

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK
September 22, 2022

Items for Information

1. Deadline for Docket Time and Waiver Requests for December Presbytery Meeting

The Ecclesiastical Committee has announced that all requests for docket time at the December 8, 2022 presbytery meeting must be made **in writing** to the Ecclesiastical Committee via the Stated Clerk's office no later than **noon on Wednesday, November 2, 2022**. If action by the Presbytery will be requested, the full text of the motion and any accompanying documents (reports, rationale, etc.) must be submitted by this time as well. Requests for waivers of the six-year limitation on terms for elders and deacons are due on this date also.

2. 2021 Minutes Reading

The remaining in person minutes reading opportunity will be held by appointment at the Presbytery Center on October 22, 2022. The option to participate in electronic minutes exchange is being offered again this year. Clerks of session should contact the Stated Clerk's office to make arrangements to participate in minutes reading.

3. Status of Sale of Former Neville Island and St. Andrew's Properties

The West Branch Closed Churches Administrative Commission completed the sale of the former St. Andrew's United Presbyterian Church building to Watermark Classical Academy on August 29, 2022, with net proceeds of \$725,335 to the presbytery's closed churches fund which is used to pay maintenance and upkeep of closed church properties and other expenses of closed churches. The property was listed for sale and multiple bids were received.

The closing on the property of the former Neville Island Presbyterian Church was delayed until September 21, 2022. The former congregation's cemetery is not contiguous to the property where the church building was located and will not be part of the sale. The township is not willing to take over ownership of the cemetery so other arrangements will need to be made.

4. Status of Emsworth United Presbyterian Church

The session of Emsworth United Presbyterian Church has sold its building and is completing its legal and ecclesiastical affairs in consultation with the West Branch Closed Churches Administrative Commission which will dissolve the congregation when appropriate to do so.

5. Status of Grand View United Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission

The Administrative Commission is working with the congregation to discern its future as a worshipping community and its ability to remain in its building. The Administrative Commission is assuming control over the congregation's financial affairs due to the congregation's inability to do so. Bookkeeping and check writing will be done by presbytery staff.

Items for Action

1. Consent Motions

The Stated Clerk recommends items 2, 3, and 4 be approved by consent.

*2. Dissolution of Whitehall United Presbyterian Church

After consulting with the congregation, the session of Whitehall United Presbyterian Church has requested that Pittsburgh Presbytery dissolve the congregation. The congregation held its final worship service on June 5, 2022 and has completed the sale of its building. As the congregation's ecclesiastical and legal affairs were concluded by the session with assistance from the presbytery staff, the Stated Clerk has determined that an administrative commission is not necessary and asks that the congregation be dissolved by presbytery as of September 22, 2022.

*3. Dissolution of Verona United Presbyterian Church

After consulting with the congregation, the session of Whitehall United Presbyterian Church has requested that Pittsburgh Presbytery dissolve the congregation. The congregation held its final worship service on August 21, 2022 and has completed the sale of its building. As the congregation's ecclesiastical and legal affairs were concluded by the session with assistance from the presbytery staff, the Stated Clerk has determined that an administrative commission is not necessary and asks that the congregation be dissolved by presbytery as of October 31, 2022.

*4. Ecclesiastical Administrative Commission to Ordain or Install

The Stated Clerk recommends that the Minutes of the following Ecclesiastical Administrative Commissions be approved, and the commissions be dismissed with thanks:

Administrative Commission to Ordain Rebecca L. Young

YOUNG The Administrative Commission elected by the Presbytery on December 9, 2022 to ordain Rebecca L. Young, comprising of teaching elders Philip A. Beck, Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith, and Charissa Clark Howe (Moderator's designee) and ruling elders Fallaw B. Sowell and Andrew Wilson met by appointment on June 11, 2022, at 1:50 p.m. at Shadyside Presbyterian Church.

There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by Rev. Philip A. Beck. All things being prepared in advance, decently and in order, the Commission approved the Service of ordination and voted to proceed to the ordination of Rebecca Young according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 2:00 p.m. and ordained Rebecca L. Young.

Rev. Beck asked the constitutional questions which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by The Reverend Dr. Christine Chakoian. Rev. Charissa Clark Howe offered the prayer of ordination. Ruling elder Ralph Lowe offered the charge to the pastor.

The minutes of the Commission were read and approved. Upon motion duly made, the Commission moved to adjourn at the conclusion of the Service of Ordination with the pronouncement of the Benediction by Rev. Rebecca L. Young.