

Highlights of the 197<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of Shenandoah Presbytery  
May 20, 2023  
Third Presbyterian Church, Staunton

It was wonderful to be together in person for this meeting of presbytery. We welcomed Sy Hughes, our PCUSA Ministry Engagement & Support liaison who brought greetings and reminded us of the upcoming Pentecost offering.

Associate General Presbyter TE Nancy Meehan Yao led the yearly review of our *Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy* and the *Background Check and Boundary Training Policy*. Thank you, Nancy!

TE Jaci Smith Patman, Interim pastor at Hermitage Presbyterian Church preached an engaging sermon entitled “The Church as the Crossroad” challenging us all to “commit to your adventure with God!” The offering taken is to support scholarships for women entering ministry at the Terfa Jarso Seminary in Ethiopia. A seminary in our partner synod in Ethiopia.

Committee on Presbytery Administration recommended a gift of \$125,000 from the sale of the presbytery office building to the Massanetta Springs capital campaign “Building a Place for All”. It was approved enthusiastically!

The Committee on Preparation for Ministry introduced Kimberly Shank, a new candidate under our care for ministry.

The Committee on Relational Ministry recommended allowing the Middletown congregation to sell the Cedar Creek Chapel. passed

General Presbyter – Stated Clerk TE Bronwen Boswell shared statistics and trends concerning churches and ministers in the presbytery as well as nationally asking that we think about different models and ways of being church going forward.

Committee on New Church Development made two recommendations for the Community Cup, the new worshipping community in Martinsburg. Both passed.

Moderator, TE April Cranford led the commissioning service for RE Tina Glenn to the Goshen Church.

The amendments to the Book of Order that were pulled from the February meeting were debated and voted upon, all passed. The amendments to the constitution have now been passed by the majority of the presbyteries and the new Book of Order will be available sometime in July.

I was also asked to share that TE Howard Boswell wore a lovely pink floral tie because men can and do wear pink!