

**REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK  
December 8, 2022**

**Items for Information**

**1. Deadline for Docket Time and Waiver Requests for February Presbytery Meeting**

The Ecclesiastical Committee has announced that all requests for docket time at the February 16, 2023 meeting must be made to the Ecclesiastical Committee via the Stated Clerk's office no later than **noon on Wednesday, January 18, 2023**. 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.

The remaining deadlines for docket time and waiver requests for 2023 are as follows:

<b>Presbytery Meeting</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
May 18, 2023	April 19, 2023
September 28, 2023	August 30, 2023
December 7, 2023	November 8, 2023

**2. New Clerk of Session Training**

The Ecclesiastical Committee has scheduled New Clerk of Session Training to be held via Zoom video conferencing on Saturday, February 11, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Registration information will be forthcoming in the new year. New Clerks of Session are urged to attend, and all clerks are invited and welcome to attend.

**3. Appointment of Grand View United Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission**

Pursuant to Manual of Pittsburgh Presbytery and based on the recommendation of the Grand View Avenue Special Administrative Review Team, the Moderator of Pittsburgh Presbytery appointed the following individuals to constitute the Grand View United Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission and empowered it to take original jurisdiction over the session of the congregation and to determine in consultation with the session whether the congregation should be dissolved. Members of the Administrative Commission are:

Ruling Elder Paul Conley  
Rev. Susan Rothenberg  
Ruling Elder Stephanie Simmons  
Rev. Dr. Graham Standish  
Ruling Elder Vera White

The Administrative Commission began its work in June 2022 and has met with members of the congregation. The dissolution of the congregation and an amendment to the powers delegated to the Administrative Commission are included in the action items below.

**4. Synod of the Trinity Action on Items of Business from Pittsburgh Presbytery**

During its October Assembly, the Synod of the Trinity considered two requests from Pittsburgh Presbytery with positive votes on both. The Assembly endorsed the Driving Pennsylvania Forward campaign that Pittsburgh Presbytery endorsed at its

December 2021 meeting and adopted the document “Citizens’ Right to Vote: A Call to Action,” which was approved by Pittsburgh Presbytery at its May 2022 meeting.

### **5. Presbytery Review of 2022 Session Minutes**

The Ecclesiastical Committee will schedule in person opportunities for the reading of congregational minutes for 2022 during the spring and fall of 2023 once the University of Pittsburgh home football schedule is announced. Minutes reading sessions will take place at the Presbytery Center on Saturday mornings and the option to take part in on-line minutes reading will be offered as well.

### **6. Presbytery Review of 2021 Session Minutes**

The Administrative Review of Session Minutes for calendar year 2021 has been completed. The results of the review are as follows.

The following churches had their minutes and rolls and registers approved with commendation:

Baldwin UPC	Beulah UPC	Bower Hill Community
Clinton UPC	Covenant Community PC	Cross Roads (Gibsonia)
Eastminster PC	Elfinwild PC	First PC (Castle Shannon)
First PC (Pittsburgh)	First UPC (Crafton Hts)	First UPC. Tarentum
Grace Memorial PC	Hamilton PC	Hawthorne Avenue PC
Hebron PC, Clinton	Heritage UPC	Hillcrest UPC
Jefferson UPC	Ken Mawr UPC	Korean UPC of Pgh
Mt. Pisgah PC	Mt. Pleasant UPC	Mt. Vernon Comm. PC
North Hills UPC	Northmont UPC	Oakmont PC
Olivet UPC	Open Door PC	Parkwood UPC
Plum Creek PC	Sampson’s Mills PC	Sewickley PC
Shadyside PC	Sharon Community PC	Southminster PC
Swissvale PC	Unity PC	Unity UPC
Valley PC	Waverly UPC	Wexford Community PC

The following churches had their minutes and/or rolls and registers approved with exceptions:

Amity PC	Bellevue UPC	Bethel PC, Bethel Park
Bethel UPC, Monroeville	Bethesda UPC, Elizabeth	Bidwell Street UPC
Community PC, Ben Avon	Concord PC	East Liberty PC
East Union PC	First PC (Edgewood)	First PC (Elizabeth)
First UPC (Duquesne)	First UPC (Rennerdale)	Glenshaw PC
Hiland PC	John McMillan PC	Lincoln Place PC
Linway UPC	Logans Ferry PC	Montours PC
Mosaic Community PC	Mt. Hope Community PC	Noblestown UPC
Pleasant Hills Community	PC of Coraopolis	Sixth PC
Sunset Hills UPC	Third PC	UPC in Ingram
Westminster PC		

The following churches failed to have their minutes/rolls and registers read or were only partially (P) read this year:

Aspinwall PC	Beechview UPC	Bethany PC
Bethesda UPC, Pittsburgh	Brentwood PC	Buena Vista PC
Bull Creek UPC	Calvert Memorial UPC	Carnegie PC
Central PC, Tarentum	Chartiers Valley UPC	Cheswick PC
Christ Community	Community House PC	Community of Reconciliation
Crafton UPC	Cross Roads, Monroeville	Deer Creek UPC
First PC, Gibsonia	Forest Avenue UPC	Forest Hills PC
Fox Chapel PC	Friendship Community PC	Gladden UPC
Glenshaw Valley PC	Hampton UPC	Hebron UPC, Penn Hills
Hoboken PC	Homestead UPC	Hot Metal Bridge
Indianola UPC	Kerr PC	Liberty PC
McKeesport PC	New Life Community	Oakdale UPC
Pine Creek PC	Pleasant Unity UPC	Riverdale UPC
Riverview UPC	Ross Community PC	Second UPC
South Side PC	Springdale UPC	Union PC, Robinson Twp
Universal UPC	Valley View PC	Vietnamese PC

### Items for Action

#### 1. Consent Motions

The Stated Clerk recommends items #s 3, 4, 5, and 6 be approved by consent.

#### 2. Voting on Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Under the plan approved by the Executive Committee, the following proposed amendments to the Book of Order will be voted on at the December meeting. Due to the large number of amendments, the Stated Clerk plans to move for approval in groups in five separate motions. **Any presbytery who wishes to debate a particular proposed amendment may move that it be removed from the group and debated separately.**

Motion One:

#	Amending	Brief Description
22A	F-1.0302c	Expand gender and ability inclusive language
22B	F-1.0404	Expand gender and ability inclusive language

Motion Two:

#	Amending	Brief Description
22C	G-1.0501	Permit electronic session meetings & alternate parliamentary authority
22M	G-3.0104	Add statement that councils may allow electronic session meetings
22N	G-3.0105	Permit electronic meetings

Motion Three:

#	Amending	Brief Description
22D	G-1.0503	Permit congregational meeting to receive disciplinary order
22R	G-3.0401	Permit synods to enroll members to establish parity and representation

Motion Four:

#	Amending	Brief Description
22T	W-3.0205	Permit baptism as a sign of reconciliation following confession
22U	W-3.0409	Add "when appropriate" to invitation to baptism or preparation at the Lord's Supper
22V	W-3.0414	Permit anyone to offer the prayer after communion
22W	W-4.0403	Permit signs & symbols of blessing including laying on of hands at installation and commissioning

Motion Five:

#	Amending	Brief Description
22X	W-5.0104	Adds language re: importance of household worship
22Y	W-5.0104	Adds language re: mealtime prayer to household worship
22Z	W-5.0201	Adds language re: "faithful discipleship" and citations to the Foundations
22AA	W-5.0204	Changes language re: pastoral care to "particular specialized pastoral care"
22BB	W-5.0204	Change language to healing "in its many forms" as more accurate and pastoral wording

The Office of the General Assembly will not be printing and distributing amendment booklets. The complete text of the proposed amendments including advice received by the committees, is available here:

<https://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/proposed-amendments-constitution/>

**\*3. Dissolution of Grand View United Presbyterian Church**

The Grand View United Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission after consulting with the congregation's members and reviewing the state of its finances and the condition of its building has determined that dissolution of the congregation is appropriate. Final worship is scheduled for December 31, 2022. Accordingly, the Stated Clerk recommends that Pittsburgh Presbytery dissolve Grand View United Presbyterian Church effective December 31, 2022.

**\*4. Change of Authority of Grand View United Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission**

Given the recommendation that the congregation be dissolved, the Stated Clerk recommends that the Grand View Administrative Commission be granted the authority to conclude the legal, corporate, and ecclesiastical affairs of this congregation, including disposition of the property.

**\*5. Corporate Resolution Regarding Authority to Sign Documents to Receive Bequest**

Pittsburgh Presbytery has been named a remainder beneficiary under a trust created by the Last Will and Testament of Mabel Lindsay Gillespie. In order to accept this remainder interest, the corporate trustee, Bank of New York Mellon Wealth Management, has requested a specific resolution authorizing officers of the corporation to sign on its behalf. Since it is not yet known when the documents will be ready for signature, the Stated Clerk recommends that either the 2022 or 2023 officers be authorized to sign. Accordingly, the Stated Clerk recommends that the corporation of Pittsburgh Presbytery adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that any of following 2022 or 2023 corporate officers of Pittsburgh Presbytery, Inc. be authorized to sign documents so that the corporation may accept its remainder interest in the Trust created under the Last Will and Testament of Mabel Lindsay Gillespie:

2022 Officers: Ruling Elder Lenore Williams, President  
Rev. Dr. Trent Hancock, Vice President  
Ruling Elder Christopher Martin, Treasurer  
Ruling Elder Carla Campbell, Secretary

2023 Officers: Rev. Dr. Trent Hancock, President  
Rev. Charissa Howe, Vice President  
Ruling Elder Christopher Martin, Treasurer  
Ruling Elder Carla Campbell, Secretary

**\*6. 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 Install Rev. Laura Bentley**

**BENTLEY** The Administrative Commission elected by the Presbytery on September 22, 2022 to install the Rev. Laura Bentley as designated associate pastor of Southminster Presbyterian Church, comprising Moderator, the Rev. Rebecca DePoe, Rev. Don Ewing and Rev. Karen Rohrer, Elder Kristin Dillon, and Elder Bob Brown, met by appointment on November 6, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. at Southminster Presbyterian Church.

There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by the Rev. Rebecca DePoe. All things being prepared in advance, decently and in order, the Commission approved the Service of Installation and voted to proceed to the installation of the Rev. Laura Bentley according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 12:30 p.m. and installed the Rev. Laura Bentley as designated associate pastor of Southminster Presbyterian Church.

Moderator DePoe asked the constitutional questions which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Don Ewing. The Rev. DePoe

offered the prayer of installation. The Charge to the Newly Installed was given by Rev. Brian Wallace and the Charge to the Community was given by Rev. Karen Rohrer.

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 Installation with the pronouncement of the Benediction by the Rev. Laura Bentley.

#### **Administrative Commission to Install Rev. Dr. Harry Cooper**

**COOPER** The Administrative Commission elected by the Pittsburgh Presbytery on September 22, 2022, to install Rev. Dr. Harry Cooper as pastor of Friendship Community Presbyterian Church, comprising Moderator, the Rev. Ben Schneider, the Rev. Ralph Lowe, the Rev. Dr. Johnnie Monroe, Elder Carla Campbell, Southminster Presbyterian Church, and Elder Marc Portnoff, Friendship Community Presbyterian Church, met by appointment on Sunday, October 16, 2022, at 1:40 p.m. at Friendship Community Presbyterian Church.

There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by the moderator. All things being prepared in advance, decently and in order, the Commission approved the Service of Installation and voted to proceed to the installation of Rev. Dr. Harry Cooper according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 1:55 p.m. and installed the Rev. Dr. Harry Cooper as pastor of Friendship Community Presbyterian Church.

Moderator Rev. Ben Schneider asked the constitutional questions which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. Ron Peters and Rev. Ben Schneider offered the prayer of installation. The Charge to the Newly Installed was given by Rev. Ralph Lowe and the Charge to the Congregation was given by Rev. Dr. Johnnie Monroe.

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 Installation with the pronouncement of the Benediction by the Rev. Dr. Harry Cooper.

#### **Administrative Commission to Ordain Jason Dauer**

**DAUER** The Administrative Commission elected by the Pittsburgh Presbytery on September 22, 2022, to ordain Jason Dauer and install him as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood, comprising Moderator the Rev. Dr. Tyler Domske, the Rev. John Creasy, the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy, Elder Flo Raisig, and Elder Kate Davoli met by appointment on Sunday, September 25, 2022, at 3:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood.

There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by the moderator. All things being prepared in advance, decently and in order, the Commission approved the Service of Installation and voted to proceed to the installation of Jason Dauer according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 3:50p.m. and installed the Rev. Jason Dauer as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood.

Moderator Rev. Dr. Tyler Domske asked the constitutional questions which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by Rev. John Creasy. Moderator Rev. Dr. Tyler Domske offered the prayer of installation. The Charge to the Newly Ordained was given by Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy and the Charge to the Congregation was given by Kate Davoli.

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 and Installation with the pronouncement of the Benediction by the Rev. Jason Dauer.

#### **Administrative Commission to Ordain Christin Moreland**

**MORELAND** The Administrative Commission elected by the Presbytery on September 22, 2022, to ordain Christin Moreland, comprising Moderator, the Rev. Rebecca DePoe, Rev. Dr. John Burgess, and Rev. Dr. Deborah Warren and Elders Suzanne Good and Clifford Huff met by appointment on October 30, 2022, at 3:30 p.m. at Glenshaw Valley Presbyterian Church.

There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by the Rev. Rebecca DePoe. 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 Christin Moreland according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 4:00 p.m. and ordained Christin Moreland.

Moderator DePoe asked the constitutional questions which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. Deborah Warren. The Rev. DePoe offered the prayer of installation.

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 the Rev. Christin Moreland.

#### **Administrative Commission to Ordain Amy Newell**

**NEWELL** The Administrative Commission elected by the Presbytery on September 22, 2022, to ordain Amy Newell, comprising Moderator, the Rev. Rebecca DePoe, Rev. Page Creach, and Rev. Lee Nichols and Elders Jack Roach and Peggy Bonfiglio met by appointment on September 25, 2022, at 3:30 p.m. at Hoboken Presbyterian Church.

There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by the Rev. Rebecca DePoe. 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 Amy Newell according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 4:00 p.m. and ordained Amy Newell.

Moderator DePoe asked the constitutional questions which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Page Creach. The Rev. DePoe offered the prayer of installation.

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 the Rev. Amy Newell.

**Administrative Commission to Install Rev. L. Roger Owens  
and Rev. Ginger Thomas**

**OWENS & THOMAS** The Administrative Commission elected by the Presbytery on September 22, 2022 to install the Rev. Ginger Thomas and Rev. Roger Owens as co-senior pastors of Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church, comprising Moderator, the Rev. Rebecca DePoe, Rev. Ayana Teter, Rev. Dr. Angela Hancock and Elders Dr. Scott Hagley and Cristie Good, met by appointment on November 13, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church.

There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by the Rev. Rebecca DePoe. All things being prepared in advance, decently and in order, the Commission approved the Service of Installation and voted to proceed to the installation of the Rev. Ginger Thomas and Rev. Roger Owens according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 10am. and installed the Rev. Ginger Thomas and Rev. Roger Owens as the co-senior pastors of Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church.

Moderator DePoe asked the constitutional questions which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Craig Kocher. The Rev. DePoe offered the prayer of installation. The Charge to the Newly Installed was given by Rev. Larry Williams and the Charge to the Congregation was given by Rev. Ayana Teter.

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 Installation with the pronouncement of the Benediction by the Rev. Ginger Thomas and Rev. Roger Owens.

**Administrative Commission to Install Rev. Lindsay White**

**WHITE** The Administrative Commission elected by the Presbytery on September 22, 2022, to install the Rev. Lindsay White, comprising Elder Vera White (Moderator), Elder Patty Kiplinger, Elder Kristin Dillon, the Reverend Michael Holohan, and the Rev. Carol Divens Roth, met by appointment on November 20, 2022, at 9:30 AM at Crossroads Presbyterian Church.

There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by Vera White. All things being prepared in advance, decently and in order, the Commission approved the service of installation and voted to proceed to the installation of the Rev. White according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 9:50 AM. and installed the Rev White. Elder Vera White asked the constitutional questions which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by Elder Lucille Jenkins. Elder Patty Kyslinger offered the prayer of installation. Rev. Carol Divens Roth offered the charge to the congregation. Rev. Mike Holohan 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 Installation with the pronouncement of the Benediction by Rev. White.