

Warrant
for an
Administrative Commission
of Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery
concerning
The Parish, New Hope Church
Parish, NY

September 16 , 2024

The Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse is responding to reports of the situation at the Parish, New Hope church. In discussing the appointment of a session Moderator, it became apparent that the church is at a crossroads and would benefit from guidance from the presbytery concerning their future. The church has several options that need to be considered and evaluated, and a course of action chosen.

Therefore, the Commission on Ministry has determined, at its meeting of July 31, 2024, that significant unclarity and uncertainty is reported to exist at the Parish, New Hope church. The Commission on Ministry requests the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse, at its Stated Meeting on September 16, 2024, create and empower an Administrative Commission.

The Administrative Commission established this day will have the following powers and responsibilities (see Book of Order, G-3.0109b(5)):

1. To visit the Parish, New Hope Church.
2. To inquire into the situation and circumstances at the Parish, New Hope church, affording to all persons in interest fair notice and an opportunity to be heard on the matters at issue.
3. The Administrative Commission shall have access to all records and documents, which pertain to the life and mission of the Parish, New Hope church, without limitation.
4. The Administrative Commission shall seek to hear from all concerned parties. The Commission shall use its discretion in ensuring that all concerned parties have all pertinent documents communicated to them. The Commission shall conduct its business in the open, without undue secrecy.
5. To help the session work through its options in moving forward in mission, and make recommendations to the session and to the presbytery, which is “responsible

for the mission and government of the church throughout its geographical district.” In carrying out this responsibility, the Administrative Commission, acting on behalf of presbytery, is hereby empowered:

- a. To provide coordination and guidance for the Parish, New Hope church, assisting the church in mobilizing its strength for making the most effective witness to Jesus Christ.
- b. To determine whether there are constituencies in the Parish, New Hope church which are unrepresented on session and to counsel with the church if necessary.
- c. To take appropriate action to correct any irregularity or delinquency it may discover.
- d. To assume, if it determines that the session is unable or unwilling to manage wisely the affairs of the church, original jurisdiction over the session of the Parish, New Hope church.
- e. To assume original jurisdiction over the session of the church in any disciplinary matter that would normally be session's responsibility.

The Commission shall be empowered to perform all administrative and other tasks necessary to fulfill its charge and to carry out the responsibilities delegated to it.

This Administrative Commission shall report to presbytery in January, 2025, when it will cease to function unless the presbytery specifically extends its mandate at that time. It will give a report of its progress to each Stated Meeting of the presbytery.

Membership in this Administrative Commission shall be by appointment of the Moderator of presbytery and reported to the presbytery.

If requested by the Administrative Commission, the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse shall secure Counsel for their work.

This Administrative Commission shall not, without the approval of the presbytery, commit the presbytery to spending any money or forming any other group, beyond what is granted in this Warrant.

Shawn Reyburn, Chair of the Commission on Ministry
Paul F. Rack, Stated Clerk of Presbytery