

**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 its Stated Meeting on Tuesday, May 25, 2022, held electronically via Zoom.us.

**GATHERING FOR SHARED WORK: OPENING BUSINESS**

**GATHERING**

4:30 pm Registration and Fellowship Time (through 5:00 pm)

**CALL TO ORDER**

TE Deb Grohman (Ontario Center, First), Moderator, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm, a quorum being present.

The Moderator offered the opening prayer.

**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)	Frank Halstead
ANDOVER, FIRST	A - C. Mattison		MORELAND	A - Paul Yoder (CRE)	
ARKPORT, FIRST	A - Bruce Incze		NAPLES, TRINITY FEDERATED	A - Matthew Finch (CM)	
ATLANTA	-----		NEWARK, PARK	Susan Frost	Anne Rogers
BATH, FIRST	-----	A - Dean Chatfield	OAKS CORNERS	A - Karl Warrington	
BELLONA, MEMORIAL	Amy Loving Austin	Jane Hansen	ONTARIO CENTER, FIRST	Deborah Grohman	
BIG FLATS, FIRST	EX - Denise Stone	Robin Fitzgerald	OVID, FEDERATED	Rob Mellgard	Judy Mellgard
BURDETT	A - Richard Evans (CRE)	A - Martha Evans	PAINTED POST, UNITED	EX - David Preisendanz	
CANANDAIGUA, UNITED	EX - Wade Allen (CM)	Linda Werts	PALMYRA, WESTERN	-----	Philip Opdycke
CANISTEO, FIRST	Michelle Serra (G)		PENN YAN, FIRST	Paul Malles	Rob Anderson
COHOCTON, FIRST	-----	EX - Linda Hodges	PHELPS, UNITED	-----	Peg Carlson
CORNING, FIRST	EX - Jeffrey Ugoretz	Kay Rogus	PRATTSBURGH, FIRST	-----	Lynn Dinehart
EAST PALMYRA, FIRST	-----		PULTENEY, FIRST	Don Peek (CRE)	Mary Jane Peek
ELMIRA, FIRST	A - Bill Reynolds (CM)	Chuck Stewart	RED CREEK		
ELMIRA, NORTH	EX - Evan Hansen	Annie LeFevre	ROCK STREAM	Lucinda O'Leary (CM)	
GENEVA, THE PC	A - Colin Pritchard	Chris Gerling	SENECA #9	Amy Loving Austin	Pam Ells
HAMMONDSPORT, FIRST	-----		SENECA FALLS, FIRST	Leah Ntuala	

HECTOR	-----		SHORTSVILLE, FIRST	Connie Franks (CRE)	
HORNELL, UNITED	EX - Katherine Griffis	A - Kerm Bossard	SODUS, FIRST	Gail Heimberger	
HORSEHEADS, FIRST	EX - Aaron Frank	A - Judy Sell	SPENCER, CHRIST THE KING FELLOWSHIP	Sabrina Slater	Gail Maureen
HOWARD, UNION	-----		TRUMANSBURG, FIRST ULYSSES	Daniel Russell	Pamela Postle
HURON		Linda Hayes	WATERLOO, FIRST	Anita Milne	George Bassett
ITHACA, FIRST	Cynthia Weaver Kiranne Weaver	Brad McFall	WATKINS GLEN, FIRST	A - Cara Milne	Patti Smith
JASPER, UNITED	A - Brain Dieffenbacher (CM)		WESTON	-----	Barry Winters
JUNIUS	EX - Ellen Donnan	EX - Kristi Crance Ward	WOLCOTT, FIRST	A - Walter Stuber (CM)	EX - Dolores Gingerich
LYONS, FIRST	-----	Joanne Reinhardt			

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

**Present:**

Marjorie Ackerman (VM)      David Ashby (AL)      John Milne (HR)      Janice Fitzgerald (VM)  
Cynthia Huling Hummel (HR)      James Hicks (HR)      Jane Winters (HR)

**Excused:**

Betsey Crimmins (HR)      Adrian Tierson (VM)      James Kerr (HR)      Carol Wilson (HR)

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

Virginia Champlin (Geneva) MODERATOR	Jeff Richards (Elmira, North) VICE MODERATOR	Tom Bailey (Spencer) TREASURER	
Pricilla Andrews (Rock Stream) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	Carleen Frost (Sodus, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	Bob Sell (Horseheads, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	EX - John Gingerich (Wolcott, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)
A - James Mosher (Elmira, North) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	Bessie Tyrrell (Atlanta) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	Paul Yoder (Horseheads, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	
Irene Fadden (Palmyra, Western) COUNCIL (Operations)	Beth Newell (Geneva) COUNCIL (COM)	Donna Colvin (Pulteney, First) COUNCIL (RE At-Large)	

**PRESBYTERY STAFF (granted voice)**

**Present:**      Lea Kone (Genesee Valley Presbytery)      Elena Delhagen (Albany Presbytery)

**REGISTERED GUESTS (Current Meeting; granted voice)**

Michelle Serra (Canisteo, First)

SUMMARIES FOR EACH MEETING 2021	Jan 22	Mar 29	Apr 26	May 24			
Total Minister Commissioners Present*	22	27	22	19			
Total Elder Commissioners Present **	32	32	31	35			
Parity (expressed in terms of Elders, + or -)	+10	+5	+9	+16			
Total Minister Commissioners Absent, Unexcused***	10	4	6	5			
Total Churches Unrepresented by Elders****	32	29	34	27			

<b>Total Churches Unrepresented by Elders and Pastors****</b>	19	17	24	21			
<b>Total Registered Visitors and Staff</b>	8	9	7	3			
<b>Total Registered Attendance*****</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</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:

4:30 PM	Registration and fellowship time (through 5:00 PM)
5:00 PM	Call to Order, Declaration of Quorum, and Opening Prayer
5:05 PM	Introductory Business
	Call for New Business & Approval of the Docket
	Acknowledgment of the First Stewards of the Land
5:10 AM	Consent Agenda
5:15 PM	Worship and the Lord's Supper [TE Anita Milne (Waterloo, First), presiding]
6:00 PM	Administrative Commission for the Atlanta Presbyterian Church [TE Katherine Griffis (Hornell, United)]
6:15 PM	Committee on Operations [TE David Ashby (VM)]
6:25 PM	Matthew 25: Dismantling Systemic Racism
6:35 PM	225th General Assembly Preview
6:50 PM	Commissioning of General Assembly Commissioners
6:55 PM	Good News from Congregations
	* To include your news in the minutes, please email a written copy to: <a href="mailto:statedclerk@presbyteryofgeneva.org">statedclerk@presbyteryofgeneva.org</a>
7:00 PM	Resolution of Thanks
7:05 PM	Benediction and Adjournment

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

TE Anita Milne (Waterloo, First) offered acknowledgement of the first stewards of the land where we live and serve.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following:

- Approve** the minutes of the March 29, 2022 stated meeting, held via Zoom.us.
- Approve** the minutes of the April 26, 2022 called meeting, held via Zoom.us.
- Grant** privilege of voice to non-commissioners who will make a presentation or participate in a report to the presbytery.
- Receive** the April Operating Statement, Balance Statement, and Treasurer's report.
- Empower** the COM to act on behalf of the Presbytery to conduct the recommissioning of the following CREs who were unable to attend the March Presbytery Meeting:
  - Commissioned to service to particular congregations in the Presbytery of Geneva:
    - CRE Paul Yoder (Horseheads, First), commissioned to the Moreland Presbyterian Church of Moreland
  - Commissioned to service to the Presbytery of Geneva (Pulpit Supply, able to serve communion) at the direction of the Committee on Ministry:
    - CRE Bob Sell (Horseheads, First)
    - CRE Bessie Tyrrell (Atlanta)
- Approve** the updated section II.F. of our Personnel Policies concerning background checks and other procedures around new employees; and **approve** editing section 4.100 of the Administrative Manual to delete "should." [see documents 04b and 04c]

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

- Keep up with the latest General Assembly news here: <https://ga-pcusa.org/>
- Please take advantage of the (FREE) Synod of the Northeast Webinars: <https://www.synodne.org/webinars>

The Moderator invited the Vice Moderator, RE Jeff Richards (Elmira, North), to moderate the meeting.

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

The Presbytery of Geneva engaged in a service of worship, led by TE Anita Milne (Waterloo, First). Worship included a sermon given by the Rev. Anita Milne, as well as the celebration (online) of the Lord's Supper.

### ***ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR THE ATLANTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH***

TE David Ashby (AL), member of the Atlanta AC, presented the report.

#### **ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S ACTION**

The Administrative Commission for the Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, with the concurrence of the General Council, moves the Presbytery to:

- Approve of the sale of the property of the Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, 2 Main St., Atlanta NY 14808, Tax No. 017.10-01-015000, to the Redefined Church of Wayland NY (Nick Lincoln, Pastor), for \$1. This will allow the Redefined Church to undertake the extensive repairs and renovations needed. The sale will be as-is by Quit Claim Deed with a Restrictive Covenant for the property to be used for religious purposes for at least three years from the sale, with the Presbytery retaining the right of first refusal to repurchase the property for \$1 plus the cost of any repairs or renovations made, should the Redefined Church choose to sell within that three years.
- Empower the Administrative Commission to distribute the proceeds of the sale and any other assets of the Congregation, with the guidance of the remaining congregation members.

The floor was opened for

The Presbytery VOTED to:

- **Approve** of the sale of the property of the Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, 2 Main St., Atlanta NY 14808, Tax No. 017.10-01-015000, to the Redefined Church of Wayland NY (Nick Lincoln, Pastor), for \$1. This will allow the Redefined Church to undertake the extensive repairs and renovations needed. The sale will be as-is by Quit Claim Deed with a Restrictive Covenant for the property to be used for religious purposes for at least three years from the sale, with the Presbytery retaining the right of first refusal to repurchase the property for \$1 plus the cost of any repairs or renovations made, should the Redefined Church choose to sell within that three years.
- **Empower** the Administrative Commission to distribute the proceeds of the sale and any other assets of the Congregation, with the guidance of the remaining congregation members.

RE Rob Anderson (Penn Yan, First) offered prayer.

### ***COMMITTEE ON OPERATIONS***

TE David Ashby (AL), chair of the Committee on Operations, presented the report.

#### **ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION**

1. Financial reports were provided by the Treasurer. Please review your congregation's giving to confirm our figures are correct. Let us know if you have any questions!
2. The audit of the Presbytery's 2021 finances is underway.
3. Katie McConville of the Community Foundation in Elmira informed us that "Kimberly Webster has been selected as the Westminster Presbyterian Church Scholarship Recipient for 2022. She is the current School Counselor at Riverside Elementary School in Elmira and also works part time for Chemung County Crisis Program as a crisis specialist. She will use the scholarship to become a Board Certified Counselor and obtain National Board Certification. Thank you for the role you play in supporting incredible students like Kimberly! Please let me know if you have any additional questions."

The Moderator, TE Deb Grohman (Ontario Center, First), resumed moderating the meeting.

### ***MATTHEW 25: DISMANTLING SYSTEMIC RACISM***

TE Dan Russell (Trumansburg, First Ulysses) shared with the Presbytery some of the ways that he and the Trumansburg congregation have been working together to address the issue of systemic racism.

- The congregation invited Trumansburg area churches to join them in coordinating an annual service to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. They held the first interactive event in 2022 on the anniversary of MLK Jr.'s assassination.

- Throughout the process of organizing the service/event, Rev. Russell and other white persons committed to self-examine more deeply – specifically, examining their own racism.
- All are invited to participate in an 2-hour online overview of Kingian Nonviolence Conflict Reconciliation at 4pm ET / 3pm CT / 1pm PT on May 23rd, 2022. Kingian Nonviolence is an approach to conflict and community leadership that offers values and methods useful for anyone who wants to use conflict constructively in your personal life, in group settings, or in community issues and building a reconciled world. You can register for the class here:  
[https://www.onearthpeace.org/2022\\_05\\_23\\_2hr\\_intro\\_kingian\\_nonviolence?fbclid=IwAR3tMxvE3Z0xvi\\_vnPkJEJzHY0wdZKsBhK5wIEL0BOJSTBkoWN0qblKvrK4](https://www.onearthpeace.org/2022_05_23_2hr_intro_kingian_nonviolence?fbclid=IwAR3tMxvE3Z0xvi_vnPkJEJzHY0wdZKsBhK5wIEL0BOJSTBkoWN0qblKvrK4)

### **225th GENERAL ASSEMBLY PREVIEW**

RE Virginia Champlin (Geneva) offered an overview of the upcoming 225th General Assembly.

- Between the overtures held over from the 224th GA in Baltimore and the new business before 225th GA, there are approximately 87 overtures under consideration at the committee level. Of the 87 or so overtures that are under consideration at the committee level, not all of them make it to the General Assembly plenary for consideration, and fewer still are approved by the General Assembly. Any overtures approved by the General Assembly that would change the Book of Order must be also approved by a majority of the presbyteries within one year of the referring General Assembly to take effect.
- A sample of the many, many overtures that will be considered by the committees and plenary body of the General Assembly:
  - ROD-3 is proposing a wholesale replacement of the current Rules of Discipline with a new set of Rules of Discipline.
  - TWE-06 is proposing to amend W-4.0403 to allow the laying on of hands when a person is being installed but has already been ordained.
  - TWE-08, a carryover from 2020, is proposing to form a commission to write a new PC(USA) Confession to be Considered for Inclusion in the Book of Confessions
  - ENV-07 is the biennial proposal that the PC(USA) (on the national level) divest from fossil fuels in its investment portfolios, specifically the investments held by the Board of Pensions, the Presbyterian Foundation, and the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program.
  - POL-14 proposes to streamline the process by which a congregation can sell property gifted to it to fund ministry and mission.
- For more information, visit: <https://www.pcusa.org/events/50992/225th-general-assembly-2022/>

### **COMMISSIONING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS**

The Moderator led the Presbytery of Geneva in the Service of Commissioning for the Presbytery of Geneva's Elected Commissioners to the 225th General Assembly: RE Virginia Champlin (Geneva) and TE Evan Hansen (Elmira, North). Since TE Evan Hansen was not able to attend this meeting, he will be commissioned on June 14, 2022, by the General Council.

The Moderator invited the Vice Moderator to moderate the meeting.

### **GOOD NEWS FROM CONGREGATIONS**

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

- **Ecumenical Volunteer Program in Berlin**

In the heart of Europe lies Berlin, the colorful and lively capital of Germany. With 3.7 million inhabitants, it is the largest city in the region. Berlin has often been the scene of world history - industrialization, revolution, National Socialism, German division and reunification. The traces of history can still be discovered in countless places in the city. But time has not stood still: today Berlin is a center of creativity, a city of contradictions and tensions, a place where people of different languages, religions and nationalities live together.

Participants are invited to spend 10 months living and engaged in volunteer service through PCUSA's ecumenical partner in the capital of Germany, exploring what it means to be actively engaged in the world, developing a sense of living out faith in action, learning more about self and community, and what it means to be a faithful global citizen.

The Berliner Missionswerk (Berlin Mission) is offering two volunteer service positions in the Evangelical Church Berlin-Brandenburg-schlesische Oberlausitz (EKBO):

One volunteer service position of the Berliner Missionswerk is located in Spandau, in the northwest of the city. The congregation is one of the largest in Berlin and offers a variety of volunteer opportunities due to its program diversity. The congregation has two kindergartens with daycare and after-school care, a family center, homes for senior citizens and a One World Shop. In addition, there is youth work and a wide variety of encounter groups in which volunteers could participate.

The second placement is in Fürstenwalde, southeast of Berlin. The large diaconal institution supports people with and without disabilities in shaping their lives freely and with a sense of self-determination. People of all ages play, learn, live and work in the daycare center, the special schools, the residential and work facilities and its own residential care home for the elderly. Here, too, volunteers have a wide range of opportunities in which to engage and walk alongside others in their individual development.

Basic knowledge of the German language is a great advantage, but not necessarily required as the volunteer service begins with an intensive language course.

The volunteers will be part of a small group of international volunteers. Their service will be accompanied by a seminar program. Begin: beginning of September 2022

- End: end of June 2023
- Application deadline: June 10, 2022
- Please send application materials by email to [Alethia.White@pcusa.org](mailto:Alethia.White@pcusa.org)
- Volunteer is responsible for:
  - Visa costs to be determined (assistance may be provided)
  - Basic health insurance costs (valid within Germany and the EU): 38 euros per month
- Program is responsible for:
  - Housing will be organized in Berlin through Berliner Missionswerk
  - Travel to and from Berlin and all volunteer service related travel will be covered
  - Provides seminar program
  - An intensive language course is included
  - Pocket money and board
  - Transit ticket within Berlin and surrounding region

Please note: to apply for the Ecumenical Volunteer Program in Berlin, an application will need to be completed and submitted. You can download a copy of the application here:

[https://www.presbyteryofgeneva.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/application-form\\_-\\_voluntary-service\\_Berlin-Mission-2022.pdf](https://www.presbyteryofgeneva.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/application-form_-_voluntary-service_Berlin-Mission-2022.pdf)

The Presbytery engaged in a moment of silence and the Moderator offered prayer for the people of Uvalde, Texas, as the Presbytery learned of a shooting at an elementary school there earlier today.

### **RESOLUTION OF THANKS**

RE Tom Bailey (Spencer, Christ the King) offered the Resolution of Thanks:

*Be it resolved that the Presbytery of Geneva does thank the leaders of this meeting, Also thanks to TE Anita Milne for the acknowledgement of the first stewards of the land and for leading worship and communion.*

*Committee chairs are also thanked for their reports. This includes Dan Russell for his report on Matthew 25 as it relates to structural racism in Trumansburg.*

*The discussion on the General Assembly was helpful and the current commissioners are thanked for their input.*

*Be it also resolved that the Presbytery of Geneva remain faithful to the work of God in our communities.*

***BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT***

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

The Vice Moderator offered prayer, and the Moderator offered the benediction and pronounced the meeting to be adjourned at 6:28 pm.

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Attest: Amy Loving Austin, Stated Clerk

**Additional Written Reports Provided to the Presbytery on May 24, 2022**

**Committee on Operations - REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY  
May 24, 2022**

**ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S ACTION**

The Committee on Operations, with the concurrence of the General Council, moves the Presbytery to:

- **Approve** the updated section II.F. of our Personnel Policies concerning background checks and other procedures around new employees; and **approve** editing section 4.100 of the Administrative Manual to delete "should."

**ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION**

1. Financial reports will be provided by the Treasurer. Please review your congregation's giving to confirm our figures are correct. Let us know if you have any questions!
2. The audit of the Presbytery's 2021 finances is underway.
3. Katie McConville of the Community Foundation in Elmira informed us that "Kimberly Webster has been selected as the Westminster Presbyterian Church Scholarship Recipient for 2022. She is the current School Counselor at Riverside Elementary School in Elmira and also works part time for Chemung County Crisis Program as a crisis specialist. She will use the scholarship to become a Board Certified Counselor and obtain National Board Certification. Thank you for the role you play in supporting incredible students like Kimberly! Please let me know if you have any additional questions."

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**GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY**

**May 24, 2022 – Zoom.us**

[From the meetings of 04/12/2022 and 05/10/2022]

**ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S ACTION:** None

**ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION**

The General Council VOTED to:

**(Presbytery Leader Search)**

**Approve** the hiring of the Rev. Marjorie Ackerman (Northern Plain Presbytery) to serve a three-year term as the Presbytery Leader of the Presbytery of Geneva, beginning May 1, 2022.

**Recommend the Presbytery to elect and commission** the Rev. Marjorie Ackerman (Northern Plain Presbytery) to serve a three-year term as the Presbytery Leader of the Presbytery of Geneva, beginning May 1, 2022.

**Recommend the Presbytery to examine and approve** Rev. Marjorie Ackerman (Northern Plain Presbytery) for membership in the Presbytery of Geneva.

**Recommend the Presbytery to approve** the transfer of membership of the Rev. Marjorie Ackerman from the Presbytery of Northern Plains to the Presbytery of Geneva and **authorize** the Stated Clerk to complete the required notifications of the election and hiring of Rev. Marjorie Ackerman to serve as the Presbytery Leader of the Presbytery of Geneva and of her being received as a member of the Presbytery of Geneva effective May 1, 2022.

**Call** for a Special Meeting of the Presbytery to be held at 2:00pm on April 26, 2022 via Zoom to conduct the business related to the hiring and election of the Rev. Marjorie Ackerman.



**Approve** the formation of a Transition Team (May 1, 2022 - April 30, 2023) to support the new Presbytery Leader and **appoint** the following persons to serve on that team: RE Virginia Champlin (Geneva), TE Evan Hansen (Elmira, North), and RE Beth Newell (Geneva).

**Approve** the Operations Committee to work directly with the Presbytery Leader Search Committee to manage the moving expenses for the new Presbytery Leader.

**Dissolve** the Presbytery Leader Search Committee with thanks.

**Empower** the Operations Committee to write and send a letter to the Synod of the Northeast expressing our thanks for their generous financial support of \$5,000.00 per year for 3 years (36 months) towards our new Presbytery Leader's compensation package.

**(Committee on Operations)**

**Recommend Presbytery approve** the updated section II.F. of our Personnel Policies concerning background checks and other procedures around new employees; and **approve** editing section 4.100 of the Administrative Manual to delete "should."

**Approve** of the revised portfolio for the Presbytery Leader to reflect the term of the contract with TE Marjorie Ackerman commencing May 1, 2022.

**(Committee on Operations & Camp Whitman)**

**Authorize** the Executive Director of Camp Whitman, Lea Kone to sign a grant application to implement a forest and field management program at Camp Whitman to help with the ecology of camp and the region. *The Council authorizes the Stated Clerk to send a letter to USDA-NRCS to confirm that the Executive Director of Camp Whitman, Lea Kone, has this authority. Operations Committee, as the Board of Trustees of the Presbytery, will authorize its chairperson also to sign that letter.*

**(General Council)**

**Approve** canceling the July Council stated meeting. If business needs to be addressed between the June and August meetings, a meeting can be called.

**(Atlanta AC)**

**Concur** with the Administrative Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Atlanta and **recommend the Presbytery:**

- **approve** of the sale of the property of the Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, 2 Main St., Atlanta NY 14808, Tax No. 017.10-01-015000, to the Redefined Church of Wayland NY (Nick Lincoln, Pastor), for \$1. This will allow the Redefined Church to undertake the extensive repairs and renovations needed. The sale will be as-is by Quit Claim Deed with a Restrictive Covenant for the property to be used for religious purposes for at least three years from the sale, with the Presbytery retaining the right of first refusal to repurchase the property for \$1 plus the cost of any repairs or renovations made, should the Redefined Church choose to sell within that three years.
- **empower** the Administrative Commission to distribute the proceeds of the sale and any other assets of the Congregation, with the guidance of the remaining congregation members.  
(Note: the contract is undergoing legal review and must be accepted by the Redefined Church as the buyer. If any problems arise, the AC may pull this request from the Presbytery docket.)

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**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT**

**May 24, 2022**

**Zoom.us**

[From the meetings of 04/07/2022 and 05/05/2022]

**ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY'S ACTION**

The Committee on Ministry moves the Presbytery of Geneva to:

**Empower** the COM to act on behalf of the Presbytery to conduct the recommissioning of the following CREs who were unable to attend the March Presbytery Meeting:

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

- CRE Paul Yoder (Horseheads, First), commissioned to the Moreland Presbyterian Church of Moreland

Commissioned to service to the Presbytery of Geneva (Pulpit Supply, able to serve communion) at the direction of the Committee on Ministry:

- CRE Bob Sell (Horseheads, First)
- CRE Bessie Tyrrell (Atlanta)

#### **ACTIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE PRESBYTERY**

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

**Approve** the transfer of Rev. Ben Masters from the Presbytery of Geneva to the Presbytery of Twin Cities.

**Approve** removing Rev. Bev Karr-Lyon from the Pulpit Supply list at her request.

#### **ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION**

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

**Approve** the MIF for the Western Presbyterian Church of Palmyra, NY.

**Approve** "Steps in Seeking Pastoral Leadership" for inclusion in the COM Guidebook

**Approve** "Confidentiality Agreement" for inclusion in the COM Guidebook

**Approve** New Committee Assignments:

- Covenants and Terms of Call - Aaron
- Annual reports for At-Large, OVM - Jim
- Pulpit Supply - Susan
- Moderators - Katherine
- Outreach to stable congregations - Kerm, Susan
- Liaisons to congregations in transition - Jane, Carol, Beth, Kerm
- Liaisons to congregations needing TLC - Jane, Carol, Beth, Jim, Aaron
- Preparation for Ministry - Jim (Cathy part of PFM manual revisions)
- CREs - Kerm, Susan (Cathy part of CRE manual revisions)

**Endorse** the application of the Rev. Rob Mellgard for the Lilly Endowment National Clergy Renewal Program, in support of a sabbatical planned for the summer of 2023.

**Approve** requiring an Executive Check for Transitional Pastor positions.

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#### **Vitality - REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY**

**May 24, 2022**

[Vitality meets once a month on the 3rd Thursday at 4:30 via zoom]

#### **ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S ACTION**

Vitality has no actions for the Presbytery

#### **ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION**

- It is the Season for The Review of Session Minutes, date to be determined: We will be partnering with churches that are geographically close in order to exchange mins (photocopies are fine). We are going to be giving you a prayer practice to be done as you read the mins. We are going to step away from the gold star process. This is about taking each other's vitals. We want to celebrate what is going well in your church and also see places where Presbytery may help. There will be a zoom scheduled to celebrate our churches and thank the Clerks for this hard work.

- There is a job description coming for Moderators
- Conversations are going to place with the Small Church Network.
- Two Churches are being helped with Tech Grants
- Conversations to develop some training workshops are also in the work.
- Here are the seven marks (of vitality):
  1. A commitment to forming disciples over every member's lifetime. This leads first to personal transformation, as people put on the heart of Christ, and then to social transformation, as people joyfully go forth into the community and tackle the issues facing today's culture.
  2. Embracing the call to evangelism. We show forth the love of Christ by our actions and our lives even more than by our words. Our relationships are genuine and caring. People know we are Christians by our love.
  3. An outward focus. Our church is not a place to escape from the world, but rather our gateway to our community where we may be the hands, feet, heart and mouth of Jesus Christ for people who are suffering or marginalized.
  4. Empowering every member to discover their individual calling and the gifts God has given them so they can go forth and serve.
  5. Spirit-inspired worship that challenges, teaches, transforms, convicts and energizes us so when we are sent out, we have experienced the wonder of God and are changed for the better from when we arrived.
  6. Caring relationships modeled on God's love. We open our doors and hearts to all people, and we build relationships modeled on God's love, which leads to genuine reconciliation and peace.
  7. Congregations with healthy systems. Our mission focuses are clear. There is fiscal responsibility and accountability. We have thoughtful decision-making structures. Our leaders and staff enjoy a sustainable balance of work/rest time.