

**Minutes of the
197th Stated Session**

**of the
PRESBYTERY OF SHENANDOAH**

**May 20, 2023
Staunton Third Church**

NEXT STATED SESSIONS

**Tuesday, August 22
Via Zoom**

**Saturday, November 4
In-person
Location to be determined**

SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY IS A COVENANT BODY WHERE:

- » **congregations are empowered to be centers for mission,**
- » **lay persons are equipped to be Disciples of Christ in a challenging world,**
- » **church leaders and members are nurtured and strengthened for service,**
- » **open communication and information are used constructively and creatively to keep us connected.**

**SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY
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SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY CORPORATION
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Current Officers

Kenneth Miller, President
James Lunde, Vice President
Alan Garrison, Secretary
Linnea J. Spradlin, Treasurer

Advisory Members

Brown Edwards & Company, LLP,

CANDIDATES FOR MINISTRY OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Mark Dewey	Home Church – Winchester First
Kimberly Shank	Home Church – Mossy Creek
Bobby “Chance” Snell	Home Church – Tinkling Spring

INQUIRERS FOR MINISTRY OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Hannah Altman	Home Church - Warrenton
Benjamin Kent	Home Church – Warrenton
Deborah Romano	Home Church - Shepherdstown
Cassandra Semler	Home Church – Tuscarora

GOVERNING BODIES

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**PRESBYTERY OF SHENANDOAH
MINUTES OF THE 197th STATED MEETING**

The 197th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Shenandoah was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 20, 2023. Moderator April Cranford led in prayer.

QUORUM AND ENROLLMENT

The Stated Clerk reported that a quorum was present. The final enrollment was as follows:

Adm	Administrator	DYP	Director, Youth Program	P	Pastor
Asst	Assistant	ED	Educator	Prof	Professor
Assoc	Associate	HR	Honorably Retired	Supply	Supply
Chap	Chaplain	IA	Interim Associate	Stu	Student
CM	Campus Minister	IN	Inactive	T	Teacher
COP	Co-Pastors	IP	Interim Pastor	TM	Tent Making
Coun	Counselor	MAL	Minister-at-Large	VM	Validated Ministry
DP	Designated Pastor	OM	Overseas Missionary	WC	Without Charge

(Description code for attendance: P = present E = excused A = absent L = Livestream)

E	Allen, Donald R., Jr.	HR		
E	Atwood, Roxana M.	HR		
A	Barner, Ann Elizabeth	HR		
A	Barner, Fred Thomas	HR		
E	Bethard, John T.	P	Charles Town	Absent
E	Blunk, Joel T.	VM		
P	Boswell, Bronwen W.	GP/SC		
P	Boswell, Howard W., Jr.	P	Buena Vista	Absent
E	Boyer, Grace Jones	HR		
E	Brandon, Joseph C.	HR		
E	Bridgman, Stewart G.	HR		
E	Brownlee, J. Malcolm	HR		
P	Bunker, Jonathan W.	P	Berryville	Elizabeth Coberly
E	Burkley, Julia H.	AP	Opequon	
A	Burnett, Dennis D.	HR		
E	Caperton, William G.	HR		
E	Carr, Gwendolyn B.	Supply	Buffalo Gap, Craigsville	
		PA	Trinity	
P	Carrico, Thomas J., Jr.	P	Finley Memorial	Absent
E	Cathcart, C. Stevens	HR		
E	Channell, Kevin J.	P	Petersburg	Absent
P	Clark, Casey R.	COP	New Monmouth	Absent
A	Clark, Rachel F.	COP	New Monmouth	
A	Conrad, Scott A.	Supply	Hot Springs & Millboro	
A	Corder, William "Lee"	ML		
E	Cornish, Homer T.	HR		
E	Cox, C. William	HR		
P	Craft, John K.	P	Bethany	Absent
P	Cranford, April H.	P	Westminster	Bethany Popelish
A	Crannell, J. Scott	ML		
E	Crumley, Rachel	P	Tuscarora	Eric Hulett
P	Cushwa, John W.	HR/Supply	Falling Waters	
A	Dax, Betty G.	HR		
E	Dent, William H., Jr.	HR		
E	Dietrich, Richard S.	HR		
P	Ditzel, Andrew J.	P	Lexington	Patricia Wiese
E	Donohoe, Patricia A.	HR		
E	Douty, Horace D.	HR		
E	Edwards, Karen S.	ML		

A Evans, Caroline B.	P	Front Royal	Ruth Younk
E Evans, George W.	HR		
E Everhart, William G.	Chap	Westminster-Canterbury	
P Farthing, Stanley H.	P	Augusta Stone	Tim Wade
E Fetterman, Amy	ML		
E Fisher, Merle L., Jr.	HR		
E Forbes, Thomas H.	HR/Supply	Bunker Hill	
E Franklin, John S.	HR		
E Goodman, William R., Jr.	HR		
E Goshorn, Robert D.	HR		
P Greenawalt, Karen J.	P	Gerrardstown	Absent
E Groome, Thomas P., III	HR		
P Hamburger, Rachel E.	Supply	Smyrna	
A Harmon, Melissa L.	ML		
P Hay, Kevin W.	P	Middletown	Loretta McDonald
E Hay, Thomas D.	HR		
P Held, Ann Reed	HR		
E Hellmuth, Barton L.	HR		
E Hendy, Susanna	ML		
A Hill, Richard H.	HR		
A Hill, Robert S., Jr.	HR		
P Hill, Sarah L.	HR/Supply	Mt. Carmel	
E Holben, Sara A.	HR		
E Holden, Thomas J., III	HR		
E Hopkins, E. Reed	P	Loch Willow	Robert Masincup
E Howard, Carl D.	HR		
P Howard, David D.	P	Strasburg	Kathryn Volpini-Holland
A Hoy, Caitilin R.	ML		
A Hunt, Patricia	HR		
P Hutcheson, Fletcher, Jr.	P	Circleville Seneca Rocks	Absent Absent
A Inglis, J. Leslie	HR		
E Johns, James E.	HR		
E Kave, Jacob R.	ML		
E Klein, Deborah H.	HR		
E Klein, William M.	HR		
P Lanaghan, Patrick R.	HR		
P Langdon, J. Bradford	HR/Supply	Tabler	
A LaPrade, Lester N., Jr.	HR		
A Lawton, James S.	HR		
E Lown, John W.	HR		
E Lowrance, William J.	HR		
E Lunde, James E., II	P	Warrenton	Absent
E Macbeth, Bruce A.	HR		
A Martin, Tracie E.	PA	Opequon	
A McCoig, Dan M., Jr.	P	Winchester First	Absent Absent
P McDonald, John L.	IP	Mt. Horeb	
E Mitchell, Loren T.	P	New Providence	Absent
E Moore, William L.	OM		
E Newman, Howard A.	HR		
P Newquist, Gusti L.	P	Shepherdstown	Mary Ellen Lloyd
A Noll, Frederick E.	HR		
P Normington, Seth A.	P	Cooks Creek	Absent
A Osborne, Robert S.	HR		
A Ott, Teresa M.	VM		
E Owen, Jan G.	HR		
E Painter, William L., Jr.	HR		
P Pattison, Carl F.	HR		

E Peterson, John C.	P	Covenant	Linda Foster Kristen Lambert Julia Sensabaugh
P Pettit, Ann R.	COP	Massanutten	
P Pettit, Patrick S.	IP	Waynesboro First	
A Phillips, Keith A.	COP	Massanutten	
A Poland, Ernest L. Jr.	Supply	Second Opequon	
E Pollock, Richard	HR		
A Potter, Ronald R.	HR		
E Price, Norman G.	HR		
A Pyles, Elizabeth A.	P	McDowell	Absent
P Rascoe, Clayton T.	VM	Massanetta Springs	
P Rascoe, Kathryn R.	IP	Bridgewater	
E Rhyne, C. Thomas	HR		
P Robertson, Helen	Supply	Fairfield & Williamsville	
A Ryan, Patrick S.	P	Tinkling Spring	Absent
A Sale, M. Anderson	HR		
A Shearer, J. David	ML		
A Sherman, H. Wray	HR		
A Sieck, Philip L.	HR		
A Singleton, Jacob R.	P	Staunton Third	Absent
E Slider, C. Richard II	HR		
E Smith, Alexa A.	ML		
E Smith, Evan R.	P	Staunton Second	Absent
P Smith, James M.	P	Mossy Creek	Absent
E Smith, Nancy A.	HR		
P Smith Patman, Jacqueline	IP	Hermitage	
E Smith, Vanessa M.	P	Hedgesville	Excused
A Sommer, Philip W.	HR		
E Sorge, Stephanie	P	Trinity	Kandy Grant
E Stanley, Arthur L.	HR		
E Stephens, Millard M.	HR		
A Summers-Minette, Teresa L.	HR		
E Symons, Charles D., Jr.	HR		
P Thomas, Aaron Lee	P	Olivet	Absent
A Thomas, Amanda M.	AP	Winchester First	
A Thornton, Joel P.	P	Ivanhoe Wardensville	Absent Absent
A Tongen, Harold M.	HR		
E Tremba, Randall W.	HR		
P Vaughan, Robert C.	P	Romney	Kathy Kuykendall
E Vernon, Joseph H. J.	HR		
A von Oeyen, Jr., Robert	HR		
A Watkins, John M.	HR		
E Whiteley, Nancy S.	HR		
E Wilkers, Jack B.	HR		
A Wilson, Joan M.	HR		
E Wilson, Stanton R.	HR		
E Wing, Andrew P.	VM		
P Witt, David R.	P	Opequon	Susan Ritter Absent
P Yao, James C.	P	Moorefield	Absent
P Yao, Nancy Meehan	AGP		
A Young, James M.	HR		

CHURCHES WITHOUT INSTALLED PASTORS

Ben Salem	Absent
Berkeley Springs	Brice Williams
Bethel	Absent
Bethesda	Absent
Beulah	Julia Blanchard

Bloomery	Excused
Bridgewater	Mary Kay Adams
Broadway	Absent
Buckton	Excused
Buffalo Gap	Absent
Bunker Hill	Excused
Burlington	Excused
Burnt	Absent
Clear Brook	Absent
Collierstown	Absent
Craigsville	Absent
Elk Branch	Absent
Elkton	Excused
Fairfield	John Hostetter
Falling Waters	Bill Lawrenson
Franklin	Absent
Glen Kirk	Absent
Goshen	Absent
Halltown	Absent
Hebron	Hannah Bush
Hermitage	Nancy Mader
Highland Memorial	Absent
Hot Springs	Absent
Immanuel	Absent
Keyser	Absent
Little Falls	Absent
McCutchen	Absent
Millboro	Absent
Monterey	Tate Dunn
Mount Carmel	Elliott Boyd
Mount Hope	Absent
Mount Horeb	Absent
Mount Joy	Absent
Mount Olive	Absent
Mount Storm	Absent
Nineveh	Karen Devor
Oxford	Absent
Piedmont	Absent
Pines Chapel	Absent
Rocky Spring	Absent
Ruddle	Absent
Second Opequon	Absent
Slanesville	Denise Rouse
Smyrna	Anne Flory
Springfield	Excused
Staunton First	Absent
Sunnyside	Judy Symons
Tabler	Debra Morgan
Timber Ridge	Art Kuehne
Tomahawk	Jennifer Beidler
Union	Absent
Waynesboro First	Betsy Ruehl
Waynesboro Second	Dawn Coffey
Williamsville	Absent
Woodstock	Absent
Zetta	Larry Lawhorn

VOTING RULING ELDERS:

Commissioned Ruling Elders

P Deborah Beam	A Michele Elliott	P Tina Glenn
A Stephanie Harris	P Judy Hensley	E Mark Johnson
E David Omgs	A Macarthur Payne	E Linda Reece
P Bobby Spurgeon	A Paul Wolverton	

Voting Ruling Elders of Presbytery Staff or Coordinating and Planning Commission (CPC):

P Donna Lanaghan, Staff	P William North, CPC
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NON-VOTING VISITORS:

Candidates

Kimberly Shank, Mossy Creek

Visiting Ministers

Colleen Earp, Massanetta Springs

Presbytery Staff

Kim Stroupe

Displays

Sy Hughes, PCUSA Mission Agency

Visitors

Janna Howard

Donna Jordon

Fred Mader

Mary Pollock

Teaching Elders = 35 Voting Ruling Elders = 41 Additional Guests = 8 TOTAL = 84

WELCOME

The Moderator welcomed everyone to Third Church in Staunton for the 197th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery. Sy Hughes, the PCUSA Mission Engagement & Support liaison, brought greetings and reminded the Body of the upcoming Pentecost offering.

DOCKET

Teaching Elder Nancy Meehan Yao requested the review of the *Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy* and the *Background Check and Boundary Training Policy* be moved from the Committee on Educational Resources to her reporting time. The docket was approved as revised. See page 42.

STATED CLERK REPORT

Teaching Elder Bronwen Boswell gave the following report, *which was approved*:

I. FOR INFORMATION:

- A. Please see page 67 for informational reports from the Committee on Pastoral Transition and the Coordinating and Planning Commission.
- B. An Investigating Committee has been formed to inquire about possible disciplinary measures.
- C. The 2022 minutes of church sessions have been read as reported on page 43.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS: (*all approved*)

- 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 February 28, 2023, Presbytery Meeting as distributed.

- C. The annual reports of ministers, candidates, inquirers, DCE's and churches for the year December 31, 2022, as found on pages 44-45.
- D. The statistical reports summary for the year ending December 31, 2022, as found on pages 46-49.
- E. That Presbytery approve the minutes of the Commission to Install Teaching Elder Andrew Ditzel as found on page 50.

ASSOCIATE GENERAL PRESBYTER

Teaching Elder Nancy Meehan Yao led the yearly review of the *Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy* and the *Background Check and Boundary Training Policy*. The policies can be found:

<https://shenpres.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/2022/06/Sexual-Misconduct-Policy-05-2022.pdf>

<https://shenpres.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/2022/06/Background-Checks-Boundary-Training-Policy-05-2022.pdf>

WORSHIP

Worship included many participants from across the Presbytery reading scripture, leading in prayer and music. Teaching Elder Jaci Smith Patman, interim pastor at Hermitage Church, preached an engaging sermon entitled "The Church at the Crossroad" from Hebrews 11:1, 8-10 and Genesis 11:31-12:5a. The offering taken is to support scholarships for women entering ministry at the Terfa Jarso Seminary in Ethiopia.

COMMITTEE ON PRESBYTERY ADMINISTRATION

Teaching Elder Fletcher Hutcheson, Chair, referenced their written report found on pages 52-54 and made the following recommendation:

That Presbytery approve a donation of \$125,000 from the sale of the office property to the Massanetta Springs campaign "Building a Place for All".

Teaching Elders Ann Pettit and David Witt spoke about their personal experiences at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center and introduced a video for the campaign.

The above recommendation was approved. Teaching Elder Clayton Rascoe, Executive Director, thanked the Presbytery for the generous donation.

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Teaching Elder David Witt, Co-Chair, gave the following report, *which was approved*:

RECOMMENDATION:

That Presbytery approve the following to serve:

Committee on New Congregational Development

Class of 2024: TE Rachel Hamburger, Supply at Smyrna Church

Class of 2025: TE Kevin Hay, Middletown Church
TE Andrew Ditzel, Lexington Church

Committee on Presbytery Administration

Class of 2025: RE Tom Van Meter, Nineveh Church

Committee on Relational Ministry

Class of 2025: TE Sara Holben, Honorably Retired
TE Stan Farthing, Augusta Stone

Permanent Judicial Commission

Class of 2025: RE Kathy Baker, Westminster Church

There were no nominations from the floor.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

Teaching Elder Kate Rascoe, Chair, referenced their written report found on page 55.

Teaching Elder Jim Yao introduced Kimberly Shank who was recently moved to candidacy by the Committee. Ms. Shank was asked how her personal and cultural background relates to the Ministry of the Word and Sacrament.

There were no questions from the floor. TE Rascoe led in prayer for Kimberly's ministry.

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONAL MINISTRY

Teaching Elder Howard Boswell, Chair, referenced their written report found on page 56.

The following recommendations were approved:

- A. That Presbytery approve the 2023 Changes in Terms of Call as found on pages 57-60.
- B. That Presbytery grant permission to Middletown Presbyterian Church to sell the Cedar Creek Chapel. (See pages 61-62)
- C. That Presbytery grant the status of honorable retirement to Teaching Elder Patrick Lanaghan effective May 1, 2023.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Teaching Elder Tommy Carrico, Chair, referenced the written report on pages 63. TE Carrico noted that college scholarships are due June 1 and circulated Peacemaking Grant applications.

STATE OF THE PRESBYTERY

General Presbyter, 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 MISSION AND OUTREACH

Commissioned Ruling Elder Bobby Spurgeon, Chair, noted the excitement surrounding the offering for the Terfa Jarso Seminary and challenged everyone to take that excitement back to their congregations to help further the ministry of women in Ethiopia. (See page 64 for a written report.)

COMMITTEE ON NEW CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teaching Elder Karen Greenawalt, Chair, shared background information on the two new worshiping communities, Church of the Wild and Community Cup and More.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. That Presbytery endow CNCD with administrative commission authority to establish a 501c3 for the Worshiping Community of the Community Cup and More, set up a board of directors, and serve as the ~~session~~ leadership for the NWC until the new congregation is established and able to provide leadership for the congregation and Coffee Shop.

A motion from the floor was made, seconded, and carried to substitute the word "session" with "leadership".

The recommendation was approved as amended.

- B. That Presbytery approve the pastor of the Community Cup and More to be an employee of Presbytery in order to receive the Board of Pensions grant offered to NWC pastors. This grant pays all Board of Pension costs for up to 3 years, 4th year 66 2/3% and 5th year 33 1/3 % as long as the pastor works 20 hours a week.

The recommendation was approved as written.

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH VITALITY AND TRANSFORMATION

Teaching Elder Jaci Smith Patman, Chair, referenced their report on page 66 noting the final meeting with Pneumatrix will be May 24 with the possibility of the cohort to continue informally to exchange ideas and to encourage one another.

RULING ELDER COMMISSIONED

Ruling Elder Tina Glenn was commissioned through December 31, 2025, for service at the Goshen Church.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

At our meeting on February 28, 2023, the Presbytery approved the proposed amendments *except* for the following:

- 22-A F-1.0302c THE CATHOLICITY OF THE CHURCH (POL-16 1a)
- 22-B F-1.0404 OPENNESS (POL-16 1b)
- 22-E G-2.0503 CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP (POL-07)
- 22-I G-2.0804 TERMS OF CALL (HSB-06)
- 22-P G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION (POL-10)

Teaching Elder Bronwen Boswell, Stated Clerk, led the Body through the above proposed amendments and each were voted on individually and *all were approved*.

ADJOURNMENT


The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. with prayer by the Moderator. The Presbytery will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, August 22, 2023.

April Cranford, Moderator

Bronwen Boswell, Stated Clerk

Kim Stroupe, Recording Clerk

DOCKET

- 9:30 a.m. Call to Order & Prayer
- 9:35 a.m. Determining a Quorum
Procedural Rules
Welcome, Introduction of Guests, and Seating of Corresponding Members
Adoption of the Docket
Report of the Stated Clerk – TE Bronwen Boswell
Report of the Associate General Presbyter – TE Nancy Meehan Yao
Annual review of the *Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy* and the
Background Check and Boundary Training Policy
- 9:50 a.m. Worship
- QR code for online giving
Terfa Jarso Seminary in Ethiopia
for women in ministry
- 
- 10:35 a.m. Committee on Nominations – TE David Witt, Co-Chair
- 10:40 a.m. Committee on Presbytery Administration – TE Fletcher Hutcheson, Chair
Campaign for Massanetta Springs – TE David Witt & TE Ann Pettit
- 11:00 a.m. Committee on Preparation for Ministry – TE Kate Rascoe, Chair
New Candidate Kimberly Shank
- 11:20 a.m. Committee on Relational Ministry – TE Howard Boswell, Chair
- 11:35 a.m. Committee on Educational Resources – TE Tommy Carrico, Chair
- 11:50 a.m. State of the Presbytery – TE Bronwen Boswell, General Presbyter
- 12:00 p.m. Committee on Mission and Outreach – CRE Bobby Spurgeon, Chair
- 12:05 p.m. Committee on New Congregational Development – TE Karen Greenawalt, Chair
- 12:15 p.m. Committee on Church Vitality and Transformation – TE Jaci Smith Patman, Chair
- 12:20 p.m. Commissioning of Tina Glenn to the Goshen Church – TE April Cranford, Moderator
- 12:25 p.m. Proposed Amendments to the Book of Order – TE Bronwen Boswell, Stated Clerk
- 12:45 p.m. Anticipated Adjournment

Session Minute Reading Report for 2022

Clerks from around the presbytery participated in one of four gatherings held this spring. Thank you to all who gathered, learned, and helped one another. Thank you to our host churches, Opequon, Massanutten, Third Staunton and Petersburg.

March 18, 2023 – Opequon

No Exceptions - Bloomery, Bunker Hill, Burnt, Front Royal, Gerrardstown, Little Falls, Mt Storm, Mt Hope, Opequon, Tabler, Tuscarora, Wardensville, Warrenton, Woodstock, Elk Branch, Middletown, Berkely Springs, Falling Waters, Hedgesville

Exceptions - Buckton, Charles Town, Ivanhoe, Romney, Slanesville, First Winchester, Clear Brook, Shepherdstown

March 25, 2023 – Massanutten

No Exceptions - Bethesda, Bridgewater, Elkton, Franklin, Massanutten, Mossy Creek, Mt. Carmel, New Monmouth, Trinity, Nineveh

Exceptions - Berryville, Broadway, Ruddle

April 22, 2023 – Staunton Third

No Exceptions - Beulah, Cooks Creek, Covenant, Fairfield, Loch Willow, Monterey, Olivet, Oxford, Rocky Spring, Timber Ridge, Tinkling Spring, Staunton Third, Union, Waynesboro First, Waynesboro Second, Westminster, Zetta

Exceptions - Augusta Stone, Bethany, Collierstown, Hebron, Hermitage, hot Springs, Lexington, Millboro, New Providence, Staunton First

May 6, 2023 – Petersburg

No Exceptions – Petersburg

Exceptions – Moorefield, Piedmont, Springfield

There are 26 churches yet to have their minutes read.

Bronwen W. Boswell, Stated Clerk

ANNUAL REPORT
PRESBYTERY OF SHENANDOAH

The Presbytery of Shenandoah respectfully reports to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic for the year ending December 31, 2022, that it consists of 141 ministers, 98 churches, 10 chapels, 9,191 communicants and has under its care 2 Candidates for the Ministry of the Word and 5 Inquirers for the Ministry of the Word.

MINISTERS

Received

Joel T. Blunk
Dennis D. Burnett
Andrew J. Ditzel
Karen S. Edwards
Rachel E. Hamburger
Sara A. Holben
Teresa M. Ott
Carl F. Pattison
Jacqueline Smith Patman
James R. M. Young

Date

December 8
September 1
July 15
November 10
November 10
December 8
December 8
January 1
June 1
April 7

Dismissed

Karen H. Allamon
George W. Chapman
Joseph F. Condro
B. Ronald Gilmer
Elizabeth Lewis
Debra Y. McKune
Kelly-Ann Rayle
Sarah Wolf

Date

September 6
September 15
August 11
November 15
May 8
November 17
January 23
October 1

Dismissed to Other Denominations

None

Pastoral Relationships Formed

Minister

Julia H. Burkley
Andrew J. Ditzel
Stanley H. Farthing

Church

Woodstock
Lexington
Augusta Stone

Date

June 27
July 15
August 1

Pastoral Relationships Dissolved

Minister

Karen H. Allamon
B. Ronald Gilmer
Sarah Wolf

Church

Staunton First
Woodstock
Covenant

Date

August 31
July 15
September 30

Honorably Retired

Thomas P. Groome, III

Date

August 1

Deceased

Robert F. Field
John D. Garrison
Larry C. Miles
Robert L. Muncy
Charles M. Swezey
Betty Jean Young
Richard O. Young, Sr.

Date

August 11
August 18
December 21
February 26
January 20
March 9
July 24

CANDIDATES

Ordained
Julia H. Burkley

Date
August 27

Ordination Date
August 14

Received
None

Enrolled
Mark Dewey
Chance Snell

Transferred
None

Removed from Roll
None

INQUIRERS

Enrolled
None

Received
None

Removed from Roll
Terry Crickenberger

DIRECTORS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Enrolled
None

CHURCHES

Established or Received
None

Dissolved
Halltown

Date
October 20

SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY
CHURCH RECORD – 2022

Membership

Prior Active Membership – 9,702 Adjusted Membership 9,708

Gains

Youth Professions - 40
Profession & Reaffirmations – 82
Certificate – 111
Other – 0
Total Gains – 233

Losses

Certificate – 75
Death – 236
Other – 439
Total Losses – 750

Ending Active Membership – 9,191 (-517) See pages 47-49

Female Members – 4,797 Men – 3,400 Non-Binary - 23
Ruling Elders on Session – 698 Friends of the Congregation – 1,526
Average Church Attendance – 4,041

Baptisms

Presented by Others - 46
At confirmation – 8
All other - 6

Age Distribution

17 & Under – 274	18-25 – 574	26 – 40 – 1,123	41 – 55 – 1,378
56 – 70 – 2,088	Over 70 – 2,838		
Total reported – 8,275			

People with Disabilities

Hearing - 539	Mobility - 428	Sight - 325	Other – 365
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Christian Education

Age 4 & under – 205	K-5 th – 430	6 th -8 th – 243	9 th -12 th – 242
Total Youth – 1,120			

Age 4 -71	Grade 3 -71	Grade 8 -60	Young Adults – 230
Kindergarten -58	Grade 4 -74	Grade 9 -58	Over 25 – 1,261
Grade 1 -54	Grade 5 -71	Grade 10 -57	Teacher/Officer – 443
Grade 2 –65	Grade 6 -70	Grade 11 – 46	
	Grade 7 -80	Grade 12 –55	TOTAL – 2,938

Racial Ethnic Breakdown

	Membership
Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian	17
Black/African American/African	26
Middle Eastern/North African	1
Native American/Alaska Native/Indigenous	7
Hispanic/Latino-a	16
White	8,137
Multiracial	9

Budgeted Income -21,479,723

Regular Contributions – 11,069,737	Bequests – 10,363,250
Capital Building Fund – 4,023,937	Other Income – 1,017,811
Investment Income – 1,036,807	Subsidy or Aid – 40,361

Budgeted Expense – 22,205,988

Local Program – 10,227,336	Investment Expenditures – 851,743
Local Mission – 1,147,062	Per Capita Apprt – 378,599
Capital Expenditures – 4,827,967	Other Mission – 410,874

CHURCH	2021 MEM BERS	2022 MEM BERS
Augusta Stone	90	91
Ben Salem	34	30
Berkeley Springs	54	50
Berryville	144	140
Bethany	74	75
Bethel	197	139
Bethesda	149	147
Beulah	38	37
Bloomery	39	39
Bridgewater	96	95
Broadway	35	35
Buckton	23	24
Buena Vista	91	88
Buffalo Gap	10	10
Bunker Hill	93	81
Burlington	20	19
Burnt	26	23
Charles Town	279	290
Circleville	32	31
Clear Brook	10	10
Collierstown	102	83
Cooks Creek	213	206
Covenant	473	483
Craigsville	16	16
Elk Branch	22	21
Elkton	48	48
Fairfield	37	36
Falling Waters	108	93
Finley Memorial	89	89
Franklin	57	55
Front Royal	93	96
Gerrardstown	48	53
Glen Kirk	23	23
Goshen	23	22
Halltown	10	0
Hebron	129	78
Hedgesville	33	24
Hermitage	45	39
Highland Memorial	45	43

	2021	2022
	MEM	MEM
CHURCH	BERS	BERS
Hot Springs	38	36
Immanuel	16	18
Ivanhoe	34	29
Keyser	69	64
Lexington	347	338
Little Falls	6	6
Loch Willow	81	79
Massanutten	398	342
McCutchen	7	7
McDowell	61	60
Middletown	27	27
Millboro	31	30
Monterey	53	54
Moorefield	170	169
Mossy Creek	107	105
Mt. Carmel	76	75
Mt. Hope	18	18
Mt. Horeb	122	116
Mt. Joy	14	10
Mt. Olive	87	85
Mt. Storm	19	21
New Monmouth	90	91
New Providence	103	104
Nineveh	39	27
Olivet	104	106
Opequon	522	521
Oxford	136	126
Petersburg	73	74
Piedmont	30	29
Pines Chapel	51	51

	2021	2022
	MEM	MEM
CHURCH	BERS	BERS
Rocky Spring	14	13
Romney	81	76
Ruddle	12	13
Second Opequon	40	37
Seneca Rocks	34	33
Shepherdstown	292	294
Slanesville	10	11
Smyrna	68	67
Springfield	10	9
Staunton First	129	124
Staunton Second	114	65
Staunton Third	86	88
Strasburg	71	69
Sunnyside	38	41
Tabler	31	28
Timber Ridge	99	98
Tinkling Spring	397	395
Tomahawk	18	18
Trinity	173	167
Tuscarora	136	141
Union	22	22
Wardensville	16	16
Warrenton	399	370
Waynesboro First	98	91
Waynesboro Second	59	56
Westminster	263	211
Williamsville	12	12
Winchester First	734	679
Woodstock	155	154
Zetta	14	13
TOTALS	9,702	9,191

MINUTES OF COMMISSION TO INSTALL THE REV. ANDREW J. DITZEL as pastor of the Lexington Presbyterian Church of Lexington, Virginia. In accordance with the appointment of the Committee on Pastoral Transition, the commission convened at the Lexington Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, May 7, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Commission members present: Teaching Elders: April Cranford (Presbytery Moderator), Casey Clark, Rachel Clark, William Klein, and Patrick Pettit Ruling Elders: Bob Blinn (Mt. Carmel), Mary Dugan (Lexington), and Trudy Melvin (Oxford)

A quorum was present.

April Cranford, Convener, called the commission to order and led in prayer. The commission elected April Cranford as moderator and Casey Clark as recording clerk.

The congregation was called to worship. Bill Klein preached the sermon on the subject “Every Bush Aflame With God” from Exodus. April Cranford asked the questions of the teaching elder. Mary Dugan asked the questions of the congregation. These being answered in the affirmative and with prayer led by Bill Klein, the commission installed Drew Ditzel as pastor of the Lexington Presbyterian Church.

Patrick Pettit delivered the charge to the congregation and Rachel and Casey Clark delivered the charge to the pastor.

At the conclusion of the service the newly installed pastor made a brief statement and pronounced the benediction.

The commission then read and approved their minutes. The commission adjourned with prayer led by Casey Clark.

April Cranford, Moderator
Casey Clark, Recording Clerk

COMMITTEE ON PRESBYTERY ADMINISTRATION (CPA)

“The purpose of the C.P.A. is to oversee the management of presbytery funds, property, and staff” (from *The Presbytery Manual*).

Members of the C.P.A.: Hannah Bush, Betsy Glendye, Eric Hulett, Fletcher Hutcheson, Jim Johns, Jim Lunde, Clayton Rascoe, Harold Tongen, and Dick Travis

The C.P.A. held virtual meetings on February 16th and on March 16th, 2023. Hannah Bush serves as our secretary.

Three of our C.P.A. members have volunteered to work on contacting and listening to congregations of the presbytery that do not send in per capita pledges requested to fund the work of the presbytery, synod, and general assembly. An asking letter, including an acceptance form to indicate a pledge for the upcoming year, is sent to our congregations each October.

At our February meeting, Nancy Meehan Yao suggested that the C.P.A. consider establishing a fund for which churches with non-emergency maintenance needs could apply. In other business, Pam Snyder, Ann Pettit, and Clayton Rascoe made a presentation on the “Building A Place for All” capital funds campaign for Massanetta Springs.

At our March meeting, Heather Carter reported that \$488,715.64 is the remaining balance of the funds from the sale of the North Main Street presbytery office property. The C.P.A. approved the appropriation of \$55,580 from the sale funds to the presbytery’s legal expenses fund. This brings the balance of the legal expenses fund to \$75,000. As part of that action, we said that the C.P.A. will review and add to the legal expenses fund whenever its balance drops below \$25, 000.

The C.P.A. approved recommending to the presbytery that we donate \$125,000 from the office property sale funds to Massanetta Springs’ “Building A Place for All” campaign. At the presbytery meeting we also will encourage congregations to make additional pledges to Massanetta Springs’ campaign.

We also approved investing the balance of the presbytery office sale funds with the Presbyterian Foundation. The funds then will draw interest, and readily will be available when wanted. The next meeting of the C.P.A. is scheduled for Thursday, April 20th.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Presbytery approve the donation of \$125,000 from the sale of the office property to the Massanetta Springs campaign *Building a Place for All*.

Church	2021 Members	per Member by Acceptance
Augusta Stone	90	55.56
Ben Salem	34	52.00
Berkeley Springs	54	52.00
Berryville	144	62.50
Bethany	74	57.97
Bethel	197	52.00
Bethesda	149	46.98
Beulah	38	55.26
Bloomery	39	25.64
Bridgewater	96	20.83
Broadway	35	71.43
Buckton	23	52.00
Buena Vista	91	52.09
Buffalo Gap	10	54.44
Bunker Hill	93	52.00
Burlington	20	60.35
Burnt	26	7.69
Charles Town	279	10.75
Circleville	32	56.25
Clear Brook	10	50.00
Collierstown	102	11.76
Cooks Creek	213	58.22
Covenant	473	69.77
Craigsville	16	52.00
Elk Branch	22	55.11
Elkton	48	56.46
Fairfield	37	53.51
Falling Waters	108	40.74
Finley Memorial	89	5.62
Franklin	57	70.18
Front Royal	93	53.76
Gerrardstown	48	52.00
Glen Kirk	23	52.00
Goshen	23	10.87
Halltown	10	closed
Hebron	129	22.17
Hedgesville	33	52.00
Hermitage	45	53.33
Highland Memorial	45	52.00
Hot Springs	38	31.58
Immanuel	16	81.25
Ivanhoe	34	52.94
Keyser	69	55.80
Lexington	347	52.00
Little Falls	6	75.00
Loch Willow	81	61.73
Massanutten	398	52.00
McCutchen	7	52.00
McDowell	61	9.84
Middletown	27	52.00
Millboro	31	52.00
Monterey	53	50.94

		per
	2021	Member by
Church	Members	Acceptance
Moorefield	170	49.41
Mossy Creek	107	29.91
Mt. Carmel	76	52.00
Mt. Hope	18	54.99
Mt. Horeb	122	24.59
Mt. Joy	14	52.00
Mt. Olive	87	60.34
Mt. Storm	19	78.95
New Monmouth	90	52.22
New Providence	103	55.83
Nineveh	39	23.08
Olivet	104	0.48
Opequon	522	61.30
Oxford	136	51.31
Petersburg	73	53.56
Piedmont	30	120.00
Pines Chapel	51	101.57
Rocky Spring	14	28.57
Romney	81	52.00
Ruddle	12	56.46
Second Opequon	40	55.00
Seneca Rocks	34	53.86
Shepherdstown	292	55.89
Slanesville	10	25.00
Smyrna	68	55.88
Springfield	10	52.00
Staunton First	129	52.71
Staunton Second	114	43.86
Staunton Third	86	11.63
Strasburg	71	7.04
Sunnyside	38	52.00
Tabler	31	52.00
Timber Ridge	99	52.53
Tinkling Spring	397	52.00
Tomahawk	18	61.11
Trinity	173	72.25
Tuscarora	136	52.00
Union	22	52.00
Wardensville	16	156.25
Warrenton	399	48.22
Waynesboro First	98	52.00
Waynesboro Second	59	50.85
Westminster	263	19.01
Williamsville	12	25.00
Winchester First	734	48.17
Woodstock	155	52.68
Zetta	14	35.71
TOTALS	9,702	

CAMP PADDY RUN 2022 YEAR-END SUMMARY

Camp Paddy Run began the year completing a 3-year financial review for 2019-2021. The information was verified by an outside bookkeeping firm. Two fundraisers were also hosted to raise money for capital improvements: a bingo night and spaghetti dinner. Both events raised over \$1200.

Once again, the camp enjoyed success with its annual events. Day Camp hosted in June was themed after Christmas and saw 100 campers in grades 1-12 attend; half were 7-12 graders that had the added privilege of staying overnight on Thursday and Friday. The volunteer counselor staff was comprised of 18 young adults that were former Day Campers themselves- some coming from as far away as Texas, Florida, and Kansas to serve.

July's Adventure Camp is aimed at giving the older campers a longer overnight experience and to continue growing in their fellowship and faith that began at Day Camp. This year's 80's theme included a riverside picnic with swimming and hiking, a 'splatterpaint' paint ball day and a roller skating party.

The final event, Fall Retreat, was held in November and was themed after the miracles Jesus performed. A self-guided GPS course led groups to twelve stations with study and activities at each stop. Two new events were added to the calendar as well: a February Counselor Retreat and a Skating Party during winter break where all day campers and family were invited at no charge. This event also celebrated the 'Halfway to DayCamp!' mark and began outreach for 2023's event.

Rentals continue to be a stable source of income for the camp. Several new groups booked events that have all returned - or plan to return- in 2023. Strasburg Presbytery hosted a church-wide Lenten event and two DC-based groups hosted adult camping retreats. The Boy Scouts, Trail Life, and American Heritage Girls all returned this year as well as Opequon Presbytery and Trinity Presbytery Church in Arlington, part of the National Capital Presbytery. Other weeks/weekends were rented by families and individuals. In total, rental income comprised over \$6000 of the yearly income for the camp.

The big capital improvements for the year included re-roofing Cabin 1 and the garage- both having suffered wind and tree damage. Upgrading Cabin 1 was also a big priority for the year- replacing the siding, doors, windows and adding new vinyl floors. Once completed with new bunkbeds, this structure can hold up to 14 campers for spring through fall accommodation.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)

“The purpose of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry of Shenandoah Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is to provide the best possible leadership for the church by assuring that persons called to the ordered ministry of teaching elder are firm in their faith in Christ, assured of their call to serve God and the church as a teaching elder, and receive the fullest personal and professional preparation for this office.”

As of April, 2023, Shenandoah Presbytery’s CPM has 7 souls under care.

Please pray for our Inquirers and Candidates:

Hannah Altmann - CE Track

Working at Massanutten PC

Benjamin Kent - Inq

Warrenton PC

Cassandra Semler - Inq

Tuscarora PC; Pittsburgh Seminary

Deborah A. Romano - Inq

Shepherdstown PC

Wesley Theological Seminary

Chance Snell - Candidate (7/22)

Tinkling Spring PC; Dubuque (2024)

Kimberly Joy Shank -Cand. (3/23)

Mossy Creek PC; EMU

Mark Dewey - (Cand 11/22)

Trinity PC; Working as Chaplain

+ On March 2, 2023 CPM examined and sustained the ordination of Britney Daniel (incoming) to the Woodstock Church. She will be presented to the presbytery at the August 2023 meeting.

+ CPM examined and approved Kimberly Shank advancing to Candidacy on March 8, 2023. She will be presented to the presbytery at the May 20 meeting.

Thank You to those who volunteered to read Ordination Exams this May: Scott Conrad, (TE); Carrie Evans (TE); Stan Farthing (TE). Shenandoah Presbytery was given permission by the Exams committee to override the balance of teaching and ruling elders this year.

We thank the Shen Pres Nominating Committee for their diligence. Current CPM members are: Kate Rascoe (chair), Harriet Thompson, Mark Facknitz, Sarah Hill, Kathy Shue, Jim Yao, Houston Lynch, Carrie Evans, and David Howard

Future 2023 meetings - June 14, July 12, August 9, Sept 13.

“Discernment is not a simple knowing, or awareness. It requires placing personal awareness within the context of life experience in relationship with others and with God. Discernment is a complex, challenging, and hugely rewarding ongoing life task.” (Discerning Your Call and Your Gifts For Ministry of Word and Sacrament, published by PC(USA))

Information about the Care process can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mrmlFBAe2q0fyI23G7C72PcSM_tcDRiv?usp=sharing

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONAL MINISTRY (CRM)

I. FOR INFORMATION:

The committee meets the second Thursday of every month via Zoom.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Renewed the supply pastor contract between the Buffalo Gap Session and Teaching Elder Gwen Carr from March 1, 2023-February 29, 2024.
- B. Renewed the supply pastor contract between the Elk Branch Session and Rev. David Beeson (UCC) from April 1, 2023-April 1, 2024.
- C. Renewed the commissioned ruling elder contract between the Elkton Session and CRE Judy Hensley from March 1, 2023-February 29, 2024.
- D. Renewed the commissioned ruling elder contract between the Little Falls Session and CRE Paul Wolverton from April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024.
- E. Renewed the contract between the Mt. Olive Session and Stacy Meyerhoeffler from April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024.
- F. Renewed the parish associate contract between the Opequon Session, TE David Witt, and TE Tracie Martin from April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024.
- G. Received communication from the Clear Brook Session requesting a waiver of the limitation of terms of service for ruling elders on their session. CRM approved excusing them from the rotation of elders for 2023.
- H. Dissolved the pastoral relationship between the Waynesboro Second Church and Teaching Elder Caitlin Hoy effective April 24, 2023. (TE Hoy plans to go into chaplaincy ministry in Charlottesville.)
- I. Received and approved a summary report of members-at-large, parish associates, and validated ministers.
- J. Approved re-validating the ministries of the following for 2023: William Everhart, Jacob Kave, Clayton Rascoe, and Andrew Wing.
- K. Received and approved a summary report of continuing education taken in 2022 by installed teaching elders.
- L. Renewed the temporary supply contract between the Piedmont Session and Ruling Elder Lori Evans from April 10, 2023-April 10, 2024.
- M. Renewed the commissioned ruling elder contract between the Burlington Session and CRE Linda Reece from May 1, 2023-April 30, 2024.
- N. Renewed the commissioned ruling elder contract between the Springfield Session and CRE Linda Reece from May 1, 2023-April 30, 2024.
- O. Approved the transfer of Honorably Retired Teaching Elder Anne Ross to the Presbytery of Carlisle effective May 11, 2023.

Church	Pastor	Year	Full Time	Cash Salary	IRS Housing	Furnish Utilities	Housing Equity	Bonus	Taxed SECA	Other	Dental	Manse Value	Nontax SECA	Medical/Pension	Auto	Cont Ed	Books	Other
Ivanhoe/W'ville	J. Thornton	2022	Yes	33000	12000								3443	Yes	2200	500	500	
Ivanhoe/W'ville	J. Thornton	2023	Yes	33000	12000								3443	Yes	2200	500	500	
Lexington	A. Ditzel	2022	Yes	60000	37000						Yes		7880	Yes	1200	4500	500	
Lexington	A. Ditzel	2023	Yes	60000	37000						Yes		7880	Yes	1200	4500	500	
Loch Willow	R. Hopkins	2022	Yes	38791		3193	1200					12655	4108	Yes	2000	750	250	
Loch Willow	R. Hopkins	2023	Yes	40343		3193	1200					13420	4200	Yes	2000	750	250	
Massanutten	A. Pettit	2022	Yes	38000	20000					Vision	Yes		4437	Yes	3000	1500	500	1000
Massanutten	A. Pettit	2023	Yes	49160	10000					Vision	Yes		4526	Yes	3000	1500	500	1000
Massanutten	K. Phillips	2022	Yes	39000	19000					Vision	Yes		4437	Yes	3000	1500	500	1000
Massanutten	K. Phillips	2023	Yes	44160	15000					Vision	Yes		4526	Yes	3000	1500	500	1000
McDowell	E. Pyles	2022	No	18800		Yes						6253	2044	Yes	1500	0	0	
McDowell	E. Pyles	2023	No															
Middletown	K. Hay	2022	Yes	4100	40000						Yes		3374	Yes	2500	1000	300	800
Middletown	K. Hay	2023	Yes	3864	42000						Yes		3509	Yes	2500	1000	300	800
Moorefield	J. Yao	2022	Yes	37485		Yes	1200					12805	3770	Yes	2303	1500		
Moorefield	J. Yao	2023	Yes	38235		Yes	1200					13030	3828	Yes	2303	1500		
Mossy Creek	J. Smith	2022	Yes	37690		Yes	1800		4444	Vision	Yes	15600	4444	Yes	2400	600	500	
Mossy Creek	J. Smith	2023	Yes	39190		Yes	1800		4559	Vision	Yes	15600	4559	Yes	2400	600	600	
New Monmouth	C Clark	2022	Yes	31674	17324						Yes		3724	Yes	896	2921		
New Monmouth	C Clark	2023	Yes	33258	18190						Yes		3936	Yes	1417	2028		
New Monmouth	R Clark	2022	No	10558	5774						Yes		1241	Yes	299	974		
New Monmouth	R Clark	2023	No	11086	6063						Yes		1312	Yes	473	676		
New Providence	L. Mitchell	2022	Yes	50311		Yes	3000			Vision	Yes	17576	4212	Yes	1200	1700	500	
New Providence	L. Mitchell	2023	Yes	54688		Yes	3000			Vision	Yes	18712						
Olivet	L. Thomas	2022	Yes	33035	26857								4582	Yes	3000	1200	200	2000
Olivet	L. Thomas	2023	Yes	33862	27528			PAGE	58				4696	Yes	3000	1200	200	2000

Middletown Presbyterian Church & Cedar Creek Chapel

On March 3rd, 2023 Middletown Presbyterian Church unanimously approved the following motion from Session:
From a Called Session Meeting on Sunday, February 19th, 2023

“The Session moves that the Cedar Creek Chapel and property be listed for sale, contingent upon Presbytery approval.”

Rationale:

1. We no longer see a use for Cedar Creek Chapel for the ministry and mission of Middletown Presbyterian Church.
2. Maintenance and upkeep of the facility will become a greater burden over time for a space we don't intend to use.
3. We could benefit from the proceeds of the sale of the property to further the ministry and mission of Middletown Presbyterian Church while carrying on the legacy of Cedar Creek Presbyterian Church and the Parish of the Valleys.

Property Value:

We plan to talk to our realtor regarding the benefit of getting an appraisal in the process of listing the property. However, the current tax assessed value from Frederick County is: **\$424,300** We do not believe this to be entirely accurate as their records indicate it is only 1 acre of land when it is actually approximately 2.5 acres, but it still provides some useful information.

A Brief History of Cedar Creek Presbyterian Church,

Middletown Presbyterian Church (originally Cedar Cliff Presbyterian Church) and the Parish of the Valleys:

Cedar Creek Presbyterian Church was founded in 1732. The church building has burned due to fire several times, but the current building located on Middle Road was dedicated on July 28, 1876. At one time Cedar Creek Presbyterian Church was part of a thriving farming community in rural Frederick County east of Stephens City and Middletown known as Marlboro.

Middletown Presbyterian Church was originally organized in 1878 as Cedar Cliff Presbyterian Church as a church plant of Cedar Creek Presbyterian Church seeking to be closer to town (Stephens City and Middletown). At that time Cedar Cliff Presbyterian Church was located on the Valley Pike between Stephens City and Middletown on Vaucluse Road.

In 1984 as smaller rural churches struggled to survive, the Parish of the Valleys was formed as a cooperative ministry of 7 churches and eventually expanded to 8 churches that shared pastoral staff. Cedar Creek and Cedar Cliff were “sister congregations” that historically shared the same pastor within the Parish of the Valleys. The Parish of the Valleys office was located at Cedar Creek Presbyterian Church as well.

In December 1985, Cedar Cliff Presbyterian Church moved to a new location in the town of Middletown. On March 22, 1987 they changed their name to Middletown Presbyterian Church and eventually built a new sanctuary in 1997.

Meanwhile, the once thriving rural farming community in Marlboro began to decline and membership at Cedar Creek Church dwindled. After the Parish of the Valley was dissolved, the decision was eventually made to close Cedar Creek Presbyterian Church. Cedar Creek Church became a chapel of Middletown Presbyterian Church on November 15, 2014, transferring the property, records, and membership over to Middletown Presbyterian Church. Several former members of Cedar Creek Church continue to be actively involved in the life of Middletown Presbyterian Church including our current Clerk of Session.

The Discernment Process:

While this decision has been a long time coming, in 2022, Session decided to begin a discernment process regarding the future of Cedar Creek Chapel. On July 28th, 2022, we held a special called Session meeting at Cedar Creek to begin prayerful discussions. During this meeting we discussed all the possible options and our various feelings about those options. We then set out with tasks regarding things we felt we needed to learn and research. We continued to check-in on our discernment at every Session meeting thereafter as we continued our research and prayer. We had conversations with Presbytery staff regarding the process, including inviting Rev. Dr. Nancy Meehan Yao (Associate General Presbyter) to our Session meeting on September 12th. We worked to get the property properly surveyed and are working with a lawyer to officially obtain a deed that was not legally transferred to Middletown Presbyterian Church when Cedar Creek Chapel was given to our care.

In addition, we spent some time going through various items and furniture at Cedar Creek to determine what we have a use for and moved those items to Middletown Presbyterian Church on Friday, Feb 17th. We are also in the process of consolidating church records and will turnover the records of Cedar Creek Chapel and the Parish of the Valley to the Presbytery to be sent to the Presbyterian Historical Society for historical preservation while keeping any records for Middletown Presbyterian here on site.

Through this process we eventually felt it was time to have a Called Session meeting regarding the matter on February 19th, 2023, which lead to our Called Congregational Meeting on March 3rd, 2023.

Plans for Proceeds from the Sale of the Property:

We have had some initial discussion about what we would do with the funds from the sale of the property. While it is hard to know at this point without knowing what the sale price would be, and this is still subject to change, we have been talking about possibly splitting the proceeds by percentages in this way.

- Savings/Investment Acct. - 50%
- Building Fund - 25%
- Mission & Outreach Fund - 15%
- Tithe to local mission organization(s) to be determined - 10%

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (CER)

Class of 2023: Tommy Carrico (Chair), Judith Lepera

Class of 2024: Cliff Gilchrist, Ann-Bailey Lipsett, Keith Phillips

Class of 2025: John Dull, JoAnne Sharp

Ex Officio Member: Nancy Meehan Yao

Purpose: Provide education and resources in areas of congregational ministry through the use of specialized teams and Presbytery-wide programs and training events.

Completed Work

- Educational Time at February Presbytery Meeting
 - Abby Butler Cefalo presented information about RiseU (Methodist and Presbyterian campus ministry at JMU). We were able to coordinate with the worship team to include RiseU students in our virtual worship service.
- Reviewed and updated scholarship forms/website and will be receiving and evaluating camp and conference applications at our next meeting in May.
- Educational/Training Events
 - Saturday, April 22nd: John Bethard Family Systems
 - Saturday, April 29th: Communion Training for Ruling Elders

Ongoing Work

- To All Attendees of Stated Presbytery Meeting: Your congregation is probably doing something that is eligible for a Peacemaking Grant! Find more information at: <https://mywt5-files.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/2022/03/02103451/Peacemaking-Grant-Guidelines.pdf>)
- Saturday, September 9th: Big Event 2023: “Faithful Decisions in Difficult Times”
 - Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Mark Douglas, Professor of Christian Ethics, Columbia Theological Seminary
 - Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott, Editor/Publisher of The Presbyterian Outlook
 - Location: Massanetta Springs
 - Format: Worship, Keynote, Lunch, and Breakout sessions along with a centering/prayer space throughout the day

COMMITTEE ON MISSION AND OUTREACH (CMO)

Members: Bobby Spurgeon, chair; Gwen Carr, vice-chair; Dave Thalman, Vanessa Smith, Mary Colleen Knapp, Renee Campbell, Reed Hopkins, Russell Low; Nancy Meehan Yao, Associate General Presbyter, Staff Support

CMO approved:

1. Established a scholarship for women in ministry with an initial grant of up to \$1600 from the Hiatt fund for female students at Terfa Jarso Seminary to be given with consideration of other funds that have been given in the presbytery.
2. Awarded \$10,000.00 from the Hiatt fund for the construction of a new dormitory for the Terfa Jarso Seminary. It was reported that construction has begun.
3. Awarded \$5000.00 grant from the Hiatt fund to the Baja Mission team for their annual Mission to Baja.

COMMITTEE ON NEW CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CNCD)

Our 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.

CNCD met in April. The following work was done:

We received the Covenant Renewal paperwork for Community Cup and More and the progress the Coffee Shop is making. John Bethard gave an update on the pastoral search.

The committee approved a grant as part of this the Covenant Renewal:

68,000 – pastor’s salary

7,300 – Pastor Worksheet costs

2,500- Pastoral candidates visits with PNC

2,200 – Coaching for Kate – plus required Coach site visit expenses.

Total of: \$80,000

The committee discussed at length the challenges of being both a for-profit Coffee Shop and establishing a not-for-profit Community of faith. After much discussion, a conversation with Michael Gehrling from 1001 NWC, and research into how other Presbyteries are working with their NWC’s, the committee voted to bring the following recommendations to Presbytery:

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH VITALITY AND TRANSFORMATION

The CCVT met on January 9, February 6, March 6 and May 1, 2023. (The Committee did not meet during April.)

The Committee continues to receive both grant proposals and reports on grant fund use related to Innovations in Worship grant monies. Activity-to-date related to the Innovations in Worship Grant opportunity include the following:

Reports Received on Fund Usage:

- New Monmouth (drum kit for worship team) (video shared at February Presbytery meeting)
- Westminster report for their second grant (HDMI cabling and video camera)
- Tuscarora (third grant proposal reported that grant #2 significantly improved the image of their streamed content)
- Buckton (Zoom & CCLI subscriptions)
- Massanutten (Equipment for streaming and monitor in rear of sanctuary to help worship leaders and choir members experience projected content)

Grant Requests Received (with amounts awarded):

- Bethesda (\$850 – Grant #2)
- Westminster (\$1000 – Grant #3)
- Tuscarora (\$1000 – Grant #3)
- Oxford (\$1000 – Grant #1)

Congregations all express their gratitude for these grants. Most grant funds have been applied in a way that have allowed churches to embrace members unable to return after COVID through an accessible remote worship experience. A few congregations have provided types of updates to their worship services, enhancing the in-person experience.

The PneuMatrix cohort will have its final official meeting with Michelle Snyder on May 24, 2023. There has been expressed interest in the possibility for the cohort to continue to meet informally to exchange ideas and to encourage one another as they continue to pursue adaptive change. Moreover, it is hoped that additional congregations may wish to participate in a new PneuMatrix cohort experience in the future.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY REPORTS

Committee on Pastoral Transition (CPT)

- I. FOR INFORMATION:
Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month via Zoom.
- II. ACTIONS TAKEN:
- A. Appointed TE James Yao to serve as moderator at Berkeley Springs Church.
- B. Sustained the examination of Rev. Richard Moll (ELCA) to serve at Broadway Church.
- C. Approved the supply pastor contract between the Broadway Session and Rev. Richard Moll from March 1, 2023-February 29, 2024.
- D. Concurred with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry to sustain the examination of Brittney Daniel, a candidate from Lehigh Presbytery, who has received a call from the Woodstock Church to serve as their installed pastor. (Ms. Daniel will be introduced at the August Presbytery Meeting at which time terms of call and other pertinent information will be brought forth.)
- E. Approved the following ministry information forms and authorized Kim Stroupe to input the data onto the Church Leadership Connection web site:
- Bethesda – installed pastor
 - Beulah/Monterey – supply pastor
 - Cooks Creek – interim pastor (TE Normington will be transferring June 30)
 - Keyser – supply pastor
 - Winchester First – interim pastor (TE McCoig will be retiring in September)
- F. Approved the Commission to Install Teaching Elder Andrew Ditzel at the Lexington Church on May 7, 2023.
- G. Renewed the interim contract between Hermitage Church and Teaching Elder Jacqueline Smith Patman from June 1, 2023-June 1, 2024.
- H. Approved the temporary supply contract between Warrenton Church and Honorably Retired Teaching Elder Bob Osborne from June 1-August 31, 2023, while their pastor is on sabbatical.
- I. Approved the commissioning of Tina Glenn at the May 20 Presbytery meeting.
- J. Dissolved the pastoral relationship with TE Patrick Lanaghan effective April 30, 2023. (Congregational meeting was held April 23, 2023.) (The CRM will have action in the supplemental report for honorable retirement of TE Patrick Lanaghan.)

Coordinating and Planning Commission (CPC)

- I. FOR INFORMATION:
Met via Zoom on April 25 and heard reports from all committees of Presbytery.
- II. ACTIONS TAKEN:
Approved designating the offering taken at the May 20, 2023, Presbytery Meeting to the scholarship for women in ministry at the Terfa Jarso Seminary in Ethiopia.

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