

**PRESBYTERY OF  
WESTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA**



**( U S A )**

**MINUTES**

**ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIXTH  
STATED MEETING  
January 30, 2021**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Installation of Moderator/Vice-Moderator .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Constitution .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Welcome .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Orientation.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Appointment of Standing Committees.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>General Council .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Attendance .....</b>	<b>4-9</b>
<b>Approval of Docket.....</b>	<b>9-10</b>
<b>Consent Agenda .....</b>	<b>10-11</b>
<b>Youth Ministries Committee.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Stated Clerk's Report .....</b>	<b>11-16</b>
<b>Service of Worship .....</b>	<b>16-17</b>
<b>General Council .....</b>	<b>17-19</b>
<b>Personnel Committee.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Finance Committee and 2021 Budget .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Committee on Ministry.....</b>	<b>20-21</b>
<b>Christian Education.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Peace and Justice .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Board of Pensions.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Report of the General Presbyter .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Prayers of Intercession .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Benediction and Adjournment .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Next Meeting .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Appendices .....</b>	<b>23</b>

**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina  
126th Stated Meeting  
January 30, 2021  
Virtual Meeting – via ZOOM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ruling Elder Dick Larson, Moderator, convened the 126th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:00 a.m. with prayer.

**INSTALLATION OF MODERATOR/VICE-MODERATOR**

As the immediate past Moderator, Ruling Elder Dick Larson led a service to install Teaching Elder Rev. Dr. Hal Bennett as Moderator and Ruling Elder Sarah Thornburg as Vice-Moderator for 2021.

**CONSTITUTION**

The Moderator, Dr. Hal Bennett, opened the 126th Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina with the prayer of invocation.

Thanks was extended to our outgoing Moderator, Dr. Dick Larson, for the connectional work he undertook during his tenure, and we look forward to his continuing leadership as the chair of the General Council.

**ORIENTATION**

A brief time of orientation to the ZOOM meeting process was led by Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison and Marie Palacios. For motions requiring a vote, the moderator will state the motion and the votes will be tallied by the co-hosts. Total votes for a motion will be reported back to the moderator. Following the orientation and identifying all in attendance, the orientation process was concluded.

**APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

The Presbytery of WNC conducted its 126<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting via ZOOM, thereby eliminating the appointment of standing committees. Marie Palacios, Guatemala Partnership Coordinator, served as host. Bob Forsythe, ruling elder at Trinity Presbyterian Church and John Pea, Commissioned Pastor at Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, served as co-hosts. The Presbytery in Brief for the 126<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting will be written by the Rev. David Roquemore, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Newton.

**GENERAL COUNCIL**

On behalf of the General Council, the Stated Clerk, Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison, presented the following motion:

That the Presbytery approve conducting the 126<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Presbytery of WNC virtually utilizing the ZOOM platform, understanding that all actions taken in this meeting will be ratified on the next occasion of this body meeting face-to-face. The motion was adopted by common consent.

**ATTENDANCE**

The Stated Clerk declared that a quorum was present by reference to our registration data and by observation of those in attendance.

The Stated Clerk later reported that the attendance for this meeting was:

The following MINISTERS WERE ENROLLED (P = Present; E = Excused; A = Absent without excuse):

The following MINISTERS WERE ENROLLED (P = Present; E = Excused; A = Absent without excuse):

Robert M. Abel	P	Kat Achtemeier	E	Mark Achtemeier	E
Jefferson Aiken, Jr.	P	Wyatt Aiken, Jr.	E	Blan Aldridge	E
Merriam Alexander	P	Terry Alexander	E	Stephen Aschmann	P
James Aydelotte	E	Patricia Bacon	E	Tony Baker	E
Edna Banes	E	Ashley Beavers	E	Harold Bennett, Jr.	P
Joseph Bennett	E	Cynthia M. Benz	A	Lynn Bledsoe	P
Randall Boggs	P	David Bonnema	P	Ronald Botsford	E
Lee Bowman	E	Richard Boyce	E	Grace Boyer	P
David Bradley	E	Ryan Brakemeyer	A	Ronald Brauer	E
Hayden Britton	E	Sandra Brown	E	Thomas Brown	E
William Buchanan	P	Monty Burnham	E	Sue Burton	E
Constance Button	P	Joey T. Byrd	A	David Cameron	P
Kathryn J. Cameron	P	John T. Campbell	E	Kathy Campbell	E
Amy Cantrell	A	H. Pride Carson	A	Dwight Christenbury	P
William Christian	E	Richard Coble	E	Sarah Coburn	E
James Cockerham	E	Jeffrey R. Coffey	E	James A. Cogswell	E
Evelyn Coleman	A	J. Hunter Coleman	E	Monty Cook	E
Thomas C. Cook, Jr.	E	Donald L. Cooper	E	W. Riley Covin	P
John W. Craven	E	Robert Bruce Cumming	P	James Dale	E
Blake J. Daniel	E	Charles W. Davenport	P	Dent C. Davis	E
Heather Wood Davis	E	Holly K. Davis	P	Arthur DeJong	E
Susan Denne	E	Janet DeWater	P	Edward D. Donnell	E
Ellen H. Dozier	P	Philip W. Dunford	E	Priscilla Durkin	E
Steven Eason	E	Robert Edmunds	E	Stephen Elderbrock	P
Leah E. Epps	P	Lee S. Feero, Jr.	E	Meagan Findeiss	P
David Carter Florence	A	P. Edward Forsyth	E	Clarence D. Fouse, III	E
Kevin E. Frederick	P	Keith B. Freeman	P	Schaap Freeman	P
Berry G. French, III	A	John L. Frye, Jr.	P	R. Curtis Fussell, III	P
Tempe Fussell	P	Willis Gaines	P	Paul Galbreath	E
Lewis F. Galloway	P	David Garnett	P	Lisle Garrity	A
Tee G. Gatewood	P	Denise Geiger	E	Joanne Glaser	E
Samantha Gonzalez-Block	A	Jean Goodwin	E	Gregory Grana	E
Theodore Grant	A	Keith Grogg	P	Robert J. Gruber	E
Decherd Guess	P	Rebecca Gurney	P	John Hagmann	P
Samuel W. Hale	E	Michal H. Hall	E	Terry L. Hanna	E
Patrick Hardy	P	Randall A. Hardy	E	Martin L. Harkey, III	P
William G. Heck	E	Robert T. Henderson	E	Julie Hester	P
J. Robert Hewett	E	J. Richard Hobson	E	J. Samuel Hobson, Jr.	E
James J. Holeman	P	James S. Hornsby	E	David Hosick	E
Carol Hovis	P	William R. Hoyt, III	E	George B. Hutchins	E

Jill V. Isola	P	Donald Jafvert	E	Willam M. Janes	E
Esta M. Jarrett	E	Cecil M. Jividen	E		
G. Wallace Johnson	E	Katherine B. Johnson	P	Patrick Johnson	A
Franklin Jones	A	Rebecca S. Jones	A	Kimberly L. Justice	A
Dong Uk Kang	E	David Kaylor	E	David Kennedy	E
Ira K. Kennerly	E	R. Paul Kercher	E	William L. Kirk	E
Albert D. Kissling	E	Janice Krouskop	E	Lee Kruse	A
Michael Lamm	E	John H. LaMotte	E	John C. Laughlin	E
Margaret P. Lauterer	E	James E. Layman	E	Thomas G. Lewis	P
J. William Lindeman	E	John P. Lindsay	E	Gene Linton, Jr.	E
Deneise Deter Liss	E	Jamie Bibee Lloyd	P	Neal Lloyd	P
Laura Long	P	Billy T. Lowe	A	William Lowery	E
Robert L. Lowry	E	Alexandra Lusak	P	Fred Lyon, II	P
David R. Lytle	A	Kathleen Madigan	P	J. Whit Malone	P
Marjorie Marsh	P	Joan C. Martin	P	Roberta Martin	E
W. Tyler Martin	E	John S. McCall	A	Sandra McClinton	E
Robert A. McCully, Jr.	A	Noah McIntee	P	David W. McKee	P
Michael T. McKee	E	Alex P. McNeill	E	Kenyon Meeks, Jr.	P
C. Lynn Michie	A	Beth Ann Miller	A	James Millsaps	
Robert L. Montgomery	E	Sarah Grace Montgomery	P	Anne Morgan	E
Richard I. Morgan	E	S. Keith Morrison	E	David E. Mulford	E
D. Cameron Murchison	P	David Nash	P	Wanda Neely	E
William K. Neely	P	Thomas G. Nelson	E	Elizabeth D. Newman	P
John H. Niles	E	Richard Nygren	E	Daniel J. Oedy	A
O'Hyun Park	A	Albert G. Peery, Jr.	E	Margaret B. Peery	E
Martha Jane Petersen	E	J. Thomas Phillips	E	James N. Poling	P
Michael J. Poulos	P	Donald G. Price	E	Caroline Proctor	P
E. Allen Proctor, Jr.	P	Edyth P. Pruitt	A	Tamara Puffer	P
Allan Purtill	P	Jay K. Rabuck	E	Daria L. Ragan	P
Joseph Rand	E	Earl M. Rash	A	Mary Elizabeth Ray	P
Patricia Reid	P	Wilson P. Rhoton, Jr.	E	Calvin S. Rice	E
G. Harriss Ricks	E	Don Robb, III	E	Mary Katherine Robinson	E
William (Billy) Robinson	P	David Roquemore	P	Steven Runholt	A
T. Field Russell	P	Richard M. Rustay	E	Donald Scofield	P
Henry D. Scoggins	E	Carol N. Seaman	E	Dana V. Seiler	E
William Serjak	E	Albert D. Shaw	E	Marcia Mount Shoop	E
Mary Elizabeth Sigmon	P	Robert Singdahlsen	W	Wirt Skinner	E
Allen Smith	P	David B. Smith	P	Paul S. Smith	A
John N. Somerville	E	Becky B. Stanley	P	J. Mark Stanley	P
Margie B. Stansell	P	Carol Steele	A	Daniel G. Stitt	E
Cynthia R. P. Strickler	A	Charles E. Swann	E	William B. Sweetser, Jr.	E
Christopher Taylor	E	Beverly Thompson	P	George Thompson, Jr.	P
Keith J. Thompson	P	Denise Thorpe	E	Yvonne M. Thurmond	P
Russell D. Tillotson, Sr.	E	Daniel Tipton	E	Kathleen Rankin Tompkins	E
Christina B. Tutterow	E	Robert J. Tuttle	E	Melissa Anne Upchurch	P
Gary Van Brocklin	E	Lauren S. Vanacore	P	Christopher P. Vogado	A
Byron A. Wade	P	Rockwell P. Ward	E	Samuel P. Warner	E

Robert M. Warren	P	Lynn Webber	P	Judith Weger	E
Kimberleigh E. Wells	P	Barbara R. White	P	Parker T. Williamson	E
Emily L. Wilmarth	P	V. Otis Wilson, Jr.	E	Victor M. Wilson	E
Chris Wingard	A	Eugene D. Witherspoon	E	W. Graham Wood, Jr.	E
Donaldson Woods	E	Rebecca Young	A		

The following COMMISSIONED PASTORS WERE ENROLLED at this meeting of Presbytery:

Linda Abel	P	Philip Adams	A	Phillip Ashley	A
Robert Ayala	A	John Bates	P	Sally Beghtol	P
Kerry Border	P	Mildred Bruns	A	Tamika Garrison	P
John Hall	A	Beth Hall	A	Lynn Honeycutt	P
Robin Honeycutt	P	Kenneth Humphreys	P	James Koone	E
Peggy Koone	E	Rick Leissner	P	Deborah Lesenger	P
James Millsaps	A	Marla Patchel	A	Randy Patterson	A
John Pea	P	Marcia Reighley	P	Russell Reighley	P
Barbara Ross	P	Betty Shaw	A	Dennis Stamper	A
John Stanley	A	James Taylor	P	Sheila Renee Warthen	A
Roger Wise	P	Wanda Woodby	P		

The following MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL, COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY and COMMITTEE CHAIRS WERE ENROLLED at this meeting of Presbytery:

John Auten	A	Virginia Bradford	A	Jamie Brady	P
Bill Carpenter	P	Lois Camp	A	Betty Davenport	P
Jan Duncan	A	Rob Groves	A	Dorothy Descieux	P
Bob Forsythe	P	Tina Joyner	P	Sue Johnson	P
Charles Kincaid	P	Ann Lampron	A	Dick Larson	P
Melvin Meares	P	Roger Rizk	A	Sally McGinnis	A
Jerry Ragan	A	Laura Carringer Russell	P	Charles Sellers	P
Katrina Shambaugh	A	Laura Sigmon	A	Becky Stevens	P
Sharon Stewart	A	Vance Stiles	A	Sarah Thornburg	P
Ron Tingle	P				

The following CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS WERE ENROLLED for this meeting of Presbytery:

Melinda Christian	A	Angela Drummond	A	Vivian Hare	P
Margarette Kennerly	E	Leslie McLeod	A	Mary Lou Nash	P
Heath Rada	A	Lynn Thomas Duncan	A	Patricia Tuttle	A
Jann Vann	A				

The following CHURCHES WERE ENROLLED by the attendance of their elder commissioners:

Arbor Dale (1)	A			
Asheville First (3)	A			
Banner Elk (1)	Janet Speer			
Belmont First (3)	A			
Bessemer City First(1)	A			
Black Mountain (2)	Cheryl Wilson	Ellen Begley	William Florence	
Brevard-Davidson River (2)	Richard Benson	Dorothy Knowles		
Bridgewater (1)	A			

Brittain (1)	A		
Brittain's Cove (1)	A		
Bryson City (1)	Collin Caldwell		
Buladean (1)			
Burnsville, First (1)	Vickie Aderman		
Calvary (2)	A		
Canton (1)	A		
Cherryville, First (1)	A		
Clinchfield (1)	A		
Columbus (1)	A		
Conley Memorial (1)	A		
Crossnore (1)	Janis Kenyon		
Dallas First (1)	A		
Dixon (1)	A		
Dorland Memorial (1)	E		
Dulatown (2)	Helen Hall		
Duncan's Creek (1)	A		
Etowah (1)	Debby Vial		
Fairview (1)	Linda Everhardt		
Fletcher (1)	Mimi Gossett		
Forest City First (1)	A		
Franklin First (1)	Melissa McClure		
Gastonia, First (3)	Lynn Hathcock	Becky Adams	Beth Silvers
Good Hope (2)	A		
Grace Covenant (2)	Kathy Meacham	Luke Johnson	
Grassy Creek (1)	A		
Green Mountain (1)	Ella Jean Webb		
Green Street (2)	A		
Hayesville (1)	Don Schneider		
Hendersonville First (1)	Buddy Massagee		
Hickory First (3)	Mandy Hildebrand	Phil Trick	
Highlands First (1)	A		
Ironton (1)	Pat Bradshaw		
Jack's Creek (1)	A		
John Knox (1)	A		
Kenilworth (1)	A		
Korean Church of Asheville (2)	A		
Lenoir First (1)	Susan Scroggs		
Long Creek (1)	Cheryl Berry		
Love's Chapel (2)	A		
Lowell (1)	A		
Marion First (1)	William Spears		
Marshall (1)	A		
Micaville (1)	A		
Mills River (1)	Jackie Auten		
Montreat (1)	Beth Fountain		

Morganton First (2)	Perry Beeson	Lisa Antley	
Morrison (1)	A		
Mount Holly First (1)	A		
New Hope (Asheville) (1)	Virginia Hebert		
New Hope (Gastonia) (1)	A		
Newdale (1)	Rebecca Ayala		
Newland (1)	A		
Newton First (2)	Suzanne Rhinehart		
Northminster (1)	Bonnie Shearer		
Oak Forest (2)	A		
Oakwood (2)	A		
Old Fort (2)	A		
Olney (2)	A		
Pine Street (3)	A		
Pineola (2)	A		
Quaker Meadows (2)	A		
Reems Creek-Beech (2)	A		
Ridgeview (2)	A		
Robinson Memorial (2)	Mildred Laughridge		
Rutherfordton (3)	John Martin		
Ryburn Memorial (3)	A		
Saluda (2)	A		
Shelby (3)	Richard Fletcher		
Sherrill's Ford (2)	A		
Shiloh, Grover (2)	A		
Siloam (2)	A		
Southminster (3)	A		
Spruce Pine First (2)	Rolf Pippert		
Sweetwater (2)	A		
Sylva First (2)	A		
Third Street (3)	Jeffrey Adams	Carolyn Werts	
Trinity (3)	Molly Garnett		
Tryon (3)	A		
Union (2)	Billy Jordan		
Union Mills (2)	Susan Ward		
United (2)	Susan Barnett		
Unity (3)	Tracy Alford	Catherine Conrad	
Vians Valley (2)	A		
Waldensian (3)	Jeffrey Jacumin	Bart Bounous	
Walnut (2)	A		
Warren Wilson (2)	Sandra Brauer		
Waynesville First (2)	A		
West Asheville (2)	Barbara Clark		



Ministers	109
Elders	52
Council/Committees	15
DCE	2
Visitors	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185</b>

The following corresponding members were in attendance:

- Elizabeth Little, Board of Pensions
- Michael Shepard, Red Stone Presbytery, Western Pennsylvania

### **APPROVAL OF DOCKET**

Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison, Stated Clerk, presented the docket and moved the approval of the docket as presented in the Presbytery Packet. The motion was approved by common consent.

**9:00 Call to Order**

**Dick Larson**  
**Immediate Past Moderator**

**Installation of Moderator and Vice-Moderator**

**Convene with Prayer of Invocation**

**Hal Bennett**  
**Moderator**

**Appointment of Host & Co-Host & Standing Committees**

**Hal Bennett**

**Recognition of Elders Attending for First Time, Visitors and Corresponding Members**

**Orientation**

**Certification of Quorum**

**Cam Murchison, Stated Clerk**

**Action to approve virtual meeting**

**Approval of Docket**

**Consent Agenda**

**A**

*(Consent Agenda is a consent motion. Any commissioner may pull any item from the Consent Agenda for any reason. Simply state the item to be removed from the Consent Agenda and it will be dealt with as part of the committee report from which it was drawn.)*

**Stated Clerk's Report**

**Cam Murchison**     **B**

*(Work of the Clerk, Presbytery Meeting Dates, Administrative Commission Reports)*

**Reports Submitted for Information and/or Included in the Consent Agenda**

**Nominating Committee**

**I**

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

**K**

**Guatemala Partnership & Micro Loan Project**

**Q**

**Peacemaking – Earth Care**

**T**

**Youth Committee**

**Y**

**Building Hope**

**BH**

**9:30 Service of Worship, including Celebration of the**

**Lord's Supper and Necrology**

*(Worship leaders: Byron Wade, Leah Epps and John Hagman )*

**Break Out Rooms (8 minutes)**

<b>10:30 General Council (5 minutes)</b> <i>(Work of the committee, Presbytery Treasurer)</i>	<b>Dick Larson</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>10:35 Finance Committee (10 minutes)</b> <i>(Work of the committee and Proposed Budget for 2021)</i>	<b>Charles Sellers</b>	<b>BB</b>
<b>Personnel Committee (5 minutes)</b>	<b>Don Scofield</b>	<b>FF</b>
<b>Committee on Ministry (25 minutes)</b> <i>(Work of the committee, introduction of new ministers; Commissioning of Ruling Elders; and recognition of ministers and service for 2019)</i>	<b>Whit Malone</b>	<b>D</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of new members</li><li>• Presentation of CREs/CPs (2, shared)</li><li>• Questions from members to both; vote</li><li>• Charge and Prayer of Commissioning</li></ul>		
<u>25 Years Service</u> C. Lynn Michie Margie B. Stansell Keith B. Freeman	<u>50 Years Service</u> Patrick Hardy William J. Serjak Neal Lloyd	<u>75 Years Service</u> James A. Cogswell
<u>CLS Graduates (2020)</u> Richard Collier Frank Denniston Charlita Lytle Nancy McFadden		<u>Honorably Retired</u> Wanda Neely Luke Harkey Merri Alexander Charles Davenport Bobbi White Randall Boggs Terry Hanna Gary Van Brocklin Chris Taylor Joanne Glaser
<b>Christian Education Committee (5 minutes)</b> <i>(Work of the committee, information about the upcoming virtual spirituality retreat)</i>	<b>Vivian Hare</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>Congregational Formation and Transformation (10 minutes)</b> <i>(Work of the committee, new revitalization strategy for the Presbytery)</i>	<b>David Bonnema</b>	<b>O</b>
<b>Matthew 25 (3 minute video)</b>	<b>Jill Isola</b>	
<b>Board of Pensions (5 minutes)</b>	<b>Elizabeth Little</b>	
<b>Report of the General Presbyter (5 minutes)</b>	<b>Byron Wade</b>	<b>GP</b>

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Benediction and Adjournment**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Stated Clerk, Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison, explained the rules for the Consent Agenda. He then moved the consent agenda as presented on pages 9-14 of the packet for the meeting. The consent agenda and committee reports were approved by common consent. (Appendix A)

The following committees submitted reports to the Presbytery for information. All were received.

**Nominating Committee (Appendix B)**

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry (Appendix C)**  
**Guatemala Partnership & Micro Loan Project (Appendix D)**  
**Peace Making – Earth Care (Appendix E)**  
**Youth Committee (Appendix F)**  
**Building Hope (Appendix G)**

### **YOUTH COMMITTEE**

Beth Gunn, staff Associate Presbyterian for Youth, reported on the work of the committee and announced that the Presbytery High School Mission Retreat has been rescheduled for March 26-27, 2021 with a new format. (Appendix F)

### **STATED CLERK'S REPORT**

Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison, Stated Clerk, presented recommendations 1 thru 11 included in the Stated Clerk's report, stating that these recommendations had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda.

He then referred to items 12-16 as items for information.

- CA 1. THAT Hal Bennett, Cam Murchison and Robbin Buchanan be requested to prepare the minutes of this Presbytery meeting for approval at the April 27, 2021 Presbytery meeting.**
- CA 2. THAT the minutes of the October 27, 2020 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.**
- CA 3. THAT the past/present membership roster of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina Permanent Judicial Commission as required in BO: D-5.0206b, be reported and become a part of the permanent record of Presbytery. (Appendix H)**
- CA 4. THAT the Stated Clerk be given permission to attach a current list of ministers of this Presbytery and that the list become a part of the permanent record. (Appendix I)**
- CA 5. THAT the January 2021 report of the following Administrative Commissions be received and entered into the permanent record of Presbytery. (Appendix J)**  
Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian, Lincolnton  
Administrative Commission for West Avenue  
Administrative Commission for Churches Concluding Ministry
- CA 6. THAT the minutes of the installation of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery: (Appendix K)**  
**Michael J. Poulos**
- CA 7. THAT the minutes of the ordination of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery: (Appendix L)**  
**Katheryn McGinnis**

- CA 8. THAT the Presbytery celebrate the lives and service of the following teaching elders/Ministers of the Word and Sacrament who died during the year 2020 and that their names become a part of the permanent record.

Charles E Swann	2/17/2020
Curtis Fennell Crowther Jr	3/10/2020
Carl C Murray	4/1/2020
R. David Fillpot	4/10/2020
Robert Samuel Busey	5/14/2020
Donald Collins Mullen	5/17/2020
Lamar Williamson Jr	7/11/2020
Gene Price	8/30/2020
George Wilson Gunn, Sr.	10/5/2020
Harry Philips	10/5/2020
John Jey Deifell	11/6/2020
John David Stewart	12/12/2020
Stratton Peacock	12/27/2020

- CA 9. THAT the Presbytery celebrate the lives and service of the following Certified Christian Educator, as reported by his local congregation, who died during the year of 2020, and that his name become a part of the permanent record:

Glenn Bannerman 10/30/2020

- CA 10. THAT the Presbytery celebrate the lives and service of the following Elders, as reported by their local congregations, who died during the year of 2020, and that their names become a part of the permanent record:

**Asheville, First**

Harvey Lee Haynes  
 Gay Kriek  
 Edward Almy “Ned” Gibson  
 Leonard G “Len” Pardue  
 Paul Roberts

**Banner Elk**

William Cummings Tate, II, MD  
 Irving (Irv) Fryberger  
 William (Bill) Wilson

**Black Mountain**

Ruth Brandon  
 Patrick Miller  
 Sara LeVan  
 Glenn Bannerman  
 Evelyn Bannerman  
 Margie Tyas

**Brevard-Davidson River**

Marilyn Massey  
 Don Stinchcomb  
 Sara Winston

**Canton**

Jeanne Smathers  
 Emily Smathers  
 Doris Murphy

**Cherryville, First**

Troy Sellers  
 Lecy Quinn  
 Connie Wise

**Dallas, First**

Ray Clemmer

**Fairview**

H. Dale Atwood  
 Rosa P. Miller

**Forest City, First**

Neil Ray Anderson, II  
Caroline Flack Baynard  
Ron Lessard

**Gastonia, First**

Virginia Ann Patrick Avery  
William (Bill) David Lawson, III  
Vann Marshall Matthews  
Dr. George R. Miller  
Jane K. Molen  
James (Jimmy) Cliff Thompson, Jr.

**Hickory, First**

Kenneth Farver  
Doris Phillips Robinson  
Richard Douglas Taylor

**Highlands, First**

Donald Fisher  
Mary Jellison  
Hillrie Quin  
John Rymer  
Mary Thompson

**Kenilworth**

Robert (Bob) Craddock

**Lowell**

Catherine B. (Kitty) Wilson  
Donald (Don) Koran

**Micaville**

Billie Jean Tomberlin

**Mills River**

Joseph Gilreath  
Maggie Thomas

**Montreat**

Betsy Neville  
Gordon Neville

**Morganton, First**

Judge Samuel McDowell Tate  
Wilfred Mills Kenan  
Elizabeth "Betty" McBrayer Sasser  
Robert Thomas Clark

**Mount Holly**

Anita Jones  
Phyllis Piper

**New Hope, Asheville**

Frank I. Reynolds

**Newland**

Ralph Baird

**Newton**

Edwin F. Nolley

**Quaker Meadows**

Linda Mong  
Ruth Pershing  
Harry "Riddle" Smith  
Virginia E. Whisnant  
Fred Kyle Williams

**Reems Creek-Beech**

Pat Bradley

**Shelby**

Bob Point

**Sherrill's Ford**

Sue Phillips  
Willie Beatty

**Waldensian**

Edward Louis Bleynat  
Betty Bumgarner Garrou  
Louis William Garrou  
Emile Martin Jacumin, Jr.  
Freddy Gene Leger  
Spottswood Pryor Neal

**Walnut**

Ernestine Plemmons

**Union, Gastonia**

Lewis Brooks  
William Craig

**United**

Janet H. Wilson

**Unity**

Henry Fogle  
Charlie Lampley  
Hollis Cobb  
Jane Wilson  
George Midgett  
Jackie Rozzelle

**West Asheville**

Betty Edwards Whiteside

**CA 11. THAT any disparity in number between ruling elder and teaching elder commissioners be corrected in the following manner:**

**Attendance and Voting.** Each teaching elder shall attend each meeting of Presbytery, and each congregation shall be represented by at least one ruling elder at each meeting. Congregations are entitled to ruling elder commissioners based on the following active membership (BO: G-1.0402), as shown on the most recent statistical report (*For the 2021 year, churches O through Z are entitled to an additional elder. Please note that commissioner representation is based on active membership figures taken from the 2019 Statistical Report as figures are not available for 2020.*):

- 0 - 250 members - 1
- 251 - 750 members - 2
- 751 - 1250 members - 3
- 1251 - 1750 members - 4

Honorably retired teaching elders shall be welcome at all meetings, but their necessary non-attendance shall be excused.

To ensure approximate parity in numbers between ruling elder and teaching elder commissioners:

1. All members of the General Council, Committee on Ministry, and Committee on Ministry Advocates shall have voice and vote (if ruling elders).
2. All division, committee and sub-committee chairs shall have voice and vote (if ruling elders).
3. All Commissioned Pastors shall have voice and vote.
4. All Certified Christian Educators, Certified Associate Christian Educators, and, in addition, other Christian Educators who have
  - earned at least a bachelor's degree (or its equivalent)
  - served in one or more educational ministries under the jurisdiction of a Presbytery (or one of its Sessions) for a minimum of two (2) years, and
  - been examined and recommended to Presbytery by the Christian Education Committee shall have voice and (if ruling elders) vote, provided that these privileges shall end, pursuant to BO: G-2.1103, when such persons are no longer serving in an educational ministry under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery (or one of its Sessions).
5. All ruling elder commissioners to the Synod Assembly and to the General Assembly shall have voice and vote as long as their terms last.
6. All exempt staff of Presbytery shall have voice.
7. All racial/ethnic congregations and other congregations designated by the General Council shall elect an additional ruling elder commissioner.
8. That the following churches (Churches O-Z) be requested to send one additional elder commissioner for the year 2021.

Oak Forest	Ryburn Memorial	Tryon
Oakwood	Saluda	Union
Old Fort	Shelby	Union Mills
Olney	Sherrill's Ford	United
Pine Street	Shiloh, Grover	Unity
Pineola	Southminster	Vians Valley
Quaker Meadows	Spruce Pine, First	Waldensian
Reems Creek-Beech	Sweetwater	Walnut
Ridgeview	Sylva, First	Warren Wilson

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**12. THAT the 127th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, virtually via ZOOM.**

**13. THAT due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following procedure for reviewing sessions records for 2021 will be as follows:**

1. Each clerk will gather the 2020 Session minutes for her/his congregation.
2. No later than September 15, 2021, use the standard checklist to review your records as follows:
  - a. Write the name of your church at the top, indicating “2020” as the year
  - b. For each item on the list, check “yes” or “no.”
  - c. If “yes,” in the column labeled “comment,” indicate one instance where the item can be found in your minutes.
    - i. If your minutes are numbered with consecutive pages, just indicate a page number.
    - ii. If your minutes are not numbered consecutively through the year, indicate the date of the meeting where an instance of the item is found.
  - d. If “no,” provide any explanation you may want to share in the column labeled “comment.”
  - e. In the same column labeled “comment” add any comments you would like to make regarding any item.
3. On the reverse side of the checklist—or on another sheet of paper if you prefer—make a note of any issues you have encountered with any items on the checklist. Especially if some are not clear and the parenthetical references to the Book of Order do not clarify them, please let us know what may need more explanation.
4. If specific questions arise as you work on the checklist, feel free to call Cam on his cell number (404-556-8041). I’ll be happy to help, or to find the help needed.

So that we can certify 100% compliance with the review of Session Records at the October 2021 meeting of Presbytery of Western North Carolina, please complete the checklist and return it to the Stated Clerk **by September 15, 2021**, either by

1. Email to ([cmurc1@gmail.com](mailto:cmurc1@gmail.com)), or
2. Regular mail: 114 Silver Creek Road, Morganton, NC 28655

**14. THAT the dates have not been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training for 2021. However, the trainings will be held virtually via ZOOM.**

**The criteria for those who should attend is listed below.**

**For Pastors and Elders of the Presbytery:** According to our Presbytery’s policy, clergy and elders involved in leadership are required to take sexual misconduct training once every four years.

**For leaders of local congregations:** The workshop is open for all local leaders who want to educate themselves about healthy boundaries.

**Who should attend:** All persons designated below are required to have an approved three-hour workshop of sexual misconduct sponsored by the WNC Presbytery or equivalent training approved by the Sexual Misconduct Prevention Team.

All Presbytery professionals and Presbytery volunteers are required to have the three-hour training every four years with the following exceptions:

1. Exempted from training are fully retired Presbytery professionals who have “not opted in,” with its associated limitations of not serving on Presbytery Committees, preaching in local churches, leading workshops or retreats, or exercising other pastoral functions such as celebrating the sacraments, or conducting weddings and/or funerals unless a “Single Event” exception has been requested.
2. Members on the following committees, their sub-committees, and task forces are **ineligible for exemption** during the term of their membership:
 

General Council	Youth
Committee on Ministry	Christian Education
Examinations	Small Membership Church
Campus Mission	Permanent Judicial Commission
3. Members of all other existing committees are exempt, though changes to committee structures may require review of eligibility.
4. Transitional Pastors/Interims who are working within the bounds of the Presbytery who receive comparable hours of training in their judicatory, at least as frequently as required in our Presbytery, may be exempt.

**15. THAT the following dates have been set for 2021 and 2022 Presbytery Meetings:**

**2021**

- Saturday, January 30, 2021 – Virtually – via ZOOM
- Tuesday, April 27, 2021 – Virtually – via ZOOM
- Saturday, July 31, 2021 – Unity Presbyterian Church, Denver
- Tuesday, October 26, 2021 – *Seeking Host Location*

**2022**

- Saturday, January 29, 2022 – *Seeking Host Location*
- Tuesday, April 26, 2022 – Montreat Conference Center
- Saturday, July 30, 2022 – *Seeking Host Location*
- Tuesday, October 25, 2022 – *Seeking Host Location*

**16. THAT the following Session Records for 2019 have not been reviewed and are delinquent in meeting the requirements of the 2019-2021 Book of Order. For churches desiring to meet the requirements of the Book of Order and be in compliance, please contact Stated Clerk, Cam Murchison for further instructions.**

Belmont, First	Bridgewater (2017-2018)	Brittain (2017-2018)
Brittains Cove (2017-2018)	Buladean (2010-2018)	Columbus (2017-2018)
Conley Memorial (2017-2018)	Crossnore (2017-2018)	Etowah
Green Mountain (2012-2018)	Jack’s Creek (2013-2018)	Korean Pres. (2017-2018)
New Hope, Asheville	Pine Street (2006-2018)	Ridgeview (2006-2018)
Ryburn Memorial (2015-2018)	Southminster	Tryon
Vians Valley (2017-2018)		

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP  
AND CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

The General Presbyter, the Rev. Dr. Byron Wade, led us in worship, assisted by the Rev. Leah Epps of Fairview Presbyterian Church in Lenoir, and the Rev. John Hagmann of First Presbyterian Church, Morganton. Worship was led by the Revs. Byron Wade, John Hagmann and Leah Epps. The scripture and sermon were taken from Mark 1:21-28.



The sacrament of communion was celebrated, and all were able to partake in their homes. The lives of 13 ministers of the Word and Sacrament, 1 Christian Educator, and 86 elders of Presbytery who had passed on to the Church Triumphant during the year 2020 were celebrated.

Music was gloriously shared by Organist Glenn Little of the Davie Street Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, NC.

### **GENERAL COUNCIL**

On behalf of the General Council, Ruling Elder Dick Larson presented recommendations 1 thru 4 included in the General Council report, stating that these items had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda.

Items 5 thru 18 of the General Council report were presented as items for information and required no action.

**CA 1. THAT the Presbytery elect the following person to serve on the Nominating and Representation Committee:**

Mr. Bill Kantonen (Asheville, First) (B) Class of 2023

**CA 2. THAT permission be granted for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to be celebrated at Presbytery sponsored events, mission trips, UKirk Campus Ministry and Wee Kirk Presbyterian Church during 2021**

**CA 3. THAT permission be granted to the North Carolina Presbyterian Pilgrimage to celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at the Pilgrimage events during 2021.**

**CA 4. THAT Elder Melvin Meares be elected as Interim Treasurer of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina for 2021.**

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

**5. THAT the Corporate Officers for 2021 will be:**

President (Moderator of General Council) – Dick Larson  
Vice-President (Moderator of Presbytery) – Hal Bennett  
Secretary (Stated Clerk) – D. Cameron Murchison, Jr.  
Treasurer (Interim Treasurer of Presbytery) – Melvin Meares

**6. THAT the Leadership Team of the General Council for 2021 consists of:**

Chair (Moderator of General Council) – Dick Larson  
Vice-Chair (Moderator of Presbytery) – Hal Bennett  
Vice-Moderator of Presbytery – Sarah Thornburg  
Two At-Large Members – Dot Descieux and Whit Malone  
General Presbyter – Byron Wade  
Stated Clerk – Cam Murchison

**7. THAT the General Council reports dismissal with deep gratitude of the Administrative Commission for First Presbyterian Church of Swannanoa after more than six years of service, along with the approval of recommendations for using funds from the church**

to support Piney Grove Cemetery’s endowment and to support new worshipping communities and new church development in PWNC.

**8. THAT the General Council reports approval of the following Regional and International Nickel-A-Meal Hunger Grants:**

<b>REGIONAL GRANTS</b>			
Agency	Location	Sponsor Church	Amount Granted
Third Thursday Meal Program	Sherrill’s Ford	Sherrill’s Ford PC	\$5,000.00
Bounty & Soul	Black Mountain	Black Mountain PC	\$5,000.00
Dulatown Food Pantry	Lenoir	Dulatown PC	\$5,000.00
		Regional Total	\$15,000.00
<b>INTERNATIONAL GRANTS</b>			
Proyecto de Salud	Guatemala	PWNC	\$24,800.00
		International Total	\$24,800.00

9. **THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.**
10. **THAT the Christian Education Committee will sponsor a two-day virtual spirituality retreat, “Celtic Spirituality II,” for all people in the Presbytery, on March 12-13, 2021 via ZOOM. Retreat presenter will be Carl McColman. See flyer in CE section for more details.**
11. **THAT the following dates have been set for youth events in 2021:**  
 March 5-6, 2021 – High School Mission Retreat (Brevard-Davidson River PC)  
 April 24, 2021 – Adventure Day – Camp Grier, Old Fort
12. **THAT the Presbyterian Women will be holding their Spring Gathering on:**  
 Saturday, April 10, 2021
13. **THAT thanks were expressed to Lauren Vanacore for chairing the General Council during 2020, and for her years of service on the General Council and dedicated service to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.**
14. **THAT thanks were expressed to Keith Grogg and Holly Davis for their years on the General Council and their dedicated service to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.**
15. **THAT thanks were extended for the work of Lisa Pressley, Comptroller, and Jack Suddreth, Treasurer, for their work during 2020 and their longstanding service to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.**
16. **THAT the General Council will welcome invitations from churches or institutions willing to host Presbytery meetings in 2021 and 2022.**

17. **THAT the following dates have been set for 2021 and 2022 Presbytery Meetings:**

**2021**

Saturday, January 30, 2021 – Virtually – via ZOOM  
Tuesday, April 27, 2021 – Virtually – via ZOOM  
Saturday, July 31, 2021 – Unity Presbyterian Church, Denver  
Tuesday, October 26, 2021 – *Seeking Host Location*

**2022**

Saturday, January 29, 2022 – *Seeking Host Location*  
Tuesday, April 26, 2022 – Montreat Conference Center  
Saturday, July 30, 2022 – *Seeking Host Location*  
Tuesday, October 25, 2022 – *Seeking Host Location*

18. **THAT the dates will be established soon for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training for 2021: (TBA by separate email to Presbytery)**

**For Pastors and Elders of the Presbytery:** According to our presbytery’s policy, clergy and elders involved in leadership are required to take sexual misconduct training once every four years.

**For leaders of local congregations:** The workshop is open for all local leaders who want to educate themselves about healthy boundaries.

**Who should attend:** All persons designated below are required to have an approved three-hour workshop of sexual misconduct sponsored by the WNC Presbytery or equivalent training approved by the Sexual Misconduct Prevention Team.

All Presbytery professionals and Presbytery volunteers are required to have the three-hour training every four years with the following exceptions:

1. Exempted from training are fully retired Presbytery professionals who have availed themselves of this option, with its associated limitations of not serving on Presbytery Committees, preaching in local churches, leading workshops or retreats, or exercising other pastoral functions such as celebrating the sacraments, or conducting weddings and/or funerals unless a “Single Event” exception has been made to Presbytery.
2. Members on the following committees, their sub-committees, and task forces are **ineligible for exemption** during the term of their membership:

General Council	Youth
Committee on Ministry	Christian Education
Examinations	Joint Outdoor Ministry
Small Membership Church	Campus Mission
Permanent Judicial Commission	
3. Members of all other existing committees are exempt, though changes to committee structures may require review of eligibility.
4. **Transitional Pastors/Interims** who are working within the bounds of the Presbytery who receive comparable hours of training in their judicatory, at least as frequently as required in our Presbytery, may be exempt.

## **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Don Scofield reported on the work of the committee for 2020, presented the salaries of the Program Staff for 2021, and gave a report of their recommendations for 2021. The Personnel Committee recommended a 2% salary increase for the Presbytery staff be implemented for 2021. The motion was moved, seconded and approved. (Appendix M)

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Teaching Elder Charles Sellers updated the Presbytery on the work of the committee, the Presbytery, church contributions and Presbytery revenue and expenses.

The 2021 Budget of \$985,482 was presented, with the endorsement of the General Council, based on anticipated donations from churches being submitted during 2021. He expressed thanks to the Presbytery of WNC for the difference they are making in the churches. A motion was made to approve the 2021 Budget. The 2021 Budget of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina was approved. (Appendix N)

## **CHURCHES AND PASTORS COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY I. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

Teaching Elder Whit Malone reported on the actions taken by the Committee on Ministry on behalf of the Presbytery. (Appendix O)

Whit Malone, Chair of the committee, recognized all members who have been in the ministry for 25, 50, and 75 years, and those who complete the CLS Program during 2020. Also recognized at this time were ministers who have retired during the past year.

### 25 Years Service

C. Lynn Michie  
Margie B. Stansell  
Keith B. Freeman

### 50 Years Service

Patrick Hardy  
William J. Serjak  
Neal Lloyd

### 75 Years Service

James A. Cogswell

### Honorably Retired

Wanda Neely  
Luke Harkey  
Merri Alexander  
Charles Davenport  
Bobbi White  
Randall Boggs  
Terry Hanna  
Gary Van Brocklin  
Chris Taylor  
Joanne Glaser

### CLS Graduates (2020)

Richard Collier  
Frank Denniston  
Charlita Lytle  
Nancy McFadden

Teaching Elder Whit Malone reported that the following ministers requested honorable retirement:

- Christopher V. Taylor, effective November 1, 2020
- Kevin E. Frederick, effective January 31, 2021

## **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY II. PASTORAL TERMS OF CALL**

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Teaching Elder Whit Malone moved the following regarding Pastoral Terms of Call: (Appendix O)

(A) Beginning in July 2021, and continuing each following July thereafter, the COM will make recommendations to the Presbytery about minimum terms of call for the upcoming calendar year for decision and approval by the Presbytery. The recommendations will be

based on a percentage of the church wide median effective salary published in May of each year by the Board of Pensions.

(B) Beginning in July 2021, and continuing each following July, the COM will make recommendations to the Presbytery about increases in all other (non-minimum) terms of call for the upcoming calendar year for decision and approval by the Presbytery. The recommendations will be based on the percentage increase between the current year and the coming year of the church wide median effective salary published in May by the Board of Pensions.

(C) In light of the ongoing and perhaps worsening pandemic, the COM will discuss and decide the parameters and considerations for its recommendations as referenced in subparagraphs (a) and (b) herein on a date in calendar year 2021 to be set at the joint discretion of the General Presbyter and the Stated Clerk.

### **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

#### **III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MINISTERS**

On behalf of the Examinations Sub-Committee and Committee on Ministry, Teaching Elder Whit Malone introduced the Reverend Robert (Rob) M. Warren, as a new minister in the Presbytery. He will be serving the First Presbyterian Church in Marion, NC. His Statement of Faith and Biographical Statement were included in the report of the Committee on Ministry. (Appendix O)

### **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

#### **IV. VALIDATION OF MINISTRIES**

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Teaching Elder Whit Malone moved that the Presbytery validate the ministries of the following: (Appendix O)

- A. Bob McCully, as Treatment Director for Cherokee County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse in Gaffney, SC through October 27, 2021
- B. Cynthia Strickler, as Director and Head of Staff at Presbyterian Reformed Ministries, Int., through January 29, 2022.
- C. Lynn Bledsoe, as Ministries Associate for the Givens Communities in the Asheville area, through January 29, 2022.
- D. Clay Fouse, as Chaplain and Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Coordinator at the Charles George VA Medical Center in Asheville, through January 29, 2022.
- E. Tamara Puffer, as Minister of Vulnerability at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Asheville, through January 29, 2022.

### **COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

#### **V. COMMISSIONED PASTOR**

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry and the Examinations Committee, Teaching Elder Whit Malone recommended that the Presbytery approve Robin Honeycutt and Lynn Honeycutt to be commissioned as commissioned pastors to Sweetwater Presbyterian Church in Hickory, NC. Following questions and answers, the motion passed. Moderator Hal Bennett then offered prayer. The commissioning for Robin Honeycutt and Lynn Honeycutt is to include permission to celebrate the Sacraments, moderate the Session and officiate at weddings. The moderator thanked the congregation of Sweetwater Presbyterian Church for sharing Robin and Lynn Honeycutt with the Presbytery. (Appendix O)

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

On behalf of the Christian Education Committee, Vivian Hare reported on the work of the committee and invited all to attend the Spirituality Retreat to be held virtually March 12-13, 2021. A video was shared about the upcoming retreat. (Appendix P)

## **PEACE AND JUSTICE**

The Rev. Jill Isola reported on the Matthew 25 Initiative and shared a video about it.

## **BOARD OF PENSIONS**

Elizabeth Little, Church Consultant for the Board of Pensions, was invited to address the body with updates and information on the work of the Board of Pensions. She shared the following items of interest:

- On March 1, 2021, the Board will go paperless. Invoices will be accessed on-line.
- On January 1, 2021, prescription service was switched from Optum RX to Express Scripts.
- Temporary disability was added to the benefits package for ministers for 2021.

## **REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER**

The General Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Byron Wade, reported on his activities these past few months, and shared his offer of “video lunch dates” for those interested. (Appendix Q)

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rev. Tempe Fussell, pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Franklin, led the Presbytery in prayers of intercession.

## **BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT**

With the business of the 126th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, Moderator Bennett adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m. with a summary of the meeting and prayer.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The 127th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 via ZOOM.

These minutes were prepared by the following:

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Harold “Hal” Bennett, Moderator

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D. Cameron Murchison, Stated Clerk

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Robbin Buchanan, Assistant Stated Clerk

These minutes to be approved by Presbytery on April 27, 2021 at its virtual meeting to be held by ZOOM.

## **APPENDICES**

- A. Consent Agenda**
- B. Nominating Committee Report**
- C. Committee on Preparation for Ministry**
- D. Guatemala Partnership & Micro Loan Project**
- E. Peacemaking – Earth Care**
- F. Youth Committee Report**
- G. Building Hope Report**
- H. Permanent Judicial Commission Roster**
- I. Current List of Ministers as of December 2020**
- J. Administrative Commission Report for First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton; West Avenue Presbyterian Church, and Churches Concluding Their Ministry**
- K. Minutes of Installation for Michael Poulos**
- L. Minutes of Ordination for Kathryn McGinnis**
- M. Personnel Committee Report**
- N. Finance Committee Report**
- O. Committee on Ministry Report**
- P. Christian Education Committee Report**
- Q. General Presbyter Report**

*For a copy of the Appendices, please contact the Presbytery Office.  
(828/438-4217 or [rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org](mailto:rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org))*