

**PRESBYTERY OF
WESTERN
NORTH CAROLINA**



(U S A)

**MINUTES
ONE HUNDRED AND
SEVENTEENTH STATED
MEETING
JULY 31, 2018**

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**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina
117th Stated Meeting
July 31, 2018
Lees-McRae College
Banner Elk, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Ruling Elder Melvin Meares, Moderator, convened the 117th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:01a.m. in Evans Auditorium of the Lees-McRae Campus, Banner Elk, North Carolina.

CONSTITUTION

The Moderator, Ruling Elder Melvin Meares, opened the One-Hundred Seventeenth Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina in the Evans Auditorium of the Lees-McRae College leading the Presbytery in reciting the Mission Statement of the Presbytery, and with prayer.

LEES-MCRAE COLLEGE

Dr. Lee King, President of Lees-McRae, welcomed the body to the Conference Center, welcomed the body to the college, called attention to the history, and invited commissioners to tour the campus.

WELCOME

The Reverend Feild Russell, pastor of the Banner Elk Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), also welcomed the Presbytery as the host pastor.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The appointment of standing committees was announced.

Standing Committees:

Resolution of Thanks:

Reverend Yvonne Thurmond, Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church
Elder, Lelia Bruder, Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church

Bills and Overtures:

Reverend Kathy Campbell, Crossnore Presbyterian Church
Elder Charles Kincaid, Dulatown Presbyterian Church
Rev. Jill Isola, Northminster Presbyterian Church

Tellers:

Elder Dick Larson, Banner Elk Presbyterian Church
Elder Laura Collinger, Banner Elk Presbyterian Church
Elder Tony Fortune, Banner Elk Presbyterian Church
Rev. Ted Roeling, Presbytery of South Louisiana
Elder Judy Roeling, Presbytery of South Louisiana

ATTENDANCE

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

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

Robert M. Abel	P	Jefferson Aiken, Jr.	E	Wyatt Aiken, Jr.	E
Blan Aldridge	E	Merriam Alexander	E	Terry Alexander	E

Stephen Aschmann	P	James Aydelotte	P	Patricia Bacon	E
Tony Baker	E	Edna Banes	E	Ashley Beavers	E
Harold Bennett, Jr.	A	Joseph Bennett	E	Katherine Blankenship	A
Lynn Bledsoe	P	Samantha Gonzalez-Block	P	Randall Boggs	A
David Bonnema	P	Ronald Botsford	E	Adam Bowling	E
Lee Bowman	E	Richard Boyce	P	Grace Boyer	A
David Bradley	A	Ryan Brakemeyer	A	Ronald Brauer	E
Hayden Britton	E	Sandra Brown	E	Jason Bryant	A
William Buchanan	P	Monty Burnham	E	Sue Burton	E
Robert Busey	E	Connie Button	P	Joey Byrd	A
David Cameron	A	Kathryn Cameron	P	John Campbell	E
Kathy Campbell	P	Amy Cantrell	A	Pride Carson	A
Katherine Cashwell	E	Calvin Chestnutt	E	Dwight Christenbury	P
William Christian	E	Richard Coble	P	Sarah Coburn	A
James Cockerham	E	Jeffrey Coffey	E	James Cogswell	E
Evelyn Coleman	A	Hunter Coleman	E	Monty Cook	E
Thomas Cook, Jr.	E	Donald Cooper	P	Riley Covin	P
John Craven	E	Curtis Crowther	E	Robert Bruce Cumming	E
James Dale	E	Blake Daniel	E	Charles Davenport	P
Dent Davis	E	Heather Wood Davis	P	Holly Davis	P
Jey Deifell, Jr.	E	Arthur DeJong	E	Susan Denne	P
Janet DeWater	P	Edward Donnell	P	Jacob Douylliez	P
Ellen Dozier	E	Philip Dunford	E	Priscilla Durkin	P
Stephen Elderbrock	P	Lee Feero, Jr.	E	David Fillpot	E
Edward Forsyth	E	Clay Fouse	A	McCoy Franklin	E
Kevin Frederick	P	Keith Freeman	E	Berry French, III	A
John Frye, Jr.	P	Curtis Fussell, III	P	Tempe Fussell	P
A. Willis Gaines	E	Paul Galbreath	E	David Garnett	P
Lisle Garrity	E	Tee Gatewood, III	P	Denise Geiger	E
Joanne Glaser	P	Jean Goodwin	P	Gregory Grana	E
Theodore Grant	E	Keith Grogg	P	Robert Gruber	E
George Gunn	E	Rebecca Gurney	A	Samuel Hale	E
Michal Hall	E	Terry Hanna	P	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 Holman	P
James Hornsby	E	David Hosick	E	Carol Hovis	A
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	A
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	P	John LaMotte	E	John Laughlin	E
Margaret Lauterer	P	James Layman	P	Thomas Lewis	E
William Lindeman	E	John Lindsay	E	Eugene Linton, Jr.	E
Deneise Deter Liss	A	Jamie Lloyd	P	Neal Lloyd	P

Laura Long	E	Billy T. Lowe	E	William Lowrey	P
Robert Lowry	E	David Lytle	P	Tricia Lytle	E
Whit Malone	P	Marjorie Marsh	P	Joan Martin	P
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	P	David McKee	E
Michael McKee	A	Lynn Michie	A	Beth Ann Miller	P
Sarah Grace Montgomery	P	Robert Montgomery	E	Anne Morgan	P
David Morgan	E	Richard Morgan	E	Keith Morrison	E
David Mulford	E	Donald Mullen	E	Cameron Murchison	P
Carl Murray	E	David Nash	P	Wanda Neely	E
William Neely	E	Thomas Nelson	E	Elizabeth Newman	E
John Newton, Jr.	E	John Niles	E	Richard Nygren	E
Daniel Oedy	P	O'Hyun Park	E	David Parks	E
Donald Patchel	E	Stratton Peacock	E	Albert Peery, Jr.	E
Margaret Peery	E	Martha Jane Petersen	E	Lyle Peterson	E
Harry Philips	E	James Poling	E	John Nelson Pope	A
Michael Poulos	P	Donald Price	E	Gene Price	E
Caroline Proctor	E	Allen Proctor, Jr.	E	Edyth Pruitt	P
Tamara Puffer	E	Jay Rabuck	E	Daria Ragan	E
Joseph Rand	E	Kathleen Rankin	P	Earl Rash	E
Wilson Rhoton, Jr.	E	Calvin Rice	E	Don Robb	E
Billy Robinson	P	Mary Katherine Robinson	E	David Roquemore	P
Steven Runholt	P	Feild Russell	P	Richard Rustay	E
Don Scofield, Jr.	E	Henry Scoggins	E	Carol Seaman	E
Kyle Segars	A	William H. Serjak	E	Albert Shaw, Jr.	E
Marcia Mount Shoop	E	Mary Elizabeth Sigmon	P	Robert Singdahlsen	E
Wirt Skinner	E	Allen Smith	P	Paul Smith	A
John Somerville	E	Becky Stanley	A	Mark Stanley	P
Margie Stansell	P	Carol Steele	P	John David Stewart	E
Daniel Stitt	E	Cynthia Strickler	A	Charles Swann	E
William Sweetser, Jr.	P	Joseph Taber	P	Christopher Taylor	A
Keith Thompson	E	Daniel Tipton	E	Denise Thorpe	A
Yvonne Thurmond	P	Russell Tillotson, Sr.	E	Margaret Torrence	A
Daniel Trapp	E	Robert Tuttle	E	Thomas Tweedie	E
Melissa Anne Upchurch	E	Gary Van Brocklin	A	Lauren Vanacore	E
Dana Vaughn	A	Christopher P. Vogado	E	Rockwell Ward	E
Samuel Warner	P	Lynn Webber	A	Judith Weger	E
Kimberleigh Wells	P	Barbara White	P	Lamar Williamson	E
Parker Williamson	E	Emily Wilmarth	A	Otis Wilson	E
Victor Wilson	E	Chris Wingard	A	Eugene Witherspoon	E
Graham Wood, Jr.	E	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	A	Kerry Border	A	Mildred Bruns	P
John Hall	P	Kenneth Humphreys	E	Bobby Justus	P

James Koone	E	Peggy Koone	E	Deborah Lesenger	E
James Millsaps	A	Marla Patchel	E	Randy Patterson	A
John Pea	P	Marcia Reighley	A	Russell Reighley	A
Betty Shaw	A	Dennis Stamper	A	John Stanley	A
James Taylor	P	William Upchurch	E	Roger Wise	P
Wanda Woodby	A				

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

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

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
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 (1)	A		
Asheville First (3)	A		
Banner Elk (1)	Dick Larson		
Belmont First (3)	Adrian Miller	Bill Blalock	
Bessemer City First(1)	A		
Black Mountain (2)	Wayne Mullis	John W. Eland	
Brevard-Davidson River (2)	Mary Johnson	Joyce Weaver	
Bridgewater (1)	A		
Brittain (1)	A		
Brittain's Cove (1)	A		
Bryson City (1)	Colin Caldwell		
Buladean (1)	A		
Burnsville, First (1)	Amanda Martin		
Calvary (2)	A		
Canton (1)	A		
Cherryville, First (2)	E		
Chinchfield (1)	A		
Columbus (1)	A		
Conley Memorial (1)	E		
Crossnore (1)	Barbara Ross		
Dallas First (1)	A		
Dixon (1)	A		
Dorland Memorial (1)	E		

Dulatown (2)	Charles Kincaid		
Duncan's Creek (1)	A		
Etowah (1)	Don Wauchope		
Fairview (1)	Kenneth Roberts		
Fletcher (1)	A		
Forest City First (1)	Ron Lessard		
Franklin First (1)	Sandy Geary		
Gastonia, First (3)	Carol Brittain		
Good Hope (2)	A		
Grace Covenant (2)	Al Root		
Grassy Creek (1)	Beth Hall		
Green Mountain (1)	A		
Green Street (2)	A		
Hayesville (1)	E		
Hendersonville First (1)	Wendy Henderson		
Hickory First (3)	Jay Crane	Carol Robinson	
Highlands First (1)	A		
Ironton (1)	Pat Bradshaw		
Jack's Creek (1)	A		
John Knox (1)	A		
Kenilworth (1)	A		
Korean Church of Asheville (2)	A		
Lenoir First (1)	Sonny Hines		
Lincolnton First (1)	A		
Long Creek (1)	A		
Love's Chapel (2)	A		
Lowell (1)	Pam Myers		
Marion First (1)	A		
Marshall (1)	Carol Brown		
Micaville (1)	A		
Mills River (1)	A		
Montreat (1)	Mary Jo Wright		
Morganton First (2)	Laura Aycock	Jean Hawes	
Morrison (1)	A		
Mount Holly First (1)	Patty Byrd		
New Hope (Asheville) (1)	Susan Maveety		
New Hope (Gastonia) (1)	E		
Newdale (1)	Becky Ayala		
Newland (1)	A		
Newton First (2)	Donald Duncan	Bruce Deese	
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	Lelia Bruder		
Reems Creek-Beech (1)	A		
Ridgeview (1)	A		
Robinson Memorial (1)	A		
Rutherfordton (2)	Susan Allred	Ann Devinney	
Ryburn Memorial (2)	A		
Saluda (2)	A		
Shelby (3)	Margaret McSwain	Doug Boyette	Agaat Den Hertog
Sherrill's Ford (2)	A		
Shiloh, Grover (2)	E		
Siloam (2)	A		
Southminster (3)	Joanne Mitchell		
Spruce Pine First (2)	E		
Sweetwater (2)	Lynn Honeycutt		
Sylva First (2)	A		
Third Street (3)	E		
Trinity (3)	Don Widmayer	James Smelker	
Tryon (3)	Gloria Underwood		
Union (2)	Tammy Biddix	Rose Brooks	
Union Mills (2)	E		
United (2)	Gwen Gibson	Ruth Kincaid	
Unity (3)	Rick Ayers	Frank Darden	
Vians Valley (2)	A		
Waldensian (3)	John Heilman	Wes Garrou	
Walnut (2)	A		
Warren Wilson (2)	Sandy Brauer	Diana Sanderson	
Waynesville First (2)	Ron Tingle		
West Asheville (2)	A		
West Avenue (2)	Paula Wallace	Mollie Trospen	

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

Ministers	80
Ruling Elders	57
Certified Educators	1
General Council/Committee Chairs	5
Visitors	31
Total	174

There following corresponding member was in attendance:

Rev. Ted Roeling, Presbytery of South Louisiana

APPROVAL OF DOCKET

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

8:30 Registration

**Student Center
Back Hallway**

Orientation for New Elders

Charles Davenport

9:00 Call to Order

Convene with Prayer of Invocation

**Melvin Meares
Moderator**

***SEE**, We Are The Body Of Christ
We Covenant to...*

***S**trengthen Congregations*

***E**quip Disciples*

***E**ngage in Mission*

Welcome

**Lees-McRae College
Banner Elk Presbyterian Church
Good News from Banner Elk**

**Dr. Lee King, President
Feild Russell**

Appointment of Standing Committees

Melvin Meares

**Resolution of Thanks
Bills and Overtures
Tellers**

**Certification of Quorum
Approval of Docket**

Cam Murchison, Stated Clerk

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

Hunger Committee

R

Missions Committee

S

Finance Committee

BB

Reports from General Assembly Commissioners

JJ

9:25 Service of Worship, including Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Preacher: Carol Steele

Sermon Title: "Flat Stanley"

Sermon Text: Mark 2:13-17

10:25 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.)

10:30 General Council (5 minutes)

(Work of the committee, Pinnacle Leadership Associates, Adaptive Change.)

Susan Denne C

10:35 Church Leadership School (5 minutes)

(2017-2018 Church Leadership School Graduates)

2018 CLS Graduates – Sally Beghtol (Trinity); Jerry Blankenship (Salem Presbytery); Ray Combs (Sweetwater); Rick Leissner (Morganton, First); Ronald Lessard (Forest City, First); Douglas Noble (Crossnore); Mary Noble (Crossnore); Bruce Rasmussen (New Hope, Asheville)

Allen Smith OO

Committee on Ministry (30 minutes)

(Work of the committee; welcome new ministers; Commission CP's Betsy Ray and Sally Beghtol; Recognition of Ministers and Service.)

John Pea D

25 Years Service

John L. Frye

Lee Kruse

50 Years Service

James M. Cockerham

Samuel W. Hale

Charles E. Swann

60 Years Service

S. Hayden Britton

David Kaylor

Harry W. Philips

W. Graham Wood, Jr.

Honorably Retired

Dent C. Davis

Priscilla Durkin

Thomas G. Nelson

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (20 minutes)

(Work of the committee; request to transfer Inquirer Brett Gudeman to Candidate.)

Edyth Pruitt K

Peace & Justice (5 minutes)

(Highlight Two Congregations- Unity Presbyterian Church and Montreat Presbyterian Church)

Anne Morgan T

Guatemala Partnership Report (5 minutes)

(Partnership Updates and Upcoming Mission Trips; Microloan Project Update)

Marie Palacios S

Mission Committee

(Fall Mission Trips; Malawi and West Virginia Mission Team Reports.)

Fall Mission Trips – (2 minutes)

September 16-22, 2018 – Lumberton, NC

October 14-20, 2018 – Fayetteville, NC

Report from West Virginia Mission Team (4 minutes)

Report from Malawi Mission Team (4 minutes)

Bob Abel

Bob Abel

Bobbi White

Report of the General Presbyter (5 minutes)

Bobbi White GP

Christian Education (5 minutes)

(Work of the Committee; Pastor's Retreat; Workshop)

Dwight Christenbury W

Youth Committee (5 minutes)

(Work of the Committee, Presbyterian Youth Council, Upcoming Events)

Joseph Taber Y

Karyn Cherry

Report from General Assembly (15 minutes)

(Commissioners: Rev. Hal Bennett, Rev. Samantha Gonzalez-Block, Mrs. Mimi Michael, Mr. Roger Rizk and Ms. Katheryn McGinnis)

JJ

***12:25 Prayers of Intercession**

(Please submit requested prayers of intercession to the Stated Clerk's table before 11:00 a.m.)

Benediction and Adjournment

***12:30 LUNCH**

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. (Appendix A)

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

- Finance Committee (Appendix B)
- Building H.O.P.E. (Appendix C)

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

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

Dr. Murchison then presented items 6 and 7 regarding the dissolution of the West Avenue Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, NC and the Ellenboro Presbyterian Church, Ellenboro, NC and the appointing of commissions for the process. The motions were unanimously approved.

He then referred to items 8 - 16 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 October 27, 2018 Presbytery meeting.**
- CA. 2. THAT the minutes of the April 24, 2018 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.**
- CA 3. THAT the July 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 D)**
- CA 4. THAT the July 2018 report of the Administrative Commissions for the 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 E)**
- CA 5. THAT the Presbytery accept the report of membership and worship statistics as submitted by the Sessions on the Annual Statistical Report. (Appendix F)**
- 6. THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina**
- approve the dissolution of the West Avenue Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, NC (at its request);
 - join the congregation on September 30, 2018 at their closing service, at 3 p.m., celebrating their 111 years of faithful ministry in the Gastonia community and throughout the Presbytery;
 - and appoint these persons to an Administrative Commission for West Avenue:
 - Rev. Dan Oedy (Southminster)

- Steve Brittain (Gastonia, First)
- Paula Wallace (West Avenue)
- Charles Sellers (West Avenue)
- John Pea (Robinson Memorial)
- Starla Littlejohn (Third Street)
- Rev. David Lytle (West Avenue)
- Revs. Bobbi White and Cam Murchison (Ex-Officio),

with the following responsibilities:

- A. To work pastorally with the members of West Avenue, supporting them in their closing worship, their transition to other congregations and giving thanks for the ministry of the West Avenue Presbyterian Church.
- B. To hold members on the roll of Presbytery and transfer their membership to congregations of their choosing.
- C. To administer the funds of the church's accounts and to make payments on behalf of the church and the Presbytery.
- D. To determine the disposition of all the property, with authority to lease or sell it.

7. THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina

- approve the dissolution of the Ellenboro Presbyterian Church, Ellenboro, NC, effective July 31, 2018;
- that the property and its members be assigned to the Administrative Commission for Churches Concluding Their Ministry;
- that all responsibilities empowered by the Administrative Commission for Churches Concluding Their Ministry be applicable.
 - Members of the Commission:
 - Rev. Don Scofield (Rutherfordton)
 - Rev. Bill Kirk (Retired)
 - Ms. Barbara Ross (Crossnore)
 - Mr. Ken Unnasch (Long Creek)
 - Mr. John Stanley, (Gastonia, First)
 - Mrs. Peggy Lafferty (Lincolnton, First)
 - Mr. Steve Brittain (Gastonia, First)
 - To work pastorally with the members of churches wishing to conclude their ministry, supporting them in their closing worship, their transition to other congregations, and giving thanks for the ministry of the Church.
 - To hold members on the roll of Presbytery and transfer their membership to congregations of their choosing.
 - To dissolve the congregation, close the church (G-3.0301a), and take possession of their records (G-3.107).
 - To administer the funds in the church's accounts, pay any outstanding bills and debts, and to make payments on behalf of the Church and the Presbytery.
 - To determine the disposition of all the property, including the authority to sell the property and dispose of any contents (G 4.0205).

FOR INFORMATION:

8. THAT the attached Draft of Child-Youth-Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy from the Sexual Misconduct Task Force be received, with members of the Presbytery of WNC requested to provide any suggestions for modification of the policy no later than September 1, 2018. A proposed policy for adoption will be presented at the October 27, 2018 meeting of the Presbytery of WNC. (Appendix G)

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

Board of the UKirk at WCU Campus Ministry

10. THAT the 118th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, October 27, 2018, at the First Presbyterian Church, Hickory, North Carolina. THAT the deadline for written reports for this meeting is Thursday, October 4, 2018, and Thursday, October 11, 2018 for power point presentations. THAT the deadline for an overture is Friday, September 28, 2018.

11. THAT the following dates have been set for 2018, 2019 and 2020 Presbytery Meetings:

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**

2020

Saturday, January 25, 2020 – Need Host Location

Tuesday, April 28, 2020 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host, Montreat Presbyterian Church)

Tuesday, July 29, 2020 – Need Host Location

Saturday, October 24, 2020 – Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese

12. THAT the following Session Records for 2017 were submitted and approved on Saturday, April 28, 2018, at a Session Records Review held at First Presbyterian Church, Morganton:

Arbor Dale	Asheville, First	Clinchfield
Dulatown	Fairview	Fletcher
Grassy Creek	Hickory, First	John Knox
Lincolnton, First	Marshall	Montreat
Morganton, First	Newdale	Newland
New Hope, Asheville	Pineola	Quaker Meadows
Shelby	Sherrill's Ford	Siloam
Spruce Pine, First	Waldensian	Warren Wilson

13. THAT the following Session Records for 2017 were submitted and approved on Saturday, June 9, 2018, at a Session Records Review held at First Presbyterian Church, Sylva:

Black Mountain	Brevard-Davidson River	Canton
Hayesville	Hendersonville, First	Highlands, First
Kenilworth	Saluda	Trinity

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

Saturday, August 18, 2018

Rutherfordton Presbyterian Church

Saturday, September 29, 2018

First Presbyterian Church, Bessemer City

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

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

General Council	Youth
Committee on Ministry	Christian Education
Examinations	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.

16. THAT correspondence for the Bethel Rural Community Organization, Waynesville, NC be entered into the permanent records of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. (Appendix H)

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

Worship was led by the Reverends Carol Steele, and Dwight Christenbury. The Rev. Carol Steele preached a sermon, “Flat Stanley,” scripture taken from Mark 2:12-17.

Worship concluded with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, led by the Reverends Carol Steele, Dwight Christenbury, and Feild Russell, with communion being served by the ruling and teaching elders affiliated with the Banner Elk Presbyterian Church. Our musician for the day was Eric Wall.

GENERAL COUNCIL

On behalf of the General Council, Susan Denne reported on the work of the General Council. Recommendations 1 thru 3 and 17 were presented to the commissioners. The recommendations were duly moved and approved, thereby re-electing the Rev. Dr. D. Cameron Murchison for a second three-year term as part-time Stated Clerk and electing Ruling Elder Dick Larson as Moderator of Presbytery for 2020, serving as Vice-Moderator for 2019.

The commissioners approved a contract with the Pinnacle Leadership Associates to plan for future staffing to equip our Presbytery to fulfill its mission.

Rev. Denne then presented items 4-16 included in the General Council report for information that required no action.

- 1. THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina concur with the General Council and the Personnel Committee to recommend that the Rev. Dr. D. Cameron Murchison be re-elected for a second three-year term as part-time Stated Clerk, beginning August 1, 2018.**
- 2. THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina concur with the General Council to enter into a contract with Pinnacle Leadership Associates to determine an updated and fitting staffing model which more fully equips the Presbytery to live out its mission. (Appendix I)**
- 3. THAT the Presbytery of Western North Carolina concur with the General Council of the appointment of a Discernment Team to work with Pinnacle Leadership Associates to fulfill their mission. Members include:**
 - Dr. Luke Harkey (Shelby Presbyterian – PWNC Personnel Committee)
 - Rev. Terry Hanna (Bryson City, Presbyterian – PWNC Personnel Committee)
 - Mr. Melvin Meares (First Presbyterian, Hickory – PWNC Moderator/General Council)
 - Mr. Russ Reighley (Sherrill's Ford Presbyterian – PWNC PneuMatrix)
 - Rev. Blake Daniels (First Presbyterian Church, Sylva)
 - Rev. Don Scofield (Rutherfordton Presbyterian)
 - Rev. Keith Grogg (Montreat Presbyterian – General Council)
 - Ms. Carrie Coward (Black Mountain Presbyterian)
 - Ms. Tina Joyner (Kenilworth Presbyterian–General Council Presbyterian Women)
 - Rev. Bobbi White (General Presbyter)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- 4. THAT a list of upcoming events of the Presbytery can be found on the back of the Presbytery Docket.**
- 5. THAT the Christian Education Committee will sponsor a Pastor's Retreat, September 17-19, 2018 at the William Black Lodge, Montreat.**
- 6. THAT the General Council approved the Rev. Margie Stansell to serve on the UKirk Campus Ministry Board.**
- 7. THAT the following dates have been set for youth events in 2018 - 2019:**

September 30, 2018 – Youth Rally – Montreat
 November 9-11, 2018 - Middle School Retreat – Camp Grier

8. **THAT the Mission Committee will be offering the following mission trips:**
 Eastern North Carolina – September 16-22, 2018 – Lumberton, NC
 Eastern North Carolina – October 14-19, 2018 – Fayetteville, NC
 Guatemala Mission Trip – November 8-15, 2018

9. **THAT the General Council reports approval of the following regional and international Nickel-A-Meal Hunger grants:**

REGIONAL GRANT REQUESTS			
Agency	Location	Sponsor Church	Amount Granted
Highland Food Pantry	Highlands	First, Highlands	\$7,400.
Bounty and Soul	Black Mountain	Montreat	\$5,000.
Interfaith Assistance Ministry	Hendersonville	Trinity	\$4,000.
Jericho Road Soup Kitchen	Rutherfordton	Rutherford	\$5,000.
Neighbors Network	Conover	New Vision	\$8,000.
At Risk Elderly, COA	Asheville	Kenilworth	\$1,000.
		TOTAL	\$30,400.

INTERNATIONAL GRANT REQUESTS			
Nkhoma Hospital	Malawi	Presbytery's Malawi Team	\$23,000.
Thandizo Orphan Project	Malawi		\$ 7,000.
		TOTAL	\$30,000.

10. **THAT the General Council reviewed and approved the following application for Presbyterian Church (USA) Restricted Funds:**
 Canton Presbyterian Church - Fund Number F58529
11. **THAT the General Council received a report from General Presbyter, Bobbi White, of her visit with the representatives of the Wee Kirk Presbyterian Church in Linville, NC. This is a summer mission church of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.**
12. **THAT the General Council will welcome invitations from churches or institutions willing to host Presbytery meetings in 2019 and 2020.**
13. **THAT the following dates have been set for 2018, 2019 and 2020 Presbytery Meetings:**
- 2018**
- 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*
- 2020**
- Saturday, January 25, 2020 – Need Host Location
 Tuesday, April 28, 2020 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host Montreat Presbyterian Church)

Tuesday, July 29, 2020 – Need Host Location
Saturday, October 24, 2020 – Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese

14. **THAT Brittain Presbyterian Church in Rutherfordton, NC celebrates its 250th Anniversary on August 5, 2018.**
15. **THAT Crossnore Presbyterian Church in Crossnore, NC celebrates its 100th Anniversary on July 22, 2018.**
16. **THAT the Rev. Vasco Kachipapa Banda, General Secretary (CEO) of the Synod of Nkhoma, Malawi will be visiting the Presbytery August 12-16, 2018.**

Recommendation:

17. **THAT the Presbytery elect Ruling Elder Dick Larson as Moderator of the Presbytery for 2020, serving as Vice-Moderator in 2019.**

CHURCH LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

The Rev. Allen Smith reported on the Church Leadership School and recognized 8 people who graduated from CLS in May 2018. (2018 CLS Graduates – Sally Beghtol (Trinity); Jerry Blankenship (Salem Presbytery); Ray Combs (Sweetwater); Rick Leissner (Morganton, First); Ronald Lessard (Forest City, First); Douglas Noble (Crossnore); Mary Noble (Crossnore); Bruce Rasmussen (New Hope, Asheville).

Rev. Smith described the Church Leadership School as a program designed for people who want to grow in faith and knowledge in leadership in their church. He extended thanks to the churches and to the Presbytery for the Church Leadership program. (Appendix J)

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

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

Ruling Elder John Pea reported that the following minister requested that his membership be transferred:

- Bryan Hovey, to the Salem Presbytery as Interim Pastor at Sparta Presbyterian Church, effective, January 25, 2018.
- McCoy Franklin, to the Presbytery of the James, as Honorably Retired, effective June 14, 2018.

John Pea thanked these ministers for his ministry in our Presbytery and prayed God's blessing on them in their future service in the Church.

John Pea, chair of the committee, recognized all members who have been in the ministry for 25, 50, 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

John L. Frye
Lee Kruse

50 Years Service

James M. Cockerham
Samuel W. Hale
Charles E. Swann

60 Years Service

S. Hayden Britton
David Kaylor
Harry W. Philips
W. Graham Wood, Jr.

Honorably Retired

Dent C. Davis
Priscilla Durkin
Thomas G. Nelson

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
II. VALIDATION OF MINISTRIES

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

- A. Joe Bennett, as Chaplain, Yancey Hospice and Palliative Care, through July 30, 2019.
- B. David Bradley, as Pastoral Counselor, Marriage and Family Therapist, through July 30, 2019.
- C. John Campbell, as a Pastoral Counselor with Eastatoe Trail Counseling and Consultation Center, through July 30, 2019.
- D. Jean Goodwin, as Assistant Pastor, Hendersonville First United Methodist Church, through July 30, 2019.
- E. Carol Steele, as Vice-President for Program at Montreat Conference Center, through July 30, 2019.
- F. Noah McIntee, as Campus Minister, Ukirk at Western Carolina University, through July 30, 2019.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
III. COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Ruling Elder John Pea recommended that the Presbytery approve Betsy Ray be commissioned as a lay pastor to Old Fort Presbyterian Church. Following questions and answers, the motion passed. Moderator Meares then offered prayer. The commissioning for Betsy Ray is to include permission to celebrate the Sacraments, moderate the Session and officiate at weddings. The moderator thanked the congregation of Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, Black Mountain for sharing Betsy with another organization within our Presbytery. (Appendix K)

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry, Ruling Elder John Pea recommended that the Presbytery approve Sally Begthol be commissioned as a lay pastor to Trinity Presbyterian Church. Following questions and answers, the motion passed. Moderator Meares then offered prayer. The commissioning for Sally Begthol is to include permission to celebrate the Sacraments. The moderator thanked the congregation of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville for supporting. (Appendix K)

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

On behalf of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Rev. Bill Sweetser made the following recommendations to the Presbytery of Western North Carolina: (Appendix L)

- I. THAT Brett Gudeman**, a member of Black Mountain Presbyterian Church and a student at Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey, be enrolled as a Candidate following the required examination by Presbytery.

Brett Gudeman shared his faith journey and his 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 Brett Gudeman as a Candidate. The Moderator then asked the questions in the *Book of Order*, G-14.0305f, which were answered affirmatively.

Ruling Elder Wayne Mullis delivered the charge and Teaching Elder Bill Sweetser offered the prayer for Brett Gudeman. Those who came in support of this candidate were asked to stand and be recognized.

PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Anne Morgan, chair of the Peace and Justice Committee, reported on the work of the committee and encouraged churches to submit applications for Peace and Justice Grants. She emphasized the need to take care of the things that we love and challenged congregations to consider becoming an Earth Care Congregation and to be better stewards of God's earth. (Appendix M)

Rev. Bill Lowrey, former Director of Peacebuilding at World Vision International, shared knowledge of his experiences in South Sudan. He encouraged those in attendance to join him at the Banner Elk Presbyterian Church following today's meeting for a presentation of this area on the continent of Africa, its complexities, as well as the difficulties of facilitating peace in this region.

The Reverend Keith Grogg, Pastor at the Montreat Presbyterian Church, shared how his congregation is actively participating in Peace and Justice initiative and sharing information within their church and community.

GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP

Marie Palacios reported on the work of the PWNC Guatemala Partnership Committee and their continued efforts to work with both of our sister Presbyteries to build healthier and stronger communities. The primary focus areas that the committee continues are: health, women's microloans, strengthening sister church relationships, and education initiatives. (Appendix N)

MISSION

Rev. Bob Abel, chair of the Mission Committee, reported on the work of the committee and encouraged churches to support the Young Adult Volunteer Program. Rev. Abel thanked the PWNC Disaster Assistance Team that went to West Virginia in May 2018 for their accomplishments. He announced two upcoming mission trips for the Fall and encouraged others to sign up. (Appendix O)

MALAWI MISSION TRIP

Rev. Bobbi White reported on behalf of the Malawi Mission Team and their work during May. They were excited to see the many ways that God is at work in Malawi and how contributions from this Presbytery have aided in their work. The mobile health unit travels miles from the hospital each day to rural areas to administer shots, test for Malaria, and medications.

REPORT OF GENERAL PRESBYTER

Rev. Bobbi White stated that she is often asked how she sees God at work in our Presbytery. As we look at our Mission Statement, it is our answer to what God is calling our unique Presbytery to do at this time and on this day. Our mission statement guides what we are to do as a Presbytery. We belong to Christ and that is who we serve. We are to work together to strengthen our churches, equip disciples and engage in mission.

She shared how we are a part of God's work in Malawi, Camp Grier, Guatemala and here in our own Presbytery; that we are called to see where God is at work and to become a part of that work. (Appendix P)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

On behalf of the Christian Education Committee, the Rev. Dwight Christenbury encouraged commissioners to participate in the upcoming events sponsored by the committee. The Pastor's Retreat that will be held at the William Black Lodge in September would be an excellent time for pastors to get away for a few days of fellowship and rest. For those who always dread the yearly annual statistical reports, you may want to consider signing up for a time of table talks with Kris Valerius from the General Assembly. He also encouraged commissioners to learn more about an on-line resource center known as "Practical Resources for Churches." (Appendix Q)

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Joseph Taber, co-chair of the Youth Committee, reported on the work of the committee and called attention to several upcoming events. Commissioners were asked to pray for the events and their leadership.

The committee is excited to welcome thirteen young and energetic individuals to 2018-2019 PWNC Youth Council. (Appendix R)

REPORT FROM 223rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS

The Presbytery heard reports from the Dr. Harold (Hal) Bennett and Rev. Samantha Gonzalez-Block and Elders Mimi Michael and Roger Rizk on the recent 223rd General Assembly held June 16-23, 2018 in St. Louis. (Appendix S)

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

On behalf of the Resolution of Thanks Committee, Elder Lelia Bruder and Rev. Yvonne Thurmond of Quaker Meadows Presbyterian Church, we present the following Resolution of Thanks:

WHEREAS, commissioners, ministers, Christian Educators, staff, visitors and guests from all areas of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina met for its 117th Stated Meeting, at Lees McRae College in Banner Elk, North Carolina;

WHEREAS, we were blessed with the generosity and hospitality of representatives from Lees McRae College and Banner Elk Presbyterian Church and the competent and gracious leadership of our Moderator and Presbytery staff;

WHEREAS, we witnessed the Spirit of God at work:

- through the preaching of the Word, as we were called to treat ourselves and others as the 3-dimensional persons God has created us to be;
- through the celebration of Holy Communion, as we experienced the joyful noise of fellowship and the mystery of the bread and the cup;
- through the affirmation of God's giftedness for ministry in the commissioning of lay pastors, the endorsement of a candidate for Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the graduation of eight persons from the Church Leadership School;
- through the reports of the collaborative and supportive ministries of the Guatemala Partnership and Microloan Project, the Hunger Committee, the Peace and Justice Committee, the Malawi Ministry, and Camp Grier;
- through the ministries of accountability, as we strive to protect and support children, youth and the vulnerable adults among us and to encourage and support the health and well-being of our ministers and leaders; and
- through reflections on the General Assembly by our Commissioners who spoke of "a kaleidoscope of emotions, spirituality and deep searching" which were experienced in "passionate debate and prayerful struggle", meaningful worship, peaceful demonstrations and a Pentecost-like experience of hearing the Lord's Prayer spoken in at least 6 languages – all at the same time;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that on this, the 31st day of July in the year of our Lord 2018, we lift our hearts to God in praise and thanksgiving for his presence with us and his everlasting love towards us. To God be the glory, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Bill Sweetser, led the Presbytery in prayers of intercession.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

With the business of the 117th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, Moderator Melvin Meares adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m. with a summary of the meeting and prayer.

NEXT MEETING

The 118th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, October 27, 2018 at First Presbyterian Church, Hickory, 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 October 27, 2018 at its meeting at First Presbyterian Church, Hickory, North Carolina.

APPENDICES

- A. Consent Agenda**
- B. Finance Committee Report**
- C. Building HOPE Report**
- D. Administrative Commission Report for New Vision, Conover New Church Development**
- E. Administrative Commission Reports for First Presbyterian, Swannanoa; Westminster Presbyterian Church; and Churches Concluding Their Ministry**
- F. Report of Membership and Worship Statistics for 2017**
- G. Draft of Child-Youth-Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy**
- H. Correspondence from Bethel Rural Community**
- I. Contract between Presbytery of WNC and Pinnacle Leadership Associates**
- J. Church Leadership School**
- K. Report of the Committee on Ministry**
- L. Report of the Preparation for Ministry Committee**
- M. Peace and Justice Committee Report**
- N. Guatemala Partnership Report**
- O. Mission Committee Report**
- P. Report of the General Presbyter**
- Q. Report of Christian Education Committee**
- R. Youth Committee Report**
- S. Reports from General Assembly Commissioners**

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