

**Presbytery of Detroit  
Minutes of the Stated Meeting  
November 19, 2022**

The Presbytery of Detroit convened with prayer and a land acknowledgment in a stated meeting at 9:01am at First Presbyterian Church of Saline. The meeting was moderated by Elder Kevin Smith. Stated Clerk Rev. Marianne Grano served as recording secretary.

The Moderator declared the presence of a quorum.

The Moderator appointed Rev. Jacqueline Spycher Assistant to the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator welcomed all new ministers and commissioners.

Rev. Kimberly Ashby welcomed the Presbytery on behalf of the host church.

Upon motion of Rev. Melissa Allison, Presbytery approved the following as Omnibus #1:

- Adopt the docket as presented.
- Excuse all continuing minister and elder members of Presbytery who have asked to be excused.
- Seat all eligible corresponding members.
- Approve the special standing rules for hybrid meetings. **Appendix A.**
- Approve the minutes of the September 27, 2022 Presbytery meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

The Stated Clerk presented hybrid meeting instructions. There was a brief internet outage and the electronic meeting was ended and restarted.

**Report from the Synod of the Covenant:** Elder Adrienne Adams reported that a scholarship was awarded to First-Pontiac. Rev. Lindsay Anderson (Synod outreach to communities of color) celebrated Elder Adams beginning her ministry as Moderator of Synod.

**Report from the Moderator:** Rev. Jasmine Smart thanked the Vice Moderator Kevin Smith for moderating the meeting as she began her ministry as Associate Pastor at Memorial-Grosse Pointe. Reflecting on her time as Moderator, Rev. Smart encouraged the Presbytery to review dockets in advance, and to contact Presbytery leadership in advance regarding any motions from the floor they expected to bring.

**Report from Associate Executive Presbyter:** Elder Charon Barconey reported that the current meeting was the fourth anniversary of her installation as Associate Executive Presbyter. Elder Barconey called the Presbytery's attention to the preliminary report of the Synod of the Covenant Administrative Commission for Detroit Presbytery. While the report described dysfunction in the Presbytery which had to be addressed, Elder Barconey encouraged the Presbytery to recognize the great work going on in its midst, especially through its many congregations. Elder Barconey

highlighted the work of the Vital Congregations Initiative to enliven our congregations.

**Worship:** The Assembly celebrated worship. Rev. Scott Phillips preached on Galatians 3:23-29 with the theme, “Can We Reboot?” Rev. Phillips urged the Presbytery to “reboot” after COVID-19 and to delete its “Random Access Memory.” Rev. Phillips also noted that the Holy Spirit sent this message by cutting out the wifi earlier in the meeting causing the meeting itself to reboot. The Vice Moderator asked the constitutional questions and led the prayer of installation for Rev. Kimberly Secrist-Ashby, being installed as Pastor of Saline-First. Rev. Brewster (Budge) Gere, honorably retired, gave the charge to the congregation of Saline-First as well as to the congregation of Detroit Presbytery, calling the Presbytery to follow both the rules and the Ruler of creation. Rev. Jackie Spycher gave the charge to the newly installed, encouraging her to reach out to the wonderful people of Detroit Presbytery and especially the strong network of clergy women. Elder Margaret Klammer, Elder Bari Livsey, and Ken Pendergrass also assisted in leading worship.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer Mike Gaubatz presented the report. **Appendix B.** The Treasurer reported that per capita receipts were higher than expected for this time of year. The Treasurer reported a forecast of a small surplus for 2022 based on reduced spending.

**Trustees’ Report:** Rev. Kara Hildebrandt reported on behalf of the Trustees. **Appendix C.** Rev. Hildebrandt invited Rev. Julie Delezenne to report on the Faith in Action Grants. A faithful giver of First Presbyterian Warren gave \$350k initially, \$100k during the pandemic, and \$300k in the current grant gift. This gift was distributed in three tracks according to the call of Matthew 25. Through Track 1, grants were issued to Samaritas and to congregations for refugee support and resettlement. Through Track 2, grants were distributed for Pastor Discretionary Funds. Track 3 grants were awarded for ministries connected to Matthew 25 to First Warren, First Royal Oak, University Rochester, and Westminster Ann Arbor. Rev. Shakira Gholami gave words of thanks for the support of Faith In Action in refugee resettlement.

**Report of the Committee on Nominations:** Elder Rosy Latimore presented for the Committee on Nominations.

On behalf of the Committee, Elder Latimore moved to elect the following committee, commission, and ministry team members:

#### COMMITTEES

##### Committee on Ministry (COM)

Chair-23	Melissa DeRosia Allison	TE	Ann Arbor Westminster
Class-23	vacancy		
Class-25	Mary Lloyd	Elder	Grosse Pointe Memorial
Class-25	Karen Stunkle	TE	Westminster-Detroit
Class-25	Mark Phillips	TE	Cherry Hill
Class-25	Kathi Johnson	RE	Detroit Jefferson Avenue
Class-25	Steven Voorhees	RE	Grosse Pointe Memorial
Class-25	Debbie Lennis	CRE	White Lake

Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)

Chair-23	Jim Faile	TE	Dearborn First
Class-24	Vacancy		
Class-24	Vacancy		
Class-24	Vacancy		
Class- 24	Vacancy		
Class-25	Vacancy		
Class-25	Dianne Hockett	RE	Ann Arbor First
Class-25	Vacancy		
Class-25	Vacancy		
Class-25	Vacancy		
Class-25	Vacancy		

Committee on Representation (CoR)

Chair-23	Alvin Smith	RE	Detroit Broadstreet
Class-23	Greg Sykes	RE	Detroit Gratiot Ave.
Class-23	Alvin Smith	RE	Detroit Broadstreet
Class-25	Patricia Hollowell	RE	Detroit Broadstreet
Class-25	Vacancy		

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Class-25	Greg Sykes	RE	Detroit Gratiot Ave
Class-25	Martha Blenman	RE	Birmingham First
Class-25	Maynard Timm	RE	Bloomfield Hills Kirk

Following discussion, the vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as followed:

Yes: 71  
No: 0

Motion carried.

On behalf of the Committee, Elder Latimore moved to elect the following nominees from the floor:

Chair 2023: Dexter Snyder, Multicultural Ministry.

The vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as followed:

Yes: 71  
No: 0

Motion carried.

On behalf of the Committee, Elder Latimore moved to elect the following Moderator and Vice Moderator:

Moderator:

Class-23      Kevin Smith                  RE      Warren First

Vice-Moderator:

Class-23      Teresa Peterson                  TE      Canton Geneva

The vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as followed:

Yes: 71  
No: 0

Motion carried.

Elder Latimore shared that the written report included descriptions of the various teams and committees and an endorsement form. Elder Latimore also thanked the speakers from the worship service and reminded the Presbytery of its ordination vow to serve in the councils of the church.

**Stated Clerk's First Report:** Rev. Melissa Allison moved to approve the following proposed amendments to the Book of Order:

1. Amendment 22C (electronic meetings);
2. Amendment 22D (congregational meeting requirement of proposed new Rules of Discipline);
3. Amendment 22N (electronic meetings);
4. Amendment 22V (allowing laypersons to lead prayer after communion);
5. Amendment 22X (adding statements re: household worship);
6. Amendment 22Y (adding statements re: household worship, mealtime blessings);
7. Amendment 22AA (broadening description of pastoral ministries to which ministers may be called);
8. Amendment 22BB (amending Book of Order to reflect that "healing happens in a variety of ways and wholeness is not necessarily synonymous with physical recovery")
9. Amendment 22EE (investigating committee must inform both accuser and accused of a decision of no charges filed);
10. Amendment 22FF (amending "the accused" in Rules of Discipline to "the person accused" wherever it is found).

Following discussion, the vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as follows:

Yes: 69

No: 2

Rev. Kara Hildebrandt moved to approve amendment 22-O (boundaries and child abuse prevention training). After discussion regarding the need for this training for all members, the vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as follows:

Yes: 42

No: 28

The Stated Clerk clarified that the training, already provided for in the Presbytery's policies, would be required by this Amendment to be given for Session members and not all members of congregations.

#### **Report of the Administrative Commission for Littlefield Presbyterian Church-Dearborn:**

The life of the congregation was celebrated in a video presentation narrated by Elder Bob Beck. The congregation was organized January 5, 1930. The cornerstone was laid September 10, 1939, and dedication took place on February 11, 1940, with all 370 members. In May of 1953 Littlefield was honored, and well-deserved recognition came to its Pastor, Dr. Weir, when he was named Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. In 1960, Littlefield's membership peaked at 1,250. The Rev. Harry L. Geissinger was called to serve Littlefield Church as senior pastor bringing a strong visionary leadership the congregation needed. Soon came Prof. Robert Lawson Sr., Chairman of the Music Department at Wayne State University and Littlefield's organist for 25 years, designed and oversaw the construction and installation of the Wick pipe organ.

Dr. William G. Gepford arrived October 1, 1979 to begin his work as Director of Arab-American Relations in Dearborn and Assistant Pastor of Littlefield. The Rev. Delmar Meester was called to serve Littlefield Church as Pastor and began his duties in 1985. Rev. Meester is a gifted musician and enhanced the church's music program during the nine years he served as Littlefield's pastor. In 1986 the first Interfaith Thanksgiving Service was held at Littlefield, with participants from the Muslim, Christian, and Jewish communities. wide range of services to immigrant families. Rev. Guysinger became Pastor Emeritus. The congregation had an amazing ministry of music; it was a congregation that loved to sing. Dr. Gepford left Littlefield to continue working on Arab-American relations through the Presbytery. In 1986 the first interfaith Thanksgiving service was held at Littlefield. In the 1980s and 1990s, Dearborn Public Schools began offering English as a Second Language instruction at Littlefield. Rev. Frances Hayes was called as Sr. Pastor in 1997. The Peace Camp ministry began at Littlefield to bring together local children of different racial, cultural, and religious backgrounds. In 2001, Littlefield began healing ministries for a nation reeling from the 9/11 attacks, and continued to work for peace in the Middle East in the following months and years. In 2019, The Islamic Center of America recognized Rev. Hayes with an award for interfaith service.

Elder Carol Hylkema, former moderator of Presbytery spoke about the painful event of the closure of Littlefield. She shared that Littlefield had an illustrious history of service to the community, service that would continue through Littlefield Action For Social Justice, a nonprofit that had been created which continued to meet and to offer book clubs and studies. Through the years, four women of Littlefield had served as Moderator of Presbyterian Women. The men's group was also continuing to meet following the dissolution of the congregation. Elder Hylkema shared that CRE Nancy Bass had provided valuable leadership during a challenging jke.

The assembly recessed for refreshments.

The assembly re-opened with prayer. The Moderator shared several logistical details, and the Stated Clerk reviewed voting instructions.

**Report of the Anti-Racism Committee:** Elder Adam Delezenne reported for the Committee that the reality of racism was deeply embedded in metro Detroit, including in the Presbytery of Detroit. For eighteen months, the Committee had been meeting to discern which way to proceed. The Committee was looking into anti-racism training for the Presbytery.

**Report of the Coordinating Cabinet:** Elder Dave Bunch reported on behalf of the Coordinating Cabinet. **Appendix D.** Elder Bunch thanked the Presbytery for the opportunity to serve. Elder Bunch invited Elder Stefanie Lewis to present the budget on behalf of the Planning and Visioning Team. Elder Lewis reviewed the process for generating the 2023 Budget according to Presbytery policies and past practices. Elder Lewis reported that the budget proposal included a slight deficit. Elder Lewis called upon the Presbytery to find new and sustainable ways to support expenditures moving forward.

On behalf of the Cabinet, Elder Lewis moved that Presbytery approve the operating and pass-through budgets. **Appendix E.** The Moderator stated that the motion also included the per capita increase to \$22.85. Following discussion regarding the compensation of the Hunger Action Coordinator, the increases to Per Capita, projected investment income.

The vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as followed:

Yes: 68

No: 6

Motion carried by the required two-thirds.

On behalf of Coordinating Cabinet, Elder Bunch moved to elect the nominees to the Committee on Nominations.

Committee on Nominations (CoN)

Chair-23	Rosy Latimore	RE	Birmingham First
Class-23	Vacancy		
Class-24	Vacancy		

Class-25	Rosy Latimore	RE	Birmingham First
Class-25	John Pavelko	TE	H.R.
Class-25	Youn Kyu Park	RE	Southfield KPCMD
Class-25	Alvin Smith	RE	Detroit Broadstreet

The vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as follows:

Yes: 70  
No: 0

Motion carried.

Rev. Kara Hildebrandt reported on behalf of the Strategic Planning Committee (subcommittee of Planning and Visioning) and moved to approve the Mission and Vision Statements of the Presbytery as follows:

Vision:  
Empowering collaborative community in service of Christ.

Mission:  
Relying on the Holy Spirit, we follow God by unmasking idolatries in Church and culture, listening to the voices of people long silenced, empowering congregational vitality, confronting structural racism, and responding to systemic poverty.

After discussion regarding evangelism and outreach by the Presbytery the vote tallied by secret electronic ballot was tallied as followed:

Yes: 67  
No: 7

Motion carried.

On behalf of Coordinating Cabinet, Elder Bunch moved to approve the locations for Presbytery meetings/events in 2023: January 28, time TBD, installation service and meal—Birmingham-First; February 25, 9am, Hybrid, Pontiac-First; May 23, 4pm, Hybrid—Detroit-Fort Street; July 24, social event, White Lake; September 26, 4pm, Hybrid—Beverly Hills-Northbrook; November 18, 9am, Hybrid—KPCMD-Southfield. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Elder Bunch reported that Cabinet had made arrangements for its training and meetings in 2023.

**Committee on Preparation for Ministry:** Rev. Jim Faile reported for the Committee. **Appendix F.** On behalf of the Committee, Rev. Jim Faile reported that the Committee had several vacancies, and stated he might not leave the lectern until additional nominees came forward. Rev. Faile presented Brendan Ashley (Pittsburgh Seminary, Final Assessment completed by Pittsburgh Presbytery) for examination for ordination. Mr. Ashley had received a call to serve as Designated Associate Pastor at St. Clair Shores-Lake Shore.

Mr. Ashley shared a synopsis of his Statement of Faith, spoke about his call to ministry, and was questioned regarding God's mission for the church, God's work in a church experiencing a "stump" moment, and his experiences working outside the church at Starbucks. Elder Dyche Anderson moved to arrest the examination.

The vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as follows:

Yes: 51

No: 0

Motion carried.

On behalf of the Committee, Rev. Jim Faile moved to sustain the examination and ordain Brendan Ashley. Following discussion, the vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as follows:

Yes: 68

No: 0

Motion carried.

**Committee on Ministry:** Rev. Melissa Allison reported for the Committee. **Appendix G.** Rev. Allison greeted Mr. Ashley as another former Starbucks employee. Rev. Allison reported that trust, as defined by Brene Brown, was "choosing to make something important to you vulnerable to the actions of someone else."

Rev. Melissa Allison moved on behalf of the Committee to approve the following calls and contracts:

1. The Designated Associate Pastor Call (pending successful examination for ordination by the Presbytery of Detroit with the **Brenden Ashley and Lake Shore Presbyterian Church** effective December 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. 40 hours per week.  
Total Effective Salary: \$51,584  
Total Benefits: \$16,583  
Reimburse Expenses: \$1,2000 Study Leave, \$1,800 Professional Expenses  
Total Cost to the Church: \$71,167  
Moving Expenses up to \$2500  
4Weeks Vacations (including 4 Sundays)  
2Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop

***Supply/ Interim/ CRE/ Parish Associate***

2. The Interim Pastor Contract between **Geneva Presbyterian Church** and **Rev. Teresa Peterson** effective October 15th 2022 through October 14<sup>th</sup> 2023. 40 Hours per week.



Total Effective Salary: \$ 62,400  
Total Benefits: \$27,862  
Other Benefits (403b Fidelity): \$ 5,200  
Reimburse Expenses: \$2,000 Study Leave, \$3,500 Professional Expenses  
Medical or FSA: \$2,200  
Total Cost to the Church \$97,962  
4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)  
2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop

3. The Supply Pastor contract between **Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church** and **Rev. Lindsey Andersen** effective September 1st 2022 through November 30th 2022. 6 Hours per week.  
Total Effective Salary: \$4,930  
Benefits (Social Security Reimbursements 7.65% of Effective): \$ 0  
Reimburse Expenses: \$0 Study Leave, \$500 Professional Expenses  
Total Cost to the Church \$5,630  
4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)  
2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop
4. The Supply Pastor contract between **Faith Community Presbyterian Church of Novi** and **Rev. Michelle James** effective September 8th 2022 through September 7th 2023. 40 Hours per week.  
Total Effective Salary: \$60,320  
Benefits: \$ 28,141  
Reimburse Expenses: \$1,000 Study Leave, \$1,500 Professional Expenses  
Total Cost to the Church \$90,961  
4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)  
2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop
5. The Supply Pastor contract between **Grosse Pointe Memorial Presbyterian Church** and **Rev. Jasmine Smart** effective November 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 through October 31<sup>st</sup> 2023. 40 Hours per week.  
Total Effective Salary: \$86,900  
Benefits: \$ 15,3339  
Reimburse Expenses: \$ 2,000 Study Leave, \$2,000 Professional Expenses  
Total Cost to the Church \$106,239  
4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)  
2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop
6. The Supply Pastor contract between **First Presbyterian Church of Troy** and **Rev. Dan Heaton** effective August 16th 2022 through August 15th 2023. 15 Hours per week.  
Total Effective Salary: \$24,786

Benefits \$ 24,786

Reimburse Expenses: \$500 Study Leave, \$944 Professional Expenses, Federal Income Tax \$3600

Total Cost to the Church \$29,830

4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)

2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)

Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop

7. The Parish Associate contract between **First Presbyterian Farmington Hills Church** and **Rev. Craig Aue** effective November 7<sup>th</sup> 2022 through November 6<sup>th</sup> 2023. 10 Hours per week.  
Compensation and Benefits: \$25/hr  
Reimburse Expenses: Professional and Travel not to exceed \$500  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

On behalf of the Committee, Rev. Allison moved the following dissolutions:

1. The dissolution agreement between **First Presbyterian Church Farmington and Rev. Eddie Jusino** effective November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Terms of the dissolution include payments of Salary, Equity Allowance, Board of Pension Coverage, and SECA, Professional/Travel Allowance for six month. Including provisional leave buy out \$3,769 and provision for relocation ½ of actual (not to exceed \$10,000). Total financial package of \$39,927.
2. The dissolution agreement between **Rev. Samuel An and New Hope Presbyterian Church** effective October 31st, 2022. Terms of dissolution have no financial impact.

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

On behalf of the Committee, Rev. Allison moved approval of the following installation and ordination commissions:

1. The Installation Commission to install the Rev. Mark Mares at First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor on Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. Members of the Commission are Moderator Rev. Jasmine Smart, Teaching Elders Rev. Jasmine Smart and Rev. Christina Hallam and Ruling Elders Jennifer Day (First Pres. AA) and Kevin Smith (First Warren)
2. The Installation Commission to install the Rev. Kathlyn Ferguson-Nealand at First Presbyterian Church Mount Clemens on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. Members of the Commission are Vice-Moderator Elder Kevin Smith; Teaching Elders Rev. Eddie Jusino, Rev. Adam Grosch; Ruling Elders Judy Jacobs (Mt. Clemens) and Rosy Latimore (First Presbyterian Birmingham).

3. The Installation Commission to install the Rev. Hae Kil Kim at Korean Presbyterian Church of Metro Detroit on November 13<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 3:00pm. Members of the Commission are Moderator Rev. Jasmine Smart; Teaching Elders Rev. Scott Phillips and Rev. Beth Delaney; Ruling Elders Kevin Smith (First Presbyterian Warren) and Rosy Latimore (First Presbyterian Birmingham).
4. The Installation Commission to install the Rev. Kimberly Ashby at Saline Presbyterian Church on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. Members of the Commission are Vice-Moderator Ruling Elder Kevin Smith; Teaching Elders Scott Phillips, Rev. Budge Gere, Rev. Jackie Spycher and Ruling Elders Margaret Klammer (Westminster Ann Arbor), Bari Livsey (First Saline) and Ken Pendergrass (First Ypsi).

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

On behalf of the Committee, Rev. Allison moved approval of transfer to **Honorably Retired of Rev. Keith Cornfield.**

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

On behalf of the Committee, Rev. Allison moved the following transfers in and out of the Presbytery, and transfer to at-large:

1. Transfer of Membership of the Rev. Samuel An from Detroit Presbytery to Long Island Presbytery.
2. Transfer of Membership of the Rev. Andrew M Frazier from Detroit Presbytery to Mission Presbytery.
3. Transfer of Membership of the Rev. Eun Joo (Angela) Ryo from Detroit Presbytery to the Wabash Valley Presbytery.
4. Transfer of Membership of the Rev. Samuel An from Detroit Presbytery to Long Island Presbytery.

*At- Large*

1. Move Rev. Evans McGowan membership to member at large with the Presbytery of Detroit.
2. Move Rev. Eddie Justino membership to member at large with the Presbytery of Detroit.

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**Stated Clerk's Report:** The Clerk's Report was presented. **Appendix H.** The following motions were moved in omnibus form by Rev. Hildebrandt:

1. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS:

Approve the reports of the following Administrative Commissions (**Appendix I**):  
Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for Westminster Detroit  
Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for St. John's Detroit  
Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for Dearborn-Littlefield  
Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for Milford  
Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for Pontiac-Joslyn Ave.  
Report of the Administrative Commission for the Installation of Mark Mares  
Report of the Administrative Commission for the Installation of Kathlyn R.  
Ferguson- Nealand

2. Approve the report of the Moderator concerning actions taken following the last meeting. **Appendix J.**
3. Approve the results of the Review of Session Records. **Appendix K.**
4. Moved by the Committee to Analyze and Audit the Separation With Rev. Barbee-Watkins: to receive its first report on February 25, as the January 28 event is not a business meeting, and the Committee will not have a report before that date.

Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**Compensation:** Rev. Rosy Latimore made a motion from the floor to grant additional compensation to the Associate Executive Presbyter \$5000 to the AEP, \$2000 to Administrator Tanya Kudla, \$2000 to Business Manager Sarah Leight, for 2022. Following discussion regarding the source of funds, Rev. Neeta Nichols moved to refer the matter to the Operations Ministry Team.

Elder Stefanie Lewis requested a parliamentary opinion regarding whether the motion to refer would come back to the Presbytery in February 2023. The Vice Moderator opined that it would.

Rev. Gretchen Denton raised a point of order regarding the motion on the floor being the motion to refer, and comments should be limited to that topic. The Vice Moderator ruled the point of order well taken.

The decision of the chair was appealed from. However there was no second to the appeal.

Following extensive discussion the vote by secret electronic ballot was tallied as follows:

Yes: 49

No: 13

The Stated Clerk concluded her report. Elder Adrienne Adams, Synod Commissioner, allowed for questions regarding the Administrative Commission report from the Synod. No questions were raised.

The meeting adjourned with a prayer of benediction by the Vice Moderator at 1:40pm.

*Marianne J. Grano*

Marianne Grano, Stated Clerk

ATTACHMENT ONE: THE ROLL

APPENDICES:

Appendix A, Special Standing Rules

Appendix B, Treasurer's Report

Appendix C, Trustees' Report

Appendix D, Coordinating Cabinet Report

Appendix E, Operating and Pass-Through Budgets

Appendix F, Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report

Appendix G, Committee on Ministry Report

Appendix H, Stated Clerk's Report

Appendix I, Administrative Commission Reports

Appendix J, Moderator's Report

Appendix K, Review of Session Records

**ATTENDANCE ROLL 11/19/22 PRESBYTERY MEETING**

**COORDINATING CABINET**

	Dave	Bunch	Coordinating Cabinet
	Kevin	Smith	First Warren
	Adam	Delezenne	Antiracism Special Committee
	Rosy	Latimore	First Pres
	Suzanne	Lewand	Operations team
	Stefanie	Lewis	Planning & Visioning

**CORRESPONDING MEMBER**

	Adrienne	Adams	The Synod of the Covenant
	Joelle	Jarrait	Certified Christian Educator

**CRE**

	Joshua	Archev	Crossroads Presbyterian
	Charon	Barconey	AEP, Presbytery of Detroit
	Nancy	Bass	Celtic Cross Presbyterian
	Joelly	Chiangong	Park United Presbyterian Church

**PAST MODERATOR**

	Keith	Geiselman	First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti
	Carol	Hylkema	Former Littlefield Church

**POD STAFF**

	Kudla	Tanya	POD
	Leight	Sarah	POD

**TEACHING ELDER**

	Melissa	Allison	Westminster Ann Arbor
	Linda A	Anderson	First Presbyterian church of south Lyon
	Lindsey	Anderson	Love Rising Lutheran Church
	Kimberly Secrist	Ashby	First Presbyterian of Saline
	Ashley	Ashley	First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth
	Michael	Beckman	Kirk of Our Savior
	Gregory	Bryant	Calvary Presbyterian
	linda	cochran	First Northville
	Beth	Delaney	Southminster Taylor
	Julie	Delezenne	First Presbyterian Church of Warren
	Gretchen	Denton	Social Justice and Peacemaking
	Gloria	Dukes	Hope Presbyterian
	Anders	Edstrom	Greenfield Presbyterian Church
	Jim	Faile	First Dearborn and CPM
	Brewster	Gere	HR
	Sarah	Godbehere	POD
	Marianne	Grano	Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Detroit
	Adam	Grosch	Lake Shore Church
	Rufus	Hatcher	Broadstreet Presbyterian
	Benjamin	Helmke	HR
	Kara	Hildebrandt	Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church
	Patricia	Jacobs	University Presbyterian Church
	Michelle	James	Faith Community Presbyterian Church

	Janice	Jones	Sashabaw
	Eddie	Jusino	At Large
	Kenneth	Kaibel	Belleville Presbyterian Church
	Laura	Kelsey	First Presbyterian Church
	Lon	Kuehn	HR
	Edward	Koster	HR
	Sarah	Logemann	Fort Street
	Hannah	Lundberg	First Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor
	Julie	Madden	First Presbyterian Church Birmingham
	Tim	Marvil	Allen Park
	Scott	Miller	Drayton Presbyterian Church
	James	Monnett	Ann Arbor
	Garrett	Mostowski	Fort Street
	Kathy	Nealand	First Presbyterian of Mount Clemens
	Neeta	Nichols	Honorably Retired
	Emma	Nickel	Royal Oak First
	Thomas	Oxtoby	Retired Minister
	Teresa	Peterson	Geneva Canton
	Mark	Phillips	Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church
	Scott	Phillips	First Presbyterian Church of Brighton
	Joel	Puntigam	St Timothy Presbyterian Church
	Amy	Ruhf-Brien	US Navy
	Bre	Ryan	Lakeshore Presbyterian
	Charles	Sadler II	Starr Presbyterian Church
	Jacqueline	Spycher	First Presbyterian Church of Northville
	Karen	Stunkel	WCO Detroit
	Paul	Stunkel	HR
	Barbara	Swartzel	Hope Presbyterian
	Hotek	Tan	Taiwanese Community Fellowship Ann Arbor
	Dana	Wilmot	Community P.C. Waterford
<b>NON-VOTING GUEST</b>			
	Michael	Gaubatz	POD Treasurer

## Proposed Special Rules of Order

*For A Hybrid Meeting (in person or electronically via Zoom)*

The Following Rules are proposed for adoption at the meeting by the Stated Clerk:

1. Participants joining the meeting in person:
  - a. Will seek recognition by raising their hands,
  - b. When recognized to speak, will move to the lectern at the front of the center aisle.
2. Participants joining the meeting electronically are encouraged to use a desktop or laptop computer. The following are requirements for such computers:
  - a. High speed internet access.
  - b. Sound output device (*preferably* a headset, earbuds, or Bluetooth device that delivers the sound directly to the participant's ear rather than into an open room),
  - c. A microphone device.
  - d. A webcam (optional).

If joining by computer is not possible, those joining electronically may use a tablet or smart phone device, using the free "Zoom" app, available from the device's app store. Regarding audio/visual devices, the same requirements and preferences exist as for computers.

3. The following rules also apply to those joining the meeting electronically:
  - a. The "raise hand" feature will be used for both seeking recognition and voting. Raise hand is accessed by clicking on the word "Reactions" on the bottom of the main Zoom window (or top right on some tablet/phone devices), then clicking on the "Raise Hand" bar. Clicking on raise hand causes a "virtual hand" to be raised both on your webcam feed and beside your name on the Participants list (which you may also access by clicking on the word "Participants").
  - b. If you have an "interrupting motion" (a point of order, a request for preference in recognition, etc.), you may message the hosts through the "chat" function. If you are not recognized in a timely manner, you may unmute your microphone and say "Mr/Madam Moderator!"
  - c. You may send a motion to the hosts through "chat" if it is complex or in writing, but you must still seek recognition.
  - d. Voting will take place through a third-party voting system. You must open up another browser window and log in to the third-party website. Log-in information will be sent separately and it is your responsibility to prepare to vote and secure your log-in credentials prior to the meeting. You may contact the Stated Clerk or Presbytery staff if you have any difficulty getting access to the voting system.
4. In-person participants shall use the provided remote controls to vote, which will show the choice cast on a small screen on the device. Please note that for both in person and online participants, you may change your vote at any time before the vote closes.
5. The Stated Clerk and/or assistant will allow approximately ten seconds for voting before finalizing the result.
6. In the case of an internet outage in the location of the Presbytery meeting, votes shall be taken in the following manner: in-person participants will vote by a counted rising vote, or secret ballot upon demand. Electronic participants will vote through the online voting system. The totals will then be added to determine the result.



The Presbytery of Detroit  
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures  
From 1/1/2022 through 9/30/2022

*100 - Operating Fund  
(In Whole Numbers)*

	<u>This Month</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u> <u>Budget Remaining</u>
<b>33% of the year remains</b>				
<b>Revenue</b>				
Shared Mission	11,277	75,394	140,000	46 %
Per Capita	28,389	258,178	382,298	32 %
Investments (Fund 200)	17,795	120,469	155,245	22 %
Joy & McKay Endowments	12,234	158,159	186,596	15 %
Social Justice	0	6,300	6,300	0 %
Other	0	0	0	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u><u>69,695</u></u>	<u><u>618,500</u></u>	<u><u>870,439</u></u>	<u><u>29%</u></u>
<b>Expense</b>				
Committee on Ministry	0	0	14,600	100 %
Preparation for Ministry	0	447	4,000	89 %
Trustees	11,371	95,171	141,383	33 %
Presbytery Operations	26,821	341,093	530,616	36 %
Congregation Develop't & Transform'n	0	5,875	9,000	35 %
Social Justice	0	27,000	30,000	10 %
Mission Interpretation	1,100	18,575	46,500	60 %
Leadership Equipping Ministry Team	0	2,990	25,300	88 %
New Church Dev/Redevelopment	0	15,000	15,000	0 %
Multicultural Ministry Team	0	0	6,200	100 %
Planning & Visioning	150	835	21,000	96 %
Coordinating Cabinet	0	1,100	11,700	91 %
Anti-Racism Committee	0	2,293	23,000	90 %
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u><u>39,442</u></u>	<u><u>510,379</u></u>	<u><u>878,299</u></u>	<u><u>42 %</u></u>
<b>Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<u><u>30,253</u></u>	<u><u>108,121</u></u>	<u><u>(7,860)</u></u>	

*Total Shared Mission Received YTD:  
Total Shared Mission Spending YTD:*

*75,394  
69,440*

# The Presbytery of Detroit

## Balance Sheet

As of 9/30/2022

(In Whole Numbers)

	OPERATING FUNDS	RESTRICTED & ENDOWMENT FUNDS
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
Cash		
	87,865	189,967
Total Cash	87,865	189,967
Investment Securities		
General Investments	3,699,094	0
Endowment - Comerica	1,448,565	16,885,385
Investment - P.I.L.P	1,589,818	0
Total Investment Securities	6,737,478	16,885,385
Receivables		
Church Loan Receivable - Module	56,000	0
Church Line of Credit Receivable	0	0
Misc Receivables	(6,663)	1,130
POD Grant Mortgage	432,393	0
Total Receivables	481,730	1,130
Other Assets		
	0	0
Total Other Assets	0	0
Total Assets	<u>7,307,073</u>	<u>17,076,482</u>
Miscellaneous Liabilities		
Accounts Payable - Module	805	5,921
Other	739,761	1,810
Total Miscellaneous Liabilities	740,566	7,731
Notes Payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)		
PCUSA Grant Mortgage Receivable	(194,018)	0
PCUSA Grant Mortgage Reserve	194,018	0
PCUSA Guaranteed Loans	(813,884)	0
P.I.L.P. Guaranteed Loans	(2,598,784)	0
Note Payable - PCUSA	813,884	0
Note Payable P.I.L.P	2,598,784	0
Total Notes Payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)	0	0
Notes Payable Others		
Pass Thru - Other	0	0
Total Notes Payable Others	0	0
Total Liabilities	<u>740,566</u>	<u>7,731</u>
Unrestricted Net Assets/Equity		
	5,054,838	(1,390,369)
Total Unrestricted Net Assets/Equity	5,054,838	(1,390,369)
Restricted Net Assets/Equity		
	1,511,669	18,459,120
Total Restricted Net Assets/Equity	1,511,669	18,459,120
Total Net Assets/Equity	<u>6,566,507</u>	<u>17,068,751</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets/Equity	<u>7,307,073</u>	<u>17,076,482</u>

## PAPER D

### **Presbytery of Detroit Report of the Trustees November 19, 2022**

The Trustees report the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. The Trustees reviewed and approved a letter to Rev. Barbee-Watkins and a separation agreement with Rev. Barbee-Watkins. This item was mistakenly omitted from the September 27 Trustees Report due to an administrative error on the part of the Stated Clerk.
2. The Trustees approved creation of a 510 account to hold the Trumbull Avenue funds.
3. The Trustees, having received information regarding property willed to the Presbytery by Garnett E. Bacalis, approved opening the probate estate to request that the property be moved into the Garnett E. Bacalis Trust. The Trustees approved further investigation of the possibility of sale of the property and retrieval of funds from the estate for the Presbytery.
4. The Trustees, upon the recommendation of the Administrative Commission for Dearborn-Littlefield and pursuant to the motion approved by Presbytery on September 19, approved the sale of the Dearborn-Littlefield property to National Asset Recovery at fair market value. The property sale would be as-is and would be conditional on the City of Dearborn's approval.
5. The Trustees allocated \$8,541.38 as receivable against sale of property for payment to Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program of a recorded grant mortgage for the Dearborn-Littlefield property, no recorded discharge having been found after a historical search of the Register of Deeds, and referred review and execution of an appropriate agreement with PILP to the President and Clerk.
6. The Trustees approved the sale of South Lyon's manse property, previously approved by Presbytery at fair market value, to Paul and Kathleen Parzuchowski, the purchase agreement having been provided to and reviewed by the Trustees.
7. The Trustees approved reasonable and necessary document retrieval expenses for Trustees and the Stated Clerk to assist congregations in discharging mortgages or securing evidence of prior discharge of those mortgages, not to exceed \$1000 total.

**Presbytery of Detroit  
Report of the Coordinating Cabinet  
September 27, 2022**

The Coordinating Cabinet recommends that Presbytery:

1. Approve the 2023 budget (Paper G-1). (Supporting documentation, Paper G-2, is for information only).
2. Elect the following to Nominations:
  - Chair-23 Rosy Latimore RE Birmingham First
  - Class-23 Vacancy
  - Class-24 Vacancy
  - Class-25 Rosy Latimore RE Birmingham First
  - Class-25 John Pavelko TE H.R.
  - Class-25 Young Kyu Park RE Korean Church Met Det
  - Class-25 Vacancy
3. Approve the following locations for Presbytery meetings/events in 2023, pending approval of the respective Sessions:
  - January 28, 2023 In-Person Installation Service and Refreshments: Birmingham-First;
  - February 25, 2023 Hybrid: Pontiac-First;
  - May 23, 2023 Hybrid: Detroit-Fort Street;
  - July 24 (social event)- White Lake;
  - September 26, 2023 Hybrid: Beverly Hills- Northbrook;
  - November 18, 2023 Hybrid: KPCMD- Southfield.
4. Approve the Mission and Vision Statements (Paper G-3).

The Coordinating Cabinet reports the following for the information of Presbytery:

1. Cabinet approved a training event for the 2023 Cabinet as follows:
  - A sensitivity training session,
  - A discussion of the proposed mission/vision, and strategy team status,
  - A review of the PoD Bylaws,
  - A overview and review of the Presbytery policies and procedures,
  - That the ministry teams/committees break out into their respective groups to review and understand their specific policies and procedures,
  - That the CC re-convene, and each ministry team share their policies and procedures with the rest of the group,
  - An understanding of each team/committee commitments for 2023, including the impact of the proposed vision/mission on them and their plans.

The training to be held January 28, 2022.

2. Cabinet approved the following dates for its meetings in 2023:
  - Sat. January 28 Coordinating Cabinet 101
  - Feb. 6 in advance of the Presbytery meeting on the 25th (Leadership would be Jan 30)
  - March 13 - Retreat
  - May 8 - before the May 23 meeting (Leadership would be May 1)

- July 23/31 OR August 7/14 (?) Summer Gathering at White Lake - Presbytery Social
  - September 11 before the September 26 presbytery meeting (Leadership Tues. Sept 5)
  - October 23 before the November 18 presbytery meeting (Leadership Oct 16).
3. Cabinet approved communion for the Presbytery installation worship service January 28 and the Leadership Equipping Team event.

**Presbytery of Detroit**                      **2023 Operating (Fund 100) Proposed Budget**

12-31-21 membership base for per capita:                      16,913

	<b>2022 Approved Budget</b>	<b>2023 Submitted Budget</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Budget Sept</b>	<b>2023 Submitted Budget Adjustments</b>	<b>2023 Ph 2 P&amp;V Budget Adjustments</b>
<b>Revenue</b>					
<i>Shared Mission (POD portion)</i>	<b>140,000</b>	<b>135,000</b>	<b>135,000</b>	<b>135,000</b>	<b>135,000</b>
* Per Capita (POD portion per member: \$ 21.60) \$	382,298	\$ 365,321	\$ 386,462	\$ 386,462	\$ 386,462
Less: Per Capita Arrearages	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)
Prior Year Per Capita Receipts	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Income from Fund 200 Capital Investment	44,245	48,828	48,828	48,828	48,828
Income from Fund 200 Cash Investment	100,000	107,000	107,000	107,000	107,000
Income from Joy Endowment	172,126	189,953	189,953	189,953	189,953
Income from McKay Endowment	14,470	15,969	15,969	15,969	15,969
Interest from PILP Investments	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000
PCUSA Grant: Hunger Coordinator	6,300	6,300	6,300	6,300	6,300
	<u>\$ 870,439</u>	<u>\$ 879,371</u>	<u>\$ 900,512</u>	<u>\$ 900,512</u>	<u>\$ 900,512</u>
<b>Expenses</b>					
<i>Congregational Development</i>	9,000	12,500	11,050	11,500	11,500
<i>Social Justice</i>	30,000	30,500	30,500	30,500	30,500
<i>Mission Interpretation</i>	46,500	46,500	46,500	46,500	46,500
<i>Leadership Equipping</i>	25,300	31,250	31,250	31,250	31,250
<i>New Church Development</i>	15,000	22,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
<i>Multicultural</i>	6,200	8,200	8,200	8,200	8,200
<i>Mission Auxiliary Fund</i>	8,000	8,000	-	-	-
<b>Shared Mission Subtotal</b>	<b>140,000</b>	<b>159,450</b>	<b>135,000</b>	<b>135,450</b>	<b>135,450</b>
Nominations	-	-	-	-	-
Representation	-	500	500	500	500
Committee on Ministry	14,600	14,600	14,600	14,600	14,600
Committee on Preparation for Ministry	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Trustees	141,383	138,165	138,165	138,165	138,165
Operations	522,756	590,689	564,719	590,689	572,985
Planning and Visioning	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000
GA Meeting cost	8,000	-	-	-	-
Antiracism Committee	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000
Coordinating Cabinet	3,700	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,300
	<u>\$ 870,439</u>	<u>\$ 946,704</u>	<u>\$ 896,284</u>	<u>\$ 922,704</u>	<u>\$ 905,000</u>
<b>Revenues Over (Under) Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(67,333)</b>	<b>4,228</b>	<b>(22,192)</b>	<b>(4,488)</b>
PoD Per Capita by year	21.60	21.60	22.85	22.85	22.85

# Presbytery of Detroit

## 2023 Mission Pass-Thru (Fund 600) PROPOSED Budget

12-31-21 membership base for per capita: 16,913

		<b>2022 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>2023 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Per Capita Apportionment GA (\$8.98 per member)	9.85 \$	158,937	\$ 166,593
Per Capita Apportionment Synod (\$3.25 per member)	3.25	57,522	\$ 54,967
Shared Mission GA		30,810	28,688
Shared Mission Synod		5,438	5,063
PCUSA Offerings (OGHS, Pentecost, Peace, Xmas Joy))		110,000	120,000
PCUSA Personnel, Disaster, Etc		21,000	20,000
Income from Joy Fund for 3 Presbyteries		43,031	47,488
Income from Joy Fund for Fort Street		215,158	237,442
Income from Connor Fund for Fort Street		18,614	20,542
Income from Ranney Balch Fund to be distributed		52,354	57,777
POD Extra-Commitment Opportunites (ECO)		14,000	10,000
GA & Other Synod Grants		10,000	10,000
Synod Campus Ministry Grants		6,000	5,000
		<u>\$ 742,864</u>	<u>\$ 783,560</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Per Capita Apportionment GA		158,937	166,593
Per Capita Apportionment Synod		57,522	54,967
Shared Mission GA		30,810	28,688
Shared Mission Synod		5,438	5,063
Offerings (OGHS, Pentecost, Peacemaking, etc)		110,000	120,000
PCUSA Personnel, Disaster, Etc		21,000	20,000
Distribution of Joy Fund to 3 Presbyteries		43,031	47,488
Distribution of Joy Fund to Fort Street		215,158	237,442
Distribution of Connor Fund to Fort Street		18,614	20,542
Distribution of Ranney Balch Fund		52,354	57,777
POD Extra-Commitment Opportunites (ECO)		14,000	10,000
GA & Other Synod Grants		10,000	10,000
Synod Campus Ministry Grants		6,000	5,000
		<u>\$ 742,864</u>	<u>\$ 783,560</u>
<b>Revenues Over (Under) Expenses</b>		-	-

Note: All budgeted expenses are subject to receipt of the budgeted revenues.  
If revenues are different than budgeted, expenses will be adjusted to match them.

Committee on Preparation for Ministry Report to Presbytery November 19, 2022

**For Information:**

- On November 1, 2022 CPM met with Candidate Wesley Carl Smith (First, Port Huron; grad Pittsburgh Seminary May 2022) for Final Assessment. Mr. Smith was examined on his Statement of Faith, Biographical Statement, exegesis and sermon. CPM, in a unanimous vote, granted Final Assessment and permission to circulate a PIF.
- A sub-committee of CPM administered written examinations to CRE (trainee) MariJo Hockley and will report the results to CPM at the December meeting.
- CPM has scholarship funds available for Inquirers, Candidates and CRE trainees. Application is available on the Detroit Presbytery Website.

**For Action:**

- CPM presents Candidate Brendan Ashley (Pittsburgh Seminary, Final Assessment from Pittsburgh Presbytery) for examination for ordination. Mr. Ashley has received a call to serve as Designated Associate Pastor at Lake Shore Presbyterian Church.



**Biography** Brendan Ashley      November 19, 2022

My name is Brendan Ashley and I currently live in Detroit, MI. I am happily married to Ashley Ashley, who is the Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth. We have a cat named Augustine. If you are curious, yes, he is named after the theologian. I grew up in a military family and have lived all over the United States. I love sports of all forms and kinds, reading and writing, hanging with friends, cooking, exploring new places, and meeting new people.

I first heard the call to ministry at sixteen years old, when God spoke clearly through my grandmother who first articulated that I had gifts for ministry. In response to this encouragement, I attended Whitworth University in Spokane, WA, where I received a B.A. in Theology. While earning my B.A. I began to intern with a local church's youth group in order to explore my call to ministry. I also first learned about and felt drawn to missional theology while studying at Whitworth.

After graduating from Whitworth, I further pursued God's call to ministry by earning a Master of Divinity with a Church Planting Emphasis from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Over the course of my time in seminary, I was an intern at The Open Door and The Upper Room. I went on a number of lifechanging short-term mission trips with WMI. I was a Valentour award recipient, and explored the subject of the powers and principalities in Kenya, Guatemala, and Vietnam with my friend and ministry colleague Rev. Dr. Brian J. Lays. I also completed a Master of Divinity Thesis entitled, "*The missio Trinitatis in the Secular Age.*" Since graduating from seminary, I have served two churches in the Pittsburgh area as a student pastor. If the way be clear, I am excited and eager to serve a local congregation through my gifts of preaching, pastoral care, friendship and hospitality, and missional imagination and exploration.

I feel confident in my calling by God to be an ordained pastor in the PCUSA. I desire to help churches develop practices of worship, discipleship, and mission that allow space for churches to explore questions like "what is God up to in this world?" and "Who is my neighbor?"

This passion began through my experience with a local ministry called skate church. This church's willingness to connect with what my friends and I cared about allowed me to encounter the love and Grace of God in new ways. Now, as an adult, I want to continue this work and help congregations see that God works through our passions as a form of grace and a way to extend the gospel to those around us.

This calling intensified as I attended seminary and felt a particular call to church planting. I joined the Church Planting Initiative and interned with two missional communities. Through these experiences, I sensed my calling to ordained ministry, specifically as a missional pastor. I am excited to lead churches in radical hospitality and discernment of the Spirit's work in our world. I want to continue the work that God started with me at skate church.

Finally, after seminary as a student pastor I had an opportunity to explore my gifts for missional ministry. I took my experiences in skate church, my training from undergrad and seminary, and I applied it to my work with The Upper Room where I created a Missional Action Plan that incorporated mission into the worship and fellowship rhythms of the church. One specific example of this was a board game group that we used to help people see how the gospel connects the church with people in the neighborhood.

Brendan Ashley Statement of Faith November 19, 2022

I believe in the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God is one in three persons, whose will is unified in creating, redeeming, and sustaining the universe.

I believe in Abba Father: a loving and trustworthy parent. God created the structure of the universe so that every good thing could inhabit it. God gave humans the gift of life, so that we would follow and reflect God's relational and trustworthy character in our obedience. We rebelled and rejected God's promise, and our relationship with God and one another became cracked and blurry. Despite this, God is faithful still.

I believe in Jesus Christ: fully human and fully God. The Virgin Mary conceived Jesus by the Holy Spirit, and gave birth to Jesus. His life and ministry revealed that he is the Lord and the long-expected Messiah of God's people. Jesus taught, healed, and called people to faithful discipleship. He challenged human boundaries and called for justice and reconciliation. Yet, in the sinfulness of humanity, we rejected and crucified Jesus. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross reveals God's victory over sin and death, and calls us to pick up our cross in faithful discipleship. The Father raised Jesus from the dead, and now we may share in the resurrection life by participating in the mission of God in the Church's witness. Jesus ascended to the right hand of the Father, assuring us that eternal life is offered to all of humanity. Jesus's saving work restores our relationship with God by the forgiveness of sins, and assures us that we will share in the resurrection.

I believe in the Holy Spirit: the one who gives inward assurance that the gospel of Jesus is true. The Spirit also invigorates us in our daily life. The Spirit works in us to establish faith and participate in God's mission, which calls, gathers and sends us as the church. In our weekly worship gathering, the Spirit both nourishes us by Word and Sacrament, and sends us forth on the mission of God in the world. The Spirit works in the reading, study, and proclamation of the Word, the saving work of Christ, and invites people to participate in the mission of God through Christian teaching and discipline. The Spirit sends the church as a witness of God's love and justice. The Church becomes a tangible sign of God's kingdom when God is known, loved, and obeyed. The kingdom of God is both present and coming; we participate in it by the Spirit, but it is yet to come in fullness. The mission of God compels the Church to break down divisions, seek justice, protect the vulnerable and speak words of hope.

Holy Scripture, the Old and New Testaments, is the unique and authoritative Word of God which sustains our life and faith. The people of God were inspired by the Spirit and wrote scripture as an account of the Triune God's movement and work in human history. The Bible still speaks to us today, through women and men, as it is studied, proclaimed, and lived. As such, we dwell in the Word together. The Spirit teaches us how to cultivate Christian community and participate in God's mission to bring the good news to the world.

The Church is sent by the God of mission to point to God's reign. The Church learns about God's mission as it gathers to worship God in Word and Sacrament. In doing so, the community of faith encounters the living and reigning Christ who calls it to go and live the gospel way. We first learn about this way in baptism, which is administered in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, by which God declares to the Church that everyone has a place in God's family. When we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we receive the body and blood of Christ through the visible and tangible signs of bread and cup. The Lord's Supper provides a regular opportunity for us to be nourished in faith by encountering God in and through our senses.

God's redemption of the world will be fully experienced and intelligible when Jesus returns, as is promised at his Ascension. We live in the anticipatory hope of his return, and yet Jesus teaches us in the Gospels that we will not know the day or the hour of his appearing, so we should be prepared at any moment. For now, the Church participates in God's mission in faith, hope, and love, as a beacon to a waiting world.

November 2022 Meeting

**RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESBYTERY**

THE COMMITTEE ON MONISTRY RECCOMENDS THAT PRESBYTERY:

***Calls / Contracts***

***Called and Installed Positions (Including Designated Pastor)***

1. **By Motion**, approve Designated Associate Pastor Call (pending successful examination for ordination by the Presbytery of Detroit with the **Brenden Ashley and Lake Shore Presbyterian Church** effective December 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. 40 hours per week.
  - Total Effective Salary: \$51,584
  - Total Benefits: \$16,583
  - Reimburse Expenses: \$1,2000 Study Leave, \$1,800 Professional Expenses
  - Total Cost to the Church: \$71,167
  - Moving Expenses up to \$2500
  - 4Weeks Vacations (including 4 Sundays)
  - 2Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)
  - Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop

***Supply/ Interim/ CRE/ Parish Associate***

2. **By motion**, approve the Interim Pastor Contract between **Geneva Presbyterian Church** and **Rev. Teresa Peterson** effective October 15th 2022 through October 14<sup>th</sup> 2023. 40 Hours per week.
  - Total Effective Salary: \$ 62,400
  - Total Benefits: \$27,862
  - Other Benefits (403b Fidelity): \$ 5,200
  - Reimburse Expenses: \$2,000 Study Leave, \$3,500 Professional Expenses
  - Medical or FSA: \$2,200
  - Total Cost to the Church \$97,962
  - 4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)
  - 2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)
  - Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop
3. **By motion**, approve the Supply Pastor contract between **Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church** and **Rev. Lindsey Andersen** effective September 1st 2022 through November 30th 2022. 6 Hours per week.
  - Total Effective Salary: \$4,930
  - Benefits (Social Security Reimbursements 7.65% of Effective): \$ 0

Reimburse Expenses: \$0 Study Leave, \$500 Professional Expenses  
Total Cost to the Church \$5,630  
4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)  
2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop

4. **By motion**, approve the Supply Pastor contract between **Faith Community Presbyterian Church of Novi** and **Rev. Michelle James** effective September 8th 2022 through September 7th 2023. 40 Hours per week.

Total Effective Salary: \$60,320  
Benefits: \$ 28,141  
Reimburse Expenses: \$1,000 Study Leave, \$1,500 Professional Expenses  
Total Cost to the Church \$90,961  
4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)  
2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop

5. **By motion**, approve the Supply Pastor contract between **Grosse Pointe Memorial Presbyterian Church** and **Rev. Jasmine Smart** effective November 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 through October 31<sup>st</sup> 2023. 40 Hours per week.

Total Effective Salary: \$86,900  
Benefits: \$ 15,339  
Reimburse Expenses: \$ 2,000 Study Leave, \$2,000 Professional Expenses  
Total Cost to the Church \$106,239  
4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)  
2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop

6. **By motion**, approve the Supply Pastor contract between **First Presbyterian Church of Troy** and **Rev. Dan Heaton** effective August 16th 2022 through August 15th 2023. 15 Hours per week.

Total Effective Salary: \$24,786  
Benefits \$ 24,786  
Reimburse Expenses: \$500 Study Leave, \$944 Professional Expenses,  
Federal Income Tax \$3600  
Total Cost to the Church \$29,830  
4 Vacations (including 4 Sundays)  
2 Weeks Study leave (included 2 Sundays)  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Workshop

7. **By motion**, approve the Parish Associate contract between **First Presbyterian Farmington Hills Church** and **Rev. Craig Aue** effective November 7<sup>th</sup> 2022 through November 6<sup>th</sup> 2023. 10 Hours per week.

Compensation and Benefits: \$25/hr

Reimburse Expenses: Professional and Travel not to exceed \$500  
Church to pay and allow pastor to attend Transition in Ministry Worksho

### *Dissolutions*

1. By Motion, approve the dissolution agreement between **First Presbyterian Church Farmington and Rev. Eddie Jusino** effective November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Terms of the dissolution include payments of Salary, Equity Allowance, Board of Pension Coverage, and SECA, Professional/ Travel Allowance for six month. Including provisional leave buy out \$3,769 and provision for relocation ½ of actual (not to exceed \$10,000). Total financial package of \$39,927.
2. By Motion, approve the dissolution agreement between **Rev. Samuel An and New Hope Presbyterian Church** effective October 31st, 2022. Terms of dissolution have no financial impact.

### *Installation/ Ordination Commissions*

1. By motion, approve the Installation Commission to install the Rev. Mark Mares at First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor on Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. Members of the Commission are Moderator Rev. Jasmine Smart, Teaching Elders Rev. Jasmine Smart and Rev. Christina Hallam and Ruling Elders Jennifer Day (First Pres. AA) and Kevin Smith (First Warren)
2. By motion, approve the Installation Commission to install the Rev. Kathlyn Ferguson-Nealand at First Presbyterian Church Mount Clemens on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. Members of the Commission are Vice-Moderator Elder Kevin Smith; Teaching Elders Rev. Eddie Jusino, Rev. Adam Grosch; Ruling Elders Judy Jacobs (Mt. Clemens) and Rosy Latimore (First Presbyterian Birmingham).
3. By motion, approve the Installation Commission to install the Rev. Hae Kil Kim at Korean Presbyterian Church of Metro Detroit on November 13<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 3:00pm. Members of the Commission are Moderator Rev. Jasmine Smart; Teaching Elders Rev. Scott Phillips and Rev. Beth Delaney; Ruling Elders Kevin Smith (First Presbyterian Warren) and Rosy Latimore (First Presbyterian Birmingham).
4. By motion, approve the Installation Commission to install the Rev. Kimberly Ashby at Saline Presbyterian Church on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. Members of the Commission are Vice-Moderator Ruling Elder Kevin Smith; Teaching Elders Scott Phillips, Rev. Budge Gere, Rev. Jackie Spycher and Ruling Elders Margaret Klammer (Westminster Ann Arbor), Bari Livsey (First Saline) and Ken Pendergrass (First Ypsi).

### *Retirements*

1. Grant the status of Honorably Retired to the Rev. Keith Cornfield effective January 31st 2023. Rev. Cornfield served as Stated Supply Pastor at Calvary Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor.

### *Transfers out of the Presbytery of Detroit*

1. By motion, approve Transfer of Membership of the Rev. Samuel An from Detroit Presbytery to Long Island Presbytery.
2. By motion, approve Transfer of Membership of the Rev. Andrew M Frazier from Detroit Presbytery to Mission Presbytery.
3. By motion, approve Transfer of Membership of the Rev. Eun Joo (Angela) Ryo from Detroit Presbytery to the Wabash Valley Presbytery.
4. By motion, approve Transfer of Membership of the Rev. Samuel An from Detroit Presbytery to Long Island Presbytery.

### *At- Large*

1. Move Rev. Evans McGowan membership to member at large with the Presbytery of Detroit.
2. Move Rev. Eddie Justino membership to member at large with the Presbytery of Detroit.

### **INFORMATION TO THE PRESBYTERY**

#### THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:

1. Approve sabbatical request from Rev. Joel Puntigam and St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church of Livonia in May-July 2023
2. First Presbyterian Church Brighton rationale for hiring Associate Pastor
3. Approval of Stated Supply Job Description for New Hope Presbyterian Church
4. Under successful completion of the Polity Ordination Exam, COM permits the Rev. Dr. Gregory Bryant to moderate the session at Calvary Presbyterian Church.
5. Updated the Validated Ministry Policy
6. Rev. Ken Kaibel nominated to serve as moderator of First Presbyterian Church in Farmington effective October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022
7. Approve Parish Associate Craig Aue to continue contract until transitional pastor is in place at First Presbyterian Church Farmington.
8. Rev. Michelle James nominated to serve as moderator at New Hope Presbyterian Church effective November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
9. Approval of MIF for Jefferson Avenue
10. Lake Shore Presbyterian Church granted permission to call a congregational meeting to elect associate pastor.
11. Request to add the Rev. John Pavelko (HR) to the Pulpit Supply List
12. Request to add Eligible Commissioned Ruling Elder Pat Johnson to Pulpit Supply List
13. Review of Geneva Self Study









**RECOMMENDATIONS OF STATED CLERK MARIANNE GRANO  
TO THE PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT  
November 19, 2022**

**RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER BUSINESS**

**FOR ACTION AS OMNIBUS MOTION (2):**

Approve the following proposed amendments to the Book of Order (**Paper F-1**, all proposed amendments; **Paper F-2**, amendments voted on at this meeting):

1. Amendment 22C (electronic meetings);
2. Amendment 22D (congregational meeting requirement of proposed new Rules of Discipline);
3. Amendment 22N (electronic meetings);
4. Amendment 22O (requiring boundaries training and sexual abuse training);
5. Amendment 22V (allowing laypersons to lead prayer after communion);
6. Amendment 22X (adding statements re: household worship);
7. Amendment 22Y (adding statements re: household worship, mealtime blessings);
8. Amendment 22AA (broadening description of pastoral ministries to which ministers may be called);
9. Amendment 22BB (amending Book of Order to reflect that “healing happens in a variety of ways and wholeness is not necessarily synonymous with physical recovery”)
10. Amendment 22EE (investigating committee must inform both accuser and accused of a decision of no charges filed);
11. Amendment 22FF (amending “the accused” in Rules of Discipline to “the person accused” wherever it is found).

**FOR ACTION AS OMNIBUS MOTION (3):**

1. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS:

Approve the reports of the following Administrative Commissions:

Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for Westminster Detroit (Paper F-3)

Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for St. John's Detroit (Paper F-4)

Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for Dearborn-Littlefield (Paper F-5)

Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for Milford (Paper F-6)

Interim Report of the Administrative Commission for Pontiac-Joslyn Ave. (Paper F-7)

Report of the Administrative Commission for the Installation of Mark Mares (Paper F-8)

Report of the Administrative Commission for the Installation of Kathlyn R. Ferguson-Nealand (Paper F-9)

2. Approve the report of the Moderator concerning actions taken following the last meeting. (Paper F-10)

3. Approve the results of the Review of Session Records. (Paper F-11).

4. Moved by the Committee to Analyze Separation Agreement: to receive its first report on February 25, as the January 28 event is not a business meeting, and the Committee will not have a report before that date.

**FOR INFORMATION**

1. The Synod of the Covenant Investigating Committee has completed its work regarding the disciplinary complaint which was referred to the Synod from the Presbytery of Detroit during the special meeting in January 2021 because the complaint involved conflicts of interest. “In response to the written statement of offense received by the stated clerk of the Presbytery of Detroit, and for which the Synod of the Covenant assumed jurisdiction. The Investigating Committee has determined, in accordance with G-3.0102 and D-2.0203b, that there

are no probable grounds or cause to believe an offense was committed by the accused. All parties were informed of the decision. This matter is closed.”

2. The Administrative Commission of the Synod of the Covenant formed to investigate and resolve issues involving Presbytery of Detroit executive level personnel issues submitted an interim report. The Synod at its October 20-22 Synod Assembly allowed members of the Detroit Presbytery to comment on the report. Based on the feedback received and its own analysis, the Administrative Commission would amend the report to remove statements that were not fully investigated. Further, the Administrative Commission would be expanded, some members having resigned, and new members being appointed based on their expertise. The reconstituted AC would then receive additional training and continue its work.

3. A report was received from the Synod of the Covenant and is attached as Paper F-12.

4. The Stated Clerk reports that after a process of over two years and a number of examinations she has received the credential of Registered Parliamentarian from the National Association of Parliamentarians, This is the second level of certification and qualifies her to provide advice to organizations on Robert's Rules of Order.

## 22-C — G-1.0501

### MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION

#### G-1.0501 MEETINGS (ROD-06 2)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall a new G-1.0501 be inserted into the Form of Government and the current G-1.0501 and subsequent sections be renumbered accordingly, as follows?**

(Added text is in *italics*.)

**“G-1.0501     *Meetings***

*“Meetings shall be opened and closed with prayer. Unless the congregation shall designate another parliamentary authority in its bylaws, meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, except when it is in contradiction to this constitution.*

*“In accordance with the requirement of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, congregations and their committees may meet electronically at the discretion of their sessions, provided that the technology employed allows for all members present to hear and be heard simultaneously. This includes joining one or more persons electronically to an otherwise in-person meeting. Congregations should adopt special rules of order and standing rules to govern such meetings.*

**“G-1.0502     Annual and Special Meetings**

**The congregation shall hold an annual meeting ...”**

#### Background and Rationale

Rationale for Recommendation 3 (Note: No additional rationale was included for Recommendation 2.)

The Foundations of Presbyterian Polity states that in our church “decisions shall be reached in councils by vote, following opportunity for discussion and discernment, and a majority shall govern” (F-3.0205). At the core of our understanding of church governance is the notion that the Holy Spirit is present “where two of three are gathered” and guides us in discerning the will of God in our decision making.

The absence of constitutional language authorizing electronic meetings has proved problematic at all levels of the PC(USA) since the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, including in disciplinary processes. The proposed language would remedy that by authorizing electronic meetings in congregations and councils of the church, while still requiring that for proper discernment and decision making to occur, participants must be able to “hear and be heard simultaneously,” or as it is stated in our parliamentary authority, provide for the “opportunity for simultaneous aural communication” (RONR 12th ed. 9:31).

It is not the intent of these additions to require electronic meetings or to mandate any specific processes or procedures. Congregations and councils may make those determinations themselves.

Additionally, the proposed revision of the Rules of Discipline sometimes explicitly states that meeting face to face is preferable. But as we all learned in 2020 and 2021, sometimes that is simply not possible. These additions provide the authorization required by our parliamentary authority to use electronic meetings whenever a congregation, council, or entity of a council determines that it should do so, in accordance with whatever rules that congregation or council so adopts.

**Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly to approve ROD-06. The adoption of these amendments assumes the adoption of the proposed revision of the Rules of Discipline of the *Book of Order* (Part II of the Constitution) and references the language of those amendments.

The amendments proposed in Recommendation 2 and 3 regarding electronic meetings enshrines the option in the constitution; thus, congregations and councils of the church have the ecclesiastical authority to meet by electronic means.

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The Assembly Committee on Rules of Discipline approved Item ROD-06 2, 24/1. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item ROD-06 2, 378/1.

For the full report on ROD-06, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000083/business>.

## 22-D — G-1.0503

### MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION

#### G-1.0503 BUSINESS PROPER TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS (ROD-06 1)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall G-1.0503 in the Form of Government be amended as follows?**

(Deleted text is in ~~strike through~~; added text is in *italics*.)

**“G-1.0503 Business Proper to Congregational Meetings**

**Business to be transacted at meetings of the congregation shall be limited to matters related to the following: ...**

**... f. approving a plan for the creation of a joint congregational witness, or amending or dissolving the joint congregational witness (G-5.05);**

***g. receiving a disciplinary decision against a member of the congregation as required by D-9.0102.”***

#### Background and Rationale

##### Rationale for Recommendation 1

Adoption of these amendments is assumed in the proposed revision, which references the language of the amendments.

The proposed revision of the Rules of Discipline, to become Church Discipline, includes a new requirement for decisions with a finding of guilt in disciplinary processes against church members to be reported to the congregation of membership. This is to ensure that such findings are known to the body of membership as part of the overall goal of the restoration of trust in the community. It is a parallel to the requirement that disciplinary decisions against ministers of the Word and Sacrament be read to the entire presbytery of membership (current D-11.0700, and proposed D-9.0102b).

This provision is referenced in both proposed D-9.0102a (dealing with disciplinary decisions of sessions) and proposed D-9.0102c (dealing with disciplinary decisions of presbyteries against members of congregations). It should be noted that this meeting is also required when an alternative resolution is adopted, because of the requirement that such a resolution must be transmitted “to the clerk of session or the stated clerk, who shall report it according to the provisions of D-9.0102.”

The amendment is necessary because business at congregational meetings is limited to those matters specifically listed in G-1.0503.

**Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly to approve ROD-06. The adoption of these amendments assumes the adoption of the proposed revision of the Rules of Discipline of the *Book of Order* (Part II of the Constitution) and references the language of those amendments.

The amendment proposed in Recommendation 1 will synchronize the Form of Government with the Rules of Discipline.

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The Assembly Committee on Rules of Discipline approved Item ROD-06 1, 24/1. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item ROD-06 1, 378/1.

For the full report on ROD-06, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000083/business>.

## 22-N — G-3.0105

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF COUNCILS

#### G-3.0105 MEETINGS (ROD-06 3)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall G-3.0105 in the Form of Government be amended as follows?**

(Added text is in *italics*.)

**“G-3.0105 Meetings**

**“Meetings of councils shall be opened and closed with prayer. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, except when it is in contradiction to this Constitution. Councils may also make use of processes of discernment in their deliberations prior to a vote as agreed upon by the body.**

*“In accordance with the requirement of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, councils and their commissions and committees may meet electronically, provided that the technology employed allows for all members present to hear and be heard simultaneously. This includes joining one or more persons electronically to an otherwise in-person meeting. Councils should adopt special rules of order and standing rules to govern such meetings.”*

#### Background and Rationale

##### Rationale for Recommendation 3

The Foundations of Presbyterian Polity states that in our church, “decisions shall be reached in councils by vote, following opportunity for discussion and discernment, and a majority shall govern” (F-3.0205). At the core of our understanding of church governance is the notion that the Holy Spirit is present “where two of three are gathered,” and guides us in discerning the will of God in our decision making.

The absence of constitutional language authorizing electronic meetings has proved problematic at all levels of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) since the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, including in disciplinary processes. The proposed language would remedy that by authorizing electronic meetings in congregations and councils of the church, while still requiring that for proper discernment and decision making to occur, participants must be able to “hear and be heard simultaneously,” or as it is stated in our parliamentary authority, provide for the “opportunity for simultaneous aural communication” (RONR 12th ed. 9:31).

It is not the intent of these additions to require electronic meetings or to mandate any specific processes or procedures. Congregations and councils may make those determinations themselves. Additionally, the proposed revision of the Rules of Discipline sometimes explicitly states that meeting face to face is preferable. But as we all learned in 2020 and 2021, sometimes that is simply not possible. These additions provide the authorization required by our parliamentary authority to utilize electronic



meetings whenever a congregation, council, or entity of a council, determines that it should do so, and in accordance with whatever rules that congregation or council so adopts.

**Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly to approve ROD-06. The adoption of these amendments assumes the adoption of the proposed revision of the Rules of Discipline of the Book of Order (Part II of the Constitution) and references the language of those amendments.

The amendments proposed in Recommendation 2 and 3 regarding electronic meetings enshrines the option in the Constitution; thus, congregations and councils of the church have the ecclesiastical authority to meet by electronic means.

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The Assembly Committee on Rules of Discipline approved Item ROD-06 3, 24/1. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item ROD-06 3, 378/1.

For the full report on ROD-06, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000083/business>.

## 22-O — G-3.0106

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF COUNCILS

#### G-3.0106 ADMINISTRATION OF MISSION (HSB-05 9)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall G-3.0106 in the Form of Government be amended as follows?**

(Added text is in *italics*.)

#### **“G-3.0106 Administration of Mission**

**Mission determines the forms and structures needed for the church to do its work. Administration is the process by which a council implements its decisions. Administration enables the church to give effective witness in the world to God’s new creation in Jesus Christ and strengthens the church’s witness to the mission of the triune God.**

**Councils higher than the session may provide examples of policies and procedures that may be gathered into advisory handbooks. These examples illumine practices required by the Constitution but left to councils for specific implementation. Such handbooks may also offer information that enhances or secures the ministry of the particular council.**

**Each council shall develop a manual of administrative operations that will specify the form and guide the work of mission in that council.**

**All councils shall adopt and implement a sexual misconduct policy and a child and youth protection policy. *Each council’s policy shall include requirements for boundary training which includes the topic of sexual misconduct, and child sexual abuse prevention training for its members at least every thirty-six months.*”**

#### **Background and Rationale**

This proposed amendment originated as a recommendation from the GA Health Safety and Benefits Committee as Recommendation 9 attached to the Survivors of Sexual Misconduct Task Force recommendations. The HSB committee concluded that the denomination needs to mandate boundary training and child protection training for all members of councils including sessions of congregations, presbyteries, synods and the general assembly.

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The Assembly Committee on Health Safety and Benefits amended the original Recommendation 4 and then approved Item HSB-05 9, 36/2. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item HSB-05 9, 351/24.

For the full report on HSB-05, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000084/business>.

## 22-V — W-3.0414

### SACRAMENT

#### W-3.0414 COMMUNION (TWE-05 4)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall the second paragraph of W-3.0414 in the Directory of Worship be amended as follows?**

(Deleted text is in ~~strikethrough~~; added text is in *italics*.)

**“W-3.0414    Communion ...**

**“... When all have received the bread and cup, the remaining elements are placed on the table. ~~The minister of Word and Sacrament then leads the people in prayer.~~ *A prayer follows, thanking God for the gift of the Sacrament and asking for grace to live and serve faithfully until the coming of Christ’s realm in fullness.*”**

#### **Background and Rationale**

The recommendations in TWE-05 are in response to the following referral: 2018 Referral: Item 14-02. On Amending Portions of the Directory for Worship. Recommendation 1.–10. The Assembly Referred Recommendations 1.–10. To the Presbyterian Mission Agency, Office of Theology and Worship—From the Presbytery of Santa Fe (*Minutes*, 2018, Part I, pp. 14, 17, 355–58 of the print copy, pp. 1198–1205 of the electronic copy).

This amendment provides for more flexibility in the prayer after communion, including the use of a unison congregational prayer.

#### **Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly (2022) to approve Recommendation 4 of Item TWE-05. Recommendation 4 in this overture would eliminate the requirement that the prayer after communion be led only by a minister of the Word and Sacrament or ruling elder authorized by the presbytery to administer communion. The ACC finds that the language of W-3.0414 is unnecessarily restrictive and amendment is advisable.

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The Assembly Committee on Theology, Worship, and Education approved Item TWE-05 4, 31/0. The 225th General Assembly (2022) then approved Item TWE-05 4, 395/4.

For the full report on TWE-05, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000081/business>.

## 22-W — W-4.0403

### ORDINATION, INSTALLATION, AND COMMISSIONING

#### W-4.0403 ORDER OF WORSHIP (TWE-06)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall W-4.0403 in the Directory of Worship be amended as follows?**

(Added text is in *italics*.)

#### **“W-4.0403     Order of Worship**

**“A service of ordination, installation, or commissioning focuses on Christ and the joy and responsibility of serving him through the mission and ministry of the church. Following the sermon, the moderator (or designee) of the appropriate council briefly states the nature of the ministry to which persons are being ordained, installed, or commissioned. Those who are being ordained, installed, or commissioned gather at the baptismal font. The moderator (or designee) asks them the constitutional questions (see W-4.0404). A ruling elder asks the corresponding questions of the congregation. When all questions have been answered in the affirmative, those to be ordained will kneel, if able, for the laying on of hands and the prayer of ordination. (The presbytery commission lays on hands at the ordination of minister of the Word and Sacrament; its moderator may invite other ministers of the Word and Sacrament and ruling elders to participate. Members of the session lay on hands at the ordination of ruling elders and deacons; the session may invite other ruling elders and ministers of the Word and Sacrament to participate. Because ordination only takes place once for each office, the laying on of hands is not repeated.) Those previously ordained will stand, if able, along with the congregation, for the prayer of installation. *Signs and symbols of blessing may be conferred on the newly installed or commissioned person.* After this, the moderator makes the declaration of ordination, installation, or commissioning. Members of the session or presbytery welcome the newly ordained, installed, or commissioned person(s). In the case of the installation of a minister of the Word and Sacrament, persons may be invited to charge the minister of the Word and Sacrament and congregation to faithfulness in ministry and mutuality in relationship. When a minister of the Word and Sacrament is ordained or installed, it is appropriate for that person to preside at the Lord’s Supper in the same service; she or he may also give the blessing at the conclusion of the service. When ruling elders or deacons are ordained or installed, it is appropriate for one or more of them to give the charge to the congregation at the conclusion of the service.”**

#### **Background and Rationale**

[Editor’s note: The TWE Committee amended the overture following the advice of the Advisory Committee on the Constitution and the Presbyterian Mission Agency. This edited background and rationale is for the original overture’s proposed amendment. For the full rationale and original overture, see the PC-Biz link below.]

The laying on of hands is not a sacrament but an act of diverse meanings as witnessed in scripture and the Reformed tradition. It is affirmed by the *Book of Order* and Directory for Worship as an act that is appropriate to various situations in the worship of life of Presbyterians, an act that conveys the “gracious action of God and communicate[s] our grateful response” (W-1.0303, see also W-2.0202, W-3.0407, W-4.0401–.0403, W-5.0204).

The Confession of 1967 includes these words in 9.39–9.40: “... In recognition of special gifts of the Spirit and for the ordering of its life as a community, the church calls, trains, and authorizes certain members for leadership and oversight. The persons qualified for these duties in accordance with the polity of the church are set apart by ordination or other appropriate act and thus made responsible for their special ministries. The church thus orders its life as an institution with a constitution, government, officers, finances, and administrative rules. These are instruments of mission, not ends in themselves. ...”

Ordination is an act of the institution, one of the ways we order our life for mission. Candidates are ordained to a particular service, a call, emphasizing the pragmatic, functional nature of ordained ministry. As the *Book of Order* says, “In baptism, each Christian is called to ministry in Christ’s name. God calls some persons from the midst of congregations to *fulfill particular functions*, so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish. ...” (W-4.0401, emphasis added). And, “... The gifts of the Spirit are for building up the Church. Every action in worship is to glorify God and contribute to the good of the people. Worshipers and worship leaders must avoid actions that only call attention to themselves and fail to serve the needs of the whole congregation. ...” (W-2.0202)

The proposed change to the Directory of Worship is from restrictive language to permissive language: the laying on of hands would not be required at installations as there may be occasions when, because of ecumenical considerations or a candidate’s preferences regarding physical contact, it would not be appropriate or edifying. In such a change we reaffirm Calvin’s own guide for worship practices: “But love will best judge what may hurt or edify; and if we let love be our guide, all will be safe” (*Institutes*, IV.x.30).

### **Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

This advice applies to the original overture.

Should the 225th General Assembly (2022) desire to authorize some act of the congregation to signify its blessing upon the newly installed or commissioned person, the Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises that W-4.0403 be amended as follows (suggestions appear in ~~strike through~~ and *italics*): “... [Because ordination only takes place once for each office, the laying on of hands is not repeated.] ~~The moderator may invite the commission and all members of the congregation to participate in the laying on of hands for commissioning and blessing the newly installed minister of Word and Sacrament, ruling elders, or deacons.~~ Those previously ordained will stand, if able, along with the congregation, for the prayer of installation. [*Signs and symbols of blessing may be conferred on the newly installed or commissioned person.*] After this, the moderator makes the declaration of ordination, installation, or commissioning. Members of the session or presbytery welcome the newly ordained, installed, or commissioned person(s).” (The remainder of the paragraph remains unchanged.)

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The Assembly Committee on Theology, Worship, and Education amended and approved Item TWE-06, 27/3. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item TWE-06, 371/23.

For the full report on TWE-06, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000081/business>.

## 22-X — W-5.0104

### WORSHIP AND PERSONAL LIFE

#### W-5.0104 HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP (TWE-05 5)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall W-5.0104 in the Directory of Worship be amended as follows?**

(Added text is in *italics*.)

#### **“W-5.0104 Household Worship**

**“We respond to God’s grace in the context of personal relationships, particularly when Christians who live together worship together. *Household worship is a central and important practice within the Reformed tradition, an important means of faith formation.* Opportunities for household or family worship include: sabbath-keeping and rhythms of daily prayer; Bible reading, study, or memorization; prayers before meals; singing hymns, psalms, and spiritual songs; and expressions of giving, sharing, and service to others. Congregations are encouraged to nurture and equip households and families for these practices.”**

#### **Background and Rationale**

The recommendations in TWE-05 are in response to the following referral: 2018 Referral: Item 14-02. On Amending Portions of the Directory for Worship. Recommendation 1.–10. The Assembly Referred Recommendations 1.–10. To the Presbyterian Mission Agency, Office of Theology and Worship—From the Presbytery of Santa Fe (*Minutes*, 2018, Part I, pp. 14, 17, 355–58 of the print copy, pp. 1198–1205 of the electronic copy).

This amendment asserts the importance of household worship in faith formation.

#### **Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly (2022) that this item does not present issues of polity. Recommendation 5 of Item TWE-05 would add a sentence emphasizing the role of household worship. If the 225th General Assembly (2022) believes that the intent of Item TWE-05 Recommendation 5 is appropriate, the ACC advises that the proposed language is clear and consistent with that intent.

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The Assembly Committee on Theology, Worship, and Education approved Item TWE-05 5, 31/0. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item TWE-05 5, 395/4.

For the full report on TWE-05, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000081/business>.

## 22-Y — W-5.0104

### WORSHIP AND PERSONAL LIFE

#### W-5.0104 HOUSEHOLD WORSHIP (TWE-05 6)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall W-5.0104 in the Directory of Worship be amended to add a third paragraph as follows?** (Added text is in *italics*.)

**“W-5.0104 Household Worship ...**

*“... Prayers of thanks and blessing, and lament at the household table draw upon ancient Jewish practice and the examples of Jesus, his disciples, and the early Christian community. Mealtimes provide opportunities to give thanks to God’s works of creation and redemption by which we are sustained for Christ’s service. We respond with heartfelt thanks and praise in the sharing of our daily bread.”*

#### **Background and Rationale**

The recommendations in TWE-05 are in response to the following referral: 2018 Referral: Item 14-02. On Amending Portions of the Directory for Worship. Recommendation 1.–10. The Assembly Referred Recommendations 1.–10. To the Presbyterian Mission Agency, Office of Theology and Worship—From the Presbytery of Santa Fe (*Minutes*, 2018, Part I, pp. 14, 17, 355–58 of the print copy, pp. 1198–1205 of the electronic copy).

This amendment stresses the significance of mealtimes prayers in household worship.

#### **Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly (2022) that this item does not present issues of polity. Recommendation 6 in TWE-05 would add a paragraph emphasizing the role of mealtimes prayers to the section on household worship. If the 225th General Assembly (2022) finds Recommendation 6 is appropriate, the ACC advises that the proposed language is clear and consistent with that intent.

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The Assembly Committee on Theology, Worship, and Education approved Item TWE-05 6, 30/1. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item TWE-05 6, 395/4.

For the full report on TWE-05, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000081/business>.

## 22-AA — W-5.0204

### WORSHIP AND THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

#### W-5.0204 PASTORAL CARE (TWE-05 7)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall the third paragraph of W-5.0204 in the Directory of Worship be amended as follows?** (Deleted text is in ~~strike through~~; added text is in *italics*.)

#### **“W-5.0204 Pastoral Care ...**

**“... All members are called to take part in the ministry of pastoral care, visiting the sick, supporting the weak, and comforting those who mourn. Ruling elders, deacons, and ministers of the Word and Sacrament have particular responsibility for the exercise of pastoral care within the community of faith. Those with special gifts and appropriate training may be called to *the particular specialized pastoral care ministries of pastoral counseling, or chaplaincy*. In certain circumstances, persons may need to be referred to other qualified and credentialed professionals to receive appropriate counseling and care.”**

#### **Background and Rationale**

The recommendations in TWE-05 are in response to the following referral: 2018 Referral: Item 14-02. On Amending Portions of the Directory for Worship. Recommendation 1.–10. The Assembly Referred Recommendations 1.–10. To the Presbyterian Mission Agency, Office of Theology and Worship—From the Presbytery of Santa Fe (*Minutes*, 2018, Part I, pp. 14, 17, 355–58 of the print copy, pp. 1198–1205 of the electronic copy).

This amendment includes spiritual direction among the examples of specialized ministries of pastoral care while seeking to avoid the appearance of an exhaustive list.

#### **Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly (2022) that Recommendation 7 of Item TWE-05 presents issues that the assembly should consider. This recommendation would add “spiritual direction” to the already named ministries of pastoral care. It has added “particular specialized” and “such as” so that the list created by the addition of “spiritual direction” would not be presumed to be exhaustive. However, the addition of more language is counter to recent constitutional changes that give various councils parameters and responsibility to define their own practices. Decisions about appropriate validated ministries are properly left to the individual presbyteries. In addition, the creation of a list invites more items to be added to it.

The ACC finds that if the assembly believes it is appropriate to expand the understanding of pastoral care ministries, it can be better accomplished, while addressing the issues presented above, by striking “the ministries of pastoral counseling or chaplaincy” in W-5.0204 and inserting “particular specialized pastoral care ministries” so that it would read “Those with special gifts and appropriate



training may be called to ~~the ministries of pastoral counseling or chaplaincy~~ [*particular specialized pastoral care ministries*].”

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The Assembly Committee on Theology, Worship, and Education amended and approved Item TWE-05 7, 32/0. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item TWE-05 7, 395/4.

For the full report on TWE-05, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000081/business>.

## 22-BB — W-5.0204

### WORSHIP AND THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

#### W-5.0204 PASTORAL CARE (TWE-05 8)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall the fourth paragraph of W-5.0204 in the Directory of Worship be amended as follows?** (Deleted text is in ~~strike through~~; added text is in *italics*.)

#### **“W-5.0204 Pastoral Care...**

**“Services of wholeness and healing are one way of enacting the church’s ministry of pastoral care. The central element in these services is prayer, calling upon God’s saving grace or giving thanks for healing received, *in life and in death, in body, mind, or spirit*. A service of wholeness includes the proclamation of the Word, focusing on the promise of *peace and abundant life in Christ*. Prayer may be enacted through the laying on of hands and anointing with oil, provided that these actions are carefully introduced and interpreted: healing ~~always~~ *in its many forms* comes as a gift from God, not as a product *an accomplishment* of human prayer. The Lord’s Supper is a fitting way to seal the promise of wholeness proclaimed in the Word. Services of wholeness are to be authorized by the session and are under the direction of the minister of Word and Sacrament, but may involve leadership from ruling elders, deacons, and others with gifts for prayer. They may take place on a regular basis, as an occasional event, or as a part of the Service for the Lord’s Day.”**

#### **Background and Rationale**

The recommendations in TWE-05 are in response to the following referral: 2018 Referral: Item 14-02. On Amending Portions of the Directory for Worship. Recommendation 1.–10. The Assembly Referred Recommendations 1.–10. To the Presbyterian Mission Agency, Office of Theology and Worship—From the Presbytery of Santa Fe (*Minutes*, 2018, Part I, pp. 14, 17, 355–58 of the print copy, pp. 1198–1205 of the electronic copy).

This amendment offers theological and pastoral perspective on the nature of healing and wholeness: that healing happens in a variety of ways and wholeness is not necessarily synonymous with physical recovery.

#### **Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly (2022) to approve Recommendation 8 of Item TWE-05. This recommendation would amend the paragraph describing services of wholeness and healing. The ACC finds that the first proposed amendment, the insertion of the words “in life and in death, in body, mind, or spirit;” the deletion of “abundant” and insertion of “ultimate well-being through” are unnecessary stylistic changes that do not present issues of polity. The ACC finds that a) deletion of the word “always” and insertion of “in its many forms” and b)

deletion of “a product” and insertion of “not an accomplishment of human prayer” are helpful clarifications.

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The Assembly Committee on Theology, Worship, and Education approved Item TWE-05 8, 31/0. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item TWE-05 8, 395/4.

For the full report on TWE-05, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000081/business>.

## 22-EE — D-10.0303

### COMMUNICATE DETERMINATION

#### D-10.0303 PETITION FOR REVIEW (ROD-04 1)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Shall the first paragraph of D-10.0303 in the current Rules of Discipline be amended as follows?**

(Deleted text is in ~~strike~~through; added text is in *italics*.)

#### **“D-10.0303    Petition for Review**

**“If no charges are filed, the investigating committee shall file a written report of that fact alone with the clerk of session or stated clerk of the presbytery, and notify ~~the person who submitted the written statement~~, *in writing, both the person who has been accused and the person making the accusation.*”**

#### **Background and Rationale**

[Editor’s note: The assembly approved these proposed amendments to the current Rules of Discipline in the event that the Rules of Discipline will not be replaced by Church Discipline. If Church Discipline is approved by majority vote of presbyteries, it will replace the entire current Rules of Discipline, including any amendments to the current Rules of Discipline.]

Accusations are extremely easy to make, whether made by an individual or by a person doing so on behalf of another. When the credibility of those accusations has been substantiated, the Constitution clearly and unambiguously states that an investigative committee “shall promptly inform the accused” if charges are to be made. However, it is silent about the accused’s right to be notified when no charges are to be filed, even though written notice of this outcome is provided to the accuser. When individuals in positions of trust have gone through the protracted ordeal of being forced to defend themselves against charges and accusations that can neither be substantiated by objective facts and/or are deemed to be completely untrue, equity requires they be expeditiously notified of this conclusion as well. This omission constitutes a procedural error and undermines the justice process.

The Constitution’s current language also conveys an impression of bias and partiality, in that it describes one member (the “accused”) by way of labeling but uses supportive and affirming language to describe the other (“the person who submitted the written statement”). Labeling one and not the other is harmful because, consciously or subliminally, it fosters a presumption of guilt on the accused and freedom from guilt on the person making the accusation. Reframing the Constitution’s language removes these false assumptions and more faithfully takes into consideration the purpose of church discipline (D-1.01011).

The additional word revisions would, respectively, promote language consistency throughout the document and provide grammatical clarity.

### **Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)**

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly to disapprove ROD-04.

ROD-03 requests the amendment of the current Rules of Discipline. The proposed Church Discipline revision is before the same assembly which would, if approved, replace the current Rules of Discipline section of the *Book of Order*. Should the General Assembly affirmatively adopt Church Discipline as proposed by the Rules of Discipline Task Force, the ACC would recommend that this overture be answered by the assembly's action on Church Discipline (ROD-03).

Should the General Assembly not adopt Church Discipline as proposed by the Rules of Discipline Task Force, the ACC advises the General Assembly as follows:

The overture proposes three changes to the current Rules of Discipline.

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution recommends to the 225th General Assembly that Recommendation 1 be approved. Recommendation 1 changes the requirement that, if no charges are filed, the clerk or stated clerk notifies in writing both the person who has been accused and the person making the accusation. Equity requires that both parties be advised of the investigating committee's decision not to file charges and is an appropriate change to the Rules of Discipline.

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The Assembly Committee on Rules of Discipline amended and approved Item ROD-04 1, 18/4. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item ROD-04 1, 326/19.

For the full report on ROD-04, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000083/business>.

## 22-FF — AMENDING “THE ACCUSED”

### AMENDING THE USE OF “THE ACCUSED” IN THE CURRENT RULES OF DISCIPLINE (ROD-04 2)

The 225th General Assembly (2022) directed the Stated Clerk to send the following proposed amendment to the presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes:

**Further, that all other sections referring to “the accused” in the current Rules of Discipline be modified to read *the person accused*.**

#### Background and Rationale

[Editor’s note: The assembly approved the above proposed amendments to the current Rules of Discipline in the event that the Rules of Discipline are not be replaced by Church Discipline. If Church Discipline is approved by a majority vote of presbyteries, it will replace the entire current Rules of Discipline, including any amendments to the current Rules of Discipline.]

Accusations are extremely easy to make, whether made by an individual or by a person doing so on behalf of another. When the credibility of those accusations has been substantiated, the Constitution clearly and unambiguously states that an investigative committee “shall promptly inform the accused” if charges are to be made. However, it is silent about the accused’s right to be notified when no charges are to be filed, even though written notice of this outcome is provided to the accuser. When individuals in positions of trust have gone through the protracted ordeal of being forced to defend themselves against charges and accusations that can neither be substantiated by objective facts and/or are deemed to be completely untrue, equity requires they be expeditiously notified of this conclusion as well. This omission constitutes a procedural error and undermines the justice process.

The Constitution’s current language also conveys an impression of bias and partiality, in that it describes one member (the “accused”) by way of labeling but uses supportive and affirming language to describe the other (“the person who submitted the written statement”). Labeling one and not the other is harmful because, consciously or subliminally, it fosters a presumption of guilt on the accused and freedom from guilt on the person making the accusation. Reframing the Constitution’s language removes these false assumptions and more faithfully takes into consideration the purpose of church discipline (D-1.01011).

The additional word revisions would, respectively, promote language consistency throughout the document and provide grammatical clarity.

#### Advice—From the Advisory Committee on the Constitution (ACC)

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the 225th General Assembly to disapprove ROD-04.

ROD-03 requests the amendment of the current Rules of Discipline. The proposed Church Discipline revision is before the same assembly which would, if approved, replace the current Rules of Discipline section of the *Book of Order*. Should the General Assembly affirmatively adopt Church Discipline as proposed by the Rules of Discipline Task Force, the ACC would recommend that this overture be answered by the assembly’s action on Church Discipline (ROD-03).

Should the General Assembly not adopt Church Discipline as proposed by the Rules of Discipline Task Force, the Advisory Committee on the Constitution advises the General Assembly as follows:

The overture proposes three changes to the current Rules of Discipline.

The Advisory Committee on the Constitution recommends to the 225th General Assembly that Recommendation 2 presents issues that should be considered.

Recommendation 2 would amend “the accused” to “the person accused,” in order to neutralize what appears to be bias against one who is accused of an offense as opposed to the person who submits the written statement. However, the identification of “the person who submits the written statement,” is appropriate within the context of the Rules of Discipline in that a person may be filing a statement from their own personal knowledge; or, may be filing a written statement based upon their knowledge of information from any source that an offense has occurred (See D-10.0101(b)). The term “the accused” accurately reflects the position one is in when an accusation has been made. It should also be noted that within the Rules of Discipline, being accused of an offense does not imply in any way that the person is guilty of the offense. Should the General Assembly believe that this language should be adopted, there is no constitutional impediment in making such a change.

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The Assembly Committee on Rules of Discipline amended and approved Item ROD-04 2, 18/4. The 225th General Assembly (2022) approved Item ROD-04 2, 326/19.

For the full report on ROD-04, go to <https://www.pc-biz.org/#/committee/3000083/business>.

November 1.2022

To: Presbytery of Detroit

From: Administrative Commission Camp Westminster (Westminster Church of Detroit)

1. Adam Delezenne appointed Executive Director.
2. The AC will now concentrate on the development of a governance structure.

Martha R. Blenman, Chairperson



**Report of the Administrative Commission for St. John's Presbyterian Church**

**November 2022**

Dear Members and Friends of the Presbytery of Detroit,

The Administrative Commission for St. John's Presbyterian Church, acting as the Session, continues to work collaboratively with Commissioned Pastor Caleb Jones and the committee leadership of St. John's to support the church in our mutual goal of a healthy and vibrant worshipping community. On November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022, we will hold our first annual congregational meeting since 2019, electing Elders and Deacons from the congregation. With the devotion and dedication of the St. John's membership, Pastor Jones, and the Administrative Commission, it is hoped that together, we will set St. John's on a path to a sustainable future. Church officer training has been completed and building issues are being addressed. While financial challenges remain, working together in the unity of the Spirit, we are hopeful and encouraged with the direction that St. John's is headed in, and grateful for the support of the congregation and the community.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Lindsey Anderson and Rev. Laura Kelsey, Co-Moderators

Elder Rosy Latimore

Elder Tim Ngare

Rev. Paul Stunkel, HR

Commissioned Ruling Elder Joshua Archey, Clerk

**Littlefield Administrative Commission Report  
November 19, 2022**

Littlefield Administration Commission, consisting of Kenneth Kaibel, Kenneth Hollowell, Wendy Beck and Timothy Marvil, continues to monitor the membership and property and records of the Littlefield Presbyterian church.

We are requesting 30 minutes of docket time at the November 19 meeting to celebrate the life and mission of Littlefield Church.

Since our last report, we have listed the building with MiRealSource. We received two offers at above asking price and accepted one. The sale has not been closed as of the writing of this report.

Kenneth Kaibel (TE),  
Chairperson

## **Milford AC Report: November 4, 2022**

### **Members:**

Mark Dunny  
Bryan Smith

Alexander Haines  
Dana Stonerook

Debbie Lennis  
Marjorie Wilhelmi

### **Actions to date:**

1. Elected Bryan Smith as our chairperson, Marjorie Wilhelmi as recording clerk.
2. Attended Milford Session meeting of October 18 to introduce ourselves and our charter to the session. Posed three initial questions for their written response:
  - a. How would you describe the way things are going in your church right now?
  - b. What do you think are the 2 – 3 contributing factors?
  - c. What do you see as a way forward?
3. Collected key documents to understand current status of the congregation, including:
  - a. Church mission and vision statements
  - b. Most current annual report
  - c. Church by-laws
  - d. Session structure / committee structure, including names and contact details of chair persons, clerks and members
  - e. Current budget and financial statements
  - f. Personnel policies and procedures
  - g. Session minutes for 2022
  - h. Holy Cow Survey results
4. Convened small group Listening Circles with the session on November 1 to hear their assessment of their feedback on the initial questions.
5. Identified next steps to include:
  - a. conduct listening circles with the Staff, Self-Study Team, Choir, Deacons;
  - b. meet with COM Cluster to learn their support plan for Milford;
  - c. return to next session meeting with an initial framework for moving forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Wilhelmi  
Parish Associate, Kirk in the Hills

November 7, 2022

To: Presbytery of Detroit

From: Administrative Commission Joslyn Presbyterian Church

- The Administrative Commission received training from the Stated Clerk and the Associate Executive Presbyter
- The Administrative Commission obtained the records of Joslyn Church from the Stated Clerk and are in the process of reviewing

Rev. Beth Delaney, Chairperson

Debbie Lennis

Edwin Fabre

COMMISSION REPORT  
ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS  
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

\*

The Commission to **install Mark Mares as Associate Pastor** was convened with prayer by the moderator, Jasmine Smart, at 2:30, on October 31, 2022 at **First Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor**. The Commission members present were:

**Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers,  
First Ann Arbor**

**Elder Jennifer Day, First Ann Arbor**

**Rev. Christina Hallam, Northminster**

**Elder Kevin Smith, First Warren**

The Commission approved the seating of the following members as corresponding members:

**The Rev. Dr. Miriam Barnes, Zeeland Classis, Reformed Church of America  
The Rev. Eric Barnes, Zeeland Classis (RCA)**

The Commission invited the following persons to participate in the worship service:

**Rev. David Prentice-Hyers, First Ann Arbor**

**Rev. Jay Sanderford, First Ann Arbor**

**Rev. Megan Berry, First Ann Arbor**

**Rev. Hannah Lundberg, First Ann Arbor**

**Jenna Mares, First Ann Arbor**

**David VanderMeer, First Ann Arbor**

**Beca Torres-Davenport, First Ann Arbor**

**Dr. Alberto La Rosa Rojas, Western Theological Seminary**

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, where it **installed Rev. Mark Mares as Minister of Word and Sacrament to the position of Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Ann Arbor. In the course of the installation service, Mark Mares gave affirmation to the obligations undertaken in the ordination questions found in W-4.0404.** Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by Rev. Mares.

Rev. Jasmine Smart  
Moderator

Date: October 31, 2022

COMMISSION REPORT  
ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS  
PRESBYTERY OF DETROIT

\*

The Commission to **install Kathlyn R. Ferguson-Nealand as Designated Pastor of First Presbyterian Church Mount Clemens to the ordered ministry of teaching elder.** Was convened with prayer by the moderator, Kevin Smith, at 2:30pm, on October 9th, 2022 at First Presbyterian Church Mount Clemens. The Commission members present were:

**The Rev. Eddie Jusino**  
**The Rev. Adam Grosch**

**of Farmington Presbyterian Church**

**of Lake Shore Presbyterian Church**

**Elder Judy Jasobs of First Presbyterian Church Mount Clemens**

**Elder Rosy Laitimore of First Presbyterian Church Birmingham**

After approving the order of worship, the Commission proceeded to worship, where it **installed Kathlyn R. Ferguson-Nealand as Designated Pastor of First Presbyterian Church Mount Clemens to the validated ministry as Designated Pastor. In the course of the ordination service, Kathlyn R. Ferguson-Nealand gave affirmation to the obligations undertaken in the ordination questions found in W-4.4003.** Upon conclusion of the worship service, the commission and congregation were dismissed with prayer and benediction by Rev. Kathlyn R. Ferguson-Nealand.

Kevin Smith  
Vice-Moderator

Date: October 9th, 2022

### **Update from the Moderator**

At the September 24 meeting of the Presbytery of Detroit, a motion was made from the floor: "... that the Moderator in collaboration with the Committee on Nominations of the Presbytery of Detroit, select three people whose committee or any individual which was not involved with the approval of \$10,000.00 separation payment given to Rev. Dr. Floretta Barbee-Watkins after her resignation, to analyze and audit the why and how of this transaction, for proper procedures/complete transparencies, and report its findings to this presbytery no later than the 2023 January Presbytery meeting." The motion passed with 38 Yes votes and 34 No votes. Nominations Committee (of which the Moderator is a part) quickly identified three individuals who accepted this role and have begun the work:

Rev. Gretchen Denton, Honorably Retired;  
Rev. John Judson, First Birmingham;  
Elder Sharon Moore, St. John's.

The team is already hard at work and plans to have a report for the February meeting, since the January meeting is not a business meeting. We will continue to keep you updated as this progresses.

In Christ,

Rev. Jasmine Smart, Moderator  
November 2022

# PAPER F-11

Approved w/o Exception	Approved	Appr w/ Exception	Not Approved at This Time
Royak Oak, First	Waterford, Community	Auburn Hills	Detroit, Trinity
Troy, First	Berkley, Greenfield	Detroit, St. John	Saline, First
Brighton, First	Highland Park, Park United	Detroit, Calvary	Troy, Northminster
Rochester, University	Royal Oak, Starr	Livonia, St. Timothy	Detroit-Westminster
Belleville	Detroit, Broadstreet	Commerce Twp, Crossroads	Milan-Peoples
Ann Arbor, Calvary	Clarkston, Sashabaw		
Berkley, Drayton			
Novi, Faith Community			
Ypsilanti, First			
Ann Arbor, Westminster			
Ann Arbor, Northside			
Milford			
Fort Gratiot, Lakeshore			
Warren, Celtic Cross			
Lincoln Park			
Taylor, Southminster			
Allen Park			
Detroit, Jefferson Ave.			
Ann Arbor, First			
Beverly Hills, Northbrook			
Plymouth, First			
Birmingham, First			
South Lyon, First			
Howell, First			
White Lake			
Detroit, Jefferson Avenue			
Grosse Pointe Farms, Memorial			
Shelby Twp., St. Thomas			
Mt. Clemens, First			
Berkley, Drayton			
Beverly Hills, Northbrook			
Southfield, KPCMD			
Port Huron-First			
Berkley, New Hope			
Livonia, St. Paul			
Northville			
Farmington, First			
Grosse Pointe Woods			
Pontiac, First			
Bloomfield Hills, Kirk in the Hills			
Detroit, Calvin			
Detroit-Gratiot			
St. Clair Shores, Lake Shore			
Warren, First			