

**Special Meeting ~ Presbytery of Geneva
Tuesday April 4, 2018
Presbytery Office, Penn Yan, New York**

MINUTES

The Presbytery of Geneva held a duly-called Special Meeting on Tuesday April 4, 2018. at the Presbytery Office in Penn Yan, New York. The purpose of the meeting was to:

Act on the request of First Presbyterian Church, Ithaca, NY to dissolve the Associate Pastor relationship between the church and the Rev. John McDonald.

CONVENING

The Rev. Katherine Griffis, moderator, called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m., a quorum being present. She read the purpose for the special meeting of the presbytery.

The Rev. Glen Kennedy, vice-moderator, light the Christ Candle.

The presbytery read the *Purpose Statement* and the *Vision Statement* of the Presbytery of Geneva:

***The Presbytery of Geneva lives to support and equip congregations and leaders
to be Christ in the Finger Lakes and the world.***

***Radiating the light of Christ, the Presbytery of Geneva thrives as a
community of servants, lifting up every congregation and leader in ministering together.***

The moderator offered the opening prayer.

ROLL

Ministers of Word & Sacrament present:

The Rev. Katherine Griffis (Hornell), Moderator
The Rev. Glen Kennedy (Painted Post), Vice-moderator
The Rev. Jim Hicks, HR
The Rev. John McDonald (Ithaca)
The Rev. Kirianne Weaver Riehl (Ithaca)
The Rev. Rob Mellgard (Ovid)
The Rev. A.J. Tierson (Phelps & Shortsville)
The Rev. Ellen Donnan (Junius)
The Rev. Bruce Incze (Arkport)
The Rev. Stanley Bhasker (Bath)

Ruling Elders Present:

Elder Mae Schweickard (Oaks Corners)
Elder John Gingerich, CRE (Wolcott)
Elder Joann Braun (Naples)
Elder Kermit Bossard (Spencer)
Elder Dick Schied, CRE (Weston)
Elder Gail Farnham (Ithaca)
Elder Sue Goodrich (Penn Yan)
Elder Rosanna Bates (Pulteney)
Elder Donna Colvin (Pulteney)
Elder Rob Anderson (Penn Yan)

Corresponding Members with Voice & Vote

Elder Linda Badger Becker (Presbytery of Genesee Valley), Transitional Leader

Corresponding Members with Voice

The Rev. Val Fowler (Presbytery of Genesee Valley), stated clerk

**PRESBYTERY OF GENEVA
SPECIAL MEETING**

**PRESBYTERY OFFICES, PENN YAN, NY
April 4, 2018**

Guests

Fred McDonald, Elkton, MD
Mary McDonald, Elkton, MD

The presbytery VOTED to grant privilege of the floor to any non-commissioners present for the meeting.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ITHACA, NY

Following opportunity for questions and discussion (there were none), the presbytery VOTED to:

(Dissolution of Associate Pastor Relationship)

The presbytery VOTED to:

Concur with the with the request of First Presbyterian Church, Ithaca, NY to dissolve the Associate Pastor Relationship between the church and the Rev. John McDonald, effective April 4, 2018 at the terms of the *Dissolution Agreement* [see **Attachment A**].

The congregation meeting was held following worship on Sunday March 25, 2018 and moderated by the Rev. Kirianne Weaver Riehl. In attendance were the Rev. Jim Hicks (Committee on Ministry liaison to the church) and the Rev. Val Fowler (stated clerk). The request to dissolve the Associate Pastor Relationship at the agreed terms was approved by a ballot vote of 57 yes, 1 no. and 2 abstentions.

Enroll the Rev. John McDonald as an at-large member of the Presbytery of Geneva, effective April 4, 2018.

WORSHIP

The Moderator led the presbytery in the "Service of Dissolution" from the *Book of Occasional Services*.

CLOSING

The Rev. Glen Kennedy, Vice-moderator offered the closing prayer.

Val Fowler, Stated Clerk

**Next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery:
Saturday May 19, 2018 ~ Wolcott**

ATTACHMENT A

DISSOLUTION AGREEMENT

First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca (the "Church") gives thanks to God for the service of the Rev. John McDonald ("Associate Pastor") as Associate Pastor.

Mutually, the Associate Pastor, the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, and the Presbytery of Geneva agree that the best concern of each now is served by the dissolution of the pastoral relationship.

The Associate Pastor and the Church agree that the Church shall request, and that the Associate Pastor shall not oppose, that the Presbytery of Geneva dissolve the pastoral relationship that exists between them with the following terms:

TERMS OF DISSOLUTION

I. FINANCIAL TERMS (salary and benefits continuation through June 30, 2018)

Salary and Housing: at the 2018 rate of \$4,6102.42 per month

SECA offset proportional to the Salary and Housing amount above

NYS Disability Insurance and Family Leave proportional to the Salary and Housing amount above

