

## STATED CLERK CONSENT AGENDA

March 28, 2023

*The following will be presented as a single motion. You may ask to have any item removed, if you would like it to be discussed. Simply be recognized by the Moderator and say: "Mister Moderator, I would like to lift [say the item number] for discussion."*

### ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY'S ACTION

That the presbytery:

1. **Approve** the minutes of the January 28, 2023 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 February Operating Statement and Balance Statement and Treasurer's report.
4. **Receive** the 2022 Statistical Report for the Presbytery of Geneva.
5. **Approve** the following Administrative Commission to Install the Rev. Dr. Heather Leigh Holder to the position of Pastor of the United Church of Phelps on May 7, 2023, (time TBA) at the United Church of Phelps:
  - RE Jeffrey Richards (Elmira North), Moderator
  - RE Elizabeth Newell (Geneva)
  - RE Brian Hemminger (Phelps, United)
  - TE Amy Loving Austin (Memorial, Bellona; and Seneca #9)
  - TE Leah Ntuala (Seneca Falls, First)and approve the following additional Administrative Commissioners:
  - Rev. Dr. R. Ward Holder (Presbytery of Boston);**Grant** the moderator or his designee the authority to make any necessary and appropriate changes to the Administrative Commission to Install; and  
**Dismiss** the Administrative Commission with thanks, upon the completion of the Service of Installation.
6. **Approve** the election of the following to serve as a Presbytery Officer in 2023:
  - a. Vice Moderator: TE Anita Milne (Waterloo, First)
7. **Approve** the election of the following to serve on a Presbytery Committee:
  - a. COM, class of 2023 RE Don Peek (Pulteney, First)
8. **Approve** the following Amendments to the *Book of Order*, as recommended by The Committee on Proposed Amendments to the *Book of Order* from the 225 th General Assembly (2022) :
  - a. 22-A – F-1.0302c  
[THE CATHOLICITY OF THE CHURCH - Expands inclusive language with reference to gender identity.]
  - b. 22-B – F-1.0404  
[OPENNESS - Expands inclusive language with reference to gender identity]
  - c. 22-C – G-1.0501  
[MEETINGS - Establishes Robert's Rules of Order (RONR) as the default parliamentary authority for congregational meetings, and authorizes electronic congregational meetings]
  - d. 22-D – G-1.0503  
[BUSINESS PROPER TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS - Adds receiving a disciplinary decision against a church member (as opposed to a minister) to the list of proper business at a congregational meeting]
  - e. 22-F – G-2.050a(1)  
[TRANSFER OF MINISTERS OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS - Adds the requirement to consult with the other denomination when receiving immigrant pastors without otherwise acceptable PC(USA) ordination educational requirements.]
  - f. 22-G – G-2.0603  
[PURPOSE OF INQUIRY Adds the requirement of boundary training during the inquiry phase of preparation for ordination as a minister of the Word and Sacrament.]
  - g. 22-H – G.2.0605  
[OVERSIGHT - Adds a requirement of sessions to "report to the presbytery of any matters of sexual misconduct" of their members who are enrolled as inquirers or candidates.]

- h. 22-J – G-2.1001  
[FUNCTIONS (MC-08) - Adds language allowing Commissioned Pastors to be commissioned to more than one validated ministry at a time.]
- i. 22-K – G-2.1002  
[TRAINING, EXAMINING, AND COMMISSIONING - Adds the requirement of boundary training for those elders seeking to be Commissioned Pastors.]
- j. 22-L – G-2.1103  
[CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS - Adds the requirement of boundary training for those elders seeking to be certified as Christian Educators.]
- k. 22-M – G-3.0104  
[OFFICERS - Adds language that “it is appropriate” to adopt procedures for electronic session meetings]
- l. 22-N – G-3.0105  
[MEETINGS- Adds provision that all councils and their commissions and committees may meet electronically]
- m. 22-O – G-3.0106  
[ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION - Adds language clarifying what is to be included in each council’s sexual misconduct policy and child and youth protection policy; policies must include boundary training, as well as child sexual abuse prevention for members of all councils at least every 36 months.]
- n. 22-R – G-3.0401  
[COMPOSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES - Authorizes synods to enroll those serving terms in elected offices of the synod as additional members of the synod as a way to fulfill principles of participation and representation.]

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

1. The required annual statistical reports for the Presbytery of Geneva have all been submitted and accepted by the OGA. 34 of our 50 churches submitted their required statistical reports for 2022.
2. The Administrative Commission elected by the Presbytery of Geneva for the purpose of installing the Rev. Lynn Rubier-Capron as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Elmira met at 3 p.m. on 02/23/2023 in the Hoffman Great Room. Commission Members Present were: RE Jeff Richards, Moderator of the Presbytery of Geneva (Elmira North); TE Jane Winters, HR (Geneva Presbytery); RE Mark Ivanick (Elmira First); TE Janice Fitzgerald, At Large (Geneva Presbytery); RE (Harriet) Penny Haynes (Junius). There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by Moderator Jeff Richards. The Commission elected TE Jane Winters as clerk for the proceedings with the responsibility of recording and filing the minutes. All things being prepared in advance, decently and in order, the Commission voted to proceed with the installation of Rev. Lynn Rubier-Capron as directed by Presbytery. The Commission moved to the sanctuary for the service of installation. The call to worship was given by RE Mark Ivanik. The sermon was delivered by TE Mike Capron. The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was not celebrated. An offering was collected to benefit the Presbytery of Geneva Candidates’ Aid Fund. The constitutional questions were asked of the candidate by Moderator Jeff Richards. The constitutional questions were asked of the congregation by Moderator Jeff Richards. The constitutional questions having been answered in the affirmative, the Commission proceeded, by the laying on of hands, to install as pastor The Rev. Lynn Rubier-Capron. The charge to the installee was given by TE Janice Fitzgerald. The charge to the congregation was given by TE Jane Winters. The benediction/closing prayer was pronounced by TE Lynn Rubier-Capron. Respectfully submitted, Rev. Jane Winters
3. Important information about Synod Grants:  
The Synod of the Northeast is committed to nurturing and incubating innovation in Presbyterian gospel communities within our geographic bounds.  
Each year the Synod invests in ministries that are leading us into spaces previously unexplored, we find deep hope in what God has in store for the future of the church.  
Our commitments are expressed in a few key areas: engaging in racial justice and reconciliation, providing unencumbered space and community for young ministry leaders, and funding and cultivating emerging gospel communities and innovative projects. In God’s call for us to provide that which congregations and presbyteries cannot do on their own, we also strive to support the leadership of these church bodies in flexible and nimble ways.  
The Synod of the Northeast granted more than \$2.3 million to a variety of emerging gospel communities, innovative projects, campus ministries, and more. We value each of these communities that we interact with as partners in ministry; we learn so much from them in their hands-on, day-to-day ministry.  
Visit <https://www.synodne.org/grants> for more information, applications and deadlines.

4. The Presbytery of Geneva will *continue* voting on overtures from the 225th General Assembly at our May meeting. The Office of General Assembly created a PDF document that sets forth all thirty-three (33) overtures and their proposed changes to the Book of Order. It can be found at [http://ga225\\_bk\\_of\\_amends\\_2022\\_final\\_update\\_nov11\\_2022.pdf](http://ga225_bk_of_amends_2022_final_update_nov11_2022.pdf) (pcusa.org).
5. Please take advantage of the (FREE) Synod of the Northeast Webinars: <https://www.synodne.org/webinars>