

**PRESBYTERY OF
WESTERN
NORTH CAROLINA**



**MINUTES
ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-THIRD
STATED MEETING
October 25, 2022**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Call to Order	3
Constitution	3
Land Acknowledgement	3
Welcome	3
Appointment of Standing Committees	3
Attendance	4-8
Approval of Docket	9-10
Consent Agenda	10
Stated Clerk's Report	10-12
Service of Worship	12
General Council	13-14
Christian Education Committee	15
Texas Presbyterian Foundation	15
Youth Committee	15
Committee on Ministry	15-16
Report of the General Presbyter	16
Malawi Leadership Team	16
Resolution of Thanks	16-17
Prayers of Intercession	17
Benediction and Adjournment	17
Next Meeting	18
Appendices	19

**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina
133rd Stated Meeting
October 25, 2022
Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese, NC**

CALL TO ORDER

Ruling Elder Sarah Thornburg, Moderator, convened the 133rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:00 a.m. with prayer in the Sanctuary of the Waldensian Presbyterian Church in Valdese, North Carolina.

CONSTITUTION

The Moderator, Ruling Elder Sarah Thornburg, opened the One-Hundred Thirty-Third Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina in the Sanctuary of the Waldensian Presbyterian Church with prayer.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Moderator Sarah Thornburg began the meeting with a land acknowledgement, noting that “We live, worship, and serve in the native lands of the Catawba, Sugeree, and Cherokee.”

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. John Frye, Transitional Pastor at Waldensian Presbyterian Church, and Commissioned Pastor Tamika Garrison brought greetings from the Waldensian Presbyterian Church. They particularly highlighted the museum tours available at the Waldensian Presbyterian Church.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing Committees:

Resolution of Thanks:

Rev. David Roquemore, First Presbyterian Church, Newton
Elder, Brenda Eckard, First Presbyterian Church, Newton

Presbytery in Brief:

Rev. David Bonnema, Unity Presbyterian Church

Bills and Overtures:

Rev. Allan Purtill, Tryon Presbyterian Church
Ron Howard, Ruling Elder, Trinity Presbyterian Church
Roger Wise, Commissioned Ruling Elder/CP, Fletcher Presbyterian Church

Tellers:

Elder, John Heilman, Waldensian Presbyterian Church
Elder, Katherine Fletcher, Waldensian Presbyterian Church
Elder, David Fletcher, Waldensian Presbyterian Church
Elder, Eddie Zimmerman, Waldensian Presbyterian Church
Elder, Barbie Heilman, Waldensian Presbyterian Church
Elder, Martha Garrison, Waldensian Presbyterian Church

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	E	Kat Achtemeier	E	Mark Achtemeier	E
Jefferson Aiken, Jr.	E	Wyatt Aiken, Jr.	E	Merriam Alexander	E
Terry Alexander	E	Stephen Aschmann	E	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	A	Randall Boggs	E
David Bonnema	P	Ronald Botsford	E	Lee Bowman	E
Richard Boyce	P	Grace Boyer	E	David Bradley	A
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	E	Kathryn J. Cameron	E
John T. Campbell	E	Kathy Campbell	E	Amy Cantrell	A
H. Pride Carson	E	Dwight Christenbury	P	William Christian	E
Richard Coble	P	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	E	Robert Bruce Cumming	E
James Dale	E	Blake J. Daniel	A	Charles W. Davenport	E
Dent C. Davis	E	Heather Wood Davis	P	Holly K. Davis	A
Arthur DeJong	E	Susan Denne	E	Janet DeWater	E
Edward D. Donnell	E	Ellen H. Dozier	E	Steven Eason	E
Robert Edmunds	E	Stephen Elderbrock	E	Leah E. Epps	P
Lee S. Feero, Jr.	E	David Carter Florence	P	Richard Floyd	E
P. Edward Forsyth	E	Clarence D. Fouse, III	A	Kevin E. Frederick	P
Keith B. Freeman	P	Schaap Freeman	A	John L. Frye, Jr.	P
Laurie Furr-Vancini	P	R. Curtis Fussell, III	E	Tempe Fussell	E
Willis Gaines	E	Paul Galbreath	E	Lewis F. Galloway	P
Robert D. Gamble	E	David Garnett	A	Lisle Garrity	A
Tee G. Gatewood	E	Denise Geiger	E	David Germer	P
Samantha Gonzalez-Block	A	Gregory Grana	E	Theodore Grant	E
Keith Grogg	P	Decherd Guess	E	Rebecca Gurney	A
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	E	William G. Heck	E	Robert T. Henderson	E
Julie Hester	E	J. Robert Hewett	E	J. Richard Hobson	E
J. Samuel Hobson, Jr.	E	James J. Holeman	P	David Holloway	E
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	E
Cecil M. Jividen	E	Caitlin Johnson	E	G. Wallace Johnson	E
Katherine B. Johnson	E	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	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	E	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	A	J. Whit Malone	P
Andrew Mangione	P	Marjorie Marsh	E	Joan C. Martin	P
Roberta Martin	E	W. Tyler Martin	E	John S. McCall	A
Sandra McClinton	A	Rachael M McConnell	A	Robert A. McCully, Jr.	A
David W. McKee	E	Michael T. McKee	P	Megan McMillan	P
Alex P. McNeill	A	Kenyon Meeks, Jr.	E	C. Lynn Michie	A
Beth Ann Miller	P	Robert L. Montgomery	E	Sarah Grace Montgomery	P
Anne Morgan	E	S. Keith Morrison	E	David E. Mulford	E
D. Cameron Murchison	P	David Nash	E	Wanda Neely	E
William K. Neely	E	Thomas G. Nelson	E	Elizabeth D. Newman	P
Richard Nygren	E	Daniel J. Oedy	A	O'Hyun Park	A
Albert G. Peery, Jr.	E	Margaret B. Peery	E	Lance Perry	P
Martha Jane Petersen	E	J. Thomas Phillips	E	James N. Poling	E
Michael J. Poulos	A	Donald G. Price	E	Caroline Proctor	E
E. Allen Proctor, Jr.	A	Edyth P. Pruitt	P	Tamara Puffer	A
Allan Purtill	P	Jay K. Rabuck	E	Daria L. Ragan	A
Earl M. Rash	E	Mary Elizabeth Ray	E	Patricia Reid	P
G. Harriss Ricks	E	Don Robb, III	E	Mary Katherine Robinson	P
William (Billy) Robinson	P	David Roquemore	P	Steven Runholt	A
T. Feild Russell	P	Richard M. Rustay	E	Donald Scofield	P
Henry D. Scoggins	E	Carol N. Seaman	E	Dana V. Seiler	P
Caroline Sell	E	Nathan Sell	E	William Serjak	E
Albert D. Shaw	E	Rachel Shepherd	P	Marcia Mount Shoop	P
Mary Elizabeth Sigmon	P	Robert Singdahlsen	E	Wirt Skinner	E
Allen Smith	P	David B. Smith	E	Paul S. Smith	A
John N. Somerville	E	Becky B. Stanley	P	J. Mark Stanley	P
Margie B. Stansell	E	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	E
Denise Thorpe	E	Yvonne M. Thurmond	E	Russell D. Tillotson, Sr.	E
Daniel Tipton	E	Kathleen Rankin Tompkins	E	Margaret Torrence	P
Lynn Turnage	A	Christina B. Tutterow	E	Robert J. Tuttle	E
Melissa Anne Upchurch	E	Gary Van Brocklin	E	Lauren S. Vanacore	E
Susan Verbrugge	E	Christopher P. Vogado	A	Byron A. Wade	P
Rockwell P. Ward	E	Samuel P. Warner	A	Robert M. Warren	E
Lynn Webber	E	Judith Weger	E	Kimberleigh E. Wells	P
Barbara R. White	E	Parker T. Williamson	E	Emily L. Wilmarth	E
V. Otis Wilson, Jr.	E	Victor M. Wilson	E	Chris Wingard	A

W. Graham Wood, Jr.	E	Donaldson Woods	E	Rebecca Young	A
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The following COMMISSIONED PASTORS WERE ENROLLED at this meeting of Presbytery:

Linda Abel	E	Philip Adams	A	Phillip Ashley	A
Robert Ayala	A	John Bates	E	Sally Beghtol	E
Kerry Border	P	Mildred Bruns	A	Vickie Burgess	E
Tamika Garrison	P	John Hall	A	Beth Hall	A
Lynn Honeycutt	E	Robin Honeycutt	E	Kenneth Humphreys	A
Linda Johnson	A	James Koone	A	Peggy Koone	A
Deborah Lesenger	A	James Millsaps	A	Marla Patchel	E
Randy Patterson	A	John Pea	P	Marcia Reighley	A
Russell Reighley	A	Barbara Ross	P	James Taylor	P
William M. Upchurch, Jr.	P	Sheila Renee Warthen	A	Roger Wise	A

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

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

Melinda Christian	A	Angela Drummond	A	Vivian Hare	A
Margaret Kennerly	E	Leslie McLeod	A	Mary Lou Nash	A
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)	Bob White	Sam Cook	Cindy Clarke
Banner Elk (2)	William Dethlop		
Belmont First (4)	Mary Randall Rhyne	Sue Johnson	
Bessemer City First (2)	A		
Black Mountain (3)	Ken Kelly	Tommy Wilkinson	
Brevard-Davidson River (3)	Mary Johnson	Mike Stewart	
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)	A		
Canton (2)	A		
Cherryville, First (2)	E		
Clinchfield (2)	A		
Columbus (2)	A		
Crossnore (2)	A		
Dallas First (2)	E		
Dixon (2)	A		
Dorland Memorial (2)	A		
Dulatown (3)	A		
Etowah (2)	A		
Fairview (2)	Linda Yount	Vernon Yount	
Fletcher (2)	Vickie Caraway		
Forest City First (2)	A		
Franklin First (2)	A		
Gastonia, First (3)	Sylvia Seawell	Margaret Mackie	Coleman Efird
Good Hope (2)	A		
Grace Covenant (2)	A		
Grassy Creek (1)	A		
Green Mountain (1)	A		
Green Street (2)	A		
Hayesville (1)	E		
Hendersonville First (1)	Lucy Massagee		
Hickory First (3)	Shirley Thomason	Claude Davis	
Highlands First (1)	A		
Ironton (1)	A		
Jack's Creek (1)	A		
Kenilworth (1)	A		
Korean Church of Asheville (2)	A		
Lenoir First (1)			
Long Creek (1)	Ken Unnasch		
Love's Chapel (2)	A		
Lowell (1)	A		
Marion First (1)	A		
Marshall (1)	A		
Micaville (1)	A		
Mills River (1)	Edwin Holcombe		
Montreat (1)	A		
Morganton First (2)	Marny Pritchard	Louis Vinay	
Morrison (1)	A		
Mount Holly First (1)	A		
New Hope (Asheville) (1)	A		
New Hope (Gastonia) (1)	A		

Newdale (1)	A		
Newland (1)	A		
Newton First (2)	Brenda Eckard		
Northminster (1)	A		
Oak Forest (1)	A		
Oakwood (1)	A		
Old Fort (1)	A		
Olney (1)	A		
Pine Street (2)	A		
Pineola (1)	A		
Quaker Meadows (1)	Judy Galey		
Reems Creek-Beech (1)	Karen Border		
Ridgeview (1)	A		
Robinson Memorial (1)	A		
Rutherfordton (2)	William Powell		
Ryburn Memorial (2)	A		
Saluda (1)	A		
Shelby (2)	Cheryl Sisk	Larry Wilson	
Sherrill's Ford (1)	A		
Shiloh, Grover (1)	A		
Siloam (1)	Kathy Kasek		
Southminster (2)	A		
Spruce Pine First (1)	Gay George		
Sweetwater (1)	A		
Sylva First (1)	A		
Third Street (2)	Jeffery Adams	Carolyn Werts	
Trinity (2)	Ron Howard		
Tryon (2)	A		
Union (1)	Larry Meek		
Union Mills (1)	A		
United (1)	Linda Davis	Teddie Bowen	
Unity (2)	William Muir		
Vians Valley (1)	A		
Waldensian (2)	Linda Rostan	John Williams	
Walnut (1)	A		
Warren Wilson (1)	Sharon Lytle		
Waynesville First (1)	A		

Ministers	59
Elders	42
Council/Committees	0
DCE	5
Visitors	15
TOTAL	121

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.

8:30 Registration
Elder Orientation

9:00 Call to Order

Sarah Thornburg
Moderator

Convene with Prayer of Invocation

Sarah Thornburg
Moderator

Land Acknowledgement

Sarah Thornburg

Appointment of Standing Committees
Resolution of Thanks
Bills and Overtures
Tellers

Sarah Thornburg

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

Certification of Quorum

Cam Murchison, Stated Clerk

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, Overture(s))

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

Nominating Committee

I

Mission Committee

S

Finance Committee

BB

Building Hope

BH

250th Synod of Mid-Atlantic Stated Meeting

II

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

Worship leaders: Rev. Dr. John Frye
Tamika Garrison, CP

10:05 Speak Out (10 minutes)

10:15 General Council (10 minutes)

(Work of the committee)

Hal Bennett

C

Christian Education Committee (5 minutes)

Rick Leissner

W

(Work of the committee)

Texas Presbyterian Foundation (3 minutes)

Stefanie Marsden

Youth Ministry (5 minutes)

Sarah Grace Montgomery Y

(Work of the committee)

Committee on Ministry (35 minutes)

James Taylor D

(Work of the committee, Welcome New Ministers Laurie Furr-Vancini & Rachel Shepherd, Recognition of Ministers and Service)

25 Years Service

David Lytle

Beverly Thompson

Steven Elderbrock

60 Years Service

Cecil Jividen

Donaldson Woods

Honorably Retired

Whit Malone

Becky Stanley

David Garnett

Margie Stansell

Patricia Reid

Lynn Bledsoe

Dechard Guess

Gary Van Brocklin

CLS Graduates (2022)

Leslie Petterson (Kenilworth)

Paul Border (Reems Creek-Beech)

Report of the General Presbyter (5 minutes)

Byron Wade GP

Malawi Leadership Team (10 minutes)

Michael McKee Q

Prayers of the People

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 9 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

Nominating Committee (Appendix B)

Mission (Appendix C)

Finance Committee (Appendix D)

Building Hope (Appendix E)

250th Synod of Mid-Atlantic Stated Meeting (Appendix F)

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison, the Stated Clerk, presented recommendations 1 through 4 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 5 through 9 for information that required no action. The Stated Clerk called attention to items of information in the report, mentioning especially the need for terms of

call for 2022 to be reported no later than December 1, 2022 and Session Record reviews needing to be completed as soon as possible.

CA 1. THAT Sarah Thornburg, Cam Murchison, and Robbin Buchanan be requested to prepare the minutes of this Presbytery meeting for approval at the January 28, 2023 Presbytery meeting.

CA 2. THAT the minutes of the July 30, 2022, Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.

CA 3. THAT the October 2022 report of the following Administrative Commissions be received and entered into the permanent record of Presbytery. (Appendix G)
Administrative Commission for West Asheville Presbyterian Church
Administrative Commission for Churches Concluding Ministry

CA 4. THAT the minutes of the installation of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery:

Andrew Mangione (Appendix H)
Rebecca Gurney (Appendix I)
Megan H. McMillan (Appendix J)

FOR INFORMATION:

5. THAT the 134th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2023, virtually. THAT the deadline for written reports for this meeting is Thursday, January 5, 2023. THAT the deadline for an overture is Wednesday, December 28, 2022.

6. 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 soon.

7. THAT the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the scheduled Clerk of Session Trainings and Reviewing of Church Records 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
Belmont, First
Brevard-Davidson River
Buladean
Dallas, First
Fletcher
Good Hope

Asheville, First
Bessemer City, First
Brittain
Cherryville, First
Dixon
Forest City, First
Grace Covenant

Banner Elk
Black Mountain
Brittain's Cove
Crossnore
Fairview
Franklin, First
Green Street

Hayesville	Hendersonville, First	Hickory, First
Highlands, First	Kenilworth	Lenoir, First
Lowell	Marshall	Micaville
Mills River	Montreat	Mount Holly, First
New Hope, Asheville	Newland	Newton, First
Olney	Pineola	Quaker Meadows
Reems Creek-Beech	Saluda	Shelby
Shiloh, Grover	Siloam	Southminster
Sweetwater	Third Street	Trinity
Union Mills	Unity	Vians Valley
Waldensian	Walnut	Warren Wilson

- 8. THAT the following Session Records for 2021 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.**

Bridgewater	Green Mountain	Oak Forest
Bryson City	Ironton	Oakwood
Burnsville, First	Jack's Creek	Old Fort
Calvary	Korean Church, Ashe.	Pine Street
Canton	Long Creek	Ridgeview
Clinchfield	Love's Chapel	Robinson Memorial
Columbus	Marion, First	Rutherfordton
Dorland Memorial	Morganton, First	Ryburn Memorial
Dulatown	Morrison	Sherrill's Ford
Etowah	New Hope, Gastonia	Siloam
Gastonia, First	Newdale	Spruce Pine, First
Grassy Creek	Northminster	Waynesville, First
Sylva First	Union	United
Tryon		

- 9. THAT the 2021 minutes of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina have been reviewed and found to be in order. (Appendix K)**

SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Rev. John Frye, Transitional Pastor at Waldensian Presbyterian Church led us in worship, assisted by Commissioned Pastor Tamika Garrison, Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church. Rev. Fryes' sermon was entitled "Remembering the Covenant." The scripture and sermon were taken from Psalm 33:8-22 and Joshua 24:1-18.

Worship concluded with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, led by the Rev. John Frye and assisted by Commissioned Pastor Tamika Garrison.

A special offering for Daily Change was received at the end of the Service of Worship.

GENERAL COUNCIL

On behalf of the General Council, Teaching Elder Hal Bennett presented recommendations 1, 3, and 4 included in the General Council's report. Following discussion, all recommendations/motions passed by common consent.

Teaching Elder Hal Bennet presented recommendation 2 included in the report, stating that the recommendation had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda.

Teaching Elder Hal Bennett presented items 5 through 6 for information that required no action.

1. THAT the Presbytery elect Teaching Elder Dana Seiler as Moderator of the Presbytery for 2024, serving as Vice-Moderator in 2023.

CA 2. THAT the Presbytery elect the following persons to serve on the Nominating and Representation Committee:

Nominating/Representation:

Mrs. Lynn Honeycutt (Sweetwater)	(E)	Class of 2025
Mr. Dennis Godfrey (Lowell)	(D)	Class of 2025

3. THAT the Presbytery

- approve the dissolution of the Oak Forest Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC at its request, effective January 15, 2023;
- plan to join the congregation on January 15, 2023 for its closing service, celebrating their 150 years of faithful ministry;
- and appoint these persons to an Administrative Commission (G-3.0109 b.) for Oak Forest Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC:

Chris Loftis, RE, Oak Forest Presbyterian Church
Barbara McLean, RE, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
Milton (Bunk) Spann, RE, New Hope Presbyterian Church (Asheville)
Dennis Howell, RE, Newdale Presbyterian Church
Susan Denne, TE
James Aydelotte, TE
Caitlin Johnson, TE, Oak Forest
Mary Katherine Robinson, TE, Black Mountain Presbyterian Church
Byron Wade, TE, General Presbyter, ex officio
Cam Murchison, TE, stated clerk, ex officio

- with the following responsibilities, power and authority:
 - A. To work pastorally with the members of Oak Forest, supporting them in their closing worship, their transition to other congregations and giving thanks for the ministry of the Oak Forest Presbyterian Church. (G-3.0301 c.)
 - B. To hold members on the roll of Presbytery and transfer their membership to congregations of their choosing. (G-3.0301 c.)
 - C. To exercise original jurisdiction over the affairs of the church, administering the funds of the Church's accounts and making payments on behalf of the Church. (G-3.0303 e.)

- D. To determine or approve the disposition of all personal property. (G-4.0203 &G-4.0205)
- E. To otherwise act in compliance with this action and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

4. That the Presbytery approve the request of the congregations of Fairview and United Presbyterian Churches to merge the two congregations effective January 1, 2023, with the following agreements and understandings:

- 1. That the congregations have chosen the name Greenway Presbyterian Church for the merged congregation in a joint meeting on October 2, 2022.
- 2. That the Rev. Leah Epps, installed pastor of both congregations, will be the installed pastor of the merged congregation.
- 3. That the 8 elders from both Sessions in the classes of 2023 and 2024 will constitute the initial Session of the merged congregation, with arrangement into three classes to be presented to the merged congregation for approval subsequent to merging.
- 4. That the sanctuary, fellowship/educational building, and parking lot at Fairview Presbyterian Church will be sold, with the resources from those sales to be used by the Session of the merged congregation to support its ministry.
- 5. That the food pantry and cemetery at Fairview Presbyterian Church will continue under the ownership and management of the merged congregation.
- 6. That the Columbarium and the Ash Garden at Fairview Presbyterian Church will be moved to and become part of the Columbarium and the Ash Garden at United Presbyterian Church.
- 7. That the physical location and buildings of United Presbyterian Church will become the physical location and buildings of the merged congregation.
- 8. That the Sessions of the two congregations will jointly decide about any matters needing resolution regarding the merger during the period between the vote approving merger and the time of actual merger on January 1, 2023.
- 9. That prior to January 1, 2023, both congregations will convene as their respective non-profit corporations to approve the merger and renaming of the merged non-profit corporation pursuant to legal advice.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

5. THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.

6. THAT the following dates have been set for 2023 and 2024 Presbytery Meetings:

2023

Saturday, January 28, 2023 - Virtual
Tuesday, April 25, 2023 – Montreat Conference Center
Saturday, July 29, 2023 - Virtual
Tuesday, October 24, 2023 – Southminster Presbyterian Church

2024

Saturday, January 27, 2024 – Virtual
Tuesday, April 30, 2024 – Montreat Conference Center
Saturday, July 27, 2024 – Virtual
Tuesday, October 29, 2024 – Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

On behalf of the Christian Education Committee, Rick Leissner reported on the work of the committee and highlighted the 2023 Spirituality Retreat that will be held March 24-25, 2023 at the William Black Lodge in Montreat. (Appendix L)

TEXAS PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION

Stefanie Marsden, Relationship Manager for the Texas Presbyterian Foundation, gave an account of the services that are provided by the foundation.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

On behalf of the Youth Ministries Committee, Sarah Grace Montgomery reported on the work of the committee and highlighted the youth activities throughout the Presbytery. (Appendix M)

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 N)

James Taylor, chair of the committee, recognized all members who have been in the ministry for 25, and 60 years. Also recognized at this time were ministers who have retired during the past year. Certificates were presented to those being recognized for honorable retirement and faithful service to the church.

25 Years Service

David Lytle
Beverly Thompson
Steven Elderbrock

60 Years Service

Cecil Jividen
Donaldson Woods

Honorably Retired

Whit Malone
Becky Stanley
David Garnett
Margie Stansell
Patricia Reid
Lynn Bledsoe
Dechard Guess
Gary Van Brocklin

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 N)

- David Bradley, as Pastoral Counselor, Marriage and Family Therapist, through October 25, 2023.
- Rev. Tommy Brown, as Director of William Black Lodge in Montreat, through October 25, 2023.
- Rev. Bill Buchanan, as Executive Director of Youth Mission Co., through October 25, 2023.
- Amy Cantrell, as Co-Pastor and Co-Director of Beloved Asheville, through October 25, 2023.
- Robert Gamble, as Executive Director, This Child Here, Inc., through October 25, 2023.
- Lisle Garrity, as Creative Director of A Sanctified Art, through October 25, 2023.
- Joan Martin, as Chaplain at Covenant Village, Gastonia, NC, through October 25, 2023.

- Cynthia Strickler, as Head of Staff for Presbyterian Reformed Ministries International, through October 25, 2023.
- Lynn Turnage, as Director for Programs for Montreat Conference Center, through October 25, 2023.
- Bob McCully, as Treatment Director for Cherokee County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, through October 25, 2023.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MINISTERS

On behalf of the Examinations Sub-Committee and Committee on Ministry, Elder James Taylor introduced Margaret LaMotte Torrence, Laurie Furr-Vancini, and Rachel Shepherd as new ministers in the Presbytery. They each spoke briefly. Their Statements of Faith and Biographical Statements were included in the report of the Committee on Ministry. (Appendix N)

- Margaret LaMotte Torrence, from Peace River Presbytery as member-at-large in Presbytery of Western North Carolina, effective September 6, 2022.
- Laurie Furr-Vancini, from St. Augustine Presbytery as Transitional Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, effective October 4, 2022.
- Rachel Shepherd, from Presbytery of the Peaks as member-at-large of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, effective October 4, 2022.

Richard Floyd and Megan McMillian were welcomed into the life and ministry of the presbytery at its July 2022 meeting of Presbytery. They along with Margaret LaMotte Torrence, Laurie Furr-Vancini, and Rachel Shepherd were all invited to the clerk's table to sign the Book of Obligation.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

General Presbyter Rev. Dr. Byron Wade shared that “after COVID, churches are not as strong and people are not as present, but God is still present.” He also reported that four staff members will be departing from the Presbytery by the end of the year 2022.

The Revisioning Task Team will be working with a consultant and they continue their work.

Rev. Wade invited the Revs. Lewis Galloway and Jill Isola to speak about the pastoral cohort program for pastoral support. The theme of the program will be “Pastoral Leadership in Challenging Times” and will be led by three PWNC pastors (Steve Eason, Lewis Galloway, and Jill Isola). There will be a cohort in the west (Black Mountain) and the east (Hickory). (Appendix O)

MALAWI LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Michael McKee, Dr. Barbara Nagy and Ken Unnasch reported on their recent mission trip to Malawi.

Michael McKee provided an update on the work at the hospital and the school while, Barbara Nagy explained how PWNC provides essential support to the hospital and the school. Ken Unnasch shared that the next mission trip to Malawi is being planned for April 2023. (Appendix P)

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Rev. David Roquemore, pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Newton and Brenda Eckcard, elder at First Presbyterian Church, Newton submitted the following Resolution of Thanks for the 133rd meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, held at the Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese, NC:

Be it resolved, that

We, the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, do offer our thanks

to the congregation of the Waldensian Presbyterian Church for their gracious
hosting of our meeting;

to God, for the business of the day;

specifically, for the poetry offered by Rick Leissner disguised as a report from the
Christian Education committee;

bested only by the singing of Jim Taylor, who led us in Love Lifted Me as a part of the COM
report;

for new pastors in our midst, especially Margaret LaMotte Torrence, Laurie Furr-Vancini, and
Rachel Shepherd.

For the work and words of encouragement of our General Presbyter, the Rev. Dr. Byron Wade; even as
we pray for the Revisioning Task Force and its work; in a Presbytery that will lose four staff
members by year's end.

We give thanks also for the work of the Rev. Billy Robinson in our midst these past several years
as he prepares for a new chapter in ministry.

We give thanks for the church in Malawi, for our partnership, for the active ministry there, and
for the commitment of those congregations.

We give thanks for the expected visit to Malawi by people in our Presbytery next year, and for
the continued love on both sides of this relationship.

We give thanks for those in our midst who have served well and long in their ministry;

We give thanks for these and for all other blessings that come our way, unbidden, from the
gracious hand of our Lord Jesus Christ!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Beth Ann Miller, Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Lenoir, led the Presbytery in prayers of
intercession.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

With the business of the 133rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed
and adjournment voted, Moderator Thornburg adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m. with prayer.

NEXT MEETING

The 134th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2023, virtually.

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 January 28, 2023, at the 134th Stated Meeting to be held virtually.

APPENDICES

- A. Consent Agenda**
- B. Nominating/Representation Committee Report**
- C. Mission Committee Report**
- D. Finance Committee**
- E. Building Hope**
- F. Report from the 250th Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Stated Meeting**
- G. Administrative Commission Report for West Asheville Presbyterian Church, and Churches Concluding Their Ministry**
- H. Installation Minutes for Andrew Mangione**
- I. Installation Minutes for Rebecca Gurney**
- J. Installation Minutes for Megan H. McMillan**
- K. Presbytery Minutes Review Letter**
- L. Christian Education Committee Report**
- M. Youth Committee Report**
- N. Committee on Ministry Report**
- O. Report of the General Presbyter**
- P. Malawi Leadership Team Report**

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