

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 a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, held electronically via Zoom.us.

GATHERING FOR SHARED WORK: OPENING BUSINESS

GATHERING

9:00 am Registration and Fellowship Time (through 9:15 am)

CALL TO ORDER

RE Jeff Richards (Elmira, North), Moderator, called the meeting to order at 9:15 am, 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 (CM)		MORELAND	A - Paul Yoder (CRE)	
ARKPORT, FIRST	EX - Bruce Incze		NAPLES, TRINITY FEDERATED	A - Michael Whitcomb-Tavey (CM)	A - Jessie Olney
	-----	-----	NEWARK, PARK	Susan Frost	Anne Rogers
BATH, FIRST	John Woodring (CM)	A - Dean Chatfield	OAKS CORNERS	A - Karl Warrington	
BELLONA, MEMORIAL	Amy Loving Austin	EX - Jane Hansen	ONTARIO CENTER, FIRST	Deborah Grohman	
BIG FLATS, FIRST	Denise Stone	EX - Robin Fitzgerald	OVID, FEDERATED	Rob Mellgard	Judy Mellgard
BURDETT	Richard Evans (CRE)	A - Martha Evans	PAINTED POST, UNITED	David Preisendanz	
CANANDAIGUA, UNITED	A - Wade Allen (CM)	A - Linda Werts	PALMYRA, WESTERN	-----	Philip Opdycke
CANISTEO, FIRST	Michelle Serra (G)		PENN YAN, FIRST	Paul Malles	Rob Anderson
COHOCTON, FIRST	-----	A - Linda Hodges	PHELPS, UNITED	H. Leigh Holder	Peg Carlson
CORNING, FIRST	Jeffrey Ugoretz	Kay Rogus	PRATTSBURGH, FIRST	-----	A - Lynn Dinehart
EAST PALMYRA, FIRST	-----	EX - Judith Langdon	PULTENEY, FIRST	-----	Mary Jane Peek
ELMIRA, FIRST	EX - Lynn Rubier-Capron	Heather Cranford	RED CREEK		Virginia Kachurak
ELMIRA, NORTH	Evan Hansen	Annie LeFevre	ROCK STREAM	Lucinda O'Leary (CM)	
GENEVA, THE PC	EX - Colin Pritchard	A - Chris Gerling	SENECA #9	Amy Loving Austin	Pam Ellis
HAMMONDSPORT, FIRST	-----	EX - Linda Kressly	SENECA FALLS, FIRST	Leah Ntuala	Susan Sholar

HECTOR	EX - Daniel Russell	EX - Charles Knight	SHORTSVILLE, FIRST	Connie Franks (CRE)	
HORNELL, UNITED	Katherine Griffis	Lisa Sanford	SODUS, FIRST	Gail Heimberger	A - Keith Blackall
HORSEHEADS, FIRST	Aaron Frank	A - Lori Ann Congdon	SPENCER, CHRIST THE KING FELLOWSHIP	Sabrina Slater	Gail Maureen
HOWARD, UNION	-----		TRUMANSBURG, FIRST ULYSSES	Susan Joseph Rack	Pamela Postle
HURON		Linda Hayes	WATERLOO, FIRST	Anita Milne	George Bassett
ITHACA, FIRST	Cynthia Weaver Kierianne Weaver	Brad McFall	WATKINS GLEN, FIRST	Cara Milne	Patti Smith
JASPER, UNITED	A - Brain Dieffenbacher (CM)		WESTON	-----	Barry Winters
JUNIUS	-----	A - Kristi 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)	Janice Fitzgerald (VM)	Robert Rochelle (HR)
	Paul Rack (HR)	Jane Winters (HR)	Cynthia Huling Hummel (HR)
	Robin Lostetter (HR)	James Hicks (HR)	
Excused:	Betsey Crimmins (HR)	Jeff Kellam (HR)	Philip Courtney (HR)
	David Barnard (HR)	Susan Husted (HR)	John Milne (HR)
	David Ashby (AL)	Adrian Tierson (VM)	Jim Gerling (HR)
	Beverly Karr Lyon (HR)	Ellen Donnan (HR)	James Kerr (HR)

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

Jeff Richards (Elmira, North) MODERATOR	Tom Bailey (Spencer) TREASURER		A - Paul Yoder (Horseheads, First) CRE (Moreland)
Pricilla Andrews (Rock Stream) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	Richard Evans (Watkins Glen, First) CRE (Burdett)	Bob Sell (Horseheads, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	EX - John Gingerich (Wolcott, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)
Carleen Frost (Sodus, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	A - Bessie Tyrrell (Atlanta) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	A - Don Peek (Pulteney, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	Connie Franks (Ontario, First) CRE (Shortsville, First)
Irene Fadden (Palmyra, Western) COUNCIL (Operations)	Beth Newell (Geneva) COUNCIL (COM)	Donna Colvin (Pulteney, First) COUNCIL (RE At-Large)	Cathy Foerster (Penn Yan, First) COUNCIL (COM alternate)

PRESBYTERY STAFF (granted voice)

Present:	Elena Delhagen (Albany Presbytery)	Lea Kone (Genesee Valley Presbytery)
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REGISTERED GUESTS (Current Meeting; granted voice)

Marion Nicastro (Weston)	Virginia Champlin (Geneva)	Michelle Serra (Hornell, First)
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SUMMARIES FOR EACH MEETING 2023	Jan 28	Mar 28					
Total Minister Commissioners Present*	23	30					
Total Elder Commissioners Present **	38	33					
Parity (expressed in terms of Elders, + or -)	+15	+3					
Total Minister Commissioners Absent, Unexcused***	3	8					
Total Churches Unrepresented by Elders****	24	28					

Total Churches Unrepresented by Elders and Pastors****	15	17					
Total Registered Visitors and Staff	7	5					
Total Registered Attendance*****	69	68					

* Does not include Corresponding Members, with voice, not vote. Does include Validated, At-large, and Honorably Retired
 ** Includes Elder Commissioners and Additional Elder Commissioners
 *** 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:

9:00 AM	Registration and fellowship time (through 9:15 AM)
9:15 AM	Call to Order, Declaration of Quorum, and Opening Prayer
9:20 AM	Introductory Business
	Call for New Business & Approval of the Docket
	Acknowledgment of the First Stewards of the Land
9:25 AM	Consent Agenda
9:30 AM	Worship and the Lord's Supper [TE Leah Ntuala (Seneca Falls, First), presiding]
10:05 AM	Committee on Operations [RE Irene Fadden (Palmyra, Western)]
10:10 AM	Committee on Ministry [RE Beth Newell (Geneva)]
	Formation of Administrative Commission for Junius Presbyterian Church
10:20 AM	Final Report of the AC for West Fayette Presbyterian Church
10:25 AM	Committee on Vitality [TE Leah Ntuala (Seneca Falls, First)]
10:30 AM	Bills and Overtures Task Group [TE Evan Hansen (Elmira, North) & RE Virginia Champlin (Geneva)]
	22-E – G-2.0503 CATEGORIES OF PRESBYTERY MEMBERSHIP
	Removes the word "honorably" before "retired" as the category for retired ministers.
	22-P – G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION
	Adds the requirement of an antiracism policy to the required policies of councils, and clarifies other language in that list.
	22-Q – G-3.0303c PRESBYTERY RELATIONS WITH SESSIONS
	Authorizes presbyteries to establish minimum requirements for severance packages in terms of call and to establish compensation provisions for ministers serving in temporary pastoral relationships.
11:30 AM	Committee on Representation
11:40 AM	Installation of the 2023 Presbytery Vice Moderator
11:45 AM	Good News from Congregations
	* To include your news in the minutes, please email a written copy to: statedclerk@presbyteryofgeneva.org
11:55 AM	Resolution of Thanks
12:00 PM	Benediction and Adjournment

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE FIRST STEWARDS OF THE LAND

TE Leah Ntuala (Seneca Falls, First), offered acknowledgement of the first stewards of the land where we live and serve.

CONSENT AGENDA

One item (item 8-k) was pulled from the consent agenda to be considered during the Bills & Overtures report.

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following:

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. [This report is included as an addendum to these minutes.]

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]~~ ** ITEM PULLED FOR CONSIDERATION LATER IN DOCKET**
 - 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 Ivanick. 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 installer 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 (pcusa.org).
5. Please take advantage of the (FREE) Synod of the Northeast Webinars: <https://www.synodne.org/webinars>

WORSHIP AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Presbytery of Geneva engaged in a service of worship, led by the Rev. Leah Ntuala and the members of the First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls, NY. The pre-recorded worship included a sermon given by Rev. Leah Ntuala, as well as the celebration (online) of the Lord's Supper.

COMMITTEE ON OPERATIONS

RE Irene Fadden (Palmyra, Western), member of the Committee on Operations, offered to answer questions related to the financial report; no questions were asked.

THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

RE Beth Newell (Geneva), co-chair of the Committee on Ministry, presented the report.

Item For Presbytery's Action

The Presbytery of Geneva VOTED to:

- **Form** an Administrative Commission for the Junius Presbyterian Church, Waterloo, New York, that will assume original jurisdiction, and to **establish** the charge for the work of that Administrative Commission [the AC Charge is included as an addendum to these minutes].

Actions Taken On Behalf Of The Presbytery

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

- Approve and confirm the appointment of Rev. Susan Frost as moderator of the session and congregation of Western Presbyterian Church of Palmyra, effective January 4, 2023
- Approve the request for waiver to term limits from the First Presbyterian Church of Hammondsport for Ruling Elder Milat Erb to serve additional 1 year terms on Session, according to the provisions of the Book of Order, G-2.0404.
- Approve the request of the United Presbyterian Church, Hornell, to be able to form a transitional pastor nominating committee.
- Approve the request of Rev. Todd Haines to be added to the pulpit supply list.
- Certify Candidate Michelle Serra 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".
- Approve Candidate Michelle Serra's PIF.
- Approve the Mission Study Report of the First Presbyterian Church of Bath, NY, and grant permission for the congregation to form a PNC.
- Authorize Ruling Elder Josh McCrossen to preside over and administer communion at East Palmyra Presbyterian Church at the direction of the session.

Items for the Presbytery's Information:

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

- Approve the request of Rev. Cheryl Ann Elfond to be added to the pulpit supply list.
- Approve the Covenant for Temporary Supply Pastor between the CRE Paul Yoder and the Moreland Presbyterian Church for 2023 with waiver on including study leave allowance. This covenant is effective January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023 (¼ time) at the following terms:

Cash Salary:	\$ 9,716
Housing Allowance:	4,984
Travel Allowance:	all church related travel vouchered at IRS rate
Study Leave Time:	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Vacation Time:	4 weeks, including 4 Sundays
- Approve the Covenant for Temporary Supply Pastor between the CRE Connie Franks and the First Presbyterian Church of Shortsville for 2023 with waiver on including study leave allowance. This covenant is effective January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023 at the following terms:

Cash Salary:	\$ 12,480
Housing Allowance:	7,200
SECA offset	1,464
Travel Allowance:	all church related travel vouchered at IRS rate
Study Leave Time:	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Vacation Time:	4 weeks, including 4 Sundays
- Approve the Covenant for Temporary Supply Pastor between the CRE Richard Evans and the Presbyterian Church of Burdett for 2023 with waiver on including full study leave allowance. This covenant is effective January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023 (¼ time) at the following terms:

Cash Salary:	\$ 4,662
Housing Allowance:	8,743
Pension	5,228 (paid directly into IRA)
Travel Allowance:	all church related travel vouchered at IRS rate
Study Leave Allowance:	250
Study Leave Time:	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Vacation Time:	4 weeks, including 4 Sundays
- Approve the updated Terms of Call of TE Cara Milne (Watkins Glen. First) for 2023.
- Receive the 2022 Temporary Moderator Annual Reports:
 - From Bob Sell for Addison and Hammondsport
 - From Katherine Griffis for Canisteo and Howard
 - From John Gingerich for East Palmyra and Huron
 - From Jim Varner for Andover
 - From Kirk Allen for Cohocton
 - From Bev Karr-Lyon for Prattsburgh
 - From Bessie Tyrell for Pulteney
 - From Jane Winters for Elmira First
 - From Cynthia Huling Hummel for Lyons
 - From Cynthia Huling Hummel for Weston
- Approve the updated Terms of Call of TE Colin Pritchard (Geneva) for 2023.

- Approve the Covenant for Services as a Covenanted Pastor First Presbyterian Church of Waterloo and the Rev. Anita Milne for 2023, at the following terms:

Salary	\$ 5,285
Housing	\$21,137
SECA offset	\$ 2,021
BOP	NA
Travel	all church mileage at current IRS rate for business
Study Leave	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Vacation	31 days including 4 Sundays
- Approve Covenant for Services as a Covenanted Pastor between First Presbyterian Church, Canisteo and Michelle Serra, for year beginning February 1, 2023, at the following terms:

Salary	\$ 13,805
Housing	\$ 20,000
SECA offset	\$ 2,586
BOP	\$ 13,184
Travel	all church mileage at current IRS rate for business
Study Leave	\$ 1,000
Study Leave	2 weeks including 2 Sundays
Vacation	31 days including 4 Sundays

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR THE WEST FAYETTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RE Beth Newell (Geneva), clerk of the Administrative Commission for the West Fayette Presbyterian Church, presented the report.

The Presbytery of Geneva VOTED to:

- **Receive** the final report of the AC for the West Fayette Presbyterian Church. [The report is included as an addendum to these minutes.]

COMMITTEE ON VITALITY

TE Leah Ntuala (Seneca Falls, First), chair of the Committee on Vitality, presented the report.

- The committee is collecting stories from around the Presbytery of people sharing their faith stories. Those who need technical assistance with recording these testimonies are encouraged to reach out to Rev. Ntuala or other members of the Vitality Committee for assistance.
- The committee is also interested in learning more about the many mission projects and activities in which our congregations are engaged. Please share your stories and information with the committee.
 - Rev. Ntuala shared the story of the fundraising concert that her son helped to coordinate at the First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls, NY, to honor their worship leader, Hedra, who had passed from pancreatic cancer.

BILLS AND OVERTURES TASK GROUP

TE Evan Hansen (Elmira, North) presented the Amendments to be considered by the Presbytery for approval.

Following discussion on each item, the Presbytery of Geneva VOTED to:

- **approve** amendment 22-E [G-2.0503 CATEGORIES OF PRESBYTERY MEMBERSHIP - Removes the word “honorably” before “retired” as the category for retired ministers.]
- **approve** amendment 22-P [G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION – Adds the requirement of an antiracism policy to the required policies of councils, and clarifies other language in that list.]
- **approve** amendment 22-Q [G-3.0303c PRESBYTERY RELATIONS WITH SESSIONS – Authorizes presbyteries to establish minimum requirements for severance packages in terms of call and to establish compensation provisions for ministers serving in temporary pastoral relationships.]
- **approve** amendment 22-M [G-3.0104 [OFFICERS - Adds language that “it is appropriate” to adopt procedures for electronic session meetings]

COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION

RE Rob Anderson (Penn Yan, First) and TE Sabrina Slater (Spencer, Christ the King), chair and clerk of the Committee on Representation, presented their report.

- The committee continues to work on finding more people to share in the work of the Presbytery of Geneva.
- Dr. Anderson shared his testimony of how his experiences in denominational events inspired him to serve at the Presbytery level. Because someone invited him to attend that event, it led to his work within our Presbytery.
- God is active in our churches, our presbyteries, and beyond! We (the people) are the ones who bring our many ministries to life in the world. Consider what gifts you (and others) bring, and ponder how those gifts may be utilized in service in the Presbytery of Geneva.
- The COR will be sending out letters and surveys to sessions and moderators, asking for names of those who may be called to serve.

COMMISSIONING OF 2023 PRESBYTERY VICE MODERATOR

Moderator, RE Jeff Richards (Elmia, North), led the Presbytery of Geneva in the Service of Commissioning for TE Anita Milne (Waterloo, First) to serve as the Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of Geneva, effective January 1, 2023.

MOMENT FOR PRAYER

Moderator, RE Jeff Richards (Elmia, North), led the Presbytery of Geneva in a time of prayer for those affected by the deadly shooting at The Covenant School in Nashville, TN, that took place on Monday, March 27, 2023.

GOOD NEWS FROM CONGREGATIONS

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

- From TE Cynthia Huling Hummel (HR): One of the ministries that God has given me is with and to those living with Alzheimer's (and other related dementias) I want to tell you about a FREE downloadable manual for those living dementia: Called "Pathways to Well-Being With Dementia; a manual of Help, Hope and Inspiration" Please check it out at daanow.org (I am one of the contributors) And please let me know if I can help as resource for YOUR congregation. Blessings, Cynthia revdrchh@gmail.com
- All are reminded to sign up for one (or all) of the Lifelines Workshops. You may sign up for those workshops here: <https://www.presbyteryofgeneva.org/lifelines-workshop-series>

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

TE Katherine Griffis (Hornell, United) offered the Resolution of Thanks:

Let it be known that all of us gathered here extend our hearty thanks to The Rev. Leah Ntuala and the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Seneca Falls, for their gracious hosting of today's meeting, focusing our hearts on baptism and bringing us the Lord's Supper.

We thank also Elena and Amy for their work in making this meeting possible and smooth over the internet.

And, although we cannot express our thanks to them directly, we thank God for those who mine rare earth minerals, who sit day by day assembling computer parts, who lay internet cable and maintain cell phone towers, and for a world of other people who make it possible for us to gather here today.

As we have had a rich and fruitful meeting, truly, we are blessed by the contributions of many people.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

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

The Moderator offered prayer and benediction, and pronounced the meeting to be adjourned at 11:58am.

Attest: Amy Loving Austin, Stated Clerk

Additional Written Reports Provided to the Presbytery on March 28, 2023

GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY

March 28, 2023 -- Zoom.us

[From the meetings of 02/14/2023 and 03/14/2023]

ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S ACTION: None

ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION

(Presbytery Meetings)

The remaining 2023 Presbytery Meetings are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, May 23, 2023 – 10:00 AM at Camp Whitman; lunch provided

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 – 1:00 PM at North Presbyterian Church, Elmira

Tuesday, November 28, 2023 – 5:00 PM, online via Zoom

Letter from the Presbytery Leader – March

Hello Everyone and Happy Spring to each of you! As we continue through our Lenten journeys and look forward to the joys of Easter, there are some fantastic things happening throughout the presbytery.

General Council has begun conversations around possible future directions. As we continue to discern what God has in store for us, we are very conscious of potential ways to work in partnership with surrounding presbyteries in order to make better use of the resources being brought to the table. We will keep you updated as we move forward with those discussions.

You've probably seen some of the promotional materials around the upcoming Lifelines Workshop Series. Just a reminder, these workshops are as follows:

Thursday March 30th in Shortsville or Tuesday April 18th in Pulteney

Morning Session (9am-Noon) – Worship Leadership

Afternoon Session (1pm-4pm) – Buildings

Thursday April 20th in Arkport, Thursday May 4th in Spencer, or Wednesday May 10th in Waterloo

Morning Session (9am-Noon) – Congregational Grief

Afternoon Session (1pm-4pm) – Legacy

Wednesday May 24th in Sodus or Saturday June 3rd in Horseheads

Preparing for the Future 9am-4pm

*Please keep in mind these workshops need an RSVP for lunch
please be sure to register as soon as possible.*

I'm really looking forward to all of these workshops and I hope we have a fantastic level of participation so that I can get to know more of you from all different parts of the presbytery. Tons of gratitude go out to each of the congregations who have agreed to host these events – I look forward to seeing all of you very soon.

In Christ's service, *Marji*

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.

ADDENDUM A

2022 Presbytery Statistical Report

Presbytery Geneva
Address PO Box 24393, Rochester, NY 14624
Phone 315-536-7753 Fax 315-536-2128
Email officeadmin@presbyteryofgeneva.org
Web Site



Membership			
Prior Active Members	3607	Adjusted membership	3598
Gains		Losses	
Certificate	15	Certificate	13
Youth Professions	0	Deaths	82
Professions & Reaffirmations	22	Deleted for any Other Reason	44
Total Gains	37	Total Losses	139
Total Ending Active Members	3496		
Baptisms		Average Weekly Worship Attendance	1064
Presented by Others	24	Friends of the Congregation	405
At Confirmation	2	Ruling Elders on Session	264
All Other	2	Do you have Deacons? Yes / No	18 / 17
Age Distribution of Active Members		People with Disabilities	
17 & Under	57	Hearing impairment	152
18 - 25	79	Sight impairment	28
26 - 40	201	Mobility impairment	125
41 - 55	303	Other impairment	123
56 - 70	773	Gender Distribution	
Over 70	900	Women	1505
Total Age Distribution	2313	Men	880
		Non-Binary	6
Youth in Congregation			
Age 4 and under	47	Middle School (6th – 8th grade)	52
Elementary School (K-5th grade)	130	High School (9th – 12th grade)	73
		Total Youth	302
Racial Ethnic			
Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian	44	Native American/Alaska Native/Indigenous	0
Black/African American/African	15	White	2567
Middle Eastern/North African	1	Multiracial	9
Hispanic/Latino-a	19	Total Racial Ethnic	2655
Budgeted Income	3,583,868		
Budgeted Expense	4,118,656		
Receipts			
Regular Contributions	2,818,806	Bequests	237,575
Capital Building Fund	576,960	Other Income	130,236
Investment Income	6,988,575	Subsidy or Aid	127,920
Expenditures			
Local Program	3,230,821	Investment Expenditures	826,808
Local Mission	562,211	Per Capital Apprt	147,312
Capital Expenditures	911,689	Other Mission	279,388

ADDENDUM B

Administrative Commission for Junius Presbyterian Church, Waterloo, NY CHARGE FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

Approved by the Presbytery of Geneva during the called meeting on March 28, 2023.

The Presbytery of Geneva establishes the following **charge** for the work of the Administrative Commission for Junius Presbyterian Church, Waterloo, NY.

BACKGROUND

In February of 2023, the COM learned:

- The Junius Presbyterian Church is not holding worship services.
- The Session is currently comprised of the Clerk of Session and one member who resigned and revoked her membership in the church, but (due to the lack of a functioning Session) that resignation has not been officially received.
- After going through the “official” membership list with the Clerk of Session, there are functionally 7 members. Most of the balance of the official members have not attended for many years.

At their March 2023 meeting, the COM voted to recommend the Presbytery of Geneva approve the formation of an Administrative Commission *with original jurisdiction* for the Presbyterian Church of Junius.

MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

In accordance with our Manual of Administrative Operations, “the Moderator will appoint the membership of the commission, in consultation with the Stated Clerk and the Committee on Ministry.” The Stated Clerk will orient the administrative commission, who will then choose a chair and a clerk, and set a date for the first meeting of the commission.

The quorum for meetings of the Administrative Commission will be three members.

CHARGE FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR JUNIUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WATERLOO, NY

NOTE: This charge - in accordance with *Book of Order* G-3.0303 - *does* grant the Administrative Commission original jurisdiction of all responsibilities of the session (see [Book of Order](#) G-3.02 for full list of responsibilities).

Moreover, the duties outlined below are designed to *guide* the Administrative Commission in their work as they assume the responsibility of the session and take the appropriate steps to dissolve the congregation.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

1. The Administrative Commission shall confirm to the presbytery through the stated clerk, a moderator and a clerk of the Commission.
 - a. The moderator shall convene meetings of the Administrative Commission, lead the meetings of the Commission, serve as the primary contact for persons who wish to communicate with the commission, and ensure the Commission’s support of the Junius church.
 - b. The clerk shall keep the minutes of the Commission and a record of the Commission’s activities. The clerk shall complete all correspondence, as directed by the Commission; and report to the Commission any correspondence received.

2. The Administrative Commission, acting as the session, shall elect a treasurer to properly manage the finances of Junius Presbyterian Church (G-3.0205).
3. The Administrative Commission shall approve the minutes prepared by the clerk of the Commission. These minutes shall be considered minutes of the session, and they shall be included in the official minutes (G-3.0204).
4. The Administrative Commission, through the clerk of the Commission, shall provide to the stated meeting of the presbytery (for inclusion in the presbytery minutes) written updates of the Administrative Commission's work. A final report that summarizes the minutes of the Commission and provides final recommendations shall be presented to and approved by the Presbytery of Geneva before the Commission is dismissed.
5. The presbytery stated clerk shall serve as the primary staff resource to the Administrative Commission.
6. The responsibilities and duties listed below will follow on the decision of the Administrative Commission (serving as the session) to recommend sale of the building and dissolution of the congregation.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

I. ARRANGE FOR THE PASTORAL CARE OF CHURCH MEMBERS

1. Work as the session to identify where members wish to transfer their membership, and when the transfer is to be completed.
2. Provide pastoral support and care to the Junius church during this time of transition.
3. Contact the Pastors and/or Sessions of all PC(USA) congregations near the Junius church (including any nearby congregations belonging to the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse), encouraging them to reach out to the members of the Junius church in order to offer support and invite/welcome Junius church members to join in the work and worship of their congregations.
4. Prior to dissolution, the clerk of the Commission (acting as clerk of session) will effect transfers of membership, as requested by members.
5. Provide to the Presbytery's Stated Clerk the names and contact information of members who have not transferred their membership prior to dissolution of the church. The stated clerk will effect transfers requested after dissolution.

II. ASCERTAIN THE FINANCIAL STATUS AND OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE SESSION

The Administrative Commission will discern a plan for the management of all financial obligations and assets.

1. Conduct a financial review of the Treasurer's books for the last 12 months.
2. Determine location of checking accounts, savings accounts, endowment accounts, Sunday School accounts, Women's group accounts and any other financial resources.
3. On endowment or memorial accounts, determine if there are any bequest stipulations.
4. Have all accounts closed, transferring any balances to the primary checking account of the church (to meet any outstanding obligations) or to the presbytery.
5. If any church accounts remain open, submit new signature card(s) for accounts with at least two officers of the presbytery designated as signatories (suggested: the treasurer and a member of the Committee on Operations).
6. Determine any outstanding debts/obligations.
7. Publish in local paper a public notice to this effect [or as otherwise required by New York State law]:
The Junius Presbyterian Church of Waterloo, NY, will end its ministry on or about (date). Any

outstanding debts/financial obligations must be submitted in writing to the church treasurer at (address) by the close of the business day (date).

8. Authorize the payment of all financial obligations.
9. Provide a "statement of contribution" to all current year contributors.
10. If the church owns any stocks, bonds, certificates, or other financial instruments have ownership of such transferred to the Presbytery of Geneva if necessary.
11. Secure an appraisal of the church property, in preparation for possible sale or other transfer of the property.
12. The Administrative Commission shall include a report of the total assets of the church in their minutes, including the value of the land & building, total operating funds (savings and/or checking accounts), and any investments or endowment funds. If the property is to be transferred or sold, the Administrative Commission shall include this financial report in their final report to the presbytery.
13. Following the dissolution, transfer all remaining account balances to the Presbytery of Geneva and close any remaining church accounts.

III. SECURE THE SESSION RECORDS

1. Locate all Session minutes, the church register, and other financial and legal records to be submitted to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery for appropriate disposition.
2. The Clerk of Session (Commission) will (if possible to do so in person) hand these symbolically to a representative of the Stated Clerk at the conclusion of the Presbytery's recognition of the ministry of the church.

IV. DETERMINE WHAT SHALL BE DONE WITH THE PROPERTY

The Administrative Commission will discern a plan for the future ownership of the property.

If the Presbytery is to take ownership of the property (as is the right of the Presbytery, per the *Book of Order* G-4.02), the following steps shall be taken:

1. Secure a Clear Title to the property.
2. Provide a copy of the deed to the Presbytery Board of Trustees (Operations Committee). A copy of the deed may be obtained from the County Courthouse. Ascertain if there are any deed restrictions or stipulations.
3. Transfer title of the property to the Presbytery of Geneva.
4. List the property on the Presbytery's property and liability insurance coverage, terminate any other current insurance coverage.
5. Notify the County Assessor's Office that the property is no longer used as a church as of the dissolution date.
6. Discover if the congregation is incorporated; if so:
 - a. Locate the Articles of Incorporation.
 - b. Publish a public Notice to Dissolve a Corporation in the local newspaper.
 - c. Adopt and publish the following motion: "Pursuant to G-4.0203) of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Presbytery of Geneva is the legal successor of the Junius Presbyterian Church in Waterloo, NY."

V. SECURE THE BUILDING AND PROPERTY

The Administrative Commission (acting as the session) has a responsibility and right to *advise* as to the distribution of the proceeds of the sale of the building, *with the following parameters*:

- If the sale precedes the dissolution, the Administrative Commission will guide the process of appropriately following that advice. *The Presbytery of Geneva will have the opportunity to concur with the Administrative Commission's advice regarding distribution, with the final approval of the distribution of funds being the responsibility of the Committee on Operations (Trustees of the Presbytery of Geneva).*
- If the sale follows the dissolution, the Presbytery of Geneva will determine the distribution of the proceeds of the sale of the property. The Administrative Commission will communicate the session's desires and recommendations.

Additional responsibilities and steps related to securing the building and property to be taken by the Administrative Commission:

1. Arrange for the disposition of furnishings. The Administrative Commission (acting as the Session) may arrange for the disposition of furnishings, communion ware, hymnals, Sunday School supplies, pulpit, lectern, and communion table, etc. These may be given away, sold by the piece, or bids may be received for the entire lot of furnishing. The Administrative Commission shall be consulted and concur with the decision to dispose of any item thought to be of historic value. It is recommended that at least one appraisal by an antiques dealer/estate assessor be obtained before accepting any bids.
2. These decisions should be documented in detail in both Session and Commission minutes.
3. Ascertain which utilities should remain connected and which may be disconnected and make these arrangements with the proper companies. Transfer the billing for the utilities to the Presbytery of Geneva effective on the dissolution date. It may be necessary to maintain heat during the winter to avoid damage. Electricity and water should remain on.
4. Arrangements should be made to drain the water pipes if the utilities can be turned off.
5. Secure the building and recover keys from anyone who does not need access.
6. If distribution of keys is widespread and any contents are valuable, consider having the locks changed.
7. Make provisions through the Operations Committee for a caretaker until the final disposition of the property.
8. After the closing worship service remove any identifying signage and the cornerstone, if possible (checking for a time capsule).

VI. PLAN A FINAL WORSHIP SERVICE CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE CONGREGATION (in partnership with the congregation)

1. Set the date and time for the service.
2. Allow time for the date to be publicized and the invitations issued.
3. Decide what special features the service should include.
4. Determine whether the service will include the Service of the Lord's Supper.
5. Consider structuring the service using the resources from the Book of Occasional Services which has a service on "Vacating of a Church Building," including the dissolution of a church.
6. Identify a possible preacher and other participants.
7. Former pastors / preachers may be invited.
8. At least one representative from the church should be included.
9. At least one representative from the Administrative Commission should be included.
10. The Stated Clerk and the Presbytery Leader should be included.
11. Identify favorite hymns of church members (and identify favorite hymns of the congregation as a whole).
12. Consider possibilities for special music.

13. Have the session determine where the proceeds from the offering will go.
14. Arrange for ushers, parking attendants (if needed), and elders to serve Communion (if that is part of the service).
15. Format, type, and print bulletins.
16. Arrange for preparation of communion elements.
17. Arrange for any needed cleaning of the facility before and after the service.
18. Arrange for a reception following the service (location / how food will be provided / financial resources of the congregation to pay for a reception).
19. Appoint a group to take charge of decorating and other arrangements.
20. Gather memorabilia to display.
21. In addition to an in person service at the church (and *especially* if it is determined that an in person service at the church is not possible), arrange for a liturgical recognition of the church and its witness to be presented at a stated meeting of the Presbytery of Geneva.

VII. PUBLICIZE THE SERVICE ENDING THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

1. Have church members make a "guest list" (with contact information) of relatives, friends, former members, etc. whom they wish to invite to the service.
2. Have invitations printed and facilitate sending them (sent by a person or group / sent by church members . . . with the stamps provided from church funds).
3. Design a flier or write a letter to be distributed to the churches and members of the presbytery. Send flier or letter to the presbytery office, with ample time for duplication and distribution.
4. Prepare a press release for local newspapers.
5. Arrange for local newspaper coverage and a photographer.

VIII. DISSOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION

- The Administrative Commission for Junius Presbyterian Church, Waterloo, NY is dissolved upon the completion of its work and its final written report to the Presbytery of Geneva and the members of the congregation.

ADDENDUM C

West Fayette Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission Final Report to the Presbytery of Geneva January 2023

A Brief History of West Fayette Presbyterian Church

Main source: materials from the celebration of the church's 175th Anniversary (August 2000)

In 1823, several members of the Romulus First Presbyterian Church met with the goal of forming a new church in West Fayette. Trustees were elected, land was donated, and in 1824 a church building was constructed. On September 6, 1825, the new church was recognized as the West Fayette Presbyterian Church by the Presbytery of Geneva. The first pastor was the Rev. Isaac Flagler and the last was Pastor Stephen Beals who served the congregation from 2008 to 2020.

The cemetery next to the church was originally owned by the church but was deeded to the West Fayette Cemetery Association in 1864. The last burial of a church member in the cemetery was only about 3 years ago.

Land next to the church was purchased in 1865 and a house was purchased and moved to this land to serve as the parsonage. The parsonage was home to many pastors and their families over the years. Once it was no longer needed as a parsonage, the house was rented out and in 1997 it was sold to its tenants.

The church building has been added to and improved during its nearly 200 years as a house of worship. Additions included a belfry, rooms at the north end of the church, a wing with offices and Sunday School rooms, and a fellowship hall and kitchen from which many community meals have been prepared and served.

The church has joined with area churches in shared ministry throughout its history. The longest formal relationship was with the Romulus First Presbyterian Church; the two churches were yoked from 1980 through 1994.

Known as "The small church with a BIG heart," the West Fayette Church is famous in Seneca County and beyond for its chicken and pork barbecues and its Advent Community Concert & Carol Sing. These events brought neighbors together for fellowship and provided needed funds to support the work of the church. Other mission projects of the church have included providing emergency assistance for community members, especially through the Seneca County House of Concern; providing scholarships for youth attending Camp Whitman; contributing to the Presbytery's 2 Cents a Meal Program; and to many special offerings, including the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering, Church World Service's Blanket Offering, and special offerings of the PC(USA).

Summary of the work of the Administrative Commission (AC)

In accordance with the Charge approved at the September 22, 2020 regular meeting of the Presbytery of Geneva, the following work has been completed:

Congregational meetings

Duly called congregational meetings were held on November 8, 2020 and December 6, 2020 to discuss the future of the church, the role of the Administrative Commission (AC) and to act on the recommendations of the AC. The congregational meetings were announced at least two Sundays ahead of time and all members for whom addresses (email or USPS) could be found were informed of the meetings and their purpose.

At the congregational meeting held on November 8, 2020 after worship, options for the future of the church were discussed along with the role of the AC and the steps that would be involved in closing the church, if that was the decision of the congregation. Those present reluctantly agreed that closure would be the likely outcome and set a date to start an inventory of the contents of the church and discuss which items should be returned to families who donated them, offered to other churches, or donated to the Seneca County House of Concern. A second congregational meeting was set for December 6, 2020 to vote on dissolution.

At the December 6, 2020 congregational meeting the following recommendations of the AC were approved unanimously by the members present:

- That the West Fayette Presbyterian Church and its corporation be dissolved;
- That the last worship service be on January 3, 2021;
- Debts and other obligations of the church, if any, be satisfied;
- The contents of the church be donated, sold or disposed of as the AC determines after discussion with the congregation, giving first priority to returning items donated by members to their family;
- The church real property be transferred to the Presbytery of Geneva and offered for sale;
- The corporation be dissolved, as soon as the way is clear.

The congregation also unanimously

- Authorized the AC to take any further actions on the Congregation's behalf necessary or advisable to complete the disposition of property and the dissolution of the West Fayette Presbyterian Church and Corporation.
- Recommended to the Presbytery of Geneva that funds from the sale of the church's real estate and any other funds transferred from the West Fayette Presbyterian Church to the Presbytery of Geneva be donated in the following way: 40% to the Seneca County House of Concern, 20% to Pathway House, 20% to Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes, and 20% to the Varick Fire Department.
- Affirmed that the reading and approval of the minutes of the December 6, 2020 meeting be deferred until the next meeting of the AC.

Note: Although the congregation voted to transfer the church property to the Presbytery of Geneva and then be sold, the property was sold before it had to be transferred to the Presbytery of Geneva.

Arrange for the pastoral care of church members

The Rev. Daniel Russell served the congregation as temporary supply pastor during the months of discussion about dissolution of the church (August 2020 – January 3, 2021). His worship services provided much needed support and compassion for members of the West Fayette congregation.

The AC approved the baptism of AvaLea Grace Saunders and she was baptized by Rev. Russell during the worship service on December 13, 2020.

Working as the session, in January 2021 the AC informed all members that the congregation had voted to dissolve the church and invited them to contact the AC if they would like their membership transferred to another church. They were informed that their membership would be held by the Presbytery of Geneva if no instructions were received about transfer. Names and contact information for individuals who were still members at the time of the dissolution have been sent to the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery.

A final worship service celebrating the life and ministry of the congregation was held at the church on Sunday January 3, 2021. The Rev. Dan Russell officiated.

A service to recognize the ministry of the West Fayette Presbyterian Church was held during the September 28, 2021 presbytery meeting.

Financial status and management of financial assets and obligations

Financial assets: At the establishment of the AC (9/2020), the church's assets included:

Generations Bank checking account	\$2,371.99
Nationwide accounts	\$28,514.13
Building and land	\$130,000.00

A financial review of the Treasurer's books for 2020 found no issues of concern. There were no outstanding debts or obligations at that time or at the closing of accounts. There were no bequest stipulations on any accounts. Repairs to the church roof were completed in December 2020 and paid from a Nationwide account (\$17,300). The books were certified by Bonnie Saunders (balanced with bank statement) on September 30, 2021. Bonnie Saunders continued to serve as church treasurer until the property was sold, all bills paid, and the church bank account was closed.

A public notice about the upcoming closure of the church was published.

The church bank account was closed on March 24, 2022 and a bank check for the balance of \$4,525.67 was sent to the presbytery on March 26, 2022.

Securing the Session records

All church records still with the church, including Session minutes, church registers, and other financial and legal records have been organized. These have been or will be delivered to the

Presbyterian Historical Society PC(USA) archives in Philadelphia. Older records had already been sent to the Presbyterian Historical Society.

Plan for the future ownership of the property

Church inventory: An inventory of church belongings was completed and a list of available items was shared with the presbytery. Some items found a home at Camp Whitman, Ovid Federated Church, Lyons First Presbyterian Church, or Trinity Federated Church in Naples. Photographs and other historical memorabilia were offered to the Seneca County Historical Society. Items from the craft room and the rummage sale room were taken to the Seneca County House of Concern. The Lakeland Mennonite Church gladly accepted remaining items including sanctuary pews and cushions, pulpit, baby grand piano, communion table, Bibles, and hymnals.

Selling the church building and property: We contracted with a Century 21 realtor to sell the church property. The property was valued at \$156,000 and this was the asking price.

Steinbrenner Law Offices, LLC, of Rochester, NY served as our attorney for the sale of the church property.

Following approval by the Administrative Commission (August 18, 2021), the Presbytery of Geneva (August 24, 2021) and the Supreme Court of the State of New York County of Seneca (November 18, 2021), the real property of the West Fayette Presbyterian Church was sold to the Lakeland Mennonite Church for a sale price of \$130,000 (December 28, 2021 closing). Seller credits and debits brought the amount due at closing to \$122,602.71. Seller's additional disbursements, fees and credits brought the net proceeds due to the West Fayette Presbyterian Church to \$110,800.02.

The AC recommended to Presbytery that proceeds from the sale (\$110,800) be disbursed to the following organizations, as recommended by the congregation: Seneca County House of Concern (40%; \$44,320); Pathway Home (20%; \$22,160); Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes (20%; \$22,160); Varick Fire Department (20%; \$22,160).

Dissolution of the West Fayette Presbyterian Church

Following approval by the Administrative Commission (August 18, 2021), AC representatives signed the verified petition to the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Seneca to dissolve the corporation of the church.

The Supreme Court of the State of New York County of Seneca dissolved the West Fayette Presbyterian Church (March 9, 2022).

On March 15, 2022 the *Finger Lakes Times* published a front page article about the closing of the church and the donations made to local organizations.

Respectfully submitted,

The Administrative Commission of the West Fayette Presbyterian Church

David Ashby TE, Catherine Foerster RE, John Milne TE (chair), Elizabeth Newell RE (clerk), M.J. Pershing RE, and David Saunders RE