

ABINGDON PRESBYTERY MINUTES
(*SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC*)
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



121st STATED MEETING
GREEN SPRING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ABINGDON, VA
November 12, 2015

NEXT STATED MEETING OF ABINGDON PRESBYTERY
March 10, 2016
Location: Central Presbyterian Church
Bristol, VA

Abingdon Presbytery seeks by the grace of God to nurture its congregations and pastors and to foster Christian unity among them, and to offer and develop leadership in order that congregations will grow in faith and in numbers, and to exhibit the Kingdom of God, thereby witnessing to the Lordship of Jesus Christ throughout Southwest Virginia and the world.

Table of Contents – One Hundred Twenty-First Stated Meeting – November 12, 2015

Presbytery Convened, Presbytery in Worship, Roll Call.....3-4

Worship Service of Presbytery..... 5-6

Docket of Presbytery..... 7

**Presbytery in Mission & Declaration of Quorum, Approval of Docket & Standing
Committees..... 8**

**HIGHLIGHTS OF: Stated Clerk’s Report, Council, Shepherd’s Report, Church Development
Committee Report, Nominating Committee Report, Committee on Ministry Report, Budget
Committee Report, Adjournment..... 9-11**

REPORTS OF PRESBYTERY

Stated Clerk’s Report..... 13

Council Report.....14-26

Shepherd’s Report.....27-29

Church Development Committee Report.....30

Nominating Committee Report.....31-33

Committee on Ministry Report.....34-38

Budget Committee Report.....39-44

Personnel & Facility Oversight Committee Report.....45-47

Education Committee Report.....48

Hunger Action Enabler Report.....49

Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report.....50

Presbyterian Women Report.....51-53

Children’s Home of the Highlands Report54-55

Synod Assembly Report.....56-57

Committee on Representation Report.....58-59

Chronological Listing of Past Moderators.....60-62

Permanent Judicial Commission Roster.....63

Permanent Judicial Commission Former Members..... 64

MINUTES OF ABINGDON PRESBYTERY
121st STATED MEETING – NOVEMBER 12, 2015
GREEN SPRING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ABINGDON, VA

PRESBYTERY CONVENED

The 121st Stated Meeting of Abingdon Presbytery met at Green Spring Presbyterian Church in Abingdon, VA on November 12, 2015.

PRESBYTERY IN WORSHIP

Morning worship began at 9:30 a.m.

ROLL OF MINISTERS

P = PRESENT; E = EXCUSED; A = ABSENT

(E) Aichel, O. George
(E) Baldwin, C.W. Eugene
(P) Behrendt, Ben
(P) Bird, Timothy E.
(P) Button, Robert
(E) Campbell, Kevin M.
(E) Carpenter, Catherine Y.
(E) Davis, Mary
(A) Gipe, William C.
(P) Gray, Frederick A.
(E) Guthrie, Weston B.
(P) Haga, Nancy Katherine
(E) Hagen, Ted, II
(E) Heintzleman, Jack W.
(E) Hoffman, Dennis J.
(E) Humphreys, Levi H., Jr.
(P) Lacy, L. Edwin
(E) Liston, J. Miller

(P) Markel, John E.
(P) Martin, Jon E.
(P) Martin, Susanne S.
(E) Mayo, Wiley E.
(E) McChesney, Charles
(E) Murray, Curtis A.
(P) Napier, Bradley D.
(E) Nash, Charles E., Jr.
(P) Palubicki, Tony R.
(E) Parker, Donald G.
(P) Parkey, Andrew
(P) Privette, Cynthia E.
(P) Reynolds, Tim
(P) Simpson, Joseph Bradford, IV
(E) Thornton, Robert S.
(E) Tolar, Robert R., Sr.
(P) Webb, Randall E.
(E) Weller, Michael S.
(P) Whartenby, Thomas J., Jr.

ROLL OF COMMISSIONED RULING ELDERS

(P) Barnett, Madge
(P) Canter, Phyllis
(P) Cundiff, Andrew C.
(A) Hutton, Cathy
(P) Kester, David L.
(A) Litton, Darlene
(P) Parish, Bill
(A) Riley, Michael P.

(A) Talbert, Stephen
(P) Walker, Jim

ROLL OF ELDER COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ANCHOR OF HOPE – | JEWELL RIDGE – |
| ANDERSON MEMORIAL –Marge Folden | LEBANON – Gary Holliday |
| BETHEL – Wilma Caldwell | LOCUST COVE – |
| BIG STONE GAP – Bill Nagel | MAPLE GROVE – |
| BLAND-LEYBURN – | MARY MARTIN MEMORIAL – Sharon Sargent |
| BUCHANAN FIRST – Taylor Burgess | McCALL’S GAP – |
| BUFFALO MOUNTAIN – | McIVER MEMORIAL – Mary Ann Blevins |
| CASTLEWOOD – | OAKWOOD – |
| CENTRAL – John Dodge | POUND - |
| DAMASCUS – James Hortenstine | POWELL VALLEY – Walter Rollins |
| DINWIDDIE – Guydell Slate | RICHLANDS – Joe Blair McGlothlin |
| FAIRVIEW – Kay Utterback | RICH VALLEY – Jane Clark |
| FINCASTLE – Dwight Speeks | RIVERVIEW – |
| GALAX FIRST – | ROCK SPRING – Bob Preston |
| GALENA – | ROYAL OAK – Jeff Jones |
| GATE CITY – | SEVEN MILE FORD – |
| GLADE SPRING – Isaac Freeman | SINKING SPRING – Kay Bunn |
| GLADEVILLE – Jere Blackburn | SPRING CREEK - |
| GRACE – Jackie Ratcliffe | STONE MEMORIAL – Emma Sexton |
| GRAHAM – | TAZEWELL –Bob Brown |
| GREEN SPRING – Patricia Neel | VANSANT – |
| HIGH POINT - | WALNUT GROVE – Bettie Galliher |
| HILLSVILLE – | WHITETOP - |
| | WEST FORK – Elizabeth King |
| | WYTHEVILLE – Jim Gearhart |

VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Kemper Bausell, Buchanan First | Linda DiYorio, Wytheville |
| Billy Caldwell, Bethel | John DiYorio, Wytheville |
| Sue White, Walnut Grove | Annie Nagel, Big Stone Gap |
| Ann Aichinger, Central | Joan Kennedy, Mary Martin Memorial |
| Kyle McClanahan, Buchanan First | Jerry Manning, Fincastle |
| Jack Chaffin, Anderson Memorial | Bill Rice, Presbyterian Children’s Home of the Highlands |
| Jimmie Ruth Speeks, Fincastle | |
| Brian Alderman, King University | |
| Elaine Alderman, Fairview | |
| Georgia Crews, Sinking Spring | |

Service of word and sacrament

Abingdon Presbytery
November 12, 2015

Preparing for Word & Sacrament

Prelude

Call to Worship

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Liturgist | Our help is in the name of the Lord |
| Congregation | Who made heaven and earth |
| Liturgist | Our hope is in Jesus Christ |
| Congregation | Who is the resurrection and the life |

+ Hymn of Praise Praise to the Lord the Almighty #77

+ Confession of Sin

Almighty God, our Creator and Redeemer, we bow our heads and lift our hearts to you. You call us to serve you by serving the world, but we prefer to serve ourselves. You call us to love you with our whole being, but we prefer a more mild response. You call us to love our neighbor as ourselves, but we quibble by asking "who is our neighbor?"

God of Hope, you call us to be a light to the nations, shining into the dark corners of the world. But we are often overcome with the shadows of despair. We give up in the face of obstacles and give in to fear and cynicism. Forgive our sins, we pray, and through your gracious love transform us into more effective instruments of your peace.

+ Assurance of God's Loving Forgiveness

Word Interprets Sacrament

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:13-35

The Word Proclaimed

Hoping against Hope

Sacrament Proclaims Word

+ Hymn of Preparation

The Lord Is Here #777

Celebration of the Lord's Supper (by intinction)

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. You have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, give us courage and sustain us with hope, so that we might bear witness of his resurrection and testify to the New Creation of which he is the first fruits.

+ Postlude

**DOCKET OF ABINGDON PRESBYTERY
121st STATED MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------------------------|
| 9:00 am | Registration-Fellowship-Refreshments | |
| 9:30 am | Morning Worship Service & Celebration of the Lord's Supper | |
| 10:30 am | Call to Order and Prayer by Moderator | Alan Gray, Former Moderator |
| | Declaration of Quorum | David Kester |
| 10:35 am | Nomination and Election of Moderator | Linda DiYorio |
| 10:40 am | Nomination, Election and Installation of Stated Clerk (p. 38-40) | Jim Gearhart |
| 10:55 am | Appointment of Standing Committees | |
| | Welcome and Announcements | Jon Martin |
| | Introduction of Guests and Recognition of First-time Elders | |
| | Introduction of New Business | |
| | Adoption of the Docket | |
| 11:05 am | <u>Stated Clerk's Report</u> (p. 9) | |
| 11:10 am | <u>Council Report</u> (p. 10-20) | Tim Bird |
| 11:15 am | <u>Shepherd's Report</u> on the state of Presbytery (p. 21-22) | Randy Webb |
| 11:30 am | <u>Church Development Committee Report</u> (p. 23) | Tony Palubicki |
| 11:45 am | <u>Nominating Committee Report</u> (p. 24-26) | Linda DiYorio |
| 11:50 am | <u>Committee on Ministry Report</u> (p. 27-31) | Alan Gray |
| 12:05 pm | Announcements and Lunch Blessing | |
| 12:10 pm | Lunch | |
| 1:00 pm | Reconvene with Prayer | |
| 1:05 pm | <u>Report of Hospitality Committee</u> | |
| 1:10 pm | <u>Budget Committee Report</u> (p. 32-37) | John DiYorio |

Written Reports

Education Committee (p. 41)
Hunger Action Enabler Report (p. 42)
Committee on Preparation Report (p. 43)
Presbyterian Women (p. 44-46)
Children's Home (p. 49-50)
Synod Assembly Commissioner (p. 49-50)
Committee on Representation (p. 51-52)

1:25 pm Closing Prayer

1:30 pm Anticipated Adjournment

PRESBYTERY IN MISSION & DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The past moderator of Presbytery, Reverend Alan Gray, called the meeting to order with prayer. Elder David Kester, Stated Clerk, declared a quorum present.

NOMINATION OF MODERATOR

Reverend Jon Martin was nominated to be the Moderator for the remainder of 2015 and 2016. Motion was approved.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF STATED CLERK

Elder Bill Parish was nominated to be the Part-Time Stated Clerk for Abingdon Presbytery. Motion was approved. The Installation Service followed the vote. (See Installation Service following the Personnel Committee Report.

The committee recognized the service to Presbytery of David Kester with a plaque.

(Please see the Personnel Committee Report in the following minutes.)

APPROVAL OF DOCKET & APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The following Standing Committees were appointed for this meeting of Presbytery:

Recording Clerk: Mrs. April DiYorio, Asst. to the Stated Clerk, Presbytery staff

Hospitality Committee: Reverend Brad Simpson, Wytheville
Elder Bettie Galliher, Walnut Grove
Reverend Brad Napier, Buchanan First

Temporary Clerks: Reverend Andrew Parkey, Locust Cove/Rich Valley
Elder Phyllis Canter, Vasant/Oakwood
Reverend John Markel, Walnut Grove

Bills & Overtures: Reverend Tony Palubicki, Big Stone Gap/Powell Valley
Reverend Cindy Privette, Anchor of Hope/Galena
Elder David Kester, Anderson Memorial

WELCOME

The Reverend Jon Martin welcomed Presbytery to Green Spring Presbyterian Church, Abingdon, Virginia.

Elders attending Presbytery for the first time and visitors were recognized and introduced to Presbytery.

ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

With no new business being introduced to the Presbytery, the Stated Clerk moved the adoption of the docket. After the motion was properly seconded, the docket was unanimously adopted and approved.

STATED CLERK'S REPORT & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ruling Elder Bill Parish presented the Stated Clerk's Report.

The Presbytery approved:

1. The minutes of the 120th Stated Meeting of Abingdon Presbytery held at Buchanan First Presbyterian Church, in Grundy, VA, on June 11, 2015;
2. That all ministers requesting to be excused from all or part of the 121st Stated Meeting of Presbytery be granted their excuse, and that all Honorably Retired ministers not in attendance be excused;
3. That all non-member clergy serving in temporary pastoral relationships with Abingdon Presbytery congregations, as well as representatives from PC(USA) governing bodies and institutions be granted the privilege of the floor, without vote; and
4. That all reports with amendments be received as information, admitted to the record, and recorded in the Minutes of Abingdon Presbytery.

(Please see the Stated Clerk's Report in the following minutes.)

COUNCIL REPORT

Rev. Tim Bird, Chair of Council, gave the Council Report

The Presbytery approved:

1. The first reading of changes of the "Policy of Abingdon Presbytery for Churches Requesting Disaffiliation and Dismissal with Property to Another Reformed Denomination in Communion with the Presbyterian Church (USA);
2. Electing Dwight Speeks, Rev. Cindy Privette, and Erica Parish-Roche to the Nominating Committee (Class of 2018);
3. Electing Rev. Cindy Privette and Jimmie Ruth Speeks to the Committee on Representation (Class of 2018); and
4. Giving Rev. Cindy Privette time on the Docket to pay tribute to the work and service of Elder Peta Patton to Abingdon Presbytery. (Tribute is attached to the Council Report.

(Please see the Council Report in the following minutes.)

SHEPHERD'S REPORT

Rev. Randy Webb gave the Shepherd's Report. He reported that he had devoted a significant amount of time to getting to know as many people and congregations as possible during his first six months. His work has been sometimes taken away from planned activities because of several congregations experiencing difficult situations that he has tried to respond to.

He presented a mission challenge to the Presbytery's churches to work with mission on three levels—local, regional, and global. He has found that most of our congregations that he has visited are involved in local missions. He challenged churches to become involved in regional mission (perhaps through Cluster Activities), and global mission by supporting missionaries such as the Wellers, and others through our denomination.

He invited Madge Barnett, a Commissioned Ruling Elder serving the Whitetop Church, to present a mission program sponsored by their church.

(Please see the Shepherd's Report in the following minutes.)

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Tony Palubicki, Chair of the Church Development Committee, gave the report of the Church Development Committee.

Tony reported that the CDC had been exploring ways to serve the congregations of our Presbytery by undergirding and supporting the ministry and mission of small churches. To this end the committee is entering a period of discernment so they may begin to develop methods and strategies specific to our own churches and situations.

To move forward the committee proposed to:

- a. Connect to and partner with small congregations in our Presbytery;
- b. Seek someone with the passion and calling to work with our small congregations; and
- c. Create a way to ensure that the models developed could continue into the future and be shared with others.

The Committee has requested that the Committee on Ministry make the appropriated changes in the call of Rev. Edwin Lacy so that the CDC could begin the program of "Reimagining Small Church Ministry in Abingdon Presbytery."

(Please see the Church Development Committee Report in the following minutes.)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Linda DiYorio, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the Nominating Committee Report. She placed, on behalf of the committee, the names in nomination listed in the report. After asking for additional nominations from the floor, all of the nominees were elected.

(Please see the Nominating Committee Report in the following minutes.)

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY REPORT

Rev. Alan Gray, a member of the COM, presented the report.

The Presbytery approved:

1. The Stated Supply list for 2016;
2. The list of Commissioned Ruling Elders (CRE);
3. Granting permission for Teaching Elders Ann Aichinger and Frank Aichinger (both from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina) to labor within the bounds of Abingdon Presbytery for 2016;
4. The Pulpit Supply List for 2016;
5. The 2016 Minimum Terms of Call for Full-time Installed Pastors; and
6. Changes in the terms of Call for Edwin Lacy, Presbytery Evangelist.

(Please see the Committee on Ministry Report in the following minutes. The Report contains all of the approved lists, Terms of Call, and changes in the terms of call.)

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

John DiYorio, Chair of the Budget Committee, presented the Budget Committee Report.

The Presbytery approved:

1. The Budget for 2016 as presented; and
2. Set the Unified Mission Request per church member at \$68.96 with the following distribution:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| General Assembly | \$ 7.12 |
| Synod of the Mid-Atlantic | .80 |
| Presbytery | 61.04 |

(Please see the Budget Committee Report in the following minutes.)

ADJOURNMENT

Since the Presbytery completed all of its work ahead of schedule and before lunch, a motion was made to hear the Hospitality Report prior to lunch and then adjourn. Motion carried.

The following Hospitality Committee report was graciously read by members of the Hospitality Committee:

Whereas, the meeting of Abingdon Presbytery convened its November meeting at Green Spring Presbyterian Church on the 12th day of 2015;

Whereas, the members and pastor of Green Spring church welcomed us with hospitality, greetings, and delicious snacks accompanied by hot coffee;

Whereas, the Presbytery joined together for worship, beautiful music, inspirational preaching, and the celebration of the Lord's Supper;

Whereas, the Presbytery conducted the ministry and business of the day guided by God's wisdom and the discernment of his will;

Whereas, fellowship and friendship bonded us together as family as we enjoyed a delicious feast of food lovingly prepared by our host church;

Be it resolved therefore that the members of Abingdon Presbytery thank the members, pastor, and staff of Green Spring Presbyterian Church and join together to thank God who has called us together in Jesus' name. May God grant to all a safe journey home until we meet again in March, 2016.

The presbytery adjourned at 12:00pm, with a prayer by the Moderator that included a lunch blessing. The next stated meeting of Abingdon Presbytery is scheduled for March 10, 2016.

Jon Martin

Jon Martin, Moderator

Bill Parish

Bill Parish, Stated Clerk

COMMITTEES THAT DID NOT REPORT AT THIS MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY ARE AS FOLLOWS: COMPASSION MINISTRIES, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMITTEE. OTHER REPORTS AND LISTS ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES INCLUDE: A REPORT ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP EVENT, THE HUNGER ENABLER REPORT, A REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY, A REPORT FROM THE ABINGDON PRESBYTERY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN, A REPORT FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S HOME OF THE HIGHLANDS, A REPORT FROM THE SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC ON ITS 236TH STATED MEETING, A REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION, A CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF FORMER MEETINGS AND MODERATORS OF ABINGDON PRESBYTERY, AND MEMBERS OF THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION AS WELL AS FORMER PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION MEMBERS.

LUNCH

Lunch was provided by the Green Spring Presbyterian Church.

Stated Clerk's Report
Bill Parish, Stated Clerk

Items for Information:

1. **Who are the members of the governing body?** The members of the governing body are the thirty-eight teaching elders who are members of Abingdon Presbytery, the ten Commissioned Ruling Elders, and the forty-eight ruling elder commissioners that represent the forty-eight congregations of the Presbytery. For the purpose of this meeting of Presbytery, the members of the Presbytery are signified by either a **blue dot** or a **yellow dot** on your name tag that you received when you registered for this meeting of Presbytery. A **blue dot** on your name tag signifies that you are a minister member of Presbytery, while a **yellow dot** indicates that you are an elder commissioner. For this meeting of Presbytery, only minister members and elder commissioners have the privilege of voice and vote at this meeting. If you do not have either a **blue dot or a yellow dot** on your name tag, then you do not have the privilege of voice or vote at this meeting, only those members in attendance with either a **blue dot or a yellow dot** on their name tag have the privilege of addressing the Presbytery and voting on action items before the governing body.
2. If you are wearing an adhesive name tag, this signifies that you are a visitor to this meeting of Presbytery. If the way be clear, then visitors will be permitted to speak and participate in the round table discussions, but shall not be allowed to speak in the plenary discussion or vote on issues before the Presbytery.
3. Thank you to Reverend Jon Martin and the members of Green Spring Presbyterian Church for hosting this meeting of Presbytery.

Items for Action:

1. That the Minutes of the June 11, 2015 stated meeting of Abingdon Presbytery at Buchanan First Presbyterian Church be approved.
 ✓ Motion Made ✓ Approved Disapproved
2. That the ministers properly requesting to be excused from all or a part of the 121st Stated Meeting of Presbytery be granted their excuse, and all Honorably Retired ministers not in attendance be excused.
 ✓ Motion Made ✓ Approved Disapproved
3. That all non-member clergy serving in temporary pastoral relationships with Abingdon Presbytery congregations, as well as representatives from PC(USA) governing bodies and institutions, be granted the privilege of the floor, without vote.
 ✓ Motion Made ✓ Approved Disapproved
4. That all reports with amendments be received as information and be admitted to the record and recorded in the Minutes of Abingdon Presbytery.
 ✓ Motion Made ✓ Approved Disapproved

Council Report

Tim Bird

Items for Information:

- 1. Received resignations from Elder Bill Parish as Moderator and Reverend Kathy Haga as Moderator-Elect.
- 2. Approved that the Shepherd, Reverend Dr. Randy Webb, be given time on the docket to report on the state of the Presbytery.
- 3. Council recommends acceptance of the Presbytery budget for 2016 to be presented by the Budget and Finance Committee.
- 4. Host churches are needed for Presbytery meetings in 2016.

Items for Action:

- 1. To approve the first reading of changes to the “Policy of Abingdon Presbytery for Churches Requesting Disaffiliation and Dismissal with Property to Another Reformed Denomination in Communion with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)”. All questions related to the proposed changes should be limited to informational questions about the need for such changes at this reading. (Technical questions and motions regarding the adoption or amending should be raised at the second reading of the amendment at the next meeting of the Presbytery.)

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

- 2. That Presbytery elect (per the Book of Order and Presbytery Manual) the following persons to serve on:
 Nominating Committee: Dwight Speeks, Class of 2018
 Rev. Cindy Privette, Class of 2018
 Erica Parish-Roche, Class of 2018

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

- 3. That Presbytery elect (per the Book of Order and Presbytery Manual) the following person to serve on:
 Committee on Representation: Rev. Cindy Privette, Class of 2018
 Jimmie Ruth Speeks

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

- 4. That the Reverend Dr. Cindy Privette be given time on the docket to pay tribute to the work and service of Peta Patton to Abingdon Presbytery.

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

Suggested Changes to the
**Policy of Abingdon Presbytery
for Churches Requesting Disaffiliation and Dismissal
with Property to Another Reformed Denomination in
Communion with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

November 12, 2015

In each case below, the section from our current policy appears in “quotation marks.” Language to be removed is underlined, and *proposed new language appears in bold italics*.

RECOMMENDATION 1. To change the words referring to “breaking the unity of the church.”

In the Introduction: (page 1 paragraph 1)

“Even the Apostle Paul and his partner Barnabas ran into an unsolvable church conflict with each other. They broke the unity of the church *They each felt compelled* to go their separate ways *although God continued to work through them both*. Acts 15:36-40.”

RATIONALE: The evidence in Acts suggests this was a *personal conflict* between Paul and Barnabas, and not a “church” conflict. There is nothing to suggest that either Paul or Barnabas sought to bring any others into their disagreement, or to convince anyone else that their view was the only “correct” one. Therefore the word church should be removed.

The evidence of the first ten centuries of church history bears witness to the fact that this disagreement did NOT break the unity of the church. There was ONE Christian Church on earth (even with many disagreements) until the tragic East/West Schism of 1054 A.D. which separated the Eastern Christian churches (led by the patriarch of Constantinople, Michael Cerularius) and the Western Church (led by Pope Leo IX). Therefore it is historically inaccurate and biblically unsound to refer to this disagreement as something that split the church, and this wording should be changed as proposed.

Furthermore, there is nothing to suggest that either Paul or Barnabas discredited each other’s ministry or credentials or reputations in any way. Neither of them formed a different “denomination” or tried to gather other followers to their way of thinking. And certainly neither of them had any sense when “they parted company”, that they had any right to take any church property with them.

God blessed Paul in his missionary journeys and from him came most of the epistles that make up our New Testament. God also blessed Barnabas’ ministry. The young man who went with him, “John called Mark,” is generally credited with writing the Gospel according to Mark, the first gospel written, which was also used as a source by Matthew and Luke.

RECOMMENDATION 2. To change all references to “conflict utilization team” to “*Presbytery Response Team*”.

In Part One: (page 3 paragraph C)

“Upon notification of a request for disaffiliation and dismissal from a particular session, the Committee on Ministry shall send a conflict utilization team *presbytery response team (PRT)* to meet with the session of the congregation requesting disaffiliation and dismissal. The conflict utilization team *presbytery response team (PRT)* shall have seven primary responsibilities:...”

RATIONALE: Repeated use of the term “conflict” as an identifier that refers to the team sent from presbytery seems counter-productive to the second expressed responsibility of that team “to determine if reconciliation is

possible between the congregation and Presbytery.” Therefore all reference to the team should be changed to ***presbytery response team*** which does not assume or reinforce the idea of conflict, and which keeps open other more pastoral, caring and partnering options which may lead to creative and unexpected resolutions of the difficulties.

RECOMMENDATION 3. Providing for Abingdon Presbytery’s involvement in congregational discussions of denominational concerns.

In Process: (page 3)

Abingdon Presbytery, when it becomes aware by any means of difficulties within a congregation, which relate to denominational concerns or other issues, will exercise its responsibility to “counsel with a session concerning reported difficulties within a congregation,..” G-3.0303d, at the earliest possible time. In order to fulfill its responsibilities to “guide... its congregations for the most effective witness to the broader community,” G-3.0303 Abingdon Presbytery will be a full participant with its congregations in related discussions of denominational issues. “With these guiding principles providing a foundation for discourse, the following policy and three-part process is established:”

Consistent with the above addition to the policy, the following change is recommended for Part One: (page 3 paragraph A)

A. “The ***formal*** process for any congregation requesting disaffiliation and dismissal...”

**Policy of Abingdon Presbytery
for Churches Requesting Disaffiliation and Dismissal
with Property to Another Reformed Denomination in
Communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.)**

Introduction:

This Policy for Churches Requesting Disaffiliation and Dismissal with Property to Another Reformed Denomination in Communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) begins with fervent prayer that it never be needed. If it should be, both the church making the request and the Abingdon Presbytery¹ will have failed in our shared responsibility to achieve the reconciliation and the unity to which scripture calls us. Nevertheless, in a time of constant change and strongly held convictions, we must recognize the reality that some church conflicts may not be resolved. Even the Apostle Paul and his partner Barnabas ran into an unsolvable church conflict with each other. They broke the unity of the church *They each felt compelled* to go their separate ways *although God continued to work through them both* (Acts 15:36-40). Similarly, the Abingdon Presbytery and a constituent congregation also may be faced with the unpleasant necessity of negotiating a separation between sisters and brothers in Christ. Should that time come, we would fail our vows if we did not carry out that process “decently and in order” with as little dishonor to The Church of Jesus Christ as possible.

Guiding Principles:

The following guiding principles inform and shape this Policy for Churches Requesting Disaffiliation and Dismissal with Property to Another Reformed Denomination in Communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.):

1. The Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) is a connectional, hierarchical, and representative church (*Book of Order*, F-3.02).
2. All church property, real and personal, held by and for any congregation of Abingdon Presbytery is held in trust for the benefit and mission of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) (*Book of Order*, G-4.0201 and G-4.0203).
3. In taking their ordination vows, both ruling and teaching elders make a covenantal and contractual agreement to uphold the entire Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), which includes all church property trust provisions in the *Book of Order*. Any ruling and/or teaching elder who encourages a congregation of the Abingdon Presbytery to disaffiliate from the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) or use church property contrary to the sacred mission of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), and its Constitution, breaches and violates the covenantal and contractual obligations affirmed and created in their ordination vows, and is subject to the discipline of the church (*Book of Order*, W-4.4003 and D-10.000).
4. All congregations are voluntary associations. Therefore, individual members of a particular church may at any time move their membership to another church, whether by reason of convenience, conscience, or indifference.
5. Members of a particular church within Abingdon Presbytery’s jurisdiction who choose to disaffiliate with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) shall not be entitled to retain church property or use church property contrary the directions, instructions or orders of Abingdon Presbytery or contrary to the benefit and mission of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.).

¹ Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, all references to “Presbytery” are to Abingdon Presbytery.

6. The relationship between the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) and a particular congregation of Abingdon Presbytery can be severed only by constitutional action on the part of Presbytery (*Book of Order*, G-4.0207).
7. An action of a particular session or congregation to disaffiliate from the Abingdon Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) does not sever a particular congregation's relationship, responsibilities, and obligations to either the Presbytery or the denomination.
8. In considering a request by a congregation to be dismissed with property to another reformed denomination that is in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), the Abingdon Presbytery shall discharge its fiduciary, missional, and spiritual duty to protect the denomination's interest as owner and beneficiary of the property.²
9. Abingdon Presbytery is committed to ensuring that church property, real and personal, remains in the possession of loyal members of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.).
10. While hurtful, a particular congregation requesting to disaffiliate from the Abingdon Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) presents the Presbytery with the opportunity to discern and imagine what God desires for the future of the Abingdon Presbytery in a new and hopeful way.³

(Note: If representatives of a particular congregation file suit in any secular court for the purpose of leaving the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) or claiming any real or personal property held in trust by the church or its trustees, or if the majority of the congregation votes to declare its independence from the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), or otherwise purports to depart without following this Policy and its outlined process, the Abingdon Presbytery shall appoint an administrative commission to assume original jurisdiction of the congregation, to take control of all existing real and personal property held by the congregation and defend the proprietary interest of both the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) and the Abingdon Presbytery. (*Book of Order*, G-4.0204, G-4.0205, G-3.0109b, G-3.0303e).)

Process:

Abingdon Presbytery, when it becomes aware by any means of difficulties within a congregation, which relate to denominational concerns or other issues, will exercise its responsibility to "counsel with a session concerning reported difficulties within a congregation,..." G-3.0303d, at the earliest possible time. In order to fulfill its responsibilities to "guide... its congregations for the most effective witness to the broader community," G-3.0303 Abingdon Presbytery will be a full participant with its congregations in related discussions of denominational issues. With these guiding principles providing a foundation for discourse, the following policy and three-part process is established:

Part One:

- A. The *formal* process for any congregation requesting disaffiliation and dismissal with property to another reformed denomination in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) shall begin with the clerk of session of the congregation which desires disaffiliation and dismissal sending a letter to the stated clerk of Abingdon Presbytery expressing the session's wish to leave the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.). The clerk of session's letter shall include the following four items: 1) the reasons for requesting disaffiliation and dismissal; 2) the signatures of the supporting members of the session/council

² The General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission recently issued a declaratory judgment and authoritative interpretation specifically instructing presbyteries to consider the denomination's interest as a beneficiary of church property as it fulfills its fiduciary, missional, and spiritual responsibilities. See *Tom v. Presbytery of San Francisco*, GAPJC Remedial Case 221-03. (Oct. 28, 2012).

³ David R. Sawyer, *Hope in Conflict: Discovering Wisdom in Congregational Turmoil* (Cleveland, OH: The Pilgrim Press, 2007), 9.

members; 3) the names of the session/council members who are opposed to disaffiliation and dismissal, if any members are any opposed; 4) the name of particular reformed denomination in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) to which the session and congregation wish to be transferred.

(Note: If the pastor/moderator of a particular congregation requesting disaffiliation and dismissal also desires to request dismissal or renunciation of jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), the pastor/moderator must send a separate letter to the stated clerk of Abingdon Presbytery that expresses his or her reasons for seeking disaffiliation. Since the pastor/moderator is a member of the Presbytery and not the local church, the pastor/moderator's renunciation of jurisdiction shall be dealt with through a different process.)

- B. Upon receipt of a written request by a particular session requesting disaffiliation and dismissal, the stated clerk shall notify the moderator of Presbytery, the executive presbyter, and the chair of the Committee on Ministry that the stated clerk has received a request for disaffiliation and dismissal.
- C. Upon notification of a request for disaffiliation and dismissal from a particular session, the Committee on Ministry shall send a conflict utilization team *presbytery response team (PRT)* to meet with the session of the congregation requesting disaffiliation and dismissal. The conflict utilization team *presbytery response team (PRT)* shall have seven primary responsibilities: 1) to inquire about the reasons for requesting disaffiliation and dismissal, 2) to determine if reconciliation is possible between the congregation and Presbytery, 3) to outline the process for disaffiliation and dismissal with church property as defined in this policy, 4) to explain the consequences of disaffiliation and dismissal with property, 5) to identify and support any members of the session and/or the congregation opposed to disaffiliation and dismissal, 6) to obtain a current and up- to-date copy of the church's active membership roll, and 7) to obtain copies of both the minutes of the session and congregation for the past five years.
- D. If the Committee on Ministry's conflict utilization team determines that a loyal remnant of Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) members remains within the congregation, and the loyal remnant is opposed to disaffiliation, the Committee on Ministry shall recommend that Presbytery elect an administrative commission. The administrative commission shall be delegated the powers of the Presbytery to work with the loyal remnant of Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) members who remain within the congregation. Those powers shall include: 1) that Presbytery recognize the loyal remnant as the true congregation and ensure that the loyal remnant retains all real and personal church property, 2) and that those members desiring disaffiliation be transferred without church property to the reformed denomination of their choice, provided that reformed body is in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.).
- E. Provided that it is apparent to the Committee on Ministry's conflict utilization team that reconciliation is not possible and that it is apparent that no loyal remnant remains within the congregation, the Committee on Ministry shall recommend that Presbytery elect an administrative commission. The administrative commission shall be delegated the powers of Presbytery to work with the congregation requesting disaffiliation and dismissal (*Book of Order*, G-3.0109b).

Part Two:

- A. Promptly after the Presbytery elects and empowers an administrative commission to work with a session and congregation requesting disaffiliation and dismissal, the administrative commission shall meet with the session and the congregation. At this initial meeting, the administrative commission shall hear the reasons for requesting disaffiliation and dismissal, meet with all groups and factions in the particular congregation that wish to meet with the administrative commission, seek to determine if reconciliation is possible, and ascertain whether a loyal remnant of Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) members remains within the congregation.
- B. After its initial meeting with the session and congregation, the administrative commission shall instruct the session to call a meeting of the congregation for the purpose of putting this question before the congregation for a vote: *“Shall the membership of the _____ Presbyterian Church request to disaffiliate from the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) and be transferred to the _____ ?”*
- C. At this meeting of the congregation, the only questions debated shall be disaffiliation and transfer of the membership. Property questions shall be deferred for debate at a later meeting of the congregation.
- D. At this initial congregational meeting, both the session and the administrative commission shall ensure that at least 67% of the congregation’s active membership is present and that members of the administrative commission are present and have privilege of the floor. Equal time shall be given to both sides of the debate.
- E. After ample and fair debate, the congregation shall vote on the question: *“Shall the membership of the _____ Presbyterian Church request to disaffiliate from the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) and be transferred to the _____ ?”* The vote shall be by ballot. Choices on the ballot shall be limited to **“Remain with the PC(USA),” “Leave the PC(USA),” or “Abstain.”**
- F. If the outcome of the vote is **not unanimous** and a loyal remnant of Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) members remains within the congregation, the administrative commission shall have the following responsibilities: 1) To determine, regardless of percentage of membership, if the loyal remnant is the true church (*Book of Order*, G-4.0207). 2) If the administrative commission determines that the loyal remnant is the true church, it must determine if the loyal remnant desires to retain both the personal and real property of the church. 3). If the loyal remnant requests to retain both the personal and real property of the church, the administrative commission at the next called or stated meeting of Presbytery, shall make the following two recommendations: (A) that Presbytery recognize the loyal remnant as the true congregation and ensure that the loyal remnant retains all real and personal church property, (B) and that those members desiring disaffiliation be transferred without church property to the reformed denomination of their choice, provided that reformed body is in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.).
- G. If the vote of the congregation, however, is unanimous and the administrative commission determines that no loyal remnant remains within the church, then the administrative commission shall do the following: 1) It shall invite representatives of the congregation to attend the next meeting of the Abingdon Presbytery so that they may address Presbytery. 2) It shall inform the congregation that before

the Presbytery may take action to dismiss the membership to another reformed denomination that the session must provide Presbytery, in writing from the other denomination, proof that the congregation shall be accepted into membership, if the way be clear. 3) It shall inform the congregation that if Presbytery approves the congregation's request for disaffiliation that the congregation is immediately quitclaiming its interest in the church property, both personal and real. 4) It shall inform the congregation that at a later duly called congregational meeting the congregation may vote to request that Abingdon Presbytery dismiss it with property to the new denomination of membership. 5) It shall explain to the congregation that the Abingdon Presbytery shall seek a payment of cash from the congregation to compensate the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) for the loss of church property and may impose any number and nature of preconditions for dismissal, which may ordinarily include but need not be limited to the following minimum requirements:

- i All per capita, yearly requested Declaration of Intent, and/or Unified Mission Giving for the last five years shall be paid in full. The stated clerk of the Presbytery will disclose the actual amount owed.
- i Any loans or other financial obligations to the presbytery or any Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) related group shall be paid in full.
- i The present name of the church may not be used in the future.
- i Original copies of session minutes, congregational minutes and other historical documents related to the church's life as a Presbyterian church (Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) and its predecessors) will be turned over to the Presbytery for transmission to The Presbyterian Historical Foundation or other site selected by the Presbytery.

H. At a called or stated meeting, Presbytery, shall hear from the following: 1) the members of the congregation requesting dismissal and 2) the administrative commission, whose report shall include:

- i A report about whether the reformed denomination to which this church desires to be dismissed is in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) and whether we have met all of our obligations in such a dismissal (*Book of Order, G-3.0301*).
- i A report of how this congregation's disaffiliation shall affect the mission and ministry of this Presbytery.
- i A report about whether or not the stated clerk of the presbytery has received written confirmation from the receiving reformed denomination that the congregation shall be received into membership, if the way be clear.

I. After discussion and prayer, the Presbytery shall vote by secret written ballot on this question, **“Shall the membership of the _____ Presbyterian Church be permitted to disaffiliate from the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) and be transferred to the _____ ?”**

J. If Presbytery approves disaffiliation of the membership, both the congregation and the administrative commission shall be granted permission to advance to the third part of this policy's process, which is disposition of the personal and real church property.

K. If Presbytery disapproves disaffiliation, the administrative commission shall assume original jurisdiction of the congregation and all real and personal church property.

Part Three:

- A. If Presbytery approves disaffiliation and transfer of a congregation's membership to a reformed denomination that is in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), the administrative commission and the session of the congregation shall begin discussing whether or not the congregation shall be dismissed with personal and real property.
- B. The session shall make available to the administrative commission all of the congregation's financial records. The session shall disclose to the administrative commission all tangible and intangible property and financial resources held or controlled by the church. The session shall make a full accounting of the church's finances and property so that the administrative commission may adequately assess and consider the interest of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) as beneficiary of the church property and prayerfully evaluate Presbytery's fiduciary, missional, and spiritual strategy for the ministry of Jesus Christ in the particular geographical area that the local congregation is abandoning. Ordinarily, the following financial instruments, among others, shall be made available to the administrative commission for its consideration: a copy of the church's current operating/general funds budget; a copy of the church's current designated funds budget; copies of the church's checking account(s) statements for the past five years; copies of all savings account statements for the past five years; endowment fund statements and similar financial records(including, but not limited to CD's, mutual funds, securities, stocks, bonds, trust instruments, etc.); copies of all wills and bequests that indicate the intention of donors in granting real and/or personal property to the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) through the local congregation; and copies of all deeds, leases, and documents which grant, record or reflect any interests in land or any mining rights, mineral rights, oil and gas rights or other property interests, tenancies or rights of ownership in surface and subsurface resources.
- C. The administrative commission shall also explain to the session and the congregation various options that may be available to the congregation concerning the church property with the concurrence of the Presbytery. Since all church property is held in trust for the benefit and mission of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), the disaffiliated congregation in most instances has three options to consider concerning real church property: 1) It may choose to quitclaim and vacate the property. 2) It may choose to lease/rent the property from the Abingdon Presbytery. 3) It may compensate and purchase the property from the Presbytery.
- D. If the congregation chooses to quitclaim and vacate the church property, then the administrative commission at the next called or stated meeting of Presbytery shall make a recommendation to the Presbytery regarding what should be done with the vacant property. This could include starting a new work at the site of the former congregation or putting the property up for sale.
- E. If the congregation chooses to lease property from the Presbytery, the session and administrative commission shall work out a fair and equitable lease agreement. At the next called or stated meeting of Presbytery, the administrative commission will report the terms of the lease agreement and new relationship to Presbytery. The administrative commission shall also secure a new deed to the church property on behalf of Presbytery. The new deed shall declare that the property is titled solely in the name of Abingdon Presbytery.

- F. If a congregation chooses to purchase property, the administrative commission and the church ordinarily shall do the following:
- i The administrative commission will authorize and secure an appraisal of the real property by a qualified appraiser of its choice. The congregation shall reimburse Presbytery for the expense of the appraisal.
 - i Once the appraisal is received, it shall be reviewed by both the session and the administrative commission. This policy establishes a non-binding, rebuttable presumption that a congregation requesting to disaffiliate and be dismissed with property shall compensate the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) by paying a *minimum* of 60% of the appraised value for the real church property in addition to payment(s) by the congregation to compensate Presbytery for the loss of tangible and intangible personal property held or controlled by the local churches.
 - i The congregation and administrative commission shall ensure all per capita, yearly requested Declaration of Intent, and/or Unified Mission Giving for the last five years have been paid in full. The stated clerk of Presbytery will calculate the actual amount owed, which the congregation must pay in full.
 - i The session and administrative commission shall ensure that any loans or other financial obligations to the Presbytery or any Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) related group have been paid in full by the congregation.
 - i The session and congregation shall ensure the name of the congregation is changed.
 - i The session and congregation shall ensure original copies of minutes and other historical documents related to the church's life as a Presbyterian church (Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) and its predecessors) are turned over to the Presbytery for transmission to The Presbyterian Historical Foundation or other site selected by the Presbytery. A congregation is encouraged to make a copy of the church's historical documents and records.
 - i The session shall call a congregational meeting for the purpose of putting this question before the congregation: "Shall the former _____ Presbyterian Church be dismissed to the _____ with the real and personal property under the following terms and conditions: [list terms and conditions here]?"
 - i At this congregation meeting, both the session and the administrative commission shall ensure that at least 67% of the congregation's active membership is present and that members of the administrative commission are present and have privilege of the floor. Equal time shall be given to both sides of the debate.
 - i The vote on the question of real and personal property, along with the terms and conditions, shall be by written ballot. The choices on the ballot shall be: **"Yes," "No," or "Abstain."**
- G. If a majority of the congregation votes **"no"** to the terms and conditions for the disaffiliated congregation to be dismissed with real and personal property to a reformed denomination in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), the administrative commission shall immediately report this action to the stated clerk and the moderator of the Presbytery. The

congregation's decision shall also be reported at the next meeting of Presbytery, along with any recommendations from the administrative commission.

- H. At this point, Presbytery may instruct the administrative commission to enter into further negotiation with the disaffiliated congregation to determine if an agreement for compensation of the loss to Presbytery of the real and personal property may be reached. Alternatively, Presbytery may instruct the administrative commission to take control of the real and personal property and file suit against the disaffiliated congregation on the grounds that, among other reasons, the congregation is using church property in a manner contrary to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) (*Book of Order*, G-4.0204 and G-4.0205).
- I. If the majority of the congregation votes “**Yes**” to the terms and conditions set by the administrative commission for the disaffiliated congregation to be dismissed with real and personal property to a reformed denomination in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.), the administrative commission shall report this action at the next meeting of the Abingdon Presbytery, which may either be a called meeting or a stated meeting, along with any recommendations.
- J. At its meeting, the Presbytery will act on the following question by written ballot: “**Shall the former _____ Presbyterian Church be dismissed to the _____ with the real and personal property under the following terms and conditions: [list terms and conditions here]?**” The choices to be considered by the presbytery on the ballot are: “**Yes,**” “**No,**” or “**Abstain.**” (*Book of Order*, G-4.0207).
- K. If Presbytery in its consideration of the administrative commission's recommendation votes “**No,**” Presbytery may instruct the administrative commission to enter into further negotiations with the disaffiliated congregation to determine if an agreement for the compensation of the real and personal property that better reflects the Presbytery's fiduciary, missional, and spiritual needs may be reached. Alternatively, Presbytery may instruct the administrative commission to take control of the real and personal property and to file suit against the disaffiliated congregation, on the grounds that, among other reasons, the congregation is using church property in a manner contrary to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.) (*Book of Order*, G-4.0204 and G-4.0205).
- L. If Presbytery in its consideration of the administrative commission's recommendation votes “**Yes,**” Presbytery may instruct the administrative commission and the trustees of Abingdon Presbytery to direct Presbytery's attorney to draft appropriate settlement documents, including a quitclaim deed, and fix a closing date for execution of those documents and payment to Presbytery for the real and personal property in issue.
- M. The closing date is expected to take place within 45 days of the meeting of Presbytery to approve the dismissal of the congregation with church property to the reformed denomination in communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.).
- N. At the time of closing, the disaffiliated and dismissed congregation shall provide Presbytery with two certified cashier's checks: one to compensate Presbytery for the loss of real and personal property and the other for the reimbursement all attorneys' fees and expenses associated with

closing and settlement. Once the parties sign all settlement documents and Presbytery is compensated for the church property, Presbytery's attorney shall record deeds or other documents with the appropriate circuit court of Virginia and take any other steps necessary to complete the settlement.

Waiver or Deviation by Presbytery:

Presbytery retains the absolute discretion and authority to waive or deviate from any terms, conditions and procedures set forth in this Policy for Churches Requesting Disaffiliation and Dismissal with Property to Another Reformed Denomination in Communion with the Presbyterian Church (U. S. A.).

Conclusion:

The intent in any dispute within the life of the Church is to achieve reconciliation. To that end, we wish to make clear our intention to continue to seek that goal and to assure any congregation which should disaffiliate from us of our continuing prayers for them and a willingness to welcome them back to that part of God's family known as the Presbyterian Church (USA).

On this 12th day of November, 2015 and at this 121st Stated Meeting of Abingdon Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) we pause to give thanks for the life and ministry of Mrs. Peta Patton having served her Lord faithfully, not only through her church, but through this Presbytery. Peta embodies a Christ-like spirit and a compassionate, loving heart. In everything that she did, she has given 110 %. She is a willing, faithful servant of the King who has lived out God's mission in her life with a radiant smile and a cheerful loving disposition.

We've beheld (and taken for granted) her beautiful twinkling eyes that have flashed to the rhythm of her crisp, staccato British speech. Many a time, these distinct qualities of Peta's, have lifted us above our complacency and ignited a renewed zeal for our work. Her spirit has affirmed us and her flair for beauty inspired us.

Peta has not only served faithfully, and several terms, on the Education Committee, Committee on Ministry, Nominating Committee, and Compassion Committees, she has also rendered a passion and spent countless hours giving to the ministry of Presbyterian Women, hardly missing a single Fall and Spring Gathering. Peta is a natural and a welcoming host, serving meals, helping with registration, clean up "Behind the scene" tasks. She has represented our Presbytery well at the Synod Level. Therefore, today we give thanks to God and give Him the glory for the gift of Mrs. Peta Patton. She has made us better than we would have been otherwise and we miss her greatly. We present this plaque to her as a token of our love and gratitude to her. The plaque reads: *Presented to Peta Patton for her many years of faithful service to the Glory of God through Abingdon Presbytery.*

Shepherd's Report to Abingdon Presbytery

Rev. Dr. Randall E. Webb

November 12, 2015

PART ONE Getting to Know You

One of the clearest things Jesus had to say when he identified himself as the Good Shepherd was *"I know my own and my own know me,..."* John 10:14b. A priority during my first six months as your Shepherd has been simply to get to know as many of the people and congregations in our presbytery as possible. It has been wonderful getting to know you. As of our November presbytery meeting, I have connected in some way with 30 of our 48 churches, plus Blacks Chapel and the Wild Goose Community.

I have preached at Blacks Chapel, Buffalo Mountain (twice), Dinwiddie, Gate City, Lebanon, Tazewell, and Wytheville. I have worshiped with Anderson Memorial, Damascus, Dinwiddie, Rock Spring, White Top, and Wild Goose. I have also visited with nine churches for Bible Studies, fellowship dinners, or other congregational events: including Big Stone Gap, Buchanan First, Castlewood, Fincastle, Gladeville, Grace, Mary Martin, Powell Valley, and Tazewell.

I have met with the PNCs at Central, Richlands, and Tazewell, and I have attended meetings at Glade Spring, Green Spring, Hillsville, Royal Oak, Sinking Spring, and Tazewell. Finally, I have met with representatives of five other congregations for tours of their buildings and discussions of their ministries at Fairview, Graham, Pound, Vansant and Walnut Grove.

Significant additional time was spent with churches that required special attention because of **difficult situations**. The planned schedule for my time in Abingdon presbytery was changed three times in order to give needed attention to churches having difficulty, and once for a funeral in Front Royal. I am OK with these changes in plans and with responding to the needs as they arise. It always feels right to be where I am supposed to be at any given time.

I must say a word of thanks to the session and congregation at Lebanon, for their very gracious invitation for me to stay in their manse for the winter months, and to members of the Wytheville church for offering lodging when I need to be in that part of the presbytery.

If I have not yet been able to connect in some way with your congregation, I look forward to that opportunity to get to know you whenever we can arrange it.

PART TWO Shepherd's Mission Challenge to the Presbytery

Part of the purpose for having a presbytery Shepherd is as follows:

"To guide the Presbytery in living out its mission." which includes "providing up-to-date information and material on mission opportunities..." and other means "to strengthen local churches for more effective witness, [and] to share the ministry of the greater church in the world." (Abingdon Presbytery Manual 2.0402A)

Jesus last words on earth, spoken to his disciples as he was ascending back to the Father, and recorded in Acts 1:8 will be our guide. Jesus said, "...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Jesus sends his disciples into three concentric circles of mission: **Local** (Jerusalem), **Regional** (all Judea and Samaria), and **Global** (to the ends of the earth.) I do not believe that he intended those to be multiple choice options. I don't think what he had in mind was for everyone to focus on only their own local situation and leave the other levels of mission to someone else. In fact, I think there is great benefit to each of us and to our congregations, to be intentionally connected with what God is doing in the world at all three of these levels.

You will find a Mission Report Form available at this presbytery meeting. We are asking every church to tell us how you are involved in mission, so that we can both celebrate that and increase our commitment to mission. Most of our congregations are involved in **local ministry** efforts, either alone or with other churches or other agencies in their communities. I think for the most part these will be easy to identify. Please let us know what kinds of things your church is doing so that we can celebrate this.

Regional ministries may be a little more difficult to identify, but they would be things that benefit people in a wider geographical area, perhaps the territory of our presbytery, our state, or the U.S.A. Work trips to Louisiana or other places with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) would be one example of this. Cluster 2's cooperative effort to package 10,000 meals in one day is another good example. These ministries would most often be better done together as a cluster or as a presbytery rather than by a single congregation. We can get really creative together about what some of these might look like.

Finally, there are some **global ministries** that we do best as a denomination. The specific challenge here is **for every congregation in Abingdon Presbytery to be connected to and supportive of at least one PC(USA) Mission Co-worker**. If you are already supporting a PC(USA) mission co-worker, that's GREAT! Perhaps in light of the current mission needs, you could consider increasing that support, or adding an additional co-worker to your mission outreach.

Many churches in Abingdon presbytery support the work of Michael and Rachel Weller, because Michael is a member of our presbytery. If you are not specifically connected with a PC(USA) missionary, I have a suggestion for you to consider: **Elmarie and Scott Parker in the Middle East**. (Prayer cards that introduce them, give contact information, and tell about their ministry are available at this meeting of presbytery.) That region of the world is currently where the most desperate need exists, as hundreds of thousands of refugees, fleeing violence and unrest, overload the capacity of caring Christian churches to respond.

Iraq, Lebanon, and Syria are ancient biblical lands whose cities are referred to in both Old and New Testaments. Cities like Tyre and Sidon (in Lebanon) were visited by Jesus. (*Matthew 15:21*) Damascus (in Syria) was the site of the conversion of St. Paul. (*Acts 9*) Babylon (in Iraq) is where the Israelites were carried off into captivity, and the city of Mosul (also in Iraq and now the headquarters of Isis) was the ancient city of Nineveh, capital of the Assyrian empire. (*The Book of Jonah, Old Testament prophets and Matthew 12:38-41*)

The Christians in these lands date back to early New Testament times. They were there before the Muslims came, and many Christians have held on to their faith in the midst of terrible hardship and brutal persecution from extremists. It is very important that we stand with them now. That we strengthen the hands of Iraqi Presbyterians who are giving such an incredible witness to the Gospel in a very hostile setting.

So the **Mission Challenge** is for 100% participation by every congregation to:

1. Please fill out the Mission Report form to identify your congregation's involvement in mission at the local, regional and global levels, and submit it to the presbytery.
2. Please re-examine your church's global mission commitment with the goal of either
 - a. Connecting with a PC(USA) mission co-worker, or
 - b. Increasing your support for PC(USA) global mission work by
 1. Adding an additional PC(USA) co-worker, or
 2. Increasing your support for the PC(USA) missionaries with whom you are already connected.

This is the mission that Jesus has given us. This is what we are supposed to be doing as the Church of Jesus Christ. I believe that this focus on mission is central to our identity as followers of Jesus. I also believe that a

renewed mission focus has the potential to unite us as congregations and as a presbytery, and to re-energize our life together. Too long have we focused on internal squabbles. We have been given a mission. Let's get to it!

Rev. Dr. Randy Webb, Shepherd to Abingdon Presbytery

Church Development Committee

Presbytery Report

November 2015

The Church Development Committee has been at work since the last meeting of Abingdon Presbytery exploring ways to begin serving the congregations of our Presbytery in keeping with our stated purpose and function to work with our congregations to undergird the ministry and mission of small churches by discovering and offering methods, practices, and processes that assist them in becoming healthy, vibrant, and flourishing congregations.

As we explored the many programs developed by our denomination and other Christian sources we discovered that most addressed the needs of congregations in urban or suburban settings and, although most were well crafted and designed, adapting them for use in the context of small rural or mountain communities would be extremely challenging and difficult. As a result we came to the realization that the Holy Spirit was inviting us into a period of discernment and discovery so that we might begin developing methods and strategies born of our own environment and community. As a result of this process the committee concluded that the way to move forward was to:

- A. Connect to and partner with small congregations within our Presbytery.
- B. Seek someone with the passion, calling, and desire to work with our small congregations in order to accomplish the task.
- C. Create a way / method to ensure that once in place the plans, ideas, models developed could continue into the future and be shared with other churches in our region and denomination.

The committee, following the lead of the Spirit, also discerned that what we were being called to do was to begin Reimagining Small Church Ministry in Abingdon Presbytery. As a result of that discernment process the committee requests that the Committee on Ministry make the appropriate changes in Edwin's terms of call.

Nominating Committee Report

Linda DiYorio, Chair

Items for Action:

1. Moderator of the Presbytery of Abingdon for the remainder of 2015 and 2016:

Teaching Elder Jon Martin, Green Spring

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

2. Moderator-Elect of the Presbytery of Abingdon for 2016:

Ruling Elder Grace Bradshaw, Big Stone Gap

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

3. Council:

Patricia Neel, Green Spring Class of 2017

Margaret Dickson, Galax Class of 2018
Jean Bane, Central

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

4. Budget:

Kemper Bausell, Buchanan First Class of 2017

Jim Thompson, Tazewell Class of 2018
Mike Shortridge, Richlands

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

5. Church Development:

Jerry Manning, Fincastle Class of 2017

Tony Palubicki, Big Stone Gap/Powell Valley Class of 2018
Gydell Slate, Dinwiddie
Mary Gearhart, Wytheville
Walter Rollins, Powell Valley

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

6. Committee on Ministry:

Ben Behrendt, Fairview Class of 2016
John DiYorio, Wytheville Class of 2017

Brenda Lawson, Richlands Class of 2018
Will Gipe, Gladeville/Pound

Alice Freeman, Glade Spring
Frank Aichinger, Central
Brad Napier, Buchanan First
Dwight Speeks, Fincastle

___✓___ Motion Made ___✓___ Approved _____ Disapproved

7. Committee on Preparation for Ministry:

Rusty Gilly, Powell Valley Class 2018
Alice Freeman, Glade Spring
Jeannie Evans, Green Spring

___✓___ Motion Made ___✓___ Approved _____ Disapproved

8. Communications Committee:

Jane Davis, Galena Class of 2017

Susan Lowery, Sinking Spring Class of 2018
Tony Palubicki, Big Stone Gap/Powell Valley
Steve Talbert, Maple Grove Spring Creek

___✓___ Motion Made ___✓___ Approved _____ Disapproved

9. Compassion Ministries:

Jerry Manning, Fincastle Class of 2016
Jane Clark, Rich Valley Class of 2017

Wythe Hull, Sinking Spring Class of 2018
Esther Hider, Wytheville
Norma Busic, Galax

___✓___ Motion Made ___✓___ Approved _____ Disapproved

10. Education Committee:

Susan Slate, Dinwiddie Class of 2017
David Buchanan, Rich Valley

Jimmie Ruth Speeks, Fincastle Class of 2018
John Markel, Walnut Grove
Gary Spencer, Dinwiddie
Kathy Haga, Dinwiddie

___✓___ Motion Made ___✓___ Approved _____ Disapproved

11. Personnel and Facility Oversight:

Karen Loftin, Galax Class of 2018
Eugene Baldwin, Honorably Retired

___✓___ Motion Made ___✓___ Approved _____ Disapproved

12. Permanent Judicial Commission:

David Altizer, Tazewell Class of 2021
Jon Martin, Green Spring
Dr. Rachel Fowlkes, Sinking Spring

✓ Motion Made ✓ Approved Disapproved

13. Commissioners to the 222nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in Portland, Oregon, June 18-25, 2016:

Teaching Elder (Primary): Edwin Lacy, Wild Goose
Teaching Elder (Alternate): Jon Martin, Green Spring
Ruling Elder (Primary): Jim Gearhart, Wytheville
Ruling Elder (Alternate): Joe Bowen, Tazewell
Young Adult Advisory Delegate: Lindsey Pratt, Rich Valley
Young Adult Advisory Delegate (Alternate): Savannah Taylor, Tazewell

✓ Motion Made ✓ Approved Disapproved

Committee on Ministry Report

Jon Martin, Chair

Information:

1. Since the June 11, 2015 Called meeting of the Presbytery, the COM has met three times: on August 20, September 22, and October 27.

2. Approved the following Moderators to Sessions:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Buffalo Mountain | Edwin Lacy | Teaching Elder |
| Gate City First | Tony Palubicki | Teaching Elder |
| Lebanon | John Markel | Teaching Elder |
| McIver Memorial | Bob Tolar | Teaching Elder |
| Riverview | Alan Gray | Teaching Elder |
| West Fork | Brad Napier | Teaching Elder |

3. Approved the interim co-pastor contract renewal between Frank and Ann Aichinger and the Central Session.
4. Received a request from the Session of Dinwiddie for assistance with a significant congregational crisis. COM appointed a response team (Tom Whartenby, Kevin Campbell, John DiYorio, and Mava Vass) to respond to the Dinwiddie request. *October 27 Update:* The Clerk of Session met with the COM requesting additional suggestions to help move toward resolving the internal difficulties at Dinwiddie. Also granted the Session an exemption from (1) calling an annual congregational meeting and (2) from elder rotation through 2016.
5. Received a letter from the clerk of Session of the Riverview Church requesting disaffiliation and dismissal with property from the PC(USA). As required by the dismissal policy of Abingdon Presbytery, part 1, section c, the COM appointed a team (Bill Parish, Tim Reynolds, and Phyllis Canter) to meet with the Session. *October 27 Update:* Response team has met with the Session to review the dismissal policy.
6. Gave permission to Randy Webb, Shepherd to the Presbytery to preside at the Lord's Supper and moderate Session meetings when a church is without a pastor.
7. Partnered with Church Development Committee to provide Continuing Education funds for two teaching elders.
8. Randy Webb, Shepherd to the Presbytery, introduced the COM to a church assessment instrument, called *Vital Signs*.

Action Items:

The COM moves that:

1. The Stated Supply lists for 2016 be approved.

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Bill Lively | Guest minister | Graham Memorial |
| Eugene Baldwin | TE | Seven Mile Ford |
| Gerry Manning | Guest minister | Fincastle |
| Howard Finkel | Lay person | Bland-Leyburn |
| Malcolm Stuart | Guest minister | Jewel Ridge |
| Susanne Martin | TE | Damascus and Rock Spring |

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

2. The Commissioned Ruling Elders be approved.

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| David Kester | Anderson Memorial |
| Jim Walker | Bethel |
| Darlene Litton | Grace |
| Stephen Talbert | Spring Creek and Maple Grove |
| Bill Parish | Castlewood and Mary Martin Memorial |
| Mike Riley | McCall's Gap |
| Phyllis Canter | Vasant and Oakwood |
| Andy Cundiff | Stone Memorial |
| Madge Barnett | Whitetop |
| Cathy Hutton | Whitetop |

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

3. Permission be granted for Teaching Elders Ann Aichinger (Western North Carolina) and Frank Aichinger (Western North Carolina) to labor within the bounds of Abingdon Presbytery for 2016.

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

4. The 2016 Pulpit Supply List be Approved

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. George Aichel | Dr. John DiYorio | Mrs. Bonnie Lester |
| Rev. Elizabeth Patrick | Rev. Don Nance | Dr. Roy Wright |
| Mrs. Grace Bradshaw | Mr. Rex Spencer | Mr. Amanda Wise |
| Ms. Patricia Neel | Mrs. Debbie Ginder | Mr. John Davis |
| Rev. Curtis Murray | Rev. Robert Tolar, Sr. | Mr. Alan Baldwin |
| Mr. Joe McGlothlin | Mr. Bobby Endicott | Mr. Nathan Harper |
| Mr. Eddie Doerr | King College Supply List | |
| <i>Contact information will be included in the 2016 Presbytery Directory</i> | | |

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

5. The 2016 Minimum terms of call be approved. See attached sheets.

✓ Motion Made ✓ Approved Disapproved

6. That the Presbytery approve changes in the 2016 Terms of Call for Rev. Edwin Lacy, Presbytery Evangelist:

a. Duties (from the Church Development Committee): *Continue as half-time pastor for Wild Goose Christian Community, and for a period of one year, serve half-time as **Small Church Facilitator** with the following responsibilities:*

- o *Reach out in an intentional way to build or strengthen relationships of caring and trust between small churches and Abingdon Presbytery.*
- o *In dialogue and partnership with interested churches, use a variety of instruments to help analyze and identify congregational strengths and concerns as well as mission opportunities.*
- o *In order to encourage grass roots ownership of the process facilitator will partner with Shepherd, COM, CDC, Pastor, and participating congregations to create a Mission and Ministry Action Plan (MMAP) for each participating small church.*
- o *Monitor and assist (with said partners) the implementation of the agreed upon MMAP.*
- o *Form and lead a “Think Tank” to create innovative small church ideas and ministry models.*
- o *Develop models for Small Church Ministry that could be used by small churches throughout the denomination.*
- o *Create a Small Church Task Force to continue duties and functions into the future.*

b. Financial Compensation remains unchanged.

✓ Motion Made ✓ Approved Disapproved

2016 Proposed Minimum Terms of Call for Full-time Installed Pastors
(If house allowance provided)

| | | |
|--|-------------|--------------------|
| 1. Compensation | | |
| Cash Salary/Housing Amount designated for "housing" determined by estimate of mort-gage, insurance, taxes, utilities, maintenance, repairs, furnishings, etc. | \$41,221.00 | |
| ½ SECA This is determined by the "cash salary/housing" amount x SECA Example: \$41,221 x 0.9235 x 0.0765 = \$2,912 | \$2,912.17 | |
| TOTAL COMPENSATION | | \$44,133.17 |
| 2. Professional Expenses (Required to be vouchered) | | |
| Travel Allowance Mileage reimbursed at Federal Government Rate, plus necessary meals, housing, etc. away from home. | \$3,326. | |
| Education Allowance Includes books, magazines, continuing education costs. Allowance and study leave can be accumulated up to three years or \$3,000. | \$1,000. | |
| TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES | | \$4,326.00 |
| 3. Benefits | | |
| Major Medical: Member-only participation is 23% of total compensation Member + family is 24.5% of total compensation | \$10,150.63 | |
| Pension Pension: 11% of total compensation | \$4,854.65 | |
| Death and Disability Death and Disability: 1% of total compensation Total Compensation x (23% + 11% + 1%) = \$15,446.61 Amount at right is for a Member-only pastor | \$441.33 | |
| TOTAL BENEFITS | | \$15,446.61 |
| TOTAL COST TO CHURCH | | \$63,905.78 |

2016 Proposed Minimum Terms of Call for Full-time Installed Pastors
(If Manse Provided)

| | | |
|--|-------------|--------------------|
| 1. Compensation | | |
| Cash Salary | \$29,774.00 | |
| Manse Value (30% of Cash Salary) | \$8,932.20 | |
| Utilities | \$2,625.00 | |
| ½ SECA (Cash Salary + Manse Value + Utilities) x SECA Example: (\$29,774 + \$8,932.20 + \$2,625) x 0.9235 x 0.0765 = \$2,920 | \$2,920. | |
| Manse Equity Escrow Placed in an escrow account and paid to the pastor when pastoral relationship is dissolved or call is amended to provide for housing allowance. Purpose is to provide for future housing of pastors who live in manses and don't accumulate equity in a home. | \$1,050. | |
| TOTAL COMPENSATION | | \$45,301.20 |
| 2. Professional Expenses (Required to be vouchered) | | |
| Travel Allowance Mileage reimbursed at Federal Government Rate, plus necessary meals, housing, etc. away from home. | \$3,326. | |
| Education Allowance Includes books, magazines, continuing education costs. Allowance and study leave can be accumulated up to three years or \$3,000. | \$1,000. | |
| TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES | | \$4,326.00 |
| 3. Benefits | | |
| Major Medical: Member-only participation is 23% of total compensation Member + family is 24.5% of total compensation | \$10,419.28 | |
| Pension Pension: 11% of total compensation | \$4,983.13 | |
| Death and Disability Death and Disability: 1% of total compensation Total Compensation x (23% + 11% + 1%) = \$15,855.42 Amount at right is for a Member-only pastor | \$453.01 | |
| TOTAL BENEFITS | | \$15,855.42 |
| TOTAL COST TO CHURCH | | \$65,482.62 |

Budget Committee Report

John DiYorio, Chair

Items for Information:

1. Requests from committees are honored.
2. Small increase on Shepherd's travel expenses (1-50014) because Randy seems to be doing some much needed travel throughout the Presbytery.
3. 1-50020, Office Manager Salary, is dependent on recommendation of the Personnel Committee.
4. Decrease in Committee Meeting Expenses (1-50070) is based on 2015 usage.
5. Increase in Staff-Court expense based on anticipated events. (1-50071)
6. Budget total is about \$3,000 more than 2015.
7. 2016 Per Capita is \$68.96.

Issues:

1. Most pressing is the shortfall in giving. Note that out of \$247,038 requested in 2015 only \$172,476.67 was accepted and so far this year we have only received \$87,829.07.
2. We will be able to meet the shortfall by drawing from reserves again, but this is not sustainable over the long term.
3. Clearly we need to address the situation seriously. I have three thoughts:
 - a. We need to make a serious effort to increase the number of congregations who support Presbytery financially.
 - b. We need to plan to bring giving in line with expenses. We need a plan for long range sustainability.
 - c. Until we achieve long range sustainability I believe the Budget Committee should ask Presbytery to direct the proceeds from the Bowen bequest to the Reserve Fund. Presently these monies are placed in the Church Development Fund. I don't make this suggestion lightly, but as of now the Church Development Fund is well funded and we must have funds to operate presbytery.

Items for Action:

1. That Presbytery approve the Budget for 2016 as presented.

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

2. That the Unified Mission Request per church member be set at \$68.96. The distribution is as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| General Assembly | \$ 7.12 |
| Synod of Mid-Atlantic | \$.80 |
| Presbytery | <u>\$61.04</u> |
| Total | <u>\$68.96</u> |

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

2016 Proposed Budget

| ACCT. | DESCRIPTION | 2015 Budget | 2016 Requested Funds | Proposed 2016 Budget |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| SHEPHERD | | | | |
| 1-50010 | SALARY | \$16,500.00 | \$16,500.00 | \$16,500.00 |
| 1-50011 | SECA | \$2,525.00 | \$2,525.00 | \$2,525.00 |
| 1-50012 | HOUSING | \$16,500.00 | \$16,500.00 | \$16,500.00 |
| 1-50013 | PENSIONS/INSURANCE | \$12,435.00 | \$12,435.00 | \$12,435.00 |
| 1-50014 | TRAVEL EXPENSE | \$4,500.00 | \$4,500.00 | \$5,000.00 |
| 1-50015 | BOOKS.EDUCATION/PROF. EXP. | \$3,500.00 | \$3,500.00 | \$3,500.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$55,960.00 | \$55,960.00 | \$56,460.00 |
| STATED CLERK | | | | |
| 1-50025 | SALARY | \$15,000.00 | \$15,000.00 | \$15,000.00 |
| 1-50026 | EXPENSES | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$16,000.00 | \$16,000.00 | \$16,000.00 |
| OFFICE MANAGER/APRIL | | | | |
| 1-50020 | SALARY | \$37,440.00 | | \$38,563.00 |
| 1-50022 | PENSION/INSURANCE | \$15,272.00 | | \$15,408.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$52,712.00 | \$0.00 | \$53,971.00 |
| HUNGER ACTION ENABLER | | | | |
| 1-50033 | EXPENSE | \$5,000.00 | | \$5,000.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$5,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$5,000.00 |
| OFFICE/OPERATION | | | | |
| 1-50051 | TELEPHONE | \$3,079.00 | \$3,079.00 | \$3,079.00 |
| 1-50054 | PRESBYTERY AUDIT/REVIEW | \$6,210.00 | \$6,210.00 | \$6,210.00 |
| 1-50055 | POSTAGE | \$800.00 | \$800.00 | \$800.00 |
| 1-50056 | OFFICE SUPPLIES | \$1,000.00 | \$1,200.00 | \$1,200.00 |
| 1-50057 | EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE | \$11,000.00 | \$11,000.00 | \$11,000.00 |
| 1-50059 | ACS/SUPPORT | \$2,000.00 | \$2,500.00 | \$2,500.00 |
| 1-50065 | RENT | \$6,000.00 | \$7,500.00 | \$7,500.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$30,089.00 | \$32,289.00 | \$32,289.00 |

2016 Proposed Budget

| ACCT. | DESCRIPTION | 2015 Budget | | Proposed 2016 Budget |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| GOVERNING BODY FUNCTION | | | | |
| 1-50070 | COMMITTEE MEETINGS | \$4,000.00 | | \$3,500.00 |
| 1-50071 | STAFF-COURT FUNCTIONS | \$5,000.00 | | \$6,000.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$9,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$9,500.00 |
| CORPORATION | | | | |
| 1-50060 | WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION | \$500.00 | | \$700.00 |
| 1-50061 | FICA-EMPLOYER'S SHARE | \$4,241.00 | | \$4,098.00 |
| 1-50062 | SCC ANNUAL REG. FEE | \$25.00 | | \$25.00 |
| 1-50063 | OFFICE INSURANCE & BOND | \$900.00 | | \$900.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$5,666.00 | \$0.00 | \$5,723.00 |
| SUPPORT | | | | |
| 1-50110 | CHILDREN'S HOME | \$22,800.00 | | \$22,800.00 |
| 1-50112 | PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN | \$2,000.00 | | \$2,000.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$24,800.00 | \$0.00 | \$24,800.00 |
| PASTORAL SUPPORT/COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY | | | | |
| 1-50080 | SHARED MINISTRY | \$500.00 | | \$500.00 |
| 1-50081 | CONT.ED. & COUNSELING | \$1,000.00 | | \$1,000.00 |
| 1-50083 | MISSIONARY MANSE EQUITY | \$1,050.00 | | \$1,050.00 |
| 1-50084 | COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR | \$1,200.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$3,750.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$4,050.00 |

2016 Proposed Budget

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| PASTORAL SUPPORT/PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY | | | | |
| 1-50090 | CANDIDATE EXPENSES | \$900.00 | \$900.00 | \$900.00 |
| 1-50091 | SCHOLARSHIPS | \$5,500.00 | \$5,500.00 | \$5,500.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$6,400.00 | \$6,400.00 | \$6,400.00 |
| EDUCATION COMMITTEE | | | | |
| 1-50100 | MOUNTAIN TOP | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 |
| 1-50103 | CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS | \$500.00 | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$2,000.00 | \$2,000.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE | | | | |
| 1-50097 | COMMITTEE USE | \$3,750.00 | \$3,750.00 | \$3,750.00 |
| | TOTAL: | \$3,750.00 | \$3,750.00 | \$3,750.00 |
| PER CAPITA | | | | |
| 1-50002 | GENERAL ASSEMBLY | \$26,463.00 | \$25,653.36 | \$25,653.36 |
| 1-50003 | SYNOD | \$2,808.00 | \$2,882.40 | \$2,882.40 |
| | TOTAL: | \$29,271.00 | \$28,535.76 | \$28,535.76 |
| | EXPENSES (TOTAL): | \$244,398.00 | | \$248,478.76 |
| INCOME | | | | |
| | Unified Mission Request | | | \$245,978.76 |
| | Hunger Action Enabler Grant | \$2,500.00 | | \$2,500.00 |
| | TOTAL: | | \$0.00 | \$248,478.76 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | PER CAPITA |
| | Population of Abingdon Presbytery | 3,603 | | 68.96440744 |

| <u>ACCT.</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>2015 Proposed Amt.</u> | <u>Actual YTD</u> | <u>% of Budget</u> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| COUNCIL | | | | Used |
| SHEPHERD | | | | |
| 1-50010 | SALARY | 16,500.00 | 8,250.00 | 50.00% |
| 1-50011 | SECA | 2,525.00 | 1,262.52 | 50.00% |
| 1-50012 | HOUSING | 16,500.00 | 8,250.00 | 50.00% |
| 1-50013 | PENSIONS/INSURANCE | 12,435.00 | 7,039.98 | 56.61% |
| 1-50014 | TRAVEL EXPENSE | 4,500.00 | 5,182.80 | 115.17% |
| 1-50015 | BOOKS/EDUCATION/PROF. EXP. | 3,500.00 | 2,088.68 | 59.68% |
| | | | | |
| | TOTAL: | 55,960.00 | \$32,073.98 | 57.32% |
| STATED CLERK | | | | |
| 1-50025 | SALARY | 15,000.00 | \$12,500.00 | 83.33% |
| 1-50026 | EXPENSES | 1,000.00 | \$50.00 | 5.00% |
| | TOTAL: | 16,000.00 | \$12,550.00 | 78.44% |
| OFFICE MANAGER/APRIL | | | | |
| 1-50020 | SALARY | 37,440.00 | 31,200.00 | 83.33% |
| 1-50022 | PENSION/INSURANCE | 15,272.00 | 12,754.00 | 83.51% |
| | TOTAL: | 52,712.00 | \$43,954.00 | 83.39% |
| HUNGER ACTION ENABLER | | | | |
| 1-50033 | EXPENSE | 5,000.00 | 1,566.68 | 31.33% |
| | TOTAL: | 5,000.00 | \$1,566.68 | 31.33% |
| OFFICE/OPERATION | | | | |
| 1-50051 | TELEPHONE | 3,079.00 | 2,680.34 | 87.05% |
| 1-50054 | PRESBYTERY AUDIT | 6,210.00 | 6,102.38 | 98.27% |
| 1-50055 | POSTAGE | 800.00 | 514.50 | 64.31% |
| 1-50056 | OFFICE SUPPLIES | 1,000.00 | 1,067.97 | 106.80% |
| 1-50057 | EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE | 11,000.00 | 9,090.00 | 82.64% |
| 1-50059 | ACS/SUPPORT | 2,000.00 | 2,607.93 | 130.40% |
| 1-50065 | RENT-WYTHEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN | 6,000.00 | 5,000.00 | 83.33% |
| | TOTAL: | 30,089.00 | \$27,063.12 | 89.94% |
| GOVERNING BODY FUNCTION | | | | |
| 1-50070 | COMMITTEE MEETINGS | 4,000.00 | 3,766.92 | 94.17% |
| 1-50071 | STAFF-COURT FUNCTIONS | 5,000.00 | 4,257.18 | 85.14% |
| | TOTAL: | 9,000.00 | \$8,024.10 | 89.16% |
| CORPORATION | | | | |
| 1-50060 | WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION | 500.00 | 682.00 | 136.40% |
| 1-50061 | FICA-EMPLOYER'S SHARE | 4,241.00 | 3,343.10 | 78.83% |
| 1-50062 | SCC ANNUAL REG. FEE | 25.00 | 26.95 | 107.80% |
| 1-50063 | OFFICE INSURANCE & BOND | 900.00 | 807.08 | 89.68% |
| | TOTAL: | 5,666.00 | \$4,859.13 | 85.76% |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

| <u>ACCT.</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>2015 Proposed Amt.</u> | <u>Actual YTD</u> | <u>% of Budget Used</u> |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| SUPPORT | | | | |
| 1-50110 | CHILDREN'S HOME | 22,800.00 | 19,000.00 | 83.33% |
| 1-50112 | PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN | 2,000.00 | 1,666.70 | 83.34% |
| | TOTAL: | \$24,800.00 | \$20,666.70 | 83.33% |
| PASTORAL SUPPORT/COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY | | | | |
| 1-50080 | SHARED MINISTRY | 500.00 | | 0.00% |
| 1-50081 | CONT.ED. & COUNSELING | 1,000.00 | 1,013.50 | 101.35% |
| 1-50083 | MISSIONARY MANSE EQUITY | 1,050.00 | 875.00 | 83.33% |
| 1-50084 | COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR | 1,200.00 | 915.00 | 76.25% |
| | TOTAL: | \$3,750.00 | \$2,803.50 | 74.76% |
| PASTORAL SUPPORT/PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY | | | | |
| 1-50090 | CANDIDATE EXPENSES | 900.00 | 35.08 | 3.90% |
| 1-50091 | SCHOLARSHIPS | 5,500.00 | 3,000.00 | 54.55% |
| | TOTAL: | \$6,400.00 | \$3,035.08 | 47.42% |
| EDUCATION COMMITTEE | | | | |
| 1-50100 | MOUNTAIN TOP LEADERSHIP EVENT | 1,500.00 | 192.00 | 12.80% |
| 1-50101 | BOOKS & RESOURCES | 0.00 | | #DIV/0! |
| 1-50103 | CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS | 500.00 | | 0.00% |
| | TOTAL: | \$2,000.00 | \$192.00 | 9.60% |
| CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE | | | | |
| 1-50097 | COMMITTEE USE | 3,750.00 | 1,790.00 | 47.73% |
| | TOTAL: | \$3,750.00 | \$1,790.00 | 47.73% |
| PER CAPITA | | | | |
| 1-50002 | GENERAL ASSEMBLY | \$26,463.00 | \$19,847.27 | 75.00% |
| 1-50003 | SYNOD | \$2,808.00 | \$2,106.00 | 75.00% |
| | TOTAL: | \$29,271.00 | \$21,953.27 | 75.00% |
| | TOTAL: | \$244,398.00 | \$167,981.56 | 68.73% |
| 1-40009 | YTD UMR (Accepted) | 174,479.67 | 114,011.29 | 65.34% |
| | Hunger Action Enabler Grant | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 | 100.00% |
| | TOTAL: | \$176,979.67 | \$116,511.29 | 65.83% |
| | 10/31/2015 | | -\$51,470.27 | |

Personnel & Facility Oversight Committee Report

Jim Gearhart, Chair

Items for Information:

1. The Committee accepted the decision of Part-time Stated Clerk David Kester to resign his position because of his new full time job. The Presbytery appreciates the work that he has performed this past year.
2. The Committee has evaluated the performance of Office Manager April DiYorio for 2015. She continues to serve our Presbytery extremely well.
3. The Committee has evaluated the performance of Shepherd Randy Webb for the time he has served this year. We appreciate the effort that he is making to learn the Presbytery and to reach out to all of our Churches and congregations.

Items for Action:

1. The Personnel & Facilities Oversight Committee nominates Ruling Elder Bill Parish to be the Part-time Stated Clerk for the Abingdon Presbytery effective with this meeting of Presbytery for the standard three-year term. Financial terms for the position are \$15,000 annual salary with \$1,000 for expenses.

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

2. That Ruling Elder Bill Parish be invited to the floor for examination and questions from the Presbytery.

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

3. That Presbytery elects Ruling Elder Bill Parish to be the Part-time Stated Clerk for the Abingdon Presbytery effective with this meeting of Presbytery for the standard 3-year term.

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

4. That Presbytery enroll Ruling Elder Bill Parish as a member of Abingdon Presbytery during his term of service as Part-time Stated Clerk (Book of Order – 3.0301).

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

5. That Presbytery immediately install Ruling Elder Bill Parish as Part-time Stated Clerk of Abingdon Presbytery.

Motion Made Approved Disapproved

Installation of Bill Parish as Stated Clerk of Abingdon Presbytery

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Edwin Lacy

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

**There is one body and one Spirit,
just as we were called to the one hope of our calling
one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.**

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

Jon Martin

We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ,
a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind.

**The great ends of the church are the proclamation of the gospel
for the salvation of humankind;
the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;
the maintenance of divine worship;
the preservation of the truth;
the promotion of social righteousness;
and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.**

Bill

the grace bestowed on you in baptism is sufficient for your calling
because it is God's grace.

By God's grace we are saved, and enabled to grow in the faith
and to commit our lives in ways which serve Christ.

God has called you to particular service as Stated Clerk of Abingdon Presbytery.

Show your purpose by answering these questions.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help.

Do you welcome the responsibility of this service
because you are determined to follow the Lord Jesus,
to love neighbors, and to work for the reconciling of the world?

I do.

Will you serve the people
with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love,
relying on God's mercy and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit?

I will, with God's help.

Do you, members of Abingdon Presbytery
confirm the call of God to our *brother Bill*
as Stated Clerk in the service of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Will you support and encourage him in this ministry?

We will.

INSTALLATION PRAYER

Phyllis Canter

Bless, we pray this call, O God,

between Bill Parish and the people of Abingdon Presbytery
Grant them your Holy Spirit,
as they together seek the mind of Christ,
and work to do Christ's mission and ministry in this community - and beyond.
Give them joy in their service together,
fruitfulness in their common ministry,
and faithfulness in their mission.

....through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

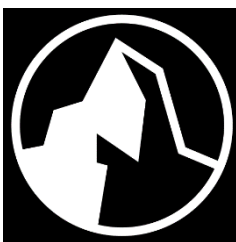
CHARGE

Bill, you are installed to service as Stated Clerk
in Abingdon Presbytery.

Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God through him.

BLESSING

May the God of peace make you holy in every way,
and keep your whole being, spirit, soul, and body,
free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.



Mountain Top, 2015

Time and Place: September 19, 2015 at Royal Oak Presbyterian, Marion, VA

Theme: “Why We Do What We Do”

Speakers – Rev. Dr. Peter Bower, Editor-in-Chief of *Studia Liturgica* and the author and editor of the *Handbook for the Common Lectionary*, and *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship*. Our second speaker was curriculum specialist, Mark Hinds’s representative, from Congregational Ministries Publishing who brought information about new Sunday School and Bible Study curriculum.

Schedule:

9:30 – 10:00 – Registration

10:00 – 11:00 – Plenary by Dr. Bower who gave a brief description of the development of the practices of worship in our reformed tradition, reminding us that “Worship is, first and foremost a people’s meeting with the God who has taken the initiative to gather that people. It is a gathering intended for no other purpose than to offer our praise, our thanksgiving, and our lament, while trusting the Spirit to bring us into the presence of the risen Christ.” (*The Companion to the Book of Common Worship*, p. 6)

11:00 – 12:00 – the worship service was an example of the Service of Daily Prayer from *The Book of Common Worship*, led by Dr. Bower, with members of the congregation participating.

12:00 – 12:30 – a boxed lunch prepared by Main Street Eateries of Marion

12:30 – 2:00 – Sessions 1 and 2, rotating with Teaching Elders meeting with Dr. Bower first and the curriculum specialist second, and Elders and laypersons meeting with the curriculum specialist first and Dr. Bower second.

2:00 – participants were dismissed

Attendance – 28, 16 preregistered by calling the Presbytery Office.

Hunger Enabler Report

“Give us day by day our daily bread.” Luke 11:3.

First of all I would like to thank the Presbyterian Women for inviting me to install their new officers for 2016, at their Fall Gathering at Glade Spring Church on October 17. It is always an honor to be included in all these celebrations and I always look forward to these events. I sincerely appreciate being asked to participate in their programs. There is so much love and graciousness shared.

Our agencies have been blessed with shipments and donations of surplus commodities this year and we still have two months ahead to receive foods. It has been estimated that between the distributing centers about two million pounds of goods have been given to the needs of recipients. Our two main distribution centers at Bland and Hurley work really well together sharing and helping to reach out to the needs of less fortunate folks in Southwest Virginia and beyond. We have been blessed with apples, cabbage, nectarines, peaches, green beans, potatoes, yogurt, leaf vegetable greens and last but not least 13,200 lbs of turnips.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to secure any sweet potatoes this year. As I explained last year, the farmers have found another source of income from their surplus of sweet potatoes. Although it cuts us short, we still have to be grateful for the farmer’s extra income.

Remember our 5-cents-a meal dedication. I do not have a year to date amount already received but I will have it by the next Presbytery Meeting. We are so grateful for all the commitments and dedications for this well-deserved program.

Remember, I am available to speak for hunger causes at your churches and gatherings and welcome an invitation to your guest. I am always at your service to help understand the hunger needs.

Until I get to see you at Presbytery you have my grace and blessings.

Phyllis

Phyllis Canter HAE, Abingdon Presbytery

276-628-7496

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Rev. Susanne S. Martin, Chair

Items for Information:

On July 31, 2015 the Committee on Preparation for Ministry conducted its annual consultation with Jacob Singleton, who is a Candidate for Ministry in Abingdon Presbytery and has completed his Master of Divinity degree at Princeton Theological Seminary. Jacob is voluntarily completing an additional year of Clinical Pastoral Education at a hospital in New Jersey.

The CPM discussed with Jacob the final steps of the process toward readiness to receive a call and ordination.

Abingdon Presbyterian Women's Moderator Report

The 27th Summer Gathering of Presbyterian Women of the Mid-Atlantic Synod was held June 12th thru 14th 2015 at Maseanetta Springs. The HORIZONS Bible Study for this coming year is by Judy Record Fletcher; she is a teaching elder PC (USA). It is entitled *Come to the Waters*.

There were 200 women attending. Six women took advantage of the childcare scholarships which gave 8 children the opportunity to be with their mother. Abingdon PW had 6 attending. There were 54 first timers. The women of the conference donated enough funds to finish paying for the Lodge.

The Mission Project was Free the Girls. A total of 3,000 bras were collected to make jobs for women in some of the Third World countries.

Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women was held June 18-21, 2015. This was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. 900 hundred women were expected but attendance was 1500, a big success.

Coming up is Abingdon PW Fall Gathering, October 3rd at Glade Spring Church. Special guests will be Brenda Brown, Past Moderator of the

Mid-Atlantic Synod and Patricia Clark, Present Moderator of the Mid-Atlantic Synod.

Our loss was heaven's gain when on September 4, 2015 Elizabeth Nash, died. She served Abingdon PW faithfully and with joy. She had been a co-moderator with Bettie Galliher. They had twice served in this office. She will be greatly missed.

Respectively submitted,

Elaine Alderman

Abingdon PW Moderator

The Fall Gathering of Abingdon PW's was postponed from October 3, 2015 to October 17, 2015 due to weather. The Gathering was held at Glade Spring with 38 women in attendance and 16 churches being represented. Patricia Clark, Moderator of the Mid-Atlantic Presbyterian Women gave the introduction of the new bible study "Come to the Waters". Since our date was changed past moderator Brenda Brown was unavailable to attend. Phyllis Canter spoke on Hunger. Beth Patterson spoke on the Thank Offering. She encouraged us all to contribute as one of the grants comes back to our Synod. My Father's House Phase 2 expansion in Concord NC received \$31,000 from the 2014 Thank Offering. There were "mini-sessions" for Moderators, Justice & Peace, Treasurer, Missions, and Cluster Leaders. A beautiful day with much love and grace received.

Abingdon's Moderator traveled to Massanetta October 9-10 2015 for the CT meeting of PW's of the Mid Atlantic. Business was discussed for the 2016 and 2017 Summer Gathering.

November 13 & 14 will be retreat time for the Abingdon Coordinating Team. We will be staying at Higher Ground Christian Retreat Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Alderman
Abingdon Presbyterian Women Moderator

THANK YOU

Abingdon Presbytery

FOR HELPING US IN

Giving Children Hope & Purpose For The Future!

CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER A GREAT SUMMER

Our children returned to school on August 11th after a summer filled with work and fun. In addition to their daily work around the cottage, many of our children held jobs either on campus or in the community. Our maintenance director, Jerrell Hall, works with many of our children during throughout the year on learning work skills. This comes in handy during the summer when we need help maintaining our 89 acre campus. Between the hands on training and the skills taught in our life skills program, we are preparing our children for success as they move forward.

There was plenty of fun to go with the work. The pool on our campus was popular as always, and the pond at the entrance of our campus makes a nice fishing hole. We are close to both Foster Falls and Hungry Mother State Park, so trips for hiking and water sports were plentiful. We also have access to the Wytheville Community Center and the many activities that are available there. The children also go one major trip during the summer, and both the girls and boys enjoyed a day at Carowinds. All in all, it was a great summer.

The children are settled in at school and are off to a good start. We have students at the Minnick School on our campus, local high schools and middle schools, and Wytheville Community College for some of our Independent Living residents. All school placements are based on the children's needs in order to give them the best possible chance for success. Your support helps make all of these activities possible, and we thank you!

100TH ANNIVERSARY

Plans continue for the celebration of our 100th Anniversary in 2019. We are planning a major event on our campus in the fall of 2019 and will have other events along the way. We will be using the time leading up to the 100th Anniversary to raise money for our endowment in an effort to ensure the financial stability of our ministry as we move into our second century of service. More details will be forthcoming as plans are finalized.

NEW DAWN SOCIETY

We are searching for supporters who wish to become members of the New Dawn Society. We were able to add several new members in the past year, and hope to steadily increase that number this year. The New Dawn Society consists of friends of the Children's Home who have included PCHH in their estate planning, regardless of the amount. Members of the New Dawn Society receive a certificate and a brass leaf will be placed on our new donor tree, which is located in our conference room. Gifts such as these provide the funds to ensure that the Children's Home will be here to serve children long past our lifetimes. Please remember the Children's Home as you do your estate planning and let us know so we can honor your dedication to our mission.

Thank you for your support!

236TH STATED MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

“CALLED AS PARTNERS IN CHRIST’S SERVICE” (John 17:20-23)

Stock Car and Championship World Bike Racing won media headlines September 10-28th in Richmond. Teams, pairing and partnerships were essential to developing a winning game plan. Sandwiched between supercharged roaring engines and premier world-class athletes peddling up to 160 miles, was a different race. This race was designed so that everyone could become winners. Ecclesiastes 9:11 and Matthew 24:3



teaches that the race is not given to the swift, nor the battle to the stronger, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but to the ones that endure to the end. This race teaches that the faithful will be victorious even until death. It empowers the church to embrace the idea that brothers and sisters from different walks will complete the race hand in hand as “Partners in Christ’s Service.” Driven by the theme, Synod Moderator Laura Lupton charged up the commissioners and visitors as she convened the 236th Synod Assembly with an inspiring guided prayer. The Synod Assembly’s Race was off and running with five categories of business activities dominating the docket.

1. DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Question: What happens when teaching and ruling elders spend nearly a year praying, worshipping together, studying together, conversing with groups/individuals across the region, listening to many voices, interviewing, surveying and recording stories? Where is God already at work in the region? What is a God leading commissioners to do in partnership with God and each other as we discern the mission and identity of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic at this time? Answer: The unanimous approval of 7 weighty recommendations, engaging and energizing conversations, and a motion to dismiss the Synod Discernment Committee with the assembly’s deepest appreciation. The answer resulted from the committee’s final report as charged by the 234th Synod Assembly. Representing 8 of the synod’s 14 presbyteries, committee members were present to deliver a thought provoking report. Jim Moseley, flanked by Debbie Reese, Beverly Bullock and Karen Thatcher shared the report. George Goodman and Ray Watson were present for a pre-assembly meeting.



Mandate: The Discernment Committee Mandate was “To review in total and to recommend to the synod assembly a clarification and or/redirection of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic’s core mission and ministries in light of actions taken by the 2014 General Assembly to ‘direct a new configuration of synod boundaries to be established [based on an emerging sense of purpose, partnership, context and call] through a collaborative

process between synods and presbyteries resulting in no more than 10 to 12 synods.” The synod executive committee will implement each approved recommendations as listed:

- ❖ That there be no administrative boundary changes of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic
- ❖ That the Synod participate in the November leadership gathering in Dallas and that the outgoing synod moderator, moderator, vice-moderator and discernment chair represent the synod
- ❖ That Synod identify accounts/trusts whose purpose and designation are outdated for the purpose of developing a unified stream of income to operate the synod
- ❖ That new strategies be created to promote synod work to presbyteries and congregations
- ❖ That an annual synod-wide gathering of congregations and constituents be held for the purpose of fellowship, information, cultural exchange, and worship in the model of the “Big Tent”
- ❖ That synod continue conversations with other synods on specific mission partnerships
- ❖ That Synod Grants Committee extend assistance and opportunities to congregations by developing a matching funds initiative for new emergent ministries

2. GRANTS/AWARDS TOTALING \$690,696.00

Kate B. Reynolds - Distributions totaling \$592,088.00 were made in June 2015 to 477 retired minister members in the presbyteries of Charlotte, Coastal Carolina, New Hope, Salem and Western NC. Each recipient received \$1,324.58.

Speer Trust Fund – Awards totaling \$40,000 in grants were approved for projects in their first, second and third years of funding. Each of the eight projects received \$5,000. Churches and organizations include Front Royal PC - House of Hope (SHE); First Pres Durham – Triangle CAN (NHO); Black Mountain PC – Hope to Home (WNC); Grace PC – Project Literacy - (PEA); 1st Pres Wilmington – Grandparent Support Network (CCA); Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community engagement – (NAT); Seigle Avenue PC – College Preparatory Program (CHA); Takoma Park PC – Action in Montgomery (NAT).



1st.

New and Small Church Grants – Funds totaling \$20,000 were awarded in the amount of \$2,500 each to seven churches: New Friendship (CHA), Pineola (WNC), Colonial Heights (JAM), St. Paul (CHA), Falling Waters (SHE), Franklin (EVA), The Bridge (CCA), and Vision of Washington (AKAP). One Visionary Grant was awarded for \$2,500 to Good Hope (WNC). The committee will consider applications only if they are postmarked dated/faxed with all supporting documents by the deadline. Deadlines for all grants and awards for New and Small Church, Visionary, Peacemaking and Scholarship are Feb 1st and Sept

Presbytery Initiatives – Grants totaling \$20,200 were awarded to five proposals from Caucuses, Presbyterian women and Presbyteries. They include: NAT and NEW Presbyteries – \$2,000 for a New Pastors Retreat; Synod Black Caucus - \$5,000 for program development; Presbyterian Women - \$3,200 for Moms and Kids Mission; CHA and NHO Presbyteries - \$5,000 for Charlotte Youth Ministry Consortium; and PEA and JAM Presbyteries - \$5,000 for the Protestant Center for Pastoral Care.

Jubilee Fund – Grants totaling \$16,828 were awarded to four churches in the amount of \$4,207 each. These ministries are: Calvary PC (CCA) – A music camp ministry; Carver Memorial PC (EVA) – A worship Intern; Catawba PC (CHA) – A summer enrichment program; and CN Jenkins PC (CHA) – Freedom School 2015.

3. WORSHIP/FELLOWSHIP/HAIL/FAREWELL

Monday Evening Worship: Care and sensitivity were observed as Commissioners entered worship and communion services in John Brown Memorial Chapel. One representative from each presbytery called out the names and transition dates of teaching elders who's Baptism have been made complete as we observe the Necrology Report. Teaching Elder Larry James, Pastor of Grier Heights PC, Charlotte, preached a sermon expressing the need to have a personal relationship with Christ in order to fortify genuine partnerships. The synod moderator and the guest preacher partnered to administer the Lord's Supper.

Tuesday Morning Prayer: Commissioners gathered in triads to pray as the moderator dispensed instructions. Each team took turns to pray for presbyteries, synod, churches, families back home, the world, those that mourn, the sick, the troubled and for those that are unable and unwilling to pray for themselves.



Tuesday Installation Service: Moderator Lupton conducted worship as she installed David Sanders and Alice Tewell as the Moderator and Vice-Moderator respectively. Upon assuming the gavel, Moderator Sanders presented service certificates to commissioners whose terms ended with this meeting. Persons recognized were Ellen Blose-SHE, Edward Boyce-CCC; Lynn Burris-CHA; Eddie Deas III-WNC; James Pak-AKAP; and Kenna Payne-JAM. He presented past moderator Lupton with a framed picture of herself and representations from CCC. Laura offered words of appreciation to the Assembly for their support and cooperation for her two years as v-moderator and moderator. A cake was the center piece for the moderator's and vice moderator's reception as the Assembly concluded.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCES

Standing Rules – The following changes to the standing rules were approved by the 236th Synod Assembly: (1) To place a three year term limit of chairs of synod committees. (2) To replace language in the standing rules with that consistent with the Book of Order. (3) To bring into compliance the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission by developing three classes for membership at the end of 2016. (4) To remove reference to sections of the Book of Order in the Synod Standing Rules and Procedures. (5) To celebrate the Lord's Supper at each stated meeting of the synod. (6) Reaffirmed the synod Sexual Misconduct Policy. (7) To retitile the Standing Rule and Procedures the "Standing Rules." (8) For all synod committees, with the exception of the six year terms for SPJC, committee members shall consist of three classes serving three year terms, which shall commence at the first of the new calendar year. If a committee member is elected to fill a vacancy, they may begin to serve immediately. Members shall not be eligible to serve consecutive terms, full or partial, totaling more than six years.

Budget and Finance – The Finance Committee presented the 2016 budget with a \$.80 per capita asking. Additional items included: (A) Received the Financial Review Report from Russell Coleman, representing Cherry Bekaert, CPA. (B) Received the portfolio review of RCB Wealth Management from Jeff Chapman, Investor. (C) Reviewed Insurance Policy to assure adequate ad complete coverage. (D) Reviewed the August year-to-date Financial Statement as presented by the Financial Manager. (E) Adopted the 2016 proposed budget in the amount of \$267,138.00

5. NOMINATIONS AND TERM CLARIFICATION

Commissioners with no presbytery representation on the Synod Nomination Committee will assist the Synod Nominating Committee by identifying Teaching and Ruling Elders from their presbyteries who are willing to fill the vacancies on Synod Permanent Committees. The grid below shows persons elected for new classes. SPJC indicates all existing classes.

| Committee | Class | Name | Designation/Term | Presbytery |
|---------------------|-------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| Moderator | 2016 | David B. Sanders | BMRE | CHA |
| Vice Moderator | 2016 | Alice Tewell | AFTE | NAT |
| Nominations | 2018 | Diana "D" Askins | WFRE/2 | CCC |
| | 2018 | Patrick Dennis | WMTE/1 | JAM |
| Representation | 2018 | Gerry Hendershot | WMRE/1 | NHO |
| | 2018 | Kathy Haga | WFTE/1 | ABI |
| | 2018 | Donna Fair | BFRE/1 | CHA |
| Jubilee | 2018 | AW Dickerson | WMRE/1 | JAM |
| | 2017 | John Etheredge | BMRE/1 | Caucus |
| | 2018 | Julius Jackson | BMRE/2 | NEW |
| | 2018 | Janice Wells | BFRE/2 | PEA |
| Speer Trust | 2018 | Dorothy Descieux | WFRE/2 | WNC |
| | 2018 | Matlynn Yeoman | BFRE/2 | CCC |
| | 2018 | George Conway | WMTE/1 | JAM |
| Perm Jud Commission | 2018 | Ray Williams | BMRE/1 | PEA |
| | 2016 | John Kazanjian | WMTE | BAL |
| | 2016 | Wilbur Douglas | BMTE | EVA |
| | 2016 | Beth Pyles | WFTE | SHE |
| | 2017 | Freddie Peaco | BFRE | NAT |
| | 2017 | John Goodman | WMTE | CCC |
| | 2019 | Carol Haas | WFRE | NEW |
| New Member | 2019 | William Millsaps | WMRE | JAM |
| | 2019 | Terry Sholar | WMRE | CHA |
| | 2019 | James Pak | AMRE | AKAP |
| | 2019 | Bill Parish | WMRE | ABI |
| | 2019 | Bill Pittman | WMRE | NHO |
| New Member | 2021 | Helen Dean | BFRE | PEA |
| New Member | 2021 | Bob Riddle | WMRE | WNC |

Synod Chairpersons: The following persons chair the synod's permanent, designated committees and commissions. TE Brett Porter – Administration; TE Kevin Powell – Finance; TE Tolokun Omokunde – Grants and Awards; TE Greg Busby – Presbytery Initiatives; RE CW Hargrave – Representation; TE Nancy Rowland – Nominations; TE Carol Haas – SPJC; TE Lawrence Willis – Jubilee Fund; and TE Bill Sitterly - Speer Trust.

Finishing the Race: Insightful reports were received from Union Seminary, Massanetta and the Stated Clerk:

- President Brian Blout introduced the seminary's Global Mission Initiative. Donations from it will renovate Richmond Hall and construct the Syngman Rhee Global Mission Center for Christian Ed
- Trustee Randy Smith – Massanetta Springs is debt free. It is currently searching for an Executive Director. Facility usage has increased resulting from amplified outreach to non-PCUSA groups
- Stated Clerk Warren Lesane shared the GAPJC Final Decision for Remedial Case Appeal 222-04 that sustained the SPJC Decision. A statement decrying the murder of the Emanuel Nine and all expressions of racism produced by the Virginia Council of Churches was shared.

The Committee on Representation
The Rev. Nancy Katherine Haga, Chair

The following elders have agreed to represent us on the councils of presbytery between 2016 and 2021.

COUNCIL

Margaret Dickson -- 2018
Jean Bane -- 2018

BUDGET

Kemper Bausell -- 2018
Jim Thompson -- 2018
Mike Shortridge -- 2017

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

Mary Gearhart -- 2018
Tony Palubicki -- 2018
Guydell Slate -- 2018
Walter Rollins -- 2018
Jerry Manning -- 2017

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Ben Behrendt --2016
Brenda Lawson -- 2018
Frank Aichinger -- 2018
John DiYorio -- 2017
Brad Napier -- 2018
Will Gipe -- 2018
Dwight Speeks --2018
Bill Parish -- 2018

PREPARATION

Alice Freeman --2018
Jeannie Evans -- 2018
Rusty Gilly -- 2018

COMMUNICATION

Steve Talbert -- 2018
Tony Palubicki -- 2018
Jane Davis -- 2017
Susan Lowery -- 2018

COMPASSION

Jane Clark -- 2017
Norma Busic -- 2018
Wythe Hull -- 2018
Kathi Lowe -- 2018

EDUCATION

Kathy Haga -- 2018
Gary Spencer -- 2018
Jimmie Ruth Speeks -- 2018
John Markel -- 2018
Susan Slate -- 2017
David Buchanan -- 2017

NOMINATING

Erica Parish-Roche -- 2018
Dwight Speeks -- 2018
Cindy Privette -- 2018

PERSONNEL

Eugene Baldwin -- 2018
Karen Loftin -- 2018

JUDICIAL COMMISSION

Jon Martin -- 2021
Rachel Fowlkes -- 2021
David Altizer -- 2021

MODERATOR ELECT

Jon Martin -- 2016
Grace Bradshaw -- 2017

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2016

Minister: Edwin Lacy
Elder: Jim Gearhart
Youth: Lindsey Pratt

CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF PAST MODERATORS OF ABINGDON PRESBYTERY MEETINGS
 JANUARY 1, 1980 – NOVEMBER 12, 2015

| <u>MEETING</u> | <u>MODERATOR</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>CHURCH</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| FIRST | STUART B. CAMPBELL, JR. (E) | 1-29-80 | GLADE SPRING |
| SECOND | CHARLES S. McCHESNEY | 4-15-80 | BUCHANAN |
| THIRD | JACK B. McCARTY (E) | 6-24-80 | CHILDREN'S HOME |
| FOURTH | HUGH D. BOWERS | 10-09-80 | GLADEVILLE |
| FIFTH | HUGH D. BOWERS | 1-22-81 | CENTRAL |
| SIXTH | ACIE E. BRYANT | 5-12-81 | RICHLANDS |
| SEVENTH | FRANK E. WHITE (E) | 10-08-81 | SINKING SPRING |
| ADJOURN.MTG. | FRANK E. WHITE (E) | 10-22-81 | SINKING SPRING |
| CALLED MTG. | FRANK E. WHITE (E) | 1-19-82 | SINKING SPRING |
| EIGHTH | BRYAN C. CHILDRESS | 2-08-82 | TAZEWELL |
| NINTH | JOSEPH C. KELLEY (E) | 5-13-82 | GREEN SPRING |
| TENTH | ELMON H. BROWN, JR. | 9-23-82 | ROYAL OAK |
| ELEVENTH | JACK KIBLER (E) | 12-02-82 | GLADE SPRING |
| TWELFTH | PAUL E. CORBETT, JR. | 2-17-83 | CENTRAL |
| THIRTEENTH | PAUL E. CORBETT, JR. | 5-17-83 | McIVER MEMORIAL |
| FOURTEENTH | BARBARA HOOPER (E) | 6-30-83 | FAIRVIEW |
| FIFTEENTH | CHARLES STEVENS CATHCART | 9-29-83 | BUCHANAN FIRST |
| SIXTEENTH | ERNEST O. MARTIN (E) | 12-08-83 | WYTHEVILLE |
| SEVENTEENTH | WILLIAM O. MOORE, JR. | 2-09-84 | ANDERSON MEMORIAL |
| EIGHTEENTH | GARREN McGLOTHLIN (E) | 5-10-84 | GRAHAM |
| NINETEENTH | GARREN McGLOTHLIN (E) | 7-19-84 | CHILDREN'S HOME |
| TWENTIETH | MURPHY D. MILLER | 9-13-84 | ROCK SPRING |
| TWENTY-FIRST | DAPHNE McCORD (E) | 12-13-84 | SINKING SPRING |
| TWENTY-SECOND | CLAUDE DAVIS (E) | 1-19-85 | GATE CITY |
| TWENTY-THIRD | MURPHY D. MILLER | 3-30-85 | EMORY & HENRY |
| TWENTY-FOURTH | HELEN NAPPS (E) | 5-09-85 | RICHLANDS |
| TWENTY-FIFTH | JAMES G. CARPENTER | 9-12-85 | NORTON |
| TWENTY-SIXTH | JOHN LEWIS SANDERFORD | 12-12-85 | TAZEWELL |
| TWENTY-SEVENTH | CHRISTOPHER E. MEYER, 111 | 2-13-86 | KING COLLEGE |
| TWENTY-EIGHTH | CHRISTOPHER E. MEYER, 111 | 4-01-86 | SINKING SPRING |
| TWENTY-NINTH | MARY RUPKE (E) | 5-08-86 | CENTRAL |
| CALLED MTG. | CHRISTOPHER E. MEYER, 111 | 7-26-86 | GLADE SPRING |
| THIRTIETH | DELACY A. ANDREWS, JR. | 9-11-86 | GALAX |
| THIRTY-FIRST | FRANCES M. HOGE (E) | 12-11-86 | GLADE SPRING |
| THIRTY-SECOND | ROBERT N. LOMINACK, JR. | 2-11-87 | ROYAL OAK |
| THIRTY-THIRD | MAUDE L. SMITH (E) | 5-21-87 | HILLSVILLE |
| THIRTY-FOURTH | THOMAS J. WHARTENBY, JR. | 10-17-87 | CENTRAL |
| THIRTY-FIFTH | MILLARD FARMER (E) | 12-10-87 | WYTHEVILLE |
| THIRTY-SIXTH | JAMES B. HOLLENHEAD | 2-20-88 | CHILDREN'S HOME |
| THIRTY-SEVENTH | JAMES B. HOLLENHEAD | 5-13 & 14-88 | KING COLLEGE |
| CALLED MTG | JAMES B. HOLLENHEAD | 7-21-88 | WYTHEVILLE |
| THIRTY-EIGHTH | JESSE M. BRATTON | 9-15-88 | TAZEWELL |
| THIRTY-NINTH | PETA PATTON (E) | 12-8-88 | GALENA |
| FORTIETH | CURTIS A. MURRAY | 2-16-89 | GLADE SPRING |
| CALLED MTG | CURTIS A. MURRAY | 3-11-89 | ROYAL OAK |
| CALLED MTG | CURTIS A. MURRAY | 3-28-89 | WYTHEVILLE |
| NON-BUSINESS MTG | PETA PATTON (E) | 4-15-89 | SINKING SPRING |
| FORTY-FIRST | CURTIS A. MURRAY | 5-18-89 | KING COLLEGE |
| FORTY-SECOND | PETER N. SMITH | 9-14-89 | FAIRVIEW |
| FORTY-THIRD | THOMAS SPROULE | 2-15-90 | WYTHEVILLE |
| NON-BUSINESS MTG. | THIAS SIKORA (E) | 4-28-90 | ROYAL OAK |
| FORTY-FOURTH | MARGARET DICKSON (E) | 6-14-90 | GALAX |
| FORTY-FIFTH | JAMES A. DAUGHERTY | 9-13-90 | BIG STONE GAP |
| FORTY-SIXTH | RHEA F. MOORE, JR. (E) | 12-01-90 | LEBANON |

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| FORTY-SEVENTH | REV. ROCKWELL SMITH | 3-21-91 | HILLSVILLE |
| FORTY-EIGHTH | WILLIAM PARISH, 111 (E) | 6-15-91 | BUCHANAN |
| FORTY-NINTH | RAYMOND RIDDLEBERGER | 11-14-91 | ANDERSON MEMORIAL |
| FIFTIETH | JEFFREY L. LOWRANCE | 3-19-92 | TAZEWELL |
| FIFTY-FIRST | MAY JOE CRAIG (E) | 6-20-92 | BETHEL |
| FIFTY-SECOND | VAUGHN EARL HARTSELL | 11-21-92 | ANCHOR OF HOPE |
| FIFTY-THIRD | VAUGHN EARL HARTSELL | 3-23-93 | WYTHEVILLE |
| FIFTY-FOURTH | RICHARD P. STONE | 6-19-93 | JEWELL RIDGE |
| CALLED MTG | RICHARD P. STONE | 9-11-93 | ROYAL OAK |
| FIFTY-FIFTH | LINDA MORRIS (E) | 11-18-93 | GRACE/McCALL'S GAP |
| FIFTY-SIXTH | EUGENE BALDWIN | 3-17-94 | ROYAL OAK |
| FIFTY-SEVENTH | JOHN PERRY ALDERMAN (E) | 6-04-94 | CHILDREN'S HOME |
| CALLED MTG | MARGARET DICKSON (E) | 10-01-94 | GLADE SPRING |
| FIFTY-EIGHTH | WILLIAM J. YOUMANS | 11-18-94 | GREEN SPRING |
| FIFTY-NINTH | DWIGHT SPEEKS (E) | 3-16-95 | CHILDREN'S HOME |
| SIXTIETH | TOM HAY | 6-10-95 | GLADE SPRING |
| SIXTY-FIRST | BARBARA HOOPER (E) | 11-16-95 | LEBANON & PARISH |
| SIXTY-SECOND | MICHAEL G. WINGARD | 3-14-96 | CENTRAL |
| SIXTY-THIRD | EDGAR WHITEHEAD (E) | 6-08-96 | INDIAN VALLEY |
| SIXTY-FOURTH | LINDA DiYORIO (E) | 11-14-96 | RICHLANDS |
| SIXTY-FIFTH | TEMPE FUSSELL | 3-06-97 | ROYAL OAK |
| SIXTY-SIXTH | SHELDON SORGE | 6-07-97 | DINWIDDIE |
| SIXTY-SEVENTH | JOE BOWEN (E) | 11-13-97 | TAZEWELL |
| SIXTY-EIGHTH | MARY GUYNN (E) | 3-12-98 | GALAX |
| SIXTY-NINTH | CURTIS FUSSELL | 6-06-98 | RICH VALLEY |
| SEVENTIETH | TOM McCONNELL (E) | 11-12-98 | SINKING SPRING |
| SEVENTY-FIRST | MARION ALDERMAN (E) | 3-11-99 | WALNUT GROVE |
| SEVENTY-SECOND | GEORGE W. ALEXANDER | 6-05-99 | BUCHANAN FIRST |
| SEVENTY-THIRD | JAMES H. GRANT | 11-06-99 | GLADE SPRING |
| SEVENTY-FOURTH | ELEANOR REID (E) | 3-09-2000 | WYTHEVILLE |
| SEVENTY-FIFTH | MIKE SHORTRIDGE (E) | 6-10-2000 | BUFFALO MOUNTAIN |
| SEVENTY-SIXTH | ROBERT THORNTON | 11-09-2000 | CHILDREN'S HOME |
| SEVENTY-SEVENTH | TIM BIRD | 3-15-2001 | HILLSVILLE |
| SEVENTY-EIGHTH | PHYLLIS CANTER (E) | 6-02-2001 | RIVERVIEW |
| SEVENTY-NINTH | ROBERT TOLAR, JR. | 11-15-2001 | FAIRVIEW |
| EIGHTIETH | GUY RICHARD CARDOT | 3-14-2002 | RICHLANDS |
| EIGHTY-FIRST | JOHN E. MARKEL | 6-08-2002 | RICH VALLEY |
| EIGHTY-SECOND | ALICE FREEMAN (E) | 11-14-02 | GREEN SPRING |
| EIGHTY-THIRD | ALAN GRAY | 3-13-03 | ROYAL OAK |
| EIGHTY-FOURTH | RACHEL VAUGHN (E) | 6-14-03 | SEVEN MILE FORD |
| EIGHTY-FIFTH | ALAN BALDWIN (E) | 11-12-03 | GALAX FIRST |
| EIGHTY-SIXTH | WYTHE HULL (E) | 3-11-04 | GLADE SPRING |
| EIGHTY-SEVENTH | JONATHAN SMITH | 6-12-04 | HILLSVILLE |
| EIGHTY-EIGHTH | ALAN GRAY | 11-11-04 | CHILDREN'S HOME |
| EIGHTY-NINTH | JOE BOWEN (E) | 3-10-05 | SINKING SPRING |
| NINETIETH | GEORGE AICHEL | 6-11-05 | FINCASTLE |
| NINETY-FIRST | FRANK PRESTON | 11-10-05 | WYTHEVILLE |
| NINETY-SECOND | BRAD SIMPSON | 3-09-06 | BUCHANAN FIRST |
| NINETY-THIRD | MIKE SHORTRIDGE (E) | 6-08-2006 | BIG STONE GAP/POWELL VALLEY |
| NINETY-FOURTH | WILLIAM WING | 11-9-06 | GATE CITY |
| NINETY-FIFTH | GRACE BRADSHAW (E) | 3-8-07 | CENTRAL |
| NINETY-SIXTH | CINDY PRIVETTE | 6-21-07 | GALENA |
| CALLED MEETING | CINDY PRIVETTE | 9-23-07 | GLADE SPRING |
| NINETY-SEVENTH | TERRY MORRIS (E) | 11-9-07 | RICHLANDS |
| NINETY-EIGHTH | CATHY CARPENTER | 3-13-08 | MARY'S |
| NINETY-NINTH | GUYDELL SLATE (E) | 6-19-08 | DINWIDDIE |
| ONE-HUNDREDTH | DAVID WADSWORTH | 11-13-08 | SINKING SPRING |
| ONE-HUNDRED FIRST | BILL PARISH (E) | 3-19-09 | HILLSVILLE |

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|
| ONE-HUNDRED SECOND | KAREN LONG | 6-11-09 | TAZEWELL |
| CALLED MEETING | BILL PARISH (E) | 9-1-09 | SINKING SPRING |
| ONE-HUNDRED THIRD | MAVA VASS (E) | 11-12-09 | BUCHANAN FIRST |
| ONE-HUNDRED FOURTH | JOHN MARKEL | 3-11-10 | VANSANT |
| ONE-HUNDRED FIFTH | JOHN MARKEL | 6-10-10 | WYTHEVILLE |
| ONE-HUNDRED SIXTH | JOHN MARKEL | 11-11-10 | GREEN SPRING |
| ONE-HUNDRED SEVENTH | FRANK BLANTON (E) | 3-10-11 | ROYAL OAK |
| ONE-HUNDRED EIGHTH | TONY PALUBICKI | 6-09-11 | CENTRAL |
| CALLED MEETING | FRANK BLANTON (E) | 7-28-11 | GALENA |
| CALLED MEETING | FRANK BLANTON (E) | 9-29-11 | SINKING SPRING |
| ONE-HUNDRED NINTH | FRANK BLANTON (E) | 11-10-11 | GLADE SPRING |
| ONE-HUNDRED TENTH | TONY PALUBICKI | 03-08-12 | WALNUT GROVE |
| ONE-HUNDRED ELEVENTH | TONY PALUBICKI | 06-14-12 | GALAX |
| CALLED MEETING | TONY PALUBICKI | 09-13-12 | GLADE SPRING |
| ONE-HUNDRED TWELFTH | TONY PALUBICKI | 11-08-12 | HILLSVILLE |
| ONE-HUNDRED THIRTEENTH | PHYLLIS CANTER | 3-14-13 | TAZEWELL |
| ONE-HUNDRED FOURTEENTH | PHYLLIS CANTER | 6-13-13 | ANDERSON MEMORIAL |
| ONE-HUNDRED FIFTEENTH | PHYLLIS CANTER | 11-14-13 | GREEN SPRING |
| ONE-HUNDRED SIXTEENTH | ALAN GRAY | 03-13-14 | LEBANON |
| ONE-HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH | ALAN GRAY | 06-07-14 | WILD GOOSE |
| ONE-HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH | ALAN GRAY | 11-13-14 | WYTHEVILLE |
| ONE-HUNDRED NINETEENTH | BILL PARISH | 03-12-15 | CENTRAL |
| CALLED MEETING | BILL PARISH | 04-23-15 | ROYAL OAK |
| ONE-HUNDRED TWENTIETH | BILL PARISH | 06-11-15 | BUCHANAN FIRST |
| ONE-HUNDRED TWENTY-FIRST | JON MARTIN | 11-12-15 | GREEN SPRING |

Abingdon Presbytery PJC Roster

| <i>Last Name</i> | <i>First Name</i> | <i>(M) inister/ (E) lder</i> | <i>Class of</i> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Bagwell | John | E | 2015 |
| Legg | Gale | E | 2015 |
| Bradshaw | Grace | E | 2017 |
| Phillips | Helen | E | 2017 |
| Whartenby | Tom | M | 2019 |
| Freeman | Isaac | E | 2019 |

Abingdon Presbytery Former PJC Members

| <i>Last Name</i> | <i>First Name</i> | <i>(M) inister/ (E) lder</i> | <i>Class of</i> |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Elyea | Mary Ann | E | 2005 |
| Bowen | Joe | E | 2005 |
| Humphreys, Jr. | Levi | M | 2005 |
| McAfee | Julia | E | 2007 |
| Chapin | Larry | M | 2007 |
| McGlothlin | Sandy | E | 2009 |
| Whartenby, Jr. | Tom | M | 2009 |
| Lacy | Chuck | E | 2011 |
| Aust | Glen | E | 2011 |
| Fowlkes | Rachel | E | 2011 |
| Bowen | Joe | E | 2013 |
| Kronk | Ron | M | 2013 |
| Campbell | Kevin | M | 2015 |