

**PRESBYTERY OF
WESTERN
NORTH CAROLINA**



(U S A)

MINUTES

**ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIRST
STATED MEETING**

July 30, 2019

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**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina
121th Stated Meeting
July 30, 2019
Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church
Brevard, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Teaching Elder Lauren Vanacore, Moderator, convened the 121st Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary of the Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard, North Carolina.

CONSTITUTION

The Moderator, Teaching Elder Lauren Vanacore, opened the One-Hundred Twenty-First Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at Brevard Davidson River Presbyterian Church with the reciting of the Mission/Vision Statement and prayer.

WELCOME

The Reverend Keith Thompson, pastor of the Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), brought greetings from their church.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing Committees:

Resolution of Thanks:

Rev. Dr. Charles Davenport, Long Creek Presbyterian Church, Kings Mountain
Elder Brenda Wiggins, Long Creek Presbyterian Church, Kings Mountain

Bills and Overtures:

Rev. Becky Stanley, Chair, Etowah Presbyterian Church, Etowah
Rev. Curtis Fussell, First Presbyterian Church, Highlands
Elder Lauren Stanfield, First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville

Tellers:

Bill Hale, Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard
Rosalie Hale, Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard
Dick Benson, Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard
Frank Anderson, Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard
Jack Britt, Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard
John Gustafson, Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard

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. First time elders and corresponding members were recognized.

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

Robert M. Abel	P	Kat Achtemeier	E	Mark Achtemeier	P
Jefferson Aiken, Jr.	E	Wyatt Aiken, Jr.	E	Blan Aldridge	E
Merriam Alexander	P	Terry Alexander	E	Stephen Aschmann	P

James Aydelotte	E	Patricia Bacon	E	Tony Baker	E
Edna Banes	E	Ashley Beavers	E	Harold Bennett, Jr.	E
Joseph Bennett	E	Cynthia M. Benz	P	Katherine Blankenship	P
Lynn Bledsoe	P	Samantha Gonzalez-Block	E	Randall Boggs	P
David Bonnema	E	Ronald Botsford	E	Lee Bowman	E
Richard Boyce	P	Grace Boyer	P	David Bradley	E
Ryan Brakemeyer	A	Ronald Brauer	E	Hayden Britton	E
Sandra Brown	E	Jason Bryant	A	William Buchanan	P
Monty Burnham	E	Sue Burton	E	Robert Busey	E
Connie Button	E	Joey Byrd	A	David Cameron	E
Kathryn Cameron	P	John Campbell	P	Kathy Campbell	A
Amy Cantrell	A	Pride Carson	E	Katherine Cashwell	A
Calvin Chestnutt	E	Dwight Christenbury	P	William Christian	E
Richard Coble	P	Sarah Coburn	A	James Cockerham	E
Jeffrey Coffey	A	James Cogswell	E	Evelyn Coleman	E
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	A	Holly Davis	P	Jey Deifell, Jr.	E
Arthur DeJong	E	Susan Denne	E	Janet DeWater	E
Edward Donnell	E	Jacob Douylliez	A	Ellen Dozier	P
Philip Dunford	E	Priscilla Durkin	E	Robert A. Edmunds	P
Stephen Elderbrock	E	Lee Feero, Jr.	E	David Fillpot	E
Meagan Findeiss	P	David C. Florence	P	Edward Forsyth	E
Clay Fouse	A	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	A	Lisle Garrity	E	Tee Gatewood, III	E
Denise Geiger	E	Joanne Glaser	E	Jean Goodwin	P
Gregory Grana	E	Theodore Grant	E	Keith Grogg	P
Robert Gruber	E	George Gunn	E	Decherd Guess	A
Rebecca Gurney	A	John Hagmann	E	Samuel Hale	E
Michal Hall	E	Terry Hanna	A	Patrick Hardy	E
Randall Hardy	A	Martin L. Harkey, III	P	Rebecca Harrison	E
William Heck	E	Robert Henderson	E	J. Richard Hobson	E
J. Samuel Hobson, Jr.	E	James Holeman	A	James Hornsby	E
David Hosick	E	Carol Hovis	A	William Hoyt, III	E
George Hutchins	E	Jill Isola	P	Donald Jafvert	E
William Janes	P	Esta Jarrett	P	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	P
Paul Kercher	E	William Kirk	E	Albert Kissling	E
Lee Kruse	A	Michael Lamm	E	John LaMotte	E
John Laughlin	E	Margaret Lauterer	E	James Layman	P
Thomas Lewis	P	William Lindeman	E	John Lindsay	E
Eugene Linton, Jr.	E	Deneise Deter Liss	A	Jamie Lloyd	E

Neal Lloyd	E	Laura Long	E	Billy T. Lowe	A
William Lowrey	E	Robert Lowry	E	David Lytle	A
Whit Malone	P	Marjorie Marsh	P	Joan Martin	P
Roberta Martin	E	Tyler Martin	E	John McCall	A
Sandra McClinton	A	Patricia McClurg	E	Robert McCully, Jr.	A
Noah McIntee	P	David McKee	E	Michael McKee	E
Kenyon Meeks, Jr.	E	Lynn Michie	A	Beth Ann Miller	P
Sarah Grace Montgomery	P	Robert Montgomery	P	Anne Morgan	E
Richard Morgan	E	Keith Morrison	E	David Mulford	E
Donald Mullen	E	Cameron Murchison	P	Carl Murray	R
David Nash	P	Wanda Neely	E	William Neely	E
Thomas Nelson	R	Elizabeth Newman	P	John Niles	R
Richard Nygren	R	Daniel Oedy	A	O'Hyun Park	E
Stratton Peacock	E	Albert Peery, Jr.	P	Margaret Peery	E
Martha Jane Petersen	E	Lyle Peterson	E	Harry Philips	E
James Poling	E	Michael Poulos	P	Donald Price	E
Gene Price	E	Caroline Proctor	P	Allen Proctor, Jr.	E
Edyth Pruitt	A	Tamara Puffer	E	Allan Purtill	P
Jay Rabuck	E	Daria Ragan	E	Joseph Rand	E
Earl Rash	E	Betsy Ray	E	Patricia Reid	P
Wilson Rhoton, Jr.	E	Calvin Rice	E	Don Robb	E
Billy Robinson	E	Mary Katherine Robinson	E	David Roquemore	A
Steven Runholt	P	Feild Russell	P	Richard Rustay	E
Don Scofield, Jr.	E	Henry Scoggins	E	Carol Seaman	E
William H. Serjak	E	Albert Shaw, Jr.	E	Marcia Mount Shoop	E
Mary Elizabeth Sigmon	P	Robert Singdahlsen	E	Wirt Skinner	P
Allen Smith	E	Paul Smith	A	John Somerville	E
Becky Stanley	P	Mark Stanley	E	Margie Stansell	P
Carol Steele	A	John David Stewart	E	Daniel Stitt	E
Cynthia Strickler	A	Charles Swann	E	William Sweetser, Jr.	A
Joseph Taber	P	Christopher Taylor	A	Keith Thompson	P
Denise Thorpe	A	Yvonne Thurmond	P	Daniel Tipton	E
Russell Tillotson, Sr.	E	Kathleen Rankin Tompkins	P	Margaret Torrence	A
Daniel Trapp	P	Christina Tutterow	A	Robert Tuttle	P
Melissa Anne Upchurch	E	Gary Van Brocklin	A	Lauren Vanacore	P
Dana Vaughn	E	Christopher P. Vogado	E	Rockwell Ward	E
Samuel Warner	E	Lynn Webber	E	Judith Weger	E
Kimberleigh Wells	P	Barbara White	P	Lamar Williamson	E
Parker Williamson	E	Emily Wilmarth	P	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	A
John Bates	E	Sally Beghtol	P	Kerry Border	P
Mildred Bruns	A	John Hall	A	Beth Hall	A
Kenneth Humphreys	E	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	Barbara Ross	E	Betty Shaw	A
Dennis Stamper	A	John Stanley	P	James Taylor	P
Roger Wise	E	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	P	Karyn Cherry	A
Betty Davenport	A	Dorothy Descieux	P	Bob Forsythe	P
Charles Kincaid	A	Dick Larson		Katheryn McGinnis	A
Melvin Meares	P	Sharon Meares	P	Mimi Michael	A
Jackson Mott	A	Jerry Ragan	A	Roger Rizk	P
Charles Sellers	A	Becky Stevens	P	Jack Suddreth	E
Anne Wilson	A	Mary Lou Nash	P	Laura Carringer Russell	P

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

Glenn Bannerman	A	Melinda Christian	A	Angela Drummond	A
Vivian Hare	A	Margaret Kennerly	P	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 (2)	A		
Asheville First (4)	Beth Fluharty	Jerry Beaver	W.M. Winkler
Banner Elk (2)	Dick Larson	Steve Hill	
Belmont First (4)	E		
Bessemer City First(2)	A		
Black Mountain (3)	Liesle Carl	Patti Pyle	
Brevard-Davidson River (3)	Art Cole	John Hachbold	Doug Hart
Bridgewater (2)	Roger Lowery		
Brittain (2)	A		
Brittain's Cove (2)	A		
Bryson City (2)	Colin Caldwell		
Buladean (2)	A		
Burnsville, First (2)	A		
Calvary (3)	E		
Canton (2)	Phyllis Vance	Bill Rolland	
Cherryville, First (3)	A		
Clinchfield (2)	A		
Columbus (2)	Katrina Shambaugh		
Conley Memorial (2)	E		
Crossnore (2)	A		
Dallas First (2)	Mimi McCully		
Dixon (2)	A		
Dorland Memorial (2)	Mary Gahagan	June Gahagan	
Dulatown (3)	Charles Kincaid		
Duncan's Creek (2)	A		

Etowah (2)	Debby Vial		
Fairview (2)	Joel Reese		
Fletcher (2)	E		
Forest City First (2)	A		
Franklin First (2)	A		
Gastonia, First (3)	David Ratchford	Richard Rankin	Ellen Cinq-Mars
Good Hope (2)	A		
Grace Covenant (2)	Ron Fisher		
Grassy Creek (1)	A		
Green Mountain (1)	A		
Green Street (2)	A		
Hayesville (1)	Charles Stringer		
Hendersonville First (1)	Lauren Stanfield		
Hickory First (3)	Jim Benton	Ken Bates	
Highlands First (1)	Geni Tulley		
Ironton (1)	E		
Jack's Creek (1)	A		
John Knox (1)	A		
Kenilworth (1)	A		
Korean Church of Asheville (2)	A		
Lenoir First (1)	Ann Sime		
Lincolnton First (1)	Jan Duncan		
Long Creek (1)	Brenda Wiggins		
Love's Chapel (2)	A		
Lowell (1)	A		
Marion First (1)	Bill Spears		
Marshall (1)	Carol Brown		
Micaville (1)	A		
Mills River (1)	Edwin Holcombe		
Montreat (1)	Mary Jo Wright		
Morganton First (2)	Jane Rigsbee	Lewis Rigsbee	
Morrison (1)	A		
Mount Holly First (1)	A		
New Hope (Asheville) (1)	A		
New Hope (Gastonia) (1)	E		
Newdale (1)	Becky Ayala		
Newland (1)	A		
Newton First (2)	Cynthia C. Combs	David Duncan	
Northminster (1)	Laura Sigmon		
Oak Forest (1)	A		
Oakwood (1)	A		
Old Fort (1)	A		
Olney (1)	A		
Pine Street (2)	A		
Pineola (1)	E		

Quaker Meadows	Ann Dietz		
Reems Creek-Beech (1)	A		
Ridgeview (1)	A		
Robinson Memorial (1)	A		
Rutherfordton (2)	A		
Ryburn Memorial (2)	A		
Saluda (1)	A		
Shelby (2)	Paul Woodard		
Sherrill's Ford (1)	A		
Shiloh, Grover (1)	A		
Siloam (1)	A		
Southminster (2)	A		
Spruce Pine First (1)	Carolyn Adkins		
Sweetwater (1)	A		
Sylva First (1)	A		
Third Street (2)	Carolyn Carter		
Trinity (2)	Don Widmayer	Mark Slaughter	
Tryon (2)	A		
Union (1)	Frank Supp		
Union Mills (1)	E		
United (1)	Gwen Gibson		
Unity (2)	A		
Vians Valley (1)	A		
Waldensian (2)	Mark Rostan		
Walnut (1)	A		
Warren Wilson (1)	Kay Stockdale		
Waynesville First (1)	A		
West Asheville (1)	Brenda Clark		

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

Ministers	73
Elders	54
Council/Committees	9
DCE	1
Visitors	50
TOTAL	187

The following corresponding members were in attendance:

- Warren Lesane, Jr., Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
- Beverly Thompson, Coastal Carolina Presbytery
- George Thompson, Coastal Carolina Presbytery
- Michael Shepard, Redstone Presbytery
- Kathleen Madigan, Genesee Valley Presbytery

APPROVAL OF DOCKET

Stated Clerk Murchison moved the approval of the docket as distributed. A motion was made to relocate the Prayers of Intercession to before the Benediction and Adjournment, motion was seconded and approved.

10:30 Registration (West Foyer)

Orientation for New Elders

Charles Davenport

**11:00 Call to Order (Sanctuary)
Convene with Prayer of Invocation**

**Lauren Vanacore
Moderator**

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

Strengthen Congregations

Equip Disciples

Engage in Mission

Welcome

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church
Good News from Brevard-Davidson River

Keith Thompson

Appointment of Standing Committees

Lauren Vanacore

**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

Nominating Committee

I

Hunger Committee

R

Missions Committee

S

Finance Committee

BB

Building Hope

BH

11:25 Prayers of Intercession

Dwight Christenbury

11:30 LUNCH (Fellowship Hall)

12:30 Reconvene - Sanctuary

12:35 Report on Ebenezer School, Malawi (5 minutes)
PowerPoint Presentation

Barbara Heilman

12:40 Service of Worship, including Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Preacher: Rev. Noah McIntee

Sermon Title: Two Fields

Scripture: 2 Samuel 14:28–33; John 4:31–38

*An offering will be received for scholarships during worship
to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Ebenezer School in Malawi.*

1:40 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.)

1:45 GPNC Report (15 min)

Patrick Johnson PP

2:00 General Council (5 minutes)

(Work of the committee)

Melvin Meares C

2:05 Synod of the Mid-Atlantic (5 minutes)

Warren Lesane

2:10 Church Leadership School (5 minutes)

(2018-2019 Church Leadership School Graduates)

2019 CLS Graduates –

Phillip Ashley, Columbus Presbyterian Church

Tamika Garrison, Waldensian Presbyterian Church

Mike Carruth, Tryon Presbyterian Church

Rainey Ratchford, Bairds Creek Presbyterian Church

Kerry Border OO

2:15 Committee on Ministry (30 minutes)

(Work of the committee; Recommendation for Ordination of Alex McNeill; Welcome new ministers – Meagan Findeiss, David Carter Florence, Dechard Guess, Allan Purtill and Robert Edmunds; Recognition of Ministers and Service.)

25 Years Service

Keith Grogg

50 Years Service

J. Hunter Coleman

Jefferson K. Aiken, Jr.

Robert L. Lowry

60 Years Service

Blan C. Aldridge

W. Riley Covin

Arthur DeJong

R. David Fillpot

George B. Hutchins

John David Stewart

John Pea D

Honorably Retired

David Cameron

Pride Carson

John Frye, Jr.

Wanda Neely

2:45 Christian Education (10 minutes)

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

Dwight Christenbury W

2:55 Youth Committee (10 minutes)

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

Carol Steele Y

Karyn Cherry

3:05 Guatemala Partnership Report (5 minutes)

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

Marie Palacios S

3:10 Mission Committee

(Fall Mission Trips; Malawi and North Carolina Mission Team Reports)

Fall Mission Trips – (2 minutes)

S

Bob Abel

October 6-12, 2019 – New Bern, NC
November 3-9, 2019 – Wilmington, NC
Report from North Carolina Mission Teams (5 minutes)
Report from the Malawi Mission Team (5 minutes)

Bob Abel
Joanne Mitchell

3:25 Peace & Justice (15 min)

T

Matthew 25 Initiative (5 minutes)
Experience Serving Refugees in El Paso (10 minutes)

Jill Isola
Ellen Dozier/Judy Nebrig

3:40 Report of the General Presbyter (5 minutes)

Bobbi White **GP**

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. (Appendix A)

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

- Nominating Committee** (Appendix B)
- Hunger Committee** (Appendix C)
- Missions Committee** (Appendix D)
- Finance Committee** (Appendix E)
- Building Hope** (Appendix F)

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Dr. Murchison presented recommendations 1 thru 4 included in the Stated Clerk's report, stating that these recommendations had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda.

He then referred to items 5-11 as items for information.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- CA 1. THAT Lauren Vanacore, Cam Murchison and Robbin Buchanan be requested to prepare the minutes of this Presbytery meeting for approval at the October 26, 2019 Presbytery meeting.**
- CA. 2. THAT the minutes of the April 30, 2019 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.**
- CA 3. THAT the Presbytery accept the report of membership and worship statistics as submitted by the Sessions on the Annual Statistical Report. (Appendix G – Membership Statistics and Appendix H – Worship Statistics)**
- CA 4. THAT the July 2019 report of the Administrative Commissions for the First Presbyterian Church of Swannanoa, West Avenue Presbyterian Church, and Churches Concluding Their Ministry, and Board of UKirk at WCU Campus Ministry be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix I)**

FOR INFORMATION:

5. **THAT the attached Draft of Child-Youth-Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy from the Sexual Misconduct Task Force be received with request for advice and amendment from members of Presbytery directed to the Sexual Misconduct Task Force via the Stated Clerk. Previous matters suggested are under review and a revised proposed policy is expected to be presented for adoption at the October 26, 2019 meeting of the Presbytery of WNC. (Appendix J)**

6. **THAT the 122nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2019, at the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, North Carolina. THAT the deadline for written reports for this meeting is Thursday, October 3, 2019, and Thursday, October 10, 2019 for power point presentations. THAT the deadline for an overture is Friday, September 27, 2019.**

7. **THAT the following dates have been set for 2020 and 2021 Presbytery Meetings:**
 - 2019
 - Saturday, October 26, 2019 – Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
 - 2020
 - Saturday, January 25, 2020 – First Presbyterian Church, Morganton
 - Tuesday, April 28, 2020 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host, Montreat Presbyterian Church)
 - Tuesday, July 29, 2020 – Unity Presbyterian Church, Denver
 - Saturday, October 24, 2020 – Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese

8. **THAT the following Session Records for 2018 were submitted and approved on Saturday, May 4, 2019, at a Session Records Review held at First Presbyterian Church, Morganton:**

Arbor Dale	Banner Elk	Black Mountain
Brevard-Davidson River	Clinchfield	Dulatown
Duncan’s Creek	Fairview	Fletcher
Forest City, First	Grace Covenant	Grassy Creek
Hickory, First	Marshall	Quaker Meadows
Shelby	Sherrill’s Ford	Siloam
Trinity	United	Waldensian
Warren Wilson		

9. **THAT the following Session Records for 2018 were submitted and approved on Saturday, June 22, 2019, at a Session Records Review held at First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton:**

Cherryville, First	Franklin, First	Ironton
John Knox	Lincolnton, First	Lowell
Montreat	Newton, First	Oakwood
Pineola	Rutherfordton	Spruce Pine, First

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

Saturday, August 24, 2019	First Presbyterian Church, Waynesville
Saturday, September 28, 2019	First Presbyterian Church, Bessemer City

11. THAT the following date has been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training in 2019:

Saturday, November 2, 2019 – 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.

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

Worship was led by Reverend Noah McIntee. The Rev. McIntee, Stated Pastor at Morrison Presbyterian Church and Campus Minister at UKirk, WCU preached a sermon entitled “Two Fields,” with scripture taken from 2 Samuel 14:28-33 and John 4:31-38.

Worship concluded with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, led by the Reverends Sarah Grace Montgomery and Bobbi White, with communion being served by the ruling and teaching elders of Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church. Our musician for the day was Peyson Moss.

GENERAL PRESBYTER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Presbytery heard a report from Rev. Patrick Johnson, chair of the General Presbyter Nominating Committee. The following recommendation was presented from the committee: (Appendix K)

RECOMMENDATION:

The GPNC recommends that Presbytery grant it permission to pursue the task of seeking the next General Presbyter for the PWNC by focusing on nominating an installed General Presbyter with skills and aptitude for the transitional work needed, with the flexibility of nominating instead either an interim General Presbyter or a designated General Presbyter if one of these alternatives promises to best accomplish the required transitional work.

Following a discussion, the recommendation was moved, seconded and approved.

GENERAL COUNCIL

On behalf of the General Council, Melvin Mears presented recommendations 1-4 included in the General Council Report. Recommendations 1–4 were moved, seconded, and approved.

Items 5 thru 15 of the General Council report were presented as items for information and required no action.

The General Council of the Presbytery makes the following recommendations:

- 1. THAT the Presbytery elect Teaching Elder Harold “Hal” Bennett as Moderator of the Presbytery for 2021, serving as Vice-Moderator in 2020.**
- 2. THAT the Presbytery approve that Advocates, representatives of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina to and for specific congregations, shall be elected by the Committee on Ministry for indefinite terms to the service of the presbytery. Advocates would serve under the direction of and pleasure of the Committee on Ministry. Under the provision of the Book of Order that specifies: “A presbytery may enroll, or may provide by its own rule for the enrollment of, ruling elders during terms of elected service to the presbytery or its congregations.” (G-3.0301), the General Council and Committee on Ministry recommends to Presbytery that Advocates who are ruling elders shall be given voice and vote at Presbytery meetings as long as they are in active service as Advocates.**
- 3. THAT the Discernment Team for the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, having completed its work, be dissolved, effective July 30, 2019, with the thanks of the Presbytery for its good work.**
- 4. THAT the Presbytery concur with General Council that Barbara Ross’s position as a Presbytery Associate be continued until October 31, 2019, and that she works with pastor nominating committees, churches, and be paid \$1,000 per month.**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

- 5. THAT the General Council will welcome invitations from churches or institutions willing to host Presbytery meetings in 2021.**

- 6. THAT the following dates have been set for 2019 and 2020 Presbytery Meetings:**

2019

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

Saturday, October 26, 2019 – Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville

2020

Saturday, January 25, 2020 – First Presbyterian Church, Morganton

Tuesday, April 28, 2020 – Montreat Conference Center
 Tuesday, July 28, 2020 – Unity Presbyterian Church, Denver
 Saturday, October 24, 2020 – Waldensian Presbyterian Church

7. 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
Corner Table Soup Kitchen	Catawba County	Newton, First	\$ 2,500.00
Corner Table Backpack Program	Catawba County	Newton, First	\$2,500.00
LINC Home Meals	Lincolnton	Lincolnton, First	\$ 5,000.00
Feeding Avery Families	Newland	Banner Elk	\$ 5,000.00
Canton Community Kitchen	Canton	Canton	\$ 8,000.00
Interfaith Ministries	Hendersonville	Trinity	\$ 10,000.00
N Buncombe Snack Sacks	Weaverville	Reems Creek-Beech	\$ 1,375.00
Rise Against Hunger	Mills River	Mills River	\$ 3,500.00
Haywood Christian Ministry-Food Security Program	Waynesville	Waynesville, First	\$7,500.00
Home Grown Garden	Black Mountain	Asheville, First	\$ 800.00
		Regional Total	\$46,175.00
INTERNATIONAL GRANTS			
Nkhoma Hospital Children's Ward	Malawi, Africa	PWNC Malawi Partnership Cmte	\$12,000.00
OFCB	Bayonnais, Haiti		\$5,000.00
		International Total	\$ 17,000.00

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

9. THAT the following dates have been set for youth events in 2019 and 2020:

- July 15-20, 2019 – Presbyterian Youth Triennium
- September 22, 2019 – Youth Rally – Montreat Conference Center (Upper Anderson)
- November 1-3, 2019 – Middle School Retreat – Camp Grier, Old Fort
- Winter 2020 – Faith & Sexuality Retreat – Montreat
- March 6-7, 2020 – High School Mission Retreat – First Presbyterian, Newton
- April 25, 2020 – Adventure Day – Camp Grier
- June 23 – July 1, 2020 – Guatemala Mission Trip

10. THAT the Mission Committee will be offering two mission trips to the East Coast to help with PDA Relief:

- October 6 -12, 2019 New Bern, NC
- November 3 – 9, 2019 Wilmington, NC

11. **THAT the Christian Education Committee will sponsor a Pastor’s Retreat, “Navigating Change without Making Everyone Mad,” September 16-18, 2019 at the William Black Lodge, Montreat. The retreat leader will be Rev. Elizabeth Troyer.**

12. **THAT the following Synod Grant Applications were approved by the General Council and will be forwarded to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic.**
Small Church Grants:
 - Sherrill’s Ford Presbyterian Church - \$5,000
 - John Knox Presbyterian Church - \$5,000
 - Dulatown Presbyterian Church - \$5,000
 - Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church - \$5,000

13. **THAT the General Council approved that an offering be received during worship at the July 30, 2019 Presbytery Meeting for the 10th Anniversary of Ebenezer School, in Malawi, for scholarships.**

14. **THAT the following date have been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training for 2019:**
 Saturday, November 2, 2019 – 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	Small Membership Church
Permanent Judicial Commission	Campus Mission
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.

15. **THAT Taiwanese Pastors, including John McCall, up to 2 pastors from Malawi and pastors from Western North Carolina, will be participating in “Consultation of Ministry in a Global World – Sowing Seeds of Understanding,” at the Montreat Conference Center, September 9-10, 2019.**

SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Rev. Warren Lesane, Synod Stated Clerk, brought greetings from the office of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic. He recognized those from the Presbytery of WNC who are serving on Synod committees. He spoke about systemic racism and the various synod programs for disaster relief, grants and awards. The Synod has awarded a number of churches in the Presbytery of WNC with grants.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

Commissioned Pastor Kerry Border reported on the Church Leadership School and recognized 4 people who graduated from CLS in May 2019. (2019 CLS Graduates – Phillip Ashley (Columbus Presbyterian Church); Tamika Garrison (Waldensian Presbyterian Church); Mike Carruth (Tryon Presbyterian Church); and Rainey Ratchford (Bairds Creek Presbyterian Church).

Kerry Border 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 L)

**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 M)

Moderator Lauren Vanacore reported that the following minister requested honorable retirement:

- Wanda Neely, effective June 1, 2019

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 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
Keith Grogg

50 Years Service
J. Hunter Coleman
Jefferson K. Aiken, Jr.
Robert L. Lowry

60 Years Service
Blan C. Aldridge
W. Riley Covin
Arthur DeJong
R. David Fillpot
George B. Hutchins
John David Stewart

Honorably Retired
David Cameron
Pride Carson
John Frye, Jr.
Wanda Neely

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MINISTERS**

On behalf of the Examinations Sub-Committee and Committee on Ministry Committee, Ruling Elder John Pea introduced the Reverends Meagan Findeiss, David Carter Florence, Decherd Guess, Allan Purtill and Robert A. Edmunds, as new ministers in the Presbytery. Each 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 M)

- Meagan Findeiss, from Whitewater Valley Presbytery, to serve as Associate Pastor at Asheville First Presbyterian Church, effective August 6, 2019.
- David Carter Florence, from Greater Atlanta Presbytery, to serve as Associate Pastor at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, effective July 1, 2019.
- Decherd (Deck) Guess, from Coastal Carolina Presbytery, to serve as Transitional Pastor at Banner Elk Presbyterian Church, effective July 9, 2019. **(NOT PRESENT)**
- Allan Purtil, from Charlotte Presbytery, to serve as Pastor at Tryon Presbyterian Church, effective September 9, 2019.
- Robert A. Edmunds, from National Capital Presbytery as Honorably Retired, effective July 9, 2019.

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
III. 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 M)

- A. Joe Bennett, as Chaplain at Compassionate Care WNC, through July 30, 2020.
- B. Katherine Blankenship, as Program Manager of the Rapid Rehousing Team for Homeward Bound of WNC, through July 30, 2020.
- C. David Bradley, as Pastoral Counselor, Marriage and Family Therapist, through July 30, 2020.
- D. John Campbell, as a Pastoral Counselor with Eastatooe Trail Counseling and Consultation Center, through July 30, 2020.
- E. Jean Goodwin, as Assistant Pastor at Hendersonville First United Methodist Church, through July 30, 2020.
- F. Noah McIntee, as Campus Minister, UKirk at Western Carolina University, through July 30, 2020.
- G. Alex P. McNeill, as Executive Director of More Light Presbyterians, through July 30, 2020.

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

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry and the Examinations Sub-Committee, Elder John Pea introduced Alex McNeill. As Alex McNeill was a candidate of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, he delivered a sermon and was approved and recommended by the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Elder Pea moved, on behalf of the Committee on Ministry and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, that he be ordained and his Validated Ministry as Executive Director of More Light Presbyterians be approved by the Presbytery. The motion passed. (Appendix M)

The Rev. Bobbi White, General Presbyter, presented Alex McNeill with a Guatemalan stole on behalf of the Presbytery.

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
V. DESIGNATED PASTOR**

Elder John Pea presented the recommendation that Rev. Beth Ann Miller become the Installed Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Lenoir, with a designated term of two years. The motion carried.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Elder Rick Leissner reported on the work of the Christian Education Committee. The Christian Education Committee will be sponsoring a Pastor's Retreat, September 16-18, 2019 entitled, "Navigating Change without Making Everyone Mad." The retreat leader will be Rev. Elizabeth Taylor.

The committee also offered a workshop following the July Presbytery meeting on “Knowing Your Resources,” an on-line resource for our churches. (Appendix N)

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Sarah Grace Montgomery reported that the Presbytery of Western North Carolina attended the Presbyterian Youth Triennium at Perdue. The Presbytery was represented by 23 youth, 7 advisors, and 1 college student. (Appendix O)

GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP

Rev. Dr. Kevin Frederick, chair of the Guatemala Partnership, reported on the work of the Partnership and future trips to Guatemala. He informed the Presbytery that in 2020 we would be celebrating 25 years of partnership with Guatemala. We currently have at least 5 Guatemalan churches praying to be matched with a sister church in PWNC. He asked the congregations prayerfully consider partnering with a church. (Appendix D)

MISSION COMMITTEE

Bob Abel, chair of the Mission Committee, reported on the work of the committee, the Spring mission trips to the east coast, the upcoming fall mission trips to New Bern, NC and Wilmington, NC. (Appendix D)

Elder Joanne Mitchell reported on the Malawi Mission trip that took place in May, 2019. (Appendix D)

PEACE AND JUSTICE

Rev. Jill Isola, chair of the Peace and Justice Committee reported on the work of the committee. The committee is excited about the Matthew 25 Initiative for our congregations and our Presbytery. The Matthew 25 Church Initiative calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us. There are three areas of focus that congregations and mid-councils can pledge to work which include: “Building Congregational Vitality,” Dismantling Structural Racism,” and Eradicating Systemic Poverty.”

Peacemaking Grant Funds are made possible through the Peace & Global Witness Special Offering of the denomination. For more information about how your congregation can apply for funds, you are encouraged to contact Rev. Jill Isola. (Appendix P)

Rev. Ellen Dozier and Elder Judy Nebrig shared talks of their experiences serving refugees in El Paso, Texas. Following the Presbytery meeting, they will hold a workshop where they will share additional information and a PowerPoint outlining their experiences.

REPORT OF GENERAL PRESBYTER

Bobbi White, General Presbyter, reported on the anniversaries and celebrations of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. At the 121st meeting of the Presbytery, we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Presbytery of WNC, the 25th anniversary of the Guatemalan Partnership, the 15th anniversary of a partnership in Nkhoma, Malawi and the 7th year anniversary with Camp Grier (501(c) 3). Over the years, the Presbytery has successfully worked toward and continues to work toward strengthening congregations, equipping disciples and engaging in mission. (Appendix Q)

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Rev. Dr. Charles Davenport and Elder Brenda Wiggins, Long Creek Presbyterian Church, Kings Mountain, submitted the following Resolution of Thanks for the 121st meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, held at Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard, NC.

“I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord.”

With a great sense of joy and enthusiasm, the commissioners to the 121st stated meeting of the presbytery ascended into the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina to work, worship and fellowship.

The presbytery gives thanks to the members, staff and ministers of the Brevard-Davidson River Church for their wonderful hospitality. Thanks are offered for greeters, tellers, ushers and the wonderful lunch provided.

Thanks to our Moderator, Lauren Vanacore, Stated Clerk, Cam Murchison, and Parliamentarian, Bob Forsythe, for their efficient manner in dealing with presbytery business.

Thanks are offered for the administrative staff of the presbytery office that makes the registration process a pleasure.

“Worship the Lord in the presence of His majesty.”

Thanks is joyfully offered for the thoughtful and meaningful service of worship crafted for the council. Rev. Noah McIntee, Rev. Sarah Grace Montgomery, Rev. Keith Thompson, Rev. Bobbi White and Mr. Peyson Moss are thanked for their worship leadership.

“Serve the Lord with gladness.”

Thanks is offered for:

The General Presbyter Search Committee, who continues to seek future leadership for our presbytery.

Presbytery General Council that continues to provide meaning direction in a time of transition.

The Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, represented at the meeting by Stated Clerk Warren Lesane, which unites 14 presbyteries in service and mission.

Our Church Leadership School and its Dean, Kerry Border, who equips Saints for leadership roles in God’s kingdom.

The Committee on Ministry and its Moderator that cares for ministers and congregations. We welcome Alex McNeill, Meagan Findeiss, David Carter Florence, Decherd Guess, Allen Purtill and Robert Edmunds to our presbytery.

The Christian Education Committee, Youth Committee, Guatemala Partnership, Mission Committee, and Peace and Justice committee for their support and advocacy for important aspects of our presbytery mission.

Our General Presbyter, Bobbi White, as she does her work with compassion, commitment and joy.

The workshops on resources and serving refugees at the border offered after our formal meeting completion.

“Go into all the world and spread the Good News of the Gospel.”

Commissioners descended the mountain armed with a new sense of vigor for ministry in the world, to meet again at Grace Covenant Church, Asheville on October 26th.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Dwight Christenbury, led the Presbytery in prayers of intercession.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

With the business of the 121st Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, Moderator Lauren Vanacore adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m. with prayer.

NEXT MEETING

The 122nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2019 at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, North Carolina.

These minutes were prepared by the following:

Lauren Vanacore, Moderator

D. Cameron Murchison, Stated Clerk

Robbin Buchanan, Assistant Stated Clerk

These minutes are to be approved by Presbytery on October 26, 2019 at its meeting at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, North Carolina.

APPENDICES

- A. Consent Agenda**
- B. Nominating Committee Report**
- C. Hunger Committee Report**
- D. Mission Committee Report**
- E. Finance Committee Report**
- F. Building HOPE Report**
- G. PWNC Membership Statistics**
- H. PWNC Worship Statistics**
- I. Administrative Commission Reports for First Presbyterian, Swannanoa; Westminster Presbyterian Church; and Churches Concluding Their Ministry**
- J. Draft Policy of Child-Youth-Vulnerable Adult Protection**
- K. General Presbyter Nominating Committee Report**
- L. Church Leadership School**
- M. Report of the Committee on Ministry**
- N. Christian Education Committee**
- O. Youth Committee**
- P. Peace and Justice Committee**
- Q. Report of the General Presbyter**

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