

MINUTES of the PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA-SYRACUSE
STATED MEETING November 3, 2018
United Church of Fayetteville, New York

The Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse held a Stated Meeting on Saturday, November 3, 2018 at the United Church of Fayetteville, New York. The body gathered at 9:00 a.m. for a time of learning about and experiencing the role of jazz music in worship under the leadership of the Rev. Bill Carter, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Clarks Summit, PA.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by teaching elder Shawn Reyburn, who opened with prayer.

Gathering of the People of God:

Moderator Reyburn introduced Rev. Jeremy Campbell, Stated Clerk for Elizabeth and Newton Presbyteries in New Jersey. Elder Linda Russell, Chair of the Leadership Team, made a motion that Jeremy Campbell be named Stated Clerk Pro-Tem. Motion was seconded and **voted APPROVED**. Elder Russell then made a motion that Elder/CLP Gail Banks be named as Recording Secretary. Motion was seconded and **voted APPROVED**.

Moderator Reyburn declared a quorum was present, attested by the Stated Clerk.

The Moderator then introduced Rev. Dr. Linda Even who welcomed all present on behalf of the host church. First-time ministers and commissioners were introduced and welcomed. Corresponding members were introduced and seated, and guests were also welcomed.

At the suggestion of our Stated Clerk, a motion was made, seconded and **voted APPROVED** that the following persons be given Temporary Membership in our Presbytery for the terms of their contracts: Interim Rev. Louise Barger, Fulton; Interim Rev. Anne Marie Meyerhoffer, Marcellus; and Interim Rev. Deborah Johnson, Oswego.

The Presbytery then gathered for worship.

The Rev. Bill Carter brought his "Presbybop Music" to the worship service and gave an inspiring message. The Rev. Dr. Linda Even officiated the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Following worship the body gathered for the Work of the People of God.

Moderator Reyburn called for a motion to approve the docket. With the addition of the All Saints' Celebration, the Records and Overtures Work Group report, and the Communications Coordinator's report, the motion was made, seconded and **voted APPROVED**.

The Moderator then asked for approval of the Consent Agenda. It was asked that item #2 (Nominating Committee) and Recommendation R-4 from the Leadership Team Report be pulled, thus leaving the following items in the Consent Agenda: #1 (Approval of the minutes of the August 14, 2018 Presbytery meeting; #3 (Leadership Team report items A-1 through A-25); and #4 (Leadership Team recommendations R-1, R-2, R-3, R-5 and R-8). A motion was made and seconded and the Consent Agenda was **voted APPROVED AS AMENDED**. It was noted that the 2019 Budget (R-8) was included under the Consent Agenda but that questions would be

entertained later in the meeting. No questions were asked. The Leadership Team report covering items A-1 through A-25 and recommendations R-1 through R-8 is included in these minutes as **APPENDIX A**.

Leadership Team Chair, Elder Linda Russell, and Rev. Tom Oaks, chair of the Visioning for the Future Work Group, reported on the CNY Missional Structures Working Group that includes the Presbyteries of Northern New York, Utica, Susquehanna Valley and Cayuga-Syracuse. Linda encouraged anyone interested in participating with this work group to contact her. They then addressed plans to seek Presbytery leadership including re-naming the position to Resource Presbyterian in the context of our CNY Presbyteries Partnership and the work of the proposed CNY Missional Structures Working Group.

A question was raised about Presbytery's search for a Stated Clerk. Linda reported that the search is on-going, reassuring the body that in the meantime assistance is available from the Synod's Stated Clerk as well as the Stated Clerks in our neighboring Presbyteries.

Elder Russell then called Rev. Garrett Anderson, Chair of the Ministry Work Group (MWG), to address **recommendation R-4** [see Appendix A] that Presbytery commission the MWG to receive new permanent members into Presbytery, with the stipulation that all actions be reported to the Leadership Team and Presbytery. Following discussion, the recommendation was **AMENDED** to add "to receive new permanent members previously ordained by PC(USA) or other denominations" so that the final recommendation read: "That Presbytery commission the Ministry Work Group to receive new permanent members who are previously ordained into the Presbytery, with the stipulation that all actions be reported to the Leadership Team and Presbytery." The amended recommendation was moved, seconded and **voted APPROVED**.

Garrett next addressed **recommendation R-6** [see Appendix A] that Presbytery concur with the vote of the First Presbyterian Church of Skaneateles taken at a congregational meeting held at the church on October 21, 2018 to dissolve the pastoral relationship between the church and the Rev. Dr. Craig Lindsey effective November 11, 2018. Discussion was held including that the Ministry Work Group (MWG) is seeking a Bridge Pastor while the congregation will be searching for an Interim Pastor; and assurance was given that the MWG is handling Pastor-to-Pastor care for Rev. Lindsey. A motion was made, seconded and **voted APPROVED**.

Garrett then addressed **recommendation R-7** [see Appendix A] that the Presbytery concur with the action of the First Presbyterian Church of Skaneateles to confer the status of Pastor Emeritus on the Rev. Dr. Craig Lindsey. After discussion, a motion was made, seconded and **voted APPROVED**.

The MWG stressed that all churches are required to have a Child/Youth Protection Policy in place. The Boundary Awareness Training by Dr. David Olsen that took place at First Presbyterian Church, Liverpool on October 24 was well received. A Pastors' Retreat will be held November 14-16 at Christ the King Retreat Center; and a Saturday Morning with Ray Jones open to pastors and laity will be held at Pebble Hill Church, November 17, 9AM-12Noon.

Leadership Team Chair, Linda Russell, thanked Presbytery for the opportunity to attend the Mid Council Leaders Gathering in Chicago in October and reported that it was a valuable experience for both networking and gathering information regarding the work of a Stated Clerk. She described how attendees also engaged in a one-day experience led by Gregory C. Ellison II in “Fearless Dialogues” which focuses on “creating unique spaces for unlikely partners to engage in hard heartfelt conversations that see gifts in others, hear value in stories, and work for change and positive transformation in self and other.”

The body then gathered around the table for fellowship and lunch.

As the body reconvened in the sanctuary, Moderator Reyburn led a meaningful All Saints’ Celebration, uplifting all churches in the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse by the lighting of candles and prayer.

Upon reconvening for the work of the people, Leadership Team Chair, Linda Russell, reported for the Nominating Committee Chair, Elder Donna Hunt, who was unable to be present. The recommendation from the Nominating Committee that had been pulled from the Consent Agenda (Appendix A, item R-2)) was now put before the body. The recommendation to elect Elder Roger Dilmore (Auburn-Westminster) to Presbytery’s Permanent Judicial Commission, Class of 2019, was presented. A time for additional nominations was given. Hearing none, a motion was made, seconded and **voted APPROVED** to close the nominations. The recommendation to elect RE Roger Dilmore to the Permanent Judicial Commission Class of 2019 was moved, seconded and **voted APPROVED**.

The Nominating Committee reported that it is seeking seven persons for the Leadership Team, two for the Class of 2021 and five for the Class of 2022; an additional five members for the Nominating Committee itself; a delegate to the Synod Mission and Ministries Commission for 2019-2020; delegates for Synod Assembly in 2020; and a candidate for Presbytery Treasurer to replace Gordie Howard at the end of May. Persons who are interested, or know of someone willing to participate, were invited to contact the Nominating Committee Chair, Donna Hunt.

Elder Russell then presented the report of the Records and Overture (R&O) Work Group on behalf of Rev. Sandy Sanderson, chair of R&O, that ten sessions were held in October and November for the annual review of session minutes and records. 20 churches had their churches’ minutes and records read and approved (Amboy Belle-Isle, Auburn-First, Auburn-Westminster, Cazenovia, Chittenango, Collamer, DeWitt-Pebble Hill, Fulton, Liverpool, Marcellus, Mexico, Onondaga Hill, Oswego, Otisco, Parish-New Hope, Skaneateles, Syracuse-Park Central, Syracuse-Westminster, Weedsport, and Whitelaw). Minutes and records for 17 churches were not submitted, and therefore not read (Aurora, Baldwinsville, East Syracuse, Fayetteville, Hannibal, Jamesville, King Ferry, LaFayette, Morrisville, North Syracuse (Northminster), Port Byron, Scipioville, Sennett, Syracuse-Korean, Syracuse-South Valley, Syracuse-Robinson Elmwood, and Taunton).

The Work Group thanked host churches Auburn-First, Fayetteville, Fulton, Liverpool and Syracuse-Westminster for their hospitality; Jill Fandrich, Steve Plank, Susan S. Smith and Linda

Harrington for their assistance with the reading sessions; and all the clerks of sessions who participated in the review process.

The Records and Overtures Work Group announced they will assemble a small task group together to review the proposed amendments that came from the 223rd General Assembly. Recommendations from this task group will be shared with the Leadership Team and then brought to Presbytery for vote at the February 9, 2019 presbytery meeting. Folks who have a particular interest in serving with this group were invited to contact Rev. Sandy Sanderson or Linda Russell.

Leadership Team Chair, Linda Russell, drew attention to the written reports from our Commissioners to 2018 Synod Assembly, Rev. James Moore and Elder Bernie Epperson, who could not be present at this meeting. Both commissioners expressed great enthusiasm about their participation. The reports are **attached** as **APPENDIX B** and **APPENDIX C**.

Presbytery's Communications Coordinator, Sarah Buckshot, gave an overview of 'Best practices for promoting events' and handed out a flyer which included the following points:

1. Make a plan at least one month before an event.
2. Use all of your social media platforms.
3. Create an event poster and save as a .jpeg to post on social media. Posters should be clean, limited copy with answers to the 5 W's. Include cost, contact information and links.
4. Do not take a picture of the poster.
5. Create a Facebook event. Use previous event photos. Update often.
6. Invite everyone who likes your page to the event. Don't be shy.
7. Add event to local media—3 weeks before the event.
8. Facebook advertising works.
9. Gentle pressure relentlessly applied.
10. Ask members to share even if they can't attend.
11. Post event photos.
12. Post a thank-you.

Sarah then offered to make herself available to assist anyone who needs help in their church. Sarah can be reached at CaySyrNews@gmail.com to set up a time.

Sharing of Good News: A plea to volunteer at Vanderkamp was made, and the Godly Play program at Baldwinsville was described.

With no further business, the meeting concluded at 2:25 pm with a resolution of thanks to our hosts at the United Church of Fayetteville and a closing prayer led by Moderator Reyburn.

CLP Gail Banks, Cayuga-Syracuse, Recording Clerk
Minutes attested by:

Rev. Jeremy Clark
Stated Clerk Pro-Tem

ROLL

Ruling Elder Commissioners present:

Amboy Belle Isle	Robert M. Armstrong
Auburn, First	
Auburn Westminster (2)	Roger Dilmore, Christina Thornton
Aurora	
Baldwinsville (2)	Luella Oakes
Cazenovia (2)	
Chittenango	Charles Albee
Collamer	
Dewitt, Pebble Hill (2)	
East Syracuse	
Fayetteville	Paula Marquart
Fulton	
Hannibal	
Jamesville	
King Ferry	Neil Rotach
LaFayette	
Liverpool	Patricia Gallagher
Marcellus (3)	
Mexico	Susan Silliman Smith
Morrisville	
North Syracuse, Northminster	
Oswego	David W. King
Otisco	
Parish, New Hope (2)	David W. Sperling
Port Byron (2)	
Scipioville (2)	
Sennett (2)	
Skaneateles (5)	David Graham
Syracuse, Isaiah's Table	Pearl Fisher
Syracuse, Korean (2)	
Syracuse, Onondaga Hill (2)	Ryan Collins
Syracuse, Park Central (4)	
Syracuse, Robinson Elmwood (3)	Mary Browne, Natalie Miner
Syracuse, South Valley (2)	
Syracuse, Westminster (2)	
Taunton (2)	
Weedsport	William Smith
Whitelaw	Jill Kilts
Present	18
Churches Represented	16

Minister members present or absent with notice:

Susan Alloway	Excused
Garrett Anderson	Present
Mary Anderson	Excused
Lorrie Day Anson	Present
Bryan Bedell*	Excused
Lorrie Cooney	Present
Diane DiLuzio*	Excused
Beth DuBois	Present
Linda Even	Present
Pamela Gnagy	Excused
Karen Green	Present
Jenna Henry	Excused
Patrick Heery	Present
George Huffsmith*	Present
Yong Ju Jee	Present
Craig Lindsey	Excused
Daniel McCollister	Present
Diane Monger	Present
Banu Moore	Excused
James Moore	Excused
Tom Oak	Present
Shawn Reyburn	Present
Harold (Sandy) Sanderson	Present
Monica Styron	Present
Debra Thomas	Present
Charlie Vollmer*.	Present
Kathleen Walters	Present
* Temporary Member of Presbytery	
Present	19
Excused	9

Commissioned Lay Pastors present or absent with notice:

Gail Banks	Present
Donna Chapman	Excused
Present	1
Excused	1

Leadership Team Ruling Elders present:

Bob Davenport	Excused
Gordie Howard	Excused
Linda Russell	Present
Linda VanBuskirk	Excused
Lynn Jacques	Present
Mark Kasdorf	Present
Nancy Wind.	Excused
Rita Hooper	Present
Present	4
Excused	4

Total present and eligible to vote:

19 Ministers,
18 Ruling Elder Commissioners,
1 Commissioned Lay Pastors,
4 Ruling Elders with vote due to office,
Total 42

Candidates and Inquirers:

Dan DeBrucker-Cota	Excused
Shavonn Lynch	Present
Present	1
Excused	1

Corresponding Members:

Jeremy Campbell	Elizabeth Presbytery
Debbie Johnson	Faith United-Oswego
Bill Carter	Lackawanna Presbytery

Visitors present:

Sarah Buckshot	Communications Coordinator
Martha Lacy	Jamesville Community Church
Jacqueline Murphy	Parish – New Hope
Julie Raner	Parish – New Hope