

## Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Newton Presbytery

Lower Valley Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

*(to be approved at the May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Stated Meeting of the Newton Presbytery)*

### The Body of Christ, A Call to Gather

The Presbytery of Newton of the Presbyterian Church (USA) held its Stated Meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Lower Valley Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator, Rev. Hugh Matlack, called the meeting to order at 10 am and led the opening prayer.

### FORMATION OF THE ROLL

The roll was formed as Commissioners signed the registration forms. Stated Clerk, Teaching Elder Jeremy Campbell, certified that a quorum was present.

The Presbytery **VOTED** to adopt the docket.

### REPORT OF THE ATTENDANCE CLERK

<i>Congregation</i>	<i>Teaching Elder</i>		<i>Ruling Elder</i>	
Allamuchy, Panther Valley	Rev. Ninabeth Metcalf	A		A
Alpha	Rev. Tex Culton (HR)	P		A
Andover	Rev. Karen Brostrom (HR)	P	Nanette Tewksbury	P
Belvidere	Rev. Dr. Pamela Szurek	E		A
Blairstown	Rev. David Harvey	P	Deb Albrecht	P
Boonton (2)	Rev. Jennifer Van Zandt	P		A A
Branchville (2)	Rev. Dr. Jefferson Hatch	E		A A
Califon, Fairmount	Rev. Kathryn Callum	P		A
Califon, Lower Valley	Rev. Chad Rodgers	P		A
Cedar Knolls, Hildale Park	Rev. Ross Lang	E		A
Chatham Township (3)	Rev. Heather Morrison-Yaden Rev. Thomas Brown	P P		A A A
Chatham, Ogden Memorial	Rev. Kathi Heath	P	Marcia Casais	P
Chester (2)	Rev. Christopher Scrivens	P	Jeanne Perry	P A
Delaware	Rev. Amy Sandlin	E		A
Denville, Union Hill	Rev. Tim Clarkson	P		A
Dover, First Memorial	Rev. Alan Schaefer (HR)	E		A
East Hanover	Rev. Jin Han	A		A
East Hanover, Kitchell	Rev. Dan Schroeder	P	Carol Williams	P
Flanders	Rev. Richard Oppelt	A		A
Florham Park, Calvary	Rev. Ronald de Groot	A		A
Franklin	Rev. Julie Raffety	E		A
Gillette, Meyersville	Rev. Barbara Aspinall	P		A
Hackettstown (2)	Rev. Brian Merritt	P	Carl Erickson	P

			Sandy Archer	P
<b>Hampton, Musconetcong Valley</b>	Vacant	V		A
<b>Hazen, Oxford 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Rev. Amy Sandlin	E		A
<b>Long Valley (2)</b>	Rev. Robin Curras	P	Dave VanKooy Leah Korbel	P P
<b>Long Valley, Highlands</b>	Vacant	V	Scott Riker	P
<b>Madison (2)</b>	Rev. Scott Foster	P	Becky Moody	P A
<b>Mendham</b>	Vacant Rev. Alison Paden	V P		A
<b>Mine Hill</b>	Vacant	V	Debbie Hooper	P
<b>Morris Plains (2)</b>	Rev. Jacqui Van Vliet	P	Alec Jain	P
<b>Morristown (3)</b>	Rev. Dr. David Smazik Rev. Sarah Green	P E	Wendy Doidge Ken Clark Craig Barth	P P P
<b>New Vernon</b>	Rev. William Stone	P		A
<b>Newton (2)</b>	Rev. David Young	P		A
<b>Newton, Yellow Frame</b>	Rev. Michael Nelms	A		A
<b>Oak Ridge</b>	Rev. Christopher Doyle	P		A
<b>Ogdensburg</b>	Rev. Alden Johnson	A		A
<b>Oxford 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Rev. Joicy Becker-Richards	A		A
<b>Parsippany</b>	Rev. Donald Bragg	A		A
<b>Phillipsburg, Harmony</b>	Rev. Scott Bohr	P		A
<b>Phillipsburg, Pilgrim</b>	Rev. Richard Gelson	P	Doris Haring	P
<b>Phillipsburg, Westminster</b>	Rev. Chet Penza	A		A
<b>Port Murray, Rockport</b>	Vacant	V		A
<b>Rockaway (2)</b>	Rev. Dr. Nancy Young	P	Joe Martinoni	P A
<b>Sparta (2)</b>	Rev. Dr. Patrick Sileo	P		A A
<b>Stanhope (2)</b>	Rev. Hugh Matlack	P		A A
<b>Stewartsville</b>	Rev. Stephen Choi	P		A
<b>Stewartsville, Old Greenwich (2)</b>	Rev. Anita Hendrix	P	Lisa Gray	P A
<b>Stillwater</b>	Ruling Elder Linda Gaden	E		A
<b>Stirling</b>	Rev. Dr. Thomas Peters	P		A
<b>Succasunna</b>	Rev. Carie Morgan	P		A
<b>Sussex</b>	Rev. Amy Lawrence	P	Mike Kosco	P
<b>Wantage, Beemerville</b>	Rev. Barry Young	P		A
<b>Washington</b>	Rev. James Scovell	A	Stuart Ours	P
<b>Wharton</b>	Rev. Kathleen Stone	A		A
<b>Wharton, Berkshire Valley</b>	Rev. Christopher Doyle	P		A
<b>Wharton, Hungarian</b>	Rev. Csilla Lucskay	A		A
<b>Whippany (2)</b>	Rev. Sarah Cairatti	P	Nancy Williams	P A

**Teaching Elders Engaged in a Validated Ministry**

Rev. Dr. Robert Gamble ( <i>This Child Here Inc.</i> )	E
Rev. Heup Young Kim ( <i>Professor – Kangnam University, South Korea</i> )	E
Rev. Unzu Lee ( <i>World Mission Office of Asia and the Pacific</i> )	E
Rev. Joanne Miller ( <i>Pastoral Counseling – Grace Counseling Center</i> )	E
Rev. Barbara Peters ( <i>Pastor – Wilson Memorial Union Church, Watchung</i> )	A
Rev. Bronc Radak ( <i>Interim Pastor – First Presbyterian Church of Monroe, NY</i> )	A
Rev. Jeanne Radak ( <i>Presbytery Leader – Newton Presbytery</i> )	P
Rev. Salvatore Seirmarco ( <i>Chaplain – United Methodist Communities</i> )	P
Rev. Angella Son ( <i>Professor – Drew University</i> )	E

### **Members at Large**

Rev. Guy Ferguson	A
Rev. Peter Magnan	E
Rev. Elizabeth Morrison	E
Rev. Hayley O’Connor	A
Rev. Gail Pendleton	A

### **Honorably Retired**

Rev. Peter Amerman	E
Rev. Jeff Archer	P
Rev. John Arnedt	E
Rev. Arthur Benjamin	E
Rev. Clifford Bergdahl	E
Rev. George Blank	E
Rev. Karen Brostrom ( <i>serving Andover</i> )	P
Rev. James Coen	E
Rev. Robert Colman	E
Rev. Margaret Crowl	E
Rev. Cindy Crouner	E
Rev. William Culton ( <i>serving Alpha</i> )	P
Rev. James D’Angelo	E
Rev. William Davis	E
Rev. Richard Dole	E
Rev. Birda Ferguson	E
Rev. Janet Fishburn	E
Rev. Richard Gibbins	E
Rev. Dr. Edward Halldorson	P
Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Hall	E
Rev. Herbert Huffmon	E
Rev. Harold Johnson	E
Rev. Eugenia Johnston	E
Rev. Judy Kolwicz	E
Rev. Dr. David Lawrence	E
Rev. William Lehr	E
Rev. Tony MacNaughton	E
Rev. Donald Prytherch	E
Rev. Jack Roan	E
Rev. Stephen Ross	E
Rev. Alan Schaefer ( <i>serving Dover</i> )	E
Rev. Donald Scott	E
Rev. Lorrie Skinner	P
Rev. Sherman Skinner	P

Rev. Sara Taylor	E
Rev. Charles Thompson	E
Rev. John Weber	E

**Ruling Elders by Virtue of Office**

Ruling Elder Ken Nickel, Vice Moderator ( <i>First Presbyterian Church of Boonton</i> )	P
Ruling Elder Paula Benson, Presbytery Coordinating Team ( <i>Highlands Presbyterian Church</i> )	P
Donna Rahmann, Presbyterian Women ( <i>Fairmount Presbyterian Church, Califon</i> )	P

**Certified Ruling Elders**

Linda Gaden, CRE ( <i>servicing Stillwater Presbyterian Church</i> )	A
--	---

**Others in Attendance**

Rev. Jeremy Campbell, Stated Clerk ( <i>Newton &amp; Elizabeth Presbyteries</i> )	P
Sonja Gaertner, Office Manager & Attendance Clerk ( <i>Newton Presbytery</i> )	P
Lizabeth Hutchinson, Financial Administrator ( <i>Newton Presbytery</i> )	P
Sally Strusz, ( <i>Long Valley Presbyterian Church</i> )	P
Nancy Riker, ( <i>Highlands Presbyterian Church</i> )	P
Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson, ( <i>Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Mission Agency</i> )	P
Margaret Mwale, ( <i>Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Mission Agency</i> )	P

**Total in Attendance – 72**

~ Sonja Gaertner, Attendance Clerk – Newton Presbytery

**Introductory Items**

Quorum was present

**ENROLLMENT OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS**

Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson, (Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Mission Agency)

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW RULING ELDER COMMISSIONERS:**

LVPC David hoyer???  
 Stewartsville Linda Williams  
 Fairmount Pete Peterson  
 Mendham Renee D’urso

**ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET AS AMENDED**

New business – Add Stillwater commission  
**Adopted as amended**

**REPORT ON ARRANGMENTS:**

Rev. Chad Rodgers spoke to the arrangements of the meeting.

**STATED CLERKS REPORT:**

Jeremy Campbell gave the Stated Clerk’s report presenting the consent agenda

**Consent Agenda**

**SC-1**

Approve the minutes of the Presbytery meeting held January 12, 2019.

**SC-2**

Approve excuses for the Presbytery meeting of March 12, 2019.

**SC-3**

Receive the report of the Committee on Ministry.

**SC-4**

Receive the report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.

**SC-5**

Receive the report of the Nominating Committee.

**SC-6**

Receive the report of the Presbytery Coordinating Team.

**SC-7**

Receive the 2018 Presbytery of Newton Annual Report.

**APPROVED**

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

Revs Allison Paden and David Young

Introducing:

Approved Stephanie Farley to be the Commissioned Ruling Elder for Musconetcong Valley Presbyterian Church. A Commissioning Service will be at the May Presbytery meeting.

Received as member of the Presbytery: Rev. Brian Merritt from Santa Fe Presbytery.

Received as a Temporary Member of the Presbytery: Rev. Daniel Schroeder, United Church of Christ, Connecticut Conference.

Approved the Interim Pastor Terms of Call between Rev. Heather Morrison-Yaden and Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township.

**PRESBYTERY COORDINATING TEAM**

**MISSIONAL STRUCTURES UPDATE**

Invitation to Participate in NJ Missional Community – sent to all 7 presbyteries and are initial talks and are participating.

- What do we want our Presbyteries to be? Leadership is important at this time of challenges.
- Our language is not about taking over, a journey where everyone is on their own path and we will be moving forward together.
- Goal is to be open to the spirit. Be patient with the level of communications. Communications is key.
- Be willing to help us build relationships with our new neighbors.
- Consolidation of Presbyteries in New Jersey.

*Amy Lawrence*

Every Presbytery is engaged and participating

*Jeanne B. Radak*

One of two coaches for effort

NJ Boundaries haven't changed in 50 years

You can participate in gatherings with new churches

Next steps

We will vote at the May 2019 meeting.

How does this affect GA representation? This is undetermined at this time.

Synod is appointing a transitional working group to address technical issues like debt, etc.

## **WORSHIP**

## **FELLOWSHIP**

### **30 SECOND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Come to the table – Synod Nov 8-9 @ Stonypoint
- Triennium – deadline March 24<sup>th</sup>
- Presbyterian Depot – thanking Belvidere women's quilts 3571 quilts since 2000
- Communications Team – what's going on in your congregation? Let Robin Curras know via email!
- Rabina Windbush has passed away.

### **PARTNERSHIP STORY OF HOPE #1**

- Synod Delegation Visit to Cuba

## **PRESBYTERY COORDINATING TEAM**

Stories of Hope

Rev Alonzo Johnson/Margaret Mwale "Self Development of People"

The history and work of SDOP; SDOP funds projects such as:

- Alianza Agricola – getting licenses for farm workers so they can travel regardless of immigration status.
- Jersey City Together – fight for tenant's rights and hold landlords accountable.
- Tenant rights/housing projects – self-advocacy of tenants
- Elizabeth Education Organizing Committee – advocate for a better education

## **PARTNERSHIP STORY #2**

Presbyterian Church in Morristown and Rendall Memorial Presbyterian Church, Harlem. "Undoing Racism"

Marnie Kaller – video and invitation to go to Ghana.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Committee recommends to Presbytery the following nominations:

Election of Moderator and Vice-Moderator

Moderator – Ken Nickel

Vice-Moderator – David Young, Newton

## **NOMINATIONS APPROVED**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Stillwater AC Heath Morrison-Yaden Moderator

Since 3/21/17

Financial issues

Working with sessions and congregation

Linda Gaden Student pastor

Fire in manse

Diminishing resources

MOTION: Conclude the ministry of the current AC and empanel a new one based on the Warrant for an AD of Newton Presbytery concerning the First Presbyterian Church Stillwater, NJ

MOTION APPROVED

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: To adjourn with benediction.

**MOTION APPROVED**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 pm.

Attested:

---

Jeremy Campbell  
Stated Clerk

Reports: