



The Docket
 890th Baltimore Presbytery Gathering
 Zoom Meeting Platform
 March 11, 2021

Called to community by God, disciplined by Jesus Christ, enlivened by the Holy congregations to thrive spiritually and be apostles for reconciliation.

- The documents that make up the Meeting Papers are available on-line.
- New Business must be given to the Stated Clerk by 10:30 AM
- New main motions and amendments must be pre-filed in writing with the Stated Clerk
- Minutes of the last gathering may be found on <https://baltimorepresbytery.org/events/890th-gathering/>
- Please watch the video orientation at the above link for more information on participation and voting at the Gathering.
- Worship will include Communion. **Please have wine/juice and bread available if you wish to participate.** You may also want a candle to light during the remembering of Covid-19 victims during worship.

9:45	Registration. Once you are “in the meeting room” use the CHAT function to greet each other and enjoy short conversations. Also, if you are a ruling or teaching elder voting commissioner please rename yourself by adding RE or TE in front of your name.		Online check in of preregistrations
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Stories and Celebrations...

10:00	Welcome and brief meeting instructions		Stated Clerk, Mary Gaut
10:00	Call to Order Opening Prayer	Action Item #	Moderator, Audrey Trapp
10:05	Adoption of the docket	1	Rev. Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk
10:05	Introductions— new Pastors, first time Ruling Elder Commissioners; seating corresponding members		Rev. Dr. Jackie Taylor, General Presbyter
10:10	Remembrance of Native Americans		RE Robert Stepling, Chair of the Baltimore Dakota Learning Camps Steering Committee,
10:15	Retirement of TE Jim Young (Interim Pastor of First Presbyterian Church Cumberland)		Bill Daniel, Chair of COM
10:25	Presentation of PILP Rebate Checks to First & Franklin Street St. Andrew / Mount Airy		Catherine Lynch, Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program

	Ark & Dove.		
10:35	Morning Prayer, Communion, and Reading of 2020 Necrology		

Discernment and Decisions

11:05	Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on the Center Help with vaccine scheduling 	Item #	TE Kate Foster TE Jennifer Barchi
11:10	Report of the Stated Clerk Adjust the Docket, if needed Consent Motion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of minutes Other recommendations (see motions) 	2 3-4	Rev. Mary Gaut, Stated Clerk
11:10	Report of the General Presbyter		Rev. Dr. Jackie Taylor
11:15	Commission on Ministry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine for Ordination Candidate McKenna Lewellen and validate the ministry of Assistant Director at the Center 	5-6	TE Jack Carlson, chair of Credentials Team of COM
11:30	Committee on Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of 2021 Budget 	7	GP Jackie Taylor
11:40	Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of Stated Clerk Search Committee Motion to Amend membership of Property & Loan Commission Election of Stated Clerk 	8 9	RE Jim Schroll
11:55	Items pulled from Consent Motion New Business; Adjournment		
12:00	Adjourn with Prayer		
	BREAKOUT ROOMS FOR MEET & GREET AND FELLOWSHIP: If you wish to join a breakout group please remain in the meeting. After a 5-minute break you will be placed in a room.		Facilitators: Michele Ward, Mary Speers and Stephen Melton, Jackie Taylor, Jennifer Barchi, Sue Lowcock Harris

Motions

Adoption of the Docket

The Stated Clerk recommends:

1. THAT the Docket be approved as printed (and as it may have been modified by announcement of the Moderator and/or Stated Clerk prior to its adoption)

Consent Motion

The Stated Clerk recommends:

2. THE APPROVAL of the minutes of the 889th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Baltimore, November 17, 2020, as posted on the Presbytery website (www.baltimorepresbytery.org).

The Steering Cabinet recommends;

3. The requirement for the annual review of session minutes of September 2019-September 2020 be waived due to the impediments posed by the pandemic restrictions.

The Nominating Committee recommends:

4. That Presbytery elect TE Jack Carlson to fill an unexpired term in the class of 2021 on the Commission on Ministry.

Motions for Action on the Floor of Presbytery

The Commission on Ministry recommends:

5. That Presbytery approve the position of Assistant Director of the Center as a validated ministry.
6. That Presbytery examine and approve for ordination Candidate McKenna Lewellen

The Committee on Administration recommends:

7. That Presbytery approve the 2021 Budget as presented in the meeting papers.

The Stated Clerk Nominating Committee recommends:

8. That the that Section 7.15.2 of the Manual (Property & Loan Commission) be revised to state that the General Presbytery is a member ex-officio with vote and the Stated Clerk is a member, ex-officio without vote. (see full text in meeting papers)
9. That The Reverend Mary Gaut be elected Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Baltimore for a three year term commencing on April 1, 2021.

Reports

Stated Clerk's Report

- The Stated Clerk reports the resignation of RE Soung Hee Baranowski from the Administrative Commission for Glen Burnie Korean Presbyterian Church, RE Anita Gilmore's resignation from the Synod's Jubilee Fund Committee, RE Helen Krone's resignation from the Gathering Team and TE Tom Blair's resignation from the Commission on Ministry,
- That a written statement of an alleged offense was received and referred to an Investigating Committee appointed by the Steering Cabinet.
- That 100% of the 65 Baltimore Presbytery churches completed the statistical report on membership. Collectively we lost 683 members in 2020 and our membership now stands at 11,942.

Steering Cabinet Report

The Steering Cabinet reports the following:

- It approved \$40,000 of the current Covid-19 grant fund to be designated for technology grants to be administered by the Commission on Thriving Congregations and the remaining \$72,000 be retained for emergency grants to be administered jointly by the General Presbyter and the chairpersons of the Commissions on Ministry and Thriving Congregations.
- Approved the following motion regarding The Center:
 - To continue the work begun at the joint Cabinet/Center retreat, we appoint an ad hoc team comprised of Cabinet Reps: Audrey Trapp, Bill Daniel, Kimberly Secrist Ashby. Center Steering Committee Reps: JT Paulk, Shayla Redfearn, Derrick Weston.
 - The team will meet as necessary to:
 - a) Consider how The Center, through its ministries, will best serve the POB in growing the vision of the POB to encourage, challenge, and equip congregations to thrive spiritually and be apostles for reconciliation.
 - b) Consider various financial models for The Center going forward to include, but not be limited to:
 - continuing in its current form as a ministry of the POB with the director as a paid member of POB staff,
 - becoming a separate 501(c)(3) organization.
 - c) Consider how these models will impact the ability of The Center to live into its own vision and how they will impact The Center's ability to focus on the overarching vision of the POB.
 - d) Consider the financial and equity impact on Presbytery of the different models.
 - e) Report back to Steering Cabinet regularly over the next six months.

Commission on Reconciliation

At the December 2nd COR meeting Guy Moody, Steering Cabinet Chair, approached the COR to see if we would be willing to get involved in a project to ensure that we have a diversity of opinions in all decisions being made by the Presbytery. COR voted to embark on this conversation with Guy and conversations continued at the January and February COR meetings. An Equity Task Force was created to continue this discussion. Members of the group are Guy Moody, Chrystie Adams, Jose Lopez, Susan Khrebiel, Jennifer Barchi, Audrey Trapp, Yvette McEchern, and Karen Brown.

The Equity Task Force has met and discussed the issue of equity in decisions made by the Steering Cabinet. The original intent seemed to be that COR would come up with an instrument/statement that the Cabinet would be voting to accept and follow in future decisions. However, after much discussion, the Equity Task Force has decided that the conversation of equity and clarity around this issue needs to be brought back to the Steering Cabinet for a deep and meaningful conversation. A report from the Equity Task Force will be given at the COR meeting on March 17th and the recommendation to return the issue back to Cabinet will be shared.

In other COR news, the Youth Initiative Task Force is in the process of being organized by the capable hands of Karen Brown and Susan Khrebiel. COR partnerships – Baltimore Dakota, Cuba and Gautama - continue to seek ways to strengthen connections with their partners during the pandemic. The Dismantling Racism Team has been in conversation and a separate report has been provided by that group. Also at our March COR meeting we will be reviewing and making plans for the 2021 Community Engagement Grants.

The Presbytery of Baltimore (POB) Dismantling Racism Team (DRT) will continue to organize and host trainings and dialogues for the continued education and engagement of members of the POB and other POB leaders. Given pandemic-related complications, the next Foundational training for leaders in need of it will be offered in the Fall.

Those who have already completed the one-day foundational training will have a range of options in order to complete their training requirement in subsequent years. The DRT recognizes that learning and work to dismantle racism can happen in many ways. In addition to opportunities offered by the POB, the DRT is working on a process for individuals to report educational events and experiential learning to meet this requirement. Like Continuing Education Units in other professions, the amount of “credit” would depend upon the time and investment of the individual.

The DRT will continue to host one-day training events as well as opportunities for continued dialogue and small group series. Some other examples of activities that might qualify to meet the continuing education requirement could include leading book studies, small group series, or Bible study; participating in an educational series on dismantling racism and related topics offered by others within the Presbytery, by PCUSA national offices and other nationally recognized organizations.

We also recognize that some of our best learning comes by doing. Therefore, after completing the foundational training, the DRT is working to define other activities that can be counted

toward this requirement such as: partnering between two congregations predominantly made up of different races; serving on the DRT or other POB antiracism initiative; or working with your congregation on racial equity or racial justice initiative in the community.

The DRT has developed a draft reporting form to be used for this purpose. POB staff, under the direction of the Stated Clerk, maintains a roster of those who have completed their training requirement and due dates for additional training. More information will be provided at the May Gathering. For questions, please contact Susan Krehbiel (skrehbiel@baltimorepresbytery.org).

Commission on Spiritual Leader Development

The Commission reports:

It is creating a new “Elder Academy,” which will offer Ruling Elders opportunities to deepen their spiritual practice, their learning about theology and polity, and their skills for preaching and leading organizational change. It will equip those Elders who are called and interested to participate more fully in the weekly leadership of the congregation. Topics may include, but are not limited to: leading communion, preaching, pastoral care, understanding our Confessions, polity, mission, finances 101, spiritual practices, prayer, reformed theology, committee leadership, understanding the larger church (Presbytery, Synod, and GA), systems theory, conflict transformation, and change leadership. If you have other topics that you’re interested in exploring, please contact Rev. Becca Crate (springfieldpastor@gmail.com) or Rev. Jennifer Barchi (jbarchi@baltimorepresbytery.org).

The Commission is excited to announce that it has a new mission statement: Spiritual Leader Development’s mission is to incubate ideas, connections, and relationships at all levels that help leaders thrive spiritually. If this is a mission you’re interested in joining, please contact Becca or Jennifer.

Commission on Thriving Congregations

The Commission reports that the following Enduring Witness grants were awarded:

- Maryland was awarded \$18,471 to fund salary and benefits for the Minister of LGBTQ+ Belonging and Community Organizing.
- Northminster was awarded \$12,000 to fund consulting around use of their property, financial planning, use of technology resources and congregational coaching/retreat opportunities.
- Hope was awarded \$11,000 to support a project to re-engage with church membership, practice intentional evangelism, relieve overwork of church members, and increase community engagement. through church playground events. Hope was also encouraged to connect with The Center for coaching around community engagement.
- Westminster was awarded \$1,1000 for a capital grant request.

Commission on Ministry

The Commission on Ministry reports

- The installations of TE Jacob Snowden to Assoc. pastor of Woods Memorial, Andrew Kort and Mihee Kim-Kort to co-pastors of First Presbyterian Annapolis, and Tim Hughes-Williams to pastor of Light Street Presbyterian.
- The approval of an Interim pastoral relationship between TE Kimberley Secrist-Ashby and Mt. Hebron Presbyterian Church effective February 1, 2021.
- Approval of RE Anita Bishop-Johnson at Commissioned Pastor of Mt. Paran Presbyterian effective January 1, 2021.
- The transfer of TE Christian Iosso from Hudson River Presbytery to assume the position of Interim Pastor at First and Franklin Street Presbyterian on March 14, 2021.
- The transfer of TE Glen Missick from New York City Presbytery to assume the position of Temporary Supply pastor at Babcock Presbyterian on April 1, 2021.
- The Dissolution of the pastoral relationship of TE Kimberly Secrist-Ashby and Fallston Presbyterian effective January 31, 2021.
- The Dissolution of the pastoral relationship of TE Tom Blair and Second Presbyterian Church effective February 28, 2021

Commission on Preparation for Ministry

The Commission reports: that it elected Mark Hutton (TE), Brendan Brewer (TE), Leslie Owsley (RE), Rae Jean Goodman (RE), and Keith Page (TE) alternate as readers for the May ordination exams.