

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, May 20, 2025, held in-person at Camp Whitman.

GATHERING FOR SHARED WORK: OPENING BUSINESS

GATHERING

9:45 am Registration and Fellowship Time (through 10:00 am)

CALL TO ORDER

CRE Connie Franks (Shortsville, First), Moderator, read the Presbytery's mission and vision statements and called the meeting to order with prayer at 10:00 am, a quorum being present.

ROLL

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

CONGREGATION	MINISTER(S)	COMMISSIONER	CONGREGATION	MINISTER(S)	COMMISSIONER
ADDISON	A - Peter Marr (CM)		MARION, UNITED	----	Frank Halstead
ANDOVER, FIRST	A - C. Mattison (CM)		MORELAND	Paul Yoder (CRE)	
ARKPORT, FIRST	EX - Bruce Incze		NAPLES, TRINITY FEDERATED	A - Stu Buisch (CM)	
-----	-----	-----	NEWARK, PARK	H. Leigh Holder	A - Anne Rogers
BATH, FIRST	John Woodring		OAKS CORNERS	A - Karl Warrington	
BELLONA, MEMORIAL	Amy Loving Austin	EX - Roxann Carpenter	ONTARIO CENTER, FIRST	----	
BIG FLATS, FIRST	----	A - Robin Fitzgerald	OVID, FEDERATED	Rob Mellgard	Judy Mellgard
BURDETT	EX - Richard Evans (CRE)	EX - Martha Evans	PAINTED POST, UNITED	David Preisendanz	
CANANDAIGUA, UNITED	A - Wade Allen (CM)	A - Ken Allen	PALMYRA, WESTERN	EX - Hodong Hwang	EX - Philip Opdycke
CANISTEO, FIRST	EX - Michelle Serra		PENN YAN, FIRST	Paul Malles	Rob Anderson
COHOCTON, FIRST	----	EX - Linda Hodges	PHELPS, UNITED		EX - Marsha Gibbs
CORNING, FIRST	EX - Jeffrey Ugoretz	EX - Kay Nash	PRATTSBURGH, FIRST	----	A - Lynn Dinehart
EAST PALMYRA, FIRST	----	EX - Judith Langdon	PULTENEY, FIRST	----	Mary Jane Peek
ELMIRA, FIRST	Lynn Rubier-Capron		RED CREEK	----	A - Virginia Kachurak
ELMIRA, NORTH	EX - Evan Hansen	EX - Jeff Richards	ROCK STREAM	Carleen Frost (CRE)	
GENEVA, THE PC	Colin Pritchard	Harriet Haynes	SENECA #9	Amy Loving Austin	Pam Ells
-----	-----	-----	SENECA FALLS, FIRST	Leah Ntuala	A - Susan Sholar
HECTOR	Daniel Russell	A - Shelly Gimbar	SHORTSVILLE, FIRST	Connie Franks (CRE)	

HORNELL, UNITED	Ted Warner (G)	Beverly Packard	SODUS, FIRST	Gail Heimberger	A - Tom Miller
HORSEHEADS, FIRST	Aaron Frank	Ruth Hauser	SPENCER, CHRIST THE KING FELLOWSHIP	Sabrina Slater	Tom Bailey
HOWARD, UNION	----		TRUMANSBURG, FIRST ULYSSES	EX - Susan Joseph Rack	EX - Alexis Schaefer
HURON	A - Nancy J Farrell	EX - Linda Hayes	WATERLOO, FIRST	Anita Milne	A - George Bassett
ITHACA, FIRST	Cynthia Weaver Kirianna Weaver	A - Brad McFall	WATKINS GLEN, FIRST	Linda Myers (CM)	Iliese Bowman
JASPER, UNITED	A - Brain Dieffenbacher (CM)		WESTON	----	Barry Winters
LYONS, FIRST	----	Joanne Reinhardt	WOLCOTT, FIRST	EX-Walter Stuber (CM)	Andrew DeMay

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

Marjorie Ackerman (VM)	EX- Adrian Tierson (VM)			
David Ashby (AL)	EX- Michael Capron (AL)	EX- Deborah Grohman (AL)	EX- Glenn Kennedy (AL)	EX- Christy Wareham (AL)
EX - Cara Milne (AL)	Todd Haines (AL)			
EX- David Barnard (HR)	EX- Philip Courtney (HR)	EX- Betsey Crimmins (HR)	EX- Ellen Donnan (HR)	Jim Gerling (HR)
EX- Pam Gnagy (HR)	EX- James Hicks (HR)	Cynthia Huling Hummel (HR)	EX- Susan Husted (HR)	EX- Jeff Kellam (HR)
EX- James Kerr (HR)	John Milne (HR)	EX- Tom Montgomery (HR)	EX- Paul Rack (HR)	Robert Rochelle (HR)
EX- Barbara Schwartz (HR)	Jane Winters (HR)	EX - Sam Edwards (HR)	Patricia Schick (HR)	

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

Joanne (Juana) Tunison (Horseheads, First) COUNCIL (Mission and Witness)	Virginia Champlin (Geneva) COUNCIL (Presbyterian Women)	Sandra Ansley (Geneva) COUNCIL (Operations)	Paul Yoder (Horseheads, First) CRE (Moreland)
EX- Pricilla Andrews (Rock Stream) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	EX - Richard Evans (Watkins Glen, First) CRE (Burdett)	Bob Sell (Horseheads, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	John Gingerich (Wolcott, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)
Carleen Frost (Sodus, First) CRE (Rock Stream)	A - Bessie Tyrrell (Atlanta) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	Don Peek (Pulteney, First) CRE (Pulpit Supply)	Connie Franks (Ontario, First) CRE (Shortsville, First)
A - Irene Fadden (Palmyra, Western) COUNCIL (Operations)	Donna Colvin (Pulteney, First) COUNCIL (Leader Care)	Chris Gerling (Geneva) COM Co-Chair	Kerm Bossard (Spencer, CTKF) COUNCIL (RE At-Large)

PRESBYTERY STAFF (granted voice)

Gretchen Duffy (Administrative Support Services)	Bryan Muecke (Camp Whitman)
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REGISTERED GUESTS (Current Meeting; granted voice)

Earl Packard (Hornell, United)	Deb Mammosser (Hornell, United)
Ellen Reynolds (Geneva)	Cindy Banker (Hornell, United)
James Varner (Hornell, United)	Ann McMican (Genesee Valley Presbytery)
Linda Varner (Hornell, United)	Sandawna Gaulman Ashley (Synod of the Northeast)
Lisa Sanford (Hornell, United)	Bill Schick
Jennifer Warner	Jennifer Kellogg (Hornell, United)
Ted Warner (serving Hornell, United)	

SUMMARIES FOR EACH MEETING 2023	Jan 25	Mar 25	Apr 29	May 20			
Total Minister Commissioners Present*	29	23	18	24			
Total Elder Commissioners Present **	28	30	16	23			
Parity (expressed in terms of Elders, + or -)	-1	+7	-2	-1			
Total Minister Commissioners Absent, Unexcused***	3	4	8	2			
Total Registered CMs, Visitors, and Staff	5	6	6	16			
Total Registered Attendance****	62	59	40	63			

* 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 Corresponding Members without vote

INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF DOCKET

The presbytery VOTED to **approve** the docket for the meeting:

- 9:30 AM Registration and fellowship time (through 10:00 AM)
- 10:00 AM Call to Order, Declaration of Quorum, and Opening Prayer
- 10:05 AM Introductory Business
 - Call for New Business & Approval of the Docket
 - Introduction of New Commissioners, Corresponding Members, and Guests
 - Acknowledgment of the First Stewards of the Land [TE John Woodring (Bath, First)]
- 10:15 AM A Word from Camp Whitman [Bryan Muecke, Camp Director]
- 10:25 AM Consent Agenda & Clerk's Report
 - [TE Amy Loving Austin (Stanley, Seneca #9 / Bellona, Memorial), Stated Clerk]
- 10:30 AM Committee on Ministry [TE Jane Winters (HR) and RE Chris Gerling (Geneva), Co-Chairs]
 - Examination for Ordination, Installation & Membership: Ted Warner (Genesee Valley)
 - Examination for Membership: TE Dr. Patricia Schick (Minnesota Valleys Presbytery)
 - Recommissioning of Commissioned Ruling Elders
- 10:55 AM Greetings and Updates from the Synod of the Northeast
 - [TE Dr. Sandawna Gaulman Ashley (SNE, Transitional Leader);
 - TE Sabrina Slater (Spencer, Christ the King Fellowship, Synod Discernment Team);
 - and TE Aaron Frank (Horseheads, First, SNE Mission & Ministries Commission)]
- 11:15 AM Report from the Treasurer [TE David Ashby (AL, Treasurer)]
- 11:20 AM Worship & the Lord's Supper [TE Colin Pritchard (Geneva), presiding]
- 12:00 PM Lunch [provided by The First Presbyterian Church of Penn Yan]
- 1:00 PM Open Space
- 1:45 PM Good News from Congregations
 - [To include your news in the minutes, please email a written copy to: statedclerk@presbyteryofgeneva.org]
- 1:55 PM Resolution of Thanks [TE David Preisdanz (United, Painted Post)]

2:00 PM Benediction and Adjournment

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSIONERS, CORRESPONDING MEMBERS, AND GUESTS

New Commissioners, Corresponding Members, and Guests were introduced to the assembly.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE FIRST STEWARDS OF THE LAND

TE John Woodring (Bath, First) offered acknowledgement of the first stewards of the land where we live and serve.

A WORD FROM CAMP WHITMAN

Bryan Muecke (Camp Whitman Director) welcomed the assembly to Camp Whitman.

Mr. Muecke shared that the camp is working on becoming its own 501c3. They hope to share more information in the Fall of 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA & CLERK'S REPORT

The Presbytery VOTED to approve the following:

1. **Approve** the minutes of the March 25, 2025 Stated Presbytery Meeting.
2. **Approve** the minutes of the April 29, 2025 Called Presbytery Meeting.
3. **Approve** seating of Corresponding Members (CPs) [note: CPs have voice, not vote].
4. **Grant** privilege of voice to non-commissioners who will make a presentation or participate in a report to the presbytery.
5. **Receive** the April Financial Summary and Treasurer's Report.
6. **Elect** the following persons to serve as Additional Ruling Elders for the Presbytery of Geneva through January 24, 2026.

RE Donna Colvin (Pulteney, First)	Council (Leader Care)
RE Virginia Champlin (Geneva)	Council (Presbyterian Women)
RE Irene Fadden (Palmyra, Western)	Council (Operations)
RE Chris Gerling (Geneva)	Council (Committee on Ministry)
RE Kerm Bossard (Spencer, Christ the King)	Council (Elder Member at Large)

ITEMS FOR PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION FROM YOUR STATED CLERK

1. All commissioners are reminded of their responsibility to read through all meeting materials prior to each Presbytery Meeting. If you have any clarifying questions, you are encouraged to reach out to the appropriate person or committee prior to the meeting.
2. REMINDER: Congregations and Minister Members of the Presbytery are *strongly* encouraged (please!) to pay their per capita to the Presbytery of Geneva. The Presbytery portion of our per capita is our primary source of funding for staff support, enabling better communication and training opportunities for our congregations and members. Read about how per capita helps build up the body of Christ here: <https://pcusa.org/resources/financial-information/capita>

3. As of May 13th, all of the proposed amendments to the *Book of Order* and the Episcopal-Presbyterian Agreement on Local Sharing of Ministries have passed the required number of Presbyteries in order to be approved. These changes to the *Book of Order* will take effect July 4.

A NOTE FROM YOUR STATED CLERK: I know that there has been some concern expressed over a few of the amendments (specifically, 24-A and 24-C) and what they could mean for our congregations. *Please* hear me when I say that *these changes do not take away a session's freedom to discern and decide whether or not someone should be ordained*. These changes, instead, provide opportunities to engage in deeper, respectful conversations about both individuals' and councils' (sessions') understandings of faith, ministry, and sense of call.

Our Historic Principles of Church Order (see *Book of Order* F-3.01) have not changed. "Christ alone is Lord of the conscience (F-3.0101a)". Churches are "entitled to declare the terms of admission into its communion (F-3.0102)". "There are truths and forms with respect to which men of good characters and principles may differ. And in all these we think it the duty both of private Christians and societies to exercise mutual forbearance toward each other (F-3.0105)".

4. Please take advantage of the (FREE) Synod of the Northeast Webinars: <https://www.synodne.org/webinars>

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

TE Jane Winters (HR) introduced Ted Warner (Genesee Valley Presbytery) and presented the motion from the COM.

The Presbytery proceeded to **examine** Ted Warner (Genesee Valley Presbytery) for ordination and membership in the Presbytery of Geneva. Motion was made, seconded, and approved to **sustain** the examination.

The Presbytery of Geneva VOTED to **approve** Ted Warner's *ordination*, the *transfer of membership* to the Presbytery of Geneva (authorizing the Stated Clerk to complete the required notifications), and the *call* of United Presbyterian Church of Hornell, NY, to the Ted Warner to be their installed Pastor and Moderator, effective September 1, 2025 at the following terms of call:

Cash Salary	\$37,000.00
Housing Allowance/Fair Rental Value of Manse	\$19,735.00
SECA (Social Security) offset 7.65% of TES	\$ 4,340.23
Travel Allowance:	all church mileage at current IRS rate for business
Study Leave:	\$ 1,500.00
Professional Expenses:(vouchered)	\$ Reimbursed
Pension: (10% of TES)	\$ 5,673.50
Medical:	\$ 29,677.60
Other: Moving Expenses	\$ Reimbursed
Study Leave time	2 weeks (including 2 Sundays)
Vacation time	31 days (including 4 Sundays)
Paid Family Leave	Up to 4 weeks

TE Jane Winters offered prayer for Ted Warner, his family, and the congregation of United Presbyterian Church of Hornell.

TE Jane Winters introduced TE Dr. Patricia Schick (Minnesota Valleys Presbytery) for examination for membership. The Presbytery proceeded to **examine** TE Dr. Patricia Schick (Minnesota Valleys Presbytery) for membership in the Presbytery of Geneva. Motion was made, seconded, and approved to **sustain** the examination.

The Presbytery of Geneva VOTED to **approve** TE Dr. Patricia Schick's transfer of membership to the Presbytery of Geneva, authorizing the Stated Clerk to complete the required notifications, effective May 20, 2025.

TE Jane Winters offered prayer for Rev. Dr. Schick and her family.

RE Chris Gerling (Geneva) led the assembly in a service of Recommissioning of Commissioned Ruling Elders.

The Presbytery of Geneva commissioned these persons to service to particular congregations:

CRE Connie Franks (Ontario First), commissioned to the First Presbyterian Church of	Shortsville
CRE Paul Yoder (Horseheads First), commissioned to the Moreland Presbyterian	Church
CRE Carleen Frost (Sodus First), commissioned to the Rock Stream Presbyterian	Church

And, the Presbytery of Geneva commissioned these persons to service to the Presbytery of Geneva at the direction of the Committee on Ministry (including service on the Pulpit Supply List):

CRE John Gingerich
CRE Bob Sell
CRE Don Peek

ACTIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE PRESBYTERY

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between the First Presbyterian Church of Horseheads and the Rev. Aaron Frank for a full time call for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between the Western Presbyterian Church (Palmyra) and the Rev. HoDong Hwang for a full time call for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between Bellona and the Rev. Amy Loving-Austin for a ½ time call for the 2025 year.

- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between Seneca #9 and the Rev. Amy Loving-Austin for a ½ time call for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between the Ovid Federated Church and the Rev. J. Rob Mellgard for a full time call for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between the Penn Yan Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Paul Malles for a full time call for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between the Presbyterian Church of Geneva and the Rev. Colin Pritchard for a full time call for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between the Corning First Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Jeffrey Ugoretz for a full time call for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between the Arkport Community Church and the Rev. Bruce Incze for a full time call for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Annual Approval of Terms of Call between the First Presbyterian Church of Bath and the Rev. John Woodring for a full time call for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Covenant for Services as a Transitional Pastor between the First Presbyterian Church of Hector and the Rev. Dr. Daniel Russell for ¾ time for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Covenant for Pastoral Services with a CRE between Moreland Presbyterian Church and the CRE Paul Yoder for ¼ time for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Covenant for Pastoral Services with a CRE between Burdett Presbyterian Church and the CRE Dick Evans for ¼ time for the 2025 year.
- Approve the Attestation of Covenant/Call Arrangements through another denomination for Pastoral Services between the United Church of Canandaigua and the Rev. Dr. Wade Allen. for full time for the 2025 year.

ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION

The Committee on Ministry VOTED to:

- Approve not naming a moderator for Howard at this time.
- Approve Rev. Dr. Pat Schick to preach more than two Sundays in a row at Big Flats when needed.
- Approve Jane Winters and Chris Gerling to serve as co-chairs of the COM.
- Approve the proposed Terms of Call between Park Presbyterian of Newark and the Rev. H. Leigh Holder.
- Approve edits to Form 1 (essentially the same as revised Form 1a previously approved)
- Approve Ted Warner to moderate the Hornell United Session upon recommendation of their current moderator, Bruce Incze.
- Approve Lynda Myers to moderate the Watkins Glen Session upon recommendation of their current moderator, Paul Rack.
- Approve Jane Winters to serve as moderator, if requested, for the 5/18 Hornell United Congregational Meeting in Bruce Incze's absence.
- Approve the terms of call between the United Church of Hornell and the candidate, and to empower the Stated Clerk to present the appropriate motions to the Presbytery in the COM Report to the Presbytery for action

GREETINGS AND UPDATES FROM THE SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST

TE Dr. Sandawna Gaulman Ashley (Synod of the Northeast, Transitional Leader) shared greetings from the Synod of the Northeast. She presented an overview of the Visioning Process being undertaken by the Synod; the Vision and Strategy Report is due in October of 2025. She also shared the Synod's new logo – the significance of the design was described by TE Sabrina Slater (Spencer, Christ the King Fellowship) who serves on the Synod Discernment Team.

Information about the Visioning Process is available here: <https://www.synodne.org/the-visioning-process>

TE Aaron Frank (Horseheads, First; SNE Mission & Ministries Commission) provided a summary of the most recent Synod Assembly Meeting, noting the many Synod Grants that have been awarded this year.

Information about Synod Grants – those which have been awarded *and* those to which congregations and ministry leaders are encouraged to apply – is available here: <https://www.synodne.org/grants>

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

Presbytery Treasurer, TE David Ashby (AL), presented his report – highlighting the importance of congregations and minister members sending per capita payments and mission pledges as soon as possible:

For Information: April 2025 financials .xlsx are available; please review your congregation's giving on the AR25 tab (Accounts Receivable 2025) and let us know if anything needs correcting.

Our accounts at Community Bank

	04-07-25	05-09-25	
CKGENERA	\$111,173.57	\$100,511.74	
SAVGENERAL	\$27,832.63	\$27,833.09	
CKCAMP	\$46,812.18	\$56,687.14	
SAVCAMP	\$55,152.36	\$55,153.27	
	-----	-----	
Total	\$240,970.74	\$240,185.24	-\$785.5

Funds with Presbyterian Foundation

Camp Whitman Endowment	\$52,958
Presbytery Endowment	\$26,800
Total	\$79,757
Camp Whitman (value 2023)	\$1,934,712

Our working balances remain narrow. Our year-round payroll is approximately \$6k per month.

We have shifted our insurance to Brotherhood at substantial savings. Congregations are encouraged to review their policies to determine whether their coverage and premiums are appropriate.

Mission and Witness is spreading out their applications and grant dates to ease the potential cash flow issues of last year. (Thank you!) The needs are still significantly over congregational mission giving, so they will be unable to make grants of the full amounts requested. It would help if commissioners encourage giving from congregations they are associated with.

A question arose about the best way to remit One Great Hour of Sharing offerings. While in the past we sometimes received them at the presbytery then sent them to the denomination, they prefer congregations sending it directly. <https://pcusa.org/special-offerings/one-great-hour-sharing> If you do not want to make the contribution online, you can give by phone, at 800-728-7228, ext. 5885. To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Our online donation page is up and running with several categories as suggested by Council. Go to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZBHC/home>. Please share it widely.

As always, have at me with questions or complaints!

David Ashby treasurer@presbyteryofgeneva.org 607-227-5216

WORSHIP AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Presbytery of Geneva engaged in a service of worship – including the celebration of the Lord's Supper – with TE Colin Pritchard (Geneva) preaching and presiding.

LUNCH

The Presbytery of Geneva adjourned for lunch at 12:00pm. A delicious meal was provided by The First Presbyterian Church of Penn Yan.

The Presbytery of Geneva reconvened at 1:30pm.

OPEN SPACE

The Presbytery of Geneva engaged in open space conversations for 15 minutes.

GOOD NEWS FROM CONGREGATIONS

Members of the Presbytery of Geneva shared good news and updates from their congregations and committees.

The Leader Care Committee is hosting a Luncheon for Retired Pastors, CREs, and Spouses, and those considering retirement on Thursday, September 11, 2025 at Camp Whitman. Coffee and Social time will begin at 11:30am, followed by Lunch at Noon. Weather permitting, the afternoon will include a Wagon/Boat Tour. Please RSVP to leadercare@presbyteryofgeneva.org.

The Stated Clerk shared congratulations to TE Cynthia Weaver (Ithaca, First) for winning the “pre-registration” door prize.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

TE David Preisendanz (United, Painted Post) offered the resolution of thanks.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

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

The Moderator offered prayer and declared the meeting adjourned at 2:04pm.

Attest: Amy Loving Austin, Stated Clerk

Additional Meeting Documents & Reports

Operations Committee Report to the Presbytery of Geneva

May 20, 2025

The Operations Committee approved a pending sale by the First Presbyterian Church Horseheads of undeveloped land adjacent to the church building/parking lot to Bethany Center, a retirement/assisted living/nursing care facility. A formal letter to First Presbyterian Church Horseheads is pending details of the parcel description, legal name of the buyer, the amount of the sale and other pertinent information as required.

The Operations Committee would like to remind all churches to make sure their contact information on the Presbytery web site is current. Please email any changes to:

officeadmin@presbyteryofgeneva.com

With blessings,

Sandra Ansley, Chair

Operations Committee (Board of Trustees)

**COMMITTEE ON MISSION AND WITNESS
2025 MATTHEW GRANTS**

This year, we received 26 grant applications, requesting a total of \$93,000, \$62,000 of which was for food insecurity. We are delighted to report that all applications were honored and a total of \$77,500 will be awarded. Applicants and endorsing sessions have already received notices of the awards. This year, awards will be sent in two equal installments, with the first payment sent on/or before 30 June and the second check, hopefully before 31 July. We are confident that these awards honor the Matthew 25 Initiative and will enable us to continue to serve our neighbors who are in need. All 2025 recipients will be required to include a brief testimony and/or photos, if possible, detailing how the 2025 award helped to make a difference for their projects, before

applying for the 2026 Matthew 25 grant. Please see the attached spreadsheet for specific information about recipients and the amount granted.

PDA “BOOTS ON THE GROUND” IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Juana has been in contact with Rev. Edwin González-Castillo, Director of PDA, and he indicates that there are ongoing needs in North Carolina following Hurricane Helene in September of 2024. A trio of churches has opened host sites in cooperation with the Presbytery of Western North Carolina and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to help with long-term recovery efforts. Those sites are Canton Presbyterian Church in Canton, First Presbyterian Church in Spruce Pine, and New Hope Presbyterian Church in Asheville.

Juana is willing to organize a team of volunteers to participate in the ongoing recovery efforts. If there is interest, at least seven individuals, Juana will hold an informational meeting. Please contact Juana directly (lalocat@aol.com) if you would like more information about this opportunity.

Respectfully, Juana (Joanne) Tunison, Mission & Witness Chair

Food Insecurity Projects

CHURCH PROJECT	\$ REQUESTED	\$ AWARDED	W/I PRES
Bath Blessing Box	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Geneva Center of Concern	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Geneva Community Lunch	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Hector Food Pantry	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Hornell Emergency Pantry	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Hornell Sunday Meals	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Horseheads Food Pantry	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Horseheads Meals on Wheels	\$2,000	\$1,700	Yes
Ithaca Immigrant Solidarity	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Lares, PR Jesus Feeds 5,000	\$4,000	\$3,400	Outside
North Elmira Fresh Produce Part.	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Ovid S. Seneca Food Pan	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Painted Post Food Pantry	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Spencer CTK Feed the Hungry	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Ulysses Trumansburg Food	\$4,000	\$3,400	Yes
Watkins Glen Community Dinner	\$2,000	\$1,700	Yes
TOTAL FOOD REQUESTS	\$62,000	\$54,400	

Other Projects

CHURCH PROJECT	\$ REQUESTED	\$ AWARDED	W/I PRES
Bath Bags of Hope	\$1,000	\$800	Yes
Canandaigua Family Promise	\$4,000	\$3,200	Yes
ElmiraFirst Habitat for Humanity	\$4,000	\$3,200	Yes
ElmiraFirst Potter's Hands	\$4,000	\$3,200	Yes
Geneva First 1,000 days	\$4,000	\$3,200	Yes
Geneva Geneva Reads	\$3,000	\$2,400	Yes
Geneva House of John	\$4,000	\$3,200	Yes
Hornell Support for Ageing	\$4,000	\$3,200	Yes
Western Good Neighbor	\$3,000	\$2,400	Yes
TOTAL OTHER	\$31,000	\$24,800	
TOTAL REQUESTED	\$93,000	\$79,200	

**GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT TO THE PRESBYTERY
May 20, 2025**

[From the meetings of 04/08/25 and 05/13/25]

ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S ACTION: None

ITEMS FOR THE PRESBYTERY'S INFORMATION
(Multi-Presbytery Conversations and Events)

The General Council VOTED to approve the Presbytery of Geneva entering into discussions with The Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse and The Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley exploring possible mergers or other collaborative efforts and to appoint persons to participate in those specific conversations.

The General Council VOTED to approve having \$200 be made available to help cover the cost of one meal for Geneva Presbytery members attending the May retreat (if they submit a request for reimbursement).

(Presbytery Meetings)

The General Council VOTED to call a meeting of the Presbytery to be held at 11am on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, via Zoom for the purpose of acting on specific motions from the COM.

A Note from the Presbytery Leader

Greetings to each of you as we gather together in the beautiful surroundings of Camp Whitman!

Spring has sprung and we are once again enveloped in the busy-ness of confirmation, graduation, and end-of-school-year celebrations. Congratulations to everyone reaching these milestones and may God continue to bless you along your journeys.

Springtime across the presbytery has also seen much activity in many areas. We celebrate with those taking action in social justice initiatives, looking to explore new partnerships, and expanding their learning for new adventures in ministry. We give thanks for their energy and dedication and pray for continued blessings in these efforts to share the love of Christ with the world.

Once again, a very special 'thank you' to all those who serve in so many amazing ways: as pastors and church officers, choir members, musicians, committee members, staff persons, Sunday school teachers and other volunteers. A very special 'thank you' as well to all homebound members who continue to support ministry efforts through fervent prayers and ongoing encouragement.

As we turn our attention toward summer adventures, I invite you to watch the presbytery newsletter for updates on activities and announcements of upcoming events.

Blessings and peace to you now and always,

Marji