 18, 2014 Presbytery Meeting

Vision/Mission: We will be an all-inclusive, outwardly focused gathering of Jesus followers intent on loving our neighbors, serving our community and promoting peace.

#### Report from the AC

The AC has been meeting with Organizing Evangelist Teaching Elder Bryan Bond around visioning, planning, and his activities. Bryan and the AC have developed benchmarks for the coming months that are concrete and realistic. The biggest change has been a reorienting of the primary mission area into the Ithaca area. While one of the unusual features of Mercy Place was reaching out to persons disaffected by traditional church experiences in the rural area around VanEtten, there wasn't sufficient population density. We had identified Ithaca as a secondary field from the beginning, but in the last six months we have reoriented our approach to making VanEtten secondary to Ithaca. This has proven much more effective, given Ithaca's vibrant and curious communities. It is much easier to get persons from VanEtten to Ithaca than the other way around, so the original field is not neglected by this refocus in a major way.

Bryan has, accordingly, shifted his hours on field to several locations in Ithaca near downtown, which has provided a wealth of contacts and conversations. These informal environments are conducive to meeting persons unlikely to drop into a church for office hours. Bryan goes where the people actually are.

Reflecting and enhancing this geographic shift, the AC is pleased to welcome Micah Beck, a Ruling Elder from the First Presbyterian Church in Ithaca, to our commission upon the departure of Ruling Elder Thomas Bailey, a stalwart since the AC was formed in September 2012. Micah brings familiarity and perspective on Ithaca and connections to First Presbyterian that have already proved valuable. This seems an exciting possible partnership with a local congregation, still to be explored and enhanced.

In February 2014 Mercy place received the \$7,500 Seed Grant from the General Assembly's 1001 Worshiping Communities initiative. This fairly simple grant is a "jump-start" grant to get things going in 1001 projects. The Level One grant requires more development and can be up to \$25,000, and was submitted in October 2013 at the same time as the Seed Grant. Honestly, we are not expecting that much. We also applied in October 2013 for funding from the Synod of the Northeast's "Faithful Servant Initiative," which can be up to \$20,000. This source is in the process of transition into "Innovation" grants as the Synod is reconfiguring, so we do not know the results of this application as yet.

About half way in our anticipated three-year exploration of a non-traditional missional outreach to persons uncomfortable in traditional congregational settings, Mercy Place thrives in the wilderness between seeming "too churchy" for persons seeking an authentic encounter with a community of grace and hope, yet not fitting comfortably in established ecclesiastical structures. Then again, the Gospel often thrives in that creative dissonance!

We continue to seek your support and prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

David Ashby
Convener, Administrative Commission for Mercy Place

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#### Report of Park Church Administrative Commission to Presbytery of Geneva March 18, 2014

The Park Church Administrative Commission was elected at a special meeting of Presbytery in late June, 2013. Its official work, however, did not begin until September, 2013, as we awaited the decision of Synod of the Northeast to an appeal to stay the AC from assuming original jurisdiction which was filed by the then-elected session. That decision was delayed, in part, due to the serious illness of Synod Stated Clerk, David Meerse.

Synod refused to grant the stay, and the AC proceeded to act. The first matter we attended to was the verification of the signatures on a petition that had been presented to the former session asking for a congregational meeting calling for the dissolution of the pastoral relationship with Rev. J. Christy Wareham. Each signatory to the petition was personally contacted to determine if the necessary 25% of the congregation had willingly signed the petition.

Just as we were completing this task, Rev. Wareham met with the Committee on Ministry and tendered his resignation with proposed terms of severance. COM accepted his resignation, an action that was subsequently ratified by the AC. This action was then approved by the congregation at a special meeting.

Within several weeks of Rev. Wareham's resignation, multiple church leaders also resigned their positions, including the Chairs of: Personnel, Nominations, Budget and Finance, Worship and Music, and Christian Education. The Superintendent of Sunday School, the church Treasurer, and the Office Administrator also resigned. This left the AC to deal not only with the loss of the pastor and office staff, but without access to the human resources to help fill the leadership voids as former leaders were unable, or unwilling, to provide information and assistance.

At that time, COM was able to secure the services of Rev. Kirk Baker as ½ time Stated Supply. This proved fortuitous as we now had someone with a regular presence in the church throughout the week. We have also been able to hire a part-time office assistant. Rev. Baker has been instrumental in reorganizing committees and meeting with members of both sides in the Rev. Wareham issue to work toward reconciliation. Unfortunately, while many members who had avoided worship attendance during the controversial period have returned to attendance, the majority of those who had been attending have stayed away. Current attendance is reported to be about double that at the time of Rev. Wareham's departure.

Subsequent to Rev. Wareham's departure the AC began to discover a number of problematic issues. Church membership rolls had not been updated for many years, including both entries and departures; official church minutes were missing, incomplete, or contained irregularities (no financial reports, no signatures or clerk or moderator, etc.). Payroll records, church membership lists, and other needed documents were either password protected (we did not have all necessary passwords) or were unable to be located.

Another issue to be resolved was the removal of numerous names from the active member list just prior to the election of the AC. Although the former session had approved deleting these names, no letter was ever sent to the affected members. It was not until the special meeting of the congregation in October that some people found out they had been deleted from the rolls and could not vote on the dissolution. Based upon this assertion by many affected members, the AC has personally contacted all the removed members and have returned those who so desired back to the active roll. The Membership Committee will again review the rolls,

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and those deemed to be inactive will receive a letter of the AC's intention to remove their names from active status.

It was also learned that during the time of the former session's tenure, no payments for 2013 per capita or mission had been made by Park Church. Addressing this issue required the acquiring of a new treasurer (accomplished) as well as having all church financial accounts and investments released from former signatories to new signatories, a process that has been months in progress since we had been unable to find some required documents. We are now at the point where we will be able to begin making some back and current per capita payments. The mission giving is still being addressed.

Unfortunately, there are some things the AC is hesitant to move forward with until the judicial proceedings initiated by the former session are adjudicated, probably in May. Until then, please continue to hold the Park Church congregation, Rev. Baker, and the members of the AC in prayer.

Respectfully submitted in Christ,

The Park Church AC

Elder Dick Schied, Chair Elder Diana Becker Rev. Jim Gerling Elder John L'Hommidieu Elder Tracy Rankert Rev. Russ Roth Rev. Virginia Murray

#### **FUSION ON FIRE**

March 8, 2014 report

Fusion on Fire (1001 New Worshiping Community – #1360) has worshiped in Lake Street Presbyterian Church since the beginning of Advent. (15 Saturday evenings.)

The attendance averages 70-75 regular worshipers of all ages, socioeconomic groups, races and religious backgrounds. The high attendance was 185 and low was 65. We are very pleased with the attendance considering the winter conditions on weekends in Elmira.

Some of the highlights of the first reporting period:

\*We provide van service so worshipers are being picked up all around the inner city from different neighborhoods.

\*Screen and power point equipment was purchased so music, scripture and sermon highlights is projected for worshipers viewing.

\*Women Of Lake Street (PW) have hosted two luncheons and Fusion on Fire women were invited. More social activities are being planned to integrate the two groups

\*Juhura Shazer, Fusion on Fire preacher, was invited and participated in the Synod of the NE gathering at Union Seminary on race relations.

\*There have been wrinkles between the two worshiping communities but no major problems. Both groups seem to respect each others differences.

\*A number of the "traditionalists" have attended the Saturday evening service and five have made a strong commitment to be part of Fusion on Fire worshiping community.

#### Future plans:

- \*Combined Maundy Thursday Service with the two worshiping communities sharing the Lord's Supper.
- \*Holding new membership classes and explaining Reformed theology to the new Lakestreeters.
- \*Applying for an Investment Grant with PCUSA 1001 New Worshiping Communities.
- \*Submit a video in the 1001 New worshiping Communities contest.
- \*Fusion on Fire may bring them to God, we must love them into becoming Presbyterians.

Grace & peace, Priscilla Andrews Interim CRE

# S<sup>2</sup> Report – March 2014

After prayerful discussion and planning in the spirit of outreach, we made a simple message, included song, and a simple meal on a Wednesday evening in March of 2012. We fed 12 members of the parent congregation, The First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls. Our outreach was limited. We made a simple sign, created some flyers, and the following week, some challenged and hungry members of the Seneca Falls neighborhoods found an uninhibited message that touched their souls and a warm meal on a cold early Spring evening. They were warmed by God's grace and God's work through God's disciples.

S<sup>2</sup> worshipers are new to SFPC. They are our brothers and sisters in Christ and mostly an unchurched population of the community, battling their own demons by seeking the scriptural message, joyful music, and nourishing communion that the service offers.

The message each Wednesday evening is simple and relevant to their daily lives. There is an evident focus on social justice (injustice) to which they can each one relate. The message is bi-directional in dialogue – it's conversational. The new worshiping community (NWC) members are queued with a topic and invited to share their own experience and hope. Simple praise music integrally tied to the scripture and message aid in understanding and continued spiritual development. The service is typically 30 minutes in length followed by the communion of a shared meal. It is informal, unassuming, and contains seven segments:

- I. Call to Worship
- II. Praise Songs (2 or 3)
- III. Scripture and Illumination
- IV. Message and Dialogue
- V. Song of Commitment
- VI. Unison Prayer
- VII. Closing Song
- VIII. Benediction

Each week Christ's spiritual presence is evident in the engagement of the NWC worshipers and their receiving of the Word. Because the message relates to their own daily struggles and miracles of 'real life', Christ is entering hardened hearts and softening rigid thinking.

As the new NWC members continue to grow, they are developing their posture in an imposing community and world. As individuals, their character is being nurtured and a sense of 'oneness' of the Spirit is observable.

Loving one another is the foundation of the service. "Brother, let me be your servant...." and removing barriers for enabling faithful and forgiving relationships is core to the weekly message. Without Christ's presence, we have no NWC. Accountability is evidenced in our confessions, forgiveness, and willingness to do both in the presence of our brothers and sisters.

Much like a twelve step program which is self-supported by its own contributions the service has been sustained through the NWC contributions. The service is at or near breakeven. The meal activity is supported by a core team of leaders within the partner church. Ownership is evolving and while much of the NWC membership lacks discretionary financial resources, they give of their time, talent, and love for Christ and each other. Pastoral leadership, service structure, and meal preparation are core commitments from the partner church congregants.

The fundamental structure of S<sup>2</sup> is supported by the SFPC parent congregation. The free will offering supports the meal's main course each week and members fill in the other menu items. Volunteers

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setup, cleanup, and provide music accompaniment. The SFPC Treasurer manages the financial accounting, Reverend Ntuala plans the service, and Jim Clark (designated Worshiping Community Leader) plans the simple but nourishing meal. SFPC is a member in good standing with the Geneva Presbytery and the Synod of the Northeast. This NWC also receives as needed additional pastoral support from Reverend Stephen Beals of the West Fayette Presbyterian Church.

Through God's grace and guidance, this NWC has the appearance of a successful worship service. The past year and a half we have seen attendance grow from 15-20 to upwards of 60 worshipers each week. The average attendance is estimated to be 45-50 with little more than an A-board sign in front of the church. Current NWC members have introduced their peers to the service and their 'pride of ownership' is evident in their worship presence. Early in the life of this NWC, members often arrived at the service conclusion – in time for the meal. The NWC parent church support opted to not pressure and in time, the late arrivers began arriving early. God is good, and our outreach is touching others. We are capable of much more but are resource constrained. Our simple 30 minute service is presented via technology using SFPC's laptop, projector, and a brick wall for a projection screen. The electric piano (an older Roland) is in disrepair and not useable. In its place is a functional acoustic upright piano. The grant money will be used to fix the piano, get a new projector and screen, advertise and make repairs to the kitchen, as well as stock some food supplies.

Our success can be measured in several areas:

- continued attendance growth
- ii. the emanating love for Christ and each other
- iii. the observable acceptance of each other
- iv. continued commitment from parent congregants
- v. continued break even or gain of financial results
- vi. continued ownership, responsibility, and accountability by the NWC members
- vii. desire for the sacrament of baptism
- viii. a couple of chiropractic students from the New York Chiropractic College (NYCC) engaged to fulfill a five hour community service requirement by assisting with the meal service. They have continued their service and have introduced other students to the service
- ix. members of other denominations and congregations are joining us on a regular basis sharing their faith journey and assistance.
- x. NWC worshipers are attending the Traditional Sunday service from time to time which is a testament to growth in their faith and confidence.

S² is a viable service that brings people together. The overall New Worshipping Community congregants are from all walks of life. The service is evidence of Christ's teachings, love, and peace. The geographic region shows a village with an economically challenged demographic, diminishing population (just under 6700 in 2012), fifteen churches in a 4.1 mile radius. A once thriving and vibrant worship center, Seneca Falls First Presbyterian Church remains a vibrant, but mature center, filled with a love of Christ, the grace of God, and a humble request from PCUSA Mission for financial support to continue to spread the Word, experience Christ's love, and grow our grassroots New Worshipping Community.