

**THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
STATED CLERK'S REPORT**

D. Cameron (Cam) Murchison, Jr., Stated Clerk

April 30, 2019

The Stated Clerk presents the following:

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 July 30, 2019 Presbytery meeting.**
- CA. 2. **THAT the minutes of the January 26, 2019 Stated Meeting of Presbytery be approved as submitted.** *(The full set of these minutes, including appendices, is available for review at the Stated Clerk's table.)*
- CA 3. **THAT the April 2019 report of the Administrative Commission for the New Vision, Conover New Church Development be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery.** (Stated Clerk Attachment 1)
- CA 4. **THAT the April 2019 report of the Administrative Commissions for the First Presbyterian Church of Swannanoa, Westminster Presbyterian Church, West Avenue Presbyterian, and Churches Concluding Their Ministry be received and entered into the permanent record of the Presbytery.** (Stated Clerk Attachment 2)
5. **THAT the Administrative Commission for the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Asheville having completed its work, be dissolved, effective April 30, 2019, with the thanks of the Presbytery for its good work.**
6. **THAT the Administrative Commission for the New Vision Church, Conover (New Church Development), having completed its work, be dissolved, effective April 30, 2019, with the thanks of the Presbytery for its good work.**
7. **THAT in accord with *Book of Order* G-2.0404, Presbytery approve the written requests submitted by the Sessions of Good Hope Presbyterian Church and Forest City Presbyterian Church for waivers of *Book of Order* G-2.0404, requiring the rotation of officers because of a limited pool of members able to serve.**

G-2.0404 Terms of Service

Ruling elders and deacons shall be elected to serve terms of no more than three years on the session or board of deacons, and may be eligible for reelection according to congregational rule. However, no ruling elder or deacon shall be eligible to serve more than six consecutive years, and a ruling elder or deacon who has served six consecutive years shall be ineligible for election to the same board for at least one year. Election shall be to classes as nearly equal in number as possible, with the term of only one class

ending each year. The presbytery may, upon written request and by majority vote, grant a congregation a waiver of this limitation on terms.

FOR INFORMATION:

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

UKirk Board

- 8. **THAT the 121st Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina will be held on Tuesday, July 30, 2019, at the Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, Brevard, North Carolina. THAT the deadline for written reports for this meeting is Friday, July 5, 2019 and Thursday, July 11, 2019 for power point presentations. THAT the deadline for an overture is Monday, June 24, 2019.**

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

2019

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

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

2020

Saturday, January 25, 2020 – *Need Host Location*

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

Tuesday, July 28, 2020 – *Need Host Location*

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

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

Saturday, May 4, 2019	First Presbyterian Church, Morganton
Saturday, June 22, 2019	First Presbyterian Church, Lincolnton
Saturday, August 24, 2019	First Presbyterian Church, Waynesville
Saturday, September 28, 2019	First Presbyterian Church, Bessemer City

- 11. **THAT the following dates have been established for Sacred Trust-Relational Boundaries Training in 2018:**

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 – Montreat Conf. Ctr. (1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.)
(Moore Center – below the Montreat Store)

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.

STATED CLERK ATTACHMENT 1

Report from the New Vision Administrative Commission

April 2019

Due to budget issues, the General Council of the PWNC came to the difficult decision the New Vision church building would need to be sold. The New Vision steering team was presented with this decision and given various options, including remaining a congregation in pursuit of PC(USA) charter and finding a new location to worship, joining with an existing Presbyterian congregation or becoming a community church not affiliated with the PC(USA) and finding a new place to worship.

At a congregational meeting, the congregation voted to discontinue their pursuit of a PC(USA) charter and become a community church. The congregation will continue to worship in the existing building for the short term until it is sold or other arrangements can be made.

A commission is currently being formed to handle the sale of the building.

Thank you to all those on the Administrative Commission, General Council and all those who have been a supportive part of the Presbyterian presence with New Vision for the last 10 years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Joanne Glaser
Chair, Administrative Commission
New Vision Church
Conover, NC

STATED CLERK ATTACHMENT 2

Westminster Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission

April 2019 Report to Presbytery

Commission members: Merri Alexander, Dot Descieux, Keith Grogg (moderator), Cam Murchison (stated clerk), Don Peterson, Chuck Reiley.

The sale of the property to Land of Sky United Church of Christ having been completed, the Administrative Commission thanks Presbytery for the opportunity to serve and respectfully requests that it be dismissed.

Submitted with gratitude,
Keith Grogg, moderator

First Presbyterian Church, Swannanoa Administrative Commission

April 2019 Report

As previously reported, the Administrative Commission for Swannanoa First Presbyterian Church has successfully leased the church property (with option to purchase) to a Christian congregation that had been meeting in a local community center. The AC continues to monitor property enhancements and to work on zoning matters in an effort to convey the historical Piney Grove Cemetery property to a non-profit board that is already operating it.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Tuttle, Chair

Administrative Commission for Churches Concluding Their Ministry

April 2019 Report

Since the date of the January 2019 meeting, there have been no new developments with respect to the work of the Administrative Commission.

Respectfully submitted,
Cam Murchison, Stated Clerk

West Avenue Presbytery Church Administrative Commission

April 2019 Report

The Administrative Commission for the former West Avenue Presbyterian Church in Gastonia has continued discussions with Revolution Church about ways in which its ministries might find a permanent home at the West Avenue property. In the meantime, members of the AC have been working with remediation and insurance companies to make repairs necessitated by a plumbing leak.

Respectfully submitted,
John Pea, Chair