

# HANDBOOK OF REPORTS

for the

179<sup>th</sup> STATED MEETING

of the

SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY

Saturday August 25, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Place:

Warrenton Presbyterian Church  
Warrenton, Virginia

Shenandoah Presbytery is a covenant body where:

- ~congregations are empowered to be centers for mission,
- ~people of God are equipped to be Disciples of Christ in a challenging world,
- ~church professionals are nurtured and strengthened for service,
- ~open communication and information are used constructively and creatively to keep us connected.

MEMO TO: Pastors and Commissioners to Presbytery  
FROM: Bronwen W. Boswell, Stated Clerk  
RE: August 25 MEETING OF PRESBYTERY

The Presbytery of Shenandoah will meet in stated session at Warrenton Presbyterian Church in Warrenton, Virginia, on Saturday, August 25, 2018.

**CHILDCARE:** for childcare, please contact Mary Hall at 540.347.2213 no later than Monday, August 20.

**LUNCH:** can be purchased before the convening hour of 9:30 a.m. for the price of \$5. If you have dietary needs, please contact Mary Hall at 540.347.2213 no later than Monday, August 20.

**DIRECTIONS:**

The address for Warrenton PC is 91 Main St, Warrenton, VA 20186. Parking spaces on Main St. in front of WPC have been reserved and will have reserved parking signs for those spaces. In addition, time limits on Main Street are not enforced on Saturdays and the Warrenton Baptist Church parking lot at North 5th St. and Horner St. (48 spaces), has been made available for Shenandoah Presbytery. Old Town has a number of all-day parking lots off Main Street, the biggest lot (116 spaces) is at Third St. and Horner St. behind the Post Office and is two blocks from WPC. SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR A MAP OF AVAILABLE PARKING.

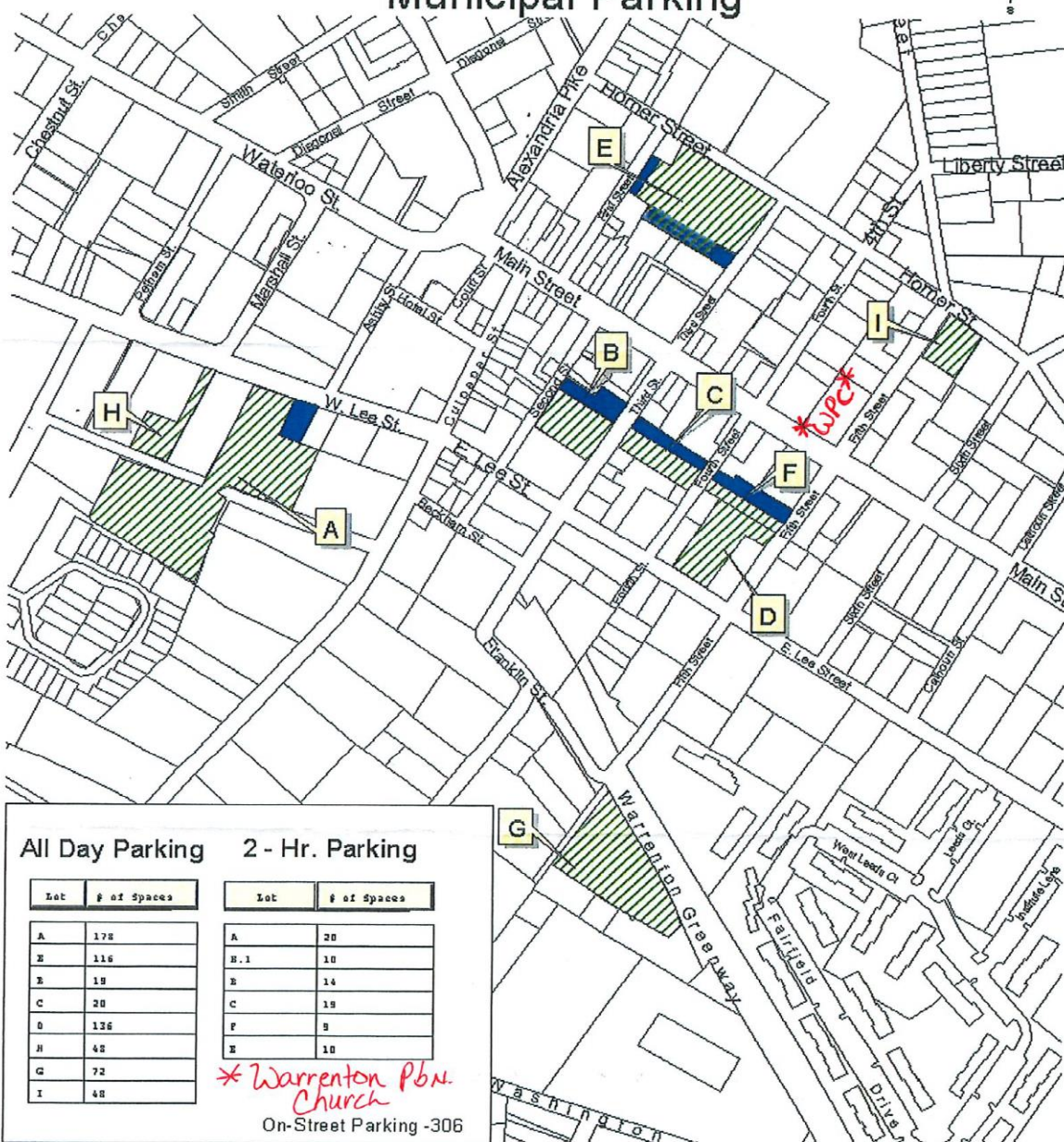
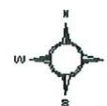
From the Winchester area:

Take I-81 South via exit 313 toward Roanoke. Continue travelling South on I-81 for 13 miles. Take exit 300(left exit) to merge onto I-66 East toward Front Royal/Washington. Stay East on I-66 for 28 miles. Take the US-17 exit (exit 28) toward Warrenton/Fredericksburg. Travel South on US-17 for 10 miles until you get into Warrenton. At the first light, make a left onto US-29 North. Then, make a right at the third light (Sheetz intersection) onto Blackwell Road which becomes Alexandria Pike into Old Town. At the stop sign, make a left onto Main Street, continuing six blocks to the corner of 5th and Main Streets.

From Harrisonburg and points South and West:

Take I-81 North. Travel to exit 264 for US211 toward Luray/New Market/Timberville. To follow this route, turn right on W Old Cross Road, then turn left at N Congress St/US-11/US211. Turn right again at E Lee Highway/US 211. From this point you will travel approximately 57.7 miles. You will come to a traffic light at a major intersection where US211 meets Business 29. Continue across this intersection and follow it straight up the hill, where you will come to the intersection with Main Street, identified by the presence of the old Court House building with a large tree that seems to extend out into the roadway. Turn right at this point and follow it to the intersection of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Turn left onto 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

# Town of Warrenton Municipal Parking



| All Day Parking |             | 2 - Hr. Parking |             |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Lot             | # of Spaces | Lot             | # of Spaces |
| A               | 178         | A               | 20          |
| B               | 116         | B.1             | 10          |
| B               | 19          | B               | 14          |
| C               | 20          | C               | 19          |
| D               | 136         | F               | 9           |
| H               | 42          | H               | 10          |
| G               | 72          |                 |             |
| I               | 48          |                 |             |

*\* Warrenton Pbn. Church*  
On-Street Parking -306

2 hour parking  
 All Day Parking



Town of Warrenton  
Geographic Information System  
August 13, 2002

## INFORMATION PERTAINING TO MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERY

Per Presbytery Manual Chapter V

Number of Meetings – Our Book of Order (G-3.0304) requires presbytery to hold stated meetings at least twice each year. At this time, there will be four STATED meetings for 2018: February 24, May 22, August 25, and November 27.

Kind of Meetings – Besides stated meetings there are adjourned meetings and special meetings.

Adjourned Meetings – Held to conclude unfinished business of preceding stated meeting. New Business may be placed on docket.

Special Meetings – The moderator shall call a special meeting at the request of, or with the concurrence of, two ministers and two elders being of different churches. Should the moderator be unable to act, the stated clerk shall, under the same conditions, issue the call. If both moderator and stated clerk are unable to act, any three ministers and three elders, the elders being of different churches, may call a special meeting. The Synod may direct the Presbytery to convene a special meeting for the transaction of designated business. Notice of a special meeting shall be sent not less than ten (10) days in advance to each minister and to the session of every church. The notice shall set out the purpose of the meeting and no other business than that listed in the notice shall be transacted.

Who Determines Type of Meetings? – The presbytery itself. If the business at a stated meeting is not completed in the time allowed on the docket, then the presbytery votes to extend the time on that day or votes to schedule an adjourned meeting later. Special meetings may be called in conformity with presbytery's policy, expressed in its manual.

Docket Preparation – The Presbytery Meeting Planning Committee composes the docket. Time periods for committee reports are arranged in consultation with chairs and others responsible for reports.

Docket Problems – The times listed for the presentation of reports are only general orders, and not orders of the day, unless specifically noted (see Procedural Rule A). Frequently, debate bogs down over procedural matters, and controversial issues create considerable discussion. Presbytery can always limit debate. Candidates and transferring ministers of necessity may require special considerations for their examinations because of such things as travel schedules and seminary schedules. The docket may be amended at any time during the meeting. Commissioners should be aware of possible extension of time needed for such amendments and the possible delay in adjournment.

## PROCEDURAL RULES

### 5.5. OPERATING PROCEDURES

- 5.5.1. The Presbytery shall in its proceedings abide by the requirements of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), its Standing Rules or Manual of Operations, and Robert's Rules of Order (newly revised) in this order. A list of procedural rules adopted by Presbytery shall be printed on the inside cover of each handbook.
- 5.5.2. A report of any agency of Presbytery requiring more than 10 minutes of Presbytery time may be made an Order of the Day.
- 5.5.3. Reports having been mailed out in advance, the committee chairperson shall not read the report except to make reference to a few highlights of the report and to recommendations by numbers, moving their adoption.
  - A. Any reports not included in the Handbook shall be submitted as part of a Supplemental Report available either electronically or on paper distributed prior to the beginning of the Presbytery meeting at which the report is presented.
  - B. Any report not so circulated shall not be received by the Presbytery except by approval of the governing body by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting. If a group wishes to submit such a report, a person shall summarize its content and purpose before the vote is taken.
- 5.5.4. On matters where there may be deep concern, possible controversy or lack of information, the committee making the report shall provide critical background information, so that the governing body may expeditiously make wise and considered decisions.
- 5.5.5. Debate shall be free and open, with equal time being given to proponents and opponents insofar as possible.
- 5.5.6. Any member of the governing body desiring to speak must stand, identify themselves by name and congregation, be recognized by the Moderator, and go to a microphone if available.
- 5.5.7. A member of the presbytery may speak twice on any particular motion, and not for more than a total of five minutes, but the second time may only be granted after all who have not yet spoken have had an opportunity to do so. The maker of the motion is entitled to speak first, if desired.
- 5.5.8. Lengthy motions must be written out and presented to the Stated Clerk.
- 5.5.9. References to the following procedures from Robert's Rules of Order may prove useful:
  - A. A committee recommendation does not require a second to be on the floor.
  - B. Other motions require a second prior to discussion or action.
  - C. When there is no apparent disagreement or objection to a motion, the Moderator may declare it is adopted by common or general consent.
- 5.5.10. No flash photography will be allowed during the worship service at meetings of Presbytery.
- 5.5.11. When Presbytery meets in a location where seating is limited, priority shall be given to voting members for seating within the meeting area. If it is necessary to use other rooms for overflow seating, visitors and other non-voting members shall use these areas.
- 5.5.12. QUORUM:  
A quorum of the Presbytery shall be any ten teaching elders and ten ruling elders from at least ten different congregations. (G-3.0304).

Seeking to be Faithful Together:

Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement

In a spirit of trust and love, we promise we will . . .

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>Give them a hearing . . . listen before we answer<br/>John 7:51 and Proverbs 18:13</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Treat each other respectfully so as to build trust, believing that we all desire to be faithful to Jesus the Christ;             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· we will keep our conversations and communications open for candid and forthright exchange,</li> <li>· we will not ask questions or make statements in a way which will intimidate or judge others.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Learn about various positions on the topic of disagreement.</li> <li>3. State what we think we heard and ask for clarification before responding, in an effort to be sure we understand each other.</li> </ol>   |
| <p>Speak the truth in love<br/>Ephesians 4:15</p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Share our concerns directly with individuals or groups with whom we have disagreements in a spirit of love and respect in keeping with Jesus' teaching.</li> <li>5. Focus on ideas and suggestions instead of questioning people's motives, intelligence or integrity;             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· we will not engage in name-calling or labeling of others prior to, during, or following the discussion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. Share our personal experiences about the subject of disagreement so that others may more fully understand our concerns.</li> </ol>  |
| <p>Maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace<br/>Ephesians 4:3</p>            | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Indicate where we agree with those of other viewpoints as well as where we disagree.</li> <li>8. Seek to stay in community with each other though the discussion may be vigorous and full of tension;             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· we will be ready to forgive and be forgiven.</li> </ul> </li> <li>9. Follow these additional Guidelines when we meet in decision-making bodies:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· urge persons of various points of view to speak and promise to listen to these positions seriously;</li> <li>· seek conclusions informed by our points of agreement;</li> <li>· be sensitive to the feelings and concerns of those who do not agree with the majority and respect their rights of conscience;</li> <li>· abide by the decision of the majority, and if we disagree with it and wish to change it, work for that change in ways which are consistent with the Guidelines.</li> </ul> </li> <li>10. Include our disagreements in our prayers, not praying for the triumph of our viewpoints, but seeking God's grace to listen attentively, to speak clearly, and to remain open to the vision God holds for us all.</li> </ol> |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### VOTING MEMBERS OF SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY

All ministers enrolled in Shenandoah Presbytery

Ruling elders commissioned to churches

Ruling elders from each church session

0-400 members = 1 ruling elder

401-800 members = 2 ruling elders

801-1200 members = 3 ruling elders

1201+ = 4 ruling elders

Ruling Elders who serve in the following capacities shall be enrolled as members of Presbytery for the term of their service:

- moderator or vice moderator of Presbytery
- chair or vice chair of Coordinating and Planning Commission
  - chair of a committee
- exempt employees of the Presbytery (on at least a half-time basis)
- Commissioned Ruling Elders providing particular pastoral services, as authorized by presbytery
- Certified Christian Educators who are serving in an educational ministry under the jurisdiction of the presbytery

Such service does not count towards the number of ruling elders a congregation is entitled to send.

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### ACRONYMS YOU MAY HEAR AT THE MEETING

|   |  |
|---|--|
| AC – Administrative Commission                      | EPC – Evangelical Presbyterian Church                      |
| ARE – Authorized Ruling Elder                       | GA – General Assembly                                      |
| CCVT– Committee on Church Vitality & Transformation | IC – Investigating Committee                               |
| CER - Committee on Educational Resources            | KCC – Key Church Communicator                              |
| CMO – Committee on Mission & Outreach               | LRT – Listening Response Team                              |
| CNCD–Committee on New Congregational Development    | MIF – Ministry Information Form                            |
| CPA – Committee on Presbytery Administration        | PAM – Presbyterian Association of Musicians                |
| CPC – Coordinating and Planning Commission          | PCA – Presbyterian Church in America                       |
| CPM – Committee on Preparation for Ministry         | PCUS – Presbyterian Church in the United States            |
| CPT – Committee on Pastoral Transition              | PCUSA – Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)                       |
| CRE – Commissioned Ruling Elder                     | PDA – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance                     |
| CRM – Committee on Relational Ministry              | PIF – Pastor Information Form                              |
| DPRT – Disaster Preparedness Response Team          | PJC – Permanent Judicial Commission                        |
| ECO – A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians | PNC – Pastor Nominating Committee                          |
| EECMY - Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus   | RE - Ruling Elder  |
|   | SPYCE – Shenandoah Presbytery Youth Council Extraordinaire |
|   | TE – Teaching Elder  |
|   | TPR – Temporary Pastor Relationship                        |

Teaching Elder Bill Klein of Lexington Church  
Serves as the Presbytery Moderator for 2018

DOCKET

(Members of Presbytery are urged to be registered and seated by 9:30 a.m. If not yet registered, please do so right after worship)

- 8:30 a.m. Registration Begins
- 9:30 a.m. Call to Order, Opening Prayer, and Morning Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Determining a Quorum  
Procedural Rules  
Welcome and Introduction of Guests  
First time commissioners  
Seating corresponding members  
Welcome from Warrenton Church  
Appointments by the Moderator  
Adoption of the Docket  
Report of the Stated Clerk – TE Bronwen Boswell  
Correction and Approval of Minutes  
New Business  
Report of the Associate General Presbyter – TE Nancy Meehan Yao
- 10:50 a.m. Sherando Administrative Commission – TE Karen Greenawalt
- 11:05 a.m. Committee on Pastoral Transition – TE Patrick Pettit
- 11:35 a.m. Committee on New Congregational Development – TE Karen Greenawalt
- 11:45 a.m. Educational Time – TE George Chapman and TE Jim Lunde
- 12:25 p.m. Directions for Lunch and Prayer – TE Jim Lunde
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch - ORDER of the DAY
- 1:30 p.m. Intercessory Prayer
- 1:35 p.m. General Assembly Commissioners Reports
- 1:55 p.m. Report of the General Presbyter – TE Bronwen Boswell
- 2:00 p.m. Committee on Nominations – RE Mary Lou Cox
- 2:05 p.m. Committee on Church Vitality and Transformation – TE David Witt
- 2:15 p.m. Committee on Mission and Outreach – TE Gwen Carr
- 2:20 p.m. Coordinating and Planning Commission – RE Kate Lewis Brown
- 2:25 p.m. Committee on Educational Resources – TE April Cranford, TE Sarah Hill
- 2:45 p.m. Anticipated adjournment



STATED CLERK REPORT

I. FOR INFORMATION:

- A. Dates for the meetings of Shenandoah Presbytery:
- Tuesday, November 27: Your church name here
  - Saturday, February 23, 2019: Your church name here
  - Tuesday, May 21, 2019: Your church name here
- B. Please see page 18 for an informational report from the Committee on Relational Ministry.
- C. The Minutes of the 2017 meetings of Shenandoah Presbytery were read and found to be without acceptances.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. That Presbytery excuse from attendance from all or part of this stated meeting those ministers who submit such a request.
- B. That Presbytery approve the minutes from the May 22, 2018, meeting of Presbytery as distributed.

## SHERANDO CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

### Commission Members:

John Cushwa, Teaching Elder  
Tracie Martin, Teaching Elder  
Nancy Meehan Yao, Teaching Elder, Associate Presbyter  
Bill Burslem, Ruling Elder  
Tom Van Meter, Ruling Elder  
Karen Greenawalt, Teaching Elder, Chair

The Sherando AC has been actively working with the Sherando PC since June. Our first meeting was a listening session with the Session of SPC on June 11, 2018 during their Stated Session meeting. The Session members helped fill the AC in on the background of the church and how they now find themselves as a small dwindling congregation with 20 or less in worship and very limited funds but who still host 7 Girl Scout troops and Pastor Jose's church in their building.

The AC then met on June 20, 2018 to discuss what we had heard at the listening session and what our next steps should be. We decided a listening session with the congregation would be helpful so they could share their thoughts and concerns. We also concluded that the congregation might not be as aware of the limited funds with which the church was trying to operate. Tom Van Meter, the treasurer of SPC and an AC member agreed to write the letter which was sent from him, the Session and Administrative Commission to the Congregation.

The AC met with the congregation on Sunday July 22, 2018 after church and a fellowship luncheon. There was a good turnout from the congregation with 29 people plus the AC there that afternoon. We began with prayer and spent the next two plus hours listening to folks who were very concerned that their church was not financially solvent. We discussed lots of ideas and heard many wonder why are we in this state now? What happened? Why didn't someone help us earlier? Where was Presbytery? What about training or a consultant? We are tired. We need handholding. We feel like we dropped through the cracks. We are in survival mode. Finally we began to hear more tiredness, sadness and questions of what might happen if we close. The AC tried to be supportive and encouraging even in the midst of a very difficult conversation. The meeting was closed with prayer

The AC met the next evening, Monday July 23, 2018 with the Session at the Stated Session Meeting. At this meeting we addressed the question 'Where do we go from here?' with the Session. After much more discussion, it became apparent to the Session that there was not enough energy or leadership coupled with lack of finances for this church to have much of a future. The question became whether to keep limping along until all the money was gone or instead leave a legacy of some sort. Session voted that if the way be clear after a congregational meeting on August 5, 2018 the final worship service would be held September 16, 2018.

Sunday August 5, 2018, a Congregational meeting was held. The Session decision was brought to the floor and after much discussion, a vote of 10 in favor to 1 opposed. The motion passed to hold the final worship service for Sherando PC on September 16, 2018.

The Sherando AC met to discuss this decision by Sherando Church on Tuesday August 7. After prayer and discussion the Sherando AC brings the following recommendations to Shenandoah Presbytery:

1. Recommend the closure of Sherando Presbyterian Church at close of their final worship service September 16, 2018 and authorize the Stated Clerk to grant letters of dismissal to any members who might request one, and receive all Session and trustee records for deposit with the Presbyterian Historical Society.
2. This AC agrees to remain in place, if this pleases the Presbytery, but we ask that our charge be amended to include the management and disposal of the assets and property of Sherando Presbyterian Church.
3. Recommend adding two more members to the Sherando AC due to three members of this commission are going to Ethiopia for two and a half weeks in October/November.

## COMMITTEE ON PASTORAL TRANSITION (CPT)

### I. FOR INFORMATION:

The Committee on Pastoral Transition and the Committee on Relational Ministry held a joint meeting the morning of July 12, 2018. Among the items discussed was the need for clarification such as, temporary pastoral relationships; the distinction between churches in transition and those seemingly in ‘permanent transition;’, deployment and oversight of commissioned ruling elders; committee descriptions vs the work being done; and reactive/proactive relationships. Concerns voiced from the committee members were: mentoring new pastors; clarifying the process when a pastor leaves; increase communication between the committees when a pastor is leaving; and what does “transition” really mean.

Expectations from the committee members include pastoral education events, and annual committee retreats.

Nancy Meehan Yao briefed the group on the current churches undergoing Holy Cow CATs or Conversations and the follow-up process. Holy Cow consultants voiced the thoughts and ideas of the churches that have completed a CAT or Conversation.

The church list was reviewed, and congregations sorted into the following categories: installed, long-term supply, basic pastoral services, and transition.

### II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Appointed the following liaisons and moderators:  
Cooks Creek – Karen Allamon, liaison  
Woodstock – David Howard, moderator and Mac McNichols, liaison
- B. Approved the ministry information form from Romney Church and authorized Kim Stroupe to input the data onto the Church Leadership Connection web site.
- C. Approved renewing the supply contract between the Shepherdstown Session and Teaching Elder William Sitterley from September 24, 2018-September 23, 2019.
- D. Approved the following commission to ordain Kelly-Ann Rayle held at Bethel Church on June 4:

| <u>Teaching Elders</u> | <u>Ruling Elders</u>                   |
|------------------------|--|
| Bill Klein             | Kenneth Miller, Bethel Church          |
| Kate Rascoe            | Stephany Morgan, Staunton First Church |
| Joe Condro             | Louisa Scott, Covenant Church          |
| Malcolm Brownlee       | David Hawkins, Lexington Church        |

Also invited were Teaching Elder Albert Connette, Teaching Elder Sam Adams, and Teaching Elder Seth Lovell from the Presbytery of the James.

- E. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder Amanda Thomas (Presbytery of Salem) and received her as a minister member of Shenandoah Presbytery effective June 1, 2018. (See pages 6-7 for bio and faith statement.)
- F. Granted permission for the Winchester First Church to call a congregational meeting on May 13, 2018, to nominate Teaching Elder Amanda Thomas.
- G. Approved the following terms of call between Winchester First and Teaching Elder Amanda Thomas beginning June 1, 2018”

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Annual cash salary   | \$30,000 |
| Housing allowance    | 20,000   |
| Automobile expense   | 500      |
| Continuing Education | 1,500    |

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Major Medical          | 12,500 |
| Pension and Disability | 6,000  |
| SECA                   | 3,825  |

Moving expenses to the field up to \$1,000, four weeks annual paid vacation (with four Sundays), two weeks annual paid study leave (with two Sundays), sabbatical leave at the end of six years, and parental leave

- H. Approved the following commission to install Rev. Amanda Thomas as associate pastor at Winchester First Church on August 19, 2018:

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <u>Teaching Elders</u> | <u>Ruling Elders</u>                     |
| Bill Klein             | Richard Creasey, Winchester First Church |
| Carrie Burslem Evans   | Mac McNichols, Opequon Church            |
| Dan McCoig             | Nancy Bowman, Romney Church              |
|                        | Margaret Barb, Berryville Church         |

Also invited is Teaching Elder Lindsay Conrad from the Presbytery of Salem.

- I. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder Howard Boswell (Presbytery of Western New York) and received him as a minister member of Shenandoah Presbytery effective August 1, 2018. (See pages 8-9 for bio and faith statement)
- J. Granted permission for the Buena Vista Church to call a congregational meeting on May 20, 2018, to nominate Teaching Elder Howard Boswell.
- K. Approved the following terms of call between Buena Vista and Teaching Elder Howard Boswell beginning August 1, 2018:

|                         |          |                        |        |
|-------------------------|----------|------------------------|--------|
| Annual cash salary      | \$30,000 | Continuing education   | 1,000  |
| Housing allowance       | 12,000   | Major medical          | 11,000 |
| Automobile expenses     | 3,000    | Pension and Disability | 5,040  |
| Books and subscriptions | 1,000    | SECA                   | 3,213  |
| Other expenses          | 1,000    |                        |        |

Moving expenses to the field up to \$2,000, four weeks annual paid vacation (with four Sundays), two weeks annual paid study leave (with two Sundays), two, three-day personal retreats per year that do not include Sundays, sabbatical leave at the end of six years, and parental leave

The commission to install TE Boswell will be in October.

- L. Sustained the examination of Teaching Elder Richard H. Hill (Presbytery of Baltimore) and received him as a minister member of Shenandoah Presbytery effective September 1, 2018. (See pages 10-11 for bio and faith statement.)
- M. Approved the supply contract between the Beulah and Monterey sessions and Teaching Elder Richard Hill from September 1, 2018-September 1, 2019.
- N. Approved the supply contract between the New Providence Session and Teaching Elder Amy Fetterman from August 1, 2018-July 31, 2019.
- O. Approved the following commission to install Rev. Sarah Wolf as associate pastor at Covenant Church on August 19, 2018:

|                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Teaching Elders</u> | <u>Ruling Elders</u>              |
| Bronwen Boswell        | Janey Terry, Covenant Church      |
| John Peterson          | Mary Lou McMillin, Trinity Church |
| Amy Fetterman          | Don Reid, Olivet Church           |
| Jacob Singleton        |                                   |

Also invited is Teaching Elder Sam Schaus from the Presbytery of East Tennessee.

REV. AMANDA MAGUIRE THOMAS  
STATEMENT OF FAITH

I believe in one, Triune God: God the Creator, God the Son revealed through Jesus Christ- our Redeemer, and God the Holy Spirit, the Sustainer. I believe God created and loves all things. I believe God is the Giver and Sustainer of life. I believe in a mission-minded God who desires to be in relationship with all of creation. I believe in a covenantal God who reaches out to invite humankind to respond and enter in a relationship with God. God chose to provide grace and work to bring about redemption in a broken, fallen world.

Despite the world's brokenness, God loves the world so much that He sent Jesus, His beloved Son to be the perfect sacrifice for the sins of the world. Christ is fully God and fully human. I believe Jesus is the Way, the Truth, the Life, and the Light which overcomes the darkness of the world. He came down from heaven to live as one of us. Because the world is broken, humankind put Christ to death on a cross. Yet Christ broke through the bondage of death, rose from the dead, and conquers both sin and death. I believe Jesus did not only die for my sins, but He conquered sin and death for all who believe in Him. Christ goes before us to the Father to intercede to the Father on our behalf. I find comfort in trials of life knowing that Jesus has gone before me and will always be with me. Christ came down to live as one of us, died, rose, and will come again in glory.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Sustainer. The Holy Spirit guides and sustains us through life. The Holy Spirit walks alongside me and works to nudge me down the path God has planned for my life. Even when life throws curve balls and I stumble away from God's path; the Holy Spirit picks me up, dusts me off, and continues to walk with me no matter what trial I am facing. Through the Holy Spirit, we are guided through the life-long process of sanctification.

I believe the church is the body of Christ and community of believers. The purpose of the church is to worship and serve God. The church around the world is called to be one with Christ and to live out that calling through worship, hospitality, and reconciliation. I believe church is where the Word of God is preached, God is worshipped, and people are called and sent out to participate in God's work locally, nationally, and around the world.

Sacraments are signs and seals which engraft us into the covenantal relationship and God's amazing grace. The sacraments also remind us that we belong to God and are adopted members of God's family. Baptism is a sign showing our sins are washed clean and God claims us into the body of Christ. Baptism is important in the life of the church not only because baptism is symbol of sins being washed clean but also because of the charge given to the church community. Baptismal vows are powerful displays of being adopted into God's body, the church, and the church's call to build up one another in love.

During the Lord's Supper, we remember the saving grace of Christ. Christians partake of the Lord's Supper to remember Christ but Christ is also a real, spiritual presence at the table. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are united through time and place by partaking of the Holy Supper.

REV. AMANDA MAGUIRE THOMAS  
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

First and foremost, I am passionate about serving God and others. I was born in Augusta, GA but grew up in Hartsville, SC. I have two siblings- an older sister and a younger brother- and am blessed to have unique and close relationships with each of them. I cannot remember a time growing up when my family did not have at least one animal. I currently have two cats- Zac and Mistletoe- and hope to adopt a dog one day. I enjoy all types of music. One of the ways I found my niche in school was through participating in the band program. I played flute and was in marching band throughout high school and college. I received my undergraduate degree in English from Coastal Carolina University in beautiful Conway, South Carolina. I am an avid reader. I love getting lost in the novels and though it is *very* hard for me to pick, J.R.R Tolkien is my favorite author. I love to encounter God in nature and enjoy hiking, biking, riding horses, camping, and kayaking. I enjoy exploring the vastness of God's world through travel.

Through my time working as youth director in Orangeburg, SC, a series of faith forming mission trips, and experiences working as a counselor at a Christian camp I discerned a call to ministry. During my time studying at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, my faith continued to be shaped and challenged. While in seminary, I was constantly humbled by my utter reliance on God to work despite my weaknesses. Studying theology opened my eyes to the richness of God's word. I was fortunate to travel to many different countries during my time in seminary and experienced firsthand how God is constantly at work in all parts of the world. Through my travels, studies, and encounters in a new, often challenging place, I experienced what it looks like when a person steps out in faith and how scary that experience can be. I learned to rely more on God's grace, guidance, and the importance of prayer during times of uncertainty. After seminary, I discerned a call to serve as Associate Pastor for Christian Education in Graham, NC. While living in North Carolina, I met my husband Josh, and we celebrated our wedding in December 2017.

THE REVEREND DR. HOWARD W. BOSWELL, JR.  
STATEMENT OF FAITH

“I believe...” Nearly every statement of faith starts with those words or some variation on them. Yet, I do not remember any creed or confession that said what “believe” means. To believe means to live by. It means more than affirming something; it means accepting the One about whom those affirmations are made. Trust might be a better word, because it suggests a relationship.

I trust God. God made everything and everyone and we owe our lives to God. I trust God is near me, as near as my next breath. I trust God is beyond me, far from my ability to fully understand all God is. I may call God by many names, even as my ancestors in the faith did, but I trust God is Abba, Father, but more truly, Daddy.

I trust God loves us. Throughout the story of God and God’s people, contained in Scripture, again and again, God chooses to love God’s people. In the face of their disobedience in the garden, God clothed them. Despite flooding the world with the waters of judgment, God saved God’s creation in the ark and promised never again. God called Abram and Sarai; promised them a son, a land, and descendants; and gave them new names to celebrate a new beginning. God found Moses, hiding out at Horeb, and revealed Godself. God used Moses to deliver God’s people. Despite their idolatry, their fears, their lack of imagination, God called them back again and again, until...

I trust God reveals God’s love fully in Jesus Christ. His birth means he is both human and divine, fully able to understand our situation and fully able to deliver us from it. I trust in the kingdom of which he taught in parables and in plain speech where God will make all things right and all things new. I trust that he died on a cross, suspended between earth and sky, to save us from our sin. I trust that God raised him from the grave and received him into heaven to save us from death and despair. I trust that Jesus Christ is Lord and I owe no one or nothing any higher allegiance.

I trust God’s love in Jesus Christ means that death does not have the final word. While I may not know precisely how, I know surely that when I die, he will receive me into his embrace as he has all those before me who believed in him.

I trust God works within and through us even now. The Holy Spirit may burn like a fire to wake us or warm us. The Holy Spirit may blow like a mighty wind to disrupt our well-laid plans. The Holy Spirit may lie just beyond our understanding, but fully knows all we need. The Holy Spirit reigns in our lives here and now and calls us to new life. I trust the Holy Spirit will fill the church and renew our life together, if we give her room.

I trust the Sacrament of Baptism says, “I belong.” Through its waters, God calls us, cleanses us, and claims us as God’s own. I trust the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper announces that Jesus Christ is present with us now in the bread he broke, in the cup he poured. This meal reminds us of his sacrifice, returns us to God, and renews our hope for the day when people will sit together at this Table.

THE REVEREND DR. HOWARD W. BOSWELL, JR.  
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Born in Washington, D.C., I grew up in Arlington, Virginia. Since my father was from North Carolina and my mother was from Washington, D.C., I consider myself a Southerner. While baptized at an Episcopal Church, my mother began attending Little Falls Presbyterian Church where I served as an elder while still in high school.

After graduation from Yorktown High School, I went to Warren Wilson College, a Presbyterian related college in Swannanoa, North Carolina. Since Warren Wilson is a work program college, I worked as a janitor in a dormitory; then, as the Chapel janitor; and finally, in the Work Program Office. Throughout college, I sang in the college choir and acted in theater productions. I received my Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in History and Political Science.

Following Warren Wilson College, I went to Princeton Theological Seminary. During seminary, I had a variety of field education experiences, including a year-long internship at Setauket Presbyterian Church on Long Island. During my internship, I met Bronwen Woodson. During my senior year, we began dating and married on April 27, 1985. At Princeton, my focus was in the areas of Preaching and Communication and Christian Education.

I served as an associate pastor in churches in Texas and Kansas. Then, I served for ten years as pastor at Niles Community Church in a suburb of Chicago. Finally, I served as pastor of Kenmore Presbyterian Church in a suburb of Buffalo. In 2005, I received my Doctor of Ministry from San Francisco Theological Seminary in Christian Spirituality. My dissertation/project advisor and mentor was the late Howard Rice.

Bronwen and I have four adult children. Our oldest, Kate works for the Diocese of Buffalo in their development office. Our twins, Ian and Jamie live in New York City. Ian works in film production and Jamie is an aspiring actor. Our youngest, Rhett attends the University at Buffalo.

Beyond ministry, I enjoy working out. I love to read mysteries and biographies. I like to go to live theater and my children's involvement in theater has expanded my understanding of theater. I love music, especially Bruce Springsteen and Johnny Cash. I watch movies and television.



REV. RICHARD H. HILL  
STATEMENT OF FAITH

In the words of Karl Barth, I believe that “God is.” To try and say more about God is to limit God. Yet, we must try and explain our experience of God. So we come to any descriptions of God and God’s activity with an attitude of humility, recognizing that mere human words cannot begin to describe the awesome Almighty. We also recognize that God is always revealing Godself to us. Our own thoughts and beliefs are in a continuous state of being challenged (Reformed and Always Being Reformed).

I believe that **Jesus Christ** is the Son of God, fully God and fully human. Through Christ, we are redeemed, made holy and invited to participate in God’s Community in both the present world and in the world to come. In Christ, God demonstrates how we are to live with one another, with the Creation and with God. In Christ’s death and resurrection he led the way for us also to die to sin and be resurrected into a new life.

I believe that the **Holy Spirit** is God’s love moving in this world. The Spirit moves in ways that we can comprehend and in ways that are mysterious to us. The Spirit is a powerful force in individuals and in communities. Through God’s Spirit we are able to give and receive love.

I believe that the **Bible** is the story of God’s relationship with the Creation and a record of how humans have responded to God’s presence and activities. It contains truths that are for all times and all places and truths that are for particular times and particular places.

There are five areas that I believe are vital for the Church. Worship is the centerpiece of Church activity. In **Worship** we not only give praise to our Creator, but we also hear about, experience, and are challenged by the Vision of God’s Kingdom. Through **Outreach**, we seek out other members of the larger community inviting them into our faith community. Through **Fellowship** we support, encourage and challenge those in our community to live ever more faithful lives. Through **Education** we learn about the history of God’s relations with all people in general, but also with God’s chosen people in particular. We explore our own beliefs, deepening our faith. Through **Mission** we enact the Kingdom of God for the rest of the world. We become servants, following the example of Christ, willing to give even our lives for others.

**The Sacraments** occur in the space between the participants and the elements. We are invited into that space by Christ and when we enter we encounter the Community of God. When the elements are brought into that space they become more than the mundane – they become a holy sign of God’s love for us and the salvation and vision that God has for us.

In **Baptism** we experience the saving acts of God from the very beginning when God overcame the chaos of the waters and established order bringing forth new life. We experience the freeing of humanity from the bondage of sin when Israel was brought through the waters on their journey to the Promised Land. We experience life giving water flowing from the rocks of the wilderness. We experience the Dove descending on Jesus and the voice proclaiming, “this is my beloved.” In that space between the water and the participants we experience the community of believers joined together as one, living life as God intended - nurturing one another, challenging one another, celebrating the wonderful diversity of life in Christ.

In the **Lord’s Supper** we experience the life of discipleship led by Christ. We experience the saving acts of God when God passed over the chosen ones to bring them through death into life. We experience the providence of God providing food for the wilderness journey. We experience the Community of God where the wolf and the lamb shall lie down together. We experience the Christ who says, “I am the Bread of Life” and “I am the true vine.” We experience the unity of the Body of Christ in the brokenness of the Bread. We experience the amazing grace of God in the cup poured out for us. In the space between the elements and the participants we remember the God who loved the world by giving God’s only Son and we are re-membered, united together with the saints who have gone before, those who are in our present and those who are yet to come.

REV. RICHARD HILL  
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Rick Hill was born and raised in the Philadelphia area. His family was very active in the Wayne Presbyterian Church. When he was young he attended Sunday School and worship services, joining the church in Junior High. Growing up he was active in the Youth Choir and the Youth Fellowship serving in leadership positions in the latter. Music became a large part of his life as he joined with other youth in playing the songs of Simon and Garfunkle, James Taylor, Peter, Paul and Mary and others.

Rick went off to Muskingum College (Ohio) where he majored in Speech and Theatre. He was involved in several theatre productions every year. He continued his musical path running a coffeehouse and playing at events on and off campus. He graduated with a BA in Speech and Theatre.

Following college, Rick took a winding path with a variety of jobs. He volunteered for several years as an Adult Advisor for the Youth Group in which he grew up. Rick worked in sales in a fabric store, as a counselor at a YMCA camp, as a car wash attendant, and as a groundskeeper for a small college.

In 1980 Rick married Judy Roberts and the following year they moved to Virginia where Rick was a DJ at a local radio station and as a carpenter. They attended a small Presbyterian Church that was yoked to two other Presbyterian Churches and an Episcopal Church. The pastors of those churches suggested that Rick might look into attending seminary. So, Rick went to Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education (the two became one a few years ago).

While in Seminary, Rick put together musical chapel services – 4 songs, scripture and a prayer. He took several chapel services and out them into an hour long musical program which he took around to various churches. Someone invited him to lead a Youth Retreat, so Rick expanded on the concert program adding key note, recreation and small group time. Eventually he was doing 15-20 retreats and conferences every year. Glen Bannerman, recreation professor at PSCE, had a significant influence on Rick's style, so everything was very much oriented towards movement and interaction. Music continued to be a huge part of everything with Rick writing and discovering meaningful songs.

Several years after graduating from Union/PSCE Rick was asked to consider a campus ministry position at James Madison University. He had done two retreats for them in the past. He applied for the position and was hired. Music continued to be a major part of his ministry there as he was active in the acoustic music scene on campus and in town. He also was introduced to Leadership Development through JMU's Community Service Learning program. Rick assisted or led a variety of leadership programs for students and staff. He was very involved in developing the Alternative Spring Break Program which garnered national recognition as one of the best Spring Break Programs in the U.S.

After nine years as Presbyterian Campus Minister at JMU, Rick moved to Schoharie New York to serve a small, rural church. He was involved in developing the Youth As Leaders program at the church which helped High School students become better leaders using Sean Covey's book "Highly Effective Teens." Rick's musical talents were employed in a variety of ways including leading singing in worship services, playing in two local bands and performing at a variety of community events. Through Rick's leadership the church put on an annual "Cabaret" under a big tent in the backyard.

After nine years Rick moved to Maryland where he focused on being a full time musician. God's call, however, shifted the focus a bit and he served for one year as Music Leader at a Lutheran Church. He later became pastor of a church in Sykesville for two years. Then he moved to Hagerstown where he has served for 4 ½ years.

Along the way, Rick has learned to play the guitar, hammered dulcimer, upright bass, banjo, fiddle, harp, nyckleharpa and ukulele. He has recorded three CDs and has played up and down the East Coast. He loves putting together creative worship services and often will let the scripture dictate the flow of the service. He brings music from a wide variety of sources both historic and contemporary. "What a long, strange trip it's been!"

## 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

**Church Leadership:** Ruling Elder Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri (Presbytery of Tropical Florida) and the Reverend Cindy Kohlmann (Presbyteries of Boston and Northern New England) were elected Co-Moderators of the 223rd General Assembly (2018).

In other actions involving Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) leadership, the assembly:

- ~ Confirmed the election of the Reverend Diane Moffett as president and executive director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.
- ~ Confirmed the re-election of the Reverend Tom Taylor as president of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation.
- ~ Confirmed the election of Alton B. Pollard III as president of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.



Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri (left) and Cindy Kohlmann (right) Co-Moderators of the 223rd General Assembly

**Fossil Fuel Divestment:** The assembly voted to continue its corporate engagement with fossil fuel companies—through its Mission Responsibility Through Investment Committee (MRTI)—rather than divest from those companies.

**Israel-Palestine/Middle East:** Among its actions, the assembly:

- ~ Asked RE/MAX, LLC, to end its sale and rental of property on occupied, disputed land in East Jerusalem and the West Bank.
- ~ Voiced support for all efforts to bring Palestinians and Israelis together peacefully.
- ~ Asked the state of Israel to fully comply with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in order to stop discriminatory practices; called on the U.S. government to rejoin the United Nations Human Rights Council.
- ~ Condemned the recent violence along the border between Israel and Gaza.

**Per Capita:** The assembly approved a 2019 General Assembly per capita apportionment of \$8.95 per member—an increase of \$1.25 (or 15.8 percent) per member over 2018, which includes the ongoing work of General Assembly and the amount (\$643,000) the assembly added by the actions it took. In other per capita-related actions, the assembly:

- ~ Approved, in a slightly amended form, an overture from the Presbytery of Newton to establish a team of twelve to fifteen persons to “review the current per capita-based system of funding the ministry of councils higher than the session, for financial sustainability into the next ten years.”
- ~ Asked the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly and the Office of the General Assembly to explore ways of reducing the cost of future General Assemblies.

**The Way Forward:** The assembly overwhelmingly approved the report of The Way Forward Commission, which was created by the 222nd General Assembly (2016) “to discern the vision for structure and function of our denomination.” The Way Forward Commission was joined by the All-Agency Review Committee in many of its recommendations. The assembly also created a Moving Forward Implementation Team to ensure follow-through of the actions taken and to make “mid-course corrections” between now and the 224th General Assembly (2020). For additional actions, view **page four** of the [Shenandoah Press July/August issue](https://www.pcusa.org/news/2018/6/20/way-forward-vision-2020-reports-approved) or visit one of these PC(USA) webpages: <https://www.pcusa.org/news/2018/6/20/way-forward-vision-2020-reports-approved>; <https://www.pcusa.org/news/2018/6/21/commissioners-overwhelmingly-approve-way-forward-p/>.

**Racism/Poverty/Violence:** The assembly engaged in various acts of public witness that sought to engage issues of racism, poverty, and violence in St. Louis under the umbrella of Stated Clerk J. Herbert Nelson, II’s, Hands and Feet initiative. The offering from the opening worship service raised more than \$54,000, which after a march by assembly-goers on Tuesday afternoon, was given to ArchDefenders, a faith-based group that bails low-level offenders out of jail. Nearly three dozen people were released from custody with the money.

A few of the other actions of the assembly:

- ~ Initiated the process of possibly including Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" in the *Book of Confessions*.
- ~ Strongly condemned "the unjust, racist disparagement of people and entire nations" and committed the PC(USA) to "a collective effort to solve the real problems facing our nation and the world."
- ~ Changed the church's nomenclature from "racial ethnic people" to "people of color"...
- ~ Called for an immediate moratorium on the imposition of the death penalty and for the commutation of all death sentences to sentences of life imprisonment.

To view full list, visit **page four** of the [Shenandoah Press July/August issue](#); or for more information, visit <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/acswp/>.

**Immigration:** The assembly called upon the federal government to end family separations at the U.S.-Mexico border, to immediately reunite parents with their children, to inform every parent where their children are being held and their condition, to stop using separation of children from their parents as a tactic to force criminal confessions; and called upon Presbyterians to support immigrant families, particularly parents and their separated children in any ways they can. The assembly also addressed war, violence, and human rights in Central America (particularly Nicaragua), South Sudan, Yemen, Syria, Madagascar, and the Korean Peninsula.

**Gun Violence:** The assembly reaffirmed previous General Assembly policies designed to reduce gun violence, called all Presbyterians to pray for a movement of the Spirit to engage Presbyterians in nationwide actions to prevent gun violence, and urged them to create opportunities to study the issue of gun violence, with an emphasis on resources produced by the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship.

### **Shenandoah Presbytery Commissioners to the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly**

Below are the names and contact information of the commissioners at General Assembly. We have also listed what each commissioner will be speaking on at the August Presbytery Meeting. You may contact them for questions regarding GA, or to invite them to speak at your church.

Donna Lanaghan, Communications Administrator/Alternate Ruling Elder, Timber Ridge Church

[shenpres@shenpres.org](mailto:shenpres@shenpres.org)

Asher Arey, Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD), Massanutten Church – YAAD Experience

[lashwarey@gmail.com](mailto:lashwarey@gmail.com)

Patrick Lanaghan, Teaching Elder, Timber Ridge Church – Process and Polity

[pastortimberridge@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimberridge@gmail.com)

Rick Comstock, Ruling Elder, Trinity Church – Social Justice

[rlgc10001@gmail.com](mailto:rlgc10001@gmail.com)

Don Baker, Ruling Elder, Moorefield Church – Additional Opportunities

[djbaker@hardynet.com](mailto:djbaker@hardynet.com)

Debra McKune, Teaching Elder, Falling Waters Church – Spirituality and Hospitality

[pastormckune@gmail.com](mailto:pastormckune@gmail.com)

Bronwen Boswell, General Presbytery/Stated Clerk – Per Capita

[presbytersc@shenpres.org](mailto:presbytersc@shenpres.org)

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS (CN)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Presbytery elect the following to serve:

Committee on Church Vitality and Transformation

Class of 2018: TE John Haney

Committee on Mission and Outreach

Class of 2020: TE Reed Hopkins

Committee on Presbytery Administration

Class of 2020: TE Clayton Rascoe

Synod Commissioner

Class of 2019: TE Andy Wing

## COMMITTEE ON CHURCH VITALITY AND TRANSFORMATION (CCVT)

Stated Purpose of CCVT: To provide processes and support for congregations that have an identified need, willingness, and ability to engage in spiritual and/or programmatic growth which can lead to deeper commitment both within and beyond current membership.

CCVT Members: David Witt, chair; Phil Sommer, vice-chair; Rick Comstock, Ed Dawkins, Malcolm Brownlee, Tracie Martin, Julie Ritchie, Karen Thatcher; Nancy Meehan Yao, Associate General Presbyter, Staff Support

### **Report to the Meeting of Shenandoah Presbytery – Saturday, August 25, 2018**

#### **Phase #2: *Forward Leadership* through Holy Cow/Crows Feet Consulting**

The purpose of Phase #2 is to develop and implement a methodology specific to our presbytery that incorporates education and coaching of congregations around an adaptive change methodology. *Forward Leadership* uses each congregation's CAT data as well as organizational intelligence research to cultivate congregations that are ready to respond to their data by making necessary changes to become vital. This includes selecting "Hearth & Home" congregations that have run the CAT or are willing to run the CAT and are looking to move from data to discernment/strategic planning. It involves those congregations meeting as a cohort and focusing on "Flexibility Boot Camp," "Adaptive Change vs. Technical Change," and "Crucial Conversations and Next Steps." CCVT has already paid for this. Coaching, at the congregations cost, would occur between meetings. We are pleased to announce that we called fourteen different congregations to participate and the following six have agreed to participate in this first cohort: Bethesda, Bloomery, Broadway, Loch Willow, Mt. Carmel, and Sunnyside. Our starting date is Saturday, September 22, 2018, as representatives from those congregations will gather for sharing about ministry, adaptive change, and planning. Follow-up conversations will occur in December and March.

A second strategic planning retreat for Opequon Church was held on Saturday, June 16, following the initial retreat on Saturday, April 7. Opequon Church is serving as a pilot project in using the CAT interpreted data for larger application in a visioning process. Several representatives from the presbytery and from other congregations have attended, observed, and participated in these Opequon leadership retreats incorporating elders, deacons, and staff.

#### **Shared Ministry**

We continue to emphasize the essential nature of CCVT, CRM, CPT and its leadership, along with CCND to a certain degree, meeting regularly and thinking forward. We have definite areas that overlap and intersect, especially now as we relate to Holy Cow/Crows Feet and use the CAT for strategic planning as well as pastoral transitions.

**Today, we are honored and privileged to "spotlight" Covenant Presbyterian Church of Staunton, Virginia as members share about its growing mission and ministry as one of our presbytery's larger churches.**

COORDINATING AND PLANNING COMMISSION (CPC)

I. FOR INFORMATION:

CPC met on July 24 and heard reports from all committees.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

Approved honoring the background checks that have been performed by the Warrenton Church for the upcoming August 25 Presbytery meeting childcare.

III. RECOMMENDATION:

That Presbytery elect Ruling Elder Heidi Rutz of Front Royal Church to the Nominating Committee, Class of 2018.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (CER)

I. FOR INFORMATION:

Rev. April Cranford will join the Commission Ruling Elder planning team as a CER representative for the fall and spring workshops.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Approved 2019 CER Budget remains the same as 2018.
- B. Approved \$5,000 for SPYCE from Blue Funds.
- C. Approved \$300 per college scholarship applicant was approved - 23 applicants totaling \$6,900 from Blue Funds (\$2,594.13, Brown Hogshead (\$605.33), McClung (\$2,881.32), Grafton (\$989.77)- leaving \$170.55 in funds.



## REPORTS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

### COMMITTEE ON RELATIONAL MINISTRY (CRM)

#### I. FOR INFORMATION:

The Committee on Relational Ministry and the Committee on Pastoral Transition held a joint meeting the morning of July 12, 2018. Among the items discussed was the need for clarification such as, temporary pastoral relationships; the distinction between churches in transition and those seemingly in ‘permanent transition;’, deployment and oversight of commissioned ruling elders; committee descriptions vs the work being done; and reactive/proactive relationships. Concerns voiced from the committee members were: mentoring new pastors; clarifying the process when a pastor leaves; increase communication between the committees when a pastor is leaving; and what does “transition” really mean.

Expectations from the committee members include pastoral education events, and annual committee retreats.

Nancy Meehan Yao briefed the group on the current churches undergoing Holy Cow CATs or Conversations and the follow-up process. Holy Cow consultants voiced the thoughts and ideas of the churches that have completed a CAT or Conversation.

The church list was reviewed, and congregations sorted into the following categories: installed, long-term supply, basic pastoral services, and transition.

#### II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Approved renewing the contract between the Oxford Session and Teaching Elder Horace Douty through December 31, 2018.
- B. Approved renewing the contract between the Ben Salem Session and Teaching Elder Robert Miles, Jr. from April 1, 2018-February 28, 2019.
- C. Approved renewing the contract between the Bloomery Session and Ruling Elder David Omps from May 14, 2018-May 15, 2019.
- D. Approved renewing the contract between the Fairfield Session and Teaching Elder Helen “Punker” Robertson from July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019.
- E. Approved renewing the parish associate contract between the Trinity Session and Teaching Elder Kate Rascoe from June 6, 2018-June 5, 2019.
- F. Approved extending the commissioned ruling elder contract between the Buckton Session and Commissioned Ruling Elder Jean Steidel through August 26, 2018.
- G. Approved renewing the supply pastor contract between the Clear Brook and Highland Memorial sessions and Charly Franks from August 1, 2018-July 31, 2019.
- H. Approved renewing the parish associate contract between the Lexington Session and Teaching Elder Deborah Klein through December 31, 2018.

Volunteer Service to Shenandoah Presbytery

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_  Ruling Elder    \_\_\_  Teaching Elder    \_\_\_  Retired

I am interested in serving God through Shenandoah Presbytery in the following ways:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

I am currently serving in Shenandoah Presbytery in the following ways:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

## Opportunities to Serve in Shenandoah Presbytery

### Committee on Church Vitality and Transformation (CCVT)

Purpose: To provide processes and support for congregations that have an identified need, willingness, and ability to engage in spiritual and/or programmatic growth which can lead to deeper commitment both within and beyond current membership.

### Committee on Educational Resources (CER)

Purpose: To provide education and resources in the areas of stewardship, children's ministry, youth and young adult ministry, evangelism, social justice issues, and other areas related to congregational ministry through the use of specialized teams and regional and presbytery-wide training events.

### Committee on Mission and Outreach (CMO)

Purpose: Coordinate and oversee local, national, and international mission work through congregations and mission communities. CMO will provide information, resources, encouragement and support.

### Committee on New Congregational Development (CNCD)

Purpose: To formulate and implement a comprehensive plan for location, funding, and development of new congregations and new worshipping communities within the bounds of the presbytery.

### Committee on Nominations (CN)

Purpose: To nominate to Presbytery individuals to serve on presbytery committees, adhering to established norms of committee membership and representation including vacancies, chairs and vice-chairs; and to nominate persons to serve on presbytery's PJC and as commissioners to Synod and General Assembly meetings.

### Committee on Pastoral Transition (CPT)

Purpose: To fulfill all Book of Order and Presbytery Manual responsibilities related to oversight of and guidance to churches and pastors in the process of moving from one pastor/congregation relationship to another. These responsibilities include work related to dissolving pastoral relationships, working with churches in all processes leading to the next pastor call, and examining teaching elders for readiness and suitability to receive calls.

### Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

Purpose: To oversee the care and examination of inquirers and candidates for ministry, inform sessions of the process for inquiry and candidacy, and conduct examinations of candidates seeking calls within the bounds of this presbytery.

### Committee on Presbytery Administration (CPA)

Purpose: To oversee the management of presbytery funds, property, and staff.

### Committee on Relational Ministry (CRM)

Purpose: To fulfill all Book of Order and Presbytery Manual responsibilities related to oversight of and assistance to churches and teaching elders in their ministry. These responsibilities include all matters related to matriculation of new pastors, periodic visits with sessions and pastors, support for clergy wellness and continuing education.

### Committee on Representation (COR)

Purpose: To advise the Presbytery with respect to membership of its committees and to the employment of its personnel per Book of Order G-3.0103.