

**OUR PURPOSE**

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

**OUR VISION**

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

**MINUTES**

The Presbytery of Geneva held their stated Meeting on Tuesday, May 25, 2021, held electronically via Zoom.us.

**GATHERING FOR SHARED WORK: OPENING BUSINESS**

**GATHERING**

5:00 pm Registration and Fellowship Time (through 5:30 pm)

**CALL TO ORDER**

RE Virginia Champlin, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm, a quorum being present.

The Moderator offered the opening prayer.

The Stated Clerk read the Presbytery's Purpose and Vision Statements.

**ROLL**

**CONGREGATIONS: MINISTERS & COMMISSIONERS (CM = Corresponding Member; CP = Commissioned Pastor)**

CONGREGATION	MINISTER(S)	COMMISSIONER	CONGREGATION	MINISTER(S)	COMMISSIONER
ADDISON	A - Peter Marr (CM)		MARION, UNITED	A - Denise Logan (CM)	
ANDOVER, FIRST	A - C. Mattison		MORELAND	A - Paul Yoder (CRE)	
ARKPORT, FIRST	A - Bruce Incze		NAPLES, TRINITY FEDERATED	Robin Lostetter	Jessie Olney
ATLANTA	-----		NEWARK, PARK	----	Natalie Lemmon
BATH, FIRST	-----	Kathleen Swan	OAKS CORNERS	A - Karl Warrington	
BELLONA, MEMORIAL	Amy Loving Austin	Jane Hansen	ONTARIO CENTER, FIRST	Deborah Grohman	
BIG FLATS, FIRST	A - Denise Stone	Robin Fitzgerald	OVID, FEDERATED	Rob Mellgard	Judy Mellgard
BURDETT	A - Richard Evans (CRE)		PAINTED POST, UNITED	David Preisendanz	
CANANDAIGUA, UNITED	A - Wade Allen (CM)	Jim Boseck	PALMYRA, WESTERN	-----	Philip Opdycke
CANISTEO, FIRST	Michelle Serra (G)	Kathleen Weller	PENN YAN, FIRST	Paul Malles	EX - Rob Anderson
COHOCTON, FIRST	-----		PHELPS, UNITED	Ellen Donnan	Margaret Carlson
CORNING, FIRST	A - Jeffrey Ugoretz	Kay Rogus	PRATTSBURGH, FIRST	-----	
EAST PALMYRA, FIRST	-----		PULTENEY, FIRST	Don Peek (CP)	Mary Jane Peek
ELMIRA, FIRST	A - Bill Reynolds (CM)	Charles Stewart	RED CREEK	Carleen Frost (CP)	
ELMIRA, NORTH	Evan Hansen	Annie LeFevre	ROCK STREAM	A - Lucinda O'Leary	

<b>GENEVA, THE PC</b>	Colin Pritchard	Chris Gerling	<b>SENECA #9</b>	Amy Loving Austin	<b>EX- Pam Ells</b>
<b>HAMMONDSPORT, FIRST</b>	-----		<b>SENECA FALLS, FIRST</b>	Leah Ntuala	Marion Crull
<b>HECTOR</b>	<b>A</b> - Ben Masters		<b>SHORTSVILLE, FIRST</b>	Connie Franks (CP)	
<b>HORNELL, UNITED</b>	Katherine Griffis	Jim Varner	<b>SODUS, FIRST</b>	Gail Heimberger	
<b>HORSEHEADS, FIRST</b>	Aaron Frank	Judy Sell	<b>SPENCER, CHRIST THE KING FELLOWSHIP</b>	Sabrina Slater	Gail Maureen
<b>HOWARD, UNION</b>	-----		<b>TRUMANSBURG, FIRST ULYSSES</b>	<b>A</b> - Daniel Russell	Pamela Postle
<b>HURON</b>	<b>A</b> - Nancy Farrell	Linda Hayes	<b>WATERLOO, FIRST</b>	Anita Milne	
<b>ITHACA, FIRST</b>	Cynthia Weaver <b>A</b> - Kirianne Weaver	Gail Farnham	<b>WATKINS GLEN, FIRST</b>	Cara Milne	Karen Rhodes
<b>JASPER, UNITED</b>	<b>A</b> - Brain Dieffenbacher (CM)		<b>WEST FAYETTE</b>	-----	
<b>JUNIUS</b>	Ellen Donnan	Harriet Haynes	<b>WESTON</b>	-----	Barry Winters
<b>LYONS, FIRST</b>	-----	Joanne Reinhardt	<b>WOLCOTT, FIRST</b>	<b>A</b> - Walter Stuber (CM)	Dolores Gingerich

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

**Present:**

Glenn Kennedy (AL)                      David Ashby (VM)                      Janice Fitzgerald (VM)                      Jane Winters (HR)  
Cynthia Huling Hummel (HR)      Jim Kerr (HR)

**Excused:**

Betsey Crimmins (HR)                      Harold Delhagen (AL)      Susan Husted (HR)

**ADDITIONAL ELDER COMMISSIONERS (appointed by Presbytery to correct elder-clergy imbalance)**

**Present:**

Tom Bailey (Spencer, Christ the King)	Virginia Champlin (Geneva)	Donna Colvin (Pulteney, First)
Bob Sell (Horseheads, First)	John Gingerich (Wolcott, First)	Susan Frost (Geneva Presbytery)
Bessie Tyrrell (Atlanta)	Irene Fadden (Palmyra, Western)	Ken Allen (Canandaigua, United)
Jeff Richards (Elmira, North)	Linda Werts (Canandaigua, United)	Pricilla Andrews (Rock Stream)
James Mosher (Elmira, North)		

**PRESBYTERY STAFF (granted voice)**

Elena Delhagen (Palmyra, Western)  
Lea Kone (Genesee Valley Presbytery)

**REGISTERED GUESTS (Current Meeting; Granted Voice for the purpose of giving reports)**

Michelle Serra (Canisteo, First)                      Barbara Scudder (Bath, First)                      Ernest Danforth (Corning, First)  
Catherine Foerster (Penn Yan, First)                      Steve Young (Living Waters for the World)

<b>SUMMARIES FOR EACH MEETING 2021</b>	<b>Jan 23</b>	<b>Mar 23</b>	<b>May 25</b>	<b>Sept 28</b>	<b>Nov 22</b>
<b>Total Minister Commissioners Present*</b>	33	34	23		
<b>Total Elder Commissioners Present **</b>	37	41	40		
<b>Parity (expressed in terms of Elders, + or -)</b>	+4	+7	+17		
<b>Total Minister Commissioners Absent, Unexcused***</b>	1	2	12		

<b>Total Churches Unrepresented by Elders****</b>	28	23	24		
<b>Total Churches Unrepresented by Elders and Pastors****</b>	15	12	17		
<b>Total Registered Visitors and Staff</b>	12	5	8		
<b>Total Registered Attendance*****</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>71</b>		

- \* Does not include Corresponding Members, with voice, not vote. Does include Validated, At-large, and Honorably Retired  
 \*\* Includes Corresponding Members with voice and vote  
 \*\*\* Does not include Corresponding Members with voice only; Honorably Retired Ministers; and Excused Minister Members.  
 \*\*\*\* Includes churches marked "excused"; does **not** include Additional Elder Commissioners, as they are not elected by sessions.  
 \*\*\*\*\* Includes Corresponding Members without vote

## **INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS**

### **APPROVAL OF DOCKET**

The presbytery VOTED to approve the docket for the meeting:

- 5:00 PM Registration and fellowship time (through 5:30 PM)
- 5:30 PM Call to Order, Declaration of Quorum, Reading of Purpose and Vision Statements, and Opening Prayer
- 5:35 PM Introductory Business
  - Call for New Business & Approval of the Docket
  - Moment for Zoom Etiquette
  - Acknowledgment of the First Stewards of the Land [CRE Carleen Frost (Red Creek)]
  - Announcements relevant to the business meeting
- 5:45 PM Worship and the Lord's Supper [TE Leah Ntuala (Seneca Falls, First), presiding]
- 6:30 PM Camp Whitman [RE Lea Kone (Genesee Valley Presbytery)]
  - Breakout Rooms
- 6:55 PM Consent Agenda & Stated Clerk's Report
- 6:59 PM Committee on Representation [RE Barry Winters (Weston), Chair of CoR]
  - Election of new Committee on Leader Care member
- 7:00 PM Committee on Mission and Witness [TE Deb Grohman (Ontario Center, First), Chair]
  - 2021 Mathew 25 Grants
  - Mission Moment: Living Waters for the World [Steve Young, Executive Director]
- 7:15 PM Committee on Ministry [RE Ken Allen (Canandaigua), Co-Chair]
  - Re-Commissioning of CREs
  - Examination for Candidacy of Michelle Serra (Inquirer, serving Canisteo, First)
    - \* The prospective candidate may respond to questions in three areas: their Statement of Motivation for Ministry (distributed), their spiritual journey and their work in the church.
- 7:45 PM General Council [TE Glenn Kennedy (AL), Chair of Council]
- 8:00 PM Good News from Congregations
  - \* To include your news in the minutes, please email a written copy to: [statedclerk@presbyteryofgeneva.org](mailto:statedclerk@presbyteryofgeneva.org)
- 8:10 PM Resolution of Thanks [CRE Connie Franks (Shortsville, First)]
- 8:15 PM Benediction and Adjournment

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE FIRST STEWARDS OF THE LAND**

CRE Carleen Frost (Red Creek), offered the following prayer, acknowledging thanks for the first stewards of the land where we live and serve:

Dear Most Holy and Magnificent God, what joy it is to be asked to give the land acknowledgement for this Presbytery of Geneva Meeting, today. When we think of Your majesty and awesomeness, it's too great a mystery for us to comprehend, but Praise God, we can understand that the land on which this Presbytery lies was originally held by Native Americans, Native Americans who lived, played, planted seeds of fruits and vegetables, worshiped, and died on this land. You have truly blessed this land from the Pennsylvania border to the shores of Lake Ontario, where in the Huron language Ontario means "the shining waters." Wondrous names of lakes from Canandaigua that means "the chosen spot" Seneca Lake meaning, "Long Lake," Keuka Lake, "lake with an elbow," and Cayuga Lake, "people of the great swamp." We thank You for the wisdom of the tribes on this land. The wisdom to migrate north to the shores of "the shining waters" for hunting and fishing in late spring and summer, in order to avoid the cold, blustery, winter storms. We thank You that the Native American trails, especially one named Old Ridge Road, the original route 104, is still used to traverse the state from Williamstown NY to Niagara Falls, over 182 miles! Lord God, we ask you to continue to bless the land the original Native Americans held. May we too, be so honored as stewards of this great land. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

### **WORSHIP AND THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Presbytery of Geneva engaged in a service of worship, led by TE Leah Ntuala (Seneca Falls, First) and members of the First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls, NY. The theme of the service was Camping. Worship included a powerful testimonial sermon given by the Rev. Leah Ntuala, as well as the celebration (virtually) of the Lord's Supper.

### **BUSINESS RELATED TO CAMP WHITMAN**

#### **BREAKOUT ROOMS**

RE Lea Kone (Genesee Valley Presbytery), Camp Director, introduced the topic of "camping" and shared the discussion questions for the breakout rooms.

- Can you think of a "mountain top" experience that you have had, where you felt the presence of God? What did you experience? How did it feel?
- As was shared in the sermon, have you found it easy to "be a follower" or have you had reservations and questions that have made you cautious?

After everyone returned to the main group, people shared some of their reflections on the questions:

- Many shared having "mountaintop" experiences - some included *literal* mountaintops
- Many spoke highly of Lea Kone and Camp Whitman
- Most agreed that "camp" is special; camp is often a "thin place" where God's Spirit may be experienced; camp offers a place to celebrate and experience the beauty of God's earth

#### **CAMP WHITMAN COMMITTEE**

RE Lea Kone shared the report:

- There were nearly 60 volunteers at the Volunteer Day this year. The committee offered thanks to Rev. Colin Pritchard (Geneva) for leading worship at that event.
- New docks have been installed, with the labor donated by members of The Presbyterian Church of Geneva.
- The camp has new water and septic systems.
- There are still some needs for this camp season:
  - Prayer - especially for dealing with the ever-changing Covid-19 safety regulations
  - Campers - there are still some spots available
  - Cabins - there are still a few weekends available for cabin rentals
  - Camp Cook - the camp's beloved Vickie is undergoing cancer treatments; the camp is currently without a cook for the season
  - Baking Squads - churches that are able/willing to donate cookies and other snacks for campers should contact Lea Kone to make arrangements.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following:

1. **Approve** the minutes of the March 23, 2021 stated meeting, held via Zoom.us.
2. **Grant** privilege of voice to non-commissioners who will make a presentation or participate in a report to the presbytery.
3. **Receive** the April Operating Statement and Balance Statement.
4. **Receive** the report from the Treasurer.
5. **Approve** the election of TE Colin Pritchard (Geneva) to serve on the Committee on Camp Whitman, Class of 2022, to fill an unexpired term.
6. **Approve** the request of the session of the First Presbyterian Church of Canisteo for a waiver of the term limit requirement for Ruling Elder Harold Miller and Deacon Ronald Frisbee, according to the provisions of the Book of Order, G-2.0404.
7. **Approve** the following amendment to the Manual of Administrative Operations (amendment noted in red):  
Proposed Amendment:

V. General Council page 9-10

The General Council shall be composed of ruling and teaching elders as follows:

The Chairperson (Immediate Past-Moderator)

The Moderator  
The Vice-Moderator  
One Synod Commissioner (elected commissioners shall determine amongst themselves which shall serve)  
One General Assembly Commissioner (elected commissioners shall determine which of them shall serve)  
The Chairperson or designee of the Committee on Operations  
The Chairperson or designee of Committee on Ministry  
The Chairperson or designee of the Committee on Vitality  
The Chairperson or designee of the Committee on Leader Care  
The Chairperson or designee of the Committee on Mission and Witness  
The Chairperson or designee of the Camp Whitman Committee  
Representative of Presbyterian Women  
Two at large members (1 Ruling Elder, 1 Teaching Elder)  
The Stated Clerk (ex officio without vote)  
The Presbytery Leader (ex officio without vote)  
The Chairperson or designee of the Committee on Representation (ex officio without vote)

Rationale: This clarifies how these particular members of Council are identified.

8. **Approve** the following amendment to the Manual of Administrative Operations (amendment noted in red):

Proposed Amendment:

VII. Committees: Committee on Representation: Responsibilities (page 12-13)

- Advise the Presbytery regarding the implementation of principles of unity and diversity; to advocate for diversity in leadership. Book of Order G-3.0103
- Nominate officers of the presbytery, elected members of committees (including members-at-large of General Council), and the Permanent Judicial Commission members. Book of Order G-3.0111 (Chairs of committees are elected by their own membership.)
- Nominate persons to fill vacancies in elected positions in a timely manner.
- Nominate persons as ordination examination readers as recommended by the Committee on Ministry.
- Develop an application process and oversee the nomination and election of commissioners and young adult advisory delegates (YAADs) to General Assembly and the Synod of the Northeast, advocating for:
  - inclusiveness and diversity
  - equitable representation of congregations for ruling elders and YAAD's
  - consideration of teaching elders who have never been commissioners
- Seek out leaders from congregations and develop a reservoir list of people and the areas in which they have gifts to serve.
- Seek to involve every teaching elder in service to the Presbytery, Synod, or GA.

Rationale: This clarifies how these particular members of Council are nominated and elected.

9. **Approve** the following amendment to the Sexual Misconduct Policy (amendment noted in red):

Proposed Amendment:

Education at the Presbytery level (p. 3)

~~The Presbytery shall provide appropriate educational and supporting material about this policy and maintain a list of resources concerning matters covered by this policy. The Presbytery shall maintain a list of persons trained in this policy and the subjects covered in it who can providing training and resource assistance.~~ The Committee on Leader Care will confirm and track that all required persons are familiar with the Sexual Misconduct Policy of this presbytery and demonstrate awareness of its content and intent.

Rationale: This clarifies who in our Presbytery is responsible for overseeing the training on this particular policy, as well as who is responsible for keeping track of who is or is not yet trained on this policy.

**ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION FROM YOUR STATED CLERK**

1. Any persons interested in proposing overtures to the 225th General Assembly (scheduled for the Summer of 2022) will need to follow the following deadlines. Detailed information about how to propose an overture can be found at <https://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/ga/> and <https://www.pcusa.org/resource/how-submit-overture/>.  
225th General Assembly Business Deadlines
  - December 20, 2021
    - Commissioners and Advisory Delegates final due date (Presbyteries are advised to submit names as early as possible)
  - February 18, 2022
    - Agency and Committee Reports
    - Overtures with Constitutional Implications
    - Overtures referred from the 224th assembly will be automatically referred as-is, unless a mid council notifies me of withdrawal or edited rationale by the 120-day deadline.
  - April 19, 2022
    - Overtures with financial implications
  - May 4, 2022
    - All other overtures
    - First concurrence
    - Comments
  - May 19, 2022
    - GANC Nominations Slate
2. The Installation of the Rev. Colin Pritchard was held at 2pm on Sunday, April 18, 2021, at The Presbyterian Church of Geneva.
3. Clergy (and their families) and other church leaders are experiencing increased stress and anxiety during this time of COVID-19. The Employee Assistance Program (EAP), administered by Cigna Behavioral Health, is available to members with medical coverage through the Board of Pensions, their families, and anyone who lives with them. Through the EAP, you have access to six private counseling sessions with a licensed clinician in Cigna's EAP network. These sessions can be virtual on your phone, tablet, or home computer, or face-to-face.

For retired members and employees not eligible for the EAP, Cigna is currently offering a separate 24-hour toll-free help line. Call 866-912-1687 to connect with qualified clinicians, including licensed social workers, professional counselors, and psychologists, who can provide support and guidance. For more information about the EAP, please go to:

<http://www.pensions.org/file/what-we-offer/benefits-guidance/forms-documents/Documents/pts-643.pdf/>

***BUSINESS RELATED TO CONGREGATIONS AND LEADERS***

**COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION**

RE Barry Winters (Weston) presented the motion from the committee.

The Presbytery VOTED to:

- **approve** the election of RE Joann Braun (Naples, Trinity) to serve on the Committee on Leader Care, Class of 2023, to fill an unexpired term.

**COMMITTEE ON MISSION AND WITNESS**

RE Linda Werts (Canandaigua, United), committee member, presented the report:

- 27 Matthew 25 Session Endorsed Grant Applications were received, reviewed by committee and approved for funding, in most cases at a reduced level from what was requested. Funds available for Grants included \$16,784.33 from the 2 Cents a Meal monies and \$50,000 from Mission monies for a total of \$66,784.33. Requests totaled \$100,400.00. The full list of the awarded grants is included in Addendum A.
- Mission and Witness encourages congregations to continue to receive 2 Cents a Meal/Cents-Ability offerings and forward them regularly to Geneva Presbytery. These funds benefit local hunger ministries in our own communities.
- Elder Joanne Tunison and others have just returned from Lares, Puerto Rico where they have a mission partnership with the Iglesia Presbiteriana de Lares in providing meals and essential needs to the community. A PW Birthday Offering Grant Application "Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand" is being submitted this month to expand the kitchen facilities and bring it up to health and building codes.

- Two scholarships have been awarded for the Living Waters for the World's April Clean Water U. These participants join the team of Rotarians and Presbyterians who will install a LWW water system in Tabi, Quintana Roo, Mexico.

RE Ken Allen (Canandaigua, United), Living Waters for the World Ambassador, introduced Living Waters for the World Executive Director, Steve Young.

- Living Waters for the World (LWW) is a ministry of the Synod of Living Waters. LWW trains volunteers to establish and lead water mission teams that partner with communities to implement and operate sustainable water purification systems and health education programs.
- Already, churches in Geneva Presbytery have partnered with LWW: Newark, Park; Canandaigua, United, Ithaca, First; and Hornell, United. Those interested in joining this ministry can reach out to Steve Young at [steve@livingwatersfortheworld.org](mailto:steve@livingwatersfortheworld.org). More information is available at <https://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org/>.

### **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

RE Ken Allen (Canandaigua, United), co-chair of the Committee on Ministry, presented the report.

RE Kerm Bossard (Spencer, Christ the King) led the Presbytery in the liturgy for the recommissioning the following Ruling Elders to service in the Presbytery of Geneva:

Commissioned to service to particular congregations in the Presbytery of Geneva:

- CRE Connie Franks (Marion, United), commissioned to the First Presbyterian Church of Shortsville
- CRE Carleen Frost (Sodus, First), commissioned to the Red Creek Presbyterian Church of Red Creek

Commissioned to service to the Presbytery of Geneva at the direction of the Committee on Ministry:

- CRE Priscilla Andrews (Rock Stream)
- CRE Susan Frost (Presbytery of Geneva)
- CRE John Gingerich (Wolcott, First)
- CRE James Mosher (Elmira, North)
- CRE Don Peek (Pulteney, First)
- CRE Bob Sell (Horseheads, First)
- CRE Bessie Tyrrell (Atlanta)

The following persons were absent today and will need to be commissioned at a future meeting:

To be commissioned to service to particular congregations in the Presbytery of Geneva:

- CRE Richard Evans (Watkins Glen, First), commissioned to the Burdett Presbyterian Church of Burdett
- CRE Paul Yoder (Horseheads, First), commissioned to the Moreland Presbyterian Church of Moreland

RE Cathy Foerster (Penn Yan, First) introduced the motion to examine and approve Michelle Serra (Inquirer, serving Canisteo, First; member at Hornell, United).

- The Presbytery was reminded that Michelle Serra may respond to questions in three areas: their Statement of Motivation for Ministry (distributed in the Mailed Docket), their spiritual journey and their work in the church.
- The Presbytery conducted the examination of Michelle Serra.
- The Presbytery VOTED to **close the examination**.
- The Presbytery VOTED to **approve** Michelle Serra (Inquirer, serving Canisteo, First) to be a Candidate for Ministry.
- Moderator Virginia Champlin led the service of Receiving a Candidate for Ministry.

### ***Actions Taken On Behalf Of The Presbytery***

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

- **Approve** recommissioning the following Ruling Elders to service in the Presbytery of Geneva:
  - Commissioned to service to particular congregations in the Presbytery of Geneva:
    - CRE Richard Evans (Watkins Glen, First), commissioned to the Burdett Presbyterian Church of Burdett
    - CRE Connie Franks (Marion, United), commissioned to the First Presbyterian Church of Shortsville
    - CRE Carleen Frost (Sodus, First), commissioned to the Red Creek Presbyterian Church of Red Creek
    - CRE Paul Yoder (Horseheads, First), commissioned to the Moreland Presbyterian Church of Moreland
  - Commissioned to service to the Presbytery of Geneva at the direction of the Committee on Ministry:
    - CRE Priscilla Andrews (Rock Stream)
    - CRE Susan Frost (Presbytery of Geneva)
    - CRE John Gingerich (Wolcott, First)
    - CRE James Mosher (Elmira, North)
    - CRE Don Peek (Pulteney, First)

- CRE Bob Sell (Horseheads, First)
- CRE Bessie Tyrrell (Atlanta)
- **Appoint** Carol Wilson to moderate the WPC Session meeting that is scheduled for April 27, 2021.
- **Approve** Jane Winters to continue moderating at Elmira, First.
- **Appoint** Carol Wilson to serve as moderator of Western Presbyterian Church of Palmyra, NY.
- **Appoint** Katherine Griffis to serve as Moderator at First Presbyterian Church of Bath for their meeting on Monday, May 10, 2021.
- **Appoint** Bob Sell to serve as Moderator at First Presbyterian Church of Hammondsport.
- **Concur** with the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Stanley Bhasker and First Presbyterian Church of Bath, NY, effective end of day April 30, 2021; and **approve the transfer** of membership of Rev. Stanley Bhasker to the Presbytery of Kiskiminetas, effective May 1, 2021.
- **Concur** with the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Kyle Delhagen and Western Presbyterian Church of Palmyra, NY, effective end of day April 25, 2021; and **approve the transfer** of membership of Rev. Kyle Delhagen to the Presbytery of Albany, effective April 26, 2021.
- **Certify** Candidate Susan Frost as “ready for examination for ordination, pending a call,” in accordance with Book of Order G-2.0607 and the Presbytery of Geneva’s “Operations Manual for Teaching Elders”.

From the Presbytery of Geneva’s “Operations Manual for Teaching Elders” (p. 15-16) [Please note: where this document says “CPM”, this is now managed by the COM, who has been tasked with the work of the CPM in our “new” structure.]:

*Certification and final assessment by CPM is accomplished with the following:*

*-Form 6 – Summary Report of Final Assessment: this form, completed by CPM, acknowledges that CPM has conducted a final assessment of the candidate’s preparation and readiness to begin ministry. It certifies that she/he has successfully completed all of the denomination’s and CPM’s requirements and so is ready to be examined for ordination pending a call*

*-Form 7A – Changing the Relationship of Care with the Presbytery: this form signifies that the person under care has been certified ready to receive a call.*

*It should be remembered that “certification of readiness” does not end the covenant relationship between the candidate, the session, and the presbytery. The Session remains responsible to provide “concern and discipline” for the candidate, and the Presbytery, through the CPM, continues to provide “support, guidance, and evaluation” as the candidate seeks a first call.*

#### **Items For The Presbytery’s Information**

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

- **Approve** the procedure that a person only be added to or removed from the Pulpit Supply list both at their request and with a vote of confirmation from COM.
- **Approve** the covenant agreement between the CRE Connie Franks and the First Presbyterian Church of Shortsville, NY, to serve as  $\frac{3}{8}$ -time Commissioned Ruling Elder effective January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021. Total compensation:

Cash salary:	\$1,039.38
Housing:	\$ 559.73
SECA:	\$ 122.32
Pension/Medical	N/A
Travel Allowance:	all church related travel vouchered at IRS rate/mile
Study Leave Allowance:	\$ 250
Study Leave Time:	14 days, including 2 Sundays
Vacation:	31 days, including 4 Sundays
- **Approve**, with a waiver of the SECA requirement, the covenant agreement between the CRE Dick Evans and the Presbyterian Church of Burdett, NY, to serve as  $\frac{1}{4}$ -time Commissioned Ruling Elder effective January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021. Total compensation:

Cash salary:	\$4,434
Housing:	\$8,234
SECA:	waived
Pension/Medical	\$4,623 paid directly into IRA (in lieu of pension)
Travel Allowance:	all church related travel vouchered at IRS rate/mile
Study Leave Allowance:	\$ 250
Study Leave Time:	14 days, including 2 Sundays
Vacation:	31 days, including 4 Sundays
- **Approve** the Temporary Supply Covenant agreement between the Rev. Robin E. Lostetter and Trinity Federated Church of Naples, NY, to serve as  $\frac{3}{8}$ -time Temporary Supply Pastor effective July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022. Total compensation:

Cash salary:	\$ 16,324
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Housing:	manse provided
SECA:	\$ 1,248.78
Pension/Medical	N/A (retired)
Travel Allowance:	all church related travel vouchered at IRS rate/mile
Study Leave Allowance:	\$ 375
Study Leave Time:	14 days, including 2 Sundays
Vacation:	31 days, including 4 Sundays

- **Approve** the Temporary Supply Covenant agreement between the Rev. Cindy Weaver and the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, NY, to serve as ½-time Temporary Supply Pastor effective January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021. Total compensation:

Cash salary:	\$ 19,995
Housing:	\$ 9,086
SECA:	\$ 2,225
Auto/cell/hospitality	\$ 1,000
Book allowance	\$ 300
Pension/Medical	\$ 13,908
Dental Coverage	\$ 545
Travel Allowance:	all church related travel vouchered at IRS rate/mile
Study Leave Allowance:	\$ 2,500
Study Leave Time:	14 days, including 2 Sundays
Vacation:	28 days, including 4 Sundays
- **Approve** setting the quorum for COM meetings to be a majority of the elected membership of the committee.
- **Elect** Katherine Griffis and Ken Allen to serve as co-chairs of the COM for 2021.
- **Approve** the mission study for the United Church of Phelps and **approve** the formation of a PNC.

## INTERNAL BUSINESS

### GENERAL COUNCIL

TE Glenn Kennedy (AL), chair of the General Council, presented the report.

- Members of the Council and Leadership Team attended a meeting of leaders from 4 other presbyteries in our region to begin discussing possible ways that we can partner together (including mission opportunities, staffing, and more).
- Churches and leaders are reminded that there are resources available on the website regarding COVID-19 safety, including a recently written update letter from RE Rob Anderson, M.D. (Penn Yan, First).

### ***General Council Items for the Presbyter's Information***

The General Council VOTED to:

#### **(Implementation of Presbytery's Sexual Misconduct Policy)**

- **Approve** the process by which the Committee on Leader Care will accomplish tasks required by the Presbytery's Sexual Misconduct Policy.

#### **(Presbytery Leader Transition)**

- **Approve** a Transformational Presbytery Leader Portfolio Description.
- **Approve** the formation of a Transformational Presbytery Leader Search Team, to include 3-5 members (as close as possible to equal number of Ruling and Teaching Elders); this team will be named by the General Council Chair and confirmed by the Leadership Team so that they may begin their search before the May Council meeting; the Search Team will report directly to the General Council who will contract with the candidate.
- At the Council meeting on 5/11/21, Council received the report of the Leadership Team:

Transformational Presbytery Leader Search Team Active members:

RE Rob Anderson (Penn Yan, First) [Co-Clerk]

RE Virginia Champlin (Geneva)

RE Donna Colvin (Pulteney First)

TE Evan Hansen (Elmira North) [Chair]

TE Sabrina Slater (Spencer, Christ the King) [Co-Clerk]

Alternate members:

RE Beth Newell (Geneva)

TE Leah Ntuala (Seneca Falls First)

***GOOD NEWS FROM CONGREGATIONS***

Members of the Presbytery shared good news and announcements from their congregations and ministries.

**RESOLUTION OF THANKS**

CRE Connie Franks (Shortsville, First) offered the Resolution of Thanks:

O Lord we give thanks for the leaders, leaders of nations and of small groups. Give the leaders the gift of wisdom and strength, as the Holy Spirit is with them.

We give thanks for our Presbytery leaders and staff of our Presbytery for their combined guidance and love that they share with each other and with us.

We give thanks to the many committees members for their diligent work always looking for the best practice.

We give thanks to Leah and the Seneca Falls Church for a Divine worship service.

We give thanks to the pastors and congregations in our presbytery for the diverse missions that touch the church and the world.

With special thanks to Steve Young and The Living Waters of The World and Michele as she continues her path

We give thanks to all the staff on percipients of Bible Studies and Camps, our camp Whitman and the camps in the Finger lakes and beyond for the mountain top experiences.

We are thankful for the technology that allows us to be together today.

And thank you to all the members of the Christian body as we have learned to walk together under one God, we praise you Lord.

O God we give our thanks and praise to you for creation - one that you have allowed us to care for.

We give thanks for neighbors around the world, may we lift them up as you know their needs.

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Presbytery VOTED to **adjourn** the meeting with the benediction.

***BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT***

The Vice-Moderator offered the benediction and pronounced the meeting to be adjourned at 7:53 pm.

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Attest: Amy Loving Austin, Stated Clerk

**ADDENDUM A**

Mission and Witness 2021 Matthew 25 Grants Awarded

<b><u>Congregation</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name/Organizational Partner</u></b>	<b><u>Awarded</u></b>
Bath	Community Outreach Project First Presbyterian and Steuben County Sheriff's Dept.	\$2,000
Bath	First Presbyterian Blessing Box	\$2,000
Canandaigua	Neighbor to Neighbor Fund	\$3,000
Elmira	Project Chrome for Kids	\$3,000
	Senior Care, First Presbyterian Church	\$2,000
	The Potter's Hands	\$3,000
	Bampa's House	\$2,000
Geneva	Village Lienks	\$ 500
	Martin Luther King Scholarship Fund	\$4,000
	Welcome to Geneva/First 1,000 days	\$1,500
	Boys and Girls Club	\$3,000
	Community Lunch Program/Catholic Charities FL	\$4,000
	Geneva Food Pantry/Geneva Center of Concern	\$3,000
	Bridges of Hope/Family Promise of Ontario County	\$3,000
Hornell	Faith In Action	\$4,000
	Turning Point Food Pantry/Catholic Charities Steuben and Livingston Counties	\$4,000
Horseheads	Meals on Wheels	\$1,000
	Food Pantry	\$1,500
Ithaca	Anabel's Grocery/Protestant Cooperative Ministry at Cornell	\$1,700
Newark	Laurel House	\$ 500
	Newark Food Closet	\$3,500
Ovid	South Seneca Ecumenical Food Pantry	\$4,000
Palmyra	Good Neighbor Fund	\$2,000
Seneca Falls	Summer Backpack Program/House of Concern	\$3,000
Sodus	Family Promise of Wayne County	\$2,500
Trumansburg	Trumansburg Food pantry	\$1,000
Waterloo	Harmony Food pantry	\$1,500
Total		\$66,200

**ADDENDUM B**

**Statement on the Presbytery's Sexual Misconduct Policy from the Committee on Leader Care**

**Sexual Misconduct Policy**

**Did you know that...**

- the Presbytery of Geneva has a Sexual Misconduct Policy as part of our Manual of Administrative Operations,
- the current policy was approved in November of 2018,
- "This policy is binding upon all persons serving in any capacity under the authority of the Presbytery of Geneva upon beginning service." (1.102) and
- you can read it by clicking [here](#) ?

**Policy Purpose (in part)**

"The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe, just, compassionate, and caring environment within our Presbytery in accordance with our Biblical, confessional, and ecclesiastical heritage." (1.101) Sounds pretty important, right?

**Policy Content.**

As you might expect, the policy contains important information like: definitions; principles; education and awareness expectations; guidelines; prevention; intervention and a whole slew of procedures.

**Education and Awareness of the Sexual Misconduct Policy.**

The Committee on Leader Care is being tasked to oversee education and awareness of the Presbytery's Sexual Misconduct Policy in a way that demonstrates due diligence on the behalf of the Presbytery and provides an accountability framework for all those persons who have an obligation to the Presbytery to comply with this policy.

Once the current policy is modified, the method of fulfilling this responsibility that seems least intrusive while fulfilling the spirit of education and awareness of the policy will look something like this:

- On a periodicity determined by Council,
- The Committee on Leader Care will craft and promulgate to all required persons, an email or U.S. mail notice that contains 3 parts.
  - o Selected highlights of the Sexual Misconduct Policy
  - o A link to the policy that is available on the Presbytery of Geneva website
  - o A link to take an on-line quiz to confirm familiarity with the Sexual Misconduct Policy

The quiz (with answers) will be crafted by the Committee on Leader Care and will be in the form of a multiple choice question and answers. A passing grade will be 80%. A list of quiz results of those persons covered by this policy will be maintained. All persons covered by this policy will be expected to pass the quiz or make-up quiz.

In summary, that is how we are looking to commence implementing an accountable system for promoting awareness of this important policy. Your feedback on how we might do things better and/or less intrusively is always appreciated.

Peace,  
Rev. Bruce Incze  
On Behalf of the Committee on Leader Care

**ADDENDUM C  
Additional Written Reports**

**Report from Presbyterian Women**

- This month's "Coffee and Conversation" will feature speakers from Rural and Migrant Ministry helping us to understand the situation at the Mexican border and leading us to discern a path of supporting women and children. Please contact Linda Werts 315-447-0276 or lwerts@aol.com for Zoom details. The meeting is Wednesday, May 26th at 11:00am.
  - Birthday Offerings may be sent to Ellen Reynolds, 3310 William Street, Geneva NY 14456 by June 1st.
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**Report from the Committee on Representation**

- For the past several months the Committee has been searching for someone to fill an unexpired term on the Committee for Operations. Several invitations have been extended which were all declined. The Committee would appreciate the knowing the names of possible candidates who have the gifts that would be helpful to this committee.