

**PRESBYTERY OF
WESTERN
NORTH CAROLINA**



(U S A)

MINUTES

**ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-
SECOND STATED MEETING
OCTOBER 26, 2019**

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**The Presbytery of Western North Carolina
122nd Stated Meeting
October 26, 2019
Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
Asheville, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Teaching Elder Lauren Vanacore, Moderator, convened the 122nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina at 9:31 a.m. in the Sanctuary of the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, North Carolina.

CONSTITUTION

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

WELCOME

The Reverend Marcia Mount Shoop, pastor of the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), brought greetings from their church.

APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing Committees:

Resolution of Thanks:

Dana Vaughn, MWS, Reems Creek-Beech Presbyterian Church, Weaverville, NC
Kerry Border, RE, Reems Creek-Beech Presbyterian Church, Weaverville, NC

Bills and Overtures:

Mark Stanley, Chair, MWS, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, NC
Melissa Upchurch, MWS, Marshall Presbyterian Church, Marshall, NC
Bill Rolland, RE, Canton Presbyterian Church, Canton, NC

Tellers:

Marcie Onieal, RE, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC
Laurie Stradley, RE, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC
Al Root, RE, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC
Louise Root, RE, Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC

Presbytery In Brief:

Joseph Taber, IV, MWS, Lowell Presbyterian Church, Lowell, NC

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

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

Robert M. Abel	P	Kat Achtemeier	E	Mark Achtemeier	E
Jefferson Aiken, Jr.	E	Wyatt Aiken, Jr.	E	Blan Aldridge	E
Merriam Alexander	P	Terry Alexander	E	Stephen Aschmann	P
James Aydelotte	E	Patricia Bacon	A	Tony Baker	E
Edna Banes	E	Ashley Beavers	E	Harold Bennett, Jr.	A
Joseph Bennett	A	Cynthia M. Benz	P	Katherine Blankenship-Johnson	E
Lynn Bledsoe	P	Samantha Gonzalez-Block	P	Randall Boggs	E
David Bonnema	E	Ronald Botsford	E	Lee Bowman	E
Richard Boyce	E	Grace Boyer	E	David Bradley	P
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	P
Kathryn Cameron	P	John Campbell	E	Kathy Campbell	E
Amy Cantrell	A	Pride Carson	A	Katherine Cashwell	A
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	E
Hunter Coleman	E	Monty Cook	E	Thomas Cook, Jr.	E
Donald Cooper	E	Riley Covin	P	John Craven	E
Curtis Crowther	E	Robert Bruce Cumming	E	James Dale	E
Blake Daniel	A	Charles Davenport	E	Dent Davis	E
Heather Wood Davis	E	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	P	Priscilla Durkin	P	Robert A. Edmunds	A
Stephen Elderbrock	A	Lee Feero, Jr.	E	David Fillpot	E
Meagan Findeiss	P	David C. Florence	P	Edward Forsyth	E
Clay Fouse	A	Kevin Frederick	A	Keith Freeman	P
Schaap Freeman	P	Berry French, III	A	John Frye, Jr.	E
Curtis Fussell, III	E	Tempe Fussell	E	A. Willis Gaines	P
Paul Galbreath	E	David Garnett	P	Lisle Garrity	E
Tee Gatewood, III	A	Denise Geiger	E	Joanne Glaser	P
Jean Goodwin	P	Gregory Grana	E	Theodore Grant	E
Keith Grogg	P	Robert Gruber	E	George Gunn	E
Decherd Guess	P	Rebecca Gurney	A	John Hagmann	P
Samuel Hale	E	Michal Hall	E	Terry Hanna	P
Patrick Hardy	E	Randall Hardy	A	Martin L. Harkey, III	E
Rebecca Harrison	E	William Heck	P	Robert Henderson	E
J. Richard Hobson	E	J. Samuel Hobson, Jr.	E	James Holeman	P
James Hornsby	E	David Hosick	E	Carol Hovis	P
William Hoyt, III	E	George Hutchins	E	Jill Isola	P
Donald Jafvert	E	William Janes	E	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	E	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	E	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	E
Joan Martin	A	Roberta Martin	A	Tyler Martin	E
John McCall	A	Sandra McClinton	A	Robert McCully, Jr.	A
Noah McIntee	P	David McKee	E	Michael McKee	A
Kenyon Meeks, Jr.	E	Lynn Michie	A	Beth Ann Miller	P
Sarah Grace Montgomery	A	Robert Montgomery	E	Anne 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	P	John Niles	E
Richard Nygren	E	Daniel Oedy	A	O'Hyun Park	E
Stratton Peacock	E	Albert Peery, Jr.	E	Margaret Peery	E
Martha Jane Petersen	E	Lyle Peterson	E	Harry Philips	E
J. Thomas Phillips	P	James Poling	E	Michael Poulos	E
Donald Price	P	Gene Price	E	Caroline Proctor	E
Allen Proctor, Jr.	E	Edyth Pruitt	A	Tamara Puffer	P
Allan Purtill	P	Jay Rabuck	E	Daria Ragan	P
Joseph Rand	E	Earl Rash	E	Betsy Ray	P
Patricia Reid	P	Wilson Rhoton, Jr.	E	Calvin Rice	E
Don Robb	E	Billy Robinson	P	Mary Katherine Robinson	P
David Roquemore	P	Steven Runholt	A	Feild Russell	E
Richard Rustay	E	Don Scofield, Jr.	P	Henry Scoggins	E
Carol Seaman	E	William H. Serjak	E	Albert Shaw, Jr.	E
Marcia Mount Shoop	P	Mary Elizabeth Sigmon	P	Robert Singdahlsen	E
Wirt Skinner	P	Allen Smith	E	David B. Smith	A
Paul Smith	A	John Somerville	E	Becky Stanley	P
Mark Stanley	P	Margie Stansell	A	Carol Steele	A
John David Stewart	E	Daniel Stitt	E	Cynthia Strickler	E
Charles Swann	E	William Sweetser, Jr.	E	Joseph Taber	P
Christopher Taylor	A	Keith Thompson	A	Denise Thorpe	A
Yvonne Thurmond	E	Daniel Tipton	A	Russell Tillotson, Sr.	E
Kathleen Rankin Tompkins	A	Margaret Torrence	A	Daniel Trapp	E
Christina Tutterow	E	Robert Tuttle	E	Melissa Anne Upchurch	P
Gary Van Brocklin	A	Lauren Vanacore	P	Dana Vaughn	P
Christopher P. Vogado	A	Rockwell Ward	E	Samuel Warner	A
Lynn Webber	P	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	P	Philip Adams	A	Robert Ayala	P
John Bates	A	Sally Beghtol	P	Kerry Border	P
Mildred Bruns	A	John Hall	A	Beth Hall	A
Kenneth Humphreys	P	James Koone	E	Peggy Koone	E
Deborah Lesenger	P	James Millsaps	A	Marla Patchel	P
Randy Patterson	A	John Pea	P	Marcia Reighley	A
Russell Reighley	A	Barbara Ross	P	Betty Shaw	A
Dennis Stamper	A	John Stanley	P	James Taylor	A
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	P	Karyn Cherry	A
Betty Davenport	E	Dorothy Descieux	A	Bob Forsythe	P
Charles Kincaid	P	Katheryn McGinnis	A	Melvin Meares	P
Sharon Meares	P	Mimi Michael	A	Jackson Mott	A
Mary Lou Nash	P	Jerry Ragan	P	Laura Carringer Russell	E
Charles Sellers	A	Becky Stevens	P	Jack Suddreth	A

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

Glenn Bannerman	A	Melinda Christian	A	Angela Drummond	A
Vivian Hare	P	Margaret Kennerly	E	Leslie McLeod	P
Heath Rada	A	Lynn Thomas	A	Patricia Tuttle	A
Jane Vann	A				

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

Arbor Dale (2)	A		
Asheville First (4)	Robert Brady		
Banner Elk (2)	Dick Larson		
Belmont First (4)	Adrian Walker	Mary Randall Rhyne	
Bessemer City First (2)			
Black Mountain (3)	Anne Provost Drummond	Bella Van Note	
Brevard-Davidson River (3)	Sara Keller	Sandy Mathemy	Richard Berson
Bridgewater (2)	A		
Brittain (2)	A		
Brittain's Cove (2)	A		
Bryson City (2)	Colin Caldwell		
Buladean (2)	A		
Burnsville, First (2)	Jon Ward	Kirby Trauhue	
Calvary (3)	A		
Canton (2)	Bill Rolland		
Cherryville, First (3)	A		
Chinchfield (2)	A		
Columbus (2)	Fred Ashley	Carl Rosenbald	

Conley Memorial (2)	E		
Crossnore (2)	A		
Dallas First (2)	A		
Dixon (2)	A		
Dorland Memorial (2)	Mary Gahagan		
Dulatown (3)	Charles Kincaid		
Duncan's Creek (2)	A		
Etowah (2)	A		
Fairview (2)	A		
Fletcher (2)	A		
Forest City First (2)	A		
Franklin First (2)	E		
Gastonia, First (3)	Les Dixon	Lewis Efird	Roger Rizk
Good Hope (2)	A		
Grace Covenant (2)	Amy Wiesner	Carly Stein	
Grassy Creek (1)	A		
Green Mountain (1)	A		
Green Street (2)	Gladys Lytle	Jackie Scott	
Hayesville (1)	Charles Stringer		
Hendersonville First (1)	Wendy Henderson		
Hickory First (3)	Greg Brooks		
Highlands First (1)	A		
Ironton (1)	E		
Jack's Creek (1)	A		
John Knox (1)	A		
Kenilworth (1)	A		
Korean Church of Asheville (2)	A		
Lenoir First (1)	A		
Lincolnton First (1)	Kathy Robinson		
Long Creek (1)	A		
Love's Chapel (2)	A		
Lowell (1)	Bobby Massey		
Marion First (1)	Keith Ceazer		
Marshall (1)	Cathy Seid		
Micaville (1)	A		
Mills River (1)	A		
Montreat (1)	Beth Fountain		
Morganton First (2)	Rick Leissner		
Morrison (1)	A		
Mount Holly First (1)	A		
New Hope (Asheville) (1)	Milton Spann		
New Hope (Gastonia) (1)	A		
Newdale (1)	A		
Newland (1)	A		
Newton First (2)	Ray Walker		

Northminster (1)	Julie Luppino		
Oak Forest (1)	A		
Oakwood (1)	A		
Old Fort (1)	Mary Lewis		
Olney (1)	A		
Pine Street (2)	A		
Pineola (1)	A		
Quaker Meadows	A		
Reems Creek-Beech (1)	A		
Ridgeview (1)	A		
Robinson Memorial (1)	Mack Spurrier		
Rutherfordton (2)	Ann Deviney		
Ryburn Memorial (2)			
Saluda (1)	A		
Shelby (2)	Paul Woodard	Margie McSwain	
Sherrill's Ford (1)	A		
Shiloh, Grover (1)	A		
Siloam (1)	A		
Southminster (2)	A		
Spruce Pine First (1)	A		
Sweetwater (1)	Ray Combs		
Sylva First (1)	A		
Third Street (2)	Carolyn Carter		
Trinity (2)	Don Widmayer	Kathryn Forsythe	
Tryon (2)	Rodger Walker		
Union (1)	A		
Union Mills (1)	A		
United (1)	A		
Unity (2)	A		
Vians Valley (1)	A		
Waldensian (2)	Tamika Garrison		
Walnut (1)	A		
Warren Wilson (1)	Sandra Brauer		
Waynesville First (1)	Ron Tingle		
West Asheville (1)	Norma Spencer		

Ministers	77
Elders	50
Council/Committees	7
DCE	2
Visitors	38
TOTAL	174

The following corresponding members were in attendance:

- Rev. Anita Bernhardt, Pastor at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, Erie PA, Lake Erie Presbytery
- Beverly Thompson, Coastal Carolina Presbytery

- George Thompson, Coastal Carolina Presbytery

APPROVAL OF DOCKET

Stated Clerk Murchison presented the docket as distributed, was approved.

9:00 Registration

Orientation for New Elders

Billy Robinson

9:30 Call to Order

Convene with Prayer of Invocation

Lauren Vanacore

Moderator

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

***S**trengthen Congregations*

***E**quip Disciples*

***E**ngage in Mission*

Welcome

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Marcia Mount Shoop

Good News from Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

Appointment of Standing Committees

Lauren Vanacore

Resolution of Thanks

Bills and Overtures

Tellers

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

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

K

Missions Committee

S

Guatemala Partnership – Microloan Project Update

Q

Youth Committee

Y

Finance Committee

BB

Building Hope

BH

Presbyterian Women

LL

10:00 Service of Worship, including Celebration of the Lord's Supper

11:00 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.)

11:05 General Council (5 minutes) <i>(Work of the committee)</i>	Melvin Meares	C
11:10 GPNC Report (10 min) <i>(Work of the committee; Presbytery MIF)</i>	Patrick Johnson	PP
11:20 Committee on Ministry (30 minutes) <i>(Work of the committee; welcome new ministers – J. Thomas Phillips, Schaap Freeman, and David Smith; Commissioning of Renee Warthen and Phillip Ashley)</i>	John Pea	D
11:50 Nominating Committee (10 minutes) <i>(Nominations for committees of Presbytery and Election of General Assembly Commissioners)</i>	Robbin Buchanan	I
12:00 Malawi Report (5 minutes) <i>(Report results of last meeting, accident, and next trip)</i>	Billy Robinson	
12:05 Report of the General Presbyter (15 minutes)	Bobbi White	GP
12:20 Prayers of Intercession <i>(Please submit requested prayers of intercession to the Stated Clerk's table before 11:00 a.m.)</i>	Kim Wells	
12:25 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. Motion, second, and 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.

- Committee on Preparation for Ministry (Appendix B)**
- Missions Committee (Appendix C)**
- Guatemala Partnership – Microloan Project Update (Appendix D)**
- Youth Committee (Appendix E)**
- Finance Committee (Appendix F)**
- Building HOPE (Appendix G)**
- Presbyterian Women (Appendix H)**

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

Dr. Murchison presented recommendations 1 thru 6 included in the Stated Clerk's report, stating that these recommendations had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda.

He then referred to items 7-15 as items for information, highlighting numbers 7 and 15.

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 January 25, 2020 Presbytery meeting.**

- CA. 2. THAT the minutes of the July 30, 2019 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.
- CA 3. THAT the October 2019 reports of the Administrative Commissions for the First Presbyterian Church of Swannanoa, West Avenue Presbyterian Church, and Churches Concluding Their Ministry, be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix I)
- CA 4. THAT the Committee on Nominating/Representation, having completed their annual report for the year ending December 31, 2018 and submitted it to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, requests that it become a part of the permanent record of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. (Appendix J)
- CA 5. THAT the October 2019 report from the Board of the UKirk at WCU Campus Ministry be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery. (Appendix K)
- CA 6. THAT the minutes of the installation of the following be placed into the record of Presbytery:
- Rev. John Hagmann (Appendix L)**

FOR INFORMATION:

7. THAT notwithstanding the previous plan to bring the draft of a presbytery policy on “Child-Youth-Vulnerable Adult Protection” to a vote at the October 2019 meeting of PWNC, the Sacred Boundaries Team plans to bring a policy forward at the January 2020 meeting and docket it for substantive discussion. The results of that discussion will lead to a vote on adopting a policy at the April 2020 meeting.
8. THAT the 123rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2020, at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton, North Carolina. *THAT the deadline for written reports for this meeting is Thursday, January 2, 2020, and Thursday, January 9, 2020 for power point presentations. THAT the deadline for an overture is Friday, December 27, 2019.*
9. THAT the following dates have been set for 2020 and 2021 Presbytery Meetings:
- 2020**
- Saturday, January 25, 2020 – First Presbyterian Church, Morganton
 Tuesday, April 28, 2020 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host, Montreat Presbyterian Church)
 Tuesday, July 28, 2020 – Unity Presbyterian Church, Denver
 Saturday, October 24, 2020 – Waldensian Presbyterian Church, Valdese
- 2021**
- Saturday, January 30, 2021 – *Seeking Host Location*
 Tuesday, April 27, 2021 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host, Montreat Presbyterian Church)
 Saturday, July 31, 2021 – *Seeking Host Location*
 Tuesday, October 26, 2021 – *Seeking Host Location*
10. THAT the following Session Records for 2018 were submitted and approved on Saturday, August 24, 2019, at a Session Records Review held at First Presbyterian Church, Waynesville:
- Asheville, First Burnsville, First Dorland Memorial

Hayesville	Hendersonville, First	Highlands, First
Kenilworth	Micaville	Morrison
Newdale	Newland	Northminster
Reems Creek-Beech	Saluda	Waynesville, First
West Asheville		

11. THAT the following Session Records for 2018 were submitted and approved on Saturday, September 28, 2019, at a Session Records Review held at First Presbyterian Church, Bessemer City:

Bessemer City, First	Bryson City	Dallas, First
Dixon	Good Hope	Lenoir, First
Long Creek	Love’s Chapel	Mills River
Morganton, First	Mount Holly, First	New Hope, Gastonia
Olney	Robinson Memorial	Shiloh, Grover
Sweetwater	Third Street	Union
Union Mills	Unity	

12. THAT the following Session Records for 2018 were submitted and approved on various dates.

Calvary (2014-2018)	Canton	Old Fort (2006 – 2018)
Marion, First	Walnut	

13. THAT the following Session Records for 2018 have not been reviewed and are delinquent in meeting the requirements of the 2019-2021 Book of Order. For churches desiring to meet the requirements of the Book of Order and be in compliance, please contact Stated Clerk, Cam Murchison for further instructions.

Belmont, First	Bridgewater (2017-2018)	Brittain (2017-2018)
Brittains Cove (2017-2018)	Buladean (2010-2018)	Columbus (2017-2018)
Conley Memorial (2017-2018)	Crossnore (2017-2018)	Etowah
Gastonia, First (2017-2018)	Green Mountain (2012-2018)	Jack’s Creek (2013-2018)
Korean Pres. (2017-2018)	New Hope, Asheville	Oak Forest (2012-2018)
Pine Street (2006-2018)	Ridgeview (2006-2018)	Ryburn Memorial (2015-2018)
Southminster	Tryon	Vians Valley (2017-2018)

14. THAT the following dates have been established for Clerk of Session Training and Reviewing Church Records for 2020:

Saturday, May 16, 2020	To Be Announced
Saturday, June 13, 2020	First Presbyterian Church, Morganton
Saturday, August 22, 2020	To Be Announced
Saturday, September 26, 2020	First Presbyterian Church, Bessemer City

15. THAT the following dates have been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training in 2020

Saturday, November 2, 2019 – First Presbyterian Church, Morganton
Tuesday, April 28, 2020 – Montreat Conference Center
Saturday, November 7, 2020 – 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 the Reverends Marcia Mount Shoop, Samantha Gonzalez-Block and Richard Coble. A dialog sermon entitled, “God’s Idolatry,” was delivered. Scripture was taken from Psalms 84:1-7 and Luke 18:9-14. Liturgists included Rev. Meaghan Findeiss and Elder Frank Callison.

Worship concluded with a celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, led by the Reverends Marcia Mount Shoop, Samantha Gonzalez-Block and Richard Coble, with communion being served by the ruling elders of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. Our musician for the day was Jeff Jones. Others assisting with worship included Ellis Hill, Millie Stradley, Zack and Hazel Wiesner and the Reverend Tamara Puffer.

GENERAL COUNCIL

On behalf of the General Council, Melvin Mears presented recommendation 1 included in the General Council Report, stating that this recommendation had previously been approved in the Consent Agenda. He then presented recommendations 2-3. Recommendations 2-3 were moved, seconded, and approved.

Items 4 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:

- CA 1. THAT the Presbytery elect the following persons to serve on the Nominating and Representation Committee:**

Nominating/Representation:		
Mr. Charles Kincaid (Dulatown)	(E)	Class of 2022 Chair for 2019
Mr. Bobby Massey (Lowell)	(D)	Class of 2022
Mrs. Mollie Trosper	(D)	Class of 2022
Mrs. Lynn Honeycutt (Sweetwater)	(E)	Class of 2022

2. THAT the Presbytery consider approving the following revisions to the Missions Committee description and structure:

Current Description:

The Missions Committee shall:

1. Interpret and promote support for national and global missions which includes such activities as:
 - a. Organizing mission work teams;
 - b. Developing and nurturing a missions' advocate program in local congregations;
 - c. Organizing the itineration of missionaries, and
 - d. Encouraging participation in other mission activities.
2. Oversee Presbytery's ongoing partnership with Suchitepequez and Sur Occidente Presbyteries in Guatemala.
3. Oversee the Malawi Partnership and any other international partnerships.
4. Provide congregations with resources to support participation in the denomination's mission programs.
5. Interpret Presbytery's relationship with ecumenical partners at all levels.
6. Create and supervise various working groups and task forces.

The Missions Committee shall consist of six (6) members.

Proposed Description:

The Missions Committee shall:

1. Encourage and promote global, national, and local mission.
2. Provide congregations with resources through education, knowledge, and communication to support their mission while encouraging involvement in the mission work of the Presbytery of WNC and PC(USA) (such as Young Adults in Mission, PDA disaster assistance trips, and support of Mission Co-workers and their visits in the presbytery, among others).
3. Create and supervise task forces as needed.

The restructure of the Missions Committee includes removing the Guatemala Partnership and the Malawi Mission and permitting them to be free-standing committees in the Mission/Outreach Development Division.

3. THAT the Presbytery concur with the recommendation of the General Council that effective November 1, 2019, Cam Murchison undertake a full-time position that includes his work as Stated Clerk and the temporary role of Acting General Presbyter/Head of Staff until the new General Presbyter is elected and begins her/his work.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

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

5. THAT the following dates have been set for 2020 and 2021 Presbytery Meetings:

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

2021

Saturday, January 30, 2021 – *Seeking Host Location*

Tuesday, April 27, 2021 – Montreat Conference Center (Co-Host, Montreat Presbyterian Church)

Saturday, July 31, 2021 – *Seeking Host Location*

Tuesday, October 26, 2021 – *Seeking Host Location*

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

7. THAT the General Council approved the following Transition Team to support the Presbytery leadership during our transition.

- Representing General Council: Lauren Vanacore and Charles Sellers
- Representing COM: David Hosick
- Representing Personnel: Don Scofield and Connie Button
- At Larger Representation: Joseph Taber, Helen Hall, Feild Russell and Kim Wells

8. THAT the General Council approved allocating up to \$8000.00 toward a total cost of \$16,444.52 for mold remediation repairs to Third Street Presbyterian Church in Gastonia, understanding that the congregation has current resources of \$5609.28 available for the project and a commitment to raise the additional \$2835.24 to bring it to completion. The condition of this funding from the Special Fund of PWNC is application by Third Street Presbyterian Church to the Synod of Mid-Atlantic Small Church Grant with any proceeds received being returned to this Special Fund.

9. THAT the General Council approved the following Personnel recommendations:

- Effective September 1, 2019, Billy Robinson, be allowed to take a 3 month 1/3 reduction in hours. He will be working in a 2/3 position (24-28) for September, October, and November. Billy will receive 2/3 of his current salary for this 2/3 position and his Board of Pension Benefits will remain at their current full-time level.
- Effective September 1, 2019, Cam Murchison will begin working full-time for September and October to assist with the transitional work as Bobbi White prepares for her retirement and Billy Robinson reduces his hours. Compensation for Cam Murchison will be \$5,680 per month for this full-time position.
- An end of the year bonus of \$2,500 each for Tonya Williams and Lisa Pressley based on their additional time and excellent work during the past year and, if the 2020 budget allows, it was recommended that the bonus roll over into their salary for 2020 or result in a bonus at the end of 2020.
- Cost of living increase for all other staff in 2020.

10. THAT the General Council approved, on behalf of the Presbytery, the property previously used for the New Vision NCD at 502 Thornburg Drive NE in Conover, NC was conveyed to Neighbors Network, Inc. on September 11, 2019. Having been advised by General Council early in 2019 that the property needed to be sold, the congregation at New Vision voted (as previously reported to PWNC in April 2019) not to continue seeking a charter as a church

in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), deciding instead to become a community church. Thereafter the community church took legal action seeking to prevent the sale to Neighbors Network. When these legal actions were not successful, the sale was accomplished according to an agreement that had been reached in early May 2019.

11. **THAT the General Council approved the request of the Christian Education Committee to run a workshop concurrently with the business portion of the January 25, 2020 Presbytery meeting.**
12. **THAT the General Council approved a revised procedure for Small Church Grant Applications, as follows:**
 - Congregation completes Application and sends it to the appropriate staff person in the Presbytery Office, at least six (6) weeks prior to Synod deadline.
 - The Spring deadline for Synod is February 1, so applications are due to the appropriate staff person by December 15. Deadline for Fall to Synod is August 1, meaning that it must reach Presbytery by June 15. This allows time for someone on the Presbytery level to review the application for completeness. If the form is lacking information in any way, this allows time for it to be returned to the applicant for corrections to be made.
 - The appropriate staff person will forward application to General Council for review and approval. This allows several sets of eyes to check the form for completeness, approve it, sign it, and send it on to Synod. If it is lacking information, e.g., two bids or the church budget, it can be returned to the congregation with notation as to what corrections are needed. At this point, a Council member should serve as liaison to assist the congregation in the process as needed
 - Once an application reaches the Synod Committee for consideration, it is either approved or denied; it does not have a second chance at that time. A congregation is free to try again during the next time period, once corrections have been made.
13. **THAT the following Synod Grant Applications were approved/awarded by the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic at the 244th Meeting on September 13-14, 2019. Each recipient received \$2,282.**
 - Small Church Grants
 - Sherrill's Ford Presbyterian Church
 - Dulatown Presbyterian Church
 - John Knox Presbyterian Church
14. **THAT the following dates have been set for youth events in 2019 and 2020:**
 - November 1-3, 2019 – Middle School Retreat – Camp Grier, Old Fort
 - February 22, 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
15. **THAT the Mission Committee will have a team going to the East Coast to help with PDA Relief:**
 - November 3 – 9, 2019 Wilmington, NC
16. **THAT the following dates have been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training for 2019 and 2020:**
 - Saturday, November 2, 2019 – First Presbyterian Church, Morganton
 - Tuesday, April 29, 2020 – Montreat Conference Center

Saturday, November 7, 2020 – 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 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.

GENERAL PRESBYTER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Presbytery heard a report from Rev. Patrick Johnson, chair of the General Presbyter Nominating Committee, on their progress, including a copy of the MIF for the position of General Presbyter. Any recommendations for that position, are requested to be shared with the committee. (Appendix M)

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 N)

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

- Barbara White, effective November 1, 2019
- Charles Davenport, effective November 1, 2019
- Merriam Alexander, effective November 1, 2019
- Martin L. Harkey, effective October 1, 2019

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 J. Thomas Phillips, and Schaap Freeman, as new ministers in the Presbytery. David Smith was welcomed but was not present. 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 N)

- J. Thomas Phillips, from Holston Presbytery, as Honorably Retired, effective September 10, 2019.
- Schaap Freeman, from Holston Presbytery, to serve as Stated Supply at the First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, effective September 10, 2019.
- David B. Smith, from Philadelphia Presbytery, as Member-at-Large, effective September 10, 2019. (NOT PRESENT)
- Decherd (Deck) Guess, from Coastal Carolina Presbytery, to serve as Transitional Pastor at Banner Elk Presbyterian Church, 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 N)

- A. Joey Byrd, as Command Chaplain for the U.S. Army, through October 26, 2020.
- B. Joan Martin, as Chaplain at Covenant Village, Inc., Gastonia, through October 26, 2020.
- C. Lisle Garrity, as Creative Director of “A Sanctified Art, LLC” through October 26, 2020.
- D. Bill Buchanan, as Executive Director of Asheville Youth Mission, through October 26, 2020.
- E. Tommy Brown, as Director of William Black Lodge in Montreat, through October 26, 2020.

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY
IV. COMMISSIONED PASTOR**

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry and the Examinations Committee, Ruling Elder John Pea recommended that the Presbytery approve Renee Warthen to be commissioned as a commissioned pastor to Ryburn Memorial Presbyterian Church in Shelby, NC. Following questions and answers, the motion passed. Moderator Lauren Vanacore then offered prayer. The commissioning for Renee Warthen is to include permission to celebrate the Sacraments, moderate the Session and officiate at weddings. The moderator thanked the congregation of Ryburn Memorial Presbyterian Church for sharing Renee with the Presbytery. (Appendix N)

On behalf of the Committee on Ministry and the Examinations Committee, Ruling Elder John Pea recommended that the Presbytery approve Phillip Ashley to be commissioned as a commissioned pastor to Columbus Presbyterian Church in Columbus, NC. Following questions and answers, the motion passed. Moderator Lauren Vanacore then offered prayer. The commissioning for Phillip Ashley is to include permission to celebrate the Sacraments, moderate the Session and officiate at weddings. The moderator thanked the congregation of Columbus Presbyterian Church for sharing Phillip with the Presbytery. (Appendix N)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Robbin Buchanan presented the work of the committee and their recommendations for commissioner representatives to the 224th (2020) General Assembly in Baltimore, Maryland. All were duly elected. Commissioners to the 224th (2020) General Assembly will be Teaching Elders Dwight Christenbury and Kimberleigh Wells; Ruling Elders Colin Caldwell and Sally McGinnis; and YAD Vance Stiles. (Appendix O)

The Nominating Committee presented the following recommendations as alternate commissioners to the 224th (2020) General Assembly: Teaching Elder Emily Wilmarth and Ruling Elder Melvin Meares. All were duly approved. (Appendix O)

The Presbytery approved the recommendation that the Nominating Committee, along with the Moderator of Presbytery and the chair of the Committee on Ministry, be given the authority to replace a commissioner to the General Assembly in the event that the elected commissioner(s) and/or alternate commissioner(s) are unable to attend. (Appendix O)

MALAWI REPORT

Rev. Billy Robinson reported on behalf of the Malawi Partnership. He recognized Bobbi White as being instrumental in the Malawi Mission work and accomplishments. The next Malawi Mission Trip is tentatively scheduled for June 4 – June 16, 2020. Everyone was encouraged to pray about going to Malawi and to submit an application by December 31, 2019 stating that “you cannot go to Malawi and remain unchanged.” (Appendix P)

REPORT OF GENERAL PRESBYTER

General Presbyter, Bobbi White, asked the Presbytery, “how does one say thank you to God and to the many people and churches with whom she has been blessed to share God’s ministry?” Bobbi encouraged us to remember that we are loved by God for who we are and to wake-up each morning and say “Jesus Christ you are my Lord and Savior.” She shared stories of how she has seen the Holy Spirit at work within our Presbytery and urged us to trust that the Spirit continues to be present and active among us. The Presbytery was encouraged to take risks and to try new things, as she is about to embark on something new herself. In conclusion, she stated that she was going to be sitting on the side lines and watching the Spirit at work.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Rev. Dana Vaughn and Elder Kerry Border, Reems Creek-Beech Presbyterian Church, Weaverville, NC submitted the following Resolution of Thanks for the 122nd meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, held at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC:

We give thanks to the work and effort of the staff and members of **Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church**, for hosting the **122nd meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina**.

We give thanks to the work and effort of our stated clerk, our moderator, presbytery staff, and all those serving on committees Presbytery wide.

We give thanks for Bobbi White, who has served us well over the years. We are thankful for her witness, leadership, and passion that she has shared with us. We are grateful for the energy and initiatives that she has poured into our Presbytery.

We give thanks for the faithful witnesses of our teaching elders, ruling elders, and lay persons serving in and throughout our Presbytery.

We give thanks for the creative ways people are serving in their validated ministries throughout our Presbytery.

We give thanks for individuals newly called from our midst and distant places to lead our churches and those who now serve outside our bounds.

We give thanks for each individual throughout Western North Carolina who is devoted to sharing the Good News of Christ with others.

We give thanks for the time to worship as a body of Christ during our meeting, and for the opportunity to celebrate the Lord’s Supper with one another.

We give thanks for the fellowship shared over meals and around tables that supports one another and our common purpose.

We resolve to be thankful for the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father Almighty, and the peace and empowerment of the Holy Spirit, now and forevermore. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Kimberleigh Wells, pastor of New Hope Presbyterian Church, Asheville, led the Presbytery in prayers of intercession.

BENEDICTION AND ADJOURNMENT

With the business of the 122nd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina completed and adjournment voted, Moderator Lauren Vanacore adjourned the meeting at 12:28 p.m. with prayer.

NEXT MEETING

The 123rd Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton, 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 January 25, 2020 at its meeting at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton, North Carolina.

APPENDICES

- A. Consent Agenda**
- B. Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report**
- C. Missions Committee Report**
- D. Guatemala Partnership Report**
- E. Youth Committee Report**
- F. Finance Committee Report**
- G. Building HOPE Report**
- H. Report from Presbyterian Women**
- I. Administrative Commission Reports for First Presbyterian, Swannanoa; Westminster Presbyterian Church; and Churches Concluding Their Ministry**
- J. Committee on Representation Annual Report**
- K. Report from the Board of the UKirk at WCU**
- L. Installation Minutes for John Hagmann**
- M. General Presbyter Nominating Committee Report**
- N. Report of the Committee on Ministry**
- O. Nominating Committee Report**
- P. Malawi Trip Application**
- 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.