

**Executive Committee Report**  
**May 18, 2023**

**Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee**

Pittsburgh Presbytery's Executive Committee met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 in the Patrick Room of the Presbytery Center. Co-chair Rev. Dr. Trent Hancock opened the meeting with prayer.

**Items for Information**

**1. Creation of Taskforce on Reparations to the Black Presbyterian Churches in the Presbytery**

Acting on a request from the Anti-Racism Transformational Team ("ARTT"), the Executive approved the creation of a Taskforce on Reparations to the Black Churches of Pittsburgh Presbytery to:

engage in a thorough review of the experience of these congregations through history and to offer recommendations on actions of repair and reconciliation so that Pittsburgh Presbytery may become a more harmonious, joyful, just community within the Body of Christ. The Taskforce would be expected to report regularly on its progress and to complete its work within one or two years.

The Executive Committee appointed two members to work with ARTT to nominate a team of five to ten members to be elected to the taskforce by the Executive Committee. Further information on the process to apply for the taskforce will be published in the PNews as soon as possible.

**2. Approval of Revisions to Process and Procedure for Introducing and Examining Candidates who are Certified Ready Pending Call**

At the request of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry and with the endorsement of the Ecclesiastical Committee, the Executive Committee approved modification of the timing of examinations for candidates as set forth in the attached policy.

**Items for Action**

**1. Consent Motions**

The Executive Committee recommends that the following items be approved by consent: **#s 2 and 3.**

**\*2. Finance Reports – December 2022 and January and February 2023**

The Executive Committee recommends Presbytery receive and file for audit the Presbytery Financial Statements for the months of December 2022 and January and February 2023.

**\*3. Permission for Sale of Church Property – Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church**

The Executive Committee approved and forwards to presbytery for its approval the request of Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church to sell its former manse at market price. Funds from the sale of the property will go into the endowment. The Executive Committee's approval was contingent upon receipt of signature pages showing evidence of approval by the congregation, which has been satisfied.

## **Process and Procedure for Introducing and Examining Candidates who are Certified Ready Pending Call**

After a candidate has met with CPM and been Certified Ready Pending Call, the candidate shall then appear before the Presbytery as a whole at its next meeting to be introduced, examined, and approved if the way be clear to be ordained.

Before the meeting, the candidate shall submit a brief biographical statement (150 words or less) and a photo. This information shall be included in the Presbytery Packet for the meeting along with the candidate's statement of faith.

During the CPM report, the procedure shall be as follows:

1. Introduction by the Chair of CPM - "The Commission on Preparation for Ministry has certified \_\_\_\_\_ ready to receive a call and presents them today for final examination by the body."
2. Endorsement of Ministry (3-4 Minutes) - At least one individual (or more, but the total time shall not exceed the allotted time), identified ahead of time, shall speak to the person's fitness and readiness to undertake the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament. This may be a CPM member, someone who has worked with the individual, or a colleague. The leadership of CPM shall work with the individual and their care team to identify this individual (or individuals).
3. Personal introduction and sharing of faith story and sense of call (3-4 Minutes) - The candidate shall briefly introduce themselves to the body and give the "reader's digest" version of their faith journey while speaking to their current sense of call.
4. Reading of the Statement - The candidate shall then read their statement of faith for the body.
5. Extended Explanation (3-4 Minutes) - The Moderator shall then ask the candidate to expand on one area of their faith statement.
6. Questions from the Floor - The Moderator then shall ask if there are any further questions from the body. Commissioners' questions must relate to the candidate's statement of faith, forms of service, or sense of call. The representatives of CPM present may advise the moderator if they believe a

question that a commissioner has asked is out of order.

7. When there are no further questions, the Chair of CPM shall move on behalf of the commission that the Candidate, if the way be clear, be approved for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

Parts 5-6 shall be limited to a time period of 10 minutes. Unless there is a motion adopted by the body to extend the time for questions, the examination shall conclude, and the body shall move to debate and vote on the recommendation.

Original: August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Revised: January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023