

THE PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA-SYRACUSE

Presbyterian Church (USA)

Stated Meeting

May 17, 2025 at 9:30 AM

Northminster Presbyterian Church and Zoom

Minutes.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is on file in the Stated Clerk's files and available upon request.

CALL TO ORDER

A regular Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse was called to order at 9:32 am on Saturday, May 17, 2025, at the Northminster Presbyterian Church and on the Zoom platform. Meeting was opened with prayer by the Moderator, Rev. Michael Hill. The Moderator then welcomed commissioners and other participants, giving as well an introduction to the facility.

First-time commissioners were introduced.

Guests from the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley were VOTED approved by acclamation as Corresponding Members with voice but not vote.

The Moderator offered a Land Acknowledgment and call to justice, humility, and compassion.

Good news from around our presbytery was shared.

WORSHIP

Worship was led by Rev. Paul Ha, focusing on the imagery of the potter and clay (Jeremiah 18). The service included confession, assurance of pardon, and a pottery demonstration as a metaphor for transformation.

Work of the People of God

The voting procedures were reviewed.

The Stated Clerk declared a quorum in attendance.

The presbytery **VOTED** to approve the distributed Docket as amended with a report from the Nominating Committee inserted prior to the Social Justice Committee Report.

Minutes of the March 2025 Stated Meeting were not available for action and will be presented at the next Stated Meeting.

Financial reports not requiring Docket time are in the Appendix.

Reports from the COR and the Synod update not requiring action are in the Appendix

Moderator

The moderator reminded the body of the upcoming installation at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Auburn, NY on June 1, 2025 at 2:00PM

Stated Clerk

Rev. Ben Fitzgerald-Fye offered an update on the transition in the clerk's office with apologies for delays in some processes. The clerk read a requested motion from Liverpool First Presbyterian Church to waive term limits to allow Elder Lynda Fauler to serve an additional one year term on session. The MOTION was made, SECONDED, and VOTED APPROVED.

Human Resources Committee

Rev. Garrett Anderson reported.

The Human Resources Committee MOVED:

The Coordinating Committee of Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery moves that the Cayuga-Syracuse and Susquehanna Valley presbyteries share the Rev. Dr. Greg Garis as Lead Presbyter for Transformation and hire a Transitional Assistant to the Lead Presbyter. Further we charge the Human Resources committee, in consultation with the Finance Committees, to develop terms of call and compensation package for the Lead Presbyter for Transformation and a compensation package for the Assistant.

The motion was VOTED APPROVED.

Rev. Dr. Greg Garis offered a brief introduction and bio for the presbytery.

NOTES: During discussion of the motion, there were some additional details noted. Terms of Call will be completed by September and the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery will be voting on this identical motion on June 14

Presbyterian Peace Network for Korea

Synod Update

Elder Linda Russell reported.

The Synod of the Northeast's Mission and Ministries Commission held a stated meeting on April 25-26, 2025, in person at Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church, DeWitt, NY. I am assigned to the Mission Working Group. Highlights of the Commission's work follow.

The Synod is in its third year of discerning a New Vision Proposal: Reimagining the Church in the World – Bold in Faith, Transformative in Mission, United in Christ (Isaiah 30:21) which will be presented to the Synod Assembly Meeting for approval on November 15,

2025. To ensure broad participation in this final stage, Town Hall Listening Sessions are scheduled for Thursday, May 22 and Monday, June 2, both at 7pm.

Synod will launch a Community Organizing Cohort in January 2026. The cohort will be led by Rev. Patrick O'Connor, with an introductory Zoom meeting scheduled for fall 2025 (date TBD).

Synod will continue developing a Synod-wide Commissioned Pastor Training Program in partnership with the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Proposed curriculum includes: Introduction to Old & New Testament; Reformed Theology; Worship, and Sacraments; Preaching and Public Ministry; Congregational Care; Presbyterian Polity; Christian Education; and Leadership & Administration.

Synod has created an Immigration Task Force to explore how the Synod can support presbyteries and congregations facing immigration-related challenges and threats to vulnerable populations. \$18,000 from unspent 2024 monies has been designated for this support in 2025.

A grant of \$20,000 per year for three years was awarded to Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida (Long Island) as part of the Small Church Residency Program.

A Synod-wide Indigenous Mission Day with the Jimersontown and Wright Memorial Churches in the vibrant Seneca Nation in Western New York will be held Saturday, June 14, 2025. Volunteers are invited to assist with modest cleaning, repair and landscape projects.

The Innovation Grant was established to fund creative new projects that emerge out of and mobilize Presbyterian communities to engage with their local communities in ways that foster person-to-person relationships. The Mission Working Group considered 13 first-year Innovation Grant applications. Two were eliminated for not meeting grant criteria. One was moved and awarded \$4000 from the Youth Leadership Development category. The remaining 10 received grants ranging from \$4500 to \$12,000 (total \$70,800). Eight second-year applications received grants ranging from \$4000 to \$17,600 (total \$69,200).

- Applications for Emerging Gospel Community Grants are due August 2025.

The list of grant awardees included in the Appendix

Presbyterian Peace Network for Korea

Elder Linda Russell continued to report. There will be a Korea Peace Journey in October, 2025, with a theme of hearing the cries of the Korean people divided and at war for 70 years. Participants will learn about origins of the conflict, how it continues to affect the people, and life in Korea and the diaspora, the barriers to peace maintained by the US and others, and efforts to overcome them. The trip will connect participants to families affected by the war. It is organized in partnership with our Korean sister denominations.

Consideration of an Overture to the General Assembly concerning lifting of the travel ban to North Korea is underway.

Elder Russell then took a moment of personal privilege and noted that, at the national level, the Office of the General Assembly and the Presbyterian Mission Agency are being merged into an Interim Unified Agency (IUA). This is happening mainly based on financial considerations. The ripple effect is that seventy-nine Mission CoWorkers are being either fired or reassigned. All this will happen by the end of March. The future is unsure for some of the people we have relationships with. The future emphasis will be on the lower levels of our system -- synods, presbyteries, and sessions -- developing ecumenical relationships. Please hold all our mission workers in prayer. Out of change some good things can come.

Finance and Property

Elder Bob Davenport, reporting via Zoom, affirmed that Presbytery finances are stable and operating funds sufficient to support the shared leadership plan.

Financial Reports were received.

Nominating

Report presented by Vice Moderator Lynn Jakes.

The following were nominated and VOTED APPROVED to serve on the Commission on Ministry (COM): Elder Sam Dance, Rev. Ken Wonderland, and Elder Nancy Wind elected to second terms (Class of 2028).

Rev. Eric Adamcik self-nominated to serve on the Committee On Preparation for Ministry and was VOTED APPROVED.

Mary Heather Mitchell nominated and VOTED APPROVED to serve on the Social Justice Committee.

Rev. Dr. Shavonn Lynch was nominated and VOTED APPROVED to serve as Vice Moderator (2-year term). Installation to take place at next meeting.

Social Justice Committee

Rev. Eric Adamczyk introduced guest speaker Dr. Osama Khalil (Syracuse University), who spoke on the current situation in Palestine, U.S. involvement in the Middle East, and human rights concerns. His remarks emphasized the role of U.S. funding in sustaining the conflict and called for critical engagement by churches.

Adjourn with Prayer.

At 12:35 pm the presbytery **VOTED** to adjourn with prayer by the Moderator.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Rev. Ben Fitzgerald-Fye, Stated Clerk

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse				
Budget Report				
January - March, 2025				
	Total			
	Actual	Budget	over Budget	% of Budget
Revenue				
400100 PER CAPITA			0.00	
GA PER CAPITA	3,979.64	6,273.66	-2,294.02	63.43%
PRESBYTERY PER CAPITA	9,145.12	14,416.65	-5,271.53	63.43%
SYNOD PER CAPITA	1,560.24	2,459.70	-899.46	63.43%
UNPAID PER CAPITA		-2,499.99	2,499.99	0.00%
Total 400100 PER CAPITA	\$ 14,685.00	\$ 20,650.02	-\$ 5,965.02	71.11%
Total Revenue	\$ 14,685.00	\$ 20,650.02	-\$ 5,965.02	71.11%
Gross Profit	\$ 14,685.00	\$ 20,650.02	-\$ 5,965.02	71.11%
Expenditures				
500100 PER CAPITA EXPENSE			0.00	
DISCOUNT FOR PREPAYMENT	-245.97	-61.50	-184.47	399.95%
GA PER CAPITA	25,094.60	6,273.66	18,820.94	400.00%
SYNOD PER CAPITA EXPENSE	9,838.75	2,459.70	7,379.05	400.00%
Total 500100 PER CAPITA EXPENSE	\$ 34,687.38	\$ 8,671.86	\$ 26,015.52	400.00%
502000 COMMITTEES OF PRESBYTERY			0.00	
502400 SOCIAL JUSTICE		1,374.99	-1,374.99	0.00%
502450 WORSHIP & EVENTS WORK GROUP		375.00	-375.00	0.00%
503200 SPECIAL EVENTS/PROGRAMS/COMMIT		1,250.01	-1,250.01	0.00%
503250 MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT		24.99	-24.99	0.00%
504100 COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY		1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.00%
504400 PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY		249.99	-249.99	0.00%
504450 EARLY MINISTRIES INSTITUTE	400.00	112.50	287.50	355.56%
504650 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS	130.00	125.01	4.99	103.99%
504675 Anti-Racism Task Force		500.01	-500.01	0.00%
504750 ADMIN ACTION COMMISSION		249.99	-249.99	0.00%
504800 NEW WORSHIPPING COMM. WORK GROU		375.00	-375.00	0.00%
Total 502000 COMMITTEES OF PRESBYTERY	\$ 530.00	\$ 6,137.49	-\$ 5,607.49	8.64%
600000 WAGES & BENEFITS			0.00	
600100 SALARY			0.00	
RESOURCE PRESBYTER		26,499.99	-26,499.99	0.00%
STATED CLERK	6,000.00	7,020.00	-1,020.00	85.47%
Total 600100 SALARY	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 33,519.99	-\$ 27,519.99	17.90%
600150 FICA EXPENSE			0.00	
STATED CLERK	459.00	537.00	-78.00	85.47%
Total 600150 FICA EXPENSE	\$ 459.00	\$ 537.00	-\$ 78.00	85.47%
600500 TRAVEL MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT			0.00	
RESOURCE PRESBYTER		750.00	-750.00	0.00%

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse				
Budget Report				
January - March, 2025				
	Total			
	Actual	Budget	over Budget	% of Budget
STATED CLERK/ASSOC. SC		450.00	-450.00	0.00%
Total 600500 TRAVEL MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,200.00	-\$ 1,200.00	0.00%
600550 PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES			0.00	
RESOURCE PRESBYTER		500.01	-500.01	0.00%
STATED CLERK/ASSOC. SC		50.01	-50.01	0.00%
Total 600550 PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES	\$ 0.00	\$ 550.02	-\$ 550.02	0.00%
Total 600000 WAGES & BENEFITS	\$ 6,459.00	\$ 35,807.01	-\$ 29,348.01	18.04%
602000 OFFICE EXPENSES			0.00	
602200 OFFICE SUPPLIES		200.01	-200.01	0.00%
602300 RENT	300.00	300.00	0.00	100.00%
602400 TELEPHONE	119.49	125.01	-5.52	95.58%
602450 WEBSITE/TECHNOLOGY/INTERNET	264.00	3,375.00	-3,111.00	7.82%
602700 POSTAGE	234.00	24.99	209.01	936.37%
602900 EQUIPMENT REPAIRS & MAINT		62.49	-62.49	0.00%
602950 LEGAL FEES		1,749.99	-1,749.99	0.00%
602975 Presbytery Benevolences		500.01	-500.01	0.00%
603200 PAYROLL SERVICE	584.54	375.00	209.54	155.88%
603600 INSURANCE-LIABILITY	-156.00	650.01	-806.01	-24.00%
603800 AUDIT		875.01	-875.01	0.00%
605200 BOOKKEEPER EXPENSE	1,448.50	2,499.99	-1,051.49	57.94%
605300 COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR	4,149.00	3,699.99	449.01	112.14%
605350 COMMUNICATIONS COOR. MILEAGE	25.20	50.01	-24.81	50.39%
Total 602000 OFFICE EXPENSES	\$ 6,968.73	\$ 14,487.51	-\$ 7,518.78	48.10%
Total Expenditures	\$ 48,645.11	\$ 65,103.87	-\$ 16,458.76	74.72%
Net Operating Revenue	-\$ 33,960.11	-\$ 44,453.85	\$ 10,493.74	76.39%
Net Revenue	-\$ 33,960.11	-\$ 44,453.85	\$ 10,493.74	76.39%

Tuesday, Apr 29, 2025 12:38:25 PM GMT-7 - Cash Basis

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse			
Statement of Activity - Previous Year Comparison			
March 2025			
	Total		
	Mar 2025	Jan - Mar, 2025 (YTD)	Jan - Mar, 2024 (PY YTD)
Revenue			
400100 PER CAPITA			
GA PER CAPITA	1,193.76	3,979.64	4,367.19
PRESBYTERY PER CAPITA	2,743.22	9,145.12	11,631.68
SYNOD PER CAPITA	468.02	1,560.24	1,827.17
Total 400100 PER CAPITA	\$ 4,405.00	\$ 14,685.00	\$ 17,826.04
400200 UNIFIED MISSION			
GA MISSION	513.66	1,680.99	1,582.98
SYNOD MISSION	152.17	491.50	443.26
Total 400200 UNIFIED MISSION	\$ 665.83	\$ 2,172.49	\$ 2,026.24
400250 PER CAPITA PRIOR YEAR		10,270.00	
400500 SELECTED/DESIGNATED MISSION			
DISASTER RELIEF- SYRIA			728.50
DISASTER RELIEF- WILDFIRES		1,650.00	
DISASTER RELIEF-GENERAL		1,000.00	
DISASTER RELIEF-HURRICANES		350.00	
Total 400500 SELECTED/DESIGNATED MISSION	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 728.50
400600 SPECIAL OFFERINGS			
CHRISTMAS UNIFIED		8,745.77	7,289.50
GA PENTECOST			177.00
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING		291.00	1,000.00
PEACEMAKING			
Peacemaking GA		2,258.44	660.30
Peacemaking Synod		564.63	165.07
Total PEACEMAKING	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,823.07	\$ 825.37
Total 400600 SPECIAL OFFERINGS	\$ 0.00	\$ 11,859.84	\$ 9,291.87
400950 MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE			

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse			
Statement of Activity - Previous Year Comparison			
March 2025			
	Total		
	Mar 2025	Jan - Mar, 2025 (YTD)	Jan - Mar, 2024 (PY YTD)
400900 OTHER INCOME			130.56
401400 DIVIDENDS INCOME			
401700 PRES. FOUND- WEIL MEM.- MISSION		413.75	396.01
PRES. FOUND.-BLACK MEMORIAL		74.20	69.43
PRES. FOUNDATION- BEN. CARE			832.17
PRES. FOUNDATION- ENDOW			
100- OPERATING			1,945.67
Total PRES. FOUNDATION- ENDOW	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,945.67
PRES. FOUNDATION- FAY GIDDINGS			253.61
PRES. FOUNDATION- MISSION INIT.		4,054.86	3,881.15
Total 401400 DIVIDENDS INCOME	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,542.81	\$ 7,378.04
402100 INTEREST INCOME	11.17	32.42	75.14
PILP		58.57	58.56
Total 402100 INTEREST INCOME	\$ 11.17	\$ 90.99	\$ 133.70
Total 400950 MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	\$ 11.17	\$ 4,633.80	\$ 7,642.30
Total Revenue	\$ 5,082.00	\$ 46,621.13	\$ 37,514.95
Gross Profit	\$ 5,082.00	\$ 46,621.13	\$ 37,514.95
Expenditures			
500100 PER CAPITA EXPENSE			
DISCOUNT FOR PREPAYMENT		-245.97	-269.88
GA PER CAPITA		25,094.60	6,450.85
SYNOD PER CAPITA EXPENSE		9,838.75	10,795.30
Total 500100 PER CAPITA EXPENSE	\$ 0.00	\$ 34,687.38	\$ 16,976.27
500200 UNIFIED MISSION EXPENSE			
GA UNIFIED MISSION	580.33	1,814.99	2,019.11
SYNOD UNIFIED MISSION	168.83	548.75	528.55
Total 500200 UNIFIED MISSION EXPENSE	\$ 749.16	\$ 2,363.74	\$ 2,547.66

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse			
Statement of Activity - Previous Year Comparison			
March 2025			
	Total		
	Mar 2025	Jan - Mar, 2025 (YTD)	Jan - Mar, 2024 (PY YTD)
500500 SELECTED/DESIGNATED MISSION PMT			
DISASTER R-US HURRICANE RESPONS		700.00	
DISASTER RELIEF- WILDFIRES		1,650.00	
DISASTER RELIEF-GENERAL	300.00	1,000.00	
Total 500500 SELECTED/DESIGNATED MISSION PMT	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,350.00	\$ 0.00
500600 SPECIAL OFFERINGS EXPENSES			
CHRISTMAS	1,748.00	8,745.77	7,916.50
GA PENTECOST			343.10
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING		1,561.92	1,182.00
PEACEMAKING		3,918.07	1,469.88
Total 500600 SPECIAL OFFERINGS EXPENSES	\$ 1,748.00	\$ 14,225.76	\$ 10,911.48
500800 SPECIAL GRANTS EXPENSE			
610 CHURCH TRANSFORMATION GRANT			1,192.22
FAY GIDDING SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS			500.00
Total 500800 SPECIAL GRANTS EXPENSE	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,692.22
502000 COMMITTEES OF PRESBYTERY			
503200 SPECIAL EVENTS/PROGRAMS/COMMIT			997.40
504100 COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY			1,176.72
504450 EARLY MINISTRIES INSTITUTE		400.00	400.00
504650 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS	130.00	130.00	
504700 MISSION INITIATIVES FUND EXPENS	0.00	13,220.20	
Total 502000 COMMITTEES OF PRESBYTERY	\$ 130.00	\$ 13,750.20	\$ 2,574.12
600000 WAGES & BENEFITS			
600100 SALARY			
RESOURCE PRESBYTER			13,068.67
STATED CLERK	2,000.00	6,000.00	5,251.04
Total 600100 SALARY	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 18,319.71

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse			
Statement of Activity - Previous Year Comparison			
March 2025			
	Total		
	Mar 2025	Jan - Mar, 2025 (YTD)	Jan - Mar, 2024 (PY YTD)
600150 FICA EXPENSE			
RESOURCE PRESBYTER			1,005.97
STATED CLERK	153.00	459.00	444.11
Total 600150 FICA EXPENSE	\$ 153.00	\$ 459.00	\$ 1,450.08
600300 HOUSING ALLOWANCE			
RESOURCE PRESBYTER			8,100.00
Total 600300 HOUSING ALLOWANCE	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 8,100.00
600500 TRAVEL MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT			
RESOURCE PRESBYTER			889.84
Total 600500 TRAVEL MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 889.84
600550 PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES			
RESOURCE PRESBYTER			1,329.58
Total 600550 PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,329.58
600700 DISABILITY INSURANCE		148.09	200.59
600850 PENSION BENEFITS EXPENSE			
RESOURCE PRESBYTER			2,550.00
Total 600850 PENSION BENEFITS EXPENSE	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,550.00
Total 600000 WAGES & BENEFITS	\$ 2,153.00	\$ 6,607.09	\$ 32,839.80
602000 OFFICE EXPENSES			
602200 OFFICE SUPPLIES			458.34
602300 RENT	100.00	300.00	300.00
602400 TELEPHONE	40.57	119.49	114.33
602450 WEBSITE/TECHNOLOGY/INTERNET	176.00	264.00	1,788.34
602700 POSTAGE		234.00	242.80
603200 PAYROLL SERVICE	140.20	584.54	561.30
603600 INSURANCE-LIABILITY		-156.00	412.00
603700 BANK CHARGES	18.60	56.20	54.00

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse			
Statement of Activity - Previous Year Comparison			
March 2025			
	Total		
	Mar 2025	Jan - Mar, 2025 (YTD)	Jan - Mar, 2024 (PY YTD)
604600 MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE			426.83
605200 BOOKKEEPER EXPENSE	537.50	1,448.50	2,666.40
605300 COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR	1,485.00	4,149.00	4,250.00
605350 COMMUNICATIONS COOR. MILEAGE	25.20	25.20	
Total 602000 OFFICE EXPENSES	\$ 2,523.07	\$ 7,024.93	\$ 11,274.34
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expenditure		0.00	
Total Expenditures	\$ 7,603.23	\$ 82,009.10	\$ 78,815.89
Net Operating Revenue	-\$ 2,521.23	-\$ 35,387.97	-\$ 41,300.94
Other Revenue			
700100 UNREALIZED GAIN(LOSS) ON INV			
NEW COVENANT- PRES. YOUTH CON.			18,528.37
PRES. FOUNDATION- BEN. CARE			2,021.35
PRES. FOUNDATION- ENDOW			
100- OPERATING			4,726.07
Total PRES. FOUNDATION- ENDOW	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,726.07
PRES. FOUNDATION- FAY GIDDINGS			616.00
PRES. FOUNDATION- MISSION INIT.	-2,891.18	-2,891.18	10,389.30
PRES. FOUNDATION-BLACK MEMORIAL	-3.65	-3.65	174.62
PRES. FOUNDATION-N.WEIL FUND	-295.02	-295.02	
SCHWAB			
100 OPERATING	-9,341.16	3,689.96	29,306.76
450 BEN CARE	-4,419.97	1,744.98	13,116.26
550 FAY GIDDINGS	-947.19	372.96	4,577.96
750 Youth Connection	-6,182.09	2,441.50	
Total SCHWAB	-\$ 20,890.41	\$ 8,249.40	\$ 47,000.98
Total 700100 UNREALIZED GAIN(LOSS) ON INV	-\$ 24,080.26	\$ 5,059.55	\$ 83,456.69
Total Other Revenue	-\$ 24,080.26	\$ 5,059.55	\$ 83,456.69

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse			
Statement of Activity - Previous Year Comparison			
March 2025			
	Total		
	Mar 2025	Jan - Mar, 2025 (YTD)	Jan - Mar, 2024 (PY YTD)
Net Other Revenue	-\$ 24,080.26	\$ 5,059.55	\$ 83,456.69
Net Revenue	-\$ 26,601.49	-\$ 30,328.42	\$ 42,155.75

March Mission Initiatives expense is \$0.00, not blank, because Otisco's check was returned and then re-issued.

Tuesday, Apr 29, 2025 12:48:24 PM GMT-7

PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA-SYRACUSE		
Statement of Financial Position Prev Year Comparison		
As of March 31, 2025		
	Total	
	As of Mar 31, 2025	As of Mar 31, 2024 (PY)
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
100400 M & T BANK CHECKING	0.00	0.00
100 OPERATING	37,186.81	88,354.58
450 BENEVOLENT CARE GRANT FUND	-18,583.64	2,672.41
550 FAY GIDDINGS	-4,061.47	-1,750.71
610 CHURCH TRANSFORMATION GRANT	28,608.78	28,608.78
750 PRES. YOUTH CONNECTION	983.62	2,983.62
950 MISSION INITIATIVES	4,054.88	15,533.82
951 NORMAN C WEIL	413.75	1,584.99
952 BLACK MEMORIAL	0.00	544.93
Total 100400 M & T BANK CHECKING	\$ 48,602.73	\$ 138,532.42
100420 M & T Bank CD 18 month (deleted)	0.00	0.00
100 Operating (deleted)	0.00	128,962.71
Total 100420 M & T Bank CD 18 month (deleted)	\$ 0.00	\$ 128,962.71
100440 M&T Money Market	0.00	0.00
100 Operating	131,478.45	0.00
Total 100440 M&T Money Market	\$ 131,478.45	\$ 0.00
100700 PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION (deleted)	0.00	0.00
100- OPERATING (deleted)	0.00	214,637.63
Total 100700 PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION (deleted)	\$ 0.00	\$ 214,637.63
100701 PRES. FOUNDATION- BEN. CARE (deleted)	0.00	0.00
450 BENEVOLENT CARE (deleted)	0.00	91,800.74
Total 100701 PRES. FOUNDATION- BEN. CARE (deleted)	\$ 0.00	\$ 91,800.74
100702 PRES. FOUNDATION- FAY GIDDINGS (deleted)	0.00	0.00
550 FAY GIDDINGS (deleted)	0.00	27,976.44
Total 100702 PRES. FOUNDATION- FAY GIDDINGS (deleted)	\$ 0.00	\$ 27,976.44
101200 INVESTMENT IN NEW COVENANT (deleted)	0.00	0.00
750 PRES. YOUTH CONNECTION (deleted)	0.00	354,208.36
Total 101200 INVESTMENT IN NEW COVENANT (deleted)	\$ 0.00	\$ 354,208.36
101300 INVESTMENT-PILP	0.00	0.00
100 OPERATING	10,000.00	10,000.00
Total 101300 INVESTMENT-PILP	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
101703 INVESTMENT IN SCHWAB - OPER.	0.00	0.00
100 OPERATING	546,195.16	325,324.69
Total 101703 INVESTMENT IN SCHWAB - OPER.	\$ 546,195.16	\$ 325,324.69
101704 INVESTMENT IN SCHWAB - FAY GIDD	0.00	0.00
550 FAY GIDDINGS	55,419.69	27,033.25

PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA-SYRACUSE		
Statement of Financial Position Prev Year Comparison		
As of March 31, 2025		
	Total	
	As of Mar 31, 2025	As of Mar 31, 2024 (PY)
Total 101704 INVESTMENT IN SCHWAB - FAY GIDD	\$ 55,419.69	\$ 27,033.25
101705 INVESTMENT IN SCHWAB - BEN CARE	0.00	0.00
450 BENEVOLENT CARE	258,505.67	163,435.65
Total 101705 INVESTMENT IN SCHWAB - BEN CARE	\$ 258,505.67	\$ 163,435.65
101706 Investment in Schwab - Youth Connection	0.00	0.00
750 Youth Connection	361,485.61	0.00
Total 101706 Investment in Schwab - Youth Connection	\$ 361,485.61	\$ 0.00
101900 PRES. FOUNDATION-N.WEIL FUND	0.00	0.00
951 NORMAN C WEIL	43,765.93	43,687.07
Total 101900 PRES. FOUNDATION-N.WEIL FUND	\$ 43,765.93	\$ 43,687.07
101901 PRES. FOUND.-MISSION INIT. FUND	0.00	0.00
950 MISSION INITIATIVES	428,922.37	428,149.32
Total 101901 PRES. FOUND.-MISSION INIT. FUND	\$ 428,922.37	\$ 428,149.32
101902 PRES.FOUND.-BLACK MEMORIAL FUND	0.00	0.00
952 BLACK MEMORAIL	7,897.47	7,834.66
Total 101902 PRES.FOUND.-BLACK MEMORIAL FUND	\$ 7,897.47	\$ 7,834.66
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 1,892,273.08	\$ 1,961,582.94
Accounts Receivable		
103000 ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	0.00	0.00
100 OPERATING	73,955.00	1,260.00
Total 103000 ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	\$ 73,955.00	\$ 1,260.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ 73,955.00	\$ 1,260.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,966,228.08	\$ 1,962,842.94
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,966,228.08	\$ 1,962,842.94
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
200200 Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00
100 OPERATING	0.00	12,775.40
Total 200200 Accounts Payable	\$ 0.00	\$ 12,775.40
Total Accounts Payable	\$ 0.00	\$ 12,775.40
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 0.00	\$ 12,775.40
Total Liabilities	\$ 0.00	\$ 12,775.40
Equity		
300100 FUND BALANCE - UNRESTRICTED	0.00	0.00
100 OPERATING	780,884.65	780,884.65
Total 300100 FUND BALANCE - UNRESTRICTED	\$ 780,884.65	\$ 780,884.65
300200 FUND BALANCE- TEMP RESTRICTED	0.00	0.00

PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA-SYRACUSE		
Statement of Financial Position Prev Year Comparison		
As of March 31, 2025		
	Total	
	As of Mar 31, 2025	As of Mar 31, 2024 (PY)
610 CHURCH TRANSFORMATION GRANT	29,149.89	29,149.89
950 MISSION INITIATIVES	11,652.67	11,652.67
951 NORMAN C WEIL	1,188.98	1,188.98
952 BLACK MEMORIAL	475.50	475.50
Total 300200 FUND BALANCE- TEMP RESTRICTED	\$ 42,467.04	\$ 42,467.04
300300 FUND BALANCE PERM RESTRICTED	0.00	0.00
550 FAY GIDDINGS	50,631.41	50,631.41
Total 300300 FUND BALANCE PERM RESTRICTED	\$ 50,631.41	\$ 50,631.41
300400 FUND BALANCE DESIGNATED	0.00	0.00
450 BENEVOLENT CARE	240,704.80	240,704.80
750 PRES. YOUTH CONNECTION	338,663.61	338,663.61
Total 300400 FUND BALANCE DESIGNATED	\$ 579,368.41	\$ 579,368.41
300500 FUND BALANCE BENEFICIAL	0.00	0.00
950 MISSION INITITIVES	422,603.12	422,603.12
951 NORMAN C WEIL	43,121.13	43,121.13
952 BLACK MEMORIAL	7,729.47	7,729.47
Total 300500 FUND BALANCE BENEFICIAL	\$ 473,453.72	\$ 473,453.72
3900 CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-4,203.73	-3,387.24
Net Revenue	43,626.58	26,649.55
Total Equity	\$ 1,966,228.08	\$ 1,950,067.54
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 1,966,228.08	\$ 1,962,842.94

Tuesday, Apr 29, 2025 01:21:55 PM GMT-7 - Accrual Basis

Per Capita Report					
Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse					
As of April 29, 2025					
	Num	Due date	Amount	Open balance	% Paid
AMBOY BELLE ISLE 5924	2025-1	12/31/2025	720.00	360.00	50%
AUBURN FIRST 5400	2025-2	12/31/2025	1,960.00	1,960.00	0%
AUBURN WESTMINSTER 9454	2025-3	12/31/2025	7,360.00	4,416.00	40%
AURORA 5404	2025-4	12/31/2025	920.00	40.00	96%
BALDWINVILLE 5923	2025-5	12/31/2025	4,120.00	2,746.68	33%
CAZENOVIA 5927	2025-7	12/31/2025	7,360.00	4,040.00	45%
CHITTENANGO 5928	2025-8	12/31/2025	3,400.00	2,030.00	40%
COLLAMER 10355	2025-10	12/31/2025	1,480.00	1,480.00	0%
DEWITT 5929	2025-9	12/31/2025	4,520.00	3,013.32	33%
EAST SYRACUSE 10070	2025-11	12/31/2025	2,040.00	1,360.00	33%
FAYETTEVILLE 5932	2025-12	12/31/2025	2,040.00	1,515.00	26%
FULTON 5933	2025-13	12/31/2025	1,120.00	920.00	18%
HANNIBAL 5934	2025-14	12/31/2025	80.00	80.00	0%
JAMESVILLE 5936	2025-15	12/31/2025	2,920.00	2,190.00	25%
KING FERRY 5412	2025-16	12/31/2025	1,000.00	664.00	34%
LAFAYETTE 5937	2025-17	12/31/2025	2,840.00	2,190.00	23%
LIVERPOOL 5938	2025-18	12/31/2024	3,960.00	0.00	100%
MARCELLUS FIRST PC 5939	2025-19	12/31/2025	3,720.00	1,860.00	50%
MEXICO 5940	2025-20	12/31/2025	1,320.00	0.00	100%
MORRISVILLE COMMUNITY CH 9633	2025-21	12/31/2025	2,680.00	2,680.00	0%
NORTH SYRACUSE 5957	2025-22	12/31/2025	3,840.00	2,880.00	25%
OSWEGO 11123	2025-23	12/31/2025	1,480.00	1,080.00	27%
OTISCO 5955	2025-24	12/31/2025	1,240.00	620.00	50%
PARISH-HASTINGS 11724	2025-25	12/31/2025	640.00	640.00	0%
PORT BYRON - FEDERATED CHURCH 5415	2025-26	12/31/2025	400.00	0.00	100%
ROBINSON-ELMWOOD UNITED 15117	2025-33	12/31/2025	4,360.00	2,616.00	40%
SCPIOVILLE 5416	2025-27	12/31/2025	2,760.00	2,760.00	0%
SENNETT 5417	2025-28	12/31/2025	680.00	0.00	100%
SKANEATELES 5944	2025-29	12/31/2025	8,360.00	6,270.00	25%
SYRACUSE, KOREAN 11006	2025-30	12/31/2025	2,920.00	2,190.00	25%
SYRACUSE, ONONDAGA HILL 5954	2025-31	12/31/2025	3,240.00	2,160.00	33%
SYRACUSE, PARK CENTRAL 5951	2025-32	12/31/2025	3,520.00	3,520.00	0%
WEEDSPORT 5419	2025-34	12/31/2025	2,240.00	0.00	100%
WHITELAW 5926	2025-6	12/31/2025	1,360.00	0.00	100%
	TOTAL		\$92,600.00	\$58,281.00	37%

Accrual Basis Tuesday, April 29, 2025 07:11 PM GMTZ

**The Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse
Finance and Property Committee Annual Report
May 17th, 2025**

The past year has seen stability for the presbytery's Finance and Property Committee processes and functions. Overall, our investments are stable over a year ago and in turn our total assets are stable as well (see Statement of Financial Position Report provided).

Our accounting processes have been streamlined and are continually being improved. Thank you to our bookkeeper Kristin Schierer and our Treasurer Ann Wiley for keeping the finance functions of the presbytery operating smoothly.

Rockbridge Management, our investment adviser, provides regular statements so the committee can review their status.

We have advised some churches on questions regarding possible sale of property and are happy to help any churches who have questions regarding property matters.

The budgeting process will commence soon with a first-read budget presented in September and the final proposed budget vote in November.

Please reach out with any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Davenport, Chair
Vic Jenkins
Frank McDowell
Ann Wiley, Treasurer

Committee on Representation

Chair: Rev. Dr. Shavonn Lynch – Northminster

Members: RE Roger Dilmore – Westminster, RE Barbara Adams – Scipioville

After a short hiatus, the Committee on Representation met on April 30th via Zoom with the chair of the COR from Susquehanna Valley, Rev. John Helgeson. We discussed the challenges of creating racially diverse committees and commissions when churches in both our presbyteries consist of predominantly white congregations. We also discussed the importance of ensuring that our LGBTQIA+ siblings are included in our discussion around representation and inclusion on committees and commissions. We want our committees to be a well-rounded representation our congregations, as best we can. This also includes finding ways for our busy working families to be heard and validated even if they cannot always participate on a committee or commission.

Although, some members of the Susquehanna Valley COR were not able to the attend the first meeting, the meeting was fruitful. We are planning to meet again via Zoom with the hopes that other members Susquehanna Valley's COR will be able to join in.

Respectfully submitted,

Shavonn Lynch
Northminster

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse stated meeting, May 17, 2025

Report on Synod Mission and Ministries Commission

Elder Linda Russell, Commissioner

The Synod of the Northeast's Mission and Ministries Commission held a stated meeting on April 25-26, 2025, in person at Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church, DeWitt, NY. I am assigned to the Mission Working Group. Highlights of the Commission's work follow.

- The Synod is in its third year of discerning a **New Vision Proposal: Reimagining the Church in the World – Bold in Faith, Transformative in Mission, United in Christ** (Isaiah 30:21) which will be presented to the Synod Assembly Meeting for approval on November 15, 2025. To ensure broad participation in this final stage, **Town Hall Listening Sessions** are scheduled for Thursday, May 22 and Monday, June 2, both at 7pm. To register for a Zoom link, go to www.synodne.org home page and click on the Town Hall announcement; or use the Calendar tab at the top of the page and click on the date of your choice. Conversations will cover the Seven Pillars of the core structure, a review of the visioning process, a new way of looking at Synod grants, and plans for regional learning initiatives to equip and connect leaders.
- Synod will launch a **Community Organizing Cohort** in January 2026. The cohort will be led by Rev. Patrick O'Connor, with an introductory Zoom meeting scheduled for fall 2025 (date TBD). This initiative invites pastors and leaders engaged in public ministry to participate in a collaborative learning journey.
- Synod will continue developing a Synod-wide **Commissioned Pastor Training Program** in partnership with the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Proposed curriculum includes: Introduction to Old & New Testament; Reformed Theology; Worship, and Sacraments; Preaching and Public Ministry; Congregational Care; Presbyterian Polity; Christian Education; and Leadership & Administration.
- Synod has created an **Immigration Task Force** to explore how the Synod can support presbyteries and congregations facing immigration-related challenges and threats to vulnerable populations. \$18,000 from unspent 2024 monies has been designated for this support in 2025.
- A grant of \$20,000 per year for three years was awarded to Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida (Long Island) as part of the **Small Church Residency Program**.
- A Synod-wide **Indigenous Mission Day** with the Jimersontown and Wright Memorial Churches in the vibrant Seneca Nation in Western New York will be held Saturday, June 14, 2025. Volunteers are invited to assist with modest cleaning, repair and landscape projects. Use the "Connectional Ministries" tab on www.synodne.org for more information.
- Efforts are underway to redefine **Synod Grants** and to encourage broader participation. Synod is now using the on-line Foundant grant software. While application forms will now be available in Korean and Spanish as well as English, all responses must be written in English.
- The **Innovation Grant** was established to fund creative new projects that emerge out of and mobilize Presbyterian communities to engage with their local communities in ways that foster person-to-person relationships. The Mission Working Group considered 13 first-year Innovation Grant applications. Two were eliminated for not meeting grant criteria. One was moved and awarded \$4000 from the Youth Leadership Development category. The remaining 10 received grants ranging from \$4500 to \$12,000 (total \$70,800). Eight second-year applications received grants ranging from \$4000 to \$17,600 (total \$69,200). See attached document [*Innovation Grant Award Recommendations 2025*] for brief descriptions of these 18 innovative programs. Under the Synod's new funding structure for 2026, Innovation Grants will be set at \$10,000 in the first year, with an additional \$15,000 available in the second year, *contingent on demonstrated progress and sustainability*.
- Applications for **Emerging Gospel Community Grants** are due August 2025.

Persons with questions about the work and ministry of the Synod are welcome to contact Linda Russell (Westminster-Auburn) at lruss@aol.com or 315-730-6930. See also Synod website: www.synodne.org.

**Mission Working Group
2025 Innovation Grant Recommendations**

**Prepared by Aaron Frank, Mission Working Group Convener
And Michael Yeoman, Synod Grants Coordinator**

INV-25-01-04	Cook and Eat: Building Community Through African and African Diaspora Culinary Heritage	Year 1
New York City	Bethel Presbyterian Reformed Church	Request: \$20,000 Recommended: \$12,000

Cook and Eat: "Building Community Through African and African Diaspora Culinary Heritage" celebrates African and African Diaspora culinary traditions through intergenerational learning. Ghanaian elders will partner with Caribbean, Soul Food, and Afro-Latin cooks to teach youth and young adults in their congregation and interested neighbors in the Bay Ridge area of Brooklyn, NY, how to prepare nutritious, affordable meals. These hands-on workshops will build cooking skills while preserving cultural heritage, sharing stories, and addressing food insecurity in their community.

INV-25-02-04	Utica Presbytery Participation in Plentiful Gifts	Year 1
Utica	Churches of the Presbytery of Utica	Request: \$9,600 Recommended: \$9,600

Plentiful Gifts is a two-year process led by Dubuque Seminary and funded by a Lilly Grant. It provides discernment, gift identification, and leader training for persons in small congregations without pastors or with part-time leadership. Utica Presbytery is participating. They selected seven congregations. The grant has funding for mentors for only five congregations. Mentors are paid \$400 a month for two years. We need an extra \$9,600 per year to pay for two extra mentors.

They are serving small congregations with vital ministries. Still, these churches cannot afford installed pastoral leadership, and they need the cultivation of gifts within the congregation to continue to be vital communities of faith. The goal is to strengthen unique ministries and encourage small groups of people to continue their presence as a witness to the realm of God.

It trusts the promise that God provides gifts for the people to fulfill their ministries in partnership with Jesus (see Ephesians 4). It is an extension of the seminary into the presbytery to provide theological education and leadership training in local contexts rather than requiring people to come to the seminary

INV-25-06-04**Utica****Transformational Trails**

Niccolls Presbyterian Church

Year 1**Request: \$20,000****Recommended: -0-**

Transformational Trails seeks to resource and support the Utica Presbytery and affiliate communities as they heal from stress and trauma.

Moved to assist spiritual communities in becoming improved sources for healing, they are inspired to share their knowledge and skill in trauma-informed care. They want churches to not only be a community that connects and worships but also one that heals together.

Transformational Trails is a long-term hike that they anticipate will take four to five years before the trauma-informed skills become the standard ministry in the lives of the Utica Presbytery churches and their affiliates. During the first year, the goal is to build trusting relationships, impart information, and develop a network of people who are committed to building and maintaining psychologically healthy communities.

Each month we will provide monthly emails, conversational interviews, bulletins, and resources for distribution to all of the churches in the Utica Presbytery. Monthly Zoom chats will be an opportunity for anyone in the public to engage in our ministry. These hour-long Zoom meetings will provide a structured space that includes mental health education, Christian prayer and worship from a trauma-based lens, time to ask questions, and the group practice of mental health skills (such as grounding, mindfulness, and writing exercises).

Direct care providers will travel to churches and affiliate organizations to serve mental health needs in the form of individual or group meetings (such as meeting with a church member in crisis or a session with communication issues) and to teach classes.

INV-25-07-04**Northeast New Jersey****Glo Girls Empowerment Club**

Institute of Music for Children

Year 1**Request: \$20,000****Recommended: \$5,000**

Guided by the Institute's vision of HARMONY – Helping Achieve Responsible, Motivated, Optimistic Neighborhood Youth – they are building a community of young arts lovers through instruction, mentorship, and family engagement.

Glo Girls, a 24-week empowerment program for middle school girls, aims to cultivate confidence, leadership, and community. Students explore topics like communication, self-care, body image, and professional etiquette and take part in discussions, events, dance, and team-building activities. Glo Girls emerge as leaders, representing the Institute and their broader community.

Glo Girls is more than just a class; it's a long-term vision that continues to grow. Today, it stands as a class with one of the highest enrollment numbers at the Institute with consistent attendance, with previous

students coming back semester after semester. As long as there is a need for safe, creative spaces for our young girls, Glo Girls will continue to grow, ensuring that no girl feels alone in her journey into womanhood.

This funding will enable the Institute to build on this incredible curriculum; provide additional oversight, training, and professional development for our Teaching Artist, Meli DeJesus; and provide supplies for weekly programming, events hosted by the Glo Girls, and travel for the Glo Girls to take advantage of leadership and performance opportunities.

INV-25-08-04
New York City

Firelight Community
First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn

Year 1
Request: \$20,000
Recommended: \$12,000

Firelight Community is an experimental collective of mystics grounded in a liberating gospel. It is an apocalyptic interruption of “homelessness” — a term we understand to encompass all of the ways we have been cut off from place and people, unmoored from the relationality that constitutes our being. We join together to keep the flame of hope alive in one another, ministering to spiritual and material needs through community building, street care, theological education, and sacred space. The flame we keep is the Spirit that will inspire a revolution toward a new heaven and a new earth.

This is a long-term project meant to exist as a parallel formation to the institutional church. While conversational with the church’s wisdom, history, and traditions, it is vestibular to the four walls which have so often convoluted a core gospel message of God’s love for all people, and the call to return that love to God and neighbor and self. Yet as the church heals, on its way toward a better articulation and realization of its mission, a wash of humanity does not have the time to be convinced of the church’s repentance; they march forward into the false hope of a secular humanism that leaves religion behind with nothing meaningful to replace it, or they alchemize an individualized spirituality, so often shorn of the deepest truths that our traditions have carefully mediated into the present.

Firelight Community is an alternative and a bridge. It maintains the Christian tradition as an influence and constant conversation partner, but it does not require the adoption of these thought forms for the community to make sense. While based on more general affinities, welcoming a range of knowledge and practices, in time, the presence of so much Christian influence will offer members a new sense of what is possible through the ongoing, reforming, and revolutionizing project of being the church.

INV-25-09-04
Southern New Jersey

Calvary Presbyterian Youth Service Night
Calvary Presbyterian Church Riverton New Jersey

Year 1
Request: \$4,000

Recommended: \$4,000 Youth Leader Development

Youth Service Night is a monthly program for middle and high school students to volunteer in the community. Each month, students will prepare meals for Joseph's House, a homeless shelter in Camden, NJ. The program includes fellowship activities and refreshments for participants, fostering teamwork and relationships. Together, we strive to build a stronger, more engaged church community, united in service and love.

Calvary Presbyterian Church recognized a unique opportunity for their church to deepen its engagement with the local youth community. They saw the potential to create a program that not only serves the broader community but also provides youth with meaningful experiences to grow and give back. By partnering with Joseph's House, they can offer hands-on service opportunities that foster compassion, teamwork, and a sense of fellowship among our young members. This initiative aims to build stronger connections within their church and make a tangible impact on those in need. They envision this as an ongoing monthly event.

INV-25-10-04
New York City

Bedford Central-First Brooklyn P.C. Immersive Music Experience
Bedford Central Presbyterian Church

Year 1
Request: \$20,000

Recommended: \$5,000

Brooklyn has undergone a major diversification of culture and religion, and although it is rich in free and low-cost resources, they are largely undiscovered because of a lack of coordination. Their vision is that this program will unite people with the needed resources in at least two Brooklyn neighborhoods through food and immersive musical experiences, paving the first steps through intentional invitation and participation by local service providers in our weekly program. We envision a Brooklyn where every community member has access to the support and opportunities they need to thrive.

The vision for this program was inspired by a summer music program that was held in 2023. The summer music program in 2023 had a positive response in the community, and they saw that approximately 100 community residents not only drew near, but also stayed and attended the afternoon program. We had the opportunity to provide a variety of music with over 30 different performers who covered six different music genres. During the program, they also served food to those that were in attendance.

They were enthusiastic to see how the 4-week summer music program united the community with the singers, musicians, and church community. Yet, they were cognizant that though there was fun and enjoyment, they were not filling the needs of the attendees in areas such as ongoing food insecurity,

knowledge of neighborhood resources, and confidence in building new relationships to enable their access to those resources. For example, one of the most sobering realizations during their evaluation process was the fact that many participants required permanent housing and other social services to meet their needs.

They would like to offer this immersive experience during July and August of 2025. The goal is to have a successful launch this summer and then follow up with a similar experience in summer 2026 (July and August). We will offer a program for approximately 2 hours that has intermission, which will be used to hear from featured service provider(s).

INV-25-13-04	Trinity Community Wellness Center	Year 1
Coastland	Trinity Presbyterian Church	Request: \$20,000
		Recommended: \$4,500 For Feasibility Study

Trinity Presbyterian Church desires to build the Trinity Community Wellness Center, a new structure designed to provide integrative physical, mental, and spiritual care through a cooperative system in which financial availability is not an obstacle to receiving needed services. Understanding that health, healing, and wholeness are at the core of the Christian mission, the Trinity Community Wellness Center will provide opportunities for preventative care, counseling in various areas of mental health, and spiritual support, focusing on underserved communities and non-neurotypical individuals.

In June of 2024, they began engaging in a very intentional assessment of the needs of the community trying to decide how Trinity can fulfill its mandate to follow Christ in ministry. Trinity is a midsize church with an illustrious past, currently engaged in various small mission projects, but like many mainline Protestant churches, also trending downwards in terms of membership and finances. However, rather than focusing on our institutional survival, we want to be a missional church, responding to the call to invest ourselves and our resources in supporting the needs of the community. The issue of accessible holistic health has surfaced as the most pressing need in our community, and we intend to respond.

Trinity Church sits on a large property, with about three (3) acres of underutilized land being available for the project. A purpose-built structure will make use of the land, generate volunteer opportunities, contribute to the financial health of the church by absorbing some of the maintenance costs, and, most importantly, shift the narrative. Churches that struggle tend to "circle the wagon", slash spending, cancel ministries, and largely operate as a private club for the benefit of the current dwindling membership. Engaging in a project such as this will redirect the energy of the congregation away from survival in a state of scarcity to an "others-oriented" ministry. We envision a three to four-year timeline, beginning with a feasibility study conducted in Q3 2025, culminating with a grand opening in the Fall of 2028.

In order to support the effort, their pastor has enrolled and has been accepted as a Doctoral Candidate at St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute DMin program, committed to acquiring the knowledge base and skills necessary to lead the congregation and the community in such an endeavor. The timing of the degree coincides with the timing of the project.

INV-25-15-04	People & Place --Reclaimed Worship Project	Year 1
Coastland	SueAnn Shiah	Request: \$20,000
		Recommended: \$5,000

This collaborative audiovisual album continues SueAnn Shiah's exploration of post-colonial and post-traumatic worship with other LGBTQ artists and people of color. This sequel to her 2018 album tells a story of what is possible in gathering people and non-human creation after alienation from the earth and one another by recording outdoor live performances in harmony with the natural soundscape. At the literal sites of colonial wounds, worship songs are being reimagined and reclaimed by those historically marginalized and harmed by the church to sing a new song again to the Lord.

This project primarily serves the LGBTQ Christian community. SueAnn Shiah has been actively participating, serving, and leading in the LGBTQ Christian movement in North America and Asia for the last decade and a half. Some members of our community enjoy traditional high church worship music and are served by the many affirming churches that worship in that style. But many of the other LGBTQ Christians I work with tell me how they miss worshipping in the more contemporary style that they feel affinity and culturally at home with but the resources (both recorded and congregational) for that are almost all exclusively white normative, patriarchal/non-egalitarian, and queer/transphobic. Almost everyone I ask tells me the thing they miss the most is the worship, and this project is a direct response to this need that comes up again and again in my pastoral ministry. While there is no lack of individual queer worship leaders, these individuals do not have the resources or infrastructure to record music projects.

INV-25-03-04	Reconnecting Community: Uniting Through Arts and Music in A Welcoming Space	Year 1
Southern New Jersey	Memorial Presbyterian Church of Wenonah	Request: \$19,880
		Recommended: \$5,000

Since the pandemic, feelings of loneliness and isolation have grown, reducing church attendance and highlighting the need for meaningful connections. To help bridge this gap, Memorial Presbyterian Church has partnered with the Wenonah Arts Collective to create a safe, welcoming space for community and fellowship. Together, they host coffeehouse-style acoustic sessions where musicians and attendees can

connect through music, conversation, and support. Looking ahead, we plan to expand with more diverse arts-focused events, enriching our congregation and strengthening our bonds with the community.

Their project brings together people from all walks of life who share a need for connection, creativity, and community. Their ministry serves a diverse group, including church members, individuals facing loneliness or disconnection in our community, partners in the Wenonah Arts Collective, and local musicians and artists who benefit from creative exposure and camaraderie.

For church members, this ministry extends our faith beyond Sunday worship, allowing deeper engagement with the broader community. As the foundation of this initiative, our congregation experiences the fulfillment of living out our mission—creating a space where love, hospitality, and service thrive.

Within the wider community, their services provide opportunities for interaction, creativity, and meaningful connection. Through music, conversation, and shared artistic experiences, individuals find a safe, welcoming space. Ultimately, this ministry is more than a series of events—it is a movement toward a more connected, compassionate community. By bridging social gaps, promoting artistic expression, and creating a safe space for authentic engagement, we address the growing need for human connection in a way that is both spiritually enriching and deeply impactful.

INV-25-21-04	The Great Adventure at Central Young Family Ministry Initiative	Year 1
Northeast New Jersey	Central Presbyterian Church	Request: \$20,000
		Recommended: \$5,000

The pastor’s tenure at Central Presbyterian Church Montclair began on July 1, 2024. One of the first ministry tasks he decided to embrace was getting to know the community by walking the streets, visiting schools, going to community meetings, such as Montclair Interfaith Clergy Association, and visiting the business, local parks, and community fairs. He realized that of the young families living in the community, few young families attend church on a regular basis or are connected in any meaningful ways with my church or any other house of worship.

Their church is home to two schools; one is a Pre-K, and the other is a daycare center. However, no families of either school are connected to their faith community. One of the reasons for such disconnect is that Central Presbyterian Church Montclair has not been intentional and proactive in the community, making its presence known and fostering programs to attract these young families to their campus to share with them what they have to offer, chief among them, the love of Christ manifested in concrete and tangible actions. Even though similar efforts were made in the past, the pandemic (COVID-19), the lack of permanent pastoral leadership, and the absence of a dedicated staff assigned to this ministry initiative prevented the church from making meaningful inroads with the community

INV-25-14-04
Coastlands

Cemetery Project
First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury

Year 2
Request: \$20,000
Year 1 Grant: \$10,000
Recommended: \$17,600

The First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury's Cemetery Project was launched in 2023 to learn more about the historically African American portion of their Brainerd Cemetery, where 90% of the 252 graves are unmarked. As a historic church, trying to do both church and history honestly, they understand that they will always be learning, atoning, and transforming. They endeavor to sustain an economy of atonement learning, inviting other congregations into the generative work of honest history telling. A key component of their work is to apply those lessons to their contemporary context to vigorously apply those lessons to their contemporary context to further the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Connections: One group they connected with is those buried in their cemetery. They have learned not only their names but also aspects of their respective life stories. We have been moved both by grief and by joy. We seek to connect further with them and to present opportunities for others to connect with them as well. They hope to eventually connect with some of their descendants.

They have also connected with various local organizations. From the beginning, they worked closely with one of our neighbors, the Cranbury Preservation & Historical Society. They have graciously provided numerous documents and guidance in regard to further research.

Other churches in their area have shared similar histories and a desire to do a similar project. Many churches in their presbytery have similar histories to Cranbury and are eager to take on their own research and memorialization. They remain committed to helping other churches begin similar work. They seek to provide a blueprint or scaffolding for churches in our presbytery, synod, and beyond to begin reconciling their congregations' history with slavery, segregation, and anti-Blackness.

INV-25-12-04
Susquehanna Valley

Jeremiah Pottery
United Presbyterian Church of Walton

Year 2
Request: \$5,000
Year 1 Grant: \$5,000
Recommended: \$5,000

Through Jeremiah Pottery, the United Presbyterian Church of Walton endeavors to continue to offer multiple hands-on pottery experiences to initiate energy, intelligence, imagination, and love for the 2 Presbyteries (Susquehanna Valley and Cayuga Syracuse) as they are about to begin merging their mission resources crossing the geographical boundaries.

"Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand," the LORD says in Jeremiah 18:6. The invitation is to visit a local potter (or invite one to the community), play with clay, and experience what God is doing in their personal life as well as learning from each other in building community in a new perspective.

Innovative opportunity presents another opportunity for greater things. The art-making process creates community. And its spiritual connection helps make a new worshipping community. At the given

opportunity of each gathering of presbyteries, the project hopes to offer a safe space and activity for healthy interaction and earthly conversations around the clay they are invited to work with.

On Pentecost Sunday, (6/8) and Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley Assembly at Walton United, Saturday, November 8, an outdoor gas Raku firing will be demonstrated featuring a guest ceramic artist. This special event will help focus on the firing process of ceramic art culminating all the works that preceded in the past 2 years of the Synod Innovation Grant period. As a moderator of the PSV in 2025, I hope to bring the message of God, who is at work for two presbyteries in merging and sharing their resources. May the Jeremiah Pottery project be an instrument to communicate God's master plan and the message as we find in Jeremiah 18:6.

INV-25-16-04 Coastlands	Trenton Microloan Collaborative (TMC) Westminster Presbyterian Church	Year 2
		Request: \$20,000
		Year 1 Grant: \$15,000
		Recommended: \$15,000

Trenton Microloan Collaborative (TMC) seeks to continue creating a community where entrepreneurs who are formerly incarcerated find connections, resources, and opportunities to thrive.

TMC provides zero-interest loans, accounting, and ongoing support to entrepreneurs who are formerly incarcerated for the purpose of fostering thriving businesses.

Through this program, they look forward to connecting and working with additional organizations offering complimentary services that will benefit our participants. They have requested Year 2 funding to expand in-house accounting consultation and assistance because they have found this to be of extreme importance to several of their previous recipients. Instead of requiring microloan applicants to use some or all of their \$2,000 loan for expert accounting consultation, they would be able to subsidize the tax remediation as well as award the full loan amount (once they demonstrate full arrears repayment).

They also want to explore a new in-house business plan development service and have requested funds in our Year 2 budget for this purpose. Only 1 of our 12 participants completed a business plan before their business was launched. Without a plan, business owners are more prone to "fly by the seat of their pants," and their businesses have a greater risk of failing. From research conducted on business planning, it's never too late to develop this type of road map, especially if our sponsored entrepreneurs wish to expand. We believe an investment in this kind of consultation will produce both short-term and long-term benefits.

TMC's board also expects to extend board membership invitations to at least three people who represent racial and ethnic diversity and bring desired skill sets, including financial management, marketing, legal expertise, and lived experience with the criminal justice system. Board expansion will serve to enhance their learning and success.

INV-25-17-04
New York City

Asylum Support Clinic at Rutgers Presbyterian Church
Rutgers Presbyterian Church

Year 2
Request: \$20,000
Year 1 Grant: \$10,000
Recommended: \$12,600

The Asylum Support Clinic at Rutgers Presbyterian Church helps fill a big gap by assisting asylum seekers who lack legal assistance to file asylum applications that reduces the challenge and trauma of the process while giving them the best chance at prevailing in court. ASC, a volunteer-driven, free clinic, involves a series of in-person meetings over 6 or 7 weeks. During each cycle, we build trust; draft thorough applications using the asylum seekers' own words, and better prepare them to continue on their own. They also help them apply for work authorization once eligible.

NYC saw a reduction in asylum seekers this summer, and the recent rhetoric of fear and punitive enforcement policies may only accelerate that trend. ASC will continue discussions about ways they might shift or expand the services they provide if fewer individuals turn to the clinic for help applying for asylum. So far, this hasn't been the case. They helped a full cohort of asylum seekers during Cycle 11. They are in the midst of conducting intakes for the Cycle 12 cohort, so it is too early to tell whether they will see a drop-off. Nevertheless, they want to be ready with alternatives. Here are a few examples of ways they have started and may continue to pivot:

They helped 2 participants prepare Change of Venue motions. In both cases, the hearing was scheduled in another state, which would have been burdensome for the asylum seeker to get to.

They admitted an asylum seeker into Cycle 11 with only 3 clinic sessions to go because his end-of-year deadline precluded him from starting later, something we wouldn't have normally done.

They may offer support to ASC participants who have an upcoming individual hearing by helping them to prepare their affidavit and may help individuals in the US under programs such as Humanitarian Parole apply for asylum, even if they have been here more than one year.

A more significant pivot would involve expanding the clinic to a second night. Rutgers Church has already generously told ASC that they would make the space available on a second night. ASG is confident that they could mobilize the necessary volunteers. For now, however, given the high level of uncertainty and flux, they will continue to monitor the situation and assess the need before moving forward in this direction.

INV-25-18-04
Susquehanna Valley

Hospital Chaplaincy Outreach, Education, and Mentorship
Broome County Council of Churches

Year 2
Request: \$10,000
Year 1 Grant: \$6,000
Recommended: \$5,000

From the beginning of life in Labor and Delivery and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit to the end of life in Palliative Care, all people matter in their most tender healthcare moments. With the connection of volunteers called to provide light to those in recovery within the Rehab center to provide gentle care to

those leaving this life for the next, it is this very spark that reminds us of God's love in all times and places, especially the hospital system. This project will build a team of volunteers and resources to care for one's spiritual needs while obtaining care for one's healthcare needs.

In Year 1, they were able to hold three informational sessions promoting the work of the spiritual care department. During this time, they learned that being transparent about their programming was helpful for the community to understand how they can connect. During these events, 100% of the participants showed a strong interest in the hospital ministry program.

With the connections made from the opportunities that arose from the Synod funding, they have now formed stronger partnerships that will continue to grow and enhance the programming available within the hospital ministries. The relationships formed will empower the hospital ministry to further reach patients, loved ones, and hospital staff with the comfort of God's hope.

INV-25-19-04 Coastland	Food Pantry Expansion First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen	Year 2 Request: \$20,000 Year 1 Grant: \$11,000 Recommended: \$4,000
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The vision of the First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen's Food Pantry Expansion Project is to uplift their community members in need with dignity and respect. Their food pantry goes beyond providing food; it connects clients with essential resources to achieve economic security, offers their congregation meaningful opportunities to live out their Christian values through volunteering, and creates joyful experiences for their clients, such as home-cooked dinners in a welcoming environment and holiday food baskets.

The depth of need in their community is staggeringly high. For example, this year, they more than doubled the funds provided through our "local assistance" program to community members in danger of eviction or utility cut-offs. As our Local Mission Director expands partnerships with service providers, more clients are referred to the First Presbyterian Church of Metiuchen for financial and food support. This expansion requires her to spend more time vetting clients and coordinating with partners, necessitating an increase in her work hours, for which we are seeking funding.

They recently started a monthly lunch-packing program for their partner, Elijah's Promise, providing bag lunches to unhoused clients in the area. The response from their congregation was overwhelming. Similarly, for major holidays, they provide their food pantry clients with baskets filled with food for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter.. They are seeking funding to expand these programs.

Last year, they began monthly community dinners, which provide a homemade, free meal to our food pantry clients and anyone else who wants to join. These dinners have been enormously successful, growing to over 200 meals served each month. About 30 church volunteers fully plan, cook, serve, and staff the dinners. is program.

This grant will enable them to continue and expand these vital programs, ensuring they can meet the needs of our community. The Innovation Grant Year 2 will help provide essential services and foster a spirit of volunteerism and community connection.

INV-25-20-04
Hudson River

Drumming for the Soul
First Presbyterian Church of Ossining

Year 2
Request: \$9,125
Year 1 Grant: \$9,000
Recommended: \$5,000

First Presbyterian Church of Ossining understands that people want and need to experience new styles of worship. By bringing drumming worship styles, they will be fulfilling a need for people who are not necessarily connected with Sunday worship services. This will be an intergenerational program.

They would like children, youth, and adults to see all the colors of the rainbow. They hope to see people not connected or affiliated to any organization/institution find a source of spiritual guidance through our drumming sessions.

The core group of drummers has been energized by spreading the word of this program. They are in the process of being more intentional and strategic in spreading the word about the benefits of being part of this drumming community. People are getting energized to invite others so people feel and experience the benefits of belonging through rhythms and fellowship. Drummers are getting better in developing new skills and confidence while drumming. Every person has been able to integrate their skills and blend rhythms with other drummers.

INV-25-11-04
Southern New Jersey

Disability Ministry: Beyond Limits Ministry
First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield

Year 2
Request: \$6,000
Year 1 Grant: \$5,000
Recommended: \$5,000

The Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield is committed to creating an environment that is welcoming and safe for ALL of God's people – inclusive of all abilities. They seek to be a fully inclusive body of Christ. In so doing, they are committed to being not just the kind of church Christ calls us to be, but also a model in the community where all people are welcomed, blessed, and fully included. For the second year, they would like to expand their social programming, continue with an annual workshop, the inclusive vocal and chime choir, and build a partnership with the church Mission Committee.

They have learned that true inclusion goes beyond providing a structured program; it means connecting on a personal and unique level with each participant based on their interests, strengths, differences, and communication styles. Having OT volunteers and those with lived experience has strengthened our program's impact not just for the participants, but congregation at large. The monthly consistency of offering service-related, hands-on projects is important to the participants. They appreciate the opportunity to 'give back', yet their opportunities are limited. This is a core component of their monthly program and their growing partnership with the church Mission Committee has been embraced by all.



Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley

Dear Members of Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery and Susquehanna Valley Presbytery,

This letter is written for the purpose of communicating with the Presbyteries about the progress made concerning the idea of a merger. Both presbyteries have voted to proceed with exploring merging together. As those motions begin to take root and movement begins to happen, it is important to understand what that means.

Several committees of each Presbytery have met to discuss ways to collaborate. There is a desire on the part of the committees to work together to help one another in a more intentional way. This grassroots reaction to exploring a merger is encouraging and exciting as committees find ways to do together what we are finding hard to do alone.

The leadership of both presbyteries have appointed three individuals (Susquehanna Valley: Rev. Dave Johanson, Elder Jeff Smith, Elder Robbie Jean Rice; Cayuga Syracuse: Rev. Lorrie Cooney, Elder Steve Eidt, Rev. Steve Plank) plus Rev. Greg Garis (Lead Presbyter for Transformation) as staff resource, to be a team of seven to work as a *Vision Team* to move the presbyteries forward toward a merger that would make us stronger at being a witness for God.

This Vision Team is tasked with forging a path toward merger. As we continue to explore, guidance is being sought from the Synod, from other presbyteries that have merged and possibly a consultant with experience in bringing ecclesiastical entities together. The possibilities are wide open as far as what a merged Presbytery's mission would be, how it would function, how it might be structured and how we move into the future.

To this end, the Human Resource Committee of Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery and the Personnel Committee of Susquehanna Valley Presbytery have met several times since the fall of 2024. They have proposed an idea to the leadership councils of both presbyteries to share Rev. Dr. Greg Garis between them and to hire an Assistant to the Lead Presbyter to work with Greg in serving both presbyteries.

The idea of sharing Greg is beneficial to each presbytery: Greg working with both presbyteries will offer consistent and continued leadership, guidance and support to Cayuga-Syracuse who does not have a Lead Presbyter at this time and to Susquehanna Valley as they explore a fresh approach to ministry.

On a practical side, Susquehanna Valley's Synod grant, which supports 28% of the Lead Presbyter's compensation package, ends in April 2026 and Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery would benefit from staff support.

Both presbytery “councils” (Coordinating Council/Cabinet) have given permission to the Human Resource/Personnel committees to work out an agreement, in essence a “new call”, outlining this shared presbyter idea. Finance committees will be consulted during this process about the compensation package. We have proposed a start date of September 2025 for this to begin. In the meantime, there will be a vote on pursuing this path of a shared *Lead Presbyter* role and an *Assistant* at the May presbytery meeting of Cayuga Syracuse and the June meeting of Susquehanna Valley.

It is exciting and encouraging to know that some committees of each presbytery are already working together. The possibilities are great for a future single Presbytery in the central New York area to join in the work that God is already doing in our communities and in each presbytery. We do not know what the future will hold nor exactly what it will look like, but we sense the strong movement of the Holy Spirit and are excited to move forward trusting that the way will be made known. We are hopeful you will join in this excitement and become actively involved as opportunities arise in seeing what “new thing” God is doing in our midst.

Grace & Peace in the name of our Risen Christ,
Vision Committee

Rev. Lorrie Cooney, Elder Steve Eidt, Rev. Dave Johnson, Rev. Steve Plank, Elder Bobbie Jean Rice, Elder Jeff Smith

5/1/2025