

**PRESBYTERY OF
WESTERN
NORTH CAROLINA**



(U S A)

MINUTES

ONE HUNDRED FIFTHTEENTH

STATED MEETING

January 26, 2018

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**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina
115th Stated Meeting
January 27, 2018
Lowell Presbyterian Church
Lowell, North Carolina**

**Co-Host
Union Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Susan Denne, Moderator, convened the 115th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:01a.m.in the sanctuary of the Lowell Presbyterian Church, Lowell, North Carolina.

ELECTION OF VICE-MODERATOR (2018/2019)

On behalf of the General Council, Rev. Susan Denne presented recommendation 1 from the General Council Report. Following an explanation from Moderator Denne, the motion was carried unanimously.

THAT the Presbytery elect the Rev. Lauren Vanacore as Moderator of the Presbytery for 2019, serving as Vice-Moderator in 2018.

INSTALLATION OF MODERATOR/VICE-MODERATOR

As the immediate past Moderator, Rev. Susan Denne led a service to install Elder Melvin Meares as Moderator and Rev. Lauren Vanacore as Vice-Moderator for 2018.

CONSTITUTION

The Moderator, Elder Melvin Meares, opened the One-Hundred Fifteenth Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina in the sanctuary of the Lowell Presbyterian Church, Lowell with prayer.

WELCOME

The Reverend Joseph Taber, Pastor of the Lowell Presbyterian Church, Lowell, brought greetings from their church.

Elder Sally McGinnis brought greetings from the Union Presbyterian Church, Gastonia. Sally spoke about her background in the area and the Presbyterian Church.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Moderator Meares announced the appointment of the following standing committees:

Bills and Overtures:

- Elder Jerry Ragan, First Presbyterian Church, Belmont, Chair
- Rev. Janet DeWater, First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Holly
- Elder Jamie Hodges, First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton

Resolution and Thanks:

- Rev. Kevin Frederick, Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese
- Elder Barbara Cockerham, Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese

Tellers:

- Elder Robert Groves, III
- Elder Mimi McCully

ATTENDANCE

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

Robert Abel	E	Jefferson Aiken, Jr.	E	Wyatt Aiken, Jr.	E
Blan Aldridge	E	Merriam Alexander	E	Terry Alexander	E
Steve Aschmann	E	James Aydelotte	P	Patricia Bacon	A
Tony Baker	E	Edna Banes	E	Douglas Bartlett	E
Ashley Beavers	E	Harold Bennett, Jr.	P	Joseph Bennett	E
Katherine Blankenship	A	Lynn Bledsoe	E	Samantha Gonzalez-Block	A
Randall Boggs	E	Ronald Botsford	E	Adam Bowling	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	Jason Bryant	A
William Buchanan	A	Monty Burnham	E	Sue Burton	E
Robert Busey	E	Connie Button	E	Joey Byrd	P
David Cameron	E	Kathryn Cameron	P	John Campbell	E
Kathy Campbell	P	Amy Cantrell	A	Pride Carson	A
Katherine Cashwell	E	Calvin Chesnutt	E	Dwight Christenbury	E
William Christian	E	Richard Coble	A	Sarah Coburn	A
James Cockerham	P	Jeffrey Coffey	E	James Cogswell	E
Evelyn Coleman	A	Hunter Coleman	E	Monty Cook	E
Thomas Cook, Jr.	E	Donald Cooper	P	Riley Covin	E
John Craven	E	Curtis Crowther	E	Robert Bruce Cumming	E
James Dale	E	Blake Daniel	E	Charles Davenport	P
Dent Davis	E	Heather Davis	P	Holly Davis	E
Eddie Deas, III	E	Jey Deifell, Jr.	E	Arthur DeJong	E
Susan Denne	P	Janet DeWater	P	Edward Donnell	E
Jacob Douylliez	P	Ellen Dozier	E	Philip Dunford	E
Priscilla Durkin	E	Steve Elderbrock	P	Lee Feero, Jr.	E

David Fillpot	E	Ragland Fletcher	E	Edward Forsyth	E
McCoy Franklin	E	Kevin Frederick	P	Keith Freeman	P
Berry French, III	A	John Frye, Jr.	P	Curtis Fussell, III	A
Tempe Fussell	E	Willis Gaines	E	Paul Galbreath	E
David Garnett	P	Lisle Garrity	P	Tee Gatewood, III	A
Denise Geiger	E	Joanne Glaser	E	Jean Goodwin	P
Gregory Grana	E	Theodore Grant	E	Keith Grogg	E
Robert Gruber	E	George Gunn	E	Rebecca Gurney	A
Samuel Hale	E	Michal Hall	E	Terry Hanna	E
Patrick Hardy	E	Randall Hardy	A	Martin L. Harkey, III	P
Rebecca Harrison	E	William Heck	E	Robert Henderson	E
J. Robert Hewett	E	J. Richard Hobson	E	J. Samuel Hobson, Jr.	E
James Holeman	E	Samuel Hope	E	James Hornsby	E
David Hosick	E	Carol Hovis	A	Bryan Hovey	E
William Hoyt, III	E	George Hutchins	E	Jill Isola	P
Donald Jafvert	E	William Janes	E	Esta Jarrett	E
Cecil Jividen	E	Wallace Johnson	E	Patrick Johnson	P
Franklin Jones	A	Rebecca Jones	A	Kimberly Justice	A
Dong Uk Kang	A	David Kaylor	E	David Kennedy	E
Ira Kennerly	E	Paul Kercher	E	William Kirk	E
Albert Kissling	E	Earl Kreisa	E	Lee Kruse	A
Michael Lamm	E	John LaMotte	E	John Laughlin	E
Margaret Lauterer	E	James Layman	E	Thomas Lewis	E
William Lindeman	E	John Lindsay	E	Eugene Linton, Jr.	E
Deneise Deter Liss	A	Laura Long	E	Billy T. Lowe	E
William Lowrey	E	Robert Lowry	E	David Lytle	A
Tricia Lytle	P	Whit Malone	A	Marjorie Marsh	E
Joan Martin	A	Roberta Martin	E	W. Robert Martin, Jr.	E
Tyler Martin	E	John McCall	A	Sandra McClinton	A
Patricia McClurg	E	Robert McCully, Jr.	P	Noah McIntee	E

David McKee	E	Michael McKee	E	James McPherson	E
Lynn Michie	A	Beth Ann Miller	P	Robert Montgomery	E
Anne Morgan	E	David Morgan	E	Richard Morgan	E
Keith Morrison	E	David Mulford	E	Donald Mullen	E
Camerson Murchison	P	Carl Murray	E	David Nash	E
Wanda Neely	A	Thomas Nelson	E	Elizabeth Newman	E
John Newton, Jr.	E	John Niles	P	Richard Nygren	E
Daniel Oedy	E	O'Hyun Park	E	David Parks	E
Donald Patchel	E	Stratton Peacock	E	Albert Perry, Jr.	E
Margaret Peery	E	Martha Jane Petersen	E	Lyle Peterson	E
Harry Phillips	E	James Poling	E	John-Nelson Pope	A
Michael Poulos	E	Donald Price	E	Gene Price	E
Caroline Proctor	E	Allen Proctor, Jr.	E	Edyth Pruitt	E
Tamara Puffer	E	Jay Rabuck	E	Daria Ragan	A
Joseph Rand	E	Kathleen Rankin	P	Earl Rash	E
Wilson Rhoton, Jr.	E	Calvin Rice	E	Don Robb, III	E
Billy Robinson	P	Mary Katherine Robinson	E	David Roquemore	E
Steven Runholt	A	Feild Russell	E	Richard Rustay	E
Donald Scofield, Jr.	P	Henry Scoggins	E	Carol Seaman	E
Kyle Segars	E	William Serjak	E	Albert Shaw, Jr.	E
Marcia Mount Shoop	E	Mary Elizabeth Sigmon	P	Robert Singdahlsen	E
Wirt Skinner	E	Allen Smith	P	Kent Smith	P
Paul Smith	A	John Somerville	E	Becky Stanley	A
Mark Stanley	P	Margie Stansell	A	Carol Steele	A
John David Stewart	E	Daniel Stitt	E	Cynthia Strickler	P
Charles Swann	E	William Sweetser, Jr.	A	Joseph Taber	P
Christopher Taylor	E	Keith Thompson	P	Daniel Tipton	E
Denise Thorpe	A	Yvonne Thurmond	A	Russell Tillotson, Sr.	E
Margaret Torrence	A	Daniel Trapp	P	Robert Tuttle	E
Thomas Tweedie	E	Melissa Anne Upchurch	E	Gary Van Brocklin	A

Lauren Vanacore	P	Dana Vaughn	E	Christopher Vagado	P
Rockwell Ward	E	Samuel Warner	A	Lynn Webber	A
Judith Weger	E	Kimberleigh Wells	A	Barbara White	P
Lamar Williamson, Jr.	E	Parker Williamson	E	Emily Wilmarth	A
Otis Wilson, Jr.	E	Victor Wilson	E	Chris Wingard	A
Eugene Witherspoon	E	Graham Wood, Jr.	P	Donaldson Woods	E
Rebecca Young	A				

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

Linda Abel	E	Philip Adams	A	Robert Ayala	P
John Bates	P	Kerry Border	P	Mildred Bruns	A
John Hall	P	Kenneth Humphreys	P	Bobby Justus	P
Dong Uk Kang	A	David Kaylor	E	David Kennedy	E
James Koone	E	Peggy Koone	P	Deborah Lesenger	P
James Millsaps	A	Mark Osborne	P	Marla Patchel	A
Randy Paterson	A	John Pea	P	Marcia Reighley	A
Russell Reighley	P	Betty Shaw	A	Dennis Stamper	A
John Stanley	A	James Taylor	E	William Upchurch, Jr.	A
Roger Wise	P	Wanda Woodby	A		

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

John Auten	A	Millie Bruns	A	Bill Carpenter	A
Karyn Cherry	A	Jay Crane	P	Betty Davenport	P
Dorothy Descieux	P	Bob Forsythe	P	Fred Van Itallie	P
Katherine Jowers	A	Tina Joyner	P	Charles Kincaid	P
Katheryn MxFinnis	A	Melvin Meares	P	Mimi Michael	A
Jackson Mott	P	Jerry Ragan	P	Roger Rizk	P
Charles Sellers	P	Becky Stevens	P	Jack Suddreth	A
Anne Wilson	A				

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

Glenn Bannerman	A	Melinda Christian	A	Angela Drummond	A
Vivian Hare	A	Margarette Kennerly	E	Leslie McLeod	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 (1)	A	
Asheville First (3)	A	
Banner Elk (1)	James Ennis	
Belmont First (3)	A	
Bessemer City First (1)	A	
Black Mountain (2)	Jane Bannerman	Bill Gilliland
Brevard-Davidson River (2)	Ginny Bradford	Margaret Sells
Bridgewater (1)	A	
Brittain (1)	A	
Brittain's Cove (1)	A	
Bryson City (1)	A	
Buladean (1)	A	
Burnsville First (1)	Amanda Martin	
Calvary (2)	A	
Canton (1)	A	
Cherryville First (2)	E	
Clinchfield (1)	A	
Columbus (1)	Phil Ashley	
Conley Memorial (1)	E	
Crossnore (1)	Barbara Ross	
Dallas First (1)	Alice Denton	
Dixon (1)	A	
Dorland Memorial (1)	A	
Dulatown (2)	A	

Duncan's Creek (1)	A	
Ellenboro (1)	A	
Etowah (1)	A	
Fairview (1)	Joel Reese	
Fletcher (1)	A	
Forest City First (1)	Ron Lessard	
Franklin First (1)	E	
Gastonia First (3)	Tyler Bullock	Susanne Current
	Cookie Brenner	
Good Hope (2)	A	
Grace Covenant (2)	E	
Grassy Creek (1)	Beth Hall	
Green Mountain (1)	A	
Green Street (2)	A	
Hayesville (1)	E	
Hendersonville First (1)	Elizabeth Moss	
Hickory First (3)	J. P. Benton, Jr.	
Highlands First (1)	A	
Ironton (1)	Pat Bradshaw	
Jack's Creek (1)	A	
John Knox (1)	A	
Kenilworth (1)	Mary Virella-Minton	
Korean Presbyterian Church of Asheville (2)	A	
Lenoir First (1)	Susan Scroggs	
Lincolnton First (1)	Jamie Hodges	
Long Creek (1)	Ken Unnasch	
Love's Chapel (2)	Sherry Lovell	Thelma Isle
Lowell (1)	Scott Weintosh	
Marion First (1)	Joseph Wanamaker	

Marshall (1)	A	
Micaville (1)	A	
Mills River (1)	A	
Montreat (1)	Betsy Kirschner	
Morganton First (2)	Elsie Bartlett	Rick Leissner
Morrison (1)	A	
Mount Holly First (1)	Kathryn Williamson	
New Hope, Asheville (1)	A	
New Hope, Gastonia (1)	Ann Medford	
Newdale (1)	Becky Ayala	
Newland (1)	A	
Newton First (2)	Ray Walker	Anna White
Northminster (1)	Jeremy Putnam	
Oak Forest (1)	A	
Oakwood (1)	A	
Old Fort (1)	A	
Olney (1)	A	
Pine Street (2)	A	
Pineola (1)	A	
Quaker Meadows (1)	Kathy Staton	
Reems Creek-Beech (1)	A	
Ridgeview (1)	Wayne Tipton	
Robinson Memorial (1)	A	
Rutherfordton (2)	Doug Sheets	
Ryburn Memorial (2)	A	
Saluda (2)	A	
Shelby (3)	Doug Boyette	Paul Woodard
	Agaat Den Hertog	
Sherrill's Ford (2)	A	
Shiloh, Grover (2)	A	

Siloam (2)	A	
Southminster (3)	Scott Mason	Stan Hovis
Spruce Pine First (2)	E	
Sweetwater (2)	A	
Sylva First (2)	A	
Third Street (3)	Charles Whitesides	Charlie Stoman, III
Trinity (3)	Don Widemayer	
Tryon (3)	Les Stobbe	
Union (2)	Twilah Jordan	Sally McGinnis
Union Mills (2)	Susan Ward	
United (2)	Margaret Lillard	Ruth Kincaid
Unity (3)	Vicki Hassler	Elaine Easterling
Vians Valley (2)	A	
Waldensian (3)	Emily Church	Barbara Cockerham
Walnut (2)	A	
Warren Wilson (2)	Kay Stockdale	
Waynesville First (2)	E	
West Asheville (2)	Andi Spencer	
West Avenue (2)	Mollie Trosper	Kelly Blum

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

Ministers	55
Elders	60
Certified Educators	0
Council/COM/Committee Chairs	13
Visitors	48
Total	176

Those attending a Presbytery meeting for the first time were recognized, as well as all those attending as visitors.

There following corresponding members were in attendance:

- Martha Sommers, Medical Missionary to Nkhoma Hospital
- Rev. Carol Byrd, member of Trinity Presbytery

APPROVAL OF DOCKET

Stated Clerk Murchison moved the approval of the docket as distributed. The motion was made and approved by common consent.

8:30 Registration

(If you do not sign in, you will not be counted as present.)

Orientation for New Elders

Charles Davenport

9:00 Call to Order

Susan Denne

Immediate Past Moderator

Election of Vice-Moderator/Moderator (2018/2019)

Installation of Moderator and Vice-Moderator

Convene with Prayer of Invocation

Melvin Meares

Moderator

Welcome from Lowell and Union Presbyterian Churches

Joseph Taber

James Holeman

Appointment of Standing Committees

Melvin Meares

Resolution of Thanks

Rev. Kevin Frederick, Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese

Elder Barbara Cockerham, Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese

Bills and Overtures

Elder Jerry Ragan, First Presbyterian Church, Belmont, Chair

Rev. Janet DeWater, First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Holly

Elder Jamie Hodges, First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton

Tellers

Elder Robert Groves, III

Elder Mimi McCully

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)

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

Nominating Committee

I

Guatemala Partnership

Q

Hunger Committee

R

Missions Committee

S

Presbyterian Women

MM

Building HOPE

BH

- 9:25 Service of Worship, including Celebration of the Lord's Supper and Necrology**
Pastor: Joseph Taber
- 10:30 Speak Out** (5 minutes)
(Opportunity to address the Presbytery for one minute or less, per speaker, on any suitable topic. No new business may be introduced at this point, but announcements, concerns, or opinions may be shared.)
- 10:35 General Council** (5 minutes) **Susan Denne** **C**
(Work of the committee, Presbytery Treasurer)
- 10:40 Personnel Committee** (5 minutes) **Luke Harkey** **FF**
(Work of the committee and recommendation(s) from the committee.)
- 10:45 Finance Committee** (10 minutes) **Charles Sellers** **BB**
(Work of the committee and Proposed Budget for 2018)
- 10:55 Christian Education and Resource Center** (5 minutes) **Rick Leissner** **W**
(2018 Spirituality Retreat and Pastors Retreat)
- 11:00 Mission Committee** (10 minutes) **Bob Abel**
(Introduction of Malawi Mission Co-Worker Martha Sommers) **Billy Robinson**
- 11:10 Youth Committee** (5 minutes) **Joseph Taber** **Y**
(Upcoming Events – Faith and Sexuality Youth Retreat)
- 11:05 Committee on Preparation for Ministry** (20 minutes) **K**
(Work of the committee; Inquirer Allison Greene Simmons requests to be moved to candidate status)
- 11:25 Committee on Ministry** (30 minutes) **John Pea and** **D**
(Work of the committee, introduction of new ministers – Jill Isola, David Hosick, Daniel Tipton, David Cameron) **Bob Forsythe**
- 11:55 Validated Ministry Special Presentation** (15 minutes) **Joey Byrd**
(US Army Chaplain Colonel Joey Byrd)
- 12:10 Report of the General Presbyter** (5 minutes) **Bobbi White** **GP**
- 12:15 Guatemala Partnership** (3 minutes) **Marie C. Palacios**
(Work of the partnership and good news)
- 12:20 Theological Education Fund (TEF)** (5 minutes) **Jeff Sockwell**
(Pastor, Shallowford Presbyterian Church and Regional Consultant with the Theological Education Fund (TEF))
- 12:25 Prayers of Intercession**
(Please submit requested prayers of intercession to the Stated Clerk's table before 11:00 a.m.)
- 12:30 Benediction and Adjournment**

CONSENT AGENDA

Stated Clerk Cam Murchison explained the rules for the Consent Agenda. He then moved that the Consent Agenda be approved. Items included in this motion are marked by "CA" in the margin. The consent agenda was approved. (Appendix A)

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

Nominating Committee (Appendix B)
Guatemala Partnership (Appendix C)
Hunger Committee (Appendix D)
Missions Committee (Appendix E)
Presbyterian Women (Appendix F)
Building HOPE (Appendix G)

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

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

Dr. Murchison then presented item number 12 regarding an overture submitted to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina by the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Marion. He referred it to the Presbytery's Bills and Overtures Committee for a recommendation of action at this meeting. The recommendation requires a 2/3 vote of approval of Presbytery. The motion was unanimously approved.

He then referred to items 13-20 as items for information.

- CA 1. THAT Melvin Meares, Cam Murchison and Robbin Buchanan be requested to prepare the minutes of this Presbytery meeting for approval at the April 24, 2018 Presbytery meeting.**
- CA. 2. THAT the minutes of the October 24, 2017 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.**
- CA. 3. THAT the Presbytery celebrate the lives and service of the following Elders, as reported by their local congregations, who died during the year of 2017, and that their names become a part of the permanent record:**

Asheville, First

Phillip N. Atkinson
Marion M. Boggs
Robert S. Turk
Louise H. Williams

Banner Elk

George G.
Anderson

Brevard-Davidson

Bonnie Burgan
Alice Dalton
William Engelson
Virginia Heckert
Eileen Price
Patsy Sexton
Reginald Tomlin

Canton

Edith McFee
Hazel Robertson

Cherryville, First

Darril Sigmon
Norman Warlick

Dallas, First

Robert A. Grant

Fairview

Guy Hall
Marjorie Strawn

Gastonia, First

William P. Adams
Marian H. Call
Ruth D. Dickson
William G. Quarles

Good Hope

Connie A. Allison

Grace Covenant

William O. Prescott
Becky Stradley

Grassy Creek

Helen G. Haberneck

Green Street

Peggy Drayton

Hickory, First

Peggy G. Bissette
Joanne F. Underdown
P C "Neil" Underdown,
Jr.

Ironton

James M. Moore

John Knox

Bob Pegram

Kenilworth

Judy Taylor
David Taylor

Lowell

James C. Ashworth
Russell H. Stepp

Newton, First

David Lowrance

Union

Wilson Barnett
Don Farris
Mary Lou Helms
Judy Meek

Mills River

Bill Fowler

Northminster

Robert Johnson

Montreat

Charlotte F. Chesnutt

Robinson Memorial

Fred A. Kerr

United

Willoughby H. "Bill" Biggs
Marion P. Day

Morganton, First

Denton Emery
Bette Smith
Ken Salthouse

Shelby

Robin Gay Fichter
Albert Mancinelli

Unity

Justus "Jess" Wingard
Max Gilleland

Mount Holly

Thomas E. Stewart

Southminster

Bill Barlowe

Waldensian

Betty Lou Guigou
Kenneth L. Bumgarner
Agnes R. Burns
Katherine E. Parse
Hilda O. Jones

New Hope Asheville

Helen J. Cable
Ann Higgins
Maria Young

Trinity

Jay Barr
Carl Christiansen
George Godsy
Robert Stratton
Kathleen Wylde

West Asheville

Donald Huntsinger

Newland

James R. Banner
Sam Cartner

Tryon

Elaine Prather

- CA. 4. **THAT the Presbytery celebrate the lives and service of the following teaching elders/ministers of the Word and Sacrament who died during the year of 2017 and that their names become a part of the permanent record.**

Charles E. Alexander
Mary Faith Carson
Joel David Cherry
William Maynard Fountain, Jr.
J. Richard Holshouser
Youn Ho Hong
Katherine E. Parker
Thomas D. Parker
Harry Petersen, III

- CA 5. **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 2018 year, churches S through Z are entitled to an additional elder. Please note that commissioner representation is based on active membership figures taken from the 2016 Statistical Report as figures are not available for 2017.*):

- 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 and Committee on Ministry 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 Lay 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.

That the following churches (Churches S-Z) be requested to send one additional elder commissioner for the year 2018:

Saluda	Southminster	Tryon	Waldensian
Shelby	Spruce Pine, First	Union	Walnut
Sherrill's Ford	Sweetwater	Union Mills	Warren Wilson
Shiloh, Grover	Sylva, First	United	Waynesville, First
Siloam	Third Street	Unity	West Asheville
	Trinity	Vians Valley	West Avenue

8. Only teaching elders who are active members (including honorably retired teaching elders) or members-at-large of Presbytery, as defined by the *Book of Order*, shall have voice and vote.

CA 6. 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 H)

CA 7. THAT the past 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 I)

CA 8. THAT the January 2018 report of the Administrative Commission for the New Vision, Conover New Church Development be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix J)

CA 9. THAT the January 2018 report of the Administrative Commissions for the First Presbyterian Church, Kings Mountain; First Presbyterian Church of Swannanoa; Westminster Presbyterian Church; and Churches Concluding Their Ministry be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix K)

CA 10. THAT the minutes of the ordination of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery:

Barrett A. Payne (Appendix L)

Matthew D. Conner (Appendix M)

CA 11. THAT the minutes of the installation of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery:

Janet B. DeWater (Appendix N)
Richard R. Coble (Appendix O)

12. THAT the overture, submitted to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina by the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Marion to overture the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America to amend G-3.0104 of the *Book of Order*, be referred to the Presbytery's Bills and Overtures Committee for a report and recommendation of action at this meeting. *(This action will require a two-thirds affirmative vote of Presbytery to be referred to the Bills and Overtures Committee for reporting at a later time at this meeting, per the Standing Rules of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, Section III E. – Meetings of Presbytery).* (Appendix P)

FOR INFORMATION:

13. THAT a report for the following commission/board was not submitted for this meeting of Presbytery:

Board of the UKirk at WCU Campus Ministry

14. THAT the deadline for the Annual Statistical Report is February 15, 2018.

15. THAT the 116th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, at the Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, North Carolina. THAT the deadline for written reports for this meeting is Thursday, April 5, 2018 and Thursday, April 12, 2018 for power point presentations. THAT the deadline for an overture is Monday, March 26, 2018.

16. THAT the following dates have been set for 2018 and 2019 Presbytery Meetings:

Saturday, January 27, 2018 – Lowell Presbyterian Church (Co-Host Union Presbyterian Church)

Tuesday, April 24, 2018 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host, Montreat Presbyterian Church)

Tuesday, July 31, 2018 – Banner Elk Presbyterian Church (Lees-McRae College)

Saturday, October 27, 2018 – First Presbyterian Church, Hickory

2019

Saturday, January 26, 2019 – First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host Montreat Presbyterian Church)

Tuesday, July 30, 2019 – Brevard-Davison River Presbyterian Church

Saturday, October 26, 2019 - TBA

17. THAT the following dates have been established for Clerk of Session Training and Reviewing Church Records:

Saturday, April 28, 2018

First Presbyterian Church, Morganton

Saturday, June 9, 2018

First Presbyterian Church, Sylva

Saturday, August 18, 2018

Rutherfordton Presbyterian Church

Saturday, September 29, 2018

First Presbyterian Church, Bessemer City

18. THAT the following Session Records for 2016 were submitted and approved during November 2017.

Green Street
Walnut

New Hope, Gastonia
Crossnore

West Avenue

19. **THAT the following Session Records for 2016 have not been reviewed and are delinquent in meeting the requirements of the 2017-2019 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.**

Brittains Cove	Buladean	Calvary
Columbus	Ellenboro	Green Mountain
Jack's Creek	Korean Presbyterian	New Hope, Asheville
Oak Forest	Oakwood	Old Fort
Pine Street	Ridgeview	Ryburn Memorial
Shiloh, Grover		

20. **THAT the following date has been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training for 2018:**

Tuesday, April 24, 2018 – Montreat Conf. Ctr. (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, November 3, 2018 – First Presbyterian Church, Morganton

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. **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.

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

Worship was led by the Reverend Joseph Taber, pastor at Lowell Presbyterian Church, Lowell and assisted by Elder Sally McGinnis from Union Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Taber preached on “Share the Inheritance,” with the scripture taken from Matthew 28:16-20 and Colossians 1:3-14.

Worship concluded with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, led by the Reverend Joseph Taber, with communion being served by the ruling and teaching elders affiliated with the Lowell Presbyterian Church and Union Presbyterian Church, The lives of 9 ministers of the word and sacrament and 74 elders of Presbytery who had passed on to the Church Triumphant during the year 2017 were celebrated.

GENERAL COUNCIL

On behalf of the General Council, Susan Denne presented recommendations 2-4 included in the General Council report, stating that this item had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda. Recommendation 1 had been presented, moved and approved earlier.

Items 5 thru 25 of the General Council report were presented as items for information and required no action.

- 1. THAT the Presbytery elect the Rev. Lauren Vanacore as Moderator of the Presbytery for 2019, serving as Vice-Moderator in 2018.**
- CA 2. THAT permission be granted for the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper to be celebrated at Presbytery sponsored events, mission trips, Cullowhee Campus Ministry and Wee Kirk Presbyterian Church during 2018.**
- 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 2018. (This will be administered by Presbyterian ministers for the Presbytery of WNC and surrounding Presbyteries.)**
- CA 4. THAT Elder Jack Suddreth be re-elected as Treasurer of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina for 2018.**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- 5. THAT Katheryn Anne McGinnis was approved as the Young Adult Delegate to the 2018 General Assembly.**
- 6. THAT the General Council reports approval of the following Regional and International Nickel-A-Meal Hunger Grants:**

REGIONAL GRANTS			
Agency	Location	Sponsor Church	Amount Granted
Sharing House	Brevard	Brevard-Davidson River	\$10,000.00
Loving Food Resources	Asheville	Kenilworth	\$5,000.00
Clay County Pantry	Hayesville	Hayesville	\$5,000.00
Dulatown Pantry	Lenoir	Dulatown	\$10,232.00
Feed My Sheep	Burnsville	Micaville	\$3,000.00
12 Baskets	Montreat	Montreat	\$4,000.00

WNC Aids Project	Asheville	Kenilworth	\$5,000.00
		TOTAL	\$42,232.00

INTERNATIONAL GRANTS			
Guatemala Health Partnership	Guatemala	PWNC-Doug Michaels	\$18,400.00
		TOTAL	\$18,400.00

7. **THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina received a Hunger Action Enabler Grant for 2018 from the PCUSA.**
8. **THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.**
9. **THAT the Christian Education Committee will sponsor an overnight spirituality retreat, to be held March 9-10, 2018 at the Bonclarken Conference Center outside of Flat Rock, NC. The cost of this two-day event is \$40 (includes 3 meals, “a double room”, program and material), an additional charge of \$20 for a private room. The retreat will be led by the Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity a Pastorist (pastor + artist), retreat leader, and creative entrepreneur seeking to fill the church with more color, paint, mystery, and creativity. She founded *A Sanctified Art* with the conviction that, in order to thrive, the church needs more creative expression and art-filled freedom.**
10. **THAT the following dates have been set for youth events in 2018:**
February 17, 2018 – Faith and Sexuality Youth Retreat (Montreat)
March 16-17, 2018 – High School Service Retreat (BMHC)
April 28, 2018 – Adventure Day (Camp Grier)
July 15-20, 2018 – Mission Trip for Middle and High School Youth (RYM)
11. **THAT the Presbyterian Women will be holding their Spring Gathering on:**
Spring Gathering – April 14, 2018 – Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church
12. **THAT the Mission Committee will be offering a mission trip to West Virginia to help with PDA Flood Relief.**
May 20 – May 26, 2018
13. **THAT thanks was expressed to Mrs. Barbara McLean for chairing the General Council during 2017, and for her years of service on the General Council and dedicated service to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.**
14. **THAT thanks was expressed to Terry Hanna, Anne Morgan, and Otis Wilson for their years on the General Council and their dedicated service to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.**
15. **THAT thanks was extended for the work of Lisa Pressley, Comptroller, and Jack Suddreth, Treasurer, for their work during 2017 and their continued 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 2019 and 2020.**

17. **THAT an invitation from the Session of Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church in Brevard to host the July 30, 2019 meeting of Presbytery has been accepted.**

18. **THAT the following dates have been set for 2018 and 2019 Presbytery Meetings:**
2018

Saturday, January 27, 2018 – Lowell Presbyterian Church (Co-Host, Union Presbyterian Church)

Tuesday, April 24, 2018 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host, Montreat Pres. Church)

Tuesday, July 31, 2018 – Banner Elk Presbyterian Church (Lees-McRae College)

Saturday, October 27, 2018 – First Presbyterian Church, Hickory

2019

Saturday, January 26, 2019 – First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host - Montreat Pres. Church)

Tuesday, July 30, 2019 – Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

Saturday, October 26, 2019 – *Need Host Location*

19. **THAT the Leadership Team of the General Council for 2018 consists of:**

Chair (Moderator of General Council) – Susan Denne

Vice-Chair (Moderator of Presbytery) – Melvin Meares

Vice-Moderator of Presbytery – Lauren Vanacore

Two At-Large Members – Keith Grogg and Dot Descieux

20. **THAT the General Council approved the following to serve on the 2018 Building HOPE Finance Committee:**

Jim Henderson (Chair of the Committee, Building HOPE Representative)

Susan Denne (Chair, General Council)

Melvin Meares (Presbytery Moderator, Building HOPE Representative)

Lauren Vanacore (Presbytery Vice-Moderator)

Charles Sellers (Administrative Division Chair)

Hal Bennett (Member At-Large)

Jay Crane (Member At-Large)

21. **THAT the General Council has recommended that the Personnel Committee seek assistance in the evaluation of the staffing needs of the Presbytery.**

22. **THAT the General Council granted permission to the Camp Woodson Task Force to enter into negotiations with Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy. The Task Force may negotiate terms of an agreement but a binding contract will require the approval of the General Council.**

23. **THAT the General Council approved supporting the capital campaign at the Rutherfordton Presbyterian Church with a portion of the proceeds of the sale of the Spindale Presbyterian Church.**

24. **THAT the General Council approved the descriptions for the work of the division chairs of Presbytery.**

25. **THAT the following date has been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training for 2018:**

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Saturday, November 3, 2018 – First Presbyterian Church, Morganton

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.

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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. **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, Luke Harkey reported on the work of the committee for 2017, presented the salaries of the Program Staff for 2018, and gave a report of their recommendations for 2018. The Personnel Committee recommended a 2% salary increase for the Presbytery staff be implemented for 2018. The motion was moved, seconded and approved. (Appendix Q)

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 2018 Budget of \$970,920 was presented, with the endorsement of the General Council, based on anticipated donations from churches being submitted during 2018. He expressed thanks to the Presbytery of WNC for the difference they are making in the churches. A motion was made to approve the 2018 budget. The 2018 Budget of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina was approved. (Appendix R)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

On behalf of the Christian Education Committee, Rick Leissner reported on the work of the committee and very cleverly invited all to attend the Spirituality Retreat to be held at Bonclarken in March. (Appendix S)

MISSION COMMITTEE

Rev. Billy Robinson reported on the work of the committee and highlighted the recent mission trip to Kinston, North Carolina. The next mission trip being sponsored by the Mission Committee will be May 20-26, 2018 to Ronceverte, WV. (Appendix E)

On behalf of the Malawi Leadership Team, Rev. Billy Robinson introduced Martha Sommers to the Presbytery. Ms. Sommers, Medical Missionary to Nkhoma Hospital in Malawi, shared that she will not only be working in the hospital but will also be offering postgraduate training in family medicine. She will be assisting with the hospital's development of the family medicine training program.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Joseph Taber, co-chair of the Youth Committee reported on the work of the committee and reminded us of the upcoming Middle School Retreat in November and the Faith and Sexuality Retreat in February 2018. (Appendix T)

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

On behalf of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Elder Sylvia Sellers made the following recommendation to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina: (Appendix U)

THAT Allison Greene Simmons, a member of First Presbyterian Church in Gastonia and a graduate of Gardner Webb School of Divinity in Boiling Springs, North Carolina, be enrolled as a Candidate following the required examination by Presbytery.

After sharing her faith journey and her call to the ministry, Moderator Melvin Meares opened the floor for questions. Following a period of time for questions, the Presbytery approved the enrollment of Allison Greene Simmons as a Candidate. The Moderator then asked the questions in the Book of Order, G-14.0305f, which were answered affirmatively.

The Rev. Lauren Vanacore delivered the charge and the Rev. Joseph Taber offered the prayer for Allison Greene Simmons. Those who came in support of Allison Green Simmons were asked to stand and be recognized.

CHURCHES AND PASTORS COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

I. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

Elder John Pea reported on the actions taken by the Committee on Ministry on behalf of the Presbytery. (Appendix V)

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MINISTERS

On behalf of the Examinations Sub-Committee and the Committee on Ministry, Elder John Pea introduced Jill Isola, and Daniel Tipton as new ministers in the Presbytery. They spoke briefly and signed the Book of Obligations. Their Statements of Faith and biographical statements were included in the report of the Committee on Ministry. (Appendix V)

- Jill V. Isola from New Harmony Presbytery, as pastor at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Hickory, effective November 1, 2017.

- William O. Lowery from National Capital Presbytery, as Honorably Retired, effective September 12, 2017. (*Not present at this Presbytery meeting.*)
- Daniel Tipton from East Tennessee Presbytery, as Hospice Chaplain, Four Seasons Compassion for Life, effective January 9, 2018. (*Not present at this Presbytery meeting.*)
- David Hosick, from Presbytery of Tampa Bay, as Honorably Retired, effective January 9, 2018. (*Not present at this Presbytery meeting.*)
- David Cameron, from Santa Fe Presbytery, as Member-at-Large, effective January 9, 2018. (*Not present at this Presbytery meeting.*)
- David A. Roquemore, from Carlisle Presbytery, as pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Newton, effective February 1, 2018. (*Not present at this Presbytery meeting.*)

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
III. VALIDATION OF MINISTRIES**

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Elder John Pea moved that the Presbytery validate the ministries of the following: (Appendix V)

- Lynn Bledsoe, as Ministries Associate for Givens Estate, through January 27, 2019.
- Amy Cantrell, as Co-Director/Pastor of BeLoved Asheville, through January 27, 2019.
- Daniel Tipton, as Hospice Chaplain at Four Seasons Compassion for Life Hospice, through January 27, 2019.
- David Lytle, as Chaplain at Novant Health Huntersville Medical Center, through January 27, 2019.
- Evelyn Coleman, as Director for Programs at Montreat Conference Center, through January 27, 2019.

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
IV. ORDINATION/INSTALLATION**

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry and the Examinations Sub-Committee, Elder John Pea introduced Sarah Grace Montgomery (Candidate from the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois), to serve as associate pastor at Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, as a candidate for ordination and installation. Following her sermon entitled, “Come and See,” with scripture taken from John 5:4-30, Elder John Pea moved, on behalf of the Committee on Ministry, that Sarah Grace Montgomery be ordained and installed by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. The motion passed. (Appendix V)

The Rev. Bobbi White, General Presbyter, presented Sarah Grace Montgomery with a Guatemalan stole on behalf of the Presbytery.

VALIDATED MINISTRY

On behalf of the Validated Ministry Sub-Committee, Rev. James Aydelotte introduced Chaplain (Col) Joey T. Byrd of the United States Army Central Command to share his call to the ministry.

Col. Byrd spoke of his work as an army chaplain. He was accompanied by his wife, Carol Byrd, pastor of the Laurens Presbyterian Church in Trinity Presbytery.

REPORT OF GENERAL PRESBYTER

Bobbi White, General Presbyter, reminded us that worship must also include reaching outside our buildings to all others, telling our faith stories to our social contacts, and being willing to change - really change - in response to the needs of society. (Appendix W)

GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP

On behalf of the Guatemala Partnership, Rev. Bobbi White reported on the work of the partnership. (Appendix C)

BILLS AND OVERTURES

The Bills and Overtures Committee studied the overture submitted to the Presbytery by First Presbyterian Church, Marion concerning possible support or opposition by any entity in the PCUSA for candidates running for public office. Following an in depth report from the committee, Elder Jerry Ragan, chair of the Bills and Overtures Committee presented the following recommendation from the committee: (Appendix P)

After considering the merits of different perspectives provided to the Bills and Overtures Committee, the Committee, after explaining the basis for its position, recommended that the Overture tendered by First Presbyterian, Marion should be adopted, endorsed, and approved, as written, by the Presbytery and moved for the same.

Following the approval of the Bills and Overtures recommendation, the following recommendation was made by Rev. Jacob Douylliez, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Marion.

THAT the Presbytery form an Editorial Committee to explore and expand the rationale of the overture submitted by the Session of First Presbyterian, Marion. The Editorial Committee should be named by the Moderator of Presbytery and **THAT** the Editorial Committee be authorized to submit the edited overture to the General Assembly without the review or approval by the Presbytery. Motion was approved.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Don Scofield, pastor at Rutherfordton Presbyterian Church, led the Presbytery in prayers of intercession, particularly lifting up Rev. Eddie Deas, who has been compelled by serious illness to give up his position as Moderator-elect.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

On behalf of the Resolution of Thanks Committee, the Rev. Kevin Frederick and Elder Barbara Cockerham of Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese, offered the following words of thanks:

Whereas the Presbytery of Western North Carolina met at the Lowell Presbyterian Church in Lowell North Carolina, with Union Presbyterian Church of Gastonia serving as co-host, for its 115th Stated Meeting of Presbytery on January 27, 2018, and

Whereas all Presbyters and guests were warmly welcomed by members and leaders of the two congregations;

Whereas morning worship was led by Joseph Taber, pastor of the Lowell Presbyterian Church, with a sermon reminding us of our connection as Church family and was assisted by Elder Sally McGinnis from the Union Presbyterian Church;

Whereas the sacrament of Holy Communion was shared with all present and the business of the Presbytery proceeded immediately after the worship was concluded;

Whereas Sarah Grace Montgomery has been called to the Associate Pastor position of Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church and shared her sense of call through her vulnerability in a sermon on the Samaritan Woman at the well; and

Whereas we celebrated the validated ministry of US Army Chaplain, Colonel Joey Byrd, who is also the keeper of bees and the maker of honey in his Byrd's and Bees Brand Honey;

And whereas the Youth Committee presented plans for a retreat on human sexuality for Middle School students and could probably use some honey from the Byrd's and Bees Brand for the retreat;

Whereas our commitment to missions in Malawi and in Guatemala was lifted and celebrated,

And our calling as Presbyterians to stand fast to the calling of an appropriate separation of Church and State led by the overture of the Marion, First Session;

And whereas the Unity of the Spirit was not only celebrated at the Table of the Lord, but later at a table of fellowship as we shared lunch together in the round;

We, therefore, give humble thanks to the congregations of the Lowell and Union Presbyterian Churches for their hospitality, to the staff of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina for their efficiency, and to God for a productive meeting and for safe travels to and from Lowell.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

With the business of the 115th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, Moderator Meares adjourned the meeting at 12:56 p.m. with prayer.

NEXT MEETING

The 116th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at the Anderson Auditorium, Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, North Carolina.

These minutes were prepared by the following:

Melvin Meares, Moderator

D. Cameron Murchison, Stated Clerk

Robbin Buchanan, Assistant Stated Clerk

These minutes to be approved by Presbytery on April 24, 2018 at its meeting at the Anderson Auditorium, Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, North Carolina.

APPENDICES

- A. Consent Agenda**
- B. Nominating Committee Report**
- C. Guatemala Partnership Report**
- D. Hunger Committee Report**
- E. Missions Committee Report**
- F. Report of the Presbyterian Women**
- G. Building HOPE Task Force Report**
- H. List of Current Ministers**
- I. Permanent Judicial Commission Roster**
- J. Administrative Commission Report for the New Vision Conover New Church Development**
- K. Administrative Commission Reports for First Presbyterian, Kings Mountain; First Presbyterian Church, Swannanoa; Westminster Presbyterian Church; Churches Concluding Their Ministry**
- L. Minutes of Ordination for Barrett Payne**
- M. Minutes of Ordination for Matthew D. Conner**
- N. Minutes of Installation for Janet B. DeWater**
- O. Minutes of Installation for Richard R. Coble**
- P. Overture from the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Marion**
- Q. Personnel Committee Report**
- R. Finance Committee Report and 2018 Budget**
- S. Christian Education Report**
- T. Youth Committee Report**
- U. Preparation for Ministry Report**
- V. Committee on Ministry Report**
- W. General Presbyter Report**

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