



December 2023

Dear Presbytery,

We look forward to meeting at Union Presbyterian Church of Robinson Township for our final presbytery meeting of the year on December 7th at 1:00 p.m. Our Advent worship is sure to be inspiring as we will hear the sermon *Leave Your Umbrella at Home: An Advent Shouting Match and the Faithfulness of God* by Rev. Austin Crenshaw Shelley and a solo selection from the *Magnificat* by acclaimed vocalist Charlene Canty. Worship is being planned by the members of the Special Nominating Committee to nominate a new General Minister who hope to invite the Presbytery into the posture that they believe will be necessary for us to walk into this next season of ministry together. They have expressed that they are aware of the fears and anxieties associated with this process and at this service want to lead the Presbytery in a liturgy that calls for a commitment to corporate change while affirming our hope in God's promise.

We will install our 2024 Moderators so that we may celebrate with them and honor the work of our current Moderator while we are gathered. We will hear announcements from the Presbyterian Foundation, the Board of Pensions, and the Anti-Racism Transformation Team in addition to receiving an update on our Matthew 25 Initiative. Our Commission on Preparation for Ministry will bring a Candidate forward for approval for ordination and we will elect our committee and commission members for 2024 and our commissioners to the 226th General Assembly to be held in Salt Lake City next summer.

When entering Union Church, please take a moment to appreciate the beautiful addition that provides a welcome entry point and an elevator for limited mobility access to the sanctuary. This addition is a great example of Presbyterians working together for the greater glory of the Kingdom as it was made possible by a loan from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program, approved and guaranteed by Pittsburgh Presbytery. When leaving the church, be sure to pause to take in the beautiful hilltop view.

Grace and peace,

Carla L. Campbell

Stated Clerk and Congregational Support Associate







SEEKING TO BE FAITHFUL TOGETHER:

Guidelines for Presbyterians in Times of Disagreement

In a spirit of trust and love, we promise we will...

Give them a	hearing
listen before	we answer

(John 7:51 and Proverbs 18:13)

1. Treat each other respectfully so as to build trust, believing that we all desire to be faithful to Jesus the Christ;

- we will keep our conversations and communications open for candid and forthright exchange,
- we will not ask questions or make statements in a way that will intimidate or judge others.
- 2. Learn about various positions on the topic of disagreement.
- 3. State what we think we heard and ask for clarification before responding, in an effort to be sure we understand each other.

Speak the truth in love

(Ephesians 4:15)

- 4. Share our concerns directly with individuals or groups with whom we have disagreements in a spirit of love and respect in keeping with Jesus' teachings.
- Focus on ideas and suggestions instead of questioning people's motives, intelligence or integrity;
 - we will not engage in name-calling or labeling of others prior to, during or following the discussion.
- 6. Share our personal experiences about the subject of disagreement so that others may more fully understand our concerns.
- 7. Indicate where we agree with those of other viewpoints as well as where we disagree.
- 8. Seek to stay in community with each other though the discussion may be vigorous and full of tension;
 - we will be ready to forgive and be forgiven.

9. Follow these additional guidelines when we meet in decision-making bodies:

- urge people of various points of view to speak and promise to listen to these positions seriously
- seek conclusions informed by our points of agreement;
- be sensitive to the feelings and concerns of those who do not agree with the majority and respect their rights of conscience;
- abide by the decision of the majority, and if we disagree with it and wish to change it, work for that change in ways that are consistent with these Guidelines.
- 10. Include our disagreement in our prayers, not praying for the triumph of our viewpoints, but seeking God's grace to listen attentively, to speak clearly and to remain open to the vision God holds for us all.

Maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3)

Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh

Union Presbyterian Church of Robinson Township December 7, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

Ruling Elder Louise Schoppe, Moderator, Rev. Sarah Robbins, Sr. Vice Moderator

Pittsburgh Presbytery is a covenant community of Jesus Christ that exists to assist and support the witness of our congregations and members as we actively participate in the mission of the Triune God in the world.

PRESBYTERY MEETING DOCKET

Gathering for the Work of the Presbytery

Opening Prayer and Welcome from the Moderator

Adoption of the Consent Agenda and Announcement of the Intention to Introduce New Business

Worship

Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements

Greetings from Our Host

Introduction of First Time Commissioners, Welcome of New Members, Seating of Corresponding Members, and Recognition of Transitions

Announcements from the Presbyterian Foundation

(10 mins)

Announcements from the Board of Pensions

(15 mins)

Update on the Matthew 25 Initiative

(10 mins)

Election of 2024 Senior Vice Moderator and Installation of 2024 Moderators Hearing from Our Staff, Commissions, Committees, and Ministry Teams

Commission on Preparation for Ministry Report

Commission on Ministry Report

Committee on Nominations Report

Report from the Anti-Racism Transformation Team

(5 mins)

Acting Head of Staff Report

Attending to our Corporate and Ecclesiastical Business

Executive Committee Report

Stated Clerk's Report

Going Forth by God's Grace to Serve

New and Old Business

Report from the Roll Clerk and Closing Prayer

CONSENT AGENDA December 7, 2023

All consent items are listed below and are the same as the Consent Motion items which appear in the following reports, and which are indicated by an asterisk. At the time the motion to approve the Consent Agenda is made, any commissioner may request the removal of any item from the Consent Agenda for debate by the body. If an item is removed from the Consent Agenda, it will be considered at the regularly docketed time for the report of the group to which it belongs.

Items for Consent Action

Report of the Minute Reading Committee

• Report of the Regular Meeting Minute Reading Committee

Matters from the Executive Committee

- Item 3 Finance Reports August and September 2023
- Item 4 Waiver of Six-Year Limitation on Terms

Matters from the Stated Clerk

• Item 2 – Ecclesiastical Administrative Commissions to Ordain

Matters from the Commission on Preparation for Ministry

None

Matters from the Commission on Ministry

- Item 2 Moderators
- Item 3 Temporary/Covenant/Interim Pastors
- Item 4 Letters of Reception
- Item 5 Letters of Dissolution
- Item 6 Members-at-Large
- Item 7 Enrollment in Temporary Membership
- Item 8 Permission to Labor Within Bounds
- Item 9 Calls
- Item 10 Commissioned Pastors
- Item 11 Retirement

REPORT OF THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES READING COMMITTEE (Included/approved, in the consent agenda)

The regular meeting Minutes Reading Committee met on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at Crestfield Camp and Conference Center immediately following the regularly stated Presbytery meeting and read the minutes of said meeting. A quorum was present.

	Р	Α	Е		Р	Α	Е
Ruling Elders				Teaching Elders			
Carla Campbell	Х			Trent Hancock	Х		
Cathy Nelson	Х			Sarah Robbins	Х		
Louise Schoppe	Х			Brian Wallace	Х		

The Committee recommends approval of the Minutes of the regularly stated Presbytery Meeting Thursday, September 28, 2023, at Crestfield Camp and Conference Center. **For the Committee**: *The Rev. Dr. Trent Hancock, Chair.*

The next meeting of the Minutes Reading Committee will be held on December 7, 2023, immediately following the next Stated meeting of Presbytery expected to held at Union Presbyterian Church of Robinson Township. Any commissioner present in person at such meeting is invited to attend.

Commission on Preparation for Ministry Report to Pittsburgh Presbytery December 2023

Items for Action

1. Approval of Candidate for Ordination, Pending Call

The commission recommends the following Candidate be approved for ordination (biographical sketch, call statement, and Statement of Faith included in packet materials):

Victoria Wellstead

You can view Victoria's Final Discernment Event on our YouTube Channel (https://www.youtube.com/@pittsburghpresbytery). We anticipate the recording being available by Monday afternoon (12/4).

Commission on Preparation for Ministry Personal Profile Form for Candidates Ready for Examination

Name: Victoria Wellstead

Status: Certified Ready Pending Call, Pittsburgh Presbytery

Biographical Statement

I attended Catholic church in my formative years and went to Archbishop Williams Catholic High School in Boston, however, I was not born again until my 30's. I was married in the Episcopal church and the Priest sent me on a retreat with the Methodist church called the "Walk to Emmaus." On the 3-day walk, I finally understood God's grace for the first time and accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior. Since that time, I have been involved in many ministries, including teaching adult and children's bible study, VBS, and mission work in Honduras and Nicaragua. I taught school in Episcopal schools for eight years when my children were attending. After a divorce, I returned to the practice of law and was in-house counsel for a large corporation in



Jacksonville. Six years later, when my 2 daughters were in college and my son was in boarding school, I met my now husband at a legal conference in California. A year later, I moved to Pittsburgh. My husband is a dyed in the wool Presbyterian elder and we were married and attend Shadyside Presbyterian Church. When I arrived in Pittsburgh, I became relicensed in PA to practice law but after a year I felt God calling me to the Seminary. I graduated from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS) in 2021. I am currently on the PTS Board of Directors and several committees. I did my Field Education at Longwood at Oakmont and I still assist with weekly Vesper services. I completed a CPE unit in 2022 at the Hienz VA to study best practices for Chaplains. I completed a second Field Education at Bellevue United Presbyterian Church. In addition to Vespers, I teach men's bible study at the county jail and volunteer at Wilkinsburg Community Ministries.

Current Sense of Call

God has made it clear to me that I am called to be in ministry and ordained in Word and Sacrament. I loved my congregational field education at Bellevue United Presbyterian church with Rev. Christie. In those nine months I became close to the congregants, did visitation, attended session and preached or participated in weekly liturgy. I currently do pulpit supply for friends and have found that preparing for sermons stretches my own faith and energizes me to study God's word and the passion to share it. In addition to preaching, I have assisted Dr. Rev. Randolph regularly for the past 4 years in the

distribution of communion to the elderly at Longwood. I would like to be able to consecrate the elements myself not only for worship services, but for those who are sick and cannot attend worship and at the jail. I have been asked by prisoners to be baptized and would love to be able to do that in any setting. I enjoy both congregational ministry and chaplaincy work and I currently do some of both; I would love to be ordained in word and sacrament for either ministry. I am open to what God has for me after my ordination as either a part time pastor or chaplain.

- 1 I believe in God, creator of all things, and that we are His children, made in His image. Our purpose is to love
- 2 God above all and to love others the way we want to be loved. We are also purposed to preserve creation in
- 3 cooperation with God. God guides us into a much larger purpose as part of His master plan to bring justice and
- 4 mercy into this world.
- 5 There is one God, comprised of three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Triune God is in full
- 6 communion, co equal and made of the same substance. God has always existed, is eternal, and not limited
- 7 by time or dimension. God acts each day within our hearts and in our circumstances. God continually redeems
- 8 creation through his only son, Jesus. Jesus worked to give us God's gift of amazing grace, the unimaginable and
- 9 unearned favor and forgiveness that only God's perfect love can give.
- 10 My lens for interpreting Christianity is that God is love; I have sensed God's love throughout my life. God
- created people because of God's desire to engage in loving relationship with them. Sin was not God's plan for
- us. God gave us free will so we could choose to love God, but we chose selfishly and sinned. Through our
 - rebellion, we separated ourselves from God who cannot be in the presence of sin. God's plan of returning us to
- Himself was to send Jesus. Jesus took on human flesh; He suffered and died on a cross taking our sin and its
- ugly companion death upon Himself. Breaking the curse of sin and death is the fullest expression of God's love
- 16 for us.

13

18

19

37

- 17 Incredibly, Jesus is both fully man and fully God. Jesus taught us about who God is; a God who is most often
 - juxtaposed to the thinking of this material world. For example, power is found in love, not weapons. As man,
 - Jesus endured great human suffering and He suffers alongside us when we suffer. As God, Jesus obediently
- followed God's plan to vanguish sin and death. As fully God and fully man, Jesus, was the only one who could
- redeem us. Jesus willingly allowed himself to be crucified for sin that belongs to us. Jesus, the great physician
- 22 took our irreparably damaged hearts onto the cross and swapped them for new healthy, spiritual hearts like
- 23 His. This is the greatest gift the world has ever known. We do nothing to deserve such a gift. We now enjoy a
- restored relationship with God the way God originally intended.
- 25 At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit breathed life into the Church. God was the initiator of our redemption, Christ's
- 26 work on the cross was God's mission work for salvation, and the Holy Spirit is the empowering presence of God
- 27 that leads the church to Holiness. The Holy Spirit also inspired the Bible, the authoritative guide for the Church.
- 28 It is a living document that speaks to us in our own time and context. The scripture includes Jesus' teachings
- 29 on how we are to live and reveals the Good News that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
- The Holy Spirit dwells in all believers. The Spirit sustains our faith, inspires us, teaches, and prays for us when
- 31 we do not know how. I rely on the Spirit's guidance to interpret the word and to give pastoral care to my
- brothers and sisters in jail or at the bedside. As my maturity in faith grows, so too does the fruit of the Spirit; I
- 33 sense an increasing amount of love, joy, and peace.
- Jesus is Head of the Church, and all believers make up His body. The Church is like a hospital for spiritual illness
- where we go for worship, healing, and strength to participate in Jesus' mission of reconciling all people to God.
- 36 As a priesthood of all believers, we are to care for others within and outside the Church and to make disciples
 - of all nations. The Spirit driven Church inspires believers through the word and sacrament. Christ ordained
- 38 Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. In Baptism, through the Spirit and water, we die and rise in Christ and are
- affirmed as His own. For infants, parents and the Congregation agree to raise and nurture the child in faith. At
- 40 the Lord's Supper, Christ's spirit is present, and we are in communion with Him. The bread reminds us of
- 41 Christ's body broken for our sin and the wine reminds us of salvation through Christ's once and for all sacrifice.

	Victoria Wellstead	Statement of Faith	9/28/2023
12	The Lord's Supper nourishes us, remind	ds us of our Baptism, and gives us renewed	life and strength for our role
13	in Christ's mission.		
14	Jesus received His reward in heaven an	d is seated at the right hand of God. Jesus,	as both God and man, has
1 5	been given Kingship in Heaven and on	earth. Jesus continues to intercede for us as	s our High Priest. His
1 6	Kingdom on earth has begun and conti	nues through His bride, the Church. Jesus w	vill come again and will
1 7	restore His beloved Kingdom; sin, suffe	ring and death will be no more.	

Word Count 846

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON MINISTRY TO PRESBYTERY

November 28, 2023 Meeting

The committee met on November 28, 2023. A guorum was present.

Part I - Items for Information

1. Positions Available For the information of members of the Presbytery, the

Commission lists the following positions within the Presbytery that

are thought to be available.

Pastor (PT) Bull Creek United Presbyterian Church, Tarentum

Pastor (FT) Community PC of Ben Avon, Pittsburgh

Interim Pastor (FT) Presbyterian Church of Coraopolis, Coraopolis Interim Pastor (FT) The Riverdale Presbyterian Church, Moon Twp.

Associate Pastor (FT) Westminster Presbyterian Church, Upper St. Clair Covenant Pastor (PT) (16-18 hrs) Amity Presbyterian Church, Dravosburg Temporary Pastor (PT) Universal United Presbyterian Church, Penn Hills

2. Completion of Temporary/Interim/Covenant Contracts

The completion of the contract between **Rev. Doug Gebhard** and Union Presbyterian Church, effective November 30, 2023.

The completion of the contract between Commissioned Pastor **Becky Boyer** and Southwood Psychiatric Facility, Bridgeville, effective November 20, 2023.

Items for Action

1. Consent Motions

The Commission recommends that the following recommendations be adopted by consent: #'s 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11

*2. Moderators

The appointment of the **Rev. Ernest Gardner** as moderator of First Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh effective October 1, 2023.

The appointment of the **Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson** as moderator of Union Presbyterian Church, Robinson Twp. effective December 1, 2023.

The appointment of the **Rev. Dr. Larry Ruby** as moderator of The Presbyterian Church, Coraopolis effective December 7, 2023.

The appointment of the **Rev. Dr. Karen Claassen** as moderator of Concord Presbyterian Church effective January 1, 2024.

The appointment of the **Rev. Jin Kyung Ko** as moderator of Crafton United Presbyterian Church effective October 15, 2023.

The appointment of the **Rev. Jason Freyer** as moderator of The Presbyterian Church of Plum Creek effective January 1, 2024.

The appointment of the **Rev. Dr. Steve Wilson** as moderator of Linway Presbyterian Church effective February 1, 2024.

The appointment of the **Rev. Peter Bower** as moderator of Baldwin United Presbyterian Church effective January 1, 2024.

The appointment of the **Rev. Doug Gebhard** as moderator of Open Door United Presbyterian Church effective December 1, 2023.

The appointment of the **Rev. Dr. Doug Marshall** as moderator of Southminster Presbyterian Church effective January 1, 2024.

*3. Temporary/Covenant/Interim Pastors

The request of the First Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh for the services of **Rev. Ernest Gardner** as Interim Pastor effective October 1, 2023 for one year.

The request of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church for the renewal of the services of **Rev**. **Kendra Buckwalter Smith** as Covenant Pastor effective September 1, 2023 for one year.

The request of the Baldwin Presbyterian Church for the services of **Rev. Dr. Peter Bower** as Temporary Pastor effective January 1, 2024 for one year.

The request of the Open Door Presbyterian Church for the services of **Rev. Doug Gebhard** as Interim Pastor effective December 1, 2023 for one year.

The request of the Bethany Presbyterian Church for the renewal of the services of **Rev**. **Ellen Dawson** as Covenant Associate Pastor effective January 1, 2024 for one year.

The request of the McKeesport Presbyterian Church for the renewal of the services of **Rev. Michael Stanton** as Covenant Pastor effective October 1, 2023 for one year.

The request of the Southminster Presbyterian Church for the services of **Rev. Dr. Douglas Marshall** as Interim Pastor effective January 1, 2024 for one year.

*4. Letters of Reception

The Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson from Beaver-Butler Presbytery effective December 1, 2023.

The Rev. Ernest Gardner from Charlotte Presbytery effective September 28, 2023.

The Rev. Katherine Campbell from Abingdon Presbytery effective June 25, 2023.

The Rev. Dr. Doug Marshall from Redstone Presbytery effective January 1, 2024.

November 28, 2023

*5. Letters of Dissolution

The request of the **Rev. Eric Dennis** to dissolve the call at Linway Presbyterian Church effective January 31, 2024.

The request of the **Rev. Karie Charlton** to dissolve the call at Third Presbyterian Church effective July 31, 2023.

*6. Members-At-Large

The request of the **Rev. Karie Charlton** to be enrolled as a member at large of Pittsburgh Presbytery effective August 1, 2023.

*7. Enrollment in Temporary Membership

The Rev. Jin Kyung Ko, member of The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, effective October 15, 2023.

*8. Permission to Labor Within Bounds

Request of the **Rev. Dr. Peter Bower**, a member of Kiskimenitas Presbytery, as Temporary Pastor at Baldwin United Presbyterian Church effective January 1, 2024.

*9. Calls

The call of the Crafton United Presbyterian Church for the services of **Rev. Jin Kyung Ko** as Pastor effective October 15, 2023. Annual terms of call are Salary \$21,474.00 and Housing \$9,245.00; Social Security Offset \$2,526.00; Continuing Education \$2,000.00; Moving Expenses \$1,250.00; Professional Expenses \$550.00; 4 weeks of vacation and 2 weeks study leave. This is a full-time shared position with St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Crafton. Rev. Ko is participating in the ELCA benefits plan.

The call of the Union Presbyterian Church for the services of **Rev. Dr. Jon Nelson** as Pastor effective December 1, 2023. Annual terms of call are Salary \$46,000.00 and Housing \$34,000.00; Full Board of Pensions Pastor's Participation Plan; Medical Deductible Reimbursement \$1,600.00, Social Security Offset \$6,120.00; Continuing Education \$2,000.00; Expense Allowance \$3,000.00; 5 weeks of vacation, including 4 Sundays and 2 weeks study leave, including 2 Sundays.

EEO Reports

Data	Women			Ethnic/Minorities			Disabled				TOT		
	PIF	INT	POS	REF	PIF	INT	POS	REF	PIF	INT	POS	REF	
Crafton United	2	1	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
Union	6	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	125

PIF – Number of Personal Information Forms received

INT – Number interviewed

REF – Number refused position

POS – Number offered position **TOT**– All PIFs considered

*10. Commissioned Pastors

The request of Hawthorne Avenue Presbyterian Church for the renewal of the services of **Elder Paul Nigra** as Commissioned Pastor for one-year effective January 1, 2024 and authorized to perform the following functions at Hawthorne Avenue Presbyterian Church:

- Administer the Lord's Supper.
- Administer the Sacrament of Baptism.
- Moderate the session.
- Have a voice in meetings of the Presbytery
- Have a vote in meetings of the Presbytery (such vote to be counted as an elder commissioner for purposes of parity).
- Perform a service of Christian marriage when invited by the session and permitted by state law.
- Perform a service of Christian burial when invited by the session.

The request of Valley Presbyterian Church for the renewal of the services of **Elder Nancy Kay Stanny** as Commissioned Pastor for one-year effective January 1, 2024 and authorized to perform the following functions at Valley Presbyterian Church:

- Administer the Lord's Supper.
- Administer the Sacrament of Baptism.
- Moderate the session.
- Have a voice in meetings of the Presbytery
- Have a vote in meetings of the Presbytery (such vote to be counted as an elder commissioner for purposes of parity).
- Perform a service of Christian marriage when invited by the session and permitted by state law.
- Perform a service of Christian burial when invited by the session.

The request of Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church for the renewal of the services of **Elder Louise Schoppe** as Commissioned Pastor for one-year effective January 1, 2024 and authorized to perform the following functions at Ken Mawr United Presbyterian Church:

- Administer the Lord's Supper.
- Administer the Sacrament of Baptism.
- Moderate the session.
- Have a voice in meetings of the Presbytery
- Have a vote in meetings of the Presbytery (such vote to be counted as an elder commissioner for purposes of parity).
- Perform a service of Christian marriage when invited by the session and permitted by state law.
- Perform a service of Christian burial when invited by the session.

*11. Retirement

The request of the **Rev. Eric Dennis** for retirement effective January 31, 2024.

Committee on Nominations

Report to Presbytery December 7, 2023

The Standing Committee on Nominations is nominating Rev. Lindsay White, Cross Roads Presbyterian Church, Monroeville for Senior Vice-Moderator in 2024.

The Standing Committee on Nominations is announcing the following nominations for election at the December meeting. Nominations from the floor shall be in order for all of the Standing Committees of Presbytery at the September meeting provided the nominator has affirmed the nominee's willingness to serve if elected.

Standing Committees/Commissions:

Executive Committee

The Rev. Emily Cooper, Glenshaw (2026B) - North The Rev. Kyle Erickson, Third (2026A) - East

The Rev. Brian Snyder (2026A) - West

Elder Bob Brown, Southminster (2026B) - South Elder Dan Beckstrom, Bethel Park (2026A) - South

Commission on Ministry

The Rev. Josh Fisher, Mosaic (2026A) - North The Rev. Jason Rea, Hebron/Forest Ave (2026B) - West The Rev. Paul Roberts, HR (2024A) - East Elder Judi Shipley, First, Pittsburgh (2026B) – South

Commission on Preparation for Ministry

The Rev. Aaron Teter, Eastminster (2026B) - East The Rev. Phil Beck, Tarentum (2026A) - North The Rev. Jason Freyer, Beulah (2026A) - East

Foundation

The Rev. Jim Gilchrist, HR (2026A) – North The Rev. Ben Robbins, Northmont (2026A) - North Elder Dan Beckstrom, Bethel Park (2026A) - South Elder Bart Huchel, Ken Mawr (2026A) - West

Response Team

Elder Jan Wendt, Sewickley (2026A) - West

Permanent Judicial Commission (PJC)

Elder Susan Dobbins, Sewickley (2029) - West Elder Lenore Williams, East Liberty (2029) - East Elder Betsy Teti, Southminster (2029) - South

NWCC

The Rev. Jeff Eddings, GA (2026A) - South Elder Scott Hagley, The Open Door (2026B) - East

General Assembly Commissioners (By Rotation and Executive Committee)

- * Elder Alex Matthews (Grace Memorial)
- * Elder Dana Nicodemus (Hiland) Elder John Wray (Waverly)
- * The Rev. Sarah Robinson (Sixth) [nominated by virtue of Moderatorial office]
- * The Rev. Lindsay White (Cross Roads, Monroeville) [nominated by virtue of Moderatorial office] The Rev. Hunter Farrell (PTS)

(An * indicates a nominee appointed by the Executive Committee)

Alternates:

Elder Sam Kiser (Carnegie)
The Rev. Nancy Titus (Forest Hills)

Young Adult Advisory Delegate

Grace Bogdon (John McMillan) - South

Young Adult Advisory Delegate Alternate

Anderson Beck (Beulah) - East

The Committee on Nominations is grateful to all who have submitted names of interested ministers and elders to serve on the committees and commissions of Presbytery. Any member of Presbytery who has an interest in being considered for nomination to any Standing Committee or Council, or who knows of any other person who has such an interest, is strongly encouraged to relay the names and contact information for suggested nominees to the Committee on Nominations in care of cnelson@pghpresbytery.org. Information concerning the functions of the committees of Presbytery may be found in The Manual of Pittsburgh Presbytery available under Stated Clerk Resources on the Presbytery website, www.pghpresbytery.org.

Executive Committee Report November 14, 2023

Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee

Pittsburgh Presbytery's Executive Committee met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 in the Patrick Room of the Presbytery Center. Co-chair Rev. Dr. Trent Hancock opened the meeting with prayer.

Items for Information

1. Declaration of Henry Highland Garnet Weekend

The Executive Committee declared that the third weekend in February should henceforth be proclaimed as Henry Highland Garnet Weekend in Pittsburgh Presbytery. Further information regarding the celebration of Rev. Henry Highland Garnet's ministry in Pittsburgh will be forthcoming.

2. Election of Executive Committee Leadership for 2024

The Executive Committee elected Rev. Dr. Charissa Howe and Rev. Emily Cooper as its co-chairs for 2024.

3. Change in Title for Presbytery Associate Ministers

The Executive Committee approved the following changes in titles for the Associate Ministers:

Rev. Brian Wallace: Associate Minister for Congregational Support and Emerging Ministries:

Rev. Ralph Lowe: Associate Minister for Congregational Support and Justice Ministries;

Rev. Louise Rogers: Temporary Associate Minister for Congregational Support.

4. Election of Member and 2024 Chair of the Ecclesiastical Committee

The Executive Committee elected Ruling Elder Laura Markowitz to the Ecclesiastical Committee in the Class of 2026B and Rev. Heather Schoenewolf as its Chair for 2024.

Items for Action

1. Consent Motions

The Executive Committee recommends that the following items be approved by consent: #s 3, and 4.

2. Election of Members of the Nominating Committee

The Executive Committee approved of the Ecclesiastical Committee's nomination of the following individuals for election by Presbytery to the Nominating Committee:

Rev. Dr. David Carver (Class of 2026B)

Rev. Jodi Flack (Class of 2026A)

Rev. Flack's election requires a waiver of the branch representation requirement as the current opening is for a minister from the South and Rev. Flack lives and serves in the West.

*3. Finance Reports – August and September 2023

The Executive Committee recommends Presbytery receive and file for audit the Presbytery Financial Statements for the months of August and September 2023.

*4. Waiver of Six-Year Limitation on Terms

The Executive Committee approved and forwards to Presbytery for its approval, waivers of the six-year limitation on terms for members of the following congregations to serve additional terms beginning in 2024:

Bull Creek United Presbyterian Church 2 Elders
Concord Presbyterian Church 2 Elders
Montours Presbyterian Church 1 Elder
Valley Presbyterian Church 1 Deacon

Pittsburgh Presbytery Operating Fund Revenues & Expenses - Summary August 2023

	Annual Budget	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	MTD Budget Remaining	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Budget Remaining
Revenues							
Presbytery Mission Income							
Presbytery Mission Support	\$90,000.00	\$2,874.00	\$7,500.00	\$4,626.00	\$24,535.23	\$60,000.00	\$35,464.77
Pittsburgh Presby. Foundation	\$180,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$0.00	(\$45,000.00)	\$135,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$0.00
Endowment Withdrawals/Income	\$357,621.00	\$29,000.02	\$29,801.75	\$801.73	\$239,600.25	\$238,414.00	(\$1,186.25)
Short-term Invest. Income	\$75,000.00	\$236.67	\$6,000.00	\$5,763.33	\$1,016.67	\$48,000.00	\$46,983.33
Other Income	\$63,064.00	\$5,214.28	\$5,505.33	\$291.05	\$39,427.23	\$44,042.64	\$4,615.41
Total Presbytery Mission Income	\$765,685.00	\$82,324.97	\$48,807.08	(\$33,517.89)	\$439,579.38	\$525,456.64	\$85,877.26
Being the Presbytery Income							
Per Capita Income	\$728,534.00	\$14,336.94	\$60,711.17	\$46,374.23	\$497,381.14	\$485,689.36	(\$11,691.78)
Endowment Withdrawals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Being the Presbytery Income	\$728,534.00	\$14,336.94	\$60,711.17	\$46,374.23	\$497,381.14	\$485,689.36	(\$11,691.78)
Total Budgeted Revenues	\$1,494,219.00	\$96,661.91	\$109,518.25	\$12,856.34	\$936,960.52	\$1,011,146.00	\$74,185.48
Expenses							
Mission To Our Congregations							
Disciplemaking/Spirit.Growth	\$9,425.00	\$650.00	\$785.42	\$135.42	\$2,835.60	\$6,283.36	\$3,447.76
Cong.Enhancement/ACT	\$65,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,417.00	\$5,417.00	\$35,030.00	\$43,336.00	\$8,306.00
Pastor Ministry Accounts	\$12,000.00	\$129.54	\$1,000.00	\$870.46	\$3,053.97	\$8,000.00	\$4,946.03
Presbytery Resources	\$1,700.00	\$0.00	\$141.67	\$141.67	\$0.00	\$1,133.36	\$1,133.36
Stewardship & Mission Interp.	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$104.17	\$104.17	\$0.00	\$833.36	\$833.36
Total Mission To Our Congregations	\$89,375.00	\$779.54	\$7,448.26	\$6,668.72	\$40,919.57	\$59,586.08	\$18,666.51
Mission Beyond Congregations							
Ecumenical Partnerships	\$18,100.00	\$0.00	\$1,508.34	\$1,508.34	\$6,100.00	\$12,066.72	\$5,966.72
GA & Synod Per Capita Support	\$271,255.00	\$66,594.06	\$17,849.00	(\$48,745.06)	\$133,188.12	\$185,592.25	\$52,404.13
International Partnership	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	(\$826.50)	\$2,000.00	\$2,826.50
Mission Ministry Team	\$2,600.00	\$0.00	\$216.67	\$216.67	\$0.00	\$1,733.36	\$1,733.36
New Worshiping Communities	\$100,000.00	\$532.10	\$8,333.33	\$7,801.23	\$76,434.25	\$66,666.64	(\$9,767.61)
Crestfield Support	\$90,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$0.00
Justice Ministries	\$11,750.00	\$60.00	\$979.18	\$919.18	\$2,390.51	\$7,833.44	\$5,442.93
Total Mission Beyond Congregations	\$496,705.00	\$67,186.16	\$29,136.52	(\$38,049.64)	\$307,286.38	\$365,892.41	\$58,606.03

Pittsburgh Presbytery Operating Fund Revenues & Expenses - Summary August 2023

	Annual Budget	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	MTD Budget Remaining	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Budget Remaining
Ecclesiastical Costs							
Administrative Expense	\$83,037.00	\$4,673.40	\$6,919.67	\$2,246.27	\$38,579.41	\$55,357.36	\$16,777.95
Executive Committee Expenses	\$5,550.00	\$0.00	\$462.49	\$462.49	\$3,875.79	\$3,699.92	(\$175.87)
Ministry - COM & CPM	\$10,125.00	\$0.00	\$843.76	\$843.76	\$7,431.70	\$6,750.08	(\$681.62)
Property Expense	\$41,900.00	\$4,976.51	\$4,408.32	(\$568.19)	\$62,984.90	\$37,766.56	(\$25,218.34)
Stated Clerk Office	\$950.00	\$0.00	\$79.17	\$79.17	\$1,091.87	\$633.36	(\$458.51)
Total Ecclesiastical Costs	\$141,562.00	\$9,649.91	\$12,713.41	\$3,063.50	\$113,963.67	\$104,207.28	(\$9,756.39)
Total Personnel	\$766,577.00	\$61,828.66	\$62,631.51	\$802.85	\$496,837.98	\$501,052.08	\$4,214.10
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$1,494,219.00	\$139,444.27	\$111,929.70	(\$27,514.57)	\$959,007.60	\$1,030,737.85	\$71,730.25
Presbytery Operating Budget Net Total	\$0.00	(\$42,782.36)	(\$2,411.45)	\$40,370.91	(\$22,047.08)	(\$19,591.85)	\$2,455.23

Pittsburgh Presbytery Operating Fund Revenues & Expenses - Summary September 2023

	Annual Budget	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	MTD Budget Remaining	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Budget Remaining
Revenues							
Presbytery Mission Income							
Presbytery Mission Support	\$90,000.00	\$1,115.00	\$7,500.00	\$6,385.00	\$25,650.23	\$67,500.00	\$41,849.77
Pittsburgh Presby. Foundation	\$180,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$135,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$0.00
Endowment Withdrawals/Income	\$357,621.00	\$29,000.02	\$29,801.75	\$801.73	\$268,600.27	\$268,215.75	(\$384.52)
Short-term Invest. Income	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$1,016.67	\$54,000.00	\$52,983.33
Other Income	\$63,064.00	\$2,445.68	\$5,505.33	\$3,059.65	\$41,872.91	\$49,547.97	\$7,675.06
Total Presbytery Mission Income	\$765,685.00	\$32,560.70	\$48,807.08	\$16,246.38	\$472,140.08	\$574,263.72	\$102,123.64
Being the Presbytery Income							
Per Capita Income	\$728,534.00	\$13,247.68	\$60,711.17	\$47,463.49	\$510,628.82	\$546,400.53	\$35,771.71
Endowment Withdrawals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Being the Presbytery Income	\$728,534.00	\$13,247.68	\$60,711.17	\$47,463.49	\$510,628.82	\$546,400.53	\$35,771.71
Total Budgeted Revenues	\$1,494,219.00	\$45,808.38	\$109,518.25	\$63,709.87	\$982,768.90	\$1,120,664.25	\$137,895.35
Expenses							
Mission To Our Congregations							
Disciplemaking/Spirit.Growth	\$9,425.00	\$62.06	\$785.42	\$723.36	\$2,897.66	\$7,068.78	\$4,171.12
Cong.Enhancement/ACT	\$65,000.00	\$6,807.00	\$5,417.00	(\$1,390.00)	\$41,837.00	\$48,753.00	\$6,916.00
Pastor Ministry Accounts	\$12,000.00	\$554.91	\$1,000.00	\$445.09	\$3,608.88	\$9,000.00	\$5,391.12
Presbytery Resources	\$1,700.00	\$0.00	\$141.67	\$141.67	\$0.00	\$1,275.03	\$1,275.03
Stewardship & Mission Interp.	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$104.17	\$104.17	\$0.00	\$937.53	\$937.53
Total Mission To Our Congregations	\$89,375.00	\$7,423.97	\$7,448.26	\$24.29	\$48,343.54	\$67,034.34	\$18,690.80
Mission Beyond Congregations							
Ecumenical Partnerships	\$18,100.00	\$0.00	\$1,508.34	\$1,508.34	\$6,100.00	\$13,575.06	\$7,475.06
GA & Synod Per Capita Support	\$271,255.00	\$0.00	\$17,849.00	\$17,849.00	\$133,188.12	\$203,441.25	\$70,253.13
International Partnership	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	(\$826.50)	\$2,250.00	\$3,076.50
Mission Ministry Team	\$2,600.00	\$0.00	\$216.67	\$216.67	\$0.00	\$1,950.03	\$1,950.03
New Worshiping Communities	\$100,000.00	\$625.13	\$8,333.33	\$7,708.20	\$77,059.38	\$74,999.97	(\$2,059.41)
Crestfield Support	\$90,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$0.00
Justice Ministries	\$11,750.00	\$0.00	\$979.18	\$979.18	\$2,390.51	\$8,812.62	\$6,422.11
Total Mission Beyond Congregations	\$496,705.00	\$625.13	\$29,136.52	\$28,511.39	\$307,911.51	\$395,028.93	\$87,117.42

Pittsburgh Presbytery Operating Fund Revenues & Expenses - Summary September 2023

	Annual Budget	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	MTD Budget Remaining	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Budget Remaining
Ecclesiastical Costs							
Administrative Expense	\$83,037.00	\$9,307.38	\$6,919.67	(\$2,387.71)	\$47,886.79	\$62,277.03	\$14,390.24
Executive Committee Expenses	\$5,550.00	\$1,124.82	\$462.49	(\$662.33)	\$5,000.61	\$4,162.41	(\$838.20)
Ministry - COM & CPM	\$10,125.00	\$2,897.84	\$843.76	(\$2,054.08)	\$10,329.54	\$7,593.84	(\$2,735.70)
Property Expense	\$41,900.00	\$5,475.17	\$4,408.32	(\$1,066.85)	\$68,460.07	\$42,174.88	(\$26,285.19)
Stated Clerk Office	\$950.00	\$80.32	\$79.17	(\$1.15)	\$1,172.19	\$712.53	(\$459.66)
Total Ecclesiastical Costs	\$141,562.00	\$18,885.53	\$12,713.41	(\$6,172.12)	\$132,849.20	\$116,920.69	(\$15,928.51)
Total Personnel	\$766,577.00	\$63,983.24	\$62,631.51	(\$1,351.73)	\$560,821.22	\$563,683.59	\$2,862.37
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$1,494,219.00	\$90,917.87	\$111,929.70	\$21,011.83	\$1,049,925.47	\$1,142,667.55	\$92,742.08
Presbytery Operating Budget Net Total	\$0.00	(\$45,109.49)	(\$2,411.45)	\$42,698.04	(\$67,156.57)	(\$22,003.30)	\$45,153.27

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK December 7, 2023

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 22, 2024 presbytery meeting must be made to the Ecclesiastical Committee via the Stated Clerk's office no later than noon on Wednesday, January 24, 2024. 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.** Deadlines for Consideration of Overtures to the 226th General Assembly (2024) The February 22, 2024 Stated Meeting of Pittsburgh Presbytery is the final opportunity for Pittsburgh Presbytery to consider overtures or requests to concur with overtures to the 226th General Assembly in order to meet the deadlines for submission to the Assembly.

The Presbytery Manual requires that proposed overtures to the General Assembly, and by extension requests for concurrences, be submitted to the Stated Clerk's office three weeks prior to the presbytery meeting. For the February 2024 meeting, the deadline is February 1, 2024.

3. New Clerk of Session Training

The Ecclesiastical Committee has scheduled New Clerk of Session Training for Saturday, February 10, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. Registration information will be forthcoming in the new year.

4. 2023 Minutes Readings

In addition to the continuing online minutes exchange program, the Ecclesiastical Committee will hold minutes review by appointment at the Presbytery Center on the following dates:

March 2, 2024 April 6, 2024 May 4, 2024 September 7, 2024

An additional Minutes Reading opportunity will be scheduled for October 2024 once the complete University of Pittsburgh home football schedule has been announced.

5. Status of Grand View United Presbyterian Church Administrative Commission The genealogist has completed her work and identified 25 potential heirs to the reverter interest. Pittsburgh Presbytery's attorney has prepared a Petition to Quiet Title to be filed in the Court of Common Pleas asking for permission to sell the property and divide the proceeds based on the proportional ownership of the combined plots on which the building is built. (Pittsburgh Presbytery has clear title to one of the two plots, the other is subject to the reverter clause.) Assuming the court approves the petition, the AC will choose and engage a realtor to list the property.

6. Appointment of Investigative Committee in Disciplinary Matter DM2023-02

The Permanent Judicial Commission having agreed to accept Disciplinary Matter DM2023-02 on reference from a session, pursuant to the Manual of Pittsburgh Presbytery, the Moderator appointed the following individuals to constitute the Investigating Committee in this matter:

Ruling Elder Frank Hancock

Rev. Alina Kanaski

Ruling Elder Ann Turnock

The Investigating Committee has begun its work.

7. Presbytery Review of 2022 Session Minutes

The Administrative Review of Session Minutes for calendar year 2022 has been completed. The results of the review are as follows.

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

Amity PC Baldwin UPC Bower Hill Community

Covenant Community PC Eastminster PC Elfinwild PC

First PC (Castle Shannon) First PC (Edgewood) First UPC (Rennerdale)

First UPC (Tarentum)

Glenshaw PC

Hamilton PC

Hamyton UPC

Linway UPC

McKeesport PC

Mt. Nebo UPC

Northmont UPC

Glenshaw PC

Hamilton PC

Ken Mawr UPC

Montours PC

Noblestown UPC

Parkwood UPC

Ross Community PC Sewickley PC Sharon Community PC

Shadyside PC Sixth PC Southminster PC

Swissvale PC Sunset Hills UPC Union PC, Robinson Twp Unity PC Valley PC Westminster PC

Wexford Community PC

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

Bellevue UPC Bethel UPC, Monroeville Beulah UPC

Bidwell Street UPC Bull Creek UPC Community PC, Ben Avon Cross Roads, Monroeville East Liberty PC First UPC (Crafton Hts)

First UPC (Duquesne)
Hebron PC, Clinton
Hiland PC
Homestead UPC
Homestead UPC
Hogans Ferry PC
North Hills UPC
Horest Avenue UPC
Hills PC
Horest Hills PC
Hil

South Side PC Third PC Unity UPC

UPC in Ingram

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

Bethel PC, Bethel Park
Brentwood PC
Carnegie PC
Cheswick PC
Community House PC
Crafton UPC
East Union PC
First PC (Pittsburgh)

Gladden UPC
Hebron UPC, Penn Hills
Hot Metal Bridge
Korean UPC of Pgh
Mt. Hope Community PC
Oakmont PC
PC of Coraopolis

Oakmont PC
PC of Coraopolis
Riverdale UPC
Second UPC
Valley View PC

Bethesda UPC, Elizabeth Bethesda UPC, Pgh

Buena Vista PC Central PC, Tarentum Christ Community Comm. of Reconciliation Cross Roads (Gibsonia)

First PC (Elizabeth)
Fox Chapel PC
Glenshaw Valley PC
Heritage UPC

Indianola UPC Liberty PC

Mt. Pleasant UPC
Oakdale UPC
Pine Creek PC
Riverview UPC

Springdale UPC Vietnamese PC

Bethesda UPC, Pgh Calvert Memorial UPC Chartiers Valley UPC

Clinton UPC
Concord PC
Deer Creek UPC
First PC (Gibsonia)
Friendship Comm. PC
Grace Memorial PC

Hoboken PC Kerr PC

Lincoln Place PC
New Life Community
Open Door PC

Plum Creek PC Sampson's Mills PC Universal UPC Waverly UPC

Items for Action

1. Consent Motions

The Stated Clerk recommends item #2 be approved by consent.

*2. Ecclesiastical Administrative Commissions to Ordain

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. Dr. Steven Aguzzi

AGUZZI

The Administrative Commission elected by the Presbytery on September 28, 2023 to install Rev. Dr. Steven Aguzzi, comprised of Senior Vice Moderator, Rev. Sarah Robbins, Rev. Dr. Doug Portz, Rev. Brian Wallace, Elder Andew Wilson, and Elder Debora Sommers, met by appointment on October 29, 2023, at 2:30 p.m. at Unity United Presbyterian Church. There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by 2:45pm.

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 **Steven Aguzzi** according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 3:00 p.m. and installed Rev. Steven Aguzzi.

Rev. Sarah Robbins asked the constitutional questions which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Brian Wallace. Rev. Sarah Robbins offered the prayer of installation. Rev. Doug Portz offered the charge to the pastor, and Rev. Sarah Robbins offered the charge to the congregation.

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. Dr. Steven Aguzzi.

Administrative Commission to Install Rev. Dr. Rachel Hébert

HEBERT

The Administrative Commission elected by the Presbytery on September 28, 2023 to install Rev. Dr. Rachel Hébert, comprising Rev. Austin Shelley, Rev. S. Balajiedlang Khyllep, Elder Ann Turnock and Elder Robert Anderson, met by appointment on Nov. 19, 2023, at 10:55 a.m. at Shadyside Presbyterian Church.

There being a quorum present, the Commission was convened with prayer by Elder Mark Roth. 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. Rachel Hébert according to the direction of Presbytery and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Commission moved to the Sanctuary at 11 a.m. and installed Rev. Hébert.

Elder Roth asked the constitutional questions, which the candidate answered in the affirmative. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Jessica Rigel. Rev. Rigel offered the prayer of installation. Rev. Khyllep offered the charge to the congregation. Rev. Shelley 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. Hébert.