

GENERAL COUNCIL
Melvin Meares, Chair
October 26, 2019

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 to remove the Guatemala Partnership and the Malawi Mission and permit 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 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.**
- 11. 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.

12. 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.

Small Church Grants

Sherrill's Ford Presbyterian Church

Dulatown Presbyterian Church

John Knox Presbyterian Church

13. 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

14. THAT the Mission Committee will have a team going to the East Coast to help with PDA Relief:

November 3 – 9, 2019

Wilmington, NC

15. 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 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.