

**PRESBYTERY OF
WESTERN
NORTH CAROLINA**



**MINUTES
ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SECOND
STATED MEETING
July 30, 2022**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Call to Order	3
Constitution	3
Orientation.....	3
Appointment of Standing Committees.....	3
Attendance	3-8
Approval of Docket	8-10
Consent Agenda	10
Stated Clerk's Report	10-11
Worship.....	11
General Council	11-13
Guatemala Partnership	13-14
Youth Committee	14
225 th General Assembly	14
Committee on Preparation for Ministry	14
Committee on Ministry	14-16
Report of the General Presbyter	16
Prayers of Intercession	16
Benediction and Adjournment	16
Next Meeting	16
Appendices	17

The Presbytery of Western North Carolina
132nd Stated Meeting
July 31, 2022
Virtual Meeting – via ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER

Ruling Elder Sarah Thornburg, Moderator, convened the 132nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:00 a.m. with prayer.

CONSTITUTION

The Moderator, Ruling Elder Sarah Thornburg opened the One-Hundred Thirty-Second Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina with prayer.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Moderator Ms. Sarah Thornburg continued our land acknowledgement today by specifically remembering that we live, worship, and serve in the region of the Native lands of the Catawba, Sugaree, and Cherokee peoples among others; paying our respects to elders of the past and present, known and unknown.

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. The orientation process was concluded after the orientation and identifying all in attendance.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Presbytery of WNC conducted its 132nd Stated Meeting via ZOOM, thereby eliminating the appointment of standing committees. Marie Palacios, Guatemala Partnership Coordinator, John Pea, Commissioned Pastor at Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison served as co-hosts in the ZOOM meeting, helping with technical matters. The Presbytery in Brief for the 132nd Stated Meeting will be written by the Rev. Bob Abel, Pastor, and Linda Abel, Commissioned Pastor at Hayesville Presbyterian Church. Micah Hayes, Assistant Director of Media Ministries at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, managed the Livestream of the meeting.

ATTENDANCE

The Stated Clerk declared that a quorum was present by referencing our registration data and observing those in attendance.

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	Merriam Alexander	E
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	E	Ronald Botsford	E	Lee Bowman	E
Richard Boyce	P	Grace Boyer	P	David Bradley	E

Ryan Brakemeyer	A	Ronald Brauer	E	Hayden Britton	E
Sandra Brown	E	Thomas Brown	E	William Buchanan	A
Monty Burnham	E	Sue Burton	E	Constance Button	P
Joey T. Byrd	A	David Cameron	E	Kathryn J. Cameron	E
John T. Campbell	E	Kathy Campbell	P	Amy Cantrell	A
H. Pride Carson	E	Dwight Christenbury	P	William Christian	E
Richard Coble	E	Sarah Coburn	A	James Cockerham	E
Jeffrey R. Coffey	E	Evelyn Coleman	A	J. Hunter Coleman	E
Daniel Commerford	P	Monty Cook	E	Thomas C. Cook, Jr.	E
Donald L. Cooper	E	W. Riley Covin	P	Robert Bruce Cumming	P
James Dale	E	Blake J. Daniel	A	Charles W. Davenport	P
Dent C. Davis	E	Heather Wood Davis	E	Holly K. Davis	E
Arthur DeJong	E	Susan Denne	E	Janet DeWater	P
Edward D. Donnell	E	Ellen H. Dozier	P	Steven Eason	E
Robert Edmunds	E	Stephen Elderbrock	A	Leah E. Epps	P
Lee S. Feero, Jr.	E	David Carter Florence	A	Richard Floyd	P
P. Edward Forsyth	E	Clarence D. Fouse, III	P	Kevin E. Frederick	P
Keith B. Freeman	P	Schaap Freeman	P	John L. Frye, Jr.	E
R. Curtis Fussell, III	P	Tempe Fussell	P	Willis Gaines	P
Paul Galbreath	P	Lewis F. Galloway	E	Robert D. Gamble	P
David Garnett	E	Lisle Garrity	A	Tee G. Gatewood	E
Denise Geiger	E	David Germer	A	Samantha Gonzalez-Block	A
Gregory Grana	E	Theodore Grant	E	Keith Grogg	A
Decherd Guess	E	Rebecca Gurney	P	John Hagmann	P
Samuel W. Hale	E	Michal H. Hall	E	Terry L. Hanna	E
Patrick Hardy	E	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	A	David Holloway	A	James S. Hornsby	E
David Hosick	E	Carol Hovis	A	William R. Hoyt, III	E
George B. Hutchins	E	Jill V. Isola	P	Donald Jafvert	E
William M. Janes	E	Esta M. Jarrett	A	Cecil M. Jividen	E
Caitlin Johnson	P	G. Wallace Johnson	E	Katherine B. Johnson	A
Patrick Johnson	P	Franklin Jones	A	Rebecca S. Jones	A
Shannon D. Jordan	P	Kimberly L. Justice	A	Joseph Kang	A
David Kaylor	E	Lynne Keel	A	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	A	Jamie Bibee Lloyd	E	Neal Lloyd	E
Laura Long	E	Billy T. Lowe	E	William Lowery	E
Robert L. Lowry	E	Alexandra Lusak	P	David R. Lytle	A
Kathleen Madigan	E	J. Whit Malone	E	Andrew Mangione	A
Marjorie Marsh	P	Joan C. Martin	P	Roberta Martin	E
W. Tyler Martin	E	John S. McCall	A	Sandra McClinton	E
Rachael M. McConnell	A	Robert A. McCully, Jr.	P	David W. McKee	P

Michael T. McKee	A	Megan McMillan	P	Alex P. McNeill	A
Kenyon Meeks, Jr.	A	C. Lynn Michie	A	Beth Ann Miller	P
Robert L. Montgomery	P	Sarah Grace Montgomery	P	Anne Morgan	E
S. Keith Morrison	A	David E. Mulford	E	D. Cameron Murchison	P
David Nash	P	Wanda Neely	E	William K. Neely	E
Thomas G. Nelson	E	Elizabeth D. Newman	P	John H. Niles	E
Richard Nygren	E	Daniel J. Oedy	A	O'Hyun Park	E
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	A	E. Allen Proctor, Jr.	E
Edyth P. Pruitt	A	Tamara Puffer	E	Allan Purtill	A
Jay K. Rabuck	E	Daria L. Ragan	E	Earl M. Rash	E
Mary Elizabeth Ray	P	Patricia Reid	P	G. Harriss Ricks	E
Don Robb, III	E	Mary Katherine Robinson	A	William (Billy) Robinson	A
David Roquemore	P	Steven Runholt	E	T. Feild Russell	P
Richard M. Rustay	E	Donald Scofield	E	Henry D. Scoggins	E
Carol N. Seaman	E	Dana V. Seiler	E	Caroline Sell	P
Nathan Sell	P	William Serjak	E	Albert D. Shaw	E
Marcia Mount Shoop	A	Mary Elizabeth Sigmon	P	Robert Singdahlsen	E
Wirt Skinner	E	Allen Smith	P	David B. Smith	P
Paul S. Smith	A	John N. Somerville	E	Becky B. Stanley	E
J. Mark Stanley	P	Margie B. Stansell	P	Carol Steele	A
Daniel G. Stitt	E	Cynthia R. P. Strickler	E	William B. Sweetser, Jr.	E
Christopher Taylor	E	Beverly Thompson	P	George Thompson, Jr.	E
Keith J. Thompson	P	Denise Thorpe	E	Yvonne M. Thurmond	P
Russell D. Tillotson, Sr.	E	Daniel Tipton	A	Kathleen Rankin Tompkins	A
Lynn Turnage	E	Christina B. Tutterow	E	Robert J. Tuttle	E
Melissa Anne Upchurch	P	Gary Van Brocklin	E	Lauren S. Vanacore	E
Susan Verbrugge	A	Christopher P. Vogado	A	Byron A. Wade	P
Rockwell P. Ward	E	Samuel P. Warner	A	Robert M. Warren	E
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
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	E
Kerry Border	A	Mildred Bruns	A	Vickie Burgess	P
Tamika Garrison	A	John Hall	P	Beth Hall	P
Lynn Honeycutt	A	Robin Honeycutt	P	Kenneth Humphreys	A
Linda Johnson	A	James Koone	E	Peggy Koone	E
Deborah Lesenger	A	James Millsaps	A	Marla Patchel	P
Randy Patterson	A	John Pea	P	Marcia Reighley	A
Russell Reighley	P	Barbara Ross	P	James Taylor	P
William M. Upchurch, Jr.	A	Sheila Renee Warthen	A	Roger Wise	P

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

John Auten	A	Royce Browder	A	Virginia Bradford	A
Bill Carpenter	A	Lois Camp	A	Don Coleman	A
Jan Duncan	A	Peggy Ferguson	A	Betsy Fonvielle	A
Bob Forsythe	P	Corise Gambrell	P	Rob Groves	P
Dennis Howell	A	Dick Larson	A	Rick Leissner	P
Melvin Meares	E	Katherine Mull	A	Roger Rizk	A
Julia Rush	A	Laura Carringer Russell	P	Katrina Shambaugh	P
Laura Sigmon	A	Becky Stevens	P	Sarah Thornburg	P
Ron Tingle	P	Paula Wallace	A		

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

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

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

Arbor Dale (2)	A		
Asheville First (4)	Donna Ensley	Micki Argail	Cindy Clarke
Banner Elk (2)	Rick Garrett		
Belmont First (4)	Sue Johnson		
Bessemer City First(2)	A		
Black Mountain (3)	Gay Ferguson	Margo Smith	
Brevard-Davidson River (3)	Julie Duval	Frank Porter	Kathryn Clark
Bridgewater (2)	A		
Brittain (2)	A		
Brittain's Cove (2)	A		
Bryson City (2)	Collin Caldwell		
Buladean (2)	A		
Burnsville, First (2)	A		
Calvary (3)	E		
Canton (2)	A		
Cherryville, First (2)	E		
Clinchfield (2)	A		
Columbus (2)	A		
Crossnore (2)	Marie Cook		
Dallas First (2)	Nina Greene		
Dixon (2)	A		
Dorland Memorial (2)	A		
Dulatown (3)	Helen Hall		
Etowah (2)	A		
Fairview (2)	A		
Fletcher (2)	Mimi Gossett		

Forest City First (2)	Mary Sandra Costner-Sparrow		
Franklin First (2)	A		
Gastonia, First (3)	Becky Adams	Kevin Schultz	
Good Hope (2)	James Tate		
Grace Covenant (2)	Martha Deddon		
Grassy Creek (1)	A		
Green Mountain (1)	A		
Green Street (2)	A		
Hayesville (1)	Don Schneider		
Hendersonville First (1)	A		
Hickory First (3)	Terry Appenzeller		
Highlands First (1)	A		
Ironton (1)	A		
Jack's Creek (1)	A		
Kenilworth (1)	Dot Descieux		
Korean Church of Asheville (2)	A		
Lenoir First (1)	Donna Fellers		
Long Creek (1)	A		
Love's Chapel (2)	A		
Lowell (1)	A		
Marion First (1)	Keith Leazer		
Marshall (1)	Lynn Simpson		
Micaville (1)	A		
Mills River (1)	Jeannie Hardin		
Montreat (1)	James Henderson		
Morganton First (2)	Ed McDaniel	Maggie McKinney	
Morrison (1)	A		
Mount Holly First (1)	A		
New Hope (Asheville) (1)	Andrew Morse		
New Hope (Gastonia) (1)	A		
Newdale (1)	A		
Newland (1)	A		
Newton First (2)	A		
Northminster (1)	Ginger Sermon		
Oak Forest (1)	A		
Oakwood (1)	A		
Old Fort (1)	A		
Olney (1)	A		
Pine Street (2)	A		
Pineola (1)	A		
Quaker Meadows (1)	A		
Reems Creek-Beech (1)	A		

Ridgeview (1)	A		
Robinson Memorial (1)	Mildred Laughridge		
Rutherfordton (2)	A		
Ryburn Memorial (2)	A		
Saluda (1)	A		
Shelby (2)	Benjamin Brooks		
Sherrill's Ford (1)	A		
Shiloh, Grover (1)	A		
Siloam (1)	A		
Southminster (2)	A		
Spruce Pine First (1)	Rhonda Gunter		
Sweetwater (1)	A		
Sylva First (1)	David Noland		
Third Street (2)	Terry Taylor	Carolyn Werts	
Trinity (2)	Leslie Nissen	Steve Culp	
Tryon (2)	A		
Union (1)	A		
Union Mills (1)	A		
United (1)	Candice Triplett		
Unity (2)	Ann Lampron		
Vians Valley (1)	A		
Waldensian (2)	Debbie Garrou	Judy Waldrop	
Walnut (1)	Isaac Lassiter		
Warren Wilson (1)	A		
Waynesville First (1)	A		

Ministers	83
Elders	46
Council/Committees	9
DCE	1
Visitors	8
TOTAL	147

APPROVAL OF DOCKET

Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison, the 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

**Sarah Thornburg,
Moderator**

Convene with Prayer of Invocation

**Sarah Thornburg,
Moderator**

Land Acknowledgement

Sarah Thornburg

Appointment of Host, Co-Host & Standing Committees

Sarah Thornburg

Recognition of Elders Attending for First Time 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

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

K

Missions Committee

S

Peace and Justice

T

Finance

BB

Building H.O.P.E.

BH

Reports from 225th General Assembly Commissioners

JJ

9:15 Service of Worship, including Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Worship leader: John Pea

Preparations: In preparation for the Sacrament, we invite you to look through your kitchen to find "bread and beverage." While there is rich symbolism in the elements we traditionally use to celebrate the Lord's Supper, the Church also has a long history of using the most fitting materials that are readily available at any given time and setting. Feel free to be creative and use what you have on hand.

10:05 Breakout Rooms (10 minutes)

10:15 General Council (15 minutes)

Hal Bennett

C

(Work of the committee)

Guatemala Partnership Report (12 minutes)

Marie Palacios/Kevin Frederick

Q

Youth Ministry (5 minutes)

Sarah Grace Montgomery

Y

(Work of the committee)

225th General Assembly: Impressions (5 minutes)

Collin Caldwell

Preparation for Ministry (10 minutes)

Dwight Christenbury

K

- Recommendation regarding Brandon Davis

Committee on Ministry (20 minutes)

Jim Taylor

D

(Work of the committee, Recommendations for Presbytery approval)

- Presentation of Megan McMillan – Mills River
- Presentation of Richard Floyd – First Presbyterian, Hickory

Report of the General Presbyter (*5 minutes*)

Byron Wade **GP**

Prayers of the People

Keith Thompson

Benediction and Adjournment

Sarah Thornburg

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 10 through 11 of the packet for the meeting. The consent agenda and committee reports were approved by common consent. (Appendix A)

Reports submitted for information and/or included in the Consent Agenda

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (Appendix B)

Missions Committee (Appendix C)

Peace and Justice (Appendix D)

Finance (Appendix E)

Building H.O.P.E. (Appendix F)

Reports from 225th General Assembly Commissioners (Appendix G)

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison, the Stated Clerk, presented recommendations 1 through 5 included in the Stated Clerk's report, stating that these recommendations had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda.

The Stated Clerk then presented items 6 through 9 for information that required no action.

- CA 1. THAT Sarah Thornburg, Cam Murchison, and Robbin Buchanan be requested to prepare the minutes of this Presbytery meeting for approval at the October 25, 2022 Presbytery meeting.**
- CA 2. THAT the minutes of the April 26, 2022, Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.**
- CA 3. THAT the Presbytery accept the report of membership and worship statistics as submitted by the Sessions on the Annual Statistical Report. (Appendix H – Membership Statistics and Appendix I – Worship Statistics)**
- CA 4. THAT the July 2022 report of the following Administrative Commissions be received and entered into the permanent record of Presbytery. (Appendix J)**
 Administrative Commission for West Asheville Presbyterian Church
 Administrative Commission for Churches Concluding Ministry
- CA 5. THAT the Committee on Nominating/Representation, having completed their annual report for the year ending December 31, 2021, and submitted it to the Synod of the**

Mid-Atlantic, requests that it become a part of the permanent record of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. (Appendix K)

FOR INFORMATION:

- 6. THAT the 133rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese, NC. *THAT the deadline for written reports for this meeting is Thursday, October 6, 2022. THAT the deadline for an overture is Thursday, September 26, 2022.***
- 7. THAT ONLINE OPTIONS FOR BOUNDARY TRAINING have been sent to Ministers and Commissioned Pastors who are due for training this year. Members are reminded to sign up for one of the two options as soon as possible in order that debriefing sessions by Zoom might be scheduled in the early fall.**
- 8. THAT the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the scheduled Clerk of Session Trainings and Reviewing of Church Record during 2022. Each clerk was asked to follow the process as outlined in the correspondence from the Stated Clerk dated March 1, 2022. In order to certify 100% compliance with the review of Session Records at the October 2022 meeting of the Presbytery of WNC, clerks were asked to complete a records review checklist with documentation and return it to the Stated Clerk by September 15, 2022.**

The following records reviews have been received and approved by the Stated Clerk thus far:

Arbor Dale	Banner Elk	Bessemer City, First
Black Mountain	Brevard-Davidson River	Brittains Cove
Crossnore	Dallas, First	Dixon
Fairview	Lowell	Mills River
Newland	Newton, First	Siloam

- 9. THAT TERMS OF CALL for 2022 that have been received at the presbytery office are included in the packet for this meeting. Churches that have not yet reported terms for Ministers of Word and Sacrament are encouraged to do so promptly so that a complete report can be made available at the October 2022 meeting. (Appendix O)**

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

John Pea, Commissioned Pastor of Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, led us in worship. The sermon was entitled "Who Tells the Story?", with scripture taken from Acts 26:4-18.

Worship concluded with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Our musician for the day was Ashley Burke of Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

GENERAL COUNCIL

On behalf of the General Council, Teaching Elder Hal Bennett presented recommendation 1 included in the General Council's report. The recommendation/motion passed by common consent.

Teaching Elder Hal Bennett presented items 2 through 12 for information that required no action.

1. **THAT the Presbytery join the General Council in the Resolution of Appreciation (Appendix L) for the service of Billy Robinson as Associate Presbyter and that it be included as part of the permanent record of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. (Appendix L)**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

2. **THAT the General Council approved the repaying of PILP Mortgage Grants of five churches within the Presbytery at a 35% discount.**
3. **THAT the General Council approved with advice from the Finance Committee to designate \$200,000.00 from the sale of church properties to Affordable Housing projects across the Presbytery. And, that the Mission Committee develops and administers the grant process, creating application forms, publicizing the grants, and more. That the Mission Committee would evaluate and approve grant requests and then forward them to the General Council for final approval.**
4. **THAT the General Council approved with advice from the Finance Committee to designate a total of \$50,000.00 from the sale of church properties to the Artisan Church over the next four (4) years at \$12,500.00 per year. This would allow the Artisan Church to invest more heavily in evangelism/outreach, youth and children's ministry and technology needs over the next four years. This is in addition to the \$165,000 over five years previously committed to Artisan Church.**
5. **THAT the General Council approved with advice from the Finance Committee to designate a total of \$200,000.00 from the sale of church properties to support New Church Development across the Presbytery.**
6. **THAT the General Council approved with advice from the Finance Committee that an annual review be conducted of available funds from the sale of church properties to determine if any adjustments (either up or down) should be recommended for the support of Affordable Housing and New Church Development.**
7. **THAT the General Council approved the guarantee of a loan in the amount of \$48,000 for First Presbyterian Church, Burnsville, NC, from Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Investment and Loan Program.**
8. **THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.**
9. **THAT the General Council will welcome an invitation from a church or an institution willing to host the Presbytery meeting in October 2023 and October 2024.**
10. **THAT the following dates have been set for 2022, 2023, and 2024 Presbytery Meetings:**

2022

Saturday, July 30, 2022 – Virtual

Tuesday, October 25, 2022 – Waldensian Presbyterian Church

2023

Saturday, January 28, 2023 - Virtual
Tuesday, April 25, 2023 – Montreat Conference Center
Saturday, July 29, 2023 - Virtual
Tuesday, October 24, 2023 – Seeking Host Location

2024

Saturday, January 27, 2024 – Virtual
Tuesday, April 30, 2024 – Montreat Conference Center
Saturday, July 27, 2024 – Virtual
Tuesday, October 29, 2024 – Seeking Host Location

- 11. THAT the General Council granted permission to Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, NC, to sell real property identified as 0.53 acres on Little River Trail, 420 in the city of Eastonton, Putnam County, GA 31024. The property was donated to Trinity Presbyterian Church by Elizabeth Brown Sloop, widow of the late Rev. Stephen J. Sloop, who was a retired PCUSA Minister of the Word and Sacrament.**
- 12. THAT the General Council reports approval of the following Regional and International Nickel-A-Meal Hunger Grants:**

REGIONAL REQUESTS

Agency	Requested Amount	Approved Amount
Asheville Poverty Initiative	\$8,500	\$8,500
Dulatown Community Food Pantry	\$7,500	\$7,500
Canton Community Kitchen	\$10,000	\$10,000
Haywood Community Learning Center	\$6,000	\$6,000
Homebound Mobile Grocery Sharing House - Brevard	\$10,000	\$10,000
Matt's Ministry	\$5,000	\$5,000

INTERNATIONAL REQUESTS

Nkhoma Hospital - Malawi (baby formula)	\$35,159.70	\$11,000
---	-------------	----------

Funds Available	\$58,517.64
Funds Used Spring 2022	\$58,000.00
Funds Remaining for future grants	\$ 517.64

GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP

Marie Palacios, Rev. Dr. Kevin Frederick, and Rev. Ellen Dozier reported on their May 2022 trip to Guatemala. They visited sister churches, schools, pastors, and church leaders with whom we have the Partnership Program. The Partnership Program has been a developing program for over 28 years, working in the areas of education, health, microloans, and developing sister church relationships. The program is now reaching out and expanding the teaching of the “Men in the Mirror” curriculum beyond Guatemala to other countries. (Appendix M)

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Rev. Sarah Grace Montgomery, co-chair of the Youth Ministries Committee, reported on upcoming Youth Events in the Presbytery of WNC and free resources that are available online.

- October 2, 2022, Youth Rally for both middle and high school youth at Montreat, Upper Anderson.
- November 5-6, 2022, Middle School Retreat at Camp Grier, Old Fort, with keynote speaker Rev. John Fawcett.

In addition to the events, she shared the list of new Youth Council members for 2022-2023 and requested prayer for the Youth Council and its leaders.

Available online are the free Study, Recreation, and Worship booklets for Youth Leaders entitled, “When Did We See You?” These booklets were to be used at Youth Triennium. (Appendix N)

225th GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT

Ruling Elder Collin Caldwell, from the Bryson City Presbyterian Church, shared his experiences of the 225th General Assembly. He served on the Immigration Committee which sought to come up with concrete ways to express “loving our neighbors as ourselves. The theme for the 225th General Assembly was “From Lament to Hope.” (Appendix G)

Reports from other General Assembly Commissioners can be found in Appendix G.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

On behalf of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Rev. Dwight Christenbury made the following recommendation to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. (Appendix B)

- I. Recommends that Brandon Davis’ period of candidacy be concluded as of this meeting of Presbytery on July 30, 2022, in order that he may be free to receive and accept a call.

The recommendation was approved by common consent without objection.

Rev. Christenbury then reported the following on behalf of the committee:

- Jill Kimbirl, a member of the Belmont First Presbyterian Church, was enrolled as an Inquirer on May 18, 2022.
- Brandon Davis, a member of the Arbor Dale Presbyterian Church, was certified ready to receive a call on May 18, 2022.

CHURCHES AND PASTORS

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

I. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

Ruling Elder James Taylor reported on the actions taken by the Committee on Ministry on behalf of the Presbytery. (Appendix O)

Ruling Elder James Taylor reported that the following minister requested honorable retirement:

- J. Whit Malone, effective June 30, 2022.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
II. VALIDATION OF MINISTRIES

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Ruling Elder James Taylor moved that the Presbytery validate the ministries of the following: (Appendix O)

- Rev. Joe Bennett, Chaplain, Compassionate Care WNC
- Rev. Ryan Brakemeyer, Pastor, Grace Reformed United Church of Christ
- Rev. John Campbell, Counselor, Eastatoe Trail Counseling and Consultation Center
- Rev. Daniel Tipton, Grief Services Director, Four Seasons Compassion for Life

The recommendation was approved by common consent without objection.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MINISTERS

On behalf of the Examinations Sub-Committee and Committee on Ministry, Elder James Taylor introduced Megan Hamilton McMillan and Richard Aubrey Floyd as new ministers in the Presbytery. They spoke briefly. Their Statements of Faith and Biographical Statements were included in the report of the Committee on Ministry. (Appendix O)

- Megan Hamilton McMillan, from Tampa Bay Presbytery to Presbytery of Western North Carolina to serve as Pastor, Mills River Presbyterian Church, effective July 1, 2022.
- Richard Aubrey Floyd, from Greater Atlanta Presbytery to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina to serve as Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Hickory, effective September 6, 2022.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
IV. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Ruling Elder Jim Taylor presented the following recommendations to the Presbytery and moved for approval. The recommendations were approved by common consent without objection.

- In 2023, the PWNC minimum effective salary be increased by 4.3% to \$36,762.50, representing 57% of the 2023 median.

In 2023, Presbytery recommends that its congregations consider at least a 4.3% increase to effective salary for all other ministers.

- Pursuant to PWNC policy on transitional pastor becoming installed pastor, that the congregation of Bryson City Presbyterian Church be allowed to call Elizabeth Newman as the Installed Pastor with a designated term of two years.
- Recommend the suggested amendments to Section IV of The Policy for Transitional to Installed Pastor:

As the end of the designated term approaches:

- A. The pastor with a designated term can be installed for an indefinite term as pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor. In this case, with the approval of Presbytery *through COM* a congregational meeting shall be held to call the pastor for an indefinite term which, if favorable, will be followed by *COM recording a transition to installed for an indefinite term in its minutes.*

- B. The designated period shall be extended by one or two years if recommended by the congregation and Presbytery *through COM*.
- C. The pastoral relationship can be terminated by the pastor's resignation, the non-renewal of the call by the congregation, or by action of the Presbytery *through COM*.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

Rev. Byron Wade, General Presbyter reported on several staff changes.

- Rev. Billy Robinson, Associate Presbyter has resigned effective July 31, 2022.
- Rev. Dr. Charles Davenport, Presbytery Associate will retire from the Presbytery of WNC effective August 31, 2022.
- Barbara Ross, Presbytery Associate, will leave her position effective December 31, 2022.

He also gave an update from the Revisioning Task Force, which has a “design” team and a “committee” team that are examining the overall structure and committees of the Presbytery. He asked that the Presbytery keep this task force in prayer as they continue their work. (Appendix P)

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Keith Thompson, Pastor at Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, led the Presbytery in prayers of intercession.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

With the business of the 132nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, Moderator Thornburg adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m. with prayer.

NEXT MEETING

The 133rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese, NC.

These minutes were prepared by the following:

Sarah Thornburg, Moderator

D. Cameron Murchison, Stated Clerk

Robbin Buchanan, Assistant Stated Clerk

These minutes are to be approved by Presbytery on October 25, 2022, at the 133rd Stated Meeting to be held at Waldensian Presbyterian Church in Valdese, NC.

APPENDICES

- A. Consent Agenda**
- B. Committee on Preparation for Ministry**
- C. Missions Committee Report**
- D. Peace and Justice Report**
- E. Finance Committee Report**
- F. Building H.O.P.E. Report**
- G. Reports from the 225th General Assembly Commissioners**
- H. Administrative Commission Report for West Asheville Presbyterian Church, and Churches Concluding Their Ministry**
- I. 2021 Membership Statistics**
- J. 2021 Worship Statistics**
- K. Committee on Representation Annual Report**
- L. Resolution of Appreciation for Billy Robinson**
- M. Guatemala Partnership Report**
- N. Youth Committee Report**
- O. Committee on Ministry Report**
- P. Report from the General Presbyter**

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