

GENERAL COUNCIL
Melvin Meares, Chair
July 30, 2019

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.